

**Kenneth A. Meter**  
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### Key accomplishments

- Created original analysis of regional food economies, used in 23 regions in 8 states  
Seminal data for local food systems initiatives nationally. Keynote for farm policy forum  
sponsored by Rep. Collin Peterson, chair of U.S. House Agriculture Committee. Made  
130 presentations nationally. <[www.crcworks.org/econ.html](http://www.crcworks.org/econ.html)>
- Economic & strategic advisor to Aldo Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture (Iowa  
State University). Co-author of regional food systems planning guide
- Researched farm and food economies for Ecotrust, as part of Roots of Change Council's  
Vivid Picture project, presenting visionary future for sustainable agriculture in California
- Wrote media guide for W. K. Kellogg Foundation on community-based food systems
- Consultant to USDA/CSREES Community Food Projects
- Author of "Evaluating Food and Farm Systems in the U.S." for American Evaluation  
Association monograph, *Systems Concepts in Evaluation*
- Coordinated indicators definition for City of Minneapolis Sustainability Initiative
- Facilitated community processes in inner-city neighborhoods, including: business  
community planning for Latino Mercado with 35 startup businesses, & Midtown Market
- Founding board member of Hiawatha Fund, a regional investment fund
- Created groundbreaking "Neighborhood Income Statement and Balance Sheet" studies,  
shifting core paradigms in community economic development. Produced six  
comprehensive studies of economic assets in low-income communities, summarized for  
American Planning Association: <[www.crcworks.org/apa.pdf](http://www.crcworks.org/apa.pdf)>
- Highly trusted in work with low-income, rural, ethnic and international communities.

### Experience

**Since 1992**      **CROSSROADS RESOURCE CENTER**      **Minneapolis, MN**  
**President** (*Principal executive officer*)

- See key accomplishments, above
- Wrote business plan for regional investment fund for University of Minnesota's regional  
partner, Experiment in Rural Cooperation. Wrote seminal review of academic literature  
covering economies of size. Advisor to legislators for supportive state policies
- Worked closely with low-income residents and Northwest Area Foundation to devise  
measures of success & budget for 10-year poverty reduction initiative in Minneapolis
- Created Twin Cities Data Doorway, one-stop community data web source
- Directed Neighborhood Sustainability Indicators Project, first effort in U.S. to engage  
neighborhood residents in defining own indicators for neighborhood sustainability.  
Created *Guidebook* used by professionals globally, <[www.crcworks.org/guide.pdf](http://www.crcworks.org/guide.pdf)>

**2003 - 2004**      **UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**      **St. Paul, MN**  
**Visiting Faculty in Applied Economics**

- Taught Economic History of U.S. Agriculture

**2002**      **HARVARD UNIVERSITY**      **Cambridge, MA**  
**Economics Instructor**

- Taught Principles of Microeconomics to mid-career professionals in the graduate program  
in Public Administration, John F. Kennedy School of Government

- 1988-1997 METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY St. Paul, MN**  
**Community Faculty**
- Taught international studies and local community studies, including international food and trade issues, U.S. foreign policy, post-cold war Europe, neighborhood study and community building to working adults
- 1991-1992 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA Minneapolis, MN**  
**Adjunct Faculty**
- Taught Reporting — School of Journalism and Mass Communications
- 2001-present INDEPENDENT JOURNALIST Minneapolis, MN**  
**1979-1992 Reporter covering urban poverty, regional and international agribusiness, corporate financial news**
- Investigative journalism, editing, photography, creative writing, book reviews, business management, fundraising, consulting, project administration and related work
  - Published by Reuters, Pacific News Service, St. Paul *Pioneer Press*, Minneapolis *Star Tribune*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Des Moines Register*, *Anchorage Daily News*, Madison *Capital Times*, *Ag-Week*, *Successful Farming*, *Catholic Rural Life*, *The Farmer*, *Corporate Report*, *Neighborhood Works*, *American Land Forum*, many others
  - Filed first-hand reports from Cuba, Japan, Philippines, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Germany, France, Holland, Italy, Belgium, Portugal, & Nicaragua

### **Awards**

- Public Service Fellow, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (1999-2000)
- Finalist, Bush Foundation Leadership Fellowship (1999) — four-state competition
- National Short-list Artist, "Artists & Communities: America Creates for the Millennium," Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation (1999)
- Saul Alinsky Award for Community Service, Metropolitan State University (1994, 1995)
- Twin Cities Neighborhood and Community Press Association awards (1992, 1990) for "Best Feature," "Best Series," and "Best Investigative Report" for coverage of poverty
- National Catholic Press Association (1986) - "Best Coverage of Human Rights" in Philippines

### **Boards & Other Leadership**

- Member, American Evaluation Association Systems technical interest group (since 2005)
- Founding member, International Sustainability Indicators Network (2001)
- Affiliate, National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership, Urban Institute (1998-2000)
- City of Richfield (Minnesota) Planning Commission, (1998-1999)
- Board member, Philippine Study Group of Minnesota (1986-2002)
- President, Twin Cities Research Group (1997-1999)

### **Education**

- MPA Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, public administration
- MA Boston University, history
- BA Swarthmore College, chemistry

### **Other Skills & Activities**

- Fluent German; moderate French; basic Spanish & Portuguese
- Creative writer (poetry, non-fiction, MN State Arts Board artist-in-schools)
- Seven of my poems were set to music by Minneapolis composer R.F. Palmer
- Singer (soloist, chamber choir, and chorus), Oratorio Society of Minnesota