# ERIN MULLENIX

1155 CEDAR DRIVE • POLK CITY, IA 50226 PHONE (515) 802-0207 • E-MAIL ERINMULLENIX@GMAIL.COM

# Education

Master of Public Administration August 2011 (3.94/4.0 GPA) The University of Nebraska at Omaha, NE Inducted into the Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society for Public Administration

B.S.E., Industrial Engineering July 2004 The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

B.A., Spanish July 2004 The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

Certificate in Management July 2004 The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

## Experience

### Iowa State University, Director of Data Driven Science

Ames, IA August 2016 - present

- Direct programs supporting institution-wide activities in data driven science
- Promote big data and open science research, including the Data Driven Science Initiative and Presidential Initiative for Interdisciplinary Research at Iowa State University
- Develop big data partnerships and interdisciplinary teams, including directing Iowa State involvement in the Midwest Big Data Hub
- Chair the Iowa State Open Data Planning Committee, focused on data management planning and data sharing
- Bolster community and local government research by developing an interdisciplinary regional team, and working collaboratively on community research grant proposals designed to improve local decision-making processes and policies

#### Iowa League of Cities, Research Director

Des Moines, IA November 2010 - August 2016 (previous title - Research and Fiscal Analyst)

- Analyzed, calculated, and communicated the impact of fiscal policies in Iowa, including topics such as property tax, public pensions, urban renewal, local infrastructure, and governmental cost drivers
- Created original data models to show economic trends over time in local communities in Iowa
- Researched local economic development and growth, and provided related fiscal analysis in support of member communities
- Communicated research outcomes in a way that connects to both the research purpose and real world applications
- Provided fiscal research and training to over 900 member cities in Iowa, including technical support with local budget planning and management
- Prepared key research presentations and legislative testimony as needed
- Enhanced organizational strategic planning and operations processes, including incorporating feedback from city members and key organizational stakeholders

- Authored original research reports and articles on a variety of local government topics for the League's Cityscape magazine publication
- Collaborated with multiple government-focused organizations to solve local problems, including the areas of public health and wellness, public pensions, local infrastructure, local finance, and local policy

# Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division, Regional & Capitol Complex Planner Johnston, IA, November 2008 – November 2010

- Reviewed emergency management plans and served as a liaison for sixteen central Iowa counties
- Improved and reestablished the State Capitol Complex Comprehensive Emergency Response Plan
- Coordinated the State Emergency Building Coordinator Network and the Community Emergency Response Team Program
- Cross-trained in public information, public inquiry, and emergency mitigation planning

# Goodrich Corporation, Environmental Health & Safety Specialist / Iowa Safety Manager West Des Moines, IA April 2007 – November 2008

- Managed and promoted continuous safety improvements and enhanced programs for three Iowa Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) STAR certified facilities
- Coordinated and delivered training in safety, emergency action planning, business continuity planning, ergonomics, health and wellness, and corporate risk management
- Assessed potential safety and environmental hazards and compliance issues, and implemented proactive measures and corrective actions accordingly to minimize incident rates
- Managed seven safety teams, designed to promote employee involvement and safety improvement

#### Wells Fargo Financial, Business Process Analyst

Des Moines, IA October 2005 – April 2007

- Facilitated process improvement initiatives aimed at reducing cost, and improving efficiency and quality
- Applied Six Sigma, WorkOut, and Lean methodologies to facilitate process improvement
- Served as project manager for the Operations Support, Dealer Setup, and Quality Monitoring teams

## United States Postal Service, Industrial Engineer

Indianapolis, IN July 2004 - October 2005

- Recommended and implemented operational changes, facility layout design updates and process flow
- Drafted decision analysis reports and calculated corresponding return on investment figures
- Cross-trained in operations management, supervision, project management, safety, and business writing
- Assisted in business continuity and emergency preparedness training, communication, and exercises

## Select Leadership/Interests

American Society for Public Administration, Executive Council Member of Iowa Chapter, 2015-2016 Associate Safety Professional Designation, 2008-2013 Columnist, Public Administration Times, 2015-2016 Grant Writer/Manager for local community preschool, Volunteer Hyperemesis Education and Research Foundation, Outreach Volunteer

Erin Mullenix 1155 Cedar Drive Polk City, IA 50226 515-802-0207

May 25, 2017

Business Record The Depot at 4<sup>th</sup> 100 4<sup>th</sup> Street Des Moines, Iowa 50309

RE: Women of Influence 2017 Nomination

Dear Business Record Women of Influence Panel,

I am excited to be nominated for the Women of Influence 2017 award. My application, including a current resume and three letters of recommendation are submitted for your consideration.

Through my professional and personal life, I am driven to make a difference. I am grateful to have been able to work in both the public and private sectors, and channel this experience in my work in public administration. I have learned from each opportunity and mindfully bring these experiences and high ethical standards forward, working to embrace change and generate new successes.

Currently, I direct data driven science programs at Iowa State University (ISU). Big data is an expanding area with so much potential. My role is to cultivate and support interdisciplinary teams, and connect locally, regionally, and globally on big data projects. Because of my background in local government, working for the State in emergency management and the Iowa League of Cities as research director, one of the areas I support at ISU is community research. I have helped pull together a community research team, to help engage in thought, network, tackle challenges and develop data-driven techniques to benefit local government. The possibilities are endless in terms of big data connecting to the community (and other areas of research). At the Iowa League of Cities, I put in a tremendous amount of time working on local government modeling and research in local finance, infrastructure, economic development, communications, policies and general issues.

In my personal time, I also commit to helping serve the community and civic/non-profit organizations. It is rewarding to use my skills to help others. As I strive to lead in public administration, I have served on the American Society for Public Administration's Executive Council over the last couple of years. In addition, I have served as a volunteer columnist for the Public Administrative Times, an online publication affiliated with the American Society for Public Administration.

Over the last couple of years, I have assisted a local preschool in improving building security and communication, by writing a funded community betterment grant proposal, and helping them manage the grant post-award. I will again volunteer in this capacity later this year for both the preschool and our local elementary school. These grants will continue to focus on the necessary elements to support youth education, including security, classroom technology, and enhanced reading programs.

I also volunteer for the Hyperemesis Education and Research Foundation (HER Foundation), and Beyond Morning Sickness. Hyperemesis Gravidarum (HG) is a debilitating and potentially life-threatening pregnancy-related disease marked by unrelenting nausea and/or vomiting, often with multiple adverse health consequences. I am an outreach volunteer, communicating with women suffering from HG by phone, email, mail, and even personal visit (if local). As I was personally afflicted with this disease, I can relate and understand the difficult situation that HG poses on the lives of these women. As my second HG-pregnancy resulted in stillborn twin daughters, I also support women who have been through loss of a child (particularly those who also suffered from HG). Although I would admit it is very difficult to hear of the very sad stories of grief and loss, it is important for me to be able to help. Volunteering in this capacity is a way to support others going through this very difficult time.

Great credit of who I am today must be shared with my family, who have helped shape and given deep perspective to my path. I am passionate about them and our role in the community. I am fortunate that there have also been many outstanding mentors along the way who have imparted great wisdom and leadership, including the women who wrote letters of support for this award.

Thank you very much for considering my nomination for the Business Record Women of Influence 2017 award.

Respectfully yours,

Erin Mullenix