Rebecca Walton

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Biography

Dr. Rebecca Walton is an associate professor of technical communication and rhetoric at Utah State University and the editor of *Technical Communication Quarterly*. Her research interests include social justice, human rights, and qualitative methods for cross-cultural research. Primarily a field researcher, she has collaborated with organizations such as the Red Cross, Mercy Corps, and World Vision to conduct research in countries including Uganda, Kyrgyzstan, and Bolivia. Her co-authored work has won five national awards in the past four years.

Education

PhD & Master of Science in Human Centered Design & Engineering
> University of Washington; Seattle, WA; Graduated *summa cum laude* June 2011
> Certificate: User-Centered Design

Master of Arts in Technical Writing
> University of North Texas; Denton, TX; Graduated *summa cum laude* May 2006
> Cognate Area: Nonprofit Administration

Bachelor of Arts in English
> Abilene Christian University; Abilene, TX; Graduated *summa cum laude* May 1999
> Minors: Digital Media, Journalism

Academic Positions

Associate Professor of Technical Communication and Rhetoric (April 2017–present)
Assistant Professor of Technical Communication and Rhetoric (August 2011–April 2017)
> Department of English, Utah State University; Logan, UT

Select Honors & Awards

National/International Awards

CCCC Award for Best Article Reporting Qualitative or Quantitative Research in Technical or Scientific Communication (national award), National Council of Teachers of English (2020 with S. Hopton)

CCCC Award for Best Article on Philosophy or Theory of Technical or Scientific Communication (national award), National Council of Teachers of English (2018 with N. Jones and K. Moore)

Nell Ann Pickett Award (national award), Best article published in *Technical Communication Quarterly*, Association for Teachers of Technical Writing (2017 with N. Jones and K. Moore)

STC Distinguished Article Award (national award), Best article published in *Technical Communication*, Society for Technical Communication (2017 with R. E. Mays and M. Haslekorn)

Nell Ann Pickett Award (national award), Best article published in *Technical Communication Quarterly*, Association for Teachers of Technical Writing (2016 with M. Zraly and J.P. Mugengana)

Select Honors & Awards, Cont.

University Awards

- **Researcher of the Year** (college level), College of Humanities and Social Science, Utah State University (2018)
- **Civically Engaged Scholar** (university level)**,** Utah Campus Compact (2015)
- **Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year** (college level), College of Humanities and Social Science, Utah State University (2015)
- **Early Career Award** (university level), Center for Women and Gender, Utah State University (2014)

Scholarly Monograph (refereed)

Walton, R., Moore, K. R., & Jones, N. N. (2019). *Technical communication after the social justice turn: Building coalitions for action*. New York: Routledge.

Edited Collection (refereed)

Walton, R., & Agboka, G. Y. (Eds.). (In press). *Equipping technical communicators for social justice work: Theories, methodologies, and pedagogies*. Logan, UT: USU Press.

Journal Publications (blind-refereed)

Hopton, S. B., & **Walton, R.** (2019). Rigidity and flexibility: The dual nature of communicating care for Vietnamese Agent Orange victims. *Present Tense, 8*. Retrieved from http://www.presenttensejournal.org/volume-7/rigidity-and-flexibility-the-dual-nature/

Hopton, S. B., & **Walton, R.** (2019). One word of heart is worth three of talent: Professional communication strategies in a Vietnamese nonprofit organization. *Technical Communication Quarterly, 28*(1), 39-53.

Dayley, C., & **Walton, R.** (2018). Informing efforts to increase diversity: Academic programs and student motivation in technical and professional communication. *Programmatic Perspectives 10*(2), 5-46.

Walton, R., & Hopton, S. B. (2018). "All Vietnamese men are brothers": Rhetorical strategies and community engagement practices used to support victims of Agent Orange. *Technical Communication*, *65*(3), 309-325. **(CCCC Best Article Award)**

Petersen, E. J., & **Walton, R.** (2018). Bridging analysis and action: How feminist scholarship can inform the social justice turn. *Journal of Business and Technical Communication, 32*(4), 416-446.

Jones, N. N., Moore, K., & **Walton, R.** (2016). Disrupting the past to disrupt the future: An antenarrative of technical communication. *Technical Communication Quarterly, 25*(4), 211-229. **(CCCC Best Article Award; Nell Ann Pickett Award)**

Walton, R. (2016). Supporting human dignity and human rights: A call to adopt the first principle of human-centered design. *Journal of Technical Writing and Communication, 46*(4), 402-426.

Walton, R., Colton, J. S., Wheatley-Boxx, R., & Gurko, K. (2016). Social justice across the curriculum: Research-based course design. *Programmatic Perspectives*, *(8)*2, 119-141.

Walton, R., Mays, R. E., & Haselkorn, M. (2016). Enacting humanitarian culture: How technical communication facilitates successful humanitarian work. *Technical Communication, 63*(2), 85-100. **(STC Distinguished Article Award)**

Walton, R. (2016). Making expertise visible: A disruptive workplace study with a social justice goal. *connexions: An International Professional Communication Journal, 4*(1), 159-186. Retrieved from http://dx.doi.org/10.21310/cnx.4.1.16wal

Walton, R., Zraly, M., & Mugengana, J. P. (2015). Values and validity: Navigating messiness in a community-based research project in Rwanda. *Technical Communication Quarterly, 24*(1), 45-69. **(Nell Ann Pickett Award)**

Colton, J. S., & **Walton, R.** (2015). Disability as insight into social justice pedagogy in technical communication. *Journal of Interactive Technology and Pedagogy, 8*. Retrieved from http://jitp.commons.gc.cuny.edu/disability-as-insight-into-social-justice-pedagogy-in-technical-communication/

Walton, R., & Hailey, D. (2015). Evaluating the relevance of eBooks to corporate communication. *Communication Design Quarterly, 3*(3), 12-19.

Moeller, R. M., **Walton, R.**, & Price, R. J. (2015). Participant agency and mixed methods: Viewing divergent data through the lens of genre field analysis. *Present Tense, 5*(1). Retrieved from http://www.presenttensejournal.org/volume-5/participant-agency-and-mixed-methods-viewing-divergent-data-through-the-lens-of-genre-field-analysis/

Price, R. J., **Walton, R.**, & Petersen, M. (2014). Methodological journey: Lessons learned from a student-led intercultural pilot study. *Rhetoric, Professional Communication, and Globalization, 5*(1), 90-107.

Walton, R. (2013). Stakeholder flux: Participation in technology-based international development projects. *Journal of Business and Technical Communication, 27*(4), 409-435.

Walton, R., Price, R., & Zraly, M. (2013). Rhetorically navigating Rwandan research review: A fantasy theme analysis. *Rhetoric, Professional Communication, and Globalization, 4*(1), 78-102.

Walton, R. (2013). Civic engagement, information technology, & global contexts. *connexions: An International Professional Communication Journal, 1*(1), 147-154. Retrieved from https://connexionsj.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/walton.pdf

Walton, R. (2013). Bridges & barriers to development: Communication modes, media, and devices. *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy, 17*(3). Retrieved from http://kairos.technorhetoric.net/17.3/topoi/walton/index.html

Walton, R. (2013). How trust and credibility affect technology-based development projects. *Technical Communication Quarterly, 22*(1), 85-102.

Walton, R., & Jones, N. N. (2013). Navigating increasingly cross-cultural, cross-disciplinary, and cross-organizational contexts to support social justice. Communication Design Quarterly, 1(4), 31-35.

Walton, R., Yaaqoubi, J., & Kolko, B. E. (2012). What's it for? Expectations of Internet value and usefulness in Central Asia. *Information Technologies and International Development, 8*(3), 69-84.

Walton, R., & DeRenzi, B. (2009). Value-sensitive design and health care in Africa. IEEE Transactions on *Professional Communication, 52*(4), 346-358.

Walton, R., Putnam, C., Johnson, E., & Kolko, B. E. (2009). Skills are not binary: Nuances in the relationship between ICT skills and employability. *Information Technologies and International Development*, 5(2), 1-18.

Conference Proceedings (blind-refereed)

Moeggenberg, Z. C., & **Walton, R.** (2019, October). How queer theory can inform design thinking pedagogy. In *Proceedings of the 37th ACM International Conference on the Design of Communication*. ACM.

Rose, E. J., Edenfield, A., **Walton, R.**, Gonzales, L., McNair, A. S., Zhvotovska, T., ... & Moore, K. (2018, August). Social Justice in UX: Centering marginalized users. In *Proceedings of the 36th ACM International Conference on the Design of Communication*. ACM.

Rose, E., & **Walton, R.** (2015, July 16-17). From factors to actors: Implications of posthumanism for social justice work. In *Proceedings of the 33rd ACM International Conference on the Design of Communication*, SIGDOC 2015. ACM, article 33. **(reprinted)**

Mays, R. E., **Walton, R.**, & Savino, B. (2013, May 12-15). Emerging trends toward holistic disaster preparedness. In *Proceedings of the Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management International Conference*, ISCRAM 2013, pp. 764-769.

Walton, R., Mays, R. E., & Haselkorn, M. (2011, May 8-11). Defining "fast": Factors affecting perceptions of rapid response to humanitarian disasters. In *Proceedings of the Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management International Conference*, ISCRAM 2011, pp. 1-10. **(Best paper award; reprinted with new title)**

Aditya, S., Kulkarni, C., Joy, J., Datha, N., Adabala, N., & **Walton, R.** (2010, Oct. 25-29). An interactive multimedia framework for digital heritage narratives. In *Proceedings of the ACM Multimedia International Conference*, MM 2010. ACM, pp. 1445-1448.

Driesbach, C., **Walton, R.**, Kolko, B. E., & Seidakmatova, A. (2009, July 19-22). Asking Internet users to explain non-use in Kyrgyzstan. In *Proceedings of Professional Communication Conference*, IPCC 2009. IEEE International, pp. 1-6.

Putnam, C., Rose, E., **Walton, R.**, & Kolko, B. E. (2009, July 19-22). Creating and communicating user requirements for distant audiences: A case study of mobile phone users in Kyrgyzstan. In *Proceedings of Professional Communication Conference*, IPCC 2009. IEEE International, pp. 1-13.

Walton, R. (2007, October 1-3). Technical communication and the needs of small nonprofit organizations. In *Proceedings of Professional Communication Conference*, IPCC 2007. IEEE International, pp. 1-24.

Book Chapters (blind-refereed)

Jones, N. N., & **Walton, R.** (2018). Using narratives to foster critical thinking about diversity and social justice. In M. Eble and A. Haas (Eds.), *Key theoretical frameworks: Teaching technical communication in the 21st century* (pp. 241-267). Logan, UT: Utah State University Press.

Walton, R., Mays, R. E., & Haselkorn, M. (2016). How humanitarian culture informs change adoption: A case study of humanitarian logistics. In N. Altay, M. Haselkorn, and C. Zobel (Eds.), *Advances in managing humanitarian operations* (pp. 135-157). Heidelberg: Springer.

Journal Special Issues Edited (invited)

Walton, R., & Thatcher, B. (2014). *Journal of Rhetoric, Professional Communication, and Globalization, 5*(1). Special issue on Methodologies for Intercultural Research: Reflexivity, Flexibility, and Humility.

Haselkorn, M., & **Walton, R.** (2009). *IEEE Transactions on Professional Communication, 52*(4). Special issue on Technical Communication in Humanitarian Environments.

Reprints (invited)

Rose, E., & **Walton, R.** (2018). From factors to actors: Implications of posthumanism for social justice work. In K. R. Moore and D. Richards (Eds.), *Posthuman praxis in technical communication* (pp. 93-119). New York: Routledge.

Walton, R., Mays, R. E., & Haselkorn, M. (2013). What makes response rapid? Humanitarian practitioners' views on speed in dynamic and uncertain logistics environments. In B. Hellingrath, D. Link, and A. Widera (Eds.), *Managing humanitarian supply chains: Strategies, practices and research* (pp. 222-243). Bremen: BVL International/DVV Media Group.

National/International Presentations

Walton, R. (2019, October 3). Taking action toward more socially just communication design: The 4Rs. Ignite talk. PDX Super Meet Up.

Walton, R., & Moore, K. R. (2019, October 3-5). Recognizing the design of oppression: A qualitative study. Presentation. ACM International Conference on the Design of Communication, SIGDOC 2019.

Alexander, J., Cheek, R., Itchuaqiyaq, C. U., Shirley, B., & **Walton, R.** (2019, March 13). Specific, knowledgeable, and kind: A Heuristic for the Journal Publication Process. Workshop. Association for Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, ATTW 2019.

Rose, E., Moore, K., Jones, N. N., & **Walton, R.** (2017, March 15). Ethics, empathy, and action: Strategies and cautionary tales from teaching social justice in technical communication classrooms. Panel. Association for Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, ATTW 2017.

Agboka, G., Cox, M., Del Hierro, M., Eble, M., Edwards, J., Frost, E., Haas, A., Moeller, M., Sackey, D., Smyser-Fauble, B., Verzosa Hurley, E., & **Walton, R.** (2016, April 6). Social justice curricula and pedagogy: Preparing technical communicators for active and responsible advocacy. Round table. Association for Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, ATTW 2016.

Walton, R., Colton, J., Gurko, K., & Wheatley-Boxx, R. (2015, October 1-3). Cultivating a programmatic ethos of social justice: Benefits of partnership-driven research. Panel. Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication National Conference, CPTSC 2015.

Moore, K., Jones, N. N., & **Walton, R.** (2015, March 18). Enacting social justice: Finding value in technical communication. Round table. Association for Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, ATTW 2015.

Read, S., **Walton, R.**, & Dush, L. (2014, September 25-27). Sites for social justice learning in the technical communication classroom: Technology, ethics, and learning outcomes. Panel. Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication National Conference, CPTSC 2014.

Walton, R. (2014, March 19). Supplementing verbal data with visual data in cross-cultural research. Presentation. Association for Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, ATTW 2014.

Walton, R. (2013, March 13). Concurrent, contradictory myths shaping technology use across cultures. Presentation. Association for Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, ATTW 2013.

Hailey, D., & **Walton, R.** (2012, October 8-10). Best tool for the job: How to select an appropriate ebook format. Workshop. International Professional Communication Conference, IPCC 2012.

Walton, R. (2012, March 21). Sharing control: Methods that shift power toward research participants. Presentation. Association for Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, ATTW 2012.

Humanitarian Practitioner Publications

Mays, R. E., **Walton, R.**, Lemos, M., & Haselkorn, M. (2014). Valuing what works: Success factors in disaster preparedness. An independent analysis of Red Cross/Red Crescent practitioner needs.

Mays, R. E., **Walton, R.**, & Savino, B. (2013, October 23-27). Thirty years of practice: The evolution and emergence of a more holistic view of preparedness. In *Proceedings of World Conference on Humanitarian Studies*, 2013.

Publications in Progress

Hopton, S., **Walton, R.**, & Nguyen, L. (Manuscript submitted; book under pre-publication contract). Lost in translation: Losing rigid roles in favor of feminist mentoring in a field study in Vietnam. In N. Small & B. Longo (Eds.), *Transnational research in technical communication: Realities and reflections*. New York: SUNY Press.

Itchuaqiyaq, C. U., & **Walton, R.** (Proposal submitted to journal special issue editors; drafting manuscript). Reviewer as activist: How *conocimiento* bridges worldviews through ethical publication practices. *Journal of Business and Technical Communication* special issue on 21st Century Ethics in Technical Communication.

Itchuaqiyaq, C. U., Ranade, N., & **Walton, R.** (Drafting manuscript; submission anticipated May 30, 2020). To be seen but not heard: Extracting string citations from a corpus of journal articles in TPC. Planned for submission to *Technical Communication*.

Student Advising

Graduate Student Committees

 Chair, Dissertation Committee, Jamal-Jared Alexander (2020–present)
 Chair, Dissertation Committee, Cana Uluak Itchuaqiyaq (2018–present)
 Chair, Dissertation Committee, Chris Dayley (2013–2020)
 Chair, Dissertation Committee, Breeanne Matheson (2015–2018)
 Chair, PhD Supervisory Committee, Jennifer Scucchi (2015–2017)
 Chair, Dissertation Committee, Ryan Price (2012–2015)

 Member, Dissertation Committee, Amanda Plazier, PhD in Education (2019–present)
 Member, Dissertation Committee, Andrew Hillen (2018–2020)
 Member, Dissertation Committee, Sherena Huntsman (2018–2019)
 Member, Dissertation Committee, Beth Shirley (2018–2019)
 Member, Master's Thesis Committee, Anne Marie Johnson (2015–2017)
 Member, Dissertation Committee, Adam Bair (2012–2016)
 Member, Dissertation Committee, Emily Petersen (2012–2016)
 Member, Dissertation Committee, Christon Walker (2012–2014)
 Member, Dissertation Committee, Rebecca James (2012–2013)
 Member, Dissertation Committee, Laura Vernon (2012–2013)

Honors Contracts

 Dylan Lasson (Summer 2015, Spring 2013)
 Rebekah Miner (Fall 2014)
 Natalie Cheney (Fall 2014, Spring 2014, Fall 2012)
 Ariel Peterson (Spring 2014, Spring 2013)
 Kelsen Kitchen (Spring 2013, Fall 2012)

Select Courses Taught

Utah State University; Logan, UT (2011–present)
Empirical Research Methods (graduate)
Theories of Society and Technology (graduate)
Teaching Technical Communication (graduate)
Introduction to Technical Communication (graduate)
Communicating Professional Identity (graduate/undergraduate)
Workplace Research (undergraduate)
Cross-Cultural Professional Communication (undergraduate)
Responsive Web Design (undergraduate)
Graphics and Digital Documents (undergraduate)
Designing Documents for Print (undergraduate)
Technologies for Professional Communication (undergraduate)

University of Washington; Seattle, WA (2006–2011)
User Experience (undergraduate)
Foundations of Human Centered Design (undergraduate)
Advanced Technical Communication and Oral Presentation (undergraduate)

Professional Service

National
- Editor: *Technical Communication Quarterly* (2018-present)
- Executive Committee Member: Association for Teachers of Technical Writing (2018-present)
- National Secretary: Council for Programs in Scientific and Technical Communication (2016-2018)
- Editorial Committee Member: *Journal of Rhetoric, Professional Communication, & Globalization*
- National Society Sub-Committee Member: Council for Programs in Scientific and Technical Communication Diversity Committee
- Conference Program Committee Member: Association of Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, ATTW (2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018)
- Conference Program Committee Member: Special Interest Group on Design of Communication ACM International Conference, SIGDOC (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019)
- Conference Program Committee Member: Council for Programs in Scientific and Technical Communication National Conference, CPTSC (2016, 2017, 2019)
- Conference Host Co-Chair: Council for Programs in Scientific and Technical Communication National Conference, CPTSC (2015)
- Conference Program Review Coordinator: Council for Programs in Scientific and Technical Communication National Conference, CPTSC (2015)
- Journal Reviewer: *New Media & Society; Journal for Information Technology and International Development*; *IEEE Transactions on Professional Communication*; *Journal of Information Technology and Development; Journal of Business and Technical Communication*
- Conference Reviewer: ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (2012)

Professional Service, Cont.

University
- Promotion and Tenure Committee Chair: Avery Edenfield, Department of English (2018–present)
- Promotion and Tenure Committee Member:

   Beth Buyserie, Department of English ((2019–present)

   Breanne Litts, Department of Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences (2017–present)

   Lynne McNeill, Department of English (2018–2020)

   Jared Colton, Department of English (2018–2019)
- PhD Program Chair, Technical Communication and Rhetoric (Fall 2018–Spring 2020)
- Curricular Chair, Technical Communication and Rhetoric (Fall 2018–Spring 2020; Fall 2014–Spring 2017)
- Undergraduate Research Advisory Board Member, Office of Research and Graduate Studies, Utah State University (2015–2018)
- Scholarship Committee Member, College of Humanities and Social Science, Utah State University (2015)
- International Studies Initiative Committee Member, College of Humanities and Social Science, Utah State University (2014–2015)
- Tanner Talk Committee Member, College of Humanities and Social Science, Utah State University (2014)
- Undergraduate Program Chair, Technical Communication and Rhetoric (2013–2017)
- Public Relations Committee Member, Department of English (2014–2018)
- Awards Committee Member, Department of English (2012–2016)

Professional Memberships

- Association for Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW)
- Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication (CPTSC)
- Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management (ISCRAM)
- National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)
- ACM Special Interest Group on Design of Communication (SIGDOC)