

## Ed Warnock

Ed works internationally with both the private and public sectors to plan and lead strategic change. He writes, teaches, and consults on improving long-term performance through more effective leadership, planning, and execution.



He is a frequent presenter to professional organizations and universities, locally and abroad, on the topics of leadership, planning and managing strategic projects.

## Professional

**2010 – Present** CEO, [The Perlan Project, Inc.](#)

From a 2018 Royal Aeronautical Society medal citation:

*“The Perlan 2 is a pressurized, two-place, space capsule with glider wings designed to use only the power of stratospheric mountain waves to fly as high as 90,000 feet to explore very high-altitude aerodynamics and to perform research in “near space”... This unique research aircraft is the product of a group of extraordinary aerospace engineers, pilots, meteorologists, scientists, and supporters.”*

In 2018, the Perlan II research glider set three world altitude records. On September 2, 2018, it reached 76,124 feet surpassing the highest altitude of the U-2 and became the “highest flying, piloted, subsonic airplane in history.” **The project has received honors and awards from:**

- Two-time nominee for the Collier Trophy for “for the greatest achievement in aeronautics or astronautics in America” in 2018 and 2019
- The Society of Experimental Test Pilots, Kincheloe Award, recognizing “outstanding professional accomplishment in the conduct of flight testing”
- The Society of Flight Test Engineers, McDonnell Award for “outstanding team achievement in the field of flight test engineering”
- Aviation Week Laureate for commercial aviation “technology and innovation”
- Fédération Aéronautique Internationale, Group Diploma of Honor
- Soaring Society of America, Exceptional Achievement Award

**2024 – Present**

Working with Boeing and DARPA (The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) to develop autonomous soaring software to extend the range, endurance and altitude of drones

**2020 – Present**

Airbus zero-emissions Blue Condor US leader. Test flying the [first hydrogen burning jet engine](#) to reduce pollution from jet aircraft.

**2021 – Present. Co-developer of the Oregon Renter’s Safety Net concept**

**1984 – Present Managing Partner, Cumulus Resources, LLC**

The firm of Cumulus Resources works with companies and government agencies in the area of strategic planning and managing strategic change. Clients are in the United States, SE Asia, and Africa

## Education

- MA, Whole Systems Design, Antioch University 1993
- BS, Aerospace Engineering, University of Arizona, Honors and High Distinction 1968
- Air Force Russian language program, Syracuse University 1962
- FAA commercial, instrument pilot, mechanic, and ground instructor

## Teaching Highlights

**2007 – 2024 Willamette University, Atkinson Graduate School of Management**

[Contributing Assistant Professor](#): Strategic management and organizational leadership

## Professional Experience

- Director of an international development project in Sudan, Africa
- Board of directors of an international development agency serving in sixty countries
- Worked with the government of Botswana, Africa on strategy execution
- Taught planning and executing strategic projects in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Alberta Health Services, Canada, Systems Mapping and Systems Transformation
- CEO of the Perlan Project, a non-profit organization doing high altitude research
- International speaker and consultant on strategic planning and execution (USA, SE Asia, Africa)
- Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), developer of the “Highway Leadership Institute”
- COO of an oil field services company in Texas
- Thermodynamics research engineer, Michelson-Morley Laboratory
- Russian linguist for the US Air Force
- Bush pilot in Africa and the Philippines, glider pilot, FAA licensed aircraft mechanic

## Honors

- Royal Aeronautical Society, London, England, Team award for stratospheric exploration
- American Society of Flight Test Engineers, team award
- National Aeronautics Association, team award
- Technology Association of Oregon, nominee for the people’s choice award 2021
- Beta Pi, engineering honor society, University of Arizona
- Phi Kappa Phi, all discipline honor society, University of Arizona
- Excellence in teaching award, Oregon Executive MBA, 2002, 2007, 2018
- Community Bridge Building Award, Oregon Executive MBA, 2021

## Professional Affiliations – past and present

- President, The American Society of Training and Development (Oregon Chapter)
- Experimental Aircraft Association
- American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics
- Project Management Institute
- Software Association of Oregon

## Publications, Presentations, and Courses

- Stratospheric research, Darmstadt Technical University, Germany
- Leading high-performance teams
- Leading when you are neither the smartest nor most experienced person on the team

- “Strategic Management” an MBA class
- “New Venture Planning” an MBA class
- “Managing in the Future” an MBA class
- “Strategic thinking and decision making,” an executive development class
- “Process mapping and improvement,” an executive development class
- The Change Management Body of Knowledge (ChangeBOK)
- “Balanced Scorecard for the Health Industry” professional development seminar
- “Performance Management for Teams and Organizations”
- “Balanced Scorecard: A context for clean execution”
- “Twelve Techniques to Improve Project Estimates”
- “Business Case Writing”
- “Change planning and change management”
- “Managing Performance with an Earned Value Management Systems”
- “Requirements Clarification on Strategic Projects”
- “Managing Project Portfolios for Strategic Results”
- “Outcome Driven Project Management”
- “Decision-Making and Design Techniques for Groups”
- “Catalytic Leadership,” leadership in complex organizations and communities
- “Reengineering Systems”
- “Transition Management – The People Part of Strategic Change”
- “Virtual Teams – Building Teams Across Organizational Silos”
- “Leading in Chaotic Systems”
- “Future Directions in the New Economy”
- “Management Skills Required in the New Economy”
- “Strategies to Be Successful in The New Economy”
- “Building Community Leadership,” Douglas Center, Washington DC
- “Leadership Lessons from Chaos Theory and Game Theory”
- “Systems Change and Empowerment”
- “Value Chain Reengineering”

## **Computer tools**

- Schedule and budget performance charting (Modified Earned Value)
- The strategic planning and strategy execution tool set
- Strategy Initiatives Selection Matrix
- Executive alignment matrix
- Strategy canvas (Value proposition performance tracking)
- Risk management tool set
- The change planning and change management tool set
- Lean Management Excel tool set