

ROSSILYNNE SKENA

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JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Trib Total Media | Southwestern Pa.

Reporter, Valley News Dispatch

May 2010-present

- Writing general assignment news and feature stories focusing on the Alle-Kiski Valley, the region northeast of Pittsburgh, Pa., while also covering Butler County government, two school districts and six municipalities in Butler and Armstrong Counties.
- Providing issues-based coverage of education, Marcellus shale drilling and local government.
- Employing database journalism to cover Census trends and to contribute to a statewide AP project.

Reporting Intern, Stringer, Valley News Dispatch

May-Aug. 2008, May-June 2009

- Wrote more than 40 articles, including news, features and long-form pieces.

Intern, Gateway Newspapers

May 2006-Aug. 2006

- Covered community news for Penn-Trafford Star and Murrys ville Star, weeklies east of Pittsburgh.

The Daily Collegian | State College, Pa.

Editor-in-chief

May 2009-May 2010

- Managed the 200-member news division of Penn State's independent, student-run daily newspaper with a circulation of about 20,000.
- Oversaw the newspaper from ideas to final product; held responsibility for all content.
- Worked with Board of Editors on staff initiatives like Web site and reporting improvements.
- Debuted Collegian social media accounts; trained editors to use social media to break news.
- Led Board of Opinion, supervising and editing editorial content.
- Served as a voting member on the Collegian's Board of Directors and as a member of the Collegian's management team.

Investigative team leader

Jan. 2009-March 2009

Metro Editor, Campus Editor

Sept. 2007-Dec. 2008

- Managed and trained reporters; assigned and edited stories. Coordinated coverage of Election 2008, of a downtown riot and of Penn State's Dance Marathon.

Reporter

Sept. 2006-Aug. 2007

EDUCATION

Class of 2010

The Pennsylvania State University

University Park, Pa.

- Journalism major, Women's Studies major. 3.62 GPA; Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society.

Class of 2006

Penn-Trafford High School

Harrison City, Pa.

- High honors. Editor-in-chief of high school newspaper, The Warrior.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Spring 2011: Pennsylvania's Emerging Journalist, by Pennsylvania Newspaper Association; Golden Quill awards for health/medical reporting and for science/technology reporting among daily newspapers of less than 45,000 circulation, by the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania.

Spring 2009: Katey Lehman Creative Writing Award in Journalism.

VOLUNTEER WORK

- Serving as a voting member of The Daily Collegian Alumni Interest Group, *Aug. 2011-present.*
- Volunteered as a counselor at Penn State's Institute for High School Journalists, *summer 2007.*