

Position Description

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Division of University Relations

Title: Research Editor

Position Summary:

This is a professional position that serves as the lead science, health and research communicator in News Services.

Reporting to the Director of News Services, the research editor will report, write and/or pitch compelling news stories while also coordinating with other campus communicators representing units conducting research to maximize coverage on a broad scale (both traditional and new media).

Other priorities include fostering excellent working relationships with leading scientific journals as well as the nation's top health, science and research journalists.

Close and creative collaboration required with colleagues in the Office of University Relations and communicators in the University's schools (including the health sciences), the College of Arts and Sciences, centers and institutes, research-focused administrative units and the UNC Health Care System.

Considerable work with senior campus administrators, faculty and staff required.

Principal Functions:

1. Identifying, reporting, pitching and otherwise showcasing the strongest research stories that best exemplify the excellence of Carolina faculty and student researchers and best illustrate the University's position as a leading research institution. Achieving that objective will involve activities including managing research news flow to maximize coverage, in close coordination with News Services and campus colleagues. Aggressively pitching international, national, regional and state science journalists and other media representatives as news opportunities become available. Providing leadership on set-up and execution of

- research- and science-related public events, and advice to units with similar opportunities.
2. Advising on strategic communication and outreach opportunities to promote and market research news -- from health and the hard sciences to humanities and other areas -- and national and international research topics, as well as faculty experts.
 3. Producing and coordinating content showcasing campus research efforts in support of publications and Web sites serving the University. Helping advance and direct Web and other new media initiatives in News Services and University Relations.
 4. Participating fully as a member of News Services professional staff to include staffing some University events, attending occasional campus and division-wide meetings and handling of on-call duty in rotation with office colleagues. Also assists in coordinating work of student interns. Other duties as assigned. Some travel required.

Education Requirements:

A bachelor's degree, preferably with a major in journalism or English; a master's degree is preferred.

Qualification & Experience Requirements:

- Superior communications skills written and oral.
- At least five years of experience in science or research communications. Such experience at a major research university or academic health center is a plus.
- A proven track record in science or research writing, preferably on topics spanning a wide variety of disciplines.
- Ability to manage multiple priorities and ever-shifting deadlines.
- Experience in the coordination of science and research news at a major research university or academic health center.

- Success translating technical materials for broader audiences; demonstrated ability to write and communicate on deadline about complex topics in laymen's terms.
- Experience managing projects and working with scientists of varied backgrounds.
- Ability to be a productive team-oriented participant for media relations, outreach and marketing projects.

Salary:

Compensation and benefits are competitive depending on experience.

Applying:

Please apply online at

<https://s4.its.unc.edu/RAMS4/details.do?reqId=1000441&type=N>.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Inquiries should be directed to:

Research Editor

Attn: Lisa Waldeck, Human Resources Manager

University Advancement

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

208 W. Franklin St., CB #6100

Chapel Hill, NC 27599-6100

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Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is an equal opportunity employer.