I became a member of the Oberlin College Dialogue Center in fall 2008, after having attended the Social Justice Institute and mediation training provided by the Office of the Ombudsperson. I came to Oberlin in January 2008.

I am the assistant director of web communications in the Office of Communications at Oberlin College. I am part of a four-person team that works to make sure that the college website functions effectively, offers clear directions, has useful and important information, and tells the story of the college and the conservatory in unique and compelling ways.

I have worked in higher education communications for almost 15 years and enjoyed a previous career as a newspaper reporter and editor.

Perhaps what I enjoy most about being involved in OCDC is being able to meet and work with talented, insightful, caring students, who are genuinely concerned about important social, interfaith, gender, and simply human issues; issues that impact the heart and soul. The training has made me ever aware of the value and importance of seeking out different voices and making sure all voices are heard—whether in a staff meeting, a PTA meeting, a church council session, a community meeting, a writer’s discussion group. I don’t have to agree, but I do need to listen. That’s my OCDC takeaway.