

MEGAN BUCKNUM
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CURRENT POSITIONS

Rowan University Glassboro, NJ
Lecturer 2018-Present

Rowan University Glassboro, NJ
¾ Faculty Member 2016- Present

Independent Consultant Philadelphia, PA
Specializing in Food Systems Planning Research 2017-Present

EDUCATION

University of Virginia Charlottesville, VA
Master of Urban and Environmental Planning 2007-2009

James Madison University Harrisonburg, VA
BA in Political Science 2002-2006
BS in Geographic Science 2002-2006

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty 2014-Present
Rowan University, Department of Geography, Planning and Sustainability

- Developed original curriculum for three different introductory and upper-level courses
- Teaching Foundations of Urban Planning and Environmental Design for the eighth consecutive semester
- Developed and currently teaching a Food Systems Planning course for the third time (F2015, S2017, S2018)
- Taught two sections of Urban Geography (F2016 and F2017)

Adjunct Faculty Spring 2017
The Pennsylvania State University at Abington

- Planned and taught “Geographic Perspectives on Sustainability and Human-Environment Systems”

Teaching Assistant Sept. 2014-May 2015
University of Vermont Online Continuing Education

- Worked with the faculty director to help organize the experiential education component of the inaugural Food Hub Management course, coordinated the guest lecturers for the weekly virtual meeting and provided feedback on students’ assignments.

Teaching Assistant

Oct. 2008-May

University of Virginia, Department of Urban and Environmental Planning

- Assisted in the curriculum development of this course, arranged several field trips and developed a video assignment where students created short films featuring older community member's reflection of the food systems changes they have experienced during their life.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Researcher (Part-time)

2011-2014

Curtin University Sustainability Policy Institute, Curtin University of Technology (Perth, Australia)

- Conducted research towards a PhD under the tutelage of Professor Peter Newman in sustainability through a distance learning program that I decided not to pursue further. My dissertation topic looked at how food hubs could be used to mainstream the local food movement for economic development.
- Assisted with the institute's urban design research by contributing to an industry report examining the economic and social benefits of biophilic design published by the Australian Sustainable Built Environment National Research Centre paper.

PRESENTATIONS

"Careers in Food Systems Planning" presented as part of the American Planning Association Career Reality National Webinar series on September 14, 2017.

"Faces of Food Systems Planning" presented at the American Planning Association's National Conference in New York, NY on May 8, 2017.

"Partnerships for Healthy Communities and Resilient Food Systems" presented at the American Planning Association's National Conference in Phoenix, AZ on April 3, 2016.

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Rowan University Department of Geography, Planning and Sustainability

Glassboro, NJ

³/₄ Faculty

2016-Present

- Project Manager for NJ MAP, the publicly available suite of geospatial tools, that is a product of the Rowan Geospatial Research Lab. Assisted with grant applications totaling around \$80,000, not including another pending \$60,000 award.
- Contributing to a collaborative EPA Brownfields Area Wide team, as well as acting as the lead facilitator for a community-based planning visualization project in Glassboro, NJ.

New Venture Advisors LLC

Chicago, IL
(Based in Philadelphia)

Food Systems Specialist

2014-2017

- Led primary research efforts - interviews, surveys and stakeholder meetings - for 15 feasibility studies conducted for a range of client types throughout the US, with topics including: produce and meat aggregation, IQF processing, small grain post-harvest

handling and processing, as well as investigating the development of a statewide food hub network.

- Collaboratively drafted and successfully submitted a USDA Local Food Promotion Program Grant to study the viability of embedding Food Hubs into Rural Grocery stores in Iowa, Michigan and Kansas. Project partners include USDA Rural Development, Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems and Kansas State University Rural Grocery Initiative.

Philly CowShare

Philadelphia, PA

Jr. Market Manager

2011-2013

- Managed all sales and marketing efforts, as well as directly overseeing storage and transportation logistics, for this start-up business that aggregates grass-fed beef and pastured pork from regional producers and distributes to regional retail and wholesale customers.

The Food Trust

Philadelphia, PA

Farm to School Associate

Nov. 2011-Feb. 2012

- Assisted the Mid-Atlantic National Farm to School Coordinator with research and outreach efforts – including a monthly newsletter – to school districts within the region interested in strengthening or developing a Farm to School program.

Fair Food

Philadelphia, PA

Farm to Institution Associate

Nov. 2010-Oct. 2011

- Supported the School District of Philadelphia's Farm to School Program and developed educational materials for institutional food service providers interested in starting a Farm to Institution program.

The Wallace Center at Winrock International

Arlington, VA

Intern

Jan. 2010-Sept. 2010

- Aided in the management and publication of a national report on value chain coordination, which included organizing a three-day "write-shop" of national food systems leaders to work on the report.

Institute for Environmental Negotiation

Charlottesville, VA

Graduate Assistant

Aug. 2008-May 2009

- Learned best practices around facilitation and mediation strategies targeted at environmental issues and coordinated a food policy council workshop, which later led to the formation of the Virginia Statewide Food Systems Council.

Metropolitan Planning Commission

Knoxville, TN

Intern

Summer 2008

- Drafted background reports for a Comprehensive plan and revised the Knoxville/Knox County Greenways and Parks Comprehensive Plan.

Community Action Corporation

Knoxville, TN

Americorps Vista Volunteer

2006-2007

- Worked in four low-income elementary schools teaching recycling, composting and

sustainability, as well as repairing and managing four school gardens.

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

Bucknum, M., & Bentzel, D. (2018). Food Banks as Local Food Champions: How Hunger Relief Agencies Invest in Local and Regional Food Systems. In *Leveraging Institutional Food Service Markets* (forthcoming book published by Elsevier).

Denckla Cobb, T., & Bucknum, M. (2011). Fostering Food Entrepreneurship: Appalachian Center for Economic Networks. In *Reclaiming Our Food: How the Grassroots Food Movement is Changing the Way We Eat* (pp. 256-257). North Adams, MA, USA: Storey Publishing.

Denckla Cobb, T., & Bucknum, M. (2011). Transforming Abandoned City Land into a Community Farm: Beardsley Community Farm. In *Reclaiming Our Food: How the Grassroots Food Movement is Changing the Way We Eat* (pp. 84-86). North Adams, MA, USA: Storey Publishing.

Practitioner Reports

Bentzel D., Weiss S., Bucknum M., & Shore K. (2015). *Healthy Food and Small Stores: Strategies to Close the Distribution Gap*. Philadelphia, PA: The Food Trust.

Slama, J., Nyquist, K., Bucknum, M., Doshi, S., & Haddad, H. (2012). *Building Successful Food Hubs: A Business Planning Guide for Aggregating and Processing Local Food in Illinois*. Oak Park, IL: FamilyFarmed.org.

Slama, J., Nyquist, K., & Bucknum, M. (2010). *Northern Virginia Local Food Assessment*. Oak Park, IL: FamilyFarmed.org and Wallace Center, 2010.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Share Food Program

Board Member

Summer 2016-Present

- A Philadelphia-based nonprofit organization serving a regional network of community organizations engaged in food distribution, education, and advocacy. Share promotes healthy living by providing affordable wholesome food to those willing to contribute through volunteerism.

American Planning Assoc. Food System Planning Interest Group

Spring 2016-Present

Leadership Committee

- This coalition of planners and allied professionals who have come together to advance food systems planning provides networking, mentoring, and educational opportunities for both professionals either currently engaged, or considering, food systems planning.

Penn State University Extension, Philadelphia County

Spring 2011-Present

Master Gardener Volunteer

- The Penn State Master Gardener volunteer program supports the outreach mission of Penn State Extension by utilizing unbiased research-based information to educate the public and our communities on best practices in sustainable horticulture and environmental stewardship.

REFERENCES

Available upon request