

# KAREN SORENSEN-LANG

PhD English, Rhetoric and Composition

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## PROFILE

I am a doctor of English in Rhetoric and Composition with extensive experience teaching writing, public speaking, and research courses. I value hospitality in the classroom, service-learning, and faith integration.

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

**Azusa Pacific University**  
**Writing Program Lead Instructor** | 2023-Present

Administer General Education Writing Program

**Santa Clara University**  
**English Lecturer** | 2021

*Courses Taught:* Critical Thinking and Writing, 1A and 2A

**Lord Fairfax Community College**  
**Communication Adjunct** | 2019-2020

*Courses Taught:* Hybrid Public Speaking

**California State University Channel Islands**  
**Communication Lecturer** | Feb. 2016-May 2018

*Courses Taught:* Non-profit Management, Professional Communication, Communication Research and Writing, Persuasion and Argumentation

**Writing and Multiliteracy Center Professional Consultant:**  
-Conducted tutoring sessions for writing and speaking in the CSUCI center

**Azusa Pacific University**

**First-Year Seminar Coordinator, Leadership** | Aug. 2014-May 2015

- Designed new student success course for incoming class of 1,000
- Collaborated with national leading scholars in Student Success
- Facilitated course approval through university faculty governance
- Recruited & trained faculty for 45 sections of the interdisciplinary course

**Azusa Pacific University**

**Assistant-Professor, Communication Studies** | 2004-2014

- Managed student media program with 20 student employees
- Coached speech and debate squad in Parliamentary discourse
- Traveled students to academic and professional conferences

*Courses Taught:* Writing for Communication, Editing, Persuasion and Attitude Change, Senior Seminar: Ethics in Human Communication, Presentational Speaking, Introduction to Journalism, Gender Communication, Journalism History, Religion Reporting, Media Law and Ethics, Freshman Writing Seminar, Public Communication *Honors College*

**LCC International University, Klaipeda, Lithuania**  
**Professor and Researcher** | Spring 2008

*Courses Taught:* Rhetoric and Communication, Journalism, Conflict Analysis

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## ADMINISTRATIVE STRENGTHS

Fostering Group Connection  
Mentoring Students and Faculty  
Directing Strategic Planning  
Developing Guiding Policies and Documents

## AREAS OF ACADEMIC EXPERTISE

Student Success Theory  
Composition Theory and Pedagogy  
Community Service-Learning  
Journalism and Media Writing  
Presentational Speaking

## STRENGTHSFINDER PROFILE

Strategic  
Input  
Communication  
Woo  
Responsibility

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Council for Writing Program Administrators  
  
National Council for Teachers of English

## ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

### Indiana University of Pennsylvania

PhD in English, Rhetoric and Composition | 2014  
Dissertation: "Talking Voice in Women's Advocacy Sites and Composition"

### Regent University

MA in Journalism, emphasis Education | 2003

### Azusa Pacific University

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies, emphasis Education and English, emphasis Journalism | 2000

## PUBLICATIONS

Sorensen-Lang, K. (2017). Her gospel truth: Bloggers rewriting grand narratives of women of faith in church leadership. In C. Cunningham, H. Crandall & A. Dare (Eds.), *Gender, communication, and the leadership gap* (339-348). Charlotte: Information Age Publishing.

Sorensen-Lang, K. (2016). That will never be me: A narrative inquiry on voice and violence against women from the Clothesline Project. In S.K. Camera & D. K. Drummund (Eds.), *Communicating prejudice: An appreciative inquiry approach* (199-209). New York: Nova Science Publishers.

## CERTIFICATES

Designing Online Courses  
California State University Channel Islands, 2017

Humanizing Online Learning  
California State University Channel Islands, 2017

Grants To You Grant Writing Course  
Ventura County Community Foundation, 2017

6th Annual Connecting Campuses with Communities Research Academy Participant  
Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, 2014

## **AWARDS AND GRANTS**

Open CI Teaching Innovations Grant, 2014

Research Fellow appointment, Lead-scholar for Provost's Experiential Learning Taskforce  
"Relating Employability with Experiential Learning: A Case for College."

*Center for Academic Service Learning and Research, Azusa Pacific University, Spring 2010*

Research Grant

"Culture Clash and Culture Connection: A Turning Point Analysis of International Students' Experiences with Otherness."

*Azusa Pacific University's Office of the Provost, LCC International College and Azusa Pacific University, 2008*

Cornerstone Award, Annual award for excellence in community service-learning

*Center for Academic Service Learning and Research, Azusa Pacific University, 2006*

## **LEADERSHIP**

OpenCI Ambassador for Teaching and Learning Innovations, 2018

Director of SparkVoice, local nonprofit for girls, 2016-2020

Founding Board Member for Kidstream Children's Museum Camarillo, Calif., 2018

Faculty Lead Tutor, Writing Center CSUCI, 2017

First-Year Seminar Program Development and Coordinator, 2015

Lead Scholar Experiential Learning Taskforce, APU Provost Office, 2014-2015

Campus Pastor Office Mentor, 2004-2015

Faculty Advisor and Program Manager for student publications, 2004-2015

Writing Center Workshop Trainer, 2014-2015

University Writing Committee Member, 2014

Women's Development Committee Member, 2008-2014

University Diversity Committee Member, elected position 2011-2012

University's student magazine founder, 2010

APU's Women's Club Volleyball Team advisor, 2008

Retention Committee Member, Fall 2007

Journalism Major Curriculum Writer, Spring 2005

Student Leader Walkabout Guide, 2004

## **PRESENTATIONS**

"Humanizing Our Classrooms: Optimizing AI Disruptions to Clarify AI (Academic Integrity) Values." Council of Writing Program Administrators, Reno, NV Summer, 2023

"Teaching Writing." and "Information Literacy for First-Year Students." Center for Teaching, Learning, and Assessment at Azusa Pacific University, Teaching First-Year Seminar Workshop Presenter. May 2015

"It's in the Details: The Documents, Visual Rhetoric, and Metaphors That Transfer WPA Work to the Classroom." Council of Writing Program Administrators, Boise, ID Summer, 2015

"A "Girl Power" Generation Grows Up: Coming to Voice and Leadership Through Self-Advocacy." International Leadership Association Women in Leadership Conference, Asilomar, Summer 2015

Session: Moving from the Margins to the Mainstream: How Can We Persuade Faculty to Invest in Writing Work? Council of Writing Program Administrators, Normal, IL Summer, 2014

Guest Speaker. APU Women's Resource Center, "Gender Communication." Nov. 2012

Guest Speaker. Red Flag National Campaign Event, APU, "Advocacy Communication Between Friends." Nov. 2009

Keynote Speaker. Lee University Spring Faculty Retreat On Service-Learning. January 2008

Panelist. "Composing Ourselves: Narrative Theory and Online Profiles." Online Awareness Education Program LCC College. Klaipeda, Lithuania, March 2008

Panelist. "Advocacy Press and Print, the Medium For Your Message." Common Day of Learning, Azusa Pacific University, March 2007

"From Classroom to Community: Two Models for Writing Courses that Connect Students With Real World Readers." Ninth Annual Continuums of Service Conference. Seattle, WA Spring, 2006

"Your News Could Be Too White: Diversifying Campus Coverage." National College Media Advisors Conference. Kansas City, MO Fall, 2005

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECTS**

Studio Channel Island Community Event and Fundraiser, Non-Profit Management, 2018  
Students fundraised, marketed, and recruited volunteers for a community event and gallery exhibit.

Kidstream Children Museum, Persuasion Theory, 2017  
Students created a persuasive campaign with social media, print, and web content based on persuasion theory.

Pilgrim Place Oral History Project, Gender Communication, 2012  
Students conducted a group oral history project gathering life stories and narratives regarding gender issues from the perspectives of retirees.

Community Partners Persuasion Campaign, Persuasion and Attitude Change, 2009-2012  
Students created persuasion and awareness raising campaigns in partnership with local organizations in the areas of community health, childhood obesity, safety awareness, after-school programs, and college fairs.

Foothill Community Center, Senior Seminar: Ethics in Human Communication, 2008  
Senior level students served weekly at a food distribution and family crisis center in order to explore poverty issues and to write papers as ethicists advocating for the poor.

Klaipeda Social and Psychological Support Centre Event, Rhetoric and Communication, 2008  
First-year students created awareness raising advertisements, photo essays, websites, videos, and on-campus exhibit for a women's organization to fight sex trafficking and domestic violence.