

# James Delaney

Education and International Development Leader · Experiential Learning · Strategic Programs

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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Senior education and international development leader with extensive experience designing and implementing experiential learning initiatives and professional development programs. Proven expertise in strategic program management, partnership development, and skills-based learning across academic and professional sectors. Demonstrated success in establishing sustainable learning initiatives with a focus on skills development. Bilingual (English/French) educator committed to bridging theory with practice in diverse contexts.

## KEY SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS

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- **Strategic Leadership:** 20+ years leading complex development programs and teams of technical specialists
- **Financial Management:** Multi-million-dollar budgets and mixed revenue-generation models
- **Partnership Development:** Effective partnerships with academic institutions, governments, and civil society organizations globally
- **Program Design & Delivery:** Designing, implementing, and evaluating capacity building, professional development, and organizational learning programs
- **Knowledge Integration:** Connecting academic research with development practice
- **Adult Education:** Curriculum design and delivery for professional audiences and university students

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### Executive Director (Executive in Residence)

September 2024 – Present (Part-time)

*Global Development Policy and Practice Hub, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ottawa*

Ottawa, ON

- Lead the establishment of a global development think-tank situated at the University of Ottawa.
- Generate new programming and partnerships in education and applied research relating to development practice.
- Develop and manage annual budgets, marketing, and revenue-generating activities.

### Visiting Professor

September 2024 – Present (Part-time)

*Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ottawa*

Ottawa, ON

- Design and teach experiential learning courses (FSS 1300 and FSS 1700) focused on transferable competencies.
- Integrate professional development approaches with academic learning for adult students.
- Develop course materials connecting academic theory with professional practice.
- Evaluate learning outcomes and adapt pedagogical approaches based on student feedback.

### Director, Technical Services

April 2020 – Present

*World University Service of Canada (WUSC)*

Ottawa, ON

- Lead program strategy, evaluation, and strategic communication for all WUSC programs, ensuring integration of research and best practices.
- Supervise a team of 10 program specialists and trainers supporting training, capacity development, and coaching across a wide range of disciplines.
- Develop and maintain strategic partnerships with academic institutions, government agencies, and civil society organizations.
- Led successful program funding initiatives totalling more than \$32 million in 2023.
- Coordinate strategic KPI development and performance measurement across programs.

### Director of Programming and Partnerships

April 2015 – April 2020

*Uniterria Program (WUSC and CECI Consortium)*

Ottawa, ON

- Managed planning, partnerships, and public engagement for a 14-country program (\$123 million over five years).
- Supervised a team of 8 staff and coordinated the mobilization of 3,000+ Canadian, Southern, and South-South volunteers.

- Facilitated the creation and maintenance of 200+ partner relationships across academic, government, and civil society sectors; led capacity assessments, systems analysis, and development plans.
- Established sustainable funding models; doubled revenue from institutional partnerships over three years through strategic partnership development.

### Regional Coordinator, Africa

WUSC

April 2014 – April 2015

Ottawa, ON

- Managed WUSC programming in Botswana, Ghana, Burkina Faso, and Malawi.
- Directly supervised four country directors and teams implementing education, livelihood, and health projects.
- Oversaw an annual budget of \$3 million+ from Global Affairs Canada and USAID.
- Led successful major funding proposals, including the \$123 million Uniterria proposal to DFATD.

### Program Associate

Coady International Institute, St. Francis Xavier University

September 2004 – September 2006

Antigonish, NS

- Led institutional planning and evaluation strategies for professional development programs.
- Designed and delivered alumni tracer studies and developed engagement strategies.
- Taught the course *Local Responses to Globalization*, integrating theory and practice.
- Developed curriculum materials for adult learners in professional development contexts.

### Local Facilitator

Centre for Human Settlements, University of British Columbia

September 2000 – March 2003

Vietnam

- Facilitated development of university–community partnerships across a network of five Vietnamese universities.
- Integrated student internships with research initiatives, connecting academic work with development practice.
- Coordinated project reporting and internal evaluations.

### Program Officer

World University Service of Canada

September 1997 – September 2000

Vietnam

- Managed student internships and study abroad programs in Vietnam; supervised placement of 40+ Canadian students and interns.
- Led training of Canadian interns and designed and supervised two international learning seminars connecting Canadian and Vietnamese university students.

## EDUCATION

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### M.B.A. (Innovation and Business Analytics specializations)

University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign

2022

### Ph.D. (ABD), Human Geography

University of Toronto

2007 – 2011

### M.A., Political Science

University of British Columbia

2003

### B.A. (Hons), International Development Studies

Dalhousie University

1997

## SELECTED UNIVERSITY TEACHING

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- Instructor, **DVM 4160 — Advanced Topics in International Development Projects**, School of International Development and Globalization, University of Ottawa 2026
- Instructor, **FSS 1700 — Introduction au Régime d'apprentissage expérientiel approfondi et aux compétences transversales**, School of International Development and Globalization, University of Ottawa 2024, 2025
- Instructor, **FSS 1300 — Introduction to Experiential Learning and Transferable Competencies**, University of Ottawa 2024, 2025
- Co-Instructor, **DVM 2505 — International Development: Theories and Contemporary Practice**, School of International Development and Globalization, University of Ottawa 2018, 2019
- Instructor, **GEOG 4395 — Asia-Pacific Development**, Department of Geography, York University 2008

- Instructor, **ASI400Y — Political Economy of the Asia-Pacific**, Munk Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto 2008
- Instructor, **Local Responses to Globalization**, Coady International Institute, St. Francis Xavier University 2003, 2004

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS RELEVANT TO EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

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- Tiessen, R., Delaney, J., Lowe, B., and Cadesky, J. (2020). **Scholar/Practitioner Research in International Development Volunteering (IDV): Benefits, Challenges and Future Opportunities**. *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, 42(3).
- Delaney, J. (2014). **Reassembling Policy Through Research: Reflections on Situating Policy Advocacy Through Research and Practice**. *The Professional Geographer*, 66(1): 18–24.
- Rankin, K., and Delaney, J. (2011). **Community Business Improvement Associations as Practices of Assemblage**. *Environment and Planning A*, 43: 1363–1380.
- Delaney, J. (2009). **The Tools of Empire? Microfinance and the State in Vietnam**. *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, 29(3–4): 313–328.
- Delaney, J., and Vinh, N. D. (2008). **When Bamboo is Old, the Sprouts Appear: Rekindling Local Economies through Traditional Skills in Hanoi**. In A. Mathie and G. Cunningham (eds.), *From Clients to Citizens: Communities Changing the Course of Their Own Development*. London: Practical Action.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & VOLUNTEER WORK

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Board Member, <b>Frontenac-Arch Biosphere Network (FABN)</b>	2023 – Present
Board Member and Ski Instructor, <b>Canadian Adaptive Snowsports</b>	2019 – Present
Board Member & Secretary, <b>Ottawa Children's Choir</b>	2017 – 2022
Board Member & Audit Committee Member, <b>WUSC</b>	2004 – 2005