Jackie Grutsch McKinney is a professor of English and the director of the writing center; she has been at Ball State since 2003. Jackie's scholarly areas of expertise are writing pedagogy, writing centers, and writing research. She teaches a variety of courses from first-year writing, to senior seminars on autoethnography, to graduate seminars on research methods and writing center administration. She is the author of numerous articles, book chapters, and three books; her first book, Peripheral Visions for Writing Centers, won the IWCA best book award in 2014. She has served on the university and college curriculum committees, departmental promotion and tenure and salary committees, and dozens of thesis and dissertation committees within English and across the university.

She lives south of Muncie on five-acres with her partner, two kids, a dog, a cat, and eleven chickens.