



PRESS RELEASE

June 23, 2014

For Immediate Release

Contact: Riva Brown

Phone: 601-672-8946

Email: rrbrown@uca.edu

Written by Riva Brown and Joseph Cabosky

AJHA MEMBERS TO BE HONORED AT AEJMC FOR BOOKS, RESEARCH PAPERS

MONTREAL – Several members of the American Journalism Historians Association will receive awards during the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication conference Aug. 6-9 in Montreal for their books and research papers.

Mike Sweeney and Pat Washburn will receive the AEJMC History Division's Covert Award for best mass communication history article, essay or book chapter for their monograph “‘Ain’t Justice Wonderful’: The *Chicago Tribune*, Its Battle of Midway Story, and the Government’s Attempt at an Espionage Indictment in 1942.”

Sweeney and Washburn’s monograph offers new insights into the case that resulted in the U.S. government’s attempt to prosecute journalists for reporting on its knowledge of Japanese military information during World War II. The scholars gained access to the *Tribune*’s archive, which previously had been closed off to researchers. They also obtained primary documents that chronicled the actions of the Justice Department, the FBI and the Navy.

Sweeney said he was grateful to collaborate with Washburn, his mentor who also chaired his dissertation committee. “It was like coming home,” he said.

Washburn said he encourages historians to considering partnering to conduct research. “The monograph was made far better than if Mike or I had done it alone because of the specific knowledge that each of us brought to it,” he said.

Carol Sue Humphrey is a Tankard Book Award finalist for *The American Revolution and the Press: The Promise of Independence*.

Humphrey said she hopes her book will help readers better understand how the colonies came together to form the United States and the important role newspapers played in that process. Without some form of communication, the Revolution never would have succeeded, she said.

“The newspapers provided that communication, even though the stories were old by today's standards when most people read them,” Humphrey said. “Still, because of that source of information, many people remained interested in the outcome of the war and hung in there until victory was won.”

Jinx Broussard has earned the AEJMC History Division’s annual Book Award for *African American Foreign Correspondents: A History*.

Broussard, a professor in the Manship School of Communication at Louisiana State University, said the recognition further elevates the genre of African American foreign correspondence from invisibility.

“In accepting this award, I salute the black men and women foreign correspondents who used their pen to tell the untold stories and to try to bring about domestic and global policy changes,” Broussard said.

Gwyneth Mellinger will be honored with the Frank Luther Mott/Kappa Tau Alpha Research Award for the book *Chasing Diversity: From Jim Crow to Affirmative Action*.

Mellinger, an associate professor and chair at Xavier University in Cincinnati, said receiving the research award is an honor.

“The book offers historical analysis grounded in archival research, and the award affirms that American media historians have a broad audience for their work,” Mellinger said.

The AEJMC History Division also will recognize five AJHA members for top faculty papers:

- First place, past president **Kim Mangun**, “The ‘Eloquent Dr. King’: How E. O. Jackson and the Birmingham World Covered Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Bus Boycott”
- Second place, **Ronald Zboray** and **Mary Zboray**, “The ‘Sound of an Extra’: Representing Civil War Newsboys by Pen and in Print”
- Third place, Tim Vos and Terri Finneman, “Legitimate News Judgments: The Early Historical Construction of Journalism's Gatekeeping Role.”

Founded in 1981, the American Journalism Historians Association seeks to advance education and research in mass communication history. Members work to raise historical standards and ensure that all scholars and students recognize the vast importance of media history and apply this knowledge to the advancement of society.

###