**Curriculum Vitae of**

**Catherine M. Swoboda**

**Contact Details**

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**Education**

Iowa State University

Ames, Iowa

May 2008 – May 2010

Degree: Master of Science

Major: Crop Production and Physiology

Thesis: “Effect of Agronomic Practices on Sudden Death Syndrome in Iowa”

Iowa State University

Ames, Iowa

September 2004 – May 2008

Degree: Bachelor of Science

Major: Agronomy, Option: Research and Development

Universidad de Costa Rica (Escuela de Agronomía)

San José, Costa Rica

January 2007 to August 2007

Study Abroad

Completed a full semester of course work (4 agronomy classes and one internship) in the Department of Agronomy at the University of Costa Rica, in San José, Costa Rica. All courses and internship activities conducted entirely in Spanish.

**Employment and Professional Experience**

**January 2017 to Present**

**Global Resource Systems, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa**

**Position: Cargill Global Resource Systems Lecturer**

* Teaches classes in the Global Resource Systems (GRS) Program at Iowa State University, including: Globe 120: Geography of Global Resource Systems; Globe 320, 321, 322: International Internship in Global Resource Systems; Globe 211: Professionalism and Careers in Global Resource Systems; Travel Courses to Uganda and Brazil; and Globe 494: Semester Along the Nile (Semester-long course in Kamuli, Uganda).
* Oversees required international internships for all Global Resource Systems majors.
* Establishing (in collaboration with the Center for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods and Iowa State University Uganda Program) semester-long educational program in rural Uganda for GRS and College of Agriculture and Life Sciences undergraduate students.
* Coordinates Peace Corps Prep Program at Iowa State University: University-wide program preparing undergraduate students for the Peace Corps application process and service.
* Faculty member of Iowa State University Truman Scholarship Committee.

**April 2014 to December 2016**

**The World Food Prize Foundation, Des Moines, Iowa**

**Position: Director of Planning**

* Oversaw planning and implementation of Borlaug Dialogue International Symposium, which brings together over 1,300 people from more than 65 countries to address cutting-edge issues related to global food security and nutrition. The conference convenes a wide array of scientific experts, policy leaders, business executives and farmers and has been called "the premier conference in the world on global agriculture."
* Planning for Borlaug Dialogue included ongoing research on global food security and agriculture, communications and correspondence with food security and agricultural scientific and policy community and leaders.
* Oversaw planning and implementation of other key World Food Prize events, including Laureate Announcement Ceremony, annually held at the U.S. State Department in Washington, D.C.

**September 2011 to April 2014**

**The World Food Prize Foundation, Des Moines, Iowa**

**Position: Director of Iowa and Midwest Education Programs**

* Established the Iowa Youth Institute, an innovative educational program focused on promoting science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and global awareness among high school students and teachers, by coordinating a partnership among The World Food Prize Foundation, Iowa State University, and the State of Iowa.
* Directed the annual Institute at Iowa State University and led the statewide expansion and development of the program, collaborating with teachers across all disciplines, the State Department of Education, Area Education Agencies, FFA, 4-H, the Iowa Farm Bureau Foundation, Iowa State University Extension, and a range of agricultural commodity and community organizations.
* Developed and implemented global and food security-focused curricula and educational materials for elementary, middle and high school educators.
* Assisted in managing the World Food Prize Foundation’s federal partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and coordination of the 2012 Wallace-Carver Internship Program and Secretary’s Leadership in Agriculture Program (LEAP), one of USDA’s elite internship programs to recruit and train the top American high school and college students for careers in public service.
* Directed the Iowa Hunger Summit – the largest and most diverse annual gathering of Iowans united in fighting hunger locally and abroad which engages over 600 leaders and representatives from government, academia, business, nonprofits, food banks, health organizations, and community activism.

**October 2011 to December 2016**

**State of Iowa Governor’s STEM Advisory Council**

**Position: Council Member**

* Throughout tenure, served on *Scale-Up, Public Awareness, STEM Active Learning Partners* subgroups. Currently serving on *Ag Science for STEM* working group.
* Throughout tenure, worked with former Governor Branstad, then Lt. Governor Reynolds, Iowa State University, and Paul and Claudia Schickler (President of DuPont Pioneer and wife) to establish and develop the Iowa Youth Institute into a national STEM education model which engages youth in STEM subjects in agriculture and food security.
* While on the Council and in capacity as Director of Planning at the World Food Prize, oversaw two Borlaug Dialogue International Symposia and at both, 2014 and 2015, has promoted STEM and STEM in Iowa on an international platform by including conversations about STEM in the main plenary sessions.
  + This included STEM Food & Ag Council Chair Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds and Co-Chair Paul Schickler, speaking in the 2014 Borlaug Dialogue about the SFAC STEM report.
  + In 2015 this included an overarching theme about promoting girls in STEM, involving the following high level speakers traveled to Iowa to speak about STEM: Chelsea Clinton, Vice Chair, Clinton Foundation; Sheryl WuDunn, Pulitzer Prize winner and co-author: *A Path Appears*; executives from Google, Starbucks and Monsanto; and Lt. Governor Reynolds.
* Involved the World Food Prize in STEM Day at the Iowa State Fair and the STEM Advisory Council’s exhibit at the 2014 USA Science & Engineering Festival in Washington DC

**Community Involvement**

**2017 – Present**

**Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC)**

**Position: Member – Board of Directors**

* Member of Board of Directors of DMARC, an interfaith organization which manages the largest food pantry network in Iowa.

**2016 – 2017**

**The Second Annual George Washington Carver Dinner**

**Position: Planning Committee Co-Chair**

* Co-Chair and key planning member of dinner and major fundraising event for the George Washington Carver Birthplace Association.

**2012 to Present**

**St. Ambrose Cathedral Parish, Des Moines, Iowa**

**Position: Refugee Ministry Volunteer**

* Volunteers to help refugee community members at St. Ambrose and in Des Moines. Refugee populations served include communities from: South Sudan, Burma, Eritrea, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.
* Assists newly arrived families with resettlement and acculturation as they learn to navigate American society and establish a life in Des Moines. This includes assisting with practical activities such as: collecting furniture, household items, clothing (especially winter clothing), school materials and books for children, providing rides to medical appointments, helping adults with driving lessons, and helping people of all ages with homework and schoolwork.
* Engages in efforts for broader cultural understanding, learning and friendships in the community, including: practicing English conversation, explaining aspects of American culture and society, and learning about the native cultures and countries of the refugees.
* Assists Kunama (Eritrean community at St. Ambrose) refugee adults and community leaders with their efforts to establish a formal structure to deliver English as a Second Language and Citizenship classes to their community.

**2012 to Present**

**St. Ambrose Cathedral Religious Education Program, Des Moines, Iowa**

**Position: 5th grade Religious Education Instructor**

* Teaches weekly religious education class, working closely with 5th grade students from a broad range of cultures, ethnicities, backgrounds, English-speaking abilities, and life-experiences. Students include native Iowans, refugees from Burma, Eritrea, and first and second generation immigrants from Vietnam, Mexico, and Sudan.
* Develops class curriculum and original lesson plans.

**2013 to 2017**

**Guest columnist *The Catholic Mirror***

**Des Moines, Iowa**

* Periodic submission of articles regarding issues of contemporary concern, particularly related to social justice.

**June 2011 to August 2011**

**United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, MD**

**Position: Wallace-Carver Intern**

* Supported scientific research efforts across a broad diversity of USDA Agricultural Research Service laboratories: Environmental Microbial and Food Safety; Crop Systems and Global Change; Hydrology and Remote Sensing; and Sustainable Agricultural Systems.

**May 2010 to May 2011**

**American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Soil Science Society**

**of America Science Policy Office, Washington, D.C.**

**Position: Science Policy Intern**

* Organized and led visits with Congressional offices for Climate Science Day and the Congressional Soils Caucus.
* Drafted and edited testimony, letters of support, and educational materials for legislative and executive officials.
* Researched and wrote position statements on climate change and crop adaptation.
* Developed database for tracking meetings and interactions with U.S. government leaders and agencies.
* Provided oral testimony to the House Appropriations Sub-Committee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies on crop adaptation to climate change.

**2010 to 2011**

**St. Charles Borromeo Parish Legal Project, Arlington, Virginia**

**Position: English as a Second Language Volunteer**

* Tutored adults seeking to gain US citizenship, meeting weekly to teach spoken and written English and study concepts and principles of US history and government.

**May 2008 to May 2010**

**Iowa State University, Department of Agronomy, Ames, Iowa**

**Position: Graduate Research Assistant**

* Conducted field and lab experiments and quantitative data analysis on the effect of agronomic practices on soybean sudden death syndrome in Iowa.
* Assisted researchers in the Iowa State University Soybean Extension Laboratory on soybean physiology, growth and development, and yield and productivity studies.
* Collaborated with leading farmers across Iowa to conduct agronomic research.

**May 2005 to May 2008**

**Iowa State University, Department of Agronomy, Ames, Iowa**

**Position: Research Assistant**

* Investigated the effect of strobilurin fungicide on soybean growth and yield in Iowa.

**March 2007 to July 2007**

**Biotechnology Laboratory, Centro de Investigaciones Agronomicas, University of Costa Rica**

**Position: Research Intern**

* Investigated and analyzed traits of indigenous potato cultivars in Costa Rica.

**June 2004 to August 2004**

**Biotechnology and Bioinformatics Laboratory, EMBRAPA Soja, Londrina, Brazil**

**Position: Research Intern**

* Investigated drought tolerance and Asian Rust resistance in soybeans.

**Publications**

**Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles**

Swoboda, C. and P. Pedersen. 2009. Effect of Fungicide on Soybean Growth and Yield. Agron. J. 101:352-356.

Swoboda, C. M., P. Pedersen, P.D. Esker, and G. Munkvold. 2011. Soybean Yield Response to Plant Distribution in *Fusarium Virguliforme* Infested Soils. Agron. J. 103:1712–1716.

**Published Abstracts**

Swoboda, C.M., P. Pedersen, P. Esker, and G. Munkvold. 2009. Maturity group effect on sudden death syndrome foliar symptom severity in Iowa. Agron. Abstr. [CD-ROM computer file], ASA, Madison, WI.

Swoboda, C.M., P. Pedersen, P. Esker, and G. Munkvold. 2009. Effect of planting date on sudden death syndrome foliar symptom severity in Iowa. Agron. Abstr. [CD-ROM computer file], ASA, Madison, WI.

Swoboda, C.M., and P. Pedersen. 2006. Effect of strobilurin fungicide on soybean yield components. Agron. Abstr. [CD-ROM computer file], ASA, Madison, WI.

Swoboda, C.M., and P. Pedersen. 2005. Effect of strobilurin fungicide on soybean growth and yield. Agron. Abstr. [CD-ROM computer file], ASA, Madison, WI.

Hall, B.D., F.M. Rosin, C. Swoboda, J-M Q. Whitaker, E. Romsdahl, andC.C. Lashbrook. 2004. Organ-specific regulation of abscission competence. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Plant Biologists, Orlando, FL. page 171.

**Professional Associations**

2005-2011 American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Soil Science Society of America

**Honors and Awards**

2016 Business Record: Forty Under 40 Award Recipient

2015 Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute (Class of 2016)

2013 Iowa State University Outstanding Young Alumna

2009 First Place, Graduate Student Poster Competition, C-3 division for Crop Ecology, Management and Quality. American Society of Agronomy International Annual Meetings, Pittsburgh, PA

2007 Golden Opportunity Scholar, American Society of Agronomy

2005-2007 Iowa State University Agronomy Professional Development Fellow

2005 Gamma Sigma Delta Agricultural Honor Society

2004-2008 Iowa State University Excellence In Agriculture Scholarship

2004-2005 Student Representative – Dean's College of Agriculture Student Advisory Board,

ISU

2005 Freshman Honors Program Seminar Leader

2004-2005 Iowa State University Freshman Honors Program Member

2004 World Food Prize Borlaug~Ruan International Intern, EMBRAPA Soja, Londrina, Brazil