

**Dr. Denise L. Buchner**, BEd, MA, PhD  
4807 Montana Crescent NW, Calgary, Alberta T3B 1E7 CANADA  
Tel: 403-243-1008 Cell: 403-700-8387  
Email 1: [denise@impactcs.ca](mailto:denise@impactcs.ca) Email 2: [dlbuchne@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dlbuchne@ucalgary.ca)  
Web page: [www.impactcs.ca](http://www.impactcs.ca)

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Buchner is an Adjunct Professor and interdisciplinary scholar with more than fifteen years experience working in fields of research, monitoring and evaluation. She is known for her work in designing, conducting and presenting innovative and socially engaged research projects that address some of the world's most pressing health challenges. She is a dynamic thinker, as noted by her colleagues and students, and reflected in her very high instructor ratings. She is a sought after researcher who has undertaken numerous qualitative and mixed methods studies that have witnessed the power of weaving the voices of vulnerable populations into traditional research inquiry. Her areas of expertise are health system strengthening, global health, maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH) community development, capacity building of research staff, disability issues, and education.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- January 2014 – Present      **Principle Investigator**  
University of Calgary, Department of Community Health Sciences  
*Strengthening Private Drug Shops in Rural Uganda*  
Grand Challenges Canada (\$100,000 CAD) 18 months  
UGANDA; CANADA  
Responsibilities
- Manage all aspects of project from planning to carry out in collaboration with Ugandan team.
  - Project is anticipated to commence in April 2014.
- October 2013      **Adjunct Professor**  
University of Calgary, Department of Community Health Science
- March 2012 - July 2013      **Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator**  
*Healthy Child Uganda*, University of Calgary, Department of International & Global Health  
UGANDA (10 Months); (3,500,000 CAD) CANADA  
Responsibilities:
- Manage monitoring and evaluation activities for comprehensive MNCH Interventions in 2 districts in Uganda; manage door-to-door surveys (~ 5,000) health center audit (50) and qualitative data collection. Supervision/train 27 research assistants, 3 supervisors, and 6 data clerks. Develop tools, analyze data and write reports.
  - Manage end-line study for an ICCM project using quantitative and qualitative methods. Train/supervise 15 research assistant, 2 supervisors and 3 data clerks, develop tools, analyze data, write reports, develop abstract, write proposal for scale-up, capacity building of local staff and write scholarly articles for publication.
  - Supervise and mentor Canadian students, interns and junior staff in the field.
- Achievements:
- Utilize projects as major opportunities for capacity development for Healthy Child Uganda staff. Successfully advocate for Ugandan team to develop tools, database (ACCESS) and analyze data independently.
  - Develop seminars to build capacity of Ugandan team to carry out qualitative research.

September  
2006 –  
Present

**Lecturer**

University of Calgary, Department of Education & Department of Community Health  
Sciences  
CANADA

**Courses**

1. CORE 583; Community Development in Community Rehabilitation

2006-Ongoing. TWO COURSES PER YEAR

Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies Program

Responsibilities:

- Develop course content and evaluation criteria for both face-to-face (fall term/yearly) and on-line (spring term/yearly) delivery. Course content includes community development, international development, leadership, capacity building, interdisciplinary approaches to research, social determinants of health, social inclusion, community mobilization / empowerment.

Achievements:

- Incorporated Voice Thread communication tool for spring 2012 on-line course, which dramatically changed the on-line learning platform to a much more interactive experience. Very successful and noted by other lectures who are now using it.

2. MCSC 528; Foundations of Qualitative Research

2012-2013 TWO TERMS Independent Study

International and Global Health Program

Responsibilities:

- Develop course content in tandem with student internship in Uganda; develop rubrics, reading list learning strategy

Achievements:

- Mentor student to develop course seminars to present to HCU staff for qualitative research capacity building, which benefitted the students and the staff, and was very well accepted.

3. CORE 425; Social Construction of Disability and Health

2007, FALL TERM

Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies Program

Responsibilities:

- Develop course and evaluation criteria. Teach content related to social problem theory and narrative analysis.

Achievements:

- Invited back frequently to deliver the social problem theory series of lectures and evaluate student learning.

4. CORE 604-01: Foundations of Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies

2006, FALL TERM

Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies Program

Responsibilities:

- Develop course, deliver lectures, and evaluate students.

- October 2011 – March 2012  
**Evaluator (Consultancy)**  
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)  
 INDIA (10 days); BANGLADESH (10 days); CANADA  
 Mid-term evaluation of the Micronutrient Initiative  
Responsibilities:
- Work with team members (5) to prepare work plan, develop evaluation tools and matrices, and carry out data gathering.
  - Area of focus' included Iron and folic acid for adolescent girls and pregnant/postpartum women; vitamin A for children 6-59 months and postpartum women, zinc with ORS for treatment of diarrhea; and Iodine.
  - Conduct field visits/collect data in India and Bangladesh; participate in workshops; write report
- Achievements:
- Design and distribute e-survey using Survey Monkey to partners in 22 countries of focus; analyze data using qualitative and quantitative methods
- April 2012 – September 2012  
**Researcher (Consultancy)**  
Veterans Affairs Canada  
 CANADA  
 Conduct focus groups on the reintegration of veterans with chronic mental health conditions into the civilian workplace.  
Responsibilities:
- Prepare focus groups, transcribe data, conduct interviews, analyze data using thematic analysis (NVivo), write report.
- Achievements:
- Write illuminating report on under-researched topic that was later presented by Veterans Affairs Canada for policy discussion/reform
- October 2009 – March 2010  
**Researcher (Consultancy)**  
Muttart Foundation  
 CANADA  
 Evaluation of voluntary sector (Alberta) relationship with government and its receptiveness to the development of a provincial umbrella organization.  
Responsibilities:
- Conduct literature review, prepare and analyze provincial-wide e-survey using Survey Monkey; conduct focus groups and conversation café's; prepare reports; conduct findings workshop.
- Achievements:
- Use appropriate strategies (newspaper ads/ personal invitations) to engage rural community members, in conversation café's. Succeeded in gathering focus groups of 15+ residents in small towns such as Consort, Alberta (pop ~700).
- December 2006 – August 2007  
**Field Researcher (PhD data collection)**  
University of Calgary  
 LAO PDR (9 MONTHS)  
 Use Qualitative research methods to study health seeking behavior and barriers to health care for rural and poor populations in Lao PDR  
Responsibilities:
- Coordinate all aspects of project from conception to dissemination of data including ethics review, developing tools, analyzing data (NVivo) and writing publications for knowledge transfer
- Accomplishments:
- Live in the rural village of Phatang, Lao PDR for six months to collect field data; living

conditions were basic; learn Lao language and develop strong bonds with villagers.  
Collect data that is unique and important

- September 2005 – December 2007
- Project Coordinator**  
University of Calgary, Community Rehabilitation and Disabilities Studies Program  
CANADA (2,000,000 CAD)  
Evaluation of how Canadian corporations use Innovative Information and Communication Technologies to employ disabled persons (Dis-IT). Funded (2,000,000) through the SSHRC initiative in the New Economy.
- Responsibilities:
- Coordinate project, prepare background documents; create work plans; coordinate research team; prepare methodological framework; conduct interviews; participate in mid-term evaluation; analyze data; write and publish lesson learned report; present findings; develop documents for policy consideration; and prepare annual reports.
- Achievements:
- Took project over from former coordinator and got key priorities/deliverables back on track.
  - Managed teams from three universities in this very large and complex project.
- October 2004 – June 2006
- Educational Consultant / Specialist**  
Self Employed  
CANADA  
Provide supplementary educational services to students with learning challenges in a one-on-one supportive environment.
- Responsibilities:
- Responsible for all aspects of management, marketing, planning and development
- Achievements:
- Develop two curriculum packages to assist students with learning difficulties. Curriculum identified all the phonemes / speech sounds in the English language and developed intensive/varied materials to assist students to sight recognize these. Very successful project.
- September 1993 - March 1999
- Early Intervention Specialist**  
Calgary Health Region  
CANADA  
Prepare in-home intervention programs for children 0-3 years who were developmentally delayed. Assist families to access community services and help them follow through on recommended interventions from a variety of stakeholders / support structures.
- Responsibilities:
- Manage a caseload of 15 clients. Conduct in-home consultations at least bi-monthly. Collaborate with other services such as health professionals and child protection services. Advocate for families.
- Achievements:
- Re-hired into this position three times; resigned once to complete a Master's degree and two other times for maternity leaves.
  - Well-regarded employee for having the skills to develop good rapport with families, excellent case management skills, and a compassionate yet effective approach to challenging cases.

August 1995 - August 1996

**Field Researcher (MA data collection)**  
University of British Columbia  
 SWAZILAND (12 MONTHS)  
 Research social and cultural interpretations of deafness at the Siteki School for the Deaf using qualitative research methods.

Responsibilities:

- Coordinate all aspects of project from conception to dissemination of data, including ethics review, developing tools, analyzing data and writing thesis.

Accomplishments:

- Live in the rural village of Siteki in basic conditions to collect data; learn Swazi Sign language and develop strong bonds with students and staff at the school.
- Write a unique thesis that discusses the very under-researched topic of disability in poor and rural settings in an underdeveloped nation.

## SERVICE ACTIVITIES

April 2009 - October 2013

**Mentor**  
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)  
 JAPAN (10 DAYS); UNITED ARAB EMERITS (20 DAYS); AFGHANISTAN (5DAYS); CANADA  
 Mentor Afghan fellows working in the civil service/NGO sectors of Afghanistan on projects related to community development, public health and education to increase organizational capacity.

Responsibilities:

- Assist fellows to conduct an organizational assessment and develop project plan. Mentor fellows on core competencies of leadership, project management, results-based management, teamwork and proposal writing.
- Assist with workshop in Hiroshima (2009), Dubai (2010) and Abu Dhabi (2011).

Accomplishments:

- Work closely with Afghan fellows to develop proposals for 1) curriculum development to improve obstetric care at Malalai Maternity Hospital in Kabul and 2) improve infrastructure at Kabul School for the Deaf. Visit Kabul in July 2011 to visit/gain knowledge about these projects.

Jan 2011- Present

**Board of Directors**  
Plan:Net Limited: International Development Monitoring and Evaluation Network  
 CANADA

Responsibilities:

- Participate in Board activities / decision making to support Plan:Net Limited, which is a consulting company that specializes in providing monitoring and evaluation / research services for international and national projects.

Accomplishments:

- Named as a research consultant on a CIDA Monitoring and Evaluation Standing Offer held by Plan:Net limited.

Jan 1993- June 1993

**Volunteer Teacher**  
Canadian Crossroads International (CCI)  
 SWAZILAND (12 MONTHS)  
 Volunteer teacher at the Siteki School for the Deaf

Responsibilities:

- Prepare and deliver learning materials to deaf Swazi students at the Siteki School for the Deaf.

Accomplishments:

- Develop strong relationship with the school staff/administration /students and later return to conduct research for an MA on the social and cultural interpretations of deafness in Swaziland at this same school.

Jan 1993-  
June 1993

**Refugee Food Distribution Assistant**

United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)

SWAZILAND (12 Months)

Responsibilities:

- Assist with weekly food distribution at Mozambique refugee camp located at Malindza, Swaziland.
- Work team members to conduct a census of the camp in May, 1993.

Accomplishments:

- Demonstrated commitment / dedication to assisting at this camp by making my way, on public transport, weekly to assist with food distribution.
- Invited to assist with a census of the camp, which I was able to do during a 3-week school break, as I was free from teaching duties.

**EDUCATION**

**PhD**, University of Calgary (2011), Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Specialization: Global Health Research

Thesis: Stories without Endings: A Study of Illness and Disability Narratives in Rural Lao PDR.

Summary: Ethnographic study of health seeking in rural Lao PDR; data collected using participant observation and interviews over 8 months while living in a rural village; triangulated thematic analyses using Nvivo. Supported by SSHRC Doctorial Fellowship

**MA**, University of British Columbia (1998), Center for the Study of Curriculum and Instruction

Thesis: Deafness in Swaziland: A Social-Cultural Study of Deafness at the Siteki School for the Deaf.

Summary: Ethnographic study of social and cultural interpretations of deafness in Swaziland. Data collected using participant observations, interviews and video ethnography over 12 months; thematic analysis of data. Supported by Young Canadian Researchers Award (IDRC)

**BEd**, University of Calgary (1991). Specialization: Special Education for Severely Disabled Students

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

2014 (upcoming)	SPSS training; Levels I, II & III
2005 - 2014	French language training, level I, II, & III, Mount Royal University
2011	Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research; Active Member
2010	CIDA Results-Based Management workshop, Calgary, Alberta
2009	Instructional Skills Workshop Certificate, University of Calgary
2009	Results -Based Management workshop, Calgary, Alberta

**LANGUAGES**

	<b>Language</b>	<b>Spoken</b>	<b>Comprehend</b>	<b>Written</b>
1.	English	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
2.	French	Intermediate	Intermediate	Intermediate
3.	Lao Language	Beginner	Beginner	None

## **AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

### **Professional**

2013 Grand Challenges Canada, Raising Stars in Global Health  
Principle Investigator for “Strengthening Unlicensed Drug Shops In Rural Uganda”

### **Post-Doctorial**

2012 Trevithick Book Prize, University of Calgary

### **Support for Doctorial Research**

2008-09 SSHRC Doctorial Scholarship, University of Calgary  
2007-08 University of Calgary Silver Anniversary Award, University of Calgary  
2006 Graduate Research Scholarship, University of Calgary  
2006-07 Chuck and Louanne Shultz Graduate Scholarship, University of Calgary  
2006-07 University of Calgary Alumni Association Graduate Scholarship, University of Calgary  
2006-07 University of Calgary International Fellowship Abroad, University of Calgary  
2005-06 Dean's Entrance Scholarship  
2005-06 Special Entrance Award, University of Calgary

### **Support for Master's Research**

1995-96 Faculty of Education Research Award, University of British Columbia  
1995-96 IDRC Young Canadian Researchers Award, University of British Columbia  
1995-96 Syd Vernon Memorial Bursary, University of British Columbia  
1995-96 University of British Columbia Honorarium, University of British Columbia

### **Undergraduate**

1989 Catherine Hanier McMartin Bursary, University of Calgary

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Nvivo, SPSS, Access, EpiInfo, Survey Monkey.

## **COUNTRIES OF WORK EXPERIENCE**

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Canada, India, Lao PDR, Swaziland, Uganda

## **RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS**

### **Thesis**

Buchner, D. (2011). *Stories without endings: A study of illness and disability narratives in rural Laos*. PHD Thesis: University of Calgary  
Buchner, D.L. (1998) *Deafness in Swaziland: A Social-Cultural Study of Deafness at the Siteki School for the Deaf*. Master's Thesis, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC.

### **Book**

Buchner, D., (2013). *Reflections of an ethnographer: Stories of health seeking in Lao PDR*. (In Press). University of Toronto Press

### **Book Chapter**

Marlett, N.J., & Buchner, D.L. (1992). *Special education funding for children with severe disabilities in Alberta*. In T. Booth, W. Swann, M. Masterton, & P. Potts (Eds.). *Policies for Diversity in Education, Learning for All*. (p.297-403). London: Routledge.

## Reports

- Buchner (2012). *Baseline Report with full Analysis of Baseline Data for Healthy Child Uganda Muskoka Project*. Prepared for Healthy Child Uganda
- Buchner (2012). *Preliminary Baseline Report for Healthy Child Uganda Muskoka Project*. Prepared for Healthy Child Uganda
- LeBlanc, H., Robinson, S., Theriault, L., Hotz, C., & Buchner, D. (2012) Evaluation of the Micronutrient Initiative. P:N Limited. Prepared for CIDA global Initiatives Directorate.
- Buchner, D., & Farrar, P. (2010). Barriers and facilitators to optimal workplace re-integration of Veterans with mental health conditions. Prepared for Veterans Affairs Canada.
- Griep, L., Seidel, R., Buchner, D., Main-Thompson, N., Weaver, R., & Cox, P. (2010). *Making it work: study of the non-profit and voluntary sector in Alberta, its relations with government, and the feasibility and desirability of a sector umbrella organization*. Plan:Net Limited, Calgary. Prepared for The Muttart Foundation
- Neufeldt, A., Ackermann, M., Buchner, D., & Crawford, C. (2007). *The place of technology in employment of people with disabilities*. Calgary: Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies Program, University of Calgary. Prepared for SSHRC, Initiatives in the New Economy.

## Journal Articles

- Buchner, D., Brenner, J., Kabakyenga, J., Kyomuhangi, T., Maling, S., Barigye, C., Nettle-Aguirre, A., & Singhal, N. (in press. ). Can integrated community case management by community health worker improve treatment access for young children in southwestern Uganda? A post-intervention qualitative study *Human Resources for Health*
- Mercader, H., Teddy, K., Brenner, J., D, Kabakyenga, J., Singhal, N., & Buchner, D. (in press.). Drugs for some but not all: Inequality within community health worker teams during introduction of integrated community case management *Human Resources for Health*.
- Brenner, J., Barigye, C., Maling, S., Kabakyenga, J., Nettle-Aguirre, A., Buchner, D., Kyomyhang, T., Pim, C., Wotton, K., Amon, N., Singhal, N. . (in press. ). Where there is no doctor: Can volunteer community health workers in rural Uganda provide integrated community case management. A controlled intervention trial. *Human Resources for Health*.
- Neufeldt, A.H., Watzke, J., Birch, G., & Buchner, D. (2006). Engaging the business/industrial sector in accessibility research: Lessons in bridge building between foreign contexts. *The information Society. Special Issue on Accessible and Inclusive Information Technologies*. 23(5).
- Buchner D. (1994). *Community-based rehabilitation: Issues and considerations for providing rehabilitation services in developing countries*. International Journal of Special Education 9(2/3), 106-122.

## Workshops

- 2012 *Micronutrient Mid-Term Evaluation Results*: Presented February 17, 2012, CIDA headquarters, Ottawa, Canada with Plan:Net Limited
- 2011 *Leadership and Organizational Development for Performance and Results & Project Planning and Proposal Writing*. Presented in Abu Dhabi, UAE, July 11-20, 2011 with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.
- 2010 *State of Voluntary Sector in Alberta and Receptiveness to Overarching Organization*, Presented March 10, 2010 in Edmonton for the Muttart Board of Directors with Plan:Net limited.
- 2010 *Leading Change in Organizations*. Presented in Dubai, UAE, July, 12-20, 2010 with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research
- 2009 *Change strategies, project implementation and team management* Presented in Hiroshima, Japan October 16-23, 2009 with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research
- 2006 *Workplace-theme results*: Presented November 26, 2006 at the Dis-IT conference, *Hard-Wiring Inclusion Challenges of engaging industry in research on accessibility*. Presented May 12, 2005 at the *Dis-IT Research Alliance Institute* with The University of Calgary.

## Conferences

### Poster

2010 Poster Presentation: Unite for Sight Global Health and Innovation Conference. Topic: *Health Seeking and Disability in Rural Laos*. April 17-18, 2010

### Participant

2010 Unite for Sight Conference on Global Health Innovation, Yale University, poster presenter.  
2009 Canadian Association of International Development Consultants Conference, Ottawa, Ontario  
2009 United Way Outcomes and Evaluation Conference, Calgary, Alberta  
2006 CIDA conference on Children's Rights and International Development – Research, Challenge, and Change, Ottawa, Ontario

### Presentations

1997 Presentation: *Deafness in Swaziland*: Presented November 6, 1997 at the University of British Columbia, International Seminar Series.  
1994 Presentation: *Disabilities in Swaziland*. Presented March 15, 1994 at the University of British Columbia, Faculty of Anthropology

## REFERENCES:

Dr. Jenn Brenner  
Director Healthy Child Uganda  
Global Health and International  
Partnerships  
Faculty of Medicine  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor TWR Bldg E19  
University of Calgary  
403-585-0080  
[jennbrenner@me.com](mailto:jennbrenner@me.com)

Dr. Gwen Hollaar  
Assistant Professor  
University of Calgary  
Global Health Education  
Development  
403-944-4843  
[ghollaar@gmail.com](mailto:ghollaar@gmail.com)

Dr. Jennifer Hatfield  
Associate Dean  
Global Health and International  
Partnerships  
University of Calgary  
Faculty of Medicine  
403-210-9193  
[Jennifer.hatfield@ucalgary.ca](mailto:Jennifer.hatfield@ucalgary.ca)