

KRISTINA COWAN

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EXPERIENCE

FREELANCE JOURNALIST, Chicago

Feb. 2007-present

Writer, reporter and editor focusing on education, business and women's issues

- *American Council on Education*: freelance writer. Report and write enterprise and trend pieces on higher-education issues
- *Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University*: freelance writer. Cover breaking news and events on business and management issues
- *Harvard Education Letter*: freelance writer. Cover K-12 issues and trends for a national publication of Harvard University's Graduate School of Education
- *TheLadders.com, Dec. 2010-Aug. 2012*: freelance writer. Cover salary and compensation news, issues and trends
- *My Global Career, Aug. 2008-March 2009*: guest columnist. Reported on and wrote in-depth career pieces.
- *Jobs for the Future, Feb. 2007-Feb. 2009*: editorial consultant and writer for Breaking Through, a project seeking to help low-skilled adults succeed in the workforce
- *PayScale.com, Feb. 2007-May 2009*: senior writer. Covered a variety of workforce issues, including generational and gender dynamics, executive compensation, personal finance, continuing education, telecommuting, green jobs, health care and technology.
- *AOL.com and Yahoo.com, Sept. 2007-May 2009*: syndicated writer. PayScale stories regularly appeared on the career and home pages of both sites.
- *Jobs to Careers, Nov. 2007-Feb. 2008*: writer for a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program helping frontline health-care workers upgrade their job skills and education and advance their careers
- *PayScale.com, March 2007-Dec. 2008*: Original blogger for The Salary Reporter, a blog focused on breaking salary news and career trends (www.salaryreporter.com)

CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY, Washington, D.C.

May 2005-Feb. 2007

Deputy editor of *CQ Green Sheets*, an online publication on energy and environmental policy

- As publication's first deputy editor, defined goals, tasks and strategy of position
- Co-managed editorial decisions with senior editor, including beat assignments, long-term coverage and development of new website features
- Managed daily and weekly news budgets and staff of four reporters, shepherded copy flow, assigned, edited and copy edited stories

COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK, Fairfax, Va.

March 2001-May 2005

Senior editor of a higher-education trade newspaper, Dec. 2003-May 2005

- Redefined paper's tone, sharpening focus on state and federal education policies and their impact on colleges
- Secured op-eds from top-level policymakers and educators
- Managed three full-time editors and writers and 15 freelance reporters

Associate editor, March 2001-Nov. 2003

- Deepened publication's coverage of higher-education policy through investigative stories about state and federal policies, international education, student-visa reform and immigration, student aid, Hispanic issues, workforce training and vocational education
- Developed and wrote a series of stories on a New York college damaged on 9/11

MEDILL NEWS SERVICE, Washington, D.C.

Sept. 2000-Dec. 2000

Washington correspondent. Wrote and reported for the *Imperial Valley Press*, a Southern California newspaper and Medill News Service client. Covered the U.S. Congress, Hispanic issues, immigration, agriculture and the 2000 presidential election

THE NEW YORK TIMES, Chicago

June 2000-Sept. 2000

Intern. Assisted business correspondent with reporting, researching and editing stories

MEDILL NEWS SERVICE, Chicago

Sept. 1999-Dec. 1999

Education correspondent. Covered race relations and safety issues at Evanston Township High School, Evanston, Ill.

TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, Chicago

Oct. 1997-Aug. 1998

News and features writer. Freelanced for *College Press Exchange*, a wire service for universities and colleges, and *Trib News*, the *Chicago Tribune's* employee publication

BETTER GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION, Chicago

Sept. 1996-Sept. 1997

Investigative writer and editor. Researched and wrote about investigations into government corruption, first as an intern, and later as a freelancer

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Journalism, Medill, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. 2000

Bachelor of Science in Speech, minor in political science, Northwestern University School of Speech, Evanston, Ill. 1996

SKILLS

Proficient with Spanish, QuarkXPress, QuarkCopyDesk, TypePad, Wordtracker, WordPress, computer-assisted reporting and graphics reporting; competent in search-engine optimization

HONORS AND AWARDS

My story, "Learning Across Distance," was featured in *Spotlight on Technology in Education*, a May 2011 book published by Harvard Education Press

My story, "New Teachers and the Culture Gap," was one of the top 10 most viewed stories published in 2010 by the *Harvard Education Letter*

Hechinger Institute on Education and the Media, fellow, summer 2008 McGraw Seminar on K-12 reporting, Columbia University, New York

Hechinger Institute on Education and the Media, fellow, fall 2004 seminar on higher education, Columbia University, New York

Evelyn Y. Davis Scholar, 1999-2000. Recipient of a merit scholarship for writing and reporting on politics and government, Medill, Evanston, Ill.