President's Column

Convention’s President’s Panel will discuss copyright, fair use

The 2016 conference is almost here — AJHA’s 35th convention. We’ll mark the occasion in St. Petersburg, all the while creating and recording new memories from our shared experiences in Florida — thus giving a sense of permanence to our brief time together.

I also hope we take advantage of the St. Pete convention to continue to discuss the history of our organization; the 2015 President’s Panel offered one such opportunity to hear our founders recount AJHA’s genesis and early years.

While acknowledging this year’s milestone, we also must take time to recognize issues relevant to our present and future circumstances. Accordingly, this year’s President’s Panel will explore the intersection between the content we produce as journalists and scholars, the archival material we use to produce it, and the laws that govern both the ownership of that material and our own published works.

My interest in the subject dates back to my first media law course, but I did not truly comprehend the complexities of copyright law and fair use until production of my first book and subsequent publications.

In that time I learned, for example, that a particular archive — like the Wisconsin Historical Society, keepers of the papers of the National Broadcasting Company (NBC) — cannot grant legal permission to use a particular company or individual’s material in any published work — at least not without their written permission. That’s what I was told by both my publisher and an archivist in Wisconsin in the weeks leading up to the publication of my first book, “Something on My Own: Gertrude Berg and American Broadcasting, 1929-1956” (Syracuse University Press, 2007).

Per the agreement between NBC and the Wisconsin Historical Society, I needed to secure NBC’s permission to use any company documents in my manuscript — a task easier said than done, considering the difficulty of finding the contact information for a corporate attorney willing to field my request in a timely manner.

Nevertheless, per my publisher’s instructions, I spent most of the 2006 Christmas break (six months before the release of my book) identifying the parties responsible for giving legal permission for the use of specific archival and secondary source materials in my book. I don’t remember how, but I did find an attorney at NBC, one of its vice-presidents in fact, who agreed to allow his company’s papers to be used in the manuscript. Of course, I had to sign a form stating that I would not defame NBC or its parent companies in the finished product.

Upon receiving a copy of that contract, my editor called me, and the conversation went something like this: “It’s been a while since I’ve read your manuscript in detail. You didn’t say anything defamatory about NBC, did you?” she asked. “Well, if I did, it’s all a part of the historical record. But, no, I didn’t,” I said. “I saved all undue criticism for CBS.”

Looking back, the entire exercise was a blur, a result of the almost frantic pace in which I worked, the fact that I underestimated the time it would take to secure the necessary permissions, and the realization of my own relative lack of knowledge about the subject. The experience was, in hindsight, a “crash course” in the

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Teel to receive AJHA award for year’s outstanding book

The AJHA’s Book Award Committee has selected Leonard Teel as the recipient of the association’s annual Book of the Year Award. He will receive the award and discuss his research on Oct. 8 during a special session at the 35th annual AJHA convention in St. Petersburg.

Teel, professor emeritus in the Department of Communication at Georgia State University, wrote “Reporting the Cuban Revolution: How Castro Manipulated American Journalists” (LSU Press, 2015). Teel reveals the untold stories of 13 American journalists in Cuba whose reporting about Fidel Castro’s revolution changed the way Americans viewed the conflict and altered U.S. foreign policy in Castro’s favor.

According to one judge, Teel’s account of Castro’s relationship with the press skillfully draws upon a variety of historical documents and telling details.

“This book brings to life an important episode in journalism history and breaks new ground by reinterpreting – with solid evidence – Castro’s manipulation of American journalists during and immediately after the Cuban revolution,” the judge wrote.

Another judge said that Teel presents a compelling story of a pivotal time in American history.

“Leonard Teel narrates a fascinating account about a baker’s dozen of journalists on whom the United States relied for insights and understanding of the Cuban Revolution,” the judge said.

“Reporting the Cuban Revolution shows American reporters posing as sugar planters, miners, and tourists in an effort to get the story of a revolutionary island nation that was known to them would bring the world to the brink of nuclear war.”

Teel thanks his fellow journalists for their support and advice.

“I know for a fact that this book, as it is now, would not have been written without advice from my AJHA colleagues,” Teel remarked.

“In the beginning they prodded me to rethink the project. Afterwards they confirmed my new focus, recognizing what was the book’s backbone – that is, how and why the U.S. mass media could have been so thoroughly manipulated.”
Greetings, AJHA members!

If you’ve ever imagined a place where endless sunshine and white sand beaches meet fine dining and the arts, you’re ready for the 2016 American Journalism Historians Association conference in St. Petersburg. Located on Florida’s Gulf Coast, St. Pete is known as a cultural hub that is both innovative and rooted in history.

AJHA members who have attended our annual conferences know them to be scholarly, fun “destination” conferences featuring excellent research, memorable experiences, and inclusive amenities. Whether it’s the historic tour or the endless coffee break, the bar set for our conference is higher than ever. Although most of our members are pleased with our progress, a recent member survey let us know that a few things needed to be tweaked. (See the results of the survey in the Summer 2016 Intelligencer.) Thanks to everyone for your opinions and suggestions on how we can move our annual conference from great to greater.

Here are some of the new things that you can look forward to this year:

**Accommodations**

This year we’ll be staying at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront Hotel, located in the city’s downtown area. Unlike the historic hotels where we’ve stayed for the past few years, the Hilton Bayfront is known for its contemporary, minimalist décor because of its affiliation with the fabulous Dali Museum. The Hilton Bayfront is located across the street from the bay and a walking path (for early morning walkers), and it is within walking distance of the city’s dining. And, did I tell you that the room rate is $119 per night? I hope this rate addresses the concerns that some of our members had about the conference’s increasing room rates. See the hotel page for booking info.

**Historic tour**

The members of the local host committee — Berrin Beasley, Fred Blevens, Bernel Tripp, and Kim Voss — worked diligently to make sure you enjoy the conference and the city, a challenging task because the bay area includes two cities with diverse populations as well as unique personalities and histories. In addition to this consideration, the survey revealed that attendees who preferred not to participate in the historic tour would appreciate structured options. Here’s what you can look forward to this year:

**Tampa Bay History Center/Ybor City walking tour**

Friday’s historic tour departs from the hotel at 1 p.m. The tour begins with a ride across the bay for a self-guided tour of the Tampa Bay History Center, located on the Riverwalk at Tampa’s Channelside District. Next, the buses will take you to Ybor City, home of Florida’s cigar industry and Cuban community. Here you can enjoy a walking tour as well as one of Tampa’s best dining and entertainment districts. The length of this year’s historic tour has been expanded so you can enjoy eating in Ybor City (and we can avoid the gridlock of Friday afternoon traffic on the return to St. Petersburg). I strongly suggest that you make reservations at the renowned Columbia Restaurant, the oldest restaurant in Florida and the largest Spanish restaurant in the world. The family-owned restaurant features Spanish and Cuban cuisine. If dining at The Columbia sounds appetizing, make your reservation for no later than 5 p.m. so you can enjoy your meal and return to the bus by 7 p.m. for our return to St. Petersburg. We
St. Petersburg was founded in 1888. One of the two co-founders won a coin toss and named the town after his hometown of St. Petersburg, Russia. A postcard from 1910 shows an historical view of the town’s Central Avenue.

2016 AJHA national convention

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should arrive back at the Hilton Bayfront at 8 p.m. (traffic permitting).

**St. Petersburg self-guided tour**
Those who prefer to stay in St. Petersburg can visit some of the best museums in the country. Here are just a few of the museums you can enjoy and the cost for admission: the Dali Museum ($24), St. Petersburg Museum of History ($15), the Museum of Fine Arts ($17), and the Florida Holocaust Museum ($16). To get to these venues, you can walk or catch the Looper Trolley in front of the hotel.

**Opening reception and closing Gala**
The survey revealed that many of our members agree on the importance of the opening reception and the closing gala. One message, however, came through loud and clear: too much food at the reception! This year, you can expect a poolside reception (weather permitting, of course). Once again, Fred Blevens worked his magic to make the reception a meaningful event. The reception will be sponsored by Florida International University and the University of Georgia. It will feature light hors d’oeuvres so that you’re not too full to enjoy dinner, which can include the best Gulf Coast cuisine that St. Pete restaurants have to offer. The Poynter Institute will host the closing gala at its St. Petersburg facility. For more information on these and other special events at the convention, visit the **events page**.

**White sand beaches**
With those white sand beaches being so close to the Hilton Bayfront, I suggest that you pack your bathing suit, come in a day early, and catch some rays on St. Pete Beach. You don’t need to rent a car because getting to the beach is an easy 40-minute ride on the Central Avenue Trolley.

I hope you can see that a lot of thought has gone into planning a conference that continues our tradition of showcasing scholarly research and honoring the impact journalists have on the local community while incorporating the results of the survey.

See you in St. Pete!
*Caryl Cooper is chair of the AJHA Convention Sites Committee.*
St. Petersburg, women and journalism history

The St. Petersburg area was a particularly important place for women journalists in the 1950s and 1960s. One of the most significant was Anne Rowe; she was one of the five young journalists from St. Petersburg gathered in a hotel room on the Gulf Beaches in April 1964 trying to improve their newspaper.

Known as the “Filthy Five,” they were sure to make it as appealing to men as it was to women.

The first issue came out on September 15. It featured a mix of stories including an article about “the nitty-gritty volunteers who walk the streets of the ghetto.”

Rowe wrote about the transformation in the national Women in Communications magazine: “The response was good; people began to talk about the section. The staff blossomed under the freedom we were given to explore.”

According to Executive Editor Don Baldwin: “We want to write about people and what they are doing and why they are doing it. I think we should be ahead of Women’s Lib. Women are people and they should be treated like people and not have a special section any more than lefthanders or red-heads and electricians.”

When the newspaper began publishing the new section, it was years ahead of most newspapers in redefining women’s news. Their efforts, however, have long been overshadowed by newspapers on either coast — the Washington Post and the Los Angeles Times. In journalism and popular history, the national newspapers are largely credited with transforming the women’s page to lifestyle sections.

According to historian Kay Mills: “Many people give The Washington Post trailblazing credit, but the Los Angeles Times was developing a comparable section at the same time.” Left out of the trailblazer list was the St. Petersburg Times and the editor who led the way: Anne Rowe Goldman, a true pioneer in journalism.

**NOTES**

1 Anne Rowe letter to Paul Myhre, August 31, 1964. Papers of the Penney-Missouri Awards, Western Historical Manuscript Collection, Missouri Historical Society.


4 Ibid.


Folkerts to receive Kobre Award for lifetime achievement

The AJHA will give its 2016 Sidney Kobre Award for Lifetime Achievement in Journalism History to Jean Folkerts, visiting professor and scholar at the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Kansas State University.

As AJHA’s highest honor, the Kobre Award recognizes individuals with an exemplary record of sustained achievement in journalism history through research, teaching and professional activities. It is named in honor of the late Sidney Kobre, a prolific historian who was involved with the founding of the AJHA.

Folkerts is the lead author of the textbook “Voices of a Nation: A History of Mass Media in the United States,” which was first published in 1989 and went through five editions.

She earned her undergraduate degree in journalism with concentrations in English and sociology from Kansas State, where she also earned a master’s degree in journalism and mass communications. She earned her master’s and doctorate degrees in American Studies from the University of Kansas.

Her academic appointments included serving as the associate vice president at George Washington University and dean of the schools of journalism at George Washington and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has been the editor of Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly and has served on the editorial boards of Journalism History and Journalism Monographs.

Although she boasts an impressive vita, including work as a war correspondent, assistant press secretary, editor, author, educator and administrator, Folkerts is perhaps best known for her genuine concern for the well-being of her students. Former student Carolyn Edy, now assistant professor of journalism at Appalachian State University, remembers Folkerts as genuine and approachable.

“She is generous with her time, knowledge and experience,” Edy said. “She expects the best of herself and of everyone else, and she also has a knack for realizing these expectations.”

Likewise, Folkerts appreciates her students for inspiring her to be a good teacher.

“I want to thank my students from across the years...whose questions stimulated new research ideas,” she said. “Their accomplishments continue to motivate me.”

Folkerts will receive the Kobre Award and deliver brief remarks during a luncheon Oct. 6 at AJHA’s 35th annual convention in St. Petersburg, Fla. She said she feels honored to have been selected.

“I commend the extraordinary efforts of AJHA to enhance journalism history teaching and research,” she stated. “I know the work of this group will continue to inspire generations of journalism history teachers and scholars.”
The Oral History Committee is launching a new Intelligencer column that features members’ oral history projects and tips for conducting oral histories. This first column profiles a project by the University of Georgia’s Janice Hume and Jason Lee Guthrie. If you would like to be featured in a future column, contact Oral History Committee Chair Teri Finneman at finnemte@gmail.com.

Oral historians featured this issue

Janice Hume teaches magazine writing, management, and media history. Her research concerns American journalism history, public memory, and media coverage of death.

Jason Lee Guthrie is a Ph.D. student in mass communication at the University of Georgia. His dissertation, directed by Hume, is a revisionist history of American copyright law from the perspective of content creators.

About their project

The centennial year of the Pulitzer Prize is a major milestone, not just for the prize itself, but also for journalism history. The Pulitzer has a long tradition of honoring work that exposes government corruption, that ethically covers natural and man-made disasters, and that advances the cause of civil rights for all people.

The focus on civil rights is of particular interest to Hume and Guthrie’s project. Atlanta is well known as a central hub of the civil rights movement proper (c. 1950s-1970s), and the state of Georgia has been home to many Pulitzer winners whose journalism, fiction, drama, and poetry have wedged civil rights issues into the national consciousness.

Hume and Guthrie were awarded the Pulitzer Centennial Campfires Initiative grant for the state of Georgia to create a digital exhibition that commemorates Pulitzer winners with Georgia ties and whose work focused on civil rights themes.

As part of their work on this project, they are collecting oral histories with Pulitzer winners and academic experts, including several with AJHA members at the 2016 convention in St. Petersburg.

Feature clips from these interviews will be pulled out for special feature in their digital exhibition, and the full oral histories will be archived in the Special Collections Library at the University of Georgia. They are sponsored in this project by Georgia Humanities, and other partners include the Civil Rights Digital Libraries and the New Georgia Encyclopedia.

Contributors to the project include Hank Klibanoff, Leonard Ray Teel, Mike Luckovich, Roy J. Harris Jr., Roy Peter Clark, Bill Dedman, and Cynthia Tucker, among others.

The Pulitzer Prize began rewarding the work of courageous Southern journalists who exposed the actions of the Ku Klux Klan as early as the 1920s and continued that tradition through the era of the civil rights movement. Such courageous journalism is just as important today, as protests against racial discrimination and violence have again become part of the American social and political landscape.

Preserving the memory of the civil rights movement through many mediums, especially oral history, seems particularly relevant in the present historical moment.

Among Hume and Guthrie’s oral history subjects is Hank Klibanoff, co-author of "The Race Beat," which won both a Pulitzer Prize and the AJHA Book Award.
Preserving History:
Digitizing and archiving Florida’s newspapers

As the “first rough draft of history,” newspapers are a critical component of the research resources utilized in numerous fields and disciplines, and in recent years digitization has moved to the forefront of efforts to provide increased access to historical news.

Researchers have used newspapers as a unique source of information for as long as they have been published, and a broad spectrum of historians, genealogists, mass communication researchers and other scholars depend on news content in their work. News content written as events are unfolding contains important primary source material, providing researchers with an unfiltered perspective on the events of the time.

Vital information unavailable elsewhere, or often filtered and interpreted in secondary sources, is recorded in newspapers. They provide an incomparable record of both historic events and unexceptional daily occurrences written while the events are happening.

There is now a growing expectation to have more immediate and functional access to newspaper archives and collections, and a new generation of researchers has an increasing impatience for using microfilm or doing manual searching. Newspaper digitization, although costly and extremely labor and technology intensive, provides great benefits to both researchers and libraries.

From the perspective of libraries and archives, digitization provides an alternative method of preserving valuable archival content and affords an opportunity to make their primary source collections more broadly available and much easier to use.

Newsletters have a distinguished history in Florida, beginning with the East Florida Gazette, a Tory newspaper published in St. Augustine while the region was under British rule in 1783. The University of Florida’s George A. Smathers Libraries have a long history of preserving those newspapers, dating back to a collection and preservation effort that began in 1944 which called for the acquisition of at least one newspaper from each of Florida’s 67 counties on an ongoing basis.

The UF Libraries continued to microfilm newspapers for decades, eventually completely transitioning from filming to digitization in 2005. Today the Florida Digital Newspaper Library holds over 700 historic newspaper titles and uploads more than 100 current Florida newspapers and periodicals each month.

Since 2013, the Smathers Libraries have received $613,000 in funding from the National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) to support the Florida and Puerto Rico Digital Newspaper Project (FPRDNP), an initiative to digitize historical newspapers published between 1836 and 1922. The project is associated with the National Digital Newspaper Project (NDNP), a joint initiative between NEH and the Library of Congress started in 2005.

The NEH recently expanded the NDNP dollars of coverage to include newspapers published from 1690 through 1963, and as a result, contingent on continued NEH funding for another phase of the project, plans are in place to identify post-1923 titles for inclusion in the third round of digitization.

Over 100,000 pages from newspapers in both Florida and Puerto Rico were digitized during the first phase of the project, and an additional 110,000 pages are being digitized during the second phase. The newspapers chosen for digitization were selected with input from an Advisory Board consisting of librarians, history scholars and journalists, and the selection process focused on historic significance, broad geographic coverage, importance as “paper of record” and archival imperative due to limited availability in microfilm or other formats.

The newspapers digitized as part of the project are made available via the Library of Congress’ Chronicling America, as well as the Florida Digital Newspaper Library (FDNL) and the Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC). For additional information contact Patrick Reakes at pjr@uflib.ufl.edu or Melissa Espino at mmespino@ufl.edu.

Patrick Reakes is Associate Dean for Scholarly Resources and Services at the University of Florida’s George A. Smathers Libraries.
The School of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of South Carolina invites submissions for the fourth biennial Media & Civil Rights History Symposium. The Symposium will be March 30-April 1, 2017, at the Columbia campus.

Held during the full bloom of the South Carolina spring, the event brings together civil rights and media historians to share historical knowledge on the vital relationships between civil rights and various types of public communication. The Symposium welcomes scholars from various disciplines and work that approaches civil rights and media history from a range of local, national and transnational contexts, perspectives, and periods.

The 2017 Symposium will take place in the center of campus, at a historic, renovated building with state-of-the-art digital presentation technology.

2017 Symposium theme
The special focus of the 2017 Media & Civil Rights History Symposium is on the role of print and broadcast images in the African American freedom struggle and other civil rights struggles. While the Symposium welcomes work that falls beyond the scope of the theme, scholars working in and with visual images are encouraged to consider this theme as they prepare work to submit to the Symposium.

Call for paper and panel proposals
Symposium coordinators currently are accepting abstract proposals for individual papers and panel sessions on all aspects of the historical relationship between media and civil rights and particularly on the Symposium theme. Coordinators also encourage abstract submissions for work in other formats, including documentaries.

Paper and panel abstract submissions can be made online at the 2017 Media & Civil Rights History Symposium webpage. Submissions must be received by 11:59 p.m. EST on Dec. 15.


Nelson will discuss and show excerpts of his work at the opening reception Thursday evening and the Friday noon keynote session. He will also speak at a public session Friday evening in the historic Booker T. Washington High School auditorium in Columbia.

Farrar Award in Media & Civil Rights History
The Ronald T. and Gayla D. Farrar Award in Media & Civil Rights History recognizes the best journal article or chapter in an edited collection on the historical relationship between the media and civil rights.

The award is named in honor of Dr. Ron Farrar and his late wife. He is Professor Emeritus of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications. Recipients of the award receive a plaque and $1,000. The winner agrees to present his or her work in a featured address at the 2017 Media & Civil Rights History Symposium.

Call for nominees
Submitted articles or chapters should be works of historical scholarship and must have been published in 2015 or 2016. Submissions that address the media and civil rights from a range of local, national and transnational contexts, periods and perspectives are encouraged. Scholars may nominate and submit their own work or the work of others. A national panel of experts will judge the contest.

Articles/chapters to be considered should be sent as a PDF file to contest chairman Kenneth Campbell at kencamp@mailbox.sc.edu by Dec. 15. Late submissions will not be considered.

Award contact
For more information about the Farrar Award in Media & Civil Rights History, contact Kenneth Campbell, kencamp@mailbox.sc.edu, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, 800 Sumter Street, Columbia, SC 29208.
AJHA will honor Charles N. Davis, dean of the University of Georgia Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication, with its Distinguished Administrator Award. Davis will be recognized Oct. 8 during the annual opening reception at the AJHA convention in St. Petersburg.

Davis will be the second ever person to be honored with the award. The first was Dean Mills, former dean of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, who received the award at the 2011 AJHA convention in Kansas City.

Fred Blevens nominated Davis for the award because of his long-time support of media history and AJHA.

“He has recognized the importance of history in the curriculum,” Blevens said. “He has hired and promoted faculty who teach and conduct research in media history. I’m delighted that we have this opportunity to honor him.”

Janice Hume, head of the journalism department at the University of Georgia, said she feels fortunate to work with Davis at UGA. In addition to being supportive of media history, Hume said, Davis is a strong advocate of the First Amendment.

“You could search the country and not find a better dean,” Hume said. “He’s an administrator whose first reaction is always, ‘Let’s do this.’”

Prior to his appointment at UGA, Davis spent 14 years on the faculty at the University of Missouri School of Journalism, where he served as a department chair and as executive director of the National Freedom of Information Coalition. He also has taught at Georgia Southern University and Southern Methodist University. He has received several teaching accolades, including the Scripps Howard Foundation National Journalism Teacher of the Year Award in 2008.

Davis earned his Ph.D. from the University of Florida and his master’s degree from the University of Georgia. During his professional journalism career, he worked for newspapers, magazines and a news service in Georgia and Florida.

Davis said he is honored to receive the Distinguished Administrator Award.

“As a longtime friend of so many AJHA members, and as a legal scholar with a deep appreciation for the rigor of historical research, I can’t tell you how touched I am by this recognition,” he said.

Davis urges AJHA members to continue the important work of teaching media history to future generations of journalists.

“Deans of journalism and mass communication programs must continue to support the inclusion of media history in our curricula, as each passing day serves to remind us all that history informs the present in ways great and small,” he said. “We’re better communicators because of our embrace of the history of our profession.”

Constitutional amendment up for vote at convention

AJHA members will vote at the general business meeting Oct. 8 on a proposed constitutional amendment to create a term limit for the Finance Officer.

Following is the current constitutional language for the entry describing the Finance Officer position:

The Finance Officer is appointed by the AJHA Board of Directors to a five-year term subject to annual review and reconfirmation by the Board. The Treasurer and the Finance Officer shall serve staggered terms, and consecutive terms for both may be held.
Conferences and books: A mutually beneficial relationship

Most historians attend conferences to present their research, learn about other scholars’ work and catch up with friends from other colleges and universities. Conferences also are a great venue at which to develop edited or jointly authored books. Certainly sole-authored books bring the most glory and attention to historians, but edited and co-authored books developed via discussions at conventions are deeply rewarding publications in their own right.

When I was asked to serve as editor of a book on 19th-century media law (after another historian passed on the opportunity to write said work), I began by considering the legal issues and concerns that 19th-century writers and orators faced. Then I jotted notes about extra-legal actions (mob violence, etc.) that silenced or thwarted expression.

I quickly realized a theme was emerging: that public pronouncements of support for free expression notwithstanding, a variety of factors — including traditions, established gender expectations, religious beliefs and fear of social unrest — had produced a host of state laws (and some federal restrictions, too) that led to narrow judicial and political protection for individuals whose expression upset the existing social status quo.

Although some topics related to 19th-century media law have been written about on several occasions, including suppression of abolitionist speech and suppression of Copperhead editors’ publications, I didn’t want to ignore this already well-trod scholarly ground. I wanted a volume that was sweeping in its scope to give a strong sense of the century’s restrictions that was written by scholars who were experts in their respective fields.

With less than a month before I was to attend the annual Symposium on the Nineteenth-Century Press, the Civil War, and Free Expression at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, I made plans to recruit my authors. I first emailed the conference’s host, David Sachsman, and asked if I could quietly recruit — or do so more loudly by making an announcement. He gave me his permission. I then emailed a few scholars I had long known who were well-versed in 19th-century press law to gauge interest.

I found the Chattanooga conference a particularly fertile one for recruiting scholars for the project — and for improving the book overall. The size of the conference provided me with opportunities to chat with potential authors. The task would have been much more difficult at a much larger conference.

Because the Chattanooga conference focused on 19th-century research, I had a room full of scholars with interest in the necessary century. And, the multi-disciplinary nature of the conference gave me a chance to expand my contacts with scholars from other fields. These discussions greatly improved the final book. A number of colleagues asked insightful questions, suggested new directions of scholarship, and expanded my tentative plan for an intellectual and social history work to also include cultural history.

A few scholars expressed interest in combining their forces and producing a few joint chapters, which largely worked out well. But, we discovered that in a multi-author situation, one of the authors needed to take charge and smooth the chapter’s writing. Luckily, my co-authors proved an affable bunch, and no blood was spilled.

Although many emails flew back and forth over the course of the book’s production, the initial face-to-face discussions proved invaluable. Ideas were shared, as was the rubric for the book. The conference also provided me with the opportunity to vet potential chapter authors individually. A roundtable discussion during one luncheon also proved lively and helpful.

My co-authors and I made plans during the 2014 conference in Chattanooga to have an invited panel session for the following year’s conference. This gave us a chance to promote our book, which is titled “An Indispensable Liberty: The Fight for Free Speech in Nineteenth-Century America,” and also provided the chapter authors with an invited panel presentation to put on their vitae.

One closing thought: My experience worked well, but I went to the conference with a strong rubric in place. I had already completed discussions by telephone and email with my publisher, Southern Illinois University Press. Most of my chapter topics were roughed out. The focus was largely set. The chapter lengths had been determined by the publisher. That made the process much easier.

Certainly any of my co-authors or myself could have written the entire book as sole author, but the time commitment would have been daunting. And, the chance to engage with colleagues I normally only see once or twice a year would have been lost.

NOTE: “An Indispensable Liberty” published in March 2016. In addition to Cronin, AJHA members with chapters in the book are Jon Bekken, David Bulla, Paulette Kilmer, Erika Pribanic-Smith, and Debra van Tuyll.
Several AJHA members were among the scholars who gathered in Minneapolis Aug. 4-7 for the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication annual convention.

Many familiar names appeared on the program particularly for History Division events, which included three panels, three traditional research paper sessions, a poster session, and a high-density session (in which 10 scholars gave short presentations, followed by informal one-on-one discussion with session attendees).

The following AJHA members had research papers in the History Division: Carol Ames, Elizabeth Atwood, Christopher Frear, Michael Fuhlhage, Kevin Grieves (third-place faculty paper), Owen Johnson, Kevin Lerner, Tracy Lucht (second-place faculty paper), James Mueller, Samantha Peko, Ronald Rodgers, Rich Shumate (top student paper), Denitsa Yotova (third-place student paper), and Ken Ward and Aimee Edmondson (co-authored second-place student paper).

AJHA members who served as discussants and moderators for History Division research sessions were Ross Collins, David Davies, Kate Edenborg, Gwyn Mel linger, Erika Pribanic-Smith, Dean Smith, Tim Vos, and Kimberly Wilmot Voss.

Four AJHA members appeared on the History Division panel “Women and Regional Journalism History”: Lucht, Jane Marcellus, Voss, and Eileen Wirth. W. Joseph Campbell presented on a panel discussing journalism films as engines of myth, co-sponsored by the History Division and Council of Affiliates, and Teri Finneman and Jennifer Moore participated on a teaching panel that the History and Critical & Cultural Studies divisions co-sponsored.

The following AJHA members also were on the program for sessions outside the history division:

Advertising Division: Steven Holiday, Karie Hollerbach, and Wendy Melillo (on a panel co-sponsored with Visual Communication).

Commission on the Status of Women: Candi Carter Olson and Yong Vozl.

Communication Theory and Methodology: Ellada Gamreklidze.

Council of Affiliates: W. Joseph Campbell (teaching panel), Melillo (teaching panel), and Olson (invited papers session on “Women and Work”).

Critical and Cultural Studies Division: Sid Bedingfield (on a panel co-sponsored with Internships and Careers Interest Group), Meta Carstarphen, Frear, Nicholas Gilewicz, Marcellus, Cristina Mislan, Olson, Amber Roessner, Carrie Teresa, and Vos.

Electronic News Division: Raluca Cozma (on a panel co-sponsored with International Communication), Ken Fischer, Marilyn Greenwald, and Raymond McCaffrey.

Entertainment Studies Interest Group: Robert Byrd, Kenneth Campbell, and Nathaniel Frederick.

Ethics Division: McCaffrey, Finneman, and Earnest Perry (on a panel co-sponsored with Small Programs Interest Group).

Graduate Student Interest Group: Shumate.

International Association for Literary Journalism Studies: David Abrahamson, David Dowling, Brian Gabrial, Amy Lauters, and Nancy Roberts.

Jhistory Internet Interest Group: Perry.


LGBTQ Interest Group: Byrd and Shumate.

Magazine Division: Abrahamson, Berkley Hudson, Carolyn Kitch, and Lerner.

Mass Communication and Society: Frear and Lerner.

Minorities and Communication Division: Carstarphen, Edmondson, and Frear.

Newspaper and Online News Division: Atwood and Vos.


Participatory Journalism Interest Group: Moore (on a panel co-sponsored with Community College Journalism Association).

Public Relations Division: Karla Gower.

Religion and Media Interest Group: Anthony Hatcher.

Scholastic Journalism: Vos.

Small Programs Interest Group: Matthew Haught, Gilewicz, and Pam Parry.

Standing Committee on Teaching: Cozma and Perry.

Visual Communication Division: Haught (on a teaching panel co-sponsored with Public Relations Division), Hudson, Keith Greenwood, and Michael Martinez.

Additionally, Linda Lumsden discussed her work as a Senior Scholar grant recipient, and Brett Johnson was honored as an Emerging Scholar. Dianne Bragg won second place in the Great Ideas for Teachers competition, and Byrd earned third place in the Communication Technology/Visual Communication Best of Digital Competition.

AJHA members comprise most of the History Division’s leadership team for 2016-2017: Mike Sweeney, division head; Pribanic-Smith, 2nd vice head (secretary/newsletter editor); Kristin Gustafson, teaching chair; Lucht, PF&R chair; Finneman and Will Mari, membership chairs; Peko, graduate student liaison; Nick Hirshon, Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference co-coordinator; and Garza, AEJMC Southeast Colloquium research chair.

The 2017 AEJMC convention will be Aug. 9-12 in Chicago. Visit http://www.aejmc.org for more details.
Many AJHAers took part in the 2016 national AEJMC convention. These photos show only a few of them. Clockwise from left: Erika Pribanic-Smith and Mike Sweeney are the 2nd Vice Head and Head, respectively, of the History Division for 2016-2017. John Coward explores Carol Ames' new book during the History Division high-density research session. Tracy Lucht (left) and Jane Marcellus (right) enjoy Ellen Wirth's presentation on the History Division's Women and Regional Journalism panel. Amber Roessner and Carrie Teresa present their historical research in the Critical and Cultural Studies Division. Bill Huntzicker engages with presenters on the History Division's wartime journalism research paper panel. Ken Ward received second place student paper honors in the History Division for the submission he co-authored with Aimee Edmondson. (All photos by Erika Pribanic-Smith)
This year’s call for nominations yielded a diverse pool for leadership positions in our organization. One AJHA member has been nominated to fill the slot of 2016-2017 2nd VP, and three members were nominated to fill three three-year terms on the Board of Directors.

Here is information about each nominee.

2nd Vice President

Ross Collins (North Dakota State) has been nominated for the position of 2nd VP. He has been a member of AJHA since 1995. In his time with the organization, he has served in numerous roles — as the chair of the outreach committee and as a member of a History in the Curriculum subcommittee, the research committee and the Blanchard Doctoral Dissertation award committee. He also served twice on the Board of Directors and as treasurer of the organization from 2000-2008. Collins has published or edited five books, three monographs, and 26 refereed articles, including two that appeared in American Journalism, where he has served as a manuscript reviewer on numerous occasions. Of his 30 conference papers, 10 have been at AJHA. Collins is a professor of communication at North Dakota State University; he received his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge in 1993. His research interests include European Media, Frontier/West, Gilded Age, Propaganda/War, and World War I, and he specializes in journalism of the Third Republic France (1871-1940) and frontier United States journalism of the Long Drive Era (1866-1890). To gain more information about Collins, see his website at www.rossfcollins.com

Board of Directors

Erin Coyle (Louisiana State) has been nominated to serve on the Board of Directors. She joined AJHA as a graduate student in 2006. Since then, she has served the organization as a reviewer for the AJHA annual convention and AJHA Annual Book Award. Her research has been recognized with the Robert Lance Memorial Award for Outstanding Student paper (Wichita, 2006) and a Joseph McKerns Research Grant (Oklahoma City, 2015). She has presented research at the conference in 2006, 2007, 2013, and 2015. She is an assistant professor in the Manship School of Mass Communication at LSU. She teaches courses in history, law, ethics, and writing. Her research interests include the history of freedom of expression, access to information, and privacy. She has published articles in American Journalism and Journalism History.

Cayce Myers (Virginia Tech) has been nominated to serve on the Board of Directors. He has been a member of AJHA since 2012. He has presented research at the last five AJHA conferences and has twice received honorable mention for the David Sloan Award for Best Faculty Paper. At the 2016 convention in St. Petersburg, he will be a member of the President’s Panel. He has served as a reviewer for the AJHA annual convention and American Journalism, and he is a member of the AJHA public relations committee. He is an assistant professor in the Department of Communications at Virginia Tech University. His research focuses on the early development of American public relations, primarily in the nineteenth and early twentieth century.

Debbie van Tuyll (Augusta University) has been nominated to serve on the board of directors. She has been a member of AJHA since she was a graduate student at the University of South Carolina in the late 1990s. She served on the Board of Directors in the early 2000s, and she has also served as a member of AJHA’s convention-site selection committee and the Early American Press Committee. She also has served as a reviewer for the annual AJHA convention and for American Journalism. She has been active in the AJHA Southeast Symposium, where several of her students have won awards for their research. She was the recipient of an honorable mention for AJHA's Maurine Beasley Award for the best paper on the Continued on next page
Nominations

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women's history in 2006. She is a professor of communications at Augusta University. Her research specialty is Civil War-era journalism in the South. She is the author/editor/co-editor of five books in this field. Her sixth book, an edited volume, was written by her undergraduate students on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of a local radio station.

Additional nominations may be made from the floor during the election that will be held during the annual convention in October. Please remember that any nominee must have been a member of AJHA for at least one calendar year immediately preceding the date of the election. No more than one person from an institution may serve on the Board of Directors at one time; individuals from the same institution may serve concurrently on the Board of Directors and in the Presidency or Vice-Presidency.

Dues-paying AJHA members unable to attend the conference are eligible to vote. They should send their name, email address, and intent to vote online to AJHA Nominations and Election Committee Chair Amber Roessner (aroessner@utk.edu) no later than midnight Sept. 30.

After elections are held on Oct. 8, at the 35th annual AJHA conference in St. Petersburg, current 1st VP David Vergobbi (University of Utah) will become president and current 2nd VP Dianne Bragg (University of Alabama) will become 1st VP for 2016-2017.

President’s Panel will discuss copyright, fair use

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minutia that exists between copyright law and fair use — the fact, for instance, that commercial use of archival material, and who can grant approval of that use, is contingent on whatever restrictions the donor insisted upon at the time of bequest.

I was reminded of this fact in 2008 when I contacted the Billy Rose Theatre Division of the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts asking for permission to publish parts of the Zero and Kate Mostel Papers in another manuscript. The archivist told me that she would need, as required by the library’s “Conditions for Governing Use” policy for this particular collection, “a letter of authorization” from the correspondent of the Mostel estate — in this case their son, Tobias. Luckily, I knew how to reach him, and he granted permission in a timely manner.

Scholars also must factor in whatever restrictions are placed on them by their publishers. Syracuse University Press, for example, has a strict 200-word limit on the use of copyrighted material in their published works. Translation: When using primary or secondary sources, my publisher required me to seek permission to publish if I quoted or paraphrased more than 200 words from the source in question. I’ve since learned that other publishers have more liberal fair use standards — allowing their authors to quote or paraphrase anywhere between 500-1,000 words, for example, before consideration of copyright permission comes into play.

This rule, however, can depend on the nature and context of the use of the material. To put it another way, fair use can extend to using protected works in the context of scholarly criticism by the author of the new publication.

As complex as this all sounds, I know my experiences are not unique. In fact, an informal conversation around this very topic developed during last year’s Book of the Year session (honoring Meg Lamme’s “Public Relations and Religion in American History”) that convinced me it was time for a more formal discussion of the issues brought up in this piece.

Accordingly, this year’s President’s Panel, “Moving Target: Navigating Copyright Law in the 21st Century,” will address three key areas: (1) the application of fair use to academic publishing; (2) the intersection between corporate ownership of copyrighted material, fair use, and digital platforms; and (3) archival materials and research and copyright law.

To serve on this panel, I invited Kimberly Wilmot Voss, an associate professor of journalism at the University of Central Florida (and one of AJHA’s most prolific scholars); Cayce Myers, an assistant professor of communication at Virginia Tech (whose credentials include a JD and LLM, with the latter having a focus in media law); and James Schnur, head of the Special Collection & University Archives, Nelson Poynter Memorial Library, University of South Florida-St. Petersburg.

I hope you’ll join us as we explore this most important of subjects, and I look forward to seeing everyone in St. Petersburg.
2015 McKerns Grants support AJHA members with projects

The AJHA’s research committee selects up to four recipients annually for Joseph McKerns Research Grant Awards of up to $1,250 each.

As a stipulation of the award, recipients are required to write a research report for the Intelligencer in the fall issue following presentation of the grant.

Winners of the 2016 McKerns Grants will be announced Oct. 8, at the general business meeting during the AJHA convention in St. Petersburg.

For details on how to apply for a 2017 McKerns Grant, visit ajha.wildapricot.org/mckerns.

North Carolina research involved interviews, archive

The U.S. Supreme Court’s 1966 Sheppard v. Maxwell opinion overturned the conviction of a Cleveland doctor on the basis that the presence of journalists in the courtroom and sensational news coverage deprived the doctor of his fair trial rights. That opinion criticized a judge for failing to maintain decorum in the courtroom, failing to instruct trial participants not to provide the press with prejudicial material, and failing to take steps to prevent the jury from being influenced by sensational news coverage of the crime and court proceedings.

Two North Carolina judges read that opinion as instructions for judges to protect a criminal defendant’s fair trial rights. They responded in 1966 by co-writing a court order indicating that persons involved in the investigation and adjudication of a crime could be held in contempt of court for releasing information likely to undermine a defendant’s fair trial rights. New York Times coverage of the order indicated that newspapers across North Carolina responded with an “editorial storm” that criticized the order for restricting crime reporting.

My McKerns Grant supported travel to North Carolina to research how those judges and North Carolina journalists addressed the order and its potential to limit reporting on criminal justice. To research this story, I interviewed one of the judges, one of his sons, and a daughter of Sam Ragan, who edited two newspapers in Raleigh in 1966. I also reviewed archival papers from the other judge, the Raleigh editor, and a University of North Carolina School of Government faculty member who coordinated the North Carolina Bench-Press-Bar-Broadcasters Committees.

The interviews and archived papers revealed that journalists criticized the judges for writing the order. For instance, the Charlotte Observer published a cartoon showing the judges throwing away a key for a jail cell holding “public information on court trials.” Judges, in turn, criticized news coverage of the order.

The archived papers included handwritten notes and typed letters that indicated the period was challenging for the judges, who felt personally criticized. That period also was challenging for journalists, who feared they were losing access to information. Finding greater context for those sources required analysis of professional journalism organizations’ reports, which were included in Ragan’s files, and publications for judges, which were in the judge’s files.

I also analyzed newspaper coverage of the order. The Raleigh newspapers Ragan edited were available on microfilm. Articles and editorials indicated that police officers in Raleigh and Asheville cited the court order to justify restricting access to reports on crime and car accidents—even when the language of the order did not actually support withholding such information. Editors, accordingly, criticized those actions for placing curbs on reporting as editors advocated for rights for the press to serve the public’s right to know how police and courts addressed crime.

This work will be presented at the AJHA Convention in St. Petersburg, Florida, and it soon will be submitted for publication.

NOTE: Coyle will present her paper “Turning Point: Exploring Journalists’ and Judges’ Attempts to Protect Free Press and Fair Trial Rights after Sheppard v. Maxwell” at this year’s AJHA convention in a session scheduled for 9 a.m. on Oct. 7.

Grant research highlights little-known Espionage Act defendant

Legal scholars and media historians are familiar with the 1919 incitement case Schenck v. United States, which marks the beginning of the modern debate on the meaning of the First Amendment as put forth by the U.S. Supreme Court. In Schenck, the court created the “clear and
present danger” test in an effort to locate the line between unpopular speech and genuine threats to national security. New York City socialist Charles Schenck was found guilty of violating the Espionage Act when he encouraged men to resist the draft during World War I.

Also widely noted is Debs v. United States, where the nation’s high court upheld Eugene Debs’ conviction of attempting to incite insubordination in the armed forces and obstruct military recruitment under the act.

Sandwiched between these two cases was that of the little-known Jacob Frohwerk, a German immigrant and editor of the Missouri Staats-Zeitung in Kansas City. Key literature on the Espionage Act and speech during wartime merely refers to this case in passing, relegating Frohwerk to a footnote. Like the famous Schenck and Debs, however, Frohwerk was found guilty under the Espionage Act for denouncing the United States’ involvement in World War I, in this instance through a series of twelve editorials from July to December 1917 in his weekly German-language newspaper.

The U.S. Supreme Court was unanimous in affirming Frohwerk’s conviction in its two-page opinion, most notable for its brevity. Frohwerk was fined and sentenced to 10 years in prison at Leavenworth, Kansas.

Ohio University doctoral student Ken Ward and I set out to learn more about the man and his work, his newspaper and his message, and more precisely where his chapter fits into the context of the history of free speech in the United States.

The Joseph McKerns Research Grant has helped immensely with the completion this project, including providing necessary funds to secure archival material from the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth and the National Archives in Fort Worth, Texas. The grant also funded translators to help us better understand what Frohwerk said that so drew the ire of the Department of Justice.

Turns out, what he said was pretty mild. In his first editorial, “Come Let Us Reason Together,” published July 6, 1917, Frohwerk argued that the United States must cease “the sending of American boys to the blood-soaked trenches of France,” calling America’s involvement in the war “a monumental and inexcusable mistake.” He also complained that the poor man was being sent to war to protect the interests of American business rather than the common man, to protect “some rich men’s money,” and arguing that the United States was in no danger of invasion.

In the end, President Wilson commuted his sentence, and Frohwerk served 32 weeks rather than 10 years. Even the government attorney who prosecuted Frohwerk said years later that Frohwerk was clearly an example of a political prisoner, a dissident jailed for unpopular—rather than dangerous—speech about America’s involvement in World War I.

This work was presented at the recent AEJMC conference in Minneapolis, where it won an award from the History Division, and it will soon be submitted for publication.

Brower’s reply was among the gems I found last spring while rummaging through the official Sierra Club Archives in The Bancroft Library at the University of California-Berkeley, thanks to a 2015 Joseph McKerns Research Grant. I sought material on the overlooked role of the Bulletin, the newsletter founded in 1893 and predecessor of Sierra magazine [1977-], in creating the environmental movement. The research is the nucleus for a chapter of my book-in-progress, “Journalism for Social Justice: Social Movement Media from Abolition to #yesallwomen.”

The Bulletin makes a useful case study because for decades it was the sole connection among an “imagined community” of foresighted Americans inspired by co-founder John Muir to persuade the nation of the radical notion that saving civilization meant protecting rather than conquering wilderness. My biggest research challenge was the sheer size of the distant collection — 402 cartons, three boxes, one oversize box, three oversize folders, 27 volumes (circa 520 linear feet).

Luckily, the Online Archives of California offer the Guide to the Sierra Club Records, 1891-, and many materials are online. Before my two-week trip, I sorted through the guide to identify and prioritize what materials I needed pulled. Most are stored onsite. Bancroft’s website and staff proved incredibly efficient in obtaining prior to my arrival all requested ma-

Research shows Sierra Club Bulletin’s important role

by Linda Lumsden

University of Arizona

When a critic complained back in the 1960s that the Sierra Club Bulletin was didactic, editor David Brower embraced the charge: “The main thing is that our 20,000 x 2 readers should be given a minimum of excuses for not doing things.”

Linda Lumsden at the Bancroft Library archives
McKerns Grants

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terials, including the Bulletin, club correspondence and organizational records, and the fabled Brower’s papers.

The archival materials offered much evidence about the Bulletin’s significant role in forging the modern environmental movement. In an oral history, for example, future executive director Brower describes how as a youth he bought up all the Bulletin back issues he could and read them “the way one would read the Bible.” In another, Ansel Adams discusses why exquisite mountain photography was a prime Bulletin tool for encouraging collective action.

Elsewhere, author Wallace Stegner observes, “[E]verything that Ansel does is automatically not merely a work of art but a statement of advocacy. He just gives you the moon and Half Dome, and you have to protect it.” Other letters reveal bitter internal battles over Bulletin policy and situate it as a source of power.

I also spent a day at the former Sierra Club headquarters in San Francisco to observe Sierra magazine’s digital operations and interview editors as part of the larger project’s goal to connect online social movement media to their print roots. Members still welcome their mailed copy of Sierra, I learned, while the new managing editor’s mission is to catch up with rival Mother Jones’s investigative environmental journalism.

If you’d like to hear more, I’d love to get colleagues’ feedback when I present a paper based on my Bancroft research at the upcoming AJHA convention in St. Petersburg.

NOTE: Lumsden will present her paper “Trailblazing in Social Movement Media: The Sierra Club Bulletin’s Role in Building the Environmental Movement, 1893-1970” at this year’s AJHA convention in a session scheduled for 4:10 p.m. on Oct. 6.

Ashmore, Johnson papers aid research on Civil Rights movement

by Gwyneth Mellinger
James Madison University

The McKerns Grant advanced the archival research for my book project, and I am grateful to the American Journalism Historians Association for this support. Because media scholarship often requires us to travel to far-flung primary sources and stay for several days at each location, research in our sub-discipline is an expensive undertaking. Although some scholars have substantial institutional support, most of us do not. For that reason, AJHA’s investment in the research agendas of its members is also an investment in the body of scholarship that defines media history.

I was particularly pleased to receive support for travel to the Harry Ashmore Papers at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock and to the Charles S. Johnson Collection at Fisk University in Nashville. Both are primary-source repositories of interest to historians broadly and specifically to those doing work on the movement for African American civil rights.

The papers pertaining to Ashmore, who was editor of the Arkansas Gazette during the 1950s, are held by the Arkansas Studies Institute and the Center for Arkansas History and Culture, which are under one roof. Also available are the business files of the Arkansas Gazette and the collected papers of Gazette owner J.N. Heiskell and other journalists who worked for the newspaper. There is considerable material related to the 1957 Central High School integration battle. These collections are located in downtown Little Rock and will be convenient to anyone attending the AJHA’s 2017 conference.

Although valuable for my research, Ashmore’s collection is both incomplete and partial — incomplete because letters are clearly missing within the chronological series of correspondence and partial because materials covering his career after Little Rock, which included publication of most of his books about race and civil rights, are housed elsewhere, primarily at the University of California-Santa Barbara.

The vast Johnson Collection at Fisk likely has only tangential interest for most media scholars, but anyone doing work on race in the first half of the 20th century may want to consult this archive. Johnson, who was president of Fisk when he died in 1956, was an African American sociologist who directed extensive research on race and served on numerous boards and initiatives related to African American life. Johnson never worked as a journalist, but he corresponded with members of the press and many prominent people of his time. Where his acquaintances’ correspondence is unavailable, Johnson’s archive, which includes incoming and outgoing copies and originals, may help fill the gap.

Although Johnson’s sociological research materials may not yet be fully indexed, his correspondence collection was meticulously assembled as a historical and institutional record, and the finding aid is detailed and accurate. The Fisk Library also holds other important collections, such as the archives of the Julius Rosenwald Fund and materials related to W.E.B. DuBois and Aaron Douglas. Because the Fisk Special Collections are located in the college library, summer hours may be limited.

NOTE: Mellinger will present a paper based on her grant research titled “A Struggle over Meaning: Harry Ashmore’s Speech to the Southern Governors” at this year’s AJHA convention in a session scheduled for 11:20 a.m. on Oct. 6.

Patrick Cox was selected as a member of the Liberal Arts Advisory Board at Texas State University in June 2016. He also is serving on the Board of Directors at the Texas State Alumni Association.

Wayne Dawkins was promoted in May to professor of professional practice at Hampton University Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications. He is the first faculty member at the school to achieve full professor rank. Last spring, he was awarded the Dean’s Medal for Public Service at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.


Nicholas Hirshon has started a tenure-track position as an assistant professor in the Communication Department at William Paterson University in Wayne, New Jersey. In August, he successfully defended his dissertation, “‘We Want Fish Sticks!’: The Failed Rebranding of the New York Islanders,” under the guidance of Marilyn Greenwald in the E.W. Scripps School of Journalism at Ohio University.

Paula Hunt received a Preparing Future Faculty Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Missouri, where she will teach the History of American Journalism and a graduate-level Mass Media Seminar. The Preparing Future Faculty Program provides teaching and professional development opportunities for recent MU doctoral graduates. Earnest Perry, associate professor and associate dean of the Missouri School of Journalism, will serve as Hunt’s mentor.

Dean Jobb’s book “Empire of Deception” (Algonquin Books), the true story of 1920s Chicago swindler Leo Koretz, won the Crime Writers of Canada award for nonfiction. Dean teaches journalism and creative nonfiction at the University of King’s College in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Meg Lamme was recently appointed to the board of directors of the School for Advanced Research (SAR), Santa Fe. SAR has supported innovative social science research and Native American artistic creativity for more than a century, funding more than 350 scholars and artists, including six MacArthur Fellows and 18 Guggenheim Fellows. Working from its historic campus, the El Delirio estate bequeathed by the daughters of American journalist Horace White, SAR also sponsors lectures, tours, exhibitions, and archeological field trips: www.sarweb.org.

Tim Moran has been appointed as a Senior Lecturer in the Irvin P. Reid Honors College at Wayne State University (Detroit).

Pam Parry was promoted to Interim Chair of the Communication Department at Eastern Kentucky University.


Media History Engagement Week planned for April

Media History Engagement Week is slated for April 3-7, 2017. The week is an opportunity to get students, media historians, and industry members to promote the importance of media history.

In 2016, participants from 20 states and six countries took part in the #headlinesinhistory Twitter discussion. More details will come in future newsletters, but plan now to take part in the 2017 event. Contact Teri Finneman at finnemte@gmail.com or Will Mari at william.mari@northwestu.edu with questions.

van Tuyll, Tripp publish essays

Debbie van Tuyll of Augusta University and Bernell Tripp of the University of Florida have the lead essays in the current issue of Historiography in Mass Communication.

Tripp’s essay deals with African-American women in the study of media history, and van Tuyll’s with recent articles about the southern press and the Civil War.

The online journal, which is available free of charge, can be accessed at history-jmc.com.
Effective teaching requires passion, lifelong learning

September is finally upon us, as is the fall semester. I have always eagerly awaited the coming of September, and not simply because August, that most heinous of southern summer months, has finally, interminably, wound down. No, for me, as for many of us, September meant school was back in session. Beyond my new Peanuts lunch box and vinyl book bag, filled with fresh paper and newly sharpened pencils, there would be friends I had not seen since May and maybe a few new ones. More importantly, though, there would be a new teacher, or as I progressed to fifth grade and beyond, several new teachers, each with his or her own subject, in which they surely had great expertise.

I remember my first history teacher, as if it were yesterday. She sat in a chair at the front of the unairconditioned room, took off her shoes, curled her legs up at the front of the unairconditioned room, and read from the textbook. Day after day after day. I am not sure how any of us, including myself, stood it. But maybe that was to be expected in a large, fairly poor, public high school in the 1970s. Surely, college would be different.

In high school, my history teacher perched on a high stool behind a lectern and, again, read the text to the class. Every day. After lunch. For an hour.

I am not sure how any of us, including her, stood it. But maybe that was to be expected in a large, fairly poor, public high school in the 1970s. Surely, college would be different.

And so, the following September, I entered an American History to 1865 survey course. As if from a script, my bespectacled, rotund professor, in his drab gray suit and tie, stood at the front of the room, behind a lectern, and read.

It was not until graduate school, in David Sloan’s History of Journalism class, that I learned that the teaching of history could be a passion. I met Erika Pribanic-Smith, who invited me to be on a panel at the AJHA conference in Richmond, Virginia, and I found myself surrounded by people who loved journalism and history.

Eventually, I found myself teaching a journalism history course along with a media law course where I could incorporate history. With what I have learned from my graduate professors and from the many, many history presentations I have been privileged to attend, I have gathered teaching ideas that I hope engage my students.

For my media law class, I use both Twitter and a Facebook page where I am able to post both current and historical events relating to our class and the First Amendment in general. Students are encouraged to tweet items of interest to me, and at the beginning of each class we take a look at what has been posted. With current events, I am able to offer some historical context, and the connection between the past and the present becomes more clear to my students.

Many of my media law students are involved in our broadcast and film programs. Acknowledging that fact, I give extra credit to my students who post videos where they are reciting, singing or performing the First Amendment in some way. Many of them produce short skits or make videos in different locations, as did one student who recited the First Amendment from the courtroom where the Dred Scott decision was handed down. Engaging these students with the technology they already use involves them in ways that would otherwise not be possible.

In my journalism history course, as we all probably do, I encourage students to choose a research topic that is of interest to them. Students bring ideas to class, and we brainstorm and critique them together. I devote time in almost every class, as we move through the research paper process, for students to tell of their progress. Without fail, I see them become vested in one another’s work and look out for sources that would help their classmates. It is a collaborative environment that not only improves the papers but also creates a bond between the students that usually lasts long after the class has ended.

I have found, though, that the most important teaching practice is to make the effort to remain a student myself. To constantly find the time to read, explore and engage with other scholars. To share the history I find with others and for them to share with me. The famous educator and historian Jacques Barzun said it well in his book “Begin Here: The Forgotten Conditions of Teaching and Learning.” He reminds us that a teacher should be someone with “a mental life, a person who reads books and whose converse with colleagues is not purely business shop.”

Barzun asserted, rightly, that we cannot hope to attract or keep our students’ interest without “this spontaneous mental radiation.”

Just recently, I watched a PBS American Experience episode, “The Boys of 36,” about the United States Olympic rowing crew team that won the gold in Germany. I posted a link about the documentary on Facebook the night before I was leaving for a conference. From Quinnipiac University in Connecticut, my fellow historian Molly Yanity responded that I would love the book, “The Boys in the Boat,” on which the documentary was based. And so, in the airport the next day, I bought the book and found myself immersed in the Great Depression, the rise of Hitler, and rowing. After the conference, as the Olympics opened, I found myself drawn to an event I had never paid much attention to before. The book had opened my eyes to the discipline of the sport and, even better, to its history.

As historians, it is always our hope to impart knowledge to our students and to encourage them to seek it out on their own. No matter what we do in the classroom, we must remember to remain engaged students ourselves. Our students will know, just as I did all those years ago, whether we are passionate about what we are doing, or if we are no better than someone simply reading from a textbook.
Collaborative teaching broadens range, impact of “stealth history”

When Whitworth University introduced its new honors program a few years ago, professors were encouraged to think about ways that students and faculty alike might be encouraged to try new things. As a result, English professor LuElla D’Amico and I proposed and then taught a class that combined our interests and brought in students from various disciplines, yet which didn’t fit neatly in any single discipline.

In addition to her English position, LuElla also served as chair of the Whitworth Women & Gender Studies Program. Our course titled “American (S)heroes” ended up being cross-listed in Journalism/Mass Communication, English, Women & Gender Studies, and the honors program. The multiple listings helped us fill the course, though 19 of the 20 students were women.

In our exploration of heroism, we started and ended the course with a series of questions which included:
- What makes a hero? How does a hero act? What does a hero look like?
- Are female heroes different than male heroes? How and why?
- Are “real” heroes different than fictional ones? How and why?
- How have definitions of heroes and heroism changed over time?
- Not only do women and men differ biologically and perhaps psychologically (though gender can be complicated to define and describe), various cultural and religious aspects often dictate differing roles for men and women. How does this affect what makes a woman successful in America?
- Women make up more than half of the population, but are underrepresented in most social positions of power. In areas where women are commonly “seen,” those portrayals often are misleading, exaggerated and/or demeaning. What happens when women are put on public display, and how are standards for women in higher social positions similar or dissimilar from men?

The class met one night per week for three hours. LuElla discussed the hero’s journey during our first class session. In other weeks, depending on the topic, either she or I led the discussion. Students were asked to read a book or several articles (and in one case watch a film) each week, then to comment on the readings through posts on a course blog. Class periods were devoted mostly to that week’s readings and how those topics related to our understanding of heroism in general.

Other assignments included a survey of fellow students about heroism, a final paper, and a project in which five groups produced videos and web pages devoted to female heroes of their choice. As a result, I learned about a female “buffalo soldier” and a woman who wrote computer code for the Apollo missions, among others.

For topics, LuElla chose Mary Rowlandson, Fanny Fern (and Ruth Hall), Harriet Beecher Stowe, characters of “The Hunger Games,” and comic superheroes Fray and Ms. Marvel. My choices were Sarah Josepha Hale, journalistic “stunt girls” and “sob sisters,” female actors of the pre-Code Era, women reporters covering Vietnam, Oprah Winfrey, women politicians, and a comparison of Joan of Arc and Ronda Rousey.

Note that neither LuElla nor I is a history professor, yet the class was largely (though not entirely) historical in nature. That seems appropriate, as media history is interdisciplinary by nature. The course let us and our students make connections that otherwise they would likely never have made. It also proved to be a lot of fun. We got along well, and students enjoyed seeing the interaction between us. We also had the opportunity to discuss people or characters that we found personally meaningful.

In addition, the experience probably made both of us better teachers – in part because we regularly saw someone else teach and in part because when not leading the discussion or exercises we were reminded of what it was like to be students. One minor difficulty arose with grading: Though we both graded blog posts (handling the ones that dealt with our own topics), we divided up other types of grading to try to be more consistent. I graded all of the final projects; LuElla took on the much bigger task of grading all the final papers.

Incidentally, other Whitworth professors have embarked on similar co-teaching exercises, some also involving history. For example, a Spanish professor and a history professor have taken on teaching Latin American history through primary Spanish-language documents. AJHA folks have talked for years about “stealth history” – bringing history into non-history courses. Collaborative interdisciplinary courses can broaden that even further, to students and departments that otherwise might not be exposed to media history.
Two Floridians to receive AJHA’s Local Journalist Award

The AJHA will honor two south Florida journalists with its 2016 Local Journalist Award. Lucy Morgan and Denise White will receive the Outstanding Local Journalist Award for Substantial Contribution to the Public Interest during a reception Oct. 6 at the annual AJHA convention in St. Petersburg.

The AJHA annually gives the award to a journalist from the area in which the convention is held whose work has had a positive impact on the community.

Morgan, a Memphis native, started her newspaper career in 1965 at the Ocala Star Banner, moving up to the St. Petersburg Times in 1968, where she covered crime, government and politics. She was chief of the Times capitol bureau in Tallahassee for 20 years.

In 1973, Morgan grabbed worldwide attention when she was jailed for eight months after refusing twice to divulge the identity of a source. This landmark case continues to provide protection for reporters who refuse to divulge the names of sources.

Morgan shared the 1985 Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting with Jack Reed for a series that led to the ouster of the Pasco County Sheriff. In 1982, she was runner up for a Pulitzer in local reporting for a series of stories on drug smuggling and public corruption in Dixie and Taylor counties.

She was named Florida Citizen of the Year in 2015 by the Bob Graham Center at the University of South Florida, but she never took a journalism course.

She is married to Richard Morgan, who retired in 1991 after a 30-year career with the St. Petersburg Times.

More than 25 years ago, Denise White became the first African American to anchor a 5 p.m. newscast in Tampa Bay. She was a fixture on WTVD’s Fox 13 News at Noon and co-anchor of the market’s top-rated 5 o’clock newscasts.

Since joining Fox 13 in 1990, White has been on air during memorable breaking news events. Over the years White has done special reporting on key social issues, including a series on homelessness and another on the plight of grandmothers left to raise their grandchildren as illicit drugs wrecked families.

For more than two decades, her signature Black History Month stories profiled local history makers in Tampa Bay. She co-founded a holiday food and toy drive for migrant children served by the Good Samaritan Mission in Wimauma.

After starting her career in Virginia, White moved to Orlando’s WFTV, then Miami’s WSVN Channel 7 as a reporter and anchor. At WSVN, White received an Emmy nomination for spot news coverage of an emergency plane landing in Miami. She also played an informant on Miami Vice in exchange for a behind-the-scenes story on the hit show.

White’s 5 p.m. newscast was consistently the market leader. In retirement, she is anchoring a program covering life at the University of South Florida on WUSF.

White and her husband Keith have five children, four grandchildren and one “ornery” cat.

AEJMC SE Colloquium papers due Dec. 12

The College of Communication at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth will host the 42nd annual AEJMC Southeast Colloquium March 9-11, 2017.

Authors should submit each paper as an email attachment directly to the paper chair for the appropriate division by no later than 11:59 p.m. EST on Dec. 12. Submissions for the History Division should be sent to Melita Garza at melita.garza@tcu.edu. Papers may be submitted as Word documents or PDFs.

In the body of the email, authors must provide the title of the paper and the name, affiliation, address, office phone, home phone, fax and e-mail address for each author. Do not include any author identifying information on any page of the attached paper submission. Authors also should redact identifying information from the document properties. Submissions must be original and must not have been previously presented at a conference. Students and faculty members should indicate their status.

On the cover page of the attached paper, only the title of the paper should appear. Following the cover page, include a 250-word abstract. Length of papers should not exceed 30 pages including references and tables (50 pages for Law & Policy papers).

Details about the conference and paper submissions are available at http://schieffercollege.tcu.edu/aejmc/. The author of each accepted paper (at least one author in the case of a co-authored paper) must present the paper at the colloquium or it will not be listed in the final program. Acceptance and/or submission of papers to colloquium paper competitions does not prevent authors from submitting to AEJMC divisions for the national convention.

Authors of accepted papers will be notified by early February 2017.

Panel proposals should be submitted to Chip Stewart at d.stewart@tcu.edu by Dec. 12 and should include a brief description of the panel along with proposed panelists. Proposals should not exceed three double-spaced pages.
Kathy Bradshaw traveled to Germany in June as the United States was gearing up for a major expression of its democracy, the conventions where each political party chooses its nominee for president.

She arrived in Germany at a portentous moment there as well, when the United Kingdom’s “Brexit” vote to leave the European Union was looming and Germany was absorbed in integrating more than 1 million Syrian and other refugees it had accepted into its society.

She said she found some striking differences in the way each country conceived of its democracy and how each puts it into practice.

Bradshaw made the two-week visit to Germany and Belgium as an RIAS Berlin Kommission Fellow. She was the only academic among 11 American journalists from public and commercial broadcast networks around the country.

"It was a diverse group in race, gender, age and country of origin," she said.

The news organizations they represented ranged from a small station in Las Cruces, N.M., to the TV news giant CNN. One of their stops was the headquarters of RTL television, Germany’s largest commercial network.

The RIAS organization was formerly the broadcast station in Berlin called Radio in the American Sector; it transmitted news, entertainment and information programming to serve as a counterbalance to the totalitarian propaganda of the East. Today, RIAS’s aim is to promote understanding between the two countries, especially among broadcast journalists.

Its format is successful, Bradshaw said. She encouraged every journalist in the United States to experience the RIAS Berlin Kommission Fellowship.

"Their participation would benefit journalism, democracy and world peace," she said. "The experience provided me with a broad, timely understanding of Germany’s politics, economics and broadcasting, placed in a historical context."

Bradshaw added that the history is relevant for Europe and the United States.

"Hearing from and asking questions of experts, researchers, politicians and journalists, combined with visiting historic sites, provided me with new views and new questions about U.S. participation in the world," she said.

At a time when the United States is grappling with the issue of immigration, seeing what was happening in Germany was especially relevant, Bradshaw said.

"Visiting refugee centers, talking with refugees in Berlin and Erfurt, and meeting the people who are helping refugees was fascinating and uplifting," she said.

"The refugees we talked with were eager to be integrated into German society and supported a process requiring refugees to learn to speak the German language," she said.

A researcher explained current thinking about how to integrate refugees, Bradshaw said.

"We heard from politicians and journalists about the ways in which the admission of so many refugees might affect German politics," she said.

No matter where the group went, Bradshaw said, people were curious about the ascendancy of Donald Trump to the top of the Republican party. They also nearly uniformly responded to questions about why Germany had welcomed in the refugees and about other aspects of their society by saying theirs was a democracy and so it was natural to do such things.

"Although we are a democracy as well, I almost never hear a person refer to that when they’re talking about the U.S.,” Bradshaw said.

In addition to issues in Germany, her fellowship experiences provided a deeper understanding of the EU and Britain’s vote to leave it.

"Subsequent news coverage of the outcome took on new meaning based on lectures at the European Union headquarters,” Bradshaw said. “Others explained to us the value of having a united European view in furthering world stability.”

That seemed particularly valuable as the United States began a presidential campaign, she said.

Following a career as a broadcast journalist and training as a historian, today Bradshaw teaches broadcast journalists. “My increased understanding of politics, economics, and journalism in Germany and Europe," she said, "will directly benefit my journalism students, many of whom are descendants of German immigrants to the United States.”
Incoming president recalls warm reception at first convention

Uncertainty surfaced as we crested Snoqualmie Pass. Fear hit three hours later at Spokane — within the next hour I had to present at my first AJHA conference. That 5-hour-plus journey from the University of Washington in Seattle to Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, changed my life. I returned to my home country, growing up in the mining, smelting and timber town of Kellogg, Idaho, just 35 miles east of Coeur d’Alene, but I entered a new world called academia.

Two months earlier, I had presented my first ever convention paper as a grad student at AEJMC, but — you’ve had this feeling — I wondered if it was a fluke. Then AJHAer Roy Atwood contacted me, saying he’d heard my AEJMC paper, and wondered if it was a fluke. He said he’d heard my AEJMC paper, and wanted me to join a panel at the AJHA Coeur d’Alene conference. For me, that moment was first confirmation that I could be a professor.

Of course, I still had to present my research that day. Intimidation permeating every word, I did it. And the convention attendees smiled, clapped and actually spoke with me afterward. The warmth of that reception shot through my insecurities, igniting an inner smile I still carry. I remained insecure, intimidated and fearful that day, but AJHA accepted me as a colleague, showing me an academic career was indeed possible. I needed to return the favor.

After graduating from the University of Idaho in 1978 and a career in journalism and corporate communications, I returned to Washington State University to complete my master’s degree in 1987. Another year in the field then led to a Ph.D. from the University of Washington and the University of Utah faculty in 1992, emphasizing the areas of law, ethics, and the frontier/early-industrial press.

To thank AJHA for its unknowing inspiration that got me to Utah, I offered my service: chair of the Nominations & Elections Committee; member of the Long-Range Planning Committee, the Education Committee, and the now-forgotten Resolution Committee; member of the Task Force on History in the Curriculum; first chair of the Committee on History in the Curriculum; two-term Board member; 2nd and 1st Vice-President; continuing service as a paper reviewer for the Research Committee and American Journalism.

These AJHA experiences provided opportunities for me to interact with strangers who became acquaintances, coworkers, fellow researchers, often mentors, then friends. In the process, I learned interpersonal, group, and organizational communication skills that have served me on faculty, college, university — and family — committees. Volunteering for AJHA activities helped me mature as a person, as well as an academic.

I relate all this because here’s my chance to thank AJHA for its timely and continuing role in my academic career, now into its 25th year at the U of U. At this year’s conference remember that, while we all learn from the brilliant minds that walk the conference hallways, it is the humanity those minds possess and share that has helped transform not only me, but so many of you, from media workers into academics. Ah, the power of that AJHA welcoming warmth. I’m now honored to further return the favor to AJHA as your next president.

Dawkins to receive award for teaching excellence

AJHA’s Teaching Committee has selected Wayne Dawkins of Hampton University as the 2016 recipient of the AJHA National Award for Excellence in Teaching.

The award recognizes professors who excel at teaching in the areas of journalism and mass communication history, make a positive impact on student learning and offer an outstanding example for other educators. Dawkins will receive the award during a luncheon Oct. 6 at the 2016 AJHA convention.

He credits a former journalism history professor as being an inspiration for his success in the classroom. “History has informed my newspaper and now academic career,” he said. “Joseph Dorinson, my favorite professor at Long Island University, brought American history to life with visual props, audio and theatrics. Four decades later with digital technology, I apply Professor Joe’s lessons in reaching my Hampton University students.”

A historian of African-American media and a former reporter, Dawkins teaches a variety of media history courses at Hampton University. He views journalism and media history courses as a part of making his students “civically engaged.”

In his American media history class, he requires students to engage with history and place modern day journalism within historical context in order to “truly understand and appreciate the contemporary journalists before them.”

His enthusiasm for history has made a lasting impression on his students. In addition to his obvious passion for history, one former student said, it was Dawkins’ “care for students” that made him “a phenomenal professor of journalism history.”

Dawkins is the author of several articles and books, including a seminal work, “Black Journalists: The NABJ Story.”

He received his B.A. in journalism with a minor in history from Long Island University and his M.S. in journalism from Columbia University.
American Journalism names Olson as its third Rising Scholar

by Jodi Rightler-McDaniels
South College

American Journalism selected Candi Carter Olson of Utah State University as its Rising Scholar Award winner for her research, “The Rights of the Women of Zion, and the Rights of the Women of All Nations: The Woman’s Exponent and the Utah Women’s Press Club.”

She will be recognized during the general business meeting Oct. 8 at AJHA’s annual conference in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Olson believes the Utah Woman’s Press Club and the women who produced the “Woman’s Exponent” are worthy of broader attention.

“Awards like the Rising Scholar award give some reinforcement that telling these stories is important,” Olson said. “These women were leading voices for Utah’s women, and they mixed faith and progressive activism in a way that drew attention to the area and made them leaders in Utah’s fledgling state government, the national suffrage movement, and the Mormon church.”

Olson encourages other researchers to become members of AJHA.

“AJHA has been one of the most supportive groups that I’ve encountered in academia. The feedback that is given at the conference is top-notch, and the relationships I’ve built with other scholars has changed my thinking and my own work,” said Olson. “I think all scholars should attend the AJHA conference at least once just to see what an academic conference should look like.”

Olson is the third recipient of the annual award presented by AJHA’s academic journal. Previous winners were Amber Roessner (University of Tennessee) and Tracy Lucht (Iowa State University).

The Rising Scholar Award recognizes the achievements and potential of an untenured scholar and is accompanied by $2,000 in research funding.

The award is funded by a donation from Stanley Cloud in honor of his late wife, Barbara Cloud, a long-time member and former president of AJHA.

**Food Journalist to speak at Donna Allen Luncheon**

by Kimberly Wilmut Voss
University of Central Florida

Janet K. Keeler will be the featured speaker at the Donna Allen Luncheon Oct. 7 during the AJHA convention. The annual luncheon celebrates contributions of women in the field of journalism.

Keeler, visiting assistant professor in the department of journalism and media studies at the University of South Florida, is the coordinator of the department’s Graduate Food Writing and Photography Certificate and creator of the university’s Food for Thought lecture series.

Kimberly Voss, associate professor of journalism at the University of Central Florida, praised Keeler’s ability to comprehend food journalism and its changing landscape. “She has long understood the changing role of journalism,” Voss said. “Following her work has helped me better understand where food journalism is going.”

Keeler is a 35-year newspaper veteran and was until December 2014 the food and travel editor at the Tampa Bay Times, where she worked for 22 years. She also worked at the Lodi (Calif.) News-Sentinel (reporter); Las Vegas Review-Journal (world and national wire editor); Sacramento Bee (copy editor), and the Stockton (Calif.) Record (copy editor and features editor).

Her newspaper work has been honored by the Association of Food Journalists, Florida Society of Newspaper Editors, the Society of Professional Journalists and the National Headliner Awards. In March 2015, she won the USFSP Chancellor’s Award for Clinical Teaching.

Keeler is the author of “Cookielicious: 150 Fabulous Recipes to Bake and Share.” She has an undergraduate journalism degree from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, Calif., where she was the first female sports editor of the college newspaper, and a master’s degree in journalism and media studies from the University of South Florida-Saint Petersburg.

Socolow to receive American Journalism Article Award

Michael Socolow of the University of Maine will receive the 2016 Best American Journalism Article Award for “A Nationwide Chain Within 60 Days’: Radio Network Failure in Early American Broadcasting.”

American Journalism, the AJHA’s quarterly journal, will present the award on Oct. 8, during the general business meeting at the AJHA convention.

The Best Article Award honors research published in American Journalism within the last year that is original and rigorous and makes an outstanding contribution to developing scholarship in the field of journalism and mass communication history.

Published in the Winter 2016 issue of American Journalism, Socolow’s article explores three of the many failed attempts to develop new national commercial broadcasting companies during American network radio’s first decade in order to create a more detailed understanding of alternatives, contingency, and historical inevitability in broadcasting history.
I am a first-year Ph.D. student at Ohio University. I’m not sure what my specialty is yet, but I have been researching “stunt girl” journalism in the late 1880s and 1890s. Think “Nellie Bly.”

I became interested in writing about stunt girls after my adviser and mentor, Dr. Michael Sweeney, mentioned that there was little written about the stunt girls. They are commonly referred to in historical mentions as Bly’s competitors but not given much recognition as individuals.

After doing some readings and watching a video on Bly, I was struck by the narrator’s description of the stunt girls in one of the videos. “Stunt girls were women journalists who would do anything to break into journalism,” the narrator said (or something like that).

Along with the narrator’s voice, an image of a woman donning what looked like a pillow strapped onto her chest and a man aiming a rifle at her appeared. The narrator explained that she was demonstrating one of the first bullet-proof vests for an article.

Amazing, right? At least that is what I thought.

At last year’s AJHA conference in Oklahoma City, I presented my research findings about Elizabeth Bisland, a stunt girl who raced around the world against Nellie Bly. I wanted to show how women journalists used the stunt girl fad to advance their writing careers.

It was my first conference. I wasn’t even entirely sure what to put on the slide show, so I just inserted some pictures of Bisland. I figured it would be like watching a movie. My creativity made it nearly impossible for the moderator to know when to transition each slide. But, as I stumbled through my presentation, forgetting a good 70 percent of what I had written, I realized that the intimate atmosphere at AJHA is fairly encouraging to newbies.

At my panel, there were two other scholars — names I won’t mention here — who turned out to be researching “sob sisters.” I let them field pretty much all of the questions, and I was able to talk to them afterwards about their research.

There are other scholars interested in the same things and time frame that I am. Who knew?

Listening to what other scholars are working on has provided me with an awareness of how I could potentially fit into the academic research puzzle.

I recently completed my master’s thesis, in which I described the histories of two more stunt girls. Stunt girls have become an obsession for me. I feel like I know them.

I’ve also been able to present my research on two more: a paper written with Dr. Sweeney on Nell Nelson at the AEJMC Southeast Colloquium in Baton Rouge in March, and my paper on Ada Patterson at the recent AEJMC national convention in Minneapolis.

I look forward to attending conferences now, because even if you screw up the presentation, the people you meet could encourage you and may even spark an obsession that consumes and fulfills you later on.
New book examines how press portrayals of female politicians made Hillary Clinton’s nomination possible

Teri Finneman
South Dakota State University

Teri Finneman’s dissertation for the Missouri School of Journalism was published by Lexington Books in November 2015. “Press Portrayals of Women Politicians” is available for $60 on Amazon and from Lexington at http://tinyurl.com/jzqthbyb with discount code LEX30AUTH16.

In July 2016, Hillary Clinton made history as the first woman to secure the nomination for president from a major political party. It was a moment that I had been counting on since January 2014 when my former political reporter self began to determine the scope of my dissertation.

Knowing Clinton’s big moment was likely (even though she didn’t officially enter the race until two weeks before my defense), I thought it would be useful to examine women’s political history and the prior women who made Clinton’s historical achievement possible.

From the book:

This book explores the historical path to an American woman president by examining how political, feminist, and journalistic cultures across history have advanced and regressed the opportunities for women in politics from the 1870s to the 2000s. …

The unique contribution of this book is its longitudinal and contextual approach to analyzing media coverage of national women politicians. The goal is to explain the discursive strategies used by mainstream newspaper reporters in their coverage of pioneering women in politics in order to understand how these strategies have and have not changed throughout history.

In other words, what role has the press played in women’s political history, and how has that role potentially changed from the era of the partisan press in the 1800s to the era of objective reporting in the 1900s to the era of infotainment and instant news in the 2000s? What aspects of these women’s political campaigns have the press focused on or ignored? Has the press served as a supporter of the status quo or functioned as an agent of change in regard to women in politics? …

This book examines press coverage of Victoria Woodhull, the first woman to run for president in 1872; Jeannette Rankin, the first woman elected to Congress in 1916; Margaret Chase Smith, the first woman to receive a nomination for president at a major party’s convention in 1964; and Sarah Palin, the first Republican woman selected as a vice presidential candidate in 2008.

This book also describes “the implication of previous discursive positions on subsequent ones” (Carvalho 2008, 163). In other words, how is press coverage of one woman politician reflected in the coverage of her successors? What themes are apparent and continued throughout the history of newspaper coverage of pioneer women politicians? Does the press reference prior women politicians in its contemporary coverage and, if so, how? In addition, how have changing historical contexts influenced press coverage?

The book also touches upon media coverage of Geraldine Ferraro, Elizabeth Dole, and Nancy Pelosi.

Learn why Victoria Woodhull was referred to as “the Satanic ticket” and “a fit subject for a lunatic asylum.” Read about the media’s (and society’s) use of the masculine-feminine double bind, with Margaret Chase Smith referred to as “an acknowledged defense expert, having toured overseas defense posts, but also is a great lover of flowers.” The book explores the various ways that the press and society have used discourse to hold back opportunities for political women and shines a light on the women who fought their way into the history books to create a more perfect union.

Can we afford not to study history?

“If you want to understand today, you have to search yesterday.” — Pearl Buck

“History cannot give us a program for the future, but it can give us a fuller understanding of ourselves, and of our common humanity, so that we can better face the future.” — Robert Penn Warren

“History is a mighty drama, enacted upon the theatre of times, with suns for lamps and eternity for a background.” — Thomas Carlyle

“History is a vast early warning system.” — Norman Cousins

“History is the witness that testifies to the passing of time; it illumines reality, vitalizes memory, provides guidance in daily life and brings us tidings of antiquity.” — Cicero

“I’m interested in the way in which the past affects the present, and I think that if we understand a good deal more about history, we automatically understand a great more about contemporary life.” — Toni Morrison

“In history, a great volume is unrolled for our instruction, drawing the materials of future wisdom from the past errors and infirmities of mankind.” — Edmund Burke
Citing each other enriches research, confirms value of our field

Media historians don’t cite each other very much. And that’s a problem. What’s more, media historians don’t cite other media scholars very much either. That’s a problem, too.

These aren’t particularly scientific conclusions. I’ve read and reviewed many media histories, but I haven’t engaged in a systematic analysis of citation patterns using social scientific sampling strategies. However, the better part of a day poking around on Google Scholar lends support to these conclusions.

I’ve also used some vague wording here, such as “very much.” But, if I’ve read a lot of media histories, I’ve read even more research in journalism studies and related fields, and the contrast in citation conventions is stark. Media histories — in no small part because they often do not include traditional literature reviews — offer comparatively far fewer citations of media-related scholarship than other media-related studies.

Media historians do cite secondary literature. It’s just that most of this literature is from history-department historians. That’s better than nothing, of course, but it’s not good enough.

Here are the three potential problems that I see.

First, we’re not contributing to an intellectual conversation in our own field (and in our own departments and schools) when we don’t cite our colleagues in communication and journalism studies. We not only should be gleaning insights from other studies related to our topics of investigation, but we also should be explicitly building on those concepts — adding additional nuance, making new connections — or challenging the formulations of those concepts that need challenging.

When journalism historians make distinctions between “hard news” and “soft news” in the pages of early newspapers, for example, they are using conceptual categories that have been extensively explicated, theorized, and problematized in the last decade or two (and more) in journalism studies scholarship. By building on these nuanced concepts, journalism historians could deepen their own investigation of news and potentially open up new ways of seeing contemporary phenomena.

In other words, might it be fruitful for journalism studies scholars examining recent news content to discuss the categories of “hard news” and “soft news” with journalism historians studying the same categories but from decades ago or a century ago? I’d love to listen to this discussion. The way that this “discussion” happens is through citing and engaging each other’s work.

At the very least, journalism or communication historians should be engaging more extensively with the work of other journalism or communication historians. Journalism historians who study war journalism, for example, should explore the conceptual categories used by other journalism historians examining the same or different wars.

Second, we will only marginalize ourselves by not citing our colleagues. When you address someone directly, she or he generally feels obligated to respond. But, if we don’t speak up in these intellectual conversations, don’t expect to be cited by others who are already engaged in the discussion. Media history is not a big enough sub-discipline to exist on its own, nor should media historians want to exist on their own. Scholarship is about an exchange of ideas, and media historians should seek out these exchanges more than they currently do.

Third, and this is perhaps a worst-case scenario, we will endanger the place of media historians on faculties and subsequently media history courses in the curriculum. Colleges and universities have become increasingly conscious of analytics, particularly citation counts. If media historians are being cited at comparatively low levels, it’s not hard to imagine deans, department chairs, and others who are judged based on metrics of academic units thinking twice about hiring a media historian. Without media historians to vouch for the value of history in the curriculum, a spiral of marginalization can only get worse.

Let’s not let this happen.

Thanks to all who have contributed

Just like Gutenberg and his crew, we can say we are pleased to get another sheet — this issue of the Intelligencer — off the press.

We want to thank everyone who contributed articles, essays, and news to the newsletter over the last year during our tenure as interim editor and designer — especially the members of the AJHA’s Public Relations Committee, who produced numerous press releases that they sent to the news media and that we used.

It is through the combined efforts of members of the AJHA that the organization remains strong.

— Erika Pribanic-Smith and David Sloan