Curriculum Vita

Dean Nelson

Director, Journalism Program,
Director, Writer's Symposium By the Sea
Point Loma Nazarene University
3900 Lomaland Drive, San Diego, CA 92106
deannelson@pointloma.edu; 619-849-2592

Education

Ph.D. E.W. Scripps School of Journalism, Ohio University (Athens, Ohio), 1991.
Dissertation: "How U.S. Newspapers Covered Business and the Economy, 1970-1990."

M.A. School of Journalism, University of Missouri at Columbia, 1984.

B.A. MidAmerica Nazarene College (Olathe, Kansas)
English Literature, 1976.

Employment

Founder and director of journalism program at Point Loma Nazarene University, from 1984 to present. Responsible for vision, curriculum development, staffing, budgeting, assessment.

Founder and director of annual Writer's Symposium By The Sea at Point Loma Nazarene University, 1995 to present.

Publications

Mainstream Newspapers:

- New York Times – 1991 to present. Occasionally cover southern California issues such as the border, San Diego school shootings, Heaven's Gate mass suicide, Republican National Convention. Have written for the following sections: National News, Business, Education, Law, Media, Travel
- Boston Globe – 1984-1989. Covered border issues, America's Cup yachting race, forest fires and local politics.

- San Jose Mercury News – 1990s. Covered San Diego features and breaking news.
- San Diego Union-Tribune – 1985-present. Features, opinions, book reviews.
- VoiceofSanDiego.org – 2006 to 2012. Essays, occasional stories
- San Diego Daily Transcript – 1985-1989. Full-time summer replacement, writing business news, special investigative projects.

Mainstream Magazines:
- Saturday Evening Post
- San Diego Magazine
- Westways
- Golf Getaways
- Science & Spirit
- The Utne Reader
- San Diego Writers Monthly – 1993 to end of magazine. Was books editor.
- Boy's Life – 1991-1994. Did profiles on celebrities and people with interesting careers.
- America West Airlines magazine
- Mpls/St. Paul magazine

Trade Magazines:
- Quill Magazine, published by the Society of Professional Journalists
- Columbia Journalism Review
- Restaurant Business
- Contemporary Long-Term Care

Religious Magazines:
- Christianity Today
- Christian Century
- Youth Worker Journal
- Campus Life
- Sojourners
- Relevant
- Risen
- Contemporary Christian Music
- Single-Parent Family
- Physician
- Christian Management Report (regular columnist)
- Refreshed (monthly columnist)
- Holiness Today (feature writer and former monthly columnist)

Books:

-- Talk To Me: How To Ask Better Questions, Get Better Answers, and Interview Anyone Like A Pro (HarperCollins, 2019)
-- You'll Never Be The Same: Transform Your Life By Serving Others, ghost written for Gary Morsch and Steve Weber (Dustjacket, 2015)

-- Quantum Leap: How John Polkinghorne Found God in Science and Religion, co-written with Karl Giberson (Lion-Hudson of Oxford, 2011)
-- God Hides in Plain Sight: How to See the Sacred in a Chaotic World (Brazos Press, 2009).
-- The Power of Serving Others – co-written with Gary Morsch
(Berrett-Koehler of San Francisco, 2006)

- 100 Years of Stories: Voices and Images of PLNU's Centennial (Point Loma Press, 2001)
- The Transparent Leader – co-written with Dwight Johnson (Harvest House Publishers, 2001)
- Come As You Are – co-written with Reuben Welch (Beacon Hill Press, 1999)
- Heart and Soul: Awakening Your Passion To Serve – co-written with Gary Morsch (Beacon Hill Press, 1997)
- I Believe, Now Tell Me Why – co-written with religion faculty at Southern Nazarene University (Beacon Hill Press, 1994)
- Small Medium, Large Impact: The Miracle of World Mission Radio (Beacon Hill Press, 1993)
- New Father's Survival Guide (Augsburg-Fortress, 1991)
- God Never Said We'd Be Leading at the Half – co-written with Dean Spencer (Beacon Hill Press, 1980)

Book Edited:

- Am I My Brother's Keeper? (Beacon Hill Press, 1991)

Screenplay:

- Who Do You Listen To? Sex in the Age of Aids

Television/Radio:

- Regular guest on KPBS radio (NPR affiliate) on media issues
- Agenda 21: San Diego's Economy of the Future (KPBS-TV, 1994)
- Host Writer's Symposium By The Sea, an annual interview program on UCSD-TV with writers such as Ray Bradbury, George Plimpton, Anne Lamott, Chitra Divakaruni, Kathleen Norris, Joseph Wambaugh, Amy Tan, Roy Blount Jr., Rick Reilly, Bill Moyers, Garrison Keillor, David Eggers, Chris Hedges, Joyce Carol Oates and publisher Otis Chandler

Scholarly

- Monograph: How Business and Economy Coverage Changed in U.S. Newspapers from 1970-1990 (Ohio University Press, 1991)
- Newspaper Research Journal, 1992, same title
- Journalism History (regular book reviewer)
- Native American Press Research Journal (University of Arkansas Press, 1986)
- Encyclopedia – History of the Mass Media in the U.S. (two entries)

Presentations Given/ Workshops Conducted

- Society of Professional Journalists national convention, presentation on How to Conduct Great Interviews, September, 2020 and September 2021.
- Poynter Institute for Media Studies, Teachapalooza, presentation on How to Conduct Great Interviews, June, 2021.
- Webinar for Radio, Television, Digital News Association on How to Conduct Great Interviews, August, 2018.
- Festival of Faith and Learning, Calvin College, speaker on topics such as interviewing, writing non-fiction and journalism, 2018, 2016, 2014, 2012
- One Book One San Diego, annual event at main public library in conjunction with KPBS, conduct televised interview with author of each year's selection.
- Excellence in Journalism national convention, Society of Professional Journalists, Anaheim, CA, 2017, conducted workshop on How to Conduct Great Interviews
- Southern California Writer's Association, Newport Beach, CA, September 2015, spoke on advice from great writers
- Society of American Travel Writers, Reykjavik, Iceland, 2014, spoke on modern travel writing.
- Storyline Conference With Donald Miller, Chicago, 2014, spoke on how to improve storytelling.
- Society of Professional Journalists national and regional conferences, regularly speak on business news coverage and narrative writing techniques
- Annual speaker at La Jolla Writer's Conference
- College Media Advisers national convention, regularly speak on critiquing campus media, dealing with administrators, pros and cons of prior review
- Frequent guest speaker at San Diego Writers and Editors Guild
- Frequent guest speaker at San Diego Christian Writer's Conference
- Creative Writing workshop in Bombay, India, January 2001
- San Diego Union-Tribune newspaper, giving writing workshops to reporters and editors
- North County Times newspaper, giving writing workshops to reporters and editors
- Evangelical Press Association national convention, 2001 and 2014, conducting two writing workshops
- Ohio Regional Communications Research Conference, Ohio University, paper accepted and given on business and economic reporting in U.S. newspapers, 1991
- Western Association of Schools of Communication Research Conference, San Diego State University, paper accepted and given on Native American Press, 1987
- Native Press Research Association convention, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, paper accepted and given on Native American newspapers, 1986

Professional Activities

- Senior Fellow in Journalism, CCCU, since 2005. One of two.

- President, Sigma Delta Chi Foundation (foundation component of local chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists)
- Board Member (Secretary) San Diego Writer's, Ink
- Officer, San Diego Pro Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists (past president)
- Member of Church-Related Committee, College Media Advisers
- Member, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication
- Member, California Chicano News Media Association
- Frequent source for news media reporters to discuss journalism practices in the U.S., quoted in the New York Times, Atlanta Journal & Constitution, San Diego Union-Tribune, local television and elsewhere
- Member, PLNU's Center for Justice and Reconciliation

Conferences Organized

- Writers' Symposium By The Sea (annual, since 1995)
- Host of Multicultural Journalism Workshop (conducted by the California Chicano News Media Association) for 12 years
- AT&T Sports Journalism Conference (1992 and 1993)

Awards

- San Diego Press Club, First Place, Column Writing, for "The Gift Within The Quarantine," published in the San Diego Union-Tribune, June, 2020.
- Columnist of the Year, Evangelical Press Association, 2016
- Kyoto Journalism Fellow, 2015 to present
- Senior Fellow, Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, Washington, D.C.
- Society of Professional Journalists, San Diego Chapter, 1st place for magazine investigative reporting; 1st place for magazine feature; Best of Show – 2008.
- San Diego Press Club, top award for magazine writing, 2003and 2012
- Odin Award, for contribution to greater writing community, from the San Diego Writers and Editors Guild, 2001
- San Diego Book Award, 2011 for Quantum Leap, 2007 for The Power of Serving Others, and again in 1997 for Heart and Soul
- Visiting Scholar, MidAmerica Nazarene College, 1993
- Alumnus of the Year, MidAmerica Nazarene College, 1992
- Society of Professional Journalists Best of Show Award, 1989, 1988 and 1986
- CINE Society Golden Eagle Award for screenplay, 1989
- San Diego County Bar Association Media Award, 1987
- National Newspaper Association Journalism Excellence Award, 1986