



Marisa Porto, Chair

Marisa Porto serves as a faculty member at the University of North Carolina's Hussman School of Journalism and Media. She joined UNC Hussman after serving two years as assistant dean of the Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications at Hampton University. She worked with Hampton University's administration as an executive in residence in 2019 conducting organizational assessments and leading the strategic planning for the University's online program. At Hampton, she taught classes in business and media entrepreneurship, media management, strategic communications and content editing — while also leading a career development program and helping start an investigative reporting program.

Marisa has also helped develop the curriculum for media leaders as an executive in residence for the Maynard 200 Fellowship, a core Maynard Institute for Journalism Education program that began in 2018 at the University of Southern California's Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism. She has continued to serve the organization, most recently as a faculty member for the fellowship program that provides advanced training and mentorship to mid-career journalists of color. She also serves on the organization's strategic planning committee.

Prior to joining academia, Marisa's extensive professional experience included positions as reporter, editor, vice president, executive editor and publisher with news organizations in Florida, Ohio, Delaware and Virginia. Her service to industry spans roles with local, national and international organizations dedicated to mentorship, diversity and sustainability in journalism. She has served as a consultant and adviser for news organizations in Ukraine and Georgia, recently returning from a visit to Ukraine to discuss local news sustainability.

Marisa is Girl Scout alum who spent her girl years in the movement while growing up in Florida. She earned the highest award earned by a Girl Scout at that time, First Class. Her memories of those years are many and include outdoor adventures and other experiences that helped her build lifelong leadership skills.