

BLAKE C. NEMELKA, PH.D.

Achiever. Activator. Focus. Maximizer. Arranger.



EDUCATION

Ph.D. Learning Design & Technology

Purdue University, College of Education

M.Ed. Higher Education Administration

Vanderbilt University, Peabody College (US News #1 rank)

B.A. Business Admin, Marketing & International Bus

Utah State University, Huntsman School of Business

EXPERIENCE

Vice President of Academic Affairs

HCA Healthcare, Mountain Division

[hcahealthcare.com](https://www.hcahealthcare.com)

03/2023 - Present

- Oversee all academic partnerships for health system of 10,000 employees spread across Utah, Idaho, and Alaska
- Manage in-house nursing school operations for employees
- Facilitate sponsorship dollars of \$1 million

Manager, Strategy & Corporate Development

Western Governors University, University Development

01/2022 - 02/2023

[wgu.edu](https://www.wgu.edu)

- Lead presidential/executive strategy for net-new ventures with aim at 10x impact of 2020 outcomes by 2030
- Secured largest partnership agreement in department history (\$165,000)
- Manage employer solutions strategy for new venture studio (3-4 annually)

Director, Student Services Functions (Enrollment & Honors)

Utah State University, Huntsman School of Business

10/2017 - 11/2021

[huntsman.usu.edu](https://www.huntsman.usu.edu)

- Increased new student enrollment 21% in Fall 2019 and 25% in Fall 2020
- Oversaw two full-time recruiters, one full-time program manager, one program assistant, and 25 student recruitment ambassadors
- Achieved 100% internship placement and 95% career placement rates

Director, Strategic Enrollment (Summer Sessions)

University of California Santa Barbara, Chancellor's Office

05/2017 - 09/2017

[ucsb.edu](https://www.ucsb.edu)

- Increased FTE by 5% and headcount by 4% in Summer 2017, giving UCSB its largest summer term in school history (\$18 million budget)
- Directed a team of 12 full-time staff, including two faculty members

Director, Purdue Moves (Presidential Initiative)

Purdue University Office of the President/Provost

08/2014 - 05/2017

[purdue.edu](https://www.purdue.edu)

- Recruited directly by Governor/President Mitch Daniels to start a new initiative among 84 departments for strategic enrollment
- Increased Summer 2016 enrollment by a record 9% and credit hours by 12%
- Adjunct instructor for nine terms of interpersonal communication courses

Manager, Enrollment Services

Utah Tech University, Office of the VP of Student Services

05/2013 - 08/2014

[utahtech.edu](https://www.utahtech.edu)

- Oversight over Office of Admissions, increased enrollment 4%

SUMMARY

My mission is to contribute professionally in such a way that enables others to fulfill their full potential.

I am a natural executor who gravitates towards new program/department creation, the establishment and stewardship of internal and external partnerships, and student pipeline management.

"There is nothing more powerful than an idea whose time has come." -Victor Hugo

ACHIEVEMENTS



Led institution's highest enrollment growth year at three universities (\$10+ million revenue)

Utah Tech, Purdue, and Huntsman School



Managed 22 FTE, 14 part-time, and 50+ student employees thus far



10+ publications, including co-author of The Middle School Student's Guide to Academic Success (Simon & Schuster)



Recipient of highest academic and involvement honor (presented by the university president to one student at commencement)

Utah State & Vanderbilt



Graduate Student Body President & fully-funded dissertation award

Purdue University

PASSIONS



10+ hours of weekly community service (organ donation advocacy, sports coach, mental health advising, & general education development)



IRONMAN triathlete, attempting golf, and has-been tennis player (NCAA Division I athlete, Utah State)

LANGUAGES

Spanish

Proficient

Application Form

Profile

Blake

First Name

Nemelka

Last Name

Middle
Initial

[Redacted]

Email Address

Employer

Job Title

[Redacted]

Home Address

Suite or Apt

[Redacted]

City

[Redacted]

State

[Redacted]

Postal Code

[Redacted]

Primary Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Board of Health: Submitted

Referred by:

[Redacted]

Qualifications

Please tell us about yourself.

Blake has spent the last decade in higher education administration roles, particularly in the space of strategic enrollment management. He received his Ph.D. in Learning Design & Technology from Purdue University in 2018. Blake's research focuses on higher education administration, learning motivation, and college/career readiness. He published his first book, *The Middle School Student's Guide to Academic Success*, with Simon & Schuster and FranklinCovey in 2016. He also received a M.Ed. from #1 ranked Vanderbilt University and B.A. business degrees from Utah State University's Huntsman School of Business. Blake currently holds a Lecturer appointment for doctoral students in the College of Education at Purdue University. In 2023, Blake joined HCA Healthcare, the nation's largest healthcare organization with 180+ hospitals and 290,000+ employees. Blake is the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Clinical Operations for HCA's Mountain Division, helping upskill current employees and recruit new employees through robust educational partnerships. He also helps manage the relationship between HCA Healthcare's Mountain Division and their exclusive partnership with Galen College of Nursing. Blake has worked in university administration roles at Western Governors University, the University of California Santa Barbara, Purdue University, Utah State University, and Utah Tech University. Blake resides in Salt Lake County, Utah where outside of work he spends time with his children, playing tennis, golfing, and binge-watching various tv series. Blake is a strong advocate for mental health - particularly depression - volunteering his time regularly in the Utah hospitals and prisons.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?


To better understand and help my local community in the healthcare fields.

What education, work experience, or volunteer experience do you have that applies to the board you are applying for?

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What unique perspectives could you bring to the board?

Working for the nation's largest healthcare system.


Upload a Resume

Demographics

Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

Are you a Salt Lake County employee?

Yes No

Are you a current member of another Salt Lake County board or commission?

Yes No

Race/Ethnicity *

[REDACTED]

District *

District 2

Gender Pronouns *

[REDACTED]

Age Range *

[REDACTED]

Languages *

[REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

Political Affiliation

[REDACTED]