

A.J. Kleinheksel

ajkleinheksel.com

Profile

- Certified healthcare simulation educator with five years of experience developing virtual patients
 - Seven years of professional experience in higher education administration
 - Ability to direct complex projects from concept to successful completion
 - Organized, motivated, and detail-directed collaborator across diverse disciplines
 - Proven ability to work in unison with students, faculty, administrators, and community leaders
 - Trained in agile development processes, project management, conflict resolution, and grant proposal writing
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Education

Doctor of Philosophy, Curriculum and Instruction, *Educational Technology*

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

Dissertation: *Measuring the Adoption and Integration of Virtual Patient Simulations in Nursing Education: An Exploratory Factor Analysis*

Master of Education, Educational Leadership

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

Bachelor of Arts, Religious Studies

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan

Bachelor of Arts, Social Relations and Policy

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan

Certifications

Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator, Society for Simulation in Healthcare

Certificate #161249, Expires November 23, 2019

Certified Grant Proposal Writer, Fort Hays State University Grants Training

Employment **Educational Researcher**, *Educational Innovation Institute* 2017-present
Assistant Professor, *Department of Medicine*
Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University, Augusta, Georgia

- Conducts interdisciplinary research on educational technologies in health professions education, including simulation and distance learning, and the measurement and assessment of higher-order thinking skills such as clinical reasoning
- Promotes best practices in the design and execution of educational research through faculty consultations and collaborations to support the scholarship of health professions educators
- Provides health professions educators with both innovative and time-tested strategies and technologies to promote educational excellence
- Co-leads and lectures in the Educational Researcher faculty fellowship

Director of Instructional Design 2012-2017
Shadow Health, Gainesville, Florida

- Designed conceptual frameworks, learning activities, assessment instruments, systems architecture, features, and content for clinical simulation experiences and course management systems to ensure effective and engaging learning for students, and impactful and efficient teaching for health professions faculty
- Collaborated with game and graphic designers, software developers, product managers, scriptwriters, executive leadership, subject matter experts, and faculty in an agile environment to design, create, and release innovative digital clinical simulations for health professions education
- Provided oversight and made recommendations based on educational best practices, research-based learning theory, and emerging technological resources to promote innovative teaching and learning
- Created, organized, and standardized product content and documentation in internal content repositories, customer-facing course and assignment product templates, and supplementary materials
- Collaborated on the user interface design of Shadow Health software and the graphic design of supplementary instructional materials, including data visualization, faculty dashboards and gradebooks, and student workbooks
- Designed program evaluations, user testing protocols, and assessment instruments, contributed to the analysis and interpretation of data, and communicated results to stakeholders to facilitate the improvement of products, development cycles, and internal and external training initiatives
- Initiated, developed, and provided guidance for the faculty development program, which consisted of individualized faculty training, customized curriculum integration services, online resources, and regular national webinars
- Conducted consultations with faculty on educational research methods

State Programs Coordinator II, *Student Financial Affairs*,
University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

2009-2012

- Interpreted and implemented legislative changes to state scholarships and grants, directing institutional policy on state programs administration
- Managed the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, disbursing \$59,843,032 to 25,793 students for the 2011-2012 academic year
- Designed and produced online educational materials for Florida Bright Futures
- Administered the Robert C. Byrd, Rosewood Family, José Martí, and Children and Spouses of Deceased and Disabled Veterans scholarships
- Oversaw system programming; analyzing, testing, and identifying errors, as well as developing and designing the State Programs EAGLE page
- Conducted a biennial, university-wide Student Voice survey to assess current student spending habits, in order to create accurate student financial aid budgets

State Programs Coordinator I, *Student Financial Affairs*,
University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

2007-2009

- Administered the statewide Frederick W. and Grace P. Brecht Scholarship from application to payment, increasing the number of 2009-2010 Frederick W. and Grace P. Brecht scholars by 30% in two years
- Led an interdepartmental committee to program the automation of the Frederick W. and Grace P. Brecht Scholarship process
- Collaborated with Tax Services to pay foreign national student scholarships
- Managed and reconciled multiple scholarship accounts
- Presented staff training sessions on scholarship processes
- Created seven standard operating procedures for the Scholarships and State Programs areas to ensure more accurate and effective training
- Collaborated with state agencies to administer the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship to out-of-state recipients
- Evaluated and processed state scholarship petitions

Student Services Coordinator, *Professional and Executive MBA Programs*,
University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

2006-2007

- Coordinated cohort course materials including orders and distribution
- Organized events, including orientation, graduation, and networking socials
- Verified the accuracy of Registrar enrollment lists

Service-Learning Coordinator, *AmeriCorps*VISTA*,
Warner Southern College, Lake Wales, Florida

2004-2005

- Managed student service-learning, including classroom presentations, scheduling, and attendance supervision
- Designed and developed materials to promote service-learning
- Established and maintained professional relationships with Warner Southern faculty and administration, and Polk County School administrators
- Developed new service-learning partnerships within the community

**Peer
Reviewed
Publications**

- Kleinheksel, A. J., Ritzhaupt, A. (2017). Measuring the adoption and integration of virtual patient simulations in nursing education: An exploratory factor analysis. *Computers and Education, 108*, 11-29.
- Strekalova, Y. A., Krieger, J. L., Kleinheksel, A. J., & Kotranza, A. (2016). Empathic communication in virtual education for nurses: I'm sorry to hear that. *Nurse Educator, 42*(1), 18-22.
- Strekalova, Y. A., Krieger, J. L., Neil, J., Caughlin, J. P., Kleinheksel, A. J., & Kotranza, A. (2016). I understand how you feel: The language of empathy in virtual clinical training. *Journal of Language and Social Psychology, 36*(1), 61-79.
- Foronda, C., Alfes, C. M., Dev, P., Kleinheksel, A. J., Nelson, D. A., O'Donnell, J. M., & Samosky, J.T. (2016). Virtually nursing: Emerging technologies in health education. *Nurse Educator, 42*(1), 14-17.
- Kleinheksel, A. J. (2014) Transformative learning through virtual patient simulations: Predicting critical student reflections. *Clinical Simulation in Nursing, 10*(6), e301-e308.
- Antonenko, P. D., Lee, B. R., & Kleinheksel, A. J. (2014) Trends in the crowdfunding of educational technology startups. *TechTrends, 58*(6), 36-41.

**Book
Chapters**

- Kleinheksel, A. J. (2017). Virtual patients in health professions education. In J. Stefaniak (Ed.), *Advancing medical education through strategic instructional design* (pp. 245-261). Hershey, PA: IGI Global.

- Presentations** Wood, E., Payne, A. M., Brown, S. P., Wyatt, T. R., & Kleinheksel, A. J. (2017, October). *Introducing simulation through a situated cognition framework to integrate physiology into clinical medicine*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Georgia Educational Research Association, Augusta, GA.
- Wood, E., Wyatt, T. R., & Kleinheksel, A. J. (2017, October). *Designing an eGuide for physical examination in pre-clerkship medical education: A pilot study*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Georgia Educational Research Association, Augusta, GA.
- Wyatt, T. R., Kleinheksel, A. J., Wood, E., Toomey, T. M., & Stepleman, L. M. (2017, October). *Navigating and Building Capacity for Educational Research: An Interactive Website to Ensure Smooth Sailing*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Georgia Educational Research Association, Augusta, GA.
- Jimenez, F. A., Kleinheksel, A. J., & Kotranza, A. (2017, July). *Hands off: Student experiences in objective data collection in virtual clinical simulation*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Research Congress, Dublin, Ireland.
- Kleinheksel, A. J., & Jimenez, F. A. (2017, July). *Who decides?: Analysis of decision-makers in the adoption of virtual patients for nursing education*. Poster presented at the meeting of the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Research Congress, Dublin, Ireland.
- Strekalova, Y. A., Krieger, J. L., Neil, J., Caughlin, J. P., Kleinheksel, A. J., & Kotranza, A. (2016, April). *Time for empathy: The role of communication skills for improving medical history intake outcomes*. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, Heidelberg, DE.
- Kleinheksel, A. J. (2016, April). *Integrating virtual patient simulations into the classroom: The SRM model*. Special session presented at the meeting of the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Education Research Conference, Washington, DC.
- Jimenez, F. A., & Kleinheksel, A. J. (2016, April). *Methods for the development and validation of new assessment instruments*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Education Research Conference, Washington, DC.
- Strekalova, Y. A., Krieger, J. L., Kleinheksel, & A. J., Kotranza, A. (2016, April). *I'm sorry to hear that: Empathetic communication in virtual clinical training for nurses*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Kentucky Conference on Health Communication, Lexington, KY.
- Krieger, J. L., Kleinheksel, A. J., Strekalova, Y. A., & Kotranza, A. (2015, October). *Taming unstructured data: Analyzing empathy skills in virtual clinical training*. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, New Orleans, LA.
- Kleinheksel, A. J. (2014, October). *Transformative Conversations with a Virtual Patient*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Academy on Communication in Healthcare, Research and Teaching Forum, Orlando, FL.
- Kleinheksel, A. J. (2011, June). *What is the true cost of attendance?* Paper presented at the meeting of the Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Annual Conference, Naples, FL.

Service

- MCG Simulation Council**, Member 2017-present
- MCG Dept of Medicine Translational Research Program**, Committee Member 2017-present
- AAMC Education Technology Working Group**, Member 2017-present
- Journal Reviewer**, Medical Education Online 2017-present
- Journal Reviewer**, Computers & Education 2017-present
- Journal Reviewer**, Journal of Educational Computing Research 2015-present
- UF STEM Translation Communication Center**, Affiliate Member 2014-2017
- First Year Florida**, Instructor Fall 2011
- UF Student Affairs Assessment Committee**, Member 2010-2012
- UF Admissions Scholarship Committee**, Member 2010-2012
- UF Student Financial Affairs Cost of Attendance Committee**, Chair 2009-2012
- UF Student Financial Affairs Diversity Committee**, Member 2008-2012
- UF Student Affairs Employee Enrichment & Development**, Committee Member 2008-2011
- UF Admissions**, Holistic Admissions Reader 2007-2009