

Lauri Hennessey ***Seasoned Communicator and Instructor***

Lauri Hennessey is the **Executive Director for the Pacific Northwest for One Love Foundation**, a national nonprofit educating communities and students about healthy and unhealthy relationships. She is also an adjunct college instructor. Lauri is currently adjunct faculty at Seattle University, University of Washington and University of Florida, teaching everything from crisis communications to global social change.. She has 30 years of experience in advocacy, policy, media relations, strategic communications, public affairs, nonprofit leadership, community and government relations, public speaking, and strategic positioning. She has worked as a Seattle radio reporter, a Congressional press secretary, a federal public affairs manager, a CEO of her own public relations firm, and as head of Public Affairs for Edelman in the Northwest.

She is a frequent public speaker, serving as a Humanities Washington Distinguished Lecturer, speaking about sexual harassment and her own experiences on Capitol Hill. She is author of blogposts and guest articles on topics ranging from diversity, equity and inclusion to sexual harassment, new management styles to building coalitions.

With a lifelong interest in teaching, Lauri went back to school and received her BA in 2020 from University of Washington (in Integrated Social Sciences, with a focus on institutional racism) and received her Master of Communications from University of Florida in December, 2022, focused on social impact and public interest communications.

Course instruction history:

Fall, 2023, University of Washington Master of Communications Leadership, Crisis Communications

Fall, 2023, University of Florida, Public Relations Undergraduate Program, Global Social Change

Fall, 2023, Seattle University, Strategic Communications

Spring, 2023, University of Washington Master of Communications Leadership, Crisis Communications

Spring, 2022, University of Washington Osher School (focused on continuing education), The Changing World of Communications

Course Design:

- Design of UW Communications Leadership Master Crisis Communications Course
- Design of Public Interest Communications course for University of Washington undergrad

Areas of Expertise:

- Organizational leadership ◦ Communications Strategy ◦ Branding ◦ Crisis Communications
- Media Relations ◦ Thought Leadership ◦ Speechwriting ◦ Marketing ◦ Political Campaigning
- Grassroots Advocacy ◦ Public Affairs ◦ Communications Training ◦ Public Speaking
- Events Management ◦ Development

Education:

- Journalism/Western Washington University (two years)
- International Studies/University of Washington (2.5 years)
- Integrated Social Sciences with focus on Institutional Racism (BA, distinction), 2021
- Master of Mass Communications, University of Florida, Public Interest Communications focus (MMC, distinction), 2022

Executive Director, Pacific Northwest region, One Love Foundation, 2023

- *Manage regional staff for new office of One Love Foundation, focusing on events, fund development and community engagement*
- *Serve on senior leadership team of national organization with focus on building healthy relationships*

CEO, League of Education Voters, 2019- 2023

- Manage team of 12 around Washington state, doing advocacy, field engagement, and communications around education reform and equity for a 501(c)3, 501(c)4 and PAC.
- Served as chief fundraiser for nonprofit and face of organization with \$3 million operating budget.
- Trained through Third Sector as Interim Executive

Vice President of Engagement, Woodland Park Zoo- 2016-2019

- Managed a team of 20 and oversaw communications, media relations, community engagement, and marketing for Seattle's zoo. Served as primary media spokesperson and elected officials contact.
- Drove engagement around arts advocacy and climate change initiatives, including brand and communications strategy.

Vice President for Public Affairs, Edelman, Seattle (2012-2016)

- Directed public affairs for Edelman in the Northwest, working on grassroots campaigns and serving as national family foundations lead for Edelman.
- Managed campaign for Bezos Family Foundation with an annual budget of more than two million.
- Worked extensively with news media and government, as well as digital and social media campaigns, handling national media and serving as crisis lead.

Executive Director of nonprofits

- Served as interim Executive Director for local nonprofits in the Seattle area, including the Municipal League of King County, overseeing an organization dedicated to candidate reviews and endorsements (501c3/c4).
- Served as chief spokesperson for nonprofits, development director and communications strategist

Owner, Hennessey Communications (political campaigns, fundraising, communications)

- Worked as a consultant with nonprofits in the Seattle area, managing website development, earned media, con-tent creation, marketing, media training, public affairs, and fundraising campaigns.
- Clients included domestic abuse prevention, HIV/AIDS prevention, transgender coalition building, and homeless-ness prevent for women and children

Federal government experience

- Worked with EPA in Seattle as lead political voice for the agency in the Northwest, traveling to Washington D.C. frequently and working with elected officials (1997-2001)
- Director of Public Affairs US Bureau of Land Management, Oregon/Washington (1992-1997)
- Press Secretary, U.S. Senator Bob Packwood and U.S. Rep. John Miller

Media

- Editor/Reporter, KIRO Radio (1986-1989)

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Twitter: <https://twitter.com/LauriAHennessey>