University of Vermont

Center for Community News

News-Academic Faculty Profiles

Summary of Findings

August 2025

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Key Findings

The Center for Community News at UVM launched this project to understand the collective experience of the faculty leading news-academic programs at colleges and universities across the country. Based on a review of faculty webpages, LinkedIn and other publicly accessible information, this study presents a snapshot of the professional experience of 212 faculty from the 227 news-academic partnerships in the CCN database.

These are the key findings:

- Most of the faculty leaders (**87 percent** or 184 people) have professional experience in journalism.
- Of the 184 leaders with journalism experience, they averaged **more than 18 years** at 710 different national and local news outlets.
- **30 percent** of the total faculty surveyed have a PhD.
- **50 percent** have a master's degree.
- **34 percent** earned their highest degree in journalism and **25 percent** in communications.
- **38 percent** of the faculty leaders have tenured status or are on the tenure track.
- 191 leaders have spent an **average of 9.6 years** at their current institute as faculty.
- The most frequently occurring professional organizations these faculty have worked at are: The New York Times, USA Today, CNN, The Chicago Tribune, The Washington Post, Associated Press and The Wall Street Journal.
- The faculty leading these programs have **more than 3,000 years** of journalism experience

Methodology

A comprehensive list of U.S. colleges and universities operating between one and five student reporting programs was compiled using a national dataset developed by the Center for Community News (CCN) at the University of Vermont. Researchers examined professional experience, academic experience, time spent in their current institute and their tenure/non-tenure status. Data were extracted from institutional faculty and staff biography pages as well as individual LinkedIn profiles.

You will find a list of the 710 media outlets that surveyed faculty work at **here**.

Contact Us

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More CCN research, mapping and raw data can be found at https://www.uvm.edu/ccn/research-reports-and-case-studies.