

Looking to set CJIG's goals for this year and the future

By Sharon Hartin Iorio
CJIG president

With the fall semester off and running, it feels as though the AEJMC annual meeting in Washington is very far behind us.

Before it becomes just a distant memory. I want to thank those responsible for organizing the great panels that were very well attended, presenting the research that stretched our thinking, and taking part in the pre-session teaching workshop that generated lots of new ideas.

Civic Journalism's presence at the convention was a strong one. Thanks

Out-going chair Kathy Campbell was a fantastic organizer and kept us focused throughout the 2000-2001 year. Doing double-duty as the teaching standards chair, Kathy also planned the pre-session teaching work-

shop.

Thanks also to Frank Fee and Renita Colman, research co-chairs, for the hard work of managing the paper call and paper selection process.

Brian Massey served as our Webmaster, and Wally Dean attended the mid-winter planning conference in Atlanta where he helped set up our session day and time schedules.

A special thanks goes to our newsletter editor, Charlyne Berens, who perhaps had the most time-consuming job of all.

All the CJ Interest Group officers worked tirelessly, and their work paid off handsomely. The civic journalism sessions at the convention were engaging and enlightening.

CJ data

Here's more good news. As of this fall CJ has the largest membership of



Sharon Hartin Iorio

all the AEJMC interest groups. With approximately 113 members, CJ is also larger than at least two divisions (ethics and scholastic journalism), and CJ, at \$6,824.69, has one of the, if not the, largest accumulated savings of

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Panel proposals solicited for 2002 AEJMC

By Kathy Campbell and David O. Loomis, vice chairs

It's that time again-time to take all those good ideas you had in Washington and turn them into panels that YOU want to attend!

This is your chance to submit a proposal (or several) for sessions at the Miami convention. Proposals don't need to be fancy-just think of a title, write a paragraph describing your idea for a panel or invited paper session, include a list of possible participants, suggest other AEJMC divisions or interest groups that would be likely

co-sponsors (if you know of any), then add your name, address, phone number, email address and other vital information.

Proposals should be e-mailed (preferably formatted in Word as an attachment or included in the body of the e-mail), snail-mailed or faxed so they are received by the end of the day Friday, Oct. 19. Send them to Kathy Campbell, P. O. Box 30003, Eugene OR 97403, phone 541-341-6444, fax: 541-346-0682, e-mail kathycampbell@jcomm.uoregon.edu. Copies of your proposal(s) will be

faxed or emailed the following Monday to CJIG executive committee members as well as to everyone who submitted proposals, requesting feedback and any other ideas generated by our long-distance consultations. We'll take our best ideas to Dallas in early December and try to negotiate top spots and co-sponsors for our panels.

We need your ideas, even if they are not fully formed at the moment. Your ideas might be combined with others to create an excellent panel. Questions? Please feel free to ask!

Covering a new America

How multicultural communities are shaping the future of journalism

Marty Baron, editor of The Boston Globe, spoke at the Pew Center for Civic Journalism luncheon on Tuesday, Aug. 7, at the national convention of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in Washington, D.C. Following are excerpts of his remarks.

A few weeks back, as some of you may recall, Fidel Castro was giving a typically interminable speech. Somewhere in the middle of it, he suddenly stopped, he faltered and he began to buckle. Aides came to his side. They grabbed him, and they gently guided him down to the platform. What happened is Castro had fainted.

Within minutes, Fidel was back on his feet. He looked pretty sickly but he was lucid enough to tell the crowd that he hadn't slept much the night before, that the heat had gotten the better of him, and they could rest assured he'd be back later in the day to keep going with that speech.

Sure enough, at six o'clock that evening he was back, and he was going on and on and on.

Now in most of the country, . . . Castro's fainting spell was not big news. But at *The Miami Herald* and other South Florida newspapers and at local television stations there, Castro's near-collapse was momentous news. *The Herald* actually gave it a banner headline. two stories on the front page, a sequence of pictures showing Castro's collapse and getting up again and two full pages of comprehensive coverage inside. . . . Spanish-language television in Miami covered the incident non-stop. Telemundo carried a line at the bottom of the screen asking: El princi-

pio del fin (the beginning of the end)?

When 57 percent of the population of Miami-Dade County is Hispanic, about half of them of Cuban heritage, the definition of "news" may be far different than what you think it is and what it may be in the rest of the country. . . .

Now the precise numbers escape me at this point, but I think *The Herald's* sales the next day went up something like 3 percent and those of *El Nuevo Herald*, the Spanish-language sister publication, rose in the double digits.

... If you already thought Miami was a country apart, this may confirm it.

Immigration affects news

But Miami is very much a part of the United States, and the disparate treatment of the Castro story shows a lot about how news agendas are taking shape across the country, especially in major metropolitan areas that are feeling the effects of an enormous wave of immigration.

As many of you know, Miami-Dade County has the largest concentration of Hispanics anywhere in the country. You can hear Spanish as much as English. You'll hear talk about foreign policy as much as domestic politics. What happens in Miami, what happens in Cuba, what happens in Venezuela or what happens in Colombia is really local news. *It's* not considered to be foreign news, it's considered to be local news.

The question is: Is Miami a peculiar case? I don't actually think it is and increasingly it won't be.

The population of Boston is now over half minority. . . . In the Boston area, in Lowell, an estimated 30,000

Cambodians live. That's about a third of the city's population. It's the largest Cambodian population [in America] outside of Long Beach, Calif.

California is now a state where minorities are in the majority with an increasingly influential Latino electorate. Orange County, where I was once in charge of the edition, has the country's largest Vietnamese population. In that county, a longtime Republican stronghold, Latinos had reached 40 percent of the population when I left my job there in 1996.

What happens in Mexico, what happens in Nicaragua, what happens in El Salvador, what happens in Vietnam, what happens in China, what happens in Japan is as important to many in California as anything that actually happens in Washington...

I think the profound demographic changes in America strike at key issues for all of us, whether we're currently journalists or preparing to become them or teaching those who intend to become journalists.

New issues surface

How well do we understand our new communities? Is the agenda of the immigrant communities substantially different than the journalistic agenda that we have come to accept? Do their agendas include issues that are simply off the radar for the national media in the United States? Micro issues on a national scale, but all-consuming issues on the local level like the Castro issue? And if so, how do we deal with that?

Why is it also that most staffers at newspapers know so little about other

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Setting goals

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any AEJMC division or interest group.

Our new charge

Those who attended the annual business meeting at the convention will remember the request from the Council of Divisions that CJ write an “official” statement of our goals.

The consensus of those at the business meeting was that our executive committee should take on the task of writing goals for CJ.

At the first executive-committee meeting on Wednesday following Sunday’s business meeting, several ideas were voiced as to what direction(s) we should take in the future, but in the short time between the salad and desert we didn’t reach a consensus. Because the charge remains and because goals are best produced by input from all stakeholders, we’re asking your help. Tanni Haas of Brooklyn College has agreed to chair this effort, and it begins with this newsletter.

Questionnaire

We’re starting a modified Delphi decision-making process for the interest group. Enclosed in this newsletter, you’ll find a questionnaire in which we ask members to help set the goals for the interest group by giving us their responses to two open-ended questions.

*What do you think should be the goal(s) of our CJ interest group?

- “What ideas do you have for the funds CJ has accumulated (other than the research awards of \$100.00 each for the outstanding faculty and student papers that have been an established practice of the group for several years)?

In the second newsletter, Tanni will list the responses we receive in order of those most often mentioned and ask members to rank-order them according to those they think are most important. He’ll organize the responses he

receives from the second round, and by the third newsletter we should have our goals established (with a maximum of member input) and a written summary of the results.

We’ll follow up with e-mail reminders that ask you to participate by sending us your thoughts on the questionnaires.

Tanni will present the findings as an agenda item for the CJ business meeting in Miami in August 2002. After discussion and action there we hope to forward a finalized goals statement to the AEJMC Council of Divisions in August of 2002.

If you are willing to help read and organize the responses and write the goals for the business meeting, please let Tanni know. He can be reached at thaas@brooklyn.cuny.edu by phone at 718-951-5225, or by post at 134 Second Place 4th floor Brooklyn, New York, 11231-4137.

E-mail editor

Another piece of good news is that Susan Willey of Florida Atlantic University has agreed to oversee an interest group e-mail list. Her e-mail notices should keep us in much closer contact with each other between newsletters. Plus, the listserv can create and sustain interest for our CJ activities such as goal development and the other projects you’ll read about below.

New officers

The officer roster for the 2001-2002 year includes co-vice chairs for program, Kathy Campbell, University of Oregon, and David Loomis, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Co-chairs for research are Michael McDevitt, University of Colorado, and Cole Campbell.

The teaching standards chair is Cheryl Gibbs, Earlham College, and the professional freedom and responsibility chair is John Palen, Central Michigan.

Charlyne Berens will continue as newsletter editor. Susan Willey will take the new chair for email communication, and Brian Massey will continue as CJ Webmaster.

We have a very active and productive group of officers for the 2001-2002 year. I want to thank them now for their willingness to take a CJ interest group office.

2002 panel proposals

It hardly seems possible, but October will be here shortly and with it the call for panel proposals for next year’s annual meeting in Miami. Co-vice chairs Kathy Campbell and David Loomis are awaiting your ideas.

If you have a great idea, know of those with expertise in an area of special interest or just have a question you think needs to be addressed by our national membership, let Kathy or David know.

You’ll see their call for panel proposals and details on how to get in touch with them elsewhere in this newsletter.

Midyear meeting

Co-vice chair Kathy Campbell will be taking charge of plans for CJ to join three other divisions to hold a midyear conference at the University of Georgia. The strategy is to solicit paper abstracts for a weekend conference tentatively scheduled for February.

The idea now is that the papers will be considered “works in progress,” and, therefore, the papers selected for presentation may be revised and resubmitted to future paper calls.

Kathy says she is looking for help with the CJ paper call and review for the conference. If you are interested, please contact her.

Thanks to all for agreeing to serve. We have a very large and involved CJ membership and a great line-up of officers. I am privileged to serve as your chair, and I look forward to the coming year.

Covering a new America

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cultures? And what are we doing to fix that? How well can we communicate with the people that we're covering? Why is it that so few people on our staffs speak other languages? And what are we doing to fix that? . . .

How, particularly in major metropolitan areas that are most affected by the waves of immigration, can we convert newcomers to the United States and their children into readers of our newspapers? How relevant is our current coverage to these newcomers and their children? Should the coverage of today be shifted to recognize that their interests and needs may be quite different? . . . Shouldn't this cause us to reassess the long-running decline in foreign coverage at most newspapers and broadcast networks as well?

Castro's fainting incident suggests that there are, indeed, some subjects that will be of overwhelming consuming interest to a segment of our readers but that won't register at all with the national media. If we fail to give these subjects adequate attention, we risk irrelevance. If we lack the tools to cover these subjects appropriately, I think we demonstrate incompetence. . . .

For *The Miami Herald*, coverage of Castro's near-collapse was, in fact, a no-brainer . . . We were well-prepared to deal with that story. [We had] a foreign editor, who speaks Spanish fluently and has covered Latin America extensively. A correspondent responsible for Cuba who has been to the country perhaps a dozen times. A staff that was prepared to tap into diplomatic circles and that knew enough about its community that it could fully reflect the reaction and the mood of the Cuban population. . . .

Cuban-Americans would say they were not very well served by the

national media. More important, in my view, is that readers and viewers of the national media weren't well served. Because they were denied the opportunity to understand why Cuban-Americans felt as they did, why Miami's Cubans seemed to be out of step with the rest of American public opinion. They didn't have to agree, but they certainly should have understood.

Most of the people who are here today are involved, I think, in teaching journalism. The question is what does all of this have to do with you? How should this influence journalism education?

Push students out of the classroom

I think what you need to do is . . . help our profession become less insular. I really do believe that we, as a profession, are way too insular. We spend too much time in the office and too little in the field. Our social lives tend to revolve around each other rather than around people in other lines of work. . . . I think we could do with fewer television shows where journalists interview other journalists.

Those who teach journalism can help. One way you can help, and I don't expect this to get applause in all honesty, is by teaching less pure journalism and letting students learn more about something else. Learn a language, learn more about government, study Chinese history or mathematics or science or art. If you're trying to pack students' course work with more pure journalism classes, I think you're making a mistake. You need to make your programs more interdisciplinary. Set up collaborative programs with other departments. Why not special language seminars geared toward the vocabulary necessary for everyday street-level journalism? Encourage students to spend a semester or a year overseas. And not just in Europe, but

in Latin America or Asia, where the new Americans are actually coming from. In fact, why not go beyond encouraging them and actually make it a requirement?

Mostly, I believe you need to structure journalism programs that push your students out of the classroom so that they are exposed to people who are wholly different, who speak another language, who come from different countries, who hold different beliefs, who see the world through a very, very different lens.

Too much of journalism education today, it seems to me, revolves around the machines that we're actually using when it should be focusing on how we can best pursue our mission. Too much time on convergence, too much time in the classroom, too little time in the community. --

I'm familiar with one program that I consider to be just outstanding, and it is taught by a friend of mine, a professor of journalism at UC-Berkeley. The program is her class on foreign reporting . . . She takes her whole class to Cuba, to Mexico or to El Salvador. And at the end they produce essentially a magazine of all that they've learned.

I asked her to just send me a note on what it is they do. I thought that I would share that with you here today.

A case study for educators

"Generally over Christmas break and for the first two weeks of class we read a couple of books or essays that give history or a sharp sense of the country. When we went to El Salvador, we read "Matanza," a book written long ago but one that gives the essence of the land battle. In addition, there were selected readings from more contemporary histories.

"When we went to Mexico, we read

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Covering a new America

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'Conquest' and Alan Riding's 'Distant Neighbors.' With Cuba, we went back to Hugh Thomas' major work. For almost anywhere in Latin America, 'Utopia Unarmed: The Latin American Left After the Cold War,' is essential, but sometimes I just assign chapters.

"Next we read major magazine or newspaper pieces written in the last five years. Students are also assigned to different newspapers online. The magazine pieces are chosen to make students current and also to teach them how to write a narrative. So sometimes I have to throw in pieces that aren't about the country but I'm trying to introduce them to different types of structure to get them thinking about how to tell a story.

"We meet twice a week so one class meeting is taken up discussing the reading and the other class meeting with getting backgrounders from economists, social scientists, World Bank folks, writers, anyone who might be able to give them briefings and answer questions that come off the reading. Briefings continue until we leave. Some are in person; others are over the phone.

"By the fifth week, they've chosen an area they want to report in and over the next five weeks they're doing reporting and finding an angle and a way to tell the story. For example, somebody decided to do something on women in the Cuban revolution. That's kind of like saying: Do you want to write about love, rape? Where's the story? She eventually decided to profile four women who lived in Manzanillo, the base of the guerrilla network during the war in an operation run by Celia Sanchez.

"By the time she got to Cuba, she had one name and lots of background. She flew immediately to Manzanillo and one name led her to another. She wrote four lovely profiles of women that essentially tell the story of Manzanillo and the revolution. Lots of surprises, a really lovely close-up.

"They find their stories by doing an awful lot of reporting before we go on the trip. And to make sure they are getting somewhere, I have them write weekly memos that are shared by everyone.

"By the time we land in the country, I'm pretty sure that most of the stories are going to work out. I spend a half

day or a full day with most of them. What I find is that they often are too nice or too demanding in interviews. I can intervene and give them a sense of how to do it, how to get in places that they are having trouble with. Mostly this means getting them off the phone in their hotel rooms and onto the streets. They are often amazed that the answer to getting someone is to arrive at the office . . ."

Now why can't this sort of program be replicated in other settings? It doesn't have to be overseas. Why can't a class be dispatched to live for a week among the Latinos of East Los Angeles or among the Vietnamese of Boston or the Greeks of Astoria, Queens? Design a project, research it in advance, send students out of the classroom and into the field and out of their zone of comfort.

The rapidly changing demographics of our cities is not exactly catching us off-guard. We know about it but we're not moving quickly enough or skillfully enough to deal with it. There are some praiseworthy efforts under way like the one I mentioned. But as a profession, I think we have to do much, much more.

C JIG launched in cyberspace

The Civic Journalism Interest Group site on the World Wide Web went live in May at www.geocities.com/civicjournalism1/.

The site offers visitors the latest and several past editions of the CJIG News, and a bibliography of civic-journalism books and book chapters, journal articles, conference papers, trade publications, and reports.

Contributions are needed to the CJ

Teaching Resources page. If you have developed a civic journalism course or offer units on civic journalism with any of your other courses, please e-mail your syllabi and teaching tips to Webmaster Brian Massey at brian.massey@utah.edu.

Also, Brian is looking for hard copies of the CJIG News for these editions: Winter 2000, Spring 1999, Winter 1999, Spring 1998, Winter

1998 and Summer 1998. If you have one or more of them in your files, please snail-mail clean photocopies to Brian at the Department of Communication, 255 S. Central Campus Dr., Rm 2400, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112-0491.

Suggestions about the site — what to add and what (gasp!) to take away — are encouraged.

Journalism interactive

Survey pinpoints sea change in attitudes and practices; Engagement defines new era of journalism

WASHINGTON, DC — U.S. newspapers report dramatic changes in the way they define and cover news and even how they view their mission, a new survey of the nation's top editors reveals.

Key among the findings is that editors report a sharply increased appetite for more two-way connections with readers. Nine of 10 editors surveyed also say the future of the industry depends on even more interactivity with readers.

"This represents a sea change in the relationship between newsrooms and the public for a whole generation of journalists who joined the profession after Watergate," says Jan Schaffer, executive director of the Pew Center for Civic Journalism. The Pew Center sponsored the survey, along with the Associated Press Managing Editors association and the National Conference of Editorial Writers.

The unprecedented survey of all daily newspapers with circulation of 20,000 and more shows many papers are covering more topics than ever before. More than a third are covering more territory than ever before. Seventy percent of the newspapers responded.

"This survey tracks a hopeful and overdue trend in newsrooms," says Chris Peck, APME president and editor of The Spokesman-Review, in Spokane, Wash. "Journalists are realizing their role is to connect with readers and interact with communities, not be disconnected and aloof."

Peck released details of the survey on July 26 at a National Press Club luncheon in Washington, D.C.

"The poll reflects that newspapers finally have gotten the message that a press that too often emphasizes conflict and controversy to the exclusion of explanatory and public service journalism alienates readers," said Jack Nelson, chairman of the Pew Center's Advisory Board and Chief Washington Correspondent for the Los Angeles Times.

The study shows that the new communication technologies and the new geography of journalism "are forcing news organizations to pay attention. They are reassessing what they do — and how they do it," says Schaffer. "There is a higher comfort level for relinquishing traditional control and building journalism that is less of a one-way pipeline for information and more of a two-way conversation."

Few editors in the survey describe their newspaper's role

in the community as simply a disseminator of facts. Eighty-seven percent say newspapers should have a broader role in the community beyond just printing news.

The editors rank "news explainer" first among six specific roles that newspapers can play. "News breaker" comes in second; "investigative watchdog," third; "catalyst for community conversation" and "community steward" follow. The role of "disseminator of just the facts" finishes last.

Large majorities of editors say they now offer many entry points for readers to interact with reporters and editors. Interactive avenues include widespread use of e-mail addresses and phone numbers for reporters; tips lines for reader ideas; venues, aside from editorial pages, for readers' own stories; and Web postings of news-gathering queries. More than half the respondents say they have convened conversations about a key community issue outside the newsroom.

Editors see newspapers 'primary role as that of 'news explainer'

"So much of current newsroom focus in journalism is on the 'C' word — convergence," Schaffer says. "But this survey suggests the focus

should be on a different 'C' word — citizens. The kinds of interactions with readers will then dictate the appropriate news platform."

Editors who say they practice civic journalism, by seeking actively to engage readers in key issues, are more likely than professed non-civic journalists to have adopted a variety of outreach mechanisms. Forty-five percent of the editors surveyed say their newsrooms use both the tools and techniques of civic journalism.

Still, the survey found editors to be less comfortable with the label, civic journalism, although the philosophy and tools are enjoying broad acceptance. While 19 percent of the editors say they "embrace the label civic journalism," a much larger group — 47 percent — say they "like the philosophy/dislike the label." Just 10 percent say they "recoil" from the label; 9 percent say they dislike both the philosophy and the label.

Nearly two-thirds of the editors say their newsrooms have formed partnerships with another local organization during the development of stories.

The survey also shows considerable changes in the way

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Survey shows sea change

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stories are written. More than half the editors say they have made a conscious effort to move away from building their stories around a conventional frame of conflict. Among the new approaches:

ω Roughly one-third indicate they prefer to frame their stories around the potential impact of a news event on people or the community.

ω Eight in 10 say they offer stories about potential solutions to community problems at least some of the time.

ω Forty-three percent say they make an effort, most of the time, to include the views of all potential stakeholders.

ω Fifty-seven percent say, most of the time, they try to report trade-offs their community might be forced to make in addressing problems.

The need to connect more with readers has prompted considerable shifts in the topics covered by many daily newspapers. One-quarter of the editors say their papers are covering education issues more than they did five years ago; nearly that many say they've increased coverage of health,

medicine and personal fitness over the last five years.

In addition, 22 percent report increased coverage of business and personal finance; 21 percent report more coverage of regional growth and development. Three-quarters of the editors say their papers are covering fewer routine government and school board meetings.

One editor explains his newspaper's decision to scale back coverage of routine governmental meetings by volunteering: "Political pissing contests and personality conflicts — these things, unless they actually affect real people, are pointless."

Surveyed were 512 U.S. dailies with circulations of 20,000 or more. Responses were collected via mail, e-mail and telephone and analyzed by the Campaign Study Group of Springfield, Va. Seventy percent, some 360 editors, responded.

The "Journalism Interactive" survey was funded by the Pew Center for Civic Journalism, an initiative of The Pew Charitable Trusts. To read the whole study, visit www.pew-center.org or call the Pew Center at 202-331-3200 for a copy.

Pew-supported projects involve citizens in policy choices

WASHINGTON, DC — Clickable Web maps that let the public chart choices around growth, reapportionment their Congressional districts, track water-supply consequences and simulate family scenarios are ushering in a new era of high-tech engagement in several of the 14 initiatives the Pew Center for Civic Journalism will fund in the coming year.

"Advances in technology have sharpened newsroom appetites to find ways to engage citizens directly in tough issues and figure out some solutions," said Jack Nelson, chairman of the advisory board and chief Washington correspondent for the Los Angeles Times.

The following media received grants for the coming year:

KGW-TV (NBC), kgw.com, Portland, Ore.; Portland Tribune, Beaverton Valley Times, Tigard Times, Gresham Outlook, Clackamas Review: To help plan for future growth in the Portland area.

BET.com, Black Entertainment Tele-

vision News, Washington, D.C.: To engage the black community interactively in current family issues.

The Savannah Morning News, Savannah, Ga., savannahnow.com, Georgia Public Radio: To help the community manage competing demands for water.

WXXI-TV and Nycitizens.org with WPBS, WCNY, WNET, WLIW, WMHT, WCFE, WSKG, WNED public television stations: To involve New York state citizens in redrawing Congressional districts.

The Spokesman-Review, spokesman-review.com, Spokane, Wash.: To develop three Web-based beats to cover virtual communities of interest.

WFAA-TV (ABC). Dallas: To use video boxes to elicit stories of racial discrimination.

The Cincinnati Enquirer, WCET-TV (PBS), WCPO-TV (ABC), Kettering Foundation, National Issues Forums: To stimulate dialogue around tensions that sparked recent race riots.

The Orange County Register, Excel-

sior, Santa Ana, Calif., OCRegister.com, Myoc.com, California State University-Fullerton: To build a community map and create coverage relevant to Hispanics.

The Herald-Dispatch, Huntington, W.Va., West Virginia Public Broadcasting: To examine the exodus of young people from the state.

The News Tribune, Tacoma, Wash., KCTS-TV (PBS), KPLU-FM: To explore the state parole system's future.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Pittsburgh, Pa., KDKA-TV (CBS), KDKA Radio, Pennsylvania Newspapers Association: To help citizens access open records.

WTVJ-TV (NBC), Miami, Fla., The Miami Herald. Ocean Drive Magazine: To engage the community in looming environmental issues.

WGBH radio and television, Boston, Mass.. The Boston Globe, WILD-AM, WRCA-AM: To track education reform efforts in the state.

Herald & Review, WILL-TV (PBS), Decatur, Ill.: To explore the highschool dropout rate.

Jan Schafer, Pew Center honored at C JIG's August business meeting

Chair Kathy Campbell opened the annual business meeting on Sunday, Aug. 5, at 6 p.m. following a short social gathering with refreshments. The first order of business was the presentation of a plaque to the Pew Center for Civic Journalism in recognition of its contribution to the work of the interest group.

The plaque was presented to Jan Schaffer, executive director of the Pew Center; in addition, the groups' appreciation was extended to Pew staffers Rebecca Wyhof, Dana Felty and Katie Lee, who had also been invited to attend. They were also presented with a box of the Northwest's finest chocolate truffles.

The chair distributed copies of the annual report and the current balance sheet, which reflected a balance of \$6,8224.69. She also summarized the preliminary reports from the standing

committees on PF&R and Teaching Standards, which had been received earlier in the day. Current membership was reported at 113.

The chair announced that the mid-winter meeting of AEJMC would be held in Dallas on Nov. 30 -Dec. 1. The interest group has been invited to participate in a midwinter research conference hosted by the University of Georgia; after brief discussion, a group consensus emerged directing the officers to proceed with planning for the event, and authorizing the reasonable expenditure of any necessary funds.

The chair reported on the ongoing debate about Web publication; she was directed to continue to voice CJIG's opposition to a proposal in count web postings as publications. (NOTE: AEJMC has subsequently tabled this discussion indefinitely.)

The members discussed the future of

CJIG. The consensus was that CJIG should go forward with vigor and that the incoming chair and vice-chair would draft a mission statement for review, with input from the group. The mission statement will serve as the goals statement for the annual report.

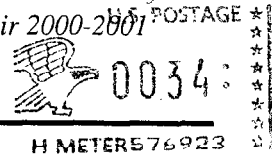
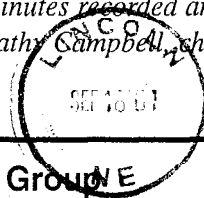
New officers were elected as follows: Sharon Iorio, chair; Kathy Campbell and Dave Loomis, co-vice chairs; Charlyne Berens, newsletter; Cheryl Gibbs, Teaching Standards chair; and John Palen, PF&R chair. The research paper competition chair will be filled pending the nominee's return to his campus and his assessment of the duties of his new faculty post.

Annual dues for the interest group were not changed from the current \$10.

Minutes recorded and submitted by

Kathy Campbell, chair 2000-2001

FIRST CLASS



CIVIC JOURNALISM INTEREST GROUP NEWS

is published by the Civic Journalism Interest Group of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

Membership in the interest group includes a subscription to this newsletter. Non-members can receive the newsletter by sending a \$10 donation to the Civic Journalism Interest Group with a request to receive CJIG News to AEJMC, 234 Outlet Pointe Blvd., Suite A, Columbia, SC 29210-5667. The newsletter is published two to four times each year.

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