

Announcing the Sixteenth Annual

Kenneth Burke Prize in Rhetoric and Kenneth Burke Lecture

The English Department at Penn State is pleased to announce the sixteenth Kenneth Burke Prize in Rhetoric, to be awarded to the best essay written by a graduate student in a liberal arts discipline on the subject of rhetoric in its many forms—as historical, critical, or theoretical discourse.

Papers might address pedagogical methods or issues; offer textual criticism (“rhetorical analysis”) of significant documents; offer theoretical or historical insights on items in the rhetorical tradition; discuss rhetoric as an organizing principle for English, the liberal arts or the contemporary university; or consider rhetoric in relation to African-American studies, cultural materialist critiques, feminism, post-colonial criticism, science and technology, etc.

Papers written for seminars or conferences, or composed specifically for the Burke Prize, are all welcome. The essays, which should have been composed for the most part during the calendar year 2007, will be judged on the basis of their scholarship, significance, and rhetorical artistry. (Essays submitted previously for the prize should not be resubmitted.)

A prize of \$200.00 will be awarded to the winning graduate student. Graduate students should submit their essays to Christi Daniels, 102 Burrowes Building (mailbox in 139 Burrowes building), by Friday, April 18. Include a cover sheet with your name and the essay’s title. (Note: your name should not appear elsewhere in the essay.)

The Burke Lecture this year will be given by **Krista Ratcliffe**, Professor of English and Chair of the English Department at Marquette University. The talk will take place in Foster Auditorium on Friday, April 25, at 7 pm.

Ratcliffe is well known for her research in women’s rhetorics and feminist theory, which examines the cultural presence and/or absence of women's voices. Her work has ranged from considering how women's voices have emerged in western rhetorical traditions in *Anglo-American Feminist Challenges to the Rhetorical Traditions*; to studying how women's voices have emerged (or not) in literary and lived birthing narratives in *Who's Having This Baby?*; to examining troubled identifications with gender and whiteness in public debates, rhetorical scholarship, and composition pedagogy in *Rhetorical Listening*.

Her most recent book, *Rhetorical Listening: Identification, Gender, Whiteness* won the Outstanding Book Award at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in 2007.

Thanks to the English Department, Center for Democratic Deliberation, and University Libraries for their support of the Burke events.

For more details, contact Jack Selzer (5-1438; jls25@psu.edu) or Brandy Scalise at bms278@psu.edu.
