

Newsletter of the Electronic News Division, AEJMC

March 2016

Volume 54, Number 1

American Needs Harry Truman—Our Division Needs You

By Bill Silcock, Division Head

Since we're right in the middle of the American Presidential candidate picking process—what some might call a “hot mess,” it's appropriate to begin my brief report with a song lyric and a quote from Harry Truman. Indeed you can read this column and digest the rest of this division newsletter (thank you to our secretary and newsletter editor, Lindsey Conlin) while listening in the background to Chicago's song “Harry Truman.”

The single reached #13 in Billboard's top one hundred in the spring of 1975, right before our American bi-centennial year. Composed after the fall of Richard Nixon, Robert Lamm's key lyric is “America needs you now Harry Truman!” With your old 45 spinning in the background, read and ponder the 33rd president's quote, which is the heart of my message. “It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.”

Truman's maxim has a direct application to the work of our news division, where for the past 50 years thousands of broadcast educators have proposed and produced panels, judged paper competitions, nurtured grad students, debated curriculum reforms, launched and led a division journal and done the often unnoticed, quiet work of a serving on a committee.

The latest example of servant leadership in our division is being led by Professor Gary Hanson of Kent State. Our Electronic News leadership team tasked Gary and his committee comprised of Sonya Duhe, Director of the School of Mass Communication at Loyola University New Orleans; Professor Nancy McKenzie Dupont, past chair of our

Following us on social media?



@AEJMC_End



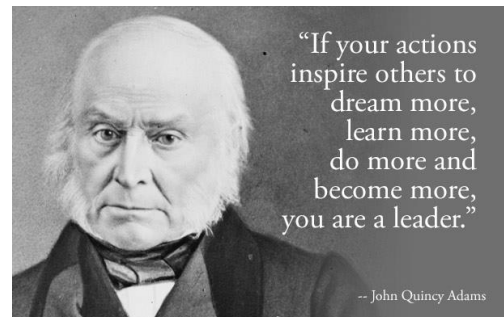
AEJMC Electronic News
Division (Group)



division and incoming chair of BEA's news division; Associate Director at the Nicholson School of Communication, University of Central Florida, Tim Brown; and Professor and Mass Communication Broadcasting Coordinator at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Bill Davie. Bill is a standout example of servant leadership, working with this committee while currently a Fulbright Scholar in China. Proving again Truman's maxim of doing the often-unrecognized committee work, this time on a different time zone and with less than ideal Internet security and access.

Indeed the Burkum Award—as the committee is codifying with your input at our 50th anniversary business breakfast—recognizes an electronic journalist or journalism educator who has demonstrated extraordinary service to journalism education. At our 50th anniversary convention, Larry plans to join us again to help present this award. There is no stopping the dedicated service across our division past, present—Kathleen Ryan's Bliss Committee Chair work is in its 4th year—and future. Read our EN News division graduate student Kate Keib's article elsewhere in this newsletter.

As we enter into our 50th year as a division, reflecting back and looking forward, I think Harry Truman would be amazed at how people focused on change for the greater good and not driven by ego for personal fame can use our public spaces—the list serv, our Facebook page, Twitter sphere—to honor where we've been and ask some key questions about the future of electronic news higher education. These social media channels encourage and invite a chorus of voices. Don't wait to be put on a committee. We need you now. Start a conversation! Our students will benefit. Harry would like that.



Diversity in Broadcasting

Victoria LaPoe- Professional Freedom & Responsibility Chair

At Western Kentucky University, I teach radio, television and digital storytelling classes. Along with these courses, I also teach media diversity. One of our WKU student leaders recently shared a story with me that I'd like to share with you. I believe to grow inclusivity within our field- and within academia overall- we need to reach out to our student leaders to understand their needs. I also believe this starts with reaching out to high schoolers, freshmen, and sophomores. Below is Alana Watson's story. She is a sophomore from Franklin, Tennessee.

By Alana Watson

When I began my career path in high school I was told early on that it was extremely hard to get into this industry if you were a black female. I've known I wanted to be involved in the broadcasting news industry since I was twelve years old. After I made the decision I was determined to gain more knowledge and experience so I

could be successful in my career choice. It is always discouraging to be told it's going to be harder for you to accomplish something because of your race or gender. What is even more discouraging is finding out that the statement may be true.

The research shows that the odds aren't exactly in favor of women and minorities in the broadcasting industry. With me being both a female and a minority it seems like it will be nearly impossible. What can we do to change this though? Universities should start inviting more professionals to the schools for presentations. By doing so students will be able to ask questions about what the industry is looking for specifically. It also allows the opportunity to make connections. Professionals will have opportunity to tell students exactly what they look for when hiring and see possible potential in the students.

As for what news stations and other forms of broadcasting media should do, I recommend increase internship opportunities. This will help establish better relationships with university programs. It will also give them insight on to who they can hire right out of college. Lastly, stressing how much you want diversity in your businesses is never a bad idea. Minority students and women want to know that you care about them in the work place. Show them that their talents will be used at your station. I believe that if the broadcasting industry works on inclusivity and diversity, newsrooms will see a rise in numbers. Numbers have risen slightly over the past few years according to RTDNA but there is room for improvement.

I also believe that broadcasting students need to be encouraged to stand out and gain experience that will put them ahead of their peers. To provide an example, students should get involved with their broadcasting platforms as soon as possible. They need to get to know their professors, put a face to the name, and make them remember who they are and what they want to do when they graduate college. Students also need to start making connections early on, and don't forget that their professors can be their mentors and provide networking opportunities in the industry. Along with that students should know that it's never too early to work on internships. Internships will give them experience and gives them the chance to make important connections.

To the broadcasting professional who told me that it's going to be hard for me to get into this industry, I would like to say thank you. You motivated me to go against the numbers and stay focused on my end goal. I came to Western Kentucky University because of their broadcasting program. Since I've been here I've been given leadership positions as a sophomore. These positions include; Assistant News Director for WWHR-Revolution 91.7 FM, Student Ambassador for the School of Journalism and Broadcasting, and the Treasurer for the Multicultural Journalist. I don't plan on stopping there. My goal is to gain all the experience I need to make woman and minority numbers in the broadcasting industry rise. My journey as an African American female pursuing a career in this industry has only just begun.

AEJMC Minneapolis 2016 Paper Call

Rebecca Coates Nee- Research Chair

We are actively seeking original research papers for our 2016 AEJMC conference in Minneapolis. We welcome papers on any aspect of broadcast journalism or electronic communication with a journalism emphasis. We also have a special call this year to mark the division's 50th anniversary. You can find the complete call on our website: <http://aejmc.us/end/>

We also need more reviewers. The leadership team has volunteered to review, but we would like to have help from as many members as possible. We are striving to keep the number of papers each reviewer will receive to a maximum of three. In order to do that, we will need to recruit at least 12 more reviewers. If you are willing to review, please send an email to END Research Chair Rebecca Nee: rnee@mail.sdsu.edu

Bliss Award Venue

Ian Punnett

50 years of celebrating excellence with the Bliss Award required an excellent venue for this year's recipient. In recognition of WCCO's and Ed Bliss' mutual connection through CBS, WCCO 4 News has arranged for a rooftop reception for this year's winner. Barring rain, the 50th annual Bliss Award will be handed out on the roof of WCCO's downtown broadcast center with a little help from WCCO's top news anchors.



The working, rooftop studios of WCCO are considered to have some of the best views in the city of Minneapolis. It should be quite a photo-op for the winner!

Television to Teaching...A Few Thoughts

Kate Keib- Graduate Liaison

I worked for 15 years in television – in the realm of Marketing and Promotion. Although I taught college courses a few times over the course of my TV career, I had no idea what academia would really be like. I decided to enter this realm partly because I had met several professors in the UGA program that impressed me away with their insight into the field and research programs.

Before sitting down and talking with them, I had NO idea the extent of research that was going on in my field. How did I not know about all of this work – research into areas that would have helped me do a better job?

So, a year and a half in, I have a few ideas from my time in TV that I think academia could take a page from....

- Promote thyself (and your colleagues, and your institution)! In television, we promoted our station and our people every day, on multiple platforms. In a society where content is flowing constantly, we in academia need our message to be out there, or there's no chance of being heard.
- Multiple platforms....we need to be there, where the public is, where our students are, where industry leaders are. So talk about your recent work on twitter, Facebook and/or LinkedIn. Connect with colleagues and industry leaders, and stay in touch.
- Speak the language of your audience– simple, clear, concise. Leave the academic write-ups for the journals. And have a lead – people will care about your work – just help them understand why.
- Think of students as interns, for two reasons. First, for their benefit, ask yourself, is everything they do for you applicable to real life, and could it go on their resume. For you, learn from their perspective and newness to the field – their raw insights can be eye-opening.

RTDNA Information

Laura Smith- RTDNA Liaison

As your RTDNA Liaison, I wanted to update you on the recent board meeting, which took place via conference call on December 9, 2015. These are the cliff notes. Item #2 is particularly interesting and demands attention. Good job RTDNA.

- Membership for RTDNA is up 66% (149 v. 90 one year ago). Most of the growth is coming from TV News Dir./Mgr. category AND students and educators categories. Finances are solid.
- RTDNA/F raised more than 90-k following the VA shooting incident. 25% went to each of the murdered journalists' families, 25% to the chamber of commerce woman who was injured, and 25% to the committee to protect journalists. Fantastic, I thought!
- Upcoming EIJ Conferences: 2016 New Orleans. 2017 and 2019 conferences will be co-sponsored, along with SPJ and RTDNA, by the NAHJ. This is a new relationship.
- Keep watch in the near future for new EdTalks and/or Best Practices sessions. One is coming up later this month/early February co-sponsored with ONA. Another, in April, will focus on advice for multi-media journalist.

END on Social Media

This division wants to celebrate you! We would love to share news of you and your college's successes. A simple way to do this is to connect with us on social media. Follow us on twitter, and we'll follow you back. Like us on Facebook and you can post there, too! Find us on twitter @AEJMC_END and on Facebook you can join our group, just search "AEJMC Electronic News Division".

Panel Schedule- AEJMC 2016

Thursday, August 4th, 2016

8:15-9:45 a.m.

Technical Thoughts: Making Purchase & Teaching Decisions in a Fast-Changing Technological World

Co-Sponsor: Visual Communication (Vice Head, Matthew J. Haught)

Panel submitter: Laura Smith, lksmith@sc.edu

Type: Teaching

Static Vol. 54, No. 1 (March 2016)

11:45-1:15 p.m.

'Call Me Caitlyn': Examining Representations of Transgender

Sponsor: Lesbian, Gay, bisexual, Transgender & Queer Interest Group (LGBT)

Vice Head: Erica Ciszek

Type: Research

Panel submitter: Erica Ciszek, elciszek@uh.edu

1:30-3:00 p.m.

Reporting 'Live:' Some Safety, Security and Ethical Considerations

Co-Sponsor: Mass Communication and Society Division (Vice Head: Jennifer Kowalewski)

Panel submitter: Mike Murray, murraymd@umsl.edu

Type: Teaching

3:15-4:45 p.m.

Challenges of Teaching & Researching Broadcast or New Media Journalism around the World and in the U.S.

Co-Sponsor: International Division

Panel submitter: Peter Morello, MorelloP@umkc.edu

Type: Teaching

Friday, August 5th, 2016

11:45-1:15 p.m.

Technical Thoughts: Making Purchase & Teaching Decisions in a Fast-Changing Technological World

Co-Sponsor: Visual Communication (Vice Head, Matthew J. Haught)

Panel submitter: Laura Smith, lksmith@sc.edu

Type: Teaching

Saturday, August 6th, 2016

8:15-9:45 p.m.

Using New Media Technology to Increase Student Engagement in Global Exchanges

Sponsor: International Communication Division (Vice Head: Ammina Kothari)

Type: Teaching

Panel submitter: amshoval@vcu.edu

1:45-3:15 p.m.

The Rhetoric of Riot: Coverage of Baltimore and Questions About our Professional Practices

Co-Sponsor: Minorities and Communication Division (MAC) (Vice Head: Josh Grimm)

Panel submitter: Laura Smith, lksmith@sc.edu

Type: PF&R

Saturday, August 6th, 2016

11:00-12:30

Back Pocket Journalism: Going Mobile in the Classroom

Sponsor: Magazine Division (Vice Head: Miglena M Sternadori)

Type: Teaching

Panel submitter: cschwalbe@email.arizona.edu

Electronic News Division Officers

Division Head- Dr. Bill Silcock, b.silcock@asu.edu

Vice Head & Program Chair- Dr. Indira Somani, indira.somani@howard.edu

Vice Head Elect/Webmaster- Dr. Tony DeMars, Tony.DeMars@tamuc.edu

Research Chair- Dr. Rebecca Coates Nee, rnee@mail.sdsu.edu

Teaching Chair- Dr. Peter Morello, morellop@umkc.edu

Professional Freedom & Responsibility Chair- Dr. Victoria LaPoe,
Victoria.lapoe@wku.edu

Secretary & Newsletter Editor- Dr. Lindsey Conlin, lindsey.conlin@usm.edu

Static Vol. 54, No. 1 (March 2016)

Immediate Past Head & Membership Chair- Dr. Dale Edwards,
dale.edwards@unco.edu

Appointed Positions

Southeast Colloquium- Travis Bell, trbell@usf.edu

Graduate Liaison- Kate Keib, kmk96195@uga.edu

Bliss Award- Dr. Kathleen M. Ryan, Kathleen.ryan@colorado.edu

RTDNA Liaison- Dr. Laura Smith, lauras@mailbox.sc.edu