

International Desk Writer-Editor for *Eos*

Purpose of Independent Contractor Position

Eos is the science news magazine of [AGU](#). The publication reports daily on innovative Earth and space science results, produces in-depth features on research trends in the geosciences and works with scientist authors to provide unique, behind-the-scenes perspectives on how they answer the most fascinating questions about the way our world works.

Eos seeks to build upon its growth in readership by establishing an International Desk Writer-Editor. The International Desk Writer-Editor is responsible for building and maintaining a cadre of reliable freelance writers throughout Asia, South America, Africa, Europe, as well as Mexico and Canada, editing news articles and other content as assigned; originating, editing and/or writing long-lead articles; significantly growing our audience outside the United States; and building *Eos*'s capacity to acquire, create, and curate Earth and space science news outside the United States while maintaining *Eos*'s high journalistic standards.

Contact Eos_EIC@agu.org with a resume and two clips to be considered, or with any questions about the position.

Scope of Work

- Handles the assigning and/or editing of news articles that report on science conducted in countries outside the United States.
- Continually cultivates a stable of reliable freelance science writers in various countries throughout Asia, South America, Africa, Europe, as well as Mexico and Canada.
- Occasionally writes international science news items for publication on *Eos.org*.
- Works with the Manager, News and Features Editor to develop assignments and a publication schedule that supports *Eos*'s overall editorial strategy.
- Translates or oversees the translation of select *Eos* articles from English to another language or languages. Recommends suitable articles for translation.
- Contributes to regular news team discussions with suggestions for international coverage, international angles on U.S. coverage, and international resources for other *Eos* content.
- Cultivates scientific sources deeply in select locations of expertise and more broadly in other global scientific arenas.
- Stays abreast of science trends in selected locations of expertise.
- Performs the newsgathering and news-editorial processes:
 - Proposes and generates story ideas and works with the Manager, News, and Features Editor to prioritize coverage.

- Assigns stories to freelance writers, providing guidance on content, approach, and writing. Reviews pitches from freelancers or redirects to the Manager as needed.
- Oversees freelance journalists. Identifies, recruits/cultivates, and qualifies prospective freelancers to ensure a strong, diverse, and international pool of resources.
- Vets selection of images for news articles and, as needed, identifies suitable images, working with writers and production team to ensure proper credit and rights clearance.
- Recommends freelance rates to Manager and Editor in Chief.
- Collaborates with the editorial team to generate and develop concepts for articles that support *Eos*'s long-term editorial strategy.
- Is capable and trustworthy of performing tasks independently.
- Performs a high-level quality control function to ensure that *Eos* content is shaped and expressed in ways that will achieve the desired impact and impression on readers and users.
- Contributes to strategies around social media of *Eos* content (news and other content) and directs social media in partnership with other members of the team.
- Assists the Manager, News and Features Editor with oversight of the freelance news budget.
- Other duties as assigned and agreed to in Consultant's Scope of Work.

Qualifications:

- Located and able to report outside the United States, ideally in Asia, South America, or Africa, and able to work remotely with a team based in Washington, D.C.
- Seasoned science writer with advanced ability to thoughtfully identify and report on newsworthy subjects. Must have experience reporting outside the United States and Canada.
- Some experience as an editor is preferred.
- Fluent in written English language grammar and style. Preferably fluent in at least one other language.
- Demonstrated ability to manage multiple projects, both independently and as part of a team, in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment, as well as multi-task and set priorities in a flexible manner to address changing needs.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently.
- Demonstrated ability to convey complex ideas and high-level science through effective, creative, and lively writing, editing, and storytelling.
- Excellent eye for detail and a good nose for news, news strategy, and approaches.
- Excellent ability to make scientific content relatable and compelling to public audiences.
- Excellent ability to juggle multiple priorities and be highly flexible and nimble while meeting tight publication deadlines and requirements.
- Media-savvy, knowledgeable of the broad news and information marketplace as well as the science news marketplace.
- Knowledge of Earth and space sciences and their impact.
- Strong listening, coaching, and communication skills.

- Effective and reliable partner and team leader, working collaboratively with diverse people at a variety of levels to elicit top-notch journalism.
- Knowledge of taxonomy, tagging, and search engine optimization.
- Ability to exercise highest level of discretion on internal and external confidential matters and to maintain high level of confidentiality, including but not limited to strategic planning initiatives, contracts, budgeting, and personnel matters.
- Ability to monitor budget.
- Demonstrated ability to recruit high-quality contributors and to network and collaborate to grow content and its impact.

Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree with minimum of 8 years of science journalism experience in a media, publishing, or a scientific organization. Experience as an editor and/or an advanced degree are both a plus.
- High level of familiarity with science and science news; specific and expert knowledge of Earth and space sciences, and their impact is highly preferred.
- Experience managing and developing writers.
- Broad knowledge of the international news and information marketplace as well as the international science news marketplace and current practices.
- Experience and in-depth knowledge of computer software and demonstrated proficiency with MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook).
- Experience operating in a digital-first news environment, understanding of content management, and workflows strongly preferred.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR:

This position is for an independent contractor who will work remotely under a "Consultant Agreement" with AGU. The consultant will be responsible for all income taxes, self-employment taxes, business licenses, and any other licenses, fees, or taxes imposed upon independent contractors in the applicable jurisdiction.