

RACHEL TOOR

2931 South Tekoa Street
Spokane, Washington 99203
406-370-5899—cell
racheltoor@earthlink.net
www.racheltoor.com

EDUCATION

University of Montana, MFA in Creative Nonfiction, May 2006.

Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut A.B. 1984 cum laude, distinction in English Language and Literature.

TEACHING

Assistant Professor of Creative Writing
Inland Northwest Center for Writers—MFA Program
Eastern Washington University
Spokane, Washington
September 2006—present
Awarded Faculty Research Grant 2006-2007 (\$10,000)
Awarded Faculty Research Grant 2007-2008 (\$10,000)

Associate Faculty in Creative Nonfiction
Antioch University
Los Angeles, California
June 2007—present

Teaching Assistant
Department of English
University of Montana
Missoula, Montana
Awarded Provost's Scholarship 2004-2005 (\$3000)
Awarded 2005-2006 Bertha Morton Fellowship (\$3000)
Awarded 2005 Susan Koch Library Research Scholarship (\$3000)

Instructor and College Admissions Consultant
Kaplan, Durham, North Carolina
Member of Kaplan's College Admissions Advisory Board
February 1996 – 2006

Taught preparatory classes for standardized tests: MCAT, GMAT, LSAT, GRE and SAT. Gave public presentations for high school and college students. Consulted one-on-one with individual students applying to college and university.

Independent College Consultant
Private clients
November 2001—present

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Scholarly Publishing

Duke University Press, Durham, North Carolina

Acquisitions Editor

July 1991—July 1996

Responsible for developing and publishing a list of books in law, literature, classics, medicine, communications, history, women's studies, African-American studies, dance, and performing arts. Edited scholarly books. Prepared and negotiated contracts. Figured budgets for individual books, as well as long-range, strategic planning. Generated marketing and advertising copy; planned marketing and publicity for books and series. Presented projects to Duke University's Editorial Advisory Board. Wrote grant applications for subsidies for books and series. Organized conference for the Journal of Health, Politics, Policy and Law. Supervised Editorial Assistant, as well as work-study students and interns.

Oxford University Press, New York, New York

Acquisitions Editor

May 1984—January 1991

Editorial Assistant, May 1984. Promoted to Assistant Editor, July 1986; Associate Editor for American history, July 1987; Acquisitions Editor for classics and communications, July 1988. Edited books, both substantively and copy-editing. Handled peer review process. Prepared manuscripts for production. Wrote descriptive copy. Performed market research. Presented books to sales force at bi-annual sales conference. Supervised Editorial Assistant and interns.

College Admissions

University Road Trips, Mamaronack, New York

Consultant

November 2001—May 2002

Provided consulting services on the college application process to foreign students; conceptualization of business and marketing strategies; staff training; writing of materials; travel and presentations within the United States and abroad.

Duke University, Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Durham, North Carolina

Admissions Officer

August 1997—August 2000

Recruited students and read applications from New England and Northern California. Public presentations to secondary schools and general audiences. Responsible for developing and implementing the Top Tier Recruitment Program to matriculate the best students applying to Duke. Provided creative direction and writing for Admissions Office publications. Liaison for students with special needs.

Publications

BOOKS

Personal Record: A Love Affair with Running, University of Nebraska Press, forthcoming Fall, 2008.

Prepublication blurbs from: Pat Conroy, Berndt Heinrich, John L. Parker, Bill Rodgers, Kathrine Switzer, Don Kardong, and Roy Benson.

The Pig and I: Why It's So Easy to Love an Animal, and So Hard to Live with a Man, February 2005, Hudson Street Press (Penguin), New York, NY. Paperback publication Plume, 2006. Reviews and mentions: Entertainment Weekly, San Francisco Chronicle, Los Angeles Times, New Orleans Times-Picayune, Arizona Republic. Translated into French and Russian.

Admissions Confidential: An Insider's Account of the Elite College Admissions Process, 2001, St. Martin's Press, New York, NY. Reviewed in The New York Times Book Review (September 30, 2001), The Atlantic Monthly (September 2001), The Washington Times, The Columbus Dispatch. Mentions in US News and World Report, Newsweek, Better Homes and Gardens.

Eleanor Roosevelt, Chelsea House Publishers, New York, NY 1989. In Young Adult Series.

The Polish-Americans, Chelsea House Publishers, New York, NY 1988. In Young Adult Series.

INVITED CONTRIBUTIONS TO BOOKS

"The Rise of the Pre-College Industry" in The Business of Higher Education, edited by David J. Siegel and John C. Knapp, Praeger, forthcoming 2009.

"Me and I" in Single State of the Union, edited by Diane Mapes, Seal Press, 2007.

"(Mass)(Velocity)=Momentum" in What Would MacGyver Do?, edited by Brendan Vaughan, Hudson Street Press, 2006.

"Heavy Petting" in Single Woman of a Certain Age edited by Jane Ganahl, Inner Ocean Publishing, October 2005.

ARTICLES REPRINTED IN ANTHOLOGIES

"Which One of These Essay Questions is the Real Thing?" in The Essay Connection, 9th edition, edited by Lynn Bloom, Houghton Mifflin, forthcoming January, 2009. Originally published in The Chronicle of Higher Education.

"My Left Tackle," reprinted in The New Writer's Handbook 2008, edited by Philip Martin, Scarletta Press, forthcoming August, 2008. Originally published in The Chronicle of Higher Education.

Selection from Admissions Confidential in Writing and Reading Across the Curriculum, 10th edition, edited by Laurence Behrens and Leonard Rosen, Longman, 2007.

PUBLISHED ARTICLES

- "A Marathon Runs Through It," *Running Times*, May 2008.
- "Goodbye to All That," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, March 24, 2008.
- "The Writing Date," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, February 5, 2008.
- "Serving the Community," *Running Times*, March, 2007.
- "The Mind of the Runner," *Running Times*, December, 2007.
- "Creating Nonfiction," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, December 7, 2007.
- "Leaving Las Vegas," *Marathon&Beyond*, November/December, 2007.
- "Like to Write? Keep it to Yourself," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, November 2, 2007.
- "Reject!" *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, October 5, 2007.
- "Me and the Boys," *Running Times*, October 2007.
- "The Care and Feeding of the Reader," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, September 14, 2007.
- "The Bloom Not Just of Lilacs: The Lilac Bloomsday Run," *Running Times*, September, 2007.
- "My Left Tackle," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 27, 2007.
- "No Bad Authors," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 29, 2007.
- Review of Mark Levine's *F5: Devastation, Survival, and the Most Violent Tornado Outbreak of the Twentieth Century*, *LA Times Book Review*, June 22, 2007.
- "Right Here, Right Now," *Running Times*, July/August 2007.
- "The Nature of Foul Matter," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 1, 2007.
- "Understanding Academe, Authors, and Editing," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, May 4, 2007.
- "Which of These Essay Questions is the Real Thing?" *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, April 27, 2007.
- "Runners When and Where You Need Them," *Running Times*, May 2007.
- "Speed Goggles," *Running Times*, March 2007.
- "Running Paradise: The Phuket International Marathon," *Running Times*, November 2006.
- "Your Pace or Mine?" *Running Times*, November 2006.
- "Ultra Fashionable," *Running Times*, September, 2006.
- "What's to 'Enjoy'?" *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 14, 2006.
- "Not a Team Player," *Running Times*, June 2006.
- "Politics on the Run," *Running Times*, April 2006.
- "Proud Plainsman," *Running Times*, April 2006.
- "Bridging the Classroom Generation Gap," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, March 17, 2006.
- "Being the First Woman," *Running Times*, January/February 2006.
- "Diminutive Dominator," *Running Times*, November 2005.
- "On the Road with Barry Lewis," *Marathon & Beyond*, September/October 2005.
- "Ride and Tie Worlds," *Adventure Sports*, September 2005.
- "It's Mister Orwell to You," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 15, 2005.
- "Why They Hate Us," *Running Times*, July/August 2005.
- "The Women of Western States," *Running Times*, July/August 2005.
- "What Pets Can Reveal about the People You Date," *Happen Magazine* (online magazine for www.match.com), March 28, 2005.
- "On the Trail: The Himalayan 100 Mile Stage Race," *Running Times*, April 2005.
- "A Devil's Dictionary of College Admissions," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, February 25, 2005.
- "Why is it Easier to Love a Pet Than a Man?" *Glamour*, March 2005.
- "Seeking a Peak Experience at the Himalayan 100 Mile Stage Race," *Ultrarunning*, January/February 2005.
- "My Most Unforgettable Marathon and What I Learned from It," *Marathon & Beyond*, Jan/Feb 2005.
- "Back To School," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, September 10, 2004.
- "On the Trail: Highlands Sky 40 Mile Race," *Running Times*, October 2004.
- "Reunited and it Feels So...What?" *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 2, 2004.

“A Horse Called Slick,” *Marathon & Beyond*, July/August 2004.
“On the Trail: Mountain Masochist 50 Mile Race,” *Running Times*, April 2004.
“Confessions of a Recovering Admissions Officer,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, April 30, 2004
“The Thinking Athlete’s Sport: History, Strategy and Camaraderie at the Ride and Tie World Championships,” *Running Times*, April 2004.
“Lust in the Dust,” *Marathon & Beyond*, March/April 2004.
“Who Needs an Agent? You Do!” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, March 19, 2004.
“Easing the Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner,” *Marathon & Beyond*, June/July 2003.
“Innocence Abroad,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, April 2003.
“Tip for Parents: Want Harvard? Try a Dakota,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, September 20, 2002.
“Princeton vs. Yale: Post-Frenzy Boredom in Admissions?” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, August 17, 2002.
“The Childe’s Tale,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, April 24, 2002.
“Did You Win?” *Running Times*, July/August 2002.
“O Brave New World: The Ultra Culture of the Northern California Sierra,” *Running Times*, June 2002.
“Running Away: Research Triangle Area, North Carolina,” *Running Times* magazine, November 2001.
“Runners in the Hands of An Angry God,” *Running Times* magazine July/August 2001.
“Commonplaces: From Quote Books to ‘Sig’ Files,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, May 25, 2001.
“Picking the Right College Is a Vital, Unimportant Process,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, April 27, 2001.
“Finding Truth and Falsehood in a Comma: The World of the Dusty Philologists,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, February 23, 2001.
“Evolution of a Trail Runner,” *Trail Runner* magazine, December/January, 2000.
“Early Decision and The Politics of Class,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, January 26, 2001.
“Being in, but Not of, the Academy,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, September 8, 2000.
“What We Talk About When We Don’t Talk About Running,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 14, 2000.
“Holden Caulfield, C’est Moi,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 2, 2000.
“Advice From an Author Advocate,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, April 28, 2000.
“Dreaming Below the Rim,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, March 24, 2000.
“It’s Still the Same Old Story, Aristophanes Notwithstanding,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, February 11, 2000.
“Why I Can’t Avoid Dating Academics,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, December 17, 1999.
“The Book Editor: Midwife to Ideas, Handmaiden to Knowledge, Groupie to Academic Stars,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 13, 1997.

COLUMNS

Columnist

“Page Proof”

The Chronicle of Higher Education

Monthly advice for academics about writing and getting published

June 2007 – present

Senior Writer
“The Finishing Kick”
Running Times
June 2003—present

Columnist
The Durham Herald- Sun
Durham, NC
April 2003—June 2005

ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Radio Commentator for WUNC, Chapel Hill-based NPR affiliate.

Television appearances: NBC’s Today Show, August 27, 2001, Good Day Sacramento, August 2001, ESPN’s Outside the Lines, March, 2002, WNBC New York, News at Five.

Radio interviews: The Merrow Report (NPR), WPAT (New York), WOR (The Joan Hamburg Show; The Joey Reynolds Show), WBAZ (Boston), The Todd Mundt Show (NPR), Financial Finesse Radio, KPCC (Talk of the City—Pasadena) among others.

INVITED TALKS

“Getting Serious Book Published,” Talk for the faculty of Eastern Washington University, sponsored by EWU Teaching and Learning Center, January 17, 2008.

Get Lit!, Spokane, WA, April 2007. Eastern Washington University faculty reading.

“Planning for College,” National Association for Gifted Children, Charlotte, NC, November 2006.

“A Place of Invention: Writing Western Women,” Rocky Mountain American Studies Association, Albuquerque, NM, 2006.

Montana Festival of the Book—Invited author, 2005.

“The Straight Scoop on College Admissions,” Duke University Talent Identification Program, each May from 2003—present.

“Sex, Lies, and Tuesdays with Morrie,” Cornell University, Sage Chapel, October 2000.

SERVICE

Manuscript reader: University of Nebraska Press; University of Arkansas Press
Judge, Fiction Contest, Southern Connecticut State University, March 2008.

EWU Search Committee, position in journalism, 2007.

EWU Student Services Committee, 2007-2008

EWU Revising Faculty Grant Award Committee, 2008.

EWU Search Committee, Executive Dean, Riverpoint Campus, 2008.

