

# Paula J. McAvoy

Raleigh, North Carolina

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## **EDUCATION**

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| 2010 | Ph.D. Educational Policy Studies<br>University of Wisconsin-Madison<br>Concentration: Philosophy of Education<br>Minor: Social Studies Education/Curriculum and Instruction |
| 2006 | M.A. Educational Policy Studies<br>University of Wisconsin-Madison  |
| 1993 | Certification Secondary Social Studies<br>Saint Mary's College of California  |
| 1991 | B.A. International Relations<br>University of California-Davis  |

## **PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

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| 2021-Present | Associate Professor of Social Studies Education, Teacher Education and Learning Sciences<br>North Carolina State University      |
| 2018-2021    | Assistant Professor of Social Studies Education, Teacher Education and Learning Sciences<br>North Carolina State University      |
| 2015-2018    | Program Director for the Center for Ethics and Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Budget: \$3.5 million           |
| 2017-2019    | Director and Lead Developer for The Discussion Project at University of Wisconsin-Madison. Budget: \$127,000.                    |
| 2011-2015    | Associate Program Officer, Spencer Foundation  |
| 2010-2013    | Assistant Professor of Educational Administration and Foundations, Illinois State University, (tenure track, on leave 2011-2013) |

## **AWARDS**

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| 2023 | NC State University Outstanding Teacher Award  |
| 2023 | College of Education Outstanding Teacher Award, North Carolina State University  |
| 2017 | Grawemeyer Award in Education for <i>The Political Classroom</i> (\$100,000)   |
| 2016 | AERA Outstanding Book Award for <i>The Political Classroom</i>   |
| 2011 | Outstanding Dissertation Award in the Politics of Education, Politics of Education Association                                   |
| 2011 | Winner of the Squire Foundation Award for Paper on Pre-College Ethics from the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics |

- 2009 Matthew H. Willing Award for Outstanding Dissertation in Progress, UW-Madison Educational Policy Studies
- 2008 The Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, semi-finalist

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS**

- 2025 Recipient with Byrd, C & Hoggan, C. of seed grant to initiate the hub, North Carolina Advancing Civic Engagement (NC\_ACE). NCSU College of Education (\$30,000)
- 2019-2024 Principal Investigator, “Measuring the Impact of the Deliberative Discussion Model.” Street Law (\$194,996).
- 2019-2020 Principal Investigator, “Political Discussions in a Partisan Era: How high school students respond to political diversity.” Individual Faculty Research and Professional Development Fund, NC State (\$7,959)
- 2018-Present Senior Fellow at the Center for Ethics and Education
- 2008 Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (\$20,000)
- 2005 UW-Madison Doctoral Research Program Fellowship (\$4,000)

### **PUBLICATIONS**

Notes:

(\*) Indicates lead author/s. When (\*) is not present, the piece was equally co-authored.

(\_) Indicates graduate student co-author.

#### **Books**

Hess, D. & McAvoy, P. (2015). *The Political Classroom: Evidence and Ethics in Democratic Education*. New York: Routledge Press. Second edition under contract, 2027.

Reviewed in:

*Philosophical Inquiry in Education* (2017)

*Journal of Social Science Education* (2016)

*Democracy & Education* (2016)

*The Journal of Social Studies Research* (2015)

*Theory and Research in Social Education* (2015)

*Educational Studies* (2015)

McAvoy, P. & Gatti, L. (under contract). *Just Teacher: Taking the Ethical Long View in the Profession of Teaching*. Teachers College Press. Expected date of publication: 2025.

#### **Refereed Journals and Chapters**

Gatti, L. & McAvoy, P. (in review). Parables for teacher preparation: Memorable cases and the development of Strategic Pedagogical Knowledge. In B. Paxton, W.S. Thompson, J. Orchard, and D. Forester (Eds.). *Handbook in Ethics and Education*. Bloomsbury.

\*McAvoy, G.E., \*McAvoy, P., Waltz, R & Grace, E. (in press). Productive discussion across political differences: Understanding students’ experiences with comfort and discomfort within structured discussions of public policy issues. *Democracy & Education*.

\*McAvoy, P., McAvoy, G., Newton, V., Waltz, R. & Grace, E. (2024). Discussing politics in polarized times: How structure can help. *Social Education* 88 (1): 24-29.

Gatti, L. & McAvoy, P. (2024). Theorizing to cases: A methodological approach to Qualitative Normative Cases. *Educational Theory*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/edth.12611>.

Lo, J. & McAvoy, P. (2023). Debate and deliberation in democratic education. In J. Culp, J. Drerup, and D. Yacek (Eds.), *The Cambridge Handbook of Democratic Education*. Cambridge University Press.

\*Levy, B., Busey, C., Cuenca, A., Evans, R., Halvorsen, A., Ho, L., Kahne, J., Kissling, M., Lo, J., McAvoy, P. & McGrew, S. (2023). Social studies education research for a sustainable democratic society: Addressing persistent civic challenges. *Theory and Research in Social Education*. DOI: [10.1080/00933104.2022.2158149](https://doi.org/10.1080/00933104.2022.2158149)

\*McAvoy, P. & Lowery, A. (2022). Structure matters: Comparing deliberation and debate. in J. Lo (Ed.) *Making Discussions Work: Methods for Quality Dialogue in the Social Studies*. New York: Teachers College Press, 90-105.

\*McAvoy, P., Hunt, T., Culbertson, M., McCleary, K., DeMeuse, R. & Hess, D.E. (2021). Measuring student discussion engagement in the college classroom: A scale validation study. *Studies in Higher Education*. DOI: 10.1080/03075079.2021.1960302

\*McAvoy, P. & McAvoy, G.E. (2021). Can debate and deliberation reduce partisan divisions? Evidence from a study of high school students. *Peabody Journal of Education*. DOI: 10.1080/0161956X.2021.1942706.

Conklin, H., Howard, T., Lo, J., McAvoy, P., Monte-Sano, C., Hess, D. E. (2021). Pedagogical practices and how teachers learn. In C.D. Lee, G. White and D. Dong (Eds.). *Civic Reasoning and Discourse*, (pp 353-396). Committee on Civic Reasoning and Discourse. Washington D.C. National Academy of Education. <https://naeducation.org/educating-for-civic-reasoning-and-discourse/>

McAvoy, P. (2020) Can schools combat partisan belligerency? Essay submitted by invitation to special issue of *Dewey Studies*. 4(1): 124-131.

\*McAvoy, P., Lowery, A., Wafa, N., Byrd, C. (2020). Dining with democracy: Discussion as informed action. *Social Education* 84(5): 289-293.

\*McAvoy, P & Ho, L. (2020). Professional judgment and deciding what to teach as controversial. *The Annals of Social Studies Education Research for Teachers (ASSERT)* 1(1): 27-36. <https://assertjournal.com/index.php/assert>

McAvoy, P. (2019). Framing and structuring discussions of controversial issues. In M. Levinson & J. Fay (Eds.), *Dilemmas in Democratic Education: Cases and Commentaries*. Cambridge: Harvard Education Press.

\*McAvoy, P., Campbell, D., Hess, D.E. (2019). The relationship between a liberal arts education and democratic outcomes. Review essay commissioned by the Mellon Foundation. [https://mellon.org/media/filer\\_public/b6/a3/b6a3b49b-93ee-42c8-ab8c-ffa6284cf16c/paula\\_mcavoy\\_david\\_campbell\\_diana\\_hess\\_on\\_democratic\\_outcomes\\_.pdf](https://mellon.org/media/filer_public/b6/a3/b6a3b49b-93ee-42c8-ab8c-ffa6284cf16c/paula_mcavoy_david_campbell_diana_hess_on_democratic_outcomes_.pdf)

McAvoy, P. (2017). Should teachers share their political views in the classroom? In B. Warnick & L. Stone (Eds.), *Philosophy: Education*. Farmington Hills, MI: Macmillan Reference USA, 373-383.

\*Ho, L., McAvoy, P., Hess, D. & Gibbs, B. (2016). Teaching and learning about controversial issues and topics in the social studies: A review of the research. In Manfra, M.M., & Bolick, C.B. (Eds.) *The Handbook of Social Studies Research*. Boston, MA: Wiley.

McAvoy, P. (2016). Preparing young adults for polarized America. In W. Journell (Ed.) *Teaching Social Studies in an Era of Divisiveness: The Challenges of Discussing Social Issues in a Non-Partisan Way*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Press, 31-46.

McAvoy, P. (2013). The aims of sex education: Demoting autonomy and promoting mutuality. *Educational Theory* 63 (5): 483–496.

\*McAvoy, P. & Hess, D. (2013). Classroom deliberation in an era of political polarization. *Curriculum Inquiry* 43 (1): 14–47.

McAvoy, P. (2012). “There are no housewives on *Star Trek*”: A reexamination of exit rights for the children of insular fundamentalist parents. *Educational Theory* 62 (5): 535–552.

\*Brighouse, H. & McAvoy, P. (2010). Do children have any rights? In Bailey, R. (Ed.) *Introduction to Philosophy of Education*. New York: Continuum, 74–85.

Brighouse, H. & McAvoy, P. (2009). Liberal education, privilege, and higher education. In Raley, Y. and Preyer, G. (Eds.), *Philosophy of Education in the Era of Globalization*. New York: Routledge, 165–180.

McAvoy, P. (2008). Should arranged marriages for teenage girls be allowed? How public schools should respond to illiberal cultural practices. *Theory and Research in Education* 6 (1): 5–20.

### **Non-referred Publications**

McAvoy, G., McAvoy, P., Waltz, R., & Newton, V. (2024). Measuring the impact of the deliberative discussion model. Research report produced for Street Law.

McAvoy, P. (2019). Motivating action: Attending to pride and solidarity as aims of civic education. Response to Shuffelton and Gottlieb. *Philosophy of Education Society Yearbook 2019*. Urbana, IL: Philosophy of Education Society.

McAvoy, P. (2018). Philosophy of education: What’s it good for? In N. Levinson (Ed.), *Philosophy of Education Society Yearbook 2016*. Urbana, IL: Philosophy of Education Society.

\*McAvoy, P., Fine, R. & Herrera Ward, A. (2016). “Working paper #81: State standards scratch the surface of learning about political parties and ideology.” Research report published by the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE).

\*McAvoy, P., Hess, D. & Kawashima-Ginsberg, K. (2014). The pedagogical challenge of teaching politics in like-minded schools. In T. Misco (Ed.), *Cross-Cultural Case Studies of Teaching Controversial Issues: Pathways and Challenges to Democratic Citizenship Education*. Tilsburg: Legal Wolf Publishers, 237–253.

McAvoy, P. (2012). Investing in civic and political pluralism. In C. Ruitenberg (Ed.), *Philosophy of Education Society Yearbook 2012*. Urbana, IL: Philosophy of Education Society, 160–162.

Hess, D. & McAvoy, P. (2009). To disclose or not to disclose: A controversial choice for teachers. In Hess, D., *Controversy in the Classroom: The Democratic Power of Discussion*. New York: Routledge, 97–112.

## Encyclopedia Entries

\*McAvoy, P. & Firke, B. (2014). Liberalism. In S. Thompson (Ed.), *The Encyclopedia of Diversity and Social Justice*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

\*McAvoy, P. & Reyes, G. (2014). Political socialization. In S. Thompson (Ed.), *The Encyclopedia of Diversity and Social Justice*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

## Book Reviews

Harper, D. & McAvoy, P. (in press). Acknowledging the Populist Experience: Commentary on *Teaching Honesty in a Populist Era*. Invited review essay for symposium on Sarah Stitzlein's *Teaching Honesty in a Populist Era*. *Theory and Research in Education*.

\*Holmes, C. & McAvoy, P. (2022). From “contained risk taking” to “required risk taking,” a book review of *Hard Questions: Learning to Teach Controversial Issues* by Judith L. Pace. *Theory and Research in Social Education*. DOI: [10.1080/00933104.2021.1975446](https://doi.org/10.1080/00933104.2021.1975446)

McAvoy, P. (2016). The hard work of teaching, a book review of *The Charged Classroom: Predicaments and Possibilities for Democratic Teaching* by Judith L. Pace. *Democracy & Education* 24 (1). <http://democracyeducationjournal.org/home/vol24/iss1/12>

McAvoy, P. (2010). Review of *Symbolic Clothing in Schools: What Should be Worn and Why*, by Dianne Gereluk. *Theory and Research in Education* 8 (1): 114–115.

McAvoy, P. (2005, December 12). Review of *Up Against Whiteness: Race, School, and Immigrant Youth*, by Stacy Lee. *Education Review*.

## Popular Press and Practitioner Publications

McAvoy, P. (2021, January 11). How should schools teach kids about what happened at the US Capitol on Jan. 6? We asked 6 education experts. *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/how-should-schools-teach-kids-about-what-happened-at-the-us-capitol-on-jan-6-we-asked-6-education-experts-152884>

McAvoy, P. (2020, April). Podcasts for a pandemic. *College of Education News* website. <https://ced.ncsu.edu/news/2020/04/06/assistant-professor-paula-mcavoy-suggests-podcasts-for-a-pandemic-to-help-educators-explain-concepts-events-related-to-coronavirus-covid-19/>

McAvoy, P. (2019, December). Political discussions in the classroom: What should educators be trying to do? Featured essay, *The Line K-12*, 6: 90-92. <https://thelinek12.com/political-discussion-in-the-classroom-what-should-educators-be-trying-to-do/?fbclid=IwAR0Hor1h7e1YQ6CNh6VTAFnjqbtu4CS8dHJ4soil6Xk7sandUgSTBXa1B2E>

McAvoy, P. (2019, November 27). Students should learn about impeachment in school—here’s how to make it work.” *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/students-should-learn-about-impeachment-in-school-heres-how-to-make-it-work-127172>

McAvoy, P. (Fall 2016). Polarized classrooms: Understanding political divides can help students learn to bridge them. *Teaching Tolerance* 54: 19–22.

Hess, D. & McAvoy, P. (2014). Should teachers help students develop partisan identities? *Social Education* 78 (6): 292–296.

\*McAvoy, P. & Hess, D. (2014). Debates and conversations from the ground up. *Educational Leadership* 72 (3): 48–53.

Hess, D. & McAvoy, P. (2007). The controversial issue of disclosure: Weighing the evidence. *NSSSA Leader*, professional newsletter for the National Council for the Social Studies, 21 (2).

### **Guest Editor**

McAvoy, P. & Taylor, R. M. (2024). Symposium introduction: Education for democratic sustainability and transformation. Co-edited special issue for the journal *Educational Theory* 74 (5).  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/edth.12670>

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- 2025    McAvoy, G., McAvoy, P. Waltz, R. Grace, E. Political polarization and partisanship: How social studies can help remedy societal divisions. Invited panelist AERA Presidential Session, Denver.
- 2024    McAvoy, P., Waltz, R., Newton, V., Grace, E. & Lowery, A. Structure Matters: Designing Student-Centered Political Discussions in the Classroom. Concurrent session for the North Carolina Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (NCACTE), Raleigh, NC.
- 2024    McAvoy, P. Panelist for Author-Meets-Critics session on S. Stitzlein's, *Teaching Honesty in a Populist Era: Emphasizing Truth in the Education of Citizens*. North American Association for Philosophy and Education, Chicago.
- 2024    McAvoy, G., McAvoy, P., Waltz, R. & Grace, E. Designing for productive discussion across political differences: Understanding students' experiences within structured discussions of public policy issues. Paper presented at, Addressing the Effects of Political Polarization in Schools, an invited two-day convening, Madison.
- 2024    McAvoy, P., McAvoy, G., Waltz, R. Experiencing Productive and Unproductive Discomfort in Classroom Discussion: A Study of Deliberation and Debate. Roundtable session at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Philadelphia.
- 2023    McAvoy, P., McAvoy, G. & Waltz, R. Classroom Composition and Its Complexities: Understanding what students experience within Structured Academic Controversy. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) within NCSS, Nashville.
- 2023    Gatti, L. & McAvoy, P. Thinking with "The Ethical Long View": Understanding teachers as reflective civic actors. Paper symposium presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Chicago.
- 2022    McAvoy, P., Conklin, H., Hess, D.E. & Lo, J. Sharing authority in the classroom: Civic reasoning and the art of being comfortable with productive discomfort. Paper symposium presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Diego.

- 2021 McAvoy, P., Lowery, A., & Wafa, N. Discomfort and engagement: How students experience deliberations and debates about controversial political issues. Paper symposium presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), virtual.
- 2020 McAvoy, P., McAvoy, G.E., Lowery, A. "Political discussions in a partisan era: How High School students respond to political diversity." CUFA, virtual.
- 2020 McAvoy, P. Invited commentary for the Philosophical and Empirical Perspectives panel at the Civic and Political Formation: An Inquiry into Formation for Public Life conference, hosted by The Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture at the University of Virginia. Charlottesville, VA/virtual.
- 2020 Conklin, H., Howard, T., Lo, J., McAvoy, P., Monte-Sano, C., Hess, D. E. Pedagogical practices and how teachers learn. Invited paper presentation for the National Academy of Education's Civic Reasoning and Discourse Project. Washington D.C/virtual.
- 2020 McAvoy, P., Hunt, T., Culbertson, M., McCleary, K., & DeMeuse. Measuring student discussion engagement in the college classroom: A scale validation study. Paper session accepted for the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Cancelled due to COVID-19.
- 2019 McAvoy, P. The case against criteria. Paper included on the panel, Democratic education and the controversy over controversial issues. Presented at the annual meeting of the North American Association for Philosophy and Education (NAAPE). Mundelein, IL.
- 2019 McAvoy, P. & Gatti, L. Dilemmas in the profession of teaching. Roundtable session at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Toronto, Ontario.
- 2019 McAvoy, P. "Motivating action: Attending to pride and solidarity as aims of civic education." Plenary session response to Shuffelton and Gottlieb at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Richmond, VA.
- 2019 McAvoy, P. Demonstration Lesson: Should Monuments on Monument Avenue Be Removed? Alternative session at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Richmond, VA.
- 2018 McAvoy, P. Panelist, "Is refusing public education democratic?" Alternative session at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Chicago, IL.
- 2018 McAvoy, P. Response to, *American public education and the responsibility of its citizens* by Sarah Stitzlein. Author meets critics session at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Chicago, IL.
- 2018 McAvoy, P. Panelist, "Ethics bowl and democratic deliberation." Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE). Chicago, IL.
- 2017 McAvoy, P. Panelist, "Grappling with the Charged Classroom in Politically Contentious Times." Research into Practice Session. NCSS/CUFA. San Francisco, CA.
- 2017 McAvoy, P. Respondent to "Democratic Dimensions of Dissent" panel at the *Educational Theory* Institute. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL.
- 2017 McAvoy, P. Theorizing Democratic Education, panelist. Comments presented at the annual meeting of the John Dewey Society. San Antonio, TX.

- 2017 McAvoy, P. "Civility and the political classroom." National Institute for Civil Discourse. Tucson, AZ.
- 2016 \*McAvoy, P., Herrera-Ward, A. & Fine, R. "State standards and textbooks scratch the surface of learning about political parties and ideology." Paper session presented at the annual conference of College and University Faculty Association of NCSS. Washington, D.C.
- 2016 McAvoy, P. "Controversial issues and the ethics of steering." Paper session presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Washington D.C.
- 2016 Hess, D. & McAvoy, P. "Ethics, aims, and the political classroom." Workshop session presented at the annual meeting of the John Dewey Society. Washington D.C.
- 2016 McAvoy, P. "Philosophy of education: What's it good for?" Paper session response to R. Wahl at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Toronto, Canada.
- 2016 McAvoy, P. "To think what we are doing: Exploring philosophical aims in the context of practice." Alternative session at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Toronto, Canada.
- 2016 McAvoy, P. Response to David I. Backer, *Elements of discussion*. Author-meets-critics session at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Toronto, Canada.
- 2015 \*Hess, D. & McAvoy, P. "How political polarization influences young people and challenges civic education." Symposium session presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Chicago, IL.
- 2015 \*McAvoy, P. & Hess, D. "Should teachers aim to develop a partisan identity within students?" Paper session presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Chicago, IL.
- 2015 McAvoy, P. "Steering the sex discussion." Symposium session presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Chicago, IL.
- 2015 McAvoy, P. "The political classroom: Evidence and ethics in democratic education." Author-meets-critics session at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Memphis, TN.
- 2015 McAvoy, P. "Ethical dilemmas in *The Political Classroom*." Author-meets-critics session at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society Great Britain (PESGB). Oxford, UK.
- 2014 Hess, D. & McAvoy, P. "Evidence and ethics in the political classroom." Lecture and workshop presented at the annual conference for the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS). Boston, MA.
- 2014 McAvoy, P. "Polarization: Why is it happening?" Session presented at the annual conference for the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS). Boston, MA.
- 2014 McAvoy, P. & Hess, D. "Sensitive political controversies in the high school classroom: Negotiating competing democratic values," Roundtable session presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Philadelphia, PA.



- 2014 McAvoy, P. & Hess, D. "Should schools help students develop partisan identities?," Paper session presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Philadelphia, PA.
- 2014 McAvoy, P. "Rights, redistribution and recognition in three domains of educational justice." Alternative session presented at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Albuquerque, NM.
- 2014 McAvoy, P. "Philosophical inquiry and empirical research." Alternative session presented at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society. Albuquerque, NM.
- 2014 McAvoy, P. "Should Teachers of controversial issues disclose their views?" Paper presented at the Central Division of the American Philosophical Association (APA). Chicago, IL.
- 2013 McAvoy, P. & Hess, D. "Polarized classrooms: The pedagogical challenge of teaching politics in like-minded schools." Paper presented at the annual meeting for the American Political Science Association (APSA). Chicago, IL.
- 2013 McAvoy, P. "Dilemmas on the ground: Ethical and epistemological challenges facing empirically-engaged philosophers of education." Alternative session presented at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Portland, OR.
- 2012 McAvoy, P. "Beyond autonomy: Understanding our moral obligations to others within intimate relationships." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Moral Education (AME). San Antonio, TX.
- 2012 McAvoy, P. & Hess, D. "The pedagogical challenge of political distrust: Teaching tolerance in like-minded schools." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Moral Education (AME). San Antonio, TX.
- 2012 McAvoy, P. "Accommodating patriarchy: Multicultural decision-making and school policy." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society Great Britain (PESGB). Oxford, UK.
- 2012 McAvoy, P. & Hess, D. "The ethics of classroom deliberation: How should teachers treat the issue of same sex marriage?" Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society Great Britain (PESGB). Oxford, UK.
- 2011 McAvoy, P. & Hess, D. "The ethics of political disclosure in high school classrooms." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA). Seattle, WA.
- 2011 McAvoy, P., Hess, D. & Kawashima-Ginsberg, K. "How do students experience and learn from high quality discussions of political issues?" Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). New Orleans, LA.
- 2011 McAvoy, P. & Hess, D. "The evidence and ethics of teacher disclosure." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE). Cincinnati, OH.
- 2010 McAvoy, P. & Hess, D. "Evidence, ethics and teacher disclosure." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Denver, CO.

- 2010 Hess, D. & McAvoy, P. "Controversy three ways: What students experience and learn from discussions of racially charged issues." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Denver, CO.
- 2010 McAvoy P. "Facilitating entrance: What the state owes to Anabaptist children post-Yoder." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE). Cincinnati.
- 2010 McAvoy, P. & Hess, D. "Evidence and ethics in democratic education: Identifying competing values." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE). Cincinnati, OH.
- 2009 Hess, D. & McAvoy, P. "Evidence and ethics in democratic education." Alternative session presented at the annual meeting of the College and University Faculty Assembly at NCSS. Atlanta, GA.
- 2009 \*Hess, D. & McAvoy, P. "The controversial issue of teacher disclosure." A Research into Practice session presented at the annual meeting of the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS/CUFA). Atlanta, GA.
- 2009 McAvoy, P. "Securing exit: What (if anything) does the state owe to Anabaptist children post-Yoder?" Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). San Diego, CA.
- 2009 McAvoy, P. "A pragmatic response." Paper presented on the panel: Five Cases From the Classroom: A Panel Discussion Exploring the Tasks of Feminism in Theory and Practice at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Montreal, Canada.
- 2009 McAvoy, P. Topical Conversations Session, "Education and politics: Challenges, tensions, and questions." Paper-in-progress presented at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Montreal, Canada.
- 2008 McAvoy, P. Paper in response to, *Symbolic Clothing in Schools* by Dianne Gereluk. Author Meets Critics panel. Presented at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Cambridge, MA.
- 2008 McAvoy, P. "Privilege, wellbeing, and participation in higher education." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society Great Britain (PESGB). Oxford, England.
- 2008 \*Hess, D. McAvoy, P. Smithson, J. & Hwang, H. "The nature, range, and impact of ideological diversity and teacher disclosure in high school democratic education courses." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). New York, New York.
- 2007 McAvoy, P. "Are arranged marriages for teenage girls allowed? How public schools should respond to illiberal cultural practices." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society Great Britain (PESGB). Oxford, England.
- 2007 McAvoy, P. "Negotiating multiculturalism: A philosophic case study of arranged marriage and immigrant communities." Paper presented at the Social Justice Conference sponsored by UW-Madison's Department of Counseling Psychology. Madison, WI.

- 2006 McAvoy, P. Paper in response to, *Citizenship Under Fire*, by Sigal Ben-Porath. Author Meets Critics panel. Presented at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society (PES). Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

### **INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS**

#### **Invited book talks for *The Political Classroom*, with Diana Hess**

- 2022 Featured speakers for the Commonwealth Club's Creating Citizen's series. San Francisco, California  
 2018 Keynote address at the Politics and Education Conference at Levinsky College, Tel Aviv, Israel.  
 2018 Webinar for Civic Canopy  
 2017 AERA Spencer Lecture. Austin, Texas  
 2017 Grawemeyer Award Lecture in Education, University of Louisville  
 2016 Webinar for the National Association of Independent Schools  
 2015 Keynote for the National Law-Related Education Conference, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Philadelphia  
 2015 Harvard University, Distinguished Speaker Series, Gutman Library  
 2015 UW-Madison, Center for Ethics and Education, public lecture  
 2015 Illinois Civic Mission Coalition Convening, keynote address  
 2015 DePaul University, public lecture  
 2014 Keynote and professional development workshops. New Hampshire Institute of Politics at St. Anslem College

#### **Other invited talks and workshops**

- 2025 Invited speaker for the teacher workshop, "The Art of Inquiry: Promoting Responsible Belief in the Classroom" hosted by the Applied Epistemology Project at UNC. Chapel Hill, North Carolina.
- 2024 Presentation with Dr. Christy Byrd, "Cultivating Productive Discussions Across Difference." NCSU College of Education All-College Meeting.
- 2024 Keynote, "Navigating the Classroom During an Election Year." William Peace University, Faculty Opening Development Day. Raleigh, North Carolina.
- 2024 Invited talk for Close Up Civic Education Fellows training, delivered online to participants in Washington, D.C.
- 2024 Keynote address Social Studies Coalition of Delaware. Online, Delaware. (300)
- 2024 Invited panelist, "Educating for Democracy in a Contentious Election Year" webinar hosted by the DePaul College of Education (Spring Forum). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iVWaq91-xh8>
- 2024 Keynote address, "Addressing Contentious Topics in the Classroom" webinar organized by Montgomery County Public Schools. Rockville, Maryland.
- 2023 Invited talk for Close Up Civic Education Fellows training, delivered online to participants in Washington, D.C.
- 2022 Presenter for "Teaching Democracy in the Classroom" conference organized by the Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia.
- 2022 Keynote address, New Hampshire Civics, Educating for Democracy Institute. Keene, New Hampshire.

- 2022 Invited panelist, “Experiencing Democracy: Creating a Civic Culture in School” hosted by the Commonwealth Club of California. San Francisco, CA.
- 2022 Invited talk for Close Up Civic Education Fellows training, delivered online to participants in Washington, D.C.
- 2022 Webinar panelist for “Divided Classrooms” hosted by BridgeUSA.
- 2021 Invited lecture for the “Civic Literacy” series sponsored by the Center for Research on Education and School Development (IFS) at TU Dortmund University, Germany. Delivered over Zoom.
- 2021 Webinar panelist for “Mending the Fabric of Democracy: Teaching Civic Readiness” hosted by DemocracyReady NY.
- 2021 Webinar panelist for “Teaching for Democracy: Fostering Civic Engagement and Understanding” hosted by the Institute for Educational Leadership.
- 2021 Invited speaker for the Community Conversations series on Elections for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at NCSU.
- 2020 Mikva Challenge webinar panelist, “Discussing controversial issues in COVID.”
- 2020 Webinar panelist on “Ethics of Reopening” for the Office of Ethics and Policy, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
- 2019 Invited talk for the Council on Multicultural Initiatives and Diversity, NC State
- 2019 Public lecture for The Democracy Project, University of Delaware
- 2019 Public lecture for the Parr Center for Ethics, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
- 2018 Invited presenter Council of State Social Studies Specialists (CS4). Chicago, IL.
- 2018 Invited Visiting Scholar, Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. Delivered four public talks.
- 2018 Invited brown bag talk, University of Melbourne, Australia
- 2018 Invited speaker for the all-college meeting, NC State
- 2018 NEA/Spencer Fall Fellows Retreat panelist. Washington, D.C.
- 2017 Invited presenter at the Northwestern University Practical Philosophy Workshop, Chicago, IL.
- 2017 Invited session for the Annual Pennsylvania Council for the Social Studies Conference. Harrisburg, PA.
- 2017 Master Class teaching demonstration for students and faculty at Central High School. Louisville, Kentucky.
- 2016 “Political Polarization and the Ethics of Teaching about Partisanship.” Lunch and Learn Series, Wisconsin Center for Education Research.

- 2016 Invited talk for faculty at Longwood University. Farmville, Virginia
- 2015 “Ethics and the Professions: An opening discussion.” Invited presentation for the UW-Madison Ethics Conference.
- 2014 “Ethics and the aims of sex education.” Invited talk given at the Center for Research on Educational Opportunity (CREO) at Notre Dame.
- 2013 “Democratic education in an era of polarization.” Workshop presented at the Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago’s Annual Conference for Teachers in Civics, Law, and Government.
- 2013 “Using mixed method research to investigate teachers’ political disclosure.” Workshop presented with Diana Hess to the Early Career Scholars for the New Civics at Harvard University.
- 2011 “Teaching with controversy: Political diversity in the K-12 Classroom.” Workshop offered for Illinois State’s Diversity Week organized by the student government.
- 2010 “Exploring the limits of cultural tolerance.” Talk for the UNITE student group, Illinois State.
- 2010 “Evidence and ethics in democratic education.” Brown Bag for the Philosophy of Education Discussion Group at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 2010 “What’s controversial about controversial issues discussions?” Workshop presented at the UW-Madison Teaching Academy Summer Institute.
- 2009 “What (if anything) do we owe to Anabaptist children?” Dine Around sponsored by the Multicultural Graduate Student Network at UW-Madison.
- 2009 “The controversial issue of teacher disclosure.” Presented at the Wisconsin Charter School Conference.
- 2008 Co-presenter with Professor Diana Hess for workshop titled, “Creating ‘fair and balanced’ discussions of controversial election issues.” Presented at Teaching About the Election, a conference for K-12 teachers at UW-Madison

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS AND FACULTY**

- 2024 “Discussion structures for inclusive participation” zoom talk to the social studies department at New Trier High School, Winnetka, Illinois
- 2024 “Discussion Day” organized for students at North Carolina State University. Raleigh, North Carolina
- 2023 Keynote address for the Academy for Human Rights conference for educators. Buffalo, New York
- 2023 “Teacher Neutrality in the Classroom: What is it and should I value it?” Co-organizer with the Parr Center for Ethics at UNC. Offered to NCSU students and area teachers. Raleigh, North Carolina
- 2022 “Discussion Day” organized for students at North Carolina State University. Raleigh, North Carolina
- 2022 North Carolina School Board Association annual conference. Greensboro, North Carolina
- 2022 Webinar presenter for the Independent Schools Association of Central States (ISACS)
- 2022 National Endowment for the Humanities Courting Liberty Institute, Atlanta, Georgia
- 2021 Webinar featured guest. Democracy Schools Network of Illinois
- 2021 Webinar featured guest. Close Up Conversations: Civil Discourse and Deliberation in the Classroom

- 2021 College Courageous Conversation panelist: Preparing the Next Generation of Culturally Competent Teachers, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 2021 Webinar panelist for Close Up Foundation's School Leader Institute
- 2021 Online PD for faculty at York High School and Sandburg Middle School in Elmhurst, Illinois
- 2021 Two online PD programs for faculty in the Graduate School of Education at the University of Buffalo, Buffalo, New York
- 2020 Webinar panelist hosted by inquired inquirED (September)
- 2020 Online PD for CESA 11, Turtle Lake, Wisconsin
- 2020 Online PD for faculty at Georgetown Day School, Washington, D.C.
- 2020 Online PD for faculty at the Berkshire School, in collaboration with Street Law, Inc., Sheffield, Massachusetts
- 2020 Webinar hosted by Maine Department of Education
- 2020 Webinar hosted by CESA 11, Turtle Lake, Wisconsin
- 2020 Webinar panelist hosted by inquired (February)
- 2020 "Dinner and Dessert with Democracy" presented at the NC Council for the Social studies conference (with C. Byrd, N. Wafa, A. Lowery, and J. Thomas)
- 2019 Pre-workshop for teachers attending the North American Association for Philosophy and Education Conference, Mundelein, Illinois
- 2019 Keynote address for Mikva Challenge Action Civics Summer Institute, Chicago, Illinois
- 2019 The Discussion Project Instructor Training, Madison, Wisconsin
- 2019 The Discussion Project, Madison, WI (Spring and Summer)
- 2018 Workshop for teachers. Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
- 2018 Workshop for Education Week, NC State
- 2018 National Endowment for the Humanities Courting Liberty Institute, Atlanta, Georgia
- 2018 Teaching Poverty 101 Workshop, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Madison, Wisconsin
- 2018 Workshop for faculty at Lake Forest Academy. Lake Forest, Illinois
- 2018 Keynote address and workshop at the Nebraska Council for the Social Studies teacher conference. Lincoln, Nebraska
- 2018 Workshop for the Social Studies Best Practices Conference. Lincoln, Nebraska
- 2018 Keynote address and workshop Michigan Center for Civic Education. Lansing, Michigan
- 2018 Keynote address Nebraska 4-H Youth Development Conference. Lincoln, Nebraska
- 2017 Workshop for faculty and teaching assistants in the Philosophy Department at UW-Madison
- 2017 Workshop for teaching assistants in the Political Science Department at UW-Madison
- 2017 University of Alabama-Birmingham faculty workshop on discussion
- 2017 Democracy Schools training, Los Angeles County
- 2017 The Discussion Project Graduate Student Pilot. Madison, Wisconsin
- 2017 Keynote address Teaching Academy Winter Retreat, Madison, Wisconsin
- 2016 Teaching About the 2017 Elections Conference. Madison, Wisconsin
- 2016 Michigan Center for Civic Education. Grand Rapids, Michigan
- 2016 Classroom Law Project Summer Institute. Portland, Oregon
- 2016 Teaching for Democracy Alliance Webinar
- 2016 Democracy Schools training, Los Angeles County
- 2015 West High School Leadership Team. Madison, Wisconsin
- 2015 Madison Metropolitan School District. Madison, Wisconsin
- 2015 Classroom Law Project Summer Institute. Bend, Oregon
- 2015 Marion County School District. Ocala, Florida
- 2015 Chicago Public Schools. Chicago, Illinois
- 2015 Chicago Public Schools. Chicago, Illinois

## UNIVERSITY TEACHING

#### North Carolina State University

ECI 535/563: Social Studies Methods, Fall 2020, 2021 (online)  
 ED 756: Scholar Leader: Systemic Change in Education, Fall 2020 (online), 2024; Spring 2024, 2025  
 ECI 709: Classroom Discussion in Theory and Practice, Fall 2019  
 ECI 525: Contemporary Approaches to Social Studies, Fall 2018, 2019, 2021  
 ECI 524: Theory and Research in Global Learning, Spring 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024  
 ED 569: Teaching Internship, Spring 2019  
 ECI 7XX: Teaching and Teacher Education Seminar

#### University of Wisconsin-Madison. Spring 2016

EPS 545: Philosophical Conceptions of Teaching and Learning

#### Loyola University Chicago. Spring 2012, Fall 2013

ELPS 302: Philosophy of Education

#### Illinois State University. Fall 2010, Spring 2011

EAF 231: Introduction to Philosophy of Education  
 EAF 423: Professional Ethics for School Administrators

#### University of Wisconsin-Madison, Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2009

EPS 300: School and Society

#### University of Wisconsin-Madison. Fall 2003, Spring 2004, Fall 2004, Spring 2005

Student Teacher Supervision in Elementary Education

### **K-12 TEACHING**

2005/ 2006 Teacher, PEOPLE Program Summer Program, UW-Madison

1994-2003 High School Teacher, Middle College Program at Foothill College, Los Altos, California  
 Co-directed and taught social studies for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students from the Mountain View-Los Altos and Palo Alto School Districts.

1993 Middle School Teacher, Winton Intermediate, Hayward, California, 1993  
 Taught 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade language arts and social studies.

### **RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE**

2016 Project Leader, Teaching About the 2016 Elections Conference at University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2010 Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Wisconsin Center for Education Research  
 Project: "Evidence and Ethics in Democratic Education" with Professor Diana Hess

2006-2010 Research Assistant, Wisconsin Center for Education Research  
 Project: "How Deliberating Controversial Issues in High School Courses Influences Civic Engagement"

### **SERVICE**

### **NCSU College and Department**

2024- Search committee member, Department Head for Teacher Education and Learning Science  
2025

2022- Post-tenure Review Committee  
Present

2021- Faculty coordinator for the Social Studies doctoral concentration

2020- Committee for Professional Education  
Present

2022 Co-chair of the College of Education Civic Education Challenge

2021 Search committee member, faculty position in teacher education

2021 Search committee member, Department Head for Teacher Education and Learning Sciences

### **Boards**

2024 Close Up Advisory Board Member, America In One Room project

2024 Faculty Advisory Board Member, Harvard and the Legacy of Slavery Project

2023 Editorial Board Member, *Educational Theory*, Sage Journals. Term: 2023-2027

2022 Editorial Board Member, *Theory and Research in Education*, Sage Journals. Term: 2022-2026

2017 Academic Advisory Council, Close-Up Foundation. Term: 2017–2024

2015 Review Board Member, *Educational Theory*, Wiley-Blackwell and the University of Illinois.  
Term: 2015-2019

2013 Book Review Editor, *Theory and Research in Education*, Sage Journals. Term: 2013-2016.

### **Professional Associations**

2025 Just Community Committee, Philosophy of Education Society. Appointed term 2025-2028

2024 Program Committee, Philosophy of Education Society (PES)

2024 Committee on Professional Affairs for the Philosophy of Education Society. Elected term 2024-2028

2023 Awards Committee, Philosophical Studies in Education SIG, American Educational Research Association (AERA). Term 2023-2025

2023 Program Committee, Philosophy of Education Society (PES)

2023 Mentorship Committee, Philosophy of Education Society. Term 2023-2026



- 2021 Early career award review panel, College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA)
- 2019-2020 National Academy of Education, member of the Civic Reasoning & Discourse Steering Committee
- 2019-2021 Chair, Philosophical Studies in Education SIG. American Educational Research Association (AERA)
- 2017-2020 Mentorship committee, Philosophy of Education Society (PES)
- 2019 Reviewer, College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA)
- 2019 Elections Committee, Philosophy of Education Society (PES)
- 2017-2020 Program Chair, Philosophical Studies in Education SIG. American Educational Research Association. (AERA)
- 2018-2020 Jobs Committee, Philosophy of Education Society (PES)
- 2014-2017 Membership Committee, Philosophy of Education Society (PES)
- 2012, 2017 Program Committee, Philosophy of Education Society (PES)
- 2009, 2014 Reviewer, American Educational Research Association (AERA)

### **Manuscript Reviewer**

*American Educational Research Journal*  
*Cognition and Instruction*  
*Curriculum Inquiry*  
*Democracy & Education*  
*Educational Theory*  
*Educational Policy*  
*Journal of Moral Education*  
*Journal of Philosophy of Education*  
*Political Psychology*  
*Social Media + Society*  
*Studies in Philosophy and Education*  
*Teachers College Record*  
*Theory and Research in Education*  
*Theory and Research in Social Education*

### **Related Volunteerism**

- 2022 Judge for the North Carolina High School Ethics Bowl
- 2021 Facilitator for the Parr Center for Ethics professional development program at UNC
- 2021 Judge for the Iowa High School Ethics Bowl

**SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS & CUFA)

Philosophy of Education Society (PES)

North American Association for Philosophy and Education (NAAPE)