

Valerie Coffey

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OBJECTIVE: A full-time or freelance position that makes use of my science background and my experience in writing, editing, and teaching.

SPECIALIZATION: Versatile background in publishing, technical editing, science writing, astronomy, physics, math, teaching, and marketing. Experienced teacher, editor, and published writer in astronomy, physics, manufacturing, photonics, optics, electronics, and telecommunications industry. Dynamic interpersonal skills; enthusiastic team player.

EDUCATION

MS in Astronomy, Boston University, Boston, MA, 1998

BS Physics, Math minor, University of Nevada, Reno, 1990

EXPERIENCE

PennWell Corporation, Nashua, NH

Senior Technical Editor, *Laser Focus World* magazine, 6/2007–11/2008 (www.laserfocusworld.com)

- Researched, solicited, edited, and wrote monthly technology features, columns, and news on optoelectronics, optics, fiberoptics, photonics, and lasers in the medical, biotech, industrial, astronomy, military, and telecom industries for business-to-business trade magazine, e-newsletters, and website.
- Served as technical webcast moderator.

Stellar Editorial Services, Boxborough, MA

Freelance Editor, 12/2006–present, (www.geocities.com/starryv2003)

- Editing of physics terms for American Heritage Science Dictionary (a division of Houghton Mifflin, Cambridge, MA).
- Writing news and features for *Laser Focus World*.

New Track Media LLC, Cambridge, MA

Managing Editor, *Sky & Telescope* and *Night Sky* magazines, 4–12/2006, (www.skytonight.com)

- Managed the dynamic interface of editorial, design, and production for two popular consumer hobbyist magazines, websites, books, and annuals on astronomy.
- Generated and edited astronomical content for print and web, developed editorial deadlines for staff of 14 editors, reallocated resources, managed article acquisitions, and supervised editorial assistants.
- Streamlined efficiency of editorial, image acquisition, and rights & permissions processes.

PennWell Corporation, Nashua, NH

Editor in Chief, *Connector Specifier* magazine, 3/2003–3/2006, (www.connectorspecifier.com)

Associate Technical Editor, *Laser Focus World* and *WDM Solutions* magazines, 7/2000–3/2003

Editor, *Optoelectronics Report*, 8/2000–4/2001

- Determined editorial direction, budget, and content of monthly B2B trade publication covering electrical and fiberoptic connectors in military, medical, computer, telecom, and industrial applications.
- Participated in and reviewed industry conferences and trade-shows. Supervised editorial staff.
- Wrote, solicited, and edited technical news, business news, feature articles, and editorial. Other duties included moderating webcasts and panels, production of bi-monthly e-newsletter, and website maintenance.

Sylvan Learning Center, Acton, MA

Math Tutor, Grades 6-12, 5/2000–07/2000

Opis Inc.

Substitute Teacher, MA public schools, K-12. 4–6/2000, 1–6/2007

Bentley College, Waltham, MA

Assistant Adjunct Professor of Astronomy, spring semester 2000

Optometrics USA, Inc., Ayer, MA

Sales/Marketing Manager, 9/1999– 4/2000

Scientific Solutions, Inc.,

Spectroscopic Devices and Consulting, N. Chelmsford, MA , www.sci-sol.com.

Sales/Marketing Manager, Proposal Editor, Internet Marketing Specialist, 4/1998–9/1999

- Developed the first website for this Boston University start up.

Boston University, Department of Astronomy, Boston, MA

Teaching Fellow, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, 9/1993–5/1996

- Wrote thesis entitled, “Statistical analysis of neutral hydrogen self-absorption features in the first quadrant of the Milky Way.” Analyzed 2-arcsec-resolution self-absorption spectra of 21-cm (radio-frequency) emission of neutral hydrogen in interstellar medium, obtained by the Boston University Arecibo Observatory Survey (1991).
- Taught undergraduate astronomy labs, discussion sections, and observatory programs in planetary astronomy, stellar astronomy, bioastronomy, cosmology, and astrophotography.
- Completed graduate course work in astronomy, astrophysics, space physics, radiative transfer, electromagnetism, cosmic electrodynamics, spectroscopy, radio astrophysics, cosmology, observational techniques, and cosmic mechanical dynamics.

Astronomy/Education consultant, Franklin, MA, 1–9/1993

- Conducted supplemental science curricula programs at museums and public and private schools in MA including after-school programs, traveling adventure programs, and science day camp.

New England Science Center (now Ecotarium; Worcester, MA)

Programs Associate, 12/1990–1/1993

- Conducted informal public education programs conducted in the observatory, planetarium, stage, zoo, and traveling educational programs in astronomy for all ages. Media contact for astronomical events.

Fleischmann Planetarium, Reno, NV

Program Presenter, Technician, Telescope Operator, 4/1985–3/1990. Also **Flandrau Planetarium** (Tucson, AZ), spring semester 1986.

- Presented public observing programs and planetarium shows, including star talks and laser shows.

OTHER EDITORIAL WORK

- Books edited: The Double Star Catalog by Sissy Haas, A Year in the Life of the Universe by Rob Gendler, and Patterns in the Sky by Ken Hewitt-White, for New Track Media Books, 2006.
- Corporate product releases for Ocean Optics (Dunedin, FL), 2003.

SKILLS

- Microsoft Office (Outlook, Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Access)
- Brightcove online video publishing, Adobe InCopy, Quark, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Acrobat, and Photoshop
- Familiarity with HTML, Clickability, and other web content-publishing (CMS) systems.
- Other operating systems have included Mac, UNIX, Xwindows, Sun, Solaris, and VAX. Thesis written in TeX (UNIX typesetting language).

AWARDS/HONORS

- PennWell Editorial Excellence Award for Best Digital Media Initiative, *Connector Specifier*, 2004
- PennWell Editorial Excellence Award for Best Contributed Feature Article, *Laser Focus World*, 2002
- *Laser Focus World* Editorial Excellence Award for news, 2000
- Boston Univ. Teaching Fellow Award for Excellence, 1996