Laura Helmuth is science and health editor at Slate magazine. Before she joined Slate, Helmuth was senior editor at Smithsonian magazine where she selected and edited most of the stories about science, nature, and technology. Before that she worked for Science magazine's news department for five years, first as a writer covering neuroscience and then as an editor for life sciences stories. She has written for National Wildlife, California Wild, and Science News. She has a Ph.D. in cognitive neuroscience from the University of California, Berkeley.

How to pitch Slate:
Helmuth is happy to consider stories from pretty much any field of science. It helps if a story is surprising, funny, or counter-intuitive, and if the writer has a strong point of view. You’re welcome to be as opinionated and personal as you like.

Last year that the NASW Pitch Slam here’s what Helmuth had to say. She considers a pitch the start of a conversation. Email her with a couple of paragraphs to get your idea off the ground. Slate wants the political, cultural, or counter intuitive angle, and the voice is opinionated. Helmuth says #slatepitches makes fun of the site, “But it’s not completely wrong.”

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