

# Stephanie Wander

Lecturer of Social Work Dept. of Social Change and Innovation Virtual Academic Center at USC  
Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

Los Angeles, CA, US

Stephanie Wander is a social innovation strategist and a professor at the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

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## Description

Stephanie Wander is a social innovation strategist and a professor at the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work where she creates and teaches doctoral courses in social innovation. As a professor, Ms. Wander works with students to create transformational programs capable of exponential impact. Ms. Wander regularly consults with forward thinking organizations and entrepreneurs on the design of high-impact social initiatives and programs. Areas of expertise include social impact program design, market-entry analysis, hackathon design and management, curriculum design, and workshop design and facilitation. Her work leverages design thinking, innovation best practices, next-generation technologies (such as artificial intelligence, augmented reality, and synthetic biology) to solve the grand challenges facing humanity.

Ms. Wander has written and spoken about disruptive technologies and processes, notably at South by Southwest and on CXOTalk. She co-authored the chapter "The Power of Prize Competitions" in the book *What Matters: Investing in Results to Build Strong, Vibrant Communities*. She has also been quoted by various publications including *Sports Illustrated*, *Wired Germany*, *Vice*, *Engadget*, *Digitaltrends.com*, *Geekwire*, *Futurism*, *I Programmer*, *IFLscience*, and *The Verge*.

Previously, Ms. Wander was a Senior Manager of Prize Development at the XPRIZE Foundation, where she led the design of IBM Watson AI XPRIZE: A Cognitive Computing Challenge and competitions for urban aviation and tissue engineering. Ms. Wander was also a contributing designer on the Wendy Schmidt Ocean Health XPRIZE and the Global Learning XPRIZE competitions. Ms. Wander continues to advise and work with XPRIZE on the development of a prize competition to increase workplace skills, a response to the increasing risk of automation upon low-skilled workers.

Ms. Wander serves on the Impact Advisory Board of XPRIZE and is a graduate of the UCLA Anderson School of Management and Northwestern University. Ms. Wander is passionate about collaborating with experts and teams to identify disruptive change, create meaningful opportunities, and deliver high-impact results through innovation.

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## Industry Expertise

Business Services, Market Research, Education/Learning, Health and Wellness, Management Consulting, Social Services

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## Topics

Workshop Design and Facilitation, Management & Leadership, Market-Entry Analysis, Artificial Intelligence for Social Good, Social Work, Social Innovation, Social Impact Program Design, Hackathon Design, Curriculum Design & Development

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## Affiliations

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## Education

UCLA Anderson School of Management  
M.B.A

Northwestern University  
B.A.

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