



Pamlico Rose Staff

Robert Greene Sands, PhD - Chief Executive Officer and co-founder

Robert Greene Sands serves as Pamlico Rose's CEO. Sands, an anthropologist and co-founder of Pamlico Rose, brings over 25 years of work in applying theoretical aspects of culture to a diverse set of practical applications to meet organizational and community needs. Sands has been active for over 12 years in the design and development of critical culture and language learning programs for the Department of Defense and other US Governmental organizations. Before that, Sands worked in such areas as archaeology, cultural resource management, and historical preservation in support of federal agencies. Sands, the author of eight books and numerous articles, currently is an adjunct anthropology professor at Norwich University where he teaches in the online Strategic Studies and Defense Analysis Department.

“My wife and I know many Veterans from our work with the US military who struggle with trauma and other related experiences and programs that offer approaches and skills to help in managing the effects of trauma can be life-altering,” says Robert. “Female Veterans face similar and different challenges as male Veterans. Knowing the difference and the obstacles they face in overcoming trauma is just the first step in aiding them in their journey to live better lives.”

Sands received his PhD in Anthropology from the University of Illinois, a Masters of Anthropology from Iowa State, and his B.S. from Illinois State. He also spent over fifteen years in Southern California teaching and surfing, while engaging in ethnographic research on sport and culture. He and his wife, Allison, have a home in Washington, NC.

David Steckel - Co-founder/Volunteer

David Steckel is a Veteran who recently retired from the DoD, where he was a Test Range Engineer and Environmental Manager for the USAF. He has a BS in Aerospace Engineering, and an MS in Engineering with a focus on Product Assurance. During his time with the USAF he held many positions, including Environmental Restoration Division Chief which led him to a second Masters degree in Bioregional Planning. He has always been interested in promoting good environmental stewardship. Adding to his active duty time in the mid-70s, Mr. Steckel volunteered for a year's deployment in Afghanistan where he served as the Base Master Planner at Bagram Airbase, putting him in charge of inventorying and assigning all land parcels within its 3,700 acre expanse. The work focused on providing support for over 27,000 U.S. and foreign military, federal civilian, and contract personnel. This brought him into direct contact with all entities (foreign and domestic) currently existing or newly arrived onto Bagram, siting defensive systems, radar sites, motor pools, office space, as well as retrograde and staging areas. He is currently a volunteer/member of [Team Rubicon](#) which provides disaster relief to those affected by domestic or international natural disasters. Team Rubicon pairs the skills and experiences of military Veterans with first responders, medical professionals, and technology solutions.

Kaitlyn O'Donnell - AmeriCorps/VISTA Community Research Specialist

Kaitlyn O'Donnell is a member of AmeriCorps Vista supporting Pamlico Rose. She graduated from Washington College in 2019 where she received a bachelor's degree in Psychology with a minor in Sociology. Before graduation she served as President for the PSI CHI International Honor Society in Psychology. She was also a member of the Education Honor Society, Pi Lambda Theta. She was invited to present a number of research projects at the Eastern Psychological Association Conference in 2018 and 2019. Her senior thesis experiment studied the effects of desensitization verses positivity prior to stress exposure.

Marie J. Coreil, PhD - Editor

In her second act following three decades of university teaching, Marie formed Coreil Editorial Services to assist writers and nonprofits in their work. She has a passion for the written word and enjoys polishing up text to make it shine. She got connected with PRISC through BoD member Kelly Earp, whose dissertation she supervised. Her services include copy editing, developmental editing, and manuscript evaluation. In addition to editing, Coreil draws from her anthropological background in writing essays on contemporary social issues. Some of these can be found on her website www.tropicofcandor.com.