Dennis C. Merritt, Ed.D Chair, Engineering Technology | Professor of Practice
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Professional Summary

Experienced educator and technical training leader with over 40 years in machining, engineering education, and program administration. Proven success in managing multimillion-dollar budgets, leading diverse teams, and driving student achievement across secondary and postsecondary institutions.

Professional Experience

Missouri Western State University — *St. Joseph, MO Professor of Practice | Adjunct Instructor | Full-Time Staff* **2018–Present**

- Teach engineering and technology courses
- Support curriculum development and departmental initiatives

Hillyard Technical Center — *St. Joseph, MO Director* **2013–Present**

- Lead 35 teachers and 15 staff across 18 technical programs
- Manage $4M annual budget and oversee 800+ students
- Coordinate with 18 school districts to ensure program alignment and student success
- Facilitate professional development and industry partnerships

Assistant Director **2003–2013**

- Directed professional development and PLC initiatives
- Oversaw emergency planning, equipment maintenance, and staff hiring
- Chaired district insurance and career technical education committees
- Served as National Education Team Chair for Precision Machining

Precision Machine Instructor **1996–2003**

- Delivered manual and CNC machining instruction to high school and adult learners
- Maintained OSHA compliance and managed equipment procurement

Mead School and Office Products — *St. Joseph, MO First Class Machinist* **1976–1996**

Education

Degree	Institution	Year
Doctor of Education (Ed.D)	Saint Louis University	2015
Education Specialist (Ed.S)	Northwest Missouri State University	2008
M.S. in Technology Education	University of Central Missouri	2004

Degree	Institution	Year
B.A. in Management & Human Relations	MidAmerican Nazarene University	2001
A.A.S. in Manufacturing Engineering	Missouri Western State University	2000