

◆ BRIENNE THOMSON ◆

CONSULTANT, STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS | SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

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To Abbey Banks & the Amplifier Team:

Exploring over 25 countries and working with, *and within*, a diversity of cultures has allowed me to develop the analytical listening skills and ability to solve an extensive array of challenges. In my educational and professional journey through post-graduate work, Peace Corps service, being a journalist, teacher, marketer, researcher and analyst, I have embraced each challenge as a life lesson that has strengthened my character, creativity, *and ability to tell a pretty entertaining tale!*

I have achieved success in managing community projects and capacity building through teaching micro-entrepreneurial courses in the Community Economic Development sector of Peace Corps Paraguay, as well as providing technology tutorials and workshops to faculty at American University. On the stage of presenting, I have also designed and instructed language courses in the U.S. and Colombia, including teaching public speaking skills, business ethics and critical thinking for the GMAT to pre-MBA students. Throughout my Latin American ventures, I have also been able to adapt and advance my communication skills in both English and Spanish.

The variety of challenges presented by Amplifier's Strategic Partnership Consultant position will be a chance for me to utilize my eclectic background to formulate insightful and dynamic strategies alongside my team. To address a few additional aptitudes I can offer, I have experience working with Excel and diagramming software as a means to communicate a simplified graphic representation of a project's progression, as in a use case. I am also familiar with the phases of business systems development; from project feasibility to identifying systems requirements, to employing the agile methodology to allow for adaptability as a project goal takes shape. Regarding some of Amplifier's specific qualification interests, like organizing Global Family Network experience events, I have ample practice and foresight in planning, communicating, and ensuring the fluidity of large scale events. And, as a teacher of technology tools, not only am I onboard with Amplifier's priority on implementing networks and technology to accelerate impact, but I'm a quick study when it comes to new platforms. Here are a few more of my recent accomplishments:

- Completed Master's from American University in Intercultural and International Communications with an emphasis in Economics
- Served as a Peace Corps Master's International Student in Paraguay from 2013-2015, between my two years at AU
- Worked on developing business and trade guidelines with the International Trade Administration's Cuba Desk (Department of Commerce) and participated in multiple roundtables and meetings
- Wrote guides to be used by the ITA and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on the new Special Economic Development Zone of Mariel and the Cuban labor force through in-depth research and an exploratory, data collection trip to the island
- Versed in Stata via a graduate level Applied Econometrics course for statistical analysis, as well as SQL for correlating large datasets

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- Can demonstrate research, writing and sourcing abilities through case study publications available [here](http://brienne.yolasite.com/penned-by-b.php) → (<http://brienne.yolasite.com/penned-by-b.php>)

In relation to writing, technology skills and more on my master's focus in Economics, please enjoy my video presentation of "[Currency Wars: Exchange Intervention in a Floating World.](http://brienne.yolasite.com/currency-wars-by-brienne-thomson.php)" (<http://brienne.yolasite.com/currency-wars-by-brienne-thomson.php>)

And, to substantiate my interest in project management and strategy, I want to list a few courses I elected during my master's studies at American University:

- **International Economics:** Taught by Professor Manuel Suarez-Mier who assisted in drafting NAFTA and continues to publish weekly articles for international outlets in English and Spanish
- **Financial Issues in Latin America:** Taught by Andrew Wolfe, former Senior Manager of the Western Hemisphere Department at the IMF, who offered first-hand accounts of some of the tumultuous monetary, banking and exchange rate policies south of the border
- **Applied Econometrics:** This consisted of an in depth examination of regression analysis, applying it by using Stata, and how significant variable relations can substantiate predictions about future economic trends
- **Business Feasibility in Cuba:** This was an independent project course designed alongside an International Business professor from American's Kogod School of Business, that entailed writing a feasibility study; translating Cuban laws, data collection and correlation with existing markets and financial analysis
- **Management, Consulting, Practices and Methodologies:** Taught by Professor Sally Fowler who has a PhD in Business Administration and over a decade of experience working in international consulting

For more on my background, I would have liked to attach a letter of recommendation from the head of Peace Corps Paraguay's Community Economic Development sector and my Description of Service (DOS), but seeing as how application attachments aren't an option, *I'll bring them along during our interview!* I am confident my writing, references (available on request) and resume will detail the diligence, confidence, resourcefulness and foresight I hope to bring to Amplifier's team.

In all sincerity, respect and anticipation,



Brienne Thomson