

# MICHAEL ELLIS SIMMS

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## Purpose

As a manager in non-profit organizations, I utilized my skills as an informal educator to foster critical thinking and problem solving in others. I am now looking to utilize my project management experience as a dedicated employee for organizations seeking to use technology to make innovative impacts on their community.

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## Academic Experience:

### Indiana University

**B.A. Degrees:** History, Political Science, Philosophy

**August, 2000 – May, 2003**

- Completed three Bachelor of Arts degrees within three years

### Generation USA

**Jr. Web Developer Bootcamp**

**November, 2020 - February 2021**

- Bootcamp style education program to learn web development skills in HTML, CSS, and Javascript
  - Earned JavaScript Developer certification from W3Schools.com
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## Employment History:

### Outreach Education Manager – Pacific Science Center

**Seattle, Washington**

**March, 2018 - September, 2020**

Managed and grew the nationally recognized Science On Wheels program for Pacific Science Center. This 40 year old outreach initiative has grown to serve more than 120,000 participants annually across 4 states. Collaborated across departments, especially with Development and Marketing, to increase the access impact of this program for students from low-income communities and other barriers to STEM education. Managed a \$450,000 department budget, as well as federal, state, and private grants.

### Facilitation Team Manager – Adler Planetarium

**Chicago, Illinois**

**August, 2015 – March, 2018**

Primary responsible to recruit, train, and manage the Experiential Learning Department informal educators and guest engagement specialists. Collaborate in the production of innovative, inquiry-based programs and guest experience initiatives. Coordinate the implementation of successful public programs events. Share guest experience insights and educational goals for the development of new exhibits. Organized the merging of guest engagement teams.

### Interpretation Team Coordinator – Adler Planetarium

**Chicago, Illinois**

**November, 2012 – August,**

**2015**

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Primary responsible to recruit, train, and manage the Public Programs Department volunteer corps and co-lead the paid facilitation team. The volunteer corps of 70+ volunteers includes all daytime, weekend and special event informal education volunteers, increasing the number of volunteers by 39% within one year. Also produce new informal education programs and activities that encourage museum visitors to engage with science on the floor.

## Assistant Educator – Adler Planetarium

Chicago, Illinois

April, 2012 – November, 2012

Worked with Education Department to create and execute original floor programs that inspire visitors to explore the wonders of the universe. Conducted field trip tours for classes that represent a variety of ages and sizes. Assisted with outreach education programs, thus expanding the planetarium's reach to outside of the dome.

## Floor Interpreter – Adler Planetarium

Chicago, Illinois

November, 2010 – April, 2011

September, 2011 – April, 2012

Actively lead tours for historic planetarium and space science museum, as well as gave live performances inside the Atwood Sphere. Also engaged visitors by facilitating exhibits, managing an Information Desk, and coordinating education carts.

## GPS Field Researcher – Zenrin USA, Inc.

San Bruno, California

May, 2010 – September, 2010

April, 2011 – September,

2011

Conducted real time research used to create precise interstate exit information and smooth visual guidance for end users. Planned and coordinate route information to predetermined destinations. Video recorded and reported time codes of field research work. Position was accomplished 100% away from home, traveling an average of 400 miles a day, with 100% accuracy across 19 states.

## Marketing Manager – Village Players Theatre

Oak Park, Illinois

February, 2010 - August, 2010

Developed and executed new marketing strategies with the goals of increasing Theatre's profile in the community and developing new audiences. Also helped to ensure that the entire promotional process are executed in a timely manner, with fiscal responsibility, tracked to ensure efficacy with a quality that promotes the Theatre's mission. This was a voluntary position for a non-profit regional theatre.

## Project Manager – Media Genesis

Troy, Michigan

November, 2006 – May, 2009

Managed client accounts and led team members on projects ranging from website development, content management systems, search engine advertising, and comprehensive e-learning courses.

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Oversaw every element of each client project, from conception of overall marketing strategy to creating project plans, budgets and timelines to final quality control and deployment.

## Manager, Research & Special Projects – HOPE Foundation

**Bloomington, Indiana**  
**2006**

**March, 2004 – October,**

Led primary marketing research initiatives for new company branding initiatives and track efficacy of promotional efforts. Took responsibility for planning, developing and directing the marketing efforts for the new brand, including drafting annual marketing plans based on market research and SWOT analysis. Acted as product manager for new staff development video series and other potential products.

## Assistant Instructor Intern – Indiana University Philosophy Department

**Bloomington, Indiana**

**January, 2003 – May, 2003**

Assisted professor in teaching an introductory philosophy course, which included independently lead a group of thirty students in weekly discussion classes. Wrote and executed complex lesson plans on complex academic topics. Graded tests and gave academic evaluation recommendations to professor.

## Assistant Researcher – Indiana University Political Science Department

**Bloomington, Indiana**

**May, 2001 – May, 2003**

Collected data from multiple sources for grant funded research project on State representation and party affiliation. Compiled information in analyzable format for custom computer program

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## Professional Development:

- Disney Institute – Quality Service 2016
- Certified Interpretive Guide - National Interpretation Association 2014
- Eppley Institute Interpretation Course - 2011
- W3Schools JavaScript Developer Certification - 2021