

Dave Howland

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William Magrino
Assistant Director, Director of Business & Technical Writing
Loree Building, Room 006 72 Lipman Drive
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Dear Bill,

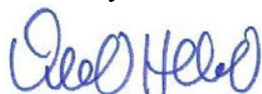
Following up on our terrific conversation, I am writing to formally apply to teach in your college's Business and Technical Writing program. As a senior lecturer in the Department of English at the University of New Hampshire, I have taught several undergraduate composition courses over the past 12 years, including professional and technical writing classes for students in a variety of majors. I was cheered to see what a good match your program would be for my skills, experience and teaching philosophy.

Briefly again, so you have some of my story in writing, I have spent most of my professional life as a writer, editor and teacher – including eight years as a full-time professional daily news reporter for papers in central and northern California and The Associated Press in Boston. At UNH, I followed a love of environmental storytelling to graduate school and completed a master's degree and a doctorate in environmental policy. I helped teach wildlife ecology and other classes while building a dissertation case-study comparison of policies to fix the ozone hole and fight climate change. The bulk of my teaching these days is in our Professional and Technical Writing program, which stresses the fundamentals of workplace writing and teamwork through intensive community service learning projects with a wide range of nonprofit clients – from social service providers and academic think tanks to environmental groups and community theaters.

It has been a joy to help students from many colleges at UNH with their writing – to help them reflect on their hard work and to see the forest for the trees in their thinking. Leveraging my experience in news reporting and academia, I stress to students the importance of sound writing fundamentals and life-long benefits of cracking open a dictionary or grammar book when in doubt. Most important, I believe, is the ability to convey the substance, relevance and excitement of one's work to a wide variety of audiences – be it in an elevator pitch to a policy maker, a visit to a class of second graders, or a lecture to an auditorium of scholars from many disciplines.

To sum up, I relish the prospect of bringing to Rutgers the skills I've developed across all of my professional and life experiences – as a reporter and editor, teacher and researcher, songwriter and parent – to help your students develop and communicate their bright ideas and vision with clarity and confidence. I have attached with this application my teaching narrative from not long ago for our senior lecturer promotion process, which further highlights my work at UNH. If you like, I would be happy to also share some samples of my academic and news writing. Thanks again, Bill, for your time, and please let me know if I can provide anything further. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Dave Howland, Ph.D.