

Grady W. Hart, MPA

Education

Virginia Commonwealth University

Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), 2015 – 2017
Concentration: (Self-directed) Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation

James Madison University

Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.), 2013 – 2014
Concentration: Management in International Non-Governmental Organizations

James Madison University

Dual Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and Political Science (B.A.), 2009-2012
Minors: Spanish; Economics; Latin American & Caribbean Studies

Postgraduate Training and Professional Development

Community-Engaged Research Institute, May 2015

Virginia Commonwealth University Division of Community Engagement and Center for Clinical and Translational Research, Richmond VA

Fostering Collaborative Community-University Partnerships, May 2014

Virginia Commonwealth University in collaboration with Nonprofit Learning Point, Richmond VA

Service-Learning Institute, May 2014

Virginia Commonwealth University Division of Community Engagement, Richmond VA

Building Blocks for Nonprofit Board Members, January 2014

Organizational Solutions in collaboration with the Partnership for Nonprofit Excellence, Richmond VA

Professional Experience

Virginia Commonwealth University, Division of Community Engagement, Richmond VA

Co-curricular Coordinator, VCU ASPIRE and Adjunct Professor, Division of Community Engagement
February 2014 – Present

VCU ASPIRE enriches and deepens students' understanding of their capacity to create positive change in communities through coursework, co-curricular experiences and a vibrant residential environment.

- Teach courses and seminars on community engagement paradigms and best practices.
- Manage, expand, and steward high profile partnerships with community-based organizations.
- Serve as Chair of the Co-curricular Committee and manage the Co-curricular budget.
- Serve on the Curriculum Committee and actively participate in curriculum development.
- Lead ASPIRE students on co-curricular experiences to complement classroom knowledge, skills, and abilities with real-world experience at local public, nonprofit, and private sector partner sites.
- Manage and develop a cohort of 3rd year Student Fellows and Student Liaisons, providing them with professional development and personal growth opportunities.
- Design and lead reflection curriculum to connect curricular and co-curricular experience.
- Contribute to overall strategic vision for ASPIRE and the VCU Division of Community Engagement.

Virginia Impact Investing Forum, Richmond VA

Founding Director; Advisory Board Member

January 2016 - August 2016; August 2016 - Present

The Virginia Impact Investing Forum is a network of leaders in business, government and non-profit committed to growing Impact Investing in Virginia. We formed to further the understanding and acceptance of Impact Investing within the investor and philanthropic community.

- Served as the Founding Director while working full-time at Virginia Commonwealth University.
- Built relationships with individuals and organizations from stakeholder groups across Virginia, including the Governor's Office, major foundations, banks, social entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, private investors/philanthropists, institutions of higher education, and nonprofit organizations.
- Created, disseminated, and analyzed a stakeholder survey to assess the impact investing and social enterprise ecosystem in order to set strategic direction for our organization.
- Planned major statewide events, including the Virginia Velocity Tour, which featured five days of entrepreneurship events and \$125,000 of seed funding for early stage ventures across Virginia.

James Madison University, Department of Political Science, Harrisonburg VA

Graduate Research Assistant, Political Science and Public Administration

January 2013 - December 2013

The JMU Department of Political Science provides students with the tools and competence to succeed by instilling academic rigor, research skills, dedication to life-long learning and respect for diversity in cultures, nations and institutions.

- Assisted on special projects with Department Head and MPA Program Director, including:
 - Community development projects.
 - Philanthropic giving and volunteerism.

- Federalism and democracy in Latin America.
- Economic differences between OECD countries.
- Parking surveys and interviews for the purpose of urban development.
- Constructed and managed a database of scholarly literature.

Association Pop Wuj, Quetzaltenango Guatemala

Projects Coordinator Intern

June 2013 - August 2013

Through a unique mix of intensive Spanish language study and community development, international students come to a better understanding of the political, social, and cultural realities of Guatemala, while contributing to a better way of life for families in the rural areas surrounding Quetzaltenango.

- Coordinated, managed, and prioritized the nonprofit's various community-based projects focused on poverty alleviation, educational attainment, health improvement, and community development.
- Led groups of volunteers on various weekly projects and served as a liaison between students and community members, maintaining a positive relationship between these groups.
- Translated workshops and lectures from Spanish to English in real-time.
- Oversaw and maintained databases and social media outlets, including the school's blog.
- Continue to support Pop Wuj today by providing a scholarship for one of its native students.

Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, Verona VA

Summer Food Service Program Intern

May 2012 - August 2012

At the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank we are driven by our core beliefs that hunger is unacceptable; that everyone deserves access to enough food; that food sustains life and nourishes health; and that we are called to serve neighbors in need without judgement.

- Coordinated the ordering, delivery, and serving of over 48,000 meals to more than 3,000 children throughout Harrisonburg and Rockingham County through the USDA Summer Food Service Program.
- Conducted a variety of program management and evaluation tasks including placing food orders for over 20 local feeding sites, overseeing and correcting food service, and providing logistical support.
- Designed a survey for distribution to feeding site managers to help evaluate program effectiveness.

Grants and Research

Mandela Washington Fellow Reciprocal Exchange Grant Awardee

Representative of Virginia Commonwealth University

2017

Awarded a \$3,400 grant through the United States Department of State for a proposed project to travel to the African country of Mauritius in May 2017. The primary purpose of the grant was to expand engagement between Mauritian Universities and their surrounding communities, particularly in the area of innovative education solutions.

**Program Evaluation: Step-It-Up, Boys and Girls Club of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County VA
Site Leader and James Madison University M.P.A. Student
2013**

- Managed the program evaluation for one Boys and Girls Club site for a \$750,000 Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) grant from the Department of Education, including:
 - Designed a program logic model.
 - Developed and implemented both a process and an outcome evaluation.
 - Collected and analyzed sensitive data utilizing SPSS Statistics.
 - Conducted regular site visits and staff interviews.
 - Delivered final presentation to the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Club.

Research Interests

- Social entrepreneurship, impact investing, and microfinance.
- University-community partnerships.
- Structural causes of poverty and how to combat it.

Professional Service

**RVA Rapid Transit, Richmond VA
Volunteer Board Member
May 2015 – Present**

Mission: To connect all 1.2 million metro residents through rapid transit by sharing a common vision for the region, helping citizens advocate for a rapid transit system, and representing the interests of those citizens in the design and construction of the metro system.

Skills and Competencies

Community Outreach/Engagement	Program Management	Program Evaluation
Grant Management	Research	Grassroots Advocacy
Proficient/Advanced Spanish	Event Planning/Management	Fundraising