

# KATHRYN LINK-OBERSTAR

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## EDUCATION

### Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago

Chicago, IL

M.S. Computational Analytics and Public Policy

Expected June 2024

- Relevant Coursework: Databases, Advanced Machine Learning, Statistics for Data Analysis, Time Series Analysis & Forecasting

### University of California, San Diego

San Diego, CA

B.A. Political Science/Public Policy; Summa Cum Laude; Caledonian Honors Society

March 2019

## EXPERIENCE

### U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - HOUSE DIGITAL SERVICE

Washington D.C.

Data Science Fellow

May 2023 - Present

- Engineer robust Extract, Transform, Load (ETL) data infrastructure with Python and Microsoft SQL Server, enhancing efficiency for Committee Scheduling tool
- Automate daily reporting through Python scripting, GitLab CI/CD pipelines, and Docker containers to deliver performance metrics to management team daily
- Analyze user activity and trends in meeting conflicts to guide strategic interventions to reduce committee meeting conflicts and free up staff time previously dedicated to manual scheduling
- Identify top 5 conflict-prone committees and collaborate with member outreach liaison to offer support to staff in these offices
- Conduct in-depth user interviews to gather insights into specific Casework Data requirements & challenges
- Author technical discovery report with strategic roadmap and technical requirements for automating extraction, cleaning, and analysis of constituent casework data across various CRMs used by member offices
- Design & develop a prototype dashboard in Google CoLab and Looker Studio, enabling offices to easily analyze casework data

### GOOGLE - CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE (CX) LAB

Remote, USA

Dashboard Analyst

January 2022 - June 2023

- Spearheaded revamp of Lab's analytics platform transitioning Tableau dashboards to Google Looker Studio
- Executed comprehensive statistical analyses of consumer experience data, informing strategic decision-making
- Created and deployed new dashboards in Looker Studio, catering to evolving research needs of the Lab
- Established and enforced dashboard update protocol, with emphasis on organization-wide security protocols
- Directed a cross-functional team of 7 analysts in ongoing maintenance of dashboards, while also providing continuous technical support and guidance

### SAN DIEGO HUNGER COALITION

San Diego, CA

Data Analyst

October 2020 - December 2021

- Developed models in R to predict food insecurity in San Diego County amidst the COVID-19 pandemic
- Engineered a comprehensive data extraction process for food assistance data across San Diego County, encompassing state and federal programs, and key philanthropic organizations
- Collaboratively architected a SQL database infrastructure to consolidate food assistance data across region
- Authored a white paper detailing facets of Food Insecurity within San Diego County
- Used R and GIS to map and highlight spatial patterns of food insecurity, serving stakeholders with actionable insights
- Delivered expert technical support to non-profit entities, enabling use of big data for distribution and advocacy efforts
- Managed and interpreted large-scale datasets, including regional Census data, with ArcGIS and R to visualize trends and narratives in food insecurity, facilitating evidence-based decision-making
- Designed user-friendly food insecurity and assistance dashboard in Google Data Studio, in collaboration with local partners, promoting data transparency and encouraging cross-organization collaboration

### SLP URBAN PLANNING

San Diego, CA

Urban Planning Associate

April 2019 - September 2020

- Extracted, cleansed, and standardized complex sales and foot-traffic data sets, employing R for advanced trend analysis and generating insightful visualizations to inform client strategies
- Engineered human-centered design research initiatives, providing private and governmental clients with a deep understanding of user engagement with infrastructural elements
- Performed a strategic analysis of regional development patterns, formulating actionable short-term and visionary long-term planning recommendations, swiftly pivoting to address impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Oversaw internal operations for firm of 4 full-time staff and various part time contractors

## SKILLS

- Data Management: Database Management (Microsoft SQL, Postgres), Dashboard Creation (Looker Studio), User Interviews
- Programming: Python (pandas, BeautifulSoup4, scikit-learn, parquet/pyarrow, requests, logging, sqlalchemy, PyTorch), R
- Data Science: Machine Learning, Time Series Analysis, Forecasting, and OLS Regression (linear & logistic)
- Public Policy & Strategy: Policy Analysis, Strategic Planning, Data-Driven Decision Making
- Leadership & Communication: Team Management, Stakeholder Engagement, Technical Writing
- Dev/Ops, Version Control, Management: Microsoft Azure, AWS, Docker, Git/Github, Gitlab, Slurm