

Véronique C. LaCapra  
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## COMMUNICATIONS EXPERIENCE

### **Special assistant to the VP of Advancement, WHOI, Woods Hole, Mass. (2018–present)**

- Serve as information proxy and thought partner for WHOI Vice President Sam Harp
- Provide senior-level writing, editing, quality control, and project management for Advancement, Communications, and Development initiatives, events, and content (print, web, social media, and multimedia)
- Host WHOI's popular weekly Ocean Encounters online event series (audience 1,000+), and assist with other events and engagement activities for a broad range of audiences
- Produce an original, soon-to-be-launched podcast highlighting the work of WHOI scientists, engineers, and staff
- Promote diversity, equity, and inclusion at WHOI. I chaired the WHOI Women's Committee (2018–2019), am an active member of Gays, Lesbians, and Others in Woods Hole (GLOW), and serve on WHOI's Committee for Diversity & Inclusion (CDI) as co-chair of messaging and implementation. I act as a liaison between the CDI and WHOI Communications and provide content oversight from a DEI perspective for Communications, Development, and WHOI leadership

### **Science writer & editor, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Mass. (2016–2018)**

- Wrote articles and took photos for WHOI's marine science and technology magazine, *Oceanus*
- Wrote and produced content for WHOI's website, including articles, photos, audio, and video
- Edited the articles, press releases, and other writing of WHOI communications staff and scientists
- Accompanied WHOI scientists and engineers on ocean research cruises and other field work to conduct interviews, take photos, and write about their work
- Supported WHOI scientists in developing presentations, articles, and other projects

### **Science, environment, and health reporter, St. Louis Public Radio, Saint Louis, Mo. (2010–2016)**

- Reported, wrote, voiced, and produced radio features and news reports about science, the environment, health, agriculture, technology, and other subjects, using Adobe Audition audio editing software
- Regularly reported for national public radio programs, most often through the NPR science desk
- Wrote and produced content for the station website, including articles, audio segments, and photos
- Edited the work of other reporters and interns
- Used social media (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn) to disseminate my work and find sources
- Participated as a co-host and panelist on St. Louis Public Radio's live call-in talk show
- Represented the station as a host, featured speaker, and panelist at live events

### **Reporter, NPR science desk, Washington, D.C. (full-time temporary, 12/2012–1/2013)**

- Reported on science research, the environment, and health for a national radio and online audience, using MTE audio editing software

### **Reporter, Voice of America, Washington, D.C. (part-time freelance, 2007–2009)**

- Reported on health, the environment, and other topics of interest to VOA's developing-country radio and online audience, using Dalet audio editing software

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Pesticide regulator (GS-13), U.S. EPA, Arlington, Va. (2000-2010)**

- Regulated pesticides in order to mitigate their risks to people, wildlife, and the environment
- Explained complex scientific and regulatory concepts to stakeholders and the general public
- Provided leadership to other staff by reviewing and editing their written work, leading teams and workgroups, and serving as a mentor to junior staff members
- Represented my office nationally and in developing countries, leading discussions, giving presentations, and developing written training materials on pesticide issues

### **Volunteer project assistant, Anglican HIV&AIDS Office, Cape Town, South Africa (2005)**

- Conducted phone interviews in Portuguese with parish leaders in Angola about their HIV/AIDS-related projects, as part of a larger effort to collect and make available HIV/AIDS information from all the Anglican parishes in Southern Africa
- Worked with a native speaker of Portuguese to help translate an HIV/AIDS workshop facilitator's manual into Portuguese, in order to make the manual available to Portuguese-speaking dioceses in Angola and Mozambique

### **Researcher, Environmental Defense Fund, Oakland, Calif., and Brazil (1998-2000)**

- Conducted over forty interviews in Portuguese with representatives of government agencies, research institutions, businesses, and non-governmental agencies involved in the regulation or operation of tourism in the Pantanal
- Produced the first comprehensive analysis of tourism as a component of sustainable development in the Pantanal, published as a report in English and Portuguese and distributed in the U.S. and Brazil: LaCapra, V.C., Moore, D., and Melack, J.M. 2000. *How Much is Too Much? An Analysis of Tourism as a Component of Sustainable Development in the Pantanal Wetland of Brazil.*

### **Doctoral researcher, University of California, Santa Barbara, Calif., and Brazil (1994-2000)**

- Contributed data to the then-limited body of research on the aquatic biogeochemical effects of biomass burning in wetland ecosystems
- Carried out two years of field work in the Pantanal wetland of Brazil, analyzing the chemistry of floodplain waters in burned and unburned areas of lowland cattle ranches
- Collaborated with Brazilian researchers and staff at the Center for Agricultural Research in the Pantanal, a Brazilian federal agency
- Served as a research and teaching assistant at UCSB
- Dissertation (2000): *The Biogeochemistry of Floodplain Waters in Burned and Unburned Areas of the Pantanal Wetland of Brazil.*
- Additional publication: LaCapra, V.C., Melack, J.M., Gastil, M., and Valeriano, D. 1996. Remote Sensing of Foliar Chemistry of Inundated Rice with Imaging Spectrometry. *Remote Sensing of Environment.*

## EDUCATION

PhD in biogeochemistry (wetland ecosystem ecology), University of California, Santa Barbara, Calif.  
BA in biology, environmental policy. College Scholar. *Summa cum laude*, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.  
French civilization courses. Certificate, *mention bien*. The Sorbonne, Paris, France  
Duke Center for Documentary Studies workshops in audio documentary production  
Foreign languages: fluent in French, proficient in Portuguese, basic knowledge of Spanish