

John A. Pavlus

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PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Writing & Producing:

- Created, wrote, produced & edited original online video content for Scientific American. 8-episode original series “Instant Egghead” explains complicated science topics such as dark matter and synthetic biology for the lay viewer; directed non-professional talent in hybrid of scripted material and documentary interview. Weekly original series “The Monitor” presents science news in an innovative “inscreen” format; directed talent and designed onscreen graphics. Also shot & edited coverage of CES 2008, including an interview with Bill Gates.
(freelance : September 2007 – present)
- Co-developed and co-wrote shooting script for National Geographic Explorer documentary “The Science of Evil” with Emmy-winning director Tony Gerber. Developed and wrote neuroscience-related story beats.
(National Geographic Television – Associate Producer: June – September 2007)
- Developing, producing and writing documentary video segments for NPR online pilot program. Subjects include a psychologist who conducts experiments in networked video games, graphic designers working with atomic scientists, and why our brains still feel suspense when watching movies we’ve seen before.
(freelance : January 2007 - present)
- Wrote script segment for PBS science pilot “22nd Century,” based on a treatment by Emmy-winning writer/director Gino Del Guercio in association with Towers Productions. Segment contains show intro with scripted interaction between three hosts, transitioning into documentary storyline about surgical robots.
(freelance : August 2006)
- Developed, produced, and wrote original science news segments for nationwide network affiliates (including WABC-New York) on staff of an NSF-funded production company. Reviewed current scientific journals for TV-appropriate stories and collaborated with academic experts to vet stories for accuracy. Subjects included quantum computing, underwater earthquakes, brain chemicals acting as painkillers, and the genetics of obesity.
(ScienCentral News, Inc. – Associate Producer : May 2005 - January 2006)
- Wrote original narration for Emmy-winning Discovery Channel series “Assignment: Discovery,” contextualizing episode segments for an elementary/high-school audience.
(Tapestry International Productions – Segment Writer : March - June 2004)

Field Production:

- Supervised P2 media management and coordinated field production in DR Congo, San Francisco, and Madison, WI for National Geographic Explorer documentary “The Science of Evil.” Ensured secure transfer, tracking, backup and troubleshooting of digital

master material from HVX-200 camera in remote foreign locations. Hired local crew, coordinated specialty equipment and facilities (including plasma-screen playback rig, car hood mounts, blackout soundstage).

(National Geographic: June – September 2007)

- Supervised field production in Guatemala & Belize for Emmy-nominated PBS series “NOVA ScienceNOW.” Secured customs permits, arranged ground and helicopter logistics between city airports and remote locations, managed cash in local currency, trafficked electronic deliverables between field and home office in New York.
(WGBH – Associate Producer : October 2006 - November 2006)
- Supervised field production of 3-day re-enactment shoot in Manhattan for two-hour Science Channel series "Exploring Time." Scouted practical exterior locations, arranged municipal shooting permits, collaborated with producer to adjust script for ground details, hired crew, coordinated specialty equipment and facilities (including motion-control camera rig, smoke machine and greenscreen soundstage), coordinated casting and acquisition of specialty props.
(Thomas Lucas Productions – Associate Producer : May 2006)
- Coordinated all documentary field production for "Exploring Time" over 16 shoots in the U.S., Puerto Rico, and Japan. Collaborated with writer/producer on fitting story points with specific research institutions, including Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Brookhaven National Laboratories, NASA and NOAA. Arranged shooting permits and hired local crew.
(Thomas Lucas Productions: February - May 2006)

Production Management:

- Managed licensing / rights clearances for second season of NOVA ScienceNOW
(WGBH : August 2006 - March 2007)
- Created production budget and project-management systems for "Exploring Time"
(Thomas Lucas Productions : February 2006 - May 2006)
- Conducted casting interviews and organized material into character database for independent documentary on amateur winter-sports athletes by Emmy Award-winning producer Nisma Zaman
(IceDocs : September 2004 - December 2004)

SKILLS

- Interpreting and evaluating scientific literature for potential story points
- Directing nonprofessional talent (e.g. scientists, academics, laypeople) in the field
- Creating & organizing project-management systems for production tracking
- Operating nonlinear editing systems (Final Cut Pro & Avid)
- Understanding technical details of cinematography, camera operating (DV, 16mm)

REFERENCES / WRITING SAMPLES / REEL

Available upon request.