

Dr. Kerri Cissna
 +1 310.658.4941 | KerriCissna@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Global Leadership and Change	2020
Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology Doctor of Education (Ed.D.), Organizational Leadership	2012
University of Birmingham (UK), The Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues Master of Arts (M.A.), Character Education	(2027)
Azusa Pacific University, Graduate School of Education Master of Education (M.Ed.), College Student Affairs	2003
Warner Pacific University Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Religion and Christian Ministry, Minor in Leadership Studies	2001

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Butler University, Indianapolis, IN Lecturer, Entrepreneurship & Innovation	August 2025 - Present
Courses Taught: EI101: First Year Business Experience – Entrepreneurial Inquiry & Innovation LSB401: Internship I EI485: Entrepreneurial Accelerator (Spring 2026)	
Miami University, Oxford, OH Visiting Assistant Professor, Entrepreneurship	August 2021- Present
Courses Taught: ESP 103: Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurial Thinking ESP 201: Introduction to Entrepreneurship and Business Models ESP 401: Entrepreneurship: New Ventures	
Committees/Service Chair, Technology Committee and Faculty Flourishing Committee, Farmer School of Business Member, DEIB Committee, Farmer School of Business Member, Innovation Committee, Farmer School of Business Member, Integration Committee, Farmer School of Business Faculty Advisor, Emerging Leaders Living-Learning Community	
Contributions and Significant Accomplishments: Awarded \$50,000 capacity building grant for character development in entrepreneurship Co-authored ESP103 Course Textbook Led initiative to solicit feedback from 24 faculty members to collaborate on digital textbook Facilitated a Hack-a-Thon with 21 student leaders from Student Government, Honors College, ROTC, and Government Relations Network on how to infuse character at Miami U. Organized Human Flourishing Speaker Series and Faculty Coffee Talks on character education	

Wake Forest University, Winston Salem, NC

August 2020- July 2021

Teacher-Scholar Postdoctoral Fellow, Program for Leadership & Character/Entrepreneurship Dept.

Courses Designed and Taught:

ENT 304: The Character of Entrepreneurship

ENT 305: Entrepreneurial Leadership

California State University, Long Beach, College of Business

January 2020- July 2022

Professor/Lecturer, Master of Business Administration

Online Synchronous Courses Taught:

HRM 652: Human Resource Management

Southern Nazarene University, Bethany, OK

Fall 2021- Spring 2022

Professor, Course Designer, Master of Leadership

Asynchronous Courses Designed and Taught:

LEAD 5153: Collaborative Leadership

LEAD 5173: Conflict Negotiation and Resolution

Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA

August 2007- May 2023

Adjunct Professor, Master of Social Entrepreneurship and Undergraduate Business School

SEC 692: Leading the Philanthropic Enterprise

COM 450: Leadership and Communication

COM 301: Qualitative Research in Communication

COM 300: Research Methods for Communication

COM 380: Business and Professional Communication

COM 292: Leadership and Communication

FYS 100: First Year Seminar, Exploring Leadership

ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYMENT

2020 (Jan-July)	Executive Director, Leadership Long Beach, Long Beach, CA Managed executive leadership programs and youth leadership programs. Worked with 22 board members and oversight of 9 committees, Raised \$70k in new funding. Resigned due to the Covid-19 pandemic which forced a reduction in salary and staff.
2013 – 2018	Assistant Vice Chancellor, Graduate School of Education and Psychology Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA Major gift officer, Board recruitment, Donor stewardship Founded Lifelong Learning program (endowed), Women's Center for Leadership
2009 – 2013	Director of Housing & Residence Life, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA Managed a \$22M budget, Supervised 12 professional staff, 200+ student leaders Recruitment, selection, training, evaluation, emergency response oversight
2006 – 2009	Leadership Development Coordinator, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA Planned campus-wide leadership trainings, conferences, colloquium series, advised student government, and founded Project LEAD (alt spring break) & Leadership Institute in Lausanne, Switzerland
2007-2008	(Interim) Director of Intercultural Affairs Office, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA Facilitated campus-wide agenda for diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging

- 2003 - 2006 Resident Director, Office of Leadership Development, Asbury University, Wilmore, KY
Managed apartment complex of 150 student leaders
Facilitated leadership development workshops and service-learning.
- 2001 – 2003 Assistant Resident Director, Office of Residence Life
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA

CONTRACT BASED EMPLOYMENT

Author/Editor, Cengage Publishing Company

- Hired as the lead author/editor for textbook called, *Becoming A Master Student: Making the Career Connection*

Founder, Inspired Life Consulting, LLC

- Teach leadership workshops, facilitate leadership development retreats, consulting, coaching

Producer/Co-Founder, Inspired Life Film Productions, Los Angeles, CA

- Produced two feature-length films, four short films

Executive Director, The Interfaith Center at Miami University, Oxford, OH

- Work with board members, university partners, and city of Oxford to unite people from all faith traditions on shared values to cultivate social action for the common good.
- Raised over \$30k in new grant funding, hired four student interns, recruited new board members, and designed a curriculum for 200 Miami students on religious diversity

Chief Academic Officer, EMC Leaders, Irvine, CA

- Conduct research on the emotional connection (EMC) process for developing leaders
- Publish and present research findings at conferences

Faculty, ARTI Academics, Las Vegas, NV

- Conduct online training for ERA Real Estate agents/brokers on creative problem solving, conflict management, negotiation, leadership, etc.

Principal Consultant, Coastline Consultancy, Malibu, CA

- Consulting projects for organizational behavior and leadership development
- Research for corporate culture and design strategies
- Launch Pepperdine's Blockchain Initiative

Principal Consultant, JPR Consulting & RW Consulting, Long Beach, CA

- Executive retreats, leadership development, and organizational change consulting
- Organized/Hosted *Diversity in Leadership* conference

CERTIFICATIONS

- 2025 Certified Facilitator for Lego Serious Play, Teams, and Design Thinking, Strategic Play Global
- 2025 Faculty Writing Fellow, HOWE Faculty Writing Across the Curriculum, Miami University
- 2024 Faculty Externship in Artificial Intelligence, Ernst & Young Innovation Hub, Cleveland
- 2023 Certified Self-Actualization Coach, Center for Human Potential
- 2023 Lego Serious Play, Play4Business
- 2022 Visual Development Fundamentals, Cincy Tech USA
- 2022 Blockchain for Entrepreneurship Educators, USA for Small Business and Entrepreneurship

2022	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Miami University's Professional Education Center
2022	CQ 101 Faculty Training, Cultural Intelligence Center
2022	Vinyasa Yoga Instructor (RYT200), Miami University Recreation Center
2021-2023	Improv and Stand-up Comedy, The Second City, Chicago
2021	New Faculty Teaching Enhancement Program, Miami University
2021	Unconscious Bias Training, LinkedIn Learning
2020	Course Development Workshop, Wake Forest University, Program for Leadership & Character
2020	Go Virtual Teaching Symposium, California State Long Beach, Academic Technology
2020	Peer-to-Peer Learning Community, Wake Forest University
2019	Flipped Classroom Teaching, Pepperdine University, Center for Teaching Excellence
2019	Hybrid Teaching Certificate Program, Pepperdine University
2018	Certified Trainer, Mastering Emotional Connection, Level Five Executive, Inc.
2014	Fundraising Certificate, Alchemy Fundamentals, Annenberg Foundation

PUBLICATIONS

Published Articles

- Cissna, K., Crews, R., Ferris, J., Gray, R., & Roberts, E. (2025). From classroom to client: Empowering Gen Z through Collective Genius at Miami University (A case study of the First-Year Integrated Core). *Journal on Excellence in Teaching*.
- Cissna, K., Alexander, J., Ferris, J., McGlothlin, J.; Johnson, J., & Zoeckler, G. (2023). [Gamifying learning in management: An interdisciplinary approach from Miami University's Farmer School of Business.](#) *Business and Professional Communication Quarterly Newsletter, Association for Business Communication (ABC)*.
- Cissna, K. (2022). [Cultivating a culture of yes: The courage to teach followership through the seven elements of improv.](#) *International Leadership Association (ILA) Newsletter: Pause for Pedagogy* (April 2022).
- Cissna, K., Gross, C., Wickramasinghe, A., & Martin, L. (2021). White Paper: [Emotional connections at work: The future of talent acquisition and human flourishing.](#)
- Cissna, K., Martin, L. & Shahisiman, L. (2017). [Global leadership competence: The intelligence quotient of modern leader.](#) *Journal of Leadership Education*.
- Cissna, K., Martin, L. & Shahisiman, L. (2016). [Global leadership competence.](#) *Journal of Global Leadership, Volume IV*.
- Weber, M. J. & Cissna, K. (2015). [The digital women's project at Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology.](#) *Growth Journal*, 12(1), 2-9.
- Cissna, K. (2012). *Pepperdine University students paws to relax*. Waves Newsletter Western Association of College and University Housing Officers, Spring.

Published Book Chapters

- Cissna, K., Eyman, D., & Domenico, J. (2025). Co-Creating the future of leadership: A case study from the First-Year Integrated Core at Miami University's Farmer School of Business. *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Leadership and Organizational Change*. **Springer Nature**.

- Cissna, K.,** Gershfeld, L., Gross, C., & Wickramasinghe, A. (2025). From Conflict to Connection: Harnessing emotions in the workplace with the EMC process. *International Handbook of Emotions. Positive and Cultural Psychology Perspectives*. Springer Nature.
- Cissna, K.,** Gross, C., & Wickramasinghe, A. (2023). New forms of self-actualized leadership: Leading organizational change back to human. *The Routledge Companion to Leadership and Change*. Taylor & Francis Group Publishing: United Kingdom. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003147305>
- Wickramasingh, A., **Cissna, K.** & Gross, C. (2023). Beyond east and west: The making of global leadership. *The Springer Handbook of Global Leadership and Followership: Integrating the best leadership theory and practice*. Springer International: New York. Retrieved from: https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007/978-3-030-75831-8_7-1
- Gross, C., **Cissna, K.** & Wickramasinghe, A. (2023). Catalyzing social innovation through experiential education and foreign travel. *The Palgrave Handbook of Global Social Change*. Palgrave MacMillan Publishers: United Kingdom. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-87624-1>
- Cissna, K.,** Dern, G., Gross, C., & Wickramasinghe, A. (2022). The servant leader's guide to maximizing the potential of diverse teams. *Palgrave Handbook of Servant Leadership*. Palgrave MacMillan Publishers: United Kingdom. Retrieved from: <https://link.springer.com/referencework/10.1007/978-3-031-01323-2?sap-outbound-id=D54775DC07141D4BD297993A136C809507FBE50D>
- Bayat, N. & **Cissna, K.** (2022). Supporting leadership success in times of global disruption: Best practices for transformational executive coaching. *Leadership after Covid-19: Working together toward a sustainable future*. Springer International: New York. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-84867-5>
- Gross, C., **Cissna, K.** & Wickramasinghe, A. (2021). Diversity, equity, and inclusion: Strategic plans for start-ups. *Global Encyclopedia of administration, public policy, and governance*. Springer International: New York. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-31816-5>
- Cissna, K.,** Martin, L., Weber, M. J. & Wickramasinghe, A. (2021). The life integration framework: A women's global perspective on work-life integration and work-from-home. *Work from Home: Multi-level Perspectives on the New Normal*. Emerald Publishing Limited: India. <https://doi.org/10.1108/978-1-80071-662-9>
- Schockman, H. E. & **Cissna, K.** (2019). Mindfulness companion: The role of mindful leaders, followers, and organizations. *Routledge Handbook of Mindfulness, Flow, and Creativity in the Workplace*. Taylor and Francis Publishing: Oxfordshire, United Kingdom. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429244667>
- Schockman, H. E. & **Cissna, K.** (2019). Finding the key to positive leadership: Applying inclusivity and virtue ethics. *New Horizons in Positive leadership and change: A practical guide for workplace transformation*. Springer: New York. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-38129-5>
- Weber, M. J. & **Cissna, K.** (2019). Meaningful work-family integration: Strategies for fulfillment. *The Handbook of Workplace Well-Being: Reimagining Human Flourishing*. Palgrave MacMillan Publishers: New York. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-30025-8>
- Schockman, H. E. & **Cissna, K.** (2018). Inclusive leadership and hyper-spirituality. *The Handbook of Workplace Spirituality and Fulfillment*. Palgrave MacMillan Publishers: New York. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-62163-0>

Published Books

- Cissna, K. (forthcoming). Becoming a master student: Making the career connection. Cengage Publishing Company.
- Cissna, K. (2025). Creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship. [*The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Leadership and Organizational Change*](#). Spring Nature.
- Weber, M. J. & Cissna, K. (2020). [*Women in leadership and work-life integration, Volume III: Global Perspectives*](#). Cambridge Scholars Publishing: United Kingdom.
- Weber, M. J. & Cissna, K. (2016). [*Women in leadership and work-life integration, Volume II: A Woman's Identity*](#). Cambridge Scholars Publishing: United Kingdom
- Weber, M. J. & Cissna, K. (2015). [*Women in leadership and work-life integration, Volume I*](#). Cambridge Scholars Publishing: United Kingdom.
- Cissna, K. (2022). Inspired life: Strategies for work-life integration, second edition. Amazon publishing: <https://www.amazon.com/Inspired-Life-Strategies-Work-Integration/dp/B0CCZYW1V9>

INVITED TALKS AND GUEST LECTURES

Miami Women in Business, Miami University (April, 2025)

Keynote Presentation

Topic: Collective Genius in business leadership

Phi Gamma Nu, Miami University (March, 2025)

Keynote Presentation

Topic: Collective Genius: Leveraging diversity for innovation

Student Org Training, Miami University (January, 2025)

Facilitator: Empower Your Org. Cultivate Your Leadership.

Topic: Design Sprint

Creative Problem-Solving Institute (July 2023, Buffalo, NY)

Facilitator: Immersion Course, Annual Conference

Topic: Cultivating a Culture of Yes, And...

Black Tie Dinner, Inc. (January 2023, College Station, TX)

Facilitator: Board Retreat

Topic: Cultivating a Culture of Yes, And...

Montana Office of Public Instruction (January 2023, Helena, Montana)

Faculty Lead: Montana Executive Leadership Academy

Topic: Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurial Thinking

Wake Forest University (December 2022, Winston Salem, NC)

Panel Presentation: Educating Character Across the University Conference

Topic: Entrepreneurial Leadership & Character

Miami University (November 2022/April 2023, Oxford, OH)

Guest Lecture: Leading the Integration of Faith & Entrepreneurship (LIFE)

Topic: Interfaith Diversity

Miami University (November 2022, Oxford, OH)

Guest Lecture: Global Initiatives at Miami University

Topic: Interfaith 101

School Administrators of Montana (SAM) (March 2022, Helena, MT)

Keynote Presentation: MASS/META/MCASE Spring Conference

Topic: The Future's So Bright: DEI & Technology

California State Long Beach, Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (March 2022, online)

Speaker: Centro (CHA) Community Hispanic Association Entrepreneur Bootcamp

Topic: Human Resource Management

California State Long Beach, Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (February 2022, online)

Speaker: Women-Owned Business Accelerator

Topic: Human Resource Management

The Leadership Institute of Nevada (December 2021, Las Vegas, NV)

Faculty Lead: Executive Leadership Academy

Topic: Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurial Thinking

Montana Office of Public Instruction (November 2021, Bozeman, MT)

Faculty Lead: Montana Executive Leadership Academy

Topic: Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurial Thinking

School Administrators of Montana (SAM) (October 2021, online)

Keynote Presentation: MASS/MCASE Fall Conference

Topic: Leading Innovation Through Collaborative Leadership

School Administrators of Montana (SAM) (October 2021, online)

Moderator: Women in Leadership Summit (Panel Presentation)

Topic: It's the Climb

Association of Talent Development (ATD) (September 2021, Salt Lake City, UT)

Moderator: Emotional Connections at Work (Panel Presentation)

University of Pittsburgh

Speaker: Psychology of Racism – Fall 2021

Topic: Cultural Intelligence (CQ): The Making of a Global Leader

Mount Saint Mary's University, Los Angeles, CA

Speaker: Psychology of Prejudice & Discrimination – Spring 2021

Topic: Cultural Intelligence (CQ)

Wake Forest University

Guest Lecturer: Social Entrepreneurship – Fall 2020

Topic: Entrepreneurial Leadership

University of California, Irvine, CA

Guest Lecturer, MGMT102: Managing Organizational Behavior – Fall 2019

Topic: Decentralized Leadership and Cultural Intelligence (CQ)

Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Business Management

Guest Lecturer, OTMT 617: Leadership Theory & Practice, MBA Program – Fall 2018

Topic: Competencies of Global Leadership

University of Laverne, Claremont, CA

Speaker, Sigma Alpha Epsilon Professional Development Institute – Fall 2017

Topic: *Understanding diversity through identity and leadership.*

City of Long Beach, CA

Speaker, Community Gathers Workshop – Fall 2017

Topic: *Diversity & cultural intelligence: A look beyond the surface.*

Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology

Guest lecturer, ESEC 600: Leadership and Service – Spring 2017

Guest, Lecturer, MAED 630.20: Professional Identity & Leadership – Fall 2016

Topic: Competencies of Global Leadership

CA State Long Beach, Human Resources and Management

Guest lecturer, HRM 360 (2013): Org Behavior, HRM 446: Leadership and Motivation (2013)

Topic: Cultural Intelligence (CQ)

PRESENTATIONS

Cissna, K., & Dern, G. (2025). *Reimagining capitalism through character: Cultivating moral agency in the next generation of entrepreneurial leaders.* The International Vincentian Business Ethics Conference hosted by the Institute for Business & Professional Ethics at DePaul University.

Cissna, K., & Dern, G. (2025). *Developing character in business school curriculum.* Society for Business Ethics Annual Conference. Copenhagen, Denmark.

Cissna, K., & Dern, G. (2024). *Collective genius: Leveraging diversity and design thinking virtues for innovation.* Educating Character Conference, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.

Cissna, K., & Dern, G. (2024). *Building the pillars of potential one stone at a time.* International Leadership Association (ILA). Chicago, IL.

Cissna, K., Dern, G., Haddad, N., Hoeft, E., & Rice, S. (2024). *The character of education: Preparing tomorrow's entrepreneurial leaders.* Baylor University's Symposium on Faith & Culture: Reimagining Institutions for the Common Good. Waco, TX.

Cissna, K., & Dern, G. (2024). *Stoking rural entrepreneurship: Design thinking for rural innovation.* USASBE Rural Entrepreneurship Symposium. Burlington, VT.

Cissna, K., & Dern, G. (2024). *Building the pillars of potential one stone at a time.* Annual Conference, Creative Learning Community. Sestri Levante, Italy.

- Cissna, K.,** Crews, R. & Dern, G. (2024). *Developing character in business school curriculum*. Kern Partners for Character and Educational Leadership (KPCEL) Network Convening. Boston, MA.
- Cissna, K.,** & Dern, G. (2024). *The character of entrepreneurship*. Annual Conference, Association for Practical and Professional Ethics. Cincinnati, OH.
- Cissna, K.,** & Dern, G. (2024). *Yes, and: Cultivating character through co-creation*. Annual Conference, Association for Practical and Professional Ethics. Cincinnati, OH.
- Alexander, J., **Cissna, K.,** Ferris, J, Liang, Yanni, & Sharifi, M. (2023). *Leveraging faculty collaboration for technology integration in the curriculum*. The Original Lilly Conference. Miami, OH.
- Cissna, K.** & McGlothlin, J. (2023). *Applying ‘Yes, And’ to AI in the Business Communication Classroom: Leveraging the power of AI through improv*. Association for Business Communication. Denver, CO.
- Cissna, K.,** & Dern, G. (2023). *Faith and entrepreneurship: Identifying religiously shared entrepreneurial values and virtues among the world’s faith traditions*. Parliament of the World Religions. Chicago, IL.
- Alexander, J., **Cissna, K.,** Ferris, J., Johnson, J., Liang, Yanni, Matig, J., McGlothlin, J., Sharifi, M. & Zoeckler, G. (2023). *Canvas palooza: Rocking your virtual classroom*. FYIC faculty workshop at Miami University, Farmer School of Business, August 21st.
- Alexander, J., **Cissna, K.,** Ferris, J., Johnson, J., Matig, J., & McGlothlin, J. (2023). *Technology and gamification*. FYIC faculty workshop at Miami University, Farmer School of Business, March 13th (online).
- Alexander, J., **Cissna, K.,** Ferris, J., Johnson, J., Matig, J., & McGlothlin, J. (2023). *Using artificial intelligence in b-school curriculum*. FYIC faculty workshop at Miami University, Farmer School of Business, April 10th (online).
- Alexander, J., **Cissna, K.,** Ferris, J., Johnson, J., Matig, J., McGlothlin, J., & Zoeckler, G. (2023). *Technology tips for grading efficiency*. FYIC faculty workshop at Miami University, Farmer School of Business, May 8th
- Einstein, E., **Cissna, K.,** Martin, L., Montgomery, S., Ufoegbune, V., Weber, M. & Wickramasinghe, A. (2022). *The work-family life integration speaker series: Men as allies*. December 9th (online).
- Cissna, K.,** & Crews, B. (2022). *Cultivating a culture of yes, and: Using improv to teach diversity, equity, and inclusion*. The Original Lilly Conference. Miami, OH.
- Cissna, K.,** & Crews, B. (2022). *Cultivating a culture of yes, and: Using improv to teach diversity, equity, and inclusion*. Association for Business Communication Annual International Convention. Tampa, FL.
- Cissna, K.,** Crews, B., Ferris, J., & Warnock, M. (2022). *DEI strategic planning: Implementing a diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging mindset in your department*. Association for Business Communication Annual International Convention. Tampa, FL.
- Cissna, K.** (2022). *Cultivating a culture of yes, and*. Creative Problem-Solving Institute (CPSI). Buffalo, NY.

- Einstein, E., **Cissna, K.**, Martin, L., Montgomery, S., Ufoegbune, V., Weber, M. & Wickramasinghe, A. (2022). *The work-family life integration speaker series: The art of mentoring workshop*. March 9 (online).
- Botero, I., Carr, J., **Cissna, K.**, De Carolis, D, De Massis, A., Eddleson, K., Froidevaux, A., & Kidwell, R. (2021). *Academy of management: Entrepreneurship division late career consortium – Session 164*. Academy of Management (online).
- Cissna, K.** (2021). *Experiential entrepreneurship*. Sixteenth International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Science. Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK.
- Einstein, E., **Cissna, K.**, Martin, L., Montgomery, S., Morris, C., Ufoegbune, V., Weber, M. & Wickramasinghe, A. (2020). *The work-family life integration speaker series: Breaking balance - a global perspective on women's leadership*. November 12 (online).
- Cissna, K.**, Martin, L., Montgomery, S., Morris, C., Ufoegbune, V. & Wickramasinghe, A. (2020). *The work-family life integration speaker series: Women's health, strategies, and stories*. October 16 (online).
- Beiler, L., Einstein, E., **Cissna, K.**, Martin, L., Montgomery, S., Morris, C., Ufoegbune, V. & Wickramasinghe, A. (2020). *The work-family life integration speaker series: Rock your voice, remembering, protecting, and celebrating women's right to vote*. August 28 (online).
- Beiler, L., Einstein, E., **Cissna, K.**, Martin, L., Montgomery, S., Morris, C., Ufoegbune, V., Weber, M. J., & Wickramasinghe, A. (2020). *The work-family life integration speaker series: Reinventing work – flexing with confidence*. July 2 (online).
- Beiler, L., Einstein, E., **Cissna, K.**, Martin, L., Montgomery, S., Morris, C., Ufoegbune, V., Weber, M. J., & Wickramasinghe, A. (2020). *The work-family life integration speaker series: Building community and connection with faith*. June 17 (online).
- Beiler, L., Einstein, E., **Cissna, K.**, Martin, L., Montgomery, S., Morris, C., Ufoegbune, V., Weber, M. J., & Wickramasinghe, A. (2020). *A global perspective on work-family integration: The new normal*. Leadership Long Beach Virtual Fireside Chat with the Digital Women's Project. May 10 (online).
- Dhiman, S., Roberts, G., Crossman, J., Kriger, M., Shockman, E., **Cissna, K.**, Tran, D. (2019). *Creating inclusive organizations through wise leadership, servant leadership, and inclusive leadership*. Academy of Management, Boston, MA.
- Cissna, K.** (2019). *Exploring the intersection of inclusive leadership and workplace spirituality at a faith-based institution of higher education*. Athens Institute for Education and Research, Athens, Greece.
- Cissna, K.** (2019). *The flipped classroom*. TechLearn Faculty Conference. Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA.
- Weber, M. J., Barge, G., **Cissna, K.** & Martin, L. (2018). *Resiliency and strength of women leaders around the globe*. Oxford Women's Leadership Symposium, Oxford, United Kingdom.

- Cissna, K. & Gershfeld, L. (2018).** *The power of emotional connection in fundraising and alumni engagement.* CASE District VII Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- Weber, M. J., **Cissna, K.** & Martin, L. (2017). *Strategic decision framework to balance work and family.* VII I-WIL International Conference of Work and Family, Barcelona, Spain.
- Weber, M. J., **Cissna, K.** & Martin, L. (2017). *From concept to publication: How a qualitative life course study of 600 global women inspired three books on leadership and work-life integration.* VII I-WIL International Conference of Women in Leadership, Barcelona, Spain.
- Cissna, K. & Martin, L. (2017).** *How to create a life of balance: The digital women's project from concept to publication.* Annual Graduate School of Education and Psychology Student Symposium, Malibu, CA.
- Cissna, K. & Einstein, E. (2017).** *Conflict management strategies: The guide to healthy conflict resolution.* Boeing Development Day, El Segundo, CA. | Family Camp, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA.
- Cissna, K. & Martin, L. (2017).** *The evolution of leadership competency.* Third Annual Graduate School of Education and Psychology Student Research Project Symposium, Los Angeles, CA.
- Cissna, K. & Shahisiman, L. (2016).** *Global leadership competence: The evolution of a great leader.* International Global Leadership Conference, Placentia, Belize.
- Cissna, K. (2016).** *The Confidence Code: What women should know about self-assurance.* Full-Screen Media, We Gather Women's Conference, Playa Vista, CA.
- Cissna, K. (2016).** Digital Intelligence (DQ): *Global leadership competency for the information age.* International Organization of Social Sciences and Behavioral Research Conference, San Antonio, TX.
*Won Best Paper Award
- Cissna, K. & Martin, L. (2016).** *Women in leadership and work-family integration: From concept to publication.* Second Annual GSEP Student Research Project Symposium, Los Angeles, CA.
- Cissna, K. & Martin, L. (2016).** *The evolution of leadership theory: Tools for successful coaching.* Fullscreen Media, Playa Vista, CA.
- Cissna, K., Martin, L., Weatherspoon, S. (2016).** *The evolution of global leadership and tools for success.* Women in Leadership and Work-Life Balance Conference, Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology, Los Angeles, CA.
- Cissna, K. & Martin, L. (2015).** *Global leadership competence: The intelligence quotient of a modern leader and tools for mentoring.* Women in Leadership and Work-Life Balance Conference, Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology, Los Angeles, CA.
- Cissna, K. & Martin, L. (2015).** *Women in leadership and work-family integration: From concept to publication.* First Annual GSEP Research Project Symposium, Malibu, CA.
- Cissna, K. & Martin, L. (2015).** *The evolution of global leadership and diversity in the Workplace.* The Southern California Diversity IN Leadership Conference, Long Beach, CA.

- Weber, M. J. & **Cissna, K.** (2015). *Gender issues for work-family life integration strategies*. The Work and Family Researchers Network Conference, New York City, NY.
- Cissna, K.** & Martin, L. (2014). *Global leadership competence: The intelligence quotient of a modern leader*. The Southern California Diversity IN Leadership Conference, Long Beach, CA.
- Cissna, K.** (2013). *Women in leadership: Strategies for work-life balance*. Digital women's project conference at Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology, Los Angeles, CA.
- Cissna, K.** & Amin, Fereshteh (2013). *A woman's search for meaning*. Digital women's project Conference at Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology, Los Angeles, CA.
- Cissna, K.**, Kemmerer, T. & Yi-Suh, C. (2012). *Spiritual life advisor program: Vision, selection, and training for a hall-based peer ministry*. Association of Christians in Student Development, Marion, Indiana.
- Cissna, K.**, Barron, B. & Yi-Suh, C. (2012). *Counteracting the sophomore slump through Project L.E.A.D.* Association of Christians in Student Development, Marion, Indiana.
- Barron, B., **Cissna, K.** & Suh, C. (2012). *Developing intercultural competence at predominantly white Institutions*. Association of Christians in Student Development, Marion, Indiana.
- Cissna, K.** (2012). *Women in leadership and work-life balance*. Board of Visitors meeting Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology, Los Angeles, CA.
- Cissna, K.** (2011). *Think cheap: Professional development on a budget*. Association of Christians in Student Development, Springfield, Missouri.
- Cissna, K.**, Thomas, M. & Yi-Suh, C. (2011). *A fresh look at diversity training*. Association of Christians in Student Development, Springfield, Missouri.
- Cissna, K.** & Lessly, M. (2010). *Teaching student leaders how to use their moral compass*. Western Association of College and University Housing Officers. Stanford University, CA.
- Cissna, K.** & Thomas, M. (2011). *A fresh look at diversity training*. Western Association of College and University Housing Officers, Stanford University, CA.
- Cissna, K.** & Henry, M. (2010). *Think cheap: Professional development on a budget*. Association of College and University Housing Officers International, Austin, Texas.
- Cissna, K.** & Lessly, M. (2010). *Teaching student leaders how to use their moral compass*. Association of College and University Housing Officers International, Austin, Texas.
- Cissna, K.** & Thomas, M. (2011). *A fresh look at diversity training*. Association of College and University Housing Officers International, Austin, Texas.
- Cissna, K.** & Collins, C. (2009). *Finding your true north*. California College Personnel Association, California State Berkeley University, California.

- Cissna, K. & Gamboa, S. (2009).** *Creating a graduate community.* Western Association of College and University Housing Officers, University of Santa Barbara, California.
- Cissna, K. & Lessly, M. (2009).** *Think cheap: Professional development on a budget.* Western Association of College and University Housing Officers, University of California Santa Barbara, California.
- Cissna, K. & Johnson, R. (2009).** *The EVE project: Addressing sexual violence on your campus.* National Collegiate Leadership Conference, University of Tucson, Arizona.
- Cissna, K. & Lessly, M. (2009).** *Finding your true north.* National Collegiate Leadership Conference, University of Tucson, Arizona.
- Cissna, K. & Stanfield, H. (2009).** *Students mentoring students.* National Collegiate Leadership Conference, University of Tucson, Arizona.
- Cissna, K. (2008).** *The seven habits of highly effective people.* L.E.A.D. Conference. Pepperdine University, Malibu, California.
- Lundberg, C. & Cissna, K. (2007).** *New and included: Thriving in the first professional position.* American College Personnel Association Conference, Orlando, Florida.
- Cissna, K. & Dlugokecki, J. (2007).** *The EVE project: Addressing sexual violence on your campus.* Association of Christians in Student Development, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- Cissna, K. (2006).** *The balancing act of the working parent.* College Personnel Association of Kentucky Conference, Lexington, Kentucky.
- Cissna, K. (2006).** *Living and learning communities: Lessons learned.* American College Personnel Association Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana.
- Troyer, M. & Cissna, K. (2005).** *Living and learning communities: Lessons learned.* Association of Christians in Student Development Conference, George Fox University, Newberg, Oregon.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Character Scholar, Kern Partners for Character and Educational Leadership (KPCEL)
 Member, International Leadership Association (ILA)
 Member, United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE)
 Member, Academy of Management (AOM)
 Member, Global Partnership for Poverty & Entrepreneurship (GPPE), University of Notre Dame

COMMITTEES

Advisory Board Member, MA in Social Entrepreneurship and Change Advisory Board at Pepperdine University
 Former Faculty Advisor, Emerging Leaders, Living Learning Community, Miami University
 Former Member, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Task Force, Farmer School of Business, Miami University
 Former Member, Integration Committee, First Year Integrated Core, Miami University
 Former Chair, Technology Committee, First Year Integrated Core, Miami University
 Former Member, Innovation Committee, First Year Integrated Core, Miami University
 Former Advisory Board Member, Foster Grandparent Program, Pepperdine University
 Former Advisor, Blockchain at Pepperdine University

Former Member, Gage Scholarship Committee, Pepperdine University
 Former Chair, Leadership Conference Planning Committee, L.E.A.D. (Leadership Education and Development) at Pepperdine University
 Former Chair, Resident Director Search Committee(s) at Pepperdine University
 Former Co-chair, Undergraduate Women's Issues Programming Committee at Pepperdine University
 Former Member, AOD (Alcohol and Other Drugs) Committee at Pepperdine University
 Former Member, Building Bridges: Creating Safe Space for LGBT Students at Pepperdine University
 Former Member, Graduation Speaker Selection Committee at Pepperdine University
 Former Member, Meal Plan Restructuring Committee at Warner Pacific University and Pepperdine University
 Former Member, Sophomore Experience Task Force at Pepperdine University
 Former Member, Student Affairs Co-curriculum Assessment Committee at Pepperdine University
 Former Member, Student of Concern Committee at Pepperdine University
 Former Member, Women in Leadership Conference at Pepperdine University
 Former Member, Diversity IN Leadership Conference at California State University
 Former Member, PhD in Global Leadership and Change Advisory Board at Pepperdine University
 Founding Member, Center for Women in Leadership at Pepperdine University
 Former Member, Better Together Teachers Conference, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

Mentor, Social Innovation Weekend, Miami University
 Mentor, Start-up Weekend, Miami University
 Reviewer, Journal of Leadership Education
 Guest Reviewer, Journal of Advanced Academics
 Guest Reviewer, Journal of Leadership in Organizations
 Guest Reviewer, Global Business and Organizational Excellence Journal
 Guest Reviewer, Sex Roles Journal of Research
 Guest Reviewer, Frontiers in Psychology Journal
 Guest Reviewer, Applied Psychology Journal
 Research Team Member, Digital Women's Project: Women in Leadership and Work-Life Balance
 Volunteer Yoga Instructor, TOPPS (Talawanda Oxford Pantry & Social Services) and CattyShack
 Former Board Member, Cause 4 Celebration (birthday parties for foster youth)
 Former Board Member, Guiding Hands Out of School Program
 Former Advocate, Compassion International
 Former Mentor for Emancipated Foster Youth, HerShe Organization
 Team Leader to Barbados, Azusa Pacific University
 Team Leader to Mexico, Azusa Pacific University
 Team Leader to Haiti, Malibu Presbyterian
 Volunteer, Youth Leadership Long Beach
 Volunteer, Haiti Outreach Ministries
 Volunteer, Union Rescue Mission, Hope Gardens, Los Angeles
 Advisor/Founder, Circle K, Pepperdine University Kiwanis (Service Club)

HONORS

Best Paper Award, IOSSBR Conference, San Antonio, TX, 2016 (Topic: Digital Intelligence)
 Distinguished Young Alumni, Warner Pacific College, 2011
 Student Affairs Staff Member of the Month, Pepperdine University, June 2006
 Minority Student Ally Award, Black Student Association, Pepperdine University, 2007
 A.F. Gray Founders Award, Warner Pacific College, 2001
 Student Body President, Warner Pacific College, 2000 – 2001
 Student Chaplain, Warner Pacific College, 1998 - 2000

RESEARCH GRANTS AND ENDOWMENTS RAISED

Educating Character Initiative (funded by Lilly), \$50,000 Capacity Building Grant, Miami University (2024)

World Religions Foundation, \$10,000 for The Interfaith Center at Miami University (2023)

Interfaith America, \$10,000 grant for The Vote is Sacred (2022)

Oxford Community Foundation, \$6600 for The Interfaith Center at Miami University (2023)

California State University, Long Beach: \$5,000 to assess course on emotional connections for D.E.I. (2021)

Target Corporation Foundation: \$5,000 Sponsorship for Student Leadership Conference (2007)

Lilly Grant: \$4,000 (2009)

Pepperdine Provost Research Grant: \$1,200 (2019)

ACSD Research Grant: \$500 Women in leadership and work-family integration (2010)

Raised over \$70k in new funding during six months as executive director at Leadership Long Beach (2020)

Raised over \$5M as a fundraiser at Pepperdine including multiple endowed scholarships/programs (2013-2018)