

Profile

Award-winning writer for Minnesota's largest newspaper for 27 years. Expertise in medicine, law, politics, public health and global development. Recognized as one of America's top opinion journalists. Gifted speaker, editor, writing coach and strategist with contacts in government, academia, business and NGOs. Eager to contribute talents to any visionary enterprise.

Professional Experience

WORLDSPINNERS MEDIA

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Writer & Consultant

July 2007 - present

Independent journalist engaged in several enterprise projects while serving as communications consultant in marketing, media strategy and communications. Expertise in medicine, law, human rights, public health and global development. Specialties include speech- and op-ed writing, white papers and reports, web writing, book editing, grant writing and crisis management. Clients include:

- **CREATIVE LOGIC**, a Washington-based political-media firm
- **THE ISUROON PROJECT**, a Minneapolis public-health nonprofit for Somali women
- **MINDSAILING**, a Minnesota marketing firm
- **MINNESOTA COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS**
- **THE NEW MEDIA FIRM**, a national political-campaign consulting firm
- **UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ~ COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS**
- **THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION**

STAR TRIBUNE

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Editorial Writer & Columnist

June 1980 - June 2007

Writer and editor for one of the nation's most admired editorial pages. Specialties included politics and governance, courts and corrections, U.S. regulatory agencies, environment, global health and development, foreign affairs and many areas of social policy.

- ❖ Produced paper's 2004 opinion series "AIDS with an Asian Face," reporting on the 15th International AIDS Conference in Bangkok and on the accelerating spread of HIV in Thailand, Cambodia and India.
- ❖ Collaborated in creating 2001 series "China: A Brighter Moon," which considered the social and cultural consequences of China's quest to step beyond its communist past into a free-market future.
- ❖ Co-produced "Imagining Africa," a 2000 series that told the stories of four nations — South Africa, Botswana, Mozambique and Nigeria — to explore the future of the world's poorest continent.
- ❖ Joined in creating the 1999 opinion series, "South Asia: Beyond the Bomb," which examined the political, economic and human costs of the enduring conflict between India and Pakistan.
- ❖ Conceived and produced the 1997 series "Learning to Die," a six-day project initiating community discussion on medical care at the end of life. Series reprints were distributed to medical schools nationwide.
- ❖ Interviewed many global leaders — including Kofi Annan, Benazir Bhutto, Nelson Mandela and top officials in China, India and Greece — in preparation for columns and editorials in the Star Tribune.
- ❖ Appeared often for the newspaper as guest lecturer and speaker in local and international venues addressing topics from persuasive writing and media ethics to social policy and global citizenship.

Honors & Activities

- ❖ Planned and directed education program for the National Conference of Editorial Writers — leading U.S. writers on study tours abroad to encourage global coverage on U.S. editorial pages. 1998 - 2006.
- ❖ Served as guest speaker at the International Fulbright Association conference in Delphi, Greece, addressing the duty of U.S. journalists to promote U.S. engagement in the international community. December 2001.
- ❖ Awarded American Journalism Foundation travel fellowship to Athens to cover the war in nearby Kosovo and the controversy it ignited among Greek citizens. May 1999.
- ❖ Co-founded and directed Minnesota Journalists Abroad, a scholarship program underwritten solely by Minnesota news professionals to give student journalists the chance for foreign travel. 1998 - 2002.
- ❖ Recipient of many national writing awards, including the Scripps Howard Foundation (2002) and the Society of Professional Journalists (1997). Three-time finalist in the American Society of Newspaper Editors' writing contest and published in its "Best Newspaper Writing" book series in 1998, 2000 & 2002.

Education

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

English Literature

1976 - 1980

MINNESOTA DAILY

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Editor in Chief

1979 - 1980