

## CHRISTOPHER B. RITCHIE

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### Employment history

**PENN STATE UNIVERSITY**, College of Communications. Beginning Fall 2001 semester to present. Senior Lecturer, teaching courses in Beginning News Reporting and Writing, Advanced Feature Writing, News Copy Editing and News Media Ethics.

- Promoted to senior lecturer in May 2006.
- Named COMM 260W coordinator in Fall 2009, serving as department liaison with all adjunct and staff teaching the course.
- Awarded Dean's Excellence Award for Teaching in Spring 2010.
- Instructor in Dow Jones Newspaper Fund copy editing "boot camp" at Penn State since 2005.
- Staff instructor of university's summer Institute for High School Journalists and served as faculty adviser to campus chapter of Society of Professional Journalists.
- Member – Society of Professional Journalists.

**TIMES LEADER**, seven-day morning newspaper in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., one of only about a half-dozen U.S. cities with separately-owned, competing dailies.

- **Development Editor** (August 1996-June 30, 2001) One of two managing editors responsible for daily operations of the newsroom, overseeing staff of 80 full-timers, plus several dozen stringers. Direct report to editor in chief and member of newspaper's editorial board. Primarily responsible for recruitment, staff development, long-term projects and budgeting newsprint use. Interim editorial page editor.
- **Assistant managing editor/features** (August 1994-summer 1996) Supervise 12-person staff, responsible for production of seven different feature sections each week; daily entertainment, television and community news pages; weekly TV Book; and special sections. (Also responsible for daily business pages and Sunday Money section until the creation of three-person business department in 1995).
- **Features editor** (July 1989-August 1994) Supervise eight-person staff; responsible for weekly feature sections and daily entertainment/TV pages.
- **Night assistant city editor** (December 1987-July 1989) Edit staff stories and direct coverage of breaking news on deadline.
- **Continue part-time** as copy editor to augment university classroom experience.

**THE MIDDLESEX NEWS**, suburban Boston daily in Framingham, Mass.

- **Rewrite desk chief** (April 1987-December 1987) Supervise three-person rewrite (copy) desk, editing all staff-written stories on deadline.
- **Layout editor** (October 1986-April 1987) Design three zoned local news sections nightly.

**DELAWARE STATE NEWS**, state capital daily in Dover, Del.

**Features editor** (February 1985-October 1986) Supervise three-person staff, responsible for six weekly feature sections plus fill-in city editor.

**OCEANA**, weekly newspaper in highly-competitive resort market of Ocean City, Md.

**Managing editor** (September 1982-February 1985) Supervise staff/stringers; report, write and edit news, features and reviews.

## **Publishing and Academia**

- **Author of** “It Comes from Within: The Frank Pettit Story,” a biography of a Lionel toy train innovator (1999) and “The O Gauge Primer,” a how-to book for model railroaders (revised and expanded 2000 edition). Myron J. Biggar Group, publisher.
- **Published freelance** magazine articles and photography in Susquehanna Life magazine, O Gauge Railroading, Classic Toy Trains, Trains, LGB Telegram and other train-related publications.
- **Adjunct journalism** instructor, Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 1996-97.
- **Guest lecturer** of the Knight Foundation’s Newspaper-in-Residence Program. Penn State University, main campus, fall 1999.

## **Miscellany**

- **Bachelor’s degree**, Shippensburg (Pa.) State College, 1981. Communications/journalism major, with English minor.
- **Married**, with two school-age children.
- **An “obsession”** (my wife’s word) with classic Volkswagens and trains of all sizes.
- **Once managed** a store that sold nothing but kites.
- **Completed** two 26-mile marathons; dedicated daily distance runner.
- **Earned Eagle** rank, the highest in the Boy Scouts of America.