

Education

Interaction Design | Masters

Copenhagen Institute of Interaction Design (CIID) | Copenhagen, Denmark | 2015

Geology | Bachelors of Science

University of California - Davis, California | 2008

Work Experience

Research Operations Manager | American Express | Nov 2021 - present | NYC

Delivering operational solutions that serve research and design to improve productivity, impact and culture among researchers, UX team and stakeholders. Partnered with UX directors and division leadership to increase retention, trust, and productivity through service-design oriented program management.

UX Consultant | Freelance | Jan 2016 - present | San Francisco, CA

Accelerating business and product goals with qualitative and quantitative user research, interactive prototypes, and good design:

- Board Member providing UX leadership at startups and universities | 2018 to present
- Senior Design Thinking Coach for innovation teams in international competitions | 2017 to present
- UX Designer for FireScore | Jupiter Intelligence | 2019
- Lead UX Researcher for mission logging tool with complex user ecosystem | NASA Ames Resources Prospector Mission | 2018

DiabetesWise Project Director | Stanford | Feb 2019 - Apr 2021 Palo Alto, CA

Presented biweekly project update reports on website analytics to funders and executive team. Delivered user stories, workflows, spec documentation and design mockups. Led study coordination of 500-person online 6-month randomized clinical trial and managed integration of study results into public facing platform as new features. Led internal and external stakeholder collaboration including development contractors, funders, and Stanford affiliated research community. Managed PR campaign with external agency and stakeholders. Delivered 6-week COVID webinar series.

User Success Research & Experience Manager | Plause | Feb 2018 - Nov 2018 | San Jose, CA

Led cross-functional collaboration of UX design efforts, and managed remote research team at Rice University. Implemented international R&D program to guide product strategy and build research database.

UX Designer | Turbine Labs | Jun 2016 - Aug 2017 | San Francisco, CA

Started company's design program as first in-house designer of 10-person engineering startup. Collaborated cross-functionally on user research, design and development of complex software release management dashboard. Delivered user research program, cultivated org-wide design thinking and initiated brand strategy.

Work Experience (continued)

HR Program Manager | Nest | Dec 2011 - Oct 2013 | Palo Alto, CA

Developed HR operations program from benefits admin to culture assimilation, employee on-boarding and off-boarding. Owned company wide HR communications, event planning, internship program and coordinated acquisition administration.

Geologist | various private consultancies | Jan 2008 - Oct 2011 | Sacramento, CA

Provided groundwater remediation and geotechnical engineering expertise on specialized projects across California for private sector clients.

Patents & Publications

Devices & Methods for Protecting Unattended Children in the Home. | S. Nelmes, S. Le Guen, M. Veron, I. Guenette, & D. Sloo | U.S. Patent 10649421

Dynamic Distributed-Sensor Thermostat Network for Forecasting External Events. | J.B. Filson, E.B. Daniels, A. Mittleman, S.L. Nelmes, and Y. Matsuoka | U.S. Patent 9286781

Dynamic Distributed-Sensor Network for Crowd-Sourced Event Detection. | J.B. Filson, E.B. Daniels, A. Mittleman, S.L. Nelmes, and Y. Matsuoka | U.S. Patent 10433032

James R. Rustad, Sierra L. Nelmes, Virgil E. Jackson, and David A. Dixon, "*Quantum-Chemical Calculations of Carbon-Isotope Fractionation in CO₂(g), Aqueous Carbonate Species, and Carbonate Minerals*", J. Phys. Chem. A 2008, 112, 3, 542–555

Public Speaking

DiabetesMine Innovation Summit | UCSF Mission Bay Conference Center | November 9, 2019

Global Community Leadership Experience

Board Member | Earth and Planetary Sciences Alumni Advisory Board | UC Davis | 2019 - present

Classroom Volunteer | Lincoln Elementary School | Oakland, CA | 2017 - 2020

World Water Corps Volunteer Scientist | Water for People | Malawi, Africa | 2011

Activities Coordinator | UC Davis Geology Club | Davis, CA | 2008

Team Captain | American River College Womens - Cross Country | Sacramento, CA | 2004

Recognition

2017 Tech & Learning ISTE Best in Show Award | Project: littleBits Code Kit

2016 IxDA Awards Shortlist | Project: CPH Meetups

Scholar Athlete Award | 4x Recipient 2003 - 2007 | American River College | Sacramento, CA