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Education and Related

- 2006 - Present PhD Candidate, University of Wales
Research topic: Eastern Orthodoxy & Sustainable Development
- 1995 – 2005 · Masters of Divinity; Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary
Hamilton, Massachusetts Advisor for Gordon College trip to Calcutta, India Paid
teaching assistant and lecturer for Gordon College philosophy department (During this
interval New Horizons Romania was launched.)
- 1991 – 1995 Bachelor of Arts with concentration in Philosophy; Gordon College
Wenham, Massachusetts. Graduated with the A. J. Gordon Leadership Scholarship
(highest scholarship offered by the college) Spent senior year studying philosophy and
ethics at Oxford University, England. At Gordon, served as a philosophy department
teaching assistant and occasional lecturer; supervised overseas and national service
projects; supervised and led study groups in philosophy, Greek and Hebrew; New
Testament tutor, Old Testament tutor; resident assistant two years.

Experience and Accomplishments

- 1999 – present: Founder and Executive Director, New Horizons Lupeni, Romania
- 2009: IMPACT international launched in Honduras
- 2009: Launched social work partnership with Northwestern College
- 2008: Expanded Semester Abroad program to include other schools
- 2008: NHF received major grant from NOKIA/IYF to grow 150 IMPACT clubs
- 2007: Vetted as adjunct faculty/professor for Northwestern College
- 2007: Launched full for credit off-campus program with Northwestern College
- 2007: Awarded Jack Good Community Service Alumni Award by alma mater Gordon
College
- 2006: Completed partnership with Gordon College Social Work
department; supervised two social work students from Gordon College
- 2006: Invited as a youth service policy expert to the International
Association for National Youth Policy Development conference in
Montreal, Canada
- 2006: Consultant to the University of Timisoara's Masters Program in
Adventure/Outdoor Education; wrote the curricula for the first ever
Masters in Adventure Education in Romania
- 2005: Participated in an all Europe policy planning process to present
voluntary service as a strategy for youth development to the Council of
Europe
- 2005: Invited to represent Romania and service learning as USAID and
other policy venues; hosted and was principal speaker at Romania's first conference
on service learning and social capital development; continuous New Horizons
responsibilities include raising funds, grant- writing, public relations, press
conferences, curriculum development, human resource development, volunteer
management, public speaking, research and writing

- 2004 Young Life Area/Country Director and nominated member of the European regional strategy team
- 2003: Formed committee of international scholars in social capital, anthropology and psychology to develop service learning and moral development curricula for Romania
- 2003: Launched website for service learning in Romania 2003; published article in Zip Lines, the leading journal for adventure education
- 2003: Received recognition of Francis Fukuyama, leading scholar on social capital
- 2002: Created Social Capital Research Agenda for Adventure Education and Service Learning; recruited international research team, including Eastern Europe's leading social capital scholar, Dr. Gabriel Badescu (http://www.new-horizons.ro/about_us/staff.asp?page=2); created major conceptual linkages, and developed empirical research between both adventure education and service learning and social capital in a development context
- 2001: Launched IMPACT Youth and Community Development model and the service learning movement
- 2001: Launched adventure education as for credit class in the University of Timisoara
- 2001: Speaker at Project Adventure conference on Adventure Education and Social Capital Chapel linkages
- 2001: Organized, raised funds and received accreditation for WEA National Standards accreditation program done in partnership with the University of Timisoara, Salvamonts and Retezat National Park Authority, and included the Leave No Trace curriculum
- 2000: Designed and launched Viata Program, winner of the Gala Civil Society development contest judged by Romania's foremost think tank, SAR (Romanian Academic Society); Viata was also part of a "Best Practices" Fulbright program led by Dr. David Kideckle
- 1999: Organized and raised funds for the building of the first ropes course in Romania through world leader in adventure education, Project Adventure (www.pa.org)
- 1997 – 1999 LaVida Expeditions, Program Director and college-level Instructor of Experiential Education, Gordon College Upstate New York
 - Responsibilities included curriculum development, itinerary planning, staff oversight, counseling and training
 - Received accredited training in all aspects of ropes course maintenance, safety and rescue, utilization, construction, etc.
- 1994 – 1996 LaVida Expeditions Upstate New York. Responsibilities included facilitating debriefs, itinerary planning, performing wilderness first aid and ensuring technical safety skills.

Languages:

English (native speaker)

Romanian (functional speaker)

Greek (reading comprehension)

Hebrew (reading comprehension)

Computer: Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Endnote

Publications:

Zip Lines; two articles; leading Adventure Education journal
Journal of Youth and Theology; peer review article, 2006

Other Activities:

2001: Received certification in WEA National Standards accreditation program

2001: received certification in Wilderness First Aid through SOLO

1999: Received certification as an Emergency Medical Technician

1994 – 1998: Participant and Focus Group Facilitator of interfaith dialogue
program at the National Conference of Christians, Jews, and
Muslims

Future Plans:

To develop, with key institutions (such as University of Cluj, the Romanian
Orthodox Church, possibly Northwestern College and Calvin College, Jim Kielsmeier and the
National Youth Leadership Council, etc.) a Global Initiative for Service Learning. Develop
for-credit internship program with Viata adventure camp.