

Chris Evans

Multimedia Journalist and Educator

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English

University at Albany, State University of New York

Anticipated graduation: 2022

M.F.A. in Fiction Writing

New York University, 2002

Thesis director: E.L. Doctorow

M.A. in English

University of Central Florida, 1998

Thesis director: Pat Rushin

B.S. in Journalism — *Kappa Tau Alpha*

B.A. in French — *Phi Beta Kappa*

University of Kansas, 1991

CURRENT POSITION

Clinical Assistant Professor of Journalism. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
College of Media. *2020 to present.*

- Create and launch a program to connect student work in the College of Media's three majors with news and media professionals at Illinois Public Media's audio and video outlets.
- Teach audio journalism and introduction to journalism, among other courses.

TEACHING & ADVISING HISTORY

Student Life Assistant Director / Student Media Adviser. University of Vermont. *2006-2020.*

- Advise students working for a weekly newspaper, 24/7 radio station, cable television station and related websites with combined \$90,000 budget.

- Train members of media organizations ranging in size from 25 to 125, with members ranging in age from 18 to 80, in leadership, financial management and organization-specific skills related to journalism, broadcast radio and video.
- Teach courses in news writing, media law and leadership.
- Chair departmental and national committees focusing on social justice, professional development and First Amendment advocacy.

President. College Media Association. 2017-2019.

- Lead an international organization of more than 600 college media advisers who seek to develop strong, student-led media programs at colleges and universities.
- Develop and supervise annual \$385,000 organizational budget.
- Serve as national spokesman and advocate for college press freedoms.

News Adviser / Communications Professor

Valencia Community College. Orlando, Florida. 2004-2006.

- Train and advise student staff in weekly production of campus newspaper and daily production of the newspaper's website.
- Teach introductory courses in journalism and mass media.

Faculty Writing Instructor / Teaching Mentor

New York University. New York, New York. 2000-2004.

- Mentor instructors in the university's Expository Writing Program. Facilitate program design and implementation.
- Teach beginning and advanced expository writing courses, including business ethics and business writing.

Peace Corps Volunteer / English Teacher Trainer

Zigong Teachers College. Zigong, Sichuan, China. 1998-2000.

- Design and teach advanced English proficiency courses with focus on writing, aural comprehension, literature, culture and theatre.
- Conduct workshops in writing pedagogy for peer teachers/volunteers.
- Write, direct and produce English-language plays for Chinese students.

WRITING & EDITING HISTORY

Editor-in-Chief

The Vermont Student Media Blog. www.uvmmedia.net. 2006-2020.

Editor-in-Chief

COMPASS, the newsletter of the department of Community Development and Applied Economics, University of Vermont. 2013.

Editor and Designer

The WRUV Reader, a book-length anthology of Vermont writers. 2012.

Editor-in-Chief

College Media, the quarterly publication of College Media Association. 2006-2008

Contracted News Writer

The Freedom Forum Online, a national forum for free-speech stories published for the First Amendment Center in New York, New York. 2000-2001.

Editor-in-Chief

The Tang-Cu Times, the official publication of Peace Corps volunteers in China. Chengdu, Sichuan, China. 1998-2000.

Assistant Fiction Editor

Florida Review. University of Central Florida. 1997.

Bureau Chief and News Reporter

Florida Today. Melbourne, Florida. 1993-1996.

News Reporter

The News-Press. St. Joseph, Missouri. 1992-1993.

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Board Member, College Media Association.

Develop vision and programming for national organization of more than 600 member-advisers.

Chairman, Diversity and Social Justice Committee, Department of Student Life, University of Vermont.

Design diversity and social justice trainings for staff and students affiliated with the UVM Department of Student Life. 2011 to 2020.

Board of Judges, Pacemaker Award, Associated Collegiate Press.

Judge entries for the "Pacemaker of college media," which recognizes the nation's best submission for college newspapers. 2017.

Member, Associated Collegiate Press Advisory Board.

Work with ACP officials and other college media advisers to determine programming and awards for national conventions. 2012-2017.

Member, Advisory Committee, College Media Association.

Advise on policy and procedures for the nation's largest professional organization of advisers for college print, radio, television and web outlets. 2011-2017.

Vermont Coordinator, New Voices free-press lobbying effort, coordinated nationally by the Student Press Law Center.

Lead state efforts among Vermont lawmakers, students, educators and other free-speech advocates to pass legislation designed to protect First Amendment rights for Vermont's high school and college students. 2015-2016.

Chairman, Committee for First Amendment Advocacy, College Media Association.

Lead a committee of college media advisers who investigate claims of censorship at colleges and universities nationwide. 2012-2017. (Also served as committee member from 2007 to 2012.)

Founding Member, UVM Examining White Privilege Retreat.

Develop curriculum and marketing strategies for an annual event designed to cultivate awareness of social justice and diversity issues among white-identified UVM students. 2013-2015.

Secretary, Board of Directors, Vermont Community Access Media.

Set policy for regional community access television station. 2011-2013.

Judge, Broadcast Awards, Collegiate Broadcasters, Inc.

Evaluate radio and TV entries for national competitions. 2010-2011.

Chairman/Member, Student Life Professional Development Committee, University of Vermont.

Design professional development trainings for staff and students affiliated with the UVM Department of Student Life. 2008-2011.

Member, National Board of Judges, Associated Collegiate Press.

Critique university and community college newspapers for ACP. 2007-2010.

Assistant Program Director, Associated Collegiate Press.

Develop programming for spring and summer national conventions, run the conventions and teach sessions, as needed, for collegiate journalists from around the country. 2005-2006

SELECTED ACADEMIC PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

"Threats to the Independence of Student Media." National report issued jointly by the American Association of University Professors, National Coalition Against Censorship, Student Press Law Center and College Media Association. Co-author. 2016.

"How Do You Teach Writing?" National College Media Convention: College Media Association. Repeat session: presented at national college media conferences 10 times since 2007. Atlanta. 2016.

- “Ethical Advising.”* National College Media Convention: College Media Association, Associated Collegiate Press. Atlanta. 2016.
- “Fiction-writing techniques for objective journalists.”* National College Media Convention: Associated Collegiate Press. Washington, D.C. 2016.
- “Building Better Relationships with Administrators.”* National College Media Convention: College Media Association, Associated Collegiate Press. Austin. 2015.
- “Social Justice Journalism.”* National College Media Convention: College Media Association, Associated Collegiate Press. Philadelphia. 2014.
- “Managing Students and Money.”* National College Media Convention: College Media Association, Associated Collegiate Press. Repeat session: presented at national college media conferences five times since 2009. Philadelphia. 2014.
- “How to Motivate Students.”* National College Media Convention: College Media Association, Associated Collegiate Press. Philadelphia. 2014.
- “The Adviser’s Guide to Establishing Policies.”* National College Media Convention: College Media Association, Associated Collegiate Press. New Orleans. 2013.
- “The Adviser’s Guide to Law and Ethics.”* National College Media Convention: College Media Association. New York City. 2013.
- “Get That Internship!”* National College Media Convention: College Media Association, Associated Collegiate Press. Orlando. 2011.
- “Nurturing Relationships Between Advisers and Students.”* College Newspaper Business and Advertising Managers Convention. Nashville. 2011.
- “Advising Millennials.”* National College Media Convention: College Media Advisers, Associated Collegiate Press. Repeat session: presented at national college media conferences five times since 2008. Louisville. 2010.
- “Best Practices for the Practicum: Measuring Student Success.”* National College Media Convention: College Media Advisers. New York City. 2009.
- “New Adviser Short Course: Budget Management, Advertising, Staff Recruitment and Training.”* National College Media Convention: College Media Advisers. Washington, D.C. 2007.
- “Finding Stories on a Two-Year Campus.”* National College Newspaper Workshops: Associated Collegiate Press. Washington, D.C. 2006.

- “*News Writing Essentials.*” National College Newspaper Workshops: Associated Collegiate Press. Washington, D.C. 2006.
- “*Advanced Reporting Short Course.*” National College Newspaper Workshops: Associated Collegiate Press. Washington, D.C. 2006.
- “*Improve Your Interviewing Skills.*” National College Newspaper Convention: Associated Collegiate Press. Los Angeles. 2006.
- “*Investigative Journalism.*” National College Newspaper Convention: Associated Collegiate Press. Los Angeles. 2006.
- “*What’s Your Problem, Buddy? Finding the Conflict in Every Reporting Situation.*” National College Media Convention: College Media Advisers, Associated Collegiate Press. Kansas City, Missouri. 2005.
- “*Reporting Using All Five Senses.*” National College Media Convention: College Media Association. New York City. 2005.
- “*From Lady Brett to Catherine Bourne: The Evolution of Women in Hemingway’s Novels.*” Annual Conference: Florida College English Association. Mount Dora, Florida. 1998.

PUBLISHED FICTION

- “Button Jar #1.” *Beloit Fiction Journal*. Beloit College, Wisconsin. 2017.
- “By the Rails.” *South Dakota Review*. The University of South Dakota. 2016.
- “1.2 Seconds Before the Boom.” *Green Hills Literary Lantern*. Truman State University. 2016. Nominated for Pushcart Prize.
- “Out West.” *Vantage Point*. The University of Vermont. 2011.
- “Candidate Clinton Visits the Bronx.” *Apalachee Review*. Florida State University. 2004.
- “Cheated.” *Washington Square*. New York University. 2004.
- “Colic.” *The Florida Review*. University of Central Florida. 2004.
- “Alpha Female.” *Thought Magazine*. Independent: Burlingame, California. 2003.
- “Amnio.” *Soundings East*. Salem State University, Massachusetts. 2003.
- “New Family Life.” *Confluence*. Marietta College and Ohio Valley Literary Group. 2003.

SELECTED HONORS and AWARDS

- Eugene Garber Award for Short Fiction.** Recognition in excellence in fiction writing for a single short story awarded by the State University of New York at Albany Ph.D. program in English. *2018.*
- Board of Directors Award for First Amendment Advocacy.** Recognition from the board of College Media Association for efforts in protecting students from censorship and prior review as chairman of the CMA First Amendment Advocacy Committee. *2017.*
- Distinguished Multimedia Adviser Award.** The nation's top award for mid-career college media advisers, awarded by College Media Association. *2014.*
- Montana Prize in Fiction (Finalist).** Cutbank Literary Magazine. *2014.*
- Top 100 Key Ethics and Media Law Resources for Journalists.** *The University of Vermont Journalism and Media Blog.* JournalismDegree.com. *2014.*
- The 100 Best Sites for Journalists.** *The University of Vermont Journalism and Media Blog: UVMmedia.net.* JournalismDegree.com. *2012.*
- The 40 Best Blogs for Student Journalists.** *The University of Vermont Journalism and Media Blog: UVMmedia.net.* The Open Education Database. *2012.*
- College Media Association Board of Directors Award.** National award for excellence in college media advising and advocacy. *2011.*
- Very Short Fiction Award (Finalist).** *Glimmer Train.* *2010.*
- Student Choice Award for Excellence in Teaching.** Valencia College. *2006.*
- Program Director's Award for Teaching Excellence.** New York University Expository Writing Program. *2002, 2003, 2004.*
- Very Short Fiction Award (Finalist).** *Glimmer Train.* *2002.*
- Best Education Reporting.** School Bell Award: Florida Education Association. *1996.*
- Best Single Newspaper Section.** National Award: Education Writers Association. *1995.*
- Benjamin Fine Award for Outstanding Education Reporting.** National Association of Secondary School Principals. *1995.*
- Best Education Reporting, Overall and Series Reporting.** School Bell Award: Florida Education Association. *1995.*

Selected Student Journalism Awards

A sampling of awards received by my students' publications during my time as adviser.

- Photo of the Year: Environmental Portrait. (2nd place.)** *The Vermont Cynic*. The nation's top award for excellence in environmental portraiture, awarded by Associated Collegiate Press. 2018.
- Advertisement of the Year: House Ad. (4th place.)** *The Vermont Cynic*. The nation's top award for excellence in ad design, awarded by Associated Collegiate Press. 2018.
- Pacemaker Award Finalist: Print Newspaper.** *The Vermont Cynic*. The nation's top award for overall excellence for a college print newspaper, awarded by Associated Collegiate Press. 2017.
- National Diversity Story of the Year.** "Kake Walk: Alumni, faculty and students reflect on 73-year tradition." *The Vermont Cynic*. Associated Collegiate Press. 2016.
- National Story of the Year. (2nd place.)** "Quality of Life: A Look Inside UVM Sodexo." *The Vermont Cynic*. Associated Collegiate Press. 2015.
- Top 50 College Newspapers (#19).** *The Vermont Cynic*. CollegeChoice.net. 2015.
- Top 20 College Newspapers (#18).** *The Vermont Cynic*. Princeton Review. 2014.
- Best of Show: Multimedia Package.** *The Vermont Cynic*. Midwinter National College Media Convention: Associated Collegiate Press. San Diego. 2014.
- Best of Show: Website, Small School.** *The Vermont Cynic*. National College Media Convention: Associated Collegiate Press. San Diego. 2014.
- Best of Show: Special Edition.** *The Vermont Cynic*. Midwinter National College Media Convention: Associated Collegiate Press. San Diego. 2014.
- Best of Show: Multimedia Package.** *The Vermont Cynic*. National College Media Convention. New Orleans. 2013.
- Best of Show: Special Edition.** *The Vermont Cynic*. National College Media Convention. New Orleans. 2013.
- Pacemaker Award: Online News Site.** *The Vermont Cynic*, *VermontCynic.com*. The nation's top award for overall excellence for a college newspaper website, awarded by Associated Collegiate Press. 2012.

Best of Show: Weekly University Newspaper. *The Vermont Cynic*. National College Media Convention. Chicago. 2012.

Pacemaker Award: Print Newspaper. *The Vermont Cynic*. The nation's top award for overall excellence for a college print newspaper, awarded by Associated Collegiate Press. 2011.

Best of Show: Weekly University Newspaper. *The Vermont Cynic*. National College Media Convention. Louisville. 2010.

References and letters of recommendation are available.