



PRESS RELEASE

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AJHA announces 2016 research paper award winners

In St. Petersburg, Florida, the American Journalism Historians Association awarded six category wins and 12 honorable mentions to scholars who presented at the 2016 AJHA National Convention.

This year's winners presented research on a wide range of topics in the area of media history.

Erika Pribanic-Smith of the University of Texas-Arlington won the Wm. David Sloan Award for the Outstanding Faculty Paper for "Religious Newspapers and Presidential Politics, 1840-1848."

Honorable mention in this category went to Cristina Mislan of the University of Missouri-Columbia, Jinx Broussard of Louisiana State University and Rachel Grant of the University of Missouri-Columbia for "'Larger than Life': Celebrity Journalism, Gender and Black Politics in Fay M. Jackson's Hollywood Adventures, 1933-1935" as well as Dianne Bragg of the University of Alabama for "David Wilmot's Proviso: An Amendment for War."

Elisabeth Fondren of Louisiana State University won the 2016 Robert Lance Memorial Award for the Outstanding Student Paper for "Disloyal or Merely Distrusted? Editorial and Political Views of the German-Language Press in 1917." Honorable mention among student papers went to Kenneth Ward of Ohio University for "'Head Thrown Back, Eyes Alert': Sharing Nature in the Columbus Dispatch Column of Edward Sinclair Thomas" and Willie Tubbs of the University of Southern Mississippi for "Hardened Leaders: Randy Old Officers in Blighty's World War II Military Cartoons."

Fondren also received the 2016 Wally Eberhard Award for the Outstanding Paper on Media and War, with honorable mention going to Glen Feighery of the University of Utah for "Questioning the Atom Masters: News Coverage of Above-Ground Nuclear Testing, 1951-1953" and to Tubbs.

The J. William Snorgrass Memorial Award for the Outstanding Paper on a Minorities Topic went to the trio of Mislán, Broussard and Grant. Gwyn Mellinger of James Madison University, who presented “A Struggle over Meaning: Harry Ashmore’s Speech to the Southern Governor” and Bernell Tripp, who wrote “John Q. Adams’ Western Appeal: Voice of Black Midwesterners in the Midst of Accommodation,” received honorable mention.

Bragg won the 2016 Jean Palmegiano Award for the Outstanding Paper on International/Transnational Journalism History. Honorable mention in this category went to Debbie van Tuyll of Augusta University for “Transnational Journalism History: An Alternative Paradigm for Studying the Role of the Press” and Jon Bekken of Albright College for “Cultura Obrera: Building a Transnational Syndicalist Culture in the Atlantic Maritime Trade.”

The Maurine Beasley Award For the Outstanding Paper on a Women’s History Topic went to Candi Carter Olson of Utah State University for “Because of the Places She Had to Go: Changing Women’s Roles Through the Women’s Press Club of Pittsburgh.” Pete Smith of Mississippi State University received honorable mention for “‘A Lady of Many Firsts’: Press Coverage of the Political Career of Mississippi’s Evelyn Gandy, 1948-83” as did Feighery.

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

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

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