

# Marvin N. Pichla, Ph.D.

Inspiring Innovations, Inc.  
Principle / Owner

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy, 2001

Capella University, Minneapolis, MN

School of Business - Organization & Management Program

Dissertation Title: An Analysis of the Relationship Between Case Managers and Their Clients, Using Selected Leadership Variables in a Voucher-Based Employment Development Program Environment.

Master of Public Administration, 1982

Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI

Bachelor of Science, 1978

Political Science - Major, History - Minor

Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2006 – Present: **Creative Advisor / Consultant**

Inspiring Innovations, Inc. – Michigan

Formed in 2006, Inspiring Innovation's creation was prompted by the lack of innovative, entrepreneurial and evidence based practices primarily in the public sector. Inspiring Innovations, Inc. is driven by continuous improvement and customizes its consultant service to fit the unique needs of individuals, companies, governments and organizations. Hourly innovative/entrepreneurship sessions are typically structured in a coaching/mentoring format. Staff development; grant preparation, special project management are also consultant service options.

1983 – 2014: **Executive Director**

Thumb Area Michigan Works! Agency – Community of Commerce, Marlette MI

Responsibilities: (1) serve as chief executive officer for the Agency, its staff, Boards and Committees; (2) ongoing direction, innovation and policy guidance for regional career development, employment service, education, and strategic planning programs; (3) overall Agency fiscal and program management; (4) maintenance of ongoing federal, state, regional, and local level interaction with appropriate officials; (5) negotiate, review, finalize and submit plans, grants, budgets, contracts, reports and records on behalf of the Agency; (6) serve as primary media and/or community contact person for the Agency; (7) work with the Deputy Director in overall Agency personnel management and development; and (8) develop and implement corrective action plans when required.

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society of Public Administration

EDSI, Consultant Affiliate

Central Michigan University, New Venture (Entrepreneurship) Judge

Public Administration Times, Guest Columnist

Public Policy Associates, Consultant Affiliate

Innovations Excellence Member

Doc & Friends Speakers Bureau

Alpena Community College, Adjunct Faculty

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## **PUBLIC SPEAKING & PRESENTATIONS**

- Lead Moderator & Workshop Facilitator for the Southwest Missouri Workforce Innovation Board 2016 NexGen Summit in Joplin, Missouri. 2016
- Keynote Speaker at the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Farm Women's Symposium in Traverse City, Michigan. 2015
- Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities Conference: Provided a session introducing Youth Councils of Commerce in high schools in partnership with the MSU Extension Service in Houghton-Hancock and Sturgis, 2015.
- TIM TIME (The Idea Mill): Conducted a special creative idea sharing workshop in partnership with Alpena Community College in Alpena, Michigan. 2015
- Building Blocks for Nonprofit Boards: Conducted a strategic development session for non-profit board members in partnership with Alpena Community College in Alpena, Michigan. 2015
- Public Sector ENTREPRENEURSHIP – Daring To Be Different!: Conducted two special workshops in Traverse City and Gaylord, Michigan on growing public sector entrepreneurship. 2013/2014
- New Venture Competition/Central Michigan University: Served as a special judge of entrepreneurial student initiatives, 2012 (ongoing)
- Created, conducted and addressed an annual regional conference for education and community development: Thumb Education & Community Day I – XVIII in Marlette, Michigan. 1992 - 2014
  - Always Dreaming, The Gift of Discovery, 2014
  - Is Old the New....New?, 2012
  - Defining Special: Examples Are Key!, 2010
  - Experiments, Pilots & More!, 2008
  - The Opportunity of A Lifetime, 2006
  - The Challenge of Measuring Success, 2004
  - Leadership For Everyone, 2002
  - Satisfying the Need to Know, 2000
  - Education - Who's Job Is It?, 1998
  - Planning for the Future, How Fast is a Good Pace, 1996
  - Why Non-Traditional is Now Traditional, 1994
  - The Role of Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, 1992
  - Learning From Life, A Conference of Career Stories, 2013
  - Finding You...In the Future, 2011
  - Always Business, All the Time!, 2009
  - Everyone Can Make A Difference!, 2007
  - Daring To Be Different, 2005
  - Creativity & Innovation, Because We Must!, 2003
  - Partnerships Unlimited, 2001
  - Empowering Your School Community - Widening the Road of Responsibility", 1999
  - Teaching in a System Reform World, 1997
  - Federal Impacts on Local School Districts, 1995
  - Recreating the Education Dream, 1993
- Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation Annual Meeting: Served as Keynote Speaker in Millington, Michigan at the 2011 Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation Annual Meeting. The theme of the Keynote was "A View of Development in the Year 2020!", February 2011
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Iowa Municipal Management Institute Conference: Served as Keynote speaker for the IMMI- Managing in Tough Times event held in Iowa City, Iowa. "INNOVATION: Don't Wait for the Invitation!" was the Keynote theme, 2010.
- Strengthening Trust in Government: Co-presented a workshop on intra/inter-agency collaborations at a conference sponsored by ASPA and The Public Manager Magazine, 2009.
- ASPA District 4 Conference: Presented a workshop in Omaha, Nebraska on initiating innovation in the public sector, 2009.

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- Economic/Education Summit: Served as a special panelist on the future of economic development and education in Sanilac County/Lexington, Michigan, 2009.
- LEAD Tuscola: Served as LEAD Tuscola membership induction ceremony Keynote Speaker in Caro, Michigan, 2009.
- Recession-Rescue-Recovery and You: Co-presented a workshop on community development sponsored by St. Clair County Community College in Port Huron, Michigan, 2009.
- Entrepreneurship Day: Served as a special panelist on entrepreneurship development at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, 2008
- HHS – Rural Specialists Academy: Co-presented at a special national welfare-to-work academy in Kansas City, Missouri, 2008
- ASPA – Michigan Chapter Conference: Provided a workshop on public sector innovation in Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2008
- USDOL – WIRED Academy: Co-presented a workshop in Kansas City, Missouri on creating business diversity in a special Workforce Innovation for Regional Economic Development (WIRED) thirteen county area in Michigan, 2007
- Keynote Speaker – Baker College: Served as graduation ceremony Keynote Speaker for Baker College in Cass City, Michigan, 2007
- ASPA 2006 National Conference: Co-panelist in Denver Colorado for a workshop entitled: Welcome to the “National Center for Public Sector Innovation”. The workshop had the following theme: “The Sky’s The Limit: Idealism and Innovation in Public Service”, 2006
- Rural Workforce Conference: Co-panelist in Austin, Texas for a workshop entitled: “Extending Empowerment Via Computerized Cards”. The workshop highlighted the use of computer card technology to improve delivery of workforce development services, 2004
- Rural Workforce Conference: Co-panelist in Reno, Nevada for a workshop entitled “AUTO-MATION/SERV-USTRY: The New Economy Work Ethic”. The workshop highlighted new training opportunities developed in partnership with Ford Motor Company and Learning Designs, Inc., 2003
- International Economic Development Council - Workforce Development Conference: Co-panelist in New Orleans, Louisiana for a workshop entitled “Case Studies of Successful Workforce Development”. Emphasis was on innovation and empowerment, 2001
- USDOL Voice of Experience Conference: Co-panelist in Los Angeles, California for a workshop on alternative training service delivery strategies and one-stop methodologies, 2000
- Lessons From An Integrated One-Stop: Provided a two-day training on resource integration and voucher system techniques to career development, education and human service professionals Tacoma, Washington, 2000
- 15th Annual Mid-American Labor/Management Conference: Co-panelist in St. Louis, Missouri for a workshop entitled “Training Vouchers”. Emphasis was on organizational experiences with using a voucher system for delivery of training services, 2000

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- Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs - Planning Workshop: Provided a special workshop in Leslie, Illinois on the pros and cons of initiating a voucher-based service delivery system, 1999
- USDOL “Promising Practices” Forum: Provided a special presentation in Chicago, Illinois to USDOL Region V officials. The presentation focused on creating a voucher-based system for delivering employment training services, 1999
- I-75/I-69 Workforce Development Collaborative Summit: Provided a presentation in Flint, Michigan on the use of a voucher-based service delivery system as a means of addressing workforce issues/problems, 1999
- National Association of Counties (NACO) “Investing Today in Tomorrow’s Workers” Conference: Co-presented in Bloomington, Minnesota, on the Thumb Area Michigan Works! Employment Development “TOOL CHEST” Voucher Service System, 1998

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- GovLoop DorobekINSIDER: Invited to be the special guest interview on the live GovLoop’s DorobekINSIDER radio broadcast, 2015
- American Society for Public Administration, PA Times Online: quarterly Columnist, 2011 (ongoing)
  - “Technology: How Much is Too Much (In Public Education Service Delivery?)”, July 2016
  - “Fitting Millennials and Social Media into Tomorrow’s Public Sector”, April 2016
  - “Innovative Budgeting – Always Standard Business”, January 2016
  - “Putting Techno-Fun in Public Service”, September 2015
  - “Change-Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Worker”, June 2015
  - “Women + Leadership + Public Service = LEGACY”, March 2015
  - “Social Media is an EQUALIZER”, December 2014
  - “Public Servants – TELL YOUR STORY!”, September, 2014
  - “WHAT IF...Public Sector Entrepreneurship was GLOBAL?”, June 2014
  - “Is Public Sector Entrepreneurship the Way to the Future?”, March 2014
- TRIPLE III TIME: Creator and Author of a weekly blog message focusing on personal and professional development, 2014 (ongoing)
- Co-Author: “The Mid-Michigan Region: Challenges, Responses, The Future”, 2010
- “Growing to Work Enterprise”: the Public Sector Innovation Journal, 2008
- Working Ventures - A Publication of Public/Private Ventures, Inc., of New York, New York: Contributed to a special report entitled “Surviving and Maybe Thriving on Vouchers”, which included information on the Thumb Area, 2000
- Congressional Research Service - The Library of Congress, Washington, DC: Contributed to a special report entitled: “Employment and Training: Using Vouchers To Provide Service”: The report highlighted the Thumb Area’s voucher initiatives, 1997

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## **AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

- Champion of Workforce Development Award: Michigan Works! Association, 2014
- Heading For The Big Leagues: Received the 2010 Innovator of the Year Award from the Mid-Michigan Innovation Center at their annual entrepreneurial event in Midland, Michigan, 2010.
- Honorary Doctorate Degree – Baker College, 2007
- NACO Workforce Development Award for Excellence: Received a special National Association of Counties award in San Francisco, California for the creation of AUTO-MATION, a special new work ethic training, 2002
- Michigan At Risk Series - The Future of Work: Contributed to a television excerpt highlighting the Thumb Area's "TOOL CHEST" Voucher Service System. The Series segment was produced by WKAR-PBS of Lansing, Michigan, 1999
- National Association of Counties (NACO) Workforce Development Award for Excellence: Received a special National Association of Counties award in Bloomington, Minnesota for the creation of the Thumb Area Career Development "TOOL CHEST" Voucher Service System, 1998
- Bright Idea Award: Michigan Works! Association Annual Innovation Award: Received a special State-level award for involving Board members in client customer mentoring for the purpose of employment development, 1997
- WORK FIRST: Developed and implemented a welfare reform pilot program in the Thumb Area. It served as a model for eventual national public assistance-to-work initiatives, 1988

## **REFERENCES**

A list of references will be furnished upon request.