



Karla Armbruster is an associate professor in the English Department at Webster University in St. Louis, MO, where she teaches American literature, interdisciplinary studies, and professional writing. She is also co-chair of the environmental studies program and will begin a term as chair of the English Department in summer 2008.

Before she came to Webster, Karla taught American studies at the University of Colorado in Boulder and American studies-based composition at Michigan State University. She received her Ph.D. from the Department of English at the Ohio State University in 1996.

Karla's primary research area is ecocriticism and environmental literature, and she has published articles and book chapters on authors including Terry Tempest Williams, Ursula Le Guin, Rick Bass, Josephine Johnson, and Dian Fossey. With Kathleen R. Wallace, she co-edited *Beyond Nature Writing: Expanding the Boundaries of Ecocriticism* (Charlottesville: UP of Virginia, 2002).

Most recently, she has become very interested in animal studies and is working on a book about representations of dogs in literature and popular culture. She teaches a literature course on Humans and Other Animals at Webster, and her animal-studies focused publications include articles on the "classic" dog story and animals in the novels of Toni Morrison as well as a book chapter on teaching animal-studies based literature courses in *Teaching North American Environmental Literature* (forthcoming from MLA).

Karla is Immediate Past President of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE), and she co-organized ASLE's most recent biennial conference, which took place at Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, in June 2007.