

Name: Jennifer Hart

Current City: Clive, Iowa

Hometown: Muscatine, Iowa



Occupation/Career:

Jennifer is currently an Executive Officer at the Iowa Dental Board, where she has worked since 1999. The Iowa Dental Board is the state agency responsible for licensing and investigating all dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants. Jennifer serves as legislative liaison and agency rules administrator for the board. She also manages the Dental Hygiene Committee and assists the full board with policy research. Prior to joining the dental board, Jennifer served as administrative rules coordinator at the Iowa Department of Public Health, where she also facilitated scope of practice review committees for health care practitioners, and served as peer review coordinator. Jennifer began her career with the state of Iowa by working in a similar capacity for the Iowa Board of Medicine. At the conclusion of the trip, Jennifer will embark on a new career as a Senior Consultant for a private company.

Education:

Jennifer received her undergraduate education at Grinnell College and Iowa State University, where she graduated with distinction, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Economics. In addition, Jennifer graduated from the nationally-accredited Certified Public Manager program at Drake University in June 2008, as well as the Masters in Public Administration program at Drake in May 2009.

Professional/Personal Goals in Participating in DrakeSmart 2011:

Professional: Jennifer hopes to expand her understanding of issues surrounding food policy, social justice, hunger and sustainability.

Personal: To see, experience, and do as much as possible in each city by continuing the theme of previous DrakeSmart trips, "You can always sleep on the bus."

Personal:

Jennifer grew up in Muscatine, Iowa, but prefers the "big city" life in Clive, where she keeps busy chasing after her three children, ages 14, 10 and 5. Her hobbies include reading, walking at Gray's Lake, and kickboxing. She is also reported to be a National Public Radio junkie. In her spare time, Jennifer makes and sells tie-dye apparel and custom t-shirts for a home-based business. This will be Jennifer's third DrakeSmart trip to Europe. She has also enjoyed many other travel adventures in Ireland, Brazil, and throughout the U.S.