

MARYN McKENNA ■ marynmckenna@gmail.com ■ @marynmck

Journalist, author, blogger on public health, global health, diseases, food

SENIOR FELLOW, Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism, Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass.

AUTHOR

- *SUPERBUG: The Fatal Menace of MRSA*, Free Press/Simon & Schuster, March 2010
 - 2011 Science in Society Award
- *BEATING BACK THE DEVIL: On the Front Lines with the Disease Detectives of the Epidemic Intelligence Service*, Free Press/Simon & Schuster, September 2004
 - Best science books 2004, Amazon.com
 - Outstanding academic title, American Library Association

INDEPENDENT JOURNALIST, 2006 to present

- Wired magazine and Wired.com: blogger and contributor
- Scientific American: columnist and contributing editor
- Investigative and feature writer for major magazines and websites: SELF, TheAtlantic.com, ABC News, Nature, the Guardian, MSNBC, China Newsweek, More, Health, Los Angeles Times, CNBC.com, Bulletin of the History of Medicine, Boston Magazine, Chicago Magazine, Washington Post, et al.
- special contributor, Annals of Emergency Medicine
- Contributing writer, Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, University of Minnesota (2006-2010)

NEWSPAPER REPORTER, 1985-2006

Science/medical writer, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, January 1995 to June 2006

- Only reporter worldwide assigned full-time to US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Covered Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans and Indian Ocean tsunami in Thailand.
- Embedded in CDC investigative team on Capitol Hill during 2001 anthrax attacks investigation.
- Documented persistent difficulties in CDC-World Health Organization campaign to eliminate polio worldwide, reporting from within a "STOP Polio" team in India.

Reporter, The Boston Herald, August 1990 to December 1994

- Uncovered illnesses afflicting thousands of veterans of the Persian Gulf War in the US and UK, prompting first Congressional hearings on Gulf War Syndrome.
- Discovered life-threatening gaps in ambulance and emergency radio networks, leading to substantial increases in state funding.

Projects Reporter, The Cincinnati Enquirer, August 1988 to August 1990

- Led team of three reporters investigating federal nuclear weapons plant; uncovered decades of severe air and groundwater pollution and resident and worker exposures to radiation.
- Exposed crack transport and trafficking in the Midwest, focusing on social damage along main highway to/through Cincinnati: child abuse, juvenile homicide, gang growth, food-stamp fraud.

Reporter/Columnist, The Rockford (Ill.) Register Star, October 1985 to August 1988

- Led team of reporters covering devastating drought, from impact on international futures markets to disintegration of a small farming town.
- Using federal financial records, exposed suspicious investments behind collapse of three local savings and loan associations.

EDUCATION

Degrees

- MSJ with highest distinction, Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University
- AB cum laude, College of Arts and Sciences, Georgetown University

Fellowships

- 2010:** Ochberg Fellow, Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma, Columbia University
- 2006:** Health Journalism Fellow, East West Center (Yunnan and Hong Kong)
- 2006:** Media Fellow, Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation (emergency medicine)
- 2001:** CASE Fellow, Harvard Medical School (genomics)
- 1998:** Fellow in Medicine, Knight-Wallace Fellows, University of Michigan (medical history)
- 1996:** Fellow, Casey Journalism Center on Children and Families, University of Maryland

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2011:** Science in Society Award, National Association of Science Writers
- 2008:** Online Journalism, third place, Association of Health Care Journalists
- 2007:** Best Service Journalism, second place, GAMMA/Magazine Association of the Southeast
- 2004:** Georgia Author of the Year
- 2001:** Kanter Award, Health Legacy Partnership
- 2000:** Georgia Associated Press Association, first place, deadline news
- 1997:** Georgia Associated Press Association, first place, public service
Georgia Press Association, first place, community service
- 1996:** PASS Award, National Council on Crime and Delinquency
Missouri Lifestyle Journalism Awards, finalist, health category
American Cancer Society, Media Challenge award, first place, news
- 1994:** J.C. Penney-University of Missouri Lifestyle Journalism Awards, finalist, health category
- 1993:** New England AP News Executives Association, Sevellon Brown Award for Public Service
- 1991:** American College of Emergency Physicians, Journalism Awards of Excellence, first place
New England Associated Press News Executives Association, first place, spot news
- 1990:** Associated Press Society of Ohio, second place, investigative reporting
- 1989:** Ohio Academy of Trial Lawyers, Award for Journalistic Excellence
- 1988:** Associated Press Society of Ohio, second place, investigative reporting
- 1987:** Illinois Associated Press Editors Association, Award of Excellence, first place, columns
Northern Illinois Newspaper Association, second place, science writing
- 1986:** Best of Gannett, first place, business/consumer reporting
Northern Illinois Newspaper Association, second place, business/financial reporting

MEMBERSHIPS

- Association of Health Care Journalists (board member and freelance committee chair)
- American Society of Journalists and Authors
- Authors' Guild
- National Association of Science Writers
- Online News Association
- National Federation of Press Women

LANGUAGES

- French
- studying Spanish

PUBLIC SPEAKING

- Grand Rounds, University of Chicago Children's Hospitals, April 2012
- Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science, March 2012
- SoCon, Kennesaw State University, February 2012
- Science Online 2012, January 2012
- World Conference of Science Journalists, Cairo, June 2011
- Science Online 2011, January 2011
- Infectious disease grand rounds, University of California, San Francisco, December 2010
- "Emerging Infections in Nevada: MRSA," keynote speaker, November 2010
- National Association of Science Writers, November 2010
- Center for Interdisciplinary Research to Reduce Antimicrobial Resistance, Columbia University School of Nursing, November 2010
- Inside/Out Lecture Series, Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute, New York University, November 2010
- Microbiology and Immunology Invited Speaker Series, University of Minnesota, October 2010
- North Carolina Central University, October 2010
- University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, October 2010
- Sturdy Hospital, Attleboro, Mass., September 2010
- "The New Food Safety Science," Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, September 2010
- Vaccine Dinner Club, Emory University, September 2010
- AJC-Decatur Book Festival, featured author, September 2010
- "Epidemics: Past and Present," Alexander Dawson Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, July and June 2010
- Infectious disease grand rounds, Minneapolis VA Medical Center, June 2010
- Fair Food Fight Night, Minneapolis, June 2010
- Models of Excellence annual lecture, Emory University, May 2010
- Atlanta Science Tavern, May 2010
- "Understanding the Fatal Menace of MRSA," University of Minnesota School of Public Health, May 2010
- "Beating the Superbug," Linn-Benton Community College, May 2010
- Authors @HLSC, University of Wisconsin, May 2010
- Georgia Center for the Book, April 2010
- Georgia Gwinnett College, May 2010
- International Women's Day, keynote speaker, Union League Club of Chicago, March 2010
- Association of Health Care Journalists, April 2010
- US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, December 2009
- Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America, April 2009
- American Society of Journalists and Authors, April 2008
- Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America, April 2008
- Association of Health Care Journalists, March 2008
- East-West Center Media Conference, Bangkok, January 2008
- Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, orientation keynote, August 2007
- MIT Executive Forum of Atlanta, March 2007
- Association of Health Care Journalists, March 2007
- Covering the Next Health Crisis, Nieman Foundation, Harvard University, November 2006
- World Congress on Communication for Development, Rome, October 2006
- CDC Communicators' Roundtable, June 2006
- Knight Foundation Public Health Journalism Boot Camp, keynote, June 2006
- International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases, March 2006
- Association of Health Care Journalists, annual meeting, March 2006
- Gnat Line News Briefing, keynote, University of Georgia, February 2006
- Media and Judiciary Conference, State Bar of Georgia, January 2006
- Increasing Health Risks In a Globalized World, National Press Foundation, October 2005
- Advanced Health Care Law Seminar, State Bar of Georgia, October 2005
- Public Health and the Law in the 21st Century Conference, June 2005
- American Society for Microbiology, annual meeting, June 2005

- Council of Science Editors, annual meeting, May 2005
- Graduation speaker, University of Georgia Department of Biological Sciences, May 2005
- Inter-American Press Association seminar, April 2005
- Write Around Home, Athens (Ga.) Classic Center Cultural Foundation, March 2005
- Knight-Wallace Fellows Program, University of Michigan, November 2004
- Center for Peace and Security Studies, Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, November 2004
- Wistar Institute, University of Pennsylvania, November 2004
- Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, November 2004
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, annual meeting, October 2004
- Investigative Reporters and Editors, annual meeting, May 2004
- Council of Science Editors, annual meeting, May 2004
- Triangle Lecture Series, Center For Public Health Preparedness and Research, Emory University, February 2004
- National Environmental Public Health Conference, December 2003
- Public Relations Society of America (Georgia Chapter), Annual Collegiate Conference, February 2003
- Terrorism At Home: Challenges For The Media Covering America's Security, Joan Shorenstein Center and Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, February 2003
- The Press and Public Policy: Covering Permanent War and Bioterrorism, University of Michigan, January 2003
- Investigative Reporters and Editors, 2003
- Association of Health Care Journalists, 2003
- Center for Health, Culture and Society, Emory University, 2001

TEACHING

- Writer in residence, Texas A&M University, November 2010
- Writer in residence, Grady College of Journalism, University of Georgia, September 2010
- Health Journalism Fellowships, Senior Trainer, East West Center/Hong Kong University, Yunnan and Hong Kong, September 2009
- Asian College of Journalism, Chennai, India, 2008 and 2007
- "Reporting Public Health," Journalism and Media Studies Centre, Hong Kong University, February 2007
- "Public Health and the Media," Southeastern Institute for Training and Evaluation, Emory University, October 2006
- Summer Science Writing Intensive, Emory University, May 2006
- "Popular Science Writing," Department of Biological Sciences, University of Georgia (repeat guest lecturer), 1998-2006
- "Health and Science Writing," Department of Journalism, Emory University (repeat guest lecturer), 2000-2001

MEDIA APPEARANCES

*More than 100 TV, radio and web appearances in the United States, Canada, Europe and Asia, including **Fresh Air with Terry Gross, The Takeaway with John Hockenberry, The Leonard Lopate Show, CBC The Current and Coast to Coast.***
Updated list on request

PERSONAL SITES AND BLOGS

Blog: www.Wired.com/wiredscience/superbug
 Personal: www.MarynMcKenna.com and about.me/marynmck
 Books: www.Superbugthebook.com and www.BeatingBacktheDevil.com