

Interviewer's Reflection



Gerald began his career as an engineer designing industrial parks. With no small amount of courage, Gerald spoke to me about his regret at what he could only describe as “raping the land, taking a perfectly fine piece of nature and turning it into a business venture” and then “convincing investors that there were tenants for the proposed facility.” Within a few years, Gerald realized he could no longer continue in that line of work. Since then, he has devoted his life to making the city of Cincinnati a beautiful, sustainable place. As my own entry into the workforce looms just on the horizon (hopefully), I know I will not be able to forget Gerald’s story. Gerald taught me that you cannot measure a career in paychecks and that the worst way to live your life is to be unable to take pride in what you do. Most importantly, he taught me that it is never too late to starting being who you want to be.

- Mark Anliker, Economics, Sustainability and Society; Philosophy, Politics and the Public (PPP); and Economics