

About the Contributors

Amber Benham is a Brooklyn-based multimedia journalist specializing in all things edible. Her love for storytelling across media platforms took her to *Saveur* magazine and *Edible Manhattan*, where she helped the magazine grow its online presence and include more multimedia food stories. She currently freelances as a reporter for several New York publications. When she isn't crime reporting for the *Wall Street Journal* or researching traditional Ukrainian wedding bread, she teaches middle school students how to read and write. She earned a master's degree in interactive journalism from the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism.

Eli Edwards is a web consultant and information professional with academic and special library experience, including legal research and is an attorney in good standing in the State of California. Research interests fall under the umbrella of information policy, including internet speech, online privacy, media law and regulation, government transparency, and the ethics of information retrieval in a Web 2.0 world. In addition to an MLIS from San Jose State University, Edwards also holds a JD from Santa Clara University School of Law.

Ben Fractenberg is a reporter and multimedia producer for the news site DNAinfo. His work has appeared in publications including the *New York Times*, Fort Greene-Clinton Hill blog, Haaretz, *Daily News*, DNAinfo, and the *Huffington Post*. He has also worked with various nonprofits, including Public Allies, where he helped develop young leaders for a career in public service, and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, where he ensured fair representations of the LGBT community in the media. Fractenberg earned a master's degree from the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, where he won a small grant to create an internet startup that connects editors with citizen journalists. The site, called Local Desk, went live in summer 2010.

Laura Gordon-Murnane has worked as the intranet webmaster for a legal publisher located near Washington, D.C., for more than 12 years. Gordon-Murnane is frequently published in *Searcher Magazine*, *ONLINE*, and Information Today, Inc.'s *NewsBreaks*. She has delivered professional presentations at the Special Libraries Association's annual conference and at WebSearch University's annual conference in Washington, D.C. In 2005, *Library Journal* named her a Mover and Shaker. She earned an MLS from the University of Maryland and an MA and BA in history from Indiana University, Bloomington.

Cynthia Hetherington, MLS, MSM, is the founder of Hetherington Group, a firm dedicated to private, corporate, and government investigation and security using the industry's most highly regarded and nationally known investigative experts. The group provides corporate security officials; military intelligence units; and federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies with training in online intelligence practices, techniques, and insights. A widely published author, Hetherington has written *Business Background Investigations* and *The Manual to Online Public Records*. She publishes the Data2know.com: Internet & Online Intelligence Newsletter and has co-authored articles on steganography, computer forensics, internet investigations, and security-focused monographs.

Deborah A. Liptak, MLIS, is the president of info2go, a company that provides consulting and training to small and medium-sized businesses that need answers to strategic questions. The company also specializes in locating, analyzing, and delivering solutions beyond what is available on the free internet. info2go's areas of expertise include competitive intelligence, industry information, market research, and research instruction. Liptak is also a part-time counselor and instructor with Tarrant County College Small Business Development Center, where she facilitates FastTrac classes and teaches distance learning market research classes. She earned an MLIS degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1988 and has 5 years of experience as a communications-electronics officer in the U.S. Air Force.

Anne P. Mintz spent several decades as the director of information centers in media and investment banking before becoming a freelance business researcher, writer, and editor. Her current endeavors include working on behalf of publishers to present their content online in searchable formats. She is the editor of *Web of Deception: Misinformation on the Internet* (CyberAge Books, 2002) and a variety of articles about databases and the quality of information retrieved online. Mintz has taught at the graduate-school level in journalism and information science. She holds a BA in English from the University of Massachusetts and an MLS from Rutgers University.

Meg Smith spent a decade at the *Washington Post* as a news researcher. She was the lead researcher for the paper's coverage of the shootings at Virginia Tech, which won the Pulitzer Prize for Breaking News Reporting in 2008 and was a landmark for how the newspaper used social networking sites to report the news. She researched Gene Weingarten's feature story "Fatal Distraction," which won the Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing in 2010. Smith has spoken at numerous conferences in recent years about how researchers can verify and use social media to enhance journalism and law enforcement investigations. She has a bachelor's degree in journalism and an MLS, both from the University of Maryland.

Craig Thompson is an experienced journalist, researcher, and TV producer. He recently completed work on a research project with the Center for International Media Assistance, investigating worldwide licensing procedures for journalists. He works as a researcher for the American Theater Wing and as a reporter and researcher for MSN and Reuters. He also produces broadcast segments at CUNY TV. In the past, he has held positions at Nielsen Business Media and ESPN Books. He has experience as a professional blogger covering emerging technologies such as the iPad and virtual worlds. He also earned a graduate degree from the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism.

