

**RELIGIOUS COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION**  
**Annual Conference Schedule ● November 7, 2018**  
**Downtown Marriott at City Creek, Salt Lake City, Utah**

**OPENING ACTIVITIES**

8:00am-4:00pm    Onsite Registration  
8:15-9:00am      Continental Breakfast  
9:00-9:30am      Conference Opening  
Deer Valley

**PANEL SESSION 1 ● 9:40 to 10:55 am**

Session 1A  
Alta

**The Interplay of Religion and Politics in Time of Crisis**

Chairs: Joel Lansing Reed, Geneva College; Elizabeth R. Earle, Texas A&M University

*Beloved and Resilient Community: Michael Curry and the Episcopal Response to the Violence in Charlottesville*, Joel Lansing Reed, University of Missouri; Josh Bramlett, University of Missouri

*Pure Faith, Yet Free of Dogmas”: God Terms and the Theology of Miguel de Unamuno*, Elizabeth R. Earle, Texas A & M University

*Post-Shooting Presidential Addresses: Secular Figures Evoking Religious Imagery in the Face of Tragedy*, Joshua P. Bolton, Loras College

*Theological Crises and Their Political Consequences: American Evangelicalism as Rhetorical Community, From the Great Awakening to the Trump Revolution*, Mark Ward Sr., University of Houston-Victoria

Session 1B  
Brighton

**Religion, Inquiry, and Three Methodological Approaches**

Chair: Mark Steiner, Christopher Newport University

*“Inoculate Yourself with the Word of God”: Persuasion Inoculation, Medial Inoculation, and Religious Rhetoric*, Josh Compton, Dartmouth College

*Understanding Interpersonal Religious Communication Apprehension: A Mixed-Methods Approach*, George Kueppers, George Mason University

*Visual Myths: An Alternative Way to Seeing and Believing*, Gregory Knight, University of Southern Mississippi  
*The Constitution of a “Moral Issue.”* Joshua Hoops, William Jewell College

Session 1C  
Park City

**The Public and Private, the Sacred and the Secular**

Chair: Denise P. Ferguson, Azusa Pacific University

*The Missing Piece of Reason: Habermas’s Rules of Engagement in the Secular Discourse Game of Justification and Pure Description in a Post-Secularized Society*, Caitlyn Lackey, Independent Scholar

*“That’s the First Mistake That We Make”: The Waco Siege as Case Study of the Nature of Contested Public Spheres and Differing Ideological Systems in Religio-Secular Communication*, Malcolm Jason, North Dakota State University

*Colonizing Sacred Ground: Adjacent Secular and Religious Sacredness at Christ Church Cathedral/  
Former Slave Market Site*, Katrina Marks, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

*"To Make Clear What Was Hidden": Reflections on the Interrelatedness of Rhetoric and Theology*,  
Rebecca Watts, Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest

## PANEL SESSION 2 • 11:10am to 12:25pm

Session 2A  
Alta

### **The Medium is the Religious Message**

Chair: Andrew Harris, Cedarville University

*New Journeys on Well-Worn Paths: Clarifying and Re-Applying Postman's Media Ecology from  
a Judeo-Christian Perspective*, Abram Book, Regent University

*Serving God and Money: The Rise and Fall of "The Boy Who Came Back from Heaven,"*  
Jim Trammell, High Point University

*CHAPPIE: Science Fiction, Post-Modernism, and Conflicting Worldviews*, Jennifer Saint Louis,  
Regent University

*Jesus Loves Hip-Hop: Lecrae, Constitutive Christianity, and the Rapper Persona*, Caroline Guerin,  
Southwestern University

Session 2B  
Brighton

### **Reaping and Sowing: Confession, Direction, and Response to #MeToo and #Silenceisnotspiritual"**

Chair: Sean Connable, Christopher Newport University

Presenters:

Denise P. Ferguson, Azusa Pacific University

Joy E. A. Qualls, Biola University

Sarah Schwartz, Biola University

Annalee R. Ward, University of Dubuque

Molly Waters, Christopher Newport University

Session 2C  
Park City

### **Spectrality, Love, and New Evangelicalism**

Chair: Joel Ward, Geneva College

*Haunting the Reader: The Spectral Rhetoric of C.S. Lewis' The Great Divorce*, Seth Pierce,  
Regent University

*Thy Neighbor's Relevance: Hannah Arendt on Augustinian Love*, David Impellizzeri,  
Duquesne University

*Expressions of Evangelical Cultural Identity Management in the Work of Carl F. H. Henry*,  
John Dunkle, Regent University

## BUSINESS MEETING and LUNCH • 12:35 to 2:15pm

Deer Valley

**Religious Communication Association Annual Business Meeting**

Registration

**Lunch Provided to All Conference Registrants**

## PANEL SESSION 3 • 2:30 to 3:45pm

Session 3A  
Alta

### **Religion and Feminist Issues**

Chair: Annalee Ward, University of Dubuque

*Yes, The Baby Should Live: A Pro-Life Response to After-Birth Abortion*, Crystal Lane Swift Ferguson, Mt. San Antonio College

*Liberation Theologies and Ecofeminist Theories in Domestic Violence Cases Involving Women and Their Companion Animals*, Patricia Friel, University of Cincinnati

*Is Islamic Feminism an Oxymoron? How the Co-Existence of Veil and Feminism Complicates the Binary of Secular and Religious Sensibilities*, Samira Musleh, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

*Abstinence-Only Education and its Religious Roots: How Christian Groups Framed the Discussion on Addressing Teen Sex*, Edward Van Herik, Georgia State University

Session 3B  
Brighton

**Walker Percy on Human Communication: Semiotic, Existential, and Religious Responses to the “Modern Malaise”**

Chair: Michael R. Kearney, Duquesne University

*Triadic Semiotics as a Ground for Communication Ethics*, Calvin Troup, Geneva College

*Wording the Unwordable: Articulation in Walker Percy and Charles Taylor*, Justin N. Bonanno, Duquesne University

*Seeing the Invisible: The “Helen Keller Phenomenon” in Walker Percy’s Semiotics*, Joel S. Ward, Geneva College

*Mors Certa, Vita Incerta: Walker Percy’s Signs That Still Signify*, Anthony Wachs, Duquesne University

*Cynics in Communion: Walker Percy and Jacques Ellul on Technological Alienation and Interpersonal Hope*, Michael R. Kearney, Duquesne University

Session 3C  
Park City

**Leadership, Authority, and Christian Rhetoric**

Chair: Cecil Kramer, Liberty University

*Priests on Facebook: Authenticity’s Role for Maintaining Religious Authority*, Brian Altenhofen, Truman State University

*The Ecclesial Leader: A Leader of Prayer in Worship and Beyond*, Darius Benton, University of Houston-Downtown

*Alexander Campbell and the Ancient Order*, Meredith Martin, Midland College; Mark Gring, Texas Tech University

*Practice What You Preach*, Casey Stratton, Missouri State University

Session 3D  
Snowbird

**The Intersection of Religion, Politics, and Social Issues**

Chair: Daniel S. Brown, Grove City College

*Preaching as Critical Intervention on Homelessness*, Fred Jenga, University of Texas, Austin

*We Exile Them for a Reason: Making Room for Religion in Politics*, Rachel Larsen, University of Colorado, Boulder

*Politics, Publicity, and Media: Mormon Perspectives of Mitt Romney*, Clark Callahan, Brigham Young University

*Beyond Religion and Politics: The Rhetorical Practices of Theology in Political Action Speeches*, James Vining, Governors State University

*Evangelicalism and the Refugee: Myth Making and the Constituting of a Religious Public and Counterpublic*, Gregory Knight, University of Southern Mississippi

**PANEL SESSION 4 • 4:00 to 5:15 pm**

Deer Valley

**Religious Communication Association Scholarship Awards Panel**

Chair: Joy E. A. Qualls, Biola University

Presenters:

Student Paper of the Year Recipient

Divisional Papers of the Year Recipients

Dissertation of the Year Recipient

Article of the Year Recipient

Book of the Year Recipient

**AWARDS BANQUET • 6:00 to 8:30 pm**

Deer Valley

**Religious Communication Association Annual Awards Banquet**

Keynote Speaker: RCA Scholar of the Year