

Curriculum Vitae

Penina Acayo Laker // p.acayo@wustl.edu
1 Brookings Dr. St. Louis, MO 63130

EDUCATION

MFA, Visual Communication Design, 2013

Kent State University, Kent, OH

B.A, Art, Graphic Design Concentration, 2011

Goshen College, Goshen, IN

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Washington University In St. Louis, St. Louis, MO

Assistant Professor, Communication Design, 2015–Present

Faculty Advisor, Minor in Creative Practice for Social Change, 2019–Present

Founding Director, Health Communication Design Studio, 2021–Present

Faculty Fellow, Institute for Public Health, 2019–Present

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

I have invented new initiatives that foster interdisciplinary collaboration across the University and provide opportunities for students across disciplines to engage with design

Health Communication Design Studio (HCDS)

Founded the [HCDS](#) in 2021 as a design collective and creative think tank that investigates pressing issues related to public health, including Covid-19 misinformation and vaccine resources.

New Minor in Creative Practice for Social Change (CPSC)

Created and launched the [CPSC](#) minor in 2019. It provides students with a deeper understanding of how to use creative practices in art, design, and architecture to address systemic economic, environmental, and social challenges.

BOOK PUBLICATION

BLACK EXPERIENCE IN DESIGN: IDENTITY, EXPRESSION AND REFLECTION

The Black Experience in Design: Identity, Expression & Reflection. Berry, A.H., Collie, K., **Acayo Laker, P.**, Noel L.A., Rittner, J., Walters, K. Allworth Press, Feb. 1, 2022. 600 pages

Co-editor of the book. Curated and wrote an introductory essay framing chapter on Activism, Advocacy and Community Engaged Design. I also wrote one of the afterwords for the book: “A Letter to Future Designers” and developed guiding questions and prompts for the “Teaching Resources” section.

Selected Book Highlights

- [Winner 2023 Design Incubation Awards](#) in scholarship/publication category. 2023
- [The Best Design Books of 2022](#) by *Fast Company*
- Named to *Non Obvious Book Awards*, [Longlist](#) 2022
- [A Long Time Coming](#). Heller, S. *The Daily Heller: Print Magazine*. 2022
- Amazon Best Seller in Branding and Printing Category

INTERDISCIPLINARY COMMUNITY-ENGAGED PROJECTS

I collaborate with researchers and partner with community-based organizations in local and international contexts to create, implement, and evaluate designed solutions for challenging human needs

Reducing The Impact Of Covid-19 On Vulnerable Populations In St. Louis City And County, 2021 - Ongoing

Co-lead a team of researchers at Washington University with the aim of designing and evaluating health communication solutions to address Covid-19 disparities disproportionately affecting underserved populations in St. Louis.

Design of a Personalized Genetic *RiskProfile* Tool to Promote Behavioral Health, 2020 - 2021

Re-designed a RiskProfile tool and facilitated community-engaged participatory design activities with study participants to better understand their current attitudes towards smoking cessation.

Say No To Stigma (Round 1): Making Mental Health Visible Among School-Going Children In Rural Uganda, 2020 - 2022

Facilitated co-creative workshops to create visuals and environmental graphics that promote healthy mental health behavior within the primary school environment.

Say No To Stigma (Round2): Testing The Impact Of Visuals Targeting To Address Mental Health Stigma In Primary Schools In Uganda, 2023 - 2024

The aim of this project is to test the impact of created visuals from the previous study on increasing mental health awareness and reducing mental health stigma among children in primary schools in Uganda.

Community-Based Participatory Action Research For Human Health And Wildlife Conservation in Uganda, 2021- 2023

Developing community engagement strategy to co-create solutions that reduce human-wildlife interactions and decrease the potential for zoonotic disease transmission.

Mobility For All By All, 2017 - 2018

Planned and executed Collaborative Community Projects (CCPs) to evaluate the impact of longstanding displacement and disinvestment and the economic disparities created by persistent segregation in the St. Louis region.

Developing Healthcare Communication Tools, 2012 - 2013

Designed a set of iconographic symbols and posters to communicate essential information about early detection, prevention and treatment protocol for malaria.

EXTERNAL FUNDING

Dissemination of a cost-analysis of guideline-recommended SMART for asthma

American Lung Association Public Health and Public Policy Research Award

PIs: James Krings,

Role: Co-investigator and Policy Brief Design Lead

Funding cycle: 7/1/2024 to 7/1/2026 // \$100,000

Addressing Disparities In COVID-19 Vaccination In St. Louis, Mo

NIH_Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL)

PIs: Matthew W. Kreuter, PhD, MPH, Amy McQueen PhD, Co-I Penina Acayo Laker

Role: Co-Investigator and Design Lead

Funding cycle: 4/1/2021 to 3/31/23 // \$3,276,973

NIH_Rapid Assessment Diagnostics for Underserved Populations (Radxup)

NIH_Community Engagement Alliance

PIs: Matthew W. Kreuter, PhD, MPH, Amy McQueen PhD, Co-I Penina Acayo Laker

Role: Co-Investigator and Design Lead

Funding cycle:11/1/20 to 4/30/23 // \$1,350,711

PRC Vaccine Confidence Network_CDC

PIs: Matthew W. Kreuter, PhD, MPH, Ross Brownson PI, PRC, Co-I Penina Acayo Laker

Role: Co-Investigator and Design Lead

Funding cycle:10/1/21 to 9/30/22 // \$157,486

National Endowment For The Arts (NEA)

Support for hosting [Design Futures Student Leadership Forum](#) at Washington University in St.Louis

Role: Principal Investigator

Funding Cycle: 2019-2020 // \$40,000

INTERNAL FUNDING AWARDS

Re: Ti Zaa Bohima! (let's learn together): Making risks associated with child labor visible in schools and communities in Northern Ghana (Laker, Sensory Bahar; Co-PIs)

Here & Next Tier 2 Interdisciplinary Research Project Seed Funding, Washington University in St. Louis // \$50,000

Role: Co-Principal Investigator (Design lead and Workshop facilitator)

Funding Cycle: 2024-2025

Say No to Stigma (Round2): Testing the impact of visuals targeting to address mental health stigma in primary schools in Uganda (Acayo Laker, Sensory Bahar; Co-PIs)

Global Incubator Seed Grant, McDonnell Academy, Washington University in St. Louis // \$25,000

Role: Principal Investigator

Funding Cycle: 12/01/2022-12/30/2023

Community-based participatory action research for human health and wildlife conservation in Uganda (Acayo Laker, Milich Co-PIs)

Africa Initiative, Pilot Grant, Washington University in St. Louis // \$10,000

Role: Principal Investigator (Design lead and community engagement strategist)

Funding Cycle: 2020–2022

Say No to Stigma: Making Mental Health Visible Among School Going Children in Rural Uganda (Acayo Laker, Sensory Bahar; Co-PIs)

Africa Initiative Pilot Grant Award, Washington University in St. Louis // \$10,000

Role: Co-Principal Investigator (Design lead and Workshop facilitator)

Funding Cycle: 2020-2022

Mobility for All by All (Acayo Laker, Samuels, Bernstine; Co-PI's)

The Divided City Grant, Washington University In St. Louis // \$20,000

Role: Co-Principal Investigator; lead designer and community engagement strategist

Funding Cycle: 2017-2018

Developing a Humanitarian Design Toolkit for Social Impact Work (Project Lead)

Creative Activity Research Grant, Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts // \$6000
Role: Lead Investigator funding cycle: 2018–2019

Faculty Dissemination Travel Award, October 2022

Awarded \$1,200 to present research at AIGA Design Conference in Seattle, Washington

Faculty Dissemination Travel Award, October 2023

Awarded \$3,000 to present research at SECAC conference in Richmond, Virginia and deliver Keynote Talk at the Sixth Workshop on Visualization for Communication (VisComm), Melbourne Australia

JOURNAL ARTICLES, CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AND ESSAYS

PUBLISHED ARTICLES
(Peer Reviewed)

Addressing COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy With Community Distribution of Conversation Cards. *Am J Public Health*. 2024 Jan;114(S1):S87-S91. doi: [10.2105/AJPH.2023.307481](https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2023.307481). PMID: 38207273; PMCID: PMC10785187. Kreuter MW, Butler T, Kinzer H, Carter T, **Laker PA**, Caburnay C, Olagoke A, Skinner K, Broadus D, Davis MH.

“Prioritizing Our Values: A Case-Study Report that Examines the Efforts of a Group of University-Level, Communication Design Educators to Collectively Construct Inclusive and Equitable Design Teaching Practices in a (Post-) Pandemic Era”, *Dialectic* 5(1). doi: <https://doi.org/10.3998/dialectic.2690>. Berry, A. H., Dee, M. A., **Laker, P.** & Tegtmeier, R. L., (2023)

Participatory design of a personalized genetic risk tool to promote behavioral health. *Cancer Prevention Research*. Ramsey, 2021 A. T., Bray, M., **Acayo Laker**, P., Bourdon, J. L., Dorsey, A., Zalik, M., Pietka, A., Salyer, P., Waters, E. A., Chen, L.-S., Bierut, L. J. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32209550/>

A Multilevel Integrated Intervention to Reduce the Impact of HIV Stigma on HIV Treatment Outcomes Among Adolescents Living With HIV in Uganda: Protocol for a Randomized Controlled Trial. *JMIR Research Protocols*, 2022. Mutumba, M., Ssewamala, F., Namirembe, R., Sensoy Bahar, O., Nabunya, P., Neilands, N., Tozan, Y., Flavia Namuwonge, F., Jennifer Nattabi, J., **Acayo Laker, P.**, Mukasa, B., Mwebembezi, A. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36197706/>

Shared Decision-Making: Process for Design and Implementation of a Decision Aid for Patients With Craniosynostosis. *Cleft Palate Craniofac J*. 2022 Sep 21. Said AM, Zubovic E, Pfeifauf KD, Skolnick GB, Agboada J, **Acayo-Laker P**, Naidoo SD, Politi MC, Smyth M, Patel KB. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36128842/>

My African Aesthetic. *Architecture Uganda Journal, A Publication of the Uganda Society of Architects* Dec. 2021. Vol. 8 **Acayo-Laker, P.**, Schumacher Nanzala, E.

Contributed to published essay, The Virtual Design Classroom. *Communication Arts Magazine*, 2021. Berry, Anne H.

Making the Transition: A Personal Reflection. *Developing Citizen Designers*, 2016. Resources: Making a Difference/Section 2. **Acayo-Laker, P**

DESIGN AWARDS

Graphic Design USA [Health and Wellness Design Annual](#), 2023

“COVID-19 Conversation Cards” placed in the top 10% out of 3,500 entries.

Graphic Design USA End-of-year best-of-year Program, 2022

“iHeard STL Campaign: Sharing Timely Local Health Information to St. Louisans” placed in the top 10% out of 14,000 entries.

Design Incubation Design Educators [Communication Design Awards](#), 2023

Winner in the scholarship/publication category.

Metropolis Magazine: Aiming High, June 2013

Healthcare communication tools project, placed second in the next-generation competition.

Core 77 Design Awards, Visual Communications Design Notable Honoree, 2013

Healthcare communication tools project placed in the top six in core 77 design competition

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

All proposals and abstracts go through a peer reviewed process and are competitive

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL (PEER REVIEWED)

American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference, Aging & Public Health category, 2023

A Practical Approach To Designing Covid-19 Self-Test Instructions For Older Adults To Inspire Self-Confidence (*Lead Author And Presenter*)

SECAC (formerly the Southeastern College Art Conference) Conference, 2023

Enhancing The Covid-19 Self-Testing Process For Homebound Aging Adults (*Lead author and presenter*)

APHA Conference, 2023

From Data To Design: The Process Of Creating And Sharing Local Health Information Alerts Through Social Media (*Co-author and presenter*)

Lens—AIGA Design Educators Symposium, 2023

The New Values of Design Education (*Co-author and presenter*)

National Conference on Health Communication, Marketing and Media, 2023

Using Illustrated Narratives To Increase Knowledge Of Covid-19 Testing And Prevention Behaviors: A Randomized Experiment Of An Online Learning Module (*Co-author*)

IASDR Congress: Life-Changing Design, 2023

Inclusive Space And Service Design: What You Do(N't) Notice When Exploring An Unfamiliar And Diverse (Sub-)Culture. (*Co-authors: Nansi Van Geetsom, Andrea Wilkinson and Anna Bosserez*)

Aiga Design Educators Community_Surface Conference, Seattle,WA, October, 2022

“From Vaccine Hesitancy to Vaccine Confidence Addressing Covid-19.”

Design Incubation Colloquium, Kent State University (Virtual), September 2022

“Say No to Stigma: Making Mental Health Visible Among Rural Ugandan Primary Schools.”

13th Annual Conference On Higher Education Pedagogy, February 11, 2021

“The values of Design Education” (*Virtual Poster Session*)

Aiga Design Educators Conference, University Of Michigan, September 27 - 29, 2020

“We are not alone: Navigating design research and writing challenges with group Support.”

Aiga Design Educators Community_Decipher Conference, 2018

Co-presented with collaborators (Anne Berry, Sarah Rutherford and Jessica Barness) at the conference and published findings in conference proceedings.

World Design Summit, Montreal, Canada, October 16 - 25, 2017

“Methods and Metrics: challenging existing Social Impact Design trends in higher Education.”

Crossing Borders Symposium; Cleveland State University, Ohio, October 6, 2017

“Addressing cultural and educational borders within the interdisciplinary field of graphic/visual communication design.”

Panel Moderator, Aiga's New Ventures Design Education Conference, 2014

“Intersections in K-12 Design Education”

(Co-moderated panel discussion and presentation on the state of design education in Uganda)

Conference Proceedings

We Are Not Alone: Navigating Design Research and Writing Challenges With Group Support. Berry, Anne H., **Laker Penina** et al. AIGA DEC, Murdoch-Kitt, K., & Sosa-Tzec, O. 2019. *Decipher*, Vol. 1. <https://www.fulcrum.org/epubs/s1784n37z?locale=en#page=31>

Motion as a Fundamental Design Strategy in a 2D Foundations Program. *Rutledge Focal Press* 2015. **Acayo P.**, Beck E.

Works Under Preparation

A Cautionary Tale: Social Impact Design in Design Education and the Unintended Consequences of “Doing Good.” Laker, P., Berry, A.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

INVITED TALKS
AND WORKSHOPS

Invited Keynote Talk, Sixth Workshop on Visualization for Communication (VisComm), Melbourne Australia, October 22nd, 2023

[Designing Discoveries](#) Lecture Series at University Galleries, Illinois State University, December 1, 2022

“Designing for health equity: Addressing health disparities through a data-driven community-engaged approach.”

Invited Guest Lecture, Thomas More University of Applied Sciences Postgraduate Space and Service Design programme (virtual), February 27, 2023

“Designing with, Not For: Fostering Equitable collaborations from a far.”

Open House New York (OHNY) Stacks (virtual), February 17, 2022

“Panel Discussion featuring the Black Experience in Design Editors.”

IBM Diversity And Inclusion Virtual Panel Round Table (virtual), February 2, 2022

“Design Thinking methodology as a human-centered practice for building community within corporate institutions.”

Aiga Cleveland Community Event (virtual), February 2, 2022

“Panel discussion with editors of Black Experience in Design”

Museum Of Design Atlanta ([virtual](#)), *April 14, 2022*

“Black Experience in Design Community Round Table.”

Invited Speaker, Midwest Transit Conference, St. Louis, MO, *September. 7-9, 2021*

“Transit as a Tool for Building Equity in our Communities”

(Co-Presented with Matthew Bernstine and Linda Samuels)

Panel Facilitator, AIGA DEC Round Table Panel (Virtual), *May 22, 2020*

“The value of a design education during the time of COVID-19.”

Invited Panelist, The College Art Association (CAA) Design Incubation Affiliated Society Meeting (Virtual), *February 12, 2020*

“Connecting Scholars, Building Community, Design Research Network(ing)”

Design + Diversity Conference, St. Louis, MO, *Aug 25-26, 2017*

“Lessons from the field: Broadening the scope of Design Education in Uganda.”

Interviews

Design Lab Podcast Interview With Bon Ku, *April 29, 2019*

[Designing for Social Change](#), Episode 3

LOCAL (ST. LOUIS + WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY)

Civic Café: Skilling Building Workshop: [Arts as Civic Engagement](#), *April 18, 2023*

“A sense of place: visualizing place through collective storytelling”

[Invited Lecture](#), ICHAD and SMART AFRICA Speaker Series, Washington University, Brown School, *April 13, 2023*

“Interdisciplinary & Human-Centered Design: Participatory Design Approaches to Public Health Issues”

[The Pandemic: Science And Society](#). Pre-Fall Virtual Course at Washington University in St. Louis, *August 20, 2020*

“Health communication, effective messaging, and global perspectives to communicating information about covid-19 to the public.”

Villa Duchesne And Oak Hill School, Visiting Artist Lecture, *January 2019*

“Designing with, Not For: Reimagining our Approach to Healthcare Design and Mobility for All by All.”

Coffee Talk, Social Design Week, *2017*

“The role of design thinking and cultural awareness when engaging with communities.”

Public Lecture, St. Louis Artist Guild, *2016*

“Pragmatic Approaches to International Design.”

Design Lecture Series, St. Louis Community College, Meramec Campus, *2016*

“Designing With, Not For: A Sustainable Approach to Social Impact Design Work.”

Lock And Chain Panel, George Washington Week, Washington University, *2016*

“Using Passion to Fuel Engagement.”
(Panel discussion about learning through failure and designing with conviction)

Design For America (DFA), Washington University, 2016

Gave a talk about the value of human-centered design, its application in our day-to-day lives, and how we see and interact with the world.

Panel, Aiga St. Louis Design Week, 2015

“Design’s Role in Social Innovation.”
(Panel discussion about the opportunities available for design careers within the social sector)

Presenter, International Visual Literacy Conference, 2014

Presented research methodology and visual literacy when developing healthcare communications tools.

Aiga Design For Good: Empowering A Better Future From Africa To Cleveland, 2013

Presented a project about empowering the citizens of Kibera, Kenya with basic visual tools that communicate causes, symptoms and prevention of malaria.

HONORS AND RECOGNITION

PROFESSIONAL AND
CHARACTER AWARDS

Gerry And Bob Virgil [Ethic Of Service Award](#), Washington University, 2022

This award is given annually to a select group of Washington University community members who exemplify a character of service and engagement with the St. Louis region.

Walker/Buchanan [Outstanding Young Professional Award](#), Kent State University, 2016

This award recognizes alumni who have shown continued success and impact on the field of design for over five years after graduation.

Dr. Ruth Gunden [Champions of Character Award](#), Goshen College, Goshen, IN, 2018

This award is presented to alumni athletes who exemplify the college’s core values in their lives, work, and community service

EXHIBITIONS

EXHIBITIONS

Villa Duchesne And Oak Hill School, Visiting Artist (Solo), January 2019

“Designing with, not for: Reimagining our Approach to Healthcare Design and Mobility for All by All.”

Meramec Contemporary Art Gallery (Group), Nov. 2016

“Convergence: Processes and Outcomes of Social Design Practice.”

Hershberger Art Gallery, Goshen College (Group), Nov. 16–Jan 18 2015

“Alumni Design Group Exhibition”

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

Writing Space’s Design Writing Groups Program, Spring 2022

Participated in a semester writing group to receive feedback and stay accountable for writing projects

National Center For Faculty Development & Diversity Faculty Success Program, Summer 2020

Participated in a 12-week course about research productivity

WUSTL Center For Teaching & Learning Foundations In Digital Pedagogy, July – August 2020

Participated in a two-week course on effective online teaching.

Community Arts Training Institute Fellow, Regional Arts Commission, 2017

Completed five month training in community arts-based approaches to engaging local residents. Community of focus: Ville and Greater Ville neighborhoods.

Faculty Convening for Design Futures Conference, Los Angeles, CA, 2019 and 2020

Attended training program to advance racial equity and social justice in the classroom and in the built environment.

Design Incubation Writing Residency, Haddon Avenue Writing Institute, Chicago, 2019

Participated in weekend-long writing residency

Healthcare Design Boot camp, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, 2019

Selected to participate in two-day training on healthcare design

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

TEACHING

In addition to teaching core design studios, I have developed new courses.

New courses

Design for Social Impact (*Fall 2015, Fall 2017, Fall 2020, Fall 2024*)

Throughout this course, students learn how to utilize appropriate design research methods and tools to prioritize the needs of the target audience and their local context.

Design in Social Systems (*Launched, Spring 2020*)

This introductory seminar covers historical and contemporary contexts of socially engaged work within art and design disciplines.

Law, Race, and Design: Examining the St. Louis Story (*Launched, Spring 2020*)

This interdisciplinary course focuses on the intersection of law, race, and design in St. Louis.

You are Here: Engaging St. Louis's Racial History Through Site and Story (*Launched, Spring 2021*)

The course is concerned broadly and foundationally with interrogating the complex history of race and racial injustice in St. Louis by means of site and story-based exploration.

Core communication design studios

Senior Design Capstone (*2016, 2017, 2018*)

Co-taught courses

Type 2 (*2015, 2022*)

Word and Image 2 (*2017, 2018, 2019, 2024*)

Word and Image 1 (*2016, 2017, 2018, 2019*)

Course Write-ups

[“Designing for social change,”](#) October 29, 2020
[“Class explores intersection of law, race and design,”](#) April 2, 2020
[“You Are Here: Engaging St. Louis’ Racial History Through Site and Story,”](#) August 11, 2021
[“Design in Social Systems,”](#) July 21, 2021
[“Design for Social Impact,”](#) August 10, 2017
[“Designing for social change,”](#) October 29, 2020

Student Awards/Recognition:

[“CityStudioSTL Student Awards,”](#) Fall 2018
[“Posters push voters to the polls”](#) published November 2, 2018. *Record Article*
[“Election Day is Tuesday,”](#) published October 30, 2020. *Record Article*

FUNDING SUPPORT FOR
TEACHING DEVELOPMENT

Faculty Teaching Development Grant

Awarded for development of a new co-taught course, You are Here: Engaging St. Louis Through Site and Story // \$2500
Funding cycle: 2020–2021

Faculty Teaching Development Grant

Awarded for Design for Social Impact Course development // \$2500
Funding cycle: 2018–2019

SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE SERVICE

Co-leader, Discussions Across Disciplines (DxD) Faculty Working Group, 2023 - Ongoing

Facilitate meetings with select faculty from diverse academic fields to identify and shape future collaborative opportunities for health communication design at the University. This effort aims to bolster the University's ongoing strategic plan to establish a new School of Public Health.

Member, Civic Engagement Committee, January 2023 - April, 2023

Proposed ideas for how to increase civic engagement education in the undergraduate curriculum

Coordinating Committee, University Strategic, February 2021 - May 2022

Sought out by the provost, this committee reviewed reports from nine working groups and made recommendations instrumental in determining and refining the University's strategic priorities.

Student Conduct Board, Alternate Faculty member, 2019 - 2021

I was nominated and invited to serve as an alternate faculty member to the Student Conduct Board to rule on cases related to student misconduct.

SAM FOX SCHOOL SERVICE

Sam Fox School Strategic Planning Steering Committee, 2019 - 2021

Co-facilitated workshops and discussions with faculty, students, and staff to identify priorities for the school's future. Co-chaired a working group to develop a comprehensive report outlining curricular and co-curricular opportunities for students, faculty, and alums to engage with community partners in St. Louis.

Diversity and inclusion committee, 2015 - 2018

Reviewed the University's Discrimination and Harassment policies and recruitment and retention practices and identified areas of opportunity within the Sam Fox School to enhance diversity and inclusion.

Faculty Commencement Speaker, May 2020

Chosen by students to deliver faculty address during school's commencement ceremony

Faculty speaker, Freshman Orientation, 2017, 2018, 2019

Presented ongoing community-engaged research and shared information about the Minor in Creative Practice for Social Change.

Faculty Lead and organizer, Design Futures Conference, May 2020

Co-organized Design Futures Student Leadership Forum; served as the principal investigator for a \$40,000 National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grant to cover conference expenses

COLLEGE OF ART SERVICE

Faculty Advisor, Minor in Creative Practice for Social Change, 2019 - present

Advise students on course selections and academic planning. Conduct audits of new courses each semester, assessing their suitability for inclusion in the approved list of minor courses.

Search and Hiring Committees, 2018 and 2023

I have served on several search committees leading to successful hires including:

Director of the College and Graduate School of Art, 2018

Assistant Professor In Photography, 2018

Assistant Professor of Art, Race and Ethnicity Cluster Hire Initiative, 2023

Recruitment and Curricular Contributions, 2016 - ongoing

Support ongoing recruitment and development efforts by participating in admissions-related events like National Portfolio Days at local community colleges and presenting my research during first-year orientation events.

Scholarship Committee, 2017 - 2020

Interviewed prospective first-year students for the Conway Proetz Scholarship in Art—one full-tuition scholarship and up to five \$6,000 scholarships. Chaired the committee in 2018.

Curriculum Committee Member, Fall 2018 - 2019

Reviewed proposals for new courses prior for faculty vote and approval

Faculty Lead, The Great Prerequisite Project, Spring 2019

Organized a faculty audit of our course offerings to readjust our prerequisites to better align with our new degree and minor programs.

Member, AD HOC committee, Freshman year experience, 2016

To address concerns of lack of flexibility and relevance of the curriculum, our committee recommended a reduction of the overall BFA requirement from 128 to 121 credits and proposed changes to streamline and merge courses like 2D Design and Drawing I into a new course called Drawing as Thinking. We combined Digital Design and Digital Studio (previously sophomore courses) into a new Digital Design course offered in the first year.

Member, Policy committee, 2015

We reviewed and proposed improvements to the Graduate School of Art's Academic and professional integrity policies.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Advising + Curricular Contributions

I have regularly served as a faculty adviser for BFA students in communication design, guiding them on course selection to help them fulfill the requirements of their chosen degree path.

Portfolio Plus Summer Program Review, 2016 - 2017

Reviewed the Portfolio Plus summer program with my colleague Chrissy Cowhey and wrote a comprehensive report to the Director of the College of Art, providing recommendations on program enhancements.

Sophomore Exhibition Design Faculty Lead, 2016 - 2020

Faculty liaison for the annual spring sophomore exhibition. Coordinated with sophomore level design faculty to organize and install the showcase of sophomore students' work.

SERVICE TO THE FIELD

SERVICE TO THE FIELD

Value DesignEd Pledge, 2021 - 2023

Co-authored the "[Value Design Education Pledge](#)," a set of working principles to spur long-term, equitable, and inclusive change in design education and pedagogy.

The Value of Design Education, 2021

Co-facilitated a [virtual roundtable](#) for the AIGA Design Educators Community "The Value of Design Education." Design faculty from across the country participated in this virtual town hall, where we discussed the challenges of remote teaching and shared best practices for online learning.

In the Design Classroom, 2021

I co-conceived, "[In the Design Classroom](#)" a platform highlighting best practices, projects and student work from design classrooms across the U.S and beyond.

We successfully organized two events: [Voter Engagement in the Design Classroom](#) and [Community-engagement in the Design Classroom](#), recognizing the work of faculty and students fostering civic and community-based partnerships through classroom projects during the extraordinary 2020–21 academic year.

Design Incubation, Colloquium Abstract Peer Review, 2023

Reviewed abstract proposals submitted for the colloquium

AIGA Design Educators Community (DEC), Conference Abstract Peer Review, 2022

Reviewed abstract proposals submitted for the conference

GUEST CRITIC AND JUROR

GUEST CRITIC AND JUROR

Critic, BFA Communication Design Thesis Reviews, Parsons New School of Design, *Spring 2021*

Critic, Senior Design Thesis, University of Missouri – St Louis (UMSL), *Spring 2018, 2019*

Juror, St. Louis Community College (STLCC) – Meramec Annual Juried Student Exhibition, *2018*

Served as juror for Applied Arts Concentration

PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS

Independent Contractor, LinkedIn Learning (*Previously Lynda.Com Inc.*), 2014 - present

Co-authored online course, "Learning Design Research" with over 119,796 downloads to date.

University Of Notre Dame, Southbend, IN

Research Associate, Visual Communication Design, 2013–2015

Taught two design courses (Design for Good and Packaging Design) and managed daily operations for the computer lab, printing studio, and Cregg Commons Gallery.

Kent State University, Kent, OH

Professor of Record and Resource Room Manager, 2011–2013

Taught foundational courses in Visual Communication Design program: Introduction to Basic Computer and Introduction to 3D Design. I also oversaw the Printing and Production Labs.