**DEBORAH B. DERRICK, M.A.**

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**PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION**

**M.A. University of Nebraska—Omaha, School of Communication (2003).**

Specialization: Technical and scientific communication, literary journalism. 3.93 GPA.

**B.A. Drake University, School of Public and Business Administration (1981).**

Also completed 12 hours toward a doctoral degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**SELF-EMPLOYED—OMAHA**

**Freelance Grant Writer and Academic Editor (2022—Present)**

Write, edit, and consult with academic and non-profit institutions submitting federal, foundation, and government grants. Clients and funders include Children’s Hospital Los Angeles/USC (NIH, FDA, EDA, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grants), Congressional Partners (Virginia State University, NSF grant), and Cathedral Arts Project (Immanuel Vision Foundation, Nebraska Arts Council, Douglas County grants).

**UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA—OMAHA**

**Grant Writer and Manager, College of Information Science & Technology (2006—2021)**

Developed and managed pre-award and proposal development processes to grow the research enterprise of the College. Served in a lead, senior-level role and as subject matter expert on matters related to sponsored research program administration in accordance with university and sponsor policies. The College’s Grants Office is a centralized resource for faculty and students, complementing the services/functions provided by institutional research and grants accounting offices. Wrote and edited internal and external proposals for research and outreach/STEM projects. Managed $15-$16 million in active grant awards, over 140 annual proposal submissions, and grant tracking and reporting functions. Edited scholarly journal articles, research reports, and other documents. Advised faculty on funding sources, agency guidelines, and proposal submission procedures. Worked with proposal teams to conceptualize and develop strategies to improve proposal competitiveness. Researched funding sources, awards, and publication databases. *Key accomplishment: Led and supported unparalleled growth in research funding including multiple NSF awards and $36.5M Department of Homeland Security research center.*

**Grants Coordinator, Office of Sponsored Programs and Research (2005-2006)**

Coordinated production, submission, and management of external and internal proposals for $14 million institutional research program. Led multidisciplinary teams of investigators in proposal preparation activities. Advised faculty on funding sources, agency guidelines, and proposal submission procedures. Insured compliance with proposal guidelines and university policies and procedures. Developed and reviewed agreements with subcontractors and collaborators. Developed web pages, reports, and newsletters. Provided training on grants and research management to faculty. *Key accomplishment:* Started web-based series of faculty researcher profiles to increase the visibility of UNO research activities.

**UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN**

**Technical Writer and Editor, College of Engineering (2002 – 2005)**

*Proposal Development Activities:* Worked with faculty, administrators, research associates, staff, and external partners to develop competitive grant proposals to federal, state, and private sponsors. Researched and wrote major sections of proposals (e.g., literature reviews) for education proposals. Prepared comprehensive reports and executive summaries incorporating complex technical information for faculty researchers. Identified funding opportunities. Coordinated proposal writing, editing, and submission with PIs and institutional research offices. *Key accomplishments include the following grant awards:*

* *Silicon Prairie Initiative on Robotics in IT (SPIRIT), National Science Foundation ITEST program, UNL/UNO/Omaha Public Schools’ collaboration, $1.2 million.*
* *CEEN Program of Excellence Enhancement Request, UNL Office of Academic Affairs, $125,000.*
* *Vertical Integration of the TekBot Learning Platform into Computer and Electronics Engineering Programs, National Science Foundation, CCLI program, $199,825.*
* *Better Representation through Integrating and Developing New Generations of Engineers, National Science Foundation STEP, UNL/Nebraska community college collaboration, $2 million [not funded; resubmitted and funded in 2006].*

*Technical Editing and Teaching Activities:* Edited scholarly journal articles, research reports, technical manuals and other technical documents written by faculty and research associates. Developed and presented technical writing seminars to graduate engineering and computer science students.

**Communications Specialist, Office of the Dean, College of Engineering (1998 – 2002)**

Editor, principal writer, and production manager of full-color college alumni magazine (circulation 18,000). Wrote, edited, and designed publications, brochures, reports, news releases and other communications pieces. Developed and produced quarterly online research newsletter. Edited scholarly journal articles, technical manuals, proposals and research reports for faculty and researchers. Edited and produced college recruitment materials. Created and produced PowerPoint and other multimedia presentations. *Key accomplishment: Upgraded alumni publication from a two-color newsletter to a full-color award-winning magazine. Under my leadership, the magazine was recognized for publication excellence by the University’s Chancellor, the Public Relations Society of America, and the Society for Technical Communication.*

**Communications Specialist, Center for Infrastructure Research, College of Engineering (1992 – 1997)**

Managed the communications, technology transfer and administrative activities of a dynamic cross-campus multi-disciplinary research center serving more than 30 faculty in six departments on the Lincoln and Omaha campuses. Wrote and edited reports and brochures. Designed and supervised production of Web pages. Wrote and placed articles in national and local magazines and newspapers. Edited scholarly journal articles, research reports, and dissertations. Planned and coordinated national conferences, technology transfer workshops and educational seminars. Developed multimedia presentations for academic conferences, meetings, and trade shows. Provided grant writing assistance to faculty. Assisted Director in administration of center and liaison with faculty, staff, students, and private/public sector research partners. Supervised staff of 3 and provided oversight to 7-8 graduate students. *Key accomplishments:* *Managed rapid growth in research activity from 40 to 190 funded projects totaling $6 million. Worked with Federal Highway Administration and Nebraska Department of Roads personnel to plan and execute a three-day international conference with 200 attendees. Organized several technology transfer workshops and developed technology transfer publication series.*

**UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER, OMAHA, NEBRASKA**

**Administrator, College of Pharmacy (1990 – 1992)**

Prepared and monitored $2.5 million college budget and handled financial management activities. Planned and coordinated college scholastic convocations and special events. Assisted faculty in preparation of grant proposals to the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Education, and other sponsors, and resolved grant accounting problems. Maintained and processed personnel and payroll records. Assisted with preparation of college annual report. Compiled statistical information on curricula and research activities. Supervised administrative staff of 7. Represented college on numerous campus-wide committees.

**WELLS ENGINEERS, INC., OMAHA, NEBRASKA [firm not in business]**

**Marketing Coordinator and Assistant to the President (1985 – 1990)**

Wrote and edited technical marketing proposals and brochures. Designed and implemented marketing database system. Handled corporation and engineers’ licensing and professional certifications. Performed data collection and analysis for industrial engineering projects under contract with First Data Resources, City of Omaha, Westside Schools, and other clients. Supervised administrative staff of 3. Key accomplishments: Designed, programmed, and implemented a customized computer system (using a relational database) for cost accounting, accounts receivable, billing and project management for the firm’s five offices. This software replaced an outdated $100,000 legacy system.

**Additional 10 years’ experience in planning and grants management for $7-8 million U.S. Department of Labor and Department of Justice grants programs in Syracuse, New York and Des Moines, Iowa.**

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

* University of Nebraska—Omaha Employee of the Month, December 2017.
* Marquis *Who’s Who in America*, 2011-2019 editions.
* Most Valuable Editor Inaugural Award, *SRAI Journal of Research Administration*, 2017.
* Nominated for Nebraska First Lady’s Outstanding Community Service Award, 2010.
* Marquis Who’s Who of American Women, 2006-2007 edition.
* Excellence in Technical Publications (with others), Society for Technical Communication, 2003.
* First-place award, research in communications, Nebraska Press Women, 2003.
* Second-place award, feature writing, Nebraska Press Women, 2003.
* Honorable mention, special articles/science and environment, Nebraska Press Women, 2003.
* Paper Anvil Award of Excellence, *Contacts* magazine, Public Relations Society of America, Nebraska chapter, 2002.
* First-place award, magazine editing, Nebraska Press Women, 2002.
* Second-place award, feature story (personality profile), Nebraska Press Women, 2002.
* Second-place award, headline writing, Nebraska Press Women, 2001.
* Third-place award, feature writing, Nebraska Press Women, 2001.
* Second-place award, website design, National Federation of Press Women, 1999 (first-place award in state contest).
* Honorable mention, 1 to 3-color magazine, National Federation of Press Women, 1999 (first-place award in state contest).
* Second-place award, feature writing, Nebraska Press Women, 1999.
* Managerial/Professional Employee Service Award, College of Engineering, 1998.
* Education grant (one of two selected nationwide), National Federation of Press Women, 1998.
* Education mini grant (competitive), Nebraska Press Women, 1998.
* Marquis Who’s Who in the Midwest, 1997-98 and 1996-97 editions.
* First-place award, feature writing, Nebraska Press Women, 1996.
* First-place award, column writing, Nebraska Press Women, 1996
* Third-place award, press release, Nebraska Press Women, 1996.
* Third-place award, 2-color newsletter, Nebraska Press Women, 1996.
* Jim Raglin Media Award, American Cancer Society, Nebraska Division, 1995.
* Best Feature Story, UNO *Gateway* newspaper, 1995.

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Harrod, C., Derrick, D., & Cuhel-Schuckers, A. (2016). A First Look: JRA’s Author Fellowship Program. *Journal of Research Administration* 47(1), 17-19. (I co-developed this program and served on the program committee.)

Derrick, D. (2016). Building Institutional Research Capacity: Challenges and Opportunities. Women in Educational Leadership Conference, Lincoln, NE, October 10.

Derrick, Deborah, “Loren C. Eiseley: Modern Shaman,” *Prairie Fire*, Vol. 1, No. 2, August 2007.

Derrick, Deborah, “Championing Science and Engineering Research in Nebraska,” *Nebraska Magazine*, UNL Alumni Association, Winter 2004, p. 38.

Derrick, Deb, “Extreme Engineering,” *Engineering@Nebraska* Magazine, UNL College of Engineering, Fall 2003.

Gay, Roxanne and Derrick, Deb, “On the Surface of Things,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Summer 2003, p. 12-13.

Bartling, Kelly and Derrick, Deb, “ITS Partnering Pays Off,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Spring 2003, p. 12-15.

Derrick, Deb, “Engineering is Music to Her Ears,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Spring 2003, p. 17.

Derrick, Deb, “From UNL to the Pentagon,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Spring 2003, p. 28.

Derrick, Deb, “The Global Grid,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Fall 2002, p. 16-21.

Derrick, Deb, “Embracing Uncertainty,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Spring 2002, p. 18-23.

Derrick, Deb, “Bridging Cultures,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Spring 2002, p. 12-13.

Derrick, Deborah, “The Magnificent Scarab,” *Nebraska Magazine*, Nebraska Alumni Association, Winter 2001.

Derrick, Deb, “In a State of Flux,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Fall 2001, p. 14-15.

Derrick, Deb, “Assembly Required,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Spring 2001, p. 16-19.

Derrick, Deb, “Engineering a Career in Medicine,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Winter 2001, p. 14-17.

Derrick, Deb, “Building Smarter Tools: Researchers Fuse Geospatial Data in Decision Support,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering & Technology, Summer 2000, p. 16-19.

Beacham, Mike and Deborah Derrick, “Longer Bridge Spans with Nebraska’s NU I-Girders,” *TR News*, Transportation Research Board, National Research Council, Number 202, May-June 1999, p. 42-43.

Derrick, Deb, “Mapping Loren Eiseley: A Bone Hunter’s Geography,” presented at the Nebraska Literature Festival, Wayne State College, Wayne, Nebraska, September 19, 1998 (also published in *Plains Song Review*, 1999).

Derrick, Deb, “Composite A-frame pedestrian bridge,” *Bridge Builder*, Group III Communications, June-July 1998, p. 12-13.

Derrick, Deborah, “Fox Fur on the Wire: Loren Eiseley’s Shadow Soul,” *The Caravan*, Vol. 12, No. 1, p. 9-13 (also presented at the Nebraska Literature Festival, Kearney, Nebraska, Fall 2004).

Derrick, Deborah, “Journey to Rosebud,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Winter 1997-98, p. 6-10.

Kamel, Mounir R. and Derrick, Deb, “A precast alternative for bridge slabs,” *Concrete International*, American Concrete Institute, August 1997.

Derrick, Deborah, “High-performance concrete: a continuing success,” submitted to *Public Roads* published by Federal Highway Administration, Spring 1997 (incorporated into article on high-performance materials).

Derrick, Deb, “UNL engineers develop fast, economical bridge system,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering & Technology, Fall 1996, p. 11.

Derrick, Deb, “Bonding broken bridges,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Spring 1996, p. 12-13.

Derrick, Deb, “Biofilms: Zhang stretches potential of tiny organisms,” *Water Current*, UNL Water Center/Environmental Programs, February 1996, p. 5.

Derrick, Deb, “Pollution prevention is good business,” *Contacts*, UNL College of Engineering, Summer 1995, p. 8-9 and 17.

Derrick, Deb, “Composite foot bridge to be first of its kind in U.S.,” *Roads and Bridges*, Scranton-Gillette Communications, April and May 1994 issues, p. 36-37.

**TEACHING AND TRAINING EXPERIENCE**

Presenter, grant writing, scholarly writing, and proposal seeking workshops. College of Information Science & Technology, University of Nebraska—Omaha, 2009-2020. Developed and presented workshops on finding grant opportunities, grant writing, and scholarly writing for students, faculty, and college advisory board.

Instructor, Technical writing for researchers and graduate students, College of Engineering, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2002-2004. Developed and taught special topics course on academic writing and grant writing to MS and PhD students in computer engineering, computer science, and architectural engineering.

Lecturer, Society of American Military Engineers Student Mentoring Program, 2006 and 2007. Developed and team-taught technical writing workshops for junior high- and high school students.

**EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE**

Editorial Board Member, Journal of Research Administration, Society of Research Administrators International (2013—2021).

Editor, Charity Channel Press, “In the Trenches” imprint books (2012—Present). Served as Manuscript/Copy Editor for *Strategic Grantsmanship: It’s Time to Raise Your Game* (2015) and *Prepare for the GPC Exam* (2016).

Editor, *The Loren Eiseley Reader Teacher’s Guide*, Abbatia Press. Preview guide published February 2015.

Editor (with others), *Bridge Design Manual* published by the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (1997).

Editor/principal writer, *Contacts* magazine, College of Engineering, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (1998-2002).

Assistant Editor, *Contacts* magazine, College of Engineering, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (1996-1998).

Editorial Board Member and Copy Editor, *Plains Song Review*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2005-2007).

Contributing Editor, *Plains Song Review*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2000.

Editor, *FOCUS on Infrastructure Research*, technical publication series published by the College of Engineering, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (1993-1996).

**CONSULTING AND FREELANCE**

* Proposal development manager, University of Nebraska-Omaha College of IS&T (part-time), 2023—present.
* Grant writer, Congressional Partners, Washington, D.C., 2023—present.
* Senior consultant, Tom Chapman Associates (formerly Creative Biotech) contracting firm, Melbourne, Florida, 2009—present. Provide grant writing, editing, and consulting to physicians, clinicians, and hospital administrators for NIH, FDA, EDA, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and other proposals. Clients include Children’s Hospital Los Angeles/USC.
* Grant writer, Addiction Wellness Services, Rockport, Illinois, 2021—2022. Prepared and submitted SUPR block grant funding applications to the Illinois Department of Human Services.
* Grant writer (volunteer), Cathedral Arts Project, Omaha, Nebraska, 2022—present. Write grant proposals to local foundations and state agencies to support program activities.
* Technical editor, University of Oklahoma, Mechanical/Aerospace Engineering, 2010—Present.
* Technical editor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Engineering, 2006—2010.
* Technical editor, eConstruct LLC, Omaha, 2014—2015, 2019—2020.
* Grant writer (volunteer), Loren Eiseley Society, 2007—2010 (grant proposals funded by the Nebraska Humanities Council, Peter Kiewit Foundation, and Oregon Trail Community Foundation).
* Grant researcher, Thompson, Dreesen & Dorner, Inc. Consulting Engineers, Omaha, Nebraska, 2009.
* Grant reviewer, Nebraska Arts Council, 2009.
* Grant reviewer, Compassion Institute of the Midlands (DHHS grant), 2008.
* Writer and Editor, 2008 Annual Report, Nebraska EPSCoR.
* Freelance writer for UNL Alumni Association, *Lincoln Journal-Star*, UNO *Gateway* newspaper, *Women’s Edition* magazine and other publications.

**SELECTED GRANTS**

Principal Investigator, NASA Nebraska/Nebraska EPSCoR, Travel Mini-Grant, 2007-2008, $2,500.

Co-Principal Investigator (with Connie Jones), Nebraska EPSCoR, “Native Indian Centered Pre-College Program in Information Technology,” 2008-2009, $2,500.

Grant Writer and Director (with Dr. Bing Chen), “Loren Eiseley Reader and Curriculum Project,” funded by the Peter Kiewit Foundation and private donors, 2009-2014, $30,000 plus $70k in-kind contributions.

Grant Writer and Project Director, “Loren Eiseley Centennial,” funded by the Nebraska Humanities Council, 2007-2008, $1,500.

**SELECTED PROFESSIONAL AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

Society of Research Administrators International (SRAI), 2013—2021.

Journal of Research Administration Editorial Board Member, 2013—2021.

Founding member, JRA Author Fellowship Committee

National Organization of Research Development Professionals, 2010—2014.

Grant Professionals Association (formerly AAGP) Member, 2007-2010 and 2022—present.

Peer Reviewer, *AAGP Journal*, 2007 – 2010.

Treasurer, Nebraska Chapter, 2008 – 2010.

The Loren Eiseley Society Board of Directors, 1998—2010.

Loren Eiseley Centennial Director, Lincoln, Nebraska, September 7-8, 2007.

National Federation of Press Women, 1996-2005.

Board Member, Nebraska Press Women, 1999-2000.

Society for Technical Communication, 2002—2005.

MESA (Math/Engineering/Science Achievement) Advisory Committee, 1993—2004,

American Society of Civil Engineers, Future City Competition Steering Committee, 1994-1996.