

## The Crisis of Rhetoric: Renewing Political Speech and Speechwriting

**Workshop 4:** Reasons and Reasoning

**Date:** Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018

**Location:** Room 201, Arts Building, University of Birmingham

### *Overview*

Rhetoric involves forms of reasoning suited to the fraught, confusing and uncertain contexts of public life. A challenge is to ensure that such reasoning is not too unreasonable or unresponsive to facts. This workshop will look at theories of reason associated with rhetoric and their relationship to appeals rooted in emotion and figurative expression. Key questions will include: How can we understand the relationship between emotional and logical arguments in contemporary speech? Do politicians rely on certain kinds of logical and factual argument? Are arguments from emotion and values becoming more prominent? How can 'good' reasons be better promoted to the public?

### Speakers:

- Rita Copeland (Professor of the Humanities and Professor of Classical Studies, English, and Comparative Literature, University of Pennsylvania, US)
- Christian Kock (Professor of Rhetoric, University of Copenhagen)
- Nick Turnbull (Lecturer in Politics, University of Manchester)

### Schedule

10.00 Arrival and registration

10.15 Introduction to the workshop (Henriette van der Blom and Alan Finlayson)

10.30 Session 1:     *Logos in Historical Perspective*  
Professor Rita Copeland  
Chair: Alan Finlayson

11.45 Coffee

12.00 Session 2:     *Rhetoric, Deliberation and Citizenship*  
Professor Christian Kock  
Chair: Henriette van der Blom

13.15 Lunch

14.00 Session 3:     *Critical Questioning and Argumentation*  
Dr. Nick Turnbull  
Chair: Sophia Hatzisavvidou

15.15 Closing Discussion and 'Next Steps'

16:00 End of workshop