

BIOGRAPHY



Meredith Beal

Meredith Beal is a media owner in the United States and Sr. Technology Advisor for the African Media Initiative (AMI). He leads a multi-country project to improve business management practices at media organizations in Africa, creating new revenue streams and developing business models that can be replicated at media companies across the continent. Beal mentored a number of African media organizations, helping them monetize mobile and online news services. He has organized international mentors for newspapers across Africa. He is a former Knight International Journalism Fellow, a RIAS Berlin Fellow and a National Association of Broadcasters (USA) BLT Fellow.

He forged an alliance between American experts and East African TV industry leaders to aid African stations with the transition to digital transmission. In addition he wrote a pamphlet with tips for station managers, organized global videoconferences and has moderated panels on the topic at major conferences and forums across the continent.

In 2006 he was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Texas Association of Broadcasters (TAB) to represent the interests of small market broadcasters. TAB is the largest state broadcasting association in the United States. In 2007 the TAB named him Texas Broadcaster of the Year.

Before entering the broadcast arena, he was a Global Webmaster for Dell, at the time the world's largest computer systems company. His website received Dell's Intranet Award for Excellence and his team was known for pioneering in personalization and self-service web applications. While at Dell, he purchased radio stations KTXJ-FM and KCOX in Jasper, TX; KCLW in Hamilton, TX and KOKE in Austin, TX.

He left Dell in 2001 to focus on broadcasting and education, donating web design and video production classes to Huston-Tillotson University. He has done numerous speaking engagements around the world and lectured at a number of universities, promoting effective use of technology, innovation, global citizenship and dialogue as the best means to create a peaceful society.

Beal has held positions ranging from talk show host, network implementation specialist and software engineer to Editor-and-Chief of major magazines and trade journals, music producer, reporter for media giants like the Los Angeles Times and record company executive.

Before Dell, Beal was Director of Marketing for Motown Records. His experiences in the broadcasting and music industries, technology, journalism and open data, make him an excellent resource for learning how to take advantage of the new media landscape.