

# Boards & Commissions Application



I am interested in serving on the following boards/commissions. (Please indicate the order of preference).

1. Environmental Performance Standards Advisory C 2. \_\_\_\_\_

**As an applicant/member of a Council-appointed Board or Commission, your name, address, and phone number will be available to the press and public. Information will be kept on file for three years. Public discussion of information contained herein may occur in the meeting at which appointments are considered by the City Council.**

Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.  Miss.  Dr. (Please type or print clearly)

Name: Armstrong Donna L. Date: January 14, 2019  
(Last) (First) (M.I)

Home Address: 1420 Crawford Ave. Harrisonburg, VA 22801 Own/Rent? Own

Phone Number: 540-433-2537 Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: retired professor Employer/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: darmstrong@albany.edu Harrisonburg resident for 2.5 years.

Were you referred by anyone:  Yes  No Name of Referring Party: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about volunteering on a board or commission?  Cable  Website  Council Meeting  
 Other: newsletter

### Why do you wish to serve on a board or commission?

I am a retired professor of public health and I continue to work on behalf of public well-being and health. I have many years experience in designing programs for educating the public and promoting public well being. I want to contribute my skills/experience to assist current and next generations to deal with emerging public health challenges.

### What relevant experience or education do you have to this board or commission?

I have been teaching and working for many years on sustainability and especially local food production. Accelerating consequences of climate change for food security are not widely recognized. The need to teach and promote local food production is especially important because of the time delay in achieving measurable food production from urban/suburban lands that currently are used only for ornamental growing.

#### 2011-2016

After retiring from UAlbany, moved and continued development of an 8 acre sustainable farm in Burkesville, KY. This included renovating/fencing pastures; renovating a 7-stall large (former) tobacco barn; building soil and pasture lands; installing a fish pond; farming milk goats, chickens, bees, horses; establishing a fruit orchard and large food gardens.

#### 2016-current

Moved to Harrisonburg, VA and began working on urban sustainable food growing, on a 0.3 acre property in the Purcell Park neighborhood. Planted (and continue to maintain) an intensive food garden, including the following fruit and nut trees/shrubs: peach, apple, cherry, almond, plum, persimmon, pawpaw, hazelnut, pecan, currants, blueberries, josta and gogi berries, black and raspberries, strawberries; extensive annual food growing. This permaculture system also includes chickens, bees, solar energy and a large system of rain catchment.

**What other interests or concerns do you have regarding the community?**

I would like to integrate public health programs for water safety, food adequacy, climate change adaptation with promotion of person-person communication skills and appreciation of the strengths added by community diversity. In prior grant-funded research projects that I conducted as a professor, I observed many community-building benefits from community gardening and growing projects, in addition to food production.

**Please list any past or present community involvement e.g. City Council, Board and Commissions, Citizen Academy, etc. in Harrisonburg or elsewhere:**

Albany NY, Community Volunteer Service:

- Member, Board of Directors, Capital District Community Gardens
- Member, Solidarity Committee
- Member, Capital District Alliance for Democracy
- Member, NY Citizen Action
- Member, Advisory Board, Occupational & Environmental Health Center

University Albany, Service:

- Member, SPH Diversity Recruitment Committee
- Faculty organizer: 9/11 Teach-in and Memoriam
- Chair, University Senate Council on Academic Freedom and Ethics
- Member, University Senate Ad hoc Bylaws Revisions Committee
- Chair, Ad hoc Committee on Administration-Governance Consultation
- Member, University Senate Governance Council
- Faculty member, SUNYA Peace & Justice
- Founding faculty member, Campus Environment and Food Sustainability

**-Please return completed application to the City Manager's Office-**

*Applicants are encouraged to attach a resume or other supporting information that may be helpful to Council in considering their application.*

409 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

**Tel:(540)432-7701 Fax:(540)432-7778 E-mail:Pamela.Ulmer@harrisonburgva.gov**

**DONNA L. ARMSTRONG**  
**1420 Crawford Ave**  
**Harrisonburg, VA 22801**  
**(540) 433-2537 (home)**  
**Email: darmstrong@albany.edu**

**November 2018**

<u>Education</u>	<u>Specialization</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Date Received</u>
University of California, Santa Cruz	Biology	BA (Honors)	1983
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	Public Health	MSPH	1991
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	Epidemiology	PhD	1993
Gov. Law Center, Albany Law School	Basic Mediation	Certification	2002
Campbellsville University, KY	Social Work	MSW (Honors)	May 2016
<b>Blue Ridge Community College, VA</b>	<b>Permaculture Design</b>	<b>PD Certification</b>	<b>Nov 2018</b>

<u>Social Work Clinical Experience</u>	<u>Specialization</u>	<u>Dates of Service</u>
Foothills Academy, Albany KY	residential treatment, adolescent boys	Jan 2015-Aug 2015
Adanta, Adair County, KY	community mental health clinic	Sept 2015-May 2016

<u>Public Health Employment</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates of Service</u>
University of North Carolina	Project Manager/Postdoc Fellow	March 1994 to June 1994
Centers for Disease Control	Epidemic Intelligence Service	July 1994 to June 1996
University of Washington	Research Scientist	October 1995 to August 1997
University at Albany, SUNY	Assistant Professor	September 1996 to Aug 2001
University at Albany, SUNY	Associate Professor, Tenured	September 2001 to Aug 2012

<u>Teaching (at UAlbany unless noted otherwise)</u>	<u>Semesters Taught</u>
Social Class and Race in Epidemiology	Fall 1997-03
Epidemiology of Diabetes	Spring 1999, 2001
Epidemiology of Cardiovascular Diseases	Spring 2000, 2002, 2004
Participatory Action Research (PAR)	Fall 2001, 2002, 2003
PAR workshop: negotiation and conflict resolution	Spring 2002
PAR workshop: mediation and communication	Spring 2002
<b>Sustainability and Public Health</b>	<b>Spring 2010, Fall 2011</b>
Concepts of Epidemiology (undergraduate level)	Spring 2011, Spring 2012
Principles and Methods of Epidemiology I	Fall 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, Spring 1997
Principles and Methods of Epidemiology II	Spring 1998, Spring 2004
Principles of Public Health	Spring 2005-2010
<b>Sustainability, JMU LLI program</b>	<b>Fall 2017</b>
<b>Food Growing, JMU LLI program</b>	<b>Fall 2018</b>

**2011-2016**

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### Awards and Grants:

North Carolina Affiliate of the American Heart Association, Grant-in-Aid, to complete dissertation research on potential effects of ill-defined mortality on heart disease mortality trends. (period: 7/92-6/93 amount: \$10,000)

CDC Prevention Research Centers Program, Principal Investigator for a project to improve the delivery of diabetes care to American Indian women ages 40 and older. (period: 10/95 to 10/97, amount \$450,000)

University at Albany, SUNY Faculty Research Awards Program Category B, Principal Investigator of a project to conduct a survey of community gardens in New York State; to identify characteristics of gardens and gardeners which are associated with greater garden longevity, productivity, neighborhood support, and aspects conducive to community development. (period: 4/97 to 4/98, amount \$2,999)

New York State Affiliate of the American Heart Association, Scientist Development Award, Principal Investigator of a project to examine community occupational structure, basic services, and coronary mortality in New York State, at multiple points in time, during 1980-95. Also, analysis of joint effects of individual social class position and level of community resources on coronary mortality rates. (7/98 to 6/01, amount \$134,979)

University at Albany, SUNY Faculty Research Awards Program Category A, Principal Investigator of a project to conduct a community ethnographic study, which will identify community characteristics that may be central to community coronary mortality levels and trends. (period: 4/99 to 4/00, amount \$9,998)

Ford Foundation, Principal Investigator of a project to examine effects of racial segregation on bus transit access to medical and grocery services and medical care (period 6/02-8/03, amount \$100,000)

### University Albany, Service:

Member, SPH Diversity Recruitment Committee	1997-00
Faculty organizer: 9/11 Teach-in and Memoriam	2002
Chair, University Senate Council on Academic Freedom and Ethics	2002-03, 2003-04
Member, University Senate Ad hoc Bylaws Revisions Committee	2002-04
Chair, Ad hoc Committee on Administration-Governance Consultation	2003
Member, University Senate Governance Council	2004-05
Faculty member, SUNYA Peace & Justice	2003-2006
Founding faculty member, Campus Environment and Food Sustainability	2005-2007

### Albany NY, Community Volunteer Service:

<b>Member, Board of Directors, Capital District Community Gardens</b>	<b>1999-2005</b>
Member, Solidarity Committee	1999-2009
Member, Capital District Alliance for Democracy	2000-2005
Member, NY Citizen Action	2000-2005
Member, Advisory Board, Occupational & Environmental Health Center	2005-2007

### Selected Scholarly Activity:

#### Refereed Articles

**Armstrong DL**, Wing S, Tyroler HA: U.S. mortality from ill-defined causes, 1968-88: potential effects on heart disease mortality trends. *International J Epid* 1995;24(3):522-527.

**Armstrong DL**, Wing S, Tyroler HA: Race differences in estimates of sudden heart disease mortality, 1980-88: the impact of ill-defined death. *J Clinical Epid* 1996;49(11):1247-1251.

**Armstrong DL**, VanEenwyk J: Type of certifier and autopsy rates for sudden infant death syndrome-Washington state, 1980-1994. *MMWR* 1996;45(40):863-866.

Barnett EB, Strogatz D, **Armstrong DL**, Wing S. Urbanisation and coronary heart disease mortality among African Americans in the U.S. South. *J Epid and Community Health* 1996;50:252-257.

Wing S, Richardson D, **Armstrong DL**, Crawford-Brown D. A reevaluation of cancer incidence near the Three Mile Island nuclear plant: the collision of evidence and assumptions. *Environmental Health Perspectives*, 1997;105(1):2-7.

Wing S, Richardson D, **Armstrong DL**. Reply to comments on "A reevaluation of cancer incidence near the Three Mile Island" *Environmental Health Perspectives*, 1997;105(3):266-268.

Wing S, Richardson D, **Armstrong D**. Response: Science, public health, and objectivity: Research into

the accident at Three Mile Island. *Environmental Health Perspectives* 1997;105(6):567-570

Casper ML, Barnett EB, **Armstrong DL**, Giles WH, Blanton CJ. Social class and race disparities in premature stroke mortality among men in North Carolina. *Annals of Epid.* 1997;7:146-153.

Barnett EB, **Armstrong DL**, Casper ML. Social class and premature mortality among men: a method for state-based surveillance. *AJPH* 1997;87(9):1521-1524.

**Armstrong DL**, Barnett EB, Casper ML, Wing S. Community occupational structure, medical and economic resources, and coronary mortality among U.S. blacks and whites, 1980-88. *Annals of Epid*, 1998;8(3):184-191

**Armstrong DL**, Castorina J. Community occupational structure, basic services, and coronary mortality in Washington state, 1980-94. *Annals of Epid*, 1998;8(7):370-377

**Armstrong DL**. "Controversies in epidemiology," Teaching causality in context at the University at Albany, School of Public Health. *Scandinavian J Public Health* 1999;27(2):81-84

Barnett EB, **Armstrong DL**, Casper ML. Evidence of increasing coronary heart disease mortality among black men of lower social class. *Annals of Epid* 1999;9:464-471

**Armstrong DL**. **A community diabetes education and gardening project to improve diabetes care in a Northwest American Indian tribe. *Diabetes Educator* 2000;26(1):113-120**

**Armstrong DL**. **A survey of community gardens in upstate New York: Implications for health promotion and community development. *Health and Place* 2000;6(4):319-327**

**Armstrong DL**, Strogatz D, Wang R. Trends in coronary mortality and community services, associated with occupational structure in New York State, 1980-96. *J Epidemiology and Community Health* 2002;56:868-875.

**Armstrong DL**, Strogatz D, Barnett E, Wang R. Joint effects of social class and community occupational structure on coronary mortality among black men and white men, upstate NY, 1988-92. *J Epidemiology and Community Health* 2003;57:373-378.

**Armstrong DL**, Strogatz D, Wang R. United States coronary mortality trends and community services associated with occupational structure, among Blacks and Whites, 1984-98. *Social Science and Medicine* 2004;58(11):2349-2361

**Armstrong DL**, Strogatz D, Wang R. Joint Effects of Social Class and Community Occupational Structure on Coronary Mortality Among Black Men and White Men, in 20 U.S. States, 1988-92. Submitted for publication

**Armstrong DL**, Nampoothiri SE, Wang R, Strogatz D. Bus Transit Access to Medical Care, Grocery Stores and Jobs: A Transportation Equity Study in the Capital District of New York State, 2003. Ford Foundation final project report.

#### Book

**Armstrong DL**. *Seducing Ourselves, Understanding Public Denial in a Declining Complex Society.* 2014, published at Create Space, Amazon.com

#### Peer Reviewed Abstracts Presented at Scholarly Conferences

Occupational motor vehicle fatalities in North Carolina, 1979-88. American Public Health Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, November 1991.

The potential impact of ill-defined mortality on sudden CHD trends among U.S. blacks and whites, 1980-88. American Public Health Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, November 1993.

Unequal distribution of economic resources in U.S. counties and coronary mortality among blacks and whites, 1980-88. Presentation at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Annual Epidemic Investigative Service (EIS) Conference, Atlanta, April 1996.

Subjective life satisfaction among American Indians with and without type II diabetes. American Public Health Association Annual Conference, New York, Nov. 1996

Level of county economic development and coronary mortality in Washington state, 1980-94. Poster presentation, American Public Health Association Annual Conference, New York, Nov. 1996.

Joint Effects of Social Class and Community Occupational Structure on Coronary Mortality Among Black Men and White Men, in 20 U.S. States, 1988-92. Society Epidemiologic Research, Toronto Canada, June 2005

Invited Presentations at Scholarly Meetings/Conferences

Race differences in U.S. ill-defined mortality: implications for CHD trends. Presentation at the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, Cincinnati, March 1993.

Community Capacity: What is it? How do we measure it? What is the role of the Prevention Centers and CDC?, Invited panel discussant for the Sixth Annual Prevention Centers Conference, Atlanta, February 1996.

Promoting Healthy Communities: Epidemiology and indicators of community health. Invited presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologist, Saratoga Springs NY, June 1997.

“Controversies in Epidemiology’ teaching causality in context at the SUNY, School of Public Health.’ Invited presentation at the American Public Health Association Annual Conference, Indianapolis, Nov. 1997.

‘Funding for Participatory Research in Public Health.’ Invited presentation at a conference entitled ‘A Focus Group Meeting on Action Research as a Means to Support University and Community Partnerships,’ (PI: Dr. Shirley Jones, Distinguished Service Professor, School of Social Welfare), sponsored by University at Albany, Cornell University, New York African-American Research Foundation, Oct. 1998.

‘Social Class and Premature Heart Disease.’ Invited keynote presentation of the Chronic Diseases Section: Northeast Epidemiology Meeting, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologist, Maine, Oct. 1999

‘A focus group meeting on research as a means to engage, enrich and sustain communities (International interdisciplinary approach).’ Invited participant and Co-Coordinator of a teleconference with South Africa, organized by Dr. Shirley Jones (Distinguished Service Professor), July 2000.

‘A community based index of inequality.’ Invited participant of a workshop/discussion, organized by Dr. John Lynch, University of Michigan, SPH, August 2000.

‘Healthy Cities’ a revolutionary perspective. Presentation at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Apr 2002.

Donna Armstrong

**Supplemental Questions for Environmental Performance Standards Advisory Committee (EPSAC)  
Application**

- 1) The EPSAC will be meeting up to once per month. Meetings will typically take place between 5-7pm. Are you typically available during these times?  Yes  No
  
- 2) City Council is seeking EPSAC members to represent broad stakeholder interests within the city. If you will be participating on the EPSAC as a representative of a business, group, or organization, please provide the name of the business, group, or organization and indicate what stakeholder category the group represents. If more than one, please list all.
  - A. Residents, civic leagues, homeowners associations.
  - B. Institutional and tax exempt entities including colleges and churches.
  - C. Business community including residential, commercial and industrial property owners, malls, and business groups.
  - D. Professional engineers, real estate developers, and construction contractors.
  - E. Special interest groups that represent economic development, environmental or outdoor recreation.
  - F. Others, education professionals from the local schools and city staff

**Business, Group, or Organization Name                      Category**

Example X Homeowners Association                      A

Purcell Park neighborhood resident                      A  
"                      "                      "                      homeowner                      C

JMU Instructor (Sustainability & Food Growing)                      F

Shenandoah Beekeepers                      E

Permaculture Design Certified                      E  
Urban Food Grower

Professor Public Health (Emeritus)                      F  
(specialized in community development  
sustainability & community food security)