

# Connor

# McMullen

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## Storyteller. Leader. Engineer. Poet.

### Statement

I use stories and storytelling to help people transform themselves, problems and places into something better. I continue my own academic research alongside my work, exploring the relationship between the science, craft and art of storytelling.

### STORY-TELLER.

#### **Policy Mythology - Freelance Science Communication - 2019-2020**

As a storyteller in the Multi-Actor Systems Department at TU Delft, I created the **short documentary “Solotvyno”** with filmmaker Gijs Walastra, wrote several **articles** based on faculty interviews and hosted **storytelling workshops** before quarantine. During the first weeks of lockdown, I **produced 24 podcast** episodes for the department, chronicling life through the screen. I recently hosted a **serious gaming session** for the Engineering & Policy Analysis Graduation Conference.

I currently am researching **participatory monitoring and evaluation** methods for Bring on The Zoo consulting. I also **volunteer as a journalist** for Justice & Peace and MineMark.

#### **MSc. cum laude Engineering & Policy Analysis (EPA) - TU Delft - 2017-2019**

I combined quantitative analysis tools with qualitative methods to address the world's grand challenges. My thesis, **Policy Mythology**, explored the relationship between storytelling and policy, specifically how to **communicate policy messages with stories**. I experimented in **three large storytelling projects** outside of the classroom.

I wrote a series of **fictional short stories** based on systems dynamics models, designed **concepts for the integration of storytelling** into the asylum process for the Dutch National Police and was part of Tandem Europe's Circular Storytelling course where we created an **interactive art and gaming experience** at the Welcome to the Village Festival.

As a **teaching assistant** for the Advanced System Dynamics course, I mentored project groups, graded assignments and **gave a lecture on policy communication**. I was the **Commissioner of Education** for Dentatus, bridging students and faculty, and I **hosted the Benelux Systems Dynamics Conference** in The Hague.

#### **Project Engineer - Kautex - Bonn, Germany - 2014-2017**

I **lead global design efforts** for SCR assemblies from conception to production.

#### **Men's Football Trainer - Troisdorf Jets - Troisdorf, Germany - 2014-2017**

The time on the (American) football field made me a better **teacher, trainer and storyteller**. But more importantly, I learned that to be leader you need to be honest, openly self-aware and willing to challenge everyone to become better.

### Dutch Education

### LEADER.

### German Teamwork

## Global Leadership

### Leadership Development Program (LDP) - Textron - 2011-2014

Alongside these three one-year rotations, I participated in a series of **leadership, diversity and communication training programs**. My experience was uniquely international, I am the only LDP from the US to work abroad for two years.

### Project Liaison Engineer - Bell Helicopter - Bangalore, India

I served as the lone western representative on-location, **mentoring** local engineers and presenting weekly updates to teams in North America as we **transformed an empty factory into a helicopter assembly line**.

### Research & Development Engineer - Bell Helicopter - Bangalore, India

I conducted my own **lab research** for the first time, investigating long-term quality issues on fuel tanks.

### Flight Test Support Engineer - Bell Helicopter - Fort Worth, Texas

I **managed** hardware and software for helicopter flight testing at the airport and in the wind-tunnel in civilian, government and military operations.

### BSc. Aerospace Engineering - University of Kansas - 2006-2011

I worked for several years in a UAV lab as a **research assistant**. I was also very active in the **Engineering Student Council**, holding various roles throughout university. I also **lead a student project team** that flew on the "Vomit Comet" zero-gravity simulation aircraft.

I often describe what I do as **poetry**, not because it always rhymes, but because it says as much between the lines, as it does in them. My strongest skills are as a writer, where I blend literary style with journalism and analysis. Over the years, I have begun to branch out into other forms: creating several **movies**, developing **serious games** and participating in **public speaking** events. In the past year, I have explored even further: integrating **painting, theater** and **graphic design** into my storytelling.

I have a wide range of technical skills and practical experience, in the lab and in real-life, which I often use to build **metaphors** and **analogies** to create simple explanations of complex ideas. I often add physical elements to my work, drawing from my experience on the field and the stage. Often my **storytelling and design workshops** begin with stretches and acting games.

I am always busy working on the next great idea. Right now that's my work with the Dutch International Storytelling Centre, where we are planning to develop an new online space for our collective works. I love both **music** and **festivals**, from both storytelling and experiential perspectives, and believe they are essential forms of communication.

My most creative works are available on my **Instagram**, where I share my **photography** and **poetry** with the world. On **Twitter**, I discuss the **academic aspects of my work**, and sometimes share small projects or insights from whatever I happen to be reading. My more recent works are also available on my website:

<https://www.policymythology.com/repository>

# ENGINEER.

## Rock Chalk Jayhawk

## Tools of the Trade

# POET.

## On the Weekend

## Digital Life

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**McMullen** Leader.  
Engineer.  
Poet.