

GARY K. PLAAG

Education

MA Communication – 2004
George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

BA Government - 1979
William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Couragio Consulting, LLC
Owner /Lead Coach
www.couragio.com

Williamsburg, Virginia
January 1998 – Present

Owner/Operator of communication coaching/consulting firm, serving clients in the US and abroad, specializing in presentation and public speaking skill development, audience engagement, leadership and management communication, executive presence, business networking skills, job interview skills, performance anxiety mitigation, RFP orals coaching, and other general communication-related skills.

A partial client list includes:

- American Nurses Association
- Balfour Beatty Construction
- Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy
- Farlinium
- George Mason University
- GetWellNetwork
- Hensel Phelps Construction
- INOVA Health System
- Leadership Fairfax, Incorporated
- Leidos
- Luck Stone
- Titan America / Roanoke Cement Company
- William & Mary

Mason School of Business, William & Mary
Adjunct Faculty, Management/Leadership Communication

Williamsburg, Virginia
January 2019 – August 2020

- Taught MBA and Flex MBA management communication and undergraduate presentation skills courses
- Coached university teachers on teaching skills and classroom best practices

National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

Manager, IT Support Center

Arlington, Virginia
June 1986 - December 1997

- Led team of 10 tech support and customer service center analysts serving over 650 internal technology users
- Served as instructor in HR-sponsored leadership development program for over 300 supervisory staff

The Acacia Group

Senior Programmer Analyst, Management Information Systems

Washington, DC
February 1983 – June 1986

US Department of State

Programmer Analyst, Information Management Systems

Washington, DC
August 1979 - February 1983

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Executive Partner, Mason School of Business, William & Mary – 2017 – present
- Board of Trustees, Harmony Foundation International – 2017 – present; Chair – 2019 – present
- Adjunct faculty, Communication Department, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA 2003-2010
Taught COMM-100 Public Speaking, COMM-104 Presenting with Technology, and COMM-320 Business and Professional Communication
- Leadership Fairfax, Inc. (LFI) graduate, Class of 2001; LFI Board of Directors 2001-02, 2011-13
- Participant, LEAD Virginia Peninsula (2017-2018)
- Member, Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce (2016-present)
- Mentor, Launchpad (Greater Williamsburg Small Business Incubator) (2015-present)
- Member, Greater Williamsburg Chamber and Tourism Alliance (2015-present)
- Member, Prince William County Chamber of Commerce (2010-2014)
- Member, Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce (1998-2009)
- Zenger-Miller Frontline Leadership Training - certified instructor (1990-1993)
- Usher and Ticket Taker – Opera House, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (1999-2013)