# Gary L. Atkins Associate Professor of Communication

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#### General Assignment Reporter/Intern, The Washington Post, Summer 1970

As a reporting intern, I covered numerous features and news stories in the Washington D.C. area and researched and wrote an in-depth article about the struggle of the elderly to retain their houses in the face of rising assessments and taxes.

#### Freelance Writer, 1967-present

Articles for a variety of periodicals, including: The Nation, Chicago Tribune Magazine, New Orleans Times-Picayune Dixie Magazine, New Times, Seattle Times Pacific Magazine, and New Orleans Review.

positions in Seattle and in Portland. I also served as chair of the gay-lesbian program, charged with oversight of the Seattle-based program.

#### People of Color Against AIDS Network, Seattle (1985-88)

ay-lesbian program, I worked with community organizers and volunteers to prepare the grant proposals and organizational structure needed to involve people of color in Seattle in AIDS education and prevention. This helped established the People of Color Against AIDS Network (POCAAN) as an independent organization. POCAAN secured government and private funding sufficient to hire numerous organizers who could work with ethnic and racial minorities.

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Gay-Lesbian Youth Program, Seattle (1988-1990)

-lesbian program, I worked with community organizers and volunteers to establish a citywide gay-lesbian youth program, including a new gay-lesbian youth center (now called Lambert House). I chaired meetings to design the program, wrote the block-grant proposal that secured city funding, testified before the City Council, and oversaw the creation of a media component that included paid internships for at-risk gay and lesbian youth.

## Publications: Books

#### Gay Seattle: Stories of Exile and Belonging,

#### University of Washington Press, 2003

Covering the century from 1893 until 1993, this is the first book to trace the struggle of gays and lesbians in Seattle to establish a public voice. The book describes and analyzes

# research material, case studies of individuals who played important roles, and analyses of the communication challenges that gays and lesb

a political voice ..

Winner: 2004 Washington State Book Award Winner: 2004 American Jesuit Colleges and Universities Jesuit Book Award Received; Seattle University College of Arts & Sciences "Outstanding Scholarship Award" for 2003

Reporting with Understanding,

lowa State University Press, 1987

I co-authored this book with William L. Rivers of Stanford University to educate public

#### (2,000-7,500 words)

<u>"Colville's Million-Dollar Mountain" Seattle Times Pacific Magazine, August 30, 1981</u> Environmental and social issues raised by plans to locate a molybdenum mine on a Northwest Indian reservation. Joint student/faculty project which also produced a special

Local Nation Faces Third Worl

from the Washington Press Association for the Best Investigative Reporting by a Weekly Newspaper.

<u>" The Death and Dying of Dewayne Baker"</u> Seattle Times Pacific Magazine, July 12, 1981

Profile of 22-year-old man fighting against leukemia. Article won second place award for Best Personality Story of the Year from Sigma Delta Chi, Western Washington Chapter.

"Desert Rats" Riverside Press-Enterprise, November 16, 1978

Profile of colorful, long-time California desert residents who were being moved aside to make room for tourists

" 100 Years of News" Riverside Press-Enterprise, June 29, 1978

<u>"Pollution Solution: Nice Clean Coal" Riverside Press-Enterprise, October 2, 1978</u> 5-part investigative series on the impact of energy developments in the California desert

" Wilderness: The Coming Struggle" Riverside Press-Enterprise, April 30, 1978

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#### areas in the California Desert

<u>"Destruction: The Heritage of Recreation"</u> Riverside Press-Enterprise, March 19, 1978 Research story on environmental impacts of recreation and tourism in the California desert

" The California Desert: Into the 1980s" Riverside Press-Enterprise, February 12, 1978

<u>"Hotels of the Poor: Frail Shelters" Riverside Press-Enterprise, January 22, 1978</u> Lives of elderly pensioners and transients living in run-down hotels in the California desert

"The Great Burro Roundup" Riverside Press-Enterprise, September 25, 1977

Environmental impacts from burros and wild horses in the California desert. Article won Twin Counties Press Club award for Best Environmental Story

<u>*"And Then To Dream" Riverside Press-Enterprise, July 24, 1977*</u> **Profile of environmentalist Harry James, 82, and his life in early Southern California** 

<u>"Angry Miners"</u> Riverside Press-Enterprise, May 17, 1977 Profile of miners in the California desert and investigation of environmental effects

" The Jukebox Operators" Riverside Press-Enterprise, March 20, 1977

Profile of father-son team who maintained jukeboxes in out-of-the-way desert cafes. Article won Twin Counties Press Club award for Best Feature Story of the Year.

#### (2,000-7,500 words)

<u>"Dusty Lonely Life of a Desert Ranger"</u> Riverside Press-Enterprise, February 13, 1977 Profile of the first California desert park rangers hired by the Bureau of Land <u>"Family's Golden Dream Grew to Nightmare"</u> Riverside Press-Enterprise, May 15, 1975

Investigation of the murder conviction of an impoverished Hispanic family; research supported defense argument that the family was innocent and the conviction was

Enterprise, November 22, 1975). Initial investigative article won Twin Counties Press Club award for Best Feature Story of the Year.

### (2,000-7,500 words)

<u>"Appalling Conditions at Juvenile Homes," Riverside Press-Enterprise, February 16, 1975</u>

Investigation of conditions at institutional homes for juveniles

<u>"Critics Attack Agricultural Research Goals</u>" <u>Riverside Press-Enterprise, March 18,</u> <u>1973</u> Investigation of university agricultural research ties to California agribusiness

<u>" Rough Road to Recovery</u>" <u>Riverside Press-Enterprise</u>, <u>December 17</u>, 1972 Feature on those in an addiction program at state hospital

<u>" Beep...Alpha Machine...at Work" Riverside Press-Enterprise, November 26, 1972</u> Feature on the alpha wave biofeedback craze and the medical science behind it (2,000-

<u>" Miners vs Rangers" Riverside Press-Enterprise, May 22, 1977</u> Feature on violent conflicts between miners and U.S. park rangers in California

<u>" Tiny Water Company Huge Headache"</u> Riverside Press-Enterprise, February 27, 1977 Feature on concerns about safety of a water system in small desert town of Mesa Verde Gary L. Atkins

<u>" Socialism" Riverside Press-Enterpise, October 1, 1972</u> Review of Michael Harrington book

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# Recent Presentations/Reviews

**1)** Public lectures, readings and conference presentations about *Gay Seattle: Stories* of *Exile and Belonging* 

- a) University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, 5/16/03
- b) Bailey/Coy Bookstore, Seattle, 5/27/03
- c) Barnes & Noble Bookstore, Bellevue, 5/29/03
- d) By the Way Bookstore, Vashon Island, 5/30/03
- e) University Bookstore, Seattle, 6/10/03
- f) Elliott Bay Book Company, Seattle, 6/16/03
- g) Radical Women forum, Seattle, 6/19/03
- h) Starbucks Diversity Forum, Seattle, 6/24/03
- i) Third Place Books, Seattle, 6/25/03
- j) Barnes & Noble Bookstore, Seattle, 6/26/03
- k) Seattle University Academic Salons presentation, 10/15/03
- I)

d) Lesbian
e)
f) American Historians, Spring 2004
g)

Summer 2004

# **Education**

<u>Master of Arts, Communication, Stanford University, Stanford (Ca.) 1972</u> Thesis focus: Development of the idea of objectivity in journalism. Courses: feature writing, mass media and politics, political philosophy.

<u>Bachelor of Arts, Journalism, Loyola University, New Orleans, (La.) 1971</u> Magna cum laude. Focused course work on Journalism and Political Science.

Post-graduate Courses and Major Workshops:

-- Institute of Theological Studies, Seattle University, Seattle (Wa.) 1985-86.

#### Additional University Service

*Chair, Department of Communication, Seattle University, 1991-1999 Chair, Department of Journalism, Seattle University, 1981-1988* 

#### Student adviser, 1981-present

Throughout my years at Seattle University I have been either the primary or one of the primary student advisers for the department. When I became chair of the journalism department in 1981, I began advising all 35creation of the Communication Department, I have consistently advised 50-75 majors each year. Of my service responsibilities, this is the most important one and the one that regularly consumes most of my time.

#### Departmental committees, 1981-present

I have regularly participated in or lead all department meetings. This includes leading five successful faculty searches as chair and participating in a sixth successful search (as well as either leading or participating in three faculty searches in which hires were not made).

Urban Journalism Program

<u>Field volunteer, Lightning Brother research, Australia, August, 1991</u> Worked with elders of the Wardaman band of Aboriginals and archeologists attempting to gain knowledge of the Garnawala fertility site in a remote outback location in the