

## **Civic & Citizen Journalism Interest Group**

Annual Report

1 Oct. 2009 – 30 Sep. 2010

### **CCJIG Officers, 2009-10**

#### **Chair**

Mary Beth Callie  
Regis University  
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#### **Vice Chairs/Programming Co-Chairs:**

Deborah Chung  
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#### **Secretary**

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#### **Newsletter Editor:**

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#### **Research Committee/Paper**

##### **Competition Chair**

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##### **Teaching Chair**

Sue Ellen Christian  
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[suellen.Christian@wmich.edu](mailto:suellen.Christian@wmich.edu)

##### **PFR Chair**

Burton St. John  
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##### **Webmaster**

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Virginia Commonwealth University  
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## 2. DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

### 2. Demographic information

A summary is below. The full AEJMC Demographic Form is attached as an appendix. The following information was gleaned from printouts provided by AEJMC in January 2010.

#### CCJIG membership

Male (total)	59
Female (total)	52
Caucasian	77
African American	4
Asian American	3
International	2
Latino / Latina	1
Other	2

#### Officers

Male (total)	4
White	4
Female (total)	5
Asian American	1
White	4

#### Year                      Membership

2005-06	97
2006-07	103
2007-08	89
2008-09	116
2009-10	111

## 3. GENERAL

Of the three primary areas, this year's activities emphasize Teaching, to address a need noted in the 2006-07 and 2007-08 annual reports. While the 2005-06 program included four teaching panels, in 2006-07 and 2007-08, CCJIG programmed one Teaching panel each year; in 08-09, two panels. In 2009-10, three teaching panels are included on the program. Additionally, the pre-convention programs, "Journalism Schools as News Providers: Challenges and Opportunities" and "Newsroom to Classroom: Adapting from JMC Pro to JMC Faculty" address curriculum, content, and pedagogical issues. Several newsletter articles focus on pedagogy.

The goals and outcomes below provide an overview of Teaching, Research, and PF & R activities.

### 4. Goals and Outcomes for 2009-10

- Program at least two, possibly three, teaching panels to achieve balance between areas (see general, above); publish a teaching compendium and resources to address Teaching Committee standards; (goals carried forward from 2007-08, 08-09.  
[Teaching]

- Outcomes: Program includes three Teaching panels. Even though CCJIG had a 1/2 chip reduction this year, we were able to build co-sponsorships (and pick up a slot in the spring) that enabled CCJIG to also program two PF & R, one Research, two Refereed Research panels and one Scholar-to-Scholar session. Pre-convention program and newsletter also include discussions of curriculum, content, and pedagogy.
- Recognize and reflect on CCJIG's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an AEJMC interest group. *[PRF]*
  - Outcomes: Chair Mary Beth Callie published an article in AEJMC's inaugural issue of "Hot Topics" that chronicles 15 years of the interest group; newsletter article also emphasizes the benefits of CCJIG networking, celebrating the publication of a member-edited (Jack Rosenberry, Burton St. John) book and listing CCJIG officers since 1994-95.
- Discuss and explore whether CCJIG and COMJIG might combine to pursue division status within AEJMC *[Research]*
  - Outcomes: Discussion began at joint CCJIG-COMJIG member meeting; decided that more data needed to be collected, through comparison of memberships and a Special Call for Papers. Comparison of the membership lists revealed that CCJIG and COMJIG share 25 members, (23% of CCJIG's 111 members and 24% of COMJIG's 105 members). *[Research, PRF]*
- Maintain CCJIG website (on Virginia Commonwealth server) and blog (on Google), encouraging membership participation; Explore moving the website to the AEJMC server; Explore publishing the newsletter in solely electronic format, on the website; Use website, blog, listserv, and summer newsletter to publicize and encourage attendance and participation in the Member meeting; Review previous/current program to invite new members *[Communication]*.
  - Outcomes: CCJIG website and blog moved to AEJMC server in summer 2010, to debut at Convention. Late June/early July newsletter and website encourage members to attend meeting; emails to possible new members.
- Maintain or increase research paper submissions and decrease percent accepted to 50 percent (in 2007-08, 13 submitted; 62 percent accepted; in 2008-09, 27 submitted, 56 percent accepted); Continue Top Paper Awards; *[Research]*
  - Outcomes: maintained research paper submissions (27) and decreased percent accepted (56 to 52 percent). Top papers recognized.
- Continue to collaborate with COMJIG, J-LAB, and Newspaper and forge new collaborations with interest groups and divisions. *[all areas]*
  - Outcomes: Continued collaborations and forged new co-sponsorships with CTEC, MME, RTVJ, CC.

- Discuss and explore whether to change paper submission and reviewer policy to allow officers to submit papers [*Research*].
  - Outcome: New policy (voted on at member meeting) allow officers (except the CCJIG research chair) to submit papers. Officers who submit papers cannot be reviewers.
- Incorporate a request for demographic information about panel composition into the Panel proposal [*Planning, Administrative*]
  - Outcomes: Requested demographic information on panel composition in panel proposal

### *Goals Unable to Reach*

#### *Goals for 2010-11*

- The teaching compendium continues to be a fleeting goal. This goal can be addressed at the Member meeting and next year's Teaching chair might work with other officers in the early fall, to develop programming or suggest research papers and a call. For example, several officers or members might develop a survey (quantitative and qualitative) and focus blog discussions on generating specific content and curricula. The Teaching chair also might work more directly with the Teaching Standing Committee and assist in using the new website/blog on the AEJMC server.
- Although a Special Call sought research papers addressing connections between civic, citizen, and community journalism, no papers were submitted. If division status (merging CCJIG & COMJIG) continues to be a goal (address at Member meeting), the 2010-11 vice chair might work with the Research chair and COMJIG in the fall to plan one or more Research Panels and Refereed Research panels, and possibly offer a cash award.
- Increase the number of paper submissions, keeping acceptance rate in the 50% range. Schedule two Refereed Research panels at the chip auction, in order to accommodate increasing numbers of papers (in 2008-09, one Refereed Research panel; in 2009-10, one Refereed Research because emphasis on teaching and 1/2 chip reduction; both years, because of the rise in submissions to 27, CCJIG was able to get an slot from AEJMC in the Spring).
- Possible topics for the 2010-11 in and out-of-convention activities:
  - Opportunities and challenges of social media (how are/can social media be used to engage citizens in public problem solving? How can social media create or increase barriers to engagement [time, habits, private life focus])
  - Pre-Convention or In-Convention workshop on teaching facilitation techniques (in dialogue and deliberation, and how to be facilitated) to students and professional journalists (for reporters: questions that help readers, as citizens, understand where stakeholders are coming from [experiences, emotions, values] to build understanding; for

- journalists/editors: how to design print and online forums/content/processes to facilitate conversation that moves toward understanding and public problem-solving); Collaborate with Harwood and Associates and/or National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation.
- Assessment of teaching that focuses on civic and citizen theory and practices—how do the goals compare to student learning outcomes? What are the barriers, challenges, successes?
  - Identify and assess journalistic efforts (print, online, broadcast) that demonstrate civic goals/values (journalism that centers on community problem solving, helps public life go well, promotes citizen engagement).
- Designate time and process for outgoing chair and vice chairs to discuss goals in May/early June (as writing annual report) and before the August convention. Outgoing and incoming chairs and vice chairs meet in person, after the Member meeting, to review previous annual report, goals, and planning calendar [*Planning/Administrative*]
  - Educate officers and members about the role of the Standing Committees. Encourage chairs to consult with the Standing Committees, particularly Teaching.
  - Encourage engagement with the new website/blog on the AEJMC server, as place for “high quality commentary and analysis of industry activities” and “a ‘must read’ for those interested in civic and citizen journalism” (Rosenberry, 2007-08 Annual Report). Rotate responsibilities amongst the officers; send newsletter out via emails (from official mailing list).

## RESEARCH

5. Number of faculty research paper submissions: 14; number of acceptances: 9; 64 %.

6. Number of student research paper submissions 10; number of acceptances 4; 40 %.

Number from mixed author team with at least one faculty: paper submissions: 3; number of acceptances: 1; 33%.

*Overall paper submissions: 27; number of acceptances: 14; 52%*

7. Overview of judging process: Used the default forms provided by All Academic site.

Criteria:

- Clarity of purpose
- Literature review
- Clarity of research method
- Appropriateness of research method
- Evidence relates to purpose of paper
- Evidence is presented clearly
- Evidence supports conclusions

- Writing and organization
- Relevance to focus of Division
- Significant contribution to field

All of above rated on following scale:  
1=Poor 2=Marginal 3=Good 4=Very Good 5=Excellent

Used All Academics' statistical package to calculate beta scores. Used other programs to control for variance in reviewer tendencies to give real high or real low scores.

8. Total number of judges: 9; 3 papers per judge
9. No other type of refereed competition.
10. In-convention activities related to Research:

**Wednesday, 8:15 am to 9:45 am**

Refereed Paper Research Session: **Identifying the Citizen Journalist: Distinctions and Determinants**

Moderating/Presiding: Kirsten Johnson, Elizabethtown

Blogging the Meltdown: Comparing the Coverage of the Economic Crisis in Journalistic Blogs vs. Non-Journalistic Blogs

**Hong Ji**, The Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism and **Michael Sheehy**, Cincinnati

Gatekeeping and Citizen Journalism A Qualitative Examination of Participatory Newsgathering

**Amani Channel**, South Florida

Incremental versus Impressionistic: Seeking Credibility Differences in Online Political News

**Daniel Doyle**, **Chen Lou** and **Hans Meyer**, Ohio

Alternative and Citizen Journalism: Mapping the Conceptual Differences

**Farooq Kperogi**, Georgia State

Bloggers' Demographics, Blogging Activities, and Identity Disclosure

**Nohil Park**, **JiYeon Jeong** and **Clyde Bentley**, Missouri-Columbia

Discussant: Sue Ellen Christian, Western Michigan

**Wednesday, Aug. 5, 11:45 am to 1:15 pm**

Refereed Paper Research Session: **Conversations as Journalism: Civic, Delicate and Historic**

Moderating/Presiding: **Mary Beth Callie**, Regis

Explicating Conversational Journalism: An Experimental Test of Wiki, "Twittered" and "Collaborative" News Models

**Doreen Marchionni**, Sasquatch Media Consulting  
Perceived Role Conceptions of Citizen and Professional Journalists:  
Citizens' Views\*

**Deborah Chung** and **Seungahn Nah**, Kentucky  
Reconsidering Citizen Journalism – An Historical Analysis\*\*

**Justin Walden**, Pennsylvania State  
Paper Bridges: A Critical Examination of the Daily Dispatch's  
Community Dialogues

**Rod Amner**, Rhodes

Jack Rosenberry, St. John Fisher

\* Top Faculty Paper

\*\* Top Student Paper

Thursday, 1:30 pm –3 pm Refereed Paper Research Session: **Scholar-to-Scholar**

### **Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group**

Theme — **Calling Citizens and Communities: How to Share Ideas**

57. What's in a (Missing) Name? Newspaper Online Forum Participants  
Sound Off About Civility and Anonymity

**Jack Rosenberry**, St. John Fisher

58. Citizen Journalism and Cognitive Processing: An Experiment on the  
Perceived Intent of Traditional versus Citizen Journalism Sources

**Heather E Akin**, **Gerald Stoecklein**, **Melissa Tully**  
and **Hernando Rojas**, Wisconsin-Madison

59. Empowering Citizen Journalists: A South African Case Study

**Guy Berger**, Rhodes

60. Can This Marriage Be Saved? The Love-Hate Relationship Between  
Traditional Media and Citizen Journalism

**Jan Leach**, Kent State and **Jeremy Gilbert**, Northwestern

61. Hungry for News: How Celiac Sufferers Learn from Media, Each Other

**Mitch McKenney**, Kent State

Discussant: **Mary Beth Callie**, Regis

Wednesday, 1:30 pm to 3 pm, **Civic and Citizen Journalism and Community  
Journalism Interest Groups**

Research Panel Session: **Doing Citizen Journalism Research: Issues and  
Prospects**

Moderating/Presiding: **Seungahn Nah**, Kentucky

Panelists: **Serena Carpenter**, Arizona State  
**Deborah S. Chung**, Kentucky  
**Lewis Friedland**, Wisconsin-Madison

**Kirsten Johnson**, Elizabethtown  
**Seungahn Nah**, Kentucky  
**Sue Robinson**, Wisconsin-Madison  
**Shayla Stern**, Minnesota

11. Out-of-convention activities related to research

**Pre-convention:** The second part of this tri-sponsored session addresses the transition from journalism professional to academic, as a result of newsroom economics and other individual career changes. Invited experts share tips on how to adapt newsroom experience to successful pedagogy and research.

Tues, Aug. 3, 1:30- 3 p.m. Newspaper Division, Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group, and Radio-Television Journalism Division

Workshop Session: **Newsroom to Classroom: Adapting from JMC Pro to JMC Faculty**

Part II-Research: **Whittling Your Research Wish List to a Workable Agenda**

Moderating/Presiding: **Mitch McKenney**, Kent State

Panelists: **Hub Brown**, Syracuse  
**Frank Fee**, North Carolina  
**Gary Hanson**, Kent State  
**Chris Roberts**, Alabama

**Midwinter Conference:** CCJIG had six abstracts submitted and accepted five. We had three reviewers for all abstracts, and we operated on assumption that the regional conference should promote chances for students to present and receive feedback. Three of the five were grad students, on one research paper session.

12. This year, the two Refereed Paper Research panels, one Refereed Research Scholar-to-Scholar session, and one Research panel had a strong focus on citizen journalism.

CCJIG issued a Special Call 2010 for conference papers that explored and examined the intersections of community journalism, civic, and citizen journalism. Unfortunately, we received no submissions specifically designated for the special call.

Past chair Jack Rosenberry and current PF&R chair Burton St. John edited the book *Public Journalism 2.0*, published by Routledge Press. The book includes chapters by many CCJIG members and past officers, including Serena Carpenter, Cathy DeShano, Lewis Friedland, Tanni Haas, Kristen A. Johnson, Nakho Kim, Suzanne McBride, Donica Mensing, Joyce Y.M. Nip, Sue Robinson, David M Ryfe, and Jan Schaffer. Many of the chapters were first submitted as Refereed Research papers in previous

conventions. The idea for the book was shaped by the 2008 pre-convention event, “The Past, Present and Future of Civic/Citizen Journalism.”

Member John McManus’ book *Detecting Bull: How to Identify Bias and Junk Journalism in Print, Broadcast and on the Wild Web* won the 2009 Sigma Delta Chi/Society of Professional Journalists research award. PF&R chair (and past Research chair) Burton St John’s book *Press Professionalization and Propaganda* was released by Cambria Press in May 2010.

Member Zizi Papcharissi published three books in 2009-10: (Ed.) *Journalism and Citizenship: New Agendas*. New York: Lawrence Erlbaum/Taylor and Francis; *A Private Sphere: Democracy in a Digital Age*. Cambridge: Polity Press; (Ed.) *The Networked Self: Identity, Community, and Culture on Social Network Sites*. New York: Routledge.

Member Maggie Patterson published *Rooney: A Sporting Life*, with Robert Ruck and Michael Webber. University of Nebraska Press.

For the second year, CCJIG awarded Top Student and Faculty Papers (\$151 and plaque):

**Deborah S. Chung** and **Seungahn Nah**, Kentucky (Faculty), Perceived Role Conceptions of Citizen and Professional Journalists: Citizens’ Views

**Justin Walden**, Pennsylvania State (Student), “Reconsidering Citizen Journalism – An Historical Analysis”

## TEACHING

13. In-convention activities related to teaching:

Three panels focus on curriculum, course content, teaching methods, and leadership.

Thursday, Aug 6, 5 pm to 6:30 pm, Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group and Communication Technology Division

Teaching Panel Session: **Helping Save Journalism via the Classroom: Student Collaborations with Citizen Journalists and Industry Professionals**

Moderating/Presiding: **Sue Ellen Christian**, Western Michigan

Panelists:

**Sue Robinson**, Wisconsin-Madison

**Teresa Puente**, author of Chicanisima Blog on Chicago NOW news site, founder of Latina Voices, Columbia

**Tamara L. Gillis**, co-director of “we-town.com,”  
Elizabethtown Research on the Industry and Citizen  
Journalism

**David D. Kurpius**, Louisiana State

Friday, Aug. 7, 3:30 pm to 5 pm, Community Journalism and Civic and Citizen  
Journalism Interest Groups

Teaching Panel Session: **Into the Mean Streets: Lab Community Newspapers  
Take on Tough Neighborhoods**

Moderating/Presiding: **Jock Lauterer**, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Panelists: **Huntly Collins**, LaSalle  
**Bruce dePyssler**, North Carolina Central  
**William Drummond**, California, Berkeley  
**Bernard L. Stein**, Hunter  
**Lisa Paulin**, North Carolina Central

Saturday, Aug. 7, 11:45 am to 1:15 pm, Community College Journalism Association,  
Radio-Television Journalism Division, and Civic & Citizen Journalism Interest Group

Teaching Panel Session: **Teaching News Literacy: What Works?**

Moderating/Presiding: **John McManus**, gradethenews.org

Panelists: **Renee Hobbs**, Temple  
**Fred Blevens**, Florida International  
**Dale Cressman**, Brigham Young  
**Dean Miller**, SUNY at Stony Brook

14. Out-of-convention activities related to teaching:

**Pre-convention:** The first part of this tri-sponsored session addresses the transition from journalism professional to academic, as a result of newsroom economics and other individual career changes. Invited experts share tips on how to adapt newsroom experience to successful pedagogy and research.

Tues, Aug. 3, noon to 1:30, Newspaper Division, Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group, and Radio-Television Journalism Division

Workshop Session: **Newsroom to Classroom: Adapting from JMC Pro to JMC Faculty**

Part I-Teaching: **Putting your Experience to Work in the Academy**

Moderating/Presiding: **Chris Waddle**, Jacksonville State

Panelists: **Al Cross**, Kentucky  
**Pam Fine**, Kansas  
**Pam Luecke**, Washington and Lee  
**Michelle Weldon**, Northwestern

Tuesday, Aug. 3, 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm, Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group and Newspaper Division

Workshop Session: **Journalism Schools as News Providers: Challenges and Opportunities**

Workshop Facilitators: **Geanne Rosenberg**, CUNY's Baruch and **Leonard Witt**, Kennesaw State

Part I — **What Is Changing and Why**

Moderating/Presiding: **Joshua Benton**, director, Nieman Journalism Lab, Harvard

Panelists: **Karen Dunlap**, president and managing director, Poynter Institute  
**Lynda Kraxberger**, Missouri  
**Nicholas Lemann**, Columbia  
**Geneva Overholser**, Southern California

Part II — **Grappling with Legal Risks and Other Challenges**

Moderating/Presiding: **Geanne Rosenberg**, CUNY's Baruch

Panelists: **David Ardia**, co-founder and director, Citizen Media Law Project, Harvard  
**Jane Kirtley**, Minnesota  
**Rose Ann Robertson**, American  
**Steven D. Zansberg**, media lawyer, partner, Levine Sullivan Koch & Schulz, L.L.P.

Part III — **Innovative Approaches to Community Journalism**

Moderating/Presiding: **Steve Shepard**, CUNY

Panelists: **Joe Bergantino**, Boston University  
**Monty Cook**, executive producer, Reese Felts Newsroom, North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
**Lydia Chavez**, California, Berkeley  
**Richard Jones**, faculty advisor, New York University's Arthur L.

Carter Journalism Institute's The Local: East Village Project  
**Leonard Witt**, Kennesaw State

15. Of the three primary areas, this year's activities emphasize Teaching, to address a need noted in the 2006-07 and 2007-08 annual reports. In 2009-10, three teaching panels are included on the program. Additionally, the pre-convention programs, "Journalism Schools as News Providers: Challenges and Opportunities" and "Newsroom to Classroom: Adapting from JMC Pro to JMC Faculty" address curriculum, content, leadership and pedagogical issues.

Two newsletter articles focus on course content and pedagogy:

"Bringing Crowdsourcing to the Classroom," by CCJIG Secretary Anne Golden Worsham (Fall 2009)

" , " by Teaching Chair Sue Ellen Christian (Spring/Summer 2010)

CCJIG Teaching Chair Sue Ellen Christian, associate professor of Journalism at Western Michigan, was awarded the Outstanding Achievement in Teaching Award for 2009-2010 by the College of Arts and Sciences at Western Michigan University. This award is based on outstanding teaching, including graduate and undergraduate classroom instruction, mentoring, independent study, field work, laboratory work, thesis and dissertation advising, undergraduate and graduate advising, curriculum innovation or any other work in which the faculty interact with students to promote learning.

## PR & R

16. In-convention activities related to PF & R

CCJIG was the primary sponsor for two PR & R collaborations with J-Lab: a panel, "What do Women Want: What are Women Entrepreneurs Doing" and a luncheon, "Networked Journalism: How the Old and New Media are Collaborating." Both were organized by CCJIG member and past co-chair Jan Schaffer, executive director of J-Lab, with funding from the McCormick Foundation and the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation.

"What Women Want," co-sponsored by Communication Technology, focuses on the PF & R areas of racial, gender, and cultural inclusiveness, free expression, and public service. The session includes invited non-member Susan Mernit, founder of OaklandLocal.com, a news & community hub for Oakland, CA focused on environmental, food, development and social justice issues. Mernit is a former VP at AOL and Netscape, and a former Yahoo Senior Director.

“Networked Journalism,” which focuses on the areas of ethics and public service, includes three invited non-members: Bob Payne, director of communities at SeattleTimes.com; Steve Gunn, editor for Innovations and New Products at *Charlotte Observer*, and Rick Hirsch, senior editor/Multimedia at *Miami Herald*.

CCJIG was the secondary sponsor (with Media Management) for “The Road from Citizen-mediemaker to Media Entrepreneur: Blogging for a Living.” The panel includes two CCJIG members: past chair Nikhil Moro and current co-vice chair/programming chair Deborah Chung, and focuses on free expression, ethics, public service, and cultural inclusiveness. The panel also includes invited non-member Brian Storm, founder and executive producer of MediaStorm, a multimedia production studio based in Brooklyn, New York. Storm received his master's degree in photojournalism in 1995 from the University of Missouri School of Journalism where he ran the New Media Lab. In 1994, he launched the original version of MediaStorm as an interactive CD-ROM production company.

Thursday, Aug. 5, 3:15 pm to 4:45 pm, Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group and Communication Technology Division

PF&R Panel Session: **What Do Women Want? What Are Women Entrepreneurs Doing?**

Moderating/Presiding: **Jan Schaffer**, J-Lab, American

Panelists: **Maria Ivancin**, American  
**Susan Mernit**, founder, OaklandLocal.com  
**Susan McBride**, co-founder, ChicagoTalks.org and AustinTalks.org, Columbia-Chicago

Sponsored by CCJIG and Communication Technology Funded by a grant from the McCormick Foundation.

Friday, 12:15 pm to 1:30 pm, Civic and Citizen Journalism and Community Journalism Interest Groups

Luncheon Session: **Networked Journalism: How Old and New Media are Collaborating**

Introduction: **Mary Beth Callie**, Regis

Moderating/Presiding: **Jan Schaffer**, J-Lab, American

Panelists: **Bob Payne**, director of communities, SeattleTimes.com  
**Steve Gunn**, editor, Innovations and New Products, *Charlotte Observer*  
**Rick Hirsch**, senior editor/ Multimedia, *The Miami Herald*

Luncheon produced by J-Lab: The Institute for Interactive Journalism with funding from the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation. Pre-registration is required.

Friday, Aug. 6, 1:45 pm to 3:15 pm, Media Management and Economics Division and Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group

**PF&R Panel Session: The Road from Citizen-mediemaker to Media Entrepreneur: Blogging for a Living**

Moderating/Presiding: **Anne Hoag**, Pennsylvania State

Panelists:                   **Ben Compaine**, Northeastern  
                                  **Nikhil Moro**, North Texas  
                                  **Brian Storm**, Media Storm  
                                  **Deborah Chung**, Kentucky

17. Out-of-convention activities related to PF & R

The CCJIG blog continues to be a place for sharing PF & R resources and news, although there were considerably fewer posts than the previous year. Posts centered on media criticism and accountability and public service: “Journalism Schools as News Providers” pre-convention workshop; member Nikhil Moro’s IM interview with James O’Shea, editor of Chicago News Cooperative; information about the book *Public Journalism 2.0*, and Jack Rosenberry’s “What’s the link between virtual discussion, civic engagement?”

Chair Mary Beth Callie published “CCJIG at 15: Past, Present, Future,” an article that chronicles 15 years of the interest group, in AEJMC’s inaugural issue of “Hot Topics.” Callie’s “Public Journalism principles offer ideas for health debate” article for the Fall CCJIG newsletter centered on media criticism, accountability, and public service issues. A summer newsletter article emphasizes the benefits CCJIG networking, celebrating the publication of a member-edited (Jack Rosenberry, Burton St. John) book and listing CCJIG officers since 1994-95.

In “Citizen Journalism Sites: Conveying a Sense of Credibility,” published in the summer newsletter, Vice-Chair Kirsten Johnson reviews allvoices.com and CNN’s iReport, sites that are trying to establish a sense of credibility.

18. As described above, the newsletter, AEJMC “Hot Topics,” and blog serve as places for “high quality commentary and analysis of industry activities” (Rosenberry, 2007-08 Annual Report). The move of the CCJIG website and blog move to the AEJMC server may help CCJIG become “a ‘must read’ for those interested in civic and citizen journalism” (Rosenberry). An attainable goal for next year might be to rotate responsibilities amongst the CCJIG officers for posting and responding, as in 2007-08.

## 19. Newsletters