

Jeff Sun
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Professional Experience:

Sun Associates

North Chelmsford, MA

President and Director

- Director of an educational program evaluation and strategic planning consulting firm that focuses on the intersection of educational innovation, pedagogy and community engagement and how these come together to drive implementation and policy formation. Sun Associates' services are centered around educational program evaluation/research, strategic planning, and organizational development. Projects range from long-term relationships with school districts, higher education institutions, state departments of education, and educational non-profits to shorter-term interactions such as workshops or seminars.

More information on projects can be found in the "Recent/Example Projects" section of this CV, below and online at www.sun-associates.com/evaluation

The Greater Lawrence Educational Collaborative

Lawrence, MA

Director of the Educational Technology Program, July, 1996, to July, 1998

- Responsible for providing educational technology services to Collaborative member districts through the Educational Technology Program. The program served teachers and school staff in the Andover, Boxford, Greater Lawrence Technical School, Lawrence, Methuen, Middleton, North Andover, and Topsfield school districts. Services included: workshops on technology integration and use; access to the Collaborative's Software Preview Center; consulting support in curriculum development; assistance in school and district technology planning; and the provision of a wide range of educational technology information and resources.

The Regional Laboratory for Educational Improvement of the Northeast and Islands

Andover, MA

Director of Educational Technology, March, 1993, to August, 1996

- Responsible for the conceptual guidance and oversight of the Regional Laboratory for Educational Improvement of the Northeast and Islands' Educational Technology unit. The Regional Laboratory is a non-profit educational service and research organization which served as one of 10 U.S. Department of Education research and development laboratories. Working under a variety of contracts with the U.S. federal government, states, foundations, and local schools, the Laboratory's Educational Technology unit worked in the areas of educational technology policy research, evaluation, and practice support; research, development and dissemination on the teaching and learning impacts of technology; information systems creation and support; and electronic as well as print-based resource dissemination on all aspects of technology in education.

National Distance Learning Center

University of Kentucky- Owensboro Community College, Owensboro, KY

Executive Director, June, 1991, to March, 1993

- Served as founding Executive Director of a \$300,000 federal project -- The National Distance Learning Center (NDLC). The NDLC was the nation's first educational service center for providing on-line information services to producers and users of educational technology, distance learning and other educational curriculum materials.

Massachusetts Institute for Social and Economic Research (MISER)

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

Assistant Director, August, 1987, to June, 1991

- Assistant Director, and fiscal manager, of \$1 million total state, contract, and grant fund budget at the Massachusetts Institute for Social and Economic Research (MISER). Oversaw all administrative functions and staff within the center. MISER is a social science research center based at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst specializing in demographics, education and social policy research. It also serves as the U.S. Bureau of the Census' state data center for Massachusetts.

Video Instructional Program (VIP)

College of Engineering -- University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

Program Coordinator, August, 1984, to August, 1987

- Responsible for program administration and marketing for one of the nation's first video-based distance learning continuing education networks. Oversaw the development of the program from a regional, videotape-based, service for Massachusetts to a nationally distributed network. The VIP was one of the original seven charter members of the National Technological University (NTU), and remains an independent leader in video-based distance learning for engineering professionals.

Education:

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

Master of Arts in History, 1991. Concentration in Early to Mid 20th Century American Cultural History and the History of Science and Technology.

Hampshire College, Amherst, MA

Bachelor of Arts in Public Health and Public Policy, 1983. Minor fields in Medical Sociology and the Natural Sciences.

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Studies in English Literature, Film History and Philosophy.

Professional Affiliations:

American Evaluation Association
New England Museum Association

Recent/Example Projects:

Springfield Museums/Smithsonian Institution

springfieldmuseums.org

Sun Associates conducted a mixed methods evaluation of Springfield Museums' Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibitions Service (SITES) and Smithsonian Affiliate three-year program of work. This work, funded by the MassMutual Foundation provides a wealth of programming to the Museums which aims to be an informal educational resource for all ages in the Springfield community. Sun Associates' work focused on a detailed examination through observation, interview, survey and focus groups of the Museums' STEM and Arts education programming.

CitySprouts

www.citysprouts.org

As evaluator of CitySprouts' Early Education Initiative, Sun Associates is responsible for observing and documenting the degree to which CitySprouts' theory of change affects PK-2 teachers and students in Boston Public Schools. CitySprouts develops and supports school gardens as a way to engage young children with hands-on science experiences in line with Next Generation Science Standards. The project is a proof of concept that young children can develop deep interest – and skills – in science through deeply engaging hands-on work.

U.S. Space and Rocket Center E³ Inquiry-Based Education Program

www.spacecamp.com

Sun Associates is the external project evaluator for the U.S. Space and Rocket Center's (USSRC) four-year grant from NASA to develop and implement STEM professional development and informal science education programming centered around the history and science related to human space flight and exploration. Key project activities include evaluation of an annual "STEMcon" professional development offering for educators located in Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee, Missouri, and Iowa and evaluation of an ISS museum exhibit at the USSRC's Marshall Space Flight Center headquarters.

Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library

www.leventhalmap.org

Sun Associates is the evaluator of the Norman B. Leventhal Map Center's Institute for Museum and Library Science grant to create interactive maps and digital tools for K-12 teachers. This project aims to support teachers in their work to develop student skills in literacy, problem-solving and critical thinking. These skills are developed through student interaction with digitized historical resources within inquiry-based classroom activities tied to social studies and STEM standards. Sun Associates is responsible for teacher observation, professional development evaluation, and work with the project to document and support educator impact.

GEAR UP

www2.ed.gov/programs/gearup

Sun Associates is the evaluator for a seven-year project funded by the U.S. Department of Education's GEAR UP program. Serving students in Fitchburg, MA, the Mount Wachusett Community College's GEAR UP Partnership grant provides students in the class of 2024 with skills, support, and resources necessary to improve their post-secondary education success. Project evaluation focuses on documenting long-term change, assessing the impact of targeted interventions, and investigating the role that community supports play on student success.

Advancing Precision Agriculture in the Urban Environment

northeast.edu/nsf

Advancing Precision Agriculture in the Urban Environment is a three-year NSF ATE program that develops and delivers innovative community college curriculum for secondary school agricultural education teachers and incumbent urban agriculture professionals. Based at Northeast Community College in Norfolk, NE, this project serves over 250 individual per year in a region encompassing the eastern third of Nebraska. Sun Associates is the external evaluation partner (sub-awardee) for this project.

Accelerating Massachusetts' Automotive Future

www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=2300902

Sun Associates is the external evaluator of Mount Wachusett Community College's three-year NSF ATE Advanced Automotive Technology program to develop and diversify the electric and hybrid vehicle workforce in Massachusetts. In partnership with the College, regional high and vocational schools and Eastern Massachusetts/Southern New Hampshire automotive dealers' networks, this project will develop new curricula to address the needs of the workforce focusing on electric vehicle technologies.

Solar and Wind Innovation and Technology Collaborative for Hawai'i (SWITCH)

www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=2301163

SWITCH aims to develop curriculum and software supports for training college and secondary students in the skills necessary to support Hawai'i in its planned transition to 100% renewable by 2045. Sun Associates is the external evaluation partner to the University of Hawai'i in this NSF-funded project.

U.S. Department of Education Teaching American History (TAH) Projects

www.sun-associates.com/taheval.htm

Sun Associates was the evaluator of 16 TAH projects funded by the US Department of Education in Massachusetts. In our TAH evaluation and project development work, we brought a strong background in program evaluation combined with expertise (both academic and classroom-based) in U.S. History. During the duration of the Federal TAH program, thousands of Massachusetts students improved their historical thinking, critical thinking, and content knowledge.

SIMBUILDING: Teaching Building Science with Simulation Games

concord.org/projects/simbuilding

Sun Associates is the external program evaluator for the NSF-funded SIMBUILDING project at the Concord Consortium. SIMBUILDING's overarching goal is "to develop innovative simulation games for teaching and learning building science". Sun Associates as the project's external evaluator monitors the project's progress and to offer formative advice on how the project can improve its performance in meeting its goals and objectives related to teacher professional development and classroom implementation.

TESEL: Transforming Education and Schools for English Learners

www.fitchburgstate.edu/offices-services-directory/tesel

TESEL is a partnership between Fitchburg State University (FSU), the Collaborative for Educational Services (CES) and three Central Massachusetts public school districts (Fitchburg, Leominster and Lowell Public Schools). TESEL is funded by the U.S. Department of Education's National Professional Development Program (NPD) to improve instruction for English Language Learners. Sun Associates provides external program evaluation for TESEL.

Lowell Public Schools Birth to Grade 3 Alignment Grant

p3learninghub.org

Sun Associates provided external evaluation of Lowell Public Schools' Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care-funded Birth to Grade 3 Alignment Grant for the 2014-2015 school year. Work included partnering with Early Childhood Associates to develop a set of project performance indicators, multiple data collection strategies (surveys, interviews, observations), and the creation of a comprehensive summative report at the end of the project year.

MassCUE Evaluators Professional Development Program

www.sun-associates.com/masscue

Sun Associates has designed and currently facilitates the MassCUE Evaluators program. The program provides district leaders and instructional technology decision-makers with tools and techniques for assessing the impact of local technology initiatives. Specifically focused on the use of technology to support 21st Century learning, MassCUE Evaluators helps districts maximize their investments in technology through a process of local data collection and analysis, and ultimately the creation of strategic plans for curriculum integration of digital and blended learning.

Next Step Learning – Building Science Investigation

concord.org/projects/next-step-learning

Next Step Learning is a National Science Foundation-funded ITEST project that aims to create and support a science curriculum that fuses home and school-based components. The curriculum – Building Science Investigation – turns students' homes into a "science lab" where they can explore concepts related to clean energy and the basic science of heat transfer. These concepts are investigated within a relevant real-world context of energy auditing. Sun Associates is the external evaluator for this project and is responsible for monitoring teacher professional development and classroom implementation.

Long Range Planning and Program Evaluation Support to the U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Education

Sun Associates has created strategic plans and conducted multiple territory-wide evaluations of technology integration and implementation in schools and classrooms across the U.S. Virgin Islands. This unique environment allows us to address simultaneously issues typically associated with remote rural areas (e.g., isolation and poor communication) and intensely urban areas (high poverty, decaying school infrastructure, etc.). We have written the current territory-wide technology plan, both local district long-range plans, and have conducted two consecutive evaluations of how the territorial and two district plans have been implemented on a building by building basis across the territory.

Other Funded Evaluation Projects

- ***Meta-Evaluation and Program Support for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's (CPB) American History and Civics Initiative*** – Working with the WGBH Interactive, the Program Manager for CPB's AHCI initiative, Sun Associates provided meta-evaluation support to both phases of this \$20 million initiative. The AHCI initiative initially funded seven projects that used new and interactive media to support K-12 American History and Civics education. Sun Associates worked (in conjunction with WGBH Interactive) to guide the individual project evaluations to utilize common metrics for measuring the projects' impact on student learning.
- ***Program Evaluation for the Northeast and Islands Regional Technology in Education Collaborative (NEIRTEC)*** -- Sun Associates provided program evaluation for this five-year, seven state, technology technical assistance project funded by the U.S. Department of Education.
- ***"Meta-Evaluation" for Massachusetts Department of Education's Title IID Grants*** – Sun Associates works with the Massachusetts Department of Education to organize a "meta-evaluation" of the department's entire Title IID program. This work involves providing support to approximately 40 separate, district-based, projects and the creation of a summary report detailing the outcomes/impacts of the Title IID effort.
- ***Preparing New Teachers 2 Project*** -- Sun Associates provided program evaluation for the NH Department of Education's three-year PT3 Catalyst Project. This was a \$1.2 million per year project that involved all 14 institutions of higher education in NH.
- ***Pilot Project Evaluation for PEM Vanishers*** – Sun Associates provided external evaluation for a multimedia interactive educational activity produced by the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, MA. This pilot involved test data from over 300 users of the *PEM Vanishers* activity and resulted in a detailed assessment of the educational value of this new resource.
- ***Vermont LEAD-IT Evaluation and Training*** – Sun Associates worked with the Vermont Institutes and the Vermont Department of Education in a two-year Title IID project with 12 Vermont school districts. Our work included general program monitoring as well as the facilitation of local district technology plan evaluation training. We developed and piloted a new statewide model for local evaluation of technology plan implementation and technology's impact on teaching and learning.
- ***Creating 21st Century Classrooms Project*** – Sun Associates was the external evaluator of a statewide project in Vermont to develop teacher skills in the use and integration of Web 2.0 tools and other new media to support 21st Century learning. Evaluation work included formative and summatively assessing teacher professional development, project management, and the actual classroom implementation and student learning impacts of the project work.
- ***DesignLab Project Evaluation*** – As part of a collaboration between the University of Massachusetts-Lowell School of Engineering and a dozen local school districts, the DesignLab project was a state-funded STEM Pipeline grant. Sun Associates provided comprehensive impact and outcomes-based evaluation for this initiative.