**Melissa Walker, Ph.D.**

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(864) 266-0544 [melissa.walker1962@gmail.com](mailto:melissa.walker1962@gmail.com) [www.heydaycoaching.com](http://www.heydaycoaching.com)

**CORE QUALIFICATIONS**

Career and personal mentoring and coaching  
Program development and management  
Budget creation and oversight

Curricular design and deliveryLeadership

Public speaking  
Building partnerships

Research, writing, and editing.

**KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**Coaching, Professional Training, Teaching and Curriculum Development**

* Founded Heyday Coaching, LLC., which offers individual and group coaching to more than 100 clients on professional and personal development issues.
* Mentored more than 300 students on academic and career achievement.
* Created and facilitated more than a dozen personal and professional development workshops on topics ranging from “Designing a Joyful Life” to “Mapping Your Path from Chaos to Career.”
* Offered continuing professional development in American history topics to 90 K-12 teachers as master scholar for South Carolina Department of Archives and History.
* Conceived, organized, and taught four one-week residential American history workshops for 185 K-12 teachers from 40 states.
* Developed and refined more than 20 college-level history courses and 8 independent study courses over a 25-year teaching career.
* Taught more than 3,0000 undergraduate and graduate students over a 25-year teaching career. Teaching was recognized with **CASE/Carnegie Foundation South Carolina Professor of the Year Award** in 2007 and Converse’s Kathryne Amelia Brown Award for Distinguished Teaching in 2001.

**Leadership**

* As president of the Converse College Faculty Senate, served on the president’s senior leadership team which developed strategic initiatives including a tuition reset that generated record enrollments.
* Liaison between faculty, administration, and the board of trustees.
* Presided over faculty meetings and supervised the work of major college committees.
* Member of presidential search committee that hired ninth president of Converse College.
* Chaired or served on numerous faculty and administrative hiring committees.
* Chaired two Converse College strategic planning task forces which designed initiatives to improve undergraduate instruction.
* Chaired Converse tenure and promotion committee which reviewed and evaluated faculty performance.
* Chaired board of directors for Hub City Writers Project, a non-profit literary arts organization. Under my leadership, HCWP developed a new cultural arts programming arm, created an artist-in-residence program, and produced and implemented a strategic plan which increased publishing and programming by 50%. The organization grew from one employee to three and from a budget of $100,000 per year to $250,000 per year.

**Building Strategic Partnerships**

* Developed strong collaborative relationships with community organizations, leveraging limited humanities programming resources and creating dozens of internship and job opportunities for students.
* Partners included Spartanburg County Public Library, Upstate Homeless Coalition, Greenville Jewish Federation, and the Johnson Collection of Art.

**Grant-Writing**

* Wrote over a dozen grant proposals which generated $350,000 for research and programming.
* Funding agencies included National Endowment for the Humanities; SC Humanities; Loyola University of Chicago; Harvard University; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; American Philosophical Society, and Duke University.

**Event Planning, Program Administration and Budget Management**

* Managed budget and reporting for federal grants totaling $150,000 each and smaller grants.
* Planned and produced four public conferences at Converse College and four national professional association conferences.
* Organized and marketed more than 30 guest speaker events and speaker series.
* Chief administrative officer for a national professional association.

**Public Speaking**

* Delivered multi-media presentations to audiences from 10 to 500 people for 35+ years.
* Presentations ranged from keynote addresses and history courses to motivational speeches and how-to workshops.
* Developed an ability to handle spontaneous Q and A while teaching college courses ranging from the beginner to advanced seminars.
* Tailored talks to a variety of audiences including elementary and college students, scholars, working professionals, senior citizen groups, and community organizations.
* Appeared on-camera for local television news, two PBS documentary films, and a NASCAR Productions film.
* Frequently interviewed by print publications including *The State, The Charlotte Observer, Sandlapper Magazine,* and the Associated Press.

**Research and Writing**

* Conducted research in archives, libraries, and on the internet and analyzed and interpreted data for scholarly books and articles, internal management white papers, and magazine and newspaper articles.
* Wrote op-eds and feature articles for publications ranging from *The State* and the *Charlotte Observer* to *Town* magazine and the *Knoxville News Sentinel.*
* Personal essays have been published in collections and literary journals.
* Wrote or edited 9 books and 64 journal articles, conference papers, and book reviews. Publication prizes included the **CHOICE Outstanding Academic Book** and **Willie Lee Rose Prize Book Prize** from theSouthern Association for Women Historians.

**Social Media and Web Marketing**

* As web content editor for Converse College division of humanities, reported, wrote, and edited, more than 50 web stories for departmental web page.
* Created and maintained web pages for Heyday Coaching, LLC, as well various courses and a personal book and movie review blog.
* Manage Facebook and Twitter marketing for Heyday Coaching, LLC.

**Public Humanities Consultant**

* Consulted with Spartanburg Historical Association on historic site interpretation, the Regional Museum of History on exhibit design and development, Anderson University on oral history project development.
* Advised staff at 12 SC museums on local programming related to two Smithsonian exhibits.

**WORK HISTORY**

**Heyday Coaching, LLC,** Spartanburg, SC.

Founder and President, 2016-present.

**Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System,** Spartanburg, SC.

Historian, 2017-present.

**SC Humanities,** Columbia, SC

Humanities Scholar for Smithsonian Institution Museums on Main Street traveling

exhibitions, 2016-2017 and 2003-2005.

**Converse College,** Spartanburg, SC.

George Dean Johnson, Jr. Professor of History, 2008-2017.

Divisional Coordinator, Humanities, 2010-2017.

Faculty Senate President, 2012-2014.

Associate Professor of History, 2002-2008.

Assistant Professor of History, 1996-2002.

**Southern Association for Women Historians.**

Executive Secretary/COO, 2000-2005.

**South Carolina Division of Archives and History,** Columbia, SC.

### Teaching American History in South Carolina, Master Scholar, 2004.

### College instructor, 1992-1996

### Community College of Rhode Island, Bryant and Clark Universities.

**Rhode Island Women’s Health Coalition**, Development Consultant, 1994-1995.

**Bryant University.**

Assistant Director of Prospect Research, 1992-1996.

Associate Director of Alumni Relations, 1987-1992.

**Maryville College,** Maryville, TN.

Director of Alumni Relations, 1985-1987.

**EDUCATION**

**MentorCoach,** Bethesda, MD, coaching training program.

**Clark University,** Worcester, MA, Ph.D. American and Women’s History.

**Providence College,** Providence, RI, M.A., American history.

**Maryville College,** Maryville, TN, B.A., summa cum laude, history.