W. ROGER WITHERSPOON

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http://spoonsenergymatters.wordpress.com/

SUMMARY

I am highly experienced at managing the analysis and communication of a wide variety of information. I am an author and educational consultant. I have written and produced for radio and television, and have edited and reported in print and electronic media on such subjects as health, the environment, banking and finance, science and technology, national politics and defense, and foreign affairs. Further, I have evaluated, recommended, and managed millions of dollars in corporate funds supporting domestic and international health, and environmental programs.

Personally, I am able to see projects through conception, organization and implementation. I thoroughly investigate alternatives and analyze different approaches for the best results. I am a strong organizer and a perceptive leader who can listen well and get along with people. I am an effective writer, able to present complex issues understandably and accurately.

EXPERIENCE

The Journal News, White Plains, New York

2000 - 2005

Senior Writer: Environment

Responsible for breaking news stories and developing in depth articles on environmental matters affecting the lower Hudson Valley region. This included nuclear safety, water quality, land use practices, and pollution issues affecting the Hudson River and Long Island Sound.

Freelance Editor and Writer

1995 - Present

Automotive and Energy columnist: www.NewJerseyNewsRoom.com, 2010 – 2016 Automotive and Energy columnist: The Yonkers Tribune, 2009 –

Writer, E! The Environment Magazine: Nuclear Power and the bottomless Bank, 2009

Contributing Editor: US Black Engineer and Information Technology, and Hispanic Engineer and Information Technology, magazines (Baltimore), 1995 -

Automotive Columnist, Gainesville Guardian/ Gainesville Sun, Fla., 2005 - 2016

Automotive Columnist, "Shifting Gears" The Yonkers Tribune, Yonkers, NY, 2002 -

Automotive Columnist, The Dallas Examiner, Dallas, TX, 2001 - 2016

Automotive Columnist, Aboutthatcar.com, 2004 – 2007

The Arlington Morning News, Arlington, Tx. Weekend, City, Business and Copy Editor, April, 1999 – June, 2000.

Editorial Writer, part time, *The Record*, Hackensack, N.J., June – August, 2000.

Contributing writer to Microsoft *Encarta Africana*, Volume II, "African Americans and the Technological Society" (1999), Volume III, 2004;

Writer and Editor, *D Heritage*, a special supplement to *D Magazine (Dallas)*, 1999; Consultant to Hampton University School of Engineering, co-author of *Engineering* 101: A Text Manual, 1997;

Consultant to the Dallas Zoo, for development of design criteria for a multi-species tiger exhibit and selection of architectural firm, 1995-1996.

Exxon Corp., Dallas, Texas

1990 - 1995 Program Officer, Health and Environmental Contributions

Oversaw \$5,000,000 annually in health, environmental health, and environmental grants to 135 non-profit organizations. The health grants were domestic; the environmental grants were domestic and international. Held the authority to evaluate and reject grants, consider the value of the project itself, its location, cost, and the type of organization involved. In addition, reviewed and made recommendations to senior management on all the environmental grants of the corporation's domestic and international companies.

Created an environmental health category for risk assessment and toxicology projects. Targeted health grants, occupational health programs, and the provision of care to undeserved areas. Reorganized environmental grants and instituted a standardized environmental program worldwide. Developed and managed environmental projects in North and South America, Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia.

Developed and managed multi-year programs of \$1 million or more including:

- 1. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the development of the international Save the Tiger Fund.
- 2. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology for the development of a Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Climate Change.
- The University of Wisconsin for the development of the Center for the Study of Human Factors in Complex Systems.
- 4. The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center Fund for Molecular Development.
- 5. The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston to improve cancer screening and detection capabilities.
- 6. The Dallas Zoo for the development of exhibition and breeding facilities for the Indonesian and South China tigers.
- 7. The Fort Worth Zoo for the development of exhibition and breeding facilities for the Asian One-Horned Rhino.

The Dallas Times Herald, Dallas, Texas

1985 - 1990 Editorial Writer and Columnist.

Wrote editorials and columns on foreign affairs, finance and banking, health, science and technology, defense and arms control, civil rights and constitutional law.

Southwest Correspondent:

The Economist magazine, covering social and economic developments.

NewsPro Education Group, Dallas, Texas

1996 - 1997 <u>Consultant to Dr. Samuel G. White, Jr., Dean, School of Engineering & Technology, Hampton University, Hampton, Virginia</u>

Preparation of Engineering 101 text manual and course material for the history and engineering departments on the contributions of African Americans in engineering, with particular emphasis on 19th and 20th century technology, the social context in which inventions were made and their implications for society.

1995 - 1996 Consultant to Dallas Zoological Society, Michael Meadows, Executive Director

Worked with team from the Dallas Zoo and Zoological Society in developing criteria for a new, multi-species, tiger exhibit, examining zoo programs around the country, preparing and analyzing proposal requests for the \$2.6 million exhibit, and participating in the evaluation and selection of the architect.

1989 - 1990 Consultant to Dr. Thomas Cole, President, Clark-Atlanta University, Atlanta,

Assembled and led a team of seven journalists to evaluate, restructure and manage the Journalism Department at CAU and prepare it to meet national accreditation standards. Project, lasting 18 months, included:

- <u>Faculty</u> Evaluated all faculty and made recommendations for retention, upgrading or dismissal. Developed standards and criteria for faculty research and professional tracks.
- <u>Students</u> Restructured curriculum and grading structure so students worked in more professional, deadline-oriented environment. Developed programming and instructional criteria for FM radio and cable television station.
- 3. <u>Facilities</u> Designed computer system for print and broadcast operations, wrote Requests for Proposals for \$2 million computer system and evaluated responses from IBM, Dell, Tandy and Apple.

Publications

2004	Microsoft Encarta Africana, Volume III. Co-author with Garland L. Thompson,
	"Blacks and the Development of the Technological Society."

- Microsoft *Encarta Africana*, Volume II. Co-author with Garland L. Thompson, "Blacks and the Development of the Technological Society."
- 1997 "EGR 101: Introduction to Engineering." A Text Manual, Co-author with Garland L. Thompson, for Hampton University School of Engineering & Technology.
- **1990** "Feats and Wisdom of the Ancients" Time-Life Books. Chapter 3, "The Healers."
- 1985 "Martin Luther King, Jr....to the Mountaintop." Doubleday & Co.

Wordsmith, Inc., Atlanta, Georgia

1982 - 1985 Freelance Writer

Time Magazine: Primary stringer for Southeast Bureau for Time, with additional reporting for Fortune, People, and Sports Illustrated.

CNN: Weekend writer and producer.

Essence Magazine: Contributing Editor, developed "Say Brother" and "Where There's a Will" features.

Black Enterprise Magazine: Southeast correspondent. The National Leader: Southeast correspondent.

Atlanta Constitution, Atlanta, Georgia

1979 - 1982 <u>Health and Science Writer</u>

Developed health and science beat in conjunction with the Washington, DC Bureau, which focused on national issues and trends such as health insurance, abortion, the right-to-die, and federal funding for experimental treatments. Covered breaking news stories such as Three Mile Island, and wrote and edited a weekly health and science feature section. Also covered Civil Rights issues.

New York Daily News, New York, New York

1975 - 1982 New Jersey Edition: Sunday assignment editor, health & environment reporter,

Passaic County reporter.

New York City Edition: General assignment reporter.

Star-Ledger, Newark, New Jersey

1970 - 1975 Investigative Reporter and Op-Ed Columnist (Newark)

State House Correspondent (Trenton): Senate, Assembly, banking, insurance, lottery,

transportation and agriculture.

General Assignment reporter (Newark).

NBC-TV, Burbank, California

1969 Editorial Assistant, news writer, communications.

Freelance Writer

1968 - 1969 Fiction and spot news features in Europe and North Africa.

The Record, Hackensack, New Jersey

1968 Reporter, Central Bergen County.

HONORS

2002	New York Newspaper Publishers Association, First Place, Distinguished Community Service for "Evacuation Plan Fuels Nuclear Plant Fears."
2000	New York State Associated Press Association, Second Place, In Depth Reporting, for "Rescuing the River."
1999	American Cancer Society, Texas Media Awards, First Place, Weekly Feature for "Battling Breast Cancer."
1999	Texas Medical Association, Anson Jones, MD Award for Excellence in Health Communication, First Place
1988	Texas Associated Press Managing Editors, Second Place, Editorial Writing
1987	Texas Associated Press Managing Editors, First Place, Editorial Writing
1986	Press Club of Dallas, Katy Award, Best Editorial Writing
1982	National Association of Black Journalists, Region 5, First Place, Education Writing, for "Meharry: Victim of Changing Rules" in <i>The National Leader</i> .
1982	Education Writers Association, National Education Reporting Awards, Special Citation for "Meharry: Victim of Changing Rules" in <i>The National Leader</i> .
1981	National Headliners Club Award for Consistently Outstanding Special or Feature Column Writing
1981	Georgia Conference on Social Welfare, Journalism Accolade Award
1980	Amos Tuck School of Business Administration, Dartmouth College, Media Award for Economic Understanding, First Place for Energy Series
1980	Atlanta Association of Black Journalists, First Place, Outstanding News Feature
1979	UPI Georgia Newspaper Awards, Second Place, Column Writing
1979	UPI Georgia Newspaper Awards, Third Place, Spot News Coverage of Three Mile Island

PROFESSIONAL and CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

Society of Environmental Journalists, Member – 2001 –

Board of Directors – 2011 -- 2017

Investigative Reporters and Editors, Member – 2001 – 2006

International Motor Press Association – 2006 –

Association of Black Journalists, Founding Member, 1973 National Association of Black Journalists, Member – 1975 -

Dallas/Fort Worth Association of Black Communicators, Treasurer, 1987 – 1988

Contributing Editor, Essence Magazine, 1980 – 1984

Editorial Advisory Board, NAACP Crisis Magazine, 1979 - 1980

City of Dallas, Office of Cultural Affairs, Arts Budget Review Panel, 1997

Lone Star Council of Camp Fire, Board Member, 1990-1992

Operation Lift: Adult Literacy, Instructor, 1986 – 1987 Big Brothers - Big Sisters, Atlanta, Ga., 1984-1985

2009

EDUCATION

University of California at Santa Barbara: Guest Lecturer, Center for Environmental

200)	Implications of Nanotechnology
1999	University of Texas at Arlington: Guest Lecturer, Department of History, Dr. Douglas Richmond: The Role of the Church in New World Slavery: 1492 – 1600
1996 – 1997	Hampton University, Hampton, Va.: Consultant to Dean Samuel G. White, Jr. School of Engineering and Technology, to develop an <i>Engineering 101</i> text focusing on the history of Blacks in engineering.
1989 – 1990	Clark-Atlanta University: Consultant to President Thomas Cole for the restructuring of the Department of Mass Communications.
1986	University of Texas at Austin: Visiting Adjunct Professor, Department of Journalism, Chairman Maxwell McCombs.
1981	Georgia Tech University, Atlanta, Ga.: Guest Lecturer, Masters Program for Science Policy and Technology Assessment; Dr. Fred Rossini, Director.
1976	Farleigh-Dickinson University, Edward Williams College, Hackensack, N.J. Liberal Arts.
1975	Rutgers University, Livingstone College, New Brunswick, N.J. Economics Department.
1973	Rider College, Trenton, N.J., French Department
1966 - 1967	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Aeronautical Engineering Department.