

Christine D. Wenzel

Email: christinedwenzel@gmail.com

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/christinedwenzel

Website: www.christinedwenzel.com

Education

- 2023-2025 George Washington University
Trachtenberg School of Public Policy & Public Administration
Master of Public Administration, Certificate in Nonprofit Management
3.97 GPA; Pi Alpha Alpha Honors
- 2017-2021 University of California, San Diego
Department of Anthropology, Eleanor Roosevelt College
Bachelor of Arts in Global Health, Minor in Climate Change Studies
3.95 GPA; Graduated magna cum laude

Professional Experience

2022-Present S-3 Research

Research Assistant & Human Resources Specialist

- Conduct mixed methods data analyses on big data relating to COVID-19, cannabis, and other health topics, culminating in five journal publications and providing clients with insights on public perceptions of controversial, trending, or niche health topics.
- Create dashboards, visual abstracts, PowerPoints, and research posters using Canva, Prezi, and Cloudcraft; materials used by leadership to update clients on the progress of projects and in conferences demonstrating team achievements and supporting contract awarding or renewal for the company.
- Organize and manage company documents for easy access, facilitate employee recruitment and onboarding, and oversee employment compliance processes, ensuring legal compliance.

2025

Anacostia Riverkeeper

Pro-bono Consultant

- Collaborated on a 5-person team for a capstone project assessing 125 DC restaurants' compliance with the Zero Waste Omnibus Amendment Act and evaluated policy alternatives, illustrating current policy and enforcement strength.
- Research methods include literature review, data collection via surveys, semi-structured interviews with public administrators, and comparative policy analysis.
- Managing team timeline and task division, ensuring delivery of materials for the faculty advisor and clients.

2024-Present George Washington University New Venture Competition

Finalist and Winner

- Explorer Track 2024 Finalist; Consumer Goods and Services Track 2025 Finalist. Placed in top 20 from 225 applications and won Best Storytelling Prize and \$5,000.
- Executed customer discovery research to inform business proposal, including value proposition, market research, financial plan, marketing plan, and preliminary designs for dating app that provides resources to develop and navigate healthy romantic relationships.

2024

The Nature Conservancy

Global Agriculture and Food Systems Policy Consultant

- Developed Global Agriculture and Food Systems Policy Strategy for team leadership to improve alignment with internal goals and communicate resource requirements and conservation outcomes.
- Synthesized input from Policy, Strategy, and Learning team, team leadership, and executive feedback, and created a comprehensive guide for programming and decision-making.

Global Agriculture and Food Systems Policy Intern

- Facilitated program design process with newly formed team and designed evaluation to assess real-world global impacts of program on agri-food system policy and practice.
- Drafted brief memos succinctly conveying information about a wide variety of topics, including agricultural methane, the food security and national security nexus, and policy indicators for conservation; memos used by supervisors to prepare for conferences and meetings with executive leadership.
- Reviewed UN Convention documents to inform strategy in conference preparations and analyzed the unique role that TNC can play in global dialogues about agri-food systems across Conventions.

2020-2022

The Global Action Research Center

Administrative Assistant

- Improved data management and reduced information loss by launching Microsoft 365 accounts, creating a central file-sharing process, and overseeing team transition to new systems.
- Completed monthly bookkeeping tasks, reconciled missing documentation or errors, and streamlined future bookkeeping documentation in direct assistance to the CEO.

Intern

- Designed and implemented the Youth Climate Justice Advocates program, hosting 30 youth workshops with 5-15 participants on climate science, climate justice, and community-level action.
- Managed community outreach by creating flyers, presentations, blog posts, and social media posts, and delivering monthly reports on website traffic and account trends. Created a new website in Squarespace to update the design as well as improve visitor access to information and resources.

- Supported the growing team in our community garden, executing maintenance tasks, greeting volunteers and visitors, and organizing sheds and other shared spaces.

2021-2022 Global Health Policy and Data Institute
Research Associate

- Disseminated research results for the Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program, including updating and revitalizing the institute's website with RapidWeaver, and creating research briefs and graphics with Canva, completing the Dissemination phase of the project.

2020-2021 Seventh College- University of California, San Diego
Resident Assistant (RA)

- Acted as a resource and a supporter for first-year students as they transitioned into university while building community among residents by creating and facilitating 12 programs throughout the academic year.

2020-2021 Department of Anthropology- University of California, San Diego
Instructional Assistant (IA)

- Aided instructors with three anthropology and global health courses in grading assignments, managing online course content, and assisting students with questions on course content and requirements.

2019-2020 Food Cooperative at UCSD
Core Member

- Co-managed a student-run enterprise committed to providing healthy, vegan, and low-cost meals to the UC San Diego community.
- Rectified budgeting and tax disputes, developed a new quarterly budget, facilitated hiring a professional nonprofit accountant, and overhauled the business financial guidebook to ensure future tax compliance.

2018-2019 Eleanor Roosevelt College- University of California, San Diego
Orientation Leader

- Applied training and personal experiences to guide a daily group of 12-18 students over 6 orientation days and be a resource for all incoming Eleanor Roosevelt College students, creating a welcoming and supportive community.

Additional Research Experience

2019-2020 UC Global Health Institute COE Women's Health, Gender, and Empowerment
Summer Scholar

- Conducted 16 semi-structured individual interviews with undergraduate students at UCLA, UC San Diego, and UC Santa Barbara, coded transcripts, and analyzed interviews to evaluate the impact of sexual education on relationships in college.
- Presented preliminary findings at UC San Diego Undergraduate Research Conference 2019 and used findings in my Senior Honors Thesis: "Pushing Back on Stigma, Misinformation, and Disempowerment: Comprehensive Sexual Education as a Possible Key to Sexual Violence Prevention in Youth".

- 2018-2019 UC San Diego Center on Gender Equity and Health
Research Intern
- Conducted 20 individual semi-structured interviews and 4 focused group discussions for the “UC Speaks Up” project, exploring campus-level factors that shape intimate relationships and sexual violence among students.

Volunteer Roles

- 2025 DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities
Capital Project Grant Panelist
- Evaluate 20-30 district-based arts and humanities funding applications annually, providing critical reviews and scores that determine application rankings and funding decisions.
- 2023-2025 Seed Consulting Group
Project Manager
- Led a team of seven consultants to refine existing research on a clean technology startup accelerator program, conduct new research on the content and structure of impact reporting of peer organizations, and prepare recommendations for the organization’s 2025 Impact Report.
- Senior Consultant*
- Aided Women and Climate on a job seeker board for their website to support and improve equity for members seeking positions in climate.
 - Oversaw project timeline, conducted market research (e.g., potential user survey), and created an implementation plan.
- Consultant*
- Delivered to Refuse Refuse a corporate outreach guidebook and a corporate sponsorship development plan with accompanying presentations.
 - Presented best practices in nonprofit marketing, developed KPIs for long-term tracking, and created sample messages for email and social media outreach and re-engagement.
 - Boosted staff capacity to engage and retain volunteers and donors, expanding reach socially and geographically in San Francisco.
- 2023-2024 Illuminem
Future Thought Leader
- Named #10 Most-read Future Thought Leader in 2023.
 - Promoted public discourse on critical issues, inspired action, and engaged a virtual community of changemakers by authoring opinion pieces focused on ESG and climate change-related topics.
- 2023 The Climate Initiative
Collegiate Climate Policy Institute Member
- Visited congressional offices advocating for climate action and provided a policy brief on nature-based climate solutions as a key area for future federal appropriations.

- Executed a self-designed 5-month program to educate, empower, and activate high school students in California on climate action with a budget of \$200.
- Trained participants on team formation, goal setting, tools of policy action, and California water policy issues with presentations, workshops, and guest speaker visits.
- Supervised participants in creating a water policy solution and supporting materials, including a report, presentation, and website.

2022-2023 YMCA Youth and Government

Delegation Advisor

- Guided a delegation of 16 high school students participating in a model state legislature and court program, attending weekly delegation meetings and two state-wide conferences.
- Created weekly meeting agenda and accompanying materials, instructed students on the bill-writing process, facilitated team-building activities, and counseled on personal development and interpersonal challenges.

Academic Activities and Extracurriculars

2024-2025 Trachtenberg Student Organization

President

- Facilitated weekly board meetings, ensuring agenda alignment, tracking key deadlines, and coordinating with university administrators and school staff on upcoming events.
- Chaired the 2024 Fall Ball, managing a \$5,000 budget for an event with 80 attendees; executed ticket sales, vendor negotiations, event promotion, and day-of run of events.
- Executed a two-week fundraising campaign that generated \$700 to support social events.

2018-2021 American Mock World Health Organization

Chapter President

- Managed a team of 8 in designing and organizing bi-weekly general body meetings, fundraisers, and outreach activities.
- Achieved our goals of hosting a regional conference and becoming an official chapter, strengthening our relationships with other chapters across the country.

2018-2021 Global Health Program- University of California, San Diego

Student Representative

- Hosted 9 student activities (e.g., student office hours, career workshops) in collaboration with 4 other representatives per year to connect students with resources and build peer relationships within the program.

2019 ELI Abroad- Voluntarios Internacionales

Volunteer

- Taught English at a local youth center and assisted in personal enrichment workshops while living with a host family in Quito, Ecuador for 8 weeks.

- 2019 MMW Serves- University of California, San Diego
Student Volunteer
- Attended the weekly seminar focused on history through an environmental lens followed by a spring break service trip to Catalina Island, removing invasive species, collecting garbage, and engaging in peer-to-peer education.
- 2018 Global Seminars- University of California, San Diego
Student Volunteer
- Spent three weeks in Cape Town, South Africa, completing academic coursework and two weeks in Livingstone, Zambia, volunteering with GreenPop to combat deforestation in the region.
- 2018 Break Away Global Service (BAGS)- University of California, San Diego
Student Volunteer
- Completed a seminar focused on the history and culture of Belize and traveled to San Ignacio, Belize, to complete a construction project at a transitional foster care home.
- 2018 Refugee Educational Empowerment and Recreation Program
Volunteer
- Helped create a safe space for expression, exploration, and growth for adolescent refugees from the greater San Diego area.
- 2017-2019 International House- University of California, San Diego
Language Conversation Table Host- English Table
- Assisted attendees in improving their English and becoming more acquainted with American culture, creating 27 lesson plans and activities each year while coordinating with other hosts and interns of the LCT program.

Article and Blog Publications

- Wenzel, Christine, Eleonora Arca, and Emily Costello. The Buzz on Insects: A Sustainable Alternative to Animal Protein. *IISD SDG Knowledge Hub*. November 2024.
- Wenzel, Christine, Ava Rose Contaoi, Wilson Chan. Implementation of water policy: a challenge explored by youth voices. *illuminem*. January 2024.
- Wenzel, Christine. Some hard truths of climate change and how facing them can empower us to move forward. *illuminem*. August 2023.
- Wenzel, Christine. Private Companies are Buying Water Rights and Betting on Scarcity in US West. *illuminem*. March 2023.
- Wenzel, Christine. We Cannot Underestimate the Power of Individual Action. *illuminem*. March 2023.

Research Publications

- Wenzel, C. D., & Bloom, B. E. (2025). The Influence of Sexual Education on Sexual and Romantic Relationships: Undergraduate Student Perspectives from a Cross-Sectional Qualitative Study in California. *American Journal of Sexuality Education*, 1-24.
- Mackey, T., Cuomo, R. E., Xu, Q., McMann, T. J., Li, Z., Cai, M., ... & Yang, J. S. (2025). Approach to Design and Evaluate Digital Tools to Enhance Young Adult Participation in

Clinical Trials: Co-Design and Controlled Intercept Study. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 27, e70852.

- Le, N., McMann, T.J., Wenzel, C., Li, Z., Xu, Q., Cuomo, R.E., Yang, J., and Mackey, T.K., 2025. COVID-19 pediatric vaccine Hesitancy: Themes and interactions with verified Twitter accounts. *Vaccine*, 47, p.126688.
- Xu, Q., McMann, T. J., Li, J., Wenzel, C., & Mackey, T. K. (2023). Characterization of COVID-19 vaccine clinical trial discussions on the social question-and-answer site Quora. *Trials*, 24(1), 1-11.
- McMann, T., Wenzel, C., Le, N., Li, Z., Xu, Q., Cuomo, R. E., & Mackey, T. (2023). Detection and Characterization of Web-Based Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine Discussions and Racial and Ethnic Minority Topics: Retrospective Analysis of Twitter Data. *JMIR Pediatrics and Parenting*, 6(1), e48004.
- Li, Q., Qi, J., Peng, J., Qu, L., Xu, Q., Wenzel, C., & Zhang, M. (2024). Habitat accessibility and snares impact large cats and their prey in Northeast Tiger and Leopard National Park, China. *Biological Conservation*, 289, 110414.

Awards and Recognitions

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| 2025 | George Washington University Community Service Award |
| 2025 | George Washington University Trachtenberg Leadership Award |
| 2025 | George Washington University Trachtenberg Service Award |
| 2025 | George Washington University New Venture Competition, Best Storytelling |
| 2024 | George Washington University New Venture Competition, Explorer Track Finalist |
| 2021 | Eleanor Roosevelt College Provost Scholars Award |
| 2021 | UC San Diego Outstanding New Paraprofessional |
| 2021 | UC San Diego HDH Exemplary Student Employee of the Year |
| 2019 | Eleanor Roosevelt College Outstanding Apartment Resident |