

Elizabeth Brady

From living in Africa, to working with an NGO in the UK during the Rwanda crisis, to Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, I have learned to speak and write into ambiguous situations. These experiences continue to fuel my teaching in Public Speaking and as a Public Relations Consultant for Penn State Global. After the sudden death of our son Mack in 2012, I participate in the community of bereaved parents, a club that no one chooses, and yet its ranks are full of the great survivors of life.

Education

Carnegie Center for Literacy & Learning, Lexington, KY August 2022-23
Author Academy: A 9-month certificate program that provides writers support to grow their craft and prepare manuscripts for publication.

Wheaton College Graduate School, Wheaton, IL May 1993
Master of Arts in Communication: concentration in International Relations & Creative Writing

Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia Summer 1992
Media Seminar researching “post-coup” media and Russia’s transition from a Propagandistic to Democratic system. I was awarded a grant through the Institute for International Education (IIE) for the two-week seminar while in graduate school.

East Carolina University, Greenville, NC May 1990
Bachelor of Arts: Major in History, Minor in Broadcasting

Experience

Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pa. September 2007–present
Associate Teaching Professor, Communications Arts & Sciences, College of Liberal Arts
Cynthia Finch Award for Teaching Excellence 2018
Public Relations Consultant, Penn State Global

I enjoy a dual appointment as associate teaching professor in Communication Arts & Sciences and Public Relations Consultant in Global Programs. Moving regularly between the academic and administrative units within the university is like learning two dialects of the same language and I have found that one enlivens and enriches the other.

Penn State Global has more than 100 staff who support the complex process of Americans studying abroad and the more than 10,000 international students that study at Penn State throughout the campuses. We also regularly engage with a partnership of peer research institutions around the world. Our small but productive marketing team supports the needs of each unit.

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As the part-time PR Consultant, I am the project manager for our videos and our platform of educational training modules that are produced by WPSU Public Television. I also help plan major events including our annual International Student and Family Presidential Welcome reception. I helped to create our International Parent Orientation that addresses unique concerns of the international families.

I serve on both the review and planning committees for our annual awards, assist with media inquiries and public relations issues that arise. I enjoy the variety of people and experiences I am engaged in each day.

As an Associate Teaching Professor, which is the highest rank for a teaching professor without a doctorate in the College of Liberal Arts, I was awarded the Cynthia Finch Award for Teaching Excellence in 2018 by the Communication Arts & Sciences department.

I teach three sections of Public Speaking each semester, which is a rigorous course that takes the undergraduates through a variety of mini and major speeches throughout the semester. Leaning on my background in media relations, I film the major speeches for the purposes of self-critique and feedback, which helps their voices and style to emerge. It is a great joy to see students learn to speak well and be empowered by the process.

University Service

WPSU Grief Initiative, Content Advisory Board	November 2018-2021
Pink Panthers, Faculty Advisor	August 2018-2020
Empowering Orphans, Faculty Advisor	August 2017-18
Omani Student Association, Faculty Advisor	August 2016-17
International Justice Mission (IJM), Faculty Advisor	August 2016-17

Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana, New Orleans, La. October 2005-July 2006

Public Relations Coordinator

After Hurricane Katrina struck in August 2005 every organization in the area was involved in the recovery efforts whether or not they were prepared to be! I assisted with the new demands of media and public relations on the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana and continued as a media consultant for several years after our move to Pennsylvania in 2006.

Media Consultant

August 2006-January 2010

I continued to serve as a media consultant for the diocese after our move to State College. The diocese was very involved in the recovery process in south Louisiana from the grassroots to the federal level.

University College of Tulane, New Orleans, La. 2004-05

Adjunct Faculty University College is the outreach unit for Tulane University. I taught a weekly Persuasive Public Speaking course after Hurricane Katrina that solidified my enjoyment and aptitude for teaching.

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World Vision United Kingdom (UK), Milton Keynes, England

1994-97

Press Officer

It was the height of the Rwanda crisis and World Vision's Marketing Director created the first in-house PR team to address the demands more quickly. World Vision is part of the multi-national relief and development non-government organization (NGO) World Vision. I served as Press Officer and my primary directive was to raise the public awareness of World Vision and its worldwide work through all media. I served as Deputy Public Relations Manager for our team of five.

Highlights:

- Facilitated World Vision's first national news coverage in print (London Times) and TV (Good Morning with Anne & Nick, BBC 1, Sky News, Channel 4 News).
- Organized and led two separate trips of supporters to Ethiopia ('95) and Uganda ('96) to see the work of WV first-hand. With a professional videographer and photographer along, we filmed supporters and then used the material for promotional purposes throughout the United Kingdom.
- Promoted public policy initiatives such as Landmines, the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Stockholm Conference, Sept. 1996)

Society of International Ministries (SIM), Burkina Faso, West Africa

1990-91

I spent 10 months in Burkina Faso, supported by the vestry of my childhood church, the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Burke, Virginia. I lived in a mud brick house in the bush town of Fada N'Gourma and assisted the director with various administrative duties as Fada was the regional center. I helped run the guest house on the compound where we hosted many weary desert travelers and generally survived the challenges of bush living.

Professional Membership

Public Relations Society of America (PRSA)

Full member since 2014

Volunteer Service

Global Advisory Board, Footsteps

September 2022-present

A former Penn State student founded the non-profit organization Footsteps <http://footstepsbd.org> in his country Bangladesh. Footsteps has received international recognition and awards for its innovative solutions in water sanitation. Footsteps seeks to build healthy communities in rural Bangladesh.

The Compassionate Friends

July 2016-present

The Compassionate Friends (TCF) is a national non-profit that supports families after the death of a child. I contribute essays to their magazine "We Need Not Walk Alone" and attend the annual national conference most years. <https://compassionatefriends.org>

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Mack Brady Memorial Soccer Fund

January 2013-present

I co-founded the Mack Brady Soccer Fund with my family after the sudden death of our son Mack, who was a talented goalkeeper. More than \$240,000 has been raised by private donations to benefit the Penn State Men's Soccer team and specifically the goalkeepers.

<http://www.MackBrady.com/>

Tides

Tides is a local non-profit organization that supports grieving children, teens, and the people who love them. <http://tidesprogram.org/>

Board Member

May 2017- 2020

Centre County Women's Resource Center

Board Member, three-year term.

May 2013-2016

Select Publications

Oil for Your Lantern: Sharing Light Along a Dark Path After the Death of a Child. My collection of essays on child loss and bereavement is under contract with Sunbury Press and forthcoming in 2024.

Bodies of Truth: Personal Narratives on Illness, Disability and Medicine, edited by Dinty W. Moore, Erin Murphy, and Renée K. Nicholson. University of Nebraska Press, 2019.

Note: My essay "Sit Still and Uncover Your Eyes" was invited to be in the *Bodies of Truth* anthology.

Open to Hope (<http://opentohope.com>) – I am a contributing author to this multi-media platform with resources to help the bereaved.

"About Your Roome" *OpentoHope.com*

March 2023

"Advent: A Visit in the Darkest Hours" *OpentoHope.com*

November 2019

"Keep the Door to Your Soul Open" *OpentoHope.com*

December 2017

"The Downstairs Thief" *OpentoHope.com*

February 2017

"Sit Still and Uncover Your Eyes" *ModernLoss.com*

August 2015

"Another School Year Begins" *OpentoHope.com*

September 2014