

Ann M. Scheerer, PhD, MPA, MSLS

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February 21, 2017

Isaacson, Miller
Attn: Jackie Mildner, Natalie Leonhard, Brian Nwachukwu
1300 19th Street NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036

Subject: University of Dayton Hanley Sustainability Institute Executive Director Position

Dear Isaacson, Miller:

Please accept this letter and uploaded resume as my expression of interest in the position of Executive Director of the University of Dayton's Hanley Sustainability Institute. My interest stems from its focus on visionary leadership for a higher education sustainability institute. With twenty years of sustainability program management experience in the public and academic sectors and an extensive sustainability education (PhD, MPA, MSLS, BSME, BA), I think you will find I am a strategic and collaborative leader well-prepared to lead the Hanley Sustainability Institute.

My qualifications are based on twenty years' experience in regional infrastructure planning; sustainable community development; and academic sustainability program administration. With twelve years of sustainable community development work and eight years building sustainability programs in higher education, I have worked collaboratively to develop visions and strategic sustainability plans for several organizations, including the City of Kirkland, Sustainable Ballard, and the Corvallis Environmental Center. The ability to build strong partnerships and collaboratively develop strategic plans and goal setting processes is what I offer. My skills and expertise have been honed through professional practice and complemented by graduate degrees in public administration, strategic leadership for sustainability, and community planning. For example, at Oregon State University, I convened an advisory board for the Sustainability Double Degree Program consisting of sustainability leaders from around Oregon. This board meets twice per year and provides guidance on curriculum, student internships, and fundraising.

For a transformative sustainability educational and research experience, I believe it is important to explore interdisciplinary perspectives and apply knowledge through experiential learning, applied internships, and community-engaged scholarship opportunities. I have successfully developed such sustainability experiential learning initiatives at three universities. At the University of Colorado, University of Oregon, and Oregon State University, I have worked to engage students in sustainability initiatives across campus and in the classroom. At the University of Colorado, I was an administrator at the *Center for Sustainable Infrastructure Systems* as a National Science Foundation IGERT Sustainable Urban Infrastructure Research Fellow. Research includes conducting greenhouse gas emissions inventories and preparing climate action plans for several cities.

At the University of Oregon, I worked collaboratively with faculty from multiple disciplines to design aspects of the *Oregon Leadership in Sustainability* (OLIS) graduate certificate program. I facilitated a week long student orientation for the OLIS program; taught a Sustainable Transportation course, a course on systems thinking for social change, and a series of Sustainability Leadership. These courses engaged students in reflection on how they may

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engage as sustainability change agents in the world today. In the Sustainable Transportation course, students engaged in applied community projects (such as bike sharing feasibility study, local carbon tax implementation), which benefited both the community and the students. We partnered with the key players in sustainable community development: City of Eugene and Lane County Transit Authority.

Currently at Oregon State University, I manage the undergraduate *Sustainability Double Degree* program where the primary duties are to teach sustainability courses, advise Sustainability Double Degree and Minor students, and develop the program curriculum. This includes developing new courses as well as the applied *Practicum* experience for students, which includes a living laboratory component where students work on projects on campus and in the broader community. On campus, I collaborate with faculty and staff to integrate sustainability into campus operations and curricula. As a strong proponent of using campus and the broader community as a living laboratory in which to explore sustainability projects, I have built partnerships with campus groups (Student Sustainability Initiative, Center for Civic Engagement, Natural Resources Leadership Academy, Oregon Policy Analysis Laboratory) and community organizations (Corvallis Sustainability Coalition, Slow Food Corvallis) to integrate community-engaged scholarship into the sustainability programs at Oregon State. Additional accomplishments include tripling the size of the program, implementing a Sustainability Minor, and obtaining a funded student sustainability leadership fellow to assist in program development.

Thank you for your consideration. As a knowledgeable and collaborative sustainability leader with strong capacity building and communication skills, I am confident I could lead the Hanley Sustainability Institute to be a national leader in sustainability education and research. I appreciate your time and look forward to hearing from you soon to discuss this excellent opportunity further.

Most Sincerely,

Dr. Ann M. Scheerer

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EDUCATION

Degrees:

PhD, Design and Planning

University of Colorado College of Architecture and Planning, Denver, CO (2015).

Master of Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability

Blekinge Institute of Technology College of Engineering, Karlskrona, Sweden (2005).

Master of Public Administration

University of Washington Evans School of Public Affairs, Seattle, WA (2002).

Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering

University of Michigan College of Engineering, Ann Arbor, MI (1985).

Bachelor of Arts, Physics major

Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI (1984).

Graduate Certificates:

Sustainable Urban Infrastructure, University of Colorado, Denver (2012).

Environmental Management, University of Washington, Seattle (2002).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Program Manager/Instructor/Advisor

Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR.

Sustainability Double Degree Program (2014-Present)

Manage the undergraduate *Sustainability Double Degree* program, teach sustainability courses, manage the applied *Practicum* requirement of the program, advise *Sustainability* students, develop new faculty, staff and community partnerships for sustainability curriculum and programs. Developed: Sustainability Minor; a summer session program on regional sustainable food systems; a faculty learning community on sustainability; an online portal for sustainability information and knowledge exchange.

Instructor/Program Manager

University of Oregon, Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management, Eugene.

Oregon Leadership In Sustainability (OLIS) Graduate Program & Visiting Scholar Program (2012-2014).

Taught sustainability leadership courses. Mentored students in research projects and career planning. Managed grant contracts.

PhD Research Fellow

University of Colorado Denver, Center for Sustainable Infrastructure Systems, Denver, CO.

Sponsored by National Science Foundation Integrative Education and Research Training (NSF IGERT), Sustainable Urban Infrastructure (2009-2012). Researched local climate action planning processes. Conducted greenhouse gas emissions inventories for cities.

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University Courses Taught

- Sustainability Assessment (SUS 514/304, Oregon State University)
- Sustainability Practicum (SUS 401/410, Oregon State University)
- Sustainable Communities (SUS 350, Oregon State University)
- Leadership for Sustainability (OLIS 608, 609, 610, University of Oregon)
- Sustainable Transportation (OLIS 612, University of Oregon)
- Systems Thinking for Sustainability and Resilience (PPPM 399, University of Oregon)
- Introduction to Contemporary Urban Planning (PPPM 203, University of Oregon)
- Introduction to Public Policy & Management (PPPM 201, University of Oregon)

Principal

Sustainable Communities Consulting, Seattle, WA (2005-2009)

Generate and implement sustainability strategies and actions. Developed sustainability strategic plans for neighborhood groups and community non-profit agencies. Designed and implemented a variety of sustainability programs and events to promote community sustainability and to encourage more sustainable behaviors. Clients include: City of Issaquah, WA, Sustainable West Seattle, Sustainable Ballard, Ballard Chamber of Commerce, Sustainable Cascadia, Utilikilts, The Interra Project, Sustain Dane of Madison, WI, StratLeade Sustainability Leadership Network.

Public Works Policy and Programs Manager

City of Kirkland Public Works Department, Kirkland, WA (1997-2004)

Designed and developed local policy and plans related to public works services and infrastructure. Developed city and utility budgets. Led intergovernmental collaborative group related to transportation solutions. Obtained and managed public works grants. Facilitated participatory planning activities. Researched 'best practice' sustainable infrastructure policies and plans.

Trails Planner

West Virginia Trails Coalition, Charleston, WV (1997)

Gathered local input on recreational trails. Coordinated trail work parties and fundraising events. Developed promotional materials.

Customer & Technical Services Manager

Gardner Bender Electrical, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (1992-1996)

Supervised ten employees focused on providing excellent customer service to electrical distributors and contractors. From order entry to on time product delivery, an upgraded order entry system reduced customer errors and customer service representative stress.

Product Marketing Specialist

Cooper Power Systems, Waukesha, Wisconsin (1989-1992)

As product expert of power transformers, was responsible for technical effectiveness and troubleshooting problems. Developed and presented proposals to electrical utility customers.

Sales Engineer

Siemens Energy and Automation, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (1986-1989)

Managed relationship with electrical wholesaler and contractor customers for this manufacturer of electrical distribution equipment.

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ACADEMIC COMMITTEES

- Sustainability Across the Curriculum Advocates, Oregon State University (2016-Present)
- Climate Action Planning Committee, Oregon State University (2015-Present)
- Curriculum Assessment Committee, College of Agricultural Sciences, Oregon State University (2016-Present)
- Sustainability Advocates Committee, Oregon State University (2014-Present)

KEY RESEARCH

- Ann Scheerer (2015) “Climate Planning in Colorado: Community Behavior Change Interventions to Mitigate Household Carbon Emissions.” Doctoral Dissertation.
- Ann Scheerer, Beth Sweeney (2013). “Framing Transportation Pedagogy for Sustainability Generalists.” 2014 Transportation Review Board Annual Meeting.
- Ann Scheerer (2005): “[Entrepreneurs as Change Agents to Move Communities towards Sustainability](#).” Master’s Thesis.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Case Study of a Sustainability Degree: OSU’s Bachelor of Science, Sustainability” at Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference (OHESC), Lane Community College, Eugene, OR (February 2016).
- “OSU’s Sustainability Double Degree: Empowering Sustainability Change Agents across Disciplines” at On Sustainability Conference, Portland State University, Portland, OR (January 2016).
- “Tools to Integrate Sustainability Concepts into Curriculum” at Center for Teaching and Learning, Oregon State University (January 2015).
- “UO Students Move Eugene Sustainable Transportation Projects Forward” at Oregon Planning Institute Conference, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR (September 2013).
- “Denver Water Conservation Planning: Case Study of the Institutional Design of an Urban Infrastructure System” at University Council on Water Resources Conference, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO (July 2011).

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Completed Professional Development Course: Designing Professional Learning Communities for faculty advancement of sustainability in curriculum. Oregon State University, Center for Teaching and Learning, Winter 2017.
- Teaching Sustainability Assessment course in Oregon State University’s 2017 Natural Resources Leadership Academy.
- AASHE (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education) 2017 Sustainability and Curriculum Workshop. Emory University, January 2017.
- Achieved “Quality Matters” certification for curriculum development, Oregon State, Corvallis, OR (June 2016).
- Faculty Curriculum Development Conference, Ecampus Distance Learning, Oregon State, Corvallis, OR (May 2016).
- Washington Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WAHESC). Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA (February 2014).
- California Climate Action Planning Conference. California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, CA (January 2013).

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- Community-Based Social Marketing Workshop, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO (May 2012).
- Colorado Sustainability Conference, Denver, CO (November 2012).
- Colorado Cities for Climate Change Conference, Denver, CO (December 2010, December 2011).
- Rocky Mountain Program for Public Administrators, University of Colorado, Copper Mountain, CO (1998).
- Community Leadership Institute, King County, WA (1998).

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Steering Committee, Corvallis Sustainability Coalition, Corvallis, OR (2016-Present).
- Board of Directors, Corvallis Environmental Center, Corvallis, OR (2014-2016).
- Research Fellow, Rocky Mountain Climate Organization, Denver, CO (2011).
- Leadership Team, Climate, Mind and Behavior Denver Hub, Denver, CO (2010-2012).
- Network Facilitator, SCALLOPS (Sustainable Communities ALL Over Puget Sound), Seattle, WA (2007-2009).
- Board of Directors, Sustainable Ballard, Seattle, WA (2005-2009).
- Volunteer Coordinator, Sustainable Seattle, Seattle, WA (1998-2000).