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Jennifer B. Finn
PhD Candidate in Sustainability Education

Summary of Qualifications

Qualified professional with significant experience in positions of increasing responsibility requiring effective clinical counseling and group facilitation skills, program coordination and management skills, leadership and supervisory roles, local and international community outreach, teaching and program evaluation skills.

Teaching and Research Experience- Conducted program evaluation in an HIV/AIDS service agency; conducted qualitative research using film, photography and written survey in the arena of arts and healing and higher education; developed and taught original curriculum for individuals using creative expression, including those living with cancer and trauma survivors, and for institutions, including religious, educational (from early childhood to higher education), and health care (including mental health facilities) institutions; successfully conducted a program evaluation and clinical research project in a major medical facility; and is currently engaging in an inquiry that explore the connection between body, breath and the philosophy of sustainability education.

Psychosocial Assessment and Clinical Counseling Skills- Conducted psychosocial and diagnostic assessments and provided counseling services to clients of all ages working primarily in the areas of grief, alcoholism and drug addiction, HIV and AIDS, the terminally ill and hospitalized, and crisis intervention.

Group Facilitation Skills- Coordinated and facilitated educational support groups in the following areas: intergenerational relationships, grief education, oncology education and support, HIV and AIDS, Twelve step programs, social change and diversity, prison support groups and body-based groups using creative expression for healing.

Community Outreach- Coordinated services for clients in the above mentioned areas through collaboration with other agencies; organized local, national and international efforts in the social justice arena; founded the first movement ministry in an area religious conference using movement and dance as a spiritual practice.

Organizational Skills- Founder and owner of a private practice; directed two non profits including the supervision of staff and volunteers; experienced writer and speaker; fund raising and grant writing experience.

Membership

Member of National Association of Social Workers, present
Member of Sacred Dance Guild, present
Member of Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals, present
Member of the Carl Jung Society, present
Member, Registered Teacher Yoga Alliance

Educational Background

PRESCOTT COLLEGE, Prescott, Arizona

Ph.D. Candidate (2014) in Sustainability Education

PRANAVA YOGA CENTER, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Yoga 200-hour Teaching Training, April 2012

BENET HILL MONASTERY, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Scripture Studies Graduate, 2008-2012

Four-year scripture study program at a Benedictine monastery

WISDOM UNIVERSITY, San Francisco, CA

Former Ph.D. Candidate in Wisdom Studies, 2008-2010

Two years of study in the wisdom traditions and the area of art and healing

SOMASOURCE, Boulder, Colorado

FOUNDATION YEAR TRAINING (700+ hours) 2005-2006

Trained with 5 Rhythms instructor Melissa Michaels, Ed.D. in rites of passage work and creative expression focusing on dance

CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Chaplain Residency- One year CPE certification, 1999-2000

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY, Fort Collins, Colorado

Masters of Social Work, August 1999

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, East Lansing, Michigan

Bachelor of Arts: Audiology and Speech Science, December 1992

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

Licensed in the state of Colorado in January 2000

Certified Somatic Therapist, ABMP, August 2006

Registered Teacher, Yoga Alliance, April 2012

Professional Experience

SOMA, LTD., Colorado Springs, Colorado

May to 2006 to present

Director

Director of *Soma, Ltd.* - *where body meets soul*, which is dedicated to sustainable living through the integration of body and breath and the language of creative expression (www.somamovement.org); responsible for all aspects of the practice; facilitates all classes and workshops; develops curriculum and programming for diverse populations; collaborates with educators in the field of sustainability and spirituality; and provides mentorship for students worldwide.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, SEMESTER AT SEA, Charlottesville, Virginia

January to May, 2010

Coordinator of Religious and Spiritual Life

Coordinated religious and spiritual life for a shipboard community of 700 faculty, staff, students and crew; offered opportunities for healing, and for building spiritual life, through creative expression; served as a mentor to students seeking self development; coordinated religious services and studies for the Christian and Jewish community; taught daily meditation practices; and worked with a student life team, including student affairs professionals, community safety officers and mental health professionals.

COLORADO COLLEGE, Colorado Springs, Colorado

PRESCOTT COLLEGE, Colorado Springs, Colorado

September 2009 to present

Undergraduate Mentor

Oversee and provide guidance for undergraduate students studying in the area of creative expression and embodied practice; assist in creating syllabus for course study; review and evaluate student reflections and writing and offer practical experience for learning in an academic setting.

COLORADO COLLEGE, Colorado Springs, Colorado

August 2009 to present

Movement Educator

Developed curriculum and taught a class using movement, dance and poetry recitation for self development; mentored a senior student in her thesis written on the human experience, creative expression and healing.

MOTHER, Colorado Springs, Colorado

January 2000 to June 2005

Mother of two children

Stayed at home full-time with my two children.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, SEMESTER AT SEA, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

September to December, 2000

**Mental Health
Professional**

Provided the shipboard community, including students, staff, faculty and crew members with diagnostic assessment and therapeutic clinical counseling services in all areas of mental health including social, psychological and educational concerns; consulted with other professionals on the ship when providing services; facilitated self help and educational groups; provided unique opportunities for healing using music, drumming and poetry; and provided debriefings related to the unique cultural experiences of this community.

PENROSE HOSPITAL, Colorado Springs, Colorado

August 1999 to August 2000

Chaplain Resident

Assessed the spiritual and emotional needs of patients and families; provided clinical counseling and spiritual care services to hospitalized patients; worked extensively with drug and alcohol addicted individuals and their families; provided crisis intervention in the emergency department; facilitated support groups and provided grief education; educated patients regarding advance care directives (living will, medical power of attorney) and organ donation; and worked on an interdisciplinary team including medical doctors, nurses and social workers.

PIKES PEAK HOSPICE, Colorado Springs, Colorado

August 1999 to August 2000

Chaplain Resident

Assessed the spiritual and emotional needs of terminally ill patients and their families; provided spiritual care to patients and families; planned and officiated at funeral services; and provided services to patients living in a variety of settings including long-term care facilities, the hospice residence and at home.

PIKES PEAK JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION, Colorado Springs, Colorado

July 1998 to June 1999

Interim Director

Provided leadership and supervision to a nonprofit corporation; acted as liaison to the Board of Directors; coordinated programs involving community and international outreach efforts; responsible for grant writing; and acted as a spokesperson for the organization.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT GATHERINGS, INC., Colorado Springs, Colorado

July 1998 to June 1999

Program Director

Coordinator of organization's programs; facilitated fund raising and special events; developed budget and facilitated board development; developed a group facilitation training curriculum for youth and adult facilitators; and trained community members to serve as group facilitators for dinner discussion groups involving people of differing religious, political and social backgrounds.

SOUTHERN COLORADO AIDS PROJECT, Colorado Springs, Colorado

September 1998 to January 1999

Case Manager/Counselor

Counseled and coordinated services for those living with HIV/AIDS; worked with drug and alcohol addicted individuals and provided counseling services to them; conducted policy, organizational and community analysis; and completed a program evaluation of a community intervention for gay men.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL CANCER CENTER, Colorado Springs, Colorado

September to January 1996

Case Manager/Counselor

Interviewed and assessed psychosocial needs of cancer patients and their families; provided clinical counseling to and facilitated group work with patients and their families living with chronic and life threatening illness; coordinated with other community agencies to better serve patients and families.

CHILDREN'S WORLD LEARNING CENTER, Colorado Springs, Colorado

October 1993 to May 1996

**Early Childhood Lead
Teacher**

Developed a multicultural curriculum for children ranging from age three to six; assessed developmental progress of three to five year old children; trained and supervised teachers and teacher aides; conducted quarterly parent/teacher conferences; and managed an integrative classroom including children challenged emotionally, physically and mentally.

Community Involvement

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Shekhinah: A Movement Ministry

The mission of Shekhinah is to deepen into the love of God through movement, dance prayer and scripture.

June 2005 to May 2012

Founder and Committee Chair

STRATTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION, Colorado Springs, Colorado

August 2006 to present

Board Officer and Committee Member

RUTH WASHBURN COOPERATIVE NURSERY SCHOOL, Colorado Springs, Colorado

June 2006 to August 2011

Board Member and Former President

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC, Colorado Springs, Colorado

March 2011 to October 2011

Faith Foundations Chairperson for Capital Campaign

MACHEKE SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT, New Jersey

August 2010 to present

Committee Member- Spirituality and Embodiment

JOURNAL OF SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION, Prescott, Arizona

September 2011 to present

Advisory Board Committee Member

Presentations, Workshops and Speaking Engagements

Memorial Hospital Cancer Survivors Retreat, *Awakening the Spirit Workshop*, July 2006

Memorial Hospital, *Moving Towards Health Conference*, November 2006

Ruth Washburn Cooperative Preschool Day of the Young Child, *Let it Shine*, 2006

Fountain Valley High School Unity Day, *Rhythms of Life: Building Community through Music and Dance*, 2007

Memorial Hospital Refresh and Renew Workshop, March 2008

Penrose Hospital Cancer Survivor Retreat, August 2008

Manitou Public School District, *Let it Shine*, 2008-2009

Annual Rocky Mountain United Church of Christ Conference, *Interpretive Dance with Oikos Jazz Ensemble*, June 2009

Montview Presbyterian Church Annual Women's Retreat, *Turning Mourning Into Dancing*, August 2009

Colorado State University MSW Program, *Birthing the Artist Healer Within*, 2009

First Congregational Church and Land of Sky Church, Asheville, North Carolina, *Hand to Hand Workshop for Parents and Children & Prodigal Son Workshop*, August 2009

Yarmouth YMCA Nova Scotia, *Rhythms of Life Workshop*, October 2009

Yarmouth Women's Retreat, *Pathways to Wholeness*, October 2009

Memorial Hospital Art of Self Care for Nurses, *Coming Home: Reclaiming Intimacy with Body and Soul*, November 2009

Memorial Hospital, *Awaken the Spirit Series for Cancer Survivors*, December 2009

American Cancer Society, *Relay for Life Speaker*, June 2007 and 2008

Pranava Yoga Center, *Coming Home: Returning to Wholeness Through Movement and Dance*, October 2010

Domestic Violence Summit, *Inner Sustainability Workshop*, October 2010

Massachusetts College Personnel Association, *Inner Sustainability- Turning Inward as the Foundation for Service*, Keynote Speaker and Workshop Facilitator, December 2010

Prescott College Undergraduate Program, *Finding Our Inner Voice: Coming Home through Movement and Song*, February 2011

Prescott College Graduate Program, *Inner Sustainability: Why Our Inner Lives Matter*, February 2011

Tessa of Colorado Springs: Building a Community without Domestic Violence, *Reclaiming Wholeness and Inspiration in Ourselves and Our Work*, February 2011

Denver's 15th Annual Women's Leadership Conference, *Inner Sustainability: Why Our Inner Lives Matter*, March 2011

Stratton Elementary School, *Educator in the Let it Shine after-school program*, September to November 2011

Steele Elementary School, *Workshop Facilitator for Body, Mind and Spirit Focus Day*, April 2011

Denver Planned Parenthood, *Leadership Conference Presenter*, May 2011

Unitarian Universalist Youth Conference, *Rocky Mountain Conference Workshop Facilitator*, July 2011

22nd Annual Bioneers Conference Sustainability Educators Event, *Connecting to Self and Other*, San Rafael, California

8th Annual Holistic Learning Conference, *Inner Sustainability Workshop*, Toronto, October 2011

Unitarian Universalist Youth Conference, *Rocky Mountain Conference Facilitator*, Fort Collins, CO, October 2011

Pranava Yoga Center, *Dance Gratitude*, December 2011

16th Annual Denver Women's Leadership Conference, *Keynote Speaker on Empowerment and Education*, March 2012

Montview Presbyterian Church, *Exploring Lamentations through Movement and Dance*, Denver, Colorado, March 2012

Western Association of College and University Housing Officers, *Wellness Keynote Presentation and Workshop Facilitator*, Ontario, CA, April 2012

RootEd Yoga Training, *Breathing into the Heart*, Colorado Springs, CO, May 2012

Prescott College 4th Annual Sustainability Education Symposium, *Pathways to Wholeness Presenter and Facilitator*, May 2012

Publications

Finn, J. (2011) On Death, *Desert Call: Contemplative Christianity and Vital Culture*, Winter 2011.

Finn, J. (2011) Embodying Patience: The Slow Sustainable Rhythm of the Soul. *CIEL Student Journal, Consortium for Innovative Environments in Learning*, January 2011.
[Click here to view.](#)

Finn, J. (2012) Keeping it Real: On Parenting, *elephant journal*, February 2011.
[Click here to view.](#)

Finn, J. (2012) The Sacred Breath: Teachings from the Inner Landscape, *The Journal of Sustainability Education*, March 2012.
[Click here to view.](#)

Finn, J. (2012) The Body as Creative Inspiration, *marmapoints: the inner sections of mind, body and spirit*, January 6.
[Click here to view.](#)

Finn, J. (2012) Breathing into Relationship: The Dance Between Unity and Diversity, *World Mom's Blog*, April.

[Click here to view.](#)

Rise Podcast

This is a monthly podcast affirming the spiritual lives of young people through creative expression and embodied practice. (<http://www.somamovement.org/blog/default.asp>)