

# **William Recktenwald Curriculum Vitae**

## **Educational Background**

Associate of Arts, 1967, College of Du Page, Glen Ellyn, Ill., Lyons Township Campus  
National Writers Workshop, Ft. Lauderdale, 1996, Poynter Institute for Media Studies  
National Writers Workshop, St. Louis, 2000, Poynter Institute for Media Studies  
The Internet for Educators, St. Petersburg, 2000, Poynter Institute  
National Writers Workshop, St. Louis, 2003, Poynter Institute for Media Studies  
National Writers Workshop, St. Louis, 2004, Poynter Institute for Media Studies

## **Academic/ Professional**

July 2007 to present, Senior Lecturer, Journalist-in-Residence, School of Journalism,  
College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, Southern Illinois University  
Carbondale

August 1999 to July 2007, Lecturer, Journalist-in-Residence, School of Journalism,  
College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, Southern Illinois University  
Carbondale

November 1993 to August 1999, Deputy Chicago Bureau Chief, Reporter, Chicago  
Tribune, helped to schedule and deploy a reporting staff of 50 based at Tribune Tower  
March 1978 to November 1993, Reporter, Writer, Chicago Tribune

November 1971 to March 1978, Chief Investigator, Better Government Association,  
supervised an investigative staff of more than a dozen at this civic watchdog group  
working in tandem with news media to expose government waste and corruption

October 1974 to February 1975, Chief Investigator, subcommittee on Long Term Care of  
the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging (on leave from BGA)

January 1967 to November 1971, Investigator, Better Government Association, a  
nonpartisan civic watchdog group, working extensively with news media

October 1962 to November 1966, Investigator, Cook County States Attorney's Office

## **Courses**

At Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Journalism 311, Reporting and News Writing, 27 semesters

Journalism 411, Public Policy Reporting, 8 semesters

Journalism 417, Freelance Feature Writing, 2 semesters

Journalism 419, Specialized Topics Investigative Reporting, 11 semesters

Journalism 410, Multi-Media Project, 6 semesters

Additionally I have been a guest lecturer at Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern  
University; Northwestern University, Doha, Qatar Campus; Loyola University; DePaul

University; Columbia College; University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Concordia College; The Traffic Institute of Northwestern University; Notre Dame and Baylor University;

## **Publications**

### **BOOKS**

'4:56 a.m., The story of the February 29, 2012 Tornado', After an F-4 tornado ripped through two southern Illinois towns, student photojournalists and journalists documented the disaster with photographs and stories. I organized and lead the effort to publish a high quality, 84 page, coffee table book to document the event. The 2,500 copies were sold out in just a few weeks and close to \$20,000 donated to the rebuilding efforts. A total of 22 students and four faculty worked on the project which was published by the SIU School of Journalism in 2012. ISBN 978-0-615-67157-451000.

'The Shawnee Forest, Illinois' hidden gem', Published by the SIU School of Journalism, 2009, 80 pages, photographs and stories about the National Forest, student project, I was the lead member of the four faculty supervisors. ISBN 978-0-615-31396-252500.

'The Illinois Story, The State's History and Competitive Edge Today', Illinois Publishing Group, 2000, 368 pages By Kenan Heise, William Recktenwald and David Young. ISBN 0-9711780-03.

'The American Millstone, An examination of the nation's permanent underclass', Contemporary Books, 1986, 305 pages, a collection of 31 Chicago Tribune stories; I was author of two and a contributor to 14 of the stories. ISBN 0-8092-4931-6.

'Gangs', Chicago Tribune, 1985, 36-page reprint of stories published in the Tribune. By William Recktenwald and Nathaniel Sheppard. The series was a nominated finalist for a Pulitzer Prize for Public Service.

'The Mirage', Random House, 1979, By Zay N. Smith and Pamela Zekman, Consultant to the authors on this true story about a 28-part series published in the Chicago Sun-Times in January 1978. I was key part of the investigative project, which was a nominated finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting; ISBN 0-394-50368-6.

'Growing Old in America', Chicago Tribune, 1979, a 76-page reprint of a 14 part series than ran between Sept. 24 and October 7, 1978. The series was a nominated finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service. The stories were reported by William Gaines, Ray Moseley, William Recktenwald, John Gorman, Jane Fritsch and Tom Powers.

### **PUBLISHED ARTICLES (Selected)**

As a reporter for the Chicago Tribune I produced thousands of published articles; all available for perusal through the Chicago Tribune archives. Listed here are works I feel are noteworthy and reflect the wide variety of assignments covered.

The tuk-tuk, the terrifying and popular way to get around, April 11, 2010, The Southern Illinoisan

Sri Lanka revisited, April 11, 2010, The Southern Illinoisan

A view from abroad, January 21, 2009, The Southern Illinoisan

Flight a stark reminder of true service, January 13, 2009, The Southern Illinoisan  
Sri Lanka: Resplendent, Resilient, June 5, 2005, The Southern Illinoisan  
Sri Lankans Display Resilience, April 17, 2005, St. Louis Post-Dispatch  
Multipronged aid effort in Sri Lanka, April 17, 2005, St. Louis Post-Dispatch  
Brush with death has given couple reason to live, April 17, 2005, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

All of the following were published in the Chicago Tribune:

Face to face with a Tsunami, Jan. 2, 2005

A five part weekly series about the different regions of Illinois and their unique people and cultures, October 28, November 4, 11, 18 and 25, 1999

Michael Jordan shares his day with slain cop, Jan. 14, 1999

Chicago's shame: No. 1 city in murder, Jan. 1, 1999

Spurned as meat, emus retreat to wild, Dec. 27, 1998

River locks open gates to massive repair project, Nov. 26, 1997

Murder linked to 2 others, Miglin case focuses on Minnesota suspect, May 7, 1997

As fire rages, heroes emerge, Jan. 19, 1996

Violence shatters hopes in Cabrini, August 9, 1996

Have hot air will travel in world balloon competition, June 25, 1995

Passing the bar, Coast Guard rescue crews tested at lifeboat school, Dec. 11, 1994

Gang war paralyzes south side, March 30, 1994

Grim look at 1993 homicides, fewer slayings, younger victims, Dec. 30, 1993

Parent of 18 pound 5 year old charged, Nov. 26, 1993, with Douglas Holt

To doctors gun deaths a disease, Nov. 21, 1993

Infants death ruled a homicide, Nov. 11, 1993

Deadly race: more in Illinois died from bullets than car crashes, Nov. 1, 1993

Guns, kids combination gets deadlier, Sept. 15, 1993, with Colin McMahon;

Cup technology aids Mac race contenders, July 15, 1993

Gun puts end to alley dispute, life of boy 14, July 9, 1993,

Mom charged in slaying of girl 2, July 8, 1993,

West side man charged with killing of 13 year old, June 19, 1993

9mm gun now the choice on the street, June 13, 1993

Youths 'tough life' comes to violent end, May 14, 1993

A plethora of air shows headed to Oshkosh b'gosh, May 9, 1993

Mom charged with drowning girl 4, March 31, 1993, with Colin McMahon

Teen lived with death despair, at 14 became another sad statistic, March 20, 1993, with George Papajohn

Study backs use of videotaping in police taping, March 17, 1993

Police growth uphill battle, 2300 hired, net gain 777, Feb. 24, 1993

Frantic fight for life, Feb. 3, 1993

Constant struggle in the trauma unit, Feb. 3, 1993

Gaps in cop manpower reported, Oct. 21, 1991

Fact of life in Chicago, a robbery every 12 minutes, Sept. 25, 1991

Gangs, drugs fuel record killing pace, Aug. 28, 1991

211, the beat where violence rarely rests, Aug. 20, 1991, Tribune, with Robert Blau

Wisconsin firm gives new life to DC-3 legend, July 28, 1991

Statistics attest to fear in the streets, July 19, 1991

America's Cup race to improve technology, April 28, 1991  
Air Museum soars above competition, April 21, 1991  
Chicago police short by 737 officers, Nov. 12, 1990  
Life on south Lowe Avenue, 'Shootings every night,' Sept. 26, 1990  
Newest – and most fragile – way to fly, June 10, 1984  
Chicago's illegal aliens, April 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 1983, with Manuel Galvan, Joseph A. Reeves  
How 12 died in ramp collapse tragedy, April 16, 1982  
Cutbacks could block nursing home reforms, July 22, 1981  
Life and death of inmate N-11447, May 17, 1981  
Boy prisoner of crime he saw, Oct. 14, 1979  
I was a guard in Pontiac Prison, Oct. 29, 1978

## **Presentations**

University of Nairobi, Kenya, Presentation to Students 2012  
Northwestern University, Doha, Qatar Campus, Presentation to Students 2012  
Southern Illinois High School Press Association, Keynote Address 2013  
ACLU Chapter of Southern Illinois Freedom of Speech Panel 2012  
SIUC University Panel on proposals to change hiring practices, 2012 Chair  
SIUC Annual Faculty Lunch, 2011, Presentation  
United Nations Association of Southern Illinois, Keynote Address 2011  
Southern Illinois High School Press Association, Keynote Address 2011  
Saline County Farm Bureau Annual Dinner, 2006, Keynote speaker  
Society of Professional Journalists, National Convention, 2006, Presentation  
Southern Illinois High School Press Association, 2005, Keynote address  
Southern Illinois Editors Association, 2005, Keynote address  
The Tsunami, Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, 2005, Presentation  
Surviving the Tsunami, John A. Logan College, 2005, Presentation  
Southern Illinois High School Press Association, 2003, Keynote address  
Numerous presentations to Lions, Kiwanis, and Rotary clubs, school assemblies, public library groups, hospital volunteer annual dinners, church groups and other philanthropic and volunteer groups on the subjects of reporting, the future of news media and my personal experience in the 2004 tsunami.

## **Review Panels**

I have served on one doctoral dissertation committee, at SIUC  
I have served on three masters committees at SIUC  
Faculty Senate representative Chancellor's ad hoc Hurricane Katrina committee  
School of Journalism, scholarship committee, 2007 to present

Member, The Daily Egyptian Oversight and Policy Committee (SIUC's 20,000 circulation student operated newspaper) 2000 to 2010  
Served as a member of 16 search committees for nine faculty and four staff positions in the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts (CMCMA)  
Served as the elected representative of the term faculty on the Review Committee for the Dean of the CMCMA, 2006  
News Editorial Curriculum Committee, CMCMA, 2005 to 2010  
School of Journalism, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2003

## **Awards and Honors**

Recognition of service as President of the SIUC Faculty and President of the SIUC Faculty Senate for 2011 and 2012  
Inducted to the Chicago Journalism Hall of Fame 2008  
The University Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award 2007, for my work with the student chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists  
Selected as the Outstanding Term Faculty Member for the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, 2005  
Selected as the Outstanding Term Faculty Member for the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, 2002, runner up for the university-wide award  
Chicago Society of Engineers, 1998, award for stories about repairs to the Chicago River lock system  
1994 Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Award, Grand Prize and First Place print, "Killing our children," shared award to staff of the Chicago Tribune  
1985 Illinois AP Editors, First Place, Investigative Reporting of Minority Contractors, Dean Baquet, Douglas Frantz, John McCarron, William Recktenwald  
1985 Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Award, Grand Prize and First Place print, "The American Millstone," shared award to staff of the Chicago Tribune  
1985 Sidney Hillman Award, for the "The American Millstone," shared award  
Peter Lisagor Award, 1984, Public Service Award, for street gang stories  
Public Service Award, Chicago Association of Black Journalists, for street gang stories  
Chicago Tribune 1983 William H. Jones Award for Investigative Reporting, for vote fraud stories  
Chicago Tribune 1978 Edward Scott Beck Award, for "chilling reports of working as a prison guard in Pontiac prison where three guards had been killed earlier"  
1973 Pulitzer Prize for Local News Reporting, was awarded to the Chicago Tribune for reporting on vote fraud, I led the Better Government Associations efforts in tandem with the Tribune and was publicly recognized in a May 8, 1973, story "Honor Roll for a Pulitzer"  
1971 Pulitzer Prize for Local Investigative Reporting, was awarded to William Jones of the Chicago Tribune, for his stories on our experiences with private ambulance companies, the stories were published June 7 through 12, 1970; my role was acknowledged in the stories and in a May 5, 1971, editorial, "Winning a Pulitzer."

## **Professional Affiliations**

Associate member, National Association of Black Journalists  
Member, Investigative Reporters and Editors  
Member, Society of Professional Journalists  
Board Member, United Nations Association of Southern Illinois  
Member, Fulbright Association  
Member International Friends Club, SIUC

## **Professional and Community Service**

Elected as President of the SIUC Faculty Senate for 2011-2012, the first non-tenured faculty to be elect to the post in the history of the University.

Elected to the SIUC Faculty Senate representing the Non-Tenure Track Faculty 2010-2012

International Friends Club, SIUC, 1999 - present

English in Action volunteer, SIUC, 2000 - present

University Housing Associate, 2001 to present

Faculty Coordinator, Kellogg Hall, 2006 to present; oversee an innovative program for a student residence hall for those studying in the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, coordinate activities to enhance the learning experience for students and increase retention

Director, Public Relations Chair, River to River Trail Society, 1999 to present;

Director, Public Relations Chair, Friends of the Harrisburg District Library, 2000- 2003

American Red Cross, Hardin County Disaster Worker

## **Professional Travel Outside the U.S.**

Uganda, 2008 and 2009, Fulbright Specialist, teaching at Makerere University, Kampala and the Kampala and Mbale campuses of Islamic University of Uganda.

Uganda- July 16 to August 4, 2007, Volunteer teaching, Makerere University, Kampala

Uganda March 2 to March 16, 2007, Volunteer teaching, Makerere University,

Environmental Reporting Workshop, Islamic University in Uganda, Mbale lecture, Sub-editors workshop, U.S. Embassy, Kampala

Sri Lanka – December 2006, Reporting for WSIU-TV (PBS station) on tsunami recovery efforts

Kenya – June 8 to June 14, 2006, volunteer teaching to assist State Department grant from Office of Citizen Exchanges. Travel expenses paid by SIUC through grant;

Uganda – June 3 to June 8, 2006, volunteer teaching to assist State Department grant from Office of Citizen Exchanges. Travel expenses paid by SIUC through grant;

Maldives – January 4 to Jan. 6, 2006, U.S. Department of State, distinguished speaker program. Funded by State Department;

Sri Lanka – January 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 2006, U.S. Department of State, distinguished speaker program, several training sessions and public speeches, Funded by State Department;

Sri Lanka – March 11 to March 22, 2005, Follow-up reporting, WSIU radio, (NPR), WSIU-TV, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the Southern Illinoisan, tsunami recovery, partially funded by SIUC

Nepal, Sri Lanka, India, to Dec. 30, 2002 to Jan. 12, 2003, volunteer teaching to assist State Department grant from Office of Citizen Exchanges. Travel expenses paid by SIUC though grant.

Tanzania, June 21 to July 2, 2002, volunteer teaching to assist State Department grant from Office of Citizen Exchanges. Travel expenses paid by SIUC though grant.