

Bettina Muenster is the Assistant Director of the newly created Office for Student Research & Creativity at John Jay College of Criminal Justice (JJC). In her current position, she is responsible for providing students with a wide array of services and opportunities to both create and facilitate research experiences. She is also charged with developing and implementing strategies for recruiting new students into the research pipeline with a special focus on underrepresented students and with coordinating various events among research mentorships and programs. Further, Ms. Muenster's role includes the dissemination and showcasing of research accomplishments and products through conferences, traditional and social media platforms, as well as databases, catalogs and other metrics.

From 2006 to 2017, Ms. Muenster served as Executive Associate of Research Projects and Special Initiatives under former John Jay College President Jeremy Travis. Prior to these positions, she worked part time as Consultant and Research Associate under the supervision of JJC Presidential Scholar, Scott Atran, and as Research Assistant for Charles B. Strozier, Director of the Center on Terrorism at John Jay. She also held part time positions at the College as Administrative Assistant in the Office of Scholarship Services and as Freshman Peer Mentor.

Ms. Muenster is currently pursuing her MA degree in Forensic Mental Health Counseling at John Jay as well as in process of finishing her MA degree in Applied Social Research at Hunter College. In June 2006, she graduated from John Jay College with a BA/MA degree in Forensic Psychology and a Masters Certificate in Terrorism Studies. During her time as a student she had been a repeated Dean's List Recipient and as an employee of the College she received several service awards. As an active and involved member of the John Jay College community, Ms. Muenster has further distinguished herself by organizing the month-long "Torture Awareness Campaign" in 2010, and by inviting Mokhtar Lamani, Ambassador of the Organization Islamic Conference to the United Nations to lecture and lead an open debate on "A Dialogue Between Civilizations" at the College following the September 11 attacks in 2001. In April of 2004, Ms. Muenster single-handedly coordinated an event with Civil Rights Lawyer Peter Neufeld from the Innocence Project, Jim Dwyer from the New York Times, and exonerated David Sheppard in the John Jay College Theater. In late 2003 Ms. Muenster led a team of three students presenting a research project examining perceptions of safety after the 9/11 terror attacks, which was presented at the International Conference on Criminal Justice in Romania in June 2004.

Ms. Muenster has won numerous scholarships and awards, including the Women's Forum Scholarship in 2003, the University Student Senate Scholarship in 2003, and the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship in 2003. Upon graduation in 2006, Ms. Muenster won the Arthur and Elaine Niederhoffer Undergraduate Prize in 2006 for her thesis *Humiliation, Shame and Aggression: The Role of Humiliation and Shame in the Genesis and Perpetuation of Politically Motivated Violence*. Based on her thesis topic, Ms. Muenster contributed a chapter on the social psychology of fundamentalism in the 2009 book *The Fundamentalist Mindset*.

Ms. Muenster is an immigrant from her native Germany and has been a resident of New York since 1992 and citizen of the United States since 2007. Prior to her change of residency she was employed with the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Bonn, Germany, where she was responsible for the welfare of American research scientist awardees studying at German universities. Ms. Muenster received her diploma as foreign language secretary from Berlitz language school in English and French in 1988.