

CURRICULUM VITAE

Up-to-date as of: 2011

Name: Wolf Peregrin Joachim Wolfensberger

Birthdate: 26 July 1934

Birthplace: Mannheim, Germany. Naturalized US Citizen, 1956.

Family Status: Married, three children, Margaret (11/60), Joan (3/62), Paul (12/66)

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Educational Background

1. BA (Philosophy), 1955, Siena College (now defunct), Memphis, Tennessee
2. MA (Psychology, Education), 1957, St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri
3. PhD (Psychology, Special Education), 1962, George Peabody College for Teachers (now part of Vanderbilt University), Nashville, Tennessee

Traineeships

1. One-year clinical psychology internship at Norfolk (Nebraska) State Hospital, 1956-57, under Dr. Walter G. Klopfer, while writing masters' thesis.
2. One-year research internship in mental retardation at E.R. Johnstone Training and Research Center, Bordentown, New Jersey, 1959-60, under Dr. Leonard Blackman.
3. One-year National Institute of Health post-doctoral research fellowship in mental retardation at Maudsley Hospital, London, England, 1962-63, under Drs. Jack Tizard and Neil O'Connor.

Work Experience

1. Four and one-half years as laboratory technician for Chapman Chemical Co. (mostly agricultural and lumber industry chemicals) in Memphis, Tennessee, 1951-1955, while attending college part-time.
2. Six months as research clerk-statistician at St. Louis University, 1955-56 (part-time in conjunction with graduate study).
3. Six months as clinical assistant with the Psychology Department at St. Louis University, working at Desloge Hospital, 1956 (part-time, concurrent with graduate study).
4. Six months (summers of 1958 and 1959) as staff psychologist at Muscatatuck State School (for the retarded), Butlerville, Indiana, on leave from doctoral studies.
5. Eighteen months as Chief Psychologist and Director of Human Development at Greene Valley Hospital and School (for the retarded), Greeneville, Tennessee, 1960-1962, while completing doctoral dissertation.

Concurrent experiences:

- a. For one term, psychology instructor at Tusculum College, Greeneville, Tennessee, 1961 (part-time).
- b. For one year, psychological consultant to State Rehabilitation for the Blind for Upper East Tennessee, 1961-62 (part-time).
6. For one year, Director of Research and Training at Plymouth State Home and Training School, Northville, Michigan, 1963-64.

7. Mental Retardation Research Scientist at the Nebraska Psychiatric Institute, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska; from assistant to associate professor of Medical Psychology in the Departments of Psychiatry and Pediatrics; joint appointment as graduate lecturer at the faculty of the University of Nebraska; 1964-71. Director of the Nebraska Mental Retardation Manpower Development and Training Station 1970-71. Coordinator or contributor to the Nebraska SWEAT (Summer Work Experience and Training) program designed to evoke career choices in mental retardation in high school and college students, summers 1966 through 1971.

Concurrent experiences:

- a. Consultant to Nebraska Office of Mental Retardation 1969-71.
 - b. Adult Education Instructor in mental retardation, Omaha Public Schools, 1964 (part-time).
 - c. Visiting lecturer, later visiting professor, in mental retardation, Department of Special Education, University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, summers of 1965, 1966, 1967, 1970.
 - d. Instructor in Psychology Department, University of Nebraska at Omaha, 1965-66 (part-time); graduate lecturer in Special Education, 1970-71 (joint appointment with above position).
8. Visiting Scholar, (Canadian) National Institute on Mental Retardation, Toronto, Canada, with joint appointment as special lecturer, Psychology Department, York University; September 1971 to August 1973.
9. Since September 1973, Professor in the Division of Special Education and Rehabilitation (since 1993 called the Special Education Division), Syracuse University; and Director, Training Institute for Human Service Planning, Leadership and Change Agency.

Concurrent experiences:

- a. Associate (consultant on planning, training, and research) to the National Institute on Mental Retardation (since 1986 called the G. Allan Roeher Institute), Toronto, Canada, 1973-1986.
- b. In mid-1981, I began to edit and publish a human services newsletter, six issues per year, called TIPS (Training Institute Publication Series). It had subscribers from all over the world. I also contributed most of its content, though these items do not appear separately under my publications in the following pages. TIPS ceased publication in late 2007.
- c. Since 1994, I have been writing a column entitled "SRV News & Reviews" for every issue of the biannual journal, The International Social Role Valorization Journal/La Revue Internationale de la Valorisation des Rôles Sociaux. published in Ontario, Canada. The column is printed in both English and French.

Professional and Human Service-Related Memberships, Offices and Services

a. Current

1. Fellow, American Association on Mental Deficiency (now called the American Association on Mental Retardation); life member since 1987.
2. Associations for Retarded Citizens (ARCs):
 - a. Life member, Greater Omaha ARC (formerly, board member, 1967-71; Vice President, 1970-71; at various times chairman or member of Family Education, Career Development, Planning, Nominations, and Personnel committees).
 - b. Member, Onondaga County (New York) Association for Retarded Citizens.
3. Member of the Base Community of Unity Kitchen Community of the Catholic Worker, a lay Catholic group devoted to serving the poor and “street people,” Syracuse, New York.
4. Member (since 1992), North American SRV Development, Training & Safeguarding Council.
5. Member (since 1996), Advisory Council of the Center for the Study of Psychiatry, Bethesda, MD.
6. President (since 2006), Citizen Advocacy Foundation of America.

b. Past

1. Member, 1964-65, Omaha Mayor’s Committee on Mental Retardation, and Nebraska Governor’s Committee on Mental Retardation.
2. Co-founder and first president (1965) of Omaha Montessori Society.
3. Member, 1967-68, Nebraska Governor’s Citizens’ Study Committee on Mental Retardation, and its Implementation Committee, 1968-71.
4. Board of Directors, 1968-69, (Omaha) Neighborhood Association for the Handicapped.
5. Member, 1968-71, Advisory Committee, Eastern Nebraska Community Office of Retardation.
6. Member, 1970-71, Mental Retardation Subcommittee, Health Planning Council of the Midlands.
7. Member, 1973-75, Research Advisory Board, American Association on Mental Deficiency.
8. Co-initiator of the Reena Foundation, 1973-1974, to develop community group homes in which handicapped persons can live within Jewish tradition and religious practices.
9. Board Member, 1976-77, National Association for Retarded Citizens; previously, member of Residential Services, Advocacy, and Research Advisory committees.
10. Member, co-founder, and former Board Member, ADVOCATE! (Advocates Dedicated to Vigorous Ongoing Change of Attitudes Toward the Elderly!), 1977-1986.
11. Co-founding member, 1977, of the National Peace Academy Campaign.
12. Co-founder, and former board member and Vice President of Friends of l’Arche of Greater Syracuse, NY.
13. Charter member, New Directions (concerned with good government).
14. Past member and Fellow (1957-91), American Association for the Advancement of Science.
15. Past member and Fellow (1958-79), of the American Psychological Association, and its Divisions 12 and 22.
16. Editorial advisor, 1994, Australia Disability Review.
17. International Advisory Board, 2000-05, Journal of Intellectual Disabilities.

Honorary Memberships, Recognitions and Awards

1. Sigma Xi member since 1956, life member since 1966; Psi Chi member since 1956, later life member.
2. In 1970, at the annual convention of the National Association for Retarded Children (now called The Arc), a special resolution was passed expressing the NARC's "appreciation and gratitude to Dr. Wolfensberger for his untiring commitment of time, energy and thought" on behalf of retarded people and the normalization principle.
3. Honorary member, 1971, Nebraska YOUTH Association for Retarded Children (former name).
4. Twice awarded, by the governor of Nebraska, an admiralty in the Nebraska Navy (the Nebraska equivalent of a Kentucky Colonel), first in 1971 and again in 1990, for services to the citizens of Nebraska.
5. Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Silver Medallion for meritorious service in mental retardation in Canada, 1978 (apparently the only non-Canadian awardee).
6. American Association on Mental Deficiency Leadership Award, 1978 (previous recipients included President Kennedy, Mrs. Hubert Humphrey, and Whitney Young, Jr.).
7. Lifetime Achievement Award from Northeast Region X of the American Association on Mental Retardation, 2003.
8. "White-hatted," i.e., made an honorary citizen of the province of Alberta, on June 6, 2003, at a ceremony at the 3rd International SRV Conference in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
9. Lifetime Achievement Award from Community Living Ontario, May 2005.
10. Installation in 1986 as one of the first three fellows (together with Rosemary and Gunnar Dybwad) of the G. Allan Roeher Institute (formerly the National Institute on Mental Retardation) in Canada.
11. First recipient of the Morton J. Kent Spirit of Innovation Award, for "triumvirate contribution of Normalization, Citizen Advocacy, and Social Role Valorization," from the Morton J. Kent Rehabilitation Center of the Orange Grove Center, Chattanooga, Tennessee, 2008
12. In his 1987 A History of Mental Retardation: A Quarter Century of Promise, Richard Scheerenberger characterized the Changing Patterns in Residential Services book by Kugel & Wolfensberger as "one of the period's most consequential and successful publications...Few documents of the quarter century...had greater impact" (p. 227).
13. In 1991, in a review of 11,300 articles and books published in the field of mental retardation over a 50-year period, a panel of 178 experts identified my 1972 text The Principle of Normalization in Human Services as the most important "classic" work in the field, and my 1983 article on "Social Role Valorization: A Proposed New Term for the Principle of Normalization" as the 17th most important "classic" work. Only 25 works altogether were identified as "classics," and only one other person had two publications cited among these 25.
14. First honorary life member of the American German Union, 1996 which promotes German-American ties, and supports the preservation of the historical home (in Germany) of Rev. Pastorius, who led the first German group settlement in the US.
15. Identified in 1999 as one of the 36 most influential persons in mental retardation in the 20th century, by the National Historic Preservation Trust on Mental Retardation, constituted of 7 major mental retardation organizations.
16. Identified in 2004 and again in 2008 in the ISI Web of Science database as the author of the most frequently-cited article in Mental Retardation, the journal of what was then the American Association on Mental Retardation, and now the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

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17. Named by Exceptional Parent magazine (November, 2008) as one of the “seven wonders of the world of disabilities,” along with Braille, and the wheelchair, the human genome project, Robert Guthrie and his test for PKU, Jonas Salk and his polio vaccine, the ADA and IDEA legislation, and Special Olympics.
18. Listings (probably incomplete) in:
 - a. American Men and Women of Science (11th edition, 1968; 12th edition, 1971; 13th edition, 1976)
 - b. World Who’s Who in Science (1969)
 - c. Who’s Who in the Midwest (12th edition, 1970-71)
 - d. Dictionary of International Biography (7th edition, 1970-71; 8th edition, 1971-72)
 - e. Leaders in Education (5th edition, 1974)
 - f. Community Leaders of America (5th edition, 1981)
 - g. Who’s Who in the East (18th edition, 1981; 24th edition, 1993-94)
 - h. Encyclopedia of Special Education (1985-86)
 - i. Who’s Who in American Education (1989-90; 4th edition, 1993; 8th edition, 2007)
 - j. International Biographical Centre, Men of Achievement (17th edition, 1995-96)
 - k. Who’s Who in America (62nd edition, 2008; 63rd edition, 2009)
19. Recipient of the President’s Award of the Brockville and District Association for Community Involvement, Brockville, Ontario, Canada (June 2009) for my “profound impact on the Association’s efforts to promote better lives for people with intellectual disabilities, and whose leadership has inspired others to take similar actions.”

Hobbies & Interests

1. Member of US Chess Federation with rating of “Expert.” In 1962 in London, Wolfensberger, playing the black pieces, defeated Paul Keres of the USSR, then the 3rd ranking player in the world, in 19 moves with an innovation in the Siesta Variation of the Modern Steinitz Defense against the Ruy Lopez opening. The game was published in numerous British newspapers (including the Manchester Guardian, 6 December 1962), US Chess Life (January 1963), and a 1963 text on the Ruy Lopez by British master Leonard Barden.
2. Stamp collector; co-founder of the Memphis Philatelic Society, ca. 1953.
3. Collector of human service history artifacts and texts, including old and historic texts on psychology and mental retardation, and picture postcards of human service settings (the latter is called deltiology).
4. Collecting antiques, refinishing and repairing things.
5. Hiking, conservation: life member of Save the Redwoods League; member of various other groups concerned with conservation and/or historic preservation.
6. Charter member (1994) of the Wolfensberger Family Association, and member of its board of directors, 1994-present.
7. Generating more work than any of them can keep up with for all the people who work in his office, and for as many other people as possible.

Organizations & Corporations Founded or Co-Founded by WW

Norfolk (Nebraska) State Hospital patient’s chess club, 1958

Omaha Montessori Society, ca. 1967

ADVOCATE! (an advocacy organization on behalf of the elderly in Syracuse, NY), 1974

Friends of I’Arche (of Syracuse), 1974

I’Arche Fund (of Syracuse), 1974

Citizen Advocacy Foundation of America, 2006