



Cara Lynn McHardy

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A highly motivated professional with academic skills and international experience in research, education and coalition building, I approach complex industrial and ecological issues in a holistic manner, propelling my research to foster a healthier society with a greater understanding of the connection between human activities and the environmental balance that sustains life on earth.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

2017 – June 2019

Master of Science in Industrial Ecology

Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway

Erasmus+ scholar at Leiden and Delft Universities, Netherlands (1 year)

Courses: Life cycle assessment, life cycle impact assessment, material flow analysis, environmentally-extended input-output analysis, ecotoxicology, ecological-hydrological modelling, environmental politics, climate change mitigation, IPBES-sponsored interdisciplinary team project, research design in biodiversity and ecosystem services, biostatistics, biodiversity analysis methodologies, GIS spatial analysis.

Thesis: Modelling the biodiversity impacts of marine plastic debris in Life Cycle Impact Assessment.

2012

Permaculture Design Certification

The Possibility Alliance, La Plata, Missouri, United States

Design techniques for ecological property development including climate, topography, hydrology, natural resource conservation and efficiency (water, energy), land-use planning, structural optimization.

2009

Workshop Facilitator training

Sustainable Works, Santa Monica, California, United States

Curriculum research and design, public speaking and multimedia presentation skills, training in effective teaching techniques, critical thinking and debate skills.

2009

Additional Science Education

Santa Monica College, Santa Monica, California, United States

University-level laboratory courses in marine biology and chemistry.

2000 – 2005

Bachelor of Science in Industrial Design

Metropolitan State University of Denver, University of Kansas & Colorado State University; United States

Courses: AutoCAD, design (industrial & art), manufacturing organization, materials & processes, human factors engineering, industrial safety & production, design concept visualization, strategic communication, manufacturing and design history, technical and design drawing, photography, painting, sculpture, welding.

Supplementary courses: Biology, calculus, chemistry, economics, environmental studies, intercultural communication, journalism, literature & composition, philosophy, psychology, public speaking, sociology, Spanish.

SKILLS

Languages

	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	Writing
Dutch	B2	B2	B2	B2	B1
Spanish	B1	B1	A2	A2	A2
French	A2	A2	A1	A1	A1
Czech	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1

Levels: A1/A2: Basic - B1/B2: Independent - C1/C2 Proficient: Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Communication

Formal language education in Dutch, French, Spanish and Czech. Dutch is spoken at home. Compassionate, engaging communicator; experience forming cohesive teams transcending cultural differences. Practiced speaker and effective presenter especially in multicultural settings with scientific context.

Organisational

Efficient administrator and project coordinator; also experienced in technical, web and design-related tasks. Detail-oriented multi-disciplinary researcher with years of practice cataloguing and presenting technical data. Aptitude for creative problem-solving through collaboration in academic and professional contexts.

Technical

R, Matlab, ArcGIS, OpenLCA, Arda LCA, STAN (substance flow analysis)
MS Excel, MS Access, Oracle DB, SQL, Endnote, Adobe Creative Suite, AutoCAD
Professional technical experience in research, product, web and database design.

PERSONAL

DOB: 22-6-1982

USA citizen with right to work in Belgium via marriage to Jacob De Backer. I am open to both temporary (trainee) and permanent positions. Planning to relocate based on ease of transportation to/from my work.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Feb – Mar 2015

Permaculture and English Educator

The Learning Farm, Cianjur, West Java, Indonesia www.thelearningfarm.org

Coordinated and taught daily, mixed-level class for 32 youths from troubled backgrounds in a skills-development program in permaculture farming, language, business and technology training.

2014 – 2015

Researcher, Crew, English Tutor

ABC Zeilen, South Pacific Ocean [weblog: www.caralumi.wordpress.com](http://www.caralumi.wordpress.com)

Crewed and taught English aboard a sailing yacht over the South Pacific. Observed local agricultural practices, waste disposal issues and the effects of climate change and plastic debris on island and ocean ecosystems.

2012 – 2013

Permaculture Consultant, Community Garden Coordinator and Educator

The Possibility Alliance, La Plata & Hannibal, Missouri, United States

Practiced sustainable living and gardening methods at a permaculture educational project and self-sustaining homestead. Developed a community garden and residential permaculture plans in a low-income region. Taught composting and biological gardening classes to community and visitors from around the world.

2008 – 2011

Program Coordinator, Consultant, Environmental Education and Restoration

Sustainable Works, Santa Monica, California, United States www.sustainableworks.org

Professional development, outreach and implementation of an environmental curriculum in Los Angeles and Santa Monica. Taught government-funded workshops for students, residents and businesses explaining climate and environmental research to lay-people, promoting citizen engagement and ecological footprint reduction.

Surfrider Foundation, Los Angeles, California, United States www.surfrider-southbay.org

Volunteer leading local high school students in testing water quality and removing trash at polluted marshes and beaches, teaching them about conservation issues through hands-on experience.

Algalita Marine Research & 5 Gyres, Long Beach, California, United States www.5gyres.org

Volunteer educating community members about marine plastic pollution and the foundation's research in this field. Catalogued related research projects for an online database.

Friends of Ballona Wetlands, Marina Del Rey, California, United States www.ballonafriends.org

Wetland restoration: removed invasive plants and assisted in restoration at one of Los Angeles' last intact estuaries. Taught about the local ecosystem, native species and migrating birds.

2005 – 2008

National Program Coordinator, Office Manager

Arabian Horse Association, Aurora, Colorado, United States www.arabianhorses.org

Coordination, marketing, and execution of programs and events including equestrian riding programs and national championship events; event office management for this 40,000-member non-profit equestrian organization.

2004 – 2005

Professional Industrial Design Internship

Vibralong, Inc, Parker, Colorado, United States

Assisted in research, design and ISO9000 analysis of a medical device aiding chronic lung ailments.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

2008 – present

Property Manager

self-employed, Denver, Colorado, United States

Independently manage all aspects of leasing a private property to various tenants. Work includes supervising repairs, advising tenants, collecting rents and keeping all legal documentation in order.

2015 – 2017

English Teacher and Methodologist

Wattsenglish and Presto Language Schools, Karlovy Vary and Prague, Czech Republic wattsenglish.cz

Planned and taught group and individual classes for child and adult students at all levels. Developed curriculum and methodology; classroom management trainer for colleagues; completed A2 level Czech language courses.

Kampung Inggris Foreign Language Center, Pare, East Java, Indonesia

Free Primary School, Kumai, West Kalimantan, Indonesia

Practiced conversational skills with students at a residential English language-immersion center. Visiting educator at a non-profit primary school for otherwise unschooled children in Borneo.

Cambridge Certificate in English Language Teaching (CELTA)

Intensive teacher training including collaborative planning, peer observation, evaluation and feedback. 6 hrs. of observed and assessed teaching, 50 hrs. of input and 6 hrs. teacher observation.

2010 – 2011

Sales Operations and Customer Service

Yogitoes Inc., Santa Monica, California, United States www.yogitoes.com

Web and database development and maintenance; sales and customer service support for wholesale and retail customers of a patented line of specialized yoga products.

2008 – 2010

Executive Support, Product Design and Sales

Axel Bloom, Los Angeles, California, United States www.axelbloom.com

Office management, executive support and coordination of marketing and design for an Austrian bed importer.