

# Rebecca Walton

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## Biography

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Rebecca Walton is an associate dean in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Utah State University and the editor of the journal *Technical Communication Quarterly*. Walton researches how people intervene for justice in their workplaces. Her co-authored scholarship has won multiple national awards, including awards for best book, best theory article, and best empirical research article. Her research has informed implicit bias training, policy revision, and curriculum development at multiple universities.

## Academic Positions

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**Associate Dean**, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (July 2021–present)

**Professor**, Technical Communication and Rhetoric (July 2022–present)

**Associate Professor**, Technical Communication and Rhetoric (April 2017–July 2022)

**Assistant Professor**, Technical Communication and Rhetoric (August 2011–April 2017)

Utah State University; Logan, UT

## Education

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### 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

## Select Awards

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- **CCCC Award for Best Book in Technical or Scientific Communication** (national award), National Council of Teachers of English (2021 with N. N. Jones and K. R. Moore)
- **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. B. 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. N. Jones and K. R. Moore)
- **Nell Ann Pickett Award** (national award), Best article published in *Technical Communication Quarterly*, Association for Teachers of Technical Writing (2017 with N. N. Jones and K. R. 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 Awards, Cont.

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- **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 Books (refereed)

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Walton, R., & Agboka, G. Y. (Eds.). (2021). *Equipping technical communicators for social justice work: Theories, methodologies, and pedagogies*. Logan, UT: USU Press.

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

## Journal Publications (anonymously refereed)

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\*Alexander, J., & Walton, R. (2022). Relational recruiting: Using Black feminist theory to inform more socially just graduate program recruiting. *IEEE Transactions on Professional Communication*, 65(1), 164-178.

Moore, K. R., Jones, N. N., & Walton, R. (2021). Contextualizing the 4Rs heuristic with participant stories. *Technical Communication*, 68(4), 8-25.

\*Itchuaqiyaq, C. U., & Walton, R. (2021). Reviewer as activist: Understanding academic review through *conocimiento*. *Rhetoric Review*, 40(4), 378-394.

\*Itchuaqiyaq, C. U., Ranade, N., & Walton, R. (2021). Theory to query: Developing a corpus-analysis method using computer programming and human analysis. *Technical Communication*, 68(3), 7-28.

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. R., & 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)**

## Journal Publications, Cont. (anonymously refereed) \_\_\_\_\_

- 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.

## Journal Publications, Cont. (anonymously refereed) \_\_\_\_\_

- 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 (anonymously refereed) \_\_\_\_\_

- \*Alexander, J., \*Stevens, H., & Walton, R. (2022, October). Diversifying knowledge: Presenting and applying a framework for inclusive graduate program websites In *Proceedings of the 40th ACM International Conference on the Design of Communication*. ACM.
- Moeggenberg, Z. C., \*Stevens, H., Walton, R., & \*Alexander, J. (2022, July). Inclusive editing: Actionable recommendations for editors and instructors. In *Proceedings of the IEEE International Professional Communication Conference*. IEEE.
- Cagle, L., Eble, M., Johnson, M., Johnson, N. R., Lane, L., Mckoy, T., ... & Walton, R. (2021, October). Participatory coalition building: Creating an anti-racist scholarly reviewing practices heuristic. In *Proceedings of the 39th ACM International Conference on the Design of Communication*. ACM.
- 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*. ACM. **(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*. 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*. IEEE.
- 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*. IEEE.
- Walton, R. (2007, October 1-3). Technical communication and the needs of small nonprofit organizations. In *Proceedings of Professional Communication Conference*. IEEE.

## 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. Hellings, D. Link, and A. Widera (Eds.), *Managing humanitarian supply chains: Strategies, practices and research* (pp. 222-243). Bremen: BVL International/DVV Media Group.

## Book Chapters (anonymously refereed) \_\_\_\_\_

- Jones, N. N., & **Walton, R.** (In press). Social justice. In H. Yu and J. Buehl (Eds.), *Keywords in technical communication*. Fort Collins, CO: WAC Clearinghouse.
- Hopton, S. B., **Walton, R.**, & Nguyen, L. (2022). Lost in translation: Losing rigid team roles in a field study in Vietnam. In N. Small and B. Longo (Eds.), *Transnational research in technical communication: Stories, realities and reflections* (pp. 51-66). Albany, NY: SUNY Press.
- 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

## Under Review \_\_\_\_\_

- Walton, R.**, Moore, K. R., & Jones, N. N. (Revising for resubmission by December 2022). Building inclusive TPC programs: Practical, research-based recommendations. A. Ilyasova & S. Williams (Eds.), *Technical Communication Program Administration*.

## National/International Presentations \_\_\_\_\_

- \*Alexander, J., & **Walton, R.** (2022, June). Relational recruiting. Workshop. Association for Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, ATTW 2022.
- Ball, C. E., Cole, J. L., Itchuaqiyah, C. U., & **Walton, R.** (2022, January). After the inclusivity statement: Shit or get off the pot. Modern Language Association National Convention, MLA 2022.
- \*Alexander, J., \*Clem, S., \*Welton Bryson, R., & **Walton, R.** (2021, June 7). Black feminist theory in TPC: Inclusive practices as administrator, teacher, practitioner, and scholar. Panel. Association for Teachers of Technical Writing National Conference, ATTW 2021.

## National/International Presentations, Cont.

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- 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., \*Itchuaqiyag, 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. R., 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. ... & **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.
- 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.

## Invited Talks

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- Walton, R.** (2021, March). Incorporating considerations of social justice at all levels of an academic program. Invited talk and workshop. University of Houston Downtown.
- Walton, R.** (2020, March). Lived experience as knowledge making: Recognizing and revealing injustice in sites of work. Annual Edward P. J. Corbett Lecture. The Ohio State University.

## Humanitarian Practitioner Publications

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- 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.

## Graduate Student Advising

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### Chair, Dissertation Committee

Hannah Stevens (2020–present)  
 Jamal-Jared Alexander (2019–2022)  
 Cana Uluak Itchuaqiyay (2018–2021)  
 Chris Dayley (2013–2020)  
 Breeanne Matheson (2015–2018)  
 Ryan Price (2012–2015)

### Advisor, Presidential Doctoral Research Fellow

Dorcas Anabire (2022–present)  
 Jamal-Jared Alexander (2018–2022)

### Member, Master's Thesis Committee

Anne Marie Johnson (2015–2017)

### Chair, PhD Supervisory Committee

Jennifer Scucchi (2015–2017)

### Member, Dissertation Committee

Erika-Danielle Lindstrom, Sociology (2022–present)  
 Sam Clem (2021–present)  
 Rachel Bryson (2020–present)  
 Amanda Plazier, Education (2019–present)  
 Andrew Hillen (2018–2020)  
 Sherena Huntsman (2018–2019)  
 Beth Shirley (2018–2019)  
 Adam Bair (2012–2016)  
 Emily Petersen (2012–2016)  
 Christon Walker (2012–2014)  
 Rebecca James (2012–2013)  
 Laura Vernon (2012–2013)

## Select Courses Taught

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- Empirical Research Methods (graduate)
- Teaching Technical Communication (graduate)
- Introduction to Technical Communication (graduate)
- Communicating Professional Identity (graduate/undergraduate)
- Workplace Research (undergraduate)
- Cross-Cultural Professional Communication (undergraduate)
- Document Design and Graphics (undergraduate)

## Professional Service

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### National

- Board of Trustees, University Press of Colorado, Utah State University Press, University of Wyoming Press, and University of Alaska Press (2021–present)
- 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, 2019, 2020, 2021)
- Conference Program Committee Member: Special Interest Group on Design of Communication ACM International Conference, SIGDOC (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)
- 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)

## Professional Service, Cont.

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### University

- Promotion [and Tenure] Committee Chair:
  - Cree Taylor, Department of English (2022–present)
  - Avery Edenfield, Department of English (2018–2022)
- Promotion [and Tenure] Committee Member:
  - Brian Champagne, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (2022–present)
  - Beth Buyserie, Department of English (2019–present)
  - Breanne Litts, Department of Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences (2017–present)
  - Meredith Wang, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (2020–2021)
  - Lynne McNeill, Department of English (2018–2020)
  - Jared Colton, Department of English (2018–2019)
- Space Committee Member, College representative (2021–present)
- Hunger Solutions Institute Member, College representative (2021–present)
- Website Committee Member, English Department (2021–2022)
- Undergraduate Program Chair, Technical Communication and Rhetoric (2020–2022)
- Scientific Member, Institutional Review Board (2020–2021)
- Website Committee Chair, English Department (2020–2021)
- Annual Review Task Force Member, English Department (2020)
- Faculty Editorial Committee Member, USU Press (2019–present)
- PhD Program Chair, Technical Communication and Rhetoric (2018–2020)
- Curricular Chair, Technical Communication and Rhetoric (2018–2020; 2014–2017)
- Undergraduate Research Advisory Board Member, Office of Research and Graduate Studies (2015–2018)
- Scholarship Committee Member, College of Humanities and Social Science (2015)
- International Studies Initiative Committee Member, College of Humanities and Social Science (2014–2015)
- Tanner Talk Committee Member, College of Humanities and Social Science (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

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- Association for Teachers of Technical Writing (ATTW)
- Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication (CPTSC)
- Modern Language Association (MLA)
- National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)
- ACM Special Interest Group on Design of Communication (SIGDOC)