

Christa Lee Olson

Titusville, New Jersey

EDUCATION

Stanford University, Stanford, California (1993). Ph.D. in French Literature. Dissertation title: “Constructs and Crisis in West African and Antillean Literature of French Expression.”

Washington State University, Pullman, Washington (1987). B.A. in Foreign Languages. College of Arts and Sciences Award. Summa Cum Laude, Honor’s Program.

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Executive Director for Global Engagement. The College of New Jersey, Ewing, New Jersey (May 2017 – July 2024). Provided leadership, strategic planning, grant writing, budgeting and oversight of staff for the Center for Global Engagement. Oversaw the development and administration of more diverse global engagement programs. Developed processes for faculty-led program and global engagement through partnership proposal submissions and review. Built new partners in Brazil, Costa Rica, Germany, India, Japan and Taiwan.

Vice Provost, International Programs & Professor, Study of Culture and Society. Drake University, Des Moines, IA. (2011-2017). Led implementation of Internationalization Strategic Plan and coordinated activities across campus. Collaborated to secure endowments and grants. Oversaw development of partnerships in Chile, China, France, India, Malaysia, Mexico, South Africa, Spain, and Uganda. Supervised directors of three centers and taught culture courses.

Associate Director, International Initiatives. American Council of Education, Washington D.C (2001-2011). Developed, acquired funding and directed multi-institutional demonstration projects that engaged member institutions in developing internationalization strategic plans, creating global learning outcomes and assessments, and working in the intersection between multicultural education and internationalization. Captured lessons learned and disseminated them through ACE publications and networks as well as workshops on campus and at conferences.

Fulbright North American Senior Scholar (March 1-November 1, 2009) McGill University, Quebec, Canada, and Universidad de Guanajuato, Mexico. Conducted “Making the Link between North American Partnerships and Campus Internationalization” research project.

Tenured Assistant Professor (1993-2001). New Jersey City University, Jersey City, New Jersey. Developed and taught courses: French Language and Cultures, Human and Intercultural Relations, Women and Men: Roles and Relationships, Women’s Lives, African and Caribbean Women Writers. Created Global Awareness Network.

Teaching Assistant and Fellow (Fall 1992) Stanford University, Stanford, California. Developed and taught courses: Contemporary Francophone Literature, Africa and the Caribbean; Elementary French. Assisted with research on second language acquisition.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION LEADERSHIP / MANAGEMENT

Executive Director for Global Engagement. The College of New Jersey, Ewing, New Jersey (May 2017 – July 2024). Led an internationalization review and planning process. Created and implemented a 2019 global engagement strategic plan and aligned a 2023 plan. Oversaw the administration of close to \$100,000 in scholarships and the Arlotto Family Center fund. Developed and co-administered two grants of over \$130,000. Conducted a deep-dive into global engagement institutional risk and developed protocols for risk mitigation and crisis management. Oversaw coordination of J-1 exchange programs and the development of support services for international students and scholars. Built new partners in Brazil, Costa Rica, Germany, India, Japan and Taiwan.

Professor, Study of Culture and Society. Drake University, Des Moines, IA. (June 2016 – May 2017). Teaching included: Intro to American Culture (pedagogical approach promotes engagement between domestic and international students); Foundations of U.S. Higher Education (part of Masters of Science in Leadership Development); Gateway to Global Citizenship (suite of courses featuring 3 credit course on responsible global leadership, 1 credit companion course in language study, and 1 credit virtual companion course on U.S. Academic culture offered to students at Drake's partner in India.

Vice Provost International Programs and Professor, Study of Culture and Society (July 2011-May 2016). Created cross-institutional faculty and administrative groups to implement the 2010 internationalization plan and nourish cross-institutional cooperation. Collaborated with senior leaders and faculty to secure two seven-figure endowments. Launched a strategic initiative to maximize Drake's international partnerships. Created an external advisory group of community leaders to assist in advancing Drake Internationalization agenda. Launched an internationalization of the curriculum initiative and academic programs award process. Built team cohesion through mission development and addition of staff to support endowment supported programs. Oversaw curriculum audit and progress in achieving strategic plan.. Championed the vision of Drake as a global knowledge hub for the greater Des Moines region and development of Drake's 2015-2020 Internationalization and Global Engagement plan.

Staff director, Commission on International Initiatives (April 2010 – July 2011). Developed the agenda for bi-annual Commission meetings. This body of ACE member presidents advises ACE in its work to provide policy guidance to U.S. institutions wishing to internationalize their programs, to increase support for international education with other associations, and to interact with associations of universities abroad on common issues.

Director, ACE Internationalization Collaborative (Fall 2001-July 2011). Network of 120 ACE member institutions committed to internationalizing their institutions. Convened an Advisory Council and created an annual meeting agenda. Oversaw annual meeting and regional meeting implementation. Consulted with institutions on strategies for internationalizing their institutions.

Director, Leadership Network on International Education (Fall 2006-Spring 2009). Network of ACE member presidents and chief academic officers. Conceptualized agenda and oversaw the implementation of the meeting.

Academic Director, Paris-Over-Spring Break Intercultural Field Experience (Spring 2001). Department of Modern Languages. New Jersey City University. Designed and directed.

GRANTS / PROJECT MANAGEMENT / APPLIED RESEARCH

Administrative Lead. Department of State IDEAS Grant: Capacity Building for Comparative Global Public Health Engagement between the U.S. and India project. (Fall 2022 – July 2024). Developed proposal, convened a South Asia Advisory Group, worked with Dean and professors on virtual Global Learning Community (GLC), submitted quarterly reports, worked with the program evaluator and engaged with Indian partners to advance the project.

Administrative Lead. Department of Education Fulbright Hayes Group Projects Abroad -- Advancing Core Taiwanese Values in Turbulent Times: A Post-COVID Reflection and Curricular Exploration (Fall 2021 – December 2023). Identified academic lead, co-drafted the grant proposal and developed institutional partners. Served on the Leadership Team and met regularly with academic lead to assist with the administrative tasks involved with this project.

Project Investigator, Creating Global Citizens: Exploring Internationalization at HBCUs. (Summer 2010-July 2011). Collaborated with colleagues in the Center for Advancement of Racial and Ethnic Equity (CAREE) in implementing Title VI Research and International Studies project. The goals of this applied research project were to identify the factors that enhance and impede internationalization at HBCUs and to disseminate findings.

Project Investigator, Making the Link between North American Partnerships and Campus Internationalization. (March 1 - November 1, 2009). Designed research approach, secured invitations from McGill University and Universidad de Guanajuato and acquired Fulbright Funding to support in-country research expenses. Collected data at 4 institutional sites in Quebec, Canada and 2 in Region Centro Occidente de Mexico. Preliminary results shared with liaisons at institutional sites and conference venues.

Co-Director, At Home in the World: Educating for Global Connections and Local Commitments (Fall 2005– July 2011). Collaborated with colleagues in Center for Advancement of Racial and Ethnic Equity in conducting research, advancing good practice, planning colloquia, producing a publication, and developing a demonstration project to identify strategies that promote synergy between internationalization and diversity/multicultural education on campus. Formerly referred to as Bridging the Gap as part of the Global Learning for All project.

Project Director, Lessons Learned on Assessing International Learning (Fall 2003-Summer 2008.) Developed, acquired funding and directed a multi-Year FIPSE funded multi-institutional project for ACE to advance the national dialogue on international learning assessment and the improvement of student international learning. Co-produced on-line *Guide for Assessing International Learning* and disseminated project findings.

Project Director, Global Learning for All. (Fall 2002-2005; Fall 2005-Spring 2007) Directed a multi-institutional ACE project funded by two Ford Foundation grants. Consulted with institutions on articulating international learning outcomes, conducting review, and engaging leaders from across the campus in creating a strategic internationalization plan that better services adult, part-time and minority students. Second grant supported a roundtable on the intersection between internationalization and multicultural education. The resulting essay, *At Home in the World* launched the ACE “At Home in the World” initiative noted above.

Co-Director of U.S. Department of Education, Title VI Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Languages Program Grant. (Summer 1999- Spring 2001). Developed, acquired funding and co-directed “World Languages and Cultures in Urban Education Grant.”

PUBLICATIONS

Olson, Christa and Katherine Krebs (2024). "Global Intercultural Circle: A Process, a Pedagogy, and a Way of Life," in Deardorff and al (ed) *Current Perspectives on Intercultural and Global Competences*. Star Scholars Press.

Olson, Christa and All (2022) *Global Intercultural Circle (GIC) Website*.

Olson, Christa, Kevin Saunders, and Jen Hogan, (2015). "Contextualizing the Assessment Journey and Tools for the Trek" in Brewer and Savick (eds) *Assessing Study Abroad, Theory, Tools and Practice*. Stylus Press, Sterling, Virginia.

Olson, Christa (2013) "A Canadian Lens on Facilitating Factors for North American Partnerships" *Journal of Studies in International Education*, July 2013; vol. 17, 3: pp. 228-243. first published on July 19, 2012.

Olson, Christa and Peacock, James (2012), "Where Global Meets Local" in Deardorff (ed) *Sage Handbook of International Higher Education*. Sage Publications.

Olson, Christa (2010) "Guest Editor's Note" and co-author with Wiesnieski Deitrich "In Quest of Meaningful Assessment of International Learning: The Development and Implementation of a Student Survey and ePortfolio Approach" in *Journal on General Education* special edition, Volume 59, Number 3. Penn State University Press.

Olson, Christa and Wisniewski, Jill (2008). *Guide for Assessing International Learning Outcomes* web publication. American Council on Education, Washington, DC.

Olson, Christa, Green, Madeleine, and Hill, Barbara (2008). *A Handbook for Advancing Comprehensive Internationalization: What Institutions Can Do and What Students Should Learn*. American Council on Education, Washington, DC

Olson, Christa, Evans, Rhodri, and Shoenberg, Robert (2007). *At Home in the World: Bridging the Gap Between Internationalization and Multicultural Education*. American Council on Education, Washington, DC.

Olson, Christa, Green, Madeleine, and Hill, Barbara (2005). *Building a Strategic Framework for Comprehensive Internationalization*. American Council on Education, Washington, DC.

Olson, Christa (2005). "Comprehensive Internationalization: From Principles to Practice," *Journal of Public Affairs*, volume VIII, Southwest Missouri State University.

Green, Madeleine and Olson, Christa (2003). *Internationalizing the Campus: A User's Guide*. American Council on Education, Washington DC.

Olson, Christa (2003). "Engaging US Faculty in Internationalization." *Global Educacion; Mexico*.

Olson, Christa (Summer 2001). "Global Competency and Intercultural Sensitivity," *Journal of Studies in International Education*, Volume 5, No 2. Sage Publications.

Olson, Christa, (Fall 2000). "Internationalizing the Campus, the Curriculum and Ourselves: Global Intercultural Competency," *Academic Forum*, New Jersey City University.

Olson, Christa (1998). "An Itinerary for Intercultural Teaching and Learning," *Academic Forum*, Volume VII, No 1. New Jersey City University.

Olson, Christa et al. (1989). *How to Choose a Study Abroad Program*. Bechtel Center, Stanford University, Stanford, California.

PRESENTATIONS

On Campus Internationalization (2001-2016):

Over 20 sessions and workshops featuring ACE Internationalization project work were delivered at the following international education conferences: Asia Pacific Association of International Educators (APAIE); Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA); Association for Mexican International Education Administrators (AMPEI); Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC); British Columbia Center on International Education; Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE); Consortium for Higher Education Collaboration (CONAHEC); Congrès de l'Association Québécois de Pédagogie Collégiale; NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

Over 20 workshops or consultations featuring ACE Internationalization project work delivered at the following U.S., Canadian, Japanese and Mexican institutions: Alcorn State University; Baldwin Wallace College; George Mason University; Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis; James Madison University; Osaka University; Portland State University; San Antonio Community College District; Universidad de Guanajuato; Universidad Panamericana Campus Guadalajara; Universidad de Valle de Atemaj; University of Central Florida; University of Iowa; University of Maryland; Drake University.

On Campus Internationalization and Diversity (2001 - 2016):

Workshops delivered at conferences and campuses including: American Council on Education; University of Denver; National Conference on Race and Ethnicity; Michigan State University, University College in Copenhagen, Denmark.

On Partnerships and Campus Internationalization (2009 - 2016):

Sessions or workshops delivered at embassies, conferences and campuses in the U.S, Canada, Chile, Mexico and Uganda including: U.S. Consulates in Montreal and Toronto, Association of Canadian Studies in the United States Biennial Conference; CONAHEC; Council for International Educational Exchange Annual Conference; NAFSA, Association of International Educators Annual Conference, Université Laval; Universidad de Guanajuato, Universidad de Colima, Universidad de los Andes, Makerere University Business School.

On Global Intercultural Competence (2017 - present):

UNESCO Story Circle workshops, or Global Intercultural virtual sessions or Global Intercultural Retreats delivered virtually or in-person at conferences, campuses and community venues in the U.S, Mexico, Jordan and India.

ACADEMIC, PROFESSIONAL AND VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

Member, WorldStrides Higher Education Annual Advisory Board (Spring 2023 - present).

Member, Professional Development committee and lead on Thematic Forums. Association of International Education Administrators. (Fall 2023-present)

Co-Founder, Global Intercultural Circle (GIC). Titusville, NJ. Collaboratively plan monthly gatherings and annual retreats. Update GIC website toolkit. (May 2017 - present)

Convener, Global Risk Mitigation and Crisis Management Group, The College of New Jersey (TCNJ). Monitored daily OSAC and Geo Blue reports; Developed protocol for program reviews, conducted preliminary, developed agendas (Fall 2017 - Spring 2024).

Staff Officer, Global Engagement Council, TCNJ, (Fall 2017 - Spring 2024).

Member and Qualified IDI Administrator, TCNJ's Intercultural Competency Professional Development Program. (Fall 2021 – Spring 2024).

Member, Intergroup Dialogues, TCNJ (Fall 2022 – Spring 2024).

Board Member, Iowa International Center, (Fall 2015 – May 2017).

Chair, International Service Committee, Rotary Club of Des Moines, (Fall 2014 – Fall 2014).

Chair of Strategic Issues / Professional Development committee and Board Member, Association of International Education Administrators, (Spring 2012 – Spring 2016).

Board Member, Association for Consortium Leadership, (Spring 2005 – July 2011).

Member Dissertation Committee, Graduate Studies in Higher Education, George Washington University, (Fall 2005 – Spring 2008).

Program Review, Andrew Young Center for International Affairs, Morehouse College, (Spring 2007).

Quality Enhancement Plan Evaluator, St. Mary's University Reaffirmation Visit, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, (Spring 2004).

Application Reviewer, Liberal Education & Global Citizenship: The Arts of Democracy, Association of American Colleges and Universities, (Spring 2002).

New Jersey Project Conference Host Committee. "Global Translations." New Jersey City University (NJCU). New Jersey. (Spring 2000).

Graduates Studies Committee. University Senate. New Jersey City University (NJCU). Evaluate graduate course proposals and programs of study. (Fall 1999 –Fall 2001).

Study Abroad Advisory Council. NJCU. (Fall 1999-Fall 2001)

Student Achievement Awards Committee Member. New Jersey Project On Inclusive

Scholarship, Curriculum and Teaching, (Spring 1999).

Acting Chair, Department of Modern Languages. NJCU. (May 1999).

Women's Studies Governance Council. NJCU. (1998-2001).

Co-director, Music and Language Camp, Bainbridge Island (Summers, 1997 - 2001)

Accompanist, Young Voices Children's Choir, Bainbridge Island (1996-1997)

Co-Founder, Global Awareness and Intercultural Network. Jersey City State College (now New Jersey City University). Coordinated steering committee and task forces on globalizing the campus. (1994-1996).

Curriculum and Instruction Committee. Jersey City State College. Evaluated undergraduate course proposal and programs of study. (1994-1996).

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Member, World Council on Global and Intercultural Competence (May 2022-present). Titusville, NJ. Participate in quarterly meet-ups and annual Global Forums. Member of Working Group on Community-Based ICC Working groups.

Member, Association of International Education Administrators. (1999-present). Currently on Professional Development Committee. Formerly Board member and Chair of Strategic Issues Task Force. Presenter and participant in various pre-meeting workshops.

Member, NAFSA: Association of International Education. (1993-present). Presenter and participant in various pre-meeting workshops.

Fellow, U.S. – ASEAN University Connections Initiative (UCI). Participated in a virtual training session, an in-person partnership training in conjunction with AIEA conference, and partnership incubator sessions. (Fall 2022-Spring 2023)

Fellow, George Mason University, (January 1 – June 1, 2008). Fairfax, Virginia. Fellow in Provost's Office. Observed provost work, developed a report on internationalization across the administration, reviewed the Provost's forthcoming publication on the leadership's roles and responsibilities for advancing global education.

Participant, Summer Institute for Intercultural Communication, (Summers 1999, 2000). Forest Grove, Oregon. Participant in week-long intensive workshops.

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION ABROAD

Université de Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar, Sénégal (1993). Stipend award from French government for participation in Summer Institute for French Teachers.

Institut d'études françaises, Avignon, France (1988). Summer Institute.

Université de Haute Bretagne, Rennes, France (1985-1986). Junior Year Abroad.

LANGUAGES AND CULTURAL AWARENESS

French and Francophone cultures: Advanced Speaking, Comprehension and Reading. Intermediate writing. Significant lived and professional experience with French, Quebecois and Senegalese culture.

Spanish and Hispanic cultures: Intermediate Speaking, Comprehension and Reading. Basic writing. Lived and professional experience with Mexican culture.

Japanese language and culture: Exposure to spoken and written Japanese. Lived and professional in-country experience with Japanese culture.

Chinese language and culture: Exposure to spoken and written Mandarin. Lived and professional in-country experience with mainland Chinese and Taiwanese cultures.

South and South East Asian culture: Professional in-country experience with Maharashtrian - Indian, Malaysian, and Thai culture.

West, East and Southern African culture: Professional in-country experience with Ethiopian, Ghanaian, South African, and Ugandan higher education leaders.

OTHER TALENTS

Musician. Classically trained pianist with early recital and professional level performance experiences. Current focus is piano duet repertoire. Experienced accompanist (churches and youth choir). Choral, Jazz Choir, and small group ensemble singing experience (high school, college, church choirs, community choirs.)