

**LAURA W. BLOSSER**  
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**EDUCATION**

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2002 – 2004                      James Madison University                      Harrisonburg, Va  
Master of Health Sciences, concentration of Administration of Health Promotion / Wellness Programs

1998 – 2002                      James Madison University                      Harrisonburg, Va  
Bachelor of Health Sciences, concentration of Public Health Education

**CERTIFICATIONS AND AWARDS**

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2021                                  Provost Award for Excellence in Academic Advising  
Honored to be awarded the Provost Award for Excellence in Academic Advising for making significant and superlative achievements in the delivery of quality academic advising.

2014                                  Provost Award for Excellence in Academic Advising  
Honored to be awarded the Provost Award for Excellence in Academic Advising for making significant and superlative achievements in the delivery of quality academic advising.

April 2007- current              Certified Health Education Specialist  
Completed and passed the CHES test and continue to accumulate CEU credits.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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August 2007 – current              James Madison University                      Harrisonburg, Va  
Academic Advisor/Instructor for Health Sciences Department

- To provide quality academic advising to all current and prospective health sciences students; track students as they move through the major; and develop advising informational tools and resources. To serve as the first point of contact for prospective majors and incoming freshman, work with department staff for SA procedures such as overrides and course scheduling, work with orientation during 1787, work with Career and Academic Planning for freshman advising, work with Pre-Professional Health Advising, work with registrar on academic policies and procedures, to teach one course per semester in the Department of Health Sciences and to be a resource of advising information for faculty, students and staff.

August 2007 – 2010              Virginia Department of ASAP                      Harrisonburg, Va  
Course Instructor

- Facilitated classes and discussions for two courses, young offender education class and intensive education class for the Virginia department for alcohol safety action program. Trained new facilitators when needed and communicated with ASAP employees regarding certain cases and changes within the programs.

May 2006 – July 2007              Rockingham Memorial Hospital (RMH)                      Harrisonburg, Va  
Bridgewater Retirement Community Wellness Center Supervisor

- Wellness Supervisor through RMH Wellness Center at the Bridgewater Retirement Community Wellness facility. Responsibilities included management of daily operations,

personnel (6 or more staff), assessing and orienting new residents to the facility, health education program planning and implementation, budget, scheduling, and quarterly and yearly evaluations of facility utilization and annual evaluations of personnel.

2004 – 2006                      General Nutrition Center (GNC)                      Harrisonburg, Va  
Manager/Senior Store Manager (SSM)

- GNC is the world's largest company of its kind, devoted exclusively to helping the customers improve their quality of life. SSM responsibilities were managing the operations of seven GNC stores, including the management of my own station store in Harrisonburg, Virginia. I managed all store managers and sales associates for each store including training and development. I ensured the store's sales goals were met with training on product knowledge, while coaching and demonstrating exceptional customer service. Stores were located throughout the south west of Virginia, from Harrisonburg to Charlottesville and down to Salem. I traveled monthly to stores for check ins, communicated daily over phone conversations with stores and the regional manager (Mr. Jack Chadwell), participated in weekly telephoned store meetings lead by the regional manager, and completed yearly inventory procedures with each store.

2004 – 2005                      Sunnyside Retirement Community                      Harrisonburg, Va  
Wellness Instructor

- Instructor responsibilities include leading land and aquatic group exercise classes, supervising one on one exercise sessions with residents, guarding the pool area, and assisting the director in creating and implementing senior specific wellness programming for residents.

2002 – 2004                      James Madison University                      Harrisonburg, Va  
Graduate Assistant with the Health Sciences Department

- Assisted Health Science professors in preparing for instruction, grading papers, teaching classes, conducting research, and performing administrative tasks. I was responsible for teaching classes when needed such as Human Sexuality, Foundations of Health Sciences, and Epidemiology.

Spring 2004                      Rockingham Memorial Hospital                      Harrisonburg, Va  
Woman's Health Focus Department Intern

- Assisted with various RMH community programs and coalitions, conducted research for grants and aided in the establishment of a Safe Kids Chapter for Harrisonburg/Rockingham County residents.

Spring 2002                      James Madison University                      Harrisonburg, Va  
JMU Health Promotion Office Intern

- Assisted with various programming and implementation health education for JMU faculty and staff through the Commonwealth program.

## **TEACHING**

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Foundations of Health Sciences, HTH 151

- Fall & Spring 2007-2008, Fall & Spring 2008-2009

The Wellness Dimension: Individual Perspectives, GEIC 101

- Fall 2009

Community Health, HTH 230

- Spring 2010

Health Aspects of Gerontology, HTH 471

- Spring 2010, Fall & Spring 2010-2011, Fall & Spring 2011-2012, Fall 2012, Fall & Spring 2013-2014, Fall & Spring 2014-2015, Fall & Spring 2015-2016, Fall & Spring 2016-2017, Fall & Spring 2017-2018, Fall & Spring 2018-2019, Fall & Spring 2019-2020, Spring 2021, Fall & Spring 2021-2022, Fall & Spring 2022-2023

Gerontology for Health Services Administration, HSA 290

- Spring 2016

Population Health Determinants, HTH 231

- Spring 2018, Fall & Spring 2018-2019, Fall & Spring 2019-2020, Fall & Spring 2020-2021, Fall & Spring 2021-2022, Fall & Spring 2022-2023

Personal Wellness, HTH 100

- Spring 2023

## **JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE & ACTIVITIES**

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October 2019                      NACADA Conference

Attended National Academic Advising Association conference focusing on educational sessions to broaden knowledge on advising topics and effective advising techniques.

November 2009-2017              American Public Health Association Conference

Attended American Public Health Association conference focusing on educational sessions to broaden knowledge on health related topics while obtaining continuing educational units.

2010-current                      Pre-Medicine Association Advisor

Advise and communicate information from the University to the student group. Assist organization with financial operations, programs and events, and to be a resource for planning.

2010-current                      Department of Health Sciences Curriculum & Instruction Committee

Member of the Department of Health Sciences C&I committee to review course and program proposals before they are sent to the college level C&I committee.

2013-current                      Department of Health Sciences Advising Blog Administrator

Administrator on the informational blog for the Department of Health Sciences. Offering resources and information to students and HS faculty on common advising questions and information. [www.jmuhealthsciencesadvising.wordpress.com](http://www.jmuhealthsciencesadvising.wordpress.com)

2013-current                      JMU Safe Zone Member

Member of the voluntary network of faculty, staff and students who believe that every member

of the university community should have an equal opportunity to grow and learn in a safe environment. Trained with Safe Zone Instructors October 2013.

2013- current JMU Here to Help Member

Member of the voluntary network to support students in their successful lives on campus and how to serve as a referral point for students seeking needed services. Learned to identify: signs of distress and how to assist; disruptive behavior and developing an intervention plan; recognize a dangerous student and how to help mitigate the risk. Trained with Here to Help Instructors September 2013.

2015 & 2017-current JMU Dingleline Scholarship Selection Committee

Part of the interview panel for the Dingleline Scholar selection process. The scholarship recruits outstanding students through the offer of scholarship support early in the admission process. Attended training and interview sessions.

2016-current University Advising Network Committee

Member of the committee for University Studies advisors. Met frequently to discuss advising informational and updates/changes within the University that pertain to advising positions or students.

2016-current It's Complicated with Madison Collaborative

Facilitator for "It's Complicated" the JMU program implemented during first-year orientation on ethical reasoning and being an enlightened citizen.

March 2015 Society for Public Health Education conference

Attended the Society for Public Health Education conference focusing on educational sessions to broaden knowledge on health related topics while obtaining continuing educational units.

2014-2015 EAB Advising Committee

Member of the committee to review an EAB advising platform option for the university.

2013-2014 Department of HS, Override Committee

Member of the committee to determine how the Health Sciences department would offer overrides to those in need of courses.

2012-2015 Bachelor of Individualized Study Committee

Member of the Bachelor of Individualized Study committee to review courses and program requirements to better serve the university and BIS students.

August 2011-2013 PreFace

Facilitator for the first year orientation program to help students transition from high school to college.

August 2007-2010 Conversations with Professors

Facilitator for the first year orientation program to help students transition from high school to college.

