About the Contributors

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**Robert Abelman** has been on the faculty at Cleveland State University since 1982. It was while serving as both Associate Dean and Director of Academic Advising for the college that his research on the use of mission and vision statements by institutions of higher education was formulated and funded. Other research focuses on children’s television programming, including teleliteracy for gifted and learning disabled children; he is a research consultant to several children’s television production houses.

**Vanessa B. Beasley** (B.A., Vanderbilt, 1988; M.A., Ph.D., University of Texas, 1991, 1996) is Associate Professor of Communication Studies. She is also Director of the Program in American Studies. She teaches undergraduate classes in mass media and politics as well as the history of U.S. political oratory. Her research focuses on presidential rhetoric; she is the author of *You, the People: American National Identity in Presidential Rhetoric* (Texas A&M University Press, 2004) and editor of the volume *Who Belongs in America? Presidents, Rhetoric, and Immigration* (Texas A&M University Press, 2006). Her current research traces changes in presidential rhetoric on race from LBJ to Obama.

**Michelle C. Bligh** holds a BA in anthropology from Pomona College, and PhD degrees in Management and Organizational Behavior from SUNY Buffalo. Her research interests focus on organizational culture and the role of leaders in influencing and changing corporate cultures (particularly in post-merger organizations), charismatic leadership, interpersonal trust, and political and executive leadership.

**Jay P. Childers** teaches at the University of Kansas and is the author of *The Evolving Citizen: American Youth and the Changing Norms of Democratic Engagement* and co-author of *Political Tone: How Leaders Talk and Why*. His research and teaching focus on the areas of rhetoric and political communication, with specific interest on questions of democratic citizenship.
Ken Collier holds a BA and PhD degrees in Government, both from the University of Texas at Austin. His research interests include political and executive leadership and communication, political campaigns, public opinion, and White House relations with Congress.

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Janie Diels received her PhD from Cornell University and is currently Assistant Professor of Communication and New Media at Alma College. She is interested in the impact of new technologies on public political discourse and the effect of public discourse on cognitive processes.

Ying Roselyn Du holds an MS in Communication from North Carolina State University, and a PhD in Mass Communication from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Before receiving academic training in the US, she was an award-winning journalist in China. Her research interests include new media journalism studies, political communication and public opinion, global media communication, research methods, and pedagogy. Dr. Du has published in *Journalism and Mass Communication Educator, Global Media and Communication, International Journal of Communication, Newspaper Research Journal, Asian Journal of Communication, International Communication Research Journal*, among others.

Karen A. Feste (PhD, University of Minnesota), Professor of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies University of Denver, served as Associate Dean and International Security Program Director at the Josef Korbel School, University of Denver and founded and directs the interdisciplinary Conflict Resolution Graduate Program. She has authored several books, including *Terminate Terrorism: Framing, Gaming, and Negotiating Conflicts* (2010); and *America Responds to Terrorism: Conflict Resolution Strategies of Clinton, Bush, and Obama* (2011).

Stephanie Glassburn’s research interests include the process of leadership and followership, work engagement, and gender-based perceptions in the workplace. She also works in organizational development at a financial services company.

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Jason Husser is Assistant Professor of Political Science and Assistant Director of the Elon University Poll. He teaches courses on social science research methods and polling. He researches American political behavior and survey methodology. He completed a Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University in 2012. He recently published in the American Journal of Political Science and in Survey Practice.

Rajul Jain holds Ph.D. and M.A. degrees from the University of Florida and an M.Tech. from Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Technology (DAIICT), India. She also holds a B.E. from Rajiv Gandhi Technical University (RGTU), India. Her research focus is on corporate and transnational public relations, exploring how public relations is practiced internationally and how the practice is informed, shaped, and influenced by local contexts. Rajul is also engaged in examining the use of public relations in nation branding, travel, and tourism.

Sharon E. Jarvis (Ph.D., 2000) is an Associate Professor of Communication Studies and Associate Director of Research at the Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Life at the University of Texas at Austin where she teaches and conducts research on political communication, language use and persuasion. She is the author of The Talk of the Party: Political Labels, Symbolic Capital & American Life (Rowman & Littlefield) and a co-author of Political Keywords: Using Language that Uses Us (Oxford University Press). Her work has appeared in Journal of Communication, Political Communication, Political Psychology, American Behavioral Scientist, Communication Quarterly, Communication Studies, Journal of Computer Mediated Communication, among other outlets. She has been the recipient of numerous teaching honors, including the Friar Centennial Teaching Fellowship and Academy of Distinguished Teachers award.

Christopher F. Karpowitz is the Associate Director of BYU’s Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy. He holds an MA from BYU University in American Studies, as well as MA and PhD degrees in Politics from Princeton University. His research interests include political psychology, civic engagement and political participation, democratic and deliberative theory, and political communication.
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Christopher J. Lewis, Haas Center director at the University of West Florida, received his Ph.D in political science with a doctoral minor in methods (econometrics) from The Florida State University in 2006, and joined the Center shortly thereafter. He served as Director of Research for Kile Consulting, a Tallahassee based firm, and previously as President of Discover Analytics, Inc. He maintains an active research agenda in his home discipline of political science and routinely collaborates with colleagues on experimental and empirical research in political psychology, political behavior, and representation.

Colene J. Lind holds a doctorate in communication studies from the University of Texas at Austin. She examines the language of American political leadership and leader-citizen relations in the United States.

Dennis T. Lowry began teaching in the SIU School of Journalism in 1972 and retired from there in 2012. This period, however, included faculty appointments at three other universities as well. His publications cover 40 years in various mass communication journals, and he is an active member of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. Dr. Lowry’s teaching and research interests include social issues in advertising, communication research methods, and content analysis of network TV news and presidential campaign advertising.

Linda M. Merola holds a PhD in Government from Georgetown University, and a JD from the George Washington University Law School. Her academic interests include civil liberties, terrorism and security, and privacy in the context of emerging technologies, with a particular emphasis on public opinions about these topics.

Maria De Moya holds a BA in Mass Communication from Santo Domingo Catholic University, an MA in Business in Business and Economic Reporting (Journalism) from New York University and a PhD in Mass Communication from the University of Florida. She worked as a print journalist and public relations specialist before making the move to teaching. Her research centers on international public relations and community building. She is especially interested in how groups and nations represent themselves to external publics, how they are portrayed in the media, and how this portrayal affects the group or nation.

Otilia Pacea holds a PhD in Linguistics from the Romanian Academy. She completed her dissertation on language and Internet communication technologies, with special focus on a new methodology for investigating the language of blogs.

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About the Contributors

Claire Rhodes holds a MA from the University of Colorado at Boulder and a JD and PhD in Communication from the University of Memphis. Her research focuses on the legitimation techniques used by White Nationalists and similar extremist organizations, with a focus on the rhetoric of science and historical revisionism.

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Cynthia L. Sherman’s research interests include individual meaning and motivation for social versus commercial entrepreneurs, creativity and playfulness in business, and positive organizational scholarship.

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Maegan Stephens is a doctoral candidate at the University of Texas at Austin where she is an Assistant Instructor in the McCombs School of Business. Her general research interests include political communication, newsgathering, and evolving communication technologies. Her dissertation investigates changes in news content, production, and consumers’ experience in Web 2.0. She has a co-authored article in American Behavioral Scientist, a chapter in The Politics of Style and the Style of Politics (Ed. Brummett), and a review in the Journal of Media Literacy Education. She has received fellowships from the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Nordland (Bodo, Norway), and the Salzburg Global Seminar (Salzburg, Austria).

Craig O. Stewart (PhD, Carnegie Mellon University) is an assistant professor of communication at the University of Memphis. His research interests are in critical discourse studies and science communication. He has published articles in Communication Theory, Science Communication, and Journal of Language & Social Psychology.

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Sheilesha R. Willis’s areas of expertise lie in organization development, diversity, and leadership. Her primary research examines the ways in which organizational leaders leverage diversity to enhance organizational and team effectiveness.

Mark Wonnacott is a doctoral student at the University of Kansas. His research interests are in representational messages about citizenship and publicity, with a focus on the political ramifications of various modes of constituting a democratic audience.