

Michele Hockett Cooper

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Education

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2012 – 2014

- Master of Science: Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies
- Specialization: Ecological Food and Farming Systems
- Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Robert Richardson and Africa RISING program (Malawi)
 - Developed and utilized research tools to study Feed the Future agricultural intervention projects
 - Managed team of six research assistants during three months of field research
 - Analyzed field data using statistical and qualitative software
- Publications:
 - Silberg, T.R., Richardson, R.B., Hockett, M., and Snapp, S.S. (2017). Maize-Legume Intercropping in Central Malawi: Determinants of Practice. *International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability*, 1-19. doi:10.1080/14735903.2017.1375070
 - Hockett, M., and Richardson, R.B. (2016). Examining the Drivers of Agricultural Experimentation Among Smallholder Farmers in Malawi. *Exploring Agriculture*, 1-21. doi:10.1017/S0014479716000673

2006 – 2010

Concordia College, Moorhead, MN

- Bachelor of Arts: Sociology, Classical Studies; *magna cum laude*

Employment Experience

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Aug 2016 – Present

- Program Coordinator II (Nutrition and Garden Educator) – TX Sprouts
 - Teaching nutrition, gardening, and environmental curriculum to Title I elementary school students
 - Leading nutrition classes (Type II diabetes and obesity prevention) with adults
 - Managing school gardens in coordination with elementary school staff, students and communities
 - Supervising and coordinating UT and Travis County Master Gardener class assistant team
 - Collecting anthropometric data from child and adult subjects
 - Creating and implementing sustainability plan for school gardens
- Guest Lecturer – Texas Executive Education, McCombs School of Business
 - Taught 5-hour lecture with Shandong Program: *History of American Agricultural Systems* (Feb 2019)

Austin Community College, Elgin, TX

Oct 2015 – Present

- Instructor – Introduction to Sustainable Agriculture Course
 - Lecturing, leading inquiry-based discussions, and guiding experiential learning on local farms
 - Developing Continuing Education curriculum around contemporary food system issues

Sustainable Food Center, Austin, TX

Mar 2015 – July 2016

- Coordinator at Downtown and Triangle Farmers' Markets
 - Facilitated market logistics and liaised between vendors, corporate partners, and market crew

Green Gate Farms and New Farm Institute, Austin, TX

Mar 2015 – May 2016

- Farm-Based Educator
 - Directed 5-week summer Farm Camp: hired, trained and supervised education staff; created and facilitated camp curriculum and activities; managed administrative processes
 - Led student groups (ages 3-20) during farm field trips, tours, and service-learning experiences

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp, Lakeside, MT

Feb 2012 – Aug 2012

- Garden Education Coordinator
 - Created and implemented organic garden education programming for campers ages 8-18

Peace Corps Volunteer, Saumalkol, Kazakhstan

Mar 2011 – Nov 2011

- English Language Education (TEFL) Volunteer

Additional Competencies

- Interpersonal skills: experience working with diverse and underserved populations; confident public speaker; familiar with grant writing, research, and development in partnership with large universities
- Non-profit involvement: Heart of Texas Peace Corps Association, Vice President
- Leadership Austin Emerge Alumni (2019 Program): 9-month leadership skills development course
- Computer literacy: Microsoft Office suite; SPSS statistical package; NVivo qualitative analysis software
- Agriculture / livestock experience: born and raised on family farm and ranch in Havre, MT