

M. Mitchell Waldrop

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SUMMARY

Ph.D. physicist turned journalist and author, with three decades' experience writing for the general public about a broad range of issues in science and technology.

EDUCATION

1977: M.A. (Science Journalism) University of Wisconsin, Madison

1975: Ph.D. (Theoretical Physics) University of Wisconsin, Madison
Sigma Xi, 1973; IBM Fellow, 1972

1969: B.S. (Mathematics) University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Phi Beta Kappa, 1969; Phi Eta Sigma, 1965

EMPLOYMENT

2006-Present: MMW Communications, Washington, DC

Principal: Independent communications consulting and freelance writing.

2003-2006: National Science Foundation, Washington, DC

Public Affairs Officer: (2003-July 2006) Helped plan and implement overhaul of NSF Web site; led teams of writers, illustrators and designers in creating Web-based science content; served as acting editor of media affairs group; advised NSF officials on public outreach.

1991-2003: Free-Lance Writer, Washington, DC

1980-1994: Science, Washington, DC

Senior Writer: (1980-1991); Contributing Correspondent: (1991-1994). Specialized in physics, chemistry, astronomy, space, global change, computers, neuroscience, cognitive science, artificial intelligence, science policy, complexity theory.

1977-80: Chemical & Engineering News, Washington, DC

Writer (Washington, DC, 1977-8); Bureau Head: West Coast (Palo Alto, CA, 1978-80). Planned, researched, and wrote articles on the chemical sciences, including the role of chemistry in the earth and planetary sciences.

1969-77: University Of Wisconsin, Madison

Research Assistant: Wrote news releases and newsletter articles for the University-Industry Research program. Teaching Assistant: Taught a total of seven semesters, including introductory physics, remedial algebra, and introductory news writing.

FREELANCE WRITING

1979-Present: Magazines

Feature articles for *Scientific American*, *Technology Review*, *HHMI Bulletin*, *Discover*, *Air & Space*, *Business 2.0*, *Red Herring*, *Fast Company*, and others.

2004: *The Future of Computing*

A collection of in-depth essays, published by the Foresight and Governance Project, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

2001: *The Dream Machine* (Viking, New York)

A popular book on the history of computing; part of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation's book series on technologies of the 20th century.

1992: *Complexity* (Simon and Schuster, New York)

A popular book on the Santa Fe Institute and complex adaptive systems; Ten foreign editions.

1987: *Man-Made Minds* (Walker and Company, New York)

A popular book on artificial intelligence.

1986-90: Time-Life Books

Chapters on the use of computers in military surveillance and intelligence-gathering; computers in NASA's unmanned planetary probes; the unmanned exploration of Mars; the history of astrophysics; spacecraft navigation; the fate of the solar system; neuroscience and the mind.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

DC Science Writers Association:

Board of Directors (1993-1998, 2003-); President, (2004-5).

Science-Writer-in-Residence, University of Wisconsin (2004)

Judge, NASW Science-in-Society award, books (2004), online (2007); American Institute of Physics science-writing award (1989-1993); American Society for Microbiology science writing award (2004); AAAS science journalism awards, TV and radio (1986-8), magazines (1992).

Lectures on History of Computing: Microsoft Research, Computer History Museum, Editors of *IEEE Annals of History of Computing* (2002)

Ecology of Warning Symposium, Global Futures Partnership (CIA) (2002).

Highlands Forum (2000 and 2003).

Presenter, U.S. Marine Corps' Vision 2000 exercise (1995).

National Air and Space Museum's Public Programs advisory panel (1990-1993)

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

2007. (Writer) Prospectus on the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences, SBE Subcommittee of the NSTC. Washington, DC. (In preparation)
2007. IMOD Technology. *Scientific American* (In press)
2007. Data Center in a Box. *Scientific American* (Aug)
2007. Powering the Revolution. *Science News* (2 Jun)
2005. *The World Year of Physics 2005* (NSF Special Report)
http://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/wyop/index.jsp
2005. (Editor) *After the Tsunami* (NSF Special Report)
http://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/tsunami/index.jsp
2005. *Astronomy & Space* (NSF Research Overview)
<http://www.nsf.gov/news/overviews/astronomy/index.jsp>
2005. (co-author) *Chemistry & Materials* (NSF Research Overview)
<http://www.nsf.gov/news/overviews/chemistry/>
2005. (co-author) *Physics* (NSF Research Overview)
<http://www.nsf.gov/news/overviews/physics/index.jsp>
2005. (co-author) *The Sensor Revolution* (NSF Special Report)
http://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/sensor/index.jsp
2004. *The Future of Computing*. Woodrow Wilson Center
2003. Can Sensemaking Keep Us Safe? *Technology Review* 106, no. 2 (Mar)
2003. Science Behind the Screens. *Howard Hughes Medical Institute Bulletin* 16, no. 2 (June): 4-5.
2002. Engineering the Cell. *Howard Hughes Medical Institute Bulletin* 15, no. 3 (Sep): 22-25.
2002. The Management Secrets of the Brain. *Business 2.0* : 122-25.
2002. Grid Computing. *Technology Review* 105, no. 4 (May): 31-37.
2002. Noam Chomsky: The Relentless Revolutionary. *Technology Review* 105, no. 2 (Mar): (MIT News) 8-13.
2001. Origins of Personal Computing. *Scientific American* 285, no. 6 (Dec): 72-79.
2001. College Student Meets Electron Man. *Howard Hughes Medical Institute Bulletin* 14, no. 4 (Sep): 22-25.
2001. Claude Shannon: Reluctant Father of the Digital Age. *Technology Review* 104, no. 6 (Jul/Aug): 64-71.
2001. Janelia Farm: Cultivating the New Tools of Biology. *Howard Hughes Medical Institute Bulletin* 14, no. 3 (Jul): 10-15.
2000. No, This Man Invented the Internet. *Forbes ASAP* (27 Nov): 105-7.
2000. J.C.R. Licklider: Computing's Johnny Appleseed. *Technology Review* 103, no. 1 (Jan/Feb): 66-71.
1997. How the Chess was Won: An Interview with Deep Blue's Brains. *Technology Review* 100, no. 6 (Aug/Sep): 33-36.
1996. The Trillion-Dollar Vision of Dee Hock. *Fast Company* , no. 5 (Oct /Nov): 75-86.
1991. A Mind of Their Own. *Connoisseur* (May): 42.
1990. The Space Station is Losing Friends. *Science* 250 (19 Oct): 364-66.
1990. The Long, Sad Saga of Mount Graham. *Science* 248 (22 Jun): 1479-81.
1990. Fast, Cheap, and Out of Control. *Science* 248 (25 May): 959-62.
1990. Learning to Drink from a Firehose. *Science* 248 (11 May): 674-75.
1989. Flying the Electric Skies. *Science* 244 (30 Jun): 1532-34.
1989. Will the Hubble Space Telescope Compute? *Science* 243 (17 Mar): 1437-39.

1989. The U.S. Global Change Program--a Political Perspective. *EarthQuest* 3, no. 1 (Spring): 4-7.
1988. Soar: A Unified Theory of Cognition. *Science* 241 (15 Jul): 296-98.
1988. Toward a Unified Theory of Cognition. *Science* 241 (1 Jul): 27-29.
1988. Electronic Sentinels. The Military Frontier (Understanding Computers). Time-Life Books.
1987. Computers Amplify Black Monday. *Science* 238 (30 Oct): 602-4.
1987. Reconnaissance by Proxy. *Space (Understanding Computers)*. Time-Life Books.
1986. Washington Embraces Global Earth Sciences. *Science* 233 (5 Sep): 1040-1042.
1986. Resolving the Star Wars Software Dilemma. *Science* 232 (9 May): 710-713.
1986. The Challenger Disaster: Assessing the Implications. *Science* 231 (14 Feb): 661-63.
1985. NSF Commits to Supercomputers. *Science* 228 (3 May): 568-71.
1985. Personal Computers on Campus. *Science* 228 (26 Apr): 438-44.
1985. Artificial Intelligence: The Machinations of Thought. *Science* 85 6, no. 2 (Mar): 38-45.
1984. An Inquiry Into the State of the Earth. *Science* 226 (5 Oct): 33-35.
1984. The Intelligence of Organizations. *Science* 225 (14 Sep): 1136-37.
1984. Artificial Intelligence in Parallel. *Science* 225 (10 Aug): 608-10.
1984. Computer Vision. *Science* 224 (15 Jun): 1225-27.
1984. Natural Language Understanding. *Science* 224 (27 Apr): 372-74.
1984. The Necessity of Knowledge. *Science* 223 (23 Mar): 1279-82.
1984. The Selling of the Space Station. *Science* 223 (24 Feb): 793-94.
1984. Artificial Intelligence (I): Into the World. *Science* 223 (24 Feb): 802-5.
1983. Space City. *Science* 83 4, no. 8 (Oct): 60-67.
1983. Gambling on the Supercollider. *Science* 221 (9 Sep): 1038-40.
1983. What Price Privatizing Landsat? *Science* 219 (11 Feb): 752-54.
1982. NASA Wants a Space Station. *Science* 217 (10 Sep): 1018-21.
1982. Imaging the Earth (II): The Politics of Landsat. *Science* 216 (2 Apr): 40-41.
1982. Imaging the Earth (I): The Troubled First Decade of Landsat. *Science* 215 (26 Mar): 1600-1603.
1981. Mauna Kea (II): Coming of Age. *Science* 214 (4 Dec): 1110-1114.
1981. Mauna Kea (I): Halfway to Space. *Science* 214 (27 Nov): 1010-1013.