

# MARC F. GUSTAFSON

329 East 82<sup>nd</sup> St.

New York, NY 10028

[marcgustafson@gmail.com](mailto:marcgustafson@gmail.com) (212) 288-6987

## EDUCATION

New York, NY

- 2004-2007**      **NEW YORK UNIVERSITY**  
B.A. International Studies (GPA: 3.95)  
Valedictorian and Commencement Speaker for the  
University, Summa Cum Laude
- 2007-2009**      **OXFORD UNIVERSITY (MARSHALL SCHOLAR)**  
St. John's College  
MPHIL Modern Middle Eastern Studies
- 2009-Present**      **OXFORD UNIVERSITY (CANDIDATE)**  
St. John's College  
DPHIL Modern Middle Eastern Studies

### AWARDS AND HONORS:

- Marshall Scholar (2007)
- Valedictorian of NYU (2007)
- New York University President's Award
- New York University Osher Scholar
- New York University Schlansky Scholar
- New York University Shimkin Scholar
- Bart Lawson Scholar

## EXPERIENCE

### **1997-2005**      **REACH THE WORLD (Non-profit Organization)**

New York, NY

#### *Co-founder; Strategic Planning & Business Development*

RTW's mission is to link students and teachers to volunteer travelers on actual journeys around the globe via the Internet. RTW also provides teacher training and tech support services to disadvantaged schools. RTW works with over 175 severely under-funded classrooms in New York City and Chicago. RTW's current annual budget is \$550K. It now employs four staff and manages a corps of volunteer travelers in the field.

- Founded and built a small business. Responsibilities included business planning, branding, web design, marketing, curriculum-planning, fundraising and financial planning.
- Captained RTW's first online expedition: the 30,000-mile, 2.5-year circumnavigation of *Makulu*, a 43-foot sailing vessel. Responsibilities included acquiring, equipping, maintaining and piloting the vessel during a westward circumnavigation of the world from Florida to Florida; and training and supervising more than 30 crewmembers.
- Co-wrote RTW's five-year strategic plan, during which the company expanded from 25 to 175 classrooms; replicated in two locations; and added additional online journeys via partnerships with volunteer travelers.

#### *Awards for Reach the World*

- National Geographic Society: In 2006, the NGS named RTW one of just six "Model Programs in Geography Education" in the nation, and awarded a \$215,000 grant for program expansion.
- Travelocity GENIP Award for Excellence in Geography Education, 2004: The GENIP Award is given annually by a consortium of the nation's major geography organizations and alliances, including the AAG and NCGE.

### **2008 (Jan-Nov)**      **VOTE FROM HOME (Political Action Committee)**

Columbus, Ohio

#### *Founder and Director*

Vote from Home (VFH) was an unaffiliated political action committee formed in response to the change in early voting laws in Ohio. Vote from Home's mission was to promote early and absentee voting in disenfranchised communities in Columbus, Ohio. The VFH team was composed of 20 Rhodes, Marshall and Truman Scholars, all of whom were under my leadership. After raising over \$70,000 to support our efforts, we built an online database and an iPhone application for tracking the status of absentee and early voters in real time. Our tools and hard work helped turn out 11,282 voters, an exceptionally high yield for such a small group of volunteers. Vote from Home's efforts were featured in the *Guardian*, the *New York Times*, *Al Jazeera*, the *Huffington Post*, the *Columbus Dispatch* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

### **2003-2004**      **HOWARD DEAN CAMPAIGN**

Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Iowa, New York

#### *GOTV Trainer, Event Planner and State Coordinator*

During the 2004 primary election season, I founded a Rhode Island community group and served as the Dean Campaign's go-to person for the state of RI. I hosted weekly meetings and monthly Meet-ups, and organized community service events. During the summer of 2003, I planned and led a record-setting ballot initiative (record time set for getting Howard Dean's name on the ballot in Rhode Island: 2,000 signatures in less than 10 hours). I also created and managed the Rhode Island database of volunteers and donors using Access software. During the final month of the primary election lead-up, I traveled to Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina and New York to train canvassers.

**LANGUAGES:** English and Arabic