



College of Global Futures Career Path Profile

Amy Hill

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CGF Graduation Year: Spring 2023

CGF Degree(s): Masters in Sustainability Leadership

Other Degree(s): BA - Hotel Restaurant

Management, Sam Houston State University

Current Role: Operations Manager, Garden Educator

Current Employer: Phoenix Country Day School

Career Pathway: Academia and education

What do you enjoy most about your current role and/or career pathway?

I love working at a Pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade school. There are so many opportunities for sustainable change throughout the campus. I maintain all the gardens with the students' help and teach a gardening class daily, participate on the sustainability committee, and conduct sustainability learning sessions to the Upper School students. Earth Month celebrations, eliminating unnecessary single use plastic, and no waste events on campus all helps to spread sustainable choices throughout the community.

How did your personal experiences shape your career path? What challenges did you face? What priorities changed?

I was a successful Real Estate Broker before my daughter was born. My priorities change almost over night. I realized that I could not keep up the workload of commercial and residential real estate sales and running a brokerage of 20 Realtors. I started seeing waste and overconsumption in a different view. I started making changes in my personal and professional life to resemble my values. Working the same hours as my daughter was in school was tricky so I started working at her school. I saw the impact I could have by making small changes on the school campus which helped to drive my passion for sustainable change. I decided to get my Masters at ASU in Sustainability Leadership to grow my knowledge.

What was your career “aha” moment?

How did you realize what you are passionate about? How did you realize what you are good at?

I started being more present in my day and paying attention to what brought me happiness and satisfaction. I made note of what types of books I like to read, what topics I like to research, and what brings me satisfaction. I also paid attention to what subjects or things came easy to me and what topics I was most interested in discussing. Self reflection does not have to be hard and time consuming if you pay attention.

What advice do you have for current students interested in pursuing similar roles to your own?

First enjoy being a student and spend as much time researching different topics and asking for help. Practice and develop skills that do not come naturally for you. Use all the resources available on campus and off. Internship, volunteer, and get out in the community. Find your passion and stick with it. If your passion is making a difference within a small controlled environment, then working at a school might be a good fit. Basically, you could have a sustainability position at any job you find even if you start out in a field that is not what you studied. You can always make a difference.

How are you creating positive impact in your career?

Educating children and making a difference in the future in humbling and inspiring at the same time. The personal changes that I have made like installing solar panels and composting helps me to be more confident when helping others make similar positive changes.