

SAM MEDDIS

SUMMARY

Proven record of effective leadership, communication and decision-making skills in the supervision of complex operations. Deep understanding of technologies, especially as relating to editorial demands. Excellence in writing, analysis and information gathering as both an editor and a reporter covering some of journalism's most competitive beats. Hands-on experience with successful start-ups.

EXPERIENCE

- August 2013 – Present **Adjunct Professor, George Mason University**
Teach history of world cinema in the College of Visual and Performing Arts.
- January 2013 – Present **Adjunct Professor, American University**
Teach digital skills and documentary video production in the Journalism Department of the School of Communication.
- November 2010 – December 2012 **Video Team Lead, USA TODAY**
Responsible for heading up an award-winning team of video journalists, including daily supervision, scheduling, training objectives, budgeting and strategizing. Monitored advancements and trends in video journalism and technology, and developed the company's overall digital video strategy in conjunction with other senior staff.
- 2006 – November 2010 **Deputy Managing Editor/Editorial Technology, USA TODAY**
Key responsibilities involved operations, news coverage and development of USATODAY.com, one of the Web's top news sites; coordinated training programs for print and online editorial staff; supervised the Editorial Technology group.
- 2001 – 2006 **Deputy Managing Editor, USATODAY.com**
Participated in crafting and implementing policies as well as supervision of day-to-day operations, contributing to a period of massive growth of one of the Web's top news sites; also supervised site's Money and Weather sections.
- 1996 – 2001 **Technology Editor, USATODAY.com**
Conceived, developed and maintained the online Tech section. Supervised production, assigned and edited stories, wrote nationally syndicated column and website reviews. Monitored technology developments, tested and evaluated new equipment and software during a period of explosive growth and change in the field.
- 1982 – 1996 **National Reporter, News Department, USA TODAY**
From USA TODAY's founding, served as paper's chief reporter covering the U.S. Justice Department, FBI and CIA. Major focus on criminal justice issues, drug policy and

intelligence affairs. Extensive use of technology to cover complex issues in the U.S. legal system, with recognition from American Bar Association and others.

1971 – 1982

Reporter, *The Courier-News, Bridgewater, NJ*

Award-winning municipal and county reporter. Specialized in legal affairs and investigative projects, including pioneering use of computer-assisted reporting.

EDUCATION

2012

Masters Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies, with concentration in video production, *George Mason University*, 4.0 grade level

Activities and Societies: *Golden Key International Honour Society, The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi*

1971

BA, English, *Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey-New Brunswick*

AWARDS

1995

Champion of Justice, *National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers*, for public service reporting dedicated to "the constitutional values of fairness, due process and equal justice."

1994

Silver Gavel, *American Bar Association*, for a series of articles that examined racial bias in the enforcement of drug laws throughout the nation.

1994

Unity Award for Investigative Reporting, *Lincoln University Department of Journalism*, for a series of articles that examined racial bias in the enforcement of drug laws throughout the nation.

1981

IRE Award, *Investigative Reporters & Editors*, for a series of articles that exposed questionable billing practices by a school board attorney.