About the Editors

Valerie Malhotra Bentz, MSSW, Ph.D. (Senior Editor) is a professor of human and organization development at Fielding Graduate University, where she served as associate dean for research. Her current interests include somatics, phenomenology, social theory, consciousness development, and Vedantic theories of knowledge. Her books include *Contemplative social research: Caring for self, being, and lifeworld*, with Vincenzo M. B. Giorgino; *Transformative phenomenology: Changing ourselves, lifeworlds and professional practice*, with David Rehorick; *Expressions of phenomenological research*, with David Rehorick; *Mindful inquiry in social research*, with Jeremy Shapiro, and *Becoming mature: Childhood ghosts and spirits in adult life*. She also authored a philosophical novel, *Flesh and mind: The time travels of Dr. Victoria Von Dietz*. She is a Fellow in Contemplative Practice of the American Association of Learned Societies. Valerie was editor of *Phenomenology and the Human Sciences* (1994–1998). She has served as president and board member of the Clinical Sociology Association, the Sociological Practice Association, and the Society for Phenomenology and the Human Sciences. She founded and co-directed an action research team and center in Mizoram, India. Valerie was a co-founder of the Creative Longevity and Wisdom program at Fielding. She is the director of the Doctoral Concentration in Somatics, Phenomenology, and Communicative Leadership (SPCL). She has twenty years of experience as a psychotherapist and is a certified yoga teacher and a certified massage therapist. Valerie is a member of the board of the Carpinteria Valley Association, and environmental activist group. She plays bassoon and piano. Contact: vbentz@fielding.edu. Website: https://www.valeriebentz.com

James Marlatt, MBA, CEC, Ph.D., P.Eng. (Editor) is an Institute for Social Innovation Fellow at Fielding Graduate University with an interest in applied social phenomenology. Jim is a certified executive coach and leadership development consultant with coaching credentials from Royal Roads University. He holds a Ph.D. in human and organizational systems from Fielding Graduate University, *where he conducted research on transformative learning through the executive coaching relationship*. Jim’s publications include the book chapters: “The transformative potential of conversations with strangers” in Fielding monograph *Expressions of phenomenological research*; “The silver age of phenomenology at Fielding” in *The Fielding Scholar Practitioner: Voices from 45 years of Fielding Graduate University*; and “Embodied awareness: Transformative coaching through somatics and phenomenology” appearing in the Fielding coaching monograph *Innovations in leadership coaching*. He was the research coordinator for the 2019 Fielding international and multi-institutional “From Strangers to Collaborators” participatory action research project led by Professor Valerie Bentz. Jim is also a professional geological engineer, with a long international career in the mineral resource industry, *and a research publication history in the applied natural sciences*. He acts as an international education and training consultant to a United Nations affiliate on matters related to sustainable energy supply. Jim, a proud father of two daughters, lives on Vancouver Island, Canada with his spouse Margaret, where he enjoys wildlife and landscape photography. Contact: jmarlatt@email.fielding.edu

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