

Contact

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Top Skills

Public Policy

Strategic Planning

Strategic Communications

Lynn Overmann

Executive Director, Beeck Center for Social Impact + Innovation
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Summary

Experienced senior executive with a demonstrated history of success addressing large scale, complex problems. Expert in leveraging data, technology, and human centered design to develop and execute major policy initiatives. Lengthy experience directly advising and working with senior executives in the White House, private sector, and philanthropy. Effective public speaker and collaborative leader. Experienced manager of multi-disciplinary teams.

Experience

Beeck Center for Social Impact + Innovation
Executive Director
March 2023 - Present (6 months)

The White House
Senior Advisor for Delivery
February 2022 - March 2023 (1 year 2 months)
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Directly advise the Director of the Domestic Policy Council and senior White House leadership on implementation of high-priority domestic policies using data, technology, and human-centered design. As a member of the US Digital Service (USDS) senior leadership team, provide strategic advice on how best to maximize the agency's institutional impact to increase the federal government's capacity to deliver more effective services to the American public. Manage several multidisciplinary digital service teams tasked with developing and deploying tools to reduce immigration court backlogs and improve the asylum system. Work closely with senior White House leadership and the USDS Chief Delivery Officer to strategically deploy USDS teams to alleviate the infant formula shortage and address unsheltered homelessness.

USDA
Senior Advisor for Data & Technology
February 2021 - February 2022 (1 year 1 month)
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Directly advised the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and senior department leadership on opportunities to leverage data, technology, and digital tools to deliver better services to USDA's diverse constituencies. Helped lead initial implementation of the Department's execution of the Racial Equity and Customer Experience executive orders, including. Led first-ever equity assessments of the Department's data and customer experience efforts to surface barriers to equitable delivery of services across nine of USDA's high impact service providing programs. Successfully advocated for a \$1.5 million support package to improve equitable delivery in USDA's Farm Loan Programs. Developed an IT modernization framework to guide USDA's long-term efforts to modernize technology, data, and customer experience. Worked with the US Census Bureau to establish more effective data sharing between USDA's statistical and programmatic agencies to support research and policy insights into rural wealth and economies.

Markle Foundation

Senior Consultant

February 2020 - February 2021 (1 year 1 month)

Washington, DC

Led a Gates Foundation funded project focused on unlocking government data to support the upward mobility of students and workers. Engaged a diverse range of data experts, including federal and state policy makers, academics, and philanthropies to identify high-leverage data use-cases, create a data equity framework. Primary author of a strategic road map to improve the sharing of federal and state data for policymakers, researchers, and the public.

Biden-Harris Transition Team

Technology Strategy & Delivery

November 2020 - January 2021 (3 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Advised the Biden-Harris Transition on issues of racial equity and data, criminal justice reform, and opportunities to leverage private sector data to support economic recovery. Served as a technical interviewer to screen candidates for their knowledge of data and technology for senior Administration appointments.

Opportunity Insights @ Harvard University

Senior Data Strategist

January 2020 - January 2021 (1 year 1 month)

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Developed and implemented an iterative data acquisition strategy focused on understudied data sets that may drive intergenerational poverty, seeking to identify replicable pathways to mobility with a particular focus on criminal justice, early childhood programs, K-12 education, and workforce development. Helped develop and launch Opportunity Insights Economic Tracker, leveraging private sector data on the economy and education to help policymakers track the impact and recovery from COVID-19.

Arnold Ventures

Vice President for Data-Driven Justice and Head of DC Office

January 2017 - November 2019 (2 years 11 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Led the foundation's efforts to leverage data and technology to improve policing in the United States, including the creation and execution of a series of new strategies focused on reducing low-level arrests, creating a multi-million dollar portfolio of grants. Co-led the foundation's Data Systems Strategy, creating a comprehensive analysis to guide philanthropic investments in data and technology systems. Led work examining issues of privacy, civil liberties and data ethics around government use of individual level data. Represented the foundation at external speaking engagements and in the media. As Head of DC Office, worked across foundation teams to improve collaboration, provide feedback to leadership, mentor junior staff, and helped create opportunities for career advancement across the organization.

The White House

Senior Advisor to the US Chief Technology Officer

July 2015 - January 2017 (1 year 7 months)

Built a bipartisan national criminal justice reform effort, the Data-Driven Justice initiative, partnering with more than 140 local and state jurisdictions who publicly committed to using cross-system data to reduce the number of people with mental illness and substance use issues who enter, and stay, in local jails. Built a range of partnerships across private sector technology companies, universities, and non-profit organizations to provide support to Data-Driven Justice communities. Managed a multi-disciplinary team of technologists and policy experts across the White House and federal agencies. Provided frequent briefings to senior White House leadership.

U.S. Department of Commerce

Deputy Chief Data Officer

November 2014 - June 2015 (8 months)

Stood up Commerce's Office of the Chief Data Officer, working across Commerce's twelve bureaus to coordinate data dissemination strategies, improve data quality and timeliness, and expand user engagement. Helped stand up and set the early strategy for the Commerce Data Advisory Council, an external advisory group of private sector, non-profit, and academic data experts. Regularly briefed the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Commerce on data policy and progress.

The White House

Senior Advisor to the U.S. Chief Technology Officer

September 2013 - November 2014 (1 year 3 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Led the Office of Science and Technology Policy's Jobs and Skills Open Data efforts, working closely with the Office of the Vice President, the National Economic Council, and the private sector to develop new tools to help better match job seekers with available jobs. Worked with the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency to develop a tool to identify patterns of trafficking in the deep and dark web. Worked closely with state, local and federal law enforcement agencies to develop new approaches to better share data and criminal intelligence on multi-jurisdictional human trafficking rings.

Office of the Vice President of the United States

Policy Specialist

May 2012 - May 2013 (1 year 1 month)

The White House

Worked with technology companies, anti-trafficking advocates, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and law enforcement agencies to create public-private collaborations to address online human trafficking. Worked closely with the White House Advisor on Violence Against Women, Senate and House staff to support the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. Worked with National Security staff, Council on Women and Girls, and the Domestic Policy Council on efforts to combat sexual assault in the military.

U.S. Department of Justice

3 years 1 month

Senior Criminal Justice Advisor to the Mayor of New Orleans, White House SC2 Initiative

September 2011 - May 2012 (9 months)

Washington, DC

Provided expert policy advice to the Mayor of New Orleans, the Police Superintendent, U.S. Attorney, City Council and other system stakeholders on criminal justice reform and poverty reduction initiatives. Created a partnership with the Department of Justice's National Institute of Justice to reduce New Orleans' back log of untested rape kits. Testified before the City Council as an expert witness on criminal justice reform and poverty-reduction initiatives. Worked with the Mayor and City Council to rebuild the local jails post-Katrina, reducing overall size while improving conditions and increasing access to mental health services. Worked with DOJ experts to redesign and develop a new Juvenile Justice facility with co-located support and legal services. Expanded access to housing vouchers for justice-involved individuals.

Deputy Counselor for Access to Justice

March 2010 - September 2011 (1 year 7 months)

Stood up DOJ's Access to Justice Initiative, focused on improving access to counsel in criminal and civil legal matters. Partnered with the Office of the Vice President on two key projects, the "Access to Justice for Victims of Domestic Violence Project and "Closing the Justice Gap for America's Working Families". Met and communicated regularly with national foundations and philanthropies on criminal and civil legal services issues. Worked with multiple federal agencies on a range of projects aimed at improving access to legal services and counsel for the poor. Chaired DOJ's Indigent Defense Reform Working Group and worked on broader issues of criminal justice reform, including the federal death penalty. Served as a member of the Legal Services Corporation's Pro Bono Task Force. Helped hire and supervise the Initiative staff and handled office budget.

Senior Policy Advisor to the Ass't Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs

May 2009 - March 2010 (11 months)

Engaged with House and Senate staff on DOJ legislative priorities including reauthorization of legislation aimed at preventing wrongful convictions, improving access to DNA testing, juvenile justice reform, indigent defense reform and death penalty issues. Served on the Attorney General's Sentencing and Corrections Working Groups, helped coordinate DOJ efforts to combat human trafficking, represented the Department on the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness.

Kubiliun and Associates, LLP

Partner

October 2004 - May 2009 (4 years 8 months)

Partner responsible for all aspects of federal and state civil rights claims targeting systemic police brutality, false arrest, prison conditions and other constitutional violations. Lead attorney in a multi-plaintiff federal civil rights lawsuit challenging unconstitutional conditions in the Miami Dade County Jail system. Worked closely with U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division to establish the basis for a finding of unconstitutional conditions in Miami Dade County jails and entry of a federal consent decree. Represent clients through all stages of federal and state criminal proceedings, including major white collar crime, at both the trial and appellate levels.

Office of the Public Defender, Miami-Dade County

Assistant Public Defender

June 1999 - October 2004 (5 years 5 months)

Florida

Represented indigent clients through all stages of the criminal justice system, including more than twenty jury trials on a range of felony charges including homicide, robbery, sexual assault and drug trafficking. Filed and argued multiple pre-trial motions, resulting in serious charges being reduced or dismissed for multiple clients.

Education

New York University School of Law

JD · (1996 - 1999)

Bryn Mawr College

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science and History · (1992 - 1996)