

**Lewis A. Smith**

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**EDUCATION**

**Arkansas State University**, Jonesboro, Arkansas

Master of Science in Mass Communication, May 1990

Honors: Phi Kappa Phi (national academic honor society)

Kappa Tau Alpha (national journalism honor society)

**University of Ghana**, Legon, Ghana

Graduate Diploma in Journalism and Mass Communication, July 1976

**EXPERIENCE**

**Prairie View A&M University**, Prairie View, Texas

*Communications Instructor, 1990 to present.*

Teach news writing and reporting, feature and magazine writing, copy editing, public relations, introduction to mass communication, communications law and ethics.

*Coordinator, Communications Program, 2002 to present.*

Provide leadership and guidance to faculty and students on curriculum and advisement.

*Advisor, The Panther newspaper, 2002 to present.*

Advise and manage a team of student writers, editors, photographers, designers and advertising staff to produce a weekly newspaper.

**Time Magazine**, Washington, D.C.

*Fellow (journalist on fellowship), 1988.*

Did mainly foreign affairs reporting under bureau chief Strobe Talbott.

Traveled briefly as part of news team on campaign trail with Senator Lloyd Bentsen, Democratic Party vice presidential candidate.

Attended 1988 Republican national convention in New Orleans, Louisiana.

**Footprints Enterprises, Monrovia, Liberia**

*Editor in Chief, Footprints Today newspaper, Footprints magazine, 1985-1987;*

*Editor, Footprints Today daily newspaper, 1984-1985.*

Wrote for and led team of journalists to produce award-winning daily newspaper.

**United Nations Children's Fund, Monrovia, Liberia**

*Communications Consultant, 1985-1988.*

Performed variety of communication functions, including writing news and feature articles for placement in newspapers, press releases, and speeches for resident representative.

Organized news conferences to sensitize media on important issues/activities.

Played lead role in collaboration with World Health Organization and United Nations Population Fund to hold seminars for legislators and non-governmental organizations to create awareness and enlist support for UNICEF's child survival and development initiatives.

Played key role in organizing events marking 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UNICEF.

**African Business, London, England**

*Correspondent, 1986-1988.*

Wrote news articles on business and economic issues (on freelance basis) about Liberia for publication in reputable London-based monthly magazine.

**National Investment Commission, Monrovia, Liberia**

*Communications Consultant, 1983.*

Provided advice on strategic communication and public relations to commission's executive chairman.

**Liberia Industrial Free Zone Authority, Monrovia, Liberia**

*Investment Promotion Executive, 1982.*

Wrote news and feature articles and compiled investment promotion brochure.

Conducted media relations and promoted free zone's image and activities.

Wrote speeches for managing director.

**Freelance writing/public relations consulting, Ghana and Liberia**

Performed writing and public relations services for clients in 1981 and 1982.

**Ghana Timber Marketing Board, Takoradi, Ghana**

*Public Relations Officer, 1978-1980; Assist. Public Relations Officer, 1976-1978.*

Handled routine public relations assignments, including establishing and maintaining favorable image for the board nationally and internationally. Wrote articles for two corporate publications, Ghana Timber News and Weekly Bulletin.

Wrote speeches for the chief executive. Performed duties of department head from time to time.

## SELECTED AWARDS

**The Ethics and Excellence Foundation** of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
*Scripps Howard Ethics Fellowship.*

One of 12 educators chosen for journalism ethics forum at Hampton University, Hampton, Virginia, October 2003.

**American Society of Newspaper Editors**, Reston, Virginia  
*2002 Institute of Journalism Excellence Award.*

Assigned to Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Fort Worth, Texas, June-July 2002.

**American Press Institute**, Reston, Virginia  
*1997 Journalism Educators Fellowship.*

Attended Editorial Page Editors and Writers Seminar, May 1997.

**National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development**, The University of Texas, Austin, Texas

*1997 Teaching Excellence Award.*

**American Press Institute**, Reston, Virginia

*1995 Rollan Melton Fellowship* awarded annually to one journalism professor.

**Dow Jones Newspaper Fund**, Princeton, New Jersey

*Dow Jones Copy Editing Fellowship.*

Attended editing seminar, May 1995.

**American Advertising Federation**, Washington, D.C.

1995 citation for "important contributions to advertising education."

**Poynter Institute for Media Studies**, St. Petersburg, Florida

*1992 Teaching Fellowship.*

Earned certificate for "teaching excellence in journalism."

**Alfred Friendly Press Fellowship Program**, Washington, D.C.

*1988 journalism fellowship.*

Worked for Time magazine, Washington, D.C.

**Press Union of Liberia**, Monrovia, Liberia

*1987 Best Newspaper Award.*

Led Footprints Today newspaper to win highest national recognition.

**United States Information Service**, Monrovia, Liberia

*1986 International Visitor's Grant.*

Won award for month-long tour of U.S. media organizations.