

# Francesco Fiondella

*A versatile science communicator with experience in developing communications strategy and overseeing its implementation in a nonprofit/academic setting.*

## Professional Experience

### Director of Communications

**International Research Institute for Climate and Society, Columbia University, 2006-Present**

*The IRI, part of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, helps developing countries become less vulnerable to epidemics, floods, droughts and other climate-related risks. I developed and oversee IRI's communications strategy and manage a small staff and travel budget. I promote IRI's work by producing or assigning web stories, photos essays, videos and other multimedia. I also oversee the design and editing of reports, presentations and other materials. As a photographer, I've covered events for the institution in the U.S., West Africa, Southeast Asia and South America.*

### Information Graphics Editor

**The Wall Street Journal — 2002-2006**

Developed breaking news graphics under daily deadlines for all sections of the paper as well as for international editions. I also managed work flow for 20-person graphics department, and helped recruit, interview and train new hires and interns.

### Staff Reporter

**The Wall Street Journal — 2002-2006**

Wrote articles on health, children's health and alternative therapies.

### Writer and Graphics Editor, Freelance

**1999—2006**

Stories published in Discover, Scientific American, Reuters Health, The Brownstone Review (poetry). Information graphics published in The Scientist.

### Furniture maker

**Robert Phipps Cabinet Shop, New Haven, CT—1997-1999.**

Apprenticeship in furniture making.

## Education

**Columbia University, Graduate School of Journalism, M.S. with honors, 2001.** Follow-up coursework: Social Media; Introduction to Multimedia Storytelling, 2012; Advanced Multimedia Storytelling, 2013.

**Columbia University, Graduate School of Arts & Science, M.A. Environmental Science, 2000.**

**Brown University, B.S. in Environmental Science, 1994.**

**Murdoch University, Perth, Australia. Semester abroad. Marine/invertebrate zoology, 1993**

## Grants, Projects and Papers

- + PI for *Data, Interrupted* reporting project, Brown Institute for Media Innovation, Columbia Graduate School of Journalism
- + Speaker on Science Communications for Venice Research Communications Week, 2019
- + Judge & Panelist: 2016-2019 *Concorso Cambiamenti Climatici*, International Art-Science competition.
- + PI for Columbia: *Global, Local, Coastal: Preparing The Next Generation for A Changing Planet*. NOAA w/ Groundwork Hudson Valley. \$22K approved.
- + PI, *The 2014 Climate Models Wall Calendar and Panel Discussion*. Robert Rauschenberg Foundation grant. \$8K, awarded (w/ Rebecca Fowler)
- + Senior Personnel: *Using Tree-Rings to develop critical scientific and mathematical thinking skills in undergraduate students*. National Science Foundation, TUES. Awarded.

## Honors and Awards

- + National Association of Science Writers Career grant, 2012.
- + John Horgan Prize for Critical Science Writing. First Place, 2001.
- + Paul Rykoff Coleman Scholarship, 2001. For showing particular promise in field of health reporting and writing.
- + National Italian American Foundation Communications Scholarship, 2000.
- + Columbia Earth Institute SMART Fund 2000. Based on “high intrinsic scientific/societal relevance and potential to produce new research capabilities.”
- + Council for the Advancement of Science Writing Taylor/Blakeslee Fellowship. 1999.
- + The American Meteorological Society Graduate Industry Fellowship. 1999.