

RESUME

GARY KEBBEL

www.garykebbel.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

- Journalism Program Director for the **John S. and James L. Knight Foundation**
- Director of \$25 million **Knight News Challenge**
- **Fulbright Senior Specialist** in online journalism in South Africa
- Trainer in the **State Department's Foreign Service Institute** in online news and public affairs
- **AOL News** director, building it into one of the world's largest online news sites (24 million monthly users)
- Founding editor of **USA TODAY.com** and **Newsweek.com**
- Home page editor at **washingtonpost.com**
- Editor of largest election site on the Internet, **AOL Election Guide**
www.electionguide04.com
- Director of largest government consumer portal, **AOL Government Guide**
www.governmentguide.com
- Graphics editor at **USA TODAY**
- Managing editor; city editor; journalism instructor

EDUCATION

M.S.W. The Catholic University of America, May 1998

Graduate Studies, political science, Northern Illinois University, 1980-1984

M.A., political science, University of Illinois, 1977

M.S., journalism, University of Illinois, 1976

B.A., communication and German, Illinois State University, 1974 (with High Honors)

**PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE**January 2006-
Present**JOHN S. AND JAMES L. KNIGHT FOUNDATION – Journalism Program Director**
Miami, Fla.

Created and continue to run the first digital-media grant program at Knight Foundation, journalism's largest U.S. funder. Knight Foundation has devoted \$400 million to journalism training, press freedom and digital news innovation programs since 1950. It currently distributes about \$30 million a year to fund top-quality, innovative journalism projects. Knight Foundation is recognized as the gold standard in journalism funding. It is in the top 25 private U.S. foundations, with an endowment of about \$2 billion. I direct the \$25 million, five-year Knight News Challenge to find new-media innovations and experiments among individuals, universities, companies and non-profit organizations worldwide. I search for new people, products or processes to fund. I report directly to the president and CEO of Knight Foundation. I helped create Knight Citizen News Network and Knight Digital Media Center. I work with the 12 communication deans in the Carnegie-Knight News 21 program, and I regularly meet and negotiate with top media executives around the world. I also participate in all meetings of the Knight Commission on Information Needs of Communities in a Democracy and judge the Knight-Batten Awards for Innovation in Journalism. I was the first winner of Knight Foundation's president's award for exceptional performance.

March 1999-
February 2005**AMERICA ONLINE – News Director**
Dulles, Va.

Built AOL News into the largest news site on the Internet during my time there. Directed daily news operations and editorial selections, long-term strategy, operations and new products. Managed 24 editors. Hired, trained and reviewed new staff. Managed budget. Helped design and create new publishing system for all of AOL's daily publishing divisions. Negotiated and implemented partner deals with TIME, CNN, ABC, CBS, The New York Times, USA TODAY, The Wall Street Journal, Tribune Media Services and Weather.com. Directed largest election site on the Internet, AOL Election Guide (www.electionguide04.com), and the largest government consumer portal, AOL Government Guide (www.governmentguide.com). Was in charge of all of AOL's coverage of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks; the Iraq war and U.S. elections from 2000-2004.

February 1997-
February 1999**WASHINGTONPOST.NEWSWEEK INTERACTIVE –
Associate Editor/Breaking News**
Arlington, Va.

Headed daily and long-term home page news coverage for washingtonpost.com and Newsweek.com. Edited home page updates to one of the web's most important news sites. Chose and edited home page stories and supervised eight editors during President Clinton's impeachment trial. Was washingtonpost.com liaison with The Washington Post.

May 1998-
October 1998

**NEWSWEEK.COM – Project Management
(for Washingtonpost.Newsweek Interactive)**

Launch team, New York, N.Y.

Leader of the Newsweek.com editorial launch team. Planned and implemented breaking-news coverage on Newsweek.com. Helped magazine management realize that once they published on the web, they no longer were a weekly news organization. They therefore needed news updates throughout the day. I supplied these through the content management system I helped design for washingtonpost.com and Newsweek.com.

November 1997-
October 1998

WASHINGTONPOST.NEWSWEEK INTERACTIVE – Project Management

Launch team, Arlington, Va.

Project leader on the team that designed a user-friendly, template-driven, data based, dynamic web publishing system for washingtonpost.com and Newsweek.com. Designed the workflow for the editing process and the publishing system. Planned a digitally archived database for washingtonpost.com.

February 1995-
February 1997

USA TODAY.com – Deputy Editor/News

Arlington, Va.

Was one of the launch editors for USA TODAY.com on April 17, 1995. Supervised 10 online editors for the News and Life sections. Selected home page stories, directed all breaking-news coverage. Directed the site's first presidential election coverage and the 1996 Olympics bombing story. Conducted performance evaluations and ongoing training. Two days after we launched, the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City was bombed. I helped create a new form of breaking-news coverage – the developing online story – when I was the editor in charge of that event. USA TODAY has been using the format I created ever since that April 19, 1995, event.

February 1991-
February 1995

USA TODAY – Night Graphics Editor

Arlington, Va.

Supervised 14 staff artists, edited daily graphics, wrote breaking-news graphics, monitored production deadlines, troubleshooted emergency production problems, conducted personnel evaluations. Directed breaking-news graphics for the first war in Iraq, for several Olympic games, the fall of the Soviet Union and three plane crashes.

February 1990-
February 1991

THE RECORD – Managing Editor

Troy, N.Y.

(Evening newspaper with a circulation of 42,000) Directed staff of 46, with three bureaus and four editions. Planned and edited the paper's special edition covering the first war in Iraq. Created and managed \$1.8 million budget.

November 1989 **LOCAL TELEVISION HOST, THE POST-STAR HIGH SCHOOL BOWL,**
Local Cable Channel 8, Glens Falls, N.Y.

As managing editor of the region's newspaper, I created and hosted a high school intellectual competition similar to "Jeopardy" that was broadcast on local access cable.

May 1986-
February 1990 **THE POST-STAR – Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editor**
Glens Falls, N.Y.

(Morning newspaper with a circulation of 36,000) Headed newsroom staff of 35. Started Sunday paper, TV listings book, tourist guide books and weekly local business supplement. Also created the Neighbors, Seniors, Hometown and Outdoors pages. Created and managed \$1.1 million budget.

January 1985-
May 1986 **THE ITHACA JOURNAL – City Editor**
Ithaca, N.Y.

(Evening newspaper with a circulation of 21,000.) Supervised 10 reporters. Ten projects under my direction won state AP awards. Helped redesign newspaper and switch it from evening to morning publication.

CONSULTING, TRAINING

May 2009 **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, JOINT PUBLIC AFFAIRS WORK GROUP**
Suffolk, VA

Gave members of all branches of the military and the Secretary of Defense's office background information with which they could write a white paper for the Secretary of Defense on how the military could use more social networking techniques.

April 2009 **INTERNEWS**
Beirut, Lebanon

Trained Lebanese media managers in ways to improve the quality and sustainability of their digital news operations.

March 2009 **NORAD**
Colorado Springs, CO

Briefed members of all branches of the military in the United States, Mexico and Canada on how the military could use more social networking techniques.

March 2009

U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT

Washington, D.C.

Worked with the Consulate in Tshinghua, China, to inform local editors about digital media and social networking techniques.

September 2007

FULBRIGHT PROGRAM AND TSHWANE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Pretoria, South Africa

As a Fulbright Senior Specialist, I helped establish a digital media curriculum at the Tshwane University of Technology in Pretoria, South Africa. I taught students about creating and using digital media.

Summer 2005

FOREIGN SERVICE INSTITUTE

Washington, D.C.

Trained U.S. public information officers and public affairs officers in online journalism and digital media techniques to use in public diplomacy.

May 2005

U.S. EMBASSY IN TUNISIA

Tunis, Tunisia

Trained Tunisian online journalists in ways to improve their news sites. Also moderated discussions about online ethics and media responsibilities.

May 2005

NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Bedford, IN

Trained NAA fellows working on business plan for the Bedford, Ind., Times-Mail, concerning how to attract and keep the 18- 35-year-old audience.

March 2005-
December 2005

EDITORIAL PROJECTS IN EDUCATION – EDWEEK.ORG – Executive Producer

Bethesda, Md.

Directed strategy, planning and operations for edweek.org, the online site of Education Week newspaper and Teacher Magazine, premier K-12 news and policy publications. Was in charge of creating new online products and moving the site from free registration to subscription.

TEACHING

January 1998-
present

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND – Adjunct Journalism Professor

College Park, Md.

Teach electronic editing classes and online news classes.

E-mail: kebbel@knightfoundation.org

Phone: 786-863-5171

Write: 3170 Indiana St., Miami, FL 33133

August 1977-
December 1984

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY – Journalism Instructor

Named one of 10 best teachers in 1,200-member Liberal Arts and Sciences College