# Victoria O. Emeka, PhD

dremeka@myedpro.com 219.298.6342

www.myedpro.com | https://www.linkedin.com/in/voemeka/ | https://www.facebook.com/myedpro/



## **EDUCATION**

2006 Ph.D., Cultural Foundations and Policy Studies

Loyola University of Chicago: Chicago, IL

2000 Type 75, School Administration and Supervision (IL)

Loyola University of Chicago: Chicago, IL

1998 Master of Arts, Education and Curriculum Development

University of Michigan: Ann Arbor, MI

1995 Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education

Valparaiso University: Valparaiso, IN

## **CERTIFICATIONS & LICENSURES**

## **United States Federal Government**

#### • Business Certifications

2022 U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Women-Owned Small Business (EDWOSB)

Certified—EdPro<sup>TM</sup>: Educational Consulting & Professional Services

2022 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Educational Organization

Designation—ProActive Community Coalition, Corp (PACCC)

#### **State of Indiana**

#### • Business Certifications

Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA) Women and Minority Business Enterprise

Certified— EdPro<sup>TM</sup>: Educational Consulting & Professional Services

2021 Indiana City of Indianapolis Women and Minority Business Enterprise Certified—EdPro:

Educational Consulting & Professional Services

2021 Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Disadvantaged Business Enterprise

Certified—EdPro<sup>TM</sup>: Educational Consulting & Professional Services

2021 CEI Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Entrepreneurial Development Institute

Training: Certificate of Proficiency—EdPro<sup>TM</sup>: Educational Consulting & Professional

Services

## • Teaching Licensures

1996 - Present 1-6 (7/8 Non-Dept.) Professionalized General Elementary License

2019 - Present P-12 Director of Curriculum & Instruction License

2019 – Present P-12 Building Level Administrator License

## **State of Illinois**

#### • Business Certifications

2023 Illinois Women/Minority Business Enterprise (WMBE) Certified—EdPro<sup>TM</sup>: Educational

Consulting & Professional Services

#### • Teaching Licensures

2000 - Present K-9 Professional Educator License

2000 - Present K-12 Type 75 General Administrative License

#### WORK EXPERIENCE: BUSINESS OWNER

## ProActive Community Coalition, Corp (PACCC)—Non-Profit 501(c)(3) Organization

12/2021 – Present

President & Founder, ProActive Community Coalition, Corp (PACCC) *Northwest, IN* 

# Roles & Responsibilities: President & CEO

- President & CEO of PACCC in charge of daily operations of the Corporation.
- Develop and deliver programs/services in line with PACCC's Mission, Vision, & Triad Goals to Empower Underserved Populations, Educate Using a ProActive Learning Framework, and Nurture Education for Sustainable Development to Strengthen the Capacity of Self, Community, and the World.

# EdPro International, LLC (EdPro<sup>TM</sup>)—Educational Consulting & Professional Services

12/2017 – Present

Chief Executive Officer & Founder EdPro International, LLC (EdPro $^{TM}$ ) Crown Point, IN

## Roles & Responsibilities: CEO & Founder

- Chief Executive Officer and Founder of EdPro<sup>TM</sup> with sole ownership and control of the Company and in charge of its strategic planning, fiscal function, operational leadership, and performance.
- Lead 100 percent of the implementation and administration of developing, managing, and directing day-to-day and long-term decisions of EdPro's business operations.
- Provide personalized Educational Consulting and Professional Services customized for individuals, families, businesses, and organizations to deliver sustainable results with impact.

# **➤ EdPro**<sup>TM</sup> **WORK PERFORMANCE**

4/2023 - Present

ITAV Family of Schools

Chicago, IL

## Roles & Responsibilities: External Evaluation & Audits—Program Evaluator

• Designed an evaluation plan and completed reviews for ITAV's Illinois Professional Educator License (PEL) Test Preparation Program.

9/2022 - 5/2023

Vincennes University—Early College

Fort Wayne, IN

# Roles & Responsibilities: Children, Youth, & Family Learning Support--State-wide Parent Engagement Facilitator

 Developed and implemented a statewide parent-facilitated discussion program for parents and high school students.

3/2022 - 2/2023

Institute for Humane Education

Surry, ME

# Roles & Responsibilities: Community Outreach—Education Regional Outreach Consultant

 Coordinated community engagement and educational outreach across Northwest Indiana for a non-profit organization to build relationships with schools, school leaders, educators, and organizations serving diverse communities.

## WORK EXPERIENCE: BUSINESS OWNER CONT.

# **➤ EdPro**<sup>TM</sup> **WORK PERFORMANCE CONT.**

2/2022 - 6/2022 Town of Merrillville

Merrillville, IN

# Roles & Responsibilities: Program Development—Career Soft Skills Training

• Developed and taught a "Soft Skills" career program for high school students from various schools across Northwest Indiana.

11/2021 – 12/2021 Northwest Property Development

Gary, IN

# Roles & Responsibilities: Professional Writing, Editing, & Proofreading—Business Consulting

• Conducted market research and business plan reviews and provided professional writing to secure funding.

4/2021 - 5/2021 American Public University System

Charles Town, WV

## Roles & Responsibilities: External Evaluation & Audits—Program Evaluator

 Audits and External Reviews—Completed an external review assessment for a new B.A. degree program for an accredited U.S. institution of higher education.

7/2019 - 12/2019 LRP, INC

Hammond, IN

## Roles & Responsibilities: Program Development & Management—Chief Education Officer

• Provided education consulting for a Northwest Indiana company to complete the accreditation/authorization processes for opening & operating a charter school in compliance with the state of Indiana regulations & requirements.

#### WORK EXPERIENCE: TEACHING

## **HIGHER EDUCATION**

8/2009 - 5/2016

Assistant Professor, Department of Education (Undergraduates & Graduates) *Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN* 

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Taught undergraduate and graduate students.
- Advised undergraduate and graduate students.
- Coordinated and supervised the global monitoring of a master's degree education program as the Program Director.
- Completed various scholarly publications and a book chapter affiliated with the United Nations. Areas of publication include a) a learning model that explores integrating sustainable development competencies into elementary education, b) elementary teacher training, c) the purpose and function of schooling and learning within society, and d) internationalization initiatives for expanding sustainable development within the African Continent and diaspora through intercultural exchange.
- Served as the Northern Indiana State representative for the Indiana Council of Teachers of Mathematics.
- Created and managed several higher education internationalization initiatives with U.S. and Nigerian elected officials.

8/2007 - 12/2007

Adjunct Faculty, Curriculum, and Instruction (Graduates)

American College of Education: Chicago, IL

# **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Taught graduate students in a specific field of expertise.
- Developed and managed class syllabi and ensured that the syllabus met department and college standards.
- Planned and created lectures, in-class discussions, assignments, and assessments.

6/1998 - 8/1988

Adjunct Faculty, General Studies (Undergraduates)

Ivy Tech Community College: Gary, IN

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Taught undergraduate students in a specific field of expertise.
- Developed and managed class syllabi and ensured that the syllabus met department and college standards.
- Planned and created lectures, in-class discussions, assignments, and assessments.

8/1996 - 12/1996

Graduate Teaching Assistant (Graduates)

University of Michigan: Ann Arbor, MI

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Assisted faculty members with classroom instruction, exams, record keeping, and other miscellaneous projects.
- Traveled to Cape Town, South Africa, to conduct educational research—interviewing and working with classroom teachers and students.

## WORK EXPERIENCE: TEACHING CONT.

## **ELEMENTARY EDUCATION**

8/2000 - 5/2007

Jonathan Scammon Elementary School (Grades 4, 5)

Chicago, IL

## Roles & Responsibilities

- Taught fundamental subjects to students.
- Created and edited lesson plans.
- Enforced classroom and school rules.
- Observed and evaluated student performance.
- Kept parents updated on their child/children's academic progress and socialemotional learning.

8/1999 - 5/2000

Betty Shabazz International Charter School (Grades 5, 6, and 7)

Chicago, IL

# **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Taught fundamental subjects to students.
- Created and edited lesson plans.
- Enforced classroom and school rules.
- Observed and evaluated student performance.
- Kept parents updated on their child/children's academic progress and socialemotional learning.

8/1998 - 5/1999

King Academy (Grade 2)

Inkster, MI

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Taught fundamental subjects to students.
- Created and edited lesson plans.
- Enforced classroom and school rules.
- Observed and evaluated student performance.
- Kept parents updated on their child/children's academic progress and socialemotional learning.

5/1997 - 8/1997

African American Youth Academy, Carpenter Elementary (Grades 4, 5, 6) *Ann Arbor, MI* 

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Taught fundamental subjects to students.
- Created and edited lesson plans.
- Enforced classroom and school rules.
- Observed and evaluated student performance.
- Kept parents updated on their child/children's academic progress and socialemotional learning.

1/1996 - 5/1996

Lincoln Elementary School (Grade 4)

East Chicago, IN

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Taught fundamental subjects to students.
- Created and edited lesson plans.
- Enforced classroom and school rules.
- Observed and evaluated student performance.
- Kept parents updated on their child/children's academic progress and socialemotional learning.

## WORK EXPERIENCE: ADMINISTRATION

## **ADMINISTRATION**

## Higher Education

8/2013 - 5/2016

Program Director, Humane Education, Master of Education—Valparaiso University *Valparaiso, IN* 

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Coordinated and supervised the global monitoring of the Humane Education program within Valparaiso University's Department of Education.
- Developed checklist/rubric for reviewing and scoring Humane Education graduate thesis submissions.
- Advised Humane Education graduate students.

## School District

8/2007 - 7/2009

Assistant-to-the-Superintendent, Gary Community School Corporation *Gary, IN* 

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Brought and managed multiple regional and local stakeholders to accomplish various education initiatives as the Assistant-to-the-Superintendent for Gary Community School Corporation.
- Worked for the Mayor's Educational Leadership Council, a task force commissioned by the U.S. Department of Labor to eradicate the dropout epidemic facing marginalized groups in Gary, IN.
- Partnered with U.S. organizations and several non-profit agencies to raise awareness and donate funds for orphaned children living at the "Motherless Babies Home" in Anambra State, Nigeria. Coalesced with the Anambra local government and traditional rulers to distribute educational books, school supplies, food, clothing, furnishings, televisions, radios, and monetary donations from the U.S.

# *Federal Agency* 8/1998 – 8/1999

Program Director—Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center Chesterton, IN

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Developed and implemented educational programs, conducted teacher training workshops, supervised staff, and promoted the organization's mission and vision to constituents as the Program Director for an NGO Agency in partnership with the U.S. federal government.
- Planned, developed, and implemented educational programs from start to finish.
- Taught educational programs to teachers and students.
- Managed and evaluated the performance and progress of ongoing programs.
- Hired, trained, and mentored staff.

# PROFESSIONAL HONORS

	<b>Distinctions</b>	and A	Awards
--	---------------------	-------	--------

2022	Indiana Technical Assistance Program (INTAP) Business Grant Recipient Indiana Small Business Development Center
2021	Indiana Small Business Restart Grant State of Indiana Office of the Governor
2013	Pioneering Africa Institute Initiative Certificate of Recognition Valparaiso University Office of the President, Mark Heckler, Ph.D.
2013	The Africa Institute Opening Ceremony Invitation with Former President of Nigeria, His Excellency Chief Olusegun Obasanjo
	Valparaiso University Office of the President, Mark Heckler, Ph.D.
2013	Consulate General of Nigeria, Letter of Appreciation  Honorable Habib Baba Habu, OON
2013	Valparaiso University, Graduate School Letter of Appreciation David, L. Rowland, Ph.D., Associate Provost, and Dean
2009	150 Most Influential Alumnus Nominee Valparaiso University
2006	Homecoming Keynote Speaker  Department of Education
2006	Outstanding Alumni Award Department of Education
1996 - 1998	Distinguished Rackham Merit Fellowship Award University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
1997	University of Cape Town, South Africa, Research Trip Award University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
1996	Outstanding Future Educator Award State of Indiana
1995	Educational Grant Recipient  East Chicago Education Foundation
Commondations	

# **Commendations**

2023	Vincennes University—Early College Program
2023	Town of Merrillville
2014	State of Illinois Human Rights Commission
2014	Junior Achievement Chicago
2014	Valparaiso University Office of Institutional Innovation
2014	Valparaiso University Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

# **BOARD MEMBERSHIPS**

Institute for Humane Education, Executive Board of Directors Member
Indiana Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM), Board of Directors Member, and Northern Indiana Elementary State Representative
Junior Achievement—Northwest Indiana Division, Board of Directors Member
Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center, Board of Directors Member
City of Gary, Mayor Rudy Clay, Education Task Force Member

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Black Chamber of Commerce

National Alternative Education Association (NAEA)

Alternative Education Resource Organization (AERO)

The Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI)

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)

Indiana Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM)

Board Member and Northern Indiana Elementary State Representative (2014)

African Studies Association (ASA)

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

## **Book Chapter**

Chiatula, V.O. (2018) Pro-active learning framework: Educational model for capacity-building and sustainable development. In James, V.U. (Ed.), Capacity-building for sustainable development (pp. 170-186).

Boston, MA: CABI—United Nations. Publication Link

## **Published Articles**

- Chiatula, V.O. (2015). Integrative pre-service elementary teacher training: The role of interdisciplinary collaborative mathematics. *Education*, 136(2), 113-122. <u>Publication Link</u>
- Chiatula, V.O. (2015). Interdisciplinary collaborative mathematics: Standards correlation guide. *Education*, 136(1), 53-62. Publication Link
- Chiatula, V.O. (2015). A bold step forward: Juxtaposition of the constructivist and freeschooling learning model. *Education*, *135*(3), 303-308. Publication Link
- Chiatula, V.O. (2015). Expanding sustainable development in Africa through the intercultural exchange: A framework for Igbo internationalization initiatives. *Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa, 17*(1), 61-75. Publication Link

#### PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

- (2023, 2022) Straight Talk Radio (WVON 1690 AM)—Featuring My Community Plan Foundation Title: *Women in Leadership—Education*.
- (2020) African Academic Diaspora Virtual Homecoming 2020: Advancing African and Diasporan Academic Relations (Zoom-Online/Virtual)

  Title: Education for capacity building and sustainable development: The role of quality assurance and proactive learning framework.
- (2015) Marquette University Igbo Studies Association International Conference (Milwaukee, WI) Title: Expanding sustainable development in Africa through the intercultural exchange: A framework for Igbo internationalization initiatives.
- (2014) National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Regional Conference (Indianapolis, IN)
  Title: Developing an Interdisciplinary Math Methods Primer for Pre-service Elementary
  Teachers.
- (2014) Hoosier Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators Research Symposium (Indianapolis, IN) Title: *Collaborative Mathematics Teaching*.
- (2013) New York University Humane Education Conference (New York, NY) Title: *Is Schooling for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and Beyond?*

#### **STRENGTHS**

- Unwavering Commitment: Advocating for educational equity with zeal, tenacity, and reliability.
- **Professional Certifications & Licensures**: Holding current certifications; teaching and school administration licenses in Indiana and Illinois.
- **Education Strategist**: Leading and managing teams or projects effectively, driving excellence across diverse areas.
- **Pedagogy & Classroom Management**: Varying subject matter expertise and teaching methods, ensuring effective instruction for all learners through efficient classroom management.
- **Program Development**: Designing and implementing educational programs aligned to specific goals and objectives that drive outcomes.
- **Program Evaluation**: Conducting research and data analysis to evaluate participant experience and operational efficiency for strategic decision-making.
- Sustainability & Equity Assessment: Conducting audits to maximize the impact of actions, policies, or programs to optimize capacity-building and resource allocation.
- **Partnership Building**: Coordinating strategic relationships with constituents at the local, state, national, and international levels.
- Cross-Cultural Outreach: Developing community engagement initiatives with various stakeholders to ensure educational equity and access opportunities.
- **Presenting**: Delivering impactful presentations and talks at conferences, events, and media outlets.
- **Time Management**: Prioritizing tasks to meet deadlines efficiently and independently.

#### **DIFFERENTIATORS**

- Varied Experience: Three decades of diverse experience in education as a teacher, school administrator, professor, state representative, board member, published author, speaker, and business owner.
- Sustainable Results: Ability to analyze complex situations, problem-solve, and deliver tailored solutions with impactful outcomes.
- **Cultural Competence**: Experienced living in and working with diverse populations in various cross-cultural settings.
- **Strategic Leadership**: Divergent thinker with demonstrated ability to develop, lead, and manage educational initiatives that drive innovation.
- **Effective Communication**: Skilled at facilitating collaborative conversations using a listen-learn-lead process that cultivates meaningful relationships with appreciation and gratitude.
- Reliable Excellence: Recipient of numerous awards and commendations.

#### PERSONAL INTERESTS

- Culinary Enthusiast: Exploring diverse cuisines and experimenting with unique recipes.
- Literary Connoisseur: Reading a wide range of literature and writing in various genres.
- **Lifelong Learner**: Developing personal and professional training, constantly seeking new learning experiences for growth.