

RYAN WEBER

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CURRICULUM VITAE

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Director of Business and Technical Writing/Assistant Professor of English
University of Alabama in Huntsville, 2011-Present

Assistant Professor of English
Penn State Altoona, 2009-2011

EDUCATION

Ph.D English Purdue University (August 2009)

Primary Area: Rhetoric and Composition
Secondary Area: Professional Writing

Dissertation: *Ironically, We Dwell*
Committee: Thomas Rickert, chair; David Blakesley;
Richard Johnson-Sheehan; Jennifer Bay

M.A. English Purdue University (May 2005)
Primary Area: Rhetoric and Composition

B.A. English Pepperdine University (April 2002)
English, Emphasis on Writing and Rhetoric

PUBLICATIONS

["Irony and Armageddon."](#) *Enculturation* 18. December 2014.

Spartz, John M. and Ryan Weber. "[Engaging Entrepreneurship in Technical Communication using Client and Service-Learning Projects.](#)" *Programmatic Perspectives* 6(1), Spring 2014. 52-85.

Tirrell, Jeremy and Ryan Weber. "Meeting Community Needs through Service Learning in the Online Classroom." *Adding to the Conversation on Service-Learning in Composition: Taking a Closer Look*. Ed. Susan Garza. Southlake, TX: Fountainhead Press, 2013: 145-161.

"Constructions of Agency in Corporate Social Media Policies." *Journal of Technical Writing and Communication*. 43(3): 289-315. 2013 (Nominated for 2014 National Council of Teachers of English Award: Best Article Reporting Qualitative or Quantitative Research in Technical or Scientific Communication)

Rivers, Nathaniel and Ryan Weber. "[Ecological, Pedagogical Public Rhetoric](#)." *College Composition and Communication*. 63.2 (Dec 2011): 187-218.

"Ironically, We Dwell." *Journal of Advanced Composition*. 31.2 (2011).

[Equipment for Living: The Literary Reviews of Kenneth Burke](#). Ed. Nathaniel Rivers and Ryan Weber. Parlor Press, West Lafayette: 2010.

Forthcoming

Spartz, John M. and Ryan Weber. "[Writing Entrepreneurs: A Survey of Attitudes, Habits, Skills, and Genres](#)." *Journal of Business and Technical Communication*. Fall 2014.

Spartz, John M. and Ryan Weber. "A Technical Communication Venture in Building Academic-Entrepreneur Relations and Partnerships." *Academy-Industry Relationships and Partnerships: Perspectives for Technical Communicators*. Amnityville, NY: Baywood Press, 2014.

Responses to Scholarship

Veldstra, Carolyn. "Laughing at Nothing: A Response to Ryan Weber's 'Ironically, We Dwell.'" *jac* 33(1-2), 2014. 325-336.

Renegar, Valerie R. and Charles E. Goehrin. "A/In (Further) Defense of Irony." *jac* 33(1-2), 2014. 315-324.

Reviews

Review, *The Rhetoric of Expertise*, E. Johanna Hartelius. *Rhetoric & Public Affairs*, Spring 2012 (15.1): 193-196

Review Essay. "Taking Burke Public: Perspectives on Burke's Connection Between Language and Public Action." *KB Journal*. 3.2 (2007).

Select Purdue Online Writing Lab Publications

- "Logic in Argumentative Writing." Purdue OWL. April 9, 2008.
- "Transitions and Transitional Devices." Purdue OWL. August 20, 2006.
- "Conciseness." Purdue OWL. September 20, 2006.
- "Sentence Variety." Purdue OWL. March 27, 2006.

TEACHING

Assistant Professor, English Department. UAHuntsville. 2011-Present.

English 102: Freshman Composition
English 300: Business Writing
English 301: Technical Writing
English 301.O: Technical Writing Online
English 303: Research and Practice in Technical Communication
English 501: Theory and Practice of Technical Communication
English 502: Problems in Technical Editing
EH 540/440: Usability Studies
English 649: Grant and Proposal Writing

Assistant Professor, English Department. Penn State Altoona. 2009-Present

English 015: Rhetoric and Composition
English 100: English Language Analysis
English 419: Advanced Professional Writing
English 420: Writing for the Web

Graduate Instructor, English Department. Purdue University. 2003-2009

English 106: Introduction to Composition
English 390b: Practicum in Tutoring Writing
English 420: Business Writing
English 420e: Business Writing for Entrepreneurs
English 420Y: Distance Business Writing
English 421Y: Distance Technical Writing

PRESENTATIONS

National Presentations

"Putting Technical Communication Advisory Boards in a University-Wide Context."
Council of Programs of Scientific and Technical Communication. September 25-27, 2014.

"The Social Webb: The Effects of NASA's Social Media Network on Public Support for the James Webb Space Telescope." Rhetoric Society of America. May 23-26, 2014. San Antonio, TX.

"Assessing Popular Science in Social Media." Conference of the Association of Teachers of Technical Writing. March 13, 2013. Las Vegas, NV.

"Refracted Views: Interpretive Flexibility and NASA's James Webb Space Telescope." Rhetoric Society of America. May 26, 2012. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

- "Beyond the Business Plan: The Technical Communication Needs of Practicing Entrepreneurs." Council of Programs of Scientific and Technical Communication. October 7, 2011. Harrisonburg, VA.
- "Kenneth Burke vs. The Legion of Indecency!!!" Kenneth Burke Conference. May 28, 2011. Clemson, SC.
- "Equipment for Living: Behind the Scenes." Featured Session. Kenneth Burke Conference. May 27, 2011. Clemson, SC. (Presented with Nathaniel Rivers).
- "Oh the Places We Never Go! Inventing from the Atopos." Conference of College Composition and Communication. April 8, 2011. Atlanta, GA.
- "Beyond the Business Plan: Research into the Writing Practices of Entrepreneurs." Association of Teachers of Technical Writing. April 6, 2011. Atlanta, GA. (Presented with John M. Spartz).
- "Live from New York, It's Election 2008!" Rhetoric Society of America. May 28-31 2010. Minneapolis, MN.
- "100,000,000 Amazon Users Can't Be Wrong." Computers and Writing. May 20-23, 2010. West Lafayette, IN.
- "Humble Irony, Contextual Transcendence." Kenneth Burke Society. June 29-July 1, 2008. Villanova, PA.
- "Bestselling Rhetorical Handbooks and the Responsibilities of the Public Intellectual." Rhetoric Society of America. May 23-26, 2008. Seattle, WA.
- "Writing Global Reality: Darfur and the Epideictic Rhetoric of Google Earth." Conference on College Communication and Composition. April 2-5, 2008. New Orleans, LA.
- "Using Web 2.0 Consumer Voices in the Online Classroom." Association of Teachers of Technical Writing. April 2, 2008. New Orleans, LA. (Presented with Jeremy Tirrell).
- "Virtual Space / Real People: Using Digital Environments to Connect First-Year Composition Classrooms and Foster New Rhetorical Encounters." Computers and Writing Conference. May 19, 2007 Detroit, MI. (Panel presentation with Nathaniel A. Rivers and Marc C. Santos).
- "Information Ecologies, Red in Tooth and Claw." Association of Teachers of Technical Writing. March 21, 2007. New York, New York.

"We're Laughing With You: Irony as Ethos in Television Advertisements." Popular Culture Association. April 12-15, 2006. Atlanta, GA.

"Reading the World: Visual Literacy and Text in *Great Expectations*." Michigan College English Association. September 20, 2005. East Lansing, Michigan.

"Strategy and Medicine: Burke's Literary Reviews as Equipment for Living." Kenneth Burke Society Conference, July 10-12, 2005. University Park, Pennsylvania.

"Process Meets Paralogy: Creating Space for Unique Processes." College English Association. March 31-April 2, 2005. Indianapolis, IN.

Local Presentations

"Help Users Help Themselves." IEEE Technology and Engineering Management Society Huntsville. June 30, 2015. Huntsville, AL.

"Does Anyone Want Your Help?" Rocket City Technical Communication Conference. April 20, 2013. UAHuntsville.

"Technical Communication, Today and Tomorrow." Rocket City Technical Communication Conference. April 21, 2012. UAHuntsville.

"Challenges and Solutions for Team Proposal Writing." Rocket City Technical Communication Conference. April 21, 2012. UAHuntsville.

"Assessing Web 2.0 Writing." Fall Faculty English Conference. October 1, 2010. Penn State University.

"Teaching Irony and the Ironic Perspective." Fall Faculty English Conference. October 2, 2009. Penn State University.

"Taking it On(line): Using Drupal to Facilitate 420Y (Distance Ed)." Professional Writing Pedagogy and Technology Showcase. November 14, 2007. Purdue University. (Presented with Jeremy Tirrell).

Poster Session. "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum: Pedagogical Implications of Content Management Systems Across Four First-Year Writing Classrooms." Teaching and Learning with Technology Conference. April 3, 2007. Purdue University. (Presented with Paul Lynch, Nathaniel Rivers, and Marc Santos).

SERVICE

University of Alabama in Huntsville

- Proposal Reviewer for 2015 Association of Teachers of Technical Writing Conference. Fall 2014.
- Search Committee Member. UAH Lead Instructional Designer. Fall 2014
- M.A. Capstone Project Committee Member. Fall 2014.
- M.A. Capstone Project Director. Spring 2014.
- Thesis Committee, "On Que(e)rying University Safe Spaces: Theory, Institution, and Pedagogy." Nick Wilbourn. Spring 2013.
- Search Committee Member, Director of Academic Technologies and e-Learning. 2012-2013.
- Graduate Observer, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Thesis Defense. November 29, 2012.
- Department Representative, The Planets. October 22, 2012.
- Director of Business and Technical Writing, 2011-Present.

Penn State Altoona

- Sigma Tau Delta Faculty Sponsor. 2010-2011
- Faculty Senate Social Committee Member. 2010-2011
- Faculty Senate Member. 2010-2011
- Service Learning Project with Blair County United Way, 2010.
- Peer Review of Teaching Committee, Teaching Peer Observer. 2009
- Assessment Committee Chair. 2010-2011
- Assessment Committee Member. 2009-2010

Purdue University

- Business Writing Coordinator. 2007-2008
- Service Learning Project with Clinton County Humane Society. 2007
- Eastern Central Writing Centers Conference Planning Committee. 2008-2009
- Introductory Writing Committee Member. 2006-2007
- Purdue GRADSEA. Introductory Writing Committee Representative. 2006-2007
- Professional Writing Textbook Review Committee. 2006

EDITORIAL WORK

Review Editor. *Writing Commons*. 2014-Present.

Book Review Editor. *Kenneth Burke Journal*. 2011-2014.

Manuscript Reviewer. *The Space Between* Special Kenneth Burke Issue. 2008.

Manuscript Reviewer. *Humanistic Critique of Education*. Parlor Press. 2007.

Indexer. *Searching For Latini*. Parlor Press. 2006.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Teachers of Technical Writing
National Conference of Teachers of English
Kenneth Burke Society
Rhetoric Society of America

GRANTS AND FUNDING

Cross-College Research Fund. \$5,000. UAH.
New Faculty Research Grant. \$5,000. UAH.
Alabama Launchpad Winner. \$35,000 for Complexity Engine Education Startup.

TRAINING, WORKSHOP, AND WEBINAR ATTENDANCE

"What's In It for Me? Single Sourcing and Technical Communication." Single-Sourcing.com Webinar. October 15, 2013. UAHuntsville.
"Ten Tips for Tastier Tasks." Society of Technical Communication Webinar. July 9, 2013. UAHuntsville.
"Conveying Messages with Graphs." Society for Technical Communication Webinar. September 21, 2012. UAHuntsville
"Introduction to XML." Society for Technical Communication Huntsville/North Alabama Software Workshop. September 15, 2012. UAHuntsville.
"Responsible Conduct of Research." Workshop conducted by Office of Sponsored Programs. March 7 & 8, 2012. UAHuntsville.
"Write More, Write Less: Embracing the Value of Crafted Words and Images." WritersUA Webinar. February 16, 2012. UAHuntsville.
"Breaking through the Barriers to Writing Proposals." Workshop conducted by Office of Sponsored Programs. October 14, 2011. UAHuntsville.