**Gulfjobseeker.com CV No:** **808428**

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August 22, 2011

Dear Sir/Madame

I am writing in response to your advertisement for the position of Project Officer Arabic 312, as advertised on your website. I am a New Zealand citizen and Egyptian native who is currently a PhD candidate in Environment Society and Design at Lincoln University, in New Zealand. I am completing my PhD degree in education and museum studies in the next month. I respectfully submit this letter of application, for I believe my past studies, commitment and experience in a variety of positions me well qualified to meet the needs of the advertised position. I am extremely interested in obtaining any of these positions: education officer, coordinator, guide/officer, project supporter, or researcher.

As a researcher at Lincoln University, teaching assistant at University of Arkansas, museum educator/coordinator and visitor guide/officer in Egypt I have gained valuable experience in researching, teaching and coordinating and developing different types of programmes.

I am drawn to education because I am committed to working in a field that promotes civic education, demonstrated by my past experiences, education and employment in university and museum educational programmes.

I am enclosing my curriculum vitae. Unofficial copies of all university transcripts and professional reference letters will be emailed as required.

Sincerely,

**Summary of education and work history**

**Personal Details**

**Date of Birth**: 16 March 1973

**Nationality**: New Zealand Citizen and native of Egypt.

**Marital Status**: Married with one child.

**Education**

**2007 – to present** PhD/ in Heritage & Cultural Tourism (Expected November 2011) Lincoln University, Christchurch New Zealand. Thesis Title: “How Tourists Relate to Museum Presentations and Offerings: Insights from The Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa and The Egyptian Museum of Cairo.”

**2006 – 2007** National Certificate in Computing Level 2 & 3, Christchurch College of Education, University of Canterbury, New Zealand.

**2001** Completed Graduate – Level Courses in Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville for teaching at The King Fahd Middle East Studies Program University of Arkansas.

**2001** Master of Arts, History, Minnesota State University, Mankato. Thesis: “The Plight of Female Slaves: The Most Salient Experiences of Slave Women in the Antebellum South” (174, pages). Minor/Political Science.

**1996** Bachelor of Arts, History, Beirut Arab University, Lebanon

 Major: Islamic Civilisation

Minor: European History

**Languages Proficiency**: Hieroglyphic

 English & Arabic: Fluently

 Spanish: Average

**Academic and Professional Experience**

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| --- | --- |
| **2007 – 2011**  | Full time PhD studies/researcher atLincoln University, Christchurch, New Zealand. Major: Museum studies/management and tourism**Researcher duties**:* Writing reports on visitor experiences at Canterbury and Te Papa Museum.
* Management of interactive and traditional museums
* Editing papers on cultural and heritage tourism
 |
| **2003 – 2006**  | Administrator and researcher in the Educatoinal and Cultural Department at the League of Arab States.**Duties included**: * the assistance with the production of the department’s quarterly reports on cultural cooperation between Arab countries;
* developing a range of cultural projects such as strengthening the Arabic language in the Arab world;
* Carrying out translation into Arabic (through the Higher Institute Arabic

 Translation in Algiers) and developing  specific tools to facilitate access to  information available in Arabic.  |
| **2001 – 2003** | Teaching Assistant at The King Fahd Middle East Studies Program University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, USA. **Duties included**: * Lecture Middle Eastern/Arabic classes (Course: ARAB 4213 Introduction to Arab Culture (IR). Selected readings from Arab history, literature, the Islamic Tradition, and the Holy Qur'an.
* Grading Exams
* Tutoring international students
 |
| **1998-2003** | Museum Education Officer/Guide at The Greco-Roman Museum of Alexandria in Egypt.**Duties included**: * Working with school classes, groups or individuals, running workshops, delivering talks or run demonstrations.
* Recording and evaluating activities and delivering reports.
* Planning and organising activities in cooperation with development staff, teachers and schools.
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| **1994 – 1997** | Visitor Services Officer **Duties included**: * Provide excellent customer service for visitors, responding to their needs in a professional, courteous and friendly manner.
* Acquire and continually build knowledge about exhibitions, displays, objects, buildings, commercial operations and public programs in order to facilitate visitor enjoyment, learning and understanding
* Maintain a high standard of both personal presentation and within the museum precinct including but not limited to reception, cleaning of public areas and reporting maintenance issues.
* Conduct guided tours and assist with public programs as required.
* Assist with the set up of special events, functions and activities, all in accordance with good Occupational Safety Policy.
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**Academic Publications**

 (in the press). Marketing The Egyptian Bedouin: A Critique of the Egyptian Tourism Authorities’ Representations of Bedouin as ‘Primitive and Exotic Tribes. Australian Journal of Leisure and Recreation.

 (in the press). How International and domestic Visitors relate to museum presentations and offerings: an Insights from The Egyptian Museum in Cairo. Museums and Social Issues.

 (2010). The Plight of Female Slaves: The Most Salient Experiences of Slave Women in the Antebellum South. Slavery & Abolition: Annual Bibliographical Supplement 23(3) 200 - 203.

**Projects/Reports undertaken**

 (2003) Learning Experiences in Museums. Department, Lincoln University, New Zealand

 (2004). How visitors employ cognitive approaches in museum settings. Environment Society and Design Department, Lincoln University, New Zealand (Doc. 465).

**Awards**

Lincoln University Doctoral Scholarship Award (2007-2010).

Minnesota State Award for Graduate Studies 1999.

Winner of the Award for the Second Best Master's Thesis in American History in the

academic year 2001/2002 granted by Minnesota State Historical Society.

Beirut Arab University Research Award for the academic year 1995-1996.

**Major Subjects of Interest**

Museum management and visitor experiences

Visitors’ Educational experiences in museums and heritage settings;

The use of social media in Education;

 The relationship between culture and museums;

Other research interests include: semiotic analysis of digital media and the cultural and ethnic politics in museum exhibitions.