

# MEAGHAN GASS

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## EDUCATION

### **SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY**

Master of Arts

**Saint Louis, MO**  
Aug. 2012-May 2014

- Concentration in Political Science with a focus in International Affairs
- Research focus in water and river basin governance

### **ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY**

Bachelor of Arts, *summa cum laude*

**Normal, IL**  
Aug. 2004-May 2008

- Majors in Political Science and French; Minor in Spanish

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION, MICHIGAN SEA GRANT** Bay City and Standish, MI

Extension of the university connecting resources and knowledge to communities across Michigan

*Michigan Sea Grant Extension Educator, Saginaw Bay*

Feb. 2018-present

- Plan, implement, and evaluate programs with coastal communities and agency partners, schools, organizations, and businesses in the Saginaw Bay region to enhance the sustainable use of the Great Lakes
- Provide programming and experiences in areas of biodiversity conservation, community resilience, and Great Lakes education and stewardship
- Co-facilitate the regional Center for Great Lakes Literacy, a Sea Grant-led network fostering a community of Great Lakes literate students, educators, and partners
- Support proposal writing and project management for grants including federal, state and local funders

### **NORTHEAST MICHIGAN GREAT LAKES STEWARDSHIP INITIATIVE**

**Alpena, MI**

Network of education and community partners connecting student learning and environmental stewardship

*Network Coordinator*

Nov. 2015-Jan. 2018

- Facilitate regional network through partnership building with established relationships between diverse local, state, and federal Great Lakes partners
- Plan, implement, and evaluate place-based stewardship education (PBSE) efforts between partners that protect our Great Lakes with hands-on student learning
- Organize, facilitate, and promote meetings and workshops in support of community engagement and increased understanding of Great Lakes issues
- Write grant proposals and launch fundraising campaigns to support student stewardship efforts and increase capacity of NEMIGLSI network
- Develop scholarly publications and complete media outreach educating public about school-community partnerships
- Maintain website and social media accounts to promote network opportunities

### **HURON PINES AMERICORPS**

**Alpena, MI**

Outstanding national service program and recipient of 2015 Governor's Service Award

*Education Coordinator at the Northeast Michigan Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative*

Jan 2015-Nov. 2015

- Engaged over 1,000 youth in hands-on, place-based learning
- Developed PBSE lesson plans and inquiries with NEMIGLSI partners
- Applied for grants to fund PBSE efforts and summer activity series
- Trainings completed: Vernal Pool Monitoring; Native Seed Collection; Watershed Management; Michigan Museum Visitor Experience; Water Quality Monitoring; MEECS Climate Change; Environmental and Outdoor Education

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

### **WORLD LINK, INC.**

**Online, Belleville, IL**

Non-profit organization conducting exchange programs through government sponsored projects

*Electronic Media Manager- Youth Leadership Program with Belarus (BYLP)*

Oct. 2013-July 2014

- Managed website connecting American and Belarusian students following exchange program which promoted community engagement and urban gardening
- Surveyed and generated reports on project development and networking strategies

### **SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY**

**Saint Louis, MO**

Jesuit College achieving excellence in education in the St. Louis region

*Research Assistantship: Profs. Carnaghan, Lorenzini, Wainscott, Windett, Political Science*

Aug. 2012-May 2014

- Assisted with the development of project-related reports including the creation of maps, surveys, and databases
- Conducted internet based and library research (quantitative and qualitative) intended for analysis and potential publications in scholarly journals

### **TEACHING ASSISTANT PROGRAM IN FRANCE**

**Chateau-Thierry, France**

Joint initiative between the French Ministry of Education and Cultural Services Department

*English Language Teaching Assistant*

Oct. 2010-April 2012

- Introduced and taught American culture and English language at various grade levels in primary schools
- Developed lesson plans and education materials

## **SELECTED AFFILIATIONS AND AWARDS**

- Outstanding Partner Award, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division, 2020
- Huron Pines Board Member, 2016-present
- Michigan Alliance for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) member, 2022-present
- MSU Extension 4-H Club Leader: Plastics F.L.O.A.T., 2016-2018
- Recipient of Steven Puro Award for outstanding Political Science MA student, SLU 2014

## **PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS**

- Sea Grant Center for Great Lakes Literacy Shipboard Science Workshop Evaluation, *Co-author*, 2023 (not yet published)
- Center for Great Lakes Literacy: Freedom Seekers Curriculum, *Editor*, 2021
- Place-Based Education Conference, *Presenter*, 2019, 2017
- Delaware Watershed Professionals Institute: *The Power of Partnerships Presentation*, 2017
- Guiding Principles and Rubric for Exemplary Place-Based Stewardship Education: *Contributor*, 2016
- NEMIGLSI Evaluative Case Studies for Exemplary Place-Based Stewardship Education: *Co-Author*, 2016
- North American Association for Environmental Education Conference: *PBSE Meets Great Lakes Literacy and Environmental-STEM Poster*, 2016
- Michigan Alliance for Environmental and Outdoor Education Conference: *PBSE Made Easy – The Earth Day Bag Project Presentation*, 2015

## **SKILLS AND EXPERTISE**

- Advanced in Microsoft Office Suite and Google Suite products
- Proficient in Esri's ArcGIS, STATA, InDesign, and Qualtrics
- **Languages:** French (advanced); Spanish (proficient)
- **Certifications:** PADI Open Water Diver; National Association for Interpretation: Certified Interpretative Guide

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Page 2