

Alayna Schmidt, M.S.

Doctoral Candidate, Clemson University

Clemson, SC | alaynas@clemson.edu | 252-885-5885 | alaynaschmidt.weebly.com

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management Aug. 2022 -
Anticipated May 2026

“Rooted in Solidarity: Visibilizing Youth-Led Resistance and Nature-based Healing in Appalachia”

Corliss W. Outley, Ph.D.

Clemson University (Clemson, SC)

Master of Science of Experiential & Outdoor Education Aug. 2020 - May 2022

“Anti-oppression self-expression: An a/r/tographic understanding of Black youth’s conceptualization(s) of nature”

Callie S. Schultz, Ph.D.

Western Carolina University (Cullowhee, NC)

Bachelor of Art of Biological Sciences Aug. 2015 - Dec. 2017

Minor in Parks, Recreation, Tourism Management

Secondary Focus in Environmental Education & Park

Interpretation

Senior Capstone: “Stepping up high school education by stepping outside”

North Carolina State University (Raleigh, NC)

Associate of Applied Science of Biotechnology Aug. 2013 - May 2015

Pitt Community College (Winterville, NC)

Honors

HONORS & AWARDS

Outstanding Partner Award 2023

Environmental Educators of North Carolina

Significant Achievement in Education for Budgets Less than \$8 million 2021

Association of Zoos & Aquariums

<https://wlos.com/news/local/wnc-nature-center-program-for-teens-wins-national-achievement-award>

Outstanding Practitioner Award 2020

Environmental Educators of North Carolina

<https://wildwnc.org/2020/11/learn-from-the-best-at-the-wnc-nature-center/>

Natural Leader

2020

Children & Nature Network

<https://www.childrenandnature.org/resources/natural-leader-profile-alayna-schmidt/>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Co-Instructor

Spring 2025

Instructor of Record

Spring 2024

PRTM 3250: Global Perspectives, Diversity in PRTM

Department of Parks Recreation & Tourism Management

Clemson University

3 credits. Overview of diversity and its role in a global society for the field of PRTM. 40 students. Overall student teaching evaluation score is **4.08 on 5.0 scale**.

Course Moderator

Feb-Jul 2022

Justice, Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion in
Environmental Education

Environmental Educators of
North Carolina

15 hours, 1.5 CEU's. Provide a strong foundation in the language, concepts and principles of equity work for environmental educators and environmental professionals. Environmental Educators of North Carolina 16 participants.

ADVISING EXPERIENCE

Committee Member (Methodology)

Anne (AJ) Junttila, M.S. in Experiential & Outdoor Ed
Human Services Department

Fall 2025-Spring 2026

Western Carolina University

“Children’s Perspectives of Their Developing Empathy for Wildlife at a Zoo Nature Preschool”

Chair: Andrew Bobilya, Ph.D.

Committee Member (Theory)

Kayla Ebert, M.S. in Experiential & Outdoor Ed
Human Services Department

Fall 2024-Spring 2025

Western Carolina University

“Pathways For Diversity In The Outdoors: Alum Memories From The Pines Fellowship”

Chair: Callie Schultz, Ph.D.

INVITED GUEST LECTURES

7. **Anti-oppression self-expression: An a/r/tographic understanding of Black and Brown youth's conceptualization(s) of nature.** (2026, January). EOE 600: Advanced Research Methods & Evaluation Techniques. Western Carolina University.
6. **An (Incomplete!) Reflection on Anti-Opressive Approaches to Research.** (2023, October). LDAR 6949 Research Strategies & Methods. University of Colorado.
5. **Analyzing Policies for Equity in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism.** (2023, April). PRTM 3250 Global Perspectives in Leisure, Recreation & Tourism. Clemson University.
4. **Let's Talk About Gender.** (2023, October). PRTM 3250 Global Perspectives in Leisure, Recreation & Tourism. Clemson University.
3. **Anti-oppression self-expression: An a/r/tographic understanding of Black and Brown youth's conceptualization(s) of nature.** (2023, January). EOE 600: Advanced Research Methods & Evaluation Techniques. Western Carolina University.
2. **Religion & Spirituality.** (2022, October). PRTM 3250 Global Perspectives in Leisure, Recreation & Tourism. Clemson University.
1. **Graduate Student Research Project Pursuing Social Justice in PRM.** (2022, April). PRM 275 Diversity and Inclusion in Parks & Recreation Management. Western Carolina University.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Critical and post-structural perspectives of leisure; the interconnections of social justice, youth development, arts, and the environment, with an emphasis on race and racism; community-engaged research; youth participatory action research; Black ecologies; queer ecologies

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Researcher, Lab Manager

Aug. 2022–Present

REYSE Collaboratory at Clemson University

Clemson, SC

- Secured and managed \$166,595 research grant from the REI Cooperative Action Fund
- Plan and implement research projects, including managing timelines and resources, contributing to peer-reviewed publications and submitting grant proposals
- Supervise undergraduate research assistants in data collection, analysis, and scientific communication
- Develop resources and training for youth development practitioners and scholars

Research Assistant

May 2023–Present

Inform Evaluation & Research

Remote

- Led qualitative evaluation of the National Geographic Society’s Young Explorer program
- Collaborate with clients to develop logic models and evaluation frameworks
- Design instruments, including surveys, interview guides, and focus group protocols
- Conduct focus groups and interviews with educators, students, and stakeholders to gather insights, while reviewing and synthesizing literature to inform the research design
- Produce actionable evaluation reports with clear data visualizations and providing tailored insights and recommendations to clients

Research & Data Analyst

Feb. 2022–Nov. 2023

City of Asheville - Office of Equity & Inclusion

Asheville, NC

- Secured and managed \$10,000 grant for nature and youth development programming
- Established and led interdepartmental equity action team for policy analysis
- Consulted with city departments to develop and implement racial equity plans and tools, and conducted research in support of the Community Reparations Commission.
- Investigated and processed complaints under the city’s non-discrimination ordinance
- Organized public meetings, supporting volunteers for the Human Relations Commission

Research Contractor

July–Sep. 2022

Kera Collective

Remote

- Conducted a comprehensive literature review on the role of informal science learning centers in supporting rural youth climate education
- Produced final report and recommendations for informal science learning center staff

FUNDED GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

17. **\$166,595 Advancing Health & Nature Research Evidence**, May 2024-May 2026
REI Cooperative Action Fund, “Rooted in Solidarity: Visibilizing Youth-Led Resistance & Nature-based Healing in Appalachia”
PI: Corliss Outley, Ph.D.
**I developed and served as administrator; Due to graduate student status, Outley listed as PI.*
16. **\$500 Department Travel Award**, Fall 2023
Clemson University
15. **\$2000 Graduate International Travel Award**, Fall 2023
Clemson University
14. **\$1000 Graduate International Travel Award**, Fall 2022
Clemson University

13. **\$750 Graduate Travel Award, Fall 2022**
Clemson University
12. **\$22,000 Graduate Diversity Doctoral Fellowship Award, 2022-26**
Clemson University
11. **\$10,000 Youth Development & Nature-based Programming Grant, 2021**
Children & Nature Network,
<https://www.childrenandnature.org/resources/national-youth-development-nature-cohort-launched-to-help-youth-getintonature-to-reach-their-full-potential/>
10. **\$250 EENC Mini-Grant, 2021**
Environmental Educators of North Carolina, <https://eenc.wildapricot.org/news/12206503>
9. **\$1000 WCU Water Campus Theme, 2021-22**
Western Carolina University
8. **\$2455 Employee Tuition Assistance, 2021-22**
City of Asheville
7. **\$1000 Anne and Frank Cowan Scholarship, 2021-22**
Western Carolina University
6. **\$600 WCU Grant, 2021-22**
Western Carolina University
5. **\$70 Graduate School Association Travel Award, 2021-22**
Western Carolina University
4. **\$500 Youth Outdoor Equity Leadership Fund Grant, 2020**
Children & Nature Network
3. **\$2099 Employee Tuition Assistance, 2020-21**
City of Asheville
2. **\$1000 Graduate Teaching Incentive Scholarship, 2020-21**
Western Carolina University
1. **\$1000 Graduate Tuition Award, 2020-21**
Western Carolina University

UNFUNDED GRANTS

1. **\$500,000 Higher Learning Grantmaking Area, 2023**
Mellon Foundation, “EmpowerED for Justice”
Co-PI’s: Kaifa Roland, Ph.D.; Corliss Outley, Ph.D.; Michael LeMahieu, Ph.D.
***Assisted with development, writing.**

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (*Accepted*)

7. Jones, T., Schultz, C., Litwiller, F., & **Schmidt, A.** (2026). Between two worlds: An exploratory study of outdoor experiences of Black trans people. *World Leisure Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/16078055.2026.2655644>
6. **Schmidt, A.**, & Patterson, K. R. (2024). Land-based radical healing with Black ecologies and Critical Native Studies. *Leisure Sciences*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01490400.2024.2446804>
5. Johnson, B., Mileham, M., Shutler, M., Segura, A., Person, D., & **Schmidt, A.** (2024). Evaluating long-term impacts of Oregon Zoo’s Zoo Apprenticeship Program. *International Zoo Educators Association Journal*, 68-74. [http://www.izea.net/\[data collection & analysis\]](http://www.izea.net/[data collection & analysis]).
4. **Schmidt, A.**, & Schultz, C. S. (2024). Researcher as curator: Making room for the politics of emotion in leisure research. *Leisure Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02614367.2023.2210782>
3. **Schmidt, A.**, Schultz, C. S., Schultz, J., Hinnant-Crawford, B., & Palomar, M. B. (2023). Art as counternarratives: A/r/tographic understandings of Black youth’s conceptualizations of nature. *Leisure/Loisir*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14927713.2023.2252820>
2. **Schmidt, A.**, Outley, C. W., & Schultz, C. S. (2023). Can (or should) white women do Black Feminist Theory?: Exploring tensions, contradictions, and intersectionalities while performing justice-focused research. *Leisure/Loisir*, 47(1), 101-119. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14927713.2022.2141835>
1. **Schmidt, A.**, & Bobilya, A. J. (2022). Engaging youth as community leaders in outdoor education research, program design, and evaluation. *Journal of Outdoor Recreation, Education, and Leadership*, 14(1), 78-86. <https://doi.org/10.18666/JOREL-2022-V14-I1-11124>

BOOK CHAPTERS

5. **Schmidt, A.**, Outley, C., Peri, A. (2026). Queer of Color Critique and the Whiteness of Queerness in Cameroon. In R. Mowatt, P. De Toledo Basile, & I. Ashutosh (Eds.), *The Handbook for the Geographies of Race, A Multidisciplinary Global Perspective*. De Gruyter.
4. Outley, C., **Schmidt, A.**, Sene-Harper, A., Louis, D. A., Webster, N. (2026). Black Ecologies Against Green Imperialism: Black Diasporic Reflections from Africa, the Caribbean, and the United States. In R. Mowatt, P. De Toledo Basile, & I. Ashutosh (Eds.), *The Handbook for the Geographies of Race, A Multidisciplinary Global Perspective*. De Gruyter.
3. Kubarek, J., Johnson, B., Smith, L., & **Schmidt, A.** (2026). National Audubon Society: Engaging young adults in climate change education in informal settings. In A. Sezen-Barrie, Tolbert, S. (Eds.), *The Handbook of Climate Change Education: Research, Policy, and Practice*. Springer Nature. **[analysis, literature review, & writing]**.
2. Baker, M., & **Schmidt, A.** (2025). Navigating Discourses of Racialized Bodies in Outdoor Leisure (pp. 61-88). In M. Baker & Carr, N. (Eds.), *Inclusion and Equity in Outdoor Leisure: Whose Body Belongs?* Cabi Publishing.
<https://doi.org/10.1079/9781800621923.0004>
1. Outley, C. W., **Schmidt, A.**, Pinckney, H. P., Sene-Harper, A., & Brown, A. (2024). Leisure, Race, and Racism. In M. Stodolska, D. Scott, & T. Liechty (Eds.), *Leisure Matters: Exploring Leisure in a Changing World* (4th ed., pp. 277-290). Sagamore-Venture Publishing.

TECHNICAL REPORTS

7. Inform Evaluation & Research. (2025, May). *National Geographic Society Young Explorer Program Impact Evaluation Report*. **[designed, conducted, and wrote results for the participatory methods of the evaluation and report]**.
6. North Carolina Office of Environmental Education. (2024). *North Carolina K-12 Environmental Literacy Plan*. **[served on writing team]**.
<https://www.eenorthcarolina.org/north-carolina-k-12-environmental-literacy-plan/open>
5. **Schmidt, A.** & Jones, N. (2024). *Environmental education landscape analysis of PK-12 schools, teachers, and administrators in the U.S. Southeast*. **[poster development & design]**. Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance & Environmental Educators of North Carolina.

4. **Schmidt, A.**, & Outley, C. W. (2023). Youth development and racial healing toolkit. *YMCA of Greater Seattle*.
3. Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance. (2023). *eeGuidance for equitable pay and hiring in environmental education*. [served on writing team]. <http://www.southeasteer.com/eeGuidance.html>
2. Kera Collective. (2022). *Literature review: Investigating the role of informal learning organizations for youth-driven climate action in rural communities*. Unpublished report written for The Wild Center. [contracted researcher].
1. Butler, Z., Laughlin, A., Ormsby, A., & **Schmidt, A.** (2020). Experience and the effectiveness of biological artifact collections and nature play areas. *University of North Carolina – Asheville McCullough Fellows Undergraduate Research*. [site coordinator].

REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

22. **Schmidt, A.** (2026, March). Appalachian Youth Imagine the World Otherwise: A Youth Participatory Action Research Project. [Scholarly review track]. *Appalachian Studies Association Annual Conference*, Huntington, WV.
21. **Schmidt, A.**, Goodwin, D., Raines, C., Chestnut, A., McKenzie, G., R., K., R., L. (2025, September). *Fostering powerful youth-adult partnerships in civic and environmental engagement*. Environmental Educators of North Carolina Conference, Asheville, NC.
20. **Schmidt, A.**, Goodwin, D., Raines, C., Chestnut, A., McKenzie, G., R., K., R., L. (2025, September). *The power of place and play: Appalachian youth imagine the world otherwise*. Environmental Educators of North Carolina Conference, Asheville, NC.
19. **Schmidt, A.**, Lewis, S., & Outley, C. W. (2025, March). *Wake work: Thoughts on leisure studies and a composted doctoral curriculum*. The Academy of Leisure Sciences, Pittsburgh, PA.
18. **Schmidt, A.** & Patterson, K. R. (2025, March). *Land-based radical healing with Black ecologies and Critical Native Studies*. The Academy of Leisure Sciences, Pittsburgh, PA.

17. Outley, C. W., **Schmidt, A.**, & Aminulai, O. (2025, March). *Disrupting the hegemony: Fugitive scholars as bridges to transformative leisure scholarship*. The Academy of Leisure Sciences, Pittsburgh, PA.
16. Goodwin, D. & **Schmidt, A.** (2025, February). *Experiential advocacy: Our role in creating sustainable change*. Association for Experiential Education Southeast Regional Conference, Elon University, Elon, NC.
15. **Schmidt, A.** (2024, July). *Safeguarding liberatory themes in participatory meaning-making of critical arts-based leisure research*. Leisure Studies Association, University of the West of Scotland, Paisley, UK.
14. **Schmidt, A.** & Patterson, K. (2024, July). *Beyond individual coping: A review of leisure for radical healing*. Leisure Studies Association, University of the West of Scotland, Paisley, UK.
13. **Schmidt, A.** & Barg, H. (2024, February). *Radical rest stops for the climate emergency: Experimenting with rest, creativity & connection as resistance*. Presented at Leisure, Justice & The Climate Emergencies Workshop, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada.
12. **Schmidt, A.** & Outley, C. (2024, February). *Silence is not an option: Uses of anger in minority women's scholarship*. The Academy of Leisure Sciences, New Orleans, LA.
11. Schultz, C., **Schmidt, A.**, Schultz, J., & Bobilya, A. J. (2023, December). *Researcher as curator: Making room for the politics of emotion in social justice-focused leisure research*. World Leisure Congress, Dunedin, New Zealand.
10. Schultz, J., Bobilya, A. J., Schultz, C., & **Schmidt, A.** (2023, December). *Do immersive poverty simulations work?: Exploring the efficacy of the MCAN Poverty Simulation for shifting student views on poverty*. World Leisure Congress, Dunedin, New Zealand.
9. **Schmidt, A.**, Schultz, C., Schultz, J., & Bobilya, A. J. (2023, December). *Art as counternarratives: A/r/tographic understandings of Black youth's conceptualizations of nature*. Australia and New Zealand Association for Leisure Studies Conference, Auckland New Zealand.
8. Schultz, C., Schultz, J., Bobilya, A. J., & **Schmidt, A.** (2023, December). *Why "just make it free" isn't the only answer: The role of simulations in Recreation students' understanding about the complexity of poverty*. Australia and New Zealand Association for Leisure Studies Conference, Auckland New Zealand.

7. **Schmidt, A.**, & Smith, C. (2023, June). *Say what you mean, mean what you say: Race-conscious language to promote youth and nature equity*. Children & Nature Network Inside Out International Conference, Boulder, CO.
6. **Schmidt, A.**, Outley, C., Schultz, C. (2023, February). *Can (or should) white women do Black feminist theory?* The Academy of Leisure Sciences Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
5. **Schmidt, A.** (2022, May). *Black and Brown youth's artful counterstories of "nature" in the children and nature movement*. Children & Nature Network Inside-Out International Summit, Atlanta, GA.
4. Barg, H., & **Schmidt, A.** (2022, May). *Youth Got the Power: Adult Allies in Youth-Led Movements*. Workshop delivered at the Children & Nature Network Inside-Out International Summit, Atlanta, GA.
3. **Schmidt, A.** (2022, March). *Anti-oppression Self-expression: An A/r/tographic Understanding of Black and Brown Youth's Conceptualization(s) of Nature*. The Academy of Leisure Sciences Annual Conference, virtual.
2. Barg, H., & **Schmidt, A.** (2021, October). *Youth Got the Power: Adult Allies in Youth-Led Movements*. North American Association of Environmental Education National Conference, virtual.
1. Butler, Z., & **Schmidt, A.** (2020, September). *Evaluating Effective Biological Artifact Curation*. Environmental Educators of North Carolina Annual Research Symposium, virtual.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS, TRAININGS, & WORKSHOPS

6. Beverly, M., Daniel, B., Li, C. J., **Schmidt, A.**, Sellers, L., & Stevenson, K. (2025, September 20). *Evaluation clinic*. Environmental Educators of North Carolina Conference, Asheville, NC.
5. REYSE Collaboratory. (2025, January). *Social Justice Youth Development, Youth-Adult Partnerships, and Youth-led Social Movements*. Full day staff training, Youth OUTright, Asheville, NC. **[co-designer & co-facilitator]**
4. Inform Evaluation & Research. (2025, January). *Evaluation Capacity Building*. Two-day staff training, San Diego Zoo and Wildlife Association, San Diego, CA. **[assisted workshop]**

3. Smith, C. W. J., & Schmidt, A. (2024, September). *Promoting Equity in Nature: Embracing Race-Conscious Language*. LEAD Workshop. North Carolina Recreation & Parks Association, virtual.
2. Schmidt, A. (2024, June). *Rest, play, create: A zine workshop for climate activism*. Young West Virginian Empowerment Conference, Marshall University, Huntington, WV.
1. Schmidt, A. (2022, April). *Questioning Power and Nature in Asheville*. Everybody's Environment Coalition of Western North Carolina, virtual.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teen Programs & Internship Manager Mar. 2019–Jan. 2022
City of Asheville - WNC Nature Center Asheville, NC

- Supervised 4 interns and 80+ teen volunteer docents annually
- Trained and managed seasonal education and guest services staff
- Designed, evaluated, and managed on-site nature play spaces and activities
- Developed community partnerships for sensory inclusive programming
- Created action plan to establish budget for inclusion
- Managed UNCA McCullough Fellow researching biofact collection management

Interpretive Program Coordinator May 2018–Jan. 2019
El Paso County - Fountain Creek Nature Center Fountain, CO

- Trained and managed seasonal staff, adult and teen volunteers
- Administered camp programs, including planning, registration, and leading activities
- Coordinated and developed public programs and school field trips
- Developed interpretive signage for cultural history exhibit
- Produced audio-guided cultural and natural history tour of trails

Outdoor Science Instructor Feb.–May 2018
Mountain Trail Outdoor School Hendersonville, NC

- Trained staff in the Project WET curriculum
- Facilitated experiential outdoor science education programming
- Organized, revised, and developed new outdoor educational materials

Natural Sciences Education Specialist Oct. 2017–Jan. 2018
North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences - Raleigh, NC
Prairie Ridge Ecostation

- Prepared monthly and quarterly statistical reports on programming and visitation
- Developed and administered outdoor public programs and educational materials
- Managed natural resources

Wildlife Education Specialist

June–Aug. 2017

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission -
Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education

Brevard, NC

- Designed and constructed interactive education exhibit on riparian wildlife at the center
- Developed and led wildlife programs for school groups, summer camps, and public

Recreation Leader

Jan. 2016–May 2017

City of Raleigh - Durant Nature Preserve

Raleigh, NC

- Developed and taught experiential environmental education programs
- Designed informational displays and posters highlighting native ecology
- Led volunteer groups to remove invasive plant species. Reduced erosion by repairing and reinforcing water bars in trails, filling eroded areas and removing social trails
- Managed natural resources via mechanical invasive plant removal

Teaching Assistant

Aug. 2016–Apr. 2017

Broughton High School

Raleigh, NC

Wrote protocols and led data collection and experiments for field ecology and food science classrooms, supporting hands-on learning experiences. Tutored students in English, math, biology, and food science, and assisted teachers in delivering lessons and managing classroom activities.

POPULAR MEDIA & NEWS ARTICLES

Feature Article: Art zine helps Black and Brown youths show others what they see in nature

2023

Children & Nature Network

<https://www.childrenandnature.org/resources/fnn-art-zine-helps-black-and-brown-youths-show-others-what-they-see-in-nature/>

Meet the Staff: City of Asheville announces fully staffed Equity & Inclusion Department

2022

WLOS Channel 13 News

<https://wlos.com/news/local/meet-the-staff-city-of-asheville-announces-fully-staffed-equity-inclusion-department>

Never Stop Learning News Segments

2021 - 2022

WLOS Channel 13 News

Learning Opportunities for Teens:

<https://wlos.com/news/local/wnc-nature-centers-young-naturalist-program-offers-learning-opportunities-for-teens-01-03-2022>

Teen Mentor:

<https://wlos.com/news/local/mountain-teens-give-back-as-they-explore-nature-with-a-pas-sionate-mentor>

Backyard Birding:

<https://wlos.com/news/local/carolina-moment-take-a-little-time-to-enjoy-the-view-great-backyard-bird-count-needs-your-help>

Finding Nature News: Creative Shift Saves Young Naturalist Program 2020

Children & Nature Network

<https://www.childrenandnature.org/resources/natural-leader-profile-alayna-schmidt/>

Educator Spotlight 2018

Environmental Educators of North Carolina

<http://teachablemomentsnc.blogspot.com/2018/02/educator-spotlight-alayna-schmidt.html>

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Leisure Studies Association - Member since 2024

Appalachian Studies Association - Member since 2024

World Leisure Organization - Member since 2024

Australia & New Zealand Association for Leisure Studies - Member since 2024

Canadian Association of Leisure Studies - Member since 2023

Stewards of the Everybody's Environment Collective – Member, 2021-22

Everybody's Environment of Western North Carolina – Member, 2019-23

Children and Nature Network – Member & Natural Leader since 2019

Environmental Educators of North Carolina – Member since 2018

National Association for Interpretation – Member since 2017

North American Association for Environmental Education – Member since 2017

CERTIFICATIONS

Cultural Organizing 101 Trainer 2024

Highlander Research and Education Center

North Carolina Environmental Educator 2023–2028

North Carolina Office of Environmental Education

Certified Interpretive Guide May 2017–2025

National Association for Interpretation

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement Fall 2024-Present
Clemson University

- Assisted with writing sections of the application
- Identified university-wide definitions for “community engagement”
- Investigated community engagement efforts across university
- Served as liaison between application working groups and Front-Line Support team

Inclusive Excellence Committee Graduate Liaison Spring 2024-Present
Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Management Department, Clemson University

- Brought graduate peer feedback/concerns to the committee
- Strategized and supported ways of ensuring inclusive excellence for faculty, staff, and students in the department

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Volunteer June 2023-Present
Youth OUTright WNC

- Tabled at events, assist with event set-up, break-down, and chaperoning

Advisor for eeGuidance on Collecting Demographic Data July 2023
Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance

- Reviewed draft eeGuidance for Collecting Demographic Information for relevance and understanding by a wide range of EE providers across the southeast

Board Member, Education Chair & Conference Co-Chair Jan.-Dec. 2022
Environmental Educators of North Carolina, North Carolina

- Organized and hosted the Research Symposium for the EENC Annual Conference, September 2022
- Developed and hosted Statewide Summit on Environmental Education in Higher Education, September 2022
- Leading partner in revising North Carolina Environmental Literacy Plan
- Served on writing team to produce pay equity guide for environmental education organizations in the Southeast U.S.

SEEC Member Jan.-Dec. 2022
Stewards of the Everybody’s Environment Collective, Western North Carolina

- Advising institutional change in environmental organizations through racially equitable leadership from WNC communities

Western Section Committee Member

Mar.–Dec. 2021

Environmental Educators of North Carolina, Western North Carolina

- Planned & coordinated networking events for environmental educators in WNC

Biology Lab Assistant

Jan.–Mar. 2020

UNCA, Asheville, NC

- Assisted genetic research on plant populations in Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Comfort Scarves by Yarn Craftivists

Nov. 2018–Jan. 2019

ACCS/FFRF, Colorado Springs, CO

- Knitted cold weather items for middle and high school students experiencing hardships
- Designed logo for group

Fountain Creek Water Sentinels

Nov. 2018–Jan. 2019

Sierra Club, Colorado Springs, CO

- Monitored and recorded data on water quality in Fountain Creek and creek tributaries

Trail Steward

Oct. – Dec. 2015

The Eno River Association, Durham, NC

- Surveyed trails at Eno River State Park, assessed damage, documented needed repairs and used hand tools to maintain park trails
- Led aquatic macroinvertebrate program for elementary students

REFERENCES

Faculty Supervisors:

Corliss Outley, Ph.D.
Professor of Parks, Recreation, & Tourism
Management
Founder & Director of REYSE
Collaboratory
Clemson University
coutley@clemson.edu

Brian Johnson, Ph.D.
Co-Founder and Partner
Inform Evaluation & Research
brian@informeval.com

Brenda Mills
Director of Equity & Inclusion (Retired)
City of Asheville
bgmills48@gmail.com

Callie Schultz, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Experiential &
Outdoor Education
Western Carolina University
csschultz@email.wcu.edu

Community Partner:

Beck Martens
Program Director
Youth OUTright

Professional Supervisors:

beck.martens@youthoutright.org

Faculty Mentors:

Andrew Bobilya, Ph.D.
Professor and Program Director,
Experiential and Outdoor Education
Western Carolina University
ajbobilya@email.wcu.edu

Brad Daniel, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Co-founder
2nd Nature TREC
bdaniel@2ndnaturetrec.com

Harrison Pinckney, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Recreation, Park, and
Tourism Management
The Pennsylvania State University
hpp5203@psu.edu