

Political Dissent: Satire, Sarcasm, and Spite in Civil Society



Society for Values in Higher Education
92nd Annual Fellows Meeting
July 13–July 17, 2016
Oberlin College, Oberlin OH

Call for Papers

Some see satire and other forms of political humor as undermining the civility necessary for the functioning of a civil society. Others see these forms of expression as signs of healthy democratic discourse. At its 2016 annual meeting, the Society for Values in Higher Education will explore the nature of civil discourse. How can we establish a more robust and productive dialogue with one another—across our political, religious, and cultural divides?

- ◆ What distinguishes political humor from hate speech?
- ◆ When do norms of civility stifle political dissent?
- ◆ Are there moral and religious boundaries within which political humor should be contained?
- ◆ What if any impact does *Citizens United* have on the quality of civil discourse? To what standards should corporations that fund political attack ads be held?
- ◆ Do anonymous social media undermine or facilitate civil discourse?
- ◆ How can individuals foster civility through participation in local institutions and organizations?
- ◆ What role can colleges and universities play in establishing a genuine civil discourse?

Contact Information

Direct inquiries and proposals to Eric Bain-Selbo, Executive Director, Society for Values in Higher Education (bain-selbo@svhe.org). **Proposals should not exceed 1000 words.** Proposals will be reviewed as they are submitted. Review will continue until all available slots are filled. No proposals will be accepted after the deadline of **April 15, 2016**. Interdisciplinary and/or practice oriented proposals are especially encouraged.

Awards

Those selected to present will receive a **reduced registration rate** of \$50 for members or \$75 for non-members (which includes a complimentary year-long membership) for the 2015 Fellows Meeting. Two papers will be selected for the **Robert Spivey Excellence in Scholarship Awards** which include a prize of \$300 each. To be eligible for an award, completed papers must be submitted by July 1, 2016 and authors are required to attend the SVHE

The Society for Values in Higher Education
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Featured Speakers



Sophia McClennen, Penn State University

Wednesday, July 13

Professor of International Affairs and Comparative Literature Author of *Is Satire Saving Our Nation?* co-written with Remy Maisel (Palgrave 2014) and *Colbert's America: Satire and Democracy* (Palgrave 2013)

Rebecca Shuman, Slate

Thursday, July 14

Rebecca Shuman is an education columnist for Slate, a job market existential survival columnist for the Chronicle of Higher Education Vitae and the author of *Kafka and Wittgenstein: The Case for Analytic Modernism*.

