

Sheena Lee Faherty, Ph.D.

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Scientist & Writer

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Summary

Ph.D. in Biology with the passion and skill to write, edit and translate scientific research and policy in an engaging and concise manner for a lay audience. Skilled at effective dissemination approaches to accelerate public awareness of cutting-edge research advances.

Science Writing & Editing

Science Writer, *National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)*

April 2016-Present

- Developed a variety of materials for publication on www.genome.gov including feature stories, research highlights and press releases, capitalizing on in-depth knowledge of science policy, biomedical research and cutting-edge genomics research
- Spearheaded new communications initiative using the Reddit Ask Me Anything platform as a way to enhance scientific storytelling
- Wrote and produced animated YouTube web series to explain complex genomic concepts to high school students
- Collaborated with graphic designers to enhance written products through the use of infographics, animated GIFs and video for social media

AAAS Mass Media Fellow, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*

June-Aug. 2015

- Wrote 17 bylined stories on a variety of science, health and technology topics ranging from precision medicine to rarely diagnosed psychological disorders during a ten-week fellowship
- Composed a Sunday A1 feature that explored the ethical challenges that arise when egg freezing technology goes mass market
- Analyzed city and state data to explore trends in health issues concerning teen pregnancy and Lyme disease incidence
- Demonstrated proficiency in meeting deadlines on quick-turnaround daily stories, as well as feature-length pieces, while maintaining the highest journalistic standards
- Quickly mastered content management system to file stories for publication

Blog Contributor, *Scientific American, Duke Research and Duke Medicine*

April 2014-Nov. 2015

- Developed and refined strong pitching skills by connecting with editors at diverse media outlets
- Executed multiple story assignments in various stages through planning and prioritizing tasks: interviewing sources, fact-checking, formulating drafts, copyediting and working with editors
- Collaborated with subject matter experts to conduct background research, while illustrating expertise in understanding and communicating a variety of provocative science topics
- Tailored writing to match the varied technical level of target audience

Project Management	Doctoral Researcher , <i>Biology Department, Duke University</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborated with an international and interdisciplinary team to study the effects of gene expression on hibernation in dwarf lemurs • Compiled research data for annual progress reports for funding agencies and non-scientific stakeholders • Designed figures and graphics to explain complex data findings in a coherent and interpretive way 	Aug. 2010-March 2016
Education	Duke University , Durham, N.C. Doctorate in Biology; <i>Genomics & Physiology emphasis</i>	March 2016
	University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point , Stevens Point, Wis. Bachelor of Science, <i>cum laude</i> , Biology & Psychology	Dec. 2007
Honors & Affiliations	Member, National Association of Science Writers Winner, <i>The Briefing</i> Science & Tech Writing Challenge Lewis & Clark Field Scholar, American Philosophical Society <i>PSI CHI</i> , Psychology Honor Society Dean's Distinguished Achievement Award, University of Wisconsin Dean's List, University of Wisconsin	Jan. 2015-Present Feb. 2014 July 2013 Dec. 2007 Dec. 2007 2004-2007
References	Karl Stark Assistant Managing Editor, Business; Health & Science <i>The Philadelphia Inquirer</i> kstark@phillynews.com 215-854-5363 Charlotte Sutton Editor, Health & Science <i>The Philadelphia Inquirer</i> csutton@phillynews.com 215-854-2587 Karl Bates Director, Research Communications Duke University Office of News & Communications karl.bates@duke.edu 919-681-8054	