

LINDA ANDERSON

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Dedicated, inquisitive student with a passionate interest in improving the processes, impacts, and global relationships in the field of international development, in hopes of creating a more just, sustainable, and peaceful world.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Outstanding academic record in a rigorous honors program in Global Development Studies
- Significant international work experience in a developing country, language and cultural immersion
- Hard-working, goal-oriented high achiever
- Excellent oral and written communication
- Passionate desire to make international development more effective, empowering, and sustainable

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Project Coordinator Intern: Sustainable Laos Education Initiatives – Champasak, Laos **January – July 2012**

Volunteer at Sai Nyai Eco-School, a community education project in rural Laos offering a program for young adults in “Rural Sustainability,” which combines sustainable agriculture, green business, environmental studies, community leadership, health, and appropriate technology into a holistic development curriculum

- Conduct field research to assess impact of program on alumni and affected communities in order to improve the current program
- Strengthen network between alumni, staff, and current students to improve communication and exchange of ideas; develop staff capacity for maintaining it sustainably
- Work with current students to formulate important and useful final projects – businesses, non-profit projects, and learning programs – which will be implemented in surrounding villages
- Develop markets for school and alumni products

English Teacher/Office Assistant: Mennonite Central Committee – Vientiane, Laos **August 2010 – July 2011**

Participated in a one year volunteer program – SALT (Serving and Learning Together) – with the Mennonite Central Committee, an international relief and development organization

- Taught English to over 400 students, grades 7-11 at a Lao high school (Nita School)
- Created innovative lesson plans and teaching materials to diversify the school’s English curriculum, resulting in a more student-centered, interactive learning environment
- Compiled a “Nita Handbook” to build the capacity of future volunteers
- Studied Lao language extensively, communicating daily for work/social life, lived with host family
- Crafted a project plan for partnership with Nita School, outlining program goals, objectives, activities, baseline data, indicators of change, budgets, and reporting
- Wrote compelling stories for donors detailing program activities and impact

Project Support/Athletic Trainer: Village Focus International – Vientiane, Laos **April – July 2011**

Collaborated with a nonprofit investing in local leaders for sustainable development

- Assisted in the creation of a new Kids Athletics program, which aims to introduce basic track and field sports (running, jumping, throwing) through kid-friendly activities for ages 6 – 12
- Drafted a budget and assembled supplies needed for program implementation
- Supervised student sports camps: demonstrated sport games, trained teachers to lead activities

RELEVANT VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Citizenship Instructor: Asian Counseling and Referral Services – Seattle, WA **August – December 2011**

- Helped Lao immigrants prepare to take the US citizenship test; taught in both English and Lao

Refugee Resettlement Intern: World Relief – Seattle, WA **January – July 2010**

- Worked one-on-one to help refugees adjust to life in America; served as liaison between clients and pertinent organizations (state agencies, Social Security, hospitals, banks)

Communications Intern: Global EdVentures – Seattle, WA **June – September 2009**

- Spearheaded public relations efforts for start-up nonprofit promoting fair trade in elementary schools

Student Leader: Economic Justice Cadre – Seattle Pacific University **2008 – 2010**

- Founded student group to discuss issues of economic inequalities; organized activism events on campus

Volunteer Sales Associate: Ten Thousand Villages – Seattle, WA **2008 – 2010**

- Educated customers about the origins and benefits of fair trade merchandise

ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Seasonal Re-stock Coordinator: <i>Fireworks (unique gifts and art)</i> – Bellevue, WA	November – December 2011
Assistant Cross Country Coach: <i>Lynnwood High School</i> – Lynnwood, WA	September – November 2011
Camp Counselor: <i>Falcon Running Camp</i> – Coupeville, WA	2007 – 2010
Sales Associate: <i>Cocoa & Cream (ice cream)</i> – Seattle, WA	2009 – 2010
Sales Associate: <i>Market Street Traders (fair trade crafts and food)</i> – Seattle, WA	2009
Sales Associate: <i>Hallmark (gifts and greeting cards)</i> – Mukilteo, WA	2006 – 2007

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts in Global Development Studies – Seattle Pacific University **June 2010**

– 3.92 GPA

– Summa Cum Laude

– University Scholars (Honors Program)

Invited to join based on exceptional high school academic record. Received high marks in four years of writing-intensive honors curriculum in the liberal arts, culminating in a senior thesis.

- Successfully produced a 70 page senior thesis entitled, *Redefining Development: Balancing Local and Global in the Twenty-first Century*, which provided a critique of traditional development models and cited recent trends to outline an emerging paradigm shift in the field
- Recognized as “one of the very top University Scholars graduating this year.” Selected to present thesis at the University Scholars graduation ceremony “in honor of the excellence of both this work as well as [her] University Scholars career as a whole.”

– Collegiate Activities

Cross Country, Indoor Track, Outdoor Track: Varsity **2006 – 2010**

Competed in seven national championships, four-time All-American

Student Athletic Advisory Council: Track Representative **2008 – 2010**

Sophia (Women’s Rights Club): Core Member, Chair – Violence Against Women Awareness **2009 – 2010**

Wind Ensemble and Brass Choir: French Horn **2006 – 2009**

SELECTED AWARDS

Trustees’ Scholar Award

- Seattle Pacific University’s most prestigious merit-based scholarship, awarded annually for four years, based on high school GPA (3.92 – 4.0) and high SAT/ACT scores

NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship

- One of 87 female recipients nation-wide of the prestigious collegiate scholarship, awarded annually to student-athletes who excel in both academics and athletics

Global Development Studies Department Award 2010

- Recognized for academic excellence in the program

SPU Social Venture Plan Competition 3rd Place 2009

- Worked in small team to create business plan for microfinance institution in Ethiopia, *Kor Rajo (Grow Hope): Somali’s Bank of Agriculture and Development*, winning 3rd place and a \$1,000 cash prize

Athletic Awards

- Seven-time Academic All-American; Coaches Award (2008); Most Improved (2009); Heritage Scholarship (2008-2010)

CONFERENCES

Urbana, Global Missions Conference – St. Louis, MO

December 2009

- Participated in a week-long series of workshops on International Poverty & Advocacy

Athgo International Global Forum – The World Bank, Washington DC

July 2008

- Attended an intensive three-day seminar, *Miracles of Development: Good Governance and Capacity Building*
- Worked with a small team to craft policy memorandum, presented report to attendees at conclusion

RELEVANT READINGS

Karlan, Dean, and Jacob Appel. *More Than Good Intentions: How a New Economics is Helping to Solve Global Poverty*. New York: Penguin Press, 2011.

Kothari, Uma. *A Radical History of Development Studies*. London: Zed Books, 2005.

Kristof, Nicolas, and Sheryl WuDunn. *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression Into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*. New York: Random House, 2009.

Moyo, Dambisa. *Dead Aid: Why Aid is Not Working and How There is a Better Way for Africa*. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2009.