CV of Signe Hermann

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June 4, 2010

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1 CV of Signe Hermann



Name: Signe Hermann Date of Birth: 15.11.1976

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Level of Education: Cand. Scient. (Mathematics)

Occupation: Assistemt Lecturer, Open University of Tanzania,

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Divers License Category B

Languages: Danish (fluent), English (fluent, Cambridge Proficiency Exam as well as having lived for 4 years in English speaking countries), French (conversational, high school exam as well as short stays in French speaking countries), Swahili (conversational, intermediate level classes at KIU as well as living in a Swahili speaking country)

1.1 Education:

2008 - 2009: The second year of the Statistics Study, that is 4 courses in statistics, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. More specifically it's Measure and Integration Theory, Linear Statistical Models, Conditional Likelihood, Advanced Linear Statistical Models

2008: Paedagogy for high school teachers, South Danish University. Paedagogy, didactics, roles in the class room, planning of classes to cover the curriculum. In connection with my employment at the Highschool of Christianshavn.

2007: Rejselegat for Matematikere (Mathematicians' Travelling Scholarship), Canada and South Africa. In Canada 2 course in non-linear statistical modelling and math didactics in French, in South Africa participation in 2

projects, one about the use of mathematical methods in humanitarian work, and the other one about modelling the influence of crime of the living conditions in South Africa. I spent about 2 months in Canada and about 9.5 months in South Africa.

2006: Localisering and Distribution, as well as Logistics, Danmarks Tekniske Universitet (Danish Technical University), Denmark.

2006: UN Basic Security Course for Deployees (on CD).

2005: M.Sc. in Mathematics, Københavns Universitet (University of Copenhagen), Denmark. Includes participation in a 2 months course in Paris, France.

2002: B.Sc. in Mathematics, Københavns Universitet (University of Copenhagen), Denmark.

1998 - 1999: Various courses in programming in Java and ML, software design, creation of programming languages, hardware design and algorithmics. DIKU (Institute of Computer Science), Københavns Universitet (University of Copenhagen), Denmark.

1997: Cambridge Proficiency Exam in English, City College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland.

1996: Highschool Exam, Helsingør Gymnasium (Highschool of Elsinore), Denmark.

1.2 Project Relevant Courses:

10.2006: "Working in Conflict Areas, Part 2". The Project Council.

05.2006: "Monitoring and Evaluation". The Project Council.

05.2006: "Working in Conflict Areas". The Project Council.

04.2006. "Cooperation Between NGO's and Private Businesses". The Project Council.

04.2006: "Homework Aid for Bilingual Students". The Danish Refugee Council.

03.2006: "More People Can Do More", how to strenghten your organisation. The Project Council.

03.2006: "LFA", Logical Framework Approach. The Project Council.

03.2006: "Advocacy". The Project Council.

05.2005: Dreamweaver, web editing. Southern Africa Contact.

01.2005 + 03.2005: Facilitation, conflict management, cultural sensitivity, development of activities, working with teenagers, risk management. Preparation of travel leaders for an international summer camp, CISV.

1.3 Teaching Experience:

2009 - present: Assistant lecturer, Open University of Tanzania, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Teaching classes, planning the sessions so as to cover the curriculum, creating exams, tests and assignments, writing teaching material and maintaining website. Professional language: English.

2008 - 2009: Math teacher, Christianshavns Gymnasium (The International Highschool of Christianshavn), Copenhagen, Denmark. Teaching 3 first year math classes, as well as participating in various cross-subject projects including 3 - 4 different subjects such as Math, Physics and Danish, for instance.

2003 - 2005: Instructor at Institute of Mathematical Sciences, University of Copenhagen. Teaching younger students in their first, second and third year math classes which are given as supplement to the lectures. Professional languages: Danish and English.

Since 2004 giving homework aid in the voluntary homework aid group of the Danish Refugee Council. In 2005-2006, I was attached to a Kurdish family with the private homework aid network.

1.4 Africa Relevant Work Experience:

2009- present: Asistant lecturer, Open University of Tanzania, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

2007 (As part of the travels with Rejselegat for Matematikere/ Travelling

Scholarship): Participation in projects about the use of mathematical methods in humanitarian work and mathematical modelling, CSIR, Pretoria/Tswane, South Africa. Includes presentation of litterature search for articles on use of mathematical methods at the international ORSSA/ORPA Conference in Cape Town (Operations Research Society of South Africa/ Operations Research Project in Africa). I was with CSIR for 9.5 months altogether.

2006 (Voluntarily, 20 - 40 hours a week): Working on a HIV/AIDS project with Southern Africa Contact (now Africa Contact). This project is a holistic HIV/AIDS project in Swaziland including income generating activities, creation of support groups, advocacy, communal gardens, home based care, voluntary testing and counselling, dealing with the psychological consequences of the epidemic inclusing bereavement and stigma, care of orphaned or vulnerable children and a mobile clinic, the staff nurse of which was to be educated with MSF in Malawi. The project was developed in cooperation with the south partner, SWAPOL, in accordance with DANIDA's civil society strategy, and included a lot of communication in English as well as some travelling activity in connection with preliminary research..

2005 (November and December, about 20 hours a week): Participated in organising Southern Africa Contact's WAD programme. I collected testimonies from HIV positive people from South Africa, Swaziland, Ukraine, Albania, Russia and Denmark, and translated and edited the texts.

All in all, this has led to a thorough knowledge of issues concerning health policies, health structures, equipment or the lack of it in hospitals and NGO clinics, government attitudes and general living conditions including poverty in South Africa and Swaziland as well as international research in the areas of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

1.5 Project Experience:

1.5.1 With CSIR in South Africa:

2007: Participation in 2 projects concerning use of mathematical metods. Presentations, cooperation between different areas of expertise, learning how to use simulation tools such as UrbanSim, reading much litterature on effects of crime on urban development and many articles on the use of mathematical methods used on humanitarian work. Writing of quarterly reports.

1.5.2 As Part of Southern Africa Contact's HIV/AIDS group:

2005 and 2006: HIV/AIDS project in Swaziland in cooperation with Swazi HIV/AIDS organisation SWAPOL. This includes all phases of a project from budgetting, working out the TOR, project formulation, and staying constantly in communication with the south partner, discussion and development of strategies for implementation and exit and travelling to Swaziland for Preliminary research.

1.5.3 As Part of the Voluntary Homework Aid Group of the Danish Refugee Council:

Participated in planning and starting the private homework aid network in terms of TOR for volunteers, relevant courses, guidelines for dealing with possible domestic situations and contact and cooperation between volunteer and The Danish Refugee Council.

Various organisational tasks for the homework aid volunteers at Biblioteket in Bragesgade.

1.6 Other Organisational Experience:

2005: Youth leader for a group of four 15 year old Danish teenagers for a three week international summer camp in Helsinki, Finland, with CISV (Childrens' International Summer Villages), an organisation which believes in advocating peace through cultural understanding. Preparations include around 10 meetings with the 15 year olds as well as training in facilitation, conflict management, organisation and leadership.

2005: Joined Southern Africa Contact, where I was editing the web page, in terms of updating texts and statistics from South Africa, as well as developing applications to DANIDA for various projects in relation to my work in the HIV/AIDS group, organising various arrangements and translation and editing of material for the math part of the Operation Dagsværk (Operation Days' Work) teaching booklet for the 2006 Operation Dagsværk project in Cape Flats, Cape Town, South Africa. I held a board positionin 2006.

In addition, I participated in the daily running of the office, including preparation of and invitation to meetings, planning and organising happenings and debates, writing and sending out press statements, flyers and posters, writing articles for Southerns Africa Contacts' paper, WOZA, as well as newspapers,

drawing and layouting posters, and economics.

2004: Joined the voluntary homework aid group of the Danish Refugee Council. I've been helping out with homework in Danish, French, History, Societal Studies, Math, Chemistry and Physics. The homework aid group group sees itself as an integrational effort and arranges various multicultural events every year, including a trip to BonBon Land with the students and their parents.

1.7 Cronological Work Experience:

2009- present: Assistant lecturer, Open University of Tanzania, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

2008 (til June 30, 2009): Math teacher, Christianshavns Gymnasium (The International Highschool of Christianshavn), Copenhagen, Denmark.

2008: Interviewer at IMS Medical Radar. The job consists of interviewing doctors, specialists, nurses and other health care workers about their treatment of various deceases. Also some product development of questionnaires and proof reading..

2007 (with the Travelling Scholarship): Participation in projects at CSIR in Pretoria, South Africa, on equal terms with the other employees of CSIR, which is why I add it to my work experience.

2006 (voluntarily): Project work with Southern Africa Contact, including some travelling.

2006: Call-in kinder garten teacher sub, Børnehaven Hestestalden (Kindergarten "The Horse Stables"), Vesterbro, Denmark.

2004: Illustrating the poem collection "Haikus**" by Lars Olrik, which was published in the winter of 2004/2005.

2003 (until 2005): Employment as instructor with institute of Mathematical Sciences, University of Copenhagen.

1998: Software tester/ test designer at Insight Systems (later Adaytum Planning). Collecting specifications, designing tests, running them and concluding on the results, after which I reported to the programmers. In addition, I learned a bit of programming with APL.

1997: Call taker, IBM and later Creative Labs, Dublin, Ireland. Taking calls from Danish and English speaking customers with PC problems and helping them solve the problems through the phone.

1.8 IT Experience:

1.8.1 Super User:

The MS Office Package, including Excel (spreadsheets), MS Word and MS Powerpoint.

LaTeX, a text editor developed especially for editing scientific texts. This document was written in LaTeX.

Internet Browsers, as I'm used to look up much of the information needed to do my job on the internet.

Online Communication such as Chat Fora, both for personal communication seeing as I travel a lot and it is an easy way of staying in touch with friends and family, and for professional communication such as IBM's IRC.

Web Editing, using Dreamweaver and other web editors.

1.8.2 User:

The Open Office Package, because it's sometimes used instead of the MS Office Package.

MatLab, a mathematical programme which allows for some programming, in connections with my studies.

SAS, a statistical programme which allows for some programming, also in connection with my studies.

Picture Editing, various programmes.

1.8.3 Knowledge Of:

Programming in ML, APL and Java, in connection with my studies and my work as a software tester.

Software Design and Development, also in connection with studies and work as a software tester.

1.9 Personal Competences:

I'm creative as well a mathematical, using both halves of my brain. I'm intelligent, curious, always eager to learn, an easy learner and always interested in understanding the things at hand as thoroughly as possible. If I don't get any training or instruction, this usually means looking it up on the internet or at the library.

I'm open to other cultures and people, and I love travelling and getting challenged in terms of my habits and norms. I speak English and danish equally well, and am quick at picking up new languages. I regard the human multitude as a rewarding gift and consider many colleagues from various parts of the world or a very international focus as an extra plus of any work situation.

I'm quick at creating an overview of a situation and I'm good at keeping focus. I'm structured, keeping my appointments and deadlines, engaged and good at cooperating with many different kinds of people. I have a strong sense of humour and am quick to laughter, and I'm friendly and open-minded as well easily exitable about a project or an idea. I'm good at teaching and I am capable of describing and explaining an issue from more than one side.

I'm energetic and proactive and thrive in environments that require the constant aquisition of new competences and handling new challenges. I enjoy learning how to solve new kinds of problems and I prefer a job with many and varying tasks. I have a high level of professionalism and professional pride and I regard the constant improvement of any method as part of doing a task.

1.10 Stays Abroad, Including Short Visits to Developing Countries:

2009 - present:

Tanzania, Dar es Salaam. Assistant lecturer, Open University of Tanzania.

2008:

Tanzania, Dar es Salaam. Visiting various educational institutions as well as discussing research into HIV/AIDS efforts in Tanzania with Dr. A.Diallo, SMCS.

Tanzania, visiting a friend working on a student involving, interactive IT-learning HIV/AIDS project for highschool and university students in Iringa.

South Africa, visiting friends and extended family in Soshanguve Township for 3 weeks.

2007:

Lesotho, visiting from South Africa.

Swaziland, visiting from South Africa.

Mozambique, visiting from South Africa.

South Africa, staying for 9.5 months.

Canada, staying 2 months.

2006:

South Africa, 2 short visits of about 3 weeks altogether in order to prepare for the scholarship travels and in connection with the preliminary research for the HIV/AIDS project in Swaziland.

Swaziland, preliminary research for the HIV/AIDS project.

2004:

France, studying for 2 months at Institut Normale Superiore, Paris.

1996 - 1998:

Ireland, working and living in Dublin. Sat the Cambridge Proficiency Exam in English during my stay.

1.11 Interests:

I have always been actively interested in societal issues, in terms of politics and economy as well as culture, psychology and sociology. Apart from my involvment with various organisations and societies, this has resulted in my writing poems, some of which have been published, and essays, dealing with those issues on all levels. I also draw and paint, having illustrated a poem collection in 2004, and I design clothes and saw them, but not with a commercial focus. I play role playing games and have played the theatre on an amateur level. Last but not least I take African dance classes as much as time allows.