CURRICULUM VITAE
Justin Szabo, PhD

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Academic Preparations

Drake University, School of Education
PhD in Education, 2021
Dissertation: Engaging learners with virtual pedagogy: Virtual reality adoption and the lived experiences of K-12 educators
Committee: Dr. Robyn Cooper (Chair), Dr. Trent Grundmeyer, Dr. Carol Heaverlo

University of Northern Iowa, College of Education
MAE in Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs, 2013

University of Northern Iowa, Division of Continuing Education & Special Programs
BA in General Studies, 2009

New Mexico State University
National Student Exchange, 2006 – 2007

Learning and Development Experience

Iowa State University, School of Education
Research Scientist, 2021 – Present
- Collaborate with clients, support institutional research activities, conduct evaluations of academic programs, and contribute data for institutional improvement, policy development, accreditation and technology review
- Apply research and evaluation expertise to deliver a broad spectrum of services related to research, analytic inquiry, and technical consulting
- Provide extensive experience in a variety of research and evaluation focus areas, including projects related to climate and diversity; curriculum development; health and well-being; personal and social responsibility; social, emotional, and behavioral initiatives; STEM; student learning and development; teacher education; and technology applications
- Design and lead project evaluations and research projects; proposal preparation for externally funded projects; continuous and thoughtful communication with clients, including School of Education faculty and staff; direct supervision of undergraduate and graduate research assistants; mentoring and training for students and staff in specific content or project areas; and dissemination of project evaluation and research results
- Utilize skills in research design and methodology, data analysis, evaluation practices and procedures, data management, and dissemination of evaluative and research findings through evaluation reporting, peer-reviewed research publications, research presentations at professional conferences, and presentation of evaluation findings
- Maintain and update departmental website, outreach, and communication operations

University of Northern Iowa, Curriculum & Instruction Department
Instructor, 2023
- LRNTECH 5110 Developing and Directing Online Learning, a graduate-level online course focused on planning, implementing, and evaluating online learning environments and programs as part of the online Learning Technologies & Instructional Design master's program

Iowa State University, School of Education
Instructor, 2022
- RESEV 550 Introduction to Educational Research, a graduate-level online course focused on providing students an overview of qualitative and quantitative landscape of educational research

University of Northern Iowa, Individual Studies Department
Instructor, 2015 – 2021
- INDIVSTU 4198 Individual Studies Project: Interdisciplinary Portfolio Development, an undergraduate-level online course for upper-division students in the Individual Studies, General Studies, and Bachelor of Liberal Studies programs
- Facilitated faculty assessment retreats for evaluating departmental student learning outcomes

Drake University, School of Education
Doctoral apprentice, 2021
- National Science Foundation and Spencer Foundation grant applications – Proposal for studying virtual reality use in medical professionals training; provided consultation on VR hardware and software for use in the study

Doctoral apprentice, 2020
- Co-taught DOC 360 Learning, Leading, and Technology, a doctoral-level course, with Dr. Robyn Cooper; taught lessons, graded student work, provided expertise and delivered content about emerging instructional technologies

University of Northern Iowa, Division of Continuing Education & Special Programs
Assistant Director, 2017 – 2020
- Collaborated with academic departments across campus to schedule, develop, and maintain online and distance courses and programs at the graduate and undergraduate levels
- Managed the Guided Independent Study (GIS) program, including consulting with faculty about course offerings, supervising GIS enrollment staff, and coordinating with Instructional Support Services Manager regarding online course development
- Conducted assessment efforts within the division relating to program and student learning outcomes for interdisciplinary majors, including academic program reviews and Higher Learning Commission site visits
- Served as campus coordinator and voice of National Student Exchange (NSE) through facilitating exchanges for students to attend another college or university in the United States, U.S. territories, and Canada for one or two semesters, worked side by side with assistant NSE coordinator to promote, recruit, and advise students about the possibilities of life outside their comfort zone to build their skillset as future leaders

Coordinator, 2013 – 2017
- Created and maintained eLearning advising portal for General Studies majors, along with digital advisee folder system while continuing to advise prospective and current students
- Worked in partnership with Continuing Education marketing manager to develop NSE promotional efforts including NSE Day, targeted recruitment emails, branding, staff/faculty

outreach, and managing the UNI NSE Facebook page to increase program participation and retention
- Created, developed, and maintained OnBase imaging system for GIS program workflow and document storage through a partnership with IT department
- Served on Military & Veteran Student Services Committee, Professional & Scientific (P&S) Council, P&S Employee Relations Committee, P&S Communication Committee, Document Imaging User Group, Raymond and Genevieve Schlicher Scholarship committee, and as NSE Mentor for new coordinators

Support Specialist, 2011 – 2013
- Provided academic advisement to declared and prospective General Studies, Bachelor of
- Liberal Studies, and Individual Studies students
- Served as Assistant NSE Coordinator; coordinated outgoing/incoming students, and represented NSE at on- and off-campus recruitment events
- Assisted NSE Coordinator with implementing successful program-related tasks
- Processed enrollments and scheduled classes for GIS
- Advised distance students about GIS policies and procedures
- Performed registrar functions for the GIS program and Continuing Education students

Selected Research and Evaluation Portfolio

NSF – **S**mart **I**ntegrated Farm Network for **R**ural **A**gricultural **C**ommunities (SIRAC) – Iowa State University, University of Missouri, Missouri University of Science and Technology, University of Kentucky, and Iowa Soybean Association

NSF – Developing Virtual Content for STEM Career and Technical Education. – Eastern Iowa Community College

NSF – Biological Materials and Processes (BioMaP) Research Experience for Undergraduates – Iowa State University

NSF – USM Chemistry Research Experience for Undergraduates – University of Southern Mississippi

NSF – **L**aunching **A**erospace's **U**nderrepresented Students into the **N**ext **Ch**apter-**U**nmanned **A**erial **S**ystems (LAUNCH-UAS) Research Experience for Undergraduates – Iowa State University

NSF – Computer Science for All – George Mason University and University of Alabama

NSF – RAPID: Graduate student experiences of support and stress during the COVID-19 pandemic – Iowa State University and Montana State University

USDA-NIFA (PDLA) School-based Agricultural Education for All – Iowa Ag Literacy Foundation

Iowa Department of Education – Iowa Community College Guided Pathways

State of Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council – Iowa STEM Monitoring/Scale-Up

Youth & Shelter Services – Achieving Maximum Potential

Iowa State University – Department Enhancement Program

Iowa State University – Miller Faculty Fellowship Program: Using 3-D printed terrain models to improve spatial thinking in the geosciences

Iowa State University – Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering Senior Exit Evaluation

Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation – Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE) for All

Current Research Interests

Virtual reality as an instructional technology
Adapting research methods to conduct research within virtual environments
Student learning outcome comparisons based on instructional delivery mode (e.g., online asynchronous, online synchronous, on-ground, virtual spaces)

Selected Scholarly Works and Presentations

Szabo, J. (2023). VR 4 RL: Everyday uses and practical applications for virtual reality in the classroom. University of Northern Iowa Learning Technologies & Instructional Design master's program residency meeting. Invited Presentation: Cedar Falls, IA.

Szabo, J., Guhin, A., & Vincent, A. (2022). Iowa Governor's STEM Monitoring 2021-2022 Scale-Up Educator Survey Findings. Presentation: Online via Zoom.

Szabo, J. (2021). *Engaging learners with virtual pedagogy: Virtual reality adoption and the lived experiences of K-12 educators*. (Publication number 28771272). [Doctoral dissertation, Drake University School of Education]. ProQuest.

Szabo, J. (2020). VR/AR 4 RL: Everyday uses for virtual and augmented reality in the home and workplace of the future. Drake University Learning, Leading & Technology – Technology with a Purpose. Presentation: Des Moines, IA.

Szabo, J. (2019). VR 4 RL: Everyday uses for virtual reality in the home and workplace of the future. Drake University Technology and Organizational Leadership Tech Talk. Presentation: Des Moines, IA.

Szabo, J. (2019). Coordinating the National Student Exchange at home-tuition-only campuses. Unpublished. Drake University.

Burford, R. & **Szabo, J.** (2019). Working with your outgoing students. National Student Exchange Professional Institute. Presentation: Online via Zoom.

Cunningham, K., **Szabo, J.**, Kosalka, M., & Howard, C. (2018). Guided Independent Study= faculty workshop. University of Northern Iowa.

Szabo, J., Balazs, N., & Meyer, G. (2018). The end of your comfort zone: Coordinating as NSE alumni. National Student Exchange Annual Placement Conference. Presentation: Myrtle Beach, SC.

Szabo, J., Berning, M., & Emery, L. (2018). Going the distance: Advising for individual studies majors, continuing education courses, and National Student Exchange. University of Northern Iowa Academic Advising Workshop. Presentation: Cedar Falls, IA.

Szabo, J. (2017). Engaging students using embedded rubrics in eLearning. University of Northern Iowa Annual Distance Education Conference. Presentation: Cedar Falls, IA.

Baham, M., Chrans, L., Dressler, K. & **Szabo, J.**, (2017). NSE Professional Institute: Marketing strategies. National Student Exchange Annual Placement Conference. Presentation: Spokane, WA.

Ortiz, H., Perez, J., & **Szabo, J.** (2017). Marketing and recruitment webinar. National Student Exchange Webinar Series. Presentation: Online via Zoom.

Szabo, J. (2015) Placement conference address. National Student Exchange Annual Placement Conference. Presentation: Albuquerque, NM.

Szabo, J. (2012). Studying the approachability of student affairs professionals based on appearance. Unpublished. University of Northern Iowa.

Szabo. J. (2012). Undecided or multiple curiosities: Assessing interdisciplinary program awareness. Unpublished. University of Northern Iowa.

Szabo. J. (2012). The ivory racetrack: A history of the automobile's impact on college campuses. Unpublished. University of Northern Iowa.

Professional Development, Awards, and Certifications

Professional development stipend. Awarded by the UNI Continuing & Distance Education office, 2023

ISU School of Education Star of Excellence Award, 2022

Professional development stipend. Awarded by the UNI Continuing & Distance Education office, 2018

Quality Matters course peer reviewer certification, 2017

Quality Matters Using Instructional Materials & Technology to Promote Learner Engagement (UMTE) workshop, 2017

Quality Matters Improving Your Online Course (IYOC) workshop, 2017

Quality Matters Designing Your Online Course (DYOC) workshop, 2016

Online course development award. Awarded by the UNI Continuing & Distance Education office, 2015

Applying the Quality Matters Rubric (APPQMR) workshop, 2015

Wildland firefighting certification – University of Wisconsin, Steven's Point, 2006

Professional Service

ISU School of Education Undergraduate Scholarship Committee (2022 – Present)

ISU School of Education Committee for Course Idea Generation (2022 – Present)

ISU School of Education Committee for Educational Technology (2022 – Present)

UNI Higher Learning Commission accreditation preparation sub-committee member: Criterion 4 Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement (2019 – 2020)

UNI Raymond and Genevieve Schlicher Scholarship committee member (2011 – 2020)

UNI Military and Veteran Student Services committee member (2013 – 2020)

UNI Document Imaging Users Group member (2016 – 2020)

UNI Up-Close representative for National Student Exchange (2012 – 2018)

National Student Exchange consortium mentor for new coordinators (2015 – 2020)

UNI Professional & Scientific Council member (2015 – 2017)

UNI Professional & Scientific Council Employee Relations committee member (2015 – 2017)

UNI Professional & Scientific Council Communications committee member (2015 – 2017)

UNI Academic Advising Network member (2011 – 2017)

Hardware and Software Experience

Learning Management Systems & Content Creation
- Blackboard Learn
- Canvas
- YouTube Studio
- Vegas Movie Studio
- Prezi

Video Conferencing
- Zoom
- Webex
- Teams
- Google Meet

VR-Related
- VR HMDs: Valve Index, HTC Vive, Oculus Quest 2
- AltspaceVR
- Engage
- Spaces
- Gravity Sketch

Research-Related Software
- NVivo
- SPSS
- Qualtrics

General Business Software
- Microsoft Windows and Office Suite
- Google Workspace
- Linux: Mint and Ubuntu Studio
- Box
- Peoplesoft
- OnBase
- Workday
- Salesforce
- Basecamp
- Asana