



PRESS RELEASE

December 1, 2017

For Immediate Release

Contact: Willie R. Tubbs

Phone: (225) 936-8565

Email: willie.tubbs@eagles.usm.edu

Written by Willie R. Tubbs

AJHA ANNOUNCES RESEARCH GRANT AWARDS

The American Journalism Historians Association has awarded two veteran scholars with research grants. Dr. David R. Davies of The University of Southern Mississippi and Dr. Berkley Hudson of the University of Missouri-Columbia each earned a Joseph McKerns Research Grants.

Davies will apply his funding toward his research project, “A Railroadman’s Anti-Communism Crusade: L. E. Faulkner and the Bill Smith Letters.”

“I’m so pleased about this grant,” Davies said. “Research funds in our discipline are so hard to come by. AJHA’s help will move my project forward, and I’m so thankful to the organization for the assistance.”

Hudson’s grant will go toward his project, “Mr. Pruitt’s Possum Town: Mississippi Pictures of Trouble and Resilience.”

“I’m delighted and grateful to receive a McKerns Research Grant from AJHA,” Hudson said. “This will allow me to build on my past research about the Mississippi photographer O.N. Pruitt (1891-1967). Assisting me conduct research for journal articles and a book proposal, the grant will help me to travel to archives in North Carolina and in Mississippi.”

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

The grant is named in honor of the late Dr. Joseph McKerns, who taught at both The Ohio State University and Southern Illinois University. McKerns served as the fifth president of AJHA (1986-87) and was editor of *The Biographical Dictionary of American Journalism* (1989).

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>.

###