

**VAFA GASIMOVA**  
+994 70 287 6030; [vafa.gasimova@tuni.fi](mailto:vafa.gasimova@tuni.fi)

## **EDUCATION**

- **Master of Sciences (MSc.) in Research and Innovation in Higher Education**, Tampere University, Finland; and Danube University Krems, Austria; Joint Diploma, 2019-2021
- **Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Higher Education Administration**, Georgia Southern University, GA, U.S.A., 2010-2012
- **Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Language Teaching**, Azerbaijan University of Languages, Baku, Azerbaijan, 2003

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

### **International Education Consultant** (March 2022 – Present)

- Advising different educational stakeholders with educational planning and implementation mechanisms; providing guidance for university administration, faculty, and education authorities on curriculum design, research work and policy matters
- Managing projects individually and within a team; and assisting with monitoring and responding to policy activities related to higher education
- Conducting empirical research work for any research organizations in educational management

### **Student Mentor at University of East Anglia – Norwich, England, UK & Georgia Southern University (GA, USA)**

- Developing interpersonal and employability skills of students
- Supporting their understanding of the link between academic studies and career aspirations
- Exploring career pathways and help them plan their career goals
- Improving confidence and self-esteem
- Developing professional networks

### **Khazar University – Baku, Azerbaijan (September 2013 – Present)**

#### **Lecturer**

- Teaching courses in Educational Studies at both undergraduate & graduate levels
- Preparing course plans, outlines, and materials for the delivery of the classes assigned
- Providing assessment and feedback to students on their progress towards learning outcomes

### **International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) - UNESCO–Paris, France (May 2021-Jan.2022)**

#### **Consultant**

- Contributed to the exploitation of IIEP-UNESCO's research on flexible learning pathways and open educational resources
- Assisted with research studies on equity and refugee context
- Created annotated bibliography of diverse resources on micro-credentials, open educational resources, and other alternative credentials
- Provided organizational support on the preparation/coordination of the International Policy Forum

### **Institute of Education (IOE), University College London (UCL)–London, UK (Nov. 2016-May 2017)**

#### **Academic Research Affiliate**

- Designed a detailed research proposal under the guidance of Prof. Dr. David Guile
- Conducted literature review on the topic of the Impact of Critical Thinking in the Social Sciences
- Collected, analyzed the data, and disseminated the findings

### **Azerbaijan University – Baku, Azerbaijan (September 2012 –August 2016)**

#### **Lecturer**

- Taught Human Communication, Leadership and Organizational Behavior; and Critical Thinking, Academic Writing courses to undergraduate and graduate students
- Employed a variety of instructional techniques and strategies to meet different aptitudes and interests of students

## **Council of Graduate Schools –Washington, DC, USA (May 2011 – August 2011)**

### **Research Intern**

- Provided research assistance in support of Project for Scholarly Integrity best practice newsletter, website and gathered, as well as reviewed print and online resources to identify new material for CGS Best Practice websites
- Prepared presentation materials for meetings and conferences, including reports, manuals, brochures, and fliers on Best Practice initiatives
- Prepared PowerPoint presentations based on information and data compiled from multiple sources and assisted in developing materials for CGS proposals on new projects to advance Best Practices in graduate education in areas
- Developed and maintained electronic resources for external grants and best practice initiatives; created or updated databases and other records

## **Technology Management Company (US) - Baku, Azerbaijan (June 2008 - February 2010)**

### **Instructor**

- Taught English for Specific Purposes (ESP) course to medical staff across different medical organizations
- Consulted with project supervisor and other instructors on program evaluation, as well as made suggestions on selection of tutorials
- Provided consistent instruction and coordinated with instructional program so as to ensure that learners meet and exceed learning targets

## **Azerbaijan University of Languages – Baku, Azerbaijan, (September 2005 – June 2008)**

### **Classroom Teacher**

- Taught English as a Foreign Language and Academic Writing courses
- Developed and delivered lesson plans utilizing a range of appropriate teaching techniques
- Addressed all aspects of communication through appropriate instruction that developed each student's ability to read, write, speak, and listen in the appropriate content area
- Prepared teaching materials and helped students improve their skills via individual, group sessions, and checked and assessed students' work
- Established and maintained standards of student behavior required to run an orderly and productive classroom environment

## **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Azerbaijani (native), English (fluent), Russian (fluent), French (fluent), Dutch (good)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Social Justice through the narrative of school principals in the schools of Azerbaijan—Case Study, ongoing research
- Critical Thinking in History: A Qualitative Study amongst Secondary School Teachers and Students in Post-Soviet Azerbaijan – ongoing research
- Gasimova V., (2014). *Guidebook on Effective Academic Writing Skills*. Baku, CRRC
- Bray, M. (2012). *The Shadow Education System: Private Tutoring and Its Implications for Planners* (Gasimova V., Yagublu V., Trans.), Baku: Balina, 2012 (Original work published 2007).
- Gasimova, V. (2007). *Interactive Educational Training Encyclopedia*, Baku, 2010

## **AWARDS**

- **Trained & Certified STAR Scholar, April 2023**
- **Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's degree (EMJMD) – Full Scholarship** to study Research and Innovation in Higher Education (MaRIHE) Program of the European Union, 2019-2021
- **Civil Society Scholar Award – Open Society Institute, 2016**
- **Edmund S. Muskie Graduate Fellowship**, Full Scholarship for a master's degree, Program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the State Department of the United States, 2010–2012
- **A Degree Master Teacher** with Language Arts and Creative Writing in International Educational and Resource Network (iEARN), February - May 2008