



Interested Applicants

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Human Rights Commission

Name **Vincent A. Ceccacci**

Address **2420 Lily Ave**

Eugene OR 97408

Occupation **Retired (Semi)**

Business Address

Optional Information

Gender **M** Age **56-65** Ethnicity

Additional Languages spoken

Education / Training

M.S.-Education/Counseling

B.A.-Psychology

Community Service / Volunteer

**Peace Corps Volunteer (1977 and 1978 in Colombia)
(Special Education)**

Evening Phone **N/A**

Day Phone **541-505-9283**

Do You Live within the City Limits? **Y** If so how long? **2 years**

Ward **4** Neighborhood **None**

Employer

Fax E-Mail **vince51ARC@gmail.com**

How did you learn of this vacancy? **Newspaper**

Disability **Y** Description

Job Experience

Rehabilitation Counseling of the disabled (35 years)

Personal Experience

**West Cascades Peace Corps Association, Fundraisers for
"Food for Lane County", Summer tutoring at camps
(72,73,74)**



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Personal Interest

Community Advocacy for the disabled to have equal public access. Human Rights for All and World Peace Advocacy

Contribution

35 years of advocacy for equal education and access for the community of the disabled adults and children

1 What do you see as the role of a Human Rights Commissioner?

Advocacy for equal rights for all, including the disabled by developing a plan for advancing all and human potential

2 What three major issues do you identify as facing the community of Eugene over the next 20 years?

- 1) food for the hungry and homeless**
- 2) housing for the disabled and seniors**
- 3) education for the disabled and other with special needs**

3 Members of the Human Rights Commission represent the diversity of Eugene. Please describe your strengths and weakness related to group dynamics within a diverse group.

- Strengths**
- 1) 35 years of advocacy for the disabled and special education professional.**
 - 2) Cross cultural training as peace corps volunteer, in Colombia**
 - 3) My only weakness is die to disability; i can't do early A.M. meetings**



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Human Rights Commission

Name **Paul . Homan**

Address **619 E Street**

Springfield OR 97477

Occupation **Prevention Asst. Manager and Men's Liaison**

Business Address **1966 Garden Avenue**

Eugene OR 97403

Optional Information

Gender **M** Age **26-35** Ethnicity **White/European American**

Additional Languages spoken **English**

Education / Training

Master of Public of Administration, The George Washington University, 2012
Bachelor of Arts (Geography), Portland State University, 2010
I have taken coursework in public policy, political science

Community Service / Volunteer

Camp Counselor for Camp Starlight (a camp for children affected by HIV/AIDS); Community Engagement Committee Chair for the Trachtenberg Student Org.; Chair for the Friends of the Oregon Commission for Women; Bus Project Volunteer

Evening Phone **202-425-2368** Day Phone **541-342-5088x117**

Do You Live within the City Limits? **N** If so how long?

Ward **Not in E-UGB** Neighborhood **None**

Employer **HIV Alliance**

Fax E-Mail **phoman@hivalliance.org**

How did you learn of this vacancy? **Web Site**

Disability **Y** Description

Job Experience

HIV Alliance (Prevention Asst. Mgr./Men's Liaison)2013-present
GovLoop (Program Associate/Community Leader Coord.) 2011-12
Portland State University (Staff Assistant) 2009-10

Personal Experience

Since moving to Eugene, I have tried to immerse myself in the community. I have attended various community events and I have joined the Eugene Gay Pride Committee. At PSU, I received the President's Award for Outstanding Community Service.



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Personal Interest

I am highly interested in community development and community engagement. I have studied this in school and have pursued a career path in this field. I have been a tireless advocate for at-risk populations. I believe that I would be a good fit for the Eugene Human Rights Commission, because I have proven success in achieving results in community development, as well as experience in connecting with a broad range of individuals.

1 What do you see as the role of a Human Rights Commissioner?

Providing aid to at-risk and marginalized populations. Strengthening partnerships between the local government and the citizenry. Connecting to diverse communities through community engagement and advocating for their rights.

2 What three major issues do you identify as facing the community of Eugene over the next 20 years?

I see a disconnect between local government and the community. I see a deepening problem with drug abuse/addiction.

I see a deepening issues around mental health and the lack of services provided.

3 Members of the Human Rights Commission represent the diversity of Eugene. Please describe your strengths and weakness related to group dynamics within a diverse group.

My greatest strength is my ability to connect with anyone. I have worked in customer service for many years and I believe those skills have given me the ability to engage others and build consensus.

My biggest challenge is my zealouslyness, wanting to bite off more than I can chew, however I am incredibly flexible in my thinking so I am always amenable to decisions made by the group.

Contribution

I hope that I can bring my expertise as a community organizer and consensus builder to further the mission and vision of the Human Rights Commission. I want to become a member because I am interested in building a better Eugene.



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Human Rights Commission

Name **Debra L. Merskin**

Address **970 Sundance**

Eugene OR 97405

Occupation **Associate Professor**

Business Address **Allen Hall**

Eugene OR 97405

Optional Information

Gender **F** Age **46-55** Ethnicity **Multiracial**

Additional Languages spoken

Education / Training

PhD in public communication. My research specialty as a teacher and researcher is in social justice issues related to social class, race, gender, and ethnicity.

Community Service / Volunteer

I have served on several boards including Planned Parenthood of SW Oregon and Tamarack Wellness Center.

Evening Phone **541-683-3492** Day Phone **541-683-3492**

Do You Live within the City Limits? **Y** If so how long? **19 years**

Ward **2** Neighborhood **Crest Drive Citizens**

Employer **University of Oregon**

Fax E-Mail **dmerskin@uoregon.edu**

How did you learn of this vacancy? **Newspaper**

Disability **N** Description

Job Experience

Associate Professor in School of Journalism & Communication at the University of Oregon.

Personal Experience

As an academic at the UO I am used to working on committees, being in a consensus building way of problem solving and solution seeking mode. I teach, I write, I am committed both personally and professionally to community issues.



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Personal Interest

I am studying to become a yoga teacher and yoga offers us a way of thinking about how we can be of service in the world - not just how to build strong bodies but also how to commit to strong spirits in the world.

Contribution

I would like to take my 20+ years of research and teaching knowledge in to the community by being of service in whatever way is best for this community, particularly as it concerns human interests, rights, and responsibilities.

1 What do you see as the role of a Human Rights Commissioner?

To bear witness to people's experiences, to listen to the views of others, to acknowledge the value of everyone's ideas, and to contribute to discussions that work toward a goal of common good.

2 What three major issues do you identify as facing the community of Eugene over the next 20 years?

- 1. Homelessness**
- 2. Race and ethnicity issues**
- 3. Poverty**

3 Members of the Human Rights Commission represent the diversity of Eugene. Please describe your strengths and weakness related to group dynamics within a diverse group.

I have been an educator in the field of diversity and human experience for more than 19 years. I served as board member and co-director of the Center for Diversity and Community on campus and was my school's affirmative action officer for several years. In my psychology training I have studied group processing approaches and consensus building.



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Human Rights Commission

Name **William L. Morganti**

Address **863 East 36th Ave
Eugene OR 97405**

Occupation **Unemployed**

Business Address

Optional Information

Gender **M** Age **56-65** Ethnicity **White/European
American**

Additional Languages spoken

Education / Training

Bachelor of Science History, University of Oregon, 1983

Community Service / Volunteer

**Citizens Advisory Council (LCOG); Accessible
Transportation (LTD)**

Evening Phone **541-344-8571** Day Phone **541-344-8571**

Do You Live within the City Limits? **Y** If so how long? **63 years**

Ward **2** Neighborhood **Southeast Neighbors**

Employer

Fax E-Mail

How did you learn of this vacancy? **Newspaper**

Disability **Y** Description

Job Experience

**I have always supported equal rights for everyone,
especially since I have been discriminated against**

Personal Experience

**I have been a janitor, bus boy, cannery worker,
telemarketer,**



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Personal Interest

I was a US History Major in school and I read history, mystery and sci-fi

Contribution

I represent poor and disabled people who have been discriminated against

1 What do you see as the role of a Human Rights Commissioner?

I see the human rights commissioner as ensuring everyone is treated equally regardless

2 What three major issues do you identify as facing the community of Eugene over the next 20 years?

1. transportation

2. housing

3. employment

3 Members of the Human Rights Commission represent the diversity of Eugene. Please describe your strengths and weakness related to group dynamics within a diverse group.

I see my strengths as my mellow nature and my sense of humor. My weakness is that i have been bullied too many times to deal with any nonsense.



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Human Rights Commission

Name **R. Joseph . Newton**

Evening Phone **(541) 543-3531** Day Phone **(541) 543-3531**

Address **P.O. Box 10334
Eugene OR 97440**

Do You Live within the City Limits? **Y** If so how long? **29 years**

Ward **7** Neighborhood **Whiteaker Community Council**

Occupation **Programmer/Tech [unemployed, Day labor**

Employer **self-employed**

Business Address **P.O. Box 10334
Eugene OR 97440**

Fax E-Mail **rjnewton@efn.org**

How did you learn of this vacancy? **Friend**

Optional Information

Gender **M** Age **46-55** Ethnicity **White/European American**

Disability **Y** Description

Additional Languages spoken

Education / Training

**AAS Programming, Network Operations, LCC 2000
Workshops in Humanitarian Intervention, Mediation,
Arbitration, Short-term Counseling , with associated
service**

Job Experience

**Current--day labor in house renovation
2008-2010 Contract Programmer/Database Designer for
Center for Family Development
2001-2006 Division Tech for LCC Science Division
1984-1998 Production Worker, Golden Temple/Yogi Tea**

Community Service / Volunteer

**Oregon Country Fair board alternate 2004-2006, 2007-
2009
OCF committees: LUMP, YPDC, Vision Quest Task Force
LCC Green Team, Oregon Bioneers 2005, 2006 Steering
Comm., Spring Conference 2005 planning committee.**

Personal Experience

**Older American [55 in April] re-entering the job market.
Currently in marginal housing. I also have worked with
women, people of non-straight orientation and alternate
sexual identity on a person-to-person level.**



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Personal Interest

Group singing, Dancing, Sharing ideas, arts education and advocacy, and seeking a better world in any way I can. I currently use Facebook as my primary tool for self-education and advocacy, drawing connections between seemingly disparate issues, communicating with persons of diverse politics and culture. Since becoming aware that I am on the Autism Spectrum, I have become an ardent advocate of autism acceptance.

1 What do you see as the role of a Human Rights Commissioner?

To listen closely to all segments of the community, and advocate for the human rights and dignity of each person. To help guide other decision-making bodies in creating sound and humane policy. To bring my own experience to bear as testimony when appropriate and seek out others whose voices are not often heard.

2 What three major issues do you identify as facing the community of Eugene over the next 20 years?

Poverty--this is big

Eliminating factors that contribute to our lack of racial diversity, and move beyond Oregon's shameful history of exclusion.

Disability rights, as Eugene is a magnet for those who feel marginalized in our society, and we have the potential to become in truth, the Human Rights City we aspire to become.

3 Members of the Human Rights Commission represent the diversity of Eugene. Please describe your strengths and weakness related to group dynamics within a diverse group.

My strengths include an open mind, high intelligence and eloquence, deep and growing empathy, and awareness of process, and conflict management experience. My personal experience of being labeled, bullied, and excluded helps to keep my awareness of these dynamics acute.

My greatest weakness is a tendency to rage. As a white male, I also enjoy many subtle privileges, some of which I am probably not aware of.

Contribution

To bring an acute awareness of human rights issues not on the standard public radar, such as class discrimination, discrimination against those with psychiatric labels, exclusion of older Americans, and other subtle, but dehumanizing prejudices.



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Human Rights Commission

Name **Jason K. Pierson**

Address **250 West Broadway, Apt. 286
Eugene OR 97401**

Occupation **Law Student**

Business Address **N/A**

Evening Phone **702-789-9630** Day Phone **702-789-9630**

Do You Live within the City Limits? **Y** If so how long? **9 months**

Ward **1** Neighborhood **Downtown Neighborhood Association**

Employer **N/A**

Fax E-Mail **jason.k.pierson@gmail.com**

How did you learn of this vacancy? **Friend**

Optional Information

Gender **M** Age **26-35** Ethnicity **White/European
American**

Disability **N** Description

Additional Languages spoken

Education / Training

**Associates degree - paralegal studies
B.S. - Criminal Justice
J.D. Candidate - Oregon Law - Class of 2015**

Job Experience

**Paralegal at various firms in Las Vegas, including plaintiff
personal injury, criminal defense, insurance defense and
construction defect law**

Community Service / Volunteer

**National Lawyers Guild, National Steering Committee -
University of Oregon Pro Bono Executive Board -
University of Oregon Oregon Law Students Public
Interest Fund Board Member - University of Oregon City
of Eugene - Equity and Human Rights volunteer**

Personal Experience

**In addition to my experiences identified in other categories,
I was on the Student Assembly at Michigan State University
as the Account Auditor**



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Personal Interest

I believe a community needs the most education and diverse perspectives possible working together in order to thrive. I do not believe a career in government is in my future (though I've been told it should be), but I'd very much like to be able to be involved in a different way that makes a positive impact for those around me and those who come in the future. I am an avid exerciser and have gotten to know Eugene very well during my adventures while training for several marathons. I appreciate our community's love for the performing arts and its ability to emphasize a high quality of life for families. I understand the issues facing our school districts and believe I could articulate unique approaches to these issues from a different perspective. I engage with my neighbors, my church, my co-workers and my friends who have been here for their entire lives every single day.

Contribution

I want to bring the perspective of a young citizen, home owner and professional to one of our community's very important boards or commissions. I want to better network with fellow citizens who believe that Eugene has the potential to be better than it already is for everyone who calls it home. My membership would be a way to collaborate and integrate with those around me so we may together examine our community's most important perspectives and issues in a transparent, detailed manner that works to implement solutions rather than just hint at problems or concerns. I want to become more invested in my home and all it has to offer than I am now.



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1 What do you see as the role of a Human Rights Commissioner?

A Human Rights Commissioner exists to represent the diverse needs of those who reside within his or her community. The Commissioner is an ally and an advocate who sees both the big picture and specific instances where he or she can be most successful in enhancing the community's understanding of and engagement with all who work, live and play here. Additionally, the Commissioner must be willing to engage in difficult conversations related to controversial issues, including, but not limited to, race, gender, ethnicity, hegemony, dominance, subordination, education, training, access, transportation, economy and cultural competence.

2 What three major issues do you identify as facing the community of Eugene over the next 20 years?

First, Eugene must continue to better enhance its relationships with underrepresented communities, including, but not limited to, diverse ethnicities and non-English speaking populations. Second, the city must be willing to acknowledge its weaknesses in serving its citizens over time and openly work with its population to collaboratively open better lines of communication. Third, Eugene must pay careful attention to the distinctions in socioeconomic standing that exist geographically, in our schools and throughout our neighborhoods, as well as examine how these intersect with race and ethnicity.

3 Members of the Human Rights Commission represent the diversity of Eugene. Please describe your strengths and weakness related to group dynamics within a diverse group.

My primary objective in group discussions is to listen and hear first, then to act, react or to speak. I believe I can only provide my best commentary and perspective after properly understanding what those around me have to share, and as a representative of the community, it would be my role to listen and hear those I am in place to serve before acting or reacting on their behalf. Diverse groups are often willing to have difficult conversations that must take place, and I am thoroughly appreciative of these challenging conversations because I believe they often bring the most beneficial results. A weakness I possess is that I can become frustrated when unwillingness to take action or collaborate dominates a conversation, and the conversation's objective/goal is thus sidetracked by the diverse group rather than acted upon.