

RACHEL BERKOWITZ

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I'm a science writer and journalist with an academic background in geophysics and experience as a contributing editor for several lay-audience physics publications.

EDUCATION

- 2009 – 2013 **Ph.D.** Geophysics, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge (UK).
Thesis: *Modelling of long-term controls on volcanic eruption processes.*
- 2007 – 2008 **M.Phil.** Geophysics, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge (UK).
Thesis: *Experimental study of decompression-driven instabilities in porous media.*
- 2003 – 2007 **B.Sc.** Physics, Yale University (New Haven, CT).

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 01/2020 – present **Corresponding editor, Physics Magazine** (remote). Write, edit, and solicit articles for the American Physical Society's web magazine, *Physics Magazine*.
- 04/2011 – present **Science writer, Freelance** (Seattle, WA). News and feature articles for *Physics Today*, *Physics Magazine*, *Scientific American*, *Nature*, *Science*, and *The Scientist*. Contributions to Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's *News Center*, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's *Molecular Bond*, Materials Research Society's *MRS Bulletin*, American Geophysical Union's *Eos*, International Society for Photonics and Optics' *SPIE Professional*, and Europa Science's *Electro Optics*. Technical manuals for Bovie Medical Corp.
- 01/2018 – 08/2021 **Contributing editor, Physics Today** (College Park, MD). Wrote online news and monthly feature articles for the print magazine's *Search and Discover* Department.
- 01/2016 – 01/2020 **Senior information analyst, i2k Connect** (Missouri City, TX). Developed databases for artificial intelligence tools that tag, label, and classify company documents and news from the worldwide web.
- 04/2014 – 12/2015 **Senior communications specialist, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory** (Berkeley, CA). Managed internal messaging and public outreach in Materials Sciences Division; developed strategies to promote Laboratory mission; published press releases and newsletters; managed, prepared, and submitted two major reviews to US Department of Energy funding agencies.
- 04/2011 – 03/2014 **Founding columnist, Down to Earth, Physics Today** (College Park, MD). Wrote several articles monthly about geosciences, sustainable energy, and climate.
- 10/2007 – 11/2013 **Research assistant, University of Cambridge Department of Earth Sciences** (Cambridge, UK). Developed lab and computer models of fluid flow within pressurized systems based on field data from volcanoes and carbon sequestration. Published in *J. Fluid Mech.*
- 10/2006 – 05/2007 **Research assistant, Yale University Department of Geology and Geophysics** (New Haven, CT). Conducted experiments and developed image processing technique to evaluate available energy in gravity currents. Published in *J. Fluid Mech.*

Summers 2003, 2005 **Summer research assistant, LIGO-Hanford Observatory** (Richland, WA). Identified sources of seismic noise that affect gravitational wave detection. Resulted in publication of catalogued information on LIGO-Caltech website.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Proficiency in Windows, Linux, and Mac operating systems; Microsoft Office suite; Adobe Photoshop; HTML; LaTeX; Java; Python; Matlab; Wordpress

LEADERSHIP & OUTREACH

2020, 2021 **Panelist, American Geophysical Union** ‘Walter Sullivan Award for Excellence in Science Journalism’ (remote). Evaluated, discussed, and nominated selections from ~100 features submissions for the annual science writing award.

12/2019 **Mentor, American Geophysical Union** Fall Meeting (San Francisco, CA). Paired with a science writing graduate student to provide guidance about career paths and reporting on scientific meetings.

04/2018 **Panelist, European Geosciences Union** ‘Early Careers Short Course’ (Vienna, Austria). Over 100 graduate students and postdocs attended our discussion on how to prepare for careers outside of academia.

06/2013 – 06/2014 **Analyst and writer, Research Now** (Eastsound, WA). Assisted in launch of non-profit organization with mission of providing specialized scientific advice needed to inform public policy decisions. Resulted in concept paper recommending environmental research related to proposed Gateway Pacific Coal Export Terminal; helped to obtain funding for two research projects; developed new website.

06/2012 **Panelist, American Geophysical Union** ‘Communicating Science’ (Selfoss, Iceland).

08/2010 – 09/2011 **Editor, Cambridge Mountaineering** (Cambridge, UK). Solicited, edited, and compiled articles for 75th edition of mountaineering club journal. Printed, bound, and sold over 100 copies of full-colour publication.

PUBLICATIONS

Please refer to my website, www.rberkowitz.net, for a complete list of writing samples and publications.