

Clio

among the media



The Quarterly Newsletter of the History Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

33 History research papers accepted for DC presentation

By **Debbie van Tuyl**

Augusta State
Vice Chair

The research papers submitted in this year's AEJMC History Division competition clustered around three themes: War, information secrecy and national security, and public consciousness.

Of the 69 papers submitted, 33 were accepted for presentation; two papers were withdrawn by their authors. The acceptance rate was 49.25 percent.

As expected, authors of this year's top papers offered compelling explorations of the questions related to issues of information flow during war, censorship, and the effects of information on the public.

Karen Miller Russell of the University of Georgia, took top

faculty paper honors for her study of AT&T public relations manager Arthur Page. She found that while Page is remembered as the ideal PR practitioner committed to service and making a reasonable profit during the Depression, he was able to sell these policies to the public. Yet the ultimate effect of Page's policies was to privilege investors over other stakeholders.

Karen Slattery of Marquette and Kimberly Mangun of Utah wrote the papers that finished second and third, respectively, in the faculty competition.

The top student paper was written by Phil Glende of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He won the Price Award, which is named for Warren Price, who was the first to head the History Division.

This is the second year in a row that a Wisconsin doctoral student has won the Price Award. Last year, Julie B. Lane received the Division's top student paper award.

Glende's paper analyzed a labor publication, the *American Federationist*,



notes from the chair

A lot of upside: History at AEJMC convention



By **W. Joseph Campbell**
American
Chair

August in Washington, D.C., is typically an oppressive time. Hot. Humid. Draining.

That's the undeniable downside.

But otherwise, the AEJMC convention in Washington in early August promises a lot of upside.

And that goes especially for the History Division's programming.

For the first time in years, the Division will sponsor a pre-convention event, from 1–5 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 8, with a seminar at the Library of Congress. We'll start with a quick, guided tour of the Library's landmark edifice, the neoclassical Jefferson Building, and then hear from LOC curators about how the holdings of

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Wisconsin's Glende wins Price Award for labor study

which was published monthly during the Depression by the American Federation of Labor. Glende argues that the Federationist was an important information link between the organization and the public during a period of unprecedented growth in the labor movement. His study examines the business side and the circulation of the publication to determine how it functioned and who read it.

The papers by Russell and Glende offer compelling glimpses of the effect of information—or the absence of information—on the American public in times of crises.

Authors of the student papers that won second and third place awards were J. Michael Lyons of Indiana University and Christina Locke of the University of Florida. Their papers were about, respectively, role of a London-based newspaper, *Free Russia*, in building a community of readers prior to the Russian Revolution, and the reporting of Cuba during Castro's revolution by Ruby Hart, the *New York Times* correspondent in Havana.

The Division's top student papers will be presented during the AEJMC convention in Washington, DC, at 5:15 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 11.

Here are details on the History Division's research sessions at the convention:

Thursday, August 9

8:15–9:45 a.m.

“Freedom, Informational Secrecy, and Societal Security in American History”

“Atrocities and Grisly Souvenirs: Suppressing News of Wartime Brutalities in the WWII U.S. Press,”

Karen Slattery, Marquette

“Secret Restricted Data, Media Timidity & Dead Cold Warriors,”

Carolyn Dyer, Iowa

“The U.S. Information Bulletin and Mixed Signals in the Democracy Lessons for Post-War Germany,”

Kevin Grieves, Indiana

“Practicing Free Speech: The Spanish American Press on the Eve

Opium Abuse in Northern Utah, 1869-1896,” **Andrew Kirk**, Utah

“From Newspaper Row to Times Square: The Dispersal and Contested Identity of an Imagined Journalistic Community,” **Dale Cressman**, Brigham Young

“Online Citations in History Journals: Current Practice and Views from Journal Editors,” **Michael Bugeja**, **Daniela Dimitrova**, and **Hye Hyun Hong**, Iowa State

“The Original Bust: A Magazine Offers a ‘New’ Perspective on Womanhood,” **Tracey Thomas**, Ohio

“The Pivotal Role of Priests in the Development of the Mexican Press,” **Victoria Goff**, Wisconsin-Green Bay

“The ‘Atomic Bomb’ of Broadcasting: Westinghouse’s ‘Stratovision’ Experiment, 1944–1949,” **James Foust**, Bowling Green

“‘To the Detriment of the Institution’: The *Missouri Student’s* Fight to Desegregate the University of Missouri,” **Aimee Edmondson** and **Earnest L. Perry Jr.**, Missouri

“The Kefauver Crime Committee Hearings and the Ambivalence of Citizenship in the Film Noir,” **Kevin Hagopian**, Penn State

“‘Rebellion in the Kingdom of Swat’: How Sportswriters Covered Curt Flood’s Lawsuit against Major League Baseball,” **William Gillis**, Indiana

“Media in the Riot City: How the November 1967 Kerner Commission Media Conference Blamed the Messenger,” **Thomas Hrach**, Ohio



of Independence,” **Juanita Darling**, California State-Monterey Bay

Moderator: **Jim Martin**, North Alabama

Discussant: **Michael Sweeney**, Utah State

1:30–3 p.m.

“High Density Session”

“‘Activities Among Negroes,’ Race Pride and a Call for Interracial Dialogue in California’s East Bay Region, 1920-1931,” **Venise Wagner**, San Francisco State

“Dens of Hell in the Cities of Zion: Newspaper Coverage of

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Top papers to be presented Aug. 11

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Moderator: **Amy Lauters**, Wichita State

Discussants: **Ross Collins**, North Dakota State, **Lisa Burns**, Quinnipiac

Friday, August 10

8:15-9:45 a.m.

“Historical Voices: Lost, Found, and Otherwise”

“Editor A.D. Griffin: Envisioning a New Age for Black Oregonians (1896-1907),” **Kimberley Mangun**, Utah

“Jim Murray at *Sports Illustrated*: The Development of the King of Sports Columnists,” **David Bulla**, Iowa State, and **Ted Geltner**, Florida

“Solving ‘The Negro Problem’: Social Commentary in the Journalistic Writings of Joel Chandler Harris,” **Cheryl Gooch**, Clark Atlanta

“The Relevance of Historical Research for the Understanding of Ethnic Press Models: The Spanish-language and Bilingual Press of New Orleans as a Case Study,” **Ilia Rodriguez**, New Mexico

Moderator: **David Paul Nord**, Indiana

Discussant: **Ann Thorne**, Missouri Western

Saturday, August 11

12:15-1:30 p.m.

“Scholar-to-Scholar Session”

“Covering a Coup: The American Press and Guatemala in 1954,” **John Kirch**, Maryland

“Little More Than Minutes: How Two Wyoming Community Newspapers Covered the Construction of a Japanese-American Internment Camp,” **Ron Bishop**, Drexel

“Searching for ‘Freedom of the Films,’” **Elaine Reed**, Kutztown

“The Columnist and the Antihero: Marquis Childs Covers Senator McCarthy,” **Robert Rabe**, Wisconsin

“Textbooks and Bombs: A Newspaper Framing Analysis of a Violent Fight Over Book Selections in Public Schools,” **Mark Paxton**, Missouri State

“Thomas Jefferson and the Origins of Newspaper Competition in Pre-Revolutionary Virginia,” **Roger Mellen**, George Mason

Moderator: **Mark Dolan**, Mississippi

Discussant: **John Coward**, Tulsa

1:45-3:15 p.m.

“The Press, Public Relations, and the Public Consciousness”

“‘Genêt’ On the Air: Janet Flanner’s Wartime Broadcasts,” **Johanna Cleary**, Florida

“It’s Up to the Women’: Edward Bernays and the Ladies’ Home Journal Campaign to End the Great Depression,” **Jane Marcellus**, Middle Tennessee State

“One Hell of a Story’: Information Control, News Process and the Hiroshima

Bombing Announcement,” **Samuel Murphey**, Missouri

“When the Bomb Plant Came to Town,” **David Weintraub**, South Carolina

Moderator: **Maurine Beasley**, Maryland

Discussant: **Karla Gower**, Alabama

5:15-6:45 p.m.

“Top History Papers”

“Bridging the Gulf: Authors and Editors Imagine the Political Work of the *American Federationist*,”* **Phil Glende**, Wisconsin

“An Army Like That of Gideon: Communities of Reform on the Pages of *Free Russia*,”** **J. Michael Lyons**, Indiana

“Another Cuban Story: Ruby Hart Phillips, *New York Times* Havana Correspondent, 1937-1961,”*** **Christina Locke**, Florida

“Public Relations and Corporate Policy: Arthur Page and AT&T’s Financial Policy, 1927-1939,”**** **Karen Miller Russell**, Georgia

Moderator: **W. Joseph Campbell**, American

Discussant: **Fred Blevens**, Florida International

* Top student paper; winner, Price Award

** Second place student paper

*** Third place student paper

**** Top faculty paper

Notes from the chair: Highlights of History sessions

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the Newspaper, Manuscripts, and Prints & Photographs reading rooms can be tapped in research projects. We'll wrap up with visits to each of those reading rooms.

The convention opens Thursday, Aug. 9, and we will sponsor one of first refereed paper sessions—at 8:15 a.m. that day.

One of the History Division's convention highlights will be on Saturday, Aug. 11, at 5:15 p.m., with the presentation of this year's award-winning research papers. **Karen Miller Russell** of Georgia wrote this year's top faculty paper. **Phil Glende** of Wisconsin-Madison is winner of the Price Award, which recognizes the History Division's top student paper.

This marks the second successive year in which a doctoral student at Wisconsin has won the Price Award, which is named for Warren Price, the Division's first head (a position now known as "chair"). Last year's Price Award winner was **Julie B. Lane**.

The top papers session will be immediately followed by the History Division's annual Members' Meeting, at which we'll recap the 10 goals pursued in 2006–07. In addition, winners of the Division's book award and Covert Award competitions will be recognized during the meeting, at the close of which **Debbie Van Tuyl**, our hard-working vice chair and research chair, will take the Division reins.

Debbie ran an outstanding research paper competition this year which for the first time was conducted entirely online. Debbie showed admirable

patience and imagination in dealing with the inevitable glitches that accompanied the rollout of the all-electronic format. She tells me that submitting and judging research papers online was far less burdensome than receiving, processing, and sending out myriad paper copies, as we've done every year through 2006.

In all, 33 History papers were accepted for presentation this year, a 49% acceptance rate that matches the Division's five-year average. In those five years, 329 research papers were evaluated for prospective presentation, and 162 were accepted.

The 'High-Density' format is a presentation hybrid -- a blend of a poster session and a traditional research panel.

We were pleased to have avoided slotting History papers for presentation on the convention's last day, which will be Sunday, Aug. 12. But we will offer in Washington the Division's first "High Density" paper session.

The "High Density" format is something of a presentation hybrid—a blend of a poster session and a traditional research panel. AEJMC began offering "High Density" sessions a few years ago, and we slotted one for History principally because it was our turn this year to give up a programming slot, to allow newer interest groups ample place on the convention program. (We'll be back to full programming strength

in 2008, when AEJMC meets in Chicago.)

So the "High Density" session allows us to manage the programming cutback without dramatically reducing the number of papers accepted. And it promises to be a lively and diverse session, at which 11 papers will be presented. Our "High Density" session will be at 1:30 p.m. Aug. 9. Later that day, at 5 p.m., History and the Scholastic Journalism division will sponsor an intriguing and provocative panel that will take up the question: "Is Journalism History 'Serious' History?"

Presenters will include **Maurine Beasley** of Maryland, **David Paul Nord** of Indiana, **Jeff Pasley** of the history department at Missouri, and **Kathy Forde Roberts** of Minnesota. Beasley and Nord are former History Division heads.

The "'Serious' History" panel occupies the time slot immediately before the convention's keynote speech, which will be given by Bill Moyers of public television prominence. The keynote will be followed by the convention-wide, opening reception at the Freedom Forum's new Newseum on Pennsylvania Avenue.

The reception will offer a first look at the impressive, glass-enclosed structure that has gone up not far from the Capitol. The seven-story museum of news replaces its much smaller predecessor across the Potomac River in Arlington, Va. The original Newseum was closed in 2002 after a five-year run, to permit the

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Taking the long view in historical writing

By Jeffery A. Smith

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

A century ago, panoramic photographs were in vogue. Commercial photographers “panographed” landscapes, cityscapes, events, and groups of people for profit and posterity. The Library of Congress calls its online collection of such expanded-width images “Taking the Long View.”

Media historians see more when they take a longer view that documents and analyzes change over more extensive periods of time. They have, for instance, observed how newspapers made a gradual transition from reliance on political party support to a dependence on commercial advertising. I have written two books that track and try to explain long-term developments in freedom of expression before and after the First Amendment.

Focused, in-depth work on a narrow concern at a particular historical moment is, of course, valuable. A plea can be made, however, for more studies that have expanded time spans and that synthesize scattered historical tableaux into moving pictures of significant developments.

Using a broader swath of years, at least for context, is helpful in answering a question on the manuscript review form I use as associate editor of *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly*:

“Does the author discuss larger issues involving the forces at work in society and answer the ‘so what?’ question.”

One small and often hazardous

step in the direction of more historical sweep is to designate eras of media communication with terms such as the penny press period or jazz age journalism. As David Hackett Fischer has noted in *Historians’ Fallacies*, periodizations can be artificial and therefore misleading.



Jeff Smith

Can a phenomenon like “yellow journalism” be easily committed to a particular place and time? Rather than move through a succession of epochs in my undergraduate history course, I prepare lectures on media studies concepts like sensationalism, self-censorship, and stereotyping and discuss how they have been altered in some ways, but have remained in essence the same throughout history.

When Christopher Columbus was ruling the New World, his critics were punished severely because, he said, “whoever speaks ill of us deserves death.”

More than 500 years later, as the

statistics compiled by the Committee to Protect Journalists indicate, the use of free expression continues to be a fatal offense in many places.

As the advent of digital resources makes much searching of the past relatively effortless, scholars can sift through enormous amounts of material and find more dots to connect. Sometimes the findings indicate that concepts and practices go back farther than we realize. I have, for example, been able to see the term “right of privacy” in use in newspapers and magazines well before the supposedly seminal *Harvard Law Review* article on the subject in 1890.

Presenting the extended pre-history of standard textbook occurrences provides better understandings how they came to be.

My dual biography of Benjamin Franklin and his grandson Benjamin Franklin Bache seeks to be not only an intellectual history of two prominent journalists, but also an exploration of the origins of Jeffersonian thought in the century before the “Revolution of 1800.”

In writing about teleological news reporting in New England before newspapers and about early nineteenth-century religious publishers paving the way for mass communication, David Paul Nord has shown that historical roots may be found in neglected places.

Finding something wholly novel in media history is difficult. Even inventions that seem to radically change the media may not be so ground-breaking as they appear. As Nord’s essay “The Ironies of
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Notes from the chair: Newseum hosts opening reception

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Freedom Forum to focus on the new project.

The Newseum's opening will be Oct. 15. So the AEJMC reception on Aug. 9 will be a first preview of a \$435 million project that will have three times the space of its predecessor and feature 15 theaters and 14 galleries. Prominent among them is the News History Gallery on the fifth floor, which will showcase the Newseum's extensive collection of historic newspapers and magazines. Supplementing this gallery will be five theaters showing videos on topics in journalism history.

A striking and emblematic feature of the Newseum is the inscription



Coming soon: The new Newseum

of the First Amendment, which is engraved on a 74-foot marble panel that dominates the building's entrance.

The opening reception represents one of several appealing ways of slipping away from the convention hotel for a while. Besides the sneak preview at the Newseum, Washington

abounds in possibilities. An after-dark visit to the District's illuminated monuments and federal buildings is invariably a stunning choice. Another is to take a 90-minute cruise down the Potomac to George Washington's Mount Vernon estate.

It's a very pleasant way of escaping for a few hours—and a superb way of beating the heat and humidity of August in Washington.

W. Joseph Campbell has taught in Washington since 1997, at American University's School of Communication.

Taking the long view in historical research

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Communication Technology" in the April 1986 issue of *Clio* says, "New technology is never so new as people imagine." A "new" medium has precursors.

Radio, for example, was pioneering as the first broadcast medium, but followed publications, telegraph lines, telephones, vaudeville, and the lecture circuit as ways to spread ideas, information, and entertainment quickly.

Television added moving pictures to radio, but people were already familiar with Hollywood films and newsreels,

Serious readers and writers of history and journalism sometimes reasonably conclude that there is

nothing new under the sun. The fictional detective Sherlock Holmes said that the more one reads the annals of crime, the more apparent it is that the same things are done over and over again.

Perhaps Harry Truman put it best:

"The only thing new in the world is the history you don't know."

Taking the long view is a way to see how things change and yet remain the same.

Jeffery A. Smith was chair of the History Division in 1988–89. He is professor and head of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

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Paper competition goes online: An assessment

By **Debbie van Tuyll**

Augusta State
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The new electronic submission system has a lot in common with that classic-turned-cliché from Dickens: “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times.”

The system certainly makes it easy for one person to handle a division’s research competition. I’m in a department with one secretary for 16 people, no graduate assistants and no student assistants, so I was on my own in running the competition, and I don’t think I could have done it the old-fashioned paper way.

By the same token, technology and communications problems made the process more maddening than it needed to be. For example, apparently, some e-mail systems saw the mail coming from within the system as spam, and so a number of reviewers didn’t get the messages that told

them the papers were ready for them. There were other problems, too, with decisions not getting communicated in a timely fashion to the people (research chairs) who needed to know about them.

Bottom line, I think the system is valuable, and I think AEJMC should continue using electronic submissions. I think a lot of the problems were due to system and organization administrators not realizing what research chairs would need to know and when they would need to know it. This next year needs to be spent accumulating everything we learned about the system AND the process and methods it imposes on the divisions, and adjusting system and organizational policies for a better fit. But, we also need to celebrate the fact that we have a technology available to us that makes running a research paper competition a one-person job.

Jan Slater, chair of the council of

divisions, has said overall submissions were up this year, and she thinks that is because of the ease of electronic submissions. History Division submissions didn’t see an appreciable increase. In fact, they stayed about where they have been. Being good historians, we all know better than to attribute any event to a single cause. However, there is no doubt that electronic submissions will have an influence on how the AEJMC research paper competition unfolds each year. Hmmm, maybe there’s a paper topic there

Debbie Van Tuyll is the Division’s vice chair and research chair.

History research papers: Acceptance rates, 2003–07

2003:	81	40	49.4%
2004:	59	33	55.9%
2005:	50	25	50%
2006:	72	31	43%
2007:	67	33	49.3%
Total:	329	162	49.2%

Kielbowicz wins '07 Covert Award

By **Karen List**

Massachusetts
Covert Award Chair

The 23rd annual Covert Award in Mass Communication History has been won by Richard B. Kielbowicz, associate professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Washington.

Kielbowicz won the award for “The Law and Mob Law in Attacks on Antislavery Newspapers, 1833-1860,” published in *Law and History Review* in Fall 2006.

The award, which is one of the History Division’s special competitions, goes to the best mass communication history article or chapter in an edited collection published the previous year. The article by Kielbowicz was selected from 19 nominations.

The award was endowed by the late Catherine L. Covert, who was a professor of public communications at Syracuse University and head of the AEJMC History Division.

Last year’s Covert winners were Thomas Mascaro, for his article,

“Flaws in the Benjamin Report: The Internal Investigation into CBS Reports Documentary ‘The Uncounted Enemy: A Vietnam Deception,’” in *Journalism History* (Summer 2005), and Reed W. Smith, for his study, “Southern Journalists and Lynching: The Statesboro Case Study,” which appeared in *Journalism & Communication Monographs* (Summer 2005).

Karen List, who teaches journalism at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, has chaired the Covert Award competition every year since 1996.

History's afternoon at the Library of Congress

The 75 places available in the History Division's pre-convention workshop at the Library of Congress on Aug. 8, were claimed within the first weeks of registration for the AEJMC convention. The convention opens Aug. 9.

The considerable interest in the workshop came as a bit of a surprise—a pleasant surprise—to History Division officers as well as their Library of Congress contacts.

The workshop will begin Aug. 8 at 1 p.m. with a tour of the Library's landmark Jefferson Building on Capitol Hill. Participants then will hear from LOC experts and curators about making use of the resources of the Newspaper, Manuscript, and Prints & Photographs reading rooms.

Visits to selected reading rooms will be included in the workshop, which will wrap up by 5 p.m.

Workshop participants are to meet at 1 p.m. at the main entrance of the Jefferson Building, which is across from the Capitol, on 1st Street, SE. The nearest Metro station is Capitol South (Orange and Blue lines).

The neoclassical Jefferson Building was opened in November 1897. It is the most prominent and best known

of the Library's three structures on Capitol Hill.

For additional information about the History Division's pre-convention workshop at the Library of Congress, please contact W. Joseph Campbell at wjc@american.edu or at 202/885-2071.



Ornate and stunning: The Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress.

Upcoming AEJMC Conventions:

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2009: Boston
2010: Denver

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