
PAST AWARDEES

- 1997 Julie Hedgepeth Williams, "The Significance of the Printed Word in Early America"; Director: David Sloan, University of Alabama
- 1998 David R. Davies, "An Industry in Transition: Major Trends in American Daily Newspapers, 1945-1965"; Director: David Sloan, Univ of Alabama
- 1999 Nora Hall, "On Being an African-American Woman: Gender and Race in the Writings of Six Black Women Journalists, 1849-1936"; Director: Hazel Dicken-Garcia, University of Minnesota
- 2000 Dale Zacher, "Editorial Policy of the Scripps Newspapers During World War I"; Director: Patrick Washburn, Ohio University
- 2001 Aleen J. Ratzlaff, "Black Press Pioneers in Kansas: Connecting and Extending Communities in Three Geographic Sections, 1878-1900"; Director: Bernell E. Tripp, University of Florida
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- Chair: David Abrahamson, Northwestern University
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AJHA

2002 DOCTORAL DISSERTATION AWARD



The AJHA Doctoral Dissertation Award, established in 1997, is awarded annually for the best doctoral dissertation dealing with mass communication history. A cash award of three hundred dollars accompanies the prize.

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AMERICAN JOURNALISM HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION

2002 DOCTORAL DISSERTATION AWARD

FIRST PLACE AWARD

Mark Edge, "Pacific Press: Vancouver's Newspaper Monopoly, 1957-1991"
Director: Patrick Washburn, Ohio University

HONORABLE MENTION AWARDS

Todd S. Burroughs, National Newspaper Publishers Association, "Drums
in the Global Village: Toward an Ideological History of Black Media"
Director: Maurine H. Beasley, University of Maryland

MDuane Stoltzfus, "A Paper for the People: E.W. Scripps's
Chicago Experiment in Adless Journalism"
Director: William S. Solomon, Rutgers University

ABSTRACTS

Mark Edge, Nanyang Technological University, "Pacific Press: Vancouver's Newspaper Monopoly, 1957-1991"

This case study of a Canadian newspaper joint operating arrangement shows how removing competition from the marketplace can result in the economic downfall of the daily newspapers involved. The 1957 partnership of the Vancouver Sun and Province is traced until 1991, when the Sun moved from afternoon publication to mornings in direct "competition" with its monopoly twin. The 1960 findings of the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission are reviewed, from its ruling that Pacific Press was an illegal combination between competitors to its approval of the arrangement as an "economic necessity" to save the money-losing Province. A recommended judicial order restraining changes to the arrangement without a court hearing was never entered, however, leading to sale of the family-owned Sun to F.P. Publications in 1963 and its takeover by the international Thomson conglomerate in 1980. Subsequent sale of the Sun by Thomson to Southam, which already

owned the Province, created a single-owner monopoly. But Pacific Press was an unusual monopoly as a financial liability to its owners due to repeated labor shut-downs in the 1970s. Its losses led to the demise not only of F.P. Publications, but ultimately of Southam itself.

Todd S. Burroughs, "Drums in the Global Village: Toward an Ideological History of Black Media"

Black media have entered a new era during the past two decades. Developments in American mass media from 1980 to 2000, particularly 1) the growth of cable television, 2) radio's shift back to a national medium through increased program syndication and corporate mergers and, perhaps most important, 3) the promise of convergence through the World Wide Web, have created new opportunities for African-Americans to create and sustain national and international forums for news and information from their worldview. This "new," narrowly-targeted "Black mass media," follows the journalistic tradition defined by the 174-year-old history of Black-owned media: to protect the Black image by fighting white supremacy, and to nourish their readers, listeners and viewers. This dissertation, which constructs an ideological history of Black media from 1827 to 2000, uses six case studies. The case studies, focusing on select Black media institutions and forums in New York and Washington, D.C., include Black-owned and white-owned broadcast forums targeted to Black communities. The case studies prove that Black-oriented media serve particular functions outside of the larger realm of Black participation in white mainstream media, and that there now exist Black media forums that can reach large portions of the nation's estimated 35 million African-Americans.

Duane Stoltzfus, Goshen College, "A Paper for the People: E.W. Scripps's Chicago Experiment in Adless Journalism"

This dissertation tells the story of Edward W. Scripps's pioneering effort to create an independent force in journalism: a profitable adless newspaper. Already well on his way to building the nation's first major newspaper chain, Scripps set out in 1911 to prove that a newspaper could be profitable without any advertising at all. His adless newspaper, The Day Book, was to be supported entirely by circulation revenue and committed to a higher threshold of editorial integrity and honesty than Scripps thought was possible with journalism financed largely by advertising. As with his other newspapers, Scripps wanted to create an inexpensive paper that would appeal to the working class and would crusade for higher wages, more unions, safer working conditions, and other causes. Though The Day Book's financial losses steadily declined over the years, it never became profitable, and, in 1917, ended publication. But The Day Book had proved to be a steadfast ally of the working class and the dispossessed, and a primary source of news on their struggles. In writing about violent circulation battles, the lives of store clerks, elevator accidents, and other subjects ignored or suppressed by the mainstream press, The Day Book redefined news and pointed the way toward a more expansive and democratic press.