**Mr. Les Dunseith**

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**Education University of Southern California** | Master of Arts in Print Journalism Graduated with honors in 1985

**Truman State University** | Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication

Graduated summa cum laude in 1980

**Work Experience** University of Southern California   
**Lecturer** | **Adviser to Student Newspaper | Consulting Editor** 1992 - present

* + - * Longtime member of adjunct journalism faculty, teaching digital design.
      * Ongoing role assisting student editors of the Daily Trojan as faculty adviser.
      * Former co-instructor of summer immersion course in digital journalism for master’s students.
      * Former writing coach for journalism students (2014-15).

University of California, Los Angeles   
**Executive Director of Communications** March 2016 – October 2024

* + - * Directed a website refresh for the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs that segued into a full-time position as assistant director. I became the executive director of communications in 2018.

Consulting Editor   
**Writer** | **Designer** | **Editor | Project Manager** 2013 - present

Fixed-term consulting and freelance positions for clients that have included:

* + - * USC Marshall School of Business (concept work related to a commemorative book)
      * movie.pilot.com (content developer for Creators Academy training program)
      * Keck Medicine of USC (editor, designer and writer; digital asset manager; website producer)
      * USC Caruso Family Center for Childhood Communication (software training)
      * Santa Monica High School Alumni Association (newsletter designer)
      * Digital publishing (manuscript editor)

Los Angeles Times

**Graphics Director** 2002 – 2013

* + - * Delivered daily counsel and insight to senior editors regarding visual presentation options for breaking news and enterprise stories.
      * Advised newsroom leaders and helped establish best-practice guidelines related to potential coverage issues, technology hurdles and content management challenges.
      * Personally produced or directed production of more than 1,000 information graphics per year on   
        wide-ranging topics – politics, government, healthcare, science, entertainment, the arts, travel, business, finance and more.
      * Implemented and managed production procedures to encourage visual presentations of the highest-possible quality, ensuring results that consistently received journalistic accolades.

**Design Director, Administration | Executive News Editor | Designer**  1989 – 2002

* + - * Management responsibilities as supervising editor included departmental budgeting, vendor relations, staff development and training, personnel evaluation, scheduling and integration of new technology.
      * Participated in interdepartmental group hand-picked by senior leaders to select new content management and production system. Instrumental in working with outside vendor to customize software for Times' use. Led team that developed and executed training and implementation plan.
      * Worked directly with deputy managing editor on sweeping reorganization of Times' design and graphics operation – about 90 staff members – that coincided with move to fully digital production.
      * Supervised staff of 35 people on Features copy and design desks for about three years.
      * Held a variety of non-management roles, including news designer and copy editor. Also handled hundreds of graphics related to local news.

California State University, Northridge

**Part-time instructor** 1991 – 1992

Taught Introduction to Mass Media for two semesters.

Los Angeles Herald-Examiner

**Copy editor and slot** 1989

Worked on the copy desk for about six months before the newspaper folded.

Truman State University

**Instructor** 1985 – 1989

Spent four years as full-time instructor, teaching courses such as news writing, copy editing,   
media law and history of American journalism.

**Staff Assistant in Public Relations | Student Newspaper Adviser** 1980 – 1983

Prior to break for graduate school, oversaw campus newspaper and handled various duties in   
PR office, including editing and designing campus alumni magazine and recruitment publications.   
Other duties included media relations and community outreach.

**Legislative Intern** Spring 1980

Served one semester as legislative intern for Missouri State Sen. Harold L. Caskey, who was majority whip at the time. Because then-Sen. Caskey is visually impaired, I also acted as a personal assistant during my internship, helping to review legislation. I was also granted access to the types of closed-door legislative meetings and political discussions that most interns rarely see.

Pasadena Star-News

**Copy Editor** 1984 – 1985

Worked as a copy editor and page designer while also enrolled as a full-time graduate student.

**AWARDS AND HONORS Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Awards** Conceptualized, researched and helped produce online graphics that were featured component of winning entry in New Media category in 2013 for L.A. Times project known as “Beyond 7 Billion.” Worked closely with reporter Kenneth R. Weiss, photographer Rick Loomis and others to create interactive maps and charts, plus three narrated motion graphics that illustrated worldwide impact of population growth.

**Pulitzer Prizes** Developed visuals for several Pulitzer nominees and winners, including graphics about King-Drew Hospital for series that won public service award in 2005. Played key role in Altered Oceans project that won Pulitzer for explanatory reporting in 2007. Developed graphics that were central elements of Big Burn investigative series that won Pulitzer for explanatory journalism in 2009. Part of L.A. Times local news staff that shared in Pulitzers for spot news coverage of 2003 California wildfires, 1998 North Hollywood shootout, 1994 Northridge earthquake and 1992 L.A. riots.

**Society for News Design** L.A. Times received more than 400 honors in annual Best of News Design international competition during my time as a senior design leader. Directly supervised production of more than 25 graphics that received specific recognition.

**Society of Professional Journalists** L.A. Times was sole winner of information graphics award for large news organizations for unprecedented six consecutive years: 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009.

**Online News Association** Developed visuals for many L.A. Times stories and projects recognized for excellence in online presentation, including 2013 award in Explanatory Journalism for "Beyond 7 Billion."

**AREAS OF EXPERTISE** Visual storytelling | Information graphics for print and online | Data-driven communication | Deadline production | Personnel supervision | Information gathering | Project management | Writing and   
editing | Media trends | Journalism education

**OTHER SKILLS** Proficient in Adobe design programs, including InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator. Advanced user of Microsoft Office programs such as Word and Excel. Well-versed in PowerPoint, GIS mapping and online presentation tools from Google and ESRI. Familiar with other software programs and content management systems, including CCI, Quark XPress, Adobe Muse, Adobe Flash, HTML and CSS. Knowledgeable about social media and search engine optimization.