

NIKA SOON-SHIONG

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EDUCATION

- 10/19 **Doctor of Philosophy in International Development**
- Oxford University, St. Antony's College, Supervisors: Nikita Sud and Diego Sanchez-Ancochea
- 6/16 **Masters of Arts in African Studies**
- Stanford University, concentration in Culture and Society, GPA: 3.94
- 9/11 **Bachelor of Arts in International Relations**
- Stanford University, major specialization in Social Development and a minor in Creative Writing, GPA: 3.89

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 6/15 **Phi Beta Kappa member**, most prestigious academic honor society in the United States
- 6/15 **Scholarship Recipient**, New York State Summer Writers Institute, *Skidmore, NY*
- Selective scholarship to attend an extended fiction workshop; nominated by Joyce Carol Oates

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 1/18 – 4/19 **Consultant, Office of President Jim Yong Kim**, World Bank Group, *Washington, DC*
- Corporate Strategy: Conducted research on disruptive technologies' impact on development pathways to inform new World Bank Group approach; member of core team to develop value proposition
 - Coordinated inputs and contributed to 2018 and 2019 Development Committee papers on disruptive technology
 - Developed strategy for managing partnerships with global tech companies including Google, Facebook, Amazon, Microsoft and others to influence the technology industry towards development objectives
 - Regional strategy: Analyzed World Bank Group projects in the South Asia, Middle East and North Africa, and Africa regions to improve their development impact; identified technology-related opportunities and risks Presented pipeline analysis to senior management, including regional Vice Presidents and Country Directors
 - Special initiatives:
 - Govtech: Supported a new initiative to digitize government service delivery; developed an analytical framework to prioritize workstreams
 - Famine Early Action Mechanism: Coordinated partnerships; recruited leading artificial intelligence scientists and data providers to produce predictive models of famine risk; led research on what types of data might improve the model's predictive power
 - Communications: Developed internal and external communications strategy for the corporate disruptive technology agenda; led the development of an intranet site for staff. Wrote speeches and media posts for former President Jim Yong Kim related to the changing nature of work
- 7/17 – 12/17 **National Campaigns Researcher**, Equal Education, *Khayelitsha, Cape Town, South Africa*
- Primary author and project manager of *Planning to Fail*, a qualitative and quantitative study of 60 schools with the worst infrastructure in the Eastern Cape. Produced two policy reports on government service delivery: one on the role of State-owned enterprises, and one on the history and politics of public procurement.
 - Department of Education officials recently committed to adopting the reports' proposed policy reforms
 - Monitored national law reform and several portfolio committees of National Parliament
- 7/15 – 9/15 **Public Service Research Fellow**, Stanford HAAS Center for Public Service, *Gaborone, Botswana*
- Developed a photovoice research project exploring perspectives on poverty and opportunity among unemployed youth; exhibited at Botswana's largest contemporary art gallery
 - Produced a photovoice manual currently utilized by Stanford University and Northwestern University
- 6/14 – 9/14 **Summer Research Fellow**, Stanford Cape Town Program, *Nyanga, Cape Town, South Africa*
- Conducted two community-based participatory research projects at a center for individuals affected by HIV/AIDS; Prepared a monitoring and evaluation report on the long-term efficacy of a youth employment program and a photovoice research project exploring perspectives on unemployment and opportunity among township youth

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Dynamics of power, agency and representation in international development
- Politics of social policy and government service delivery in developing countries

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 6/19 – Present **Consultant for Social Protection and Jobs**, World Bank
- Supporting the delivery of a regionally interoperable identification system in West Africa
 - Leading an innovation challenge to surface solutions towards a universal basic pensions platform in the region
- 7/16 – 7/17 **Princeton in Africa Fellow**, Equal Education, *King William's Town, South Africa*
- Produced a radio-aired podcast, photography exhibition, and photo-essay showcasing public school conditions from the perspective of students
 - Organized student-led campaigns based on education policy and media reports
- 3/16 – 7/16 **Fellow**, TeachAIDS, *Palo Alto, CA*
- Worked with CEO Piya Sorcar on strategic priorities including data collection and outreach efforts
 - Wrote grant applications, annual report, and website; earned TeachAIDS the 2016 Innovation Enterprise Strategic Transformation Award
- 1/14 – 3/14 **Curriculum Development Intern**, Etafeni Centre, *Nyanga, Cape Town, South Africa*
- Wrote curriculum and taught poetry and life skills workshops for unemployed youth

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 3/16 – 6/16 **Teaching Assistant**, Designing Research Based Interventions for Global Public Health, *Stanford University, CA*
- Organized course curriculum; graded student work and final projects
- 1/16 – 3/16 **Teaching Assistant/Co-author**, Genes and Identity, *Stanford University, CA*
- Led discussion sessions among undergraduate students; graded weekly and final papers
 - Co-authored a paper with the professor; working draft included in course syllabus
- 1/12 – 9/14 **Teaching Assistant**, Responses to the AIDS Epidemic and Psychiatry 101, *Stanford University, CA*

PUBLICATIONS

- “Using Digital Technologies to Re-Imagine Cash Transfers During the Covid-19 Crisis” *Pathways to Prosperity Commission*. May 2020.
- “Photovoice: A Community-Based Participatory Research Method Facilitator Manual.” ed. Tim Stanton (Working draft). February 2020.
- “Public Procurement and Implementing Agents: The Middlemen in Charge of School Infrastructure Delivery in South Africa.” (Book Chapter). *Public Procurement Regulation in Africa: Development in Changing Times*
- Soon-Shiong, Nika. “Implementing Agents and Building Schools.” (Report). *Equal Education*. October 2018.
- Soon-Shiong, Nika, et al. “Planning to Fail.” (Report). *Equal Education*. April 2017.

CONFERENCES AND POSTERS

- 4/20 **Conference: The Ethics of UBI in a Changing Economy**, *King's College London*
- 1/20 **Oxford Forum for International Development**, *Oxford University*
- Presented winning essay at a UNDP panel discussing the universal basic income and the social contract
- 11/19 **Regional Workshop on Pensions Schemes for Informal Sector Workers**, *Cotonou, Benin*
- Presented on “Developing a Regional, Flexible Benefits Platform in West Africa” to the World Bank, West African government and ECOWAS officials
- 9/18 **St. Antony's Research Colloquium**, *Oxford University, UK*
- 9/18 **International Conference on Public Procurement Law Africa**, *Stellenbosch University, South Africa*
- Presented paper on policies and processes related to public school infrastructure delivery

LANGUAGES

Spanish (fluent); Italian (full working proficiency); Xhosa: (working proficiency); Hindi (elementary proficiency)