



Melina Gehring

Project Mgr 2 - General, Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S)

Bio

CURRENT ROLE AT STANFORD

As Research Safety Excellence Lead at Stanford Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S), Melina provides high-profile project management, organizational development, and performance improvement for significant Research Safety undertakings that promote health, safety, and well-being among Stanford's community of 10,000+ researchers. Her projects focus on Research Safety operational improvement (e.g., metrics development, service design); cross-departmental initiatives (e.g., reports and communications for research leadership, stakeholder events); and multi-year strategic initiatives (e.g., training needs assessment, standards development, knowledge management). Her role harnesses the energies and talents of a wide cross-section of the research community, including principal investigators (PIs), student researchers and post-doctoral fellows, visiting scientists, scientific staff, building and district managers, and university administrators. Melina strives to position both EH&S and Stanford researchers for success in the coming era of research innovation, interdisciplinary complexity, and cutting-edge research methods and technologies.

As a Public Health Project Manager at Environmental Health & Safety, Melina supported the University's endemic response across the main campus, Redwood City campus, and SLAC. She also served as a facilitator for the Public Health Steering Committee (PHSC), which is charged with the strategic oversight of emerging and endemic public health concerns for the University.

As a member of the Client Services team at University Human Resources (UHR), Melina supported Stanford's Flexible Work effort as the university identifies best practices to support on-site, hybrid, and remote work. She has served as the project manager of the Work Arrangement functionality in Axess and contributed to the university's COVID Compliance effort. She also led a process improvement project focusing on the Stanford Celebrates You program and helped design a strategy for future DEI-based employee recognition efforts at Stanford.

At the Stanford University Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Melina and her colleagues worked toward the vision of a disaster-resilient university. Since March 2020, Melina has supported the Stanford Emergency Operations Center's (EOC) strategic response to COVID-19 and has carried this commitment into her position at UHR as well as her current position back with EH&S.

Prior to this role with Environmental Health & Safety, Melina worked at Stanford's Office of International Affairs (OIA), where she helped develop strategy and communications infrastructure to support Stanford faculty, staff, and students with their global research and education initiatives. At OIA, Melina also managed the start-up phase of Stanford's new research center in Korea (SCIGC).

Melina is a Project Management Professional (PMP), a Certified Scrum Product Owner (CSPO) and helped revive and grow the Community of Practice "Agile Stanford," which promotes Agile project management across campus.

Before coming to Stanford, Melina worked as an educational consultant in London (UK), supported international graduate students at Dartmouth College, and served as a desk officer at Germany's Federal Foreign Office in Berlin.

Melina holds a Ph.D. in American Studies (University of Hamburg) and an M.Phil. in International Relations (University of Cambridge). She has published two books as well as several peer-reviewed articles in two different academic disciplines (American Studies and Musicology).

Outside of work, Melina volunteers as a board member of the Palo Alto Family YMCA with a focus on youth development programs.

SERVICE, VOLUNTEER, AND COMMUNITY WORK

- Board Member, Palo Alto Family YMCA (October 1, 2019)