

## 34TH ANNUAL PAUL MILLER LECTURE

*free and open to the public*

# How to Succeed as a Good Human (And Journalist)

**1:30 P.M. - THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023**

**STUDENT UNION THEATRE**

**PRESENTED BY:**

## Jaclyn Cosgrove

Assistant Editor - Los Angeles Times

It's never an easy time to graduate from j-school. Since the dawn of time, i.e. when we started using the internet, our industry has been in free fall. It is simultaneously exhilarating and terrifying, and more of the latter if you're out looking for internships and jobs. What is one to do? In this conversation, we will discuss the values and skills helpful for not just survival but a joyous and rewarding career. We will talk about "self care," and why it is less about buying candles or that cool sweater you saw on Instagram and more about how you take care of yourself amid the stress and trauma of life. This is not an easy industry to navigate, but hopefully you'll walk away from this talk feeling a bit more prepared to pursue a career and life you will feel grateful and lucky to have.



SCHOOL OF  
**MEDIA & STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATIONS**  
College of Arts and Sciences

# About Jaclyn Cosgrove

**Assistant Editor - Los Angeles Times**

*(they/them/theirs)*

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Jaclyn Cosgrove is an assistant editor at the Los Angeles Times. In 2022, they will manage a yearlong initiative that will explore a variety of issues around mental health – medical, structural, personal, societal and definitional. In previous roles, Cosgrove covered breaking news, county government and just about every natural disaster possible, in part thanks to their prior jobs in Oklahoma. Before joining The Times in 2017, they worked as the health reporter at the Oklahoman. While there, Cosgrove was selected for a 2015-16 Rosalynn Carter Fellowship for Mental Health Journalism. For their fellowship project, Cosgrove explored the barriers that low-income, uninsured people with serious mental illnesses face in finding treatment. Their work has been credited with helping pass a state question in Oklahoma that changed simple drug possession from a felony to a misdemeanor, a policy change that eventually led to the largest single-day sentence commutation in U.S. history. Originally from Arpelar, Okla., they're a proud graduate of Oklahoma State University. They completed a master of legal studies degree at UCLA School of Law in May 2022.

Cosgrove first started their journalism career by groveling at the feet of an editor at the McAlester News Capital, the newspaper nearest their hometown, Arpelar. Cosgrove kept showing up at the paper until the editor allowed them to intern as a high schooler.

During their senior year of high school, they were touring OSU and wanted to see the j-school. A tour hadn't been scheduled, but Professor Mike Sowell took time out of his day to show the excited 17-year-old and their mother, Peggy, around the school. They walked into the O'Colly together, where Cosgrove took an application they kept pristine, eagerly awaiting the day they could apply. Their second week at OSU, Cosgrove applied to work at the O'Colly, and spent their 4 1/2 years at OSU working there, including a stint as editor-in-chief. Cosgrove credits the O'Colly (and a very hard public affairs reporting class) with where they developed their love of investigative reporting — even when Cosgrove angered the entire veterinary college with a story that would go on to change that college's policies on surgery dogs.