



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

## Historians present research in Minneapolis



Erika Pribanic-Smith | University of Texas at Arlington

**Outgoing Division Head Kim Voss discusses her research on the Women and Regional Journalism History panel.**

**See more photos from the conference on pages 17-18.**

### NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

#### *Task force investigating options for Journalism History*

As many of you know, I am editor of Journalism History as well as chair of the AEJMC History Division. And my serving in both roles in 2016-17 is a perfect bit of serendipity.

As many of you know (I don't hide it, as there's nothing to hide), I have stage IV renal cell carcinoma. Chemotherapy exhausts me and has many other unpleasant side effects. So, a year ago, after having gone through some particularly difficult times, I started looking for someone to take over editorship of the journal.

Journalism History is an independent publication. Many academics have expressed surprise to me that the journal is not the research publication of the History Division. Instead, it is a labor of love that has been passed from generation to generation.

It began in 1974 at California State

University, Fullerton, with cheap paper and modest format. It also had a powerful introductory essay by James W. Carey, "The Problem of Journalism History," which has been cited and made required reading many, many times. From Fullerton the journal traveled to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. And in spring 2001, it came to Pat Washburn at Ohio University, where it has stayed and, I hope, thrived.

When Pat retired in 2012, he wanted to make a smooth hand-off to the next editor, and he wanted the journal to stay in Ohio's E.W. Scripps School of Journalism.

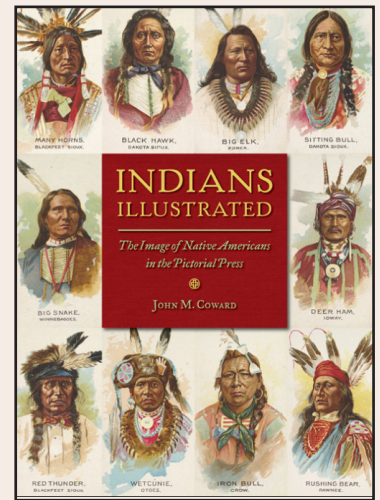


**Michael S. Sweeney**  
Chair  
*Ohio University*

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ONLINE  
[aejmc.us/history](http://aejmc.us/history)

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## Sweeney

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As a former student of Pat's, I leaped at the opportunity. I have edited the journal since the fall issue of 2012.

I had planned to edit it for many years.

Cancer threw a wrench into my plans. I can't edit *Journalism History* indefinitely, and even getting through this year might require me to call in some extraordinary favors. My initial plan was to find a replacement editor in a well-respected journalism historian who had full-professor status and taught at a university that would provide at least a minimum of support to edit, design, and mail the journal. But the more I thought about it, the more I became convinced of the advantages of another option.

Thus, I have appointed an ad hoc task force to investigate the pluses and minuses of having *Journalism History* become a publication of the AEJMC History Division. This task force will report to the 2017 History Division business meeting in Chicago. I have asked for a yes-no recommendation, backed by evidence, to present to the division members for a vote.

The chair of this task force is Frank Fee, whom I have always considered an impeccable historian – hey, he must be smart because he wears a bow tie! – and a good friend. I also wanted someone with recent experience as chair of the History Division, so I approached Kathy Forde, and she agreed to serve. For the final two members, I chose Melita Garza because of her connection to *Journalism History* as its books editor (and because she worked with me through an initial exploration of finding a professional publisher at the 2015

**“Thus, I have appointed an ad hoc task force to investigate the pluses and minuses of having *Journalism History* become a publication of the AEJMC History Division.”**

AEJMC conference), and Willie Tubbs because I wanted a young scholar with recent graduate school experience. As I have a conflict of interest, my participation will be limited to providing information.

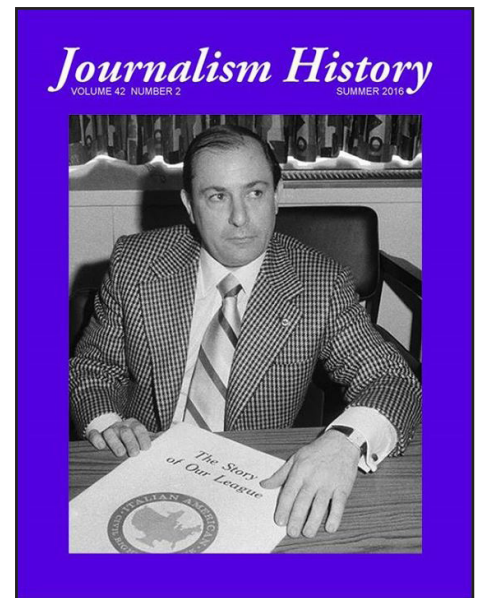
Please feel free to send these committee members your thoughts.

There are many good things about *Journalism History* being independent. First, it can accept articles longer than the standard 25 pages. I tell authors that if responding to reviewers causes their manuscript to grow beyond the usual limit, then let it grow. Second, I can be flexible as needed with deadlines. Third, I can claim “fair use” with greater ease than a professional publisher. And fourth, I enjoy my job immensely.

But there are many good things that would happen if the journal were to step under the History Division's protective umbrella and be printed by one of the many academic houses.

First is that no more manuscripts would get lost. Maybe two or three times during my four-year tenure, a manuscript arrived via email while I was on vacation. I marked them electronically and left them in queue, expecting to send them to reviewers after returning to my office, where I maintain data sets on manuscripts and potential editors. It pains me when, four or five months after forgetting such manuscripts, the authors call and ask why the review process is so long – and to have to tell them that, um, the process hasn't started.

Second is the advent of DOI's, Digital Object Identifiers. These are permanent, stable web addresses for research articles. They are ubiquitous in the sciences and are starting to make inroads into history. (American Journalism, the journal of the American Journalism Historians Association, has its publisher assign DOI's.) The expectation is that journals without DOI's may become less desirable for authors seeking promotion and tenure. But while a substantial publishing house, a corporation, can promise to maintain web addresses in perpetuity, a university school or department where individual historians come and go cannot make the same claim so easily.



Third is that division sponsorship of the journal would raise the profile of both partners, I believe.

And finally, a corporate publisher would be able to improve promotion of articles, raising the number of downloads and citations, which are measured by some P&T committees. Those clicks also bring in money, and *Journalism History* and our division, while not strapped for cash, would benefit from more income.

One catch: I have divided loyalties, and they come into play. I also am a member of AJHA, where I served as president a decade ago. I promised AJHA that if *Journalism History* did acquire a corporate publisher, it would not be the same one that produces *American Journalism*.

So, there you are. Any effort to bring *Journalism History* into the AEJMC History Division would have to have the cooperation of the journal editor, which I happily grant. It would have to be acceptable to the division's officers and members, whom I chair. And it would have to happen soon, given my health. A well-timed confluence.

I very much look forward to hearing what Frank, Kathy, Melita, and Willie have to say next year.

Mike Sweeney

[Sweenem3@ohio.edu](mailto:Sweenem3@ohio.edu)



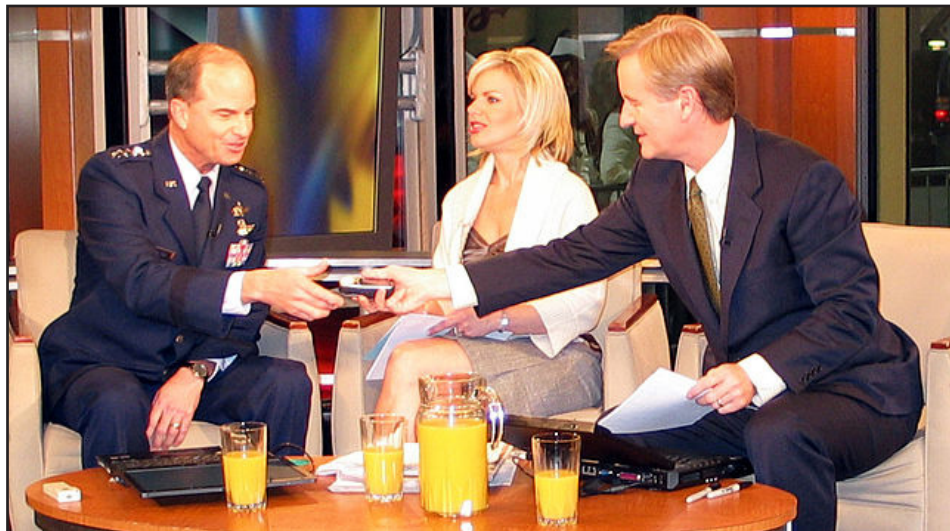
## PF&amp;R COLUMN

# Research Meets Recent Events: *Harassment a Part of Women's History in Broadcasting*

On Sept. 6, the parent company of Fox News announced it had agreed to settle a sexual harassment lawsuit by Gretchen Carlson for \$20 million and issued a public apology to the former “Fox and Friends” co-host. Carlson had accused Fox News CEO Roger Ailes of demanding sex, creating a hostile work environment and sabotaging her career after she would not submit to his advances. Following the accusations, which also implicated her co-host Steve Doocy, six more women came forward with their own stories of Ailes’ sexism and predatory practices. In a statement about the settlement with Carlson, 21st Century Fox said: “We are proud that she was part of the Fox News team. We sincerely regret and apologize for the fact that Gretchen was not treated with the respect and dignity that she and all of our colleagues deserve.”



**Tracy Lucht**  
PF&R Chair  
Iowa State  
University



**Gretchen Carlson on the set of Fox & Friends with co-host Steve Doocy (right) and U.S. Air Force Space Commander General Kevin Chilton in 2006.**

**“Women in broadcasting and other forms of journalism have been dealing with this kind of treatment for decades.”**

News articles have treated the discriminatory environment at Fox News as a major revelation, but it should not have been surprising. In March, 11 male students at Ohio University were fired from campus station WOUB and the campus chapter of Associated Press Sports Editors was disbanded after a report sent to the school’s Office of Equity and Civil Rights Compliance indicated the men had created a “hostile and/or threatening environment for women.” Harassment of women sports reporters is especially common. In April, a video of male sports fans reading aloud the commentary directed at two women journalists went viral as the men visibly struggled to get out the degrading and threatening words while sitting face to face with the attacks’ targets.

Women in broadcasting and other forms of journalism have been dealing with this kind of treatment for decades. As a former Fox News employee told *The New York Times*:

“There is a culture where, not that you accept it, you just deal with it.” My own research on women broadcasters supports this. The history of radio and television at the local and national levels includes stories of overt discrimination, sophomoric harassment, and overall hostility toward women who deigned to take themselves and their journalism seriously. That was likely why American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT)—founded in 1951 after the National Association of Broadcasters disbanded its women’s division—took a leading role in a national campaign to stop sexual harassment in the workplace in the 1980s and 1990s.

Women with public careers have long experienced pushback from those hostile to their presence in male-coded spaces, and sexual harassment occurs in all industries. Yet as a former print journalist now studying the history of women in broadcasting, I suspect

See **Lucht** | Page 4

## Lucht

Continued from Page 3

there is something more visceral in the treatment of women in broadcasting. The subject of my first book, syndicated financial journalist Sylvia Porter, was able to disguise herself with the byline S. F. Porter at the start of her career. Women who wanted to be mic'd up on radio or television did not have that luxury. Their journalism was corporal, requiring their voices to be heard and/or their bodies to be seen. They were professionally evaluated not only on their writing, reporting and intelligence, but also on their timbre, elocution and appearance.

As part of my current research, a graduate assistant and I conducted in-depth interviews with women broadcasters who worked in the Midwest from the 1950s–1980s. We heard stories of jobs denied and dismissals threatened, of dirty attempts to get women to “break” on air, of degrading commentary and sexual advances, of humiliating tirades and nasty messages. We also heard stories of women’s resilience, passion, professionalism, courage, and sense of community. I have found these stories to be a useful context for understanding the recent allegations made about Fox and Friends, but I find it dispiriting that such unlawful, egregious behavior continues to look so familiar. Are we doomed to repeat our history even if we know its secrets?

I bring up this convergence of scholarship and national headlines because it serves as an example (as if we needed another one) of the value of historical knowledge within a



Among Lucht’s research subjects is Carole Custer, Iowa’s first TV anchorwoman, who reported being harassed by male colleagues.

professionally oriented discipline. I have found it especially enlightening to interview people who bridged the periods before and after the women’s movement of the 1960s–1970s. Their collective narratives draw a picture of broadcast journalism as its professional practices matured, its workforce

became more diverse and the regulations governing it changed. Yet the same portrait shows that

on an interpersonal level, the dynamic for women remained what it had long been: “a culture where, not that you accept it, you just deal with it.”

Gretchen Carlson’s willingness to speak publicly about what she endured makes visible an aspect of broadcasting history that has fought to remain beneath the surface. Yet there is reason to hope for change. Women and underrepresented groups have always found ways to exercise agency within cultures and structures that challenge them. Perhaps the most successful professionals will now feel freer to give voice to the frustrations as well as the achievements in their past. Another glimmer, it occurs to me, is this: My historical research has yet to turn up an apology like the one 21st Century Fox made to Carlson.

**“Are we doomed to repeat our history even if we know its secrets?”**

# Clio

## AMONG THE MEDIA

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Clio Among the Media is published quarterly by the History Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

Submissions to Clio are welcome. General items such as paper calls should be sent to Erika Pribanic-Smith at [epsmith@uta.edu](mailto:epsmith@uta.edu).

Send membership updates to be included in “News & Notes” to Teri Finneman ([finnemte@gmail.com](mailto:finnemte@gmail.com)) or Will Mari ([william.mari@northwestu.edu](mailto:william.mari@northwestu.edu))

Recent issues of Clio may be accessed at <http://aejmc.us/history/clio/>



# History Division 2016 Business Meeting Minutes

## Minutes of the 2016 Business Meeting AEJMC History Division Minneapolis

Outgoing division head Kimberly Voss (Central Florida) called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. on Aug. 6. The earlier time, compared to previous years, seemed agreeable to those present.

Voss reported the division had 291 members, virtually the same as last year, although the number may rise with updated information.

The minutes from last year's business meeting as reported in the Fall 2015 CLIO were accepted.

**Book Award:** The winner this year was Finis Dunaway, a professor of American Studies at Trent University in Ontario, Canada, for his book "Seeing Green: The Use and Abuse of American Environmental Images." Book Award chair John Ferré (Louisville) described the pleasure he took in mailing 20 qualified books to the judges: Fred Blevens (Florida International), Kathy Roberts Forde (Massachusetts-Amherst), and Linda Steiner (Maryland). The competition this

year was as tough as ever, but the judges were unanimous. The winner received a \$500 prize and a plaque.

In his stimulating talk about his book, Dunaway described the way iconic media images of environmentalism become naturalized within a cultural frame. Specifically, two themes emerged since the first Earth Day in 1970: universal vulnerability (e.g., mothers and babies wearing gas masks) and universal responsibility (e.g., the "Crying Indian"). Such images raised awareness, but they also obscured the unequal impact of environmental degradation as well as the culpability of corporations. For his next book, Dunaway is shifting scale to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and looking at non-iconic images, he said.

**Covert Award:** The award is given for the best published article or essay on mass media history. Out of seven nominations, the winner was Richard B. Kielbowicz (University of Washington) for "Regulating Timeliness: Technologies, Laws, and the News, 1840–1970" (Journalism & Communication Monographs, March 2015). Kielbowicz, who was unable to attend the conference, donated his cash award back to the division.

**Conference Papers:** Research chair Mike Sweeney (Ohio University) reported that out of 53 papers submitted to the division, eight were disqualified, seven of those for containing information that identified the authors. To reduce the likelihood of this in the future, he suggested that the research chair take an extra day after submission deadline to scrub the papers of inadvertent author identification.

The acceptance rate was 49 percent, with 26 papers accepted for presentations. Each paper was judged by three reviewers.

The top faculty paper was from Stephen Bates (University of Nevada, Las Vegas), "Is This the Best Philosophy Can Do?"

Henry R. Luce and the Commission on Freedom of the Press." The author of the top student paper was Rich Shumate (University of Florida), "Framing Barry Goldwater: The Extreme Reaction to his 1964 'Extremism' Speech."

Second place papers were both by a student-faculty pair. The first author named in such pairs determined which category the paper fell into. The second place faculty paper was on gender and agency among Midwestern women broadcasters, by Tracy Lucht and Kelsey Batschelet (Iowa State), and the second place student paper was on the 1917 espionage conviction of Kansas City editor Jacob Frohwerk, by Ken Ward and Aimee Edmondson (Ohio University).

Third-place paper awards went to Kevin Grieves (faculty; Whitworth) and Denitsa Yotova (student; University of Maryland, College Park).

**AEJMC Trailblazers of Diversity Oral History Project:** Melita Garza of Texas Christian announced that Trailblazers of Diversity was seeking more interviewers and interviewees. This is a growing collection of videotaped interviews with key individuals who helped advance diversity in journalism's practice, education, and research.

**New Business:** For the future annual conferences in Chicago (2017) and Washington D.C. (2018), the Council of Divisions is moving up the pre-conference to Tuesday. This will free up Sunday to be a true travel day. Voss noted that the division chair is in charge of organizing field trips, which was impossible for her to do this year because of her distance from and unfamiliarity with Minneapolis. Future chairs will be looking for volunteers local to the convention cities to help with this.

The AEJMC asked the division to vote on a preference for the conference



Erika Pribanic-Smith | University of Texas at Arlington

John Ferré (right) presents the Book Award to Finis Dunaway.

## Minutes

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location in 2020 among three sites that had submitted bids and prices: Phoenix, San Diego, and San Francisco. Kim said members were told not to vote based on hotel costs, but those prices could be shared. The range was from \$110 a night for the site outside Phoenix to \$265 in San Francisco.

Garza spoke out strongly against Phoenix on account of Arizona's aggressive anti-immigration laws, prompting a discussion of why AEJMC would even consider that location, given the discriminatory policies. The heat in August was another negative for Phoenix.

San Diego easily won with 28 votes, versus five for San Francisco and zero for Phoenix. Every division had been asked to weigh in with a vote.

**New Leadership Team:** Before stepping down, Voss welcomed the new and continuing officers for the year. (See sidebar.)

**Mike Sweeney's address:** Sweeney, incoming head of the division, cited his many years on the copy desk of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram to explain why he favored "plain English" for what he had to say: he has cancer and has been undergoing chemo. This led to an eloquent introduction to two important announcements, each a consequence of his health situation. One was that there is a chance he might not be in Chicago for the 2017 convention, "for one reason or another." If that happens, he said, we are in good hands with the current vice chair and secretary.

The second announcement was that he has decided that Journalism History, which he has edited since 2012, needs a new editor and that he has decided that it also needs a new home. To that end, he has appointed a task force, headed by Frank Fee, to explore the possibility of making Journalism History an official publication of the History Division. The task force will present a recommendation



Doug Cumming | Washington & Lee

**Kimberly Voss (left) turned division head duties over to Mike Sweeney at the division's annual member meeting.**

on this to the division at next year's convention. Sweeney describes the plan in his column in this issue of CLIO. (See pages 1-2.)

One likely outcome of transferring the journal to an academic publisher is that dues could go up, he said. This prompted a discussion of whether it is high time we raise the current division dues of \$10. (Subscriptions to JH currently cost \$30 a year, \$20 for students.)

**Upcoming:** Division-related events later in the day were mentioned: a PF&R panel on "Journo Flicks," co-sponsored by the division, and our social, with the Graduate Student Interest Group, on Nicollet Mall from 8-10 p.m.

Members made announcements regarding the biennial Media & Civil Rights History Symposium at the University of South Carolina and Media History Engagement Week.

Voss noted that student scholarship checks for attending the conference will be going out soon. Some who had won a scholarship didn't come, so those checks of course return to the division.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Doug Cumming, 2015-2016 Secretary*

## 2016-2017 History Division Leadership

### Head/Program Chair

Michael Sweeney, Ohio University

### Vice Head/Research Chair

Doug Cumming, Washington and Lee University

### Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Erika Pribanic-Smith, University of Texas at Arlington

### Teaching Standards Chair

Kristin Gustafson, University of Washington-Bothell

### PF&R Chair

Tracy Lucht, Iowa State University

### Membership Chairs

Teri Finneman, South Dakota State University

Will Mari, Northwest University

### Graduate Student Liaisons

Robert Greene II, University of South Carolina

Samantha Peko, Ohio University

### Book Award Chair

John Ferré, University of Louisville

### Covert Award Chair

Nancy Roberts, University at Albany-SUNY

### Joint Journalism & Communication History Convention Co-Coordinator

Nicholas Hirshon, William Paterson University

### AEJMC Southeast Colloquium History Division Research Chair

Melita Garza, Texas Christian University

### Website Administrator

Keith Greenwood, University of Missouri



## MEMBERSHIP COLUMN

# Member Spotlight: Jane Marcellus

*NOTE: The History Division's Member Spotlight, facilitated by the membership committee, will feature short profiles of outstanding scholars who lead our division with their teaching and research. It will build on our successful Generations of Scholars series from last year. Please enjoy this inaugural profile of Dr. Jane Marcellus.*

**H**istory matters," says Dr. Jane Marcellus, a professor in the School of Journalism at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU).



**Will Mari**  
Membership  
Co-Chair  
Northwest  
University

"It's easy for history to be overlooked or even discounted in a field that focuses on the spectacle

of innovation," she says. As media scholars who look at change over time, however, "we offer a perspective that takes a broader view."

Marcellus, who earned her Ph.D. at the University of Oregon, examines representations of women news workers, especially from the 1920s and 1930s.

In the past few years, she's also organized a panel on the AMC TV series "Mad Men" at AEJMC, a whole conference last May on the topic at MTSU ("Mad Men: The Conference") and co-authored a monograph on the show ("Mad Men and Working Women: Feminist Perspectives on Historical Power, Resistance, and Otherness," Peter Lang, 2014) with Erika Engstrom, Tracy Lucht, and Kimberly Wilmot Voss.



Mike Sweeney | Ohio University

Jane Marcellus (right) and two of her co-authors, (from left) Kimberly Wilmot Voss and Tracy Lucht, signed their book "Mad Men and Working Women" at the 2014 AEJMC convention.

Marcellus has earned praise from non-scholars and researchers alike for her work, including a plug in Teen Vogue for her book's "epic reading list."

As she describes it, "At first I saw Mad Men as a fun detour, although what I've written fits broadly into my research agenda on representation of employed women. Now, however, two of the other co-conveners and I are working on an edited collection of the best work from the conference, so who knows where it will go?"

With her teaching work, Marcellus enjoys working with her students in the upper-division media history course at MTSU. She assigns an ethnographic research project that encourages them to develop the skills needed to find and analyze primary sources.

She also likes to get her students to do hands-on history.

For example, MTSU has an 18th-century printing press and a resident expert on early American print culture who can show students how it works.

"Actually seeing and touching a press from this era helps students understand making words as a physical activity," she says. "You literally got your hands dirty doing it. Now, I think, we experience words as light on a screen unless we print it out. Students are cut off from the physicality of words. I try to open their eyes to that."

Among her mentors, she names Carolyn Kitch, chair of the journalism department at Temple University, as being "incredibly encouraging and helpful when I was getting started. I used her work as a model early on. I like it because she's such a clear, unpretentious thinker and writer."

Marcellus has some advice to those finishing doctorates and searching for—and starting—new academic jobs.

**"Actually seeing and touching a press from this era helps students understand making words as a physical activity."**

## CALL FOR PAPERS

# Media & Civil Rights History Symposium

*Submissions due Dec. 15 for Media & Civil Rights History Symposium and Farrar Award*

The School of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of South Carolina invites submissions for the fourth biennial Media & Civil Rights History Symposium. The Symposium will be March 30-April 1, 2017, at the Columbia, South Carolina campus.

Held during the full bloom of the South Carolina spring, the event brings together civil rights and media historians to share historical knowledge on the vital relationships between civil rights and various types of public communication. The Symposium welcomes scholars from various disciplines and work that approaches civil rights and media history from a range of local, national and transnational contexts, perspectives, and periods.

The 2017 Symposium will take place in the center of campus, at a historic, renovated building with state-of-the-art digital presentation technology.

## 2017 Symposium Theme

The special focus of the 2017 Media & Civil Rights History Symposium is on the role of print and broadcast images in the African American freedom struggle and other civil rights struggles. While the Symposium welcomes work that falls beyond the scope of the theme, scholars working in and with visual images are encouraged to consider this theme as they prepare work to submit to the Symposium.

## Call for Paper and Panel Proposals

Symposium coordinators currently are accepting abstract proposals for individual papers and panel sessions on all aspects of the historical relationship between media and civil



rights and particularly on the Symposium theme. Coordinators also encourage abstract submissions for work in other formats, including documentaries.

Paper and panel abstract submissions can be made online at the [2017 Media & Civil Rights History Symposium webpage](#). Submissions must be received by 11:59 p.m. EST on Dec. 15.

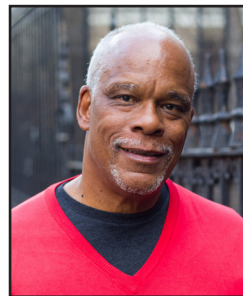
## Keynote Presenter: Stanley Nelson Jr.

Stanley Nelson Jr. is a MacArthur “genius grant” fellow and civil rights documentary filmmaker of the triple Emmy Award-winning “Freedom Riders” (2011), “The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution” (2015), and “The Black Press: Soldiers without Swords” (1998), among others.

Nelson will discuss and show excerpts of his work at the opening reception Thursday evening and the Friday noon keynote session. He will also speak at a public session Friday evening in the historic Booker T. Washington High School auditorium in Columbia.

## Symposium Contact

For more information about the Symposium, please contact Christopher Frear, director, [frearc@email.sc.edu](mailto:frearc@email.sc.edu), School of Journalism and Mass Communications, 800 Sumter Street, Columbia, SC 29208.



**Stanley Nelson Jr.**

## Farrar Award in Media & Civil Rights History

The Ronald T. and Gayla D. Farrar Award in Media & Civil Rights History recognizes the best journal article or chapter in an edited collection on the historical relationship between the media and civil rights.

The Farrar Award is presented in honor of Ronald T. and Gayla D. Farrar. Dr. Farrar is Professor Emeritus of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications. Recipients of the award receive a plaque and \$1,000. The winner agrees to present his or her work in a featured address at the 2017 Media & Civil Rights History Symposium.

## Call for Nominees

Submitted articles or chapters should be works of historical scholarship and must have been published in 2015 or 2016. Submissions that address the media and civil rights from a range of local, national and transnational contexts, periods and perspectives are encouraged.

Scholars may nominate and submit their own work or the work of others. A national panel of experts will judge the contest.

Articles/chapters to be considered should be sent as a PDF file to contest chairman Kenneth Campbell at [kencamp@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:kencamp@mailbox.sc.edu) by Dec. 15. Late submissions will not be considered.

## Farrar Award Contact

For more information about the Farrar Award in Media & Civil Rights History, contact Kenneth Campbell, [kencamp@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:kencamp@mailbox.sc.edu), School of Journalism and Mass Communications, 800 Sumter Street, Columbia, SC 29208.



## GRAD STUDENTS

# Stunt girl research fills gap in knowledge about women journalists

As the co-graduate liaison for the History Division, I hope to use this opportunity to connect with fellow journalism historians. As a first-year Ph.D. student at Ohio University, I have just started teaching, in addition to exploring areas of research that could be developed into a dissertation. I am excited to learn more about the different areas of research pursued by those within AEJMC's journalism history community.



**Samantha Peko**  
Co-Graduate Student Liaison  
*Ohio University*

Thus far, my area of research has been “stunt girl” journalism. Stunt girl journalism was popular in the late 1880s and 1890s and is said to be a movement prompted by Nelly Bly's success. I became interested in writing about “stunt girls” after my advisor and mentor, Dr. Michael Sweeney, mentioned that there was little written about them. Commonly referred to as Bly's competitors, historical mentions do not appear to give much recognition to stunt girls as individuals.

Prior to stunt girl journalism, many women journalists working for newspapers were confined to writing for the women's pages. They wrote about food, fashion, and culture. But change was on the horizon. In 1887, Nellie Bly made headlines with her stunt girl reporting, such as posing as insane to expose corrupt treatment of patients in mental asylums.

Papers around the country were



At the recent AEJMC convention in Minneapolis, Samantha Peko presented research on Ada Patterson, pictured here reporting on the 1905 Vanderbilt Cup with driver Joe Tracy.

**“Prior to stunt girl journalism, many women journalists working for newspapers were confined to writing for the women's pages.”**

quick to hire their own versions of Bly. Stunt girl journalism opened the doors for many women reporters. Women reporters transitioned from being a novelty to a welcome addition to the newsrooms.

Today, many of their legacies may have been lost. However, the stunt girl story of struggling to promote oneself despite the odds still can resonate today. My research is an attempt to help fill a gap in the historical re-

cord for early women journalists who broke barriers with their reporting.

Outside of research, I also hope to learn more about the ways journalism historians can incorporate historical research into the classroom to provide a better understanding of the profession today. To connect the past, present, and future is a difficult task. However, this is a task I look forward to embracing as I embark on a career sharing journalism history.

## TEACHING STANDARDS

# Students learn about author subjectivity through memoir writing

When Natalie Byfield set out to write [“Savage Portrayals: Race, Media, and the Central Park Jogger Story,”](#) she needed to justify how she examined the race, class, and gender bias in media coverage of the crime and prosecution.

The 1989 Central Park case received extended national and international attention. Many news stories described the rape and beating of a white female jogger as “wilding.” The term was coined to characterize episodes of poor and minority young people roaming streets ready to cause problems.

Donald Trump fanned public opinion when he [took out full-page advertisements](#) that called for the death penalty and referred to the teenagers as “roving bands of wild criminals.”

Five African American and Latino boys were pressured to plead guilty and wrongfully convicted. They were later exonerated after serving prison sentences and won a multi-million-dollar settlement with New York City.

“Getting the truth to emerge is often-times a difficult thing,” Byfield said in a later [discussion of the reporting](#).

Coverage was intense and confusing, she said.

“The quickness with which the mainstream leaders were willing to call these children animals, because this really was the language, was a throwback to traditional racism,” she added.

Using a media content analysis and



**Kristin L. Gustafson**  
Teaching Chair  
University of  
Washington-  
Bothell

her own first-person account as a black female New York Daily News staff writer, Byfield argued how coverage of the attack bolstered efforts nationally to try juveniles as adults.

“I take the period of my life and my experience as a journalist covering the story and treat it as ethnographic data,” said [Byfield](#), who is an associate professor in the Department of Sociology & Anthropology at St. John’s University in Queens, New York.

This attention to subjectivity is now central to her teaching. Byfield began using memoirs in 2009 to help students think about their subjectivity as writers and as researchers. Students learn in her Introduction to Sociology class about the institutions that shape their experiences and choices of what they research and write about.

“Forcing an awareness of how their subjective lens was developed is the goal,” said Byfield.

Awareness is important to the study of history and understanding how mass communication platforms developed, she said.

She explained that students and journalists enter and describe scenes they encounter using information gained before that experience. For example, when we enter homes of low-income people for a story, it is necessary for us to see the organization of the home in order to frame a

**“Forcing an awareness of how their subjective lens was developed is the goal,” said Byfield.**



**Natalie Byfield has earned national recognition for her successful use of memoir to demonstrate subjectivity in her sociology class.**

camera shot or describe the setting.

But unless the story’s focus is on home organization, details like “messy” or “disorganized” can get inserted into the story unnoticed because these stereotypes of low-income people are normalized and reinforced in society, Byfield explained.

“I’m not convinced journalists or sociologists consciously gather these details,” Byfield said.

Memoir writing provides an intervention. It focuses awareness on this subjective position and pays attention to how stories get told.

If students can become aware that the subjective position is constructed, Byfield explained, then students can interrogate it.

Her students learn to ask: Why is this question pertinent for this story?

The American Sociology Association identified Byfield’s success with the teaching method and awarded her its [Carla B. Howery Teaching Enhancement Grant](#) in 2011. In her grant application, Byfield paraphrased C. Wright Mills in “The Sociological Imagination” (1959) to explain her rationale: “an individual can fully understand their experience only when the person locates themselves in their historical period and becomes aware of others who share similar circumstances in life.”



## Gustafson

Continued from Page 10

The grant came with \$2,000 to study the course and its impact on teaching sociology. Byfield is in the process of publishing that scholarship.

In Byfield's class, students work on their memoirs the entire semester. She uses writing groups with peer review. Once a week one group presents to the whole class. Alongside the memoirs, students write three reflection essays that help them develop their awareness, integrate class readings, and bring life experiences into their texts.

History is central to the course and to the writing. Students gather information about the moments in time they write about and "that becomes part of the context of what shaped their perspective," she said.

Byfield described St. John's University as racially, internationally, and ethnically diverse. The memoirs surfaced details relevant to the students' diversity.

"It brings these other windows of the world into the classroom," she said.

Students begin their memoirs with what

Byfield calls "a page-one moment":

In one or two double-spaced, typewritten pages, tell a stranger /reader about a moment in your life that helped to shape you into the person you are today. In telling about this moment, be sure not to "flood" the reader with too many details. Select details that will help the reader to care about the people you have introduced in that decisive moment in your life. Also, tell the reader just enough that he/she will want to continue reading.

The approach is based on Erika Duncan's structured memoir writing process. Writers construct the "stranger/reader," Byfield explained, which is a person we write for in order to build or highlight bridges between people.

"Students are encouraged to write in such a way that the reader can walk in their shoes, see what they see, feel what they feel," said Byfield, who encountered the approach when documenting the [Herstory Writer's Workshop](#) organization, which Duncan founded.

Students present each of their "begin-

As journalism educators and media historians, we have excellent classroom practices and curriculum designs to share with one another. As teaching chair, I continue to invite you to share your best practices that encourage pedagogies of diversity, collaboration, community, and justice. Send them to me at [gustaf13@uw.edu](mailto:gustaf13@uw.edu).

nings" to the class, and the class discusses each of them by examining the social structures, institutions, and historical context that made a difference in the person's life.

"Students are then guided to tease out from their memories other such important/formative moments in their lives," Byfield wrote.

The students continue to read one another's memoirs throughout the semester. At the end of one semester, a student told Byfield, "I don't even read Facebook anymore. I just go to the memoirs."

## New archive initiative planned to benefit History Division members

Next summer, I hope to visit the National Archives to do some research. However, I found myself overwhelmed about how to even begin.

So when I saw Michael Fuhlhage posting on Facebook about his own archives work there, I asked him to give me some

tips. From there, we agreed that this would be a great membership initiative.

Our goal is to create a working guide of archive visit wisdom. We invite you all to share your tips for working in particular archives so that we can create a user-friend-



**Teri Finneman**  
Membership  
Co-Chair  
*South Dakota State*

ly document to assist our archive digging members.

We have created a template that members can fill in (at right). Even if you cannot fill in all of the blanks, whatever information you can provide will be useful.

To ease this process, we will send out an email across the listserv with a link to a GoogleDoc for you to directly type in responses. As an alternative, we will also include the categories directly in the email so that you can fill them in and reply by email.

By using a GoogleDoc, we will be able to insert new information on a constant basis, so please keep this in mind as you do new archival work in the future.

We hope that you will take some time to contribute to this valuable member service.

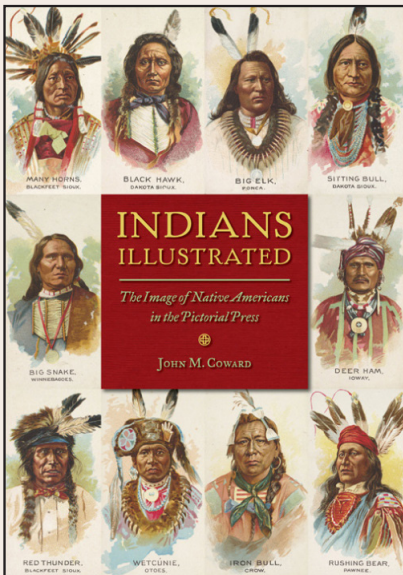
Archive Name:  
Archive City:  
Your name:  
Your email:  
Link to archive website:  
Link to finding aids:  
Collection strengths:  
Advice on where to stay:  
Appointment needed before arrival?  
Staffing info/tips:  
Cameras allowed?  
Is there a charge for using a camera?  
Cellphones allowed?  
Is there a charge for using cellphone?  
Photocopy costs:  
Lockers info (location, charge):  
General advice for visiting this archive:

## BOOK EXCERPT

# From the Introduction to “Indians Illustrated: The Native American Image in the Pictorial Press”



**John M. Coward**  
University of Tulsa



“Indians Illustrated: The Native American Image in the Pictorial Press” (University of Illinois Press, 2016)

[Visit the book website](#)

**M**y book argues that Indian illustrations were an important source of visual information about Indians and Indian life in the second half of the nineteenth century, pictures influential enough that traces of these images can be found in American popular culture to this day. Indeed, I argue that these pictures—along with news stories, editorials, advertisements, dime novels, popular

entertainment and the like—helped create and sustain a host of popular ideas and attitudes about Indians, especially ideas about the way Indians are supposed to look and act. Indian illustrations in the pictorial press, I maintain, were part of the social and cultural machinery that produced and reinforced an enduring set of Indian stereotypes and visual tropes in the American popular imagination, reinforcing the ways that white Americans understood Native Americans and their place in U.S. society. I argue that these pictures were a significant part of this meaning-making process because they frequently depicted Indians and Indian life in popular but narrowly conceived ways.

In pictures, that is, Indians could be—and were—simplified and presented in a number of familiar and easily understood categories, usually as a variation on the “good” Indian/“bad” Indian stereotypes long established in Euro-American culture. When the occasion presented itself, Indians could be pictured as Noble Savages, proud, brave, strong and

unsullied by the evils of the civilized world. On other occasions, they could be represented as treacherous and bloodthirsty savages, primitive people on the wrong side of history and a menace to civilized, honest, God-fearing whites. In still other cases, Native Americans could be ridiculed or praised in pictures and words that reflected a superficial and sometimes contradictory set of ideas about their

virtues and deficiencies as a race. By describing and analyzing the various themes and visual tropes across the years of the illustrated press, I attempt to provide a deeper understanding of the racial codes and visual signs that white Americans used to represent Native Americans in the era of western expansion and Manifest Destiny.

## Visualizing the Indian “Other”

**F**or decades—centuries, actually—American Indians have been victims of the Euro-American racial imagination. In popular culture and the mass media, Indians have been portrayed by a set of racial stereotypes and visual clichés, forces so powerful that they have shaped ideas about Indians and their lives for generations of white Americans. As the historian Robert Berkhofer put it in his now-classic 1978 study “The White Man’s Indian”: “Native Americans were and are real, but the *Indian* was a White invention and still remains largely a White image, if not

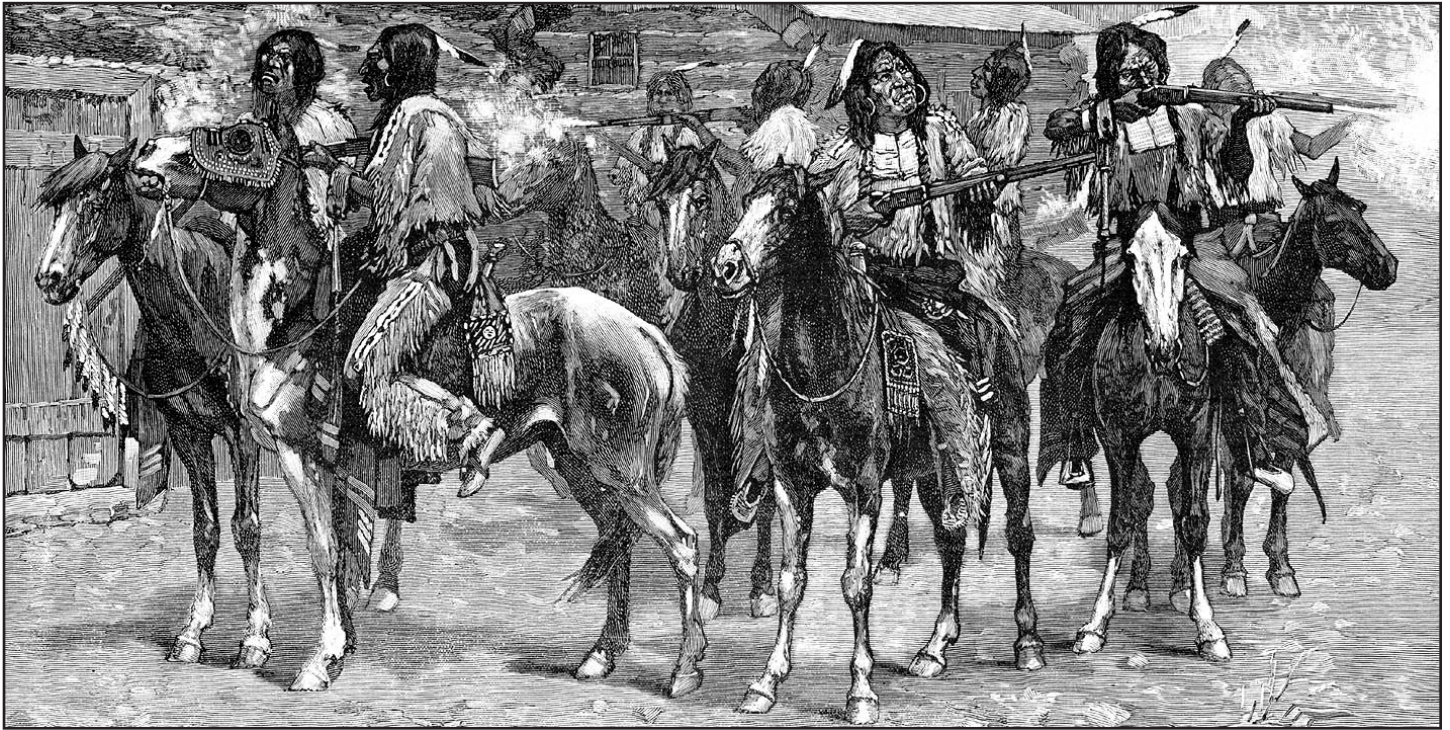
See **Coward** | Page 13

**“For decades—centuries, actually—American Indians have been victims of the Euro-American racial imagination.”**



## Coward

Continued from Page 12



Frederic Remington's 1887 *Harper's Weekly* illustration "The Turbulent Crows" emphasized Indian violence, despite the fact that the Crows were long-time allies of the army.

stereotype" [italics in original].

In recent years Native Americans have become increasingly vocal in identifying and pushing back against Indian stereotype in words and pictures. Writing about the representation of Indian soldiers and sailors in World War II, for example, Ojibwe scholar Selene Phillips pinpointed the problem: "After centuries in which the word 'Indian' has been part of our written and spoken languages, it is almost impossible to encounter the word without envisioning specific mental images." Devon Mihesuah, a Choctaw scholar, framed the problem this way: "No other ethnic group in the United States has endured greater and more varied distortions of its cultural identity than American Indians."

In addition, Mihesuah noted, most Americans—indeed, most people around the globe—"appear to have

**"In short, American Indians were almost always perceived as outsiders, a category of people different from 'normal' Americans."**

definite expectations of what Indians should look like." Indian men are "tall and copper-colored, with braided hair, clothed in buckskin, and moccasins, and adorned in headdresses, beadwork and/or turquoise." Indian women, Mihesuah continued, are beautiful and exotic, like Disney's version of Pocahontas, who "sings with the forest animals" and is "blessed with a Barbie doll figure." The major purpose of this book is to describe and analyze these images in the illustrated press and to explain their origins and meanings in American popular culture.

At the foundational level, this study builds on the cultural approach to communication, an idea advanced by the late communication scholar James Carey. The cultural approach looks at communication not simply as the transmission of information, but as

"the maintenance of society in time" and, importantly, as the "representation of shared

beliefs." The news, that is, does something more than convey information or facts; it allows for the construction of community and common understandings, the underlying beliefs that hold a society together and shape its ideology. Following this view, the act of reading a newspaper—and viewing its images—works in ways that ritually reassure the reader, who is participating, Carey writes, in "a situation...in which a particular view of the world is portrayed and confirmed."

Applying Carey's approach to Indian imagery in the illustrated press, I argue that these representations helped sustain and reinforce a number of powerful ideas and beliefs about Indians and Indian life in the last half of the nineteenth century. Indian images

See **Coward** | Page 14

## Coward

Continued from Page 13

in the pictorial press were products of the racial and cultural ideology of nineteenth-century Euro-American life and these images functioned in ways that confirmed a set of ideas about what it meant to be an American—that is, a white American—and what it meant to be an outsider, an Indian “other.”

The ideas and beliefs embedded in the illustrated press, then, were manifestations of an ideology that was largely Anglo-American, Protestant and capitalist, categories that automatically set Native Americans apart from the cultural mainstream of nineteenth-century American life. In short, American Indians were almost always perceived as outsiders, a category of people different from “normal” Americans. This position ensured that they would be represented in the illustrated press most often in ways that simplified and accentuated those differences. Even when Indians and Indian cultures were represented more or less accurately or sympathetically, the images in the pictorial press functioned in ways that maintained racial boundaries and emphasized cultural differences.

In a similar way, my analysis treats Indian representations in the pictorial press as constructed artifacts—“something people make,” in the words of media historian and sociologist Michael Schudson. Journalists make the news, Schudson writes, through a complex process “of selecting, highlighting, framing, shading and shaping what they report.” More often than not, these journalistic choices work in ways that support mainstream society and the status quo, marginalizing minorities and outsiders as “an array of backward and violent non-white peoples,” in the words of press historians Juan Gonzalez and Joseph Torres.

In the case of Indians, this news-making process was not neutral or objective but ethnocentric and culturally determined, shaped by the standards and values of Euro-American life. Thus Indian illustrations, as well as the captions and stories that explained them, were circumscribed by the fact that Native Americans were routinely identified as racially and culturally different, a category of uncivilized people who could be visually distinguished from “normal” Euro-Americans. In other words, Indian representations in the illustrated press were always subject to specific cultural, sociological and journalistic practices as an inevitable part of the process of making illustrated news.

This sociological view of news production, along with Carey’s cultural approach, provides a basis for an examination of Indian images at a broad ideological level, as illustrations that—whatever else they may communicate—represent a number of deeply seated, ethnocentric ideas about the nature of Indians and their meaning in the American experience.

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*John M. Coward is an associate professor of communication at the University of Tulsa and former chair of the History Division of AEJMC. Coward’s research on Native American representations has been published in *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Visual Communication Quarterly*, *Journalism History*, and *American Journalism*. He is the author of “The Newspaper Indian: Native American Identity in the Press, 1820-90” (*Illinois*, 1999). He can be reached at [john-coward@utulsa.edu](mailto:john-coward@utulsa.edu).*

## Notes

<sup>i</sup> Robert F. Berkhofer, Jr., “The White Man’s Indian: Images of the American Indian from Columbus to the Present.” New York: Random House, 1978, 3.

<sup>ii</sup> Selene G. Phillips, “‘Indians on Our Warpath:’ World War II Images of American Indians in *Life Magazine*, 1937-1949,” in Meta G. Carstarphen and John P. Sanchez (eds.), “American Indians and the Mass Media.” Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2012, 34.

<sup>iii</sup> Devon A. Mihesuah, “American Indians: Stereotypes & Realities.” Atlanta: Clarity Press, 1996, 9.

<sup>iv</sup> Mihesuah, 10.

<sup>v</sup> James W. Carey, “Communication as Culture: Essays on Media and Society.” Boston: Unwin Hyman, 1989, 18.

<sup>vi</sup> Carey, 20.

<sup>vii</sup> Michael Schudson, “The Sociology of News” (2nd ed.), New York: Norton, 2011, xvii.

<sup>viii</sup> Schudson, xiv.

<sup>ix</sup> Juan Gonzalez and Joseph Torres, “News for All the People: The Epic Story of Race and the American Media.” London: Verso, 2011, 3. Also see John M. Coward, “The Newspaper Indian: Native American Identity in the Press, 1820-90.” Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1999, 19.



## NEWS AND NOTES

# Books, Awards, and Events

Membership Co-Chairs

**Teri Finneman**

*South Dakota State University*

**Will Mari**

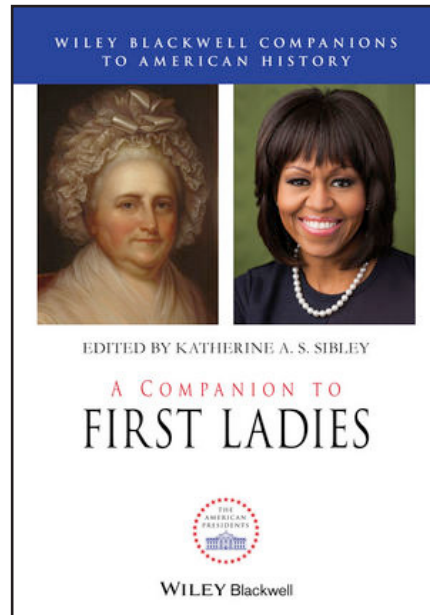
*Northwest University*

Welcome to our "News & Notes" section. Here you will find updates on our History Division's members. Please share the news—Updates, Publications, Awards, Promotions, and Top Papers—that you find here.

## Publications

**Sheila Webb's** article, "Radical Portrayals: Dickey Chapelle on the Front Lines," was published in the fall issue of *American Periodicals*. Webb's article on photojournalist Chapelle is part of a special issue devoted to war and periodicals.

Wiley released "A Companion to First Ladies" in May 2016. This volume explores more than two centuries of literature on the first ladies, from Martha Washington to Michelle Obama, providing the first historiographical overview of these important women in U.S. history. The book features chapters written by division members **Maurine Beasley**, **Lisa Burns**, and **Teri Finneman**.



"A Companion to First Ladies," featuring chapters from Maurine Beasley, Lisa Burns and Teri Finneman.

Drawing on the content of his latest book, "1995: The Year the Future Began" (University of California Press, 2015), **W. Joseph Campbell** wrote op-eds for the *Baltimore Sun* over the summer discussing the enduring cultural fascination with the O.J. Simpson double-murder trial and the fading popular memories of Netscape, a prominent force of the early web. Campbell writes two blogs, [Media Myth Alert](#) and [The 1995 Blog](#).

## Conferences/Meetings

**Loren Ghiglione** participated in an August meeting at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences on Native Americans in academia. He chairs Northwestern's Native American and Indigenous Peoples Steering Group and is a guest editor of a 2018 issue of *Daedalus*, the Academy's quarterly journal, about the obstacles and opportunities faced by Native Americans.

## Jobs and Promotions

**Nicholas Hirshon** started a tenure-track position as an assistant professor in the Communication Department at William Paterson University in Wayne, New Jersey, in September. In August, he successfully defended his dissertation under the guidance of Dr. **Marilyn Greenwald** in the E.W. Scripps School of Journalism at Ohio University.

## In Memoriam

Dr. **Beverly G. Merrick**, a published poet and former professor of journalism and mass communication, died in July at Kearney, Nebraska, where she had been active in developing a cultural center in a block of historic buildings. Dr. Merrick, whose academic interests included the history of women in journalism, served as chair of the department of mass communication at the United Arab Emirates University from 2007-2009. Previously she held academic appointments at the University of Nebraska-Kearney, New Mexico State University and Grigol Robakidze University in Republic of Georgia (as a Fulbright Freedom of the Press professor). She received a Ph.D. in 1989 from Ohio University, where she also was awarded a master's degree and a certificate in women's studies. In addition, she held master's and bachelor's degrees from Marshall University.



**Beverly G. Merrick**

## News and Notes

Continued from Page 16

### Awards

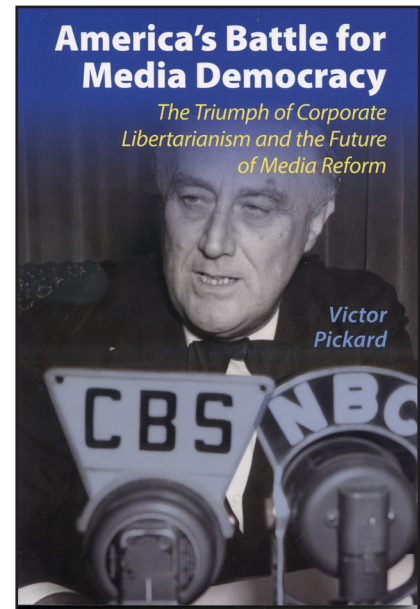
**Victor Pickard** won the Frank Luther Mott-Kappa Tau Alpha Journalism & Mass Communication Research Award for the best book published in 2015 for “America’s Battle for Media Democracy: The Triumph of Corporate Libertarianism and the Future of Media” (Cambridge University Press). Pickard places media ownership and practice, net neutrality and other current issues into the larger historical context of previous reform efforts.

**Paula Hunt** received a Preparing Future Faculty Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Missouri, where she will teach the History of American Journalism and a graduate-level Mass Media Seminar. The Preparing Future

Faculty Program provides teaching and professional development opportunities for recent MU doctoral graduates. **Earnest Perry**, associate professor and associate dean of the Missouri School of Journalism, will serve as Hunt’s mentor.

**Meg Lamme** was recently appointed to the board of directors of The School for Advanced Research (SAR), Santa Fe. SAR has supported innovative social science research and Native American artistic creativity for more than a century, funding more than 350 scholars and artists, including six MacArthur Fellows and eighteen Guggenheim Fellows. Working from its historic campus, the El Delirio estate bequeathed by the daughters of American journalist Horace White, SAR also sponsors lectures,

tours, exhibitions, and archeological field trips: [www.sarweb.org](http://www.sarweb.org).



Victor Pickard's “America’s Battle for Media Democracy: The Triumph of Corporate Libertarianism and the Future of Media.”

## Mark your syllabi for Media History Engagement Week

Media History Engagement Week is slated for April 3-7, 2017. The week is an opportunity to get students, media historians, and industry members to promote the importance of media history.

In 2016, participants from 20 states and six countries took part in the #headlinesinhistory Twitter discussion. More details will come in future newsletters, but plan now to take part in the 2017 event. Contact Membership Co-Chairs Teri Finneman at [finnemte@gmail.com](mailto:finnemte@gmail.com) or Will Mari at [william.mari@northwestu.edu](mailto:william.mari@northwestu.edu) with questions.

### Mari

Continued from Page 7

“It’s helpful if you can ride the wave of energy you hopefully feel coming out of grad school and use it to get some work published,” she says.

“It’s a lot to expect of yourself to move to a new environment and start projects from scratch,” she adds. “It’s easier, I think, if you can build on the research agenda you’ve started and keep working on that. In addition to revising my dissertation and looking for a book publisher, I got out old class papers—stuff that really was only the draft I’d done for class—and revised.”

At the end of the day, however, she

says it’s critical to pursue what you’re curious about.

“Obviously you have to meet the expectations of the school that will

tenure you, but mostly, do what you love. I don’t see the point, otherwise.”

For more on Marcellus and her research and teaching work, visit her

web page at <http://www.janemarcellus.com/>.

*If you have ideas for our next Member Spotlight, or would like to volunteer to be spotlighted, please send a note to Will Mari, membership co-chair, at [william.mari@northwestu.edu](mailto:william.mari@northwestu.edu).*

**“Obviously you have to meet the expectations of the school that will tenure you, but mostly, do what you love. I don’t see the point, otherwise.”**



# AEJMC Minneapolis 2016

**M**embers of the History Division convened at the Hilton Minneapolis Aug. 4-7 for the AEJMC 99th Annual Convention. The division had three panels, three traditional research paper sessions, a Scholar-to-Scholar (poster) session, and a high-density research session, in which 10 presenters gave brief presentations and then mingled with session attendees to discuss their work. To cap the convention, the division co-sponsored a mixer at a local pub with the Graduate Student Interest Group. Several members also presented work in other AEJMC divisions.

**Photos by  
Erika Pribanic-Smith**



Stephen Bates receives the top faculty paper award from incoming Division Head Mike Sweeney.



History Division member David Abrahamson introduces panelists at an International Association for Literary Journalism Studies session.



Rich Shumate presents the division's top student paper.



Kevin Lerner discusses his work with Keith Greenwood during the high-density research session.



Ken Ward received second place student paper honors for the submission he co-authored with Aimee Edmondson.

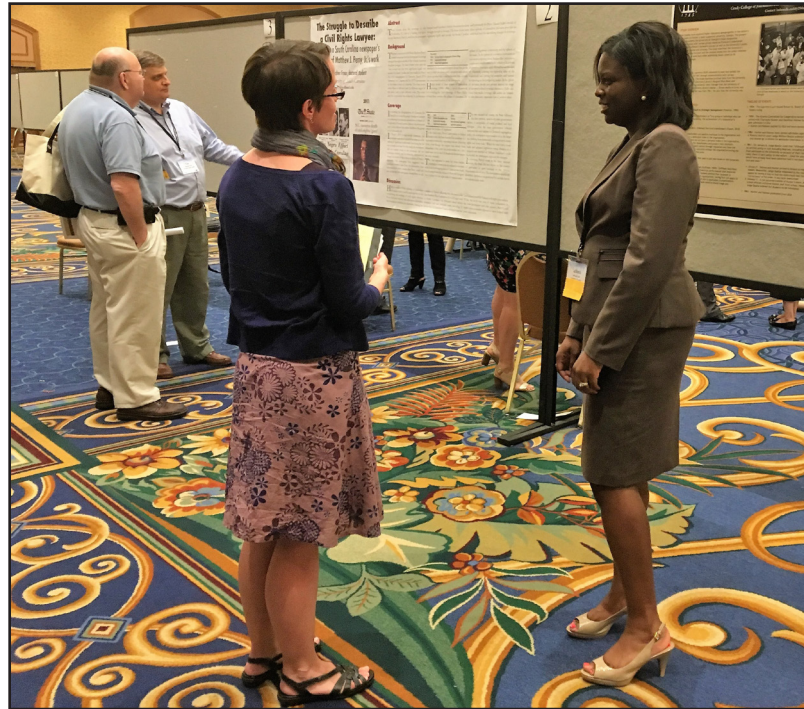


# AEJMC

Continued from Page 18



Aimee Edmondson and incoming 2nd Vice Head Erika Pribanic-Smith enjoy the History/Graduate Student mixer at a pub near the convention hotel.



Historians congregate at the Scholar-to-Scholar session.



Dan Haygood shares his research in the Scholar-to-Scholar session.



Bill Huntzicker engages with presenters on the wartime journalism panel.



Tracy Lucht (left) and Jane Marcellus enjoy Ellen Wirth's presentation on the Women and Regional Journalism panel.



John Coward explores Carol Ames' new book during the high-density research session.



History Division members Amber Roessner and Carrie Teresa present their historical research in the Critical and Cultural Studies Division.