

KATKA SHOWERS-CURTIS

showerscurti@wisc.edu

(608) 718-2877

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Project Assistant

University of Wisconsin – Madison Violence Prevention Unit, UHS

Spring & Summer 2020

- Serve as lead project staff on development of the online violence prevention program for new graduate and professional students
- Assist with outreach efforts around the online training for graduate and professional students with student groups and campus partners
- Assist with coordination and delivery of the violence prevention/bystander intervention component of the Graduate Assistant Equity Workshops

Peer Educator

University of Wisconsin – Madison Violence Prevention Unit, UHS

Fall 2017-present

- Facilitate educational workshops for new first-year and transfer students on the topics of sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, bystander intervention, and survivor support
- Deliver violence prevention/bystander intervention component of the Graduate Assistant Equity Workshops
- Code qualitative data from pre- and post-assessments as part of a team
- Support Violence Prevention Specialists in assessment of efficacy of primary violence prevention programming for/with UW-Madison graduate and professional students
- Conduct literature review/review of current prevention practices at other Big 10 universities
- Develop a strategy to recruit graduate/professional student focus group participants
- Identify focus group questions and facilitate graduate and professional student focus groups to assess program and make recommendations; facilitate focus groups with VP Specialist
- Distill most salient feedback from focus groups and make a plan for the new online program

Teaching Assistant

University of Wisconsin – Madison

Spring 2018, Summer 2018, Fall 2018, and Spring 2019

- Gender and Women's Studies 103: **Gender, Bodies, and Health**
- Give guest lectures regarding interpersonal violence and redesign the summer violence module
- Lead weekly discussions concerning public health and gender, including topics such as:
 - understanding and describing physiological processes and phenomena relating to health
 - recognizing that bodies are located in a social context that influences health
 - analyzing the interplay between physiological and social processes
 - contextualizing health within the social and cultural influences on people's lives
 - evaluating how multiple kinds of social inequalities shape health and health disparities
 - describing how gender, race, socioeconomic status, ability, religion, ethnicity, and other identities/-isms associated with them affect the roles people play as healthcare consumers, activists, and practitioners
 - becoming more active patients and better-educated healthcare consumers
 - gaining a broader knowledge of feminist health movements

Diversity Advocate, Office of Residence Life, UW-Whitewater

2010-2012

- Coordinated and facilitated educational programs on diversity and oppression
- Led programs on gender, race, religion, (dis)ability, sexual and romantic orientations, socioeconomic status, and their intersections

Leadership Assistant, Career and Leadership Development Office, UW-Whitewater 2008- 2011

- Served in the **P.B. Poorman Pride, Adult, Women's, & Multicultural Resource Centers**
- Identified student needs and designed strategies and initiatives to meet them
- Created and researched on- and off-campus resources for students, faculty, and staff
- Organized university-wide educational events with and for students, faculty, staff, and the community
- Served as liaison to committees, student organizations, departments, and Chancellor on multicultural issues
- Coordinated monthly "Exposed" event, educating on issues within and facing campus communities
- Served as a resource and advocate to create a better campus environment for LGBT students
- Collaborated with Leadership Assistants in *all* centers to serve as a resource for academic success, leadership opportunities, and other elements of the UW-Whitewater experience

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lab Member, UW-Madison Trans Research Lab, UW-Madison Spring 2018-present

- Code and analyze focus group data from Wisconsin Trans Youth Resource Assessment Project

Project Assistant

University of Wisconsin – Madison Language Sciences Department Fall 2019

- **Mapping Language Variation and Change in Wisconsin:** analyze and visualize data collected for the "Wisconsin English Today" survey utilizing cartographic techniques
- **Teach** project personnel to use GIS and graphic design software to analyze and visualize data

Instructor of Record

University of Kentucky Linguistics Spring 2016

- Linguistics 211: **Introduction to the Study of Language**

Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council (Now "Literacy Pittsburgh") 2013-2014

- **Taught ESL Foundations for Adults, Advanced English Writing and Conversation for Adults, and ESL Math for Adults**
- In addition to teaching, I also developed materials for other instructors, with an **emphasis on civics, health literacy, and accessing community services**, and designed and facilitated a monthly "Writing as a Form of Expression and Healing" workshop for our ESL students.

University of Kentucky Linguistics Fall 2014-Spring 2016

- Linguistics 331: **Language (and Discrimination) in U.S. Society** (Spring 2015, Spring 2016)
- Linguistics 317: **Language and Gender** (Fall 2015)
- Linguistics 211: **Introduction to the Study of Language** (Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015)
- Linguistics 210: **The History of English** (Fall 2014)

Veterans' Coordinator, Easter Seals Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 2012-2013

- Performed outreach to veterans & recruited volunteers to serve at Veterans Family Camp
- Provided therapeutic recreational services for veterans and their families in a camp setting
- Created and carried out a "Writing as a Form of Healing" program for veterans and family

Respite Provider, Easter Seals Wisconsin, Wisconsin Dells, WI 2012-2013

- Provided direct personal care: serving people with disabilities – children, youth, and adults
- Created and led camp activities; encouraged campers to participate; ensured camper safety

Linguistics and Writing Tutor, Academic Support Services, UW-Whitewater Spring 2012

- Taught supplemental instruction sessions in Modern Grammatical Theory & Intro to Linguistics
- Served as a peer-to-peer writing tutor, serving international and domestic students one-on-one

EDUCATION

Dual MA

Gender & Women's Studies and Russian, East European, & Central Asian Studies

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI (expected: Spring or Summer 2020 – flexible)

MA

Linguistic Theory and Typology – Sociolinguistics Track

University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky

BA

Majors: Women's & Gender Studies, Central & Eastern European Studies, and Creative Writing

Minor: Linguistics

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Whitewater, WI

SKILLS

Language: **Slovak**: Approaching Fluency; **Russian**: Advanced-Mid; **Kazakh**: Intermediate-Low
Computer (beyond usual skills): CSS, HTML, ArcGIS, QGIS, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop
Prevention: ActWise-Trained

INTERACTIVE PRESENTATIONS

Presenter, Lavender Languages & Linguistics Conference, University of Gothenburg, Sweden 2019

- Negotiating Consent in Relationships with at Least One Trans Partner

Presenter, Southern Conference on Slavic Studies, University of South Alabama 2019

- Slovak at the Borders: Slovak Dialect Perceptions from Nine Municipalities

Presenter, Bodies of Resistance Conference, University of Wisconsin – Madison 2018

- Sociolinguistics and Consent

Invited Lecture: Úvod do Jazykovedy, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia 2017

- Topic: Language and Gender in Contemporary Society

Presenter: Lavender Languages and Linguistics Conference, Nottingham, UK 2017

- An Analysis of Language Ideologies Surrounding Non-Binary Singular They in English

Presenter: International Conference on Dialectology and Geolinguistics, Opava, Czechia 2017

- Topic: “Their Souls are as Hard as Their Consonants”: Language Ideologies in Slovak Dialect Perceptions

Presenter: XXV. Kolokvium Mladých Jazykovedcov, Častá-Papiernička, Slovak Republic 2016

- Topic: Odkiaľ Sú?: Slovak Geospatial Dialect Perceptions

Co-Presenter, Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, Transgender & Ally College Conference 2016

- Not "Gay Enough," "Trans Enough," or “___ Enough”: Combatting Imposter Syndrome in Our Communities, at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana

Presenter: 6th Nitra Conference on Discourse Studies, Nitra, Slovakia 2015

- Slamming in 140 Characters or Fewer: Indexing the Other through Parody on Twitter

Co-Presenter, Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Ally College Conference 2013

- Topic: Accommodation Awareness – Student Organizations and Accessibility

Presenter, University of Wisconsin Symposium of Undergraduate Research 2011

- Topic: Professors’ Knowledge of LGBTQQIAA Issues as They Pertain to Students

Co-Presenter, 34th Annual Wisconsin Women’s Studies and 5th Annual LGBTQ Conference 2010

- Topic: Transgender Issues and Awareness

SELECT COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT

- Core Team Member, Wisconsin Transgender Health Coalition** 2017-present
- Co-Facilitator, Asexual Identities Discussion Group, UW-Madison** Fall 2017
- Co-Facilitator, Gender Explorers Group, UW-Madison** 2012-2013
- Member, Chancellor's Task Force on LGBT Issues, UW-Whitewater** 2010-2012
- Redesigned and facilitated Safe Zone trainings for faculty and staff, coordinating logistics when necessary
 - Served as liaison and made suggestions to University Health and Counseling Services on trans-inclusivity
 - Assisted with gender-inclusive bathroom project; inventoried single-stall bathrooms and completed data entry
- Disability Advocacy and Awareness Coalition, UW-Whitewater** 2009-2012
- Advocated for inclusiveness, universal design, and equality/equity throughout the campus and community
 - Organized inclusive activities to bring people together, challenge assumptions, and build community
- Co-President, Being Real in Doing Gender Equality (BRiDGE.), UW-Whitewater** 2011-2012
- Collaborated with students, faculty, and staff to conceptualize and produced substantial policy-change results
- Student Liaison, Sexual Assault Prevention Advisory Committee, UW-Whitewater** 2007-2011
- Served as student liaison, arranged first-year experience speakers, and facilitated classroom discussions
 - Revised "What College Students Need to Know About Sexual Assault" for inclusive and respectful language
- President, Peace, Education & Activism through Creative Engagement (P.E.A.C.E.)** 2009-2011
- Facilitated group-oriented approach to planning cathartic and empowering events such as Take Back the Night
 - Participated in panels, sought out speakers on social justice issues, collaborated in documentary screenings
- Volunteer, Communities United Against Foreclosure and Eviction, Chicago, IL** Summer 2012
- Mobilized community to come together, save homes, and challenge housing disparities
 - Participated in press conferences and housing actions; met with sheriff in town hall meeting to discuss housing crisis
- Member, Women's Issues Committee, UW-Whitewater** Fall 2009-Spring 2011
- Analyzed work-life balance models and lobbied to incorporate better policies on campus
 - Marketed and analyzed Campus Climate Survey, utilizing word-of-mouth, social media, and other venues
 - Collaborated with seven academic and student affairs departments to organize and execute film festival
- Secretary, Students Against Sexual Violence (SASV), UW-Whitewater** Fall 2007-Fall 2008
- Composed and distributed clear, concise minutes
 - Fundraised for organizations such as *People Against Domestic Abuse* and *The Association for the Prevention of Family Violence*. SASV later merged with P.E.A.C.E.

HONORS AND AWARDS OF NOTE

- Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship – Intmd. Kazakh**, UW-Madison AY 2019-2020
- Title VIII Fellowship for the Study of Kazakh**, University of Wisconsin – Madison Summer 2019
- Fulbright Study/Research Grant Recipient**, Bratislava, Slovakia Fall 2016-Spring 2017
- Collected and analyzed data in five major dialect regions across Slovakia
 - Employed IRB-approved map, degree-of-difference rating, and language ideology tasks through schools, the friend-of-a-friend method, and random sampling
- Critical Language Scholarship – Advanced Russian**, Nizhny Novgorod, Russia Summer 2016
- Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship – Advanced Russian**, Pittsburgh, PA Summer 2015
- GLBT Alumni Council Scholarship**, University of Wisconsin – Madison 2017
- McGraw Award for Student Excellence**, Chancellor’s Office, UW-Whitewater 2012
- Highest honor a graduating senior can receive, for one senior per year for campus involvement
- Outstanding LGBTQIAA Student Research Award**, Chancellor’s Task Force on LGBT Issues 2012
- Outstanding LGBTQIAA Student Leader Award**, Chancellor’s Task Force on LGBT Issues 2012
- First Place, Advanced Creative Category**, Superior Student Writing Award, UW-Whitewater 2012
- Qualitative Research Grants (two)**, UW-Whitewater Undergraduate Research Program 2010-2012
- Interviewed people who identify as transgender about their experiences; coded for themes
 - Utilized qualitative methods to assess professors’ knowledge of classroom inclusivity
- Tom Affholder LGBT Leadership Award**, College of Letters & Sciences, UW-Whitewater 2010, 2011
- Genderqueer People in Leadership Award**, Women’s Studies Department, UW-Whitewater 2011
- First Place, Advanced Research Category**, Superior Student Writing Award, UW-Whitewater 2009