

Editors' Welcome and Farewell

Jennifer Bay and Patricia Sullivan

We welcome you to *Peitho* 18.2, an issue that highlights the gamut of what is available to women who seek to invent, hone, and wield rhetorical power. Each essay provides a different perspective on research methods that allow for feminist scholarship, both on individual women rhetors and on larger women's groups.

Richard Lee Enos and Natasha Trace Robinson introduce us to "Claudia Severa's Birthday Invitation: A Rhetorical Analysis of the Earliest Artifact of Latin Written by a Woman's Hand," an article that expands our knowledge of women's contributions to the earliest forms of epistolary rhetoric. Amy Gerald's "Finding the Grimké's in Charleston: Using Feminist Historiographic and Archival Research Methods to Build Public Memory" shows how we might use the archive to lead to feminist inquiry, which ultimately allowed Gerald to build a public memory of the Grimke sisters in Charleston. In "Forget the Master's Tools, We Will Build Our Own House: The Woman's Era as a Rhetorical Forum for the Invention of the African American Woman," Katherine Fredlund examines *The Woman's Era* as a publication in which African American women found both personal and political strength through its various networks. Each of these pieces focus on historiographic approaches that can expand or limit our ability to highlight women's contributions to rhetorical history and theory.

Faith Kurtyka brings us into the 20th century to examine how one contemporary women's organization, the sorority, serves as a site of empowerment. Kurtyka describes how a group of sorority women "adopt a creative and critical approach to sorority life, explore alternative roles as sorority women, and theorize their sorority as an alternate formation of sorority culture." Finally, Virginia Crisco's "Recognizing the Rhetorics of Feminist Action: Activist Literacy and Dr. Jill Stein's Green Party Campaign" comes at an appropriate moment as we debate candidates for the 2016 Presidential election in the United States. Crisco demonstrates the rhetorical strategies that Presidential candidate Jill Stein used in her 2012 campaign and argues for an activist literacy that leverages feminist possibilities for action in a neoliberal democracy.

With this issue, we bid you farewell as editors of *Peitho*. We want to thank all of the people who have helped us grow the journal over the past 3 years: the journal's first editorial assistants, Carrie Grant and Christine Masters; our current editorial assistants, Trinity Overmyer, Rebekah Sims, Erin Brock Carlson, Jenny McVeigh, and Elizabeth Lane; Coalition webmistress Caitlan Spronk; our Editorial Board, led by Lindal Buchanan; Associate Editors, Lisa

Mastrangelo and Wendy Sharer; and all of the many manuscript reviewers and Advisory Board members who have reviewed for the journal over the past three years, especially those who reviewed as part of Volume 18: Kate Adams, Risa Applegarth, Lisa Arnold, Sara Arroyo, Anita August, Jean Bessette, Christine Blair, Lindal Buchanan, Kelly Cameron, Erin Frost, David Gold, Melissa Goldthwaite, Jane Greer, Laurie Grobman, Lisa Mastrangelo, Kristen Moore, Kelly Pender, Staci Perryman-Clark, Clancy Ratliff, Krista Ratcliffe, Thomas Rickert, Hui Wu, K.J. Rawson, Kristen Seas, Lisa Shaver, Eileen Schell, Don Ungar, and Shirley Wilson-Logan.

We thank you for your assistance as we have built the infrastructure to continue publishing solid feminist scholarship. But perhaps most of all, we thank all of the graduate students and junior faculty who read *Peitho*, attend the Feminisms and Rhetorics conference, and submit their scholarship to the journal. You continue to build up the work of feminist scholarship, pushing it beyond its limitations and challenging all of us to create new spaces of rhetorical power for all peoples. We wish Jen Wingard all the best as she continues this work as the journal's new editor.