

CIVIC *and* CITIZEN Journalism

AEJMC

INTEREST GROUP NEWS

www.has.vcu.edu/civic-journalism SUMMER 2007

CCJIG puts focus on future

Conference activities, programming look at where field is headed

By Andrea Breemer Frantz
CCJIG Chair

From defining and launching "the next newsroom" to examining "new journalism, new passion and new globalism," the Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group programming for AEJMC's Washington D.C. conference in August is largely focused on carving out the future of the field. Indeed, even AEJMC's opening reception, which will allow members their first glimpse of the Newseum, underscores the excitement for the future of journalism in all of its manifestations.

Because CCJIG was one of the

Joint Meeting Set

- **Who:** Members of Civic and Citizen Journalism and Community Journalism Interest Groups.
- **What:** Annual Members' Meeting.
- **When:** 8:30 to 10 p.m. Friday Aug. 10.
- **Where:** Renaissance Hotel, Room TBA.

interest groups down a half chip in the rotation this year, we were slightly more limited; however, the December planning meeting went well for us, and I think that our schedule is both full and optimal in terms of time slots.

It's important to note that AEJMC's dates fall one day later in the week than usual because of

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- CCJIG chair says learning and leadership go together . Column, **page 3**

hotel scheduling requirements. As such, the programming for the conference will go through Sunday. When attendees are making their plans for flights and hotels, it's important to plan for later departures on Sunday in order to take advantage of some great sessions offered through the weekend.

In programming, our goal is always to offer balance and diversity across teaching, PF&R and

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Building the next new news organization

"Journalism that Matters" is theme, emphasis of pre-conference session

By Leonard Witt

Each day there is another story about newsroom job cuts. One day the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. The next the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the next the *Greensboro News & Record*. The old financial model that has paid for democracy's journalism is crumbling. If we don't take

action, quality journalism could crumble too.

The Journalism that Matters DC session Aug. 7-8, 2007 at George Washington University is one step towards taking action. There will be no speakers, no panels,



just journalists, academics and citizens working collectively to launch a prototype for a new news organization for the future.

To get there we will be looking at developing new financial, educational and professional-amateur models. Already a fairly stel-

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Pre-conference

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lar cast of people are committed to attending, including names that have long been in the forefront of civic journalism such as Jay Rosen, Jan Schaffer, Chris Peck and Geneva Overholser and citizen journalism headlines such as Dan Gillmor, author of *We the Media*, and Richard Sambrook, director of BBC Global News.

However, if we want to recreate a new, more robust kind of journalism we must use the Maynard Institute fault-line classifications as an assessment tool. Does our line-up reflect a good representation of class, ethnicity, gender, age and geography?

Look at our list <http://www.mediagiraffe.org/wiki/index.php/Jtm-dc-roster> to see where we are lacking and help us recruit the right people, which might include you.

Although the phrases civic and public journalism might not be used as often as they were, lots of what the movement represents is finally being taken to heart as newsrooms understand that throwing a newspaper on the front stoop is not enough to succeed.

Tentative Schedule for "Journalism that Matters"

Tuesday, Aug. 7

- 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. -- Introductions and statements of intention
- 5:30 p.m. Break
- 6:00 p.m. Reception and networking
- 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Dinner and discussion: Next Newsroom models; speakers/ facilitators TBA

Wednesday, Aug. 8

- 8:00 a.m.- 9:00 a.m. -- Morning news / opening circle

- 9:00 a.m.-noon -- Working breakout sessions
- Noon - 1:00 p.m. -- Lunch / speaker-discussion
- 1 p.m. Working breakout sessions
- 2:30 p.m. -- Learning/report-back circle
- 3 p.m. -- Group coaching sessions/confirming action steps
- 5 p.m. -- Wrap-up -- Next steps and closing reflections
- 6 p.m. -- Adjourn. Dinner on your own.

After announcing cuts at the *News & Record* in Greensboro, N.C., editor John Robinson wrote that the paper must excel in:

"Community building - In addition to technology and journalism, our experience with One Guilford, the leadership symposium we sponsored, proved that there's a role for the newspapers to build community. As we continue our emphasis on local, community-level news, we plan to organize and host other community forum to pull people together for positive change."

So it is important as we reinvent journalism that civic jour-

nalism teachers, researchers and practitioners help others understand what worked and what did not in the past.

You can sign up for this AEJMC pre-convention conference via the AEJMC convention site or at the Journalism that Matters registration page: <http://www.mediagiraffe.org/jtm/email-invite-lw.html>.

Leonard Witt holds the Robert D. Fowler Distinguished Chair in Communication at Kennesaw State University, outside of Atlanta, and is one of several co-sponsors of the Journalism that Matters DC session.

Overview

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research interests. While our co-sponsored panels this year seem to emphasize PF&R, members should note that the refereed research papers offer great diversity in their subject matter with several focusing on teaching and classroom projects.

I urge everyone to pay special attention to the CCJIG offerings when the program becomes avail-

able. Throughout our panels and research sessions this year, there will be important discussions about the future of civic and citizen engagement, new approaches in the classroom, and challenges facing the industry. Attending these sessions can help all of us to shape the ongoing conversations in these areas. This year, the implied question resonating throughout the program is, "What's next?" Perhaps the follow-up is, "And how can I be involved?"

Finally, CCJIG is proud to

again partner with two special offerings on the program. Make sure to register for both the pre-conference two day workshop "Journalism that Matters: the DC Sessions" (Aug. 7-8) and the J-Lab Luncheon "Citizen Media: Here to Stay or Gone Tomorrow?" (Saturday, Aug. 11) Both will challenge participants to take an active role in agenda setting and to carefully examine the future of the field.

I look forward to seeing all of you in our nation's capital in August. ✍

Leadership's just another word for plenty more to learn

By Andrea Breemer Frantz
CCJIG Chair

John F. Kennedy once purportedly said, "Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other."

For me, this sums up the AEJMC experience, and specifically my role in the Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group over the past few years. Yes, I've assumed some leadership roles, most recently the chair position for CCJIG, but I feel like what I've learned through the organization and people associated with CCJIG is far greater than what I've given back.

Those inextricable concepts - learning and leadership - started together for me at the annual business and members meeting for what was then called the Civic Journalism IG. I remember at that first meeting several years ago being struck by just how much I could learn from the innovative educators and practitioners I met that evening. Indeed, whether I was trying to write down every word that came from Cole Campbell's mouth in a meeting or a session, marveling at the innovation and creativity of Len Witt or Venise Wagner's civic classroom projects, or reading the fascinating theories offered by Dan Gillmor and others, every moment in this organization has absolutely been about learning from the leaders around me.

On Friday, Aug. 10 at 8:30 p.m. the Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group will co-host its annual business and members meeting with the Community Journalism Interest Group, offering a chance for attendees to both learn and lead. This is a unique opportunity both

for newcomers to AEJMC who have an interest in these areas as well as those of us who have been a part of both groups but have been frustrated by our inability to be two places at once.

In December, my friend Peggy Kuhr, Chair of the Community Journalism Interest Group, and I agreed that because of the overlap in our memberships, it made sense to bring people together to discuss how our respective efforts, research agendas, and leadership needs might coincide. In addition, CCJIG leadership learned at our review last year that it is imperative for both organizations to carve out unique and separate strengths, and what better way to do that than to talk about that challenge together?

I want to emphasize how important these meetings are for folks looking for research focus, leadership opportunities, colleagues with similar interest, even innovative ideas for the classroom. The business and members meeting offers us a chance to connect, share, and plan for the future growth of our respective interest groups. This will also offer us a unique opportunity to actively distinguish the interests of both groups.

This has been a stimulating, albeit sometimes tough, year for CCJIG.

Because of some circumstances he couldn't have foreseen, Manuel Chavez was forced to defer his appointment as Research Chair for CCJIG this year. When I put out the call for help, several folks were kind enough to offer their expertise, and the first to step to the plate was Tony DeMars. I am eternal-

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Members' NEWS & NOTES



Sharon
Hartin Iorio



Andrea
Breemer Frantz

Andrea Breemer Frantz received tenure and promotion at Wilkes in December and is now an associate professor.

●
Sharon Hartin Iorio has been appointed dean of the Wichita State University College of Education effective July 1. She had been associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Professor of Communication at WSU.

●
Peggy Kuhr has been appointed Dean of the School of Journalism at her alma mater, the University of Montana, effective July 1. She is moving there from a position as Knight Chair on the Press, Leadership and



Peggy Kuhr

Community for the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, where she had been since 2002. Before that she had been an editor at the *Spokesman-Review* in Spokane, Wash. and an adjunct instructor at two schools

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Guide to CCJIG program at DC convention

Tues.-Wed., Aug. 7-8

Pre-conference Workshop: "Journalism that Matters: The DC Sessions"

August 7 - 3 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.;

August 8 - 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

George Washington University
Students \$55; Faculty \$95.

A two-day convening of editors, publishers, writers, researchers, academics, students, entrepreneurs, public advocates, independent and citizen journalists intent on defining and launching "The Next Newsroom" using open dialogue, break-out task groups and circle-round sharing of ideas and solutions. Build new economic, classroom and pro-am models. See story **page 1** and detailed schedule, **page 2**.

Thursday, August 9

10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

PF&R Panel Session co-sponsored by Magazine Division and Civic and Citizen Interest Group titled "Beyond the Boundaries: The New Journalism, The New Passion, The New Globalism." David Abrahamson of Northwestern is moderator.

Panelists:

Luis Botello, International Center for Journalists: A Question for the 21st Century: Can the Best of Journalism Be Exported?
Kathy Roberts Forde, Minnesota: Different Truths: Competing Journalistic Constructions of Reality
John Hartsock, SUNY Cortland: A Comparative Study of International Literary Journalism
Jeff South, Virginia Commonwealth: Another World: Training Journalists in the Ukraine

3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Mini-plenary PF&R Panel

Session "The Community as a Teaching Resource," co-sponsored by Community Journalism Interest Group, Magazine Division, Graduate Education and Civic and Citizen Interest Groups. Bill Reader of Ohio will moderate.

Panelists:

Amanda Brozana and George Daniels, Alabama: The Teaching Newspapers
Sue Ellen Christian, Western Michigan: Notes to a Community: Student Journalists Write Their World
Gwen Shaffer, Temple: Outside Their Comfort Zones
Lyn Lepre, Tennessee: The Big Orange in the Big Apple: Not Just Your Average Field Trip
Beverly Merrick, Nebraska at Kearney

5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group Refereed Paper Research Session titled "Civic Engagement, Democracy, Citizen Journalism and the Media." Tony DeMars, Houston at Clear Lake, will moderate. Andrea Breemer Frantz, Wilkes, will serve as discussant.

Paper titles and presenters:

Apathy: 1. Civic Engagement: 0: A Case Study of Civic Journalism on Campus. David Loomis, Indiana-Pennsylvania and Jennifer Easton, Pittsburgh.
Civic Respondents: A Content Analysis of Sources Quoted in Newspaper Coverage of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Maria Fontenot, Kris Boyle, and Amanda Gallagher, Texas Tech.
Political Efficacy and Campaign News Attention as Catalysts of Discursive Democracy: The Case of the 2004 U.S. Presidential Election (top paper). Hsiang-Ann Liao, Queensborough Community,

CUNY

Content Differences for an Online Newspaper Site and its Citizen Journalism Publication (top student paper): Jeremy Littau, Missouri

Friday, August 10

11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

PF&R Panel Session "Citizen Journalism and the Voice of the Voiceless," co-sponsored by Civic and Citizen Journalism and Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Interest Groups. Venise Wagner, San Francisco State, will be moderator.

Panelists:

Christopher Burnett, California State, Long Beach
Curtis Lawrence, Columbia College, Chicago
Cristina Azocar, San Francisco State
Dan Gillmor, Center for Citizen Media

1:30-3 p.m.

Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group entries in Scholar to Scholar Refereed Research Poster Session. Nikhil Moro, Central Michigan, will serve as discussant.

Paper titles and presenters:

Northfield.org: Weaving The Threads Of Community. Victoria Hildebrandt, Wisconsin-Madison
The Communitarian Ombudsman: A Modest Proposal for True Citizen Journalism. Rick Kenney, Central Florida
Citizen Journalism and Community Building: Predictive Measures for Social Capital Generation. Jeremy Littau, Esther Thorson and Clyde Bentley, Missouri
Desiderata Across the Decades: Conversations About a Civic-

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Convention

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Minded Model of Newspapering. Ronald Rodgers, Florida

The Future of Journalism and How to Teach It. Lou Rutigliano, Texas at Austin

Public Journalism Conflated with Propaganda: Newspapers' Resistance to Social Action Communications. Burton St. John, Old Dominion

8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Civic and Citizen Journalism and Community Journalism Interest Groups Business Session and Members' Meetings Moderating/Presiding: Andrea Breemer Frantz, Wilkes and Peggy Kuhr, Dean, University of Montana School of Journalism

The business meeting will be followed by an off-site executive committee meeting.

Saturday, August 11

8:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

PF&R Panel Session co-sponsored by Community Journalism and Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group

"Using Blogs to Create and Strengthen Communities."

Andrea Breemer Frantz of Wilkes will moderate.

Panelists:

Nikhil Moro, Central Michigan

Leonard Witt, Kennesaw State

Dave Oliveria, online blogger, Huckleberries; columnist, the *Spokesman-Review*, Spokane, Wash.

Frank Denton, vice president of news, Morris Communications Co.

12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

AEJMC J-Lab Luncheon: "Citizen Media: Here to Stay or Gone Tomorrow?" From CitMedia ventures to placeblogs, mo-jo's to solo-jo's, people are constructing a growing architecture of participation. They want to contribute to news and information in their own ways. Is this a fad or a sustainable part of the emerging media landscape? Come hear about the latest research and the newest developments. Peggy Kuhr, Dean, University of Montana School of Journalism, will moderate.

Presenters:

Jan Schaffer, Director, J-Lab;

Courtney Lowery, Managing Editor, NewWest.net and Rural News Network;

Lisa Williams, Founder, H2OTown.info and Placeblogger.com;

Dan Gillmor, Director, Center for Citizen Media, author of *We the Media*.

The luncheon is supported by the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation and co-sponsored by the Civic & Citizen Journalism Interest Group, Community Journalism Interest Group and J-Lab: The Institute for Interactive Journalism. To reserve a spot, e-mail news@j-lab.org.

3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Teaching Panel Session: Helping Students Think Like Disruptive Innovators: Mindsets and Applications, co-sponsored by Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group and Cultural and Critical Studies Division. Len Witt, Kennesaw State, will moderate

Panelists:

Bettina Fabos, Miami, Ohio

Tom Warhover, Missouri-Columbia

Bryan Murley, E. Illinois. ✍

J-Lab, Knight start online training site for citizen media

A new e-learning Web site, www.kcnn.org, was launched in March as a resource to help both citizens and journalists amplify community news. With how-to modules developed by a network of citmedia experts, the Knight Citizen News Network will feature:

- Learning modules on how to make Internet TV, train citizen journalists, and keep your content legal and more
- Google maps of citmedia sites around the county sites
- Citmedia research reports.
- Best practice examples.

If you have an idea for a learning module, pitch it to Jan Schaffer, J-Lab director, at jans@j-lab.org. Funding may be available. ✍

Chair

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ly grateful for the wonderful leadership Tony offered in that role this year.

Tony managed the new online submission and review process like a pro and we had a banner year for submissions. I'd have been lost without him. When you see Tony at AEJMC, please pat him on the back and say thanks for the selfless leadership he offered CCJIG this year.

Another thing that made it a

difficult year was the loss of Cole Campbell, which was a huge blow because his voice has been so instrumental in shaping our direction.

Many leaders in CCJIG have taken on new and exciting professional posts, and the moves have been both enlightening and challenging. Others have faced down personal changes and losses. This is our chance to come together, share on these and other issues, and move CCJIG and COMJIG forward. Please plan to attend and consider what you can learn and how you can lead. ✍

Members

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nearby. Her newspaper experience also includes stints at the *Hartford Courant* in Connecticut from 1983 to 1986 and the *Great Falls (Montana) Tribune* from 1975 to 1986.

A yearlong civic journalism project published in the Indiana University of Pennsylvania campus newspaper won first place in the Public Service/Enterprise Reporting category at the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association's annual collegiate Keystone Awards on March 14 in Harrisburg. The Civic Project, as it was called, was a collaboration between students in the 2006 News Reporting classes taught by David Loomis, assistant professor of journalism at IUP, and the independent campus newspaper *The Penn*. The award-winning yearlong project focused on stu-

dent government and student apathy.

A portion of the award-winning project will be presented at an Aug. 9 CCJIG panel at the AEJMC annual convention in Washington, D.C.

-- Submitted by David Loomis, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Denise Barkis Richter of Palo Alto College in San Antonio, Texas, is leading a group of students to Spain during her college's first summer session. She's teaching a course titled News Reporting and Writing while her colleague Mariana Ornelas is teaching a course titled World Cultures and Global Issues.

The itinerary called for arriving in Madrid on June 12 then continuing on through Santo Domingo de Silos, Burgos, Bilbao, San Sebastian, Pamplona, Barcelona, Valencia, Granada, Torremolinos, Sevilla, Cordoba and Puerto Lapice before return-

ing to Madrid for a week and leaving for home on July 1.

All of the students - 13 were registered at this writing - are required to blog about the experience, and the blogs are being linked to the *San Antonio Express-News'* Web site. The blogs also can be accessed at: <http://denisespain2007.blogspot.com>

This is the third time Denise has used blogs during a study abroad. (Spain/France 2004, and Oaxaca, Mexico, Summer 2006 and March 2007.) The first Spain blog may be found at: <http://www.blurty.com/users/drichter> and the Oaxaca blog can be found at: <http://deniseoaxaca.blogspot.com>. (The group was hit by tear gas from the Oaxacan state police last summer, giving them plenty to write about. Denise says she hopes the trip to Spain will be less dramatic.)

- Submitted by Denise Barkis Richter, Palo Alto College, San Antonio, Texas

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