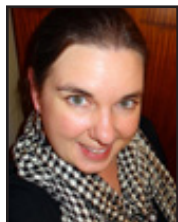




President's Column

Teeter mentored, inspired numerous AJHA scholars



Erika J. Pribanic-Smith
University of Texas at Arlington

As a journalism history organization, we must acknowledge the passing of someone who has contributed a great deal to our field—Dwight Teeter.

Teeter died on Feb. 27 following a long illness, but his legacy lives on in all the scholars that he has inspired and counseled.

Following the announcement of his death, the AJHA listserv overflowed with comments

about the impact Teeter had on our members. A number of posts mentioned using Teeter's books in their courses and research. He was co-author of "Law of Mass Communications," "Voices of a Nation: A History of Mass Media in the United States," and "Fanatics and Fire-Eaters: Newspapers and the Coming of the Civil War."

Teeter had a direct impact on many AJHA members as they worked on their degrees or began their faculty careers. Several members called Teeter a mentor.

Paulette Kilmer first encountered Teeter as she was pursuing her master's degree at the University of Wisconsin, where Teeter was an associate professor. She said that they remained friends, and he often gave her advice when she needed it, including assistance with publishing her book.

Later, while Teeter was a professor and journalism department chair at the University of Texas, he encouraged Patrick Cox to pursue a graduate degree.

"I will always be appreciative of his efforts to support and encourage a young small-town newspaper editor who harbored the desire to move into the academic profession," Cox said.

Teeter served on David Sloan's dissertation committee at the University of Texas. Sloan remembered that Teeter was well-liked due to

his friendliness and sense of humor—traits that many other AJHA members remarked upon.

Jean Folkerts noted Teeter's generosity. Teeter hired Folkerts at the University of Texas and secured the contract for "Voices of a Nation," which Folkerts and Teeter wrote together.

"He was to be the senior author and we were to split the royalties—a generous offer from a senior scholar to someone who hadn't published but a couple of articles," Folkerts said.

When she did more of the work than he did, Teeter made Folkerts senior author and changed the contract so she received 75 percent of the royalties.

"Not many senior scholars were so magnanimous," Folkerts said.

Teeter became dean of the College of Communications at the University of Tennessee in 1991 and remained on the faculty there until his

retirement in 2014. At Tennessee, he became a mentor to Michael Martinez, and the two became so close that Teeter walked Martinez's wife down the aisle at their 2014 vow renewal ceremony.

In a Knoxville news story on Teeter's passing, Martinez said Teeter challenged him.

"He's got this analytical mind that can put things

together and relate concepts that I think many other people wouldn't grasp," Martinez said.

According to his obituary, Teeter worked as a journalist at the *Waterloo (Iowa) Daily Courier* before beginning his academic career at Iowa State University.

He also taught at the University of Kentucky and the University of Washington, and he lectured internationally. Six Pulitzer Prize winners are among his many former students.

As a researcher, Teeter has written numerous articles in both history and media law. Sloan noted that Teeter published several important journal articles about freedom of the press in the latter part of the eighteenth century.

A former president of AEJMC, Teeter co-

Continued on page 3



Photo courtesy of Mike Martinez

In addition to his many contributions through teaching, research and service, Dwight Teeter will be remembered for his friendliness and sense of humor.

Table of Contents

- 2** | Research essay: Noah Arceneaux in India
- 4** | Teaching essay: Tennessee's Ida Initiative
- 6** | Committee spotlight: Membership
- 7** | Member benefits on the web
- Member news and notes
- 8** | Member testimonials
- 9** | How to publish your dissertation
- Book notes
- 10** | Recap: Southeast Symposium
- 11** | An historical epiphany
- 12** | Recap: Joint Conference
- 13** | Editorial: Newsroom of the future
- 14** | Advice for reviewers
- 15** | Panel, RIP proposal advice
- 16** | Recap: AEJMC Southeast

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Intelligencer is the quarterly newsletter of the American Journalism Historians Association.

Content is produced by the Public Relations Committee and other members of AJHA.

Design: Erika Pribanic-Smith

Numbers 3 & 4 of Volume 31 will publish in June and September.

Deadline for the next issue is June 5. Submit stories or member notes to PR Chair Jodi Rightler-McDaniels at jrightler@southcollegetn.edu or President Erika Pribanic-Smith at epsmith@uta.edu.

Research Essay

Adventures in an Indian archive

Noah Arceneaux
San Diego State University

From January to August 2014, I was in New Delhi, along with my wife and 12-year-old son. I had a Fulbright-Nehru Research Grant to study mobile phones, though I'd prefer to skip the details of that project. I thought my fellow historians would appreciate reading about another, less successful research endeavor. This secondary project involved two weeks in the National Archives in New Delhi, looking for records on wireless telegraphy from 1900-1920. I only found a few useful documents in the end, but the experience was enjoyable in its own perverse way.

As in most major archives, researchers fill out request slips for individual records. In this case, there were three specified pull times. I soon learned that these timings varied. Request slips submitted for the 1 p.m. pull might be collected 15 minutes early, or they might languish an extra hour in an overflowing wooden bin.

A few different government ministries dealt with wireless telegraphy during my time period, so I had to request dilapidated index volumes for many agencies, each

devoted to a specific year. In theory, the information in the index volumes would indicate specific files, which I could then request. For two days, most all my requests were returned "not found," without explanation.

My verbal requests did not improve the situation. Most of the archivists spoke excellent English, but some did not. On day three, another American told me that the dusty computers in the corner of the room accessed a detailed database. I skipped this resource on my first day because the computers had not been working.

My first computer search for "wireless telegraphy" produced pages upon pages of results! I kicked myself for not double-checking the computers earlier. Visions of peer-reviewed research danced in my head. I spent hours dutifully transcribing the details for dozens of records on a laptop spreadsheet. These new requests, though, were disqualified at the gate. My requests failed to include the "month of publication," a vital bit of data that was not part of the electronic database. I delivered an impassioned yet reasoned monologue on the absurdity of the situation, only to

Continued on page 3



Photo by Noah Arceneaux

Lunch from a street stand outside the National Archives in New Delhi, India.



Photo by Noah Arceneaux

While in India, Arceneaux appeared for World Radio Day as an expert guest discussing radio history on Doordarshan, a state-run television channel.

Research

Continued from page 2

discover that this particular archivist was only nodding in agreement. Two more senior archivists then affirmed that I absolutely had to find the month of publication. Back to the hardbound indexes ...

Over the next several days, I developed a routine. I would catch an auto-rickshaw early enough to make the first research pull, then work until the final pull had been submitted. Giving directions to the driver, in broken Hindi, was mandatory. The Archives are not on the itinerary of most foreigners, so I directed the driver to the famed India Gate, then used simple commands and hand gestures from there.

A security guard directed to me to a street stand for lunch on the first day. In this part of the city, known as Lutyen's Delhi, eating establishments are quite rare, and the stand was always crowded with soldiers and police officers. For 30 rupees (50 cents) I got a plate of spicy chickpeas, fried bread and some chutney on a tin plate. Typical of Indian bureaucracy, I first had to pay a man sitting 15 feet from the food vendor, then receive a plastic token. I knew this system by the

second day and was greeted with smiles.

After two weeks of limited success, I piled up the few documents that I had been able to find and asked to have them photocopied; cameras and scanners were strictly forbidden. This request required visits to two different offices, and I paid 300 rupees (\$5) for a receipt. I was surprised when barely a week later, a phone call said my copies were ready.

When I returned, a burly turbaned man told me that I actually owed another 6 rupees (10 cents). The cashier's office was, of course, in a different building. I had to ask the security guards to show me the way. The clerk had no change for my 10 rupee coin, so I jokingly slapped it down and told him to keep it all. Once I had a receipt for 6 rupees (plus my original receipt), burly turban relinquished the photocopies. These aren't the freshest primary documents on Indian radio, as other historians have already explored and cited them. Whenever I do cite these documents in my own research, though, I will feel a great sense of accomplishment. If I have the patience and persistence to navigate the bureaucracy of the National Archives of New Delhi, I can deal with anything else life happens to throw at me.

Teeter

Continued from page 1

founded the organization's law division in 1973 and started that division's newsletter.

He also started the AEJMC history division newsletter.

Teeter remained active in the Symposium on the 19th Century Press, the Civil War and Free Expression, held annually in Chattanooga. Several AJHA members remarked that they enjoyed seeing him there each year, including Kilmer.

She said, "A light has gone out in our world, but Dwight's good works will be remembered for a long time, particularly by those of us who were fortunate enough to know him."

Awards committee accepts Kobre, service nominations

The Sidney Kobre Award for Lifetime Achievement in Journalism History recognizes individuals with an exemplary record of sustained achievement in journalism history through teaching, research, professional activities, or other contributions to the field of journalism history. Award winners need not be members of the AJHA. Nominations for the award are solicited annually, but the award need not be given every year.

The Distinguished Service to Journalism History Award recognizes contributions by an individual outside our discipline who has made an extraordinary effort to further significantly our understanding of, or our ability to explore, media history. Nominations are solicited annually, but the award is given only in exceptional situations. Thus, it is not given every year.

Those making nominations for either award should present, at the minimum, a cover letter that explains the nominee's contributions to the field as well as a vita or brief biography of the nominee. Supporting letters for the nomination are also encouraged.

The deadline for both awards is May 13. Please send all material by mail or email to:

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Teaching Essay

Ida Initiative offers students unique learning experience



Amber Roessner
University of Tennessee-Knoxville

When research, teaching and service align in the academy, to steal a line from '70s funk/soul band The Gaslight, "it's just like magic."

And, magic is just what I found when I was approached by UT's School of Journalism & Electronic Media Director Peter Gross in 2012 to create a service initiative surrounding Ida B. Wells-Barnett. Based upon Gross's directive, I developed the Ida Initiative, an interdisciplinary project to foster student and scholarly research surrounding Wells-Barnett and other social justice crusaders, and I began to integrate the initiative into my research agenda and course design.

The Ida Initiative has facilitated two scholarly panels at national conferences in the past two years and developed a

permanent site dedicated to Wells-Barnett (<https://theidainitiative.wordpress.com/>), with the help of students in History & Principles of Journalism and Mass Communications History.

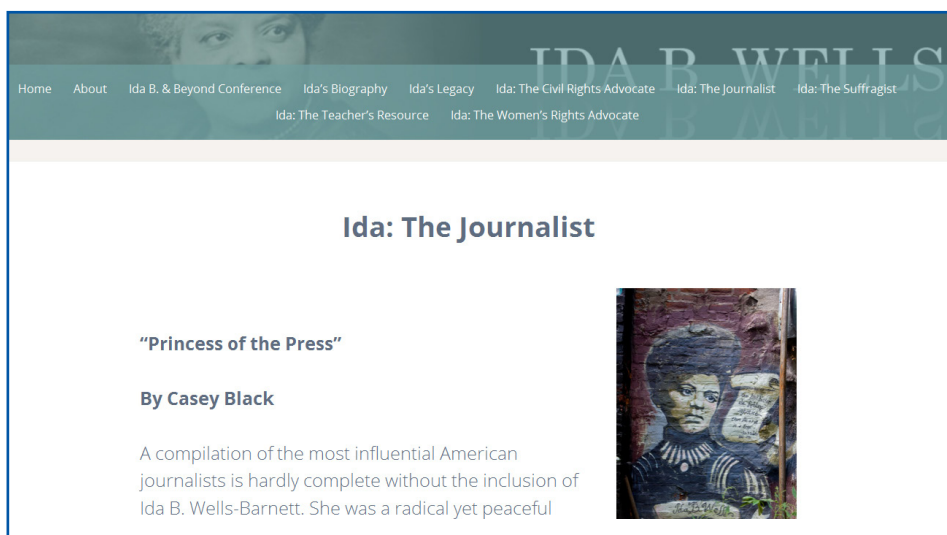
These educational forums have addressed Wells-Barnett's career as a reform journalist, her influence on individuals and social movements, her legacy as a civil and women's rights pioneer, and her potential to educate others on how to eradicate modern forms of global oppression.

Furthermore, UT's School of Journalism & Electronic Media hosted the inaugural Ida B. & Beyond Conference on March 26, featuring presentations by a number of scholars. (See page 16.)

An edited volume of scholarship about Wells-Barnett will follow.

Over the last two years, participating in the Ida Initiative and preparation for the inaugural Ida B. & Beyond Conference has provided my students—at the undergraduate and graduate lev-

Continued on page 5



The Ida Initiative website features articles about Wells-Barnett, written by University of Tennessee students, as well as Ida B. & Beyond Conference information and teaching tools.

Teaching

Continued from page 4

els—with unique experiential and service learning opportunities.

At the undergraduate level, students in two media history-related courses have delved into primary and secondary sources related to Wells-Barnett and other like-minded social justice crusaders, such as W.E.B. DuBois and Ethel Payne, to construct brief research papers. They have also put their journalistic skills to work by creating websites, press releases, news articles and video packages about the Ida Initiative and the Ida B. & Beyond Conference. R. J. Vogt, a UT Haslam Scholar, enjoyed his experience with the project so much that he decided to devote his senior thesis to the advocacy journalism of Wells-Barnett.

At the graduate level, former UT doctoral student Jodi Rightler-McDaniels assisted me with launching the Ida Initiative and conducting research into the role of Wells-Barnett as a women's rights activist and her place in American memory. Our panels and studies on Wells-Barnett have been presented at AJHA, AEJMC, the Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference, and the Symposium on the 19th Century Press, the Civil War and Free Expression. She also has agreed to serve as a co-editor on the upcoming



Susan I. Gray, curator of the Fairfax Museum, presents on Kate Waller Barrett at Ida B. & Beyond. (See pages 16-17 for more photos from the conference.)

Wells-Barnett book project.

Furthermore, the Ida Initiative has provided an opportunity to give back to the state of Tennessee's primary and secondary education systems. This summer, I had the opportunity to speak to elementary and middle-school teachers about how to better incorporate Ida B. Wells-Barnett into their lesson plans, and in early March, I served as a judge in East Tennessee's National History Day competition, which featured entries that focused on leadership and legacy in American History.

It has also given me the opportunity to think seriously about how to integrate historical topics and figures across our curricula. Past Ida Initiative panelists Norma Fay Green and Kathy Roberts Forde provided insights into how Wells-Barnett should figure prominently into classroom discussions surrounding investigative and advocacy journalism, and based upon these interactions, I have pitched a special topics course in advocacy journalism at UT, which will not only teach students about the efforts of past journalistic crusaders but also give them real-world opportunities to report on social justice initiatives.

Finally, it has opened the door to potential forays into the realm of public history. Students in upcoming media

history courses might demonstrate their understanding of the life and legacy of Wells-Barnett by designing exhibits on early civil rights crusaders such as Wells-Barnett to be installed at local, regional and national museums.

Over the last two years, the life and legacy of Ida B. Wells-Barnett has become near and dear to my heart, and although I know it's not realistic for all of our members to install versions of the initiative at their own home institutions, I would like to encourage you to engage in two activities after you finish reading this column.

1) Find ways to integrate historical figures and topics across your curriculum. In an era in which media history has been axed from many curricula, it is crucial to demonstrate how the past has helped determine our present circumstances and future prospects. In the case of Ida, our students can learn advocacy and investigative strategies that have transcended time and are present across platforms.

2) Incorporate experiential and service-learning activities, such as the Ida Initiative, into your classroom. Such projects engage our students and provide the ultimate nexus among our research, teaching and service. By doing so, I promise that you'll find your own taste of magic.



Photos courtesy of Amber Roessner

Ida B. & Beyond keynote speaker Mia Bay is the author of "To Tell the Truth Freely: The Life of Ida B. Wells."

Committee Chairs

Awards

Mike Conway, Indiana

Dissertation Awards

David Abrahamson,
Northwestern

Book Award

Aimee Edmondson, Ohio

Convention Sites

Caryl Cooper, Alabama

Education

Pam Parry,
Eastern Kentucky

Graduate Students

Katie Beardsley, Temple
Ken Ward, Wichita State

History in the Curriculum

Gerry Lanosga, Indiana

Long-Range Planning

Amy Mattson Lauters,
Minnesota State-Mankato

Membership

Kate Edenberg,
Wisconsin-Stout

Nominations and Elections

Amber Roessner, Tennessee

Publications

Paulette Kilmer, Toledo

Public Relations

Jodi Rightler-McDaniels,
South College

Research

Michael Fuhlhage,
Wayne State

Committee Spotlight

Membership focuses on recruiting

*AJHA has 13 committees that work throughout the year to keep the organization running. In each issue of this volume of the **Intelligencer**, we'll be highlighting a committee, letting members know who is on the committee and what the committee is doing. The goals are to keep members informed about what's going on in the organization and to offer more information on ways that members can get involved.*



Kate Edenberg
University of Wisconsin-Stout

The Membership Committee's job is to grow membership. Simple, yet challenging.

The AJHA constitution indicates that the committee "will inform prospective members about the benefits of membership in the Association and propose ways to increase those benefits." To accomplish this, this year's Membership Committee will be calling on the expertise and reach of present members. The committee also hopes to encourage more involvement from faculty who teach at smaller universities and colleges.

They will also be collaborating with other committees, especially Public Relations and Graduate Students, to achieve some of the organization's aims for the coming year.

The Membership Committee has established the following goals: 1) recruiting more committee members, 2) recruiting more graduate students, 3) using present membership to generate a list of organizations/conferences we could share our conferences/events with, and 4) promoting with other history/media organizations.

Say hello to the Membership Committee members.

Committee chair Kate Roberts Edenberg jumped into the leadership role last year in mid-semester. She is the journalism concentration coordinator and an assistant professor of mass communication at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. Edenberg joined AJHA as a master's student after her advisor Hazel Dicken-Garcia encouraged her to submit a paper to the conference; she won the Robert Lance Award for outstanding student research paper.

Dianne Bragg is an assistant professor in the journalism department at The University

of Alabama, where she teaches classes such as mass communication law and regulation, history of journalism and the First Amendment, and media theory. She serves in leadership positions with several academic organizations, including the Symposium on the 19th Century Press, the Civil War and Free Expression. Bragg sits on the AJHA Board of Directors and is co-coordinator of the AJHA Southeast Symposium.

Tracy Lucht is an assistant professor at Iowa State University. Her involvement in AJHA dates to 2008, when she received an honorable mention for the Margaret Blanchard Dissertation Prize. Last year, she received the David Sloan Award for best faculty paper and the Maurine Beasley Award for best paper on a women's history topic. She is currently the panel coordinator for the annual convention.

Jennifer E. Moore received her Ph.D. from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Minnesota. Her research interests include journalism history, visual communication, digital news preservation and public health. Moore first became involved in AJHA as a graduate student. She is the AJHA representative to the Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference (JJCHC).

Reed Smith is a professor and the multimedia coordinator at Georgia Southern University in the Department of Communication Arts. He is a member of the AJHA Board of Directors and Book Review Editor for *American Journalism*. Smith was formerly the Oral History Chair for AJHA, and he has been a member for about ten years. He said becoming involved with AJHA was a natural progression of his interest in journalism history after earning his Ph.D. under Pat Washburn's guidance at Ohio University.

The Membership Committee welcomes anyone who wishes to become a member. Anyone who is interested in joining the committee can contact Edenberg at edenborgk@uwstout.edu.



New website features members-only benefits

In January, AJHA launched a new website through membership service Wild Apricot.

In addition to providing a platform to display information about our organization and its activities in an attractive and professional way, Wild Apricot has enabled us to provide special benefits to our members.

First of all, all membership business now takes place on the website. Prospective members complete an application form online and have an option to pay online via PayPal (no PayPal account required).

The application information automatically is stored and populates the membership directory. You can decide how much of your information others can see by going to the privacy section of your profile. (Currently, the directory is accessible to members only.)

If at any time you need to update your information, you can do so through your profile, and the directory automatically updates.

Furthermore, the online

membership list enables AJHA leadership to send email blasts to all members or specific groups. You have control over this feature and can unsubscribe at any time.

One year from the date you joined online, you will receive automatic renewal reminders.

With your member login, you have access to a special members-only section. This section contains current and previous issues of the *Intelligencer* newsletter, teaching tools collected by the Education Committee, the AJHA Constitution and By-laws, and an archive of meeting minutes. Eventually, this section also will include a member forum.

To access member content, log in (the login button is at the top right) and select the Members Only tab from the menu.

To access your profile, click your name at the top of the page after logging in.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact me at epsmith@uta.edu.

Erika Pribanic-Smith

Member News & Notes

American Public Television has renewed **Kitty Endres'** documentary "Rebels on Lake Erie" for two more years of national distribution. Several AJHA members contributed interviews to the film.

Jean Folkerts retired from University of North Carolina. She is teaching part-time at her alma mater, Kansas State University, and mentoring junior faculty.

Owen Johnson lectured at Moscow State University on the history of Russian journalists on March 27 and will return April 3 to discuss American correspondents in Russia. He also will mark the 70th anniversary of Ernie Pyle's death with three talks in Honolulu, Hawaii, including a memorial ceremony at Punchbowl Cemetery April 18.

The University of Toledo awarded **Paulette Kilmer** a sabbatical for the spring 2016 semester to finish her book on the coverage of ghosts in nineteenth-century newspapers. She also is planning to get training in storytelling, particularly in digital spaces, so that she can create a course in digital storytelling.

Gerry Lanosga will receive one of four AEJMC Emerging Scholars grants, which will help fund his research on prize culture in journalism. Prizes also are the focus of three recent publications, in *American Journalism*, *Journalism Practice* and *Journalism: Theory, Practice and Criticism*.

Linda Lumsden joined more than 350 authors participating in the seventh annual Tucson Festival of Books in mid-March. She discussed her 2014 book "Black, White and Red All Over: A Cultural History of the Radical Press

in its Heyday, 1900-1917."

Starting this fall, **Jennifer Moore** will be an assistant professor of journalism at the University of Minnesota-Duluth, where she will help build and expand the multiplatform journalism and digital storytelling curriculum.

Lisa Parcell earned tenure at Wichita State University, where she has assumed the role of graduate coordinator for the master's program.

Amber Roessner delivered the keynote speech at the Vintage Base Ball Association convention in Franklin, TN, on March 28.

Mississippi State University awarded **Pete Smith** a research sabbatical for the 2016 spring semester. He will be working on his second book, a biography of broadcasting industry labor leader and blacklisted performer Philip Loeb (1891-1955).

Teresa Jo Styles retired from North Carolina A&T State University on Dec. 31, 2014. Styles was with the university for 21 years, following a career with CBS News.

Ken Ward received the 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award in the master's category from the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools.

Julie Williams will appear on Antiques Roadshow April 13 to show off her Titanic memorabilia.

If you have news for the summer *Intelligencer*, please submit by June 5 to Jodi Rightler-McDaniels (jrightler@southcollegetn.edu) or Erika Pribanic-Smith (epsmith@uta.edu).

Student Testimonial

Walck describes value of AJHA to budding historians



Pamela Walck
Ohio University

I'm not going to lie. It's a little daunting being the first grad student out of the gate to write a testimonial about AJHA and its many benefits to budding historians such as myself. But as I was collecting my thoughts, it prompted me to ponder about how the first of just about anything in life is this strange dichotic mix of emotions—excitement for charting new paths mixed with pure fear of failure or ridicule.

At least these were some of my thoughts before I attended my first AJHA conference in New Orleans in 2013. Numerous Ohio University faculty members assured me that AJHA was by far their favorite conference. It was smaller, more intimate, but all the heavy hitters in journalism history attended. The experienced scholars worked hard to nurture graduate students. It was NOT going to be cutthroat island like some of the other, bigger conferences. (Which I had witnessed a few months earlier during an international conference where faculty and student presenters alike were put on the hot seat by respondents as if it were the Spanish Inquisition rather than a platform for sharing one's research and learning new things.)

I sort of took these positive comments with a grain of salt. I mean, they are journalism historians so they kind of HAVE to say that, right? Wrong.

Their praises for the

conference were not mere hyperbole. The conference WAS this small, intimate experience where you could sit next to established scholars and grad students alike during meals or strike up conversations over drinks. Everyone was friendly. It was a history lover's utopia.

Attending various panel sessions, I was genuinely inspired. How can I incorporate collective memory into my dissertation? Who else here is interested in the black press? What role can theory play in my own research? And wonder of wonders, others were genuinely interested in my research, even though I was a total newb!

My panel was the last day of the conference. I was terribly nervous. As my name was called and I made my way to the front, I tried to make eye contact with the audience (all those things they teach you in undergrad public speaking 101 classes but you secretly hope to never need after freshman year). Sitting in the middle of the sparsely populated room was one individual who smiled back and never broke eye contact. Even when I stumbled. After what felt like an eternity—but was only ten minutes—my presentation was over and I could return to the safety of obscurity once more.

As I was packing up my materials later, she approached and introduced herself as Paulette Kilmer from the University of Toledo. She assured me that I had done a good job and that it gets easier with time. Keep up the good work. Her kindness was like a balm. Maybe I CAN do this after all.

A year later, she was the moderator for one of two

presentations I made during the conference in St. Paul. And she was right: It does get easier with time.

And, yes, this conference is something I look forward to now. Because when I'm there, I feel like I'm among my peeps. People from all walks of life, who, just like me, have a keen appreciation for the past.

People who understand that history does not just tell us who we are but what we want to be.

Share this testimonial with students you'd like to encourage to join AJHA. If you're interested in writing a student testimonial, contact Graduate Student Chairs Ken Ward (ken.ward@wichita.edu) or Katie Beardsley (kathryn.beardsley@temple.edu).

Faculty Testimonial



Photo courtesy of the UM School of Journalism and Mass Communication

Patrick Cox and Jim Startt record a video testimonial in the Promenade Foyer of the St. Paul Hotel during the 2014 AJHA convention.

Startt shares AJHA experiences

Jodi Rightler-McDaniels
South College

At the 2014 convention in St. Paul, Patrick Cox conducted interviews with several long-time AJHA members while students from the University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communication recorded. Each issue of this volume of the *Intelligencer* will feature excerpts from these interviews, which will be posted in installments on the new AJHA YouTube Channel: <http://tinyURL.com/AJHAYouTube>.

The next testimonial in the series comes from long-time member James (Jim) Startt, who joined AJHA during its second year of existence.

When Cox asked Startt about his experiences within AJHA, he responded with the following:

The organization has meant a lot to me over the years. I've tried to encourage people to get involved in it, and it's just been a really good outlet. The last book I did, in the acknowledgements, I said, "I want to thank all my friends at the American Journalism Historians Association, who taught me more about journalism than they knew."

To hear Startt's hilarious recollection of his first experience as a panel moderator dealing with one panelist who had "absolutely no sense of time at all," view his full testimonial at <http://youtu.be/b3BUXbKdr-A>.

Parry explains how to publish your dissertation, leverage it for more



Pam Parry
Eastern
Kentucky
University

In December 2013, I became a newly minted Ph.D., and 10 months later, my dissertation was published as a book. One month after that, I signed a contract with Lexington Books to co-edit a book series on Women in American Political History.

How did I move so quickly?

Tons of hard work, good fortune, and a formula for success that David R. Davies and I created together at the University of Southern Mississippi. For what it is worth, here's how I earned a doctor of philosophy degree at age 51 and published my dissertation as a book:

1. Pick the right dissertation director and listen to him or her. As an older doctoral student, I took a leave of absence to pursue a degree at USM, and in the process, I received unsolicited, bad advice from others who already had their degree. They told me to abandon my Type A personality and simply graduate as quickly as possible. Just get the dissertation done, they said. I temporarily bought into that idea. After all, I needed to graduate before I retired. But I never abandoned my personal value of doing a good job for its own sake, and my dissertation director insisted I work to my full potential. We were going to do the very best we could together, and in the process, I would get a degree, a book and future publishing opportunities. Without Dave Davies, I would have done a good dissertation, but I may not have done my best work.

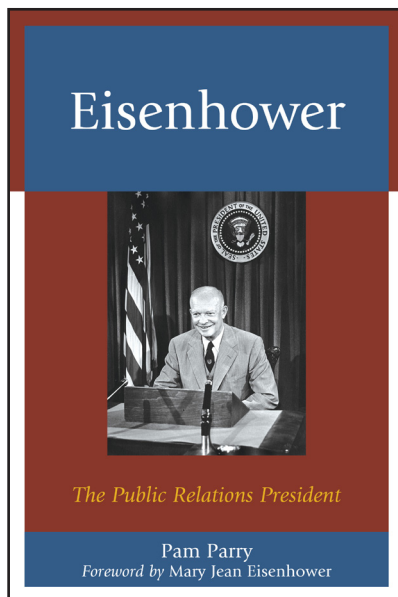
2. Pick the right topic. I came to my doctoral program wanting to do my dissertation on Anne Williams Wheaton, President Eisenhower's associate press secretary. My director said that President Eisenhower, himself, might be more appealing to a book publisher. After going back and forth respectfully, I acquiesced—not because I wanted to do so, but because it was expedient. Of course, I came to realize that he was right. President Eisenhower's contributions to public relations had mass appeal, and it was an easier sell to my publisher than Anne Wheaton might have been. But we did not ignore her; I dedicated an entire chapter to her in my book, "Eisenhower: The Public Relations President," placing her contributions in a broader context. Additionally, the idea that women such as

Wheaton needed more recognition led to the book series that we are co-editing for Lexington Books. Six members of AJHA are serving as an editorial board for the series, and several of the authors are AJHA members.

3. Write with publication as the goal. When I defended my prospectus, my dissertation committee agreed to allow me to write my dissertation as a book, leveraging my experience as a journalist. So, from the start, I was encouraged to take a marketable topic and make it readable. In other words, I did not have to write a treatise laced with heavy academese that needed years of rewriting to be fit for publication. The committee's decision is a major reason why I was able to publish so quickly.

4. Pick the right publisher. Lexington Books is an author-friendly publishing house, and I recommend its entire shop from acquisitions to production.

5. Seize all opportunities, regardless of time constraints. I was finalizing the dissertation when I opened a blast email from Justin Race, Lexington's political acquisitions editor. He was looking for an interdisciplinary book that seemed to describe my project, so I replied. He invited me to submit a book proposal. Despite being a complete stress case who felt behind in her writing, I stopped and cranked out the prospectus quickly. Within just a few weeks, I had a book contract prior to my dissertation defense. Hard work often produces good luck, but sometimes fortune just comes your way. Be sure to grab it when it does.



Book Notes

Patrick Cox's latest book, "Ranching in the Wild Horse Desert" (Grunwald Press, 2014), is a comprehensive study of the ranching and business career of W.W. Jones of Corpus Christi, Texas. Cox also wrote "A Photographic History of Texas Politics, from Sam Houston to Rick Perry" with Chuck Bailey; it is forthcoming from UT Press. The latter volume provides a unique look at Texas history with a historical narrative that reveals the impact of photography on the political process.

Kate Roberts Edenborg wrote "Going Groovy or Nostalgic: Mad Men and Advertising, Business and Social Movements" in the book "Mad Men and Politics: Nostalgia and the Remaking of Modern America," released on March 12.

Palgrave Macmillan released **Peter Glociczki's** first scholarly book, "Journalism and Memorialization in the Age of Social Media," on April 1. This book examines the rise of online memorial groups, virtual communities formed in the aftermath of tragic events.

The third edition of **David Sloan** and Shuhua Zhou's edited textbook "Research Methods in Communication" was published in February. Along with the standard methods used in social and behavioral sciences, it also includes a variety of methods, such as historical ones, used in the humanities. Three AJHA members wrote chapters for the book: **David Davies** of Southern Mississippi (bibliographies and literature reviews), **Anthony Hatcher** of Elon University (oral history), and **Berlin Beasley** of the University of North Florida (research ethics). **Julie Williams** of Samford University, **Karla Gower** of the University of Alabama and **Jon Bekken** of Albright College have short essays in the book.

In March, University of Arkansas Press published "If It Ain't Broke, Break It: How Corporate Journalism Killed the Arkansas Gazette," by **Donna Lampkin Stephens**. The book is based on Stephens' dissertation, for which she won honorable mention in the Margaret A. Blanchard Dissertation Prize competition in 2013.

Students find encouragement at Southeast Symposium

Becky Robinson

University of Alabama

American Journalism Historians Association's 2015 Southeast Symposium took place Jan. 30 to Feb. 1 in Panama City, FL.

Sixteen students from four schools presented papers.

The goal of AJHA is to further education and research in the field of mass communication history.

Mark Mayfield, a graduate student from The University of Alabama, presented his research on the evolution of shelter, or home, magazines by focusing on *House Beautiful*.

"I love history; I always have," Mayfield said. "It was interesting to see what [magazines] were like in the nineteenth century."

Mayfield, who once served as editor-in-chief of *House Beautiful*, said while he was always interested in the history of the magazine he worked for, he didn't have the time to really look into its past.

"It was exciting to look back through the creation of the magazine and see how it was shaped," he said.

Moderators and students alike agreed on the encouraging and welcoming atmosphere the symposium provided. Many students presenting are undergraduates who are not necessarily experienced with in-depth research



Photo courtesy of Dianne Bragg

The University of Alabama contingent included Alexis Barton, Elizabeth Bonner, Alex Woolbright, Dianne Bragg, Anna Waters, Kirsten Fiscus, and Mark Mayfield.

or public speaking.

Brad Hinchey, a moderator from Georgia State University, said that he presented his first academic paper at AJHA in 2011 when he was a doctoral student.

"This is a very supportive environment," Hinchey said. "You won't find anyone who will grill you or make you feel bad about your

work."

Hinchey said it meant a lot to him to be able to return to the conference where he got his start. Now, Hinchey returns every year to moderate sessions and give students advice and support on their research.

Like most of the students at this year's symposium, AJHA was my first experience with academic presentations as well. I presented at the 2014 conference, and I expanded my research into my graduate thesis using the guidance and feedback of the moderators and my committee chair (Dianne Bragg, who is co-coordinator of the Southeast Symposium with Pete Smith).

Although I never had a problem speaking in public, being in such a friendly and welcoming atmosphere eased any nervousness I felt beforehand.

Like myself, presenter Sandra L. McGill, an undergraduate student from Georgia State University, saw the symposium as a valuable learning experience about public speaking and academic presentation.

"It was a neat experience, although it was a little nerve-racking," McGill said. "I think this experience prepared me for next time, though."

McGill, who changed majors from a scientific field to journalism, said this was a very new experience for her. Despite her



Photo by Julie Williams

Samford University students Rachel Stanbeck and Bailey Fuqua had the first- and second-place papers in the undergraduate student category.

Continued on page 11

Symposium

Continued from page 10

hesitations, McGill tied for second place undergraduate paper with Rachel Stanbeck from Samford University.

Stanbeck, whose paper focused on the racial inequalities in *Southern Living* magazine from 1966 to the present, said she was at first nervous to present.

"I was really intimidated by the idea of writing such a long paper," Stanbeck said. "It helped to find a topic I was interested in."

Additionally, Stanbeck said her professor, Julie Williams, guided her through the research process.

"Dr. Williams helped with the steps of writing this paper," Stanbeck said. "This was my first experience at an academic presentation. It was an encouraging atmosphere, and I wasn't intimidated to speak."

Three University of Alabama students swept the awards for master's student papers: Elizabeth Bonner (first), Anna Waters (second), and Alexis Barton (third). Willie Tubbs from the University of Southern Mississippi received the doctoral student paper award.

For the full symposium program, visit ajhaonline.org.



Photo courtesy of David R. Davies

John Gibb, Danianese Woods, Willie Tubbs, Emmanuel Nwachukwu and Zainul Abedin represented the University of Southern Mississippi.

Student epiphany provides lesson: Embrace dark moments in history



Scott Morton
University of
Alabama

One of the most gratifying things associated with the academic profession is seeing young people acquire an appreciation for world events and historical knowledge.

Case in point, I recently had the privilege of meeting and interviewing Kyle Borland, a rollover bachelor's/master's Advertising and Public Relations senior at The University of Alabama.

When I first heard about Kyle, I immediately knew I wanted to learn more about his experience with the World Economic Forum (WEF). Kyle, who has traditionally followed Ketchum PR's online blog, became interested in the WEF through the blog and was given the unique opportunity to participate in an online webinar that occurred in January from Davos, Switzerland.

According to Ketchum's official website, Ketchum PR has served as the WEF's pro bono public relations partner for ten years. Ketchum invited Kyle to participate in the webinar due to his involvement in PR and his active followership of their blog. Speakers of the webinar included world leaders such as former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and corporate giant and CEO of Alibaba, Jack Ma.

Although the webinar included a host of interesting speakers and important topics,

what captivated Kyle the most, and also concerns the tie-in to history, is a speech made by Ketchum's CEO Rob Flaherty. Flaherty referenced the German government's return to the Bundestag building, which is the same building formerly known as the Reichstag during the Weimar Republic as well as subsequent years under Nazi control.

This fascinated Kyle, especially knowing that parts of the building have been kept essentially the same since the mid-1940s. Being from a military family, Kyle spent many years in Germany growing up, but it wasn't until he heard Flaherty's speech that he came to appreciate the historical connection to the Bundestag building.

"The way Germany looks at history, and the way they want to present what happened there, is that they don't want to change anything," Kyle said. "They want it to be a constant reminder of what Germany has done but that Germany will never do again."

For Kyle it was an epiphany. The Bundestag is a direct connection to Germany's past, preserved very much as it was, a living reminder of a dark period in world history, a history that Kyle rightly recognizes should never be forgotten. But Kyle's epiphany did not end there. He began thinking about how differently Americans handle unpleasant history as compared to Germans.

"In the U.S. we don't really focus on our negative history as much," Kyle reflected in our interview. "We kind of like to brush it under

the rug, and then when it comes up, we deal with it and then push it back under the rug."

While Kyle recognizes the welcomed accomplishments America has made toward racial and gender equality, Americans tend to want to forget history that is oftentimes unpleasant and dark.

This may be a small epiphany in the greater scheme of things, but for this college senior, it became a powerful moment where knowledge of the past leads to a greater appreciation of the present.



Photo courtesy of Scott Morton

University of Alabama student Kyle Borland's long-term goals include becoming involved professionally with Ketchum PR and attending the World Economic Forum in person.

Joint history conference has largest ever meeting



Jennifer E. Moore
University of
Maine

What began as a gathering of roughly a dozen journalism historians in the 1990s has grown into the largest one-day gathering of journalism and communication scholars in the United States.

The Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference (JJCHC) hosted more than 80 journalism and communication history scholars at the Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute on the campus of New York University March 21.

University of Loyola-Maryland professor and long-time JJCHC organizer Elliot King said the 2015 conference was the largest gathering to date. He said the one-day conference is an excellent place to be introduced to a broad range of new scholarship, pilot research-in-progress, meet new contacts, and reconnect with long-time colleagues.

"This is one of the great venues for scholars at all stages of their careers to present their work," King said.

First-time attendee, assistant professor Scott Peterson of Wright State University, was pleased with his overall experience.

"I was impressed by how much content was programmed without the day feeling overscheduled," Peterson said. "I got great feedback both on my paper and during my book talk."

His book, "Reporting Baseball's Sensational Season of 1890: The Brotherhood War and the Rise of Modern Sports Journalism," was included in an afternoon panel session featuring new publications in journalism and communication history.

Amy Wu, a Ph.D. student from the University of Maryland, was one of several graduate students who presented work from professor Mark Feldstein's media history course last fall.

"The experience of being accepted, presenting, and the additional pleasure of doing so as a class was wonderful and priceless," Wu said.

In addition to 20 panel sessions, the conference also featured 2014 AEJMC Tankard Award Winner Rodney Benson, associate professor in the Department of Media, Culture and Communication at New York University. Benson spoke about his latest book, "Shaping Immigration News: A French-American Comparison."

The day ended with a roundtable discussion featuring professionals from the publishing industry. The Academic Publishing Roundtable, "Continuity and Change in Academic Book Publishing," featured panelists Clark Dougan, senior editor, University of Massachusetts Press; Tim Harper, editor, CUNY Journalism Press; and Mary Beth Jarrad, marketing and sales director, New York University Press. Panelists discussed several new industry



Photo by Jennifer E. Moore

Luncheon speaker and 2014 AEJMC Tankard Book Award winner Rodney Benson talks about his latest book, "Shaping Immigration News: A French-American Comparison."

standards, such as print-on-demand publishing and social media strategies to promote and market new releases.

Impressed by the depth and breadth of the discussion, Julie A. Goldsmith, a fellow at the Institute of American Thought at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, said, "This was the best panel on publishing that I have ever attended at an academic conference, due to the current economic data and the sensitivity of the speakers to scholars in a digital marketplace."

Similar to previous years, organizers encouraged attendees to live Tweet the event throughout the day and use the hashtag #JJCHC so anyone could track the online conversation. A Storify page was created with highlights from the day's social media posts and can be found at <http://bit.ly/1Bp8eSp>.

Planning is already underway for the 2016 conference. Follow JJCHC on Twitter at @JJCHCNYC and the conference's blog at journalismhistorians.org for updates.



Photo by Carolyn Edy

Panelists Clark Dougan, Mary Beth Jarrad and Tim Harper discussed industry standards on the "Continuity and Change in Academic Book Publishing" roundtable.

Intelligencer Editorial

Gannett Company introduces Newsroom of the Future



Willie Tubbs
University
of Southern
Mississippi

If one lives outside the communities in which Gannett operates one of its 82 daily or 400-plus non-daily publications, she or he might have missed the news that newspapers have been forever changed.

At least that is the word from Gannett, which has a local presence in 30 states and Guam and a national presence everywhere one can access *USA Today*.

The company that once brought the term “Mojo” (mobile journalist) to the industry has now introduced, and over the last year begun implementing, the “Newsroom of the Future.”

A program with a name that seems to have come pre-parodied has attracted the attention of media insiders and will likely one day be a focus of media historians’ analysis.

At first blush, the “Newsroom of the Future” sounds like the least entertaining attraction at a theme park.

Indeed, the temptation is to resort to humor rather than give the idea a second thought.

One could ponder when Gannett will introduce the “Hall of Extraneous Managers” or quip that since the years-long battle for the survival of newspapers seems a veritable “Tower of Terror,” it’s only appropriate that this newsroom vision would come complete with a Disneyland-themed title.

To lean on satire would fail to consider what the newest permutation of Gannett’s vision for journalism might or might not be.

It would be equally foolhardy to deem the “Newsroom of the Future” good or bad, right or wrong. As Herbert Butterfield warns, we must avoid the Whig interpretation.

The more fruitful application of time and column space is to explore what little is evident about this redesign.

The “Newsroom of the Future” is, at its basest level, a reorganization of labor.

Corporate journalism has long relied on a management hierarchy that, similar to the one explained by Alfred D. Chandler Jr. in “The Visible Hand,” contains many prongs between ownership and workers.

Even if one removes the element of corporate hierarchy and focuses only on the news-

room, the picture quickly becomes murky.

In a typical newsroom, an editor-in-chief oversees page editors and managing editors, who in turn oversee assistant managing editors and resident editors, who in turn oversee city, news, sports, business and other section editors, who might themselves oversee chief sub-editors or senior reporters, who theoretically outrank staff reporters and stringers.

More simply, multiple tiers of supervisors oversee a multi-tiered and diverse system of news gatherers and producers.

The Gannett redesign doesn’t seem to have trimmed the number of titles one can hold, but there are certainly fewer people who get to wear the manager’s hat.

Last August, media insider Jim Romenesko, of *JimRomenesko.com*, shared a new Gannett application on which there were 16 job titles. One might find it hard to distinguish among community content editors, content coaches, engagement editors, news assistants and planning editors.

Titles like photographer/videographer, producer and reporter certainly seem easy to comprehend, but these tasks have been redefined and, in the case of reporters, subdivided. Now a boots-on-the ground journalist will be deemed Reporter 1, 2 or 3 level.

The truer change is in newsroom philosophy. In the battle with net-native news and social media, at least one company with a heavy stake in print has opted for the “join ‘em” option. There is a heightened focus on online

presences and generating content that, based on quantitative measures, should appeal to readers and potential readers.

It is not clear what effect this approach will have on the daily print product, but Gannett seems to be scrambling to get eyes on articles, whether hard copy or digital.

What should not be lost in the fray is the fact that Gannett used the newsroom redesign to cull its workforce.

As each “Newsroom of the Future” has been implemented, all employees, regardless of tenure, have been required to reapply. But there have been fewer jobs than employees reapplying. Consequently, there are fewer print journalists working today than a year ago.

Whether these professionals permanently depart from the media profession or find gainful employment in broadcast or web-based media is a story yet to be told.

Sadly, as history tends to take more than a year to come into focus, it is difficult to assert with any accuracy what this all means.

Perhaps this new newsroom will prove the innovation that once and for all gives the newspaper industry the foothold it needs to coexist with while not being conquered by the internet, or it might wind up as another misfire in a long-suffering industry.

It seems safe to surmise that Gannett has, through its newest program and further-trimmed workforce, proffered a vision that corporate managers hope will add some luster to the company’s stock value.

McKerns Grant submissions due May 15

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

All current AJHA full members with a minimum of three years membership at the time of application are eligible. The research must be related to mass media history. Awardees are expected to continue their membership through the grant period. Members may apply for a McKerns Research Grant once every five years.

Applicants must submit an application form (<https://ajha.wildapricot.org/Resources/Documents/grantproposalform.docx>); a 1- to 3-page overview of the project, including a budget (which should include a listing of amount and sources of other support, if appropriate), timelines, and expected outlets for the research; and a shortened CV (no more than 3 pages). If appropriate, include IRB approval from the applicant’s university.

Grant applications must be submitted via email as PDF or Word documents to Research Grant Committee Chair Michael Fuhlhage at michael.fuhlhage@wayne.edu.

Experts offer advice for effective paper reviewing



Michael Fuhlhage
Wayne State University

A generous mindset, an understanding of the purpose of conference paper reviewing, and the ability to nourish with our words are the common characteristics of highly effective paper reviewers.

With AJHA convention review season approaching, I sought advice for paper reviewers from former research chairs Janice Hume (University of Georgia) and Linda Lumsden (University of Arizona) and Blanchard Dissertation Prize Committee Chair David Abrahamson (Northwestern University). Following are their suggestions.

Think like a coach, not like a gatekeeper

First of all, Abrahamson said you have to get in the right mindset. You're trying to help a scholar to succeed, not be a gatekeeper shutting out the unworthy.

"You can be most helpful if you think of yourself not as a tutor or mentor or, God forbid, as an editor, but as a coach," Abrahamson said.

"You have this potentially gifted quarterback on the field, and it's your job to help them put results up on the scoreboard," he added. "That means pats on the back. That means constructive criticism. That means showing how to do it."

The point of the review is not to reject, then. It is to guide.

"If I can think of one or two things that can make the paper better, things that are missing, such as why the paper is important, where they have provided the data but not the interpreta-

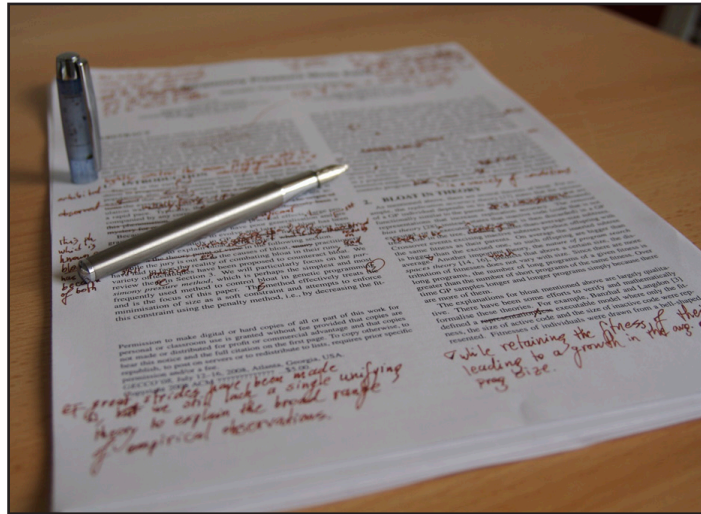


Photo by Nic McPhee (used under Creative Commons License)

Experts agree that constructive comments are the hallmark of an effective paper review.

tion, then I have done my job," he said.

Concrete feedback is especially valued.

"I have always really treasured when I get comments that helped me make my work better," Abrahamson said.

Done positively, peer review can expand researchers' horizons by pointing them to worthwhile research related to their topic.

"I find it really helpful when people provide suggestions for books to look at," Lumsden said.

Unnecessary roughness and the sound of silence

Harshly critical reviews do more damage than their writers may realize.

"There's a way to be critical without being mean," Hume said. "We need to be critical, but a mean review does a lot of things, particularly for students who are just trying to find their way."

She said she has seen graduate students get mean reviews that were not necessary.

"It becomes a real problem because it makes them nervous about participating in the process," she said.

Lumsden said harshness drives

people away.

"You run the risk of discouraging students from submitting the results of their blood, sweat and tears ever again," she said.

The same is true even for senior scholars.

"If they are put off from ever submitting a paper again, then imagine what it does to a student," Lumsden said.

Almost as damaging is not commenting at all.

"When reviewers provide really low scores and say nothing, it's really damaging," Lumsden said.

"A review has got to be more than just rejecting something," she said. "Part of your responsibility is to provide guidance on how to make something better."

Structure and phrasing

Good coaches show what could be better, but they also show what the author did right.

"A good review is one that starts with what's best about the paper, even if it's just that the paper takes on an interesting subject or it's an ambitious project," Lumsden said.

After that, point out the weaknesses as positively and neutrally as you can, accompanied by suggestions for improvement.

Diplomatic phrasing is crucial. Be detached and neutral in phrasing criticism and be personal when offering praise. State what the author could do and what the paper needs rather than linger on what they failed to do.

"It's essential to use the conditional voice," Abrahamson said. "The author might consider..." "The study possibly could be improved if..." "It's probable that..." Always the maybe. "... may want to reconsider..." Never speaking with the voice of authority. You're making suggestions, right?"

For every negative way to critique, there is an equal and opposite positive way.

"This person obviously hasn't read the literature" is a negative way of noting weakness in the lit review.

A more constructive way, Hume said, is to write, "I think the paper would be strengthened by looking at the work of So-and-So."

Lumsden suggested, "The paper could benefit from a more in-depth or broader literature review," or "The author would benefit from looking at..."

"You could have spent a little time looking for primary sources" could be, as Lumsden suggested, "The paper is weakened by over-reliance on secondary sources."

The "So what?" question is known to many AJHA veterans. But "So what?" and "Who cares?" are pointed questions. Instead, a reviewer might write, "The paper needs to state what its contribution to the field is," Lumsden suggested.

Here's a closing thought from Abrahamson: "Think of your only measure of success as a reviewer as the future success of the submission."

Interested in reviewing for the 2015 convention? Email Fuhlhage at michael.fuhlhage@wayne.edu.

How to submit successful panel, RIP proposals

Michael Fuhlhage

Wayne State University

Melita Garza

Texas Christian University

Tracy Lucht

Iowa State University

Presenting research in progress and sharing ideas on panels at the AJHA convention are great ways to sharpen your focus, expand your thinking, and cultivate connections with other scholars. But how do you write a successful panel or RIP proposal?

Advice about that is typically passed down informally from adviser to grad student or from senior scholar to junior scholar. Like so many aspects of academic culture, it tends to be shared orally. And those who lack such coaching may not even consider submitting a proposal for panels or research in progress because they don't know where to start.

In the interest of encouraging those unfamiliar with the process, we considered the following question: "What does someone preparing a proposal for the first time need to do to compete with established scholars?"

What follows is a starting point to answer that question. We welcome any other pointers AJHA members would like to share.

How to write a successful panel proposal

1. Familiarize yourself with the AJHA panel sessions held in recent years, which can be found in programs from those conferences at ajha.wildapricot.org/past-conventions. This will help you avoid repetition and give you a sense of the type of panels that get accepted to the conference.
2. Make your proposal appealing to media historians outside your particular field of research. Rather than focusing on a narrow slice of media history, think about ways to broaden the scope. This might mean addressing some aspect of theory, method, teaching or publication that applies to historians working in all areas.
3. Aim for diversity among your panelists. The most persuasive proposals include panelists from diverse perspectives, backgrounds and institutions who are well trained in the subject and open to discussion.
4. About commitments from panelists: Sometimes panel lineups shift after accep-

tance. That's understandable if a medical or family emergency comes up just before the convention. However, the Research Committee expects all panel organizers to obtain firm commitments from members before they submit the proposal.

5. Remember, panels that put participants and the audience in conversation with each other are among the most successful ones at the convention.
6. Most importantly, demonstrate your knowledge by briefly summarizing previous writing or commentary on the topic before suggesting a new avenue for discussion. A panel proposal should be written like a research proposal, with the same attention given to clarity, thoroughness, proper writing and citations. Rather than propose questions to be answered through primary research, a panel puts forth ideas to be explored through compelling discussion. As with any proposal, your goal is to demonstrate two things: 1) that your idea is worth executing, and 2) that you are capable of executing it.

How to write a successful RIP proposal

1. The research-in-progress submission should represent more than an idea, but far less than an almost completed paper. The proposal should include initial research questions, primary sources, and a justification for why your project is significant. Ideas for relevant theory and

methods should be included, if known. In sum, the proposal should include a well-defined topic and demonstrate that the researcher has a compelling, significant, and executable research project.

2. That said, the research should be at a stage where suggestions for additional research questions, theory, sources (primary and secondary) and research methods would be useful and meaningful.
3. Explain what kind of primary sources you are looking for in the archives. Show that the proposal has gone beyond the initial phase by listing the primary sources you're using or planning to use and how they are significant to the project.
4. Clearly state the purpose of your project. Though you don't have to hit people over the head with it, there is no clearer way to begin your statement of purpose than to write, "The purpose of this project is to ..."
5. Make a clear and compelling argument supporting the significance of your project. What have previous scholars done? How will your project advance the field?
6. Remember, research in progress is for scholars who have not completed a project and who are looking for feedback on how to take their projects to the next level.

Panel, research in progress and research paper submissions are due May 15. See the full call at <https://ajha.wildapricot.org/call>.



Photo by Don Bishop

Janice Hume, Amber Roessner, Lisa Parcell, Meg Lamme and Tracy Lucht sat on a panel on research collaboration at the 2014 AJHA convention.

AEJMC SE Colloquium events motivate, inspire

Chandra Clark

Florida A&M University

University of Tennessee's School of Journalism and Electronic Media hosted the 40th AEJMC Southeast Colloquium and Ida B. & Beyond pre-conference at the Black Cultural Center March 26-28.

The event featured research by both established and emerging scholars.

"In an era of rapidly changing media roles and journalism, bringing together scholars to discuss where these alterations are taking us, what they mean, and how they contribute to abilities to inform and be informed is most important," said Peter Gross, director of the School of Journalism and Electronic Media, in the colloquium program.

"We need to continuously recognize the significance of your work, and this colloquium will do that," he said.

The History Division had two paper sessions at the colloquium. One included papers by Dianne Bragg (University of Alabama), Cayce Myers (Virginia Tech; Best Faculty Paper), Selina Nadeau

(student, Ohio University), and Willie Tubbs (student, University of Southern Mississippi). Chandra Clark (Florida A&M) moderated, and Jinx Broussard (Louisiana State University) served as discussant.

Authors who presented in the second session included Katherine Blunt (student, Elon University), Elizabeth Bonner (University of Alabama; Best Student Paper), Melita Garza (Texas Christian University), and Thomas Hrach (University of Memphis). Myers moderated, and Gwyn Mellinger (Xavier University) served as discussant.

Tubbs said he was impressed with his first AEJMC Southeast Colloquium. In addition to presenting in the history division, he also presented in the open division and participated in a PF&R panel on "The Media History and Minorities: A Literature Review," with fellow AJHA members Vanessa Murphree and Robert Byrd (both of the University of Southern Mississippi).

Tubbs said he received valuable feedback at each session.

"Much like our own AJHA



Photo courtesy of Vanessa Murphree

Vanessa Murphree and Gwyn Mellinger chat at the AEJMC Southeast Colloquium.

conferences, there was an overwhelming sense of family," he said. "The scholars who have reached the heights to which I aspire genuinely cared about helping the graduate and undergraduate researchers take our studies to the next level and find our footing within the field."

AJHA member Pam Parry participated in two sessions: "The First-Informer, Social Media and Perceptions of Risk" (PF&R panel) and "Energize Your Internships: How to Get More Out of Students, Mentors and Online Relationships" (teaching panel).

In addition to presenting her paper in the history division, Bragg moderated the PF&R panel "Futbol, Football and Fantasy: Findings from the Field."

AJHA also was amply represented at the day-long Ida B. & Beyond pre-conference, which included panels and paper presentations on the legacy and contributions of Wells and like-minded activists. The pre-conference is part of the Ida Initiative, an interdisciplinary project designed to foster scholarly and student research on Wells and other social justice activists. (See page 4.)

"The Ida Initiative is giving students an opportunity to learn from—and be inspired by—

Wells-Barnett," said UT Assistant Professor Amber Roessner, who has overseen the project.

"We're pleased to present an event that helps spotlight the efforts of students and scholars and provide a forum for others to learn about this amazing woman," she said.

The following AJHA members and members' students made up much of the pre-conference program: Broussard, Clark, Jodi Rightler-McDaniels (South College), R. J. Vogt (University of Tennessee), and Danianese Woods (University of Southern Mississippi).

Broussard said she was pleased with the number of students, including at least one undergraduate, who presented historical research at the colloquium and pre-conference.

"This bodes well for our profession," she said.

The pre-conference featured as keynote speaker noted Wells scholar Mia Bay, whose biography "To Tell the Truth Freely: The Life of Ida B. Wells" was released in 2009 to much scholarly acclaim.

In addition, independent scholar and biographer James McGrath Morris discussed his just-released work, "Ethel Payne:

Continued on page 17



Photo courtesy of Dianne Bragg

Jinx Broussard, Chandra Clark, Amber Roessner, Dianne Bragg and Danianese Woods at the Ida B. & Beyond Conference.

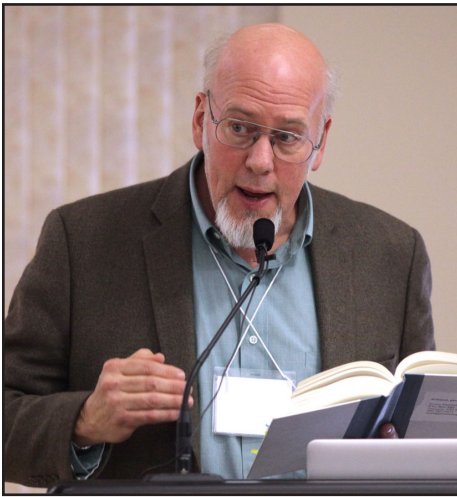


Photo courtesy of Amber Roessner

James McGrath Morris discusses his recent biography of Ethel Payne.

Colloquium

Continued from page 16

First Lady of the Black Press,” which just made the *New York Times* Bestseller List.

“By focusing the attention of media historians, particularly younger ones, on the life and work of Ida B. Wells, the conference represents an important step in restoring public memory,” Morris said.

“However, the meeting also sought to link her work with those of others who came after her,” he said. “In this way, the conference looked back and forward in time—a rare thing for a gathering of this sort.”

Jane Kirby, Silha Professor of Media Ethics and Law and director of the Silha Center for the Study of Media Ethics and Law, School of Jour-

nalism and Mass Communication, University of Minnesota, gave the colloquium keynote address, “Are There Stories Worth Dying For? Assessing the Real Threats to Press Freedom.”

Roessner and AJHA member Michael Martinez were co-coordinators of the colloquium.

Several AJHA members were research chairs for the colloquium: Martinez, Law and Policy Division; Byrd, Newspaper and Online News Division; Erin Coyle (Louisiana State University), Magazine Division; and Erika Pribanic-Smith (University of Texas-Arlington), History Division.

Next year’s colloquium is planned for Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.

The full 2015 colloquium and pre-conference program is available at <http://jem.cci.utk.edu/colloquium15>.

Applications due June 1 for second Rising Scholar Award

American Journalism, the flagship journal of the American Journalism Historians Association, seeks applications for its Rising Scholar Award. The application deadline is June 1.

The award provides research assistance of up to \$2,000 for a junior, untenured faculty member or a media professional who has transitioned within the last four years to full-time work in the academy. The proposed research project must be related to media history, and all methodological approaches are welcomed.

Applicants must be current AJHA members at the time the proposal is submitted. Proposals may be for sole-authored or co-authored work (award amount will be shared).

Applicants must submit the following:

- Cover letter with name and contact information for applicant(s).
- Three- to five-page prospectus of the project timeline, describing and explaining the topic, scope, objectives, sources, and justifying its contribution to the historiography of the mass media.
- One-page itemized budget. Indicate if additional funding will be used, including the source and amount.
- If appropriate, include Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval from the university.
- A list of possible publication venues for the finished project.
- A letter of support from the applicant’s department chair or dean.
- A curriculum vita of no more than three pages.

Send all material, either electronically or by mail, to:

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205 Hodges Hall
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Board of Directors seeks candidates for treasurer

The Board of Directors of the American Journalism Historians Association seeks candidates for the position of Treasurer, for a term to begin at the AJHA convention in Oklahoma City this October.

The Treasurer should have the knowledge and ability to carry out the following duties, as outlined in the AJHA Constitution and Bylaws:

- (a) Shall be responsible for the supervision of all accounts including the depositing of monies and valuables along with handling the payment of expenses;
- (b) Shall work closely with the President to prepare an annual financial statement to be supplied to Board members prior to the annual meeting;
- (c) Shall work with the President in filing all necessary financial data and reports to the IRS, state and local governments and agencies in order to assure compliance with any and all regulations;
- (d) Shall submit to the Board for approval any investment advice concerning management of the organization’s assets;
- (e) Shall have the authority to sign or co-sign checks along with the President and First and Second Vice Presidents and the Administrative Secretary;
- (f) Shall work closely with the Administrative Secretary on the billing and collection of membership dues;
- (g) Shall work closely with the Editor of *American Journalism* for appropriate funding of the publication of the journal in amounts to be determined by the Board;
- (h) At the discretion of the Board, shall be bonded by a fidelity and guarantee company in amount to be determined by the Board and at the expense of AJHA;
- (i) Shall prepare and submit an annual Treasurer’s report of the previous fiscal year.

If you are interested in this position, please contact AJHA President Erika Pribanic-Smith at epsmith@uta.edu with your qualifications.