

# DR. JENNIFER MERRITT FARIA

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(434) 806-1169

## EDUCATION

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- Vanderbilt University** Nashville, TN  
B.A., Political Science  
Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science Honorary
- Northwestern University** Evanston, IL  
M.M., J. L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management  
Kellogg Dean's Distinguished Service Award  
Christian-Marsteller Scholarship  
Kosciuszko Foundation Fellowship  
German Marshal Fund Fellowship
- The University of Virginia** Charlottesville, VA  
Ph.D., Sociology of Education, The Curry School of Education  
Recipient of full scholarship and graduate assistantship  
*Dissertation:* "Using the *Touchstones* Philosophy Discussion Curriculum to Enhance Community Among Incarcerated Men."
- Santa Clara University** Santa Clara, CA  
MA, Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministry

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Santa Clara University (2014-25)

#### Assistant Teaching Professor, Leavey School of Business:

- MGMT 160: *Managing Human Dynamics in Organizations* (2024-25)

#### Cross-Disciplinary Adjunct Lecturer:

- Graduate School of Education  
Child Studies Department  
Leavey School of Business  
Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship  
Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education
- SOCI 185/ELSJ: *Social Entrepreneurship* (2022-24)
  - BUSN 188: *Prosperity Field Studies* (2022)

- CHST 106: *Urban Education* (2017-19)
- CHST 191/180: *Internship* (2017-22)
- CHST 4: *Cultural Humility* (2019)
- EDUC 300: *Ethical Teaching Practices* (2016)
- EDUC 278: *Development and Learning* (2018)
- ELSJ 22: *Solidarity with the Community* (2014-16)

### **University of Virginia (2006-14)**

#### **Lecturer and Administrative Faculty**

UVA Women's Center  
Curry School of Education  
Department of Philosophy

- EDLF 5500: *Women Peace and Justice* (2009-2014)
- PHIL 2000: *Teaching Philosophy in High Schools*, (Co-instructor 2011-2014)
- EDHS 3500: *Fostering Leadership in Girls and Women I and II* (Co-instructor 2010-2014)-YWLP
- WGS 3500: *Faith Culture and Girls' Education in Post-Tsunami, Rural India* (study abroad proposed for May, 2014)

### **John Carroll University**

#### **Adjunct and Tenure Track Faculty**

Department of Education and Allied Studies

- ED 253 *School and Society* (1999-2006)
- ED 350 *Multicultural Education in a Pluralistic Society* (1999-2006)

## ACADEMIC / ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS HELD

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2014-2024

Santa Clara University

Santa Clara, CA

### Senior Director of Academics, Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship (2022-present)

- *Directed and taught international, experiential action research fellowship program with courses focused on advancing climate resilience and women's economic power through social entrepreneurship, instruct summer research travel immersion for 14-16 students annually : Lewis Family Fellowship <https://www.millersocent.org/students/>*
- Directed academic visioning, strategic/financial planning, and operations for curricular and co-curricular programming that engages over 700 students annually through international service learning course projects and internships: supervise team of two FT operational staff
- Conducted workshops for faculty from applied and theoretical fields who wished to develop international, engaged learning courses related to social/ environmental impact

### Director of Community-based Learning, Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education (2014-2022)

- Directed two strategic Community-Based Learning programs; Arrupe Engagement (AE) placing 1200 students per year with 50+ community partners for academic service learning course experiences, and Thriving Neighbors (TN), a place-based, engaged teaching, scholarship and community capacity-building initiative in partnership with the Greater Washington neighborhood of San Jose <https://www.scu.edu/ic/programs/thriving-neighbors/> while managing team of 4 FT staff and 25 student employees
- Presented programs for fundraising initiatives with successes including \$1,000,000 gift for TN Endowment (2016) and \$300,000+ gifts for Dan McCormick Technology Fund (2021/22)
- Lead TN Faculty-Community Grants program which resulted in the creation of 20 education, health, legal justice and economic development programs co-designed by cross-disciplinary groups of university faculty, students and community residents within 2 years, and rendered 15,000 hours of *annual* university-community engagement within 6 years
- Initiated cross-departmental collaborations to develop placement experiences for 30-50 project-based courses annually (expanded all placements to 100% virtual programming in response to the COVID-19 pandemic)
- Initiated outcome assessments for AE and TN including quarterly student learning outcome survey for 1200 AE participants (regularly renders 75-90% *good to great* learning gains), annual TN engagement hours measurements, and broad-scale participatory action research community assessment for TN

2006-2014      **The University of Virginia**

Charlottesville, VA

**Faculty Director Mentoring and Diversity, University of Virginia Women's Center (2008- Dec. 2013)**

**Lecturer, Curry School of Education (2008- Dec. 2013)**

**Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Curry School of Education (2006-2008)**

2000- 2006      **John Carroll University**

Cleveland, OH

**Assistant Professor Tenure Track, Department of Education (2005-2006)**

Received unanimous vote to continue towards tenure from department 2006.

**Visiting Assistant Professor/Lecturer (1999-2005)**

**Founder, Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program (2000-2006)**

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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- **Miller Center for Global Impact, Impact Excellence Award (2024)**
- **American Philosophical Association National Innovation Award (2005)** (Awarded to Carroll Cleveland Philosophers' Program)
- **GLSEN Pathfinder Award for championing LGBTQ issues in education (2005)**
- **Johnson & Johnson Medical, Inc. Champion Award (1996)**
- **Kellogg Dean's Distinguished Service Award (1993)**
- **Christian-Marsteller Scholarship (1992)**
- **Kosciuszko Foundation Fellowship (1992)**
- **German Marshal Fund Fellowship (1992)**

## RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

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### Peer-Reviewed Publications

#### *Published*

- Brewster, Andrea, Phyllis Brown, and Jennifer Merritt. "Social Justice Required? Faculty and Student Engagement with University-wide Social Justice Objectives." *Strategies and Perspectives on Social Justice Work*. Ed. Neal A. Lester. MLA Teaching Volume. (2024).
- Moles, Katia, Robinson, Laura, Merritt (Faria), Jennifer and Warner, Keith. (2024) "Strengthening Ethical Commitments to the Common Good: Team-Based Learning in the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm." *Religion and Education*. (January, 2024).

- Burns, Barbara, Jennifer Merritt, Laura Chyu and Roberto Gil. (2019) *The Implementation of a Community-Led Trauma-Informed Family Resilience Program: A Case Study*. American Journal of Community Psychology, special issue of on Understanding and Strengthening the Child and Youth-Serving Workforce in Low-Resource Communities.
- Burns, Barbara, Jennifer Merritt, Laura Chyu and Roberto Gil. (2019) *The Implementation of a Community-Led Trauma-Informed Family Resilience Program: A Case Study*. Society for Community Research and Action (SCRA). external-facing website, <https://www.communitypsychology.com/safe-secure-and-loved/>
- Merritt, Jennifer, Phyllis Brown, Irene Cermeno and Andrea Brewster. 'The Sacramental Nature of Community,' in *Catholic Identity in Context: Vision and Formation for the Common Good*, Joan and Ralph Lane Center for Catholic Studies and Social Thought (2018).
- Merritt, Jennifer and Loren Intolubbe-Chmil. 'Everyone Has Humanity in Them': *Multidimensional Teaching and Learning Through Philosophy-based Discussion*, IARSLCE Journal of Community Engagement and Higher Education (Winter, 2015).
- Ford, Thea and Jennifer Merritt. *Immigration Dialogue: the Immigrant in our Midst*, Conversations on Jesuit Higher Education (2007).
- *Philosophy: A School of Freedom*, UNESCO report 2006. Review of Carroll Cleveland Philosophers' Program Model in edited volume.

### **Selected Presentations**

- Brewster, Andrea, Merritt, Jennifer, Bondoc, Edrick, Somers, Jim, Meza Gutierrez Ma, Adriana, "Intrepid Innovation! Swiftly Reimagining High-impact, Anti-oppressive Community Service Learning in a Virtual Space." Association of American Colleges and Universities February, 2021 Conference on General Education, Pedagogy, and Assessment (GEPA), *Embracing the Best Emerging Practices for Quality and Equity*. (Online)
- Merritt, Jennifer, Keynote Address, Pan-PBL International Conference 2018; *Problem-based Learning for the Next Generation: Blending Active Learning, Technology and Social Justice*. Santa Clara, CA.
- Merritt, Jennifer, Barbara Burns, Laura Chyu, Laura Nichols, Nicole Branch, Irene Cermeno, and Maria Rodriguez, *The Thriving Neighbors Initiative*, 2017 AJCU Justice Conference, Seattle, WA.
- Merritt, Jennifer, Christine Bachen, and Rosa Guerra-Sarabia, *Assessing Social Justice Learning Outcomes*, 2017 AJCU Justice Conference, Seattle, WA.
- Pigza, Jennifer, David Donoghue and Jennifer Merritt, *Place-Based Initiatives in Higher Education: Inherent Tensions in Learning, Research, and Community Development*, AAC&U Annual Meeting, "Building Public Trust in the Promise of Liberal Education and Inclusive Excellence," 2017, San Francisco, California.
- Merritt, Jennifer, Michael McCarthy, Barbara Burns, Maria Evans and Irene Cermeno, *The Thriving Neighbors Initiative*, 2015 International Association for Research on Service Learning and Community Engagement, New Orleans, LA.

- Brown, Phyllis, Christine Bachen, Andrea Brewster, and Jennifer Merritt, *The Strength of the Dotted Line: Partnerships that Enable Organizational, Pedagogical and Curricular Innovation*, 2015 Carnegie Foundation Annual Summit, San Francisco, CA.
- Bachen, Christine, Andrea Brewster, and Jennifer Merritt, *Putting Social Justice at the Center: Assessing Social Justice Learning Outcomes*, 2015 IUPUI Assessment Conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- Intolubbe-Chmil, Loren and Jennifer Merritt, *Everyone Has Humanity in Them': Multidimensional Teaching and Learning Through Philosophy-based Discussion*, 2012 American Educational Studies Association, Saint Louis, MO.
- Merritt, Jennifer and Loren Intolubbe-Chmil, *The Philosophers' Club: Using Philosophy Discussion to Reverse the Cycle of Delinquency*, 2012, International Association for Research on Service Learning and Community Engagement *Connected Knowing* Conference, Baltimore, MD.
- Thompson, Paul, Sharon Kaye, Jennifer Merritt, Carolyn Calahan, and Brittany McLane, *Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program; design, curriculum development, and program implementation*, 2006, UNESCO conference on philosophy and human rights education, Paris, France.
- Thompson, Paul, Sharon Kaye, Jennifer Merritt and Brittany McLane, *Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program; design and implementation*, 2006, Philosophy of Education Society of Great Britain, Oxford University, Oxford, England.
- Thompson, Paul, Sharon Kaye, Jennifer Merritt and Brittany McLane, *Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program; design and implementation*, 2006, American Philosophical Association, Washington, D.C.
- Merritt, Jennifer and Howard Zeiderman, *Qualitative evaluation of the Touchstones philosophy discussion curriculum at the Charlottesville Regional Jail*, 2000, International Association of Correctional Educators, Ontario, Canada.
- Merritt, Jennifer, *Qualitative evaluation of the Touchstones philosophy discussion curriculum at the Charlottesville Regional Jail*, 1999, American Evaluation Association, Orlando, FL.
- Merritt, Jennifer, *Qualitative evaluation of Teens Give program, a service learning program for court adjudicated teens*, 1998, American Educational Studies Association, Philadelphia, PA.

## **GRANTS AWARDED UPON INDIVIDUAL REQUEST**

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- Leavey Start Up Grant 2024: \$3000 for new faculty teaching and professional development
- Co-Investigator, Jefferson Trust Award 2012: **\$50,000** for YWLP Global Connections Curriculum Development and Implementation in US and Cameroon.
- Co-Investigator, Academic Community Engagement Course Grant 2010: **\$9,000** for co-development of course on the use of philosophy as a tool for Positive Youth Development in high schools.
- Investigator, The Cleveland Municipal School District Grant 2005: **\$30,000** for the Carroll-

Cleveland Philosophers' Program.

- Investigator, The Cleveland Municipal School District Grant 2004/2005: **\$45,000** for the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program.
- Investigator, The Cleveland Foundation Grant 2003: **\$135,000** for the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program.
- Investigator, The Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Grant 2003: **\$25,000** for the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program.
- Investigator, The Cleveland Municipal School District Grant 2003, **\$70,000** for the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program.
- Investigator, The Cleveland Foundation Grant 2002: **\$80,000** for the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program.
- Investigator, The Jennings Foundation Grant 2002: **\$27,500** for the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program
- Investigator, The Cleveland Municipal School District Grant 2002: **\$75,000** for the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program.
- Investigator, The Cleveland Foundation Grant 2001: **\$65,000** for the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program.
- Investigator, The Jennings Foundation Grant 2001: **\$27,500** for the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program.
- Investigator, The Cleveland Municipal School District Grant 2001: **\$75,000** for the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program.
- Investigator, The Cleveland Foundation Grant 2000: **\$65,000** for creation of the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program.
- Investigator, The Jennings Foundation Grant 2000: **\$27,500** for creation of the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program.
- Investigator, The Cleveland Municipal School District Grant 2000: **\$75,000** for creation of the Carroll-Cleveland Philosophers' Program.
- Recipient of Johnson & Johnson Grant 1995: **\$12,000** for development of collaborative educational program for under-served students from Arlington, TX schools.
- Co-Recipient "Business with a Heart" Grant 1992: **\$18,000** written to support "Cities in Schools," a Chicago-based drop-out prevention program.

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

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### **Santa Clara University**

- Leavey Leadership Initiative Advisory Council
- Environmental Justice and the Common Good Conference Panelist (2x)
- Experiential Learning for Social Justice Core Committee (2x)
- UCC Task Force - Gift Acceptance Guidelines Review
- Staff Senate Working Group Anti-Racism
- Staff Senate Working Group Anti-Racism: Education and Professional Development Subcommittee
- Racial Justice Coalition
- Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministry Diocesan Workshop Instructor: Building Intercultural Competence for Ministers (BICM)
- The Interdisciplinary tUrn: A Climate Crisis Research Group
- Kino Border Initiative Faculty Immersion: Co-facilitator
- Faculty Advisory Board - Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship
- Co-presenter with Special Assistant to the President for Catholic Ethics – Apostolic Preferences for the Jesuits
- SCU Alumni: Guest Speaker
- Faculty Senate: Child Studies Program representative (2 quarters)
- Peer Reviewer for I.A.R.S.L.C.E. Journal for the International Association for Research on Service Learning and Community Engagement
- Charter Member, Place-Based Initiative Justice Network
- Frequent guest lecturer in ELSJ courses within a variety of disciplines

### **University of Virginia**

- Associate Director, Young Women Leaders' Program, positive youth development mentoring program for marginalized teens
- Faculty Advisor, International Justice Mission Student Organization Fighting Human Trafficking
- Jefferson Public Citizen's Grant Faculty Advisor 2011: \$29,955 for student research trip to Cameroon (YWLP)
- Davis Peace Prize Faculty Advisor for Student Awardees (project in Cairo 2010)
- Jefferson Public Citizen's Grant Faculty Advisor 2013: \$16,500 for student research trip to Peru and Nicaragua (YWLP)
- Community Based Undergraduate Research Grant Faculty Advisor 2013: \$1,500 for student research on new program implementation using Philosophers Club model with refugees and migrants attending ESL course at Charlottesville's Adult Learning Center
- Jefferson Public Citizen's Grant Faculty Advisor 2012: \$16,500 for student research trip to Panama (YWLP)
- Commissioner, Haiti Commission, Catholic Diocese of Richmond

## **John Carroll University**

- *Caring* Educational Research Group
- Ignatian Day Keynote Responder: Delivered individual remarks on the Carroll Cleveland Philosophers' Program in response to speech by Fr. Greg Boyle on Homeboy Industries
- Participant in Eight-Day Ignatian Spiritual Exercises Silent Retreat (2000, 2001)
- Participant in two-year-long 19<sup>th</sup> Annotation Retreat: Ignatian Spiritual Exercises
- Center for Student Diversity and Inclusion: Certificate of Recognition for Service
- Faculty participant in Rostro De Cristo Immersion in Ecuador
- Campus Ministry Social Justice Program Volunteer
- Faculty Co-director/ Campus Ministry Representative on Tijuana Immersion