



Herton Abacherli Escobar / CV

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General profile

I am a professional Brazilian journalist, specialized in Science and Environment, with a deep passion for research, conservation, accurate reporting and storytelling. Since January 2019 I am a special reporter at the University of São Paulo (USP) communications office, reporting mostly on science, education and environmental policies. For the previous 19 years I was a reporter for 'O Estado de S. Paulo' newspaper, with more than 2K stories published in print and online, on a wide variety of topics related to scientific research, integrity, policy-making and regulation. Since January 2015 I am also a contributing writer to 'Science' magazine, in the United States, and a freelancer at large.

In addition to my journalism degree at Western Michigan University (WMU), I was a science journalism fellow at the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL), a Knight Science Journalism fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and a visiting scholar at the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism (J-School), where I studied multimedia and entrepreneurial journalism.

In July 2014 I received the most prestigious recognition for science journalism in Brazil, the José Reis Award for the Communication of Science and Technology; in addition to several other professional accolades, such as the National Biodiversity Award, given by the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment.

I have accumulated academic and journalistic experience in several disciplines, mostly specially in the biological and environmental sciences (including biodiversity, biomedicine and biotechnology), climate change, sustainable development, astronomy and space exploration, entrepreneurship, innovation and science policy and communication. I also have a considerable amount of laboratory and field-work experience, having visited many labs and research institutions around the world, and participated in several field research expeditions to jungles, mountains and marine environments; as well as international conferences held by United Nations and other important diplomatic forums.

In 2016 I cofounded the USP Talks initiative, a program designed to foster communication between academia and society through monthly events where scientists and professors talk openly with the public about issues that are hot in the news.

I live with my family in the city of Sao Paulo, Brazil; where I was born in March 1977.

Professional experience

UNIVERSITY OF SAO PAULO – JAN 2019 - PRESENT

Special reporter at “Jornal da USP” (USP Newspaper)

'SCIENCE' MAGAZINE – JAN 2015 - PRESENT

International collaborator / contributing writer

USP TALKS INITIATIVE – APRIL 2016 - PRESENT

Co-founder, host and content director

'O ESTADO DE S. PAULO' – JAN 2000 - NOV 2018

Senior reporter for science and environment

'KALAMAZOO GAZETTE' – 1999

Intern reporter

'WESTERN HERALD' (WMU NEWSPAPER) – 1996 - 1999

Reporter and editor-in-chief

Academic Background

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY (UC BERKELEY)

Visiting scholar at the Graduate School of Journalism (2014)

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (MIT)

Knight Science Journalism fellow (2006-2007)

MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY (MBL)

Science Journalism Program fellow (2005)

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

BA in English/Journalism (1999)

Main awards

JOSÉ REIS AWARD FOR THE COMMUNICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

given by the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development - CNPq (2014)

NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AWARD

given by the Brazilian Ministry of Environment (2017)

PETROBRAS JOURNALISM AWARD

given by the Petrobras company; for Innovation in journalism (2017)

CONFAP AWARD

given by the Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies (national finalist, 2021)

Language proficiency

Fluent in Portuguese and English (reading, writing and speaking)

Basic Spanish (reading and speaking)

Online references and related links

Professional website: www.hertonescobar.com.br

USP Newspaper: <https://jornal.usp.br>

University of Sao Paulo: <https://www5.usp.br>

Linkedin profile: br.linkedin.com/in/hertonescobar

My stories in *Science*: <https://goo.gl/p29rXF>

USP Talks on YouTube: <https://goo.gl/6npyAN>

O Estado de S. Paulo newspaper: www.estadao.com

UC Berkeley J-School: <https://journalism.berkeley.edu>

MIT Knight Science Journalism Fellowship: <http://ksj.mit.edu>

MBL Science Journalism Program: <http://www.mbl.edu/sjp/>

Western Herald: <http://www.westernherald.com>

Kalamazoo Gazette: <http://www.mlive.com/kalamazoo/>