KATRINA WEHR, PH.D.

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Education

Ph.D., Learning, Design, and Technology   **Aug. 2018 – May 2024**
Penn State University
- Advisor: Dr. Susan Land
- Dissertation: Designing for Belonging: How Instructional Designers Support Online Learners' Sense of Belonging

M.Ed., Instructional Technology   **Aug. 2012 – Dec. 2013**
Kutztown University
- Advisor: Dr. William Jefferson
- Research Interests: Practical applications of instructional technology

B.S., Secondary Education: English & Communications   **Aug. 2009 – May 2012**
Penn State University
- Minor: English
- PA Instructional I Certification

Teaching Experience

Online Adjunct Faculty, Penn State University   **Jan. 2023 - Present**
Designing Constructivist Learning Environments, Fall 2024
Integrating Mobile Learning Technologies into Learning Environments, Spring 2025
Introduction to International Art, multiple semesters Spring 2023-Present

Instructor, Penn State University   **Aug. 2016 – Dec. 2021**
First Year Seminar in Business, multiple semesters

Research

AI-Supported Assessment in Self-Paced Online Learning Environments, WGU Labs
Lead Researcher, June 2024 - Present
Partnering with subject-matter experts and administrators in graduate nursing program to design interventions using Assessment for Learning principles supported by generative AI tools

Exploring Business Students' Work, Life, and Educational Goals, WGU Labs
Lead Researcher, April - September, 2024
Conducted an in-depth, mixed methods study of current and former students in business programs to understand the contexts that promote or inhibit degree completion

Re-imagining the Performance Management Cycle, WGU Labs
Lead Researcher, April - May, 2023
Engaged executive level administrators in developing a fast-paced research study focused on understanding the performance management needs of employees across departments at WGU

Conducting Equity Audits at National Scale Enterprise Universities, WGU Labs
Qualitative Research Lead, Aug. 2022 - March 2023
Developed and executed a qualitative study protocol to complement quantitative analysis at two Gates Foundation-designated National Scale Enterprise universities, funded by Gates Foundation grants, to understand how equity mindsets influence student outcomes across the student journey

Evaluating Coaching Skills Pilot Training for College Advisors, WGU Labs
Lead Researcher, March 2022 - Aug. 2022
Investigated the effectiveness of a training intervention for academic advisors that introduced coaching skills as a method for advising practice

Publications

Wehr, K. (2024). Explorations in effective co-design: a case study. *The Journal of Applied Instructional Design, 13*(1).

Wehr, K., Singh, R., Watulak, S.L., Harlap, A., Collier, A., & Archambault, A. (2024). Co-designing an action-oriented instructional design community: Applying the Design Justice Network Principles to shape and inform our collaborative practices. *The Journal of Applied Instructional Design, 13*(1).

Wehr, K. (2022). Towards a critical instructional design framework. In *Towards a Critical Instructional Design*. Hybrid Pedagogy.

Chinn, G., Miffit, K., & Wehr, K. (2022). Team-based design: a case study. In K. A. Wolfe, J. Herron, & W. V. Chaves (Eds.), *Instructional Design Fieldbook*. Information Age Publishing.

Wehr, K. (2018). Asynchronous Video-Based Discussions in the Online Classroom. *eLearn Magazine*. Retrieved from: https://elearnmag.acm.org/archive.cfm?aid=3236691

Professional Practice

Lead Learning Experience Designer, WGU Labs   **March 2022 – Present**
- Manage a portfolio of mixed-methods, human-centered research initiatives that generate innovative solutions to complex challenges in education
- Design and execute rigorous research projects often involving 60+ interviews, 300+ surveys, and conduct UX testing to obtain holistic understanding of complex educational issues
- Translate research findings into evidence-based recommendations for institutional best practices, most recently regarding innovations in AI-enhanced tools
- Regularly contribute thought leadership and research insights for Labs publications

Instructional Designer, Penn State College of Arts & Architecture   **June 2018 – Feb. 2022**
- Partnered with subject matter experts to develop, propose, and design interdisciplinary learning experiences for general education and certificate program sequences
- Collaborated with faculty to develop courses within the interdisciplinary Digital Media Design online bachelor's degree program
- Partnered with faculty to conduct research in the scholarship of teaching and learning online

Instructional Designer, Penn State Smeal College of Business   **June 2015 – May 2018**
- Managed design, development and launch of courses in the new marketing analytics professional certificate for-credit program
- Collaborated with teammates to develop information sessions designed to engage and train faculty regarding new technology tools and pedagogical strategies

Instructional Technologist, Drexel University LeBow College of Business   **Dec. 2013 – May 2015**
- Facilitated presentations and workshops to increase faculty awareness of current approaches and best practices in online education and application of learning technologies
- Reviewed and revised online and blended courses according to university accessibility guidelines

Instructional Design & Training Consultant, Various Organizations   **Sept. 2012 – Dec. 2013**
- Designed and developed 7-week introductory online teaching professional development course
- Designed Act 80-qualified online instruction for K-12 teachers using Articulate Storyline
- Provided Tier I & Tier II technical support to 75,000 K-12 teacher, student and parent users
- Used help desk data to prioritize production of video and print-based tutorials for common LMS procedures
- Wrote and edited copy for online textbooks used in graduate-level professional courses
- Advised district and building-level technology leaders during implementation of online learning and 1:1 programs in K-12 settings
- Presented strategic planning and implementation recommendations to PA school district leaders

Presentations & Workshops for Practitioners

Turcotte, N. & **Wehr, K.** (2023, October). *100 Years of Transformation for Who? Critical Design for Inclusive Learning Experiences.* Presented virtually at AECT International Convention, Orlando, FL.

Wehr, K. (2023, March). *Elevating Student Truths: Methods for Designing With Students*. Presented at AAC&U Conference on Diversity, Equity, and Student Success (DESS), Las Vegas, NV.

Wehr, K. (2022, March). *Critically Evaluating Our Learning Designs*. Presented at OLC Innovate 2022 Virtual Conference.

Wehr, K. (2021, July). *Considering a Framework for Critical Instructional Design*. Presented at Learning Design Summer Camp 2021 Virtual Conference, Pennsylvania State University.

Massaro-Kaufman, N. & **Wehr, K.** (2020, July). *Going Meta: Using Sites to Build a Learn2Learn Resources for Everyone*. Presented at Learning Design Summer Camp 2020 Virtual Conference, Pennsylvania State University.

Collins, M. & **Wehr, K.** (2018, October). *Remixing Open Content and Pedagogy with OER Schema*. Presented at the tenth annual EdUI conference, University of Virginia.

Hicks, M. & **Wehr, K.** (2018, November). *Meet HAX: Empowering Faculty, Designers, and Students.* Presented at OLC Accelerate, Orlando, FL.

Wehr, K., Hicks, M., & Collins, M. (2018, April). *A NGDLE Case Study: our success and lessons in building and sustaining Innovation in course environments.* Presented as an emerging ideas session at OLC Innovate, Nashville, TN.

Gekeler, L., Dolan, K., Feng, L., Fresen, J., & **Wehr, K.** (2018, February). *Next Gen Digital Learning Environments*. Panel presentation at EDUCAUSE ELI Annual Meeting 2018, New Orleans, LA.

Wehr, K. (2017, July). *Analytics for In-Time Course Adjustments*. Presented at Learning Design Summer Camp 2017, Penn State University.

Wehr, K. (2017, April). *xAPI for Actionable Learning Data Collection*. Paper presented at OLC Innovate 2017, New Orleans, LA.

Ollendyke, B. & **Wehr, K.** (2017, January). *xAPI for Actionable Learner Data Collection*. Hands-on workshop facilitated at EDUCAUSE ELI Annual Meeting 2017, Houston, TX.

Collins, M., **Wehr, K.**, & Boyce, A. (2016, June). *OER Workshop*. Workshop facilitated at Penn State University, University Park, PA.

Wehr, K. & Boyce, A. (2016, April). *Preserving Core Experiences in the Online Learning Environment*. Presented at OLC Innovate 2016, New Orleans, LA.

Gregory, M. & **Wehr, K.** (2015, March). *Reclaim Class Time with VoiceThread*. Presented at eLearning 3.0 2015, Drexel University.

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Leadership & Service

- Design Justice Network Instructional Design Working Group Co-Founder & Leader, 2020-2024
- Engagement Committee Co-Chair, OLC Innovate 2022
- Steering Committee, OLC Conferences 2020 – 2021
- Rangers Program, Online Learning Consortium, 2019 – 2020
- ELI "7 Things" Committee, EDUCAUSE, 2018 – 2021
- Penn State University Conduct Board Hearing Volunteer, 2018
- Penn State Learning Design Resources Working Group, 2017 – 2018
- Penn State ID-2-ID Mentorship Program, 2015 – 2016, 2016 – 2017
- Solution Design Summit Planning Committee, OLC Innovate, 2016 – 2017

Invited Talks & Media

- Podcast Guest, "Inside the Learning Experience Episode 6: Rethinking Assessment with AI and Personalized Learning," WGU Labs. July 2025.
- Guest Lecturer, Foundations of Learning Technologies, Florida Gulf Coast University. Summer 2023, Fall 2024.
- Podcast Guest, "Secret Society of the Instructional Designer Episode 8: Falling In Love with Instructional Design," Captivate FM. February 2024.
- Podcast Guest, "TOPCast Episode 122: More Equitable Outcomes Through Instructional Design," University of Central Florida. September 2022.

Awards & Achievements

- WGU Labs AI Hackathon Winner, 2024
- Center for Art & Design Pedagogy Grant Recipient, 2017-2019
- Quality Matters Program Review Training, 2018
- Elliott Masie's Learning "30 Under 30" Recipient, 2017
- Penn State Emerging Leaders Program Graduate, 2016-2017
- Center for Online Innovation in Learning Research Grant Reviewer, 2016 – 2017
- OLC Innovate Solution Design Summit Finalist, 2016