

Michael Stoner

Co-Founder & President at mStoner

Woodstock, VT, US

A consultant advising #higher ed on digital strategy, online marketing, social media, student recruiting, building affiliations, fundraising.

Description

During my 30-year career as a communicator and consultant, Iâ€™ve served more than 250 education institutions (independent schools, colleges, universities, and education associations), nonprofits, and businesses on four continents. Iâ€™ve led institution-wide web strategies; provided consulting on social media strategy and tactics; and consulted on institutional marketing, branding, and advancement challenges. Along the way, Iâ€™ve earned a reputation as an authority on integrating marketing, communications, the online world, social media, and technology.

Iâ€™ve been interested in technology since I booted up PageMaker 1.0 and signed on to one of the early bulletin boards around 1987. Since the early 1990s, Iâ€™ve concentrated on the ways in which the internet and the web changed the way people communicate. And, in 1995, I led the first web strategy projects in higher ed: they laid the groundwork for some of the work that mStoner does now.

These days, I work pretty hard trying to stay ahead of trends in marketing, social media, mobile, and whatâ€™s happening online. Itâ€™s easy to get caught up in the hype: But, at mStoner, we want people to do things because they are effective, not because theyâ€™re cutting edge. So I stay focused on strategies and tactics that are relevant to the needs of constituents â€” and get results for institutions that deploy them.

Iâ€™ve spoken at hundreds of professional conferences (CASE, NACAC, swissnex, UCDA, and the College Board, for instance) and led workshops all over the world on online communications, social media, and marketing in higher ed. Iâ€™ve written for CASE Currents, The Chronicle of Higher Education, NACACâ€™s Journal of College Admission, and other professional journals. And I edited Social Works: How #HigherEd Uses #SocialMedia to Raise Money, Build Awareness, Recruit Students, and Get Results, which is the only book that explores how .edu is using social media. Iâ€™ve also blogged (at mStoner.com/blog) since 2003.

My checkered past includes experience in media relations, PR, marketing, and publications. I founded the new media practice at Lipman Hearne and led it until 2001, when we launched mStoner. I also served as vice president of Halstead Public Relations in New York; director of communications at the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University; director of the office of publications services at the College Board; and associate director of university publications at Lehigh University.

Industry Expertise

Social Media, Advertising/Marketing, Internet, Education/Learning, Public Relations and Communications

Topics

Strategic Communications, Web Content Management, Integrated Marketing, Marketing Strategy, Web Development, Social Media Measurement, User Experience, Internet Strategy

Affiliations

Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), American Marketing Association, Public Relations Society of America (PRSA)

Past Talks

Developing a Content Strategy to Develop Brand EDU
AMA Symposium for the Marketing of Higher Education

Safeguarding Your Brand Messages in a Web 2.0 World
College Media Conference : New Realities : Campus Coverage and the Media

Succeeding with Social Media
CASE Social Media and Community Conference

Education

University of Pennsylvania
ABD. Folklore

Western Kentucky University
MA. Folk Studies

Muhlenberg College
BA. English

Testimonials

Phoebe Peterson

Michael is the guru of Web site marketing. He has been the expert in higher education for many years. When I worked for him, it was a challenge for me to fit his credentials onto one page!! Not only is he technically advanced, but it was always a pleasure to work for him. He took the New Media department out for lunches and ensured that we all had a sense of teamwork and belonging. He is a fantastic person to know and his brilliant ideas and leadership will guide higher education for years to come.

Christine Babick

Stoner is ahead of the curve and has always been. No one in the business has as long a history in higher ed digital marketing in the broad sense. He was talking about the importance of Web/digital marketing in higher ed before most colleges even had a website. He has always been positioned to see the bigger picture. With his deep insights on communications and this kind of prescience and foresight, Michael Stoner is the thought leader to carry higher ed forward.

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