

Curriculum Vitae

Rebecca Michelle Border Sietman
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Educational Qualifications

PH.D. IN COMMUNICATION, 2005, THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, COLUMBUS, OH.

Major areas: Political Communication; Public Opinion; Mass Communication/Media Effects; Survey Research; Communication Theory; and Research Methods.

Dissertation Title: Framing the 2004 Presidential Election: The Role of Media, Political Discussion, and Opinion Leaders.

M.A. IN JOURNALISM & COMMUNICATION, 2002, THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, COLUMBUS, OH.

Thesis Title: Evaluations of President George W. Bush and the Energy Crisis: A Priming Study.

B.A. IN COMMUNICATION ARTS, 1999, CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY, CEDARVILLE, OH.

Major areas: Comprehensive Communication

Minor areas: Bible, Creative Writing, English, Psychology

Employment History

August 2008-present	Associate Professor Director of Forensics Communication	Department of Communication Wheaton College 501 College Ave., Wheaton, IL 60187
August 2003-May 2008	Assistant Professor Director of Debate Communication Arts	Department of Communication Arts Cedarville University 251 N. Main Street, Cedarville, OH 45314

Experience

Administrative

Director of Forensics
Department of Communication
Wheaton College (August 2008-present)

Tournament Director
Hollatz Debates
Wheaton College (August 2008-present)

Midwest Debate Association
Executive Secretary (May 2018-present)

Teaching

Courses:

- Advanced Argument
- Argumentation and Debate
- Fundamentals of Oral Communication
- Fundamentals of Speech
- Human Communication Research
- Media Effects: Sex, Violence & Politics
- Media Studies
- Persuasive Communication

Public Opinion and Polling
Public Speaking

Independent studies: Communication and Infertility (Fall 2014)
Women in the Workplace (Spring 2015)
Megachurch Communication (Fall 2015)
Sexual Education in the Church (Summer 2017)
Acculturation in Corporations (Spring 2018)

Debate Performance Scholarship

Tournament Judging: British Parliamentary Debate

Vanderbilt British Parliamentary Debate Tournament 2024 (Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN): Judged and gave oral adjudication (as Chair) in Rounds 2 & 6; judged Rounds 1 & 5 (as Panelist).

YODL Tournament 2024 (University of Alaska, online): Judged elimination rounds.

Pan Pacific Debate Championship 2023 (Hawaii Pacific University, Honolulu, Hawaii): Judged and gave oral adjudication (as Chair) in Round 2; broke as judge into elimination rounds and judged Semifinals (as Panelist) and Finals (as Chair).

Wheaton College Hollatz Debates 2022 (Wheaton, IL): Judged and gave oral adjudication (as Chair).

Seattle University Invitational 2021 (Seattle, WA, online): Served as the Equity Officer.

Wheaton College Hollatz Debates 2021 (Wheaton, IL): Judged and gave oral adjudication (as Chair).

United States Universities Debating Championship (USUDC) 2021 (University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, online): Judged (as Panelist) in Rounds 1-6.

Rambler Spring Debate Tournament 2021 (Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois, online): Judged all rounds and gave oral adjudication (as Chair).

United States Universities Debating Championship (USUDC) 2020 (Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, New York, online): Judged and gave oral adjudication (as Chair) in Rounds 3, 5; Judged (as Panelist) in Rounds 1-2, 6-7; broke as judge into elimination rounds and judged Quarterfinals and Semifinals.

Rambler Spring Debate Tournament 2020 (Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois): Judged all rounds and gave oral adjudication (as Chair).

World Universities Debating Championship (WUDC) 2020 (Assumption University, Bangkok, Thailand): Judged and gave oral adjudication (as Chair) in Rounds 4-6; Judged (as Panelist) in Rounds 1-3, 7-9.

Rambler Fall Debate Tournament 2019 (Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois): Judged all rounds and gave oral adjudication (as Chair).

United States Universities Debating Championship (USUDC) 2019 (Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina): Judged and gave oral adjudication (as Chair) in Rounds 5-8; Judged (as Panelist) in Rounds 1-4.

The Lafayette Debates 2019 (Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Illinois): Judged all rounds and gave oral adjudication (as Chair); broke as judge into elimination rounds.

Pan Pacific Debating Championship 2019 (Hawaii Pacific University, Honolulu, Hawaii): Judged all rounds and gave oral adjudication (as Chair); broke as judge into elimination rounds.

The Bill Todd Debates 2018 (University of Miami, Miami, Florida): Judged all rounds and gave oral adjudication (as Chair); broke as judge into elimination rounds and judged Finals.

Rambler Fall Debate Tournament 2018 (Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois): Judged all rounds and gave oral adjudication (as Chair).

Rambler Fall Debate Tournament 2017 (Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois): Judged all rounds and gave oral adjudication (as Chair).

Rambler Spring Debate Tournament 2017 (Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois): Judged all rounds and gave oral adjudication (as Chair).

Sunset Cliffs Classic 2017 (Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, California): Judged all rounds (as Panelist).

United States Universities Debating Championship (USUDC) 2015 (University of Alaska, Anchorage, Alaska): Judged Rounds 1-4 (as Panelist)

Sunset Cliffs Classic 2015 (Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, California): Judged all rounds (as Panelist).

Tournament Judging: American Parliamentary Debate

From 2003-2017, judged at approximately 28 national tournaments and 70 regular-season tournaments within the National Parliamentary Debate Association, National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence, and the National Christian College Forensics Association.

Professional Contributions

Routledge / Taylor & Francis Reviewer (May 2023)
Debate in the Classroom: An Introduction to Analysis and Advocacy
By Takeshi Suzuki and David Zarefsky

National Communication Association (NCA)
Committee for International Discussion and Debate (CIDDD)

- Japanese National Debating Team 2020 host
- British National Debating Team 2018 host

National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence (NPTE)

- Board of Trustees (July 2015-March 2020)
- President (August 2018-March 2019)
- Vice President (July 2017-August 2018)

Coaching

Wheaton College Debate: Research

Wheaton Debate Briefs (2008-present)

Data Driven Debates Research (2020-2021)

National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence Research (2008-2009, 2013-2017)

Wheaton College Debate: National & International Performance

Coached Wheaton College teams to seven 1st and 2nd place rankings and an 18th place finish at the United States Air Force Academy Debating Championship 2024.

Coached Wheaton College team to five 1st and 2nd place rankings at the United States Universities Debating Championship (2023).

Coached Wheaton College teams to five 1st and 2nd place rankings at the World Universities Debating Championship 2023 in Madrid, Spain.

Coached Wheaton College teams to eight 1st and 2nd place rankings at the United States Universities Debating Championship (2022).

Coached Wheaton College team to a 10th place finish at the University of Alaska Debating Championship 2022.

Coached Wheaton College teams to fifteen 1st and 2nd place rankings at the United States Universities Debating Championship (2020).

Coached Wheaton College teams to ten 1st and 2nd place rankings at the World Universities Debating Championship 2020 at Assumption University, Bangkok, Thailand.

Coached Wheaton College teams to ten 1st and 2nd place rankings at the United States Universities Debating Championship (2019).

Coached Wheaton College team to a Triple Octofinal (2017) finish at the NPDA Championship Tournament.

Coached Wheaton College team (ranking #12 in the nation) to qualify for the 2017 National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence and to receive a 20th place finish.

Coached Wheaton College team to an Octofinal (2016) finish at the NPDA Championship Tournament.

Coached Wheaton College team (ranking #24 in the nation) to qualify for the 2016 National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence.

Coached Wheaton College teams to Triple Octofinal (2015) finishes at the NPDA Championship Tournament.

Coached Wheaton College teams (ranking #23 and #46 in the nation) to qualify for the 2015 National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence.

Coached Wheaton College team (ranking #42 in the nation) to qualify for the 2014 National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence.

Coached Wheaton College teams to Quarterfinal in Open Parliamentary Debate (2013) finishes at the National Christian College Forensics Invitational.

Coached the Wheaton Debate Team to National Champions, 1st place quality award at the National Christian College Forensics Invitational (2013).

Traditional Scholarship

Publications and Presentations

Cheesewright, K., Sietman, R. B., & Partlow-Lefevre, S. T. (2023). On standardizing assessment and external review of debate and forensics teams. In K. Young & D. C. Helwich (Eds.) *Reimagining the Future of Intercollegiate Debate: Pedagogy, Practice, and Sustainability* (pp. 38-48). Wayne State University Press.

Cooper, L. O., Sietman, R. B., & Vessey, J. (2021). A longitudinal analysis of student learning gains in oral competency. *Basic Communication Course Annual* 33, 160-195.

Sietman, R. B. (2020). A call to heterogeneity: The implications of political discussion for academic debate. *The Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta*, 105(2), 10-26.

Cooper, L. O., & Sietman, R. (2016). Assessment of student learning gains in oral competency. In J. M. Valenzano III (Ed.) *Basic Communication Course Annual 28*, 166-205.

Sietman, R. B., & Chappell, D. (2014). New lessons in ethos: The role of speaker credibility in learning at liberal arts symposia. Paper presented at the 2014 meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.

Research in Progress

Sietman, R. B. (2024). The silence of infertility within the church. Manuscript to be submitted to *The Christian Scholars Review*.

Sietman, R.B. (2024). Planned but not pregnant: The spiral behind the silence of infertility. Manuscript to be submitted to the *Journal of Applied Communication Research*.

Sietman, R. B., Cheesewright, K., & Partlow-Lefevre, S. T. (2024). Standardizing success: Assessment and external review of debate and forensics teams. Manuscript to be submitted to *Contemporary Argumentation and Debate*.

Professional Memberships

Midwest Debate Association
National Christian College Forensics Association
National Communication Association
Pi Kappa Delta
World Universities Debating Council

Institutional Service

Research and Evaluation of Student Learning (2023-present)

Communication Department Assessment Data Analysis (2013-2015 ,2017-2021, 2023-present)

Data Driven Debates Judge for Wheaton Center for Faith, Politics & Economics (2017-present)

Curriculum Committee (2020-2023)

Alcohol Survey Data Collection and Analysis for Student Development and Board of Trustees (2011-2012, 2015-2016, 2020-2022)

Communication Department Search Committee (2011-2014, 2016-2017, 2019-2020)

Faculty Development Day Lightning Talk (Feb. 2020)

Student Development Social Media Research Grant Committee (2017-2018)

Christ at the Core Competencies Task Force (2014-2016)

Service to the Church and Community

Glen Ellyn Bible Church (May 2017-present)

- Small group ministry
- Children's ministry
- Women's ministry

The Redemption Church (February 2022)

- Gospel & Culture series guest speaker: “The Church & Infertility”

6000 Moms (June 2018-present)

- Housing, job placement, and relief efforts for multiple migrant families
- Planning committee for community Easter Egg Hunt 2019

True Light Lutheran Christian Church in Streamwood (July 2014-May 2017)

- Worship director, lead vocalist, and lead piano/keyboard
- Adult Bible study
- Children’s ministry
- Youth ministry
- Multiple outreach ministries

Tree of Hope Dedication Ceremony at Seven Gables Park in Wheaton (April 26, 2017)

Memorial Service for Baby Hope at St. Michael Catholic Church in Wheaton (September 15, 2016)