

RESUME

Elisabeth Kersten

Education

M.A. Public Administration
June 1971, UC Berkeley Graduate School of Public Policy

A.B. in Economics and English
June 1970, UC Berkeley

Participant: Stanford Program on Managing Innovation
March 1988, Stanford University

Employment

January 2008 to present

Consultant, Kersten Communications

Duties: Consult on research and special projects for public policy research and consulting firm.

July 2007 to present

Clinical Professor, School of Policy, Planning and Development
University of Southern California, State Capital Center, Sacramento, California

Duties: Teach political leadership in public sector organizations and the capstone course on the practice of public administration. Also teach in the Leadership Institutes for working professionals in health, mental health, and in state legislatures. Work with the Director of Policy Outreach in hosting policy briefings for legislative and executive staff with presentations by USC faculty.

January 2006 to present

Consultant, Government Action and Communication Institute

Duties: Fieldwork and research on training needs for legislative and executive staff in state government who work on health policy issues. Project is a joint venture funded by four California philanthropies and goal is to prepare an RFP to establish an on-going policy training institute.

January to June 2004

Adjunct Professor, University of California, Davis
Community Development Master's Program

Duties: Advised graduate students on policy and career opportunities in state government, developed agenda for the Community Advisory Committee and led seminars and workshops for the students and faculty to build bridges between the graduate program and state and local government.

March 1983 to January 2004

Director, Senate Office of Research

Duties: Initiate policy initiatives for Senators; respond to Member requests for policy research by producing comprehensive reports; generate and disseminate policy information through conferences, roundtables, and seminars; and provide relevant background material and research for Members and committees of the Senate. This office serves as a bipartisan “think tank” to assist members of the State Senate in developing legislation and empirical information on the policy challenges facing California. Reports published by the office are available online at www.sen.ca.gov/sor.

Fall 1988

Instructor, California State University, Sacramento, Department of Organizational Behavior and Environment.

Duties: Taught upper division course entitled "Public Agency Decision Making" which covered topics ranging from budgeting to program evaluation.

January 1983 to March 1983

Chief Consultant, Assembly Committee on Economic Development and New Technologies

Duties: Analyzing, developing legislation to promote economic growth and new technologies.

February 1981 to December 1982

Deputy Chief of Staff, Speaker Willie L. Brown, Jr.

Duties: Liaison to Assembly policy committees and Members on issues relating to education, employment taxation. Coordinated various task forces on jobs, education reform.

June 1979 to February 1981

Deputy Director, Employment Development Department

Duties: Analyze, lobby and testify on all legislation relating to employment, unemployment insurance, disability insurance. Supervised staff of five professionals and three clericals.

September 1976 to June 1978

Senior Consultant, Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee Honorable Willie L. Brown, Chair

April 1975 to May 1976

Deputy Director, Department of Consumer Affairs

Duties: Responsibility for overseeing health licensing boards and Division of Consumer Services.

January 1975 to April 1975

Senior Consultant, Senate Finance Committee, Honorable Anthony Beilenson, Chair

Duties: Budget oversight of general government, education.

September 1971 to December 1974

Consultant, Assembly Ways and Means Committee

Community Activities

Co-Founder, Women in Politics

Co-Founder, Sacramento Womens' Campaign Fund

Candidate, Sacramento County Supervisor, 4th District (1986)

Senior Associate, California Institute of Public Affairs (nonprofit)

Board of Directors, Reformed Church of America

California State University, Sacramento Public Policy and Administration Advisory Board, chair;

USC Sacramento Center Advisory Committee; UCD Master's in Community Development

Advisory Committee

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