



President's Column

Declining statehouse reporting reveals diminishing fourth estate



Pete Smith
Mississippi State University

In a February 2009 unpublished oral history, retired Mississippi journalist Norma Fields (1923-2010) recalled her 13-year tenure (1975-88) in the state Capitol Press Corps as “the golden years of Mississippi journalism.” Fields, a reporter for the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal (Tupelo) was the first woman journalist in the Capitol Press Corps. As such,

she worked with men who must have wondered if she could do the job and a state legislature that wanted nothing to do with her. Despite these circumstances, Fields found the competition among her colleagues—“I did not feel like I had gotten a scoop unless I had beat everybody by 24 hours,” she said—and the stories she investigated, including a corrupt state highway commission, enough to satisfy her ambition and curiosity as a journalist.

I’m spending part of my spring sabbatical researching Fields’ career, and I found her “golden years” remark interesting, if not a bit overstated. My own curiosity kicked in, so I put the transcript aside to find some context to Fields’ “golden years” reference. After some digging, I wasn’t ready to concede to her opinion completely, but there is evidence that, during the 1970s and 1980s, the Mississippi Capitol Press Corps was buzzing with activity. By my count, somewhere between 15-20 journalists served with Fields, either on a part-time or full-time basis, including the likes of columnist W.F. “Bill” Minor, who covered Mississippi politics for the New Orleans Times-Picayune before publishing the Capital Reporter out of an office near the state capitol building. Eventually, at least five other

women would roam the halls with Fields, too, most notably Ellen Ann (Quinn) Fentress, a part-time correspondent for the Biloxi Sun-Herald who produced, directed, and co-wrote the 2015 documentary “Eyes on Mississippi,” an examination of Minor’s career in journalism.

As often happens with historical research, this information inadvertently led me on another journey, as I searched for the intersection



Norma Fields

between the era Fields remembered as “the golden years of Mississippi journalism” and the present day circumstances of the state Capitol Press Corps. New questions distracted me from other work but fueled my curiosity nonetheless: In an era defined by corporate ownership of newspapers and an unstable marketplace and readership, how “healthy” (in terms of number of journalists assigned to the state capitol) is the Mississippi Capitol Press Corps? How do these numbers compare with other states? And, finally, what does this information suggest about the amount of news being disseminated and the press’s role as watchdog?

These questions yielded interesting, depressing — though not entirely surprising — results about the intersection between state politics and journalism:

- According to [data from Pew Research Center](#), as of 2014, 1,592 journalists (741 full-time, 851 part-time) covered statehouses for their respective papers. Between 2003 and 2014, however, there was a loss of 164 full-time reporters, or a 35 percent decline.
- Pew, referencing the Alliance for Audited

Media, also reported that less than one-third of the total 801 daily newspapers assign a reporter to their respective statehouses at all.

- For comparison’s sake, newspapers in my home state employ a total of four full-time journalists (and five part-time) — far below the estimated numbers from Fields’ era — while another 19 states employ less than 10 full-time reporters.

- Given these results, who or what is filling the state political news void? According to Pew, the suspects include:

- * Other news outlet, including the Associated Press (which employs capitol correspondents in each state).

See President’s Column, p. 7

Table of Contents

David Spencer	2
New AJHA Registrar	4
Intelligencer editor	5
Applications for awards	6, 7
AEJMC SE Colloquium	9
AJHA SE Symposium	10
Call for submissions for 2016	
AJHA convention	13
Celebration of history	13
Student testimonial	14
Faculty testimonial	15
Transnational conference	16
How to convert Chicago manuscripts to APA style	17
American Historians Association convention	18
Radio Preservation Task Force	19
Joint History Conference	20

A gentleman and a scholar: AJHA remembers David Spencer



by Erika J.
Pribanic-Smith
*University of
Texas-Arlington*

David Spencer, longtime member and former president of AJHA, died on Feb. 29 after a long illness.

Upon learning of his death, AJHA members filled the organization's listserv and Facebook group with remembrances.

Messages described Spencer as friendly and funny. Many members treas-

ure the time they spent talking at conferences with him and his wife Judi.

Spencer was among the first AJHA'ers whom several stalwart conference-goers encountered. His welcoming demeanor has made numerous student attendees feel at home in AJHA.

"I was a wide-eyed, very confused graduate student attending my first AJHA conference in Mobile," Earnest Perry said. "He walked up to me, introduced himself, and offered to buy me a drink. We became fast friends."

The Mobile convention occurred in 1997, during Spencer's presidency. Several members fondly remembered the convention Spencer hosted in London, Ontario, the previous year. They described David and Judi Spencer as the perfect hosts and recalled the amazing food that convention-goers enjoyed.

Carolyn Kitch first encountered Spencer at the London convention, while she was in her second year of graduate study, and she said that meeting him made an important difference in her life.

"He greeted me with such enthusiasm that I was certain he had mistaken me for someone else," Kitch said. "I later learned that he treated everyone with the same delighted interest and with sincere happiness to make a new acquaintance."



Top (photo by Erika Pribanic-Smith): David Spencer with his wife, Judi, and fellow native Canadian Karla Gower at the 2006 AJHA convention in Wichita, Kansas. Gower said of him, "David was a special, special man, and I will miss him." Bottom (photo by Don Bishop): David Spencer and David Sloan at the gala dinner at the 2015 Oklahoma City convention. Sloan hosted the AJHA national convention the year Spencer served as the association's president. Later, they developed similar forms of cancer and sometimes discussed their experiences. Sloan said of Spencer, "Even while suffering, David was one of the most gracious people I've ever known. I never heard him say a critical or disparaging word about anyone."

Continued on next page

David Spencer

from page 2

Kitch added that she has a fuller sense of the value of being accepted and embraced by a senior scholar at a time when she had little idea what she was doing.

"Over the years we had many long conversations during which he shared his ideas and offered valuable career advice, and David became a friend as well as a mentor," Kitch said.

Spencer has mentored and provided advice to a number of AJHA members. Carol Sue Humphrey said that he always was very supportive of her research interests and constantly encouraged her to keep at it.

"He was a great example of what AJHA is all about — encouraging and supporting one another," Humphrey said.

Members noted Spencer's own excellence as a scholar as well. Spencer, who also served at one time as head of the AEJMC History Division, authored numerous articles on the history of print journalism in North America.

His books include "The Yellow Journalism and the Rise of America as a World Power," "Transit Progress Derailed: Adam Beck and the Radical Railroad Controversy, A Study in Politics," and "Drawing Borders: A Cartoon History of Canadian/American Relations in the Gilded Age."

According to several AJHA members, Spencer knew just about everything. Some called him a "walking encyclopedia." John Ferré described him as a know-it-all but not an uppity one, and Ferré marveled at his amazing mind.

"David could tell you everything that happened in 1815 or 1915 or 2015, and he could explain their significance," Ferré said. "It's not often that you get to spend time with a genius who questions the present and the past relentlessly and profoundly and who considers you a partner in this process."

Because of Spencer's friendliness combined with his extensive knowledge, David Sloan said that anyone who spoke with him could be assured there never would be a silent, empty moment.

Ferré said he admired Spencer's devotion to his family even more than his scholarly acumen. Others also described Spencer as a family man who clearly cherished Judi and their children. Members indicated that he frequently asked about their families and appreciated that he made their spouses feel welcome at AJHA.

In fact, the occasion of Spencer's death inspired some members to note that AJHA is a family because of people like him.

"One of the best things about the AJHA is that it has given us the opportunity to know many people whom we probably would never have met otherwise," Sloan said.

President Pete Smith said he was sending condolences to Spencer's family on behalf of AJHA.

Spencer is remembered outside of AJHA just as he is within it. [A memorial page on the University of Western Ontario website](#) states: "David was above all the kindest and most compassionate of colleagues. He was an outstanding mentor, and a legendary and often hilarious raconteur."

Spencer's career took him from radio journalism (in Montreal and Toronto) to his first faculty position in the broadcast program at Toronto's Humber College, where he taught for 15 years. For the past 28 years, he has been at Western.

Thomas Charmichael, dean of the Faculty of Information and Media Studies (FIMS) at Western, said that Spencer did not want a funeral. Carmichael expressed hope that FIMS would be able to dedicate a tree in Spencer's memory in the program's new facility.

[Spencer's obituary](#) notes that in addition to his academic career, he loved to share his passion for antique radios, gramophones and vintage British sports cars.

Jim McPherson said Spencer told him about his collection of diamond disc records as the two toured the World War I Museum together during the Kansas City convention in 2011.

"I hope folks are playing some good music in his honor," McPherson said.

BOOK ESSAY

'Lincoln Mediated' offers different view of president

by Gregory A. Borchard

University of Nevada-Las Vegas

David Bulla's and my "Lincoln Mediated: The President and the Press through Nineteenth-Century Media" (Transaction, 2015) illuminates the ways Abraham Lincoln used the press, photography, and speeches to build support for his political career. It describes how he worked directly with the press, beginning with his service in Congress in the late 1840s, and details how his ties to newspapers in Illinois, New York, and Washington played a central role in the success of his presidency.

The book features editors' published perspectives about Lincoln and his responses to them. It cites his papers, the letters of influential figures (including unpublished letters from Seth Kaller's Historic Documents and Legacy Collections), and content from leading newspapers both in the United States and internationally. The book also features nineteenth-century illustrations and photographs as illustrations of the context in which both Lincoln and the new medium emerged.

Despite the increased interest in Lincoln brought on by his 200th birthday and the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, scholars have yet to examine Lincoln on both multimedia and international levels. This book seeks to remedy the situation. It features a selection of highly representative illustrations and photographs while tapping texts from Canada, England, France, Germany, India, and South Africa. Including the text-based interpretations of traditional scholars who have tended to cite only U.S. newspapers as primary sources, this book cites the papers of Lincoln, various editors, and influential nineteenth-century figures in addition to content from leading newspapers, such as the Chicago Tribune and New York's Herald, Times, and Tribune. It ties Lincoln's story directly to the press, mediating his role as a writer and sometimes a direct participant in it.

Continued on page 7

AJHA Officers

President

Pete Smith
Mississippi State

First Vice President

David Vergobbi
Utah

Second Vice President

Dianne Bragg
Alabama

Administrative Secretary

Carol Sue Humphrey
Oklahoma Baptist

Treasurer

James Aucoin
South Alabama

.....

Intelligencer is the quarterly newsletter of the American Journalism Historians Association, published in December, March, June, and September.

Editor: Erika Pribanic-Smith
Texas-Arlington
Design: Wm. David Sloan
Alabama (emeritus)

Deadline for the next issue is June 1. Submit stories or notes to Erika Pribanic-Smith at epsmith@uta.edu.

Previous issues of the *Intelligencer* are available at ajhaonline.org.



Ken Ward, the new registrar for AJHA conventions, has worked with conventions since he was a masters student at Wichita State. At the 2015 convention in Oklahoma City (above) he managed the registration desk. (Photo by Sheryl Kennedy Haydel)

Board Names Ken Ward AJHA Registrar



by Cayce Myers
Virginia Tech University

The AJHA's Board of Directors unanimously approved the appointment of Ken Ward as the organization's registrar. Ward, a doctoral candidate at Ohio University, brings a wealth of knowledge to his new position. Working in the hospitality and tourism industry prior to graduate school, he coordinated and managed special events and conventions in Colorado and Kansas, as well as teaching a course on event planning. Ward hopes to grow into the role and learn as much as he can along the way.

"I'm very excited to have the opportunity to help out the organization in any way I can," he said. "I have been blown away by how supportive the AJHA com-

munity is, and serving as registrar is my attempt to give something back."

With the growth of the AJHA convention, the conference organizers saw a need to restore this position. Amy Mattson Lauters served as registrar from 2007-11, and Jane McConnell served in 2012. The position has been vacant since then.

As the registrar, Ward will be responsible for managing pre-conference registration, facilitating registration at the conference site and working with the board of directors to keep track of convention attendance. AJHA President Pete Smith said he feels confident in Ward's abilities.

"We're excited to have Ken fill this important position; he brings both experience and enthusiasm to the job," Smith said. "We — the AJHA Board and officers — have been impressed with Ken's progress in the organization, and we look forward to working with him on future conventions."

Member News & Notes

Ed Alwood has been appointed a docent at the Library of Congress in Washington, where he will provide brief lectures and tours at the Jefferson Building. Docents must complete 140 hours of training that provides candidates with a comprehensive overview of the Library's history, holdings and physical features.

Joe Campbell's latest book "1995: The Year the Future Began" has generated international interest. [His interview with Radio New Zealand](#) aired Feb. 21 on the network's "Sunday Morning" program. The BBC interviewed Campbell recently about the joint decision by the Washington Post and New York Times in 1995 to publish the Unabomber Manifesto. The interview is to air in April, at the 20th anniversary of the Unabomber's arrest. Campbell also has discussed his book on Sweden's national radio, and Italy's largest daily newspaper, Corriere della Sera, published a three-page color spread about the book last spring.

Dolores Flamiano discussed her new book "Women, Workers, and Race in LIFE Magazine" on a [Women's Studies panel at the Virginia Festival of the Book](#) March 17. The book, published this month by Routledge, examines the tension between social reform photography and magazine photojournalism through a study of the life and work of German emigre Hansel Mieth. Flamiano has presented research on this topic at several AJHA conventions.

Owen V. Johnson presented a paper titled "Changing Memories of Ernie Pyle" at the annual meeting of the Indiana Association of Historians on Feb. 20. The paper analyzed hundreds of editorials and articles written upon Pyle's death and compared them with the evolving image of Pyle up to the present.

Linda Lumsden is one of two recipients of AEJMC's \$4,000 Senior Scholar Research grant. She will travel to London in May to examine the world's oldest and newest transnational social movement media. She will spend a month conducting archival research at the British Li-

brary of Political and Economic Science on how British anti-slavery activist/journalist Edmund Dene Morrell used his West African Mail newspaper to expose slavery and atrocities committed by Belgium's King Leopold II against the people of his Congo Free State more than a century ago. Morrell was vice president of the Anti-Slavery Society, predecessor of Anti-Slavery International, whose London headquarters Lumsden will visit to observe its digital media operations.

Journalism History published an essay by **Thomas A. Mascaro, Mike Conway, and Raluca Cozma** titled "Toward a Standard for Evaluating Documentary Journalism History" in the winter 2016 issue. The essay is based on a panel presented at the AJHA convention in Oklahoma City, which was coordinated and moderated by Journalism History editor **Mike Sweeney**.

Erika Pribanic-Smith had an article titled "Southern Values and the 1844 Election in South Carolina Newspapers" published in the winter 2016 issue of Journalism History. Based on a paper presented at the 2014 AEJMC convention, the work explores the extent to which newspapers focused on the presidency in a state where the general electorate did not vote for president.

Teresa Jo Styles is the co-author of "Mens et Manus: The Pictorial History of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University" (Donning Company, 2015). Using the backdrop of American and African American history and the Washington/Du Bois debate, the book provides an authentic record of one of the country's most highly recognized historically black land-grant institutions.

Leonard Teel has been promoting his latest book, "Reporting the Cuban Revolution: How Castro Manipulated American Journalists" (LSU Press, 2015). He made a presentation at the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library in Atlanta on Feb. 25. He also will be the featured speaker in Miami April 15 at an event sponsored by the Cuban Research Institute.

AJHA seeks editor for The Intelligencer

The AJHA is seeking an editor for The Intelligencer. This important quarterly newsletter includes convention information, news about members, details about grants and awards, essays and a variety of other material.

The editor is responsible for soliciting articles, editing copy, and laying out the publication on deadline.

The editor also works closely with the Web editor to ensure timely publication of The Intelligencer on the website.

The successful applicant will be skilled at writing, editing, and design.

As an ex-officio member of the AJHA Board of Directors, the Intelligencer editor attends the annual Board meeting at the AJHA convention.

Former editor Jim McPherson, a professor at Whitworth University, in an Intelligencer article published in 2012, pointed out the benefits of the position.

"I served two terms (six years) as newsletter editor," McPherson recalled. "One of the best things about it was the same benefit journalists often enjoy — getting to know more about the organization and the people involved than I probably could have in any other way."

The Intelligencer provided a way for McPherson to transfer his former journalism experience to his new academic world productively and creatively.

"The job also helped professionally — not just because I got to keep using writing and editing skills that I was teaching — but because it counted toward service to the discipline when I went up for tenure and promotion," he explained.

One bonus of serving as the editor of the Intelligencer proved particularly helpful to McPherson. "The fact that I was expected to be at each convention because of my Intelligencer duties also made it easier for me to get travel funds from my institution," he said.

Applicants should submit a CV, a letter that explains why they would make an effective editor, and a letter of support from their chair or dean to Publications Committee Chair Paulette D. Kilmer, paulette.kilmer@utoledo.edu. The deadline for applications is June 10.

Board of Directors

Ann Bourne
Alabama

Kathy Bradshaw
Bowling Green

Michael Fuhlhage
Wayne State

Keith Greenwood
Missouri

Tracy Lucht
Iowa State

Jon Marshall
Northwestern

Pam Parry
Eastern Kentucky

Reed Smith
Georgia Southern

Donna Lampkin Stephens
Central Arkansas

Ex-Officio

Past President
Erika Pribanic-Smith
Texas-Arlington

Past President
Amy Mattson Lauters
Minnesota State-Mankato

American Journalism Editor

Ford Risley
Penn State

Historian
Dale Cressman
Brigham Young

Finance Officer
Lisa Mullikin Parcell
Wichita State

Convention Registrar
Ken Ward
Ohio University

Calls for Applications for Two Awards

American Journalism's Next Rising Scholar Award

American Journalism, the flagship journal of the AJHA, seeks applications for its Rising Scholar Award. The application deadline is Wednesday, June 1, 2016.

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, but all methodological approaches are welcomed.

Eligibility:

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).

Application requirements:

Applicants must submit the following to Jinx C. Broussard, Manship School of Mass Communications, 205 Hodges Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, or via e-mail to jinx@lsu.edu:

- Cover letter with name and contact information for applicant(s).
- Three- to five-page prospectus providing the project timeline; describing and explaining the topic, scope, objectives, and primary 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.

Joseph McKerns Research Grants

The AJHA seeks applications for its annual Joseph McKerns Research Grant Awards. The deadline for applications is May 15, 2016.

The 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 rewarded upon review and recommendation of the Research Grant Committee.

Awardees must submit a brief article to the Intelligencer newsletter about their completed research by Sept. 1, 2017 discussing method, findings, complications, significance.

Eligibility:

- 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.

Application requirements:

- An application form ([available for download](#)).
- A one- to three-page prospectus/overview of the project, including a budget (which should include a listing of amount and sources of other support, if appropriate), timelines, and expected outlets for the research.
- If appropriate, include Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval from the applicant's university.
- A shortened curriculum vita (no more than three pages).

Grant applications must be submitted via email to Research Chair Michael Fuhlhage: michael.fuhlhage@wayne.edu

Materials may be submitted as PDF files or Word documents.

President's Column from page 1

* Alternative and “ideological” news outlets. For example, I get much of my news about the Mississippi state government from the Jackson Free Press, an alternative weekly with offices within spitting distance of the state capitol building.

* Student reporters and interns (who make up 14 percent of total number of correspondents).

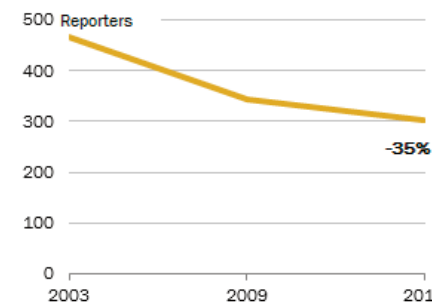
* Public relations professionals, lobbyists, and politicians (using social media to get their agendas out to constituents).

That last point, as noted in a [March 2015 piece from Governing](#), is particularly troubling, because it suggests a shift in the power balance that favors state lawmakers. In fact, as I read that particular article and its partial list of consequences — including the idea that remaining state Capitol Press Corps members are overwhelmed — I thought back to a guest editorial Fields wrote for the Daily Journal in August 2000. It was a blistering critique of her former colleagues for what she perceived as their failure to hold the state legislature accountable for the passage of a bill that increased their state pensions to double that of all other state employees. “You could have started raising unshirted hell in the public print in time to stop its passage,” she said.

We live in politically troubling times, and, like Fields, I grow increasingly con-

Newspaper Statehouse Reporters Decline

of full-time newspaper statehouse reporters



Note: Figures are based on a subset of newspapers, identified in the AJR studies and the current Pew study.

Source: Pew Research Data Aug. 2013 to March 2014 and American Journalism Review.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

cerned about press accountability — and not just their frequent inability (or refusal), as Fields put it, to raise “unshirted hell.” I’m also concerned about the resources (or lack thereof) that newspapers now dedicate to cover our state political leaders and what this information suggests about the diminishing power and influence of the fourth estate. Obviously, there is work to be done. For my part, I’ll use Fields’ story as historical context in class discussions about the decline in Mississippi Statehouse reporting — including what these changing political and economic circumstances mean for voters and journalists alike. I hope you’ll find the data and links presented here useful for your classroom discussions, historical research, or a combination of both.

‘Lincoln Mediated’ from page 3

The book is part of a story that began more than two hundred years ago, focusing on dimensions of journalism and mass communication generally neglected in histories of Lincoln and nineteenth-century newspapers.

By incorporating communication devices and technologies from Lincoln’s era into the story of his life, the interpretation developed in this book indeed is a medi-

ated one, offering a new and multi-dimensional treatment. It examines his ability as a politician and president to act as a public relations practitioner and as someone who knew his audiences and how to deliver tailored, persuasive messages to them. From the perspective of converged media in the twenty-first century, it approaches Lincoln as a man, more than ink and paper alone.

AJHA CALLS FOR TWO AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Sidney Kobre Award for Lifetime Achievement in Journalism History

The organization’s highest honor 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. Those making nominations for the 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.

Distinguished Service to Journalism History Award

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 the 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 nominations is Wednesday, May 13, 2016.

Please send all material via email to: Mike Conway (Indiana University Media School): mtconway@indiana.edu

Committee Chairs

Awards

Mike Conway, Indiana

Dissertation Awards

David Abrahamson,
Northwestern

Book Award

Aimee Edmondson, Ohio

Convention Sites

Caryl Cooper, Alabama

Development

Ellen Gerl, Ohio

Education

Pam Parry, Eastern Kentucky

Graduate Students

David Forster, Ohio

History in the Curriculum

Gerry Lanosga, Indiana

Long-Range Planning

Erika Pribanic-Smith,
Texas-Arlington

Membership

Kate Edenborg,
Wisconsin-Stout

Nominations and Elections

Amber Roessner, Tennessee

Oral History

Teri Finneman,
South Dakota State

Publications

Paulette Kilmer, Toledo

Public Relations

Jodi Rightler-McDaniels,
South College

Research

Michael Fuhlhage,
Wayne State

Oral History Committee launches three key initiatives

The 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.



by Teri Finneman
South Dakota State University

AJHA has relaunched its Oral History Committee, and it's been a popular decision. We had a number of people who wanted to serve on the committee and hope everyone can get a chance to serve in the coming years. The goal of this column is to provide a brief update as to what we have accomplished as a committee thus far and to welcome any of your ideas/feedback.

The current committee membership is the following:

Teri Finneman, South Dakota State University, chairwoman

Melita Garza, Texas Christian University

Jason Guthrie, University of Georgia

Carol Hector-Harris, Ohio University

Wendy Melillo, American University

Mike Murray, University of Missouri-St. Louis

Pamela Walck, Duquesne University

In the past few months, the committee has established three main initiatives for this year and divided these initiatives into subcommittees.

Pam, Michael, and Melita are taking the lead on oral histories of senior AJHA members during the next conference. They are brainstorming which members to interview and what questions to ask, considering logistical/equipment needs, and determining best strategies for public dissemination. They are also examining the potential for adding a section to AJHA's website that provides oral history resources.

Jason and Wendy are taking the lead on cross-membership oral history collab-

oration. Both have oral history project ideas in the works and would like to see AJHA members not only participate in them but potentially brainstorm other oral history projects that our membership could do together to have more national reach with this type of work. They will reach out to members who wanted to be on this committee before it quickly filled to potentially get them involved at a subcommittee level. Getting our members to work together throughout the year is a great way to strengthen our journalism historian community.

Teri and Carol are working on panel proposals for the upcoming conference. Initial ideas include a technology/social media/teaching panel, a panel about turning oral histories into documentaries, and a panel about teaching oral history classes.

The committee had preliminary reports due by March 15. We will work to fine tune our ideas from there. If you have any ideas for the committee, we would love to hear them! Feel free to post in the AJHA Facebook group or email Teri directly at teri.finneman@sdstate.edu.



AJHA members enjoy Louisiana hospitality at AEJMC Southeast Colloquium at LSU



by **Erika J. Pribanic-Smith**
University of Texas-Arlington

Several AJHA members participated in the AEJMC 41st Southeast Colloquium March 3-5 at Louisiana State University.

LSU's planning committee — which included AJHA members Jinx Broussard and Erin Coyle — ensured attendees an experience rich in local flavor, starting with Mardi Gras beads in place of the

standard lanyards for nametags.

The colloquium officially kicked off with a reception in Holliday Forum, within the LSU Journalism Building. With a view of purple-and-gold-lit Tiger Stadium off the terrace and jazz music in the background, attendees socialized and snacked on local fare such as boudin balls. For lunch on Friday, attendees enjoyed crawfish-stuffed chicken inside the stadium and a keynote talk by New Orleans hurricane and environment reporter Mark Schleifstein.

The History Division's two paper sessions were among 16 on the program, which also included sessions from the open, magazine, law & policy, and newspaper and online news divisions. For the full program, visit the [colloquium web-site](#).

Presenters in the history sessions included two students of AJHA faculty. Samantha Peko (Ohio University) presented "Nell Nelson's Undercover Reporting," coauthored with Mike Sweeney. Zainul Abedin (University of Southern Mississippi) presented "Muhammad Ali's 'No Quarrel with Them Vietcong': Coverage of Muhammad Ali's Army Induction by the New York Times and the Louisville Courier-Journal," coauthored with David R. Davies.

AJHA member Rich Shumate (University of Florida) received the top student paper award for "Framing Barry Goldwater: The Extreme Reaction to His 1964



At the AEJMC Southeast Colloquium (L-R): Erika Pribanic-Smith and Raluca Cozma, Samantha Peko, and Willie Tubbs



At the AEJMC Southeast Colloquium (L-R): Zainul Abedin, Raluca Cozma, and Jinx Broussard (L) and Cynthia Joyce (R). (All photos by Erika Pribanic-Smith)

'Extremism' Speech."

The history sessions also included the following papers:

- "A Dream Disturbed: Triumph to Trial Narrative of Freedom Themes during Reconstruction," Jana Duckett (student), Regent University
- "Where Did the World's First Newspaper Ombudsman Work? A Century Later, the Debate Continues," Richard Kenney, Augusta University
- "Surf's Up: Deep-diving through Hurricane Katrina's Unsearchable Digital Past," Cynthia Joyce, University of Mississippi (Top Faculty Paper)
- "Taking the Sonderzug nach Pan-kow: A Case Study of Managing Response to Foreign Transnational Broadcasting inside the German Democratic Republic," Karl Feld (student), North Carolina State University
- "How the News Media Contributed to Acceptance of Same-sex Marriage in the Past Quarter Century," Karen McIn-

tyre, Virginia Commonwealth University

Moderators for the two sessions were AJHA members Willie Tubbs (University of Southern Mississippi) and Erika Pribanic-Smith (History Division research chair for the Southeast Colloquium; University of Texas-Arlington).

Broussard and AJHA member Raluca Cozma (Iowa State University) served as discussants. Both discussants noted the wide variety of paper topics and identified diversity as the dominant theme connecting them.

Cozma also presented co-authored research in the Newspaper and Online News Division, for which she received the top faculty paper award.

The 2017 Southeast Colloquium will take place at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. Dates have yet to be determined, but students and faculty who will be working on history papers in the fall are encouraged to submit their work. The deadline will be in December.

Southeast Symposium raises confidence of student historians

By Ecaterina Stepaniuc

University of Southern Mississippi

Like most of the students who presented at the 2016 AJHA Southeast Symposium, this was my first conference experience.

As an international doctoral student, I had my fears, but from the first moment I entered the conference room, I knew the symposium would become a memorable and enjoyable experience.

In late January in Panama City, Florida, 13 students — including myself and 12 students from six schools and four countries — tested our presentation skills and shared the projects we'd worked on for months with an academic audience.

Graduate and undergraduate students from Augusta University, Georgia State, the University of Florida, the University of Alabama, Samford University and Southern Miss — and hailing from the U.S., Columbia, Bangladesh and Moldova — discussed research on topics that drew from a wide range of history topics and schools of historical inquiry.

Kylie McLeod, a first-year graduate student from Alabama presenting at her first conference, spoke about the first and second feminism waves in the American South as told by newspapers.

"I've absolutely loved this conference," McLeod said. "I've never felt so safe and accepted in an academic environment."

McLeod said she would "without a doubt" gladly come back to next year's conference thanks to the friendly environment she experienced.

Troy Herring, another first-year graduate student from Alabama, said he has a terrible fear of public speaking, but he found the encouraging faces of the professors and attentive eyes of other students helpful.

Herring delivered what he said was probably one of his best performances, a paper on the portrayal of punk and rap within Rolling Stone Magazine and the New York Times from 1974-1996.

Herring opened his speech with the beat from The Ramones' "Blitzkrieg Bop" as the background music and entertained



Ecaterina Stepaniuc discusses her history research at the AJHA Southeast Symposium in Panama City, Fla., in January. Thirteen students from six schools gave research presentations at the symposium.

the audience with other punk and rap beats while he delivered his presentation.

Even though I felt comfortable speaking in public, I admit I was nervous.

However, when I started my presentation, I saw the supporting head nods from Dr. David R. Davies, my professor and mentor from the University of Southern Mississippi, and Zainul Abedin, my long-time friend and colleague from the mass communication and journalism department.

But Dr. Davies and Zainul were not the only friendly faces I saw.

Although I came as a stranger, I left having new friends (and social media connections) as well as historians who will serve as models for my own work.

The phrase that perfectly describes the conference is "supportive atmosphere." That support took the form not only of kind words about my presenta-

tion but also useful advice for students who hope to one day reach the heights of academia.

This year, three media history gurus staged a panel in which they shared valuable tips on how to turn a research paper into a book. Dr. Leonard Teel of Georgia State (emeritus), Dr. Julie Hedgepeth Williams of Samford and Dr. Pete Smith of Mississippi State listed a few steps that could guide students to publish their first book.

Williams encouraged students not to be paralyzed if they don't know what to do. Instead, she suggested that students listen to their advisors if they suggest publishing a book.

Smith shared his personal experience with publishing his first book, which was based on his dissertation, and suggested students should "look at his/her dissertation as a process, which could later turn into a book."

Although, in my opinion, all the participants presented interesting, insightful and high-quality papers, three students were recognized for having the best papers in their respective divisions.

Laura Diaz-Zuniga, a graduate student from Georgia State University who was participating in her second conference, won the award for best master's paper for her moving presentation on how Northern and Southern newspapers covered the Harpers Ferry Raid from 1859-1860.

Diaz-Zuniga said she found the symposium "more friendly and conversational" than her first conference experience.

"The papers were amazing, informative and entertaining at the same time," Diaz-Zuniga said.

Zainul, my friend who'd been so supportive during my presentation, placed first in the doctoral student division, and Shelly Smitley from Augusta University received the undergraduate student paper award.

See the full program on the Symposium web page.



Student presenters at the AJHA Southeast Symposium: Top L-R: Casey Voyles (Alabama), Laura Diaz-Zuniga (Georgia State), Tayler Armer (Alabama), Claire Per-Lee (Samford), Troy Herring (Alabama), Kayla Howard (Alabama). Center: Bradford Hinchler (Georgia State). Left: Kylie McLeod (Alabama). Bottom right: The winners of the awards for best doctoral, masters, and undergraduate papers were (clockwise from bottom center) Emma Boone (Samford), Kylie McLeod (Alabama), Ecaterina Stepaniuc (Southern Mississippi), Timothy Howard (Augusta), Laura Diaz-Zuniga (Georgia State), Troy Herring (Alabama), Zainul Abedin (Southern Mississippi), and Shelly Smitley (Augusta). (Photos by Julie Williams)



2016 CALL FOR PAPERS, PANELS, AND RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

AJHA National Convention • October 6-8 • St. Petersburg, Florida

The American Journalism Historians Association invites paper entries, panel proposals, and abstracts of research in progress on any facet of media history for its 35th annual convention to be held October 6-8, 2016, in St. Petersburg, Florida. More information on the 2016 convention is available at ajhaonline.org.

The deadline for all submissions is **June 1, 2016**.

The AJHA views journalism history broadly, embracing print, broadcasting, advertising, public relations, and other forms of mass communication that have been inextricably intertwined with the human past. Because the AJHA requires presentation of original material, research papers and panels submitted to the convention should not have been submitted to or accepted by another convention or publication.

• RESEARCH PAPERS •

Authors may submit only one research paper. They also may submit one Research in Progress abstract but only on a significantly different topic. Research entries must be no longer than 25 pages of text, double-spaced, in 12-point type, not including notes. The Chicago Manual of Style is recommended but not required.

Papers must be submitted electronically as PDF or Word attachments. Please send the following:

- An email with the attached paper, saved with author identification only in the file name and not in the paper.
- A separate 150-word abstract as a Word attachment (no PDFs) with no author identification.
- Author's info (email address, telephone number, institutional affiliation, and student or faculty status) in the text of the email.

Send papers to ajhapapers@gmail.com.

Authors of accepted papers must register for the convention and attend in order to present their research.

Accepted papers are eligible for sev-

eral awards, including the following:

- David Sloan Award for the outstanding faculty research paper (\$250 prize).
- Robert Lance Award for outstanding student research paper (\$100 prize).
- Jean Palmegiano Award for outstanding international/transnational journalism history research paper (\$150 prize)
- J. William Snorgrass Award for outstanding minority-journalism research paper.
- Maurine Beasley Award for outstanding women's-history research paper.
- Wally Eberhard Award for outstanding research in media and war.

Research Chair Michael Fuhlhage (michael.fuhlhage@wayne.edu) of Wayne State University is coordinating paper submissions. Authors will be notified in mid-July whether their papers have been accepted.

• PANELS •

Preference will be given to proposals that involve the audience and panelists in meaningful discussion or debate on original topics relevant to journalism history. Entries must be no longer than three pages of text, double-spaced, in 12-point type, with one-inch margins. Panel participants must register for and attend the convention.

Panel proposals must be submitted electronically as PDF or Word attachments. Please include the following:

- A title and brief description of the topic.
- The moderator and participants' info (name, institutional affiliation, student or faculty status).
- A brief summary of each participant's presentation.

Send proposals to ajhapanels@gmail.com.

No individual may be on more than one panel. Panel organizers must make sure panelists have not agreed to serve on multiple panels. Panel organizers also must secure commitment from panelists to participate before submitting the proposal. Moderators are discussion facilita-

tors and may not serve as panelists. Failure to adhere to the guidelines will lead to rejection of the proposal.

Panelists may submit a research paper and/or research in progress abstract.

Tracy Lucht (tlucht@iastate.edu) of Iowa State University is coordinating the 2016 panel competition.

• RESEARCH IN PROGRESS •

The Research in Progress category is for work that will NOT be completed before the conference. Participants will give an overview of their research purpose and progress, not a paper presentation, as the category's purpose is to allow for discussion and feedback on work in progress. RIP authors may also submit a research paper on a significantly different topic.

For research in progress submissions, send a blind abstract of your study. Include the proposal title in the abstract. The abstract should include a clear purpose statement as well as a brief description of your primary sources. Abstracts must be no longer than two pages of text, double-spaced, in 12-point type, with 1-inch margins, excluding notes.

Primary sources should be described in detail in another double-spaced page.

Entries that do not follow these guidelines will be rejected.

The AJHA Research in Progress competition is administered electronically.

- Proposals must be submitted as PDF or Word attachments, saved with author identification ONLY in the file names and NOT in the text of the proposal.

- Each proposal must be submitted as an attachment, with author's info (name, project title, telephone number, email address, institutional affiliation, and student or faculty status) in the text of the email.

Send research in progress proposals to ajharip@gmail.com.

Authors whose work is accepted must register for and attend the convention.

Melita Garza of Texas Christian University (melita.garza@tcu.edu) is coordinating the Research in Progress competition.

Celebration of media history planned for April 4-8



by Teri Finneman
South Dakota State University

For the Record Week and our celebration of media history is fast approaching. The winter newsletter outlined what the new national week is all about, but we wanted to remind you about it and hope that you will plan something with your students the week of April 4-8. It could be as simple as having

them tweet about their reading for the week with the #headlinesinhistory hashtag so that they can become part of the national conversation.

The week to recognize media history is the work of a subcommittee of members from the AEJMC History Division and AJHA who want to bring more national publicity to our work. National News Engagement Day, an AEJMC initiative each October to spur more interest and national conversation about the news, has proven successful the past two years. So why not use the same formula for journalism history?

Throughout April 4-8, we hope campuses across the country will be tweeting #headlinesinhistory to share why journalism history matters and/or share special class projects about journalism history.

If we can get our members participating in For the Record Week with their students somehow, we can truly make #headlinesinhistory a national conversation.

The following schools have committed to taking part thus far.

Murray State University. Melony Shemberger's strategic communication graduate students are going to research the professional career of a communication professional, journalist or PR executive and create posters. They will then tweet pictures of themselves with their posters with the #headlinesinhistory hashtag. Melony's students will be required to

enter their academic posters to the university's Scholars Week program the week after the "For the Record" event. If chosen, students will present their work again.

Niagara University. Carrie Teresa's Communicating for Social Justice students will read Carolyn Kitch's article "Making things matter: The material value of old media," and then, using the snapshot function on their computer, Carrie will ask students in class to curate a "digital time capsule" of the media (news stories, Facebook posts, emails, etc.) that they believe will have the most value in 20 years. This activity will be followed by a discussion prompted by the question that Kitch poses in her article: "How will, and should, today's media artifacts be preserved as material culture for historians, or other people, of the future?" To whom will these items have value, and why? The students will tweet about their work/discussion with the #headlinesinhistory hashtag.

Northwest University. Will Mari's students are going to do oral histories with subjects at least 30 years old and ask questions about the subjects' media consumption when they were in college or younger. The students will tweet about their work with the #headlinesinhistory hashtag.

Ohio University. Aimee Edmondson's students in History of American Journalism are going to tweet about their re-



Reporters gather at the telegraph office outside the Speaker's Lobby in Congress. Leslie's magazine, 1875.

search topics due April 4 and use the #headlinesinhistory hashtag.

South Dakota State University. Teri Finneman's History of Journalism class is going to do multiple projects. One group is working with the local newspaper to create a historical Instagram account centered on the newspaper's coverage of the Vietnam War. Another student is looking at creating a "museum" around the department floor with different front pages from either the Kennedy assassination or World War II and then will serve as a tour guide to discuss the news and the journalism at the time. Two other groups plan to do projects related to the campus newspaper archives. All will tweet about their work using the hashtag for the week #headlinesinhistory.

The Women and Media students at South Dakota State University are going to tweet about women journalists throughout history about whom they are learning in "Taking Their Place: A Documentary History of Women and Journalism" by Maurine Beasley and Sheila Gibbons. The students will use the #headlinesinhistory hashtag.

University of Missouri. Tim Vos is going to organize a movie night on campus and show a movie related to journalism history.

University of Wisconsin-Stout. Kate Edenberg's students plan to examine the campus newspaper's coverage over five decades and share their findings on social media.

If you also plan to participate in For the Record Week, either email me at finnemte@gmail.com or post in the AEJMC History Division Facebook page or the AJHA Facebook page. Participation can be as simple as tweeting about your own research during that week in April as well.

We hope you will help make this project successful and raise broader awareness about the importance of journalism history.



Prof. Mike Sweeney (center) with Ohio University graduate students (L-R) Carol Hector-Harris, Pamela Walck, David Forster, and Nicholas Hirshon at the Oklahoma City convention. (Photo by Aimee Edmondson)

Student Testimonial

Former journalist found kinship at first AJHA convention



By David Forster
Ohio University

I confess to some mixed feelings as I boarded the plane bound for Oklahoma City last October. I had never before participated in a conference, although during my years as a journalist I covered many — far too many — of them. I hated them.

The soulless, windowless banquet rooms that all looked the same, all felt the same (always too cold). Some poor guy or gal up front clicking through a PowerPoint, trying to gin up some enthusiasm in a room full of mostly empty chairs, or worse, just monotoning a perfunctory read through the slides as beads of condensation slip slowly down the metal water pitchers perched on tables draped in starched linens. The audience — distracted, eyes glazed, yawning — thinking mostly about lunch, dinner, drinks. And more drinks.

Then something happened on the flight. I was busy typing my way through my presentation notes when the woman one row back across the aisle leaned forward and asked me what I was working on. She had seen the name Abraham Lin-

coln on my laptop screen and it made her curious. I couldn't imagine she'd be interested. No reflection on her, mind you. My topic just seemed so inside baseball in a journalism history sort of way. I told her I was writing up a conference presentation for a paper I had written, not really answering her question. What conference? she asked. What is the paper about?

She seemed genuinely interested as I gave her a quick synopsis. It felt good. And that's what happened during my three days at AJHA's annual convention last fall. It felt good. And the best part, hands down, was seeing other students just like me giving presentations on *their* papers. This is not to take anything away from the faculty presentations. They were all solid. But I felt a certain kinship with my fellow graduate students. I felt their enthusiasm, appreciated the creativity of their ideas and the hard work and depth of research that went into their projects. Here were a bunch of relatively young people just digging history and wanting to share it, and that was pretty damn cool.

The transition to academia has been a difficult one for me. I miss the buzz of the newsroom. I even miss the deadlines. I loved the thrill of the hunt, chasing down a story, scratching for sources, nailing a

difficult interview, crafting the perfect lead, and getting a vicarious rush from watching other reporters do the same. Journalism at the scholarly level just hasn't felt much like, well, journalism, and I've struggled to find my place. But then there I was in Oklahoma City, listening to students talk about chasing down history, the thrill of combing through some archive and finding a revealing document tucked away for all these years, some crucial piece to reconstructing, understanding and interpreting the past. And then writing a story — yes, a story — that may offer new insights into some slice of the human experience. It was inspirational. And I realized I had found my place.

So if you're a student reading this, and you're wondering if the AJHA convention makes sense for you, I can tell you this: Yes, the meeting rooms are cold and sterile. But the opportunity to be in the company of folks just like you, who get your fascination with dead people, whose eyes light up when you talk about the weeks spent tracking down some obscure document, is well worth the price of admission.

Editor's Note: David Forster is the chair of the Graduate Student Committee.

Faculty Testimonial

New AJHA member suggests making history “trendy”



by Wendy
Melillo

American
University

Nothing about the present makes sense without an understanding of the past. That’s the overall message I took home after attending my first American Journalism Historians Association convention in Oklahoma City last October.

We live in a time of constant disruptions in once venerated media industries. Understanding how we got here requires historical analysis that penetrates far deeper than a superficial awareness that the invention of the Internet turned everything upside down.

Media historians obviously get that. But not everyone does. The sad truth is studying media history — or any history for that matter — is out of favor right now. Why should students bother studying history when it is no longer reinforced by our culture? Even students who may want to pursue a media history degree naturally shy away given the lack of available jobs.

Attendees at the AJHA convention expressed concern about how communication curricula, particularly journalism programs, are deemphasizing history and adding digital skills. Numbers are all the rage right now. With that popularity comes resources, faculty lines, career opportunities and a strong push for quantitative research methods.

After listening to the conversations, I learned three important things from my wise colleagues. First, historians must promote their value. Digital methods might steadily creep into our communi-

cation programs, but history remains one of the core pillars supporting a strong liberal arts education. Employers still want graduates with critical thinking and writing skills. Our democracy demands such skills. More importantly, we desperately need media literacy skills starting in kindergarten and continuing through the senior year in college. The media historians are in the best position to take on this important task. Recognizing how historical events shape present circumstances is central to critical analysis. Media history lovers must shout that out at every opportunity.

Second, we must persuade ourselves that adapting to change can be a positive thing if we can identify how history fits

people with college degrees in Detroit were equally as likely to riot as people who dropped out of high school. A journalism department could develop two classes to explore this topic. One class could focus on the rich history of computer assisted reporting where students could study the prize-winning stories that were published using data analysis. A second class could teach students how to use Excel, Sequel Server, and other database tools to extract from large data sets a story worth telling.

Finally, historians need patience. I learned at the AJHA convention that we really need 20 years to study historical trends. The current fascination with big data won’t last forever, and we are already well into this trend. Soon, we will have the opportunity to study what this preoccupation with big data and emerging media really means.

I don’t believe that historians are a bunch of old people who are slow to change. We just need to seize opportunities and adapt our love of history to the latest trend. The debates taking place today about emerging digital media will require historical perspective. The media historians are trained to provide that analysis.

And for anyone who is too impatient to wait out the current trend, the convention’s location at the historic 105-year-old Skirvin Hilton Hotel offers a good topic for study. Effie the housekeeper, the Skirvin’s resident ghost, was recently busy doing what she loves best — haunting Oklahoma Thunder opponents. She struck again in December when a report surfaced that Los Angeles Lakers guard Lou Williams checked out of the hotel to avoid a nocturnal encounter with the apparition.

Conducting an oral history about Effie has real possibilities.



The setting for the 2015 AJHA national convention was the historic Skirvin Hotel in Oklahoma City. It opened in 1911, and today is said to be haunted.

the current trend. That doesn’t mean we need to start crunching large data sets. It does mean we need to recognize the value that data analysis can bring to a field and explore opportunities for history.

Consider data driven journalism. Once known as computer assisted reporting, this field identifies what stories the numbers tell. Philip Meyer, then a journalist at the Detroit-Free Press in the late 1960s, is considered one of the field’s pioneers. In 1967, he gathered survey data and used a mainframe computer to show how

Inaugural conference explores transnational journalism history



by **Debra van Tuyll**
Augusta University

Fifteen scholars gathered in Augusta, Ga., March 4-5 for First Explorations in Transnational Journalism History.

AJHA member Kevin Grieves of Whitworth University served as the keynote speaker to start the conference. Grieves drew on his expertise in contemporary transnational

journalism, specifically in Germany, as a means of helping attendees better articulate the distinctions between international and transnational journalism.

According to Grieves, in the broadest sense, the two are distinguished by their perspectives. International journalism focuses on interpreting events abroad through a specific national lens for a specific national audience. Transnational journalism is not bound by geography.

For example, the first English-language newspaper ever published was published in the Netherlands for Scottish wool merchants. This was an example of transnational journalism – the Dutch had a market for wool, and the Scots had wool. They used journalism as a means of communicating across national boundaries.

The scholars who presented at the conference all examined instances of transnational journalism history that ranged from the use of propaganda placed with news syndicates to examining how reporting on the 1848 revolutions in Europe helped galvanize Southern justifications for secession leading up to 1860.

AJHA members on the program included the following:

- John Coward (Tulsa), “Trading Pictures: Editorial Images and National Identities in the Pictorial Press”



AJHA member Kevin Grieves delivered the keynote address at the inaugural Transnational Journalism History Conference. (Photo by Debra van Tuyll)

- Mary (Lamonica) Cronin (New Mexico State), “Gilded Age Humor as a Moral Force: Representations of the Irish and Irish Americans in Texas Siftings”

- Kevin Grieves, “Postwar Journalism in East Germany”

- John Jenks (Dominican), “Covert Propaganda and the Business of International Feature Syndication, 1960-1977”

- Timothy Moran (Wayne State), “Characterizing Immigration in the News, 1850-1890”

- Jeffrey R. Patterson (Texas), “W.T. Stead and the Transnational Growth of Nineteenth Century Journalistic Practice”

- Debbie van Tuyll (Augusta), “John Mitchel: Irish, Confederate, Nationalist, Journalist, Symbol”

One of the highlights of the trip was a presentation by Howard Keeley and Steve Engle and their students, Brittany Sealey

(MA-History) and Sarah Ryniker (MA-Social Science), from Georgia Southern University. Keeley, Engle and the students are working on a project to explain why so many of the Irish who immigrated to Savannah came from Co. Wexford, and the explanation appears to be newspaper advertising that ran in Wexford newspapers.

The conference concluded with a trolley tour of Augusta’s historic districts. [See the full program.](#)

van Tuyll co-organized the conference with Mark O’Brien of Dublin City University. A second conference will be held in May 2017 in Dublin, Ireland. O’Brien and van Tuyll plan at least two edited volumes out of the two conferences, and if there is interest, hope to continue the conference in the future.

How to convert Chicago manuscripts to APA style



by **Gwyneth Mellinger**
Xavier University

This is the unabashed, true confession of a media historian who left the comforts of the Chicago Manual of Style, ventured into the counterintuitive realm of APA documentation, and lived to tell the tale.

Many AJHA colleagues have unflinchingly, whenever duty called, conformed their archival research to the dictates of the American Psychological Association's stylebook. But for many years I lacked their resolve and viewed publication in an APA journal with a snooty mix of dread and annoyance. I speak here to those media history colleagues who lurk in the shadows and submit their work only to journals that use Chicago's traditional (footnoted or end-noted) documentation. But, as more peer-reviewed journals convert to APA's antiseptic system of reference, we must resign to do that odious thing which seems such a betrayal to our labor of love.

Most of the history I read and do is structured around two parallel conversations — one in the body of the manuscript and the other in the notes. When I read history, I follow the notes in tandem with the narrative, seeking out the asides, source lists, and context offered there and tracing the author's journey through archives and secondary literature. Often, it is in the notes that the author brings the literature and archival material into conversation. This is a layer of the reading and writing experience that APA neither accommodates nor encourages. In APA the emphasis is on parenthetical in-text citations that match entries in the references and sometimes offer lists of authors and dates that clutter up the text and disorient readers in their engagement with the historical narrative.

As if to say "we don't want your kind in our journals," the APA remained silent until the 2010 Sixth Edition on how, ex-

actly, historians should cite archival material in scholarship. Only as a relatively recent afterthought have the APA stylebook's authors envisioned historians in the community of scholars they serve. Now APA offers three pages of examples devoted specifically to citing unpublished material in archives and collections; see "Archival Documents and Collections" on pages 212-214 of the sixth edition.

Another good resource is Donald G. Godfrey's 2005 article "Adapting Historical Citations to APA Style" in the *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*. The Godfrey article, which predates the APA's mention of archival sources, differs from the APA sixth edition on some citation guidelines but helps us think about APA and historical scholarship. It also offers guidance on how to construct entries for items not covered in the APA manual.

These resources are helpful for preparing an APA manuscript, but converting a Chicago manuscript to APA is painstaking and time consuming. A strategy is required. Even if you know APA style and will not need to keep consulting the APA formatting examples, set aside a full day the first time you convert a 25-page paper with 75 notes.

Step 1: Determine whether the journal will allow you to list a full collection as a source in the reference list. If so, you will

avoid having to create a separate reference entry for each letter or other archival item you cite. For most media history manuscripts, this will make a significant difference in the size of the task before you.

Step 2: Leave the Chicago foot/endnotes in place while you extract each source and place it into an APA-formatted reference list. A reference for a single archival item will look something like this:

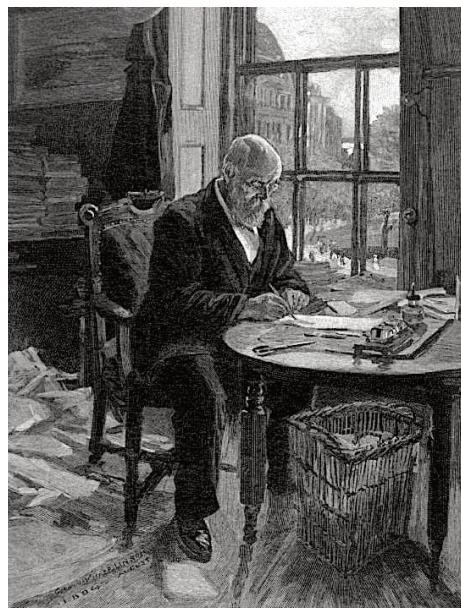
White, W. A. (1940, August 22). [Letter to Tom Wallace]. William Allen White Papers (Series C, Box 340, Folder ASNE 1940), Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

Alternately, a listed reference for the entire collection would be:

White, W.A. (1859-1944). William Allen White Papers (MSS45377), Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

Step 3: When the reference list is finished, go back through the Chicago endnotes/footnotes seeking information appropriate for APA text notes. Acknowledging that you value narrative notes more than anyone oriented toward APA style, decide which information in your Chicago notes is truly essential and construct a few APA endnotes.

Step 4: Finally, insert the parenthetical in-text citations or dates throughout the manuscript, deleting the note numbers as you go. The citation for a single letter listed in the references will appear no different from APA citations for secondary sources: ... White (1940b) wrote to Wallace. If you were allowed to list the entire collection in the references, you will need to incorporate information about a letter's author, recipient, and date into the narrative of the manuscript. You can do this as you introduce and provide context for the letter (...as White wrote to Wallace on August 22, 1940...), or you can put it all into a parenthetical citation in the text: (White, W.A., 1859-1944, White to Tom Wallace, August 22, 1940).



AHA convention allows media historians to broaden horizons



by **Amber Roessner**
University of Tennessee

Imagine my surprise to see a fellow AJHA journeyman as I tramped through the Atlanta Marriott Marquis in search of a late-night snack on the night of Jan. 9. In my haste to locate the hotel's gift shop, I nearly walked smack dab into former AJHA president Kim Mangun, who had encouraged members of our association to expand

their horizons and to share their scholarship with organizations such as the American Historians Association in fall 2013.

I had listened intently to Mangun's advice, and it became apparent that she had taken her own advice when I ran into her that night, only a little more than 24 hours after she had presented "Covering a Protest, Rallying a People: Editor Emory O. Jackson and the Birmingham Bus Boycott." (Mangun also accepted the Eugene Asher Distinguished Teaching Award at the conference.)

The following morning, I had the opportunity to deliver a presentation based upon my forthcoming book, "Jimmy Who: The Rise of a Peanut Farmer from Plains and the Fall of a Rabbit-Bitten President" (LSU Press, TBD) as a portion of a panel on "The President, Persuasion, and the Press in the Twentieth Century." The panel featured moderator Steve Hochman of Emory University and the Carter Center; David Greenberg (Rutgers University), recent author of "The Republic of Spin: An Inside History of the American Presidency"; Kathryn Brownell (Purdue University), recent author of "Showbiz Politics: Hollywood in American Political Life"; and James Baughman, the Fetzer-Bascom Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Baughman currently



Kim Mangun is the first journalism historian to receive AHA's Eugene Asher Distinguished Teaching Award. A journalism professor at the University of Utah, she served as AJHA president in 2012-2013. (Photo courtesy of Kim Mangun)

is writing a history of journalism and politics since 1960.

As the organizer of the panel that managed the dreaded 8 a.m. Sunday morning slot, I was pleased to find that we had more than 20 folks in the audience, including my husband David and my 6-month-old son Joseph. While I was a bit disappointed that C-SPAN hadn't stopped in to film the session as it had once considered, I was pleasantly surprised by the fodder from the audience during the Q-and-A session that followed, and I was grateful to find several additional experts to help me grapple with my current manuscript.

More importantly, the experience reminded me of the value of such acts in the process of ventilating our media histories — as John Nerone, Barbara Friedman, Kathy Roberts Forde, Rick Popp and others have encouraged in the American Journalism series "[Why Journalism His-](#)

[tory Matters](#)" — and creating a new "ferment in the field" enriched by theoretical infusions and disciplinary interventions.

Perhaps a self-inflicted identity crisis has limited our willingness to broaden our horizons in the past, but now is the time for such activities if we are to remain relevant as a field of study. While behemoth conferences such as AHA admittedly are not as welcoming as our group, they give us the opportunity to share our research with the wider discipline, experiences that we can then report back to our comrades at the annual AJHA meeting, and in doing so, we can answer the call of recent AJHA President Amy Lauters.

Editor's note: Jean Palmegiano, a life member of both AJHA and AHA, reports that the AHA Council voted at its meeting in Atlanta to add "journalism" as a thematic category in the AHA member taxonomy.

Radio Preservation Task Force: Saving America's Radio Heritage



by **Noah Arceneaux**
San Diego State University

More than 200 scholars, historians, archivists, museum curators and journalists, along with a smattering of old-time radio enthusiasts, gathered Feb. 26-27, in Washington, D.C., for a conference organized by the Radio Preservation Task Force (RPTF).

Established in 2014, the task force is a direct extension of

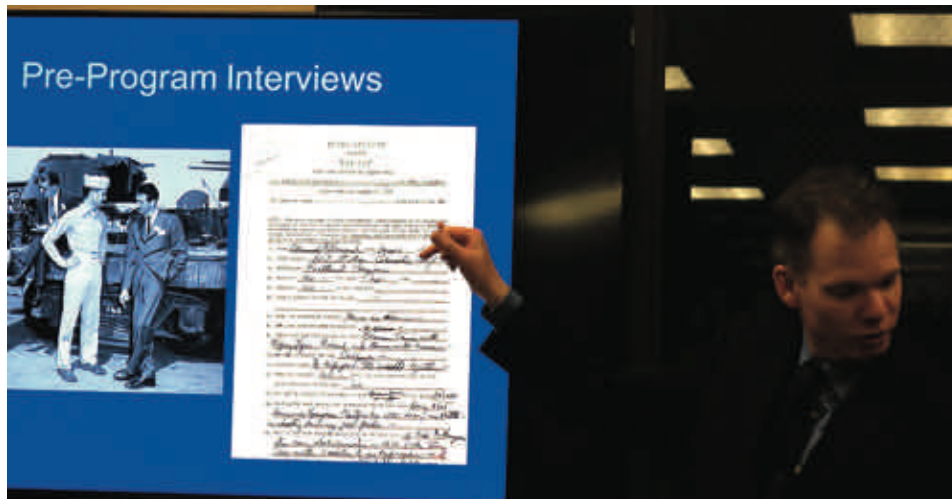
the Library of Congress National Recording Plan. The RPTF has a robust and ambitious agenda, including identifying and preserving recordings of radio broadcasts, advocating for the scholarly and pedagogical use of such material, and otherwise encouraging historical research into America's radio history.

The first day's event took place at one of the Library of Congress buildings, while the second day was in the Hornbake Library at the nearby University of Maryland, also home to the Library of American Broadcasting.

The various panels during the conference all related in some way to the issues of radio or preservation but covered a wide range of subjects.

Archivists working "in the trenches" shared tips and guidelines about the specifics of various recording formats and the struggles of properly cataloging the wealth of material. While it is true that most of the content that has been broadcast over American radio has not been preserved in any format (some statistics range up to 90 percent), there are nonetheless numerous collections in various libraries, museums and archives. But, as readers of the *Intelligencer* are no doubt aware, if such material is not cataloged, indexed or otherwise known to researchers, the material is effectively lost.

Other panels included scholars sharing their own original research, including



Top: Michael Henry, a librarian at the Library of American Broadcasting, discusses the WWII radio show "Vox Pop." His library has many recordings of the show, which featured man-on-the-street interviews and has become an unexpected source of genealogical research. Bottom: These old radios are housed at the Library of American Broadcasting at the University of Maryland. (Photos by Noah Arceneaux)

presentations on Spanish-language, Native American and college radio stations (to name just a few specifics).

In terms of pedagogy, panels offered advice on how to incorporate podcasts into various classes. Not only could students learn to critically analyze audio, in the way that has become standard for film and television classes, but they also might be taught some valuable production skills to be utilized in a variety of potential jobs.

From this particular attendee's perspective, the conference was a definite success. Many of the scholars at the event, for example, knew each other based upon published work, and it was the ideal op-

portunity for many disparate scholars to connect face to face. Additionally, the archivists and museum curators shared information that may have been common knowledge within their own communities but was new to the academics.

It is safe to say that the conversations and initiatives of the RPTF will no doubt continue. Even if the vast majority of America's radio history has been effectively lost, the unexpected high attendance of the RPTF conference, and the enthusiasm of the participants, indicates that radio as a topic of scholarly inquiry is on the increase.

For the full conference program, visit <http://radiopreservation.org/>

JJCHC attracts diverse scholarship, new participants



by **Jennifer E. Moore**
University of Minnesota Duluth

Editor's note: Jennifer Moore is co-organizer of the Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference, along with fellow AJHA member Carolyn Edy (Appalachian State).

The roots of social media activism in the black press and a wartime comic strip featuring a female fighter pilot were among the variety of presentations made

at a growing journalism history conference in New York City.

Scholars from across the United States and Canada presented more than 60 research papers and research-in-progress projects at the Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference on March 12. The conference — co-sponsored by AJHA and the AEJMC History Division — took place at the Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute at New York University.

A record number of scholars attended the one-day conference, according to long-time organizer Elliot King of Loyola University Maryland. The growth of topic diversity is thanks in part to a number of new participants.

AJHA President Pete Smith (Mississippi State) attended for the first time this year.

"I was impressed with the diversity and depth of the scholarship," he said. "The turnout was great, too, but not so large as to get lost in the crowd or not receive more than adequate feedback on the research presented."

Shearon Roberts (Xavier Louisiana) also presented for the first time at JJCHC. She found connections among colleagues with similar interests.

"This year's conference allowed me to interact with other black press scholars currently scouring the archives to document the critical role of the black press for various stages of the struggle for



Luncheon speaker Mark Noonan (New York City College of Technology) with JJCHC conference co-coordinators Carolyn Edy and Jennifer Moore. (Photo by Victoria Cervone)

equal opportunities — and not just African Americans, but of minorities in general," Roberts said.

Her paper presentation (co-authored with AJHA member Sheryl Kennedy Haydel) traced the relationship of the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag to the black press. Roberts said the conference offered a good opportunity to sit on a panel with other scholars who are examining not just the ethnic press but alternative media as they expand the perimeters of journalism and the purpose of journalism for serving a wide and diverse audience.

Many past JJCHC attendees returned this year, including AJHA member Brian Gabriel (Concordia). He counts this conference as one of his favorites.

"As usual, the wide-ranging disciplinary and inter-disciplinary research on display this weekend make this one of the best journalism history conferences around," he said. "I always learn something new."

The day provided a space for graduate student presenters to develop professional skills as well.

"Having the chance to showcase my research to both fellow students and seasoned faculty in a more intimate setting was a great first step so early in my academic career and before moving onto larger conferences," said Denitsa Yotova, a Ph.D. student at the University of Maryland. "I look forward to being back in New York next year."

A luncheon speaker and an afternoon roundtable session were popular features again this year. Mark Noonan, professor of English at New York City College of Technology, presented work inspired by the National Endowment for the Humanities institute he directed during the summer of 2015. Noonan's lunchtime talk, "At John Holt's Tomb: In Search of Lost Space in the 'City of Print,'" discussed the colonial printer and his contributions to press freedoms.

Former AJHA President Nancy Roberts (University at Albany, SUNY) moderated the afternoon roundtable featuring New York City area archivists.

Continued on next page

JJCHC

from page 20

Thomas Lannon (New York Public Library), Edward O'Reilly (New York Historical Society) and Francesca Pitaro (Associated Press Corporate Archives) spoke about their collections and opportunities for scholars to explore new and existing holdings at their respective institutions.

North Road Communications, the student-run public relations firm of Marist College, captured the day's happenings on social media. You can find its live tweets and other contributions by searching for the hashtag #JJCHC16 on Twitter and Instagram. The Marist PR students also contributed to the JJCHC Facebook page as well as the conference blog, <https://journalismhistorians.org>.

The following AJHA members appeared on the program:

Dianne Bragg (Alabama), moderator/organizer of the panel "Magazine History Lessons for Today's Publications"

Kenneth Campbell (South Carolina), "The AT&T Register, 1915-2015: A Preliminary Exploration of Content of a Historically Black College Campus Newspaper" (co-authored with Kim Smith and Emily Harris, North Carolina AT&T State Greensboro)

Christopher Daly (Boston), "The Democratic Art: Journalism and the Rise of American Culture"

Michael Fuhlhage (Wayne State), "When Secessionism Went Viral: The Spread of News in the South at the Dawn of the Confederacy, 1860-61" (co-authored with Sarah Walker, Jade Metzger and Nicholas Prephan)

Brian Gabriel (Concordia), "Friend or Foe? It All Depends: Taking a Look Backwards at the Common Enemy Effect in News Media"

Sheryl Kennedy Haydel (Xavier Louisiana), "#BlackLivesMatter Before It Was a Hashtag: Racial Injustice, Social Movements and the New Orleans Black Press" (co-authored with Shearon D. Roberts)

Kevin Lerner (Marist), "The History of a Still Undeveloped Profession: Four Decades of Mostly Failed Attempts to An-



Former AJHA president Nancy Roberts moderated a panel of archivists that included (left to right) Thomas Lannon, New York Public Library; Edward O'Reilly, New York Historical Society; and Francesca Pitaro, Associated Press Corporate Archives. (Photo by Jennifer Moore)

swer James Carey's Call for a Culture of Journalism Criticism"

Elliot King (Loyola Maryland), "Journalism as an Elite Profession in the 19th Century"

Katrina Quinn (Slippery Rock), "LATE, LATER, VERY LATEST FROM VIRGINIA CITY: Breaking News Coverage of the Great 1875 Virginia City Fire"

Robert Rabe (Marshall), "Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea: The Black Press and Party Politics in the 1932 Presidential Election"

Nancy Roberts (Albany SUNY), moderator, Archivists Roundtable

Ronald R. Rodgers (Florida), "The Social Awakening and the Soul of News"

Josh Roiland (Maine), "Very Recent History: The Ongoing Influence and Legacy of David Foster Wallace's Journalism"

Brian Shott (independent), "Forty Acres and a Carabao: T. Thomas Fortune's Journey to Hawaii and the Philippines, 1902-03"

Rich Shumate (Florida), "Quick on the

(Horn-Rimmed) Draw: Barry Goldwater's Life in Political Cartoons"

Pete Smith (Mississippi State), "'I Never Let Them Treat Me Like a Lady': The Journalism of Norma Fields, State Capitol Correspondent for the Northeast (MS) Daily Journal"

Carol Terracina-Hartman (Michigan State), "Fanning the Flames: How U.S. Newspapers Have Framed Ten Historically Significant U.S. Wildfires, 2003-2013"

Pamela Walck (Duquesne), "Flying into the Private Sphere: How Flyin' Jenny Pioneered a Pack for WWII Women" (co-authored with Ashley Walker)

Susan M. Weill (Texas State), "How Journalist P. J. O'Rourke's Rolling Stone Magazine Work (1981-2001) Created a Generation of News Junkies"

The full program is available at this link:

<https://journalismhistorians.org/the-conference/>