

CHIEF INNOVATION AND OUTREACH OFFICER

Professional Summary

Creative, social innovator with extensive project experience from original concept to strategic development. Talents include thoughtful and socially-conscious program design, systems thinking across disciplines and departments, inert ability to problem solve, and consistent dedication to authentic collaboration, even in the most challenging circumstances.

Core Qualifications

- Change management and ability to shift roles and problem-solve quickly in an emerging organization
- Expertise in progressive K-12 education models, instructional design, policy and politics around education reform efforts
- Lead developer and facilitator in training and professional growth
- Creative problem solving in scenarios with multiple variables
- Acute awareness for budget management and resource allocation
- Systems thinking and ecological approach to program development, implementation and evaluation
- Positive, energetic and a believer of creating a culture of risk-taking, reflection, and humor to do our collective best work

Experience

06/2013 to Current

Chief Innovation and Outreach Officer Company Name i¼ City , State

- *Leadership and Program Development:* Provided leadership for innovation, growth, and development of a progressive K-8 education program. Defined, implemented, and fostered clear and transparent processes to support innovation at every level of the organization. Implemented new ways to gather data and measure impact around student learning, development and assessment of the whole child.
- *Project Management and Creative Development:* Identified projects that have strong potential and allocate budgets to test them. Developed prototypes and gathered feedback around the impact and value for innovative and appropriate growth. Ensured alignment of innovation projects with the vision and mission of the ECS.
- *Relationship Building and Outreach:* Empowered professional transformation through professional growth experiences. Supported internal communication to build brand and culture. Developed external communication platforms to build connection with progressive education mindset throughout the region.
- *Visioning, Mission Development, and Implementation:* Planned, designed, and conducted strategic planning sessions that adhere to the ECS Guiding Principles and mission for building an ecologically literate citizenry. Coordinated opportunities for deep dives into environmental mission and for further reflection and connection with organizational culture. Conducted mindset growth opportunities for faculty to build leadership capacity and resilience.
- *Financial Management and Budgeting:* Project managed the design and execution of a 1.2 million renovation and retrofit for a new education facility. Â Supported annual collaborative budgeting, annual audit, and fiscal management of a 12 million dollar, public sector, non profit organization.

10/2014 to 04/2015

Consultant - Green and Healthy Schools Academy Company Name i¼ City , State

Collaboratively researched, planned and executed deep professional development experiences for educators, administrators, and community members around culture development and systemic change. Utilized human-centered design and mindset techniques to support professional transformation.

06/2008 to 06/2013

Curriculum Architect and Academic Director Company Name i¼ City , State

Developed an innovative curriculum model that utilizes the environment as a teaching tool. Engaged partnerships with organizations to develop relationships rather than "one-hit-wonder" programs. Piloted alternative measurements for student thinking and learning. Provided leadership for changing the conversation around education, the profession, school governance, and school design. Utilized human-centered design to support and develop systems and infrastructure to "rethink school."

07/2008 to 07/2009

Science Educator and Environmental Coordinator Company Name i¼ City , State

Instructed students at all grade levels using non-traditional practices, including using 600+ acre park as an extended classroom. Developed curriculum for all grade levels integrating the science, tech, and engineering standards. Provided professional development for teachers in curriculum development and integration of content areas. Supported infrastructure, systems, and early development of a new organization.

09/2004 to 09/2007

Educator - Center for the Highly Gifted Company Name i¼ City , State

Instructed 4th grade highly gifted students with various levels and abilities in math, reading, social studies, sciences, and the arts. Created and adapted curriculum materials for instruction based on curriculum blueprints from elementary and middle school guidelines. Worked collaboratively with the Washington National Opera to create original operas with 75 students annually. Provided a basis of knowledge of gifted education to parents, colleagues and community. Taught and practiced problem solving, creative problem solving and creative thinking models with students.

02/2001 to 08/2002

Account Executive Company Name i¼ City , State

Coordinated and executed public relation strategies, events, and media placements. Discussed and prepared crisis communication plans for clients and strategic partners. Designed and implemented environmental communications programs for corporate clients. Advised clients on strategic philanthropy partnerships and environmental education programs.

01/2000 to 02/2001

Account Coordinator Company Name i¼ City , State

Supported media relations, media lists, and outreach efforts for clients. Refined materials, publications, and marketing pieces. Developed internal cultural programs to support a fun, thoughtful, and creative work environment.

05/1998 to 01/2000

Education and Outreach Coordinator Company Name i¼ City , State

Developed new Energy and Resource Conservation Education program for grades 2-12. Drafted grant proposals for environmental education projects in the Pittsburgh City Schools. Designed, authored and edited program newsletter and other publications and presentations. Wrote curriculum about the built environment for vocational and middle school students. Planned teacher workshops and events to illustrate connections of the natural and built environments.

Education

2012

Principal Certification : School Leadership Gannon University i¼ City , State

2004

Masters : Curriculum Design and Instruction University of Maryland College i¼ City , State

Creative Initiatives in Teacher Education (CITE) Program

1998

BA : Environmental Studies Allegheny College i¼ City , State

Professional Affiliations

- Trained in Human Centered Design at Luma Institute
- Completed *Including Ourselves in the Change Equation: Personal Learning for Organizational Performance*, Harvard University Graduate School of Education
- Member of the design team for the Pittsburgh STEM Ecosystem sponsored by Remake Learning and the Carnegie Science Center
- Member of the Remake Learning Network
- Chief proposal writer for the Thinking Lab HS XQ application
- Volunteer curriculum integration adviser to the Pittsburgh Opera
- Creator of *Think Out Loud* monthly sessions to encourage and advance the education profession and to promote educator voice in redesigning what schools could "look like" regionally

Additional Information

- Pittsburgh's 40 under 40 Award winner (2015)
- Presenter at the Healthy Schools Summit (2016)
- Heinz Endowment's SyncUp Non Profit Women's Leadership Development Cohort (ongoing)
- Western Pennsylvania Environmental Award, (2015)- Curriculum designer for the Environmental Charter School (k-8) and ECS Secondary Experience (9-12)
- Presenter and collaborator with the regional Visual Thinking collaboration with Quaker Valley School District and Harvard Project Zero (2015)
- Speaking engagements at Carnegie Mellon University, Allegheny College, Point Park University, and Duquesne University (2013-2019)
- Panelist at The Pennsylvania Partnership for Green and Healthy Schools in Harrisburg, PA (2014)
- Guest blogger on evolveEA's website (2014)
- Presenter at Greenbuild (2014)
- Presenter at National Green Schools Conference (2016)

Skills

expertise in 21st century teaching and learning, systems thinker and passionate about ecological literacy, human-centered design facilitator, strong written and communication skills, proficiency in social media and community outreach, and strong ability to visually communicate ideas, concepts, notes, and programs