

PATRICK K. WALTERS

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EXPERIENCE

Freelance Journalist, August 2007 – Present

Writes nonfiction stories for newspapers and magazines, including *The St. Petersburg Times* and *The New York Times Magazine*. Also writes for websites, including Grist.org, and produces radio stories for WKNO-FM, the NPR affiliate in Memphis. Clips available at www.patwalters.net. Conducts research for national magazines, including *On Earth*, *Audubon*, *AARP The Magazine*, *Fast Company*, *Rolling Stone*, *PLAY* and *Columbia Journalism Review*; and books, including *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, forthcoming next year from Crown/Random House.

Co-Director, The Poynter Sumer Fellowship for Young Journalists, January 2008 – Present

Will lead with Jacqui Banaszynski the reporting and writing component of the Institute's renowned six-week-long summer "boot camp" for recent college journalism graduates. Will coach, edit and teach extensively. Screened more than a hundred applicants for 10 slots. Planning a curriculum that will emphasize the growing importance of entrepreneurial thinking and innovative web-based storytelling in journalism, and inviting distinguished guest faculty from across the country to help teach it.

Naughton Fellow, The Poynter Institute, October 2006 – July 2007

Wrote stories for Poynter Online, one of the most highly regarded journalism websites in the country. Studied the evolution of journalism in the Internet age, and covered topics ranging from the practical – the increasing popularity of audio slideshows – to the theoretical – the emergence of online social media. Also wrote blog posts, produced podcasts and designed pages. Edited columnists, including Al Tompkins, Chip Scanlan and Roy Peter Clark. Served on a team charged with redesigning the site. Attended various conferences at the Institute; and elsewhere, including the National Writers Workshop in Hartford, Conn. and the Neiman Narrative Journalism Conference in Boston, Mass.

Reporting Intern, *The (Wilmington, Del.) News Journal*, July 2006 – October 2006

Wrote general-assignment news for Delaware's largest daily newspaper; circ. 121,000. Took over the higher-education beat when a reporter resigned a month into the internship.

EDUCATION

M.F.A., Creative Nonfiction Writing, University of Memphis, September 2007 – May 2010 (expected)

Studies nonfiction writing with a number of well-known writers, including Rebecca Skloot, whose work appears frequently in *The New York Times Magazine*, *O: The Oprah Magazine* and *Discover*. Attends and helps organize conferences, including The Mid-South Creative Nonfiction Conference and the annual meetings of the Association of Writers and Writing Programs and the American Society of Journalists and Authors, where he recently assembled a pitch slam featuring editors from *Audubon*, *Orion* and *Outside* magazines. Conducts public interviews with visiting authors, thus far including *Wall Street Journal* reporter Joshua Prager, linguist Christine Kenneally and war correspondent Stacy Sullivan. Designed and maintains the program's website.

Reporting and Writing Fellow, The Poynter Institute, June 2006 – July 2006

One of 16 students selected nationally to attend the Institute's "boot camp" for recent college journalism graduates. Studied closely with top journalists, including Jacqui Banaszynski, Roy Peter Clark and Tom French.

B.A., Honors, Environmental Literature and Journalism, University of Delaware, September 2002 – May 2006

Selected as a Dean's Scholar, which allows five students of each graduating class to pursue interdisciplinary study. Designed a major that fused elements of journalism, literature, cultural geography, anthropology and ecology. Acquired funding to complete a 17-day, 444-mile thru-paddle and close examination of the Susquehanna River, then named the most endangered river in the country. Studied fair trade economics in the Amazon Rainforest for four weeks. Won the E.A. Nickerson Award for Excellence in Journalism. GPA: 3.8 / Rank: 304 of 5120 / Magna Cum Laude

HONORS AND AWARDS

Phi Beta Kappa (Academic), Phi Kappa Phi (Academic) Sigma Tau Delta (English), Eagle Scout

SKILLS

Web design; Dreamweaver, HTML/CSS, Tumblr, Wordpress. Photography; various digital SLR cameras, Photoshop. Radio production; Marantz, Mini Disc, various microphones. Audio editing; Audacity, Audition. Reading comprehension of Spanish.