

BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

Edward J. Sylvester
Walter Cronkite School of Journalism & Mass Communication
Arizona State University

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Arizona State University, 555 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85004 Phone: 602-496-4210

EDUCATION

1974 MA, Creative Writing, City College of New York (Now City University of New York)
1971-72 Member of Joseph Heller's fiction workshop, CCNY
1965 AB, Philosophy, Princeton University

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

1992 - present Professor of Journalism, Arizona State University

MAJOR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1979-80 County government reporter, *Los Angeles Times*, San Diego County Edition
1978-79 General assignment reporter, *Los Angeles Times*, San Diego County Edition
1975-78 Arizona correspondent, *The Wall Street Journal*
1976-78 Reporter, *The Arizona Daily Star*

MILITARY EXPERIENCE

1965-67 U.S. Army Information Specialist, 24th Infantry Division, Augsburg, Federal Republic of Germany.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Breeding Bio Insecurity: How U.S. Biodefense is Exporting Fear, Globalizing Risk, and Making Us All Less Secure, by Lynn C. Klotz and Edward J. Sylvester, University of Chicago Press, 2009.

Back From The Brink: How Crises Spur Doctors To New Discoveries About The Brain, by Edward J. Sylvester, Dana Press and University of Chicago Press, 2004.

The Healing Blade: A Tale of Neurosurgery, *The Healing Blade: A Tale of Neurosurgery*, by Edward J. Sylvester, Simon & Schuster, 1993; Updated Edition, Beck Press, 1997.

Target: Cancer, by Edward J. Sylvester, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1986.

The Gene Age: Genetic Engineering and the Next Industrial Revolution, by Edward J. Sylvester and Lynn C. Klotz, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1983; Revised, 1986; Japanese edition, 1984.

Peer Reviewed Articles

Evaluation of Stigmatizing Language and Medical Errors in Neurology Coverage by US Newspapers, Joseph J. Caspermeier, M.S.; Edward J. Sylvester, MA; Joseph F. Drazkowski, MD; George L. Watson, Ph.D; Joseph I. Sirven, MD, *Mayo Clinical Proceedings* 2006;81:300-306.

Articles in Professional Press

"Biohazard: Why U.S. bioterror research is more dangerous than bioterrorism," invited article in *Foreign Policy Online*, Oct. 14, 2009, with Dr. Lynn C. Klotz.

"Fire and Flood: The Brain in Crisis," by Edward J. Sylvester *Cerebrum*, Vol. 5, No. 4, Fall 2003.

"Black Gold or Green?" by Edward J. Sylvester and Lynn C. Klotz, *USA Today* Op-Ed, Feb. 1, 2000.

"Man in the Middle," by Edward J. Sylvester, *USA Today* Op-Ed, Sept. 11, 1999.

"The Boy Who Beat the Odds," by Edward J. Sylvester, *Ladies Home Journal*, January, 1990.

Other Professional Publication:

Huffington Post (All with Dr. Lynn C. Klotz)

"Dangerous Acquaintances: The risks of working with H5N1 flu virus," Nov. 27, 2011, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/edward-j-sylvester/dangerous-aquaintance_b_1115600.html

"One Bug, One Drug: Boston University's March To Irrelevance," May 1, 2010, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-lynn-c-klotz/one-bug-one-drug-boston-u_b_559855.html

"Trust But Verify? Not This Time: For Biological Security, Transparency Is Best Policy," April 19, 2010), http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-lynn-c-klotz/trust-but-verify-not-this_b_543520.html

"Crying Wolf: The Terrorist Crop-Duster," April 14, 2010, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-lynn-c-klotz/crying-wolf-the-terrorist_b_538204.html

Book Reviews:

Lasso The Wind, by Timothy Egan, *The New York Times*. October 23, 1998.

The Girl Who Died Twice: Every Patient's Nightmare, The Libby Zion Case, by Natalie Robins. The New York Times. Dec. 19, 1995

Do No Harm, by Lisa Belkin. The New York Times, Feb. 9, 1993.

About 2,000 news and feature stories in ten newspapers and weekend magazines over an 18-year period, including many series, in-depth reports and magazine pieces freelanced or published as a staff writer. Major writing activities include:

Peer Reviewed Presentations

Brain Stains: A Study of Accuracy and Stigmatizing Language in Neurology Coverage by 10 US Newspapers, Joseph J. Caspermeier, Arizona State University; Edward J. Sylvester, Arizona State University; Dr. Joseph I. Sirven, The Mayo Clinic Scottsdale; Dr. Joseph F. Drazkowski, The Mayo Clinic Scottsdale; Dr. George L. Watson, Arizona State University. Poster Presentation at the American Academy of Neurology annual conference, Miami, Fla, April 12, 2005. Acceptance rate for presentations is 31 percent.

Invited Presentations

"A Medical Writer's View of Hospital Issues," presentation and workshop for Emerging Leaders workshop sponsored by the Arizona Hospital and Health Care Association, March 31, 2011.

Bringing Understanding of Biosecurity to Public Audiences via Professional Journalists, Lynn C. Klotz, Ph.D; Robert Sprinkle, MD/Ph.D; Edward J. Sylvester, MA. Invited presentation to the Association for Politics and Life Sciences annual conference, Washington, DC, Sept. 1, 2005.

SELECTED GRANTS & SEMINARS

- 2003 Director, *Covering Public Health Crises*, conference sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and hosted by Pennsylvania State University and the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association in Harrisburg for Pennsylvania editors and reporters, Oct. 14, 2003.
- 2003 Director, *Improving Our Health Care Coverage*, conference sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and hosted by the College of Communications, Pennsylvania State University, for regional health writers, held April 7-8, 2003.
- 1995 Professor Publishing award from The Freedom Forum. \$5,000 grant to produce articles or a book on emerging infectious diseases.
- 1993 Co-Director with Dr. William Lewis, vice-provost for Information Technology, of Spectrum of the Internet, a seminar for Arizona Managing Editors about the Internet, co-sponsored by IT and the Cronkite School

1990-1992 Co-Director/Principal Investigator of The Freedom Forum Seminar in Electronic Newsgathering. Co-Director/Principal Investigator of The Freedom Forum Seminar in Electronic Newsgathering. Grants of \$60,000, \$54,000, \$42,500 in each year.

TEACHING AND INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Courses Created and Taught

Science & Medical Writing, 1999 – present.

SERVICE

Public

Breeding Bio Insecurity,” public presentation with Dr. Lynn C. Klotz at Must See Mondays sponsored by the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Feb. 22, 2010.

Presenter / Moderator, *Give Your Brain A Fitness Break.* Co-sponsored by the Walter Cronkite School and Barrow Neurological Institute at St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center. Working with medical illustrators at BNI, developed an animated Powerpoint program to guide the public audience through the intricacies of brain structure that relate to stroke. Acted as guide/moderator for BNI Drs. Joseph Zabramski, a neurosurgeon, and Christina Kwasnica, a neuro physiatrist, as they explained stroke prevention, treatment and rehabilitation. The program has now been presented twice:

- Arizona Science Center, Friday evening program, Feb. 3, 2006. Science Center hosts reported double the usual attendance for this program, and evaluations from attendees almost unanimously requested repeat or related performances.
- ASU Downtown Center “Brownbag” event, Nov. 30, 2004. This program has been produced by adjunct professionals of the School as a stand-alone, online presentation that can be accessed by the public from the Cronkite Science Journalism Program website.

Sparks of Discovery: From Lab Bench to Patient’s Bed ... And Back. Co-Sponsored by the Columbia University Summer Science Teachers Program and Dana Press. Developed Powerpoint program presented to the science teachers workshop, Aug. 9, 2004. I guided Drs. Marek Mirski and Stephan Mayer, directors of the neuro intensive care units at Johns Hopkins and Columbia, respectively, in an hour-long program aimed at providing 30 participating Metro New York high school science teachers with insights and discussion points into translational research, as it’s seen in a large teaching hospital. The program was videotaped so teachers could use the presentation in classes.

“Medical Ignorance,” March 5-6 and July 16-17, 2004. Invited participant. Conferences sponsored by the Arizona College of Medicine, directed by Dr. Marlys Witte, M.D. The conferences were for Arizona middle- and high-school science teachers, aimed at encouraging scientific and medical questioning by professionals and students. Conducted one of four work groups examining faulty crisis information and acted as a discussant on the subject.

Invited Address: "Back From The Brink." Address to Johns Hopkins Medicine Town Hall meeting, May 16, 2004.

"Visualizing as Science and Art," Invited presentation at the multi-university "Digibodies: The Human Body in A Digital Age," Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Nov. 22, 2000. Co-presenter with Dr. Jeremy Squire, Ontario Cancer Institute, at the Ontario College of Art and Design.

University

Member, Faculty advisory committee for the Origins Project, 2008 – present
Member, University Advisory Committee on Promotion and Tenure, 2004-2006
Chair, University Advisory Committee on Promotion and Tenure, 1998-1999
Member, University Advisory Committee on Promotion and Tenure, 1997-2000

HONORS

Academic

- 1995 Fellow, American Society of Newspaper Editors Knight Institute for Journalism Excellence.
- 1994 Wakonse Fellow. National program to improve teaching in U.S. universities.
- 1991 Recipient of Burlington Resources Foundation Faculty Achievement Award for Teaching Excellence.

Professional

- 1986 Nominated for Pulitzer Prize, general non-fiction, by Charles Scribner's Sons for Target: Cancer.
- 1983 Nominated for Pulitzer Prize, general non-fiction, by Charles Scribner's Sons for The Gene Age.
- 1977 Finalist, Alicia Patterson national journalism award, for "Indians' Threatened Reservations."
- 1977 Nominated for Pulitzer Prize, feature writing, by The Arizona Daily Star for "Papago Indians: At Home in the Desert." (Headed reporting team.)

MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication,
 SciGroup (Science Communication Interest Group)
National Association of Science Writers

Association of Health Care Journalists

Investigative Reporters and Editors

American Association for the Advancement of Science

Princeton University Alumni Association

Schools Committee, Princeton University Alumni Association of Northern Arizona

City College of New York Alumni Association