

MaryJo Webster

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Professional Experience:

Database Editor: Minneapolis Star Tribune: April 2015 to present

- Lead the newsroom's efforts to produce data-driven content through various means, including collaborating with beat and watchdog reporters, providing group and one-on-one training, fostering a culture that supports and encourages data-driven work and by ensuring reporters are equipped with readily available data and the necessary tools.

Independent Contractor: June 2014 to March 2015

- Reporting, writing and data analysis for "Where the Jobs Are" project for USA TODAY. I was sole reporter for parts 1 and 3 and co-reporter for parts 2 and 4. Also helped coordinate interactive database, photos, graphics, videos, national broadcast versions of the stories and local stories produced by Gannett newspapers and television stations.

Senior Data Reporter: Digital First Media -Thunderdome, Feb. 2014 to May 2014.

- Worked with reporters and editors in newsrooms throughout the company to help develop data-driven content; produced national stories; trained reporters and editors. Position eliminated with shutdown of Thunderdome office.

Database Editor: St. Paul Pioneer Press, St. Paul, Minn., April 2005 to Jan. 2014

- Taught and applied data skills for daily and enterprise stories; Wrote own stories; teamed with reporters; built Web databases, maps and interactive graphics; served as in-house public records expert; developed and maintained internal and external data warehouses.

Sports Database Editor: USA TODAY, McLean, Va., August 2002 to March 2005.

- Initiated and assisted on daily and enterprise sports stories that could benefit from data analysis; provided one-on-one and group training.

Database Editor: The Center for Public Integrity, Washington, D.C., August 2001 to August 2002.

- Responsibilities included overseeing 18-month investigation of soft money based on huge database of contributions and expenditures reported by 300 political parties in 50 states.

Investigative Reporters & Editors: Columbia, Mo., August 1999 to August 2001.

- Database Library Administrator; managing editor of *Uplink*; data analyst.

Oshkosh Northwestern, Oshkosh, Wis., Oct. 1995-Aug. 1999.

- Assistant City Editor, Police beat reporter, Wautoma bureau chief

New Ulm Journal, New Ulm, Minn., January to October 1995.

- Regional reporter

Teaching/Training experience:

University of Minnesota, January 2010 to present.

- Adjunct professor for data reporting class.

University of Wisconsin-River Falls, January-May 2007

- Adjunct professor for data reporting class.

Other Training:

- Regular trainer at National Computer-Assisted Reporting conferences and IRE Watchdog workshops and bootcamps, 2002 to present.
- Frequent guest lecturer. Past engagements include: George Washington University, Northwestern University Medill School of Journalism, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, University of Minnesota, Associated Collegiate Press.

Education:

- Master of Arts in journalism, Missouri School of Journalism, Columbia, Mo. Dec. 2001.
- Bachelor of Science in journalism, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, May 1994.

Computer Skills:

- Excel, Access, SQL Server, MySQL, ArcMap, SPSS, Active Server Pages, ASP.NET, HTML, FoxPro, Google Fusion Tables, Tableau Public, Caspio, OpenRefine, Tabula, xPDF, plus a long list of other, smaller tools for working with data.
- Dabbled in VBScript, ColdFusion, Python.

Awards:

- Digital First Media DFMie for Investigative Journalism (2013); Digital First Media DFMie for Data Journalism (2013); two Frank Premack Public Affairs Reporting Awards (2011 and 2006), Sigma Delta Chi Award for Public Service (2003), Investigative Editors and Reporters award and finalist (2001 and 2002) and Minnesota SPJ Page One “Story of the Year” (2010).

References:

Available upon request.