

Personal Statement:

I am a highly motivated person, with a broad range of skills and experience. I have excellent organisation and communication skills, and I strive to bring my enthusiasm and high standards of professionalism to any team that I am part of. I have a strong statistical and analytical skill set, including the use of ICT; but I also place great stock in what empathy and emotional intelligence can do for me.

I want to develop my career in the mental health field in a way that will both stimulate and challenge me; but that will also enable me to continue my studies in psychology on a part-time basis.

Current Employment:

Support Worker, Penumbra ARBD Service (Glasgow), 2006 – present.

A new and unprecedented, recovery-focused service for Alcohol-Related Brain Damage (ARBD) clients. My duties include: delivering Person-Centred Planning; implementing memory aid systems; delivering relapse prevention strategies; comprehensive record keeping; ensuring compliance with all relevant policies, legislation and guidance.

I have been involved in establishing a network of contacts both in the local area, and the wider field of service providers and voluntary agencies; as well as formulating and implementing procedures and action plans for the Service. I have also represented the Service on a local employability services forum. I have delivered training on memory processes and deficits, and I was involved in setting up a computer-based learning centre for the Service.

Higher Education:

BA (Hons.) Psychology, 2nd Class Upper Division (2:1).

University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, 2002 – 2006. I studied cognitive, social and neurological psychology, concentrating on behavioural change at social and affective / emotional levels. I studied research methods, both quantitative and qualitative, and my dissertation was a qualitative psychological examination of voting abstention. I also studied politics, concentrating on comparative European Government and electoral systems.

Professional Bodies:

British Psychological Society (BPS), Graduate Member N^o 204232.

As a member of the BPS, I am bound by the Society's ethical codes and standards of professional practice.

Personal Interests:

I like to keep fit by walking and cycling, which helps mitigate the effects of my love of cooking and food. Despite being a terrible footballer myself, I volunteer as a coach with a local youth football team. I am a trained pyrotechnician, and enjoy setting off the sort of fireworks that the general public are not allowed to.

Before 2001, I was committed to my career in music: I continue to play music now, but only for fun. The life of an itinerant musician is not compatible with giving my full attention to my first priority: my family.

Previous Employment:

Musician and music promoter, Self-employment, 1985 – 2001.

Arranging all aspects of recordings, musical events and tours, including transport, accommodation, legal and insurance requirements. Ensuring compliance with union rules; relevant health and safety, electrical safety and employment legislation. Occasionally playing some music.

Undergraduate Mentor, The On Track Project, 2004 – 2006.

The On Track Project offers support and advice to Further Education students making the transition into Higher Education, particularly direct entry into second and third years. This is delivered through lectures, informal 'Q&A' sessions, and more intensive one-to-one work.

Contract Cleaner / Window Cleaner (part-time), Night & Day, 2001 – 2002

A part-time job I took in order to take on a larger share of childcare duties so that my wife could return to work after finishing university. During this time I installed a computer network and file server system to speed up the administrative systems of the company, which coincided with a period of both expansion and profit.

Sales Administrator, McMillan Office Supplies, 1996 – 2000.

Responsible for administration and organisation for a small business operating within a highly competitive field; managing communication between customers, suppliers and the various levels of the organisation; updating and maintaining UNIX and PC based ICT systems, and the company website. The company more than doubled its profitability in this period due to improved credit control, better customer retention, and more efficient delivery and warehousing practice.

Production Assistant, Videamus Productions, 1994 – 1996.

I was involved in all aspects of commercial video production from tendering and pre-production, through the production process, to editing and duplication. Clients included The Proclaimers, the Scottish Prison Service, Strathclyde Regional Council, BP Amoco Offshore, and Clyde Helicopters. The company went on to become one of the first website development companies in Scotland.

Election Assistant, Scottish National party, 1992 – 1994.

Logistics, distribution and resource management during election and other political campaigns; driving and chauffeur duties, from people-carriers to 7.5 ton trucks; occasional political research; buying lots of late-night pizzas.

Other Information:

Driving Licence: Clean car and motorcycle licence held for more than 10 years.

Nationality: United Kingdom citizen since birth.

Criminal Convictions: None. Clean Enhanced Disclosure certificate (October 2006) available on request.

References:

References are available on request.