

**Personal Information****Dr. Angela T. Ragusa**

Mailing Address: PO Box 725 Albert Street  
Brisbane, Queensland 4002 Australia

Phone: (07) 3857-2114  
E-mail: [a.ragusa@mailbox.gu.edu.au](mailto:a.ragusa@mailbox.gu.edu.au)  
or: aragusa@vt.edu

**Academic Qualifications**

- Ph.D. in Sociology from Virginia Tech University - January, 2003
- Master of Science in Science and Technology Studies from Virginia Tech University - May, 2000
- Master of Science in Sociology from Virginia Tech University - May, 1998
- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from St. Francis College - February, 1993, Magna Cum Laude

**Academic Awards**

- Who's Who Among American Women, 2003
- Graduate Research Assistantship 1995 - 2002
- National Collegiate Medical Professions Award 2000
- Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society 1997-2002
- Alpha Kappa Delta, Chapter President 1995-1998 and 1991-1993
- Duns Scotus Honor Society 1993
- Who's Who Among Universities and Colleges 1990-1993
- Psi Chi National Honor Society, Chapter President 1991-1992
- Presidential Scholarship 1989-1993
- St. Francis' Dean's List 1989-1993
- New York State Regents Scholarship 1989

**Teaching/Lecturing Experience**

- Social Research Methods – Fall, 2000 (18 enrolled), Radford University
- Introductory Sociology - Summer Session II, 1999 (55), Spring, 2000 (99), Virginia Tech University, Spring, 2001 (45), Radford University
- Gender and Science – Spring, 1999 (35), Virginia Tech University
- Deviant Behavior - Summer Session I, 1999, (20), Virginia Tech University
- Gender Relations - Summer Session II, 1998, (18), Summer Session II, 2001 (27), Virginia Tech University
- Individual in Society - Virginia Tech, Summer Session II, 1997 (12) and Fall, 1998 (47), Virginia Tech University
- Introductory Sociology, "Self-Taught"- 1997 (140), Spring, 1998 (100), Fall, 1999 (135), Virginia Tech University

## Research Interests

- Social Change and Inequality of Gender, Class, Race and Sexuality
- The Sociology of Knowledge and Science
- Research Methodology and Social Theory

My current research explores social change in mainstream media representation and visibility of sexual minorities. Applying critical, social movement, cultural, and postmodern feminist theory, I analyze three decades of *New York Times* business news/advertising articles.

Concurrently, I am completing a quantitative international study of time usage, leisure patterns and consumption in adolescence. I developed and distributed questionnaires to high school students in Albania, Holland, and northern and southern regions in the United States.

A future project I am planning involves addressing some methodological issues facing qualitative researchers. Specifically, I aim to explore issues of objectivity, epistemic and judgmental relativism, discussing the implications and practice applications of these concepts

## Grants and Publications

### Grants:

- Mentoring Program Diversity Research Grant, \$1500, 2000–2001

### Published Reviews:

- Review article of Peter Coates' *Nature: Western Attitudes since Ancient Times*, in the *Journal of the History of Biology*, Winter, 1999, Vol.32, pp.579-81
- Review article of John Rensenbrink's *Against All Odds: The Green Transformation of American Politics* in *The New River Free Press*, July 5, 1999

### Papers Presented / Published Abstracts:

- "Measuring and Analyzing Performance Indicators in Higher Education," presented to the Teaching and Learning Executive Committee, Griffith University, October, 2002, *Brisbane, Australia*
- "Materialism and Consumption in Post-Industrial Society," presented at the Science and Technology Seminar Series at Virginia Tech University, May, 2000, *Blacksburg, Virginia*
- "An Analysis of Tolerance Variation Among Adherents to Feminist, Environmentalist and Gay Rights Principles" presented at the Midwest Sociological Society, April, 1999, *Minneapolis, Minnesota*
- To "An Exploration of Nature as Operationalized via a Multiparadigmatic Approach: What is Nature and how is its definition qualified by multiple social theorists?" presented at the Political Science Seminar Series, Virginia Tech University, December, 1998, *Blacksburg, Virginia*

- "Ecofeminism: Feminism, Environmentalism and Civil Rights", co-authored paper with Dr. Michael Hughes and Dr. Peggy de Wolf. Presented at the Sociology Department's Brown Bag Series, May, 1998, Blacksburg, Virginia
- "Using New Social Movement Theory to Analyze the Gay Rights Movement" presented at the American Sociological Association, August, 1997, Toronto, Canada and abstract published in *Sociological Abstracts*, 45/7, suppl 181
- "An Analysis of the Effects of Environmentalism and Feminism on Tolerance of Nonconformists as Measured by the Extension of Civil Rights" presented at the American Sociological Association, August, 1997 and abstract published in *Sociological Abstracts*, 45/7, suppl 181
- "The Women's Movement, Animal Rights' Movement, Environmental Movement and Tolerance." presented at Virginia Tech's Brown Bag Series, December, 1996, Blacksburg, VA

### Employment Experience

- Senior Research Assistant at Griffith University, Brisbane, QLD Australia (July, 2002-present)
  - Team member working in the Vice-Chancellor's office to interpret, explain, refine, and systematize performance indicator measures of quality of higher education
  - Conduct quantitative and qualitative analysis to audit university data, operational and strategic plans, policies and procedures in preparation for the Australian Universities Quality Association 2003 audit
  - Write and present reports, interview Deans, attend meetings and conferences (Australian University Quality Audit Forum, September, 2002, Brisbane, Australia), and develop mechanisms for data warehousing
- Yoga Instructor at Griffith University (August, 2002 - present)
  - Teach Hatha and Ashtanga yoga to staff and students two/three times a week
- Lecturer at Virginia Tech University, Blacksburg, Virginia – (August, 1997 - August, 2001)
  - Wrote and delivered all lectures for seven courses in Introduction to Sociology (1999 and 2000), Deviant Behavior (1999), Gender Relations (1998 and 2001), and Individual in Society (1997 and 1998)
  - Solely responsible for syllabi construction, reading selections, grading, tutoring, and creating assignments
  - Co-taught Gender and Science (1999) to senior biology students with Dr. Muriel Lederman. Responsible for delivering half the semester's lectures and grading.
  - Note: Teaching Evaluations can be provided upon request. On a scale of 0-4 for overall effectiveness, I have consistently scored above 3

- Lecturer at Radford University, Radford, Virginia – (August, 2000 - December, 2000)
  - Wrote and delivered all lectures for Introduction to Sociology and Social Research Methods
  - Responsible for syllabi construction, reading selections, all grading, tutoring, and assignments
- Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant at Virginia Tech University (August 1995-April 2002)
  - Developed sociological questionnaires, obtained human subjects clearance, delivered questionnaires, performed quantitative analysis using SPSS, obtained research funding, presented findings
  - Independently oversaw the functioning of the high-enrolment "Self-Taught" Introduction to Sociology (1997-1999). Lead weekly tutorials, wrote and gave exams, and re-structured course to overcome student dissatisfaction with self learning
  - Conducted qualitative research, theoretical analysis, and literature reviews
  - Networked within the local community to develop relationships with the University
  - Tutored graduate/undergraduate students research and writing skills
  - Graduate student representative at faculty meetings
- Loan Processor at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, NY, NY (May-August, 1996)
  - Processed corporate loan applications, client database management and organizing/updating client profiles
- Derivatives Research Assistant at JP Morgan Investment Bank, NY, NY (May, 1994-August, 1995)
  - Researched background information for trading instruments (derivatives, swaps, futures and options) and worked on the stock exchange trading floor
  - Assisted with the preparation of risk assessment reports
  - Performed Desktop publishing and prepared presentations
  - Created and managed Lotus Notes firm-wide database, including
  - Coordinated and conducted interviews with Human Resources
  - Responsible for departmental accounting, travel arrangements, expense statements and budget monitoring
- General Staff at UNICEF (United Nations Children Fund) NY, NY (December, 1993-April, 1994)
  - Team member of the Southeast Asia section
  - Prepared country profile reports, briefing and country notes, and utilization reports for Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Maldives, Papua New Guinea, the Pacific Islands, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Thailand,

ROK, DPRK, Malaysia, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Laos, Bhutan and India

→Responsible for direct communications with field offices, regional directors and missions

→Monitored the implementation of programs, donor funding and progress reports

→Section Representative at the General Assembly

### Additional Experience

- Collected *Anopheles gambiae* mosquitoes from rural villages and homes in Kenya, Africa (May, 2000) as part of a collaborative malaria research project with the United States Army and Dr. Shirley Luckhart's biochemistry laboratory at Virginia Tech University.
- Political Action Committee Representative for NOW (1997-2000). Developed and conducted telephone interviews with political candidates to ascertain their position on a number of sociopolitical issues. Reported this research to the national office for determination of political funding and sponsorship.
- Assisted with the alumni fund-raising drive (Summer, 2000).
- Attended the Virginia Tech Graduate Teaching Program, Spring, 1999, in Blacksburg, VA to enhance teaching skills.
- Chapter president of the Montgomery County chapter of the National Organization of Women (NOW) (1998-1999). Organized and ran monthly community meetings, attended regional and national conferences, and coordinated outreach programs. Worked with students on event planning to bring speakers, hold the back the night marches, and run and tight domestic violence campaigns.
- Writer, and editor at the *New River Free Press* (1997-1999). Assisted in the production of monthly newspaper.
- Participated in roundtable discussions at the Society for the Study of Social Problems, August, 1997, Toronto, Canada.
- Participated in Virginia Tech's University Writing Program Workshop, June, 1997, Blacksburg, VA.
- Tutored student athletes social science, reading, writing and studying skills (1996-1998 and 2000-2001).

### Additional Skills/Information

- Certified Yoga Instructor (Lake Weyba, QLD Australia July, 2002)
- N.Y. State Notary Public (1993-1995)
- French, advanced study - seven years; Spanish, limited knowledge
- Memberships - American Sociological Association, Society for the Study of Social Problems, Midwest Sociological Association, Southern Sociological Association

## Referees

**Dr. Carol Bailey**

[baileyc@vt.edu](mailto:baileyc@vt.edu)

Assistant Professor, Virginia Tech University  
Department of Sociology, 674 McBryde Hall  
Blacksburg, VA 24061 USA  
(540) 231-2247

**Dr. Peggy de Wolf**

[woofer@vt.edu](mailto:woofer@vt.edu)

Associate Professor, Virginia Tech University  
Department of Sociology, 649 McBryde Hall  
Blacksburg, VA 24061 USA  
(540) 231-8965

**Dr. Martha Mc Caughey**

[marth@vt.edu](mailto:marth@vt.edu)

Director, Women's Studies, Virginia Tech University  
Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, 252 Lane Hall  
Blacksburg, VA 24061 USA