

Aaron Matthew Peterson

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Education, Educational Leadership July 2018
Minnesota State University, Mankato, MN

Master of Science, Negotiation and Dispute Resolution August 2012
Creighton University - The Werner Institute, School of Law, Omaha, NE

Bachelor of Science, Communication Studies and Aviation Operations June 2005
St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor-Leadership Aug 2024–Present
Converse University, Spartanburg, SC

- Teach online and in-person graduate courses in Leadership, Student Affairs, and Organizational Behavior
- Design new doctoral and masters courses for Higher Education Leadership
- Advise doctoral students towards successful dissertation defense
- Build on a competent research agenda that includes the areas of conflict engagement and higher education
- Present at regional leadership education conferences

Assistant Professor-Educational Leadership/Student Affairs & Higher Education (Fixed Term) Aug 2018–Aug 2021
Minnesota State University Moorhead, Moorhead, MN

- Taught online graduate courses in Educational Leadership, Student Affairs, and Organizational Behavior
- Designed new courses for Educational Leadership masters and doctoral program
- Advised students on appropriate courses for program completion
- Assumed role as university supervisor for practicum students and Action Research Students
- Built a competent research agenda that includes the areas of conflict engagement and higher education
- Presented at regional leadership education conferences
- Established The Leadership Lab as a fixture for collaboration and research engagement in educational leadership

Adjunct Instructor Aug 2015 – May 2017
Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Coon Rapids, MN

- Instructed approximately 25 students in First-Year Experience curriculum
- Designed curriculum and learning modules for the course, and utilized D2L as part of course delivery
- Incorporated online instruction components into course delivery framework
- Evaluated student work and offered constructive critiques for improvement
- Collaborated with TRIO, Advising, and Accessibility Services to further assist students to achieve learning outcomes
- Participated in faculty workshops to implement improvements in subsequent courses

BOOKS

-Kaufman, J. A., & Peterson, A. M. (2023). *Leadership in Star Trek: Lessons from the captain's chair*. McFarland.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

-Peterson, A. M., Jensen, J. A., Lauritsen, J., LeDuc, J., Loge, E., Schaefer, M., Tate, L., Yang, J., Samarnkiatsakul, P., & Kaufman, J. A. (2022). Meh: Faculty life after (during) the pandemic. *Innovation Abstracts*, 44(1).

-Peterson, A. M. (2021). Engaging with purpose: Styles of conflict engagement among academic deans. *Journal of Leadership and Management*, 1(19), 1-7. leadership.net.pl/JLM/issue/view/24

-Peterson, A. M., LeDuc, J., Tate, L., & Kaufman, J.A. (2021). Pivoting in a time of pandemic: The faculty experience. *Innovation Abstracts*, 43(2).

BOOK CHAPTERS

-Peterson, A. M. & Kaufman, J. A. (2022). Curse my metal body! The importance of empathy in conflict engagement. In N. Ebner & J. Reynolds (Eds.), *Star wars and conflict resolution: There are alternatives to fighting* (1st ed., pp. 157-166). DRI Press.

POPULAR PUBLICATIONS

-Kaufman, J. A., & Peterson, A. M. (2022, June 15). *Captain's week: Captain pike shows leadership for a new world*. StarTrek.com. <https://www.startrek.com/news/captains-week-captain-pike-shows-leadership-for-a-new-world>.

-Kaufman, J. A., & Peterson, A. M. (2021, June 16). *Leadership from the ready room*. StarTrek.com. <https://www.startrek.com/news/leadership-from-the-ready-room>.

-Peterson, A. M. (2016). *Conflict specialists: Key questions to ask in the mediation process*. Creighton University. <https://online.creighton.edu/program/negotiation-and-conflict-resolution-ms>.

-Peterson, A. M. (2015). *Getting conflict to resolution*. Creighton University. <https://online.creighton.edu/program/negotiation-and-conflict-resolution-ms>.

-Peterson, A. M. (2015). *Navigating conflict within higher education*. Creighton University. <https://online.creighton.edu/program/negotiation-and-conflict-resolution-ms>.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Kaufman, J. A., & Peterson, A. M. (June 2024). *Leadership in Star Trek: The Basic Skills Are Clinical Skills*. Invited webinar presented for the Los Angeles County Psychological Association Sport and Performance Psychology Special Interest Group.
- Peterson, A. M., & Kaufman, J. A. (January 2021). *Coping with COVID: A snapshot of faculty skills, challenges, and lessons learned*. Invited webinar presented for the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD).

PRESENTATIONS

- Peterson, A. M., Jensen, J. A., & Kaufman, J. A. (June 2022). *Pandemic pivot: The faculty experience after two years of challenge*. Webinar presented for the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD).
- Peterson, A. M., Kaufman, J. A., Fay, A., & Witter, L. (May 2019). *Unleashing the mind: The brain science of mindful leadership in an age of conflict*. Presented at the 2019 Spring Leadership Institute, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN.
- Kaufman, J. A. & Peterson, A. M. (April 2017). *The potential of mindfulness to promote conflict resolution in higher education*. Presented at the 2017 Higher Educational Leadership Institute, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN.

COURSES TAUGHT

Converse University

- PLP 700-Leadership Theory & Identification
- PLP 800-Leadership Theory
- PLP 805-Legacies of Leadership

Minnesota State University-Moorhead

- ED 601-Psychological Foundations of Education
- ED 630-Leadership, Planning, and Organizational Behavior in Education
- ED 632-Curriculum, Instruction, and Learning Theory
- ED 634-Personal Communication and Ethics
- ED 660-Introduction to Student Affairs & Higher Education
- ED 662-Administration of Student Affairs & Higher Education
- ED 695A-Introduction to Educational Leadership
- ED 695B-Portfolio Completion-Presentation
- ED 696-Action Research
- ED 753-College Student Development (Doctoral-Level Course)
- ED 787-Teaching and Learning at the University Level (Doctoral-Level Course)
- ED 793-Seminar in Higher Education Administration (Doctoral-Level Course)
- ED 794-Practicum in Administration and Higher Education

HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Interim Student Relations Director

Oct 2017 – August 2018

St. Cloud State University, Saint Cloud, MN

- Advised students on educational pathways to ensure successful course completion
- Designed and deliver major-specific presentations and events to prospective new and transfer students
- Counseled students with grievances to guide them through the correct process
- Evaluated student petitions
- Instructed students in introductory School of Health and Human Services course
- Represented the School of Health and Human Services department on various committees on campus
- Supported the Dean of Health and Human Services

Financial Aid Officer

Nov 2013 – Oct 2017

Anoka-Ramsey Community College/Anoka Technical College, Coon Rapids, MN

- Administered institutional and third-party scholarships to ensure proper student allocation
- Designed and delivered financial aid presentations to various groups
- Evaluated institutional transcripts to determine MN State Grant eligibility
- Certified and monitored the correct processing of all student loan requests
- Reconciled and audited student aid reports to ensure accurate financial records
- Utilized ISRS and other systems to accurately process student files
- Developed financial aid procedures involving loan processing, financial literacy, and student communication
- Monitored DARS reports and collaborated with Advising department to encourage timely student graduation

Student Finance Officer

April 2009-March 2011

Rasmussen College, St. Cloud, MN

- Evaluated transcripts to determine MN State Grant eligibility
- Accepted the role of File Compliance Auditor to ensure correct and organized student Financial Aid files in compliance with Department of Education regulations
- Administered Federal and Alternative loan program for campus
- Decreased student loan default rate by improving exit loan counseling sessions for the campus

Resident Advisor

August 2002-May 2005

St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN

- Fostered and maintained a vibrant learning community for approximately 40 students
- Revitalized and relocated the University Honors Program (UHP) by establishing new Honors residents floor
- Assisted hall director in providing guidance and security to residence hall

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Qualified Mediator

January 2018-Present

State of Minnesota

- Completed required 40-hour course in Mediation training
- Course material studied included: conflict and mediation theory, communication skills, power balancing and negotiation techniques
- Engaged in 15 hours of role-playing mediation simulations

Executive Team Leader

Aug 2005-Oct 2006

Target Corporation, Mankato, MN

- Responsible for the hiring, development and scheduling for a department of 60 employees
- Assisted Store Team Leader in driving competitive sales and consistently exceeding customer expectations
- Incorporated innovative leadership exercises to exceed sales goals for the store
- Charged with all facets of proper store operation

RESEARCH

Stress, Coping, and the Need for Leadership During Times of Crisis-Minnesota State University Moorhead

June 2020-Present

- Designed a study intended to capture the overall sentiment of faculty colleagues from both the state universities as well as the state colleges within the MnState system.
- The study utilized surveys for faculty participants to indicate the level of stress, methods of coping, and the overall view of leadership at their respective institutions in making the transition to online teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The results yielded primarily that faculty members are doing what they must in order to function, an overall higher reliance on social networks for support, and relatively positive outlook on communication and handling of the pandemic from administration.

The Leadership Lab-Online Innovative Educational Leadership Lab-Minnesota State University Moorhead

February 2019-Present

- Online collaborative space to engage and share research pertaining to higher education leadership, sustainability, and conflict engagement
- Hosts seminars with specific leadership areas that students, faculty, staff and community members can engage
- Utilizes a graduate assistant to help maintain the online lab site

Conflict Engagement Styles of Academic and Student Affairs Deans within Minnesota State System-Dissertation

July 2018

- Assessed the preferred conflict styles of both academic and student affairs deans in relation to their respective subordinates
- Explored deans' comfort and competence in approaching conflict situations
- Determined potential usefulness of developing a platform for conflict training for deans system-wide

Teaching Undergraduate Students to Engage in Conflict Effectively

Summer 2012

- Expanded St. Cloud State University's Conflict Resolution program by adding more applicable training exercises
- Developed and designed training module consisting of engagement theories and tactics (i.e. Mayer's "Wheel of Conflict," Attributions, XYZ Formula, "I-Messages," and Reframing)
- Instructed and guided graduate assistants in delivering the curriculum to other organization members

Expanding Appreciative Inquiry within an Organizational Setting

Spring 2012

- Interviewed and collaborated with Sue Annis Hammond, author of The Thin Book of Appreciative Inquiry
- Reviewed existing journals and sources about maintaining effectiveness within workplace using traditional criteria
- Composed research paper highlighting benefit and member satisfaction of applying Appreciative Inquiry within an organization

PEER REVIEW SERVICE

- *Journal of Leadership Studies* October 2023-Present
-Reviewer
- The Journal of Campus Activities Practice and Scholarship* December 2022-Present
-Reviewer
- The Interactive Journal of Global Leadership and Learning* January 2020-August 2021
-Associate Editor

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Committee Member:** Graduate Council February 2020-August 2021
Minnesota State University Moorhead
Moorhead, MN
- Committee Member:** State of Minnesota Student Affairs Council August 2019-May 2021
Minnesota State System Office
Saint Paul, MN

DOCTORAL ADVISEES

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE SERVICE

- Committee Member:** Endres, J. (2024). *Guided self-placement as a stand-alone course placement assessment* [Doctoral dissertation, Minnesota State University, Mankato].
- Committee Member:** Hussien, K. (2024). *Mental health among somali women in the united states* [Doctoral dissertation, Minnesota State University, Mankato].

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

- Dille Fund for Excellence Recipient** **January 2020**
-Co-wrote grant proposal with Dr. Renee Harmon to sustain and continue to grow new initiatives for The Leadership Lab. The Leadership Lab is an online lab that exists to share research and best practices amongst scholars, students, practitioners, and community members on all items pertaining to leadership.
- Dille Fund for Excellence Recipient** **January 2019**
-Co-wrote grant proposal with Dr. Renee Harmon to initiate The Leadership Lab. The Leadership Lab is an online lab that exists to share research and best practices amongst scholars, students, practitioners, and community members on all items pertaining to leadership.
- Minnesota Association of Federal Student Aid Administrators (MAFAA) Leadership Symposium Graduate** **June 2015-May 2016**
-Identified as a leader in the field of financial aid within the State of Minnesota and asked to participate in a year-long program designed to hone overall leadership skills.

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES & TRAINING

-Council of Graduate Schools 60th Anniversary Annual Meeting- Virtual	December 2020
-Quality Matters (QM): Independent Improving Your Online Course (IYOC)	November 2020
-Region Staff College (RSC)- Civil Air Patrol Senior Level Development Course	July 2020
-NASPA Region IV-East Annual Conference- Des Moines, IA	November 2019
-Quality Matters (QM): Independent Applying the QM Rubric (APPQMR)	October 2019
-44th Annual Minnesota College Professionals Association (MCPA) Fall Conference- Access in Higher Education: Navigating the Barriers- Minneapolis, MN	October 2019
-NASPA Conferences on Student Success in Higher Education- Orlando, Florida	June 2019
-Spring Leadership Institute- St. Cloud State University. St. Cloud, MN.	May 2019
-Leadership Educators Institute (LEI)- Orlando, Florida.	December 2018
-Spring Leadership Institute- St. Cloud State University. St. Cloud, MN.	April 2017
-MASFAA Fall Annual Conference- Charleston, WV.	October 2017

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

-Faculty Member in National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA)	Oct 2018 – Sept 2021
-Faculty Member in Minnesota College Professionals Association (MCPA)	Nov 2018-Sept 2021
-Officer in the United States Air Force Auxiliary- Civil Air Patrol	April 2005 – Present
-Member in Minnesota Association of Federal Student Aid Administrators (MAFAA)	April 2009 – July 2024
-Member in Midwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA)	Oct 2014 – June 2017