FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

BETH KNOBEL

Before joining Fordham, Beth Knobel was the pelvic floor expert at the University of Southern California School of Medicine, where she directed the Pelvic Health Program for Women's Medicine.

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Before Fordham, Beth Knobel spent 20 years as an active journalist, including acting as a producer and the Moscow Bureau Chief for CBS News. Her hard work earned her an Emmy award for her coverage of the 2002 Moscow theater siege. After teaching both graduate and undergraduate classes at Fordham University for the past 13 years, Knobel was named the new Public Media MA Program Director starting in Fall 2020.

Knobel says she is grateful to her predecessor, Garrett Broad, the department administrator, Michelle O’Dwyer, and the former chair of Communication and Media Studies Jacqueline Reich. “They are all wonderful and have passed along a program that is very strong,” she said.

With an extensive background in journalism and strong experience with strategic communication, Knobel says she feels passionate about cross pollinating both sides of the program and raising the level of sophistication of the courses. With this in mind, she plans to expand the number of course options to include more writing classes and a course that focuses on the PR for non-profits. She also hopes to strengthen the program’s existing partnerships with the public broadcasters WFUV, WNET, and WNYC.

As for her students, Knobel’s number one goal is to make sure the PMMA students make the most of their time in the program, despite the COVID-19 restrictions. “I really want every student to take responsibility for making it as rich and rewarding as it can be,” she says. “I see myself as a partner in that process so that each student can see the forest and not just the trees.” With such a talented and diverse group of students this year, Knobel encourages the PMMA cohort to come together and share their different passions and interests through live and virtual programs and events to foster a sense of community.

Knobel says she is extremely grateful for her new role as program director, especially to a tight knit program like the Public Media MA. “It’s such a small program that we can embrace everyone and help people on their individual journeys towards their careers,” she says. “I’m very excited for this year and extremely proud of the program we offer.”

Faculty spotlights will be a regular feature of this newsletter. We’d like to shine the spotlight on as many people as possible, so if you’re interested in sharing your story, please send me an email here!
MORGAN WILLIAMS

Morgan Williams is a 2020 graduate from Fordham College at Rose Hill and one of the PMMA Graduate Assistants. Originally from Los Angeles, California, Morgan received her Bachelor's in Film/TV with a minor in Marketing while also playing on the varsity volleyball team all four years.

While working in television is a career goal of hers, storytelling is her overall passion and she’s extremely excited to be studying journalism. "I’m really excited to be studying journalism because I’m hoping it’ll help strengthen my research and interviewing skills as well as my ability to tell compelling stories," she said.

Morgan’s work experiences include working as a set and office PA for HBO's Insecure 2&3, interning with the production team at The Late Show with Stephen Colbert, interning with the production team at truTV, and working with casting for ExitFour, a reality tv production company. While none of these experiences necessarily focused on writing specifically, Morgan says she loved learning the ins and outs of production. "I love production because I love seeing all the moving pieces that have to come together to make the final story come to life," she said. When Morgan isn’t studying, she loves writing and watching spoken word poetry, exploring New York, binge watching TV, and reading.
PMMA Resume/Cover Letter Workshop  
*Thursday, September 17, 12-1 pm*

Join us as LC Assistant Director of Student Engagement, Kayla Lauricella, shares general tips about how you can make your resume shine. Q&A to follow.

[Zoom link](#) and Meeting ID: 951 7016 3059 & password: k3T2uW

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PMMA Strategic Communications In-Person Reception  
*Monday, September 21, 9:30 PM*

Join Dr. Knobel for an in person reception to safely gather with your peers and get to know each other better. [RSVP to Dr. Knobel](#) by 9/20.

Meet at McNally Auditorium to walk over to the venue together.

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PMMA Cohort Picnic  
*Saturday, September 26, 1:00 PM*
Save the date! Come join your fellow PMMA peers for a fun and relaxing day at Central Park. Let’s safely gather and spend the afternoon getting to know each other and sharing experiences with the program so far! **Make sure to fill out the RSVP link that was sent via email and teams.**

We plan to meet at the Columbus Circle entrance to Central Park on 59th and 8th. This event will be catered! Vegan and GF options will be available.

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**Election 2020 Lecture Series: Must America Be an Endless Warmaker?**

*Monday, September 21, 1-2 pm*

Fordham American Studies is pleased to invite you to this semester’s Election 2020 Lecture Series. The series is designed to bring in speakers on topics that are most important to our students during this unprecedented political moment.

Register for the event in advance at [this link](#).

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**Gotham Writers: Fall Open House**

*Tuesday & Wednesday, September 22-23*

Gotham Writers is an adult writing school that focuses on different forms of creative writing including script writing, article writing, memoir writing, opinion writing, and so much more! They will be offering FREE 1 hour zoom classes, of your choice, as a part of their open house. Enroll quick to get a spot!
Don’t forget to check out Handshake for job & internship opportunities throughout the semester!

If you’re looking for more personalized career guidance, please contact Megan McDonald with Fordham Career Services at mmcdonald21@fordham.edu.

SIGN UP HERE

That's it for now. Thank you for reading!

Morgan Williams & Julia Werner
PMMA '21

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