

Paul Riker

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Education

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

- Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing (Fiction), Expected May 2022

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

- Bachelor of Arts in Creative Writing (Fiction) and Economics, Jun. 2015
- Thesis Project: “Hasting Days” (Novella). Advisor: Dr. Juan Martinez

Publications

- “1,457,980,228.11” (Short Story). *Nashville Review*, 32 (Summer 2020). [Online](#).
- “He’s An Angry One, Isn’t He?” (Short Story). *(b)OINK*, Oct. 2017. [Online](#).
- “Veal” (Short Story). *Five on the Fifth* 2.12 (Oct. 2017). [Online](#).
- “Smolder” (Short Story). *Crack the Spine*, 13 (Apr. 2016): 101-112. Print.
- “Before Len Was Struck By Lightning” (Short Story). *Drunk Monkeys*, Aug. 2015. [Online](#).

Awards and Honors

Montana Prize in Fiction, April 2021

- Finalist for “Positive Vibes” (Short Story)

National Society of Arts and Letters Literature Awards, Spring 2021

- Holl Merit and Jones Merit Award, top prize for the state of Indiana, for “Positive Vibes” (Short Story)

Introductory Composition at Purdue Awards, Fall 2020

- Quintillian Award for English composition instructors with evaluations in the top 10 percent

The Iowa Review Awards, June 2020

- Finalist in Fiction for “Positive Vibes” (Short Story)

Purdue University PROMISE Award, May 2020

- Awarded travel grant for graduate research project: “Understanding Socioeconomic Disparity in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula”

Purdue University Literary Awards, April 2020

- For “Positive Vibes” (Short Story):
 - Bud and Betty Knoll Award for Best of Contest
 - CLA Dean’s Award for Best Graduate Entry
 - Booth Tarkington Fiction Award for a Short Story by a Graduate Student

Teaching and Tutoring Experience

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

- **Instructor**, Department of English, Fall 2020 – Summer 2021
 - ENGL 106 (Introductory Composition)
- **Grader**, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Fall 2019 – current
 - ECE 20007 (Electrical Engineering Fundamentals)

- ECE 394 (Professional Communication and Diversity)
- ECE 494 (Professional Communication Capstone)
- **Writing Lab Consultant**, Purdue Writing Lab, Aug. 2020 – May 2020
 - Counseled members of the Purdue University community on any and all forms of writing, acting as a subject matter expert on global and local writing questions and concerns.

Editorial Experience

Sycamore Review – Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

- **Reader (Fiction)**, Sept. 2019 – current
 - Reviewed and evaluated fiction submissions for the Sycamore Review, Purdue University's literary magazine, making recommendations to the fiction editors on pieces to be considered for publication.

Sherman Ave – Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

- **Editor-in-Chief**, Jan. 2014 – Jan. 2015
 - Appointed the second EIC in the publication's history; the first non-founder of the publication to hold such a title. Managed the day-to-day actions of the website, including the editing and publishing of all content. Led and oversaw a significant and dramatic restructuring of the publication, including:
 - Drafting a comprehensive infrastructural re-alignment of the organization's editorial and executive boards
 - Coordinating a dramatic website re-design effort
 - Ensuring the legal protection of the organization by registering it as an LLC
 - Instituting a more rigorous and efficient writing policy
- **Editor**, Mar. 2013 – Dec. 2013
 - Edited and published all submitted content on a day-to-day basis.

Professional Experience

Accenture – Chicago, IL

- **Management Consultant**, Sept. 2016 – Apr. 2019
 - Led multiple multi-phase, globally-integrated projects for a Fortune 50 pharmacy retailer and a Fortune 500 pharmacy benefits manager. Acted as a Project Manager, Technical Product Owner, and Senior Business Analyst for a multi-million dollar retail systems implementation.
 - Analyzed existing system processes to identify gaps, key opportunities for future systems, and functional requirements. Worked with process owners, offshore development teams, and senior-level managers and business owners, often bridging multiple teams, to communicate requirements, lead demonstrations, and manage senior-level client expectations.