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## **Education: Research, Evaluation, Teaching & Operations Assistance**

### **• Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory/Dolan DNA Learning Center (2008-present) – Evaluation**

Conducting external evaluations of the Silencing Genomes/RNAi, Inside Cancer and Genes to Cognition Online projects, including on-line survey development, analysis, report writing, concept map assessments, experimental studies, standards alignment, development of training materials and other assistance. Recently completed data collection for a study of classroom use of Genes to Cognition Online.

### **• New York City Department of Education (2006-2008) – Facilities & Operations**

Assisted with the development of spreadsheets for both presentation and analysis of data, including data on various building site and science lab lists used by the Facilities Portfolio Committee, and performance metrics from several NYC DOE offices. Conducted an analysis of network bandwidth needs of NYC DOE school buildings. Prepared agendas for and minutes of the weekly Facilities Portfolio Committee meetings, and facilitated such meetings when needed. Specified, developed and maintained an on-line survey, used to collect information from NYC DOE staff for a new lunch service, which saved NYC DOE staff time and expense compared to alternate methods. During my two years at NYC DOE, I gained an understanding of the operational side of education that complements my experience studying teaching and learning.

### **• Empire State College (2005-2006) – Adjunct Professor**

Helped to develop a course on educational evaluation for Empire State College's Masters in the Arts of Teaching program. Taught the science education section of this course in the first semester it was offered. One of the senior Empire State College faculty has told me that my comments on student papers were "comprehensive, appropriately evaluative, supportive and on-target." A poster based on the work of this course was accepted for presentation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Concept Mapping.

### **• Education On-Line (2005-2008) – Review of Best Practices, Evaluation**

Conducted an external evaluation of the effectiveness of an interactive TV program that teaches middle school mathematics. Conducted a literature review to find best practices for incorporation into an on-line tutoring project. President of the company has said that I have found useful resources for him.

### **• Menzie-Cura Associates (2002-2006) – Evaluation of Educational Software**

Conducted an evaluation of a computer based curriculum on indoor air quality. Used surveys, interviews, classroom observations and a custom-designed content test. Evaluated student learning, teacher experience, and the software's user interface. Generated a report that identified opportunities and flaws in the implementation of the software and which the client was able to use to apply for additional funding from the National Institutes of Health. Asked to return as the evaluator for the next phase of the project. Project director's comments: "I would say your evaluation was instrumental in determining the feasibility of the product for classroom use. We relied on your guidance to determine the types of information needed to evaluate the product's usefulness for teaching high school students about environmental health concepts. Your own comments on the product as well as your observations of student and teacher reactions to the product were valuable. You provided us with information that will help us further develop the product."

### **• Center for Applied Technologies in Education (2005) – Curriculum Search**

Helped to identify arts related curriculum resources for inclusion in an on-line database.

### **• Poughkeepsie Day School (2004-2005) – Study of Distance Learning Options**

Reviewed options for distance learning and explored how the school might offer advanced and other specialized classes. Provided a thorough review of their options, which impacted school planning and the decision to postpone distance education due to budget considerations.

### **• Metis Associates (1999-2003) – Research Consultant**

Completed educational assessments that impacted school district planning as part of a team of researchers. Conducted a two year evaluation of the use of laptop computers in a Bronx school district, which led the district to seek and ultimately receive approval for program expansion. Performed statistical analysis of the Greater Cleveland, Ohio school district that allowed the district to restructure the school system. Developed a new client report format that allowed staff at Metis Associates to deliver reports with much less cost to the client. Involved with data collection instrument design, survey implementation, classroom observations, data analysis, and report writing for several projects, as well as the creation of project budgets and workplans.

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• **Hewitt School (1998-2000) – Evaluation of the use of Laptop Computers**

Conducted an evaluation of the use of laptop computers at the Hewitt School. Headmistress was appreciative of the detailed information in my reports.

• **UC-Santa Cruz (1996-1999) – Post-Doctoral Researcher**

*Virtual Canyon Project*

Provided major assistance in the development of a method, based on the construction and analysis of open-ended concept maps, which can be used to assess student understanding, and to compare the understanding of groups of students studying different topics, for a study of the *Virtual Canyon*, a project that fostered student participation in science. Prepared a paper on the method that was accepted for publication in the International Journal of Science Education. Researched learning outcomes and assisted with instrument design, data collection, statistical analysis and report writing.

*California Consortium for Teacher Development*

Facilitated email discussions in this consortium which brought together educators from schools and universities around the state to discuss issues of literacy.

• **Shared Values Project/UC-Santa Cruz (1997-1999) – Fostering religious tolerance**

Served as project director and worked with two teachers to demonstrate how concept maps can be used to teach nine and ten year old children about values and help them express their religious traditions in order to reduce prejudice. Documented how students used what they learned to back away from confrontation, results that could be adapted to address issues of diversity in other areas of education, as well as in the corporate sector.

**Information Organization for Business & Industry**

• **Jewelry Store (2006-2008) – Business Management**

Performed bookkeeping and business management tasks for a retail store. Dealt with compliance with regulations, created an e-commerce website, assisted with advertising needs, solved computer problems, oversaw the installation of a video security system and other business management tasks.

• **Proctor & Gamble (2005-2006) – Development of Concept Maps**

Developed large scale concept maps on consumer behavior.

• **Major NY dance studio (2006) – Study of Client's Practice compared to their Competition**

Conducted a market research/business intelligence project to assess the offerings of both this dance studio and its competition.

• **Cornell Program in Real Estate (2004) – Development of Concept Maps**

Developed concept maps to condense the main ideas from a 230 page thesis to ten pages for Franklin Becker, chair of Design and Environmental Analysis at Cornell, who used these maps to give an effective presentation. Taught a workshop on how to construct concept maps for graduate students in the Program in Real Estate.

• **Perastic (2004) – Design of a Customer Relationship Management System**

Designed a customer relationship management system for a start up company that manufactures and distributes thermoplastic polymer alloys. Helped them evaluate the cost efficiency and functionality of two options for building a custom system: upgrading their software versus using their existing software. Created a multi-part relational database that kept track of essential information which the client then used to adopt and customize a Customer Relationship Management system linked to their accounting software. Client was very satisfied with the results.

• **Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (2003) – Development of Concept Maps**

Developed several examples of different ways concept maps could be used to enhance technical reports. Helped the Institute's staff make progress with concept maps greater than they were able to make on their own. Taught staff how to create well-constructed concept maps. Client was impressed and pleased with my work, including my ability to quickly acquire and intelligently use knowledge of nuclear power, despite nuclear power being a new field to me.

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## **Websites (often includes information organization or knowledge databases)**

### **• ExploreDance.com (2000-present) – Development of a Web Magazine**

Created a web magazine devoted to dance. Signed the magazine's first major sponsor, Danskin, in 2003. Increased traffic on the site from 382,000 hits and 20,000 visitors per month in 2003 to 4.3 million hits, 395,000 visitors and 1.2 million page views per month in 2008. Converted the site from a set of static pages to a dynamic site delivered through a content management system. As of June 2009, over 2700 articles have been published, covering New York, Los Angeles and Paris, among other cities around the United States and the world. Considered a vital resource by members of the dance community, who have used the site's reviews to prove the worth of their dance companies to funders.

### **• Other Websites (2005-present)**

Built websites for Ernest Klein International Supermarket, Jake's Saloon, VS and You (fashion), Bebe Winkler Interior Design, Marcy Gross – Dance Instructor. Assisted with website and email systems for Joseph Patelson Music House, including diagnosing and resolving a search engine related issue. Hired programmers, graphic designers and photographers as needed.

## **Other Projects, Achievements and Interests**

- Member of the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Science Education
- Member of the Board of the Dance Critics Association, appointed President in 2008.
- Conducted analysis of survey data for Natural Intelligence Systems, Inc., an adult education firm.
- Prepared workplan, budget and survey instruments for a laptop evaluation at the request of Peter Sommer of the Columbia University Center for New Media Teaching and Learning.
- Designed and deployed on-line surveys using Perseus and SurveyMonkey.
- Four peer reviewed publications, eight conference presentations and four publications as editor.
- Received CTM award from Toastmasters International (public speaking). Winner of the 2006 Area 43 Speech Evaluation Contest.
- Taught courses at Stanford University in which students (1) researched the university's performance on various environmental measures, and (2) studied plays with environmental themes.
- Photographs published in an Italian book on modern dance.
- Shot and edited promotional videos for three dance companies.
- Studied West Coast Swing with Robert Royston, five time US Open champion.
- Competed in Ballroom dance.
- Expertise in and access to professional level computer software, including statistics, graphics, and video editing, as well as equipment, including still photography and video, and measurement tools.

## **EDUCATION:**

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| Ph.D. 1997 | Cornell University, Education   |
| M.S. 1995  | Cornell University, Education with minors in Conservation and Sustainable Development, and Communications |
| B.A. 1990  | Stanford University, Human Biology major with a concentration in Environmental Management                 |