

# Megan E. Mericle

Writing and Communication Program  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
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## EDUCATION

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**PhD in English, Writing Studies** | University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign | May 2024

**Dissertation:** “‘Anyone Can Be a Scientist’: The Construction of Expertise and Citizenship in Citizen Science Literate Activity” (Chair: John Gallagher)

**MFA/MA in Creative Writing & English** | University of Alaska at Fairbanks | May 2017

**Thesis:** “Sparks Across the Gap” (Creative Nonfiction Essay Collection) & “The Malleability of Disciplinary Identity” (Pedagogical Case Study)

**BA in English & BS Psychology** | Western Carolina University | May 2014

Honors College Scholarship Recipient, Graduated with Honors, *Magna cum laude*

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-Reviewed Articles

**Mericle, M.**, Coleman, J.P., & Zilles, J.L. (2025). STEM faculty focus groups respond to student writing and learning goals: Entry points and barriers to curricular change. *The WAC Journal*, 35, 95-122. <https://wac.colostate.edu/journal/vol35/>

Kovanen, B., Turnipseed, N., **Mericle, M.**, & Roozen, K. (2022). Tracing literate activity across physics and chemistry: Toward embodied histories of disciplinary knowing, writing, and becoming. *Across the Disciplines*, 19(1/2), 62-77. <https://doi.org/10.37514/ATD-J.2022.19.1-2.05>

### Peer-Reviewed Conference Proceedings

Carzon, P., Raley, J., **Mericle, M.**, Coleman, J.P., Zilles, J.L. (2024). Mapping writing concepts across an undergraduate physics curriculum. *ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition*. <https://peer.asee.org/mapping-writing-concepts-across-an-undergraduate-physics-curriculum>

Kovanen, B., Ware, R., **Mericle, M.**, Turnipseed, N., Coleman, J.P., Elliot, C.M., Popovics, J.S., Cooper, S.L., Gallagher, J.R., Prior, P., & Zilles, J.L. (2020). Implementing writing-as-process in engineering education. *ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition*. <https://peer.asee.org/34786>

### Public Humanities

Guest (2025). Citizen science communication. *Lost in the Stacks* Podcast. WREK-Atlanta and Georgia Institute of Technology, Episode 628. <https://lostinthestacks.libsyn.com/episode-628-citizen-science-communication>

## **Reviews**

**Mericle, M.** (2020) Citizen science in the digital age: Rhetoric, science, and public engagement by James Wynn. *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, 106(2), 219-223.

**Mericle, M.** (2017) Napoleon's roads by David Brooks. *Antipodes: A Global Journal of Australian/New Zealand Literature*, 31(2), 449-450.

## **WORK IN PROGRESS**

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**Mericle, M.,** Gallagher, J.R., Zilles, J.L. Connecting research writing and writing pedagogy: Examining a STEM writing course across three semesters. *Under review*.

**Mericle, M.** "The terms are where all of the problems lie": Citizen science and the power of naming practices in bounding public science rhetorics. *Article manuscript in development for Fall 2025 submission*.

## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

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### **Marion L. Brittain Postdoctoral Fellow | 2024 - present**

Georgia Institute of Technology

- Teach first-year writing and technical communication courses (3 per semester)
- Design and implement multimodal assignments centered on critical literacy
- Completed seminars in digital writing pedagogy and technical communication
- Listed on Course Instructor Opinion Survey Honor Roll and recipient of Thank-a-Teacher certificate through Center for Teaching and Learning in Spring 2025

### **Graduate Research Assistant | 2019 - 2023**

Writing Across Engineering & Science (WAES), University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

- Developed and researched graduate STEM writing course
- Prepared grant materials for National Science Foundation and college-level awards
- Conducted research on writing practices in Physics curriculum and student organizations
- Facilitated and researched faculty writing focus groups in STEM departments

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant | 2018 - 2020**

English Department, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

- Designed autoethnography and multigenre prompts connecting research to storytelling
- Developed upper-division multimodal course on theories and practices of composing
- Listed as "Teacher Ranked as Excellent by Their Students" for three semesters

### **Adjunct Instructor | 2017 - 2018**

English Department, North Carolina Agricultural & Technical University

- Taught first-year writing courses on identity, textual analysis and rhetoric
- Introduced students to disciplinary writing practices through writing research methods

### **Adjunct Instructor | 2017**

English, Communication & Media Studies, Greensboro College

- Guided students through new writing structures and argumentative strategies
- Contributed to programmatic assessment of student writing

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant | 2014 - 2017**

English Department, University of Alaska at Fairbanks

- Built a writing workshop environment focused on exploring identity through writing
- Developed themed second-year writing courses introducing students to disciplinary conversations in the sciences and humanities
- Received the Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award from the Composition Committee

### **Writing Center Tutor | 2014 - 2017**

English Department, University of Alaska at Fairbanks

- Supported student writers in individual, group, online and phone writing consultations
- Provided constructive feedback across stages of the writing process in a variety of fields

## **AWARDS, GRANTS, AND HONORS**

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### **National Grants**

National Science Foundation. Division of Undergraduate Education – Improving Undergraduate STEM Education — Engaged Student Learning: Level II. Advancing adaptation of writing pedagogies for undergraduate STEM education through transdisciplinary action research. Julie Zilles (PI). \$599,999 | 2020-2023 (As a graduate research assistant, I participated in preparation of the grant proposal.)

### **Campus Grants**

College of Engineering Strategic Instructional Innovations Program (SIIP) Implementation and Exploration Award. Improving undergraduate writing instruction and feedback through professional development of STEM graduate-student teaching assistants. Lance Cooper (PI), Celia Elliott, John R. Gallagher, John Popovics, Blake Johnson, Paul Prior, **Megan Mericle**, and Julie Zilles. \$26,265 | 2021-2022

College of Engineering Strategic Instructional Innovations Program (SIIP) Implementation and Exploration Award. Improving undergraduate writing instruction and feedback through professional development of STEM graduate-student teaching assistants. Lance Cooper (PI), Patrick Coleman, Celia Elliott, John R. Gallagher, Bruce Kovanen, John Popovics, Paul Prior, **Megan Mericle**, Nicole Turnipseed, Ryan Ware, and Julie Zilles. \$26,000 | 2020-2021

### **Fellowships**

Graduate College Block Grant, \$11,000 and Gragg-Barr Scholarship, \$5,500 (75% teaching release) | 2023-24

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Fellowship (50% teaching release), \$11,000 | 2022-23

University Fellowship (50% teaching release), \$7,200 | 2018-19

### **Awards**

Course Instructor Opinion Survey (CIOS) Honor Roll, Georgia Tech | Spring 2025

Recipient of Thank-a-Teacher Certificate, Georgia Tech | Spring 2025

Competitive Conference Travel Grants, \$62 (virtual) - \$350, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023

Pass with Distinction, Doctoral Qualifying Exam | 2021

List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | Spring 2020, Fall 2019 & Spring 2019.

Outstanding Teaching Assistant, Composition Committee, University of Alaska at Fairbanks | 2016-17

## ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

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### **Assistant Director of the Center for Writing Studies | 2021 - 2022**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- Facilitated and developed writing across the curriculum workshops
- Consulted with instructors across disciplines implementing writing instruction
- Coordinated presentations and panels featuring graduate students and faculty
- Led meetings and mentored Writing Across Media instructors
- Organized prospective student events and crafted introductory CWS materials
- Redesigned and updated the Center website and social media accounts

### **Summer Associate Writing Center Director | 2016**

University of Alaska at Fairbanks

- Coordinated the schedule, serving over 200 students and community members
- Created Writing Center advertising and communicated with faculty members
- Facilitated the transition to and reports of online record-keeping
- Conducted phone and online tutorials with students in rural areas
- Tutored students taking preparatory college writing courses across multiple sessions

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **Georgia Institute of Technology | Fall 2024 - present**

- Literature, Media & Comm. 3403: Technical Communication (3 sections/semester)
- English 1101: Literacy and Belonging (3 sections/semester)
- English 1102: What Can Games Teach Us about Literacy? (3 sections/semester)

### **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | Fall 2018 - Fall 2020**

- Informatics/Writing Studies 303: Writing Across Media (online and f2f)
- Rhetoric 105: Writing and Research

### **North Carolina Agricultural & Technical University | Fall 2017 - Spring 2018**

- English 100: Ideas and Their Expression I (2 sections in fall, 1 in spring)
- English 101: Ideas and Their Expression II (2 sections in spring)

### **Greensboro College | Fall 2017**

- English, Communication, and Media Studies 1100: Texts and Contexts (2 sections)

### **University of Alaska at Fairbanks | Fall 2014 - Spring 2017**

- English 111: Writing Across Contexts
- English 211: Writing and the Humanities
- English 213: Writing and the Sciences

## PRESENTATIONS

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### **National Conferences**

- “Reimagining failure in alternative assessment through instructors’ positionalities.” *Feminisms and Rhetorics Conference*. Durham, NH. | July 2025
- “Climate change and building local authorial agency through citizen science communication.” *Computers and Writing*. Athens, GA. | May 2025
- “Reckoning with inaccessibility and barriers across WPA and WAC contexts: Starting points for restorative work.” *Feminisms and Rhetorics Conference*. Atlanta, GA | September 2023
- “Observation bubbles and rain gauges: Seeing, sensing, and being in c\*science communication.” Virtual poster presentation. *C\*Science Conference*. | May 2023
- “Challenging binaries across institutional contexts.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Chicago, IL | February 2023
- “Promoting pedagogical change around writing: Observations of discursive turbulence.” National Science Foundation Grantee Poster Session. *American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference*. Minneapolis, MN | June 2022
- “Advancing adaptation of writing pedagogies for undergraduate STEM education through TDAR.” Poster presentation. *American Association for the Advancement of Science Improving Undergraduate STEM Education National Summit*. Washington, DC | June 2022
- “Participatory science in post-secondary pedagogy: Towards a more equitable STEM writing classroom.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Chicago, IL | March 2022
- “Writing across engineering: A transdisciplinary action research approach to STEM writing.” *International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference*. Fort Collins, CO | August 2021
- “Constructing citizenship: Interrogating the norms of civic action in the writing classroom.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Spokane, WA | March 2021  
\*Accepted before cancellation due to condensed program
- “‘All majors and genders are welcome!’: Disciplinary and social identities in academic registered student organizations.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Milwaukee, WI | March 2020 \*Accepted before COVID-19 cancellation
- “The rhetoric of DIY biology and citizen science: Feminist possibilities.” *Feminisms and Rhetorics Conference*. Harrisonburg, VA | November 2019
- “Storying: (Counter)narrative as work.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Kansas City, MO | March 2018

### **Local/Regional Conferences and Symposia**

- “Reflections on the Academic Job Market 2023-2024.” *Gesa E. Kirsch Graduate Symposium*. Urbana, IL | April 2024
- “‘I’m like a spectacle’: Seeing, sensing, and monitoring in citizen science literate practice.” *Gesa E. Kirsch Graduate Symposium*. Urbana, IL | April 2023
- “Navigating graduate student identity during COVID-19 across virtual writing sessions.” *Write It Out: Writing Innovation Symposium*. Milwaukee, WI | February 2022

"The narratives of citizen science." *Gesa E. Kirsch Graduate Symposium*. Urbana, IL | April 2019

"Don't feed the trolls': Internet culture and the spiral of silence." *Pacific Rim Conference on Literature and Rhetoric*. Anchorage, AK | February 2015

### **Workshops Led**

"There's Snakes in the Kitchen: Journeys of Failure in Assessment." *Mise en Place: Writing Innovation Symposium*. Marquette University | January 2025

"Exploring expertise in writing studies: A mini-workshop on graduate student experiences & mentoring." *Gesa E. Kirsch Graduate Symposium*. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | April 2022

"Writing across the curriculum workshop on alternative assessment and ungrading." *Center for Writing Studies*. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | October 2021

"Graduate teaching assistant writing across the curriculum seminar." *Center for Writing Studies*. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | January 2021, August 2021, January 2022, January 2023

"Multimodal pedagogy seminar." *Center for Writing Studies*. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | July 2021

"Teaching with *I Write*." *Rhetoric Instructor Orientation*. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | August 2019

### **Campus and Departmental Presentations**

"Improving the writing skills of undergraduate engineering students: Empowering engineering faculty and teaching assistants." *Academy for Excellence in Engineering Education Celebration of Teaching*. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | April 2021, 2022 & 2023

"Scholar-activism in writing studies." *Center for Writing Studies Brownbag*. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | October 2020

"Writing across engineering." *Center for Writing Studies Brownbag*. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | December 2019

### **Public Readings (Creative Writing)**

NC A&T Creative Writing Junior Faculty Reading | April 2018

UAF English Graduate Organization Reading Series | 2015 - 2017

## **EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **Assistant Editor | 2021 – 2022**

*Best of the Journals in Rhetoric and Composition 2022*, Parlor Press

### **Web and Design Editor | 2015 – 2017**

*Permafrost Magazine*, University of Alaska at Fairbanks

### **Assistant Editor | 2013 – 2015**

*Cider Press Review*

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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### **Editorial Board Member | 2025 – present**

*Literate Activity: Perspectives on Textual Practices in the World*, WAC Clearinghouse Journal

### **Proposal Review Volunteer | 2025**

Conference on College Composition & Communication

## INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

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### **Technical Communication Committee | Member 2024-2025, Chair 2025-present**

Writing and Communication Program, Georgia Institute of Technology

### **Community-Based Learning Community of Practice | 2025-present**

Georgia Institute of Technology

### ***Literate Activity* Journal Edist**

### **Career, Research and Innovation Development (CRIDC) Conference Poster Judge | 2025**

Georgia Institute of Technology

### **Professional Writing Advisory Committee Member | 2021 - 2024**

English Department, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

### **Writing Studies Committee Member | 2022 - 2023**

English Department, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

### **Rhetoric Advisory Committee Member | 2018 - 2019**

English Department, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

### **English Graduate Organization President | 2015 - 2017**

English Department, University of Alaska at Fairbanks

### **Writing Program Assessment Committee Member | 2015**

English Department, University of Alaska at Fairbanks

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric & Composition (CFSHRC)

Association for Advancing Participatory Sciences (AAPS)

Association for Writing Across the Curriculum (AWAC)

Conference on College Composition & Communication (CCCC) Writing & STEM Standing Group

## REFERENCES

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**Dr. John Gallagher**

Associate Professor of English  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
608 S Wright St. Urbana, IL 61801  
[johnq@illinois.edu](mailto:johnq@illinois.edu)

**Dr. Paul Prior**

Professor Emeritus of English  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
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**Dr. Julie Zilles**

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