

Matthew J. Gallagher, PhD

mattyjamesgallagher@yahoo.com

EDUCATION

2017 - 2022 **Arizona State University** **Tempe, AZ**

Doctor of Philosophy in Community Resources and Development

- Dissertation topic: Evaluator Exclusion in the Program Planning and Design Phase

2004 - 2005 **University of Birmingham** **Birmingham, UK**

Master of Science in Poverty Reduction and Development Management

- Dissertation topic: The Compound Model of Vocational Education in a Growing Service Economy: A Case Study of Servol. Field research undertaken in Laventille, Trinidad, West Indies. Awarded with Distinction

1994 - 1998 **State University of New York at Geneseo** **Geneseo, NY**

Bachelor of Arts in History

- Presented thesis titled Slavery and Anti-Slavery in Geneseo to the New York Historical Society which subsequently decided to publish the document

EXPERIENCE

6/2018-Present **Arizona State University** **Tempe, AZ**

Senior Evaluator – Education for Humanity

- Lead researcher and evaluator for an initiative which offers higher education opportunities to refugee learners as a pathway to a university degree
- Plan, develop, implement, and manage all research and evaluation systems, policies, and procedures for refugee education programs operating in Jordan, Lebanon, Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Iraq
- Lead and manage all field-based data collection activities, including surveys, focus groups, and interviews
- Conduct quantitative and qualitative analyses of data using a variety of data analysis tools and statistical methods, including SPSS, Excel, and Dedoose. Analysis serves as the basis for program improvements and revisions to better meet the needs of intended beneficiaries
- Author evaluation reports for in-country partners and ASU leadership, which includes designing data visualizations to display evaluation findings, summarizing results, and making recommendations for program improvement
- Author proposals to procure funding for ongoing implementation of the initiative

5/2016-6/2018 **Arizona State University** **Tempe, AZ**

Evaluator – Office of Evaluation and Educational Effectiveness

- Managed a portfolio of program evaluations to meet client and funding agency needs

- Liaised with client program leadership to develop evaluation proposal documents, project logic models, measurable objectives and outcome indicators, and evaluation research plans. Determined and developed appropriate methods, approach, and timeframe for data collection
- Developed data collection tools and protocols to assess planned program outcomes and effectiveness
- Prepared and submitted human research studies for Institutional Review Board review
- Collected, cleaned, analyzed, and synthesized survey, focus group, and interview data
- Conducted quantitative and qualitative analyses of survey, focus group, and interview data using a variety of data analysis tools and statistical methods, including SPSS, Excel, and Dedoose. Analysis serves as the basis for educational program improvements and revisions to better meet the needs of intended beneficiaries
- Authored program evaluation reports for various stakeholders, which includes designing data visualizations to display evaluation findings, summarizing results, and making recommendations for program improvement
- Monitored evaluation activity expenditures to ensure adherence to program evaluation budget

2/2013-5/2016

Peace Corps

Washington, DC

Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist – Europe, Mediterranean, and Asia Region

- As the first M&E Specialist based within Peace Corps' three regions, planned, developed, implemented, and managed all M&E systems, policies, and procedures for the 18 countries and 38 international development projects within the agency's EMA Region
- Managed, trained, and coordinated a team of 18 country-based Monitoring and Evaluation Specialists
- Developed content for and facilitated domestic and overseas workshops on various M&E topics, including Theory of Change, logical framework models, data collection methods, data collection tools, quantitative and qualitative data analysis, data quality assessments, process evaluations, and outcome evaluations. The most recent workshops took place in Armenia, Timor-Leste, Zambia, Cambodia, Thailand, Georgia, Indonesia, Macedonia, and Philippines
- Collaboratively developed and authored the Peace Corps Comprehensive M&E Strategy, which sets the M&E blueprint and standards for all 160+ international development projects in the 65+ countries in which Peace Corps is active. This includes project design and development standards and templates, monitoring processes and tools, process evaluation guidance, standards, and tools, outcome/impact evaluation standards and tools, and reporting guidance, standards, and tools
- Planned, designed, collaboratively developed, and managed the Volunteer Reporting Tool, which is the agency's only data collection system for Peace Corps Volunteers. Built on the web-based Silverlight platform, the software collects quantitative and qualitative project data from all Peace Corps Volunteers (about 8,000 annually) that allows country staff to assess project progress, is the main data source for Peace Corps to tell its story to external stakeholders, and is the foundation for all project-specific evaluations
- Conducted statistical analyses of the M&E data collected by overseas staff and Peace Corps Volunteers using a variety of data analysis tools and statistical methods, including

SPSS, Toad, SQL, and Excel. Analysis serves as the basis for country program and project framework changes and revisions to better meet the needs of the host countries

10/2010-2/2013

Peace Corps

Washington, DC

Management Analyst – Office of Strategic Information, Research, and Planning

- Managed all aspects of two impact evaluations that assessed the effects of the Youth Development Project in El Salvador and the Rural Health and Sanitation Project in Paraguay. This included developing the scope of work, creating standard survey protocols, designing and conducting the on-site training of the evaluation team, supervising the fieldwork, building the survey databases, analyzing the results using established and accepted methods of quantitative and qualitative research, and authoring the evaluation reports
- Managed the agency's Early Termination information. To ensure the accuracy of historical and current data, built a database to house all relevant data, and automated the process for creating annual early termination reports for dissemination to all overseas posts. Developed new statistical measures for interpreting early termination results and trends
- Managed the Integrated Planning and Budget System, which is the agency's primary program and resource management planning mechanism. Authored the annual guidance to all overseas posts and domestic offices, managed the annual submission and review process, and organized the review of domestic office strategic plans by senior leadership. To streamline the process, designed and built an interactive and dynamic pdf template, which allows all overseas posts and domestic offices to create standardized logical framework models and strategic plans to better monitor and improve annual performance. Collaborated with domestic offices to develop strategic goals, objectives, indicators, and targets that abide by the SMART criteria
- In abidance with the GPRA Modernization Act, co-led the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the Peace Corps Strategic Plan and Annual Performance Plan. Developed policies and processes for collecting and analyzing agency performance data, and co-authored the agency's annual Performance and Accountability Report
- Responded to internal and external requests for data, and developed statistical analyses on issues of critical interest to the agency using a variety of data analysis tools and statistical methods, including SPSS, Toad, SQL, SRSS, and Excel

1/2006-10/2010

Administration for Native Americans

Washington, DC

Monitoring and Evaluation Officer – Division of Planning, Policy, and Evaluation

- Designed and created the Impact Evaluation Tool to include a participatory approach for gathering appropriate qualitative and quantitative data from all grant areas
- Independently planned, budgeted, and implemented outcome evaluations to underdeveloped tribal reservations and Native non-profits in all 50 states and American territories
- Led the Evaluation Team in conducting full-day on-site interviews with grantees and project beneficiaries. Over five years, managed the monitoring and evaluation of 102 development projects, worth approximately \$50 million
- In abidance with the Government Performance Results Act (GPRA), authored Congressional Impact Reports on completed Economic Development, Social

Development, Language Preservation, and Environmental Regulatory grants based upon quantitative and qualitative evaluation data collected from the field

- Presented findings from the field to Department of Program Operations and Technical Assistance Providers and collaboratively refined ANA project management policies
- Regularly reviewed and evaluated operational grants to determine status and make recommendations for needed technical support assistance activities
- Developed and led trainings on results-based project management, project monitoring and evaluation theory, and project design and implementation for ANA staff and contractors
- Conducted the statistical and comparative analysis of all 341 ANA projects evaluated in 2006-2009. The 2006 findings constituted the agency's baseline data for all future grants and were the impetus behind changes to internal policies and procedures aiming to improve the performance of ANA's grant portfolio
- Authored, submitted, and had accepted by Congress, the 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009 ANA Impact and Effectiveness of Development Projects in Indian Country reports

5/2004-8/2004

Hands on Atlanta

Atlanta, GA

Consultant – Americorps Youth Service Summer Advisory Board

- Developed and co-authored a service-learning curriculum of 10 training sessions that teaches project planning and management, resource development, and volunteer recruitment to Youth Service Advisory Board members
- Created partnerships with local non-profit and community development agencies in order to plan 20 service-learning projects that focus on serving the underserved population of Atlanta
- Independently planned, designed, advertised, and implemented recruitment campaigns at Atlanta-area schools and youth organizations
- Recruited adult volunteers from community development agencies and trained them to be effective mentors to Youth Service Advisory Board members
- Designed and implemented assessment tools to evaluate service-learning program effectiveness

1/2001-11/2003

Peace Corps Mid-Atlantic Recruiting Office

Arlington, VA

Peace Corps Recruiter

- Independently planned, designed, budgeted, advertised, and implemented recruitment campaigns at universities and communities within the Mid-Atlantic region
- Located, developed, and strengthened network of contacts at colleges and communities throughout region
- Reviewed applications to accurately identify candidates who are qualified for Peace Corps service
- Conducted interviews of qualified applicants and assessed skills and suitability, placing the most competitive candidates into appropriate skill programs
- Produced written assessments of interviewed applicants and recruitment events
- Managed, supervised, and trained 2 Campus Recruiters
- Honored as the Top Recruiter of the Year for 2002 with 137 Peace Corps Volunteer nominations and a 64% retention rate, both tops in the country

- Bauer, C., and Gallagher, M. (2020). Education for Humanity: Higher education for refugees in resource-constrained environments through innovative technology. *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 33(2), 416-436. Available here: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Matthew-Gallagher-3/publication/342449357_Education_for_Humanity_higher_education_for_refugees_in_resource-constrained_environments_through_innovative_technology/links/5ef4d771299bf18816e7d172/Education-for-Humanity-higher-education-for-refugees-in-resource-constrained-environments-through-innovative-technology.pdf
- Gallagher, M. (2020). *Peace Corps, the 50plus Initiative, and Volunteer Early Termination*. International Journal of Volunteer Administration, 24.
- Gallagher, M., and Bauer, C. (July 2021). *Education for Humanity: Higher education for refugees in resource-constrained environments through innovative technology*. Presentation of evaluation findings at Connected Learning Summit, location virtual.
- Gallagher, M., and Sabato, N. (May 2019). *A Tertiary Education and Integration Model for Refugee Learners*. Presentation of Findings at ICT4D Conference, Kampala, Uganda.
- Gallagher, M., Van Roekel, K. (December 2012). *Host Country Impact Study: El Salvador – Youth Development Project*. Peace Corps, Washington, DC. Available at: http://files.peacecorps.gov/multimedia/pdf/opengov/PC_El_Salvador_Report.pdf
- Gallagher, M. (October 2011). *Host Country Impact Study: Paraguay – Rural Health and Sanitation Project*. Peace Corps, Washington, DC. Available at: http://files.peacecorps.gov/multimedia/pdf/opengov/PC_Paraguay_Report.pdf
- Led a workshop entitled “Using Stories in Evaluation” at the Society for International Development. Video is available here: <http://vimeo.com/album/1581385>

SELECT RESEARCH and EVALUATION CONTRACTS

- Education Above All, May 2021 to present. Provide expert research and evaluation support to the Digital Schools Project, which brings digital education to out-of-school youth in India, Uganda, and Rwanda. This included developing the project’s research questions, theory of change, monitoring plan, evaluation plan, and data collection tools.
- Al Ghurair Foundation for Education, March to May 2021. Conducted a three-month Needs Assessment with nine universities in United Arab Emirates to determine their readiness to launch online learning courses and programs. Using a mixed-methods sequential explanatory research design, led all aspects of the quantitative and qualitative data collection, analysis, and reporting components.
- PLS Alliance, Research Fellow, September 2019 to April 2020. Collaborated with researchers from Arizona State University, Kings College London, and University of New South Wales to research and identify opportunities to partner with top African universities, which culminated in a roundtable and agreement with Vice Chancellors from University of Ghana, University of Ibadan, Makerere University, and University of Nairobi.
- Schmidt Futures and ASU’s Alliance for the American Dream, Evaluation Subject Matter Expert, December 2018 to January 2019. Provided expert measurement and evaluation support to three ASU teams competing for financial awards with Schmidt Futures. This

included developing logic models, measurement indicators, and evaluation plans for all three projects.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- SPSS, Toad, SQL, SSRS, Adobe LiveCycle Designer, Qualtrics, NVivo, Dedoose, MS Suite
- CITI and FERPA certified to conduct research projects with human subjects
- Member of the American Evaluation Association since 2009
- Currently a guest lecturer at Arizona State University for BIS 355 Peace Corps Seminar.
Teach two classes covering Community Needs Assessment and Data Collection Methods