

Praise from Past Editors in Chief

Professor Merritt made a tremendous impact on the Ohio State Law Journal through her mentorship and advocacy as faculty advisor. On behalf of the Journal, past Editors in Chief thank her for her unique contributions.

Professor Merritt is a Moritz treasure. The textbook she co-authored is the only law school textbook I have saved and utilized in my legal career. Before my first jury trial as an Assistant United States Attorney, I repeatedly referenced her textbook to prepare. In my head, I could hear her voice resonating—as clear as it was during her 2011 commencement speech—on how the rules of evidence applied. To me, that is a true legacy. Thanks for continuing to educate your students long after we’ve graduated.

—*Jessica Kim* 2010–2011

Law review can sometimes be uncomfortable for students who are called upon to play a role in shaping legal scholarship and their teachers’ careers. When I felt this discomfort, I turned to Professor Merritt. Her response was to foster confidence and independence. It was the students’ publication, and she was there to empower us. She gave me confidence not so much through words of encouragement, but by taking her time—which was always in demand—to help me understand my options. Professor Merritt was a supreme educator, always opening doors and enjoying watching her students walk through on their own.

—*Dave Twombly* 2013–2014

I applaud Professor Merritt for her dedication to the legal profession and the years she has spent mentoring members of the *Ohio State Law Journal*. Professor Merritt brings good humor and easy grace to every occasion. I was fortunate to work with Professor Merritt in her capacity as *OSLJ* advisor, where her advice was invaluable. When I was faced with sensitive issues, I could rely on Professor Merritt. She always listened well, helped me fully consider the situation, and shared her past experiences. I extend Professor Merritt a hearty congratulations for her accomplishments, and I wish her every joy in retirement.

—*Christopher Gawronski* 2017–2018

Professor Merritt is among the most esteemed practitioners and scholars of her time, but she is a better advocate, mentor, and teacher than can be expressed on a résumé. She is generous with her time and exudes an air of accessibility to all. Professor Merritt is more than a prolific academic; she is also inclusive and insightful in a way that invites others to seek her counsel. She should be celebrated for her unique impact on all who have had the privilege of learning from her.

—*David Roper* 2018–2019

I first met Professor Merritt as a 1L, when she helped me consider potential career paths (although I was not her student). I was struck by her insight and her grace. Later, when I worked with her through the *Journal*, Professor Merritt modeled how to stand up for what is right—not just with clarity and conviction—but also with compassion, kindness, and humor. I learned so much from her brand of leadership, and I know I will continue to draw on the example she provided throughout my career.

—*Kaela King* 2019–2020