

Rudy Owens

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Objective: University of Washington MPH graduate student (class of 2012), with more than eight years of project management and advocacy experience and graduate-level research experience in emergency preparedness and health promotion, seeks employment working in public health advocacy, with upstream focus.

ACADEMIC POLICY AND QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 7/'11 – present **Chief of Staff**, University of Washington Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS), Seattle, Wash.
- Plan and coordinate annual Higher Education Summit (11/2012), a major policy event featuring state lawmakers, Washington state public research university presidents, and senior UW executives and graduate student leadership.
 - Manage all aspects of GPSS academic program reviews conducted in partnership with the UW Graduate School, including student surveys, focus groups, and all final submitted reports.
 - Manage team of 10 GPSS Senators to coordinate all graduate program reviews in 2011-12 year.
 - Represent the GPSS and GPSS President at UW committee meetings involving senior UW administrators and staff.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS & COMMUNICATIONS EXPERIENCE

- 8/'04 – 8/'10 **Political, Economic Relations, and Public Affairs Officer**, Canadian Consulate, Anchorage, Alaska
- Working closely with federal contacts in Ottawa, communicated policy messages on behalf of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT) to and from Alaska's Congressional delegation, federal agencies, state lawmakers and policy regulators, and industry contacts such as multinational energy firms.
 - Planned and implemented large advocacy events for high-profile industry and political contacts.
 - Prepared communications materials (guest columns, speeches, issue-specific newsletters, and fact sheets) on Canadian advocacy priority issues for dissemination to targeted audiences in Alaska.
 - Provided regular intelligence reports to senior Canadian ministerial and federal contacts on all developments related to the planned \$35+ billion natural gas pipeline from Alaska through Canada.
 - Oversaw the Consulate's programs promoting Canada's arctic policy goals by engaging U.S. federal, state, and NGO partners, with a focus on arctic energy development and climate change policy.
 - Co-managed the Consulate's budgets and all of the Consulate's advocacy programs, using a "results-based" management system.
 - Managed policy files on key cross-border issues between Alaska and Canada, including the gas pipeline, energy development in the arctic, bilateral trade, and trans-boundary environmental concerns.
 - Implemented DFAIT's trade program in Alaska, focusing on market opportunities beneficial to Canadian companies, particularly in the energy and renewable energy sectors.
 - Promoted Canada's border strategy in a state with the longest border with Canada (1,500+ miles).
 - Managed academic relations and cultural promotions with cultural institutions and universities.
- 4/'02 – 7/'04 **Media, Cultural, and Public Affairs Officer**, Canadian Consulate General, Seattle, Wash.
- Disseminated Canadian views to all media in a four-state area (AK, ID, OR, and WA) on issues such as border security, Canada's foreign policy, bilateral trade, breaking news, and other topics.
 - Arranged interviews, media round tables, and ed board meetings for visiting Canadian federal ministers, Canadian dignitaries, and the Consul General.
 - Provided media/intelligence reports on major Canadian and Canada-U.S. bilateral issues (trade disputes, border security, energy, public-health crises) for distribution to DFAIT's U.S. relations division.
 - Organized public-outreach events, cultural-affairs programs with major cultural institutions that promoted Canadian artists, and all advocacy programs with civic, government, and private partners that educated target audiences on Canadian views of key issues.
 - Provided policy briefings at the Consulate on Canada-U.S. border-security initiatives.
- 10/'00 – 10/'01 **Communications Specialist**, Seattle Housing Authority (SHA), Seattle, Wash.
- Coordinated media relations and internal communications for the largest housing authority in Washington state, serving more than 25,000 persons, including many immigrants groups.
 - Provided strategic communication and outreach on controversial projects to redevelop public housing communities into mixed-income neighborhoods.
 - Oversaw crisis communications, such as responses to violent crime incidents, on an as-needed basis.

- 12/'98 – **Information Officer**, House Democratic Caucus, Washington State Legislature, Olympia, Wash.
 10/'00 • Coordinated media relations for a half dozen members of the state House of Representatives.
 • Assisted professional staff and lawmakers of the House Democratic Caucus in advancing policy and legislation at the state level and helped staff coordinate with lawmakers on health care, jobs, education, environment, workforce development, and state- and local-government issues.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATIONS EXPERIENCE

- 5/'96 – **Associate Editor, Copy Editor**, S&T OnSite and Parker Services, at Microsoft Corp., Redmond, Wash.
 6/'98 • Coordinated coverage of all major and independent film releases with nationally known film critics for Cinemania, an award-winning Microsoft film Web site, and edited all reviews/articles for companion music Web site, Music Central.
- 10/'95 – **News Editor**, Chile Information Project (CHIP News), Santiago, Chile
 2/'96 • Edited daily electronic newsletter in English covering Chile's political, cultural, environmental, and business news, circulated in Chile and internationally.
- 6/'92 – **Reporter/Lead Reporter**, Cottage Grove Sentinel, Cottage Grove, Ore.; The Paradise Post, Paradise, Calif.; The Daily Sentinel, Sitka, Alaska
 8/'95 • Wrote for a weekly, a tri-weekly, and an afternoon daily. Enterprise pieces led to court convictions and shakeups in public bodies. Made successful Freedom of Information Act and Oregon public-records-law requests; 1st place reporting award, Ore. SPJ Willamette Chapter, 1995; 2nd and 3rd place awards, 1994.
- '92 – **Freelance** (writing and photography)
 present • Freelance stories have appeared in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch; and other papers.
 • Photography clients have included The New York Times, Bechtel Corp., Scientific American, and the Wilson Quarterly.

EMERGENCY MEDICINE/PREPAREDNESS/COMMUNICATIONS

- 7/'11 • Public Health Reserve Corps member, Public Health-Seattle & King County (active)
 10/'09 • Emergency Medical Technician 1/Basic, State of Alaska (valid until December 2011).
 • FCC Technician Class ham radio license (KL2NT).
 8/'07 • Wilderness First Aid certification, American Red Cross.
 6/'11 • National Incident Management System (NIMS) certification (IS-700.a), FEMA/U.S. Department of Homeland Security (US DHS).
 • Incident Command System (ICS 100) for Healthcare/Hospitals certification, FEMA/US DHS.

COMPUTER & SOFTWARE EXPERIENCE

- Operating Systems/Applications: OS X Leopard, Windows XP; all Microsoft Office products (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, etc.); and Mac products for OS X environment (iMovie, Pages, etc.).
- Other Software/Applications: SPSS, PhotoShop/CS, PageMaker, Illustrator, and more.

MULTIMEDIA EXPERIENCE

- Launched **www.rudyfoto.com**, receives more than 200,000 hits a month
 4/'98 • Designed and built award-winning, nonprofit Web site with: comprehensive photo-documentaries focusing on human rights, feature photography taken around the world, and original non-fiction.

EDUCATION

- 2010 - present • MPH candidate, Community-Oriented Public Health Practice program, University of Washington School of Public Health (class of 2012).
 1993 • MA, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, with graduate thesis on landfill-siting debates, environmental justice, and federal rules for solid-waste disposal (see: www.rudyfoto.com/GradSchoolThesis.html).
 1987 • BA, Reed College, Portland, Ore., history major with thesis

TRAVEL/LANGUAGE/OTHER

- MPH graduate student practicum, Public Health-Seattle & King County, Communities Putting Prevention to Work grant project focussing on obesity intervention programs, January-May 2011.
- Citizen participation in Anchorage land-use and transportation discussions: public involvement in city bike plan scoping, highway expansion scoping, and funding for healthy activity infrastructure.
- Attended Canadian Foreign Service Institute (CFSI), Ottawa, Canada, October 2005. Commercial Officer Certification from academy that trains for Canada's foreign service and international trade personnel.
- Photo-documentary-related travel on 6 continents and the Arctic, including Greenland
- Conversant in Spanish (reading, writing, speaking) and French (reading, writing, speaking).
- Avid cross-country skier, swimmer, and long-distance and mountain runner (25th male finisher @ 3:07:40; Anchorage Mayor's Marathon; June 23, 2007)
- Avid amateur video photographer/producer, last focusing on Alaska stories and issues.