

## KENT J. WESSINGER

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### EDUCATION.

- 2016 Ph.D., Prescott College  
Sustainability Education with a multidisciplinary emphasis in socio-economic sustainability within developing cultures, corporations, and organizations suffering from workforce migration due to suppressed entrepreneurial environments of innovation development  
Sustainability Education Fellowship—2012-2016
- 2003 M.A., Regent University  
Practical Theology  
Recipient of the World Leadership Scholarship
- 1994 B.S., Kennesaw State University  
Small Business Management

### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS.

- 2017 - Galen University, Belize  
Adjunct faculty: MBA Innovation and Entrepreneurship Track. Author and instructor of courses titled; *Entrepreneurial Innovation Implementation Strategies*, *MBA Qualitative & Quantitative Research Development and Thesis Proposal*, and *MBA Entrepreneurial Thesis Research, Data Analysis and Presentation*.
- 2017 - Point University, Westpoint, Georgia  
Adjunct faculty and author of online graduate course titled; *Servant Leadership Theory and Development*.
- 2015 - create2elevate labs – Founder  
A global initiative committed to elevate nations, organizations, and corporations that are jeopardizing their future and forfeiting growth because they are hemorrhaging their millennial workforce and muting innovative ideas of value. I developed, manage, and utilize one of the most comprehensive research tools in the world on millennials in an effort to accurately secure growth and fortify profit with millennial employees and customers. As a result, the create2elevate labs has a significant role of growth through entrepreneurial innovation development within the sectors of financial services, risk management, human resources, and manufacturing.
- 2010–14 University of the Virgin Islands – St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

Adjunct faculty member – Critical Thinking/ Philosophy (St. Thomas Campus),  
Program Coordinator, St. John Campus, IT/Faculty Liaison, Upward Bound  
Instructor

2005-09 Giffit Hill School – St. John, United States Virgin Islands  
Honors faculty

2001-05 Feedhouse Church – West Palm Beach, Florida  
Senior Pastor

2000-01 School of Ministry – British Virgin Islands  
Senior Coordinator

1997-00 Grace Fellowship Church – Athens, GA.  
Founding/Senior Pastor

1993-97 Institute of the Caribbean – St. Ann, Jamaica  
Headmaster/Director

#### **INVITED LECTURES.**

2018 University of Georgia, “The conflict and influence of millennials within our corporate structures.”

2017 University of South Carolina, “Why are people leaving paradise?”  
University of Georgia, “The conflict and influence of millennials within our corporate structures.”

TEDtalk, TEDx Tortola, British Virgin Islands. *Why are people leaving “Paradise?”* H.L. Stoutt Community College

2016 University of Georgia, “Why are people leaving paradise?”  
The University of Georgia, Zell Miller Education; “‘Paradise’ lost in crisis.”

#### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS.**

2018 BB&T Growth Conference, Savannah, Ga, “Securing growth and profitability with millennial employees and customers,” keynote;  
BB&T Growth Conference, Macon, Ga, “Securing growth and profitability with millennial employees and customers,” keynote;  
BB&T Growth Conference, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, “Securing growth and profitability with millennial employees and customers,” keynote;  
BB&T Growth Conference, Tampa, FL, “Securing growth and profitability with millennial employees and customers,” keynote;  
BB&T Growth Conference, Naples, FL, “Securing growth and profitability with millennial employees and customers,” keynote;  
West Georgia Chamber of Commerce, “Securing growth and profitability with millennial employees and customers,” keynote;  
Belize Chamber of Commerce, “Securing growth and profitability with millennial employees and customers,” keynote;

- 2017 Central Georgia Existing Industries Roundtable, “The conflict and influence of millennials in the manufacturing sector,” keynote;
- 2016 Prescott College, Sustainability Symposium, “Why are people leaving Paradise?”
- 2015 Prescott College, Sustainability Symposium, “Why are people leaving Paradise?”

**RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS.**

- 2018 *Bridges over ladders: Create a future with millennials, or millennials will create a future for you.* Athens, Georgia: c2e Press.
- 2016 a. Textbook: *Creative practice and socioeconomic crisis in the Caribbean: A path to sustainable growth.* London, UK: Routledge.
- b. *Paradise in Crisis: The relationship between creative practice and socioeconomic crisis in the Caribbean,* ProQuest.

**NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS.**

- 2015 a. Fragrance of life - Southern Distinction
- b. The grandest of all innovations - Southern Distinction
- c. Scars are not Bars! - Southern Distinction
- d. Responding with resilience - Southern Distinction
- e. One individual can be the difference - Southern Distinction
- 2014 a. Stunned by a piercing beauty - Southern Distinction
- b. What is all this happening? - Southern Distinction

**ACADEMIC BOARD OF DIRECTOR(S) POSITIONS.**

- 2017 - Journal of Sustainability Education—Advisory Board member
- 2015 - Partnerships of Hope—Objective: Implementing environments of creative practice in educational institutions on three United States Virgin Islands.
- 1993-03 Caribbean Mission—Objective: Develop sustainable academic and vocational education for residential school in rural Jamaica

**RESEARCH INTERESTS.**

- a. Creative practice and entrepreneurial environments as a method of social justice and economic sustainability,
- b. Economic theory developed from innovative environments,
- c. The conflict and influence of millennial migration on organizational structures
- d. Impact of cultural and employee migration on corporate and organizational structures,
- e. Experiential education in developing nations,
- f. The plight of African cultures,
- g. West Indian/Afro-Carib culture and all cultures related to Caribbean history.

**GRANTS.**

- 2012 U.S. Department of Education, St. John Academic Center. \$1,500,000. 2012-2015

**DISSERTATION COMMITTEES.**

- 2018 Management leadership and organizational change

2016 Curriculum development for sustainable technical education in underdeveloped regions.

### **RELEVANT CONFERENCES/CERTIFICATES.**

- 2013
- a. The Teaching Professor Technology Conference
  - b. Developing hybrid courses for multicultural environments - Seton Hall
  - c. Effective strategies for the diverse learning environment - Florida State
  - d. Blending in humanities: Using technology to be inclusive and provide meaningful educational opportunities - Northern Arizona University.
- 2012 Advisor Trac/Tutor Trac

### **TECHNOLOGY TEACHING PLATFORMS.**

- Blackboard Collaborate
- Moodle
- Sakai

### **SUMMARY OF EXPERIENTIAL SKILLS.**

- Multi-cultured environments.  
As the Managing Director/Headmaster of the Institute of the Caribbean Mission in Jamaica, leadership positions at the University of the Virgin Islands, and long-term teaching commitments on three Caribbean islands and Belize; I have learned to effectively recruit, integrate, and establish healthy multicultural environments.
- Growth-centered.  
All of my positions have required three immediate responses: raise money, establish cross discipline collaboration, and construct an organizational structure for development. I have been honored to experience vast and rapid growth in all of my positions.
- Innovative practice.  
Based on my research and experience, sustainable growth for cultures, corporations, and houses of worship are contingent on access to environments of innovative practice that produce culturally unique innovation. I have been privileged to develop, lead, and facilitate environments of innovative practice in educational institutions, diverse cultures, local communities, and varied corporations.
- Educational leader.  
I have been honored to serve in educationally based positions for thirty years. Fourteen of those years I have served in the lead position while submitting/collaborating with a Board of Directors. As a result, I have developed strong leadership skills with a clear understanding of the demands of leadership.
- Empowerment.  
Removing barriers and elevating students at the University of the Virgin Islands and Galen University in Belize has been one of the great privileges of my life. As an adjunct faculty member, author of courses, and assessment board member; I have had the

privilege of equipping students with the tools to elevate communities, cultures and nations.

**PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES.**

Fitzroy Beckford, Ph.D., University of Florida, [fbeckford@leegov.com](mailto:fbeckford@leegov.com)

Mark Runco, Ph.D., University of Georgia, [Mark.Runco@gmail.com](mailto:Mark.Runco@gmail.com)

Pramod Parajuli, Ph.D., Prescott College, [pparajuli@prescott.edu](mailto:pparajuli@prescott.edu)

Don Nelson, Ph.D., University of Georgia, [dnelson@uga.edu](mailto:dnelson@uga.edu)

Amy Schweizer, Professor of Nursing, U of the Virgin Islands, [aburlar@uvi.edu](mailto:aburlar@uvi.edu)