

## Paul Conti

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### **Education** (*in reverse chronological order*):

Master of Liberal Arts: SUNY: Empire State College. Degree awarded July of 2005. Thesis: How has local TV news changed: An analysis of the economics, technology and the personnel decisions affecting local television news. The degree program encourages interdisciplinary study.

Bachelor of Arts. Special Studies in Communication. SUNY: Fredonia. May 1974.

### **Teaching Experience:**

**Assistant Professor:** College of Saint Rose starting fall 2006 (as a visiting instructor until fall of 2009). Teaching 6 different courses dealing with media production one in TV Journalism and one about interviewing. I teach at the undergraduate and graduate level.

**Adjunct Faculty Member:** College of St. Rose. Teaching a section of TV field production during the spring semester of 2006.

**Instructor.** New Visions in Communications. This high school career exploration internship is run by the local BOCES. High school students who have an interest in either print or broadcast journalism spend an entire academic year engaged in the program for 3 hours each morning. The students are usually academically superior. The students receive up to 9 advance placement college credits for successfully completing this coursework, depending on the academic institution.

**Guest Visiting Instructor:** Siena College. Filled in for Doug Lonnstrom, Ph.D, a Siena College business professor. Conducted classes discussing the various business aspects of the TV industry and how it uses statistics. Fall 2005 and Spring of 2006.

**Instructor:** Career exploration internship program for Columbia and Mohonasen High Schools. Taught three high school seniors the basics of TV story construction. Each created one TV news story about subjects important to them.

**Instructor:** Senior Project, Albany Academy for Girls. A senior class member in good standing, who elects to study journalism and / or

communications, worked with me for about 4 weeks. In 2005 this student learned about alternative energy automobiles and prepared a special TV story about them for presentation to her class.

**Lecturer:** Various High School and College Classrooms in the Albany, NY Region. I am a frequent guest lecturer on a variety of topics related to my field.

**Instructor:** Schenectady High School. I created a cooperative of TV, Radio and Newspaper organizations in the Albany area to collect election returns. We use 45 high school students from Schenectady to input the data. As part of our arrangement with the school district we not only teach them the basics of the software being used but we also give them a lesson in government and some background on the candidates seeking office.

**Research Experience:**

Currently researching an article on how the news media uses (or misuses) social media information as fact in news stories.

I served as the Governor Cuomo's media appointee to study the issues related to permitting cameras in courtrooms of New York State. Our committee conducted two separate studies which were forwarded to the State Legislature.

As a board member of the New York State Associated Press Broadcasters I headed a study of ways to promote more diversity in local television newsrooms. Our recommendations included the creation of a scholarship for minority students who wish to pursue a career in broadcast journalism.

As a news director of a local TV station for more than a decade I commissioned and participated actively in various studies of our audience and market place.

**Professional Works:**

Conti, Paul, EdTPA: A six part webinar on the new standards for teacher evaluation. The editorial content of the series was created by two other parties for clcu (The Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities). I turned that content into the videos.

Conti, Paul, Gang Resistance, Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T). An informational video funded by the Safe Schools / Healthy Students initiative. Fall 2012

Conti, Paul, The A Plus Initiative in Albany Schools. An informational video prepared for the Safe Schools / Healthy Students initiative. Fall2009.

Antico, Alfred; Conti, Paul;The City of Albany'sTruancy Abatement Program. An informational video prepared for the citythat examines how the program works. Fall2008.

Antico, Alfred; Conti, Paul; et. al. The Family Court and You. An instructional video prepared for LaSalle Institute of Albany and The Albany County Family Court. Fall 2007.

Conti, Paul. The Time is Now. An educational video examining the infrastructure of the Niskayuna School Central School District. Spring 2006.

Conti, Paul. Various dates. I have written a number of articles for the RTDNA (Radio and Television Digital News Association) Communicator on subjects including Cameras in Court, The Value of Web Sites for Local TV News, Hiring Practices and Weather Equipment.

Baker, Victor and Conti, Paul. The Age of Chautauqua. 1973. A film documentary about the history of the lake in New York's Chautauqua County. The documentary is kept at the Reed College Library at SUNY Fredonia

### **Service to The College of Saint Rose:**

Chair of Search Committee to hire Assistant Professor of Communications for PR and Advertising

Member of Search Committee to hire Assistant Professor for Media Production.

Member of Academic Technologies Committee

Member of Working Group 6 (Faculty Evaluation) for Middle States Accreditation Self Study at The College of Saint Rose

Chair of ad hoc Committee to study Chair Compensation

Member of ad hoc Committee to study Chair evaluations

Member of working group to plan Community of Excellence Awards in Summer of 2012 to honor R. Mark and Kathy Sullivan.

Member of faculty and administrators group to design the Hearst CCIM building.

### Judge for 15 Minute Max (Saint Rose Film Festival)

Although the production work is done by students in my classes I agreed to create videos for:

- The Security Department – Three of them encouraged students not to walk alone when they venture off campus. One of them draws attention to the taxi vouchers program.
- Pink Gloves – At the request of Karen Haag and Anne Rowley my students created a video to raise awareness for breast cancer research and treatment. It was a music video in which everyone in it wore pink gloves.
- Hope in the Boat – At the request of a few of our faculty members students in my graduate classes created a video about a unique organization which races Dragon Boats as a therapy mechanism for breast cancer survivors
- Honoring Murray and Esther Massry – At the request of the school administration Fred Antico and I created a video honoring the Massry's which was used as part of a fund raiser for the Albany Symphony Orchestra during the summer of 2010.
- How to Apply to Graduate School at Saint Rose – At the request of the Office of Graduate Admissions my graduate classes created a series of 5 videos which break down the process of how a student applies for graduate admissions at the college.

All of these video productions required multiple planning meetings with the individuals or groups who asked for my help before turning into a classroom instruction project. The list above is not all inclusive. I've created many smaller, less production intensive videos for the school when requested that are not part of classroom instruction.

### **Presentations:**

**Guest and/or Host:** The Media Project, WAMC Northeast Public Radio, Various dates 2009 through 2013

**Guest:** The Round Table, WAMC Northeast Public Radio, Various dates from 2011 to 2013.

**Guest:** The Paul Vandenburg radio show, Various dates from 2009 through 2013.

**Guest:** The Paul Vandenburg TV show. December 2012.

**Guest:** Vox Pop, WAMC Northeast Public Radio, Spring 2009

**Panelist:** Digital and Multimedia Storytelling for Newspapers. The New York State Associated Press. May 2009

**Presenter:** “The Future of Newspapers.” New York Associated Press Editors. May 2009

**Interviewed:** “How to Finance Newspapers.” OurBlook.com. March 2009

**Moderator:** “Post Election Analysis.” PRSA Albany Chapter. November 2009.

### **Professional Service:**

**Judge:** The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. I judged a portion of the News Emmy’s for two large states during the summer of 2013. I judged another in 2012.

**Judge.** New York School Public Relations Association, NERIC / BOCES media awards contest 2009 through 2013

**Judge:** Bethlehem Film Festival 2010 through 2012

**Member:** Clear Channel Radio advisory Board from 2009 to present

**Judge.** Schenectady Film Festival, 2006 through 2009

**Judge.** Television Awards. New York State Associated Press Broadcasters Association. As a board member of the organization I annually judged award submissions from either Pennsylvania or Michigan.

**Board Member:** New York State Associated Press Broadcasters Association. I was a long time board member of the organization since I was a student in college and served twice as its president.

**Host:** RTNDF (Radio and Television News Directors Foundation) Fellowship. We hosted a college professor in journalism or communications during the summer so they can get first hand experience of what is new in the field when I was News Director at WNYT.

### **Community Activities / Civic Engagement:**

I lend my skills to a couple of high schools as a technical advisor for their annual spring musicals. Niskayuna High is a regular recipient.

I periodically guest-lecture at area high schools about media production.

I am the Manager and Coordinator of two area media cooperatives. CDES, The Capital District Election Service, collects election returns for all

of the area news media. I am responsible for the budget of the cooperative and supervision of all elements of its function. I am also the Manager and Coordinator of The School Closings Network, which gathers information from area schools and other organizations and distributes it to participating media. That system is largely automated, by my design.

**Panelist:** “Your Right to Know: Open Government or Access Denied.” Associated Press Managing Editors Society. September 2005.

**Panelist.** “How Much Local News is Too Much?” New York Academy for Television Arts and Sciences. September 2004.

**Panelist.** “The Indecency Statute and Enforcement.” American Women in Radio and Television. August 2004.

**Panelist:** “Media and its Interaction with History.” New York State Society of Social Studies Teachers. February 2005.

**Panelist:** “Ethics in Media.” SUNY New Paltz. April 2005.

**Speaker:** Hudson Valley Community College Graduation for associate’s degree in communications, May 2005.

**Keynote Speaker:** Saratoga County League of Women Voters annual meeting, June 2005.

**Presentation:** Empire State College, Fall Residency, September 2005 Presented an electronic, multimedia version of Chapter 3 of my graduate thesis.

**Expert Opinion:** Opinion sought from various publications on a variety of media issues including the Times Union and the New York Times.

#### **Areas of Special Skills:**

Expert Video editor in both linear and non-linear formats. I am familiar with SONY’s **Vegas Video**, Grass Valley’s **Aurora** and Apple’s **Final Cut Pro** and Adobe’s **Premier Pro**.

I can use and teach virtually any piece of video equipment in a television station including field and studio cameras, character generators, switchers, audio consoles, editors, video tape machines and a variety of computer based equipment.

I have over 30 years of practical experience in broadcast journalism. I can teach ethics, writing, delivery, production, practical and theoretical communications or any other subject area related to the profession.

I created CDES, the Capital District Election Service collects election returns from 11 counties in New York State for newspaper, radio and TV in the Albany, NY area. The consortium is over 20 years old at this point and was the first fully computerized elections system for local TV from gathering at the polling place to display on TV by the character generator.

I also created The School Closings Network, which is a unified system of reporting closings and delays to one central location for all public and private schools, daycare and after school programs. This cooperative saves the schools from having to make several calls and it also saves all of the participating media the expense of collecting the same information individually.

I own a small, private business which specializes in “family” video production. For a small number of clients each year I create special presentations honoring a high school graduate, a special anniversary or some other noteworthy event. CSP Video also creates productions for a select number of high school musicals.

I spearheaded an effort by WNYT TV to raise money for the American Red Cross of Northeastern New York to aid Hurricane Katrina Victims. It raised almost one million dollars. I also supervised a similar program to raise over a million dollars for the Tsunami victims.

I served as a consultant to some area public school districts that are developing media curricula.

**Professional Memberships:**

RTDNA      The Radio Television Digital News Association  
NYATAS     The New York Academy for Television Arts and Sciences

**Honors:**

Recipient    NY Emmy Nomination for Best News Series  
Recipient    NY Emmy Award for Best Local Newscast  
Recipient    NY Emmy Award for Best Spot News Coverage  
Recipient    NY State Associated Press Awards for Best Local Newscast, Best Spot News Coverage, Best Investigative Reporting and Best Feature Reporting.  
Recipient    NY State Broadcasters Association Awards for Best Local Newscast, Best Sport News Coverage and Best Hard News Story.  
Recipient    United Press International Award for Best Local Newscast  
Recipient    Columbia Dupont Journalism Award, Silver Certificate for Investigative Reporting  
Recipient    New York State United Teachers. Golden Apple Award for Best Coverage of Education Issues.

**Professional Experience:**

**News Director.** WNYT TV (1998 to 2006) Responsible for running all aspects of the News Department of the TV station including supervision of 60 person staff and administration of a 4.5 million dollar budget. My duties also required that I analyze and make the final decision regarding all equipment purchases for the news department including all editing equipment.

**Assistant News Director** WNYT TV (1988 to 1998) Assisted the news director in running the news department. Responsible for scheduling all staff members and supervising all special coverage events. Checked and edited copy from staff for newscasts. As Assistant News Director one of my primary responsibilities was to identify and research new equipment needs for the department. The news director retained final purchase approval.

**Various other positions** WNYT TV (1978 to 1988)

- Assignments Editor
- Capitol Bureau Chief
- Producer
- Special Projects Producer
- Reporter

**News Director.** WGNA Radio. 1976 to 1978. Anchored the morning drive radio segment. Supervised three person staff.

**Staff Reporter.** WTRY Radio. 1975 to 1976. Anchored afternoon drive. Reported on state capitol.