

# JESSICA FARGEN WALSH

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## ACADEMIC

### University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Journalism and Mass Communications

*Assistant professor, 2020-present*

- Teach foundational writing, reporting and editing classes
- Research areas include environmental journalism, rural journalism, nonprofit news and news deserts

## TEACHING

### University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Peer Review of Teaching Project

*Fellow, 2020-2021*

- Selected to take part in competitive campus-wide program designed to help faculty examine their teaching through the lens of intellectual content, teaching practices and student understanding

### University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Center for Transformative Teaching

*Participant, Course (Re)Design Cohort, 2019*

- Selected with nine other UNL instructors for learning community with the goal of creating a student-focused course in a broader effort to increase student retention

### University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Journalism and Mass Communications

*Part-time lecturer, 2012-2017*

- Taught beginning editing and beginning reporting to undergraduate students; topics included AP Style, grammar, headline writing, media law, social media, reporting, ethics, news writing, editing and news judgment
- Taught communications writing to business students in face-to-face and online settings

## ADMINISTRATION

### University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Journalism and Mass Communications

*Jour200A-200B Coordinator, 2019-present*

- Maintain consistency in 200A and 200B curriculum, course design and syllabus language among multiple sections of foundational writing and editing course required for all majors
- Meet and communicate frequently with instructors, provide mentorship, detailed course weekly course plans and Canvas resources; act as liaison between instructors and e-book publisher
- Maintain consistency and integration between 200A and 200B Canvas courses, syllabus and curriculum

## **SERVICE**

### **University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Journalism and Mass Communications**

*News editor, summer internship program, 2021*

- Will supervise and mentor two reporting interns and edit stories for eight-week program

*News editor, summer internship program, 2020*

- Supervised and mentored nine reporting interns and edited dozens of news stories and audio and video projects for the first-ever CoJMC summer internship program, which lasted eight weeks. Student work published at [nebraskanewsservice.net](http://nebraskanewsservice.net).
- Intern accomplishments included [producing content](#) and the creation of an [Alexa skill](#) as recognized in UNL's Nebraska Today on Aug. 4, 2020.

### **University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women**

*Member, 2020-present*

- Advocate for and advance the concerns of women faculty, students and staff at UNL

### **University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor, Peer Evaluation of Teaching Task Force**

*Participant, 2020-2021*

- Engaged in a new effort to conduct research on and propose recommendations for effective and equitable peer evaluation of teaching at UNL

### **University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Journalism and Mass Communications**

*Co-student adviser, ACES: The Society for Editing, fall 2020-present*

- Worked with UNL Student Involvement to restore the registered student organization status of ACES; recruited three officers from CoJMC; worked with another professor to recruit members and rebuild the club for fall 2020
- Held meetings in spring 2021 with guest speakers; working with students on recruitment

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Journalism and Mass Communications**

*Professional project chairwoman, fall 2020*

- Mentored and guided graduate student through the professional project process by providing feedback, guidance, deadlines and goals

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Journalism and Mass Communications, Scholarship & Student Success Committee**

*Member, 2020-present*

- Work to administer the college's scholarship programs, internship awards, and student competitions and advise the faculty and dean on the quality of the student experience and ways to improve that experience.
- Successfully recruited judges for student competitions including Roper Sports Writing Competition, Perry Photo Challenge and Internship Awards

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Journalism and Mass Communications, Strategic Planning Committee Task Force, Student Experiences & Experiential Learning**

*Member, 2020-present*

- Help develop goals and guidance for college-wide strategic planning process with focus on student experiences and experiential learning

**Associated Press Media Editors, NewsTrain Lincoln 2020**

*Lead organizer, 2019-2020*

- Organized, marketed and promoted a regional conference to be held at the College of Journalism and Mass Communications in April 2020; manually built a potential attendee database with 415 names and emails. The conference was canceled due to COVID-19 with more than 80 participants registered from four states.
- Successfully applied to host NewsTrain and created 17-member host committee including journalists and journalism faculty from Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Journalism and Mass Communications**

*Chairwoman, writing task force, 2018*

- Led six-person task force that examined the way the college teaches beginning writing
- Researched other colleges and universities, coordinated meetings, examined the college's writing and reporting curriculum

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Journalism and Mass Communications**

*Member, fundamental writing course revision committee, summer 2017*

- Worked on a three-person team to modernize and integrate beginning reporting and beginning editing into new courses called Jour200A and Jour200B. The first Jour200A class was offered in fall 2018 and was required for all majors in spring 2020.

## **RESEARCH AREAS OF INTEREST**

Science and environmental journalism

Rural journalism

Nonprofit news and news deserts

## **PUBLICATIONS & CREATIVE ACTIVITY**

**“Everybody’s an Editor: Navigating Journalism’s Changing Landscape,”  
Great River Learning, ISBN: 9781615497034**

*Co-author, 2019-present*

- Updated content and advised on web design and layout for a 3rd edition released in fall 2020
- Edited for recent style and grammar changes throughout the more than 200,000-word document, researched journalism trends, updated content to reflect current events and changing journalism trends, recorded and edited new videos and interviewed more than a dozen journalism professionals around the country.

## **Nitrates in Nebraska, [nitratesinnebraska.com](http://nitratesinnebraska.com)**

*Project editor, multimedia journalist, 2019*

- Conceived and created [multimedia website](#) on the issue of nitrates in Nebraska’s groundwater and drinking water
- Conducted all interviews, wrote stories and produced all videos and photos

## **Omaha World-Herald, Omaha, Nebraska**

*Freelance reporter, 2020*

- Story May 1, 2020, [here](#); published in newspaper May 3, with a Sunday circulation of 95,000. (Related call-to-action World-Herald-written editorial May 10, 2020, [here](#))

## **U.S. News & World Report**

- World-Herald editorial based on May 1, 2020, story featured in May 11, 2020, weekly editorial roundup, [here](#)

## **Water for Food Digest, Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, University of Nebraska-Lincoln**

- May 1, 2020, World-Herald story and [nitratesinnebraska.com](http://nitratesinnebraska.com) featured in May 4, 2020, Water for Food Digest, [here](#), a newsletter for the Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute at UNL.

## **University of Nebraska Research and Extension**

*Editorial contributor, 2020*

- Working with Nebraska Extension to create public-service articles at [water.unl.edu](http://water.unl.edu) on nitrate contamination in Nebraska groundwater
- Stories ran in fall 2020 on topics including [cost of nitrate mitigation](#), UNL research and public health.

**University of Nebraska Research and Extension, Nitrate Faculty Group**  
*Member, 2020*

- Actively engaged with other UNL faculty as part of a university-wide effort to increase research and awareness related to nitrate issues in Nebraska

**East Tennessee State University**

*Panel speaker, Sept. 11, 2020*

- Spoke to faculty virtually as part of a panel for the workshop “What’s the Story and How Do I Write It? Orienting Oneself Around Climate Change in 2020” sponsored by East Tennessee State and the Climate Stories Project

**University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, Nebraska**

*Audio book narrator, 2019*

- Narrated Willa Cather collection of short stories called [“The Troll Garden”](#) available for purchase on Audible.

## **RESEARCH WORKS IN PROGRESS**

Perreault, G., Moon, R., **Fargen Walsh, J.**, and Perreault, M., *“It’s not hate speech but ...”: Marginal categories and boundary work in rural journalism*

- One of four studies that involved the interviewing of 40 rural journalists on topics including public relations interactions, hate speech and diversity, environmental coverage and identity.

**Fargen Walsh, J.**, Perreault, M. (2021) *A Thematic Analysis of Local News Coverage of Nitrates and Water in Nebraska*

- Examination of the types and frequency of news stories in Nebraska media on the issue of nitrates in the groundwater.
  - o Secured \$5,000 in seed grant funding for this research, January 2021
  - o Received matching funds from the Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute

**Fargen Walsh, J.**, Martin, J. *Recruitment and Retention at News Weeklies*

- Mixed-methods study on recruitment and retention challenges and successes at weekly newspapers in seven states. The proposal was accepted in a competitive call for proposals from the International Society of Weekly News Editors. The winning paper will be published in Grass Roots Journal.

Jones, V., **Fargen Walsh, J.** *Aging Adult & Voice Assistant Study*

- Phase 2 of study exploring how aging adults interact with AI assistants.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

**Fargen Walsh, J., Perreault, M. (2021) *A Thematic Analysis of Local News Coverage of Nitrates and Water in Nebraska***

- Presented at Association for Education of Journalism and Mass Communications mid-winter conference March 5-6, 2021.

## **GRANTS AND FUNDING CY 2021: \$15,000**

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Journalism and Mass Communications**

- Seed grant, \$5,000, spring 2021
  - o Funding used in spring 2021 for study on recruitment and retention challenges and successes at weekly newspapers in seven states. Proposal accepted in a competitive call for proposals from the International Society of Weekly News Editors. The winning paper will be published in Grass Roots Journal.

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Journalism and Mass Communications**

- Seed grant, \$5,000, spring 2021
  - o Funding to be used in fall 2021 for research support for study of news coverage of water-related issues in Nebraska

**University of Nebraska, Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute**

- Faculty fellow matching funds, \$5,000, spring 2021
  - o Funding to be used in fall 2021 for research support for study of news coverage of water-related issues in Nebraska
  - o Successful application to receive matching funds through the designation of being a faculty fellow

## **HONORS**

**Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver Center for the Advancement of Women in Communication, Florida International University**

*Fellow, 2020-2021*

- Selected as one of 50 Kopenhaver fellows nationwide for a mentorship and leadership program for women who are junior tenure-track assistant journalism professors

**University of Nebraska, Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute**

*Faculty Fellow, 2021*

- Nominated and selected by leaders at [global water research institute](#) for expertise and accomplishments in efforts to increase awareness of environmental issues in Nebraska, specifically threats to the state's drinking water quality.

## **EDUCATION**

### **University of Nebraska-Lincoln**

Master's degree in professional journalism, College of Journalism and Mass Communications, December 2019, GPA 3.9

*Graduate assistant, 2018-2019*

- Taught journalism skills including AP Style, grammar, headline writing, media law, social media, digital news gathering, ethics, writing, editing and news judgment
- Completed classes in digital analytics, video editing, news engagement, media entrepreneurship, ethics, multiplatform journalism, podcasting, data visualization and drone operation.

### **University of Nebraska-Lincoln**

Bachelor's degree in news editorial, 1999, College of Journalism and Mass Communications

## **JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE**

### **Boston Herald, Boston**

*Reporter, 2004-2011*

- Wrote front-page stories for the Sunday newspaper, generated weekly column on Boston neighborhoods
- Ran city desk when needed
- Covered politics, government, the Legislature, crime, courts, medicine and breaking news
- One of the paper's first assigned breaking news reporters, writing and submitting stories remotely

### **The Patriot Ledger, Quincy, Massachusetts**

*Reporter, 2000-2004*

- Covered cities and towns south of Boston including government meetings, crime and accidents, features, education, economic development and politics

### **The Associated Press, Omaha, Nebraska**

*Newsperson, 1999-2000*

- Wrote stories on state issues, breaking news, education, crime and politics

## **SKILLS**

- [CITI certified](#), Human Research Group 2 Social, Behavioral Research Investigators and Key Personnel
- Adobe Premiere, Adobe Audition, Adobe smartphone apps, data journalism, digital media writing, smartphone video and photo applications, JVC camera operation, website creation, writing for social media, digital headline writing

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

March 2021

*Write Winning Grant Proposals*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, March 2021  
*Summer Institute for Online Teaching*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2020  
*Investigative Reporters & Editors CAR Boot Camp*, Missouri School of Journalism, 2019  
*Society of Professional Journalists, Google Tools training*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2019  
*Google Analytics*, individual qualification, 2018  
*Teaching and Learning Symposium, "Motivation, Engagement, Innovation and Evidence,"* University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2017  
*Grant Writers' Seminar & Workshop*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2015  
*Summer Institute for Online Teaching*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2014  
*Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation Health Coverage Fellowship*, Wellesley, Massachusetts, 2007  
*National Institutes of Health Medicine in the Media: The Challenge of Reporting on Medical Research*, Hanover, New Hampshire, 2006

### **JOURNALISM AWARDS**

New England Newspaper & Press Association, 2009, first place, special award  
New England Associated Press News Executives Association, 2008, first place, deadline news  
New England Press Association, 2007, second place, health reporting

### **MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS**

*Society of Environmental Journalists*, member  
*Society of Professional Journalists*, member  
*North American Agricultural Journalists*, member  
*Associated Press Media Editors/News Leaders Association*, member  
*ACES: The Society for Editing*, member  
*Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications*, member

### **VOLUNTEER**

Friends of the Pioneers Park Nature Center, Lincoln, Nebraska  
*Secretary/board member, 2017-present*

- Advocate for use and community support of the Nature Center, an environmental education center and wildlife sanctuary inside Pioneers Park YMCA, Lincoln, Nebraska

*Youth girls volleyball coach, 2020-2021*

- Run practices and coach fifth-grade girls during weekly games and practices

### **WRITING SAMPLES**

Writing samples available at <https://jessicafargenwalsh.wixsite.com/website>