



PRESS RELEASE

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AJHA ANNOUNCES TOP PAPERS FROM NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Scholars representing universities from across North America were recognized for their work on research papers at the American Journalism Historians Association's annual convention in Salt Lake City, Utah, earlier this month.

Gwyneth Mellinger of James Madison University won the Wm. David Sloan Award for Outstanding Faculty Paper for "The AP and the Negro Identifier: An Ideological Battle for Journalistic Standards."

The runners-up in that category were Patrick S. Washburn and Michael S. Sweeney of Ohio University for "Francis Biddle and the Jennings Case in 1934-35: A Freedom of the Press Complaint that Sucked in Franklin D. Roosevelt, William Randolph Hearst, and Heywood Broun" and Debra van Tuyll of Augusta University for "The Transnational Paradigm as a Method of Analyzing Early Colonial American Journalism."

The Robert Lance Memorial Award for Outstanding Student Paper went to Natascha Roelsgaard of Ohio University for "'Let Our Voices Speak Loud and Clear': Daisy Bates' Leadership in Civil Rights and Black Press History."

The student paper runners-up were Bailey Dick of Ohio University for "'We Females Have to be Contented with the Tales of Adventures': Gender Conformity in Dorothy Day's Early Reporting" and Sara Browning of the University of Maryland for "Answering the Chinese Question: Print Media's Responses to 19th-Century Immigration."

Roelsgaard also won the Maurine Beasley Award for the Outstanding Paper on Women's History. Runners-up in that category were Dick as well as Pete Smith of Mississippi State University for his paper, "'Raising Unshirted Hell': The Journalism of Norma Fields, State Capitol Correspondent for the Northeast (MS) Daily Journal."

Mellinger also earned the J. William Snorgrass Memorial Award for the Outstanding Paper on a Minorities Topic. The runners-up in that category were Browning as well as Linda Lumsden of the University of Arizona for her paper, "Don Sotaco Finds His Voice: Visual Rhetoric and Farm Worker Identity in El Malcriado, 1964-1967."

Washburn and Sweeney took home the Wally Eberhard Award for the Outstanding Paper on Media and War. The runners-up in that category were Wayne State University's Michael Fuhlhage, Tabitha Cassidy, Erika Thrubis, Darryl Frazier, Scott Burgess, and Keena Neal for "Spinning toward Secession: The Interplay of Editorial Bellicosity and Exchange News in the Press before the American Civil War" and Harlen Makemson of Elon University for "From Gibson Girl to Gibson Goddess: The World War II Illustrations of Charles Dana Gibson in Life Magazine."

The Jean Palmegiano Award for the Outstanding Research Paper on International/Transnational Journalism went to van Tuyll.

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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