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The Newsletter of the Radio-Television Journalism Division of AEJMC Vol. 49, No. 1 March, 2010

Chipping Away

How AEJMC Creates the Convention Grid

**By Susan Zuckerman
RTVJ Vice Head/Programming Chair**

It is, as RTVJ Division Head Gary Hanson likes to point out, a system that only academics could invent. First you send emails to program chairs in other divisions or interest groups that have the tone of, if not the content of, a major corporate merger: “Would you like to co-sponsor Panel 175 with RTVJ? How about Panel 126?”

Sometimes you have to add a sweetener: “I think we would be good fit” or “We’ve been trying to make a deal for a long time. Maybe this is the one.”

If the other program chair suggests this may work, you have a tentative deal.

Then, the heads and program chairs from all AEJMC’s divisions and interests groups plus anyone else whose curiosity is piqued,

climb aboard airplanes on a cold, gray Friday in December and fly off to— oh, let’s say Jacksonville, Florida— for a rendezvous at a hotel.

Why are they there? To eat dessert: chocolate cake with rich chocolate frosting, cream puffs, marzipan, pecan pie, chocolate covered strawberries, chocolate mousse, chocolate covered chocolates, and for the faint of heart, melon.

One should sit to eat such delicacies. One should savor them, pass them around the table, and speak effusively about them: “You must try this. It’s fabulous.” “Have you tasted the baked Alaska? How did they get the brandy in the middle?”

How indeed? Find out on Page 5

Electronic News – A New Chapter *By Gary Hanson, Kent State University*



Welcome to a new chapter of Electronic News, the RTVJ division’s quarterly journal. The spring issue is the first to be published as part of our new relationship with Sage Publications, one of the leading publishers of scholarly journals in the country.

(You can see the results at <http://enx.sagepub.com>)

The new journal will be distributed electronically and will be available to all division members as part of their RTVJ dues.

The transition from paper to online reflects the trends that all media companies are facing - questions of economics and content distribution – and academic publishing has not been spared.

Learn more on Page 7

“Future-Casting?”

By Kathleen M. Ryan, Miami University

The news from the broadcast networks in February of 2010 was grim.

CBS News announced major cutbacks and reassignments in the news division due to declining ad revenues -- an aftershock of the lingering recession. The *New York Observer* reported top news producers were among those let go, including Mark Katkov, Jill Rosenbaum, Roberta Hollander, Barbara Pierce, and Larry Doyle, the network’s former bureau chief in Baghdad. Several key reporters were reassigned from the network to the less-prestigious position of working for the affiliate news service, CBS Newspath.

Of course, doing more with less (euphemistically known as “downsizing”) is nothing new in the news industry. The broadcast networks went through a similar purge as recently as 2008. And the situation in television isn’t quite as dire as that for newspapers: by mid-2009 105 newspapers had shut down, and 10,000 jobs had been lost, according to *Silicon Alley Insider*.

But amidst all the bad news are some signs of life: innovative collaborations between industry, academia and non-profit organizations designed to improve reporting and forge a potential future for journalism. RTVJ, along with Visual Communication, will be sponsoring a mini-plenary session at this year’s AEJMC annual convention in Denver. “The New Convergence: Innovations in Industry and Academic Collaborations” investigates these partnerships.

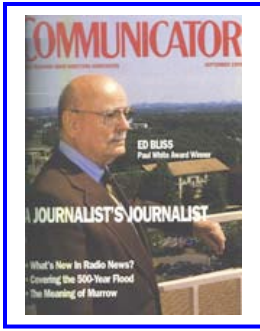
Current participants include:

- Patricia Dean, Annenberg School of Journalism and Communication, University of Southern California. Patricia leads USC’s chapter of News21, a collaboration of 12 universities presenting investigative and in-depth reporting by students on cross-disciplinary topics. Their work can be seen at <http://www.news21.com/>

- Cheryl Gibbs, Miami University. Cheryl is director of MiWhiNews, a regional news collaborative Southwestern Ohio/Southeastern Indiana. The experiment (currently in beta testing) allows students to produce news, and regional media outlets to share news. <http://www.mi-whinews.org/>
- Rich Gordan, Medill at Northwestern University. Rich is the Director of Digital Technology in Education, and each year leads Medill students in industry collaborations.
- Jennifer A. Palilonis, Ball State University. Jennifer has partnered with the City of Muncie and *The Star Press*, working with design and graphics majors to develop multimedia news and information apps. for the iPhone.

The panel is scheduled for Wednesday, August 4th, at 3:45 p.m.





Bliss Award Call for Nominations

Ed Bliss Award for
Distinguished Broadcast Journalism Education
Deadline: March 26, 2010

Ed Bliss Award for Distinguished Broadcast Journalism Education
Deadline: March 26, 2010

The Edward L. Bliss Award for Distinguished Broadcast Journalism Education is presented annually by the Radio-Television Journalism Division (RTVJ) of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. This award recognizes an electronic journalism educator who has made a significant and lasting contribution to the field.

Criteria for nomination and selection:

*Teaching: Evidence of excellent teaching may come from a nominee's dean, director, or department chairperson, current or former students, faculty colleagues, etc. Letters should contain specific examples of teaching quality.

*Service: This may include major responsibilities or leadership in professional or educational organizations such as AEJMC, RTNDA, SPJ, state broadcast news organizations, etc.

*Research: The nominee should exhibit enhancement of teaching and service through professional and/or academic writing and research. Examples include journal articles, articles in professional trade publications, and creative work for broadcast.

The award will be presented at the RTVJ business meeting at the conference in Denver on Thursday, August 5, 2010. The recipient will receive a personal plaque and a waiver of conference registration fees. In addition, the recipient's name will become part of a permanent plaque to be housed at American University in Washington D.C.

Nominations are solicited from the broadcast media, professional organizations and associations, and broadcast educators or students. Nomination materials should include a nomination letter attesting to the nominee's qualifications in teaching, service and research; recommendation letters supporting the nomination, and any other testimonial materials that may advance the nominee's cause. Letters from students, faculty or broadcasters are welcome.

Send nominations postmarked by March 26, 2010 to:

Dr. Nancy Dupont
School of Journalism and New Media
The University of Mississippi
Box 1848
University, Mississippi 38677-1848

Past winners of the Ed Bliss Award (formerly Distinguished
Broadcast Journalism Educator Award):

Jack Shelly, Iowa State (1983)
Ed Bliss, American University(1984)
Dick Yoakam, Indiana (1985)
Henry Lippold, Wisconsin-Eau Claire (1986)
Rod Gelatt, Missouri (1987)
Mitchell Charnley, Minnesota (1988)
Don Brown, Arizona State (1989)
Irving Fang, Minnesota (1990)
Ernest F. Andrews, Syracuse (1991)
Al Anderson, Texas- Austin (1992)
Michael Murray, Missouri-St. Louis (1993)
Joseph R. Dominick, Georgia (1994)
Joan Konner, Columbia (1995)
Gordon Greb, San Jose State (1996)
Travis Linn, Nevada-Reno (1997)
Vernon Stone, Missouri (1998)
Elmer Lower, ABC, NBC (1999)
Ken Keller, SIU-Carbondale (2000)
Lincoln Furber, American University (2001)
James Hoyt, Wisconsin (2002)
Phillip O. Keirstead, Florida A&M University (2003)
Thomas Griffiths, Brigham Young University (2004)
Peter Mayeux, University of Nebraska (2005)
Bill Knowles, The University of Montana (2006)
Jim Upshaw, The University of Oregon (2007)
Glenn Johnson, Washington State University (2008)
Sam Swan, University of Tennessee (2009)

Chipping Away

Continued from page 1



But no, the dessert social is not focused on the desserts. Surrounded by 10,000 calories, beckoned by the promise of sugar and fat, the heads and chairs eschew the physical delights of noshing for the far nobler activity of Confirming the Deal.

During the course of the evening, one runs (trots, actually; we are academics) from one table to another to ask, “Do we have a deal on Panel 236?” “Yes,” comes the answer, or, more probably, “I’m waiting to hear from the Magazine Division about Panel 128. They’re trying to make a deal with the Graduate Interest Group, but the Graduate Interest Group has a chip reduction, and they already have deals with four other groups, so they don’t know if they can make a deal with us. I’ll let you know when I know.”

What? I thought these deals were done before we got on the planes.

No, there are always deals that seemed like deals but were only feelers. Or extra half chips floating around. Or the desire to find an extra half chip to get that panel you really want but which appeals to no other program chair.

The fat, sugary desserts call out to you, reach for you as you race (trot) pass them, but now you do not hear their siren call. You are on your way to offer your chip for their chip. You are deep into the haggling of the Dessert Auction.

The uninitiated are now asking: What’s with the chips?

Chips, which on Friday night exist only theoretically but appear in all their plastic glory on Saturday morning, are the currency AEJ uses to keep track of how many panels are put on the convention schedule and who sponsors which panel. Each division gets seven chips, which can be divided into 14 half chips. Each interest group gets three and one-half chips, which can also be divided.

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Chipping Away

Continued from page 5

Each panel costs a full chip. So a good strategy, and the reason for all the deals, is to co-sponsor a panel with another division or interest group. Each contributes a half chip and gets its name on 14 panels instead of seven, or in the case of interest groups, eight panels instead of four.

Of course, that's too simple, because there are also panels or meetings that cost no chips, poster sessions that may cost a chip or not, panels that cost two chips, and the terrifying and dreadful Chip Reduction, which means every few years a division has one chip less and an interest group has one-half chip less than everyone else, a partial solution to the absolutely packed convention program.

Friday night is over. The ravages of the dessert social come to an end. One seldom sees a dessert being devoured, but there are empty plates sitting around, probably planted by the wait staff as a marketing device.

At 7:30 a.m. Saturday morning, the heads and chairs appear at the Chip Auction Breakfast (coffee, tea, eggs, bacon, sausage, orange juice, grapefruit juice, apple juice, scones, Danish, muffins, and, for the faint of heart, melon) eating as though they had not consumed 10,000 calories Friday night. (They had not.)

They have to eat, because the Chip Auction begins at 8 a.m. and they will need their strength.

The crowd sits down at tables set up in a big square. At each spot on the table are actual, plastic poker chips, 14 for divisions and seven for interest groups (except for those who have chip reductions). Each chip is really a half chip, although you can't tell by looking. In the center of the square formed by the tables is a large, empty bowl.

Each division and interest group has a spot at the table. This is where the Person Who Calls the Panel sits. Behind the Person Who Calls the Panel are the runners, who, as the action heats up, run (trot) from one division to another to make sure the deals are still done and to confirm Who Will Call It.

Who Calls It is important, and has usually been negotiated during the Dessert Social, but Who Calls It also can change in an instant depending on the Rotation and Where It Starts. It starts by drawing the name of a division or interest group out of a hat — or box — or shoe — everyone is too frightened to notice.

Let's say RTVJ gets the first pick (it didn't; let's fantasize). The One Who Calls It announces the day, time, panel number, and sponsor and co-sponsor IN THAT ORDER and the information is written on an overhead transparency, which no one can read. If the information is not called IN THE PROPER ORDER, the information may not be written in the right place on the grid and the world of the chip auction will dissolve into chaos.

Filling in the grid is easy for the first go round. Lots of slots are open and they are all good slots.

RTVJ calls its first panel, which it is co-sponsoring with Newspaper. Designated Throwers from RTVJ and Newspaper throw a chip (really a half chip, but you can't tell by looking) toward the bowl. The goal is to get to the chip into the bowl. Because we are academics and because the chips weigh almost nothing, this seldom happens. When it does, there are whoops and applause, but, alas, no prize.

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Chipping Away

Continued from page 6

At the end of the first go round, the president of AEJ counts up seven positions, and we begin the second ROTATION. That's easy too, and the third ROTATION is only a little stressful.

But as the morning progresses, steam begins to rise. It is the fourth ROTATION, and fewer good slots are available.

It's the fifth ROTATION. Yikes! Now The One Who Calls It is really important because if you are co-sponsoring a panel with VizComm, and VizComm is fourth in the fifth ROTATION and you are twelfth, you need to make sure VizComm will call your panel. The runner trots over to confer with VizComm.

Oh, no! They have another panel they are giving priority to! You'll have to Call It from your weak twelfth position in the fifth ROTATION! You watch in horror as those nasty divisions sitting ahead of you gobble up the last of the semi-decent slots.

And that is why we have some very good panels scheduled Saturday. You should come.

It is 12:30 p.m. The Chip Auction ends 30 minutes early. We get on our airplanes.

On Sunday, the emails begin: "I'll trade two panelists on Panel 118 for two panelists on Panel 132. Do we have a deal?"



Electronic News – A New Chapter

Continued from Page 1

The division was forced to change publishers last summer after Taylor and Francis, our previous publisher, informed us that they would be ending their relationship with the division at the end of 2009. Thanks to the efforts of editors Charlie Tuggle and Bob Papper, we were able to begin negotiations with Sage at last summer's convention in Boston and conclude them successfully last December. The first issue of Electronic News under the auspices of Sage is now available online.

Admittedly, we didn't have a lot of choices, but the decision to partner with Sage was exactly the right thing to do. The decision to go electronic was not without its initial cautions. Some members expressed concerns over the viability of electronic journals, particularly for promotion and tenure committees. There is something, well, hefty, about being able to hold the paper journal in your hand. The electronic layout of Electronic News will continue to look as it did before and will be in the format of a traditionally printed journal. Printouts and .pdf files will look (and feel) like the old paper copies. The manuscripts themselves will continue to undergo the same rigorous review as before. You can bet that Charlie and Bob will see to that.

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It is our belief that most academic journals will be online in the next few years anyway. In this regard, Electronic News is leading the pack. As our partnership with Sage moves forward, we're looking for opportunities to take advantage of the features that electronic publishing provides – interactivity, specialized versions for specialized audiences (think the professional journalists and our RTDNA partners). Electronic publishing gives Electronic News the perfect (and obvious) platform to disseminate our scholarship and creative activity.

That brings me to a second, and ultimately more important, point. As members of the RTVJ division, we need to back our commitment to Electronic News with our most important product, which is our scholarship. The future of the publication depends on its content, just as we teach our students about the content they produce. The industry is demanding fresh thinking – our thinking – to meet the challenges brought about by the changes in content production and distribution, the inroads of new media, economic challenges for old media, technical innovations, new examples of old theories, and a hundred other topics. Electronic News will survive only if we renew our commitment as a division to give it our very best efforts at scholarship and critical thinking. We have put some ideas into place already. For examples, papers selected for presentation at the Denver Convention will be automatically reviewed for publication in Electronic News (with permission of the authors, of course).

We face an economic challenge of our own. Taylor and Francis dropped the journal for economic reasons. It wasn't making enough money, particularly with institutional sales to university libraries. In that regard, Sage is treating Electronic News as a startup project, which gives us a couple of years to build those institutional sales. But build them we must.

The best way to do this in the short term is by you talking to the research and acquisition departments in your university library. Times are tough, and library funds are short, but each one of us needs to make the case that the content of Electronic News is too good to pass up.

Congratulations to Charlie and Bob, and our new publishing partner, John Paul Gutierrez from Sage. Sage has been a great company to work with so far, and I'm confident that that excellent relationship will continue. Thanks, too, to the members of the ad hoc journal task force that gave up a morning at the Boston Convention to work through some of the initial details.

We're into the next chapter of Electronic News. The best issues are still to come.

Panels for AEJMC Convention *Denver 2010*

Tuesday Pre-convention: Panel 156, Newspaper and RTVJ.

Contact: John Carvalho, Auburn University, 334-844-4454

Title: Newsroom to Classroom: Adapting from JMC Pro to JMC Faculty

Panel Type: Panel Research/Teaching

A number of new JMC faculty come straight from the business. They have strong professional skills but often haven't thought about producing scholarly work since grad school. Our experts can show how to adapt that newsroom or agency experience to successful pedagogy and research. The panelists and intended audience would be professional journalists, with the only difference being their time in academia. We're thinking of packaging this as a pre-con event on Tuesday afternoon, most likely two 90-minute panels – one focusing on the transition to teaching, the other on publication writing – with a short break between. Here's how the two sessions would look:

- Session 1 –War Stories: Putting your Experience to Work in the Academy
The panelists offer their best suggestions from their own adjustments to the classroom, everything from establishing a professional “feel” and grading to making the best use of your former colleagues who offered to guest lecture.
- Session 2 – From AP to APA Style: Whittling your research wish list to a workable agenda
After years writing for big audiences, now your career depends on satisfying a more select (and selective) group. What veteran journalist-educators say they should have been told about publication writing on the way in. We have always had professionals transition into professors with too-little awareness of what academic life calls for.

We believe this event could draw pretty strong interest from people newly arrived to academe, from across the disciplines (not only newspapers).

Possible Panelists:

Leslie-Jean Thornton, Arizona State

Jack Rosenberry, St. John Fisher

Mitch McKenney, Kent State, News Division membership officer and recent arrival from the *Akron Beacon Journal*, willing to moderate.

Estimate Speaker Costs: None – these people would be coming to conference anyway

Contact Person: Mitch McKenney, assistant professor, Journalism & Mass Communication, Kent State University
– Stark Campus, 9000 Frank Ave., North Canton, OH 44720, 330-244-3364 ph., mmckenne@kent.edu

Panels for AEJMC Convention *Denver 2010*

Wednesday, August 4

8:15 – 9:45 a.m.: Panel 153, Newspaper and RTVJ
Contact: John Carvalho, Auburn University, 334-844-4454

Panel Title: REBOOTING THE CURRICULA: Teaching journalism in a digital tempest

Panel Type: PF&R/Teaching

Summary of Session:

This panel will encourage discussion about building, maintaining and evolving a curriculum that seeks to balance of journalism fundamentals of multimedia in accredited programs. On the heels of the Online News Association conference, ONA members who are also educators convened to address challenges they see in teaching the next generation of journalists. In light of trends articulated by panelists from mainstream and stand-alone media companies, educators see the need to discuss limitations, opportunities and approaches to evolving curricula and teaching strategies. This session will foster discussion about challenges of crafting multimedia courses into accredited programs and to share best practices for doing so.

Among panelist talking points:

- How do you plan courses and electives in an undergraduate education?
- How does that differ in a graduate program?
- How do you keep evolving professors' skills?
- How do you evaluate students' progress in light of teaching so many programs?
- What kind of apps/approaches should be included?
- Is the better course to disregard technologies and focus on reporting and storytelling (i.e., basic communication skills)?

Possible Panelists:

- Jody Brannon, News21 National Director/ASU Professor of Practice/ONA board member as moderator
- Amy Eisman or Wendell Cochran, American
- Rich Beckman, Miami
- Larry Dailey, Nevada
- A rep from any of 12 News21 schools, depending on progress on a deans' task force that may be relevant by next summer (Arizona State, Berkeley, Columbia, Maryland, Medill, UNC, Syracuse, USC, Texas, Missouri, Nebraska, Harvard.
- Rep from a small school TBD
- Rep from someone involved with accreditation

Estimate Speaker Costs: None

Contact Person:

Jody Brannon
National Director, Carnegie-Knight News21
Cronkite School of Journalism, 555 N. Central Ave. #302
PHOENIX, AZ 85004; 602-496-5165
jbrannon@journalists.com

Panels for AEJMC Convention *Denver 2010*

Wednesday, August 4

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Panel 210: RTVJ Sole Sponsor

Panel Title: Sex, Crimes, and Video: what Should Our Students Learn about Sensational Trial Coverage?

Panel Type: Teaching Panel

Summary: A particularly brutal murder trial of an African-American charged with the slaying of an anchorwoman/reporter in Little Rock, Arkansas, attracted national news coverage and raises important legal and ethical issues.

The victim became known to the nation for her role in the Oliver Stone movie “W”. The inter-racial nature of the crime attracted widespread coverage that focused on her parents’ ordeal and created another challenge—seating an unbiased jury in order to protect the defendant’s right to a presumption of innocence.

This case and other sensational trials, including a sexual predator case in Louisiana, invite serious attention regarding how the media cover themselves when the story concerns a sensational crime, especially if news coverage of a trial is used to boost audience numbers during a ratings sweeps period. Other ethical issues include the use of social media, including Twitter, to cover pre-trial hearings or other proceedings.

Among the questions this panel will consider: What should journalism students learn about using social media to report on sensational crimes, trials, and post-trial developments? How will news organizations use new media while adhering to sound journalistic practice? What instruction will judges provide to witnesses, attorneys, and jurors about the use of social media?

Possible Panelists: Carlton Rhodes, UALR

Panel organizers: Jeanne Rollberg, UALR; William R. Davie, UL-Lafayette.

Panels for AEJMC Convention *Denver 2010*

Wednesday, August, 4

1:30 – 3 p.m. Panel 152. Newspaper and RTVJ

Panel Title: Planning, Launching and Running a Convergent Student News Web Site

Panel Type: Teaching

Summary:

This panel would feature practical advice from four professors charged with creating and supervising multi-platform student news Web sites for their journalism programs. More university journalism programs are creating their own Web sites and news services to serve as a publishing platform for their students' course work. These sites train students how to cover breaking news with a sense of immediacy and urgency, produce multimedia content, and interact with readers through blogging, social media and other Web tools. This panel aims to provide a road map for professors interested in starting one of these sites for their program.

Some of the questions the panel intends to address:

- Where do you start?
- How do you choose a content management system?
- What's the best way to create a publishing workflow from your existing curriculum?
- How do you go beyond text to make your site multi-platform?
- How do you develop a reader base and get the word out to your university community that your site exists?

Possible Panelists (all have confirmed their willingness to serve):

* Jim Stovall, Edward J. Meeman Distinguished Professor, University of Tennessee
Dr. Stovall has advised The Tennessee Journalist since creating it in 2006:

* Alfred Hermida, Assistant Professor, University of British Columbia
Prof. Hermida has advised The Thunderbird since creating it in 2007

* Sharon Stringer, Associate Professor, Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania
Dr. Stringer will lead an overhaul of Lock Haven's print-centric news site in spring 2010.

MODERATOR:

* Jake Batsell, Assistant Professor, SMU Division of Journalism

Estimate Speaker Costs: None

Contact Person:

Jake Batsell, Assistant professor, Division of Journalism, Faculty adviser to The Daily Mustang
Southern Methodist University
P.O. Box 750113
Dallas, TX 75275-0113
214-768-1915 office
jbatsell@smu.edu

Panels for AEJMC Convention *Denver 2010*

Wednesday, August 4

3:15 – 4:45 p.m. Mini-Plenary, Panel MP3, RTVJ and Vis Comm

Panel Type: Teaching

Panel Title: “The New Convergence: Innovations in Industry and Academic Collaborations”

Summary:

The news from the frontline in journalism can be depressing. Staff cutbacks. Newspapers closing. Declining viewership/readership. Stations trying to do more with less. But some universities are seeing the economic bad news as something which can be advantageous for their students. This panel will look at some of the professional/academic partnerships that have developed, using students to help produce and report news content for online, on print and on air.

We'll ask what works and what doesn't, offering lessons for both media professionals as well as those training the next generation of journalists.

Possible speakers:

- Cheryl Gibbs, Miami University, Director MiWhiNews, a regional news collaborative in Southwestern Ohio/Southeastern Indiana. The experiment (in beta testing this fall) allows students to produce news, and regional media outlets to share news. <http://www.mi-whinews.org/>
- Walter Robinson - Northeastern University. Robinson's investigative reporting students are covering local stories ignored by traditional media, and have seen their stories featured in The Boston Globe.
- Chuck Lewis - American University, iLab. The Investigative Reporting Workshop began publishing stories in Spring, 2009. They conduct national/international investigative journalism and experiment with new models for delivering the stories to the public. <http://investigativereportingworkshop.org/about/>
- Amy Garmer - Garmer is Director of Journalism Projects at the Aspen Institute Communications and Society Program. In this capacity, she develops and directs the Program's portfolio of journalism-related conferences that examine economic, technological, social and political challenges confronting the journalism profession, media industries, individuals and society. Garmer produced a conference on this topic in 2004; it will be interesting to have her take on how things have changed since then.
- One or two industry professionals, possibly a news director from a Denver television station and, depending upon co-sponsorship, a person from either online or print media (or both).

Estimate of cost: travel for Garmer and Lewis, if they are not members of AEJMC and do not plan to attend the conference. From \$400 to \$800.

Contact person for session: Kathleen M. Ryan,, Miami University, Ryankm3@muohio.edu, 541-335-9795

Panels for AEJMC Convention

Denver 2010

Wednesday, August 4

5 – 6:30 p.m. Refereed Research Panel RTVJ sole sponsor

Thursday, August 5

8:15 – 9:45 a.m. RTVJ Refereed Research Panel. Sole sponsored.

11:45 - 1:15 p.m. Panels 179 and 178, RTVJ and ICIG

Note: combines Panels 178 and 179. Both descriptions are listed below.

Panel type: PF&R

Panel title: The State of the Industry: 2010

Summary: (179)

This is a panel that RTVJ has sponsored about two years out of every three – and always before a full house. Given the uncertainty of the job situation and the changing nature of the industry, it should be run every year.

This year, RTDNA (formerly RTNDA) has agreed to release at least some industry data for the first time for this session. The data is expected to show how news operations are using new media.

Summary (178)

Panel Title: “Will There Be Jobs . . . or a News Industry?”

Panel summary:

What should we be telling students who want to know whether there will be jobs when they graduate? Many schools may be seeing an erosion the number of in journalism majors and an increasing number of nervous parents as the industry undergoes more and more jobs cuts, bankruptcies and consolidation.

Possible speakers: Bob Papper, Hofstra University

Stacey Woelfel, Chair, RTDNA, KOMU-TV, Columbia Missouri

Juan Carlos Pinzon, News Director, KMAS-TV, Denver

Scott Bosley, Executive Director, ASNE

Estimate of cost: none anticipated

Contact person for session: Bob Papper

Bob.papper@hofstra.edu

516-463-4100

Panels for AEJMC Convention *Denver 2010*

Thursday, August 5

1 – 3:30 p.m. Scholar-to-Scholar Presentations. (6 slots)

Thursday, August 5

3:15 – 4:45 p.m. Panel 19: IGIC and RTVJ

Panel Type: Teaching

Panel Title: “The Problems That Won’t Go Away: Grammatical and Quantitative Competence in Journalism Students”

Summary:

Painful experience has shown us that many journalism students lack the grammatical and numerical competence we can’t help expecting of high school graduates. For students, mastering these skills combines the embarrassment of taking remedial classes with the frustration of breaking stubborn habits. And that’s for students in programs that insist on teaching such classes. Many programs gloss over these basic deficits.

But the essence of all communication is clarity, of which grammar forms the backbone. And quantitative thinking enriches journalism on all beats. Failure to instill these essential qualities of thought shortchanges our students.

What are best practices for instilling an awareness and understanding of how sentences are put together? What teaching techniques and strategies have proved successful in getting math-phobic students to think quantitatively? A few brave souls have tackled these questions in the classroom, and we gather some of the best to share their thoughts.

Suggested panelists:

Moderator: Barbara Selvin, Stony Brook University
Gerald Grow, Florida A&M University
Carol E. Rachal, University of Arkansas
Steve Doig, Arizona State University
Scott Maier, University of Oregon
Limor Peer, Northwestern University

Estimated Speaker Costs: None, unless it is necessary/possible to pay for Ranney’s transportation and accommodations.

Contact Person:

Barbara Selvin, Stony Brook University
School of Journalism, SUNY 3384
Stony Brook, NY 11794-3384
(631) 632-1098

Barbara.Selvin@stonybrook.edu

For pre-December co-sponsorship planning: John Chapin, jrc11@psu.

Panels for AEJMC Convention

Denver 2010

Thursday, August 5

6:45 – 8:15 p.m. Member's meeting. Scheduled for on site.

Friday, August 6

1:45 – 3: 15 Panel 180: RTVJ sole sponsor

Panel type: PF&R Panel

Panel title: “New Models of TV Convergence”

Summary

With a lot of fanfare, Media General started what was called convergence 10 years ago in 2000 in Tampa, Florida, and the idea spread across media and American universities. Today, fewer stations are working with newspapers than they did five years ago, but more stations are combining resources with each other and with selected other media – primarily to save money.

Will that end when the economy improves, or will we have a new electronic news model? And what does it all mean for jobs and student skill sets.

Possible speakers:

- Bob Papper, Hofstra University, 516-463-4100, bob.papper@hofstra.edu
- Marci Burdick, Senior VP – Broadcasting and Cable, Schurz Communications, South Bend, IN, 574-287-1001
- Patti Dennis, News Director, KUSA-TV, Denver
- Carolyn Kane, News Director, KDVR-TV, Denver
- Al Tompkins, Broadcast/Online Group Leader, The Poynter Institute, 727-821-9494, tompkins@poynter.org

Estimate of cost: none anticipated

Contact person for session: Bob Papper, Hofstras University
516-463-4100
bob.papper@hofstra.edu

Friday, August 6

5:15 – 6:45 RTVJ Refereed Research. Sole sponsor

Panels for AEJMC Convention *Denver 2010*

Saturday, August 7

11:45 to 1:15 p.m. Panel 172, Civic Journalism, Community Journalism, and RTVJ

Panel Type: Teaching

Panel title: “Teaching News Literacy: What Works?”

Summary:

News literacy has emerged from the broader area of media literacy recently as traditional news providers have cut staff and corners while a host of new, mostly online, suppliers have flooded into the vacuum.

In response, educators have begun to develop courses designed to educate students across all majors so that they may discern the difference between quality news, junk journalism, covert advertising and subtle propaganda masquerading as news.

The panelists all teach critical thinking about news media at their respective universities, but employ different approaches. This panel will present the ideas, techniques and resources that have proven most effective with students.

Moderator: John McManus, founder, Grade the News, author of *Detecting Bull: How to Identify Bias and Junk Journalism in Print, Broadcast and on the Wild Web*

Prospective Panelists:

- Renee Hobbs, Professor and director, Media Education Laboratory at Temple University.
- Fred Blevins, Florida International University.
- Dale Cressman, Brigham Young University
- Howard Schneider, founding dean of the School of Journalism, State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Contact: John McManus (jmcmanus@gradethenews.org)