

Jugal Patel

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Digital Editor – Old Dominion University Student Newspaper - Mace and Crown Sept. 2014 – Present

- Overseeing transition from print-first publication to digital-first for the student newspaper at ODU, a university of 24,000 students. Redesigned website and:
 - Increased page views by 139%
 - Increased unique visitors by 33%
 - Increased time spent per session by 45%
 - Lowered bounce rate by 50%
 - (Figures are from 2013-2014 vs. 2014-2015)
- Facilitated innovation partnership between Virginia's largest newspaper, the Virginian-Pilot, and the ODU Computer Science Department.
- Coded interactive data visualization in d3.js programming library that presented salary data for 2,407 members of ODU faculty, obtained through FOIA.
- Mentoring 14 undergraduate seniors in the computer science department through a media innovation initiative in two separate year-long capstone projects. Also worked with computer science graduate students on the first digital, interactive data visualization produced and published on the Mace and Crown website.
- Authored story that brought in the 4th most amount of traffic in the history of maceandcrown.com (first in traffic for year of 2015).
- Conducted study with ODU Social Science Research Center, producing media consumption behavior, subject interests, and other relevant data on student body w/ 94% confidence interval.

Coastal Adaptation and Resilience Correspondent – Virginia Sea Grant Feb. 2015 - Present

- Writing web stories on the regional process of adapting to sea level rise in coastal Virginia, which is among the most vulnerable areas in the U.S. to climate change impacts. Worked with communications staff, and with an extension staff scientist at Old Dominion University.
- Wrote a 6-part series on a community wide project to design and construct the first climate change adapted neighborhood in the U.S. Interviewed engineers and architects, wetlands specialists, nonprofit directors and professionals, and an architectural historian. Conducted research and interviews, and attended design sessions over the course of 7 months to produce the series.
- Leading initiative to develop interactive information management and visualization software tool displaying sea level rise adaptation efforts in coastal Virginia. Using d3.js programming language framework and its force-directed network template.
- Covered multiple Adaptation Forums involving dozens of officials from local governments around the region, including other stakeholders and practitioners working on adaptation in Virginia and abroad.
- Gave public presentations on sea level rise and adaptation alongside scientists, to community members and student leaders on campus.

Skills

Knowledgeable in HTML and CSS, with some experience using Bootstrap, JavaScript, jQuery, and d3.js. Knowledgeable in ArcGIS software, SPSS, InDesign, Photoshop, Tableau, Wordpress, Google Analytics and Microsoft Office.

Other Experience

Became 1 of 6 students selected by ODU faculty to represent the university in a closed lunch with the of Secretary of State, John Kerry.

Wrote opinion pieces published in the Sunday edition of the Virginian-Pilot, and on the Wednesday edition of the Virginia Beach subsidiary of the Virginian-Pilot, The Beacon.

Accumulated community engagement and volunteer experience as a Chair of the Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Committee for the Chesapeake Bay Group of the Sierra Club, a member of the Virginia Student Environmental Coalition, and an organizer for the Chesapeake Climate Action Network.

Have given public presentations on sea level rise and adaptation to audiences of varying sizes and ages. Invited by Virginia Beach School Board to facilitate environmental discussions with top students in Virginia Beach High Schools for a scholarship program hosted by the Virginia Beach Rotary Club.

Education

Old Dominion University

August 2011 – May 2016

Double Major: Political Science (BS) and Philosophy – Political/Legal Studies (BA)

References

Janet Brunelle | Assistant Chair – *ODU Computer Science Department*
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Hans-Peter Plag | Director – *ODU Mitigation and Adaptation Research Institute*
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