

MICHELLE LESSLY

410 MEMORIAL DRIVE
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139
310.909.4499
MICHELLE.LESSLY@GMAIL.COM

EDUCATION

Doctorate of Law and Public Policy, Candidate
Northeastern University
Anticipated June 2016

Masters of Education, Higher Education
Emphasis in Student Affairs
Abilene Christian University
May 2008

**Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Text
Minor in English**
Abilene Christian University
May 2005

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

**The De-Identification of MOOC Datasets to
Demonstrate the Potential FERPA
Compliance of MOOC Platform Providers**
Doctoral Thesis
Northeastern University

**Understanding the Intersection of Title IX
and MOOCs: Future Implications for
Education Policy**
Northeastern University

**Assessing FERPA Comprehension: A
Qualitative Study**
Northeastern University

**Examining Social Computing as it Related to
First-Year Retention at a Private 4-year
Institution**
Abilene Christian University
Department of Education
Lead Faculty: Dr. Jason Morris
Presented at the ACSD Nation Conference
2007

Morris, J.M. & Lessly, M. (2007). Review of the book *The Christian College. A History of Protestant Higher Education in America. Growth: The Journal of the Association for Christians in Student Development*, 6, 48-50.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
August 2011 to Present
Residential Life Area Director

- Actively partnered with faculty on a daily basis to execute departmental initiatives;
- Spearheaded and chaired a variety of department strategic initiatives including curriculum development, policy development, professional staff onboarding, and paraprofessional staff training, and conference organization;
- Collaborated with campus partners to develop workshops, conferences, and campus-wide learning opportunities;
- Planned numerous for undergraduate and graduate students ranging from 15-1,200 participants;
- Advanced departmental educational technologies through the development of online training modules and work on the DSLx committee;
- Served as a first-responder for the MIT Dean on Call crisis response team;
- Recognized with the Division of Student Life Unsung Hero Award, 2014-2015;
- Recognized with the Division of Student Life Star Award, 2014-2015, 2012-2013.

Pepperdine University
July 2008 to June 2011
*Assistant Director of Residence Life and Judicial Affairs,
Adjunct Faculty*

- Pioneered strategic plan for second-year students resulting in increased residential retention and matriculation to junior year, increased in faculty involvement in student life;
- Assisted in the operational oversight of housing and residence life including 10 professional staff members, 100 student leaders, and managed the student conduct adjudication of 2,500 undergraduate and graduate students;
- Developed and facilitated curriculum for first-year seminar focusing on the role of career management and planning through the context of Schlossberg's Theory of Transition.

Abilene Christian University
July 2007 to June 2008
Residence Director

- Partnered with campus offices for student programming including Student Outreach and Support, Student Activities, Counseling Center, Volunteer Center and Student Conduct;
- Created curriculum and syllabus for a course on Emotional Intelligence;
- Advised and coached underperforming and underprepared undergraduate students.

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PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

First-Year Academic Advisor
Undergraduate Advising & Academic Programs
Served as primary academic advisor and mentor for first-year students.

Restorative Justice Facilitator
Office of Student Citizenship
Trained as a restorative justice facilitator; developed pilot program for implementation in the undergraduate residential communities by the student judicial committee program.

BASICs Facilitator
Office of Community Development & Substance Abuse
Trained as a motivational interviewer for the Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students program.

Pepperdine University
Sophomore Residential Experience Coordinator
Created and implemented strategic plan for increasing the quality of life for second-year students residing on campus; increased residence occupancy numbers, established faculty in residence.

Abilene Christian University
Intern
Office of General Counsel
Single-handedly developed the University Policy and Process for Policy Development.

Course Facilitator
Department of Education, Higher Education Program
Instructed graduate course on Legal and Ethical Issues in Higher Education (HIED 643).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association
American College Professional Association

ACCEPTED PRESENTATIONS

Lessly, M. (April 2016). *Understanding the implications of incorporating digital technology in an analogue policy structure: Can MOOCs comply with FERPA?* Oral presentation at the New England Political Science Association Annual Meeting

Lessly, M. (June 2012). *Why I Broke Up with Christian Higher Education: What Christian Student Affairs Professionals can do to turn the tide.* Oral presentation at the ACSD Nation Conference.

Lessly, M. (July 2011). *Surviving Restructuring: Supporting Professional Staff During Change.* Oral presentation at the Association of College and University Housing Officers National Conference.

Lessly, M. (July 2011). *Successful Student Leader Selection.* Oral presentation at the Association of College and University Housing Officers National Conference.

Lessly, M. (June 2010). *Ethics and Student Leadership.* Oral presentation at the Association of College and University Housing Officers National Conference.

Lessly, M. (June 2010). *Ethics and Student Leadership.* Oral presentation at Western Association of College and University Housing Officers Annual Conference.

Lessly M. (April 2009). *Think Cheap: Professional Development on a Tight Budget.* Oral Presentation at the Western Association of College and University Housing Officers Annual Conference.

Lessly, M. (February 2009). *Ethics and Student Leadership.* Oral presentation at the National Collegiate Leadership Conference.

Lessly, M. (June 2008). *Navigating Institutional Culture: A Tri-Level Qualitative Reflection.* Oral presentation at the ACSD National Conference.

Lessly, M. (June, 2007). *Examining Social Computing (Facebook) as it Relates to First-Year Retention at a Private 4-year Institution.* Oral presentation at the ACSD Nation Conference.