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# SHARON D. VOIRIN, RH.D.

Carbondale, IL 62902

(618) 559-2507

info@surveydesignseervices.com

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## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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### **Doctorate of Rehabilitation Administration (RhD)**

**August 2003**

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY – *Carbondale, Illinois*

- Dissertation Title: *An Examination of the Relationship Between Self-Reported Cultural Competence and Successful Consents among Organ Procurement Professionals*
- Dissertation Chair: Dr. Jim Bordieri
- Honor: Recipient of the Graduate School Dissertation Research Award 2002

### **Master of Science in Education (MS Ed)**

**August 1997**

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY – *Carbondale, Illinois*

- Thesis Title: *Understanding College Students' Knowledge, Attitudes, & Beliefs Regarding Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation*
- Concentration: Community Health Education

### **Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education (BS)**

**May 1990**

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY – *Carbondale, Illinois*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**SURVEY DESIGN SERVICES – *Carbondale, Illinois***

**1/2006 - Present**

***SDS Sole Proprietor***

SDS is a professional business working with graduate (PhD) students and independent research projects throughout the United States. We work closely with individual students and/or project directors to outline projects goals and objectives and develop clear and concise action steps to assist with the completion of projects. Assistance is provided in developing an empirical research plan, and may include assistance with the physical aspects of data collection. This may include mailing and receipt of surveys for the clients' project. Surveys are designed with a state-of-the-art optical recognition program (Gravic<sup>®</sup>). Survey design is "content free" allowing the application of all disciplines. Completed surveys are read by a high-speed optical scanning program. Optical scanning eliminates the need for any data transfer traditionally done by hand and increases the integrity of the final data. The data is stored and available for immediate analysis in over 30 different file formats, i.e. SPSS, SAS, and Excel etc. The optical reader automatically recognizes survey responses, barcodes and written text associated with open-ended questions. Surveys are also available for Web-based studies. Selected statistical analyses, report writing, graphs, tables and editing services are also offered. Travel to offsite locations for consultations or project assistance is determined on a case-by-case basis with the client. Primary focus is guiding the client through the entire research process in order to reach timelines for project completion.

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONT'D)

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A thorough review of all portions of the client's project is provided including strict adherence to formatting.

Have worked with independent contractors (i.e. college professors, non-profit organizations) in a variety of capacities. This included project management of web-based survey for the Indiana Department of Workforce Education regarding the assessment of programs impact on offices throughout the state. Created online survey, collected data, conducted selected analyses and subsequent summary reports for client.

Provided assistance with the non-profit organization *Southern Illinois Community Foundation* (SICF) in creating a professional brochure that is used to solicit potential donors throughout Illinois. The specific SICF program is entitled *CommunityWorks* which is a grant through the Grand Victoria Foundation. Primary responsibility is with the illustration, creation, summary and production of an intelligent, accurate visually pleasing representation of the goals and objectives of the program to inform potential donors and ultimately solicit donations to the foundation.

**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY AT CARBONDALE – *Carbondale, Illinois*      1/2004 – 1/2006**  
**Center for Rural Health & Social Services Development**  
***Research Assistant***

Worked with Southern Illinois University Carbondale towards achieving the goals and objectives of an anti-smoking grant from Illinois Department of Public Health. Primary focus of grant was to identify smoking habits on the university campus and work towards developing a comprehensive program to reduce smoking rates among college students.

This included collaboration with top university officials as well as the inclusion of key community leaders in order to increase the success of the multi-faceted efforts. Responsibilities at this time included working with associates on the development of a university-wide survey regarding smoking and college student attitudes. Knowledge and skills included the use of an innovative computer program (Principia Remark<sup>®</sup>), an optical scanning program that expedites the process of survey data entry and analysis.

Assisted with the research and development of core curriculum regarding tobacco control for Illinois universities to aid in replicating the efforts currently used at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Editor of content and design of a CD-ROM that transferred tobacco curriculum to accompany information packets to prospective universities.

Additional projects included the development of a university wide faculty-staff survey to assess the attitudes and beliefs regarding smoking and policy enforcement. Theoretical constructs under development and completion of instrument were the primary focus.

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONT'D)

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**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY AT CARBONDALE – *Carbondale, Illinois* 1998 - 2003**  
***Graduate Research Assistant***

Secured a research position to facilitate a replication study of smoking habits among sorority members at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Undertakings consisted of recruiting presenters, participating in course training, assisting with individual presentations and providing process evaluation recommendations to the primary investigator.

- Successfully recruited study participants within a short period by collaborating with the University coordinator of the campus Greek system, presenting smoking cessation programs at sorority houses and maintaining open lines of communication with the students.
- Provided recommendations regarding improvement to the existing standardized data collection methods by recommending the use of a specific model of health theory in support of the current research program and the utilization of a survey possessing enhanced psychometric properties.
- Utilized computer program (Principia Remark) to expedite the process of scanning and survey data collection and analysis.

***Vocational Evaluation Technician – Educational Development Center* 2000**

Conducted psychological and vocational testing to assist with the assessment and subsequent recommendations for people with disabilities. Chief endeavors entailed introducing clients to services and outlining initial procedures to be followed. Conducted intake interviews, administered tests, scored consumers' tests and attended follow-up sessions, which involved a vocational evaluator presenting comprehensive testing results and recommendations of vocational options to the consumer.

- Developed strong interpersonal relationships with consumers in an effort to create a comfortable atmosphere within a difficult, multi-task vocational testing setting.

***Graduate Assistant* 1998 – 2000**

Awarded competitive teaching assistantship position within the Rehabilitation Institute, the country's preeminent Rehabilitation Counseling graduate department, offering degrees in a Doctorate in Rehabilitation, Rehabilitation Administration, Behavior Analysis and Therapy, as well as Speech Communications. Primary duties encompassed serving as Undergraduate Internship Coordinator, as well as researching and instructing the following undergraduate courses: Disability, Diversity and Society, Organizational Behavior; and graduate courses: Research in Rehabilitation and Staff Training and Development.

- Facilitated the creation of the first undergraduate internship-training manual that outlined student requirements for senior year students placed in off campus working environments.
- Effectively guided the Rehabilitation Institute's first undergraduate graduating class' practical skills to assist students in their careers and future academic pursuits by delivering lectures, grading exams and mentoring students.

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONT'D)

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- Competently applied various research methodologies to assist with the instruction of a graduate research course. Developed course curriculum and presented lectures on various subjects utilizing a range of teaching mediums to assist students with the mastery of course objectives.

### **KENTUCKY ORGAN DONOR AFFILIATES – *Paducah, Kentucky*** ***Hospital Services Coordinator***

**1993 – 1997**

Brought on to serve as liaison between a venerable organ procurement organization and key hospitals within western Kentucky. Key tasks involved conducting individualized needs assessments regarding the training needs for the medical staff of three major trauma centers. Efforts extended into developing, implementing and executing medical education programs regarding the policies and procedures that must be followed for potential organ donors.

- Provided the organization with tangible data necessary for maintaining the status of federal recognition as an organ donor procurement organization.
- Increased the rate of referrals to the organ donor program by 165% within merely one year.
- Developed strong interpersonal relationships with the hospital staff. Coordinated the family approach process with key medical personnel.
- Facilitated key donation strategy committees designed to optimize the means by which organ donation information is disseminated and regulated.

### **JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT – *Murphysboro, Illinois*** ***Health Educator***

**1988 – 1993**

Managed and directed the identification and development of communication and training materials for a variety of grant-funded health education programs at the local health department. Monitored and assessed educational needs and activities, while coordinating and delivering positive behavioral change programs.

- Developed and conducted vehicle safety and alcohol education programs that targeted college and high school aged students and involved interactive programs and media campaigns.
- Increased local bartenders' awareness of liability issues regarding patron intoxication levels by organizing and presenting the Training for Intervention Procedures by Servers of Alcohol programs and working with the Liquor Commission to mandate this program for securing liquor licenses.
- Effectively clarified numerous misconceptions that community youth possessed concerning AIDS by creating a safe and informative educational environment in which students asked questions in a confidential manner.

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## **AFFILIATIONS**

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American Evaluation Association, 2003 - Present

## **ATTENDED SEMINARS/CONFERENCES WITH THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:**

Gravic (Principia Products) Remark<sup>®</sup> Training, *Chicago IL, 2006*

SPSS Statistical Software Training, *Atlanta, GA 2006*

American Association of Public Health Education & Recreation, *Chicago IL, 2005*

National Association of Transplant Coordinators (NATCO) – *Washington, DC*

National Academy of Health Services Research and Health Policy – *Washington, DC*

Social Marketing in Public Health – *Clearwater, Florida*

## **EDUCATION & HONORS**

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**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY – *Carbondale, Illinois***

***Recipient of the Prestigious & Highly Competitive Dissertation Research Award* 2002**

**PHI KAPPA PHI HONORS SOCIETY**

***Member of the highly selective, all-discipline Honor Society for maintaining a 4.0 GPA***

**1997 – Present**

**REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

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