



The Path to Your Journalism  
Career Starts Here

\$1,950 Stipend

# 2003 NEWS REPORTING & WRITING FELLOWSHIP FOR COLLEGE GRADUATES

JUNE 6 - JULY 18, 2003 • ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

Poynter. \_\_\_\_\_



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The Poynter Institute maintains admission policies that do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, disability, or sexual orientation. The Institute collects information concerning race, color, sex, and national origin to facilitate compliance with Titles VI and IX of the U.S. Civil Rights Act.

## THE POYNTER INSTITUTE

The Poynter Institute is a school for journalists, future journalists, and teachers of journalists. No matter what their job title may be, journalists come to Poynter in a search for excellence. Our resident and visiting faculty provide concentrated instruction and personal support in that quest. We tailor our programs to serve specific audiences, but all share the same approach. Poynter prides itself on a style of teaching and learning that helps shape every seminar, every conference, every course, into a "Poynter Experience."

We keep seminars small, which means you get lots of individual attention. We emphasize a hands-on approach, so you may participate in brainstorming sessions, case studies, discussions, role-playing, and other exercises to get you involved in your own learning.

Our resident faculty includes scholars, distinguished professionals, and master teachers who bring special expertise to every session. Each seminar includes visiting faculty, accomplished professionals who leave their jobs to help teach, and who spend time with you inside and outside the classroom.

We want our students to leave Poynter better prepared to produce quality journalism, so that readers, viewers, and listeners can make better-informed decisions. We want you to be equipped

with new tools to handle the challenges of producing authoritative, responsible, and creative news reports, programs, and publications, and with new ways of thinking about the work you do. Here's what we hope you might gain from your time at Poynter:

- The courage to take risks and to do your best.
- A higher sense of self-esteem, new confidence in your craft, and a workbench full of new tools and ideas.
- A recognition of the value of diversity in the newsroom and in life.
- The vocabulary to describe what you do and why, and what you stand for.
- A new network of people who support you in your work.
- A clear picture of the special role of journalism in a democracy.
- An understanding that your life's work is valuable and that you can make a difference.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Poynter Institute is a school dedicated to teaching and inspiring journalists and media leaders. It promotes excellence and integrity in the practice of craft and in the practical leadership of successful businesses. It stands for a journalism that informs citizens and enlightens public discourse. It carries forward Nelson Poynter's belief in the value of independent journalism.

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The Poynter Institute • A School for Journalists  
801 Third St. S. • St. Petersburg, FL 33701 • Phone: (727) 821-9494 • Fax: (727) 456-2366  
[www.poynter.org](http://www.poynter.org)

View work from last summer's fellowship students at <http://www.pointssouth.net>

IF YOU SEE A FUTURE IN JOURNALISM FOR YOURSELF, HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO TAKE PART IN A TRULY UNIQUE SUMMER OF LEARNING, GROWTH, AND UNPARALLELED OPPORTUNITY AS A POYNTER NEWS REPORTING & WRITING FELLOW.

**(Applications must be received by November 15, 2002)**

Sixteen college graduates will be selected to participate in our 2003 Fellowship Program, which runs from **June 6-July 18, 2003**. Tuition is waived and travel and living expenses are offset by a \$1,950 fellowship.

We're looking for the best graduates in the arts and sciences and journalism who will become leaders in tomorrow's newsrooms. We want people who can write with clarity and flair, who have the education and insight to understand the world they report on, who recognize the important role our profession plays as a public service, and who have great ambition to succeed in life. Because Poynter is committed to diversity in the newsroom, we encourage the application of women and minority candidates.

Applying for this program might be your first step toward a career in journalism. Many of our students never have taken a journalism course and have little or no experience in journalism. Others have written for their college newspapers, had newspaper internships, or free-lanced for newspapers. No matter their level of experience, all were talented beginners who showed great promise.

You'll spend six weeks in St. Petersburg on Florida's Gulf Coast, and you'll learn to gather information and originate stories on your own community beat. You'll get a chance to advance your story ideas to professional editors. And throughout the program, you'll receive constructive coaching and feedback.

We emphasize solid, aggressive reporting, clear and graceful writing, reporting in a diverse community, and careful training in ethical decision-making. We stress basic skills, but keep an eye on the future by exposing you to computer-assisted reporting and new media. We also discuss graphics, libel, and what we call "managing up," or how to work effectively with editors.

During your time at Poynter, we'll push you to write every day, reporting stories assigned in a typical newsroom. You'll spend much of the summer in the field and regularly face the demands of beats and deadlines.

You'll collaborate throughout the six weeks with students in our Visual Journalism fellowship program on Points South.net, an interactive web-based publication that explores journalism through written and visual storytelling.

And at the end of the program, we teach you how to get — and keep — a job in journalism by bringing in top editors to interview you.

The program is directed by Keith Woods, editor of the *Best Newspaper Writing* series who spent 16 years as a reporter, editor, and columnist; and Christine Martin, a former reporter and newspaper writing coach who is dean of the journalism school at West Virginia University. Martin was named Freedom Forum Journalism Teacher of the Year in 1999. The staff draws from Poynter's own faculty of experienced journalists and teachers, including Institute Dean Karen Dunlap,



Reporting & Writing Fellow Timothy Sturrock from the University of Minnesota (center) and Visual Journalism Fellow Beth Nabi from the University of Florida talk with a St. Pete Beach resident as they get acquainted with their beat for the 2002 summer program. Students in the two parallel fellowship programs collaborate to produce a web-based publication.

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Senior Scholar Roy Peter Clark, and Senior Faculty/Writing Christopher Scanlan. Other instructors include visiting journalists and journalism teachers.

This program has been an important stepping stone for many of today's best journalists, among them Ceci Connolly, who covers national politics for *The Washington Post*; and *New York Times* reporter Jason DeParle, named by *Brill's Content* as one of the 25 most influential people in the media. Other graduates of the summer program have gone on to jobs at Reuters News Service, *Baltimore Sun*, *Warsaw Voice* (Poland), *Sports Illustrated*, *TV Guide*, KIVI-TV, Boise, *The Wall Street Journal* Interactive Edition, Fox-5 Atlanta, *The Palm Beach Post*, and the *Charleston Daily Mail*.

The program is both demanding and challenging, but promises to reward you with a valuable experience that will pay off time and again throughout your career.

Opportunities like this don't come along every day, so take the next step by completing an application.



In the last week of the six-week summer college fellowship programs, media recruiters from around the country interview the students for internships and entry-level positions. Cynthia Daniels from Spelman College is hoping her interviews will lead to a job.

## Application for News Reporting & Writing Fellowship for College Graduates JUNE 6-JULY 18, 2003

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 15, 2002**

Please type or print legibly. Mail all application materials to the address above for receipt before November 15, 2002. Keep a copy of this application for your own files. Refer to the back of this application form for additional application requirements and guidance on preparing your application materials.

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Nickname, If Any \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Campus Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Home or Permanent Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Notification will be made in early January 2003. Where should we contact you about your application?  Campus Address  Home Address

The Poynter Institute maintains admission policies that do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, disability, or sexual orientation. The Institute collects information concerning race, color, sex, and national origin to facilitate compliance with Titles VI and IX of the U.S. Civil Rights Act.

**Gender:**  Male  Female

**Race/Ethnicity (choose all that apply):**  American Indian or Alaska Native  Asian  Hispanic or Latino  Other  Black or African American  Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander  White

Are you a U.S. citizen?  Yes  No Nation of Citizenship (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

### EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

School	Location	Dates Attended	Major & Degree
College			
College			
Graduate			

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You do  do not plan to seek full-time employment as a journalist immediately after completing this program. If not, what are your plans?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

To what professional organizations/associations do you belong? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your level of computer experience:  None  Beginner  Intermediate  Expert

Which of these software programs do you know how to use without assistance (check all that apply)?  Word Processing  Internet/Online Sources

(other) \_\_\_\_\_

Community or civic projects; other information: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about this fellowship program?  Brochure  Poynter website  Professor  Former student  Other \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that all materials submitted are my own and that all statements made on all application materials are truthful and accurate. I also certify that I am aware of all requirements of the program.

\_\_\_\_\_

(Signature)

# How to Apply for the 2003 News Reporting & Writing Fellowship for College Graduates

**If you are a college student** who will graduate in Spring 2003 or a recent graduate of a journalism or liberal arts program, you are eligible to apply for this fellowship. Sixteen students will be selected. Women and members of racial and ethnic minority groups are encouraged to apply.

The program runs from **June 6 through July 18, 2003**. If accepted, **you will receive a \$1,950 stipend** to help cover your living expenses during the program.

In this six-week program, you'll learn to originate stories in a town you barely know, to sell stories to editors, and to gather and convey information in a hurry. You'll receive constant coaching and feedback. We emphasize basic skills but keep an eye on the future by exposing you to computer-assisted reporting and new media. We will also discuss graphics, libel, diversity, ethics, and what we call "managing up," or how to work effectively with editors. At the end, we teach you how to get — and keep — a job in journalism by bringing in top editors to interview our graduates. The program will be demanding and challenging, but rewarding.

You will collaborate throughout the six weeks with students in our Visual Journalism fellowship program on an interactive web-based publication that explores journalism through written and visual storytelling. You should thoroughly review the Poynter website for a typical course schedule, list of instructors, and projects from Summer 2002.

<http://www.pointssouth.net>

**All application materials must be received in St. Petersburg by NOV. 15, 2002.** No exceptions or extensions will be allowed.

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## Application materials:

1. Complete the application information on the reverse side of this sheet. (Note: make a copy of both sides for your records.)
2. Two letters of recommendation, in sealed envelopes, from instructors who know your work well. You may also wish to send one additional letter from a news industry professional or employer.
3. A written essay of 500 words stating your best case for wanting to attend this program and why you want a career in journalism.
4. An official copy of your most current grade transcript.
5. Four to six samples of your news writing, or nonfiction writing if you lack news experience.
6. Send all materials in one package to the address on the front of this form.

## A few other things you should know:

**Fellowships:** The Institute waives tuition for this program. Successful candidates receive a \$1,950 fellowship to help cover travel and living expenses while attending the program.

**Transportation and Accommodations:** We strongly encourage you to have a car. It is important in carrying out your reporting assignments in the community. Poynter pays for hotel rooms for a limited number of nights while students arrange local housing.

**Travel Documents:** Please note that Poynter cannot assist foreign students with passports, visas, or other documentation required for travel to the United States.

**Academic Credit:** The Poynter Institute is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of the Council on Occupational Education, but is not a degree-granting institution. Universities have granted undergraduate or graduate credit for our programs. Our staff can provide specific information and assistance, but in most cases, participants must make prior arrangements to receive credit with their college or university.

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