

SOPHIA FRIESEN

Pronouns: they/them

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SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

AAAS Mass Media Fellow
North Carolina Public Radio
Summer 2022

I reported, wrote, and produced relevant and timely science news stories for web and radio, including the second-most-viewed article written by a WUNC staff member that year. Articles and audio available at <https://www.wunc.org/people/sophia-friesen>

Massive Science
Summer 2020 – Summer 2021

I wrote general-audience short- and long-form articles on recent research, including an article in the top ten most-viewed articles for two months. Articles available at <https://massivesci.com/people/sophia-friesen/>

Berkeley Science Review
Summer 2019 – Spring 2022

Magazine & blog writer

I wrote general-audience articles covering recent research at UC Berkeley, including briefs and feature articles on topics ranging from seafloor earthquake sensing to alpine frog ecology. Articles available at <https://berkeleysciencereview.com/>

Summer 2022 – present

Managing editor

I organized funding, publication, advertising, and other logistics required to produce a once-per-semester magazine.

January 2022 – present

Editor

I worked with authors and designers to produce polished stories, from developing outlines and coordinating graphics to line edits and social media.

Spring – Summer 2021

Designer

I used Adobe Photoshop and Adobe InDesign to create graphics and design magazine article layouts.

MCB Transcript
September 2021 - present

Editor & author

I edited all articles for a semesterly department newsletter and reported on current departmental events and initiatives.

RESEARCH

University of California, Berkeley
Ph.D., 2017 - 2023

I investigate how physical forces and other signals regulate tissue growth and cell shape changes in developing animals (bioRxiv 2023).

Ohio State University
B.S., 2013 - 2017

I studied how a small non-coding RNA is involved in gene regulation and skeletal patterning in mice (Dev Dyn 2017).

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Graduate Student Instructor
Fall 2018, Spring 2020

- Taught discussion sections to complement faculty-led lectures in Advanced Physiology and Genetics, using active-learning strategies and other evidence-based methods to promote learning, engagement, and equitable participation.
- Designed and led study skills workshops to teach effective learning strategies.

MCB Pedagogy Workshops
Fall 2019

- Assisted in syllabus design grounded in primary literature
- Lobbied for the necessity of graduate pedagogy training

Showing Up for Racial Justice
(SURJ) Bay Area
May 2019 – Feb 2021

QT Committee Member

- Organized fundraising events to support racial justice partners
- Promoted awareness of racial justice work by tabling at public events and by writing about race at Oakland Pride. Article available at <https://medium.com/surjbayarea/oakland-pride-is-pride-for-some-not-all-3447be02f0b8>

Coordinating Committee Member (August 2020 – Feb 2021)

- Coordinated committee work with chapter-wide work, including election defense

AWARDS

Best Talk award, Cell and Developmental Biology and Physiology retreat (Sep 23 2022)

Outstanding Poster award, Genetics, Genomics, Evolution, and Development retreat (Oct 21 2022)