

# Jennifer Williams

**Board of Directors  
2016–2019**

**Jennifer Williams** is recognized as a transformational leader in education; she has dedicated herself for over 20 years to the field of education through her roles as a school administrator, literacy specialist, and classroom teacher. Currently, as the cofounder and lead program developer for Calliope Global, she works with schools, universities, and organizations from around the world on initiatives that empower teachers and students to learn and explore together as digital composers in common learning spaces. She is a professor for Saint Leo University in the College of Education and serves on the Board of Directors for the International Literacy Association (ILA). Through her vision of providing authentic opportunities for learning with use of advanced educational practices, she champions teachers and students to prepare for their futures in a world that will prioritize creativity, innovation, and exploration.



Jennifer speaks, writes, and consults on practices that develop global perspectives through creative uses of technology and literacy. She has presented most recently at ISTE, ILA, ST4T, K12 Online Conference, ECG, GEC, FCIS, and FFLA, and on the basis of her doctoral research in education, she was named the American Montessori Society 2015 Research Award Grant recipient. Her research interests include multimodal literacy and digital technologies, collaborative learning space design, and student-centered pedagogies. Her doctoral dissertation research focused on self-efficacy beliefs of preservice teachers in use of multimodal literacies in instruction and was grounded in constructivist practices and amplification of student voice and choice.

By seeing the world through an international lens, Jennifer has looked to help build a global community of educators who together can drive and support sustainable change. Through global projects, international student travel, and collaborative multimodal literacy projects for students in early education through university, Jennifer inspires conversation through collaborative uses of digital-age technologies to ultimately develop worldviews that broaden and deepen thinking beyond the boundaries of nations and continents. Jennifer seeks to inspire classrooms to together examine problems of global and cultural significance and to think critically, thoughtfully, and intentionally to work to find solutions to positively impact the educational landscape in our world today. In her work as a literacy specialist and with International Literacy Association, her personal mission is to make literacy accessible for all and ultimately to bring about appreciation of shared stories and celebration of diversity of experience and perspective. Jennifer is inspired every day by teachers and students who are catalysts for making the world a better place.

## **Presentation Topics**

- Technology integration and multimodal literacies
- Global collaboration
- Student-voice in literacy instruction
- Designing learning spaces for literacy
- Modern forms of professional development and social media