



Intelligencer

ajhaonline.org

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Submit papers, panel proposals by May 15

Research in progress submissions also sought for 27th annual convention Oct. 1-4 in Seattle.

Scholars of media history are invited to submit research papers, panel proposals and abstracts of research in progress to be considered for the 27th annual convention of AJHA in Seattle on Oct. 1-4.

All submissions should be original and cannot have been submitted to another convention or for publication. Authors may submit only one research paper for the convention. Limit papers to 25 pages, not including notes. Chicago Manual of Style is recommended, but not required.

Submit four copies and include a cover sheet with title. Author's name, address, and institutional affiliation should appear only in the cover letter accompanying the submission. Include four printed one-page abstracts and one electronic copy of the abstract (send electronic copy to mike.sweeney@usu.edu).

Panel proposals must include a brief description of the topic, the names of the moderator and participants (no more than two of whom may be from the same institution), and a brief summary of each participant's presentation. Scholars should limit participation on panels to one panel.

For research in progress submissions, submit three copies

of a one-page abstract of your study. Include on the abstract only the title. Include name and contact information in a cover letter. Include in the abstract a clear purpose statement and a brief description of the primary resources that are being used.

Papers will be eligible for the following AJHA convention awards: Robert Lance Award for outstanding student paper; J. William Snorgrass Award for outstanding minority-journalism paper; the Maurine Beasley Award for outstanding paper concerning the history of women in journalism; and the David Sloan award for outstanding faculty research paper.

Send research papers to:

Michael S. Sweeney
JCOM Department
Utah State University
4605 Old Main Hill
Logan, UT 84322-4605

Send panel proposals to:

Linda Lumsden
Department of Journalism
Marshall 338
P.O. Box 210158B
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721-0158

Send research in progress abstracts to:

Mark Dolan
Department of Journalism
334 Farley Hall
University of Mississippi
University, MS 38677

AJHA to provide judges for national Molly Award

The AJHA board of directors has agreed to name up to two judges for what will become a national award in honor of the late Molly Ivins, the esteemed journalist from Texas who died last year from breast cancer.

The award is presented by The Texas Observer, in which Ivins' columns appeared regularly, and the Texas Democracy Foundation. First prize is \$5,000 and two honorable mentions will be awarded \$1,000 each.

Taking on no financial commitment, AJHA representatives

will sit on the board of advisors for the prize, which will honor journalists who are "telling the stories that need telling, challenging conventional wisdom, focusing on civil liberties and/or social justice," according to The Texas Observer Web site.

The Center for American History at the University of Texas at Austin, of which AJHA member Patrick Cox is associate director, is the repository of Ivins' papers, and will also establish an archive of the work by winners of the



Photo by The Associated Press

Molly Ivins

prize that will be available to researchers.

AJHA representatives will join a group of nationally prominent journalists who will judge entries for the prize. Calvin Trillin and Ellen Goodman are honorary co-chairs of the prize, which will be awarded this year on June 12 at a dinner in Austin.

Directors hope AJHA will benefit from involvement with the prize by gaining positive publicity by being connected with a national journalism prize that honors a unique

See IVINS on Page 5.

From the president . . .

AJHA commits to research

By Tamara Baldwin
AJHA President

If it's possible for an organization to "put its money where its mouth is," as the cliché goes, then AJHA has done just that where its commitment to fostering journalism and mass media history research is concerned. This was demonstrated in Richmond last October when the organization awarded research grants of \$1250 to four of our members for the very first time. AJHA's commitment in this vein is set to continue as each year we will award up to four members with such grants.

I am thinking about these research grants now because the call for proposals for the AJHA Research Grants came in the mail recently, and I want to take this opportunity to urge you to consider applying. Details about how to apply are included elsewhere in this newsletter and are also available on our website at <http://www.ajhaonline.org>.

Last year's recipients were chosen from eleven applications the Research Grants Committee received and included David Bulla (Iowa State University), Joseph Campbell (American University), Linda Lumsden (University of Arizona), and Jan Whitt (University of Colorado). In an email exchange I asked some of the recipients about their research and how it was going.

Linda Lumsden shared with me that she'll be using the grant to help fund two weeks at the University of Washington researching radical periodicals from 1900-1920. Her research is part of a book-length project titled *Comrades: Visions and Values of the Early American Radical Press, 1900-1920*. This research, she

explained, is an outgrowth of research on the suffrage movement Linda has been doing over the past 15 years and is an attempt to move her research more into journalism history.



In her email she said, "As I learned more about the news media of the period, I was struck by how vibrant and idealistic the press was before World War I. I also saw parallels with today's independent media. For one thing, both challenged the mainstream media, which critics today almost unanimously agree has largely abdicated the press' classic mission to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable."

Linda plans to make use of the university's Suzallo Library, which she called a "rich resource for my research as it contains bound copies, reprint

editions, or microfilm of six of the dozen periodicals I intend to study in depth."

Like Linda, David Bulla plans to use some of the grant money he received for travel. His research project is titled "The Peace Press: Anti-War Editors in the Civil War North" which looks at the Northern Democratic press that opposed Lincoln and the war. This research, he explained in his email, expands upon *Lincoln's Censor*, his first book which focused on one Union general and about a half dozen Democratic editors in the Civil War. The research he is doing now, he noted, looks at key Peace Democratic editors, such as Dennis A. Mahoney of Iowa, Wilbur F. Storey of Illinois, and Joseph Bingham of Indiana.

David wrote in his email, "Well, I will certainly use the money for travel. Most of the editors were in the Midwest, from Columbus, Ohio,

See **Putting** on Page 5

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Regional meeting held in Florida

Southeast AJHA conference geared toward undergraduate, graduate students

By Vanessa Murphree
University of South Alabama

Media history scholars from across the Southeast gathered in Panama City Beach Feb. 1-2, 2008, for the annual AJHA Southeast Symposium.

The symposium is designed to promote graduate and undergraduate research and provides a scholarly forum for student research presentations and discussions.

"The AJHA-SE Symposium is, for many undergraduate and graduate students, their first experience with the academic conference; the symposium, then, is important to their academic growth because it allows them the opportunity to showcase their research in a low-key, rather relaxed environment," Pete Smith, the symposium's co-organizer, said. "The goal is to encourage students to continue their research, and applaud their accomplishments without intimidation."

This year's programs featured students from Georgia

State, University of Alabama and University of Alabama-Anniston, Florida A&M, and Samford.

Faculty also presented two panels. The first featured authors of the "History of American Journalism" series that began almost twenty years

ago. David Sloan, series co-editor and a co-author, along with authors Julie H.K. Wil-

liams, Leonard Ray Teel, and David Davies discussed how their book projects evolved and the various stages of writing and editing.

A second faculty panel featured Vanessa Murphree, Rebekah Ray, and Bernell Tripp. The discussion-based panel offered "insights and advice" for those beginning an academic career. Smith said the panel was especially pertinent since the symposium offers the opportunity to meet and network with peers and faculty from other colleges and universities.

See **Southeast** on Page 4



Pete Smith, Mississippi State, and David Davies, Southern Mississippi, organized the conference.



David Sloan, conference founder, (standing, second from left) with current and former students: Standing: Bernell Tripp, Florida; Julie H.K. Williams, Samford; David Davies, and Fei Xue, Southern Mississippi; Dianne Bragg, Alabama. Seated: Anna Gresham, Katie Cole, Jennifer Mitchell, Alabama; Vanessa Murphree, South Alabama.

Retiring professor Fedler offers journal collection to individual or an institution

Retiring professor Fred Fedler of the University of Central Florida wants to sell to an individual or donate to an institution/library an extensive collection of journalism

journals and trade magazines.

The collection comprises *Journalism & Mass Communication Journal* (1970 to present); *Journalism & Mass Communication*

Educator (1970 to present); *Newspaper Research Journal* (first edition to present); *American Journalism* (1985 to present); *Mass Communication and Society* (1990 to present);

Columbia Journalism Review (about 1971 to present); and several years of the *American Journalism Review*.

Call Fedler at 407-823-2839 or email him at ffedler@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu.

Southeast conference inspired students, faculty

Continued from Page 3

"Ideally, students will walk away with a positive experience and will be encouraged and excited to continue their academic work," Smith added.

Student panels addressed an array of topics including: The Penny Press, the Party Press, newspapers and civil rights, the role of the fax machine in Tiananmen Square, mysterious deaths and newspaper coverage, reporting between 1900 and 1940, the 1968 presidential election, Calvin Coolidge, and health care advertising.

"We try to offer a little

something for everybody with the symposium," Smith said. "In essence, we try to create a level playing field by encouraging both undergraduate and graduate students to join faculty in the discussion and debate of new ideas."

Julie Williams said she was "amazed at the intellectual energy -- it seemed like the liveliest AJHA-SE yet. And the sun and surf were beautiful."

Williams hopes

to encourage the organization of other regional AJHA conferences, and plans to provide additional information on setting up a regional at the annual conference in Seattle.



Vanessa Murphree and Hazel James Cole enjoy a moment at a local restaurant.



(From left) Sandra Martinez, UA-Anniston; Julie Williams and Mallory Siler, both of Samford University; Jeremy Cox, Jennifer Cox, and Anne Anderson, all of UA-Anniston; and Josh Rutledge, Samford.



(Left to Right) Rebecca Ray of Mississippi State University, David Davies and Hazel James Cole, both of the University of Southern Mississippi.

Detroit TV magazine chronicled American black urban experiences

Episodes of Detroit Public Television's "American Black Journal," the longest-running television program focusing on African Americans, are now available to historians through an on-line archive.

"American Black Journal," now in its fourth decade, premiered as "Colored People's Time" in 1968 as a forum for African Americans during a turbulent period of race relations in Detroit and throughout the nation.

The first host of the show was Tony Brown, who went on to produce "Tony Brown's Journal" for PBS.



Motown Review on American Black Journal.

The show covered social and political issues as well as entertainment, sports and religion. Guests included Bobby Seale, Jesse Jackson, John Conyers, Cornel West,

Nikki Giovanni, Stevie Wonder, Wynton Marsalis and James Brown.

Because of the show's breadth of coverage, the archive provides a unique,

extensive collection of local African-American audio-video history. The program examined race riots, Nelson Mandela's 1990 visit to the United States, black Americans and poverty, education, the rise of black businesses, and the explosion of Motown and rap.

Michigan State University has partnered with Detroit Public Television to digitalize the episodes and post them on-line. More than 60 full-length shows can be viewed in streaming video format.

Address for the site is www.matrix.msu.edu/~abj.

AJHA offers four research grants

Each grant will be for up to \$1,250; deadline is May 15.

By Michael Sweeney

The American Journalism Historians Association seeks applications for its annual Research Grant Awards.

Applications must be postmarked no later than May 15, 2008. Up to four winners will be announced at the October 2008 convention in Seattle.

The Research Grant Award is designed to provide research assistance and to recognize and reward the winners. Up to four grants per year for up to \$1,250 each will be awarded upon review and recommendation of the Research Grant Committee.

All current AJHA full members with a minimum of three

Mail materials to:

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years' membership at the time of application are eligible. The research project must be related to mass media history. Awardees are expected to continue their membership through the grant period.

Members must complete an application form and provide a one- to three-page prospectus/overview of the project, including a budget (which should include a listing of amount and sources of other support [if appropriate] with timelines and expected outlets for the research.)

Where appropriate, Institutional Review Board Approval Forms from the applicant's university should be included.

A vita of no more than three pages must accompany the proposal.

Grant applications must be submitted to Research Grant Committee Chair Mike Sweeney in triplicate by the announced deadline.

For all grants awarded, credit must be made to AJHA in writing and/or expression for any publications or presentations.

No later than 60 days after project completion, awardees must provide a report of the completed research effort that AJHA may use for promotional purposes.

Members may receive an AJHA research grant only once.

Putting money where our mouth is: Apply for AJHA research grants

Continued from Page 2

Dubuque, Iowa. So I want to visit museums, archives, and libraries in key cities. I also need to go to New York, and perhaps the Library of Congress again. But I also will use the money to get help from places like the



Bulla



Lumsden

Western Reserve Historical Society Library. The staff there is very good about helping re-

search-

ers." I look forward to someday reading



Whitt

and hearing **Campbell** more about the topics each of our first research grant recipients are

exploring, and I know that many of you reading this have projects or ideas that are equally worthy of support.

AAS Seminar to explore early print culture

David Paul Nord of Indiana University and John Nerone of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will co-leading the Summer Seminar in the History of the Book at the American Antiquarian Society in June.

The theme of the seminar

will be "The Newspaper and the Culture of Print in the Early American Republic." The application deadline is March 14.

Seminar sessions will be held from June 18 to June 23 at the American Antiquarian Society facilities in Worcester, Mass.

In addition to Nord and Nerone, the faculty will include Vincent Golden, Curator of Newspapers and Periodicals at AAS.

For further information see www.americanantiquarian.org/summersem.htm

Ivins award recognizes journalist who was 'an authentic female voice'

Continued from Page 1

personality in the history of journalism.

Ivins' acerbic wit skewered politicians. Her favorite target during the past seven years has been President Bush, whom she was able to observe up close when he was governor of Texas. In addition to appearing in *The Texas Observer*, her work also was published on a regular basis in *Mother Jones*, *The Progressive*, and *The Nation*. Her column was syndi-

"Much will be made of Molly's . . . passionate and eloquent defense of the poorest and the weakest among us . . ."

cated by Creators Syndicate.

Ivins' editor at Creators Syndicate, Anthony Zurcher, wrote upon her death, "But there was more to Molly Ivins than insightful political commentary packaged in an aw-shucks Southern charm. In the coming days, much will be made of Molly's contributions to the

liberal cause, how important she was as an authentic female voice on opinion pages across the country, her passionate and eloquent defense of the poorest and the weakest among us against the corruption of the most powerful, and the joy she took in celebrating the uniqueness of American culture -- and all of this is true."

Information about the Molly Award can be obtained at http://www.texasobserver.org/event_molly_award.php.

By Molly Ivins

Who Let the Dogs In?: Incredible Political Animals I Have Known (2004)
Bushwhacked: Life in George W. Bush's America (with Lou Dubose) (2003)
You Got to Dance with Them What Brung You (1998)
Nothin' But Good Times Ahead (1993)
Molly Ivins Can't Say That, Can She? (1991)



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Got News?

The newsletter is published in November, February, May and August. Submission deadlines are Nov. 1, Jan. 15, April 15 and July 15. Email is preferred, but you may also fax or mail to:

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Future AJHA
Convention
Sites

2008: Seattle
(Oct. 1-4)
2009: Birmingham
2010: Tucson



Press baron William Randolph Hearst ran unsuccessfully for governor of New York in 1906 as a Democrat, one of several political offices he tried to secure. Cartoon by Bergman in 1906.

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