

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

Guide outlines division events for Chicago



AEJMC 2017 in Chicago will feature 27 History Division papers, six co-sponsored history panels, an important meeting, and two special off-site events for division members. Pages 25-28 of this issue offer a complete History Division guide. (Photo: Nimesh Madhavan | [CC by SA 2.0](#))

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

AEJMC: An academic circle of life



Michael S. Sweeney
Chair
Ohio University

It is not uncommon for graduate students working on history theses and dissertations to ask me whether they really need to join AEJMC and attend the annual conference.

I tell them yes, if they want to be taken seriously. And I sometimes talk about AEJMC as an academic circle of life.

When you're just starting on the path toward being a professor, you don't know

much. You've sat in classrooms and absorbed some of the teaching methods and skills of your favorite professors, but you still need to learn new media and new ideas and to find your own teaching style.

You have a broad research topic you love, but you still need to master the nuances of academic writing. And you realize the benefit of finding like-minded scholars who can critique your work and possibly act as mentors.

At this stage of academic life, you are like the child at the card table on See [Sweeney](#) | Page 2

ONLINE
aejmc.us/history

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



An excerpt of Jason Peterson's book "Full Court Press" begins on page 15.

Research Chair
Column | [PAGE 3](#)

Journal Vote
Guest Column | [PAGE 5](#)

PF&R
Column | [PAGE 7](#)

Teaching Standards
Column | [PAGE 9](#)

Southeast Colloquium
Q&A | [PAGE 11](#)

Joint Conference
Column | [PAGE 13](#)

Graduate Liason
Column | [PAGE 14](#)

"Full Court Press"
Book Excerpt | [PAGE 15](#)

Membership
Spotlight | [PAGE 19](#)

News and Notes
Roundup | [PAGE 21](#)

AEJMC Conference
Preview | [PAGE 25](#)

Sweeney

Continued from Page 1

Thanksgiving, waiting to be promoted to the big dinner table with the adults. “How do you use this utensil? What does wine taste like? What do you call those buttery green globes. . . Brussels sprouts? Yes, please.”

Longtime members of AEJMC are the “adults” here. They act as role models and as friends, helping you learn about the college professor’s life outside the classroom. You can share drafts of papers with friendly colleagues for their honest critiques, or better yet collaborate with them to improve your scholarship and boost your number of conference-accepted and published papers.

When I attended my first AEJMC conference in Atlanta in 1994, authors had to bring 25 hard copies of their papers and place them on their division’s table in a cavernous hotel ballroom. As a first-year PhD student, I grabbed a copy of every history paper—each cost a quarter, if I remember correctly—and took them home in my suitcase. I spent the next week reading them all in order to dissect the methods, the logic, the style, and the voice deemed acceptable to the national conference.

I repeated that for several years. This routine paid huge dividends throughout graduate school and in the first years of a professional teaching career.

Once you’ve been hired as an assistant professor, AEJMC takes on new roles. Probationary periods typically last six to seven years. Somewhere around year three or four, I urge my former students to take an administrative role in one or more of the AEJMC divisions or in the American Journal-



Among the “Padawans” Mike Sweeney (center) has mentored at Ohio University are (L-R) Carol Hector-Harris, Pamela Walck, David Forster, and Nicholas Hirshon, some of whom are now faculty mentoring others. (Photo: Aimee Edmondson)

ism Historians Association, if they haven’t done so already.

This is Machiavellian advice, and I frame it as such. Running a research competition or heading a division puts your name and face out among proven scholars in your field. When it comes time for you to assemble a promotion and tenure dossier, engagement at a high level with AEJMC or AJHA nicely augments published scholarship as evidence of a national reputation, often one of the key standards in the tenure and promotion schedule.

Beyond that, however, those established scholars with whom you work might become articulate voices for your promotion and tenure case. If you are asked to supply the names of several potential reviewers from outside your university who are familiar with your scholarship, it makes sense to list

high-ranking professors from your AEJMC or AJHA circles.

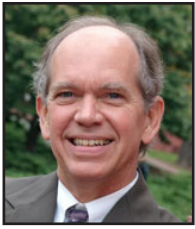
This puts cognitive dissonance theory to work: They know you, and you hope they like you and respect your work. That likely inclines them favorably toward your case. (Imagine the opposite: “I love this candidate! Great friend, working on great research. Too bad I have to recommend denial of tenure.” Thank you, Leon Festinger. Your cognitive dissonance theory is one I often employ.)

As you mature as a scholar, friends and colleagues at AEJMC provide more fine-tuned advice. They can tell you which publishers they like and which they don’t. They can inform you about the rules for using specific archives and perhaps even the names of helpful reference librarians. They can give you the skinny on which universities support research and the financial aid it requires and which do not.

In due time, you’ll be the Yoda at AEJMC and your students—and their students—will be the Padawans. And the circle of academic life will continue.

At this stage of academic life, you are like the child at the card table on Thanksgiving, waiting to be promoted to the big dinner table with the adults.

Endnotes in strange times



Doug Cumming
Research Chair
Washington
and Lee
University

The research papers came in on the All-Academic website. I sent them out to reviewers. Then by May 1, the reviews came in, and we're off to the races. What an amazing system! And what a privilege for me. I get to see the work of my fellow media history scholars, papers with strata of endnotes labored out of solitary time in Presidential libraries or oral-history interviews or after-hours in your campus offices. Then I get to see the Likert scores and thoughtful comments of all those volunteer reviewers.

At the upcoming conference in Chicago and in the next Clio, I'll give the final statistics on papers submitted and accepted. As the song says, "Won't you please come to Chicago for the help that we can bring." (We can change the world?)

For now, I'd like to reflect a bit on what this system of paper submission and blind review means today, especially when we're doing history.

These are strange times. As a New Year cartoon in my local newspaper had it, pigs representing 2016 were flying with these labels: Bob Dylan wins the Nobel for Literature, Chicago Cubs win the World Series, and Trump is elected President. The psy-

chic atmosphere is captured well in the title of a new book by "On the Media" co-host Brooke Gladstone, "The Trouble with Reality: A Ruminations on Moral Panic in Our Time."

In the early days of the Internet, there was a hopeful anticipation of vast quantities of digitized "information" and democratized technology. But this has been darkened considerably by doubts and downsides. Such doubts were always hanging around. (I was taken by critiques of technology from Lewis Mumford and Jacques Ellul way back in my post-adolescent

Romantic Age.)

President Clinton in his 1996 nomination speech talked about "Building a Bridge to the 21st Century," and while this covered a standard policy menu, the idea became associated with Vice President Al Gore's call for an Internet Superhighway. Neil

Postman, the wise media ecologist at New York University at the time, responded with a 1999 book he titled "Building a Bridge to the 18th Century: How the Past Can Improve Our Future."

Postman, who died in 2003, noted a curious fact: the Age of Enlightenment had no use for the word "information." He found it missing from the indexes of every single book he had read on 18th century thought, nearly 100 works in all. (Google Books Ngram Viewer finds the frequency of the word "information" rising like a steep mountain

Isolated facts—mere "information"—had absolutely no value unless contributing to something larger.

See **Cumming** | Page 4

Clio

AMONG THE MEDIA

Editor & Designer
Erika Pribanic-Smith
University of Texas
at Arlington

Clio Logo
Nat Newsome
Augusta State
University

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.

Send membership updates to be included in "News & Notes" to Teri Finneman at finnemte@gmail.com or Will Mari at william.mari@northwestu.edu

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

Cumming

Continued from Page 3

since 1940, especially since the '60s, becoming three or four times more common in 2000 than “knowledge” or “reality,” which had enjoyed stable use in print since 1800.)

Postman's explanation is that the Age of Reason understood that isolated facts—mere “information”—had absolutely no value unless contributing to something larger. That something larger was “knowledge,” the obsession of philosophers like Voltaire with his “History of the World,” or polymaths like Samuel Johnson with his “Dictionary.” What we call critical thinking they valued as skepticism, but such lucidity always had a higher purpose, and in America, it had the pragmatic result of our founding documents. Postman argues that mere information, no matter how vast and speedy, needs context and ultimately, a sustaining narrative.

We don't study history to learn from the mistakes of the past. History isn't a bunch of lessons for our benefit, never mind Santayana's oft-repeated quote. (My version: Those who remember that quote are condemned to repeat it—endlessly.) I have come to believe that the best use of history is to know where we/I stand in the narrative—really, how we/I fit into any number of shared narratives.

Whether regional, media, gender, national, or global history, Postman says we need narratives that we can believe in and that are of good use. If the story has religious overtones, so be it. “The purpose of a narrative is



Neil Postman

to give meaning to the world, not to describe it scientifically.”¹

Santayana's quote needs context as well. What he wrote in “The Life of Reason,” before condemning those who cannot remember history, is that progress is built on what is retained from the past, like a scene in a good story. “When change is absolute,” he wrote, “there remains no being to improve and no direction is set for possible improvement: and when experience is not retained, as among savages, infancy is perpetual.”

I have just spent some of a sabbatical semester reading about the 18th century Enlightenment. This Eurocentric outburst seems to be a good source of the narrative we need today. It is our source for checks and balances (from Montesquieu's analogy with the solar system in “The Spirit of the Law”), free trade (Adam Smith's “Wealth of Nations”), a free press, evidence-based science, representative democracy and all that.

Our division's accepted papers explore “new knowledge” ranging from an analysis of how “fake news” fits into the history of hoaxes to an argument that a co-founder of Freedom's Journal embraced the controversial crusade against the American Colonization Society. The quiet pursuit of seemingly obscure or theoretical corners of media history reminds me of the camera shots at the beginning of Pare Lorenz's documentary “The River,” raindrops and creek heads delicately building into the tributaries that will become the Mississippi.

It may be a stretch in this post-modern time, but I like to think of these research papers and their blind reviews in the context of the Enlightenment narrative, a vast project of skepticism and enlarged understanding. It joins us to what was said about the great French historian Marc Bloch, who was executed by the Nazis in an open field in France near the end of World War II: “He was capable of infinite attention to detail, but he never forgot that the details had meaning only in the larger framework of the history of human society.”²

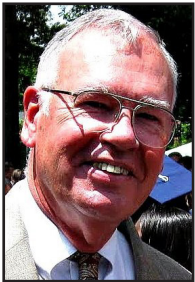
¹ Neil Postman, *Building a Bridge to the 18th Century* (New York: Knopf, 1999), 109-10.

² Joseph R. Strayer, “Introduction,” *The Historian's Craft* by Marc Bloch, trans. Peter Putnam (New York: Knopf, 1953), x.

For a full list of research papers accepted to the History Division and a schedule of presentation times, see the AEJMC Chicago conference guide, pages 25-28.

We don't study history to learn from the mistakes of the past. History isn't a bunch of lessons for our benefit.

Membership to vote on fate of Journalism History



Frank E. Fee, Jr.
Chair, Journalism History Task Force
University of North Carolina
(Emeritus)

At the division's last annual meeting, incoming chair Mike Sweeney announced he was appointing an ad hoc committee to look into the division taking over the independent scholarly journal **Journalism History**. We—Kathy Forde, Melita Garza, Will Tubbs, and I—have investigated the possibility and will be recommending at the August meeting that the division provide the journal a home.

At last year's meeting and in the Autumn 2016 *Clio*, Mike offered some excellent reasons for this change to take place. A survey of editors of AEJMC divisions provided a few more.

By and large, most division and interest group journals in AEJMC have contracts with the publishers Sage and Taylor & Francis and are generally happy with the arrangements. With the exception of a self-published, open-access journal, the few currently self-publishing are in negotiations with a publisher.

Pros, cons of adopting Journalism History

We agree with Mike that both the journal and the division would benefit from the arrangement, giving added stature to each. For one thing, it would provide permanence for the journal, helping to ensure a place to publish journalism historians' research.

Mike pointed out that "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." He added that more clicks mean more money for the division. Other benefits: More foolproof manuscript management and permanent digital web addresses for research articles.

As many editors in our survey emphasized, having a corporate publisher means the editor does not have to handle the production, marketing, financial management, and distribution of the journal. One editor said his publisher's "professionalism and global

Journalism History

VOLUME 43 NUMBER 1

SPRING 2017



Journalism History's most recent issue published in May 2017.

reach have been invaluable to the journal's continuing success. The journal is included in institutional subscriptions to [the publisher's journals], which increases our reach and impact, nationally as well as internationally."

Then there's the benefit of bundling the journal subscription with division membership; no more forgetting that your subscription ran out.

Of course, there are downsides. Professional publishers may try to stick with the traditional 25-page manuscript length limits, while Mike has been more liberal on length. Moreover, we'd have to make sure that the publisher is receptive to illustrations. Mike's also been mighty flexible on deadlines. As several ed-

Fee

Continued from Page 5

itors mentioned in our survey, it takes clear understandings at the outset and strong monitoring to keep things on our terms.

On balance, though, we see the benefits significantly outweighing the tradeoffs, and besides, if the present Journalism History arrangement were to migrate to another private editor, Mike's flexible polices might not travel with the journal.

What happens next

There are several steps that would have to be taken to bring the journal into the division. First, the division would have to agree to pursue this. We will be submitting a resolution at the 2017 business meeting in Chicago for a vote on whether to go forward and, because we don't expect anything near a division quorum at the meeting, to authorize us to conduct a formal SurveyMonkey vote of division members on the question.

By the way, as part of our work we previously conducted a SurveyMonkey straw poll. The results were overwhelmingly (91.23 percent) in favor of the division bringing on the journal, even if this required—and it might not—raising our dues, which are among the lowest in AEJMC. (*See a detailed analysis of the poll results in the Spring 2017 Clio.*)

As we see it, the next step upon

a favorable vote would be for the division to form a publications committee to select an editor; continue, if necessary or desirable, the search for a publisher; and obtain a contract proposal.

Before the deal can be completed, however, the AEJMC board would have to approve it. Jennifer McGill at headquarters tells us the board will have to read and approve any contract to outsource the journal before it can be signed. A key question is whether the division will fund the journal.

We have looked into possible publishers. Mike assured the American Journalism Historians Association that we would not approach Taylor & Francis because that company already publishes AJHA's American Journalism.

We have been in contact with Sage, which publishes AEJMC's journals, and Oxford, which publishes both the Organization of American Historians' journal, the Journal of American History, and the American Historical Association's American Historical Review. Oxford showed some interest, but we continue to wait for firm responses from both publishers. And, of course, there are others out there. We hope to hear back from Sage and Oxford before the annual meeting in August.

The annual History Division member meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 11 at the AEJMC national conference in Chicago. (See page 28.)

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 Div. Research Chair

Melita Garza,
Texas Christian University

Website Administrator

Keith Greenwood
University of Missouri

PROFESSIONAL FREEDOM & RESPONSIBILITY

With press freedom in danger, journalism historians must be vocal

I write this as I watch a live stream of former FBI director James Comey's testimony before the Senate Intelligence Committee. Comey has accused the president and his



Tracy Lucht
PF&R Chair
Iowa State
University

administration of lies and defamation regarding his firing and the FBI's investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 election.

"Lordy, I hope there are tapes," Comey told the committee, lending a wry sense of irony to the Watergate parallels that are becoming easier to draw.

The president, for his part, has accused Comey of perjuring himself and leaking information to the press—a charge that plays particularly well among Trump's base of voters, who deplore the so-called liberal news media. Conservative broadsides against the press have strengthened to such a degree President Trump is now calling the press "the enemy of the American people," a statement that caught the attention of retired Admiral William McRaven, former commander of U.S. Special Operations and now chancellor of the University of Texas System.

McRaven said **in a recent speech** that the White House's view of the press "may be the greatest threat to democracy in my lifetime." Indeed, the ripples of the president's attacks on the media have been felt so concrete-



University of Texas System Chancellor William McRaven has called the Trump administration's position on the press the greatest threat to democracy in his lifetime.

ly, it now seems obvious journalists are cornered in a street fight they did not prepare for.

In West Virginia, a reporter from Public News Service was arrested for asking questions too forcefully of Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price. The reporter, Dan Heyman, was charged with disrupting a governmental process, an accusation the American Civil Liberties Union called "a blatant attempt to chill an independent, free press."

In Montana, U.S. Rep.-elect Greg Gianforte physically assaulted a reporter for The Guardian when the reporter asked a question he did not like. Gianforte was charged and will plead guilty for the assault, but voters elected him anyway. Gianforte has been lauded for **his recent apology** to the reporter he attacked, in which

he wrote: "I understand the critical role that journalists and the media play in our society. Protections afforded to the press through the Constitution are fundamental to who we are as a nation and the way government is accountable to the people."

In Washington, D.C., a reporter for CQ Roll Call was pinned by Federal Communications Commission security after questioning a commissioner following an open meeting, an incident that led several senators, including Iowa Republican Charles Grassley, to warn the administration about its treatment of journalists. "There's no good reason to put hands on a reporter who's doing his or her job," Grassley said.

While it appears some U.S. officials might be starting to grasp

Lucht

Continued from Page 7

the existential danger posed to our system of government by those who have declared open season on the news media, press freedom continues to erode worldwide.

“The rate at which democracies are approaching the tipping point is alarming for all those who understand that, if media freedom is not secure, then none of the other freedoms can be guaranteed,” Reporters Without Borders Secretary General Christophe Deloire **has said**. “Where will this downward spiral take us?”

Where, indeed? Observers look for historical precedents during times like these—to understand the scale of what is happening and to get a sense of where we might be heading—and there has been no shortage of comparisons lately. Is this White House guilty of Watergate-level corruption? Is the president promulgating his own brand of McCarthyism? Is he more like Andrew Jackson or Ronald Reagan? Or Henry Ford?

Historians Julian Zelizer and Morton Keller have been debating such questions on **The Atlantic’s website**, noting the hyperpartisan nature of recent attacks on the media and on politicians generally. Keller wrote that “the degree to which advocates on both sides are convinced that they are objective purveyors of The Truth . . . is hardly unique to our own political time,” but he also argued that

social media has provided more oxygen for such views.

Others have likened the coarseness of our current political rhetoric to that of the Federalist period, when the partisan press carried out deeply personal attacks and when the Sedition Act laid siege to the First Amendment. Political scientist James Morone pointed to the 1800 election in particular, **writing on Politico**: “Nothing that Donald Trump jeered or tweeted on the campaign trail in 2016 was any worse than the broadsides their respective supporters launched at Adams . . . or Jefferson.”

While I enjoy seeing historians quoted in the media, I wish more of them were media historians. Journalism historians, in particular, have a valuable perspective to offer on the always-evolving relationship between a free press and a democracy, and we must actively engage in dialogue if we want the public to understand and support the First Amendment and the Fourth Estate.

Perhaps some of us have been reluctant to comment publicly because of our professional commitment to objectivity; we do not want to seem partisan or biased. Perhaps reporters do not realize there is a set of scholars with unique expertise available to comment on the historical relationship between a free press and American democracy. Whatever the reason, I believe the time has

come to set aside our reticence and engage in outreach. Here are some ideas:

- Write an op-ed about the First Amendment for your local news organization.
- Donate to an organization like the ACLU or Reporters Without Borders and explain your reasoning on social media.
- Post a link to an essay making a historical comparison and use your expertise to explain why you do or do not find it valid.
- Post a link to an article about press intimidation or suppression and use your expertise to explain why you find it concerning.
- Add your name to a list of experts, such as ProfNet, and invite reporters to contact you.
- Get involved with Media History Engagement Week in April. (See page 23.)

It is imperative we demonstrate to our students and communities how discourses and values surrounding journalism and communication have shaped our country and its politics. As Neil Postman once wrote, the United States was “the first nation to be argued into existence in print.”

It is now occurring to many of us that what can be argued into existence can also be argued out of it. Media historians have a significant role to play in ensuring that does not happen.

“Protections afforded to the press through the Constitution are fundamental to who we are as a nation and the way government is accountable to the people.”

TEACHING STANDARDS

Scholars to share alternative press teaching strategies

History students of L.D. Burnett hold mimeographed and typewritten flyers as well as stand-alone radical feminist pamphlets and broadsides in their hands when they explore U.S. history since 1970.

“The mechanics of small-scale publication and distribution before the age of the internet are an important part of the story of how activists and social critics shared ideas with one another and built robust networks of communication that ended up shaping public discourse more broadly,” said **Burnett**, who is the 2017-2018 Teaching Fellow in History at the University of Texas at Dallas.

Burnett will join three other scholars at AEJMC in August, as they share strategies for “Teaching with Archives of the Alternative Press of the 1960s-1980s.” The teaching panel is a joint effort of the History and Newspaper and Online News divisions. **Susan Keith** and I, teaching standards chairs for (and members of) the two divisions, will co-moderate the session at 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 9.

We organized the panel because too often the narratives of journalism and media history are



Kristin L. Gustafson
Teaching Chair
University of
Washington-
Bothell

the stories of people who had power in society and took what were considered to be relatively mainstream positions. As we and our students spend time in archives, we have a chance to tell a richer story about people and perspectives. Our panelists will share best practices, teaching strategies and use of these archives that go beyond

dominant media.

“There are some women and people of color in media—Ida Tarbell, Ida B. Wells, and Dorothy Thompson come to mind—whose histories are relatively well known to media historians,” said Keith, department chair and associate professor of journalism and media studies at Rutgers University.

“But there are many other people whose voices haven't been heard, and there are many perspectives that were most ardently expressed outside the pages of major newspapers and magazines,” she said. “To hear them, we have to look at alternative media that haven't been the subjects of the major media history textbooks.”

Three scholars will join Burnett on the panel: James Danky, Kevin Lerner, and Carol L. Tilley.

Danky, a faculty associate in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Univer-

sity of Wisconsin-Madison and a serials librarian emeritus for the Wisconsin Historical Society, is an expert on alternative press and print culture history in America, African diaspora and African American newspapers and periodicals, minorities and mass media, and underground comix. In 1992, he co-founded what is now known as the **Center for the History of Print and Digital Culture**, which published the book series **Print Culture History in Modern America**. The series focused on studies of newspapers, books, periodicals, advertising, and ephemera published since 1876, and “groups whose gender, race, class, creed, occupation, ethnicity, and sexual orientation (among other factors) have historically placed them on the periphery of power but who have used print sources as one of the few means of expression available to them.”

Lerner said he focuses on the history of press criticism and the role of alternative press “badgering the mainstream press to do the best work it can.” An assistant professor in the School of Communication and the Arts at Marist College, Lerner chronicled in his **dissertation** how the journalism review [MORE] countered anti-intellectualism in the 1970s mainstream press. Lerner also published “How Spy, the Iconic Satirical Magazine of the 1980s Invented Contemporary Snark, and How Internet Journalism Misappropriated It,” in *The Funniest Pages: International Perspectives*.

“There are many perspectives that were most ardently expressed outside the pages of major newspapers and magazines.”

Gustafson

Continued from Page 9

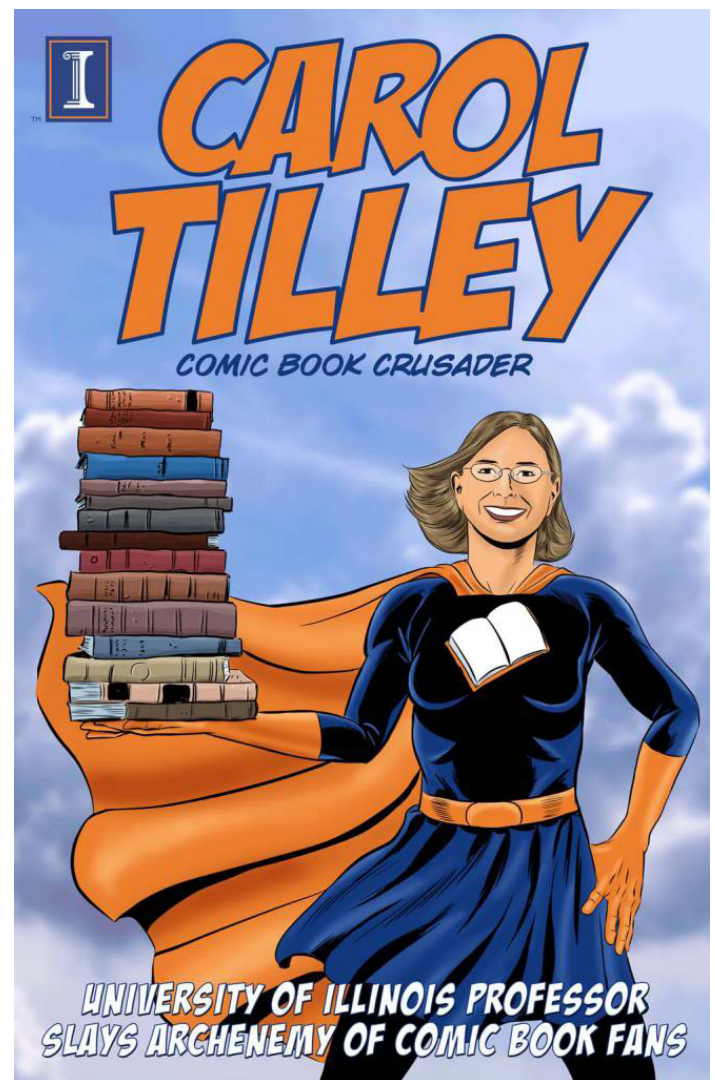
tives on Journalism and Humour.

Students often see mainstream press as “the only model, or at least the right model for their own work as journalists,” Lerner said. “But the alternative press has worked hard to show that mainstream journalism often overlooks groups of people who don’t have the same access to power as the people who are most often covered by the bigger news organizations,” he said. “They have often worked to build communities of these overlooked groups and fought to give a voice to these people.”

Tilley, an associate professor in the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, is a self-described Comic Book Crusader. **This video** describes how Tilley gained access to about 200 boxes of archived research notes and manuscript drafts of Dr. Frederic Wertham, a leader of the anti-comic movement in the 1950s. Wertham testified to Congress that comic books led to juvenile delinquency, which led to a comic book code that imposed restrictions such as not allowing titles with the word terror, depictions of illicit sexual relations, or story lines that deviated from good triumphing over evil. This hurt comic-book publishers, creators and industry as a whole. Tilley’s work, which used Library of Congress records, identified how Wertham’s research lacked evidence or fabricated data to reach his conclusions.

Tilley is collaborating with Kathryn La Barre and John Walsh to build CoBRA - Comic Book Readership Archive, a digital archive with materials collected from Marvel Comics publications from 1961-1973 with fan mail, fan-club publications, membership rolls, contest entries, fanzines, convention records, and more.

The materiality of these texts matters, argues Burnett. Looking at original editions of the archived publications she selects for her classes helps her students identify what Burnett **describes** as “the crucial role played by the self-publishing and small-publishing grassroots operations in the work of nurturing and circulating ideas.” Students connect readings of alternative press titles—such as *off our backs*, *The Black Panther*, and the *Radical Historians Newsletter*—to production of those presses. For example, she points to an excerpt from the April 25, 1970 edition of *off our backs* that articulated the need to train “move-



“Comic Book Crusader” Carol Tilley is among the panelists who will discuss teaching the alternative press.

ment people” to be “movement printers” via workshops that taught layout, camera work, and printing.

This is a history of ideas, not just a history of publishing and books, Burnett argues. It demonstrates how “an alternative politics required an alternative press, and the conviction that volunteer writers, newly minted activists, first-time editors, and inexperienced publishers had the right and the duty, the means and the mission to marshal basement printing presses and living-room mimeograph machines in a struggle for social and political transformation.”

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.

Southeast Colloquium Q&A: Erika Pribanic-Smith



Melita Garza
Southeast Colloquium Research Chair
Texas Christian University

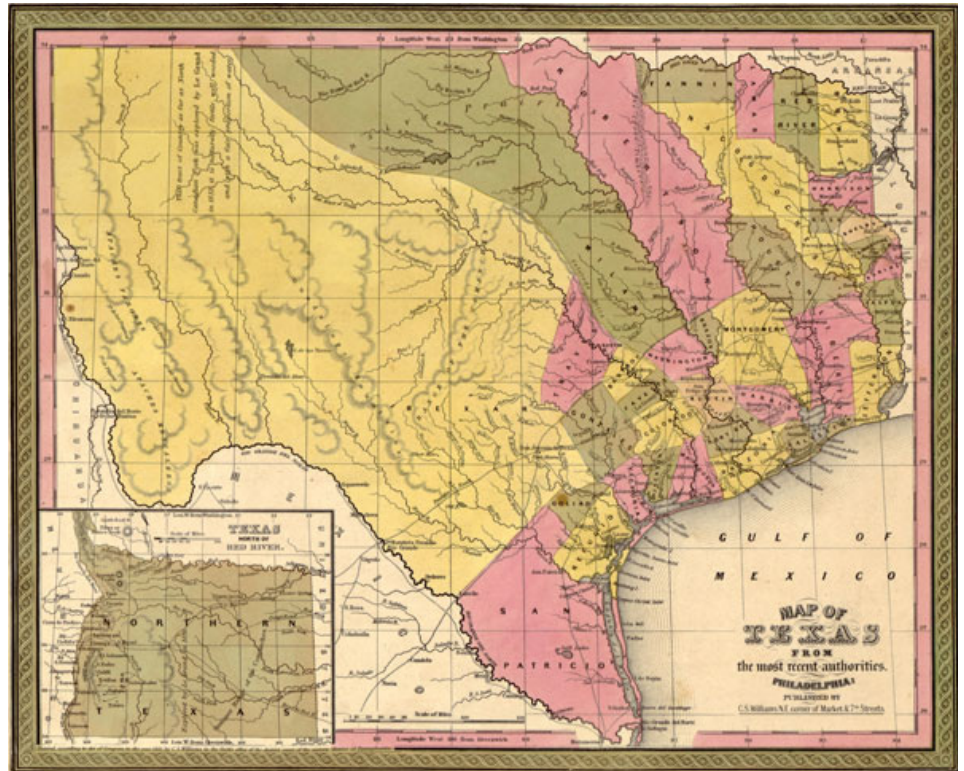
Erika Pribanic-Smith, associate professor at the University of Texas-Arlington, won the first place faculty paper award at the AEJMC Southeast Colloquium 2017, held at Texas Christian University's Bob Schieffer College of Communication March 9-11.

In her paper, "Annexation Rhetoric in Republic of Texas Newspapers, 1845," Pribanic-Smith studied editorials and letters to the editor concerning annexation found in the 1845 editions of Houston's *Telegraph & Texas Register* and the *Texas National Register* (Washington-on-the-Brazos). For nine years following Texas's independence from Mexico in 1836, Texas was a separate nation. Then, in 1845, Congress passed the Joint Resolution for Annexing Texas into the United States.

Pribanic-Smith's historical study of how Texas newspapers viewed joining the United States in the pivotal year of 1845 has particular resonance today with the Texas Republican Party's recent debate to include secessionist language in its platform. Although scholars of government agree that "Texit" would be illegal, the persistent myth of Texas independence embodied in the state's "Lone Star" ideology makes the original journalistic arguments for and against joining the United States all the more salient.

Following is a Q&A with Pribanic-Smith about her work.

The perspective of Texas newspapers on the subject of annexation



Texas as it looked in 1845, when it became the 28th U.S. state. (Map by S. Augustus Mitchell)

seems like such an important subject for research, it's hard to believe that scholars previously ignored it. How did you come up with the idea to investigate this angle?

The subject falls in line with a program of research I've developed on the 1844 U.S. presidential election, in which Texas annexation was the primary issue. I have seen a lot of research on the American perspective toward annexation, but I realized when I did another project recently on political reporting in the Republic of Texas that even though the vast majority of Texans were Americans, their political ideas differed from those in their homeland. When I saw that no one had tackled the Texas perspective, I jumped on it.

Where did you find the full-run of each of the newspapers you re-

lied on for this study?

The University of North Texas has a **Texas Digital Newspaper Program** as part of its Portal to Texas History. It's a fantastic searchable database with issues of Texas newspapers from 1829 forward.

Describe the kind of resources available to journalism scholars at the University of Texas-Arlington archives. How often have these archives figured into research you have done?

We have a wonderful **Special Collections library** that focuses primarily on items documenting Texas and Mexican history. I've found a lot of materials related to the Republic era and the U.S.-Mexican War, but the collections have plenty of late-19th- and 20th-century periodicals

See **Garza** | Page 12

Garza

Continued from Page 11

and manuscripts as well. Journalism scholars may be interested particularly in the photography collection with archives from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Arlington Citizen-Journal. I believe the library's real claim to fame, though, is the extraordinary cartography collection. They have maps dating back to the 1400s.

What was the most surprising thing you found in your research on Texas annexation—that is, beyond the gap concerning the topic's newspaper representations?

I was surprised at the spiral of silence effect I discovered. The anti-annexation editors had some extremely compelling arguments for staying a sovereign republic, but the pro-annexation faction was loud and zealous, and eventually the anti-annexationists decided to keep their opinions to themselves.

How would you describe your research profile overall? What led you to choose that particular area of study within journalism history?

My research interest is early to mid-19th-century political reporting, especially in the Southern United States. I have been a Civil War buff since childhood, but the older and wiser I got and the more I read, the more I realized that the politics leading up to the war were far more interesting than the war itself. I focused on South Carolina—especially during the Nullification Crisis—for a long time because the internal struggles of unionist versus secessionist in a volatile southern state are fascinating. Every now and then I go back to that; it's like going home.



Erika Pribanic-Smith

Congratulations on receiving tenure last year! Was this project something you started pre- or post-tenure? How do you see your research trajectory post-tenure?

Thanks! I've been writing on various aspects of the 1844 U.S. election, where this research originated, for several years. However, I did all the primary research for this specific paper after tenure. I'm going to keep going with 1840s election research for a while. I'm hoping to get a book contract now that I'm not in the pre-tenure push for journal articles.

In addition to attending conferences of the AEJMC History Division and the American Journalism Historians Association, what other history-related scholarly conferences have you attended? What have you gained from expanding your academic connections beyond journalism history per se?

I actually attended an Era of Good Feelings conference sponsored by the Center for Political History at Lebanon Valley College in Pennsyl-

vania last month, and the contacts I made there got me interested in the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic. A lot of the historians there discussed news as tangential or even integral to their topics. It was fun to have discussions with those folks and share my insights on journalism history while gleaning their insights on political history.

What suggestions/advice do you have for junior faculty journalism historians about participating in history conferences outside of journalism history? I ask because I have heard some journalism scholars describe the field of history as history with a capital "H." The clear implication was that journalism history represented a lesser scholarly form. Do you sense there is a patina of inferiority surrounding our field, and if so, what suggestions do you have to combat it?

There can be a stigma that journalism historians aren't "real" historians; I've actually gotten more than one rejection from general history journals whose editors indicated I couldn't possibly offer anything new or compelling on a topic because I'm "just a journalism historian." However, some journals and conferences are quite friendly to journalism history, so I suggest seeking those outlets and ignoring those who draw petty distinctions. A few of our History Division members have presented at American Historical Association conventions, for instance, and the AHA has instituted an award for journalism history scholarship. **(See the blog I wrote for them last fall.)**

Editor's Note: Erika Pribanic-Smith is second vice-head and secretary of the History Division.

Joint conference holds value for students



Nicholas Hirshon
JJCHC co-coordinator
William Paterson University

As I took attendance on the first day of classes last fall, I spotted a student wearing a familiar shirt. It was all black except for a logo with silver duct tape spelling out the letters “KO,” the initials of a professional wrestler who goes by the ring name Kevin Owens. As a historian of sports media, I was intrigued.

I surprised the student, Daniel Frost, by discussing Owens’s championship title run in World Wrestling Entertainment, commonly known as WWE, the world’s largest wrestling promotion. In the following weeks, we talked before and after our Research Methods class about the history of character construction in televised wrestling. I sensed he would make a terrific media historian.

When it came time for the class to submit their research proposals, Frost asked if he could try to trace the emergence of antiheroes in American television to professional wrestler Stone Cold Steve Austin, who appeared on wrestling programming from 1996 to 2003. I enthusiastically agreed.

I also encouraged Frost and my other undergraduates to submit proposals to the Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference, an annual, one-day event co-sponsored by the AEJMC History Division and the American Journalism Historians Association at New York Universi-



Ashley Walter (West Virginia, center) stands with members of a research panel on musicians and politicians at the 2017 Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference. (Photo: Matthew Pressman)

ty. I had recently become a co-organizer of the conference, and I wanted to introduce as many of my students to media history research as possible. I made clear that AEJMC and AJHA embraced a broad definition of media history that could cover everything from the video games they played as children to the classic films and television shows they watched with their parents. Many of them were surprised and captivated.

Frost’s proposal was accepted, and a few months later I watched him present at the March 11 conference. He made an effective argument that the Stone Cold Steve Austin character helped set the stage for antiheroes in mainstream television series such as *Breaking Bad*, *Sons of Anarchy*, and *The Sopranos*.

“The opportunity to share my research and shine light on what is mostly considered an unpopular form of entertainment was a great honor for me,” Frost said. “To be

able to make a case for the dramatic shift in television characters being a direct result of one man’s work as a pro wrestler was extremely rewarding. I never thought that the conference would be interested in a topic like mine but was humbled and honored when I was asked to come speak.”

The conference has also been beneficial for graduate students looking for direction from more experienced scholars on their ongoing research projects. Now a doctoral student at West Virginia University, Ashley Walter presented at the JJCHC in 2016 and 2017, when she was a Master’s student under Dr. Pamela Walck at Duquesne University.

“I was extremely nervous my first year going into JJCHC, as this was my first academic conference,” Walter said. “Within moments of being at the conference, I was immediately welcomed with warm exchanges. Both years that

Summer reading: Trends for media studies and journalism history

The summer is a useful time for students and professors alike to catch up on reading. It is difficult to keep up with larger trends in historiography or changing media studies topics, but it is important for all of us to do our best.



Robert Greene II
Co-Graduate Student Liaison
University of South Carolina

For graduate students especially, the summer is a period where comps reading begins in earnest. Now is the time to consider where the fields of journalism history, media studies, and mass communication are going—and where they might be going down the road.

The use of theories such as civil sphere will likely grow in the future. A theory that is useful for understanding the relationship between the media and civil society, Jeffrey Alexander's theory will be one of interest to a wide range of scholars. It is only a matter of time before the theory begins to be used more and more by historians and media studies academics alike. With concern about the polarization of modern American society growing by the day, the civil sphere theory offers an opportunity to think harder about how the United States got to this point through history, and—via media studies—how this polarization will continue to affect modern discourse.

Rapid changes in technology will

also play a role in future discussions of journalism history and media studies. The history of the book is a growing subfield of historical studies, but it will soon be augmented by the history of the internet. Already, books are being written and released that tackle the subject of how the internet has, both historically and in the present, changed the way people consume news and information. This also relates to the earlier point about polarization in modern life. With the proliferation of so-called “fake news” via social media, pin-pointing how consuming news via computers and smart phones has never been more essential to modern life.

Finally, the relationship between the academy, journalism, and larger society will come under greater scholarly scrutiny. Who decides what is fake news is, after all, critically important to the functioning of a democracy. Expect more books and articles about that relationship. Indeed, anyone doing comps reading or simply trying to catch up with reading of recent works released by university presses will notice such trends already beginning to emerge.

Historians, media studies scholars, and mass communication intellectuals have a great deal of work to do to help others understand the modern world in which we live. Media discourse has, arguably, never been more important than it is today. Reading up on the latest trends in these fields is a valuable tool in eventually making your own voice heard on these pressing matters.

Now is the time to consider where the fields of journalism history, media studies, and mass communication are going—and where they might be going down the road.

Hirshon

Continued from Page 13

I have presented were extremely helpful in expanding and developing my research.”

Elisabeth Fondren, a doctoral student at Louisiana State University, said the atmosphere was “cordial, bustling, and collaborative” when she attended the JJCHC in 2017. “I think that especially for graduate and doctoral students, this conference is ideal for presenting research in an amiable environment, meeting peers, sharing ideas, and enjoying thoughtful keynotes and panel discussions on journalism and communication history,” she said.

The setting also impressed Maddie Liseblad, a doctoral student at Arizona State University, who attended in 2016. “It is where I was given the opportunity to moderate my first panel, and I received terrific feedback on my research in progress,” she said. “The way the sessions are set up in smaller rooms, the presentations feel more like a roundtable discussion with your peers than an actual presentation. People who are in your room are interested in your topic, and they take the time to provide valuable feedback and ask questions to help strengthen your research.”

As we prepare for our fall classes, I suggest each of us incorporate a media history research project into our syllabi—both graduate and undergraduate—and encourage students to apply to present at conferences, regional or national. It is a great way to grow our organizations.

More information about the JJCHC is available at journalismhistorians.org.

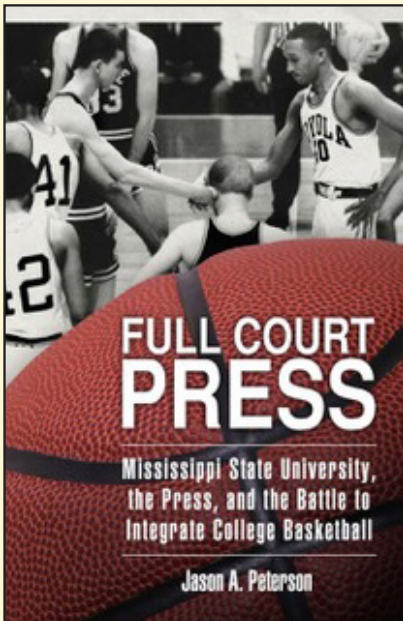
BOOK EXCERPT

“Full Court Press: Mississippi State University, the Press, and the Battle to Integrate College Basketball”



Jason Peterson

Charleston Southern University



“Full Court Press: Mississippi State University, the Press, and the Battle to Integrate College Basketball” (University Press of Mississippi, 2016)

[Visit the book website](#)

The civil rights era in Mississippi was a dark and violent time in our country’s history. While the rest of the southern states moved on from the heated debate concerning the extent of states’ rights and began to catch up with their northern brethren, Mississippi held firm in its believed right to segregate. Notions like equality and integration into the traditionally white customs and social structure of the Magnolia State were cast aside with vigor and rage. While the 1954 *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision was supposed to alleviate some of the dominance of Mississippi’s white elite, the groundbreaking legal precedent only helped strengthen the foundation on which the Closed Society was built. Governor Hugh White responded to what has been called Mississippi’s Second Reconstruction by continuing with his plan to develop segregated, white-only schools rather than integrating existing educational establishments.¹

From the mid-1950s through the late 1960s, Mississippi’s white-dominated caste system, dubbed the Closed Society by historian James Silver, permeated every segment of society and, for better or worse, had a profound influence on how whites and blacks in the state lived. The social and political atmosphere emphasized a belief in white supremacy through segregation, which was rationalized by an appeal to states’ rights.² Historians have paid considerable

attention to events in the civil rights era that either opposed the Closed Society or pointed out the horrific extent some would go to protect it, and that ultimately led to the collapse of that white-dominated way of life.

A key component of the Closed Society was the role of local journalism, which acted as an arm of organizations like the Citizens’ Council and the Sovereignty Commission to protect the way of life that segregation had built. Journalists and editors, like the colorful yet spiteful Frederick Sullens and his protégé Jimmy Ward of the *Jackson Daily News*, opposed all threats to the Closed Society.

Others, such as Hodding Carter of the *Delta Democrat-Times*, respected the notion of civil rights and would attempt to balance any debate with logic and reason. While these journalists and others addressed historical events like *Brown vs. Board of Education*, the integration of the University of Mississippi, the Civil Rights Acts of 1964, Freedom Summer, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the Civil Rights Act of 1968, there were events in local sports that fostered considerable debate in the press that would demonstrate the slow but progressive change in Mississippi journalism during the civil rights era and assist in the deconstruction of the Closed Society.

In 1955, after Jones County Junior College’s football team lost to the integrated Tartars of Compton Junior College in the Junior

See **Peterson** | Page 16

Peterson

Continued from Page 15

Rose Bowl, the state's political elite banded together with the State College Board to create the unwritten law, a gentleman's agreement that would keep Mississippi's athletic venues segregated and in compliance with the Closed Society.³ The agreement, which never had any legitimate legal power, was nevertheless treated as law and punishable by the loss of state funding and scholarships.⁴

After the creation of the unwritten law, Louisiana and Georgia attempted to institute legal standards to prevent integrated athletic competition, specifically in their home venues, but to no avail.⁵ Despite the legal failures of other southern states, the unwritten law endured in Mississippi and was the only one of its kind in the South.

While the Magnolia State was covered in a veil of oppression, a surprising enemy of white supremacy emerged in the small college town of Starkville. Mississippi State University was at the forefront of the battle for equality in the state with the school's successful collegiate basketball program. After Mississippi State was granted university status in 1958, the Maroons won four consecutive Southeastern Conference championships (from 1959 through 1963) and created a championship dynasty in the South's preeminent college athletic conference.⁶

Despite its in-conference success, national prominence escaped the teams of James "Babe" McCarthy, as his teams never participated in the NCAA tournament and rarely ventured outside the South due to the unwritten law. In turn, the efforts of



MISSISSIPPI STATE'S POSSIBLE OPPONENT AT NCAA TOURNEY
 This is the winning basketball team of Loyola University of Chicago. They are scheduled to meet Mississippi State University's team in the NCAA regional playoff starting March 11 at East Lansing, Mich. Left to right are Jerry Harrison, Lee Hunter, John Egan, Vic Brown, and Ben Miller.—Daily News AP Wirephoto

The Daily News (Jackson, Mississippi) pointed out that Mississippi State could play an integrated Loyola of Chicago team at the 1963 NCAA National Championship tournament and encouraged readers to contact the state board of education.

MSU went unnoticed by the national press, and invitations to the Maroons for a shot at national basketball glory were passed to the University of Kentucky and legendary coach Adolph Rupp.⁷

However, in all four title-winning seasons, the press feverishly debated the possibility of an NCAA appearance for the Maroons, culminating in Mississippi State University's participation in the 1963 NCAA National Championship basketball tournament, where they lost to the integrated Loyola of Chicago.

During the unwritten law's eight-year existence, the hardwood of Mississippi's college basketball courts brought forth multiple challenges to the Closed Society, all of which were debated with fervor and spite in the pages of Mississippi's newspapers. While the

basketball teams from the University of Mississippi, the University of Southern Mississippi, and Jackson State College would all experience the repercussions of the unwritten law, it was Mississippi State that was the most frequent challenger of Mississippi's segregated athletic standard. Mississippi's editors and journalists overall expressed polarizing opinions on the merit of integrated athletics, which ultimately damaged the Closed Society's racial united front.

While James Meredith would become the first black student to enroll at the University of Mississippi in 1962, signaling the integration of Mississippi's colleges and universities, the state would not welcome blacks as basketball adversaries until 1967, when Perry Wallace integrated the SEC by playing for Vanderbilt University.

See Peterson | Page 17

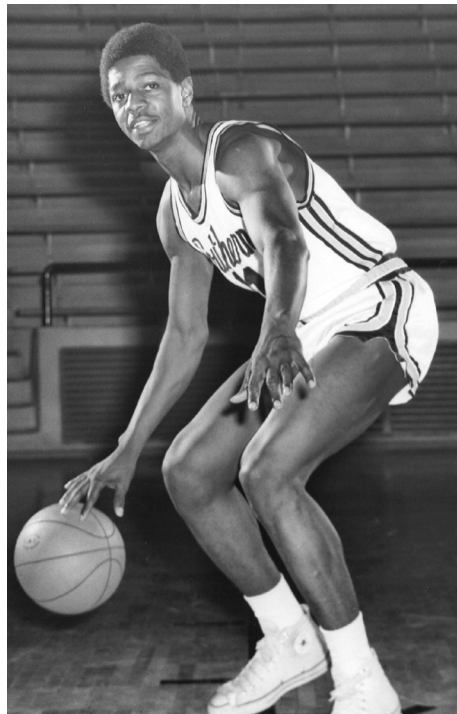
Peterson

Continued from Page 16

A season later, Wilbert Jordan Jr. became the first collegiate black athlete at the University of Southern Mississippi when he walked on to the Southerners' freshman basketball squad. A new political ideology was sweeping through Mississippi, and the shackles of the Closed Society began to slowly loosen. Editors from across the state denounced the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which guaranteed that blacks and other minorities had equal access to all public facilities, including institutions of higher learning.⁸

While Mississippi's journalists verbally lambasted the act, it also signaled a change in the way in which matters of race were covered in the press. Over time, the principles of the Civil Rights Act were accepted and integration arrived in Mississippi. The press reflected those ideological changes even in the area of sports, as when Jordan's addition to the Southern Miss roster went unnoticed by the local Hattiesburg American.

While national occurrences such as the landmark Brown vs. Board of Education decision of 1954, the integration of Ole Miss, the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and 1968, Freedom Summer, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 are often viewed by media historians as major disruptions to the southern way of life and fatal blows leading to the eventual end of the Closed Society, cracks in the racial armor began to appear with every local challenge to



Wilbert Jordan Jr.

the unwritten law.⁹

An examination of Mississippi newspapers during the eight-year existence of the unwritten law shows that the various challenges placed before the gentleman's agreement, specifically those posed by Mississippi State University, generated three primary responses from Mississippi's journalists. Reporters and editors either condemned or dismissed any threats to the unwritten law, voiced no opinion on the possibility of integrated competition and published little or no original material on the matter, or supported a venture into integrated play, more often than not only to better Mississippi's chance at a championship.

For each expression of outrage, the press gave the unwritten law a

degree of credibility as a vital and crucial part of Mississippi's white way of life and helped enforce the segregated standard. Furthermore, the legitimacy of the unwritten law was perpetuated by the silence from Mississippi's sports writers, who typically hid in the comfortable confines of athletics and rarely addressed the racial controversy surrounding each of these challenges.

While silence from the press can be taken to mean different things, Richard Iton argues that "intentional silences also have significance: to say nothing suggests acceptance of, or satisfaction with, existing arrangements, and implicitly represents the expression of a political preference."¹⁰ Iton's perspective is easily applicable to the issue of race in Mississippi during the Civil Rights era. By failing to acknowledge the racial connotation of the various controversies involving MSU's basketball team, journalists in the state were validating both the unwritten law and the Closed Society, thus offering the state's dominant white ideology a sense of power.

But as the years and the challenges mounted against the state's segregationist athletic standard, more journalists began to question the validity of the unwritten law and advocate integrated competition, culminating in MSU's 1963 entry into the NCAA tournament. After the elimination of the unwritten law in 1963, Mississippi's press returned to its conservative habits only to face the various social changes of

See Peterson | Page 18

For each expression of outrage, the press gave the unwritten law a degree of credibility as a vital and crucial part of Mississippi's white way of life and helped enforce the segregated standard.

Peterson

Continued from Page 17

the subsequent years, signaling the waning of the powerful Closed Society and ushering in a new era of equality. Little was written in the pages of Mississippi's newspapers when the SEC integrated in 1966, and only one reporter acknowledged Perry Wallace's first trek through the state as the conference's first black basketball player at Vanderbilt in 1967. Issues of race in sports did not generate the same level of reaction from journalists because, as Kurt Kemper argues, sports fandom during this time was based on the need for cultural identity and the search of reflective values.¹¹

The emergence of racial connotations in athletic endeavors, in this case MSU basketball, was ignored because it forced the Closed Society to question its own superiority and unity. Consequently, the sports scribes of the state found little news value in the pioneering presence of Jordan, of Coolidge Ball at Ole Miss in 1970, or of Larry Fry or Jerry Jenkins at Mississippi State in 1971, rarely identifying the athletes' skin color.

The silence that once served the journalistic stalwarts of the Closed Society slowly became a nod to the social progress made by the members of the press, as the integration of sports was no longer a source of polarizing opinion from reporters and editors.

Dr. Jason Peterson is an assistant professor of communication at Charleston Southern University. His research interests include the Civil Rights Movement and sports journalism. His work has appeared in edited volumes and American Journalism.

NOTES

¹ Neil R. McMillen, *The Citizens' Council: Organized Resistance to the Second Reconstruction, 1954–64* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1971), 15; David R. Davies, *The Press and Race: Mississippi Journalists Confront the Movement* (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2001), 4; and Charles Bolton, *The Hardest Deal of All: The Battle over School Integration in Mississippi, 1870–1980* (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2005), 65.

² James Silver, *Mississippi: The Closed Society* (New York: Harcourt, Brace, and World, 1964), 3–10.

³ "Seeks Racial Ban in College Sports," *Clarion-Ledger*, January 19, 1956, 1.

⁴ Russell J. Henderson, "The 1963 Mississippi State University Basketball Controversy and the Repeal of the Unwritten Law: 'Something More than the Game Will Be Lost,'" *Journal of Southern History* 63, no. 4 (1997): 830.

⁵ Patrick B. Miller and David Kenneth Wiggins, *Sport and the Color Line: Black Athletes and Race Relations in Twentieth-Century America* (New York: Rutledge, 2004), 279–283.

⁶ [Mississippi State Athletics website](#).

⁷ "Move Is Started Here to Send MSU to NCAA," *Meridian Star*, March 1, 1962, 1. During Mississippi State's numerous basketball-based challenges to the unwritten law, the University of Kentucky was selected to replace the Maroons/Bulldogs in the NCAA tournament in 1959, 1961, and 1962.

⁸ Davies, *The Press and Race*, 38–41.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 18.

¹⁰ Richard Iton, *In Search of the Black Fantastic: Politics and Popular Cultural in the Post-Civil Rights Era* (Oxford: University Press, 2008), 9.

¹¹ Kurt Kemper, *College Football and American Culture in the Cold War Era* (Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2009), 115.

Parrott Wins Farrar Award

The School of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of South Carolina presented the 2017 **Ronald T. and Gayla D. Farrar Award in Media and Civil Rights History** to R. Joseph Parrott, for "A Luta Continua: Radical Film-making, Pan-African Liberation and Communal Empowerment" (*Race & Class*, July–Sept. 2015). Parrott, a postdoctoral fellow at Yale University, delivered the Farrar Award Lecture at the **Media and Civil Rights History Symposium** on April 1.

Honoring University of South Carolina Professor Emeritus Ronald Farrar and his late wife, Gayla Dennis Farrar, this award recognizes the best journal article or chapter in an edited collection on the historical relationship between the media and civil rights published during the previous two years. The contest judges—a national panel of three historians with expertise in civil rights and media history—selected Dr. Parrott's article as the award winner from the largest field of submissions in the Farrar Award's five competitions.

Other finalists were Derek Charles Catsam, "The African Drum, Bantu World and South Africa—United States Transnational Linkages, 1949–1954" (Toyin Faola and Cacee Hoyer, eds., "Human Rights, Race, and Resistance in Africa and the African Diaspora," Routledge, 2016); Caroline Emmons, "Respectable Activists: Media Images of Women in the Early Civil Rights Era Images" (Noliwe Rooks, Victoria Rose Pass, and Ayana K. Weekley, eds., "Women's Magazines in Print and New Media," Routledge, 2016); and Edgar Simpson, "'A Traitor to His Class': Race and Publisher W.E. 'Ned' Chilton III, 1953–1984" (*Journalism History*, Summer 2016).

Member Spotlight: *Michael Fuhlhage*

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. Please enjoy this profile of Dr. Michael Fuhlhage.



Will Mari
Membership
Co-Chair
*Northwest
University*

“I’ve always been fascinated by the way the ‘other’ was depicted in newspapers and magazines as a consequence of the ways journalists’ cultural identities filtered their perception of the world,” says Dr. Michael Fuhlhage, an assistant professor in the Communication Department at Wayne State University.

Fuhlhage worked in journalism as a reporter for a dozen years, at The Santa Fe New Mexican, Des Moines Register, Columbia Missourian, Lawrence (Kan.) Journal-World, The Desert Sun of Palm Springs, Calif., and the St. Cloud (Minn.) Times.

These experiences helped inspire him to examine, for his master’s degree at the University of Missouri School of Journalism, how journalists depicted Mexican immigration to the U.S. He says it “rubbed me raw in comparison to what I was seeing locally.”

When he was a reporter in Santa Fe and Palm Springs, he says, “we really took a comprehensive approach to examining the issues associated with migration to and from Mexico as economic, political, and human services matters.”



Michael Fuhlhage examines bound newspapers during a research trip to the American Antiquarian Society archives in Worcester, Massachusetts.

As a rule, “greater distance between the news organization and the border region meant shallower, more generalized storytelling about migration that depicted Mexican migrants as mostly a burden on the American communities they entered and as criminals or as an underclass,” while also neglecting the role U.S. companies had in hiring undocumented workers, he says.

How U.S. media outlets engage with these kinds of complex topics drove him to look at where that legacy of coverage came from. For his first graduate-school seminar paper at Missouri, he examined the representation of Mexico in the run up to the U.S.-Mexico War of 1846-48 in three ideologically diverse newspapers. As he tells it, “that

began my historical fascination with the mid-19th century, and that interest grew into my dissertation on early American news representations of Mexicans in the Southwest.”

He counts as his inspirations Earnest Perry at Missouri and his dissertation committee at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, which included Frank Fee, Barbara Friedman and Donald Shaw.

His current research focuses on the American news ecosystem in the months leading up to the start of the Civil War, looking at how news reporting during the secession crisis spread across the then-incomplete national communication networks that connected the distinct regions of a

Mari

Continued from Page 19

growing United States. He's deploying "the 21st-century discipline of open source intelligence" to help scholars understand how news was gathered and published, and how civilian and military authorities used that news to make decisions in an era before formalized intelligence services.

Underlying both his past and current projects is an interest in representations "of the ideological other" and "fundamental questions about the role of slavery in our society."

Some of his other inspirations include the writing of John Nerone, the archival research of Pat Washburn and Michael Sweeney, and the holistic scholarship of Gwyn Mellinger, especially as seen in the latter's "Chasing Newsroom Diversity." He also cites Kim Mangun at the University of Utah as a role model.

The class he most enjoys teaching is a graduate seminar in media historiography and research methods. Fuhlhage advises graduate students and junior faculty members to "tap into the 'invisible college' as much as you can as early as you can." According to Fuhlhage, the invisible college is "the far-flung network of scholars across the country and around the world."

"They are the people who write the monographs we mine before we hit the archive," he explains. "They are strangers on the train reading stuff that's tangen-



Fuhlhage visits a monument to historical newspaper editor Horace Greeley in New York City. (Photo: Lisa Jo Bezner)

tially related to what we're working on. They are tenured full professors and first-year master's students we don't yet know at an AEJMC reception. And they're fellow readers in the cloak room at manuscripts and special collections libraries."

While it might be a bit hard, Fuhlhage encourages young scholars to make the effort to introduce themselves. "Ask about their work," he adds. "Share something you ran across that might be relevant to their research. Exchange contact info, and follow up on the encounter."

Fuhlhage appreciates how the History Division serves as his "intellectual home within AEJMC," and he credits it with helping him make vital scholar-to-scholar connections and maintain friendships that "I hope will continue

to endure ... for years."

When he's not researching or teaching, Fuhlhage enjoys playing guitar and piano, cooking, drawing and painting. Running also helps him "blow out the cobwebs and lift my spirit when I'm down." He's just five MLB stadiums away from having seen baseball games in all of them.

Finally, he adds that "there is nothing more restorative than getting out in my garden, turning the earth and coaxing things to grow out of the soil."

For a patient and careful scholar, it's a fitting metaphor.

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.

"Tap into the 'invisible college' as much as you can as early as you can."

NEWS AND NOTES

Activities, achievements of History Division members

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.

Jobs and Promotions

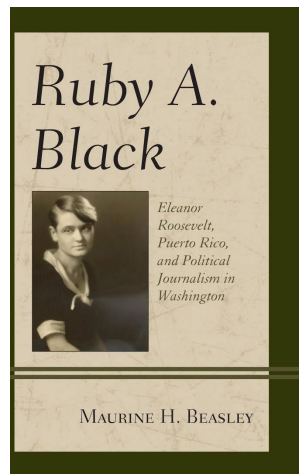
John Coward (University of Tulsa) has been promoted to full professor in Tulsa's newly organized Department of Media Studies (formerly Communication).

Cindy Elmore (East Carolina University) has been promoted from associate professor to full professor.

Paula Hunt (Missouri) will be a postdoctoral teaching fellow at Utah State University for the 2017-2018 school year.

Conferences/Meetings

Maurine H. Beasley (University of Maryland College Park) spoke about her new book, "Ruby A. Black: Eleanor Roosevelt, Puerto Rico, and Political Journalism in Washington," on June 17 at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park, New York. Her presentation was part of the annual Roosevelt Reading festival there featuring authors of new books on the Roosevelt era. Published in March by Lexington Books, the book is based on the career of Ruby Black, a member of Eleanor Roosevelt's women-only press conference group, who was the first Washington correspondent for a Puerto Rican newspaper. Black ran her own news bureau in the capital. She represented LA DEMOCRACIA, a political newspaper that promoted the interests of Luis Munoz Marin, the first elected governor of Puerto Rico, and facilitated a personal relationship between him and Eleanor Roosevelt.



In May, **John Coward** was a panelist on indigenous literary journalism at the annual meeting of the International Association for Literary Journalism Studies (IALJS) in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Coward's presentation, "Writing from the (Indigenous) Edge: Journeys into the Native American Experience," analyzed two non-fiction books about American Indians.

Kathleen Wickham (University of Mississippi) presented "Newsmagazines and Civil Rights Coverage: Making Sense of Change" at the International Association for Literary Journalism Studies conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She also had six entries on media figures published in the Mississippi Encyclopedia edited by the Center for Southern Culture at Ole Miss.

Research



David E. Sumner (Ball State University, Emeritus) is completing a book entitled "Fumbled Call: The Untold Story of the Bear Bryant-Wally Butts Football Scandal," to be published by McFarland Books later this year. Among the research Sumner collected for his book are court transcripts and depositions in the 1963 libel trial of Butts v. Curtis Publishing (pictured above).

News & Notes

Continued from Page 21

Media Appearances



Teri Finneman (South Dakota State University) received statewide media coverage in North Dakota ahead of the launch of her documentary at the Fargo Theatre in June. Finneman (pictured above with the documentary's director Lea Konczal) spent the past three years collecting oral histories of notable North Dakota journalists with the financial backing of the North Dakota Newspaper Association's Education Foundation. She worked with her alma mater, the Missouri School of Journalism, to complete the film, which is scheduling additional showings this summer and planning to air on the North Dakota PBS affiliate this fall. The one-hour film can be found [on Vimeo](#).

W. Joseph Campbell (American) went on Voice of America's "Encounter" program in March to discuss President Donald Trump's already-strained relations with the news media. Campbell also was interviewed by [Poynter.org](#) in March, and by BYU Radio's "Top of

Mind" show in April, about media-driven myths, the subject of his book, "Getting It Wrong."

Publications

A book by **Brooke Kroeger** (New York University) is [available for pre-order](#). "The Suffragents: How Women Used Men to Get the Vote" will publish Sept. 1.

Melita Garza's (Texas Christian) latest article, "Legacy Media as Twitter Referee: Reframing Reaction to Sebastien De La Cruz's Anthem Singing at the 2013 NBA Finals," was [published online](#) in the Howard Journal of Communications in May.

Garza also won a Dean's Research Grant from Kris Bunton, dean of the TCU Bob Schieffer College of Communication. The \$1,500 grant is to help fund her oral history research project: "Journalists in the Long and Wide Civil Rights Movement."

Karen List (UMass) is first author on "Increasing Leadership Capacity for Senior Women Faculty Through Faculty Development," recently accepted for presentation at the Oxford University Women's Leadership Symposium and for publication in the Journal of Faculty Development's special section on Faculty Leadership.

Stephanie Stassel-Bluestein (California State University, Northridge) had a review of "Broadcast Hysteria: Orson Welles' War of the Worlds and the Art of Fake News" by A. Brad Schwartz [published online](#) in Journalism & Mass Communication Educator. In addition, her manuscript titled "Agness Underwood's Historic Rise in an All-Male Newsroom:

A Case Study" was accepted for publication by Sage Open.

Carol Terracina Hartman (Michigan State University) co-authored a study, "Policy, Economic Themes Dominate Ethanol Headlines," that ran in Newspaper Research Journal. This study examined U.S. elite newspaper headlines on articles about ethanol use as a biofuel.

Kimberly Wilmot Voss (University of Central Florida) published her book, "Women Politicking Politely: Feminists Making a Difference in the 1960s and 1970s" (Lexington Books). Voss also recently published a journal article, "Redefining Women in Journalism History: Studying Those Who Came After the Firsts," in [Historiography in Mass Communication](#).

Awards/Honors

Carrie Teresa (Niagara University, pictured below) was recently awarded the College of Arts & Sciences Full-time Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching for 2016-17.



Engagement Week drew international participation

The second Media History Engagement Week attracted participants from 13 states and Sweden in the #headlinesinhistory Twitter discussion during the first week in April. The week to recognize media history was the work of a subcommittee of members from the AEJMC History Division and AJHA who want to bring more national publicity to our work.

Throughout the week of April 3-7, our members and their students across the country (and world) tweeted #headlinesinhistory to share historical news stories and special class projects about journalism history. The Twitter initiative resulted in 330 posts from 110 people, reaching 40,288 Twitter followers. Watergate and World War I were the most tweeted topics. Most of the participants (64%) were women.

[View the discussion.](#)

Suffrage project earns grant

Humanities New York awarded an action grant to a Women's Suffrage and the Media database and website, which also has financial support from the NYU Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute, Philip Merrill College of Journalism at the University of Maryland, and Temple University. The project was conceived at the Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference in March. Faculty involved include Jinx Broussard, Kathy Roberts Forde, Linda Lumsden, Linda Steiner, Ford Risley, Jane Rhodes, Jane Marcellus, Carolyn Kitch, Brooke Kroeger, and Maurine Beasley.

The website launched recently at suffrageandthemediamedia.org. The site will serve as a companion to a forthcoming special issue of *American Journalism on Women's Suffrage and the Media* (see call at right), including multimedia presentation of the issue's authors and their work at that time.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND THE MEDIA

A special issue of *American Journalism: A Journal of Media History*

American Journalism: A Journal of Media History announces a call for proposals for a special issue to be published in April 2019 to commemorate the adoption of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution that granted the women of all states the right to vote. We seek original historical research on the role of media in and about the suffrage movement, work that illuminates lasting cultural, political, economic, ideological, and social problems. Research could center on movement, mainstream, ethnic or alternative media; strategic communication, visual culture, or closely related themes.

Much can be gleaned from examining pro- and anti-suffrage media strategies and the public responses they elicited. For the past forty years, an important body of scholarship has emerged about the movement and media. For the occasion of this centennial anniversary, our goal is to build on this foundation with work that asks new questions and presents new theoretical and methodological approaches, insights, and arguments.

The proposal should be five to ten pages, including a title or a two-sentence summary, a 250-word abstract, and a narrative that explains the scope of the project, its theme or argument, and its importance. It should demonstrate familiarity with the relevant literature and historical context as well as historiography, provide examples of primary sources, and address how the author plans to develop and structure the work.

Topics may include, but are not limited to, studies of:

- iconography and visual culture
- constructions of womanhood and sexuality
- the business and economics of the suffrage media
- publicity and strategic communications
- the politics of race and racial tensions
- suffrage and the media within the broader women's rights agenda
- audiences and reception of suffrage media
- popular culture representations and media interpretations of this history
- intersection of suffrage with the mainstream media
- the recalibrated movement media image in the amendment's aftermath
- audiences and reception of suffrage and anti-suffrage media

Submission Schedule

July 1, 2017: Proposals are due to the [online submission site](#).

Sept. 1, 2017: Invitations to submit the full article will be delivered.

April 1, 2018: First drafts of articles are due, with final decisions, edits, and requests for revisions to follow.

Prospective authors should feel free to contact members of the editorial board for this special issue, listed below.

Maurine Beasley mbeasley@umd.edu

Jinx Broussard jinxy@lsu.edu

Kathy Roberts Forde kforde@journal.umass.edu

Carolyn Kitch ckitch@temple.edu

Brooke Kroeger brooke.kroeger@nyu.edu

Linda Lumsden lumsden@email.arizona.edu

Jane Marcellus jane.marcellus@mtsu.edu

Jane Rhodes rhodesj@uic.edu

Linda Steiner lsteiner@umd.edu

CALL FOR PAPERS

Symposium on the 19th Century Press, the Civil War, and Free Expression

The steering committee of the 25th annual **Symposium on the 19th Century Press, the Civil War, and Free Expression** solicits papers dealing with U.S. mass media of the 19th century, the Civil War in fiction and history, freedom of expression in the 19th century, presidents and the 19th century press, images of race and gender in the 19th century press, sensationalism and crime in 19th century newspapers, the press in the Gilded Age, and in particular, the antebellum press and the causes of the Civil War.

Papers should be able to be presented within 20 minutes (at least 10 to 15 pages long). Please send your paper—including a 200-300-word abstract—as a Word attachment to west-chair-office@utc.edu. **Deadline is Aug. 28.**

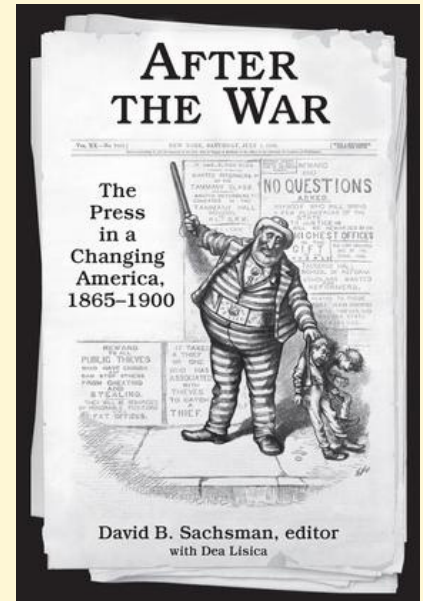
Selected papers will be presented during a three-day conference in Chattanooga, Tennessee, Nov. 2-4. The top three papers and the top three student papers will be honored accordingly. Due to the generosity of the Walter and Leona Schmitt Family Foundation Research Fund, the winners of the student awards will receive \$250 honoraria for delivering their papers.

The purpose of the November conference is to share current research and to develop a series of monographs. This year the steering committee will pay special attention to papers on such antebellum topics as press coverage of the Nullification Crisis of 1832, Bloody Kansas, the presidential election of 1856, the Dred Scott decision, and the presidential election of 1860.

Papers from the first five conferences were published by Transaction Publishers in 2000 as a book of readings called “The Civil War and the Press.” Purdue University Press published papers from past conferences in three distinctly different books titled “Memory and Myth: The Civil War in Fiction and Film from Uncle Tom’s Cabin to Cold Mountain” (2007), “Words at War: The Civil War and American Journalism” (2008), and “Seeking a Voice: Images of Race and Gender in the 19th Century Press” (2009). In 2013, Transaction published “Sensationalism: Murder, Mayhem, Mudslinging, Scandals, and Disasters in 19th-Century Reporting,” and in 2014, it published “A Press Divided: Newspaper Coverage of the Civil War.” In 2017, Transaction (now an imprint of Taylor & Francis) is publishing “After the War: The Press in a Changing America, 1865-1900” (see announcement at right).

The symposium is sponsored by the George R. West, Jr. Chair of Excellence in Communication and Public Affairs, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga communication department, the Walter and Leona Schmitt Family Foundation Research Fund, and the Hazel Dicken-Garcia Fund for the Symposium. Because of this sponsorship, no registration fee will be charged.

For more information, please contact: Dr. David Sachsman, George R. West, Jr. Chair of Excellence in Communication and Public Affairs, Dept. 3003, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, 615 McCallie Ave., Chattanooga, Tennessee 37403-2598; (423) 425-4219; david-sachsman@utc.edu.



BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

“After the War: The Press in a Changing America”

Transaction (Taylor & Francis), 2017

[Visit the book website](#)

“After the War” presents a panoramic view of social, political, and economic change in post-Civil War America by examining its journalism, from coverage of politics and Reconstruction to sensational reporting and images of the American people. The changes in America during this time were so dramatic that they transformed the social structure of the country and the nature of journalism.

Edited by David Sachsman, “After the War” includes 22 essays on various aspects of journalism during the period from 1865-1900, covering topics such as public service, entertainment, race, immigration, and gender. In addition to Sachsman, AEJMC History Division members who contributed to the volume include Donald Shaw, James Mueller, William Huntzicker, Paulette Kilmer, Wallace Eberhard, Rich Shumate, Lee Joliffe, Aleen Ratzlaff, and Brian Gabriel.

AEJMC CHICAGO 2017

Photo: Nimesh Madhavan | CC by SA 2.0



HISTORY DIVISION GUIDE

Wednesday, August 9 | Refereed Research Paper Sessions

10-11:30 a.m. – Media Models

Moderating: **Jon Marshall**, Northwestern
Discussant: **Michael Fuhlhage**, Wayne State

“How Many Biscuits Can You Eat This Mornin’?
Martha White’s Sponsorship of Country Music Radio
and TV Shows” **Lance Kinney**, Alabama

“Abuse of a ‘Great Power’: An Examination of Twenti-
eth-Century Advertising Criticism in the United States”
Nicholas Hirshon, William Paterson

“Terry Pettus and the 1936 Seattle
Newspaper Strike: Pivotal Success for
the American Newspaper Guild”
Cindy Elmore, East Carolina University

“Archiving India’s Thriving News Media:
A Case Study of Digitized Historical and
Current News from India”
Deb Aikat, North Carolina

3:15-4:45 p.m. – In the American Borderlands

Moderating: **Jane Weatherred**, South Carolina
Discussant: **Sid Bedingfield**, Minnesota

“An Idea Before Its Time: Charles S. Johnson, Negro
Columnist”
Gwyneth Mellinger, James Madison

“The Impact of Pearl Harbor on the Japanese-
Language Press in Hawai’i”
Takeya Mizuno, Toyo University

“Colonization and Cornish: A Blueprint
for Freedom’s Journal”*
Kenneth Campbell, South Carolina
* *Third place faculty paper*

“A Pivotal Moment: How Press Coverage
of the Port Chicago Disaster Helped
Reveal Racial Inequalities”
Pamela Walck, Duquesne



Wednesday, August 9

5-6:30 p.m. – High Density Paper Session

Moderating: **Erika Pribanic-Smith**, Texas at Arlington
 Discussants: **Raymond McCaffrey**, Arkansas; **Doug Cumming**, Washington and Lee

“President Ford’s Personal Watergate: The Undermining of the Public Sphere During the Mayaguez Incident of 1975” **William Schulte**, **Edgar Simpson** and **Michael DiBari, Jr.**, Winthrop

“The Media’s Verdict of Jimmy Carter’s Transition Act: An Administration in Disarray”
Lori Amber Roessner, Tennessee

“Unveiling the ‘Sick Elephant’: CIA Public Relations and the Soviet Economic Forecast Controversy of 1964”
Matthew Cecil, Minnesota State, Mankato

“Lincoln’s Messengers: Norman Hapgood’s and Ida Tarbell’s Biographies at the Dawn of the Progressive Era”
Ronald Rodgers, Florida

“Louis Decimus Rubin, Jr.: The History of Algonquin Books From Personal Correspondence”*

Jane Weatherred, South Carolina

* *Third place student paper*

“Functionalist Explanations in Media Histories: A Historiographical Essay” **Tim Vos**, Missouri

“Life as a Cub: the Careers of Junior Reporters in U.S. Newsrooms from 1920 to 1960”

William Mari, Northwest

“The Press of the Mississippi Territory, 1798-1817”

David R. Davies, Southern Mississippi

“The Katyn Cold Case: The Press and the Madden Committee”

Timothy Roy Gleason, Wisconsin-Oshkosh

“A War of Words: the British Gazette and British Worker During the 1926 General Strike”

Mark Harmon, Tennessee

Thursday, August 10

8:15-9:45 a.m. – Top Papers

Moderating: **Kathy Forde**, UMass, Amherst
 Discussant: **Mike Sweeney**, Ohio



First Place Faculty Paper

“Abolitionist Aggregator: Collective Action Frames in the British Anti-Slavery Monthly Reporter, 1825-1833”

Linda Lumsden, Arizona



Second Place Faculty Paper

“From Fiasco to Canon: The Fall and Rise of the Commission on Freedom of the Press”

Stephen Bates, Nevada, Las Vegas



First Place Student Paper

“‘The Vilest Man in the Newspaper Business’: F. G. Bonfils’s Libel Case Against the Rocky Mountain News”

Ken Ward, Ohio



Second Place Student Paper

“‘Jack and Jill’ Be Nimble: Acknowledging the Historic Use of Nontraditional Advertising in an ‘Ad-less’ Children’s Magazine”

Steven Holiday, Texas Tech



1:30-3 p.m. – Scholar-to-Scholar Session

“The CSI Imaginary: British Newspaper Coverage of the Beginnings of Modern Criminal Forensics and ‘Trace’ Evidence” **Brian Carroll**, Berry

History Division Panels

Wednesday, August 9

11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Teaching with Archives of the Alternative Press of the 1960s-1980s (See details on page 9.)

Co-sponsor: Newspaper & Online News Division

Thursday, August 10

11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Impartial Observers or Embedded Activists?
Examining the Press as a Political Interest Group
in Media History and Law

Co-sponsor: Law & Policy Division

5-6:30 p.m.

HerStory: Using Oral History to Preserve Women
Journalists' Life Stories

Co-sponsor: Commission on the Status of Women

Friday, August 11

12:15-1:30 p.m.

Order in the Court vs. Transparency of the Court: The
Clash of Judicial Values and the Journalist's Mission

Co-sponsor: Council of Affiliates

3:30-5 p.m.

Where Do We Fit In? The Beginnings of the
National Association of Hispanic Journalists; the
National Association of Black Journalists; the
Asian American Journalists Association and the
Native American Journalists Association

Co-sponsor: Minorities and Communication

Saturday, August 12

9:15-10:45 a.m.

Public Relations History in the Classroom:
Making More Time for Meaning-Making

Co-sponsor: Public Relations Division

Special Events

Off-site Tour: Museum of Broadcast Communications

Thursday, August 10, 1:15 p.m.

Tour is open to those who pre-register. Those registered should meet in the hotel lobby by 1:15 p.m. and bring eight \$1 bills per person for admission. The **museum** is a short walk from the hotel, and the tour is approximately one hour. To register, email membership co-chair Teri Finneman at finnente@gmail.com by July 10.



Off-site Social: D4 Irish Pub & Cafe

Friday, August 11, 8:45 p.m.

Co-sponsor: Graduate Student Interest Group

Free hors d'oeuvres. Come hang out with others interested in these two sponsoring groups.

D4 Irish Pub & Cafe

345 East Ohio St.

Two-and-a-half blocks east of the Marriott

Friday, August 11

7-8:30 p.m. – Members' Meeting

Members will vote on a proposal to adopt Journalism History as the official journal of the AEJMC History Division. (See details on page 5.)

The Book Award, Covert Award, and research paper awards will be presented at the meeting.

AEJMC History Division Book Award: Robert Parkinson



Robert G. Parkinson will receive the 2017 AEJMC History Division Book Award for “The Common Cause: Creating Race and Nation in the American Revolution” (University of North Carolina Press). Parkinson is an assistant professor of history at Binghamton University.

A panel of three distinguished media historians chose “The Common Cause” from a field of 26 entries. The judges praised Parkinson’s “impressive archival and primary source work that led to a funda-

mental revision of two historiographical streams: the history of the American Revolution and the history of journalism.” The book argues that patriot leaders united the thirteen colonies by defining the British as the enemies of American freedom, using narratives about resistant slaves, hostile Indians, and German mercenaries that would imbed ideas of racial difference into the ideology of the new nation.

Covert Award in Mass Communication History: Sheila Webb



Sheila Webb, a professor in the Department of Journalism at Western Washington University, will receive the annual Covert Award for the second time. The 2017 award honors “Creating Life: America’s Most Potent Editorial Force” (Journalism Monographs). Webb previously won in 2010.

The piece was selected from eight articles nominated. The judges commended Webb for her outstanding scholarship on “important topics,” supported by “deep archival and primary source research.” The

award, endowed by the late Catherine Covert, a former head of the History Division, goes to the article or chapter in an edited collection that represents the year’s best essay in mass communication history.

Saturday, August 12

Refereed Research Papers

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – Historiography and Theories of the Press

Moderating: **Ross Collins**, North Dakota State

Discussant: **Tim Vos**, Missouri

“Mnemonic Retrospective: A Social History of Collective Memory Studies, the First 100 Years”

Emil Steiner, Temple

“Not Your Grandpa’s Hoax: A Comparative History of Fake News”

Julien Gorbach, Hawaii Manoa

“The Socialist Journalist”

Martin Marinos, Columbia

“The Selling of the Selling of the War: A Public Relations Historical Case Study of ‘Prelude to War’”

Ray Begovich, Franklin College



For conference information, including lodging, registration, and the full program, visit the **AEJMC Chicago website.**