

JOHN F. PUMILIO, C.E.M., LEED Green Associate

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QUALIFICATIONS

- Accomplished, dynamic Sustainability Professional with diverse experience in environmental and social justice issues, education, field research, and wildlife preservation.
- Skilled at strategic and master planning including experience with both public and private institutions.
- Talented lecturer and educator with eleven years experience as a “top” Director for Tauck (an internationally-respected travel company) as well as instructional and research roles with the National Park Service, National Audubon Society, and the Conservancy of Southwest Florida. Taught for-credit academic programs at The Evergreen State College and at Colgate University.
- Exceptionally diverse life experiences that include extensive international travel, field research in biological studies, and numerous environmental education opportunities.
- Strong cross-cultural and interpersonal skills; conversant in Spanish.
- Accomplished community organizer with proficient skills at bringing diverse stakeholders together in dialogue.
- Technically adept in computer software applications including Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and others.

EDUCATION

The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA

Master's in Environmental Studies, June 2007

College of Environmental Science & Forestry at Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

Bachelor of Science – Environmental and Forest Biology, August 1995

Academic Standing: 3.4 GPA - Magna Cum Laude

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ASSOCIATE PROVOST FOR SUSTAINABILITY

March 2009 – Present

Colgate University, Hamilton, New York

Lead a university-wide collaborative effort to create, manage, and advance all aspects of Colgate's sustainability program. Responsibility includes integrating sustainability in the curriculum, advancing sustainability throughout operations, and working with the broader Colgate and Hamilton (NY) communities to promote sustainable practices and decision-making. Oversaw the creation and now implementation and assessment of Colgate's sustainability and climate action plan. Oversee completion of annual greenhouse gas inventory and AASHE STARS report. Oversee all Sustainability Office communications including sustainability website, social media, and newsletters. Serve on over a dozen standing committees and working groups to better integrate sustainability throughout our academic and operational programs. Assist faculty with the instruction and mentorship of academic courses including Environmental Studies focusing on community-based learning that involves semester-long research into issues of campus sustainability.

Accomplishments:

- Became the first college or university in New York State to achieve carbon neutrality.
- Oversee more than \$1.5 million in funds earmarked for sustainability.
- Created, expanded, and manage all aspects of the Sustainability Office that now includes four professional-level staff and over a dozen student interns.
- Reduced energy, water, paper, landfill, and food waste that resulted in a 46 percent reduction in our campus carbon footprint and over \$500,000 of avoided spending from our 2009 baseline.
- Led the effort to include sustainability as a core strategy in our 2014 Campus Master Plan and Strategic Plan.
- Hosted the New York State Sustainability Conference in 2018 which was the highest attended conference to date.
- Created and help oversee the university's 0.5-acre organic vegetable garden.
- Created a green living and green office program with active participation from hundreds of employees and students.
- Worked collaboratively with faculty, staff, and students to write campus-wide green building standards for all new construction and major renovations. Achieved first USGBC LEED-rated buildings on campus including a LEED Platinum building that received New York State's Green Building of the Year award in 2019.
- Received the 2011 Climate Leadership Award by Second Nature.
- Achieved an AASHE STARS Gold Rating in 2014, 2017, and 2022.
- Co-founder of the Hamilton (NY) Climate Preparedness Working Group that achieved NYS Climate Smart Communities certification.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

— Continued —

Individual Awards/Recognition:

- 2018 Colgate University Employee of the Year
- 2018 Colgate University Individual Excellence Award
- 2016, 2017, 2019, 2022 Recipient Staff Incentive Bonus Program – Leading Performer (LP)
- 2011-2012 Recognition for Extraordinary Performance

PROGRAM DIRECTOR & ORNITHOLOGY INSTRUCTOR

1993 – 2018 (Seasonal)

National Audubon Society, Hog Island, Maine

- Create and oversee all aspects of weeklong environmental education workshops for adults.
- Recruit and manage nationally and internationally renowned instructional staff.
- Utilized various media – lectures, slide presentations, field trips and boat cruises – to instruct hundreds of adults in the identification, conservation and ecology of native avifauna of Muscongus Bay, Maine.
- Conducted surveys and authored reports detailing findings of annual Hog Island, Maine Breeding Bird Surveys.

DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY

2005 – 2009

The Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington

- Expanded and developed initiatives that firmly established The Evergreen State College as a model institution in the concept and practice of sustainability.
- Co-chaired Evergreen's Executive-level Sustainability Council.
- Taught academic for-credit courses in the Masters of Environmental Studies Program.
- Advised and educated the community on new opportunities and advanced sustainability concepts.
- Increase collaboration among Evergreen's students, faculty, and staff to pursue common institutional goals
- Facilitated workshops that led to the integration of sustainability throughout the Evergreen curriculum.
- Worked with student groups and interns on projects as diverse as biodiesel production, waste management, sustainable living, sustainable food services, and alternative transportation initiatives.
- Communicated Evergreen's sustainability programs to regional and national audiences.
- Organized monthly region-wide sustainability symposiums that attracted political, business, and community leaders.
- Oversaw the completion of Evergreen's sustainability indicators report.
- Worked collaboratively with faculty, staff, and students to develop a long-term sustainability plan that was incorporated into the college's updated Five-Year Strategic Plan.
- Performed administrative details including, but not limited to, preparing meeting minutes, agenda setting, meeting facilitation, coordinating outreach activities, updating our website, and evaluating our progress.

Accomplishments:

- Led sustainability initiatives that resulted in the reduction of our campus carbon footprint by 300 tons annually while saving the college tens of thousands of dollars through resource conservation and efficiency.
- Completed the college's first greenhouse gas inventory and offered recommendations on achieving carbon neutrality.
- Played an integral role in encouraging the President of The Evergreen State College to join the President's Climate Commitment and in facilitating the initial launch of Evergreen's effort in the nationwide Focus the Nation event.
- Successfully completed a graduate internship where I advised Evergreen President, Thomas L. Purce, of the latest scientific advances and policy initiatives as they relate to campus sustainability.
- Delivered graduation speech during the graduate school's hooding ceremony.

NATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL GUIDE

1997 – 2008

Tauk World Discovery, Norwalk, Connecticut

- Successfully guided thousands of demographically diverse clients on educationally-oriented adventures throughout Alaska, the Canadian Rockies, New England, Quebec, East Africa, Peru, & the Galapagos Islands.
- Utilize necessary interpersonal, organizational, & leadership skills to successfully overcome unique, perplexing, and unexpected situations.
- Provide expertise in various regions to facilitate program training to 20+ colleagues preparing to lead tours.
- Represented 250 co-workers on three separate occasions as a member of Tauk's highly selective strategic planning committee.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE— *Continued* —**Accomplishments:**

- Consistently received the highest possible job performance rating as evaluated by supervisors, suppliers, & clients.
- Served as a Technology Committee Member tasked with helping develop and implement our intranet and other new technologies designed to significantly enhance communications and information-sharing throughout the company. Introduced new technology to hundreds of co-workers via seminars.
- Assisted in the development and launch of Tauck's highly successful "Bridges" brand of products focused on family travel.

FIELD BIOLOGIST – BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE

1996 – 1998

National Park Service, Everglades, Florida

- Managed and assisted in endangered species preservation projects, including:
 - *Red-cockaded Woodpecker* – Initiated habitat improvement, banding, continual monitoring, data collection, and written field data summary reports.
 - *Florida Panther* – Captured & radio-collared eight panthers, & monitored them via aerial radio-telemetry and ground tracking.
 - *Big Cypress Fox Squirrels* – Live-trapped, radio-collared, and gathered data to obtain natural history information.
- Conducted field & class lectures on Bird Identification for hundreds of visitors to the Conservancy of SW Florida.
- Supervised several Americorps members training them on job requirements, work safety, & logistical procedures.

Accomplishments:

- Designed, constructed, and implemented an improved Artificial Cavity Insert that now serves as a regional standard for the endangered Red-Cockaded Woodpecker. Efforts contributed to species survival in the southern portion of their range.
- Initiated processes for Breeding Bird Surveys; conducted surveys and drafted written analyses of findings and procedures.
- Authored Big Cypress' first Bird Checklist used by thousands of avid birders and tourists.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR

1996 – 1997

RAVEN – Interpretive Wildlife Programs, Marco Island, Florida

- Developed and delivered weekly presentations for 20 to 30 adults, as part of "Ecology of the Everglades" lecture series.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION INTERN

October 1995

National Audubon Society, Greenwich, Connecticut

- Provided training to corps of volunteer teacher naturalists through formal lectures and interpretive nature walks.
- Led visitors and organizations on natural history walks.

PUBLICATIONS

Pattison, A., Henke, C.R. & Pumilio, J. Community-based climate action planning as an act of advocacy: a case study of liberal arts education in a rural community. *J Environ Stud Sci* (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13412-020-00655-0>

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**Teaching and Field Research Experiences*****1995 Field Researcher***, Jamaica, West Indies

Banded neo-tropical migrant birds within six study sites to verify winter survival rates.

Surveyed local and neo-tropical avifauna to compare biological diversity in sun and shade coffee plantations.

1995 Teaching Assistant, Herkimer County Community College, New York

Trained ecology students in various data collection techniques for studying migratory birds.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

— Continued —

Additional Experiences

1999 Spanish Immersion Program, Monteverde, Costa Rica

Studied Spanish while living with a Costa Rican family & attending daily classroom seminars.

Select Publications, Interviews, and Conferences

2023 DASNY Seminar: Accelerating the Clean Energy Transition, University at Albany, NY.

Panel Presentation with Higher Education Leaders.

2023 Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), Boston, MA.

Biomass as a Sustainable Source of Energy.

2022 Architectural Record. [American Universities Target Climate Neutrality](#). By Katharine Logan

2022 Roosevelt Strategic Council. Facilities and Campus Energy, Washington, D.C.

Panel Presentation with Higher Education Leaders.

2022 Rockefeller Institute of Government. [Locally Sourced: Municipal and Green Policy Solutions](#), Syracuse, NY

Panel Presentation on State-Local Climate and Energy Programs.

2022 New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling (NYSAR3), Cooperstown, NY.

Presentation on Striving for Campus Circularity

2021 Colgate University 13 Podcast. [Can Burning Biomass Help with Carbon Reduction?](#)

Learn about biomass as the primary heat source for the University, and how burning locally sourced wood chips helped reduce Colgate's carbon footprint on its pathway to carbon neutrality in 2019.

2020 Power Dialog Solving Climate in New York State Web Presentation with 300 participants.

2020 Second Nature Climate Leadership Summit, Atlanta, GA

Colgate University's Journey to Carbon Neutrality

2019 Colgate University 13 Podcast. [What is Carbon Neutrality?](#)

Join Colgate Director of Sustainability John Pumilio to learn about the history of Colgate's 10-year journey toward becoming the first carbon-neutral University in New York State. Discover what a carbon credit really is all about, and find some simple new ways to be a better steward of the Earth in your own life.

2019 Colgate Magazine: [Plan. Act. Change.](#) By Dan DeVries

2019 New York State of Sustainability Conference, Rochester Institute of Technology, NY.

Carbon Offsets and Colgate's Pathway to Carbon Neutrality

2019 National Association of Educational Procurement (New York State Chapter), Lake Placid, NY.

Our Common Future: The Nexus of Procurement and Sustainability

2019 [WAMC Public Radio](#).

Achieving Carbon Neutrality with Colgate President Brian Casey.

2018 Colgate Magazine: [Rare and Migrating Birds Visit Colgate's Forests](#)

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

— Continued —

2018 The Colgate Maroon-News. [People of the Year: John Pumilio.](#)

2017 Keynote Speech, Friends Seminary, New York City, NY.

Sustainability In Our Time: Welcome to the Anthropocene.

2017 State of NY Sustainability Conference, SUNY Cortland, NY.

Employee Engagement Best Practices: Colgate University's Sustainability Passport Program.

2016 Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), Baltimore, MD.

Utilizing Carbon Offsets To Fulfill The Second Nature Climate Leadership Commitments.

2016 New York State of Sustainability Conference, SUNY New Paltz, NY.

Climate Smart Communities: The Value and Process of Campus-Community Partnerships in Advancing Climate Action.

Campus Forests in Mitigating Climate Change and Meeting Carbon Goals.

The Power Dialog: NYS Higher Education Institutions Harnessing the Power of Student Inquiry to Advance Clean Energy Policy.

2015 Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), Minneapolis, MN.

Developing and Implementing Carbon Mitigation Projects for your Campus.

2014 New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling (NYSAR3), Cooperstown, NY.

Enhanced Athletic Recycling Program.

2014 Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), Portland, OR.

Climate Adaptation and Resiliency in Colgate University's Campus Master Plan.

2014 Presidential Summit on Climate Leadership, Second Nature, Boston, MA.

The Role of Campus Forests in Achieving Climate Neutrality at Colgate University. (Poster)

2014 Engineers for a Sustainable World, Northwestern University, IL. *Green Minds: Sustainability in Higher Education.*

2013 New York State Federation of Solid Waste Associations, Lake George, NY. *Sustainability in Action at Colgate University.*

2013 New York State Green Building Conference, Syracuse, NY. *FROM RENOVATION TO RESTORATION:*

Rediscovering value and sustainability in historic architecture.

2009-2013 Adirondack Youth Climate Summit, Saranac Lake, NY. *Fostering a Culture of Sustainability in Higher Education.*

2013 Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), Nashville, TN. *Forest*

Sequestration and Climate Neutrality at Colgate University.

2012 Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (C-STEP) Symposium, Morrisville State College, NY.

Sustainability: Our Place in History.

2012 Farming Wood for Heat and Biofuels, Cornell University, NY. *Experimental Willow Plot at Colgate University.*

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

— Continued —

2012 New York State Green Building Conference, Syracuse, NY. *TEACHING LEED: Green Buildings as Teaching Tools. A Case Study of the Trudy Fitness Center at Colgate University.*

2012 Science Teachers Affiliates, Hamilton, NY. *Fostering a Culture of Sustainability in the Classroom and Beyond.*

2011 New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling (NYSAR3), Cooperstown, NY. *Colgate University's Salvage Program (End of Year Move Out).*

Professional Credentials

LEED Green Associate, United States Green Building Council (USGBC)

Certified Energy Manager (CEM), Association of Energy Engineers (AEE)

Certified Health Coach, Health Coach Institute (HCI)

Affiliations, Service & Certifications

Advisory Council, Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)

Implementation Leadership Circle, Second Nature's Climate Commitments

Board Member, Friends of Rogers Environmental Education Center (2009-2024); President (2019-2021)

Member, Association of Climate Change Officers (ACCO)

Member, Association of Energy Engineers (AEE)

Member, United States Green Building Council (USGBC) New York Upstate Chapter

Member, New York Consortium for Sustainability in Higher Education (NYCSHE)

Member, New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse, & Recycling (NYSAR3) College Council

Member, National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO)

Member, APPA: Leadership in Educational Facilities