



PRESS RELEASE

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TRIPP WINS AJHA TEACHING AWARD

Bernell Tripp has been selected to receive the 2014 American Journalism Historians Association National Award for Excellence in Teaching. Tripp is an associate professor in the Department of Journalism at the University of Florida.

The annual AJHA Teaching Award honors a college or university teacher who excels at teaching in the areas of journalism and mass communication history, makes a positive impact on student learning, and offers an outstanding example for other educators. Tripp will receive the award on Oct. 9, at the AJHA 33rd Annual Convention in St. Paul, Minn.

Tripp said that instructors who instilled in her a love of history and of learning have shaped her teaching career, as have special students whose curiosity and enthusiasm for learning about the past continues to be contagious.

"I have been extremely lucky in my career, and I do what I do because of who THEY were—and still are," Tripp said.

Ford Risley, chair of the Education Committee, called Tripp a most deserving winner of the Teaching Award.

"The judges were unanimous in their high praise for the quality of her teaching," Risley said.

One judge called Tripp "a teacher *par excellence* who lives and breathes media history."

Another emphasized Tripp's long record of teaching, which includes strengthening the history curriculum at Florida and contributing to the increased focus on teaching at AJHA.

"Her graduate students provide evidence of the depth of her knowledge and her ability to mentor and lead the media historians of the future," the judge wrote.

The Education Committee received three nominations for the 2014 award.

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. For more information on AJHA, visit <http://www.ajhaonline.org>.

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