

## DEBORAH LEIGH BLUM

*Deborah Blum is a Pulitzer Prizewinning science writer and has been a professor of journalism at the University of Wisconsin-Madison since 1997. She is the author of Love at Goon Park: Harry Harlow and the Science of Affection, which is a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize and was named a 2002 best book of the year by Publisher's Weekly, Library Journal, Discover magazine and NPR's Science Friday. Her latest book, Ghost Hunters: William James and Scientific Search for Life after Death, will be published by Penguin in August 2006. Her previous books are Sex on the Brain, a 1997 New York Times Notable Book, and The Monkey Wars, a 1994 Library Journal Best Sci-Tech Book. She is also co-editor of a Field Guide for Science Writers. She worked for a series of newspapers before becoming a science reporter for The Sacramento Bee, where she won the Pulitzer in 1992. She continued with the Bee until moving to Madison. She has also written for The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Los Angeles Times, Discover, Psychology Today, Life, Health, The Utne Reader, Mother Jones and discovery.com. She has appeared as a guest on The Today show, Good Morning America, and NPR's Talk of the Nation and Morning Edition. She serves on the board of the Council for Advance of Science Writing, on the program committee of the World Federation of Science Journalists and on the Board of Life Sciences of the National Research Council. She is a past-president of the National Association of Science Writers and of the AAAS Committee on Public Understanding of Science and Technology.*

### **ADDRESS: (office) School of Journalism and Mass Communication**

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Madison, Wisconsin 53706  
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**BORN:** October 19, 1954

Urbana, Illinois

### **EDUCATION:**

1972-76 University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, double-minor in anthropology and political science;  
Magna cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Mortar Board

1981-82 University of Wisconsin, Madison

Masters of Arts in Journalism  
UW-Fellow, Poynter Foundation fellow,  
Outdoors Writers of America fellow

### ***PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:***

1997 - Professor of Journalism, University of Wisconsin-Madison

1984-97 Science writer, The Sacramento Bee, Sacramento, California.

1979-81 General assignment reporter (city hall, police, education), The St. Petersburg Times, St. Petersburg, Florida

1982-84 Science writer, The Fresno Bee, Fresno, California.

1977-79 General assignment reporter (police, courts, education), The Macon Telegraph, Macon, Georgia

1976-77 General assignment reporter (police, fire, parks and recreation, religion), The Times, Gainesville, Georgia.

**Books:** Ghost Hunters: William James and the Scientific Search for Life After Death, The Penguin Press, August 2006

Love at Goon Park, (Perseus Books), October 2002; paperback (Berkely) 2004.

Sex on the Brain (Viking) 1997; Penguin paperback, 1998.

A Field Guide for Science Writers, co-editor (Oxford University Press) 1997;  
Paperback, 1998

The Monkey Wars (Oxford University Press) 1994; paperback, 1995.

Other publications:

2006: "Putting Faith in Science, On Wisconsin, Summer issue

2005: "Solving for XX", The Boston Globe, Ideas section, February 6, 2005

"Why don't men ever get it?," Los Angeles Times, Opinion Section, February 26

2004 – Love at Goon Park (paperback), Berkely, New York, February; "Counting Crows", Los Angeles Times opinion section, June 28.

2003 – "From Space, It's Earth that Beckons," Opinion section, Los Angeles Times, February 9; "Love Lessons", Science & Spirit, March-April; "The Dark Magic of

Depleted Uranium Bullets,” Opinion section, Los Angeles Times, June 1; “Pods, Packs and Prides,” Science & Spirit, September-October.

2002: “Reproductive Wrongs,” Opinion section, Los Angeles Times, May 12; “Killer Bees Move North”, Opinion Section, Los Angeles Times, July 14, Investigative Science Writing, The Nieman Reports, Fall 2002, “Young Brains Shaped by Abuse,” Opinion section, Los Angeles Times, October 6.

2001: “Folkman’s War: A Scientist’s Fight to be Heard,” book review, Minneapolis Star-Tribune, February 7, E-1; “Friendship Matters,” Muse magazine, pp. 8-17, April; “Is Our Fate Written in the Length of Our Fingers?”, Opinion section, Los Angeles Times, July 8.

2000: nerve.com, Testosterone debated: With Anne Fausto Sterling, Brown University, June 2000; discovery.com, Animal Social Complexity and Intelligence, August 22-25, 2000; Be Well/Family Circle, "Sex and Health," September 18, 2000; book review, "A Biography of Water," Minneapolis Star-Tribune, September 10, 2000.

1999: “Attention Deficit”, Mother Jones, January-February 1999; “Daycare Counts,” Mother Jones, March-April 1999; Review of Natalie Angier’s “Woman”, Minneapolis Star-Tribune, April 25, 1999; “Boy? Girl? How Hormones Determine Your Behavior”, Life, July 1999 cover story; “Resilient Woman,” More magazine, October 1999; “The Bully Factor,” Parents, November 1999; “Forced to Choose” (an essay on influence of books), American Scientist, November-December 1999 “Pick of the Literati,” Minneapolis Star Tribune, December 26, 1999.

Contributed book chapter: “Reporting on the Changing Science of Human Behavior,” pp. 155-166, in “Communicating Uncertainty,” Friedman, Dunwoody, Rogers, Erlbaum, Associates, NJ., 1999

1998: Review of Jeremy Rifkin’s “The Biotech Century”, in The New York Times Book Review; March 22, 1998, p. 34; “A man’s body - his hormones count too”, Be Well/Family Circle, Spring 1998, p. 12; “What Made Troy Gay”, Health magazine, April 1998, pp. 82-86; “Finding Strength: How to Overcome Anything”, “Tabloid Science,” Madison magazine, May 1998, pp. 19-20; Psychology Today, May-June 1998; “The Gender Blur, the Utne Reader, September-October 1998; “Reading Faces,” Psychology Today, October 1998;

1997: “On the Wings of Dopamine”, Psychology Today, August-September issue; review of Roger Fouts “Next of Kin”, in the New York Times Book Review, October 12, 1997; opinion piece, “The Subtler Side of Testosterone,” The Washington Post, October 19, 1997, p. C-3

1996 Op-ed piece, “Could We Be Importing the Ebola Virus?” The New York Times, April 20, 1996

1993-1995: “Nuclear Detectives”, Discover magazine, February 1994; book review of Natalie Angier’s “Beauty of the Beastly”, The Baltimore Sun, June 25, 1995; “The Monkey Wars” anthologized in The New Science Journalists, edited by Ted Anton and Rick McCourt, Ballantine Books, New York, 1995

1988-92 Two chapters, “Voyage Through the Universe” series, Time-Life Books; article on Earthquake Hazards, California Journal; article on superconductivity, The Scientist.

**HONORS AND AWARDS:**

2003 – Love At Goon Park winner of The Banta Award for literary achievement; Wisconsin Library Association; named a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize and a best book of the year by Publisher's Weekly, Library Journal, Discover magazine and NPR's Science Friday.

1997-1998: Sex on the Brain named a New York Times Notable Book and an Outstanding Achievement Book by the Wisconsin Library Association.

1996 National Award for Non-Deadline Reporting, Society of Professional Journalists; first place, feature writing, Central Valley Society of Professional Journalists; best series, second place, Best of the West, for a series on behavioral biology.

1994-1995: The Monkey Wars named a Best Sci-Tech book by Library Journal. Outstanding Alumni Award, Henry W. Grady School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Georgia.

1992-93 Pulitzer Prize, beat reporting for a series on primate research; Clarion Award, national reporting; AAAS-Westinghouse Science Writing Award for Large Newspapers; Central California Hospital Association Award; regional Sigma Delta Chi Award, President's Award, Society for Neuroscience; first place, environment and natural resources reporting, Best of the West; C. Everett Koop Media Award from the American Heart Association, California division; Ralph O. Nafziger Award, for achievement to a recent graduate of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Sacramento YWCA Woman of the Year in Science and Technology.

1988-89 First place, news feature writing, Central Valley Society of Professional Journalists; First place, feature writing, Central Valley Society of Professional Journalists; Best of the West, second place, series on prenatal development. Sacramento YWCA Woman of the Year in Communications.

1986-87 National Reporting Award, the Livingston Foundation; the Olive Branch Award, New York University; investigative reporting, Associate Press/California-Nevada for a series on nuclear weapons; honorable mention, best series on protection of natural resources, The Press Club of San Francisco.

1984-85 UPI-California-Nevada, best series, second place; Associated Press, California-Nevada for investigative reporting; awards from the American Leukemia Association, American Heart Association, American Diabetes Association, for a series on chronic disease.

1982-84 Central Valley Sigma Delta Chi, first place, feature writing. Honorable mention, Thomas L. Stokes Award for environmental writing.

1976-79 Georgia UPI awards, papers under 20,000: first place feature writing; second place, news writing; third place, photography. Georgia Education Association; School Bell Award for education writing. IRE citation for investigative reporting.

***SPEECHES, SEMINARS AND INSTRUCTION:***

2006: Honors biology presentations, University of Georgia, Athens, Ga. Feb. 27-28; Research Showcase panel, “Misinterpreting Science”, Case Western University, Cleveland, April 6; “After Dover: moderator, panel on teaching evolution, Florida State University, Tallahassee, May 16; June 18-22, Creative Non-Fiction, Southeastern Writers Association workshop, St. Simon’s Island, Georgia

2005: “Sex on the Brain”, Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, Canada, March 24  
“Interpreting Medical Statistics”, California Health Journalism Project, La Jolla, California, August 6-8,  
“Love at Goon Park”, young investigators retreat, National Institute of Mental Health, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, September 23-25  
“Love at Goon Park”, California Health Journalism Project, October 22-23, Los Angeles  
Moderator, Creative Non-Fiction Workshop, National Association of Science Writers, October 23<sup>rd</sup>-25, Pittsburg, PA.  
“Narrative Journalism” panel, World Science Forum, Budapest, Hungary, November 6-10

2004:

Conversations in Science (lecture for K-12 science teachers organized by Bassam Shakashiri), January 25

“Love at the Library” lecture series, Madison Public Library, February 25

“Sex on the Brain”, UW-Fox Valley, March 15

“Frontiers in Science” lecture, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL, March 25

“Love at Goon Park”, keynote, American Primatological Society, June 11, Madison, WI

“Covering Controversy,” American Society of Museums and Technological Institutes, September 27, San Jose, California

“Selling Longer Stories (newspapers to books), World Federation of Science Journalists, October 4, Montreal, Canada

2003

“Narrative Non-fiction” panel, National Association of Science Writers national meeting, Denver, Colorado, Feb. 13

cv 6

“Hype! The Greatest Symposium Ever”, American Association for Advancement of Science, national meeting, Denver, Colorado, Feb. 13

Biology Career Day, University of Arizona, Tucson, March 9

PRIM&R (Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research) national meeting, San Diego, California, March 31

Distinguished Journalist Lecture Series, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, April 10

Perinatal Mood Disorder symposium, keynote speech, June 10, 2003, Madison, Wisconsin

ATTACH conference, keynote speech, September 29, 2003, Pittsburgh, PA

2002

“Teaching science writing,” panel, National Association of Science Writers national meeting, Boston, Mass., Feb. 13

“Sex on the Brain,” Eve’s Seed symposium, Millsap College, Jackson, Ms, March 5

“Behind the scenes with Harry Harlow,” Animal Behavior Symposium, University of Wisconsin, April 12

“Top of the Bench to Above the Fold: How Science Becomes News,” First Annual International Bioethics Forum, Madison, WI, April 26

Pediatric Grand Rounds, University of Wisconsin Medical Center, Madison, WI, October 10.

“Love at Goon Park,” Department of Psychology, University of Virginia, November 6.

“Love at Goon Park,” Department of Psychology, University of California-Davis, Nov. 19.

“Harry Harlow and the Science of Affection,” Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center, Nov. 25.

2001

“Writing Biographies” panel, National Association of Science Writers national meeting, Berkeley, California, February 15

“Science and the Media” panel, American Association for Advancement of Science, San Francisco, CA, February 17

University of Georgia Library colloquium, Sex on the Brain, March 13

Santa Fe Science Writer’s Workshop, organized by George Johnson and Sandy Blakeslee, Santa Fe, New Mexico, June 16-21

University of Wisconsin, “Women and Learning Lecture Series,” talk on “The Nature of Love” for friends of the UW Library, November 1, Madison, Memorial Library

2000:

Speaker, Biotechnology Communications Workshop for Food and Agriculture, March 6;  
University of California, Davis.

Special Library Association national meeting, Philadelphia, PA, June 12

1999:

Panelist, "How to Spin a Freelance Assignment", National Association of Science Writers,  
Anaheim, California, February.

"The Biology of Power," Wisconsin Weekend Away, University of Wisconsin  
Foundation, San Antonio, March.

"Sex on the Brain," Lebanon Valley College, Annville, Pennsylvania, September. –

"Wisconsin Alliance for the Arts", Madison.

Vantage Point Club, Madison

1998:

University of Wisconsin Foundation, Washington D.C.

University of Virginia Medical Center Hour; Washington D.C.

"Exploring the Edge of Opportunity" conference, Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee  
Community Newspapers, Inc. annual meeting, keynote speaker.

CASE Conference, Madison, Wisconsin.

"How Children Learn" conference, Educational Records Bureau, New York City

Cabinet 99, Madison Wisconsin

1997:

San Joaquin Valley Town Hall Lecture Series, Fresno

National Association of Science Writers book panel, Seattle

American Association of Immunologists, San Francisco

Expanding Your Horizons conference, keynote, California State University, Sacramento;

Commonwealth Club, San Francisco;

Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.

1996: "Science, the Media and Uncertainty" symposium, American Association for  
Advancement of Science.

American River College, Sacramento, California.

Arden Rotary Club, Sacramento, California.

"Feature Writing" symposium, Society of Professional journalists, Crystal City,  
Virginia.

1994-95:

California Institute of Technology, Los Angeles.

California State University, Sacramento.

CASE, keynote speech, Washington, D.C.

University of Wisconsin-Madison (science writer in residency program, spring semester; Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago, IL

Yerkes Regional Primate Research Center, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

American Museum of Natural History, New York. Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

University of California-Davis, Davis, California

Northern California association of AALAC, Oakland.

Northern California Science Writers Association.

1992-93:

Knight Journalism Fellowship program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston.

Scientists Institute for Public Information, forum, New York.

California Newspaper Publishers Association, Los Angeles.

Sacramento Club, Sacramento, California.

Physicians for Responsibility in Medicine and Research (PRIM&R), San Diego.

Society for Neuroscience, Washington, D.C.

California Biomedical Research Association, Berkeley.

Michigan Biomedical Research Association, Lansing, Michigan

University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia.

1984 – 91:

Spring semester, taught introductory journalism at California State University-Fresno. Corporate trainer, McClatchy Newspapers, Inc. Held seminars for reporters at the Tri-Valley (Washington) Herald; the Rock Hill Herald, the Beaufort Gazette and the Hilton Head Packet, in South Carolina.

### ***PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND SERVICES:***

Advisory board, California Endowment for Public Health Journalism, USC, 2005-2008

Council for Advancement of Science Writing, board member, 2005-



World Federation of Science Journalists, board member, program committee, 2005-2007

National Association of Science Writers, president, 2002-2004; member of the board of directors, 1992-1998; treasurer, 1999-2000; vice president, 2001-2002; president, 2003-2005; chair, professional training workshops, 1999-2003.

Honorary member, Sigma Xi, the scientific research society, elected 1993 for “service to science.”

Advisory Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources, National Research Council, 2002-2005

Committee on Public Understanding of Science and Technology, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1998-2004

Science Communications Study Group, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 1997-2001.

Advisory board, University of Georgia alumni magazine

Advisory board, Media Resource Service