



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

How many historians fit in an elevator?



History Division members toured the Museum of Broadcast Communications during a membership event in Chicago.

See more photos from the conference on Page 19.

Journalism History seeks donations

Work on bringing Journalism History into the History Division is on target, with ups and downs – some dramatic – since the division voted 149 to 3 in mid-August to adopt the journal.

One of the latest developments is an appeal to division members and others for voluntary financial support of the journal during this transition.

At the division business meeting, those present voted unanimously (45-0) to authorize the ad hoc committee that had studied the transfer to poll the division on the question of bringing the journal into the division. That vote, begun the week after the business meeting and ending Aug. 28, gave strong support for the proposal.

Over the past year, in Clio articles,

How to donate

Online

www.gofundme.com/journalism-history

Check

Address check to Ohio University with "Journalism History" on the memo line.

Mail to:

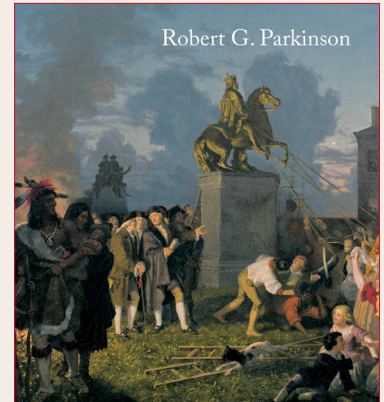
Michael S. Sweeney, Journalism History
E.W. Scripps School of Journalism,
Ohio University
Athens, Ohio 45701-2979

conversations, and at the business meeting, it was pointed out that among other arguments for the move was that Journal-

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ONLINE
aejmc.us/history

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Robert G. Parkinson

The Common Cause

CREATING RACE AND NATION
IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Robert G. Parkinson won the 2017 History Division Book Award. See more on Page 12

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Transition

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Journalism History operating as an independent journal was unsustainable because its financial reserves could not keep the journal afloat more than a few issues.

That prediction was realized even sooner than was expected when in late August and early September it was discovered that a change in accounting and administrative procedures at Ohio University, the nominal “home” to Journalism History, revealed the journal had considerably less money in its account than had been thought.

The situation was dire enough that the new ad hoc committee formed by incoming division head Doug Cumming to see the transition through explored a number of fund-raising options for immediate needs. The result is a GoFundMe appeal to division members and friends to raise at least \$1,500 to support the journal through its winter issue in January and into its spring issue in April.

Donors can go directly to the new GoFundMe page: www.gofundme.com/journalism-history. There is also a “Click to donate now” button on the journal’s website (www.scrippsjschool.org/publications/journalismhistory.php) to the journal’s GoFundMe page to help donors contribute. Or, donations can be sent via check to Ohio University with “Journalism History” on the memo line. These can be addressed to Mike at Michael S. Sweeney, Journalism History, E.W. Scripps School of Journalism, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701-2979.

As these steps were being taken, however, an anonymous donor contributed \$2,000, money that guaranteed this fall’s issue, coming out in October, and that will support the winter issue in January.

It’s a welcome start to maintaining the journal until division acquisition gives it stability. The need remains, however, for a strong show of support from division members, at whatever level they can contribute.

Other actions being taken to shore up

The screenshot shows a GoFundMe campaign for Journalism History. At the top, it says "Journalism History" with "VOLUME 43 NUMBER 1" and "SPRING 2017". The goal is \$1,500, with \$300 raised. A "Donate Now" button is prominent. Below the goal, it says "Created September 8, 2017". There are social media share buttons for Facebook and Twitter. A list of recent donations is shown, including a \$100 donation from Carolyn Sweeney and a \$100 donation from David Mindich.

Please consider making a donation to support the continued publication of Journalism History.



Frank Fee discusses the committee’s work to transition Journalism History to an academic publisher during the division meeting in Chicago.

the journal include a publicity campaign for the fundraiser and aggressive solicitation of new and renewed subscriptions.

Meanwhile, progress is being made on other fronts.

The ad hoc committee that conducted the feasibility study stood down with the conclusion of the division vote Aug. 28. Doug then appointed a new ad hoc committee to pursue three objectives to make it happen : Obtain approval of

the AEJMC board of directors to adopt the journal; find an academic publisher to put out the journal; and select a new editor to succeed Mike Sweeney.

Members of the old ad hoc committee – Kathy Forde, Melita Garza, Will Tubbs, and Frank Fee – agreed to stay on as members of the new, expanded ad hoc committee again chaired by Frank. However, the new committee has expanded, with Jean Folkerts, Gwyn Mellinger, David Mindich, Cristina Mislán, David Nord, and Mike Sweeney joining the committee. Meanwhile, division head Doug, vice head Erika Pribanic-Smith and secretary/newsletter editor Teri Finneman are very active and invaluable ex officio members.

Although all are participating in the discussions, the “portfolios” work out to Kathy and Melita – seeking and opening discussions with academic publishers; Frank – petitioning the AEJMC board of directors for approval of the transfer and overall chairing of the committee and its subdivisions; and Jean, Gwyn, David Mindich, Cristina, David Nord, and Mike working on securing an editor.

We’re keeping Will, who has his hands full as a new assistant professor at the University of West Florida, in reserve. Ex officio members Doug, Erika, and Teri are actively contributing on all fronts.

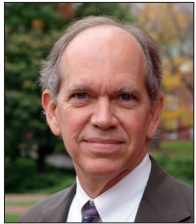
CHAIR COLUMN

Truth: It's more important now than ever

Fake news was real.

There really were a bunch of teenagers in a former Communist city in the former Yugoslavia cranking out confessions with tabloid-headlines quoting fake FBI sources saying Hillary Clinton was about to be indicted, or whatever.

Kids will be kids, and on social media, they learn fast. These kids learned that the American click-bait market paid better than the Eurozone, and that politics worked better than listicals, and that pro-Trump scams were easier to manufacture than cat videos.



Doug Cumming
Chair

Washington & Lee

So they flourished for a while during the 2016 presidential campaigns, fooling Trump fans with more than 100 websites that sounded like red-blooded right-wing American political sites. But the system is self-correcting. Sort of. BuzzFeed and The Guardian exposed the fraud. Google and Facebook said they would shut down fake news sites. Not much damage was done. Oh yeah, except Donald Trump was elected president.

Trump is amazing. You have to admit it. A shameless swindler on a scale that makes the Music Man and Wizard of Oz seem puritanical. To say he “lies” misses the point. Poets lie in one way. Swindlers lie in another. But it’s not really lying. It goes with the vocation.

If his dominance were just reality TV, pro wrestling or tabloid news, we could be entertained or put off, as New Yorkers and cheated contractors and golf partners have been for decades.

But we’re media historians and communication professors, not quite his “enemy of the American people,” but fellow travelers. To add another swirl to his libido for confusion, he misappropriates the term “fake news” by applying it to the New York Times and CNN.



Doug Cumming presents outgoing chair Mike Sweeney with a button honoring the James Meredith March Against Fear in Mississippi in 1966. Sweeney served the division with distinction, and Cumming considers him a personal hero. Division members gave Sweeney a long standing ovation during the business meeting in Chicago to thank him for his dedicated service.

The “failing” New York Times (with stock rising from \$13 to \$18 a share in the past year) does indeed commit factual errors every day. That’s journalism. Trump applies the term fake news to real journalism in two ways. One is for news he doesn’t like. The other is for when there’s an error in a news story he doesn’t like.

How do you teach this stuff these days? How do you study it?

Craig Silverman, the media editor at BuzzFeed who exposed the fake-news prodigies of Macedonia, is a leading expert on fake news and on the related problem of online verification of rumors (about which he produced a good study in 2015 for the Tow Center for Digital Journalism). I enjoyed his

keynote address at AEJMC in Chicago, although his narrow definition of fake news came in for debate at a later conference session.

Silverman defined fake news as made-up online material designed only to make money, not to advance an agenda. When it is to advance an agenda, he said, it’s propaganda.

Either way, I was inspired after that session to post on my Facebook page the following resolution: “I will not open any more shared sites unless I recognize the source. I don’t mean the person sharing. I mean the link. I recommend this practice to all. You can ask the person sharing to please describe why they trust some fresh source you’ve never heard of. We can solve this problem.” I would include my

Chair

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nephew's amateur video that has gotten more than five million hits.

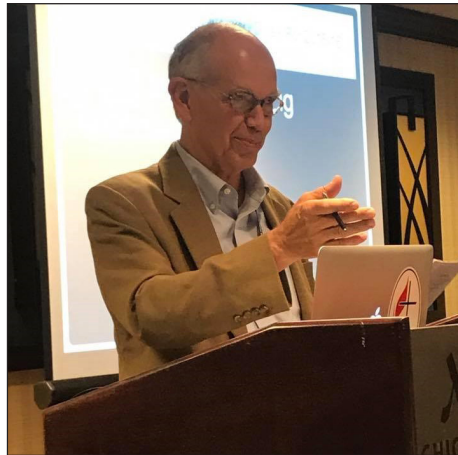
In the History Division's final research session on Saturday, Julien Gorbach of the University of Hawaii presented a paper proposing a more elaborate taxonomy of made-up news, "Not Your Grandpa's Hoax: A Comparative History of Fake News." Gorbach goes back to Defoe, *The New York Sun* and Poe to categorize types of hoaxes that have always played out in the history of journalism. But in the age of social media, the "fun" of yesteryear's hoaxes has been replaced by real danger, from hijacked elections to nuclear war. Like journalist Richard Hornik at Syracuse, Gorbach argues for more news literacy.

This was also the main point of a resolution from AEJMC's PF&R standing committee that the conference approved. It addressed "threats to the First Amendment" and reaffirmed the association's commitment "to journalism and its role and function in a free and democratic society."

I was surprised that the resolution, with its windup of eight Whereas sentences, failed to mention Donald Trump, though his shadow fell over most of the document. The sentence on fake news was especially gossamer. "Whereas repeated allegations of 'fake news' underscores a pressing need for a more media-literate electorate" . . . huh? The sentence did get its verb-number corrected to "underscore."

But I had to speak up to agree with the woman who complained about the weakness of this wording. First of all, it's the actual viral-going existence, not allegations, of fake news that underscores the need for media literacy. And then it's Trump's twisted name-calling – hardly deserving of the term allegations – that misapplies the term fake news as his way of dodging and changing the subject.

The highpoint of the conference for



me was getting a bear hug from Mike Sweeney as about 50 members of our division stood in prolonged applause for Mike. He has been matter-of-fact about his cancer, and the daily rest he needed even at the convention, because of treatment. Through all this for the past year, he continued working at Ohio University, chaired the division, edited *Journalism History*, and supervised the ad hoc committee that Frank Fee chaired to map out how our division can take on this publication.

I didn't have anything like a proper gift for Mike, but I happened to have a historic button that meant a lot to me. So I gave it to Mike. It was a large black button that announced James Meredith's March Against Fear, Mississippi, 1966. As I said then, Mike is one of the two living heroes I look up to. (The other is our daughter Sarah, 26, whose brain surgery in New York three days later successfully removed half her slow-growing tumor, and didn't damage the insular cortex she dearly needs to do medical journalism well.)

Our job is to not be afraid, looking to James Meredith and Mike Sweeney for examples.

Now I have a new button that I got in New York, from a friend at the Times. It's a small white button that says "Truth. It's more important now than ever."

Clio

AMONG THE MEDIA

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

Submissions to Clio are welcome. General items such as paper calls should be sent to Teri Finneman at teri.finneman@sdstate.edu

Send membership updates to be included in "News & Notes" to Will Mari (william.mari@northwestu.edu) or Amber Roessner (aroessne@utk.edu)

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

History Division 2017 Business Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the 2017 Business Meeting AEJMC History Division Chicago

Outgoing Chair Mike Sweeney (Ohio) called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 11.

The membership accepted the minutes from last year's meeting as reported in the Fall 2016 Clio.

Book Award: The winner this year was Robert G. Parkinson, assistant professor of history at Binghamton University, for "The Common Cause: Creating Race and Nation in the American Revolution" (University of North Carolina Press). Book Award Chair John Ferré (Louisville) indicated that the judges selected from among 26 nominated books. Judges were Fred Blevens (Florida International), Kathy Roberts Forde (Massachusetts-Amherst), and Linda Steiner (Maryland).

Ferré described the book as "chilling and gripping," centered on the argument that those leading the American Revolution united the colonies by turning them against a common enemy that had to be more than just England. By unifying

the public against Native Americans and African-American slaves, the book argues, the nation's founders built racism into the country's foundation.

Parkinson said he wanted to write something about the Revolution and race, so he started by reading all the colonial newspapers. "I was really shocked about what I found," Parkinson said, "and that's a massive amount of material in the middle pages of the newspapers—what everyone else has overlooked." Parkinson argued that the Revolution's leaders needed to scare people into fighting, and they did that by preying on people's fear and outrage.

Newspapers allowed those leaders not only to strike while the iron was hot but to keep striking, Parkinson said. They did that in part by reprinting the same items in every newspaper. Parkinson advised young researchers not to rely on databases; he said he never would have reached the argument he did if he had just "dipped in" to the available resources. "I needed to read them all, one after the other," he said.

Covert Award: For the second time, Sheila Webb (Western Washington) received the division's Covert Award for best mass communication history article. Her piece in *Journalism Monographs*, "Creating Life: 'America's Most Potent Editorial Force,'" was selected from among eight nominees. Webb said she became interested in *Life* magazine as a graduate student; she described hauling issues home from the library in garbage bags to go through them. In total, she viewed 55,000 images, of which she ultimately coded 4,500.

"I was always interested in the start-up of media forms," Webb said. "My project was on the first decade of *Life* magazine, which was a new pictorial, and how does a magazine position a cultural moment in order to become the most successful magazine launch in history."

Webb acknowledged the late James

Baughman for his assistance with her research.

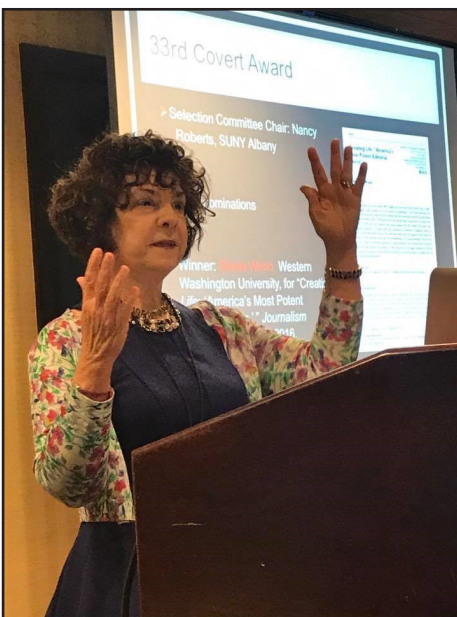
Conference Papers: Outgoing Research Chair Doug Cumming (Washington and Lee) reported that the division received 50 total paper submissions. The division accepted 28 faculty papers and 3 student submissions for a total acceptance rate of 62 percent. None of the papers had to be scrubbed for identification, which was a problem in the previous paper competition.

Each paper had three reviewers. Cumming thanked the judges for their feedback and role in the process of generating knowledge.

The following authors received awards for their work: Linda Lumsden (Arizona), first-place faculty paper; Ken Ward (Ohio), first-place student paper; Stephen Bates (Nevada, Las Vegas), second-place faculty paper; Steven Holiday (Texas Tech), second-place student paper; Kenneth Campbell (South Carolina), third-place faculty paper; Jane Weathered (South Carolina), third-place student paper.

Elections: The membership confirmed the appointments of Teri Finneman (South Dakota State) as Secretary/Newsletter Editor and Melita Garza (Texas Christian) as PF&R Chair. These officers had been nominated by the division's leadership. The membership made no nominations from the floor. [NOTE: The following additional appointments were made after the convention: Amber Roessner (Tennessee), Membership Co-Chair; Christopher Frear (South Carolina) and Ken Ward (Ohio), Graduate Student Co-Chairs.]

Journalism History: Frank Fee (North Carolina, emeritus) chaired an ad-hoc committee Sweeney appointed to investigate the division's adoption of the



Sheila Webb of Western Washington University won this year's Covert Award.

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scholarly journal *Journalism History*. Forde, Garza, and Will Tubbs (Western Florida) also served on the committee.

Journalism History has been operating as an independent academic journal since its inception in 1974; Sweeney has been the editor for several years. Based on its research over the past year, the ad hoc committee recommended that the division adopt the journal. Fee said that because of Sweeney's health and the journal's finances, *Journalism History* will survive perhaps 2-3 years if something is not done to secure its future.

"If we lose *Journalism History*, we lose a significant place for us to publish our work, which is important to the field at large for the dissemination of knowledge and to journalism history scholars for tenure and promotion opportunities," Fee said.

Fee said the committee has identified several reasons adopting the journal can and should work. Contracting with an academic publisher would increase the journal's profitability and provide some opportunities that the journal doesn't have now. The committee has talked with two publishers (SAGE and Oxford) as exemplars. Interest has been lukewarm, but Fee suggested that the publishers would like to see the journal firmly in the division before moving forward.

AEJMC requires the division to show an interest and willingness to take on the journal under any circumstances (self-publishing if necessary). AEJMC would have to approve the adoption as well as any publisher contract. The AEJMC board next meets in December. Fee anticipated that the division would be ready to adopt the journal by then and possibly have a contract with a publisher prepared.

Fee said a contract with a publisher would put *Journalism History* on equal footing with other AEJMC divisions' journals.

The committee proposed a two-step process: First, those in attendance at the

meeting would vote on a resolution that the committee should conduct an official vote of the membership on adopting the journal. Second, the committee would conduct a vote via SurveyMonkey on the question, "Should the division adopt the scholarly journal *Journalism History* and, if possible, contract with an academic publisher to produce it?"

Fee noted that the committee conducted a straw poll via SurveyMonkey earlier and found that 91 percent of the membership favored moving forward with adopting the journal.

Fee said Sweeney promised American Journalism Historians Association that *Journalism History* would not pursue a contract with Taylor & Francis, which publishes AJHA's journal *American Journalism*.

In response to questions from meeting attendees, Fee noted that changes in format and flexibility would be potential trade-offs of contracting with a publisher. But, Garza added, the current model is unsustainable.

"It's not a choice between having what we have now with the beautiful illustrations and having something else that's not as nice visually," Garza said. "It's a choice between not having a journal or having a journal that's perhaps not as pretty."

Forde suggested creating a website where supplementary material such as illustrations could be published.

Sweeney pointed out that a publisher could attach Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) to articles. He explained that DOIs are URLs that are guaranteed to persist forever, and an independent publisher cannot offer that. Sweeney said tenure and promotion committees increasingly are looking to see if candidates are publishing in DOI journals.

Fee added that an academic publisher can promote the journal better than an independent publisher can, raising

2017-2018 History Division Leadership

Head/Program Chair

Doug Cumming
Washington and Lee University

Vice Head/Research Chair

Erika Pribanic-Smith
University of Texas at Arlington

Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Teri Finneman
South Dakota State University

Teaching Standards Chair

Kristin Gustafson
University of Washington-Bothell

PF&R Chair

Melita Garza
Texas Christian University

Membership Chairs

Will Mari, Northwest University
Amber Roessner,
University of Tennessee

Graduate Student Liaisons

Christopher Frear
University of South Carolina
Kenneth Ward, Ohio University

Book Award Chair

John Ferré, University of Louisville

Covert Award Chair

Nancy Roberts
University at Albany-SUNY

Joint Journalism & Communication History Convention Co-Coordinator

Nicholas Hirshon
William Paterson University

AEJMC Southeast Colloquium History Division Research Chair

Cayce Myers
Virginia Tech University

Website Administrator

Keith Greenwood
University of Missouri

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the number of article downloads and citations.

“The benefits are considerable and the trade-offs as we’ve found them are insignificant in comparison,” Fee said.

Fee said if the division takes on the journal, it’s an all or none proposition; it’s not dependent on getting a contract with an academic publisher. The committee recommended that the division form a publications committee to scout the territory further and investigate other publication options.

Attendees at the meeting voted 45-0 in favor of conducting an official vote of the membership via SurveyMonkey.

Committee Reports:

Teaching: Teaching Chair Kristin Gustafson (Washington-Bothell) mentioned the panel she co-organized with the Newspaper and Online News Division. She also asked that members send ideas for Clio teaching columns to her at gustaf13@uw.edu. She seeks ideas for teaching that involve diversity, inclusivity, collaboration, community, and justice.

Membership: Membership Co-Chairs Finneman and Will Mari (Northwest) reported that they focused on member relations over the past year. They featured members in Clio columns and social media posts, organized a tour at the Museum of Broadcast Communications, and facilitated Media History Engagement week, which resulted in 330 Twitter posts from 110 people and reached 40,288 followers. They also noted that membership has climbed slightly from 284 to 294.

Tom Mascaro (Bowling Green) expressed dismay at the condition of some of the media in the basement of the broadcast museum and asked if the division might encourage the museum to store their films better to preserve the history in the museum’s holdings. Sweeney indicated he would contact the museum to relay the concerns.



Top student and faculty paper award winners include Kenneth Ward, Steven Holiday, Jane Weatherred and Linda Lumsden.

W. Joseph Campbell (American) asked how many students were members of the division. Though that information was not available during the meeting, Sweeney reported after the convention that the division has 25 student members.

Website: Keith Greenwood (Missouri) reported that with the widespread use of social media, most updates to the website have been posting new issues of Clio. He noted that the website is the institutional history/archive for the division; he plans to fill in more of the division’s history over the next year to make it a more useful repository.

Financial Report: Sweeney reported that the division has just about broken even this year. The starting balance was \$8,160.42, and income from dues as of Aug. 1 was \$1,927.50. Expenses included the museum tour fee, a reception the division co-hosted at the convention with the Graduate Student Interest Group, plaques and certificates for award winners, and \$500 each to the winners of the Covert and book awards.

New Business: The Council of Divisions

proposed four cities for the 2021 AEJMC conference: Kansas City, MO, Austin, TX, St. Louis, MO, and New Orleans, LA. Sweeney mentioned that the NAACP recently had issued a travel advisory indicating Missouri may be unsafe for minorities, and the state of California had issued a travel ban that would prevent California institutions from reimbursing their faculty and students for travel to Texas (among other states) because of sexual orientation-based discrimination. Among the points brought up during discussion were that AEJMC had a memorable meeting in New Orleans 20 years ago; other divisions had requested that the Council of Divisions provide further choices; it was unfair to paint everyone in the banned states with the same broad strokes; and the bans may be lifted by 2021.

Sweeney offered to report the vote to the Council of Divisions with “rich qualitative” comment expressing the division’s concerns. Thirty of the division members voted for New Orleans, seven for Austin, and one for Kansas City; St. Louis received no votes.

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New Leadership: Effective Sept. 1, Cumming and Erika Pribanic-Smith (Texas-Arlington) are promoted to division chair/program chair and vice chair/research chair, respectively. (For a full list of the division's 2017-2018 leadership, see Page 6.)

Cumming relayed his goals for the coming year, the first of which is to carry out the will of the membership regarding Journalism History.

The second goal is to deepen the bench for incoming officers in the years to come. He noted that the top officers hold multiple positions: chair/program chair, vice chair/research chair, and secretary/newsletter editor. In other divisions, those positions are separated, and spreading the roles among more people would lighten the load on the division's leadership while providing more service opportunities for the division's members.

Cumming thanked Sweeney for the tremendous help he had given him and others in the division over the past year. Cumming said he counted Sweeney among his heroes for taking on the task of division head as well as editing Journalism History while battling terminal cancer. Cumming presented Sweeney with a button he had found in the apartment of his father, who had been a Newsweek bureau chief during the Civil Rights movement. Cumming said he treasured the button, and "a real gift is when you give something that you treasure." The button also was fitting to Sweeney; coming from James Meredith's 1966 march in Mississippi to defy racism, the button said in large letters, "March Against Fear." The membership met the gift with lingering applause.

Announcements: David Bulla (Augusta) announced that he and his colleague Debbie van Tuyll are reviving the defunct Atlanta Review of Journalism History, renaming it the Southeastern Review of Journalism History. They aim to publish an edition in Spring 2018 and are seeking submissions of research papers and book



Panelists on the History Division co-sponsored panel, "Order in the Court vs. Transparency of the Court: The Clash of Judicial Values and the Journalist's Mission" included a sitting federal judge, U.S. District Judge Amy J. St. Eve (third from left). Other panelists are, front row from left: Cayce Myers, Virginia Tech; Erin K. Coyle, LSU; Judge St. Eve, and John C. Watson, American. In the back row is W. Joseph Campbell, American. The panel was co-sponsored by the AEJMC Council of Affiliates.

reviews. Bulla said the journal strongly encourages student submissions.

Cayce Myers (Virginia Tech), the division's research chair for the AEJMC Southeast Colloquium, announced that the regional conference will be March 8-10, 2018, in Tuscaloosa, AL. The deadline for submissions is Dec. 11. Details are available at <https://cis.ua.edu/sec18/>

Nick Hirshon (William Paterson), the division's co-coordinator for the Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference, announced that Pamela Walck (Duquesne) is the new JJCHC co-coordinator from AJHA. They are going to continue the practice begun last year of having an early-bird deadline of Nov. 1 to receive a response by Thanksgiving. Final deadline will be Jan. 4, 2018; the conference is March 10, 2018. Details are available at <https://journalismhistorians.org/>

American Journalism Historians Association is meeting in Little Rock, AR, Oct. 12-14. Details are available at ajhaonline.org.

Cumming announced that during the research paper competition next year, the research chair from each division will select papers most relevant to the journalism profession and submit them to a conference-wide competition with a large cash prize.

Tim Vos (Missouri) announced that the University of Missouri Press is seeking proposals for a new book series entitled "Journalism in Perspective: Continuities and Disruptions," which he is editing. Contact Vos at vost@missouri.edu for information.

Garza reminded members about the AEJMC Trailblazers of Diversity oral history initiative. The initiative is seeking subjects; they are particularly interested in hearing from people in public relations, journalism, and the academy who have done work to promote diversity in the profession.

*Respectfully submitted,
Erika Pribanic-Smith, 2016-2017 Secretary*

GRAD STUDENTS

Examining The Witches of New York

I am excited to learn more about the research being conducted by scholars involved with AEJMC's History Division this year.

My main interest is in early investigative journalism, in particular, a

journalist named Mortimer Thomson who wrote a series called *The Witches of New York* for *The New York Tribune* in the 1850s. In the series, Mortimer visits the homes of clairvoyants who were frequently advertising services from curing all illnesses to arranging love matches. The advertisements attracted a large number of customers. The *Tribune* reported in 1857 that all of the clairvoyants combined in the New York area attracted around 1,600 customers per week.

The *Tribune* decided to launch a series of investigation the same year, which would expose the clairvoyants' deceptive practices as fraudulent. For this task, then editor, Horace Greeley, picked Mortimer Thomson for the job. Mortimer was known for writing satire and had also worked for a time as an actor. In the series, Mortimer is often offered potions and amulets, and at one point dressed as a woman to visit a fortune teller who would only allow ladies to enter.

The series was popular, and eventually compiled into a book, which can still be found online today. Shortly after its run, the police began arresting clairvoyants in the area, many



Samantha Peko
Ohio University

of whom were named in the series. The crime of fortune telling is still illegal in New York today, although the consequences involve paying a small fee. Mortimer's series is an example of how early journalists used undercover journalism to write about corruption as well as gain readership. While researching my master's thesis on stunt girl journalists, a genre that had women performing dangerous or unusual stunts to attract an audience, I also found that undercover journalism was popular with editors and audiences in the 1880s and 90s. Stunt girl journalism was inspired by Nellie Bly's investigative work, such as posing as a mentally ill patient. Her popularity opened doors for women journalists. Mortimer also

used his journalism to expose deception, but turned it into a comical situation, presumably to attract readers. His first-hand

accounts were heavily exaggerated and ended with a list of all of his wives and children he was foretold to have.

Mortimer's series and tactics are similar to those used by undercover journalists today, such as Mother Jones' investigative reports on private prisons which documented Shane Bauer's first-hand account of his time spent working as a prison guard. Figuring out why this style of reporting resonates with audiences and how it has changed is something that may be further explored. I hope that looking back into the history of investigative journalists will provide insight about how the practice has changed and may continue to evolve.

“His first-hand accounts were heavily exaggerated...”

THE WITCHES OF NEW-YORK.

These unsophisticated persons who believe that Witchcraft in America is mere historical reminiscence; that broomstick locomotion is a lost art; that Astrology, in its mystic sense, is no longer practiced; that Palmistry, and Geomancy, and Bibliomancy, and the other scientific mysteries of the Black Art, are unknown to now-a-day Yankees, are laboring under a charitable delusion. It is true that amateur Witchcraft has gone somewhat out of fashion, and spiteful old ladies no longer sell themselves to the Devil for the purpose merely of prematurely enjoying his delectable society in the social midnight orgie; or for the characteristic gratification of inflicting unseen vicious pinches upon their younger and prettier neighbors. Conjurition has been utilized, and the "Amighty Dollar" now enters into every cabalistic calculation, and is an ingredient in every "hell-broth." The modern witch has vulgar tastes, requires her dinners like ordinary mortals, and is never so absorbed in her incantations, as to be insensible to the attractions of corned beef and cabbage. The Romance of Sorcery does not exist in these days, when the inevitable dollar is demanded in advance.

The name has been mollified into "fortune-telling," but we cannot discover that the practices thereof have lost any of their fabled power. Who shall say that the fortune-teller of Grand, Broome or Orchard street cannot transform herself at will into the traditional "black cat," or does not regale herself occasionally with an aerial excursion on a broomstick? No one, to our knowledge, has lately witnessed the feline metamorphosis, or has ever encountered one of the females on her basswood steed; but there is reason to believe that the sorceresses of Gotham possess as great facilities of transmigration and locomotion as did ever the persecuted females of Salem. But though they may occasionally indulge in these congenial recreations, most of their time is occupied in strict attention to business, for which they advertise largely in the newspapers.

Our curious readers have no doubt often read these "Astrological" advertisements, have smiled at the pretentiousness and turned up their critical noses at the execrable English therein displayed, the while indulging in a kind of innocent wonder as to whether these transparent nets ever catch any gulls. They read that these wonderful women are able to "tell past and future events;" to foresee coming trouble and misfortune, which they are willing, by their magic power, to stave off—for a consideration; that they tell lucky numbers in lotteries, and that they will guarantee happy marriages and a large assortment of children to every one who is willing to disburse a dollar for the ungrammatical promise of such equivocal bliss. These matter-of-fact readers of ours have no doubt queried sometimes in a vague, purposeless sort of way, if there really are people in our city who put trust in "charms" and "love powders" and who have faith in the prophetic infallibility of a pack of greasy playing-cards. If any one is persistently skeptical on this point, he had better investigate for himself; meanwhile we assure him and the public that there are hundreds of people in our good City of New-York who actually believe that the ruling powers of heaven and earth have revealed the programme of futurity, to be retailed at fifty cents a dose, to these snuffy, ignorant old women, who, if the eyes and nose of our reporters be credible witnesses, live, for the most part, in a state of chronic personal filthiness, which nothing less damp than a second deluge can remove or even mitigate.

It may open the eyes of these innocent querists to the vulgar popularity of the witchcraft of 1857 to hear that the nineteen she prophets who advertise in the newspapers of this city are visited every week by an average of sixteen hundred persons, of whom probably three-quarters place implicit confidence in the miserable stuff they hear and pay for.

TEACHING STANDARDS

Teaching excellence builds on the ideas of teaching mentors

Amber Roessner recalls sitting in *Leara Rhodes'* magazine production course and paying as close attention to how her professor taught as what she taught.

“She never was afraid to stop class for what she called a teachable moment,”

says Roessner, who recently was named

winner of American Journalism Historian Association’s 2017 National Award for Excellence in Teaching.

While being “flattered, honored, and humbled” by the award, Roessner is clear about her path. “This is wisdom I gleaned from others,” she says. Roessner is an associate professor in the University of Tennessee’s School of Journalism and Electronic Media.

Two teaching strategies—one a grading scheme, and the other a choice of in-depth projects—stand out in particular.

Ruthann Lariscy used the grading scheme in a class Roessner took as an undergraduate. Designed to serve individual learning styles, students choose how they are graded. “I was a student who typically would have been involved,” she says. “But that semester I was overbooked,” and so the non-project option appealed to Roessner.

The grading-scheme options she learned from Lariscy range from tests-only to tests-plus-attendance to tests-plus-attendance-plus-project. How it works is that the tests—in most courses she teaches there are three tests in a semester—have more weight for those who chose the tests-only option (such as 33 percent versus 22 percent or 20 percent.) Roessner explains



Kristin L. Gustafson
Teaching Chair
University of
Washington-
Bothell

the “Three Tests, That’s All” option in the syllabus as best “for the brilliant, but busy student or perennial slacker . . . who does not want to be burdened with extra assignments.” Her “Three Tests + Attendance” option, however, is better “for the student who tests well, plans on being in class except in the case of emergency, and does not want to be burdened with extra assignments.” Students who choose the tests-plus-attendance-plus-project might do a media project with one of the student-media outlets and/or a speaker series. She suggests that this option works well for students who want to gain industry experience “and get ahead in the journey to an amazing job in journalism and mass communication” and/or might not test well.

Roessner offers the grading scheme to students in classes with larger enrollments (80 to 150 students) and across a variety of courses (i.e., the principles and history of journalism, and journalism and mass communication history). It creates a bit of a logistical headache at the beginning of the term. But, she says, “It is worth the reward.” Her students say they love it because she accommodated their needs and they have more autonomy; Roessner says she loves it because she can evaluate student learning across the spectrum and create a student-centered learning environment that takes into account students’ unique learning styles and preferences.

In the most recent iteration of the grading scheme, Roessner says that about 10 percent of her students selected the

“The best instructors don’t have a script that they rely on year after year.”



tests-only option, about 60 percent selected tests-plus-attendance, and about 30 percent selected the tests-plus-attendance-plus-project.

Once students choose their option by signing a contract, she is firm that they may not deviate from that choice. She tells them, “I designed an equitable experience.”

In her smaller classes of about 30, Roessner’s students engage with in-depth projects. She borrowed the first of these, a mentor essay, from Janice Hume. The second is The Ida Initiative.

Both in-depth projects help students understand history of media, journalism, and mass communication. “I work to help students see that the past is not a disconnected element,” Roessner says. These projects “help them see that clearly.”

For the five-page mentor essay, students select a figure from media history, look at primary and secondary sources surrounding that person, and then write about what can be learned from that figure and how that learning can transcend history.

Gustafson

Continued from Page 10

The Ida Initiative is an interdisciplinary project and website focused on “the life, work, and legacy of Ida B. Wells-Barnett and other like-minded social justice crusaders by scholars and students of communication and history.” Roessner took the lead with the project in 2013 after Michelle Duster, Wells-Barnett’s great granddaughter, asked the University of Tennessee for help in honoring this pioneer.

That conversation led to a 2015 conference *Ida B. & Beyond*, and that collaboration led to a soon-to-be published edited volume, *Ida B. Wells-Barnett Political Pioneer of the Press: Her Voice, Her Pen, and her Transnational Crusade for Social Justice*.”

Wells-Barnett is particularly relevant to Roessner’s students who come away with a deeper understanding that speaks across race and gender and socioeconomics. About 95 percent of Roessner’s students come from Tennessee. And most of them are taught about Wells-Barnett’s Anti-Lynching Crusade in 5th and 11th grade. The Ida Projects at the University of Tennessee’s School of Journalism and Electronic Media helps students take that

further—learning how “she was a nuanced and complex woman who was endeavoring,” Roessner says. They learn more about her through the lens of journalism, public relations, public speaking, and communication. “It teaches them how individuals can harness communication as a valuable tool,” she says.

Two professors at the University of Georgia—Hume and Carolina Acosta-Alzuru, both winners of prestigious teaching awards themselves—inspired Roessner by creating “an amazing community,” she says. And now Roessner tries to do the same by helping students do service learning and experiential-learning projects. “The best journalism and history professors do this – participate in their communities,” she says.

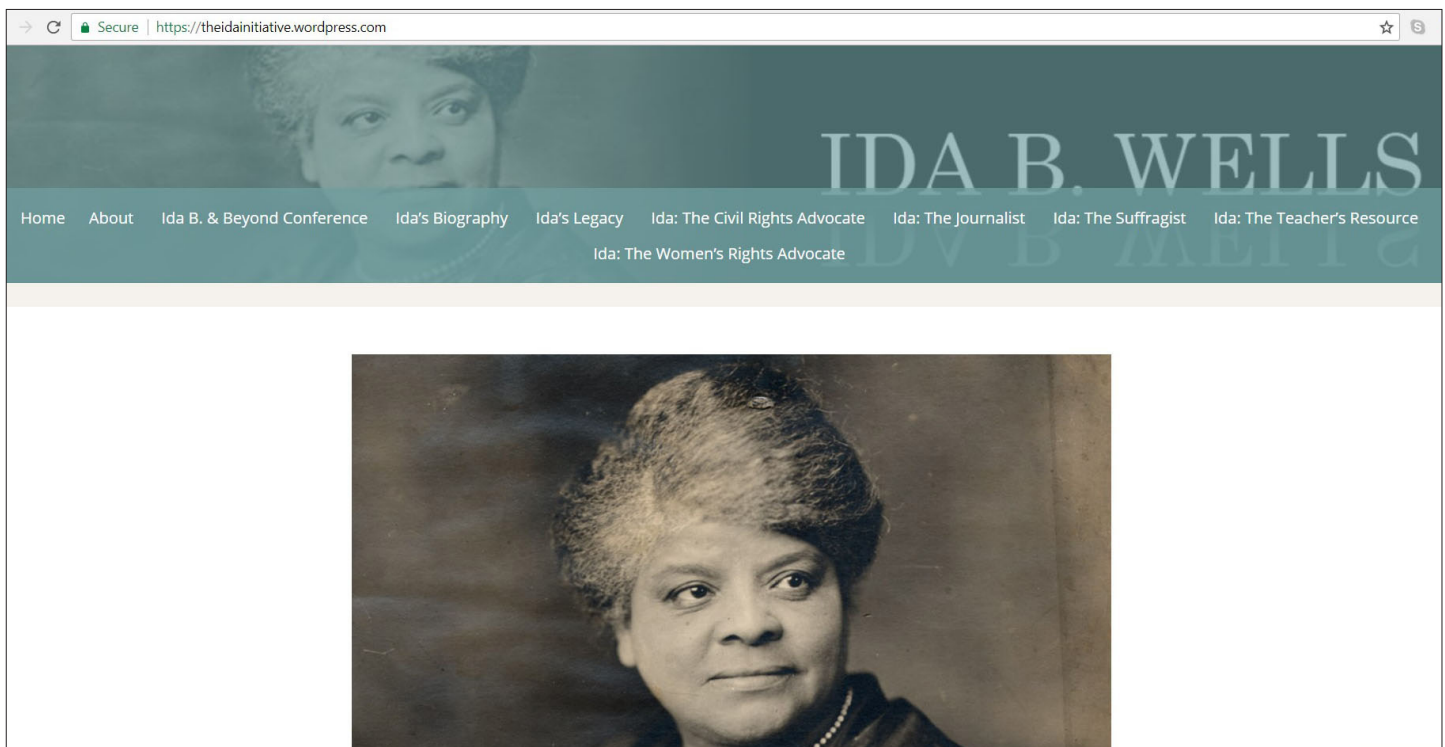
The AJHA teaching-award judges identified Roessner’s letters of support, integration of experiential learning, and commitment to interdisciplinary work as some of her strengths, said Kaylene Armstrong, chair of the organization’s education committee, in a news release.

“You should always be evaluating yourself,” Roessner says of her teaching. This

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.

means checking in with students during the quarter rather than waiting for end-of-term evaluations. “The best instructors don’t have a script that they rely on year after year,” she says. Instead, “they are constantly innovating.”

As journalism educators and media historians, we have excellent classroom practices and curriculum designs like the one discussed here 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.

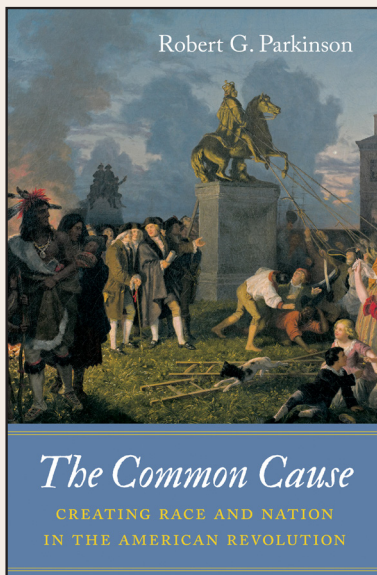


BOOK EXCERPT

From “The Common Cause: Creating Race and Nation in the American Revolution”



Robert G. Parkinson
Binghamton University



“The Common Cause: Creating Race and Nation in the American Revolution” (University of North Carolina Press, 2016).

From The Common Cause: Creating Race and Nation in the American Revolution by Robert G. Parkinson. Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture. Copyright © 2016 by the University of North Carolina Press. Used by permission of the publisher. www.uncpress.unc.edu.

The interior of the newspaper, where the bulk of the actual news appeared, deserves its own advocate. The succinct paragraphs, the extracted accounts, the mundane details: these items—largely hidden in plain sight from scholars thus far—were essential to political and, especially, military mobilization during the Revolutionary War. On these inner pages, most of the stories usually focused on the eastern side of the Atlantic even as late as the mid-1700s. Hawthorne’s reader put it better: “Without any discredit to the colonial press, these [papers] might have been, and probably were, spread out on the tables of the British coffee-house, in King street for the perusal of the throng of officers who then drank their wine at that celebrated establishment.” “To interest these military gentlemen,” he continued, “there were bulletins of the war between Prussia and Austria; between England and France, . . . and in our own trackless woods, where white men never trod until they came to fight there.” Hawthorne’s narrator was right; before the 1770s, news from mainland North America did get precious little space in these six weekly columns. But on the eve of war, patriot political leaders managed to dominate the interior of the newspapers. With that

closer management came the ability to promulgate singular representations.

The methods by which printers assembled these interior pages made them crucial to mobilizing support for the common cause after 1775. One of the primary professional rules governing printing in the eighteenth century was that editors would send free copies of their weekly paper to colleagues outside their city for the purposes of “exchanging” stories. Through the common practice of “exchanges”—the clipping of pieces from other papers to insert into your own—colonists across colony and region learned much of the same information and read many of the same stories. The printers’ exchanges had an effect akin to modern newswires; once a story entered into one newspaper, it very likely would be picked up and, over the next several weeks, be reprinted in faraway papers. The role this commonplace practice of “exchanges” played in Revolutionary mobilization was essential, but it has received little notice.

Those who were emerging as patriot leaders certainly understood the power of the middle pages, the exchange system, and its potential to cement unity. An illuminating episode involving one of those men, John Adams, indicates the patriots’ recognition of the potential impact of the press and their subsequent management of it to their advantage.

On Sunday, September 3, 1769, Adams wrote in his diary that he was in the company of his cousin Sam, James Otis, and Boston Gazette print-

Parkinson

Continued from Page 12

ers Benjamin Edes and John Gill. “The evening [was] spent in preparing for the Next Days Newspaper,” he noted, “a curious Employment. Cooking up Paragraphs, Articles, Occurrences etc.—working the political Engine!” What, exactly, did Adams, Otis, and the printers “cook up?” Not a front-page political essay, and much more than a bed of poppies.

The front page of the September 4 issue of the Boston Gazette did not feature an extended essay on natural rights or sociability but rather petitions and excerpts of English newspapers. The back page, true to form, contained notices of runaway servants and apprentices as well as advertisements of items for sale, including Madeira wine, spermaceti candles, choice chocolate, lost pieces of gold, houses to let, and a “Likely Negro Girl,” for which interested buyers should “Inquire of Edes and Gill.” Neither side of the exterior sheet, it seems, was what Adams referred to by “cooking up” or “working the political engine.” Inside the Gazette was a different matter. There, readers found an assortment of private letters, closely crafted “news” about Lieutenant Governor Thomas Hutchinson’s recent importation of tea, and pseudonymous poems attacking Governor Francis Bernard. All of these items showed evidence that this was the fare the patriots scrupulously prepared. Focusing on the exterior pages of the weekly papers, historians have overlooked the Bostonians’ labor. Adams, Otis, and the Gazette printers spent their time and attention on items scholars have largely ignored ever since. Not only have interpreters downplayed the importance of these items, but they also have missed the effect of the “exchanges.” Adams and his friends knew their “cooking” would



Robert G. Parkinson discusses his award-winning book at the History Division business meeting in Chicago. Parkinson received the 2017 History Division Book Award.

reach readers far outside Boston. Because of the exchange system, over the next few weeks, fourteen other newspapers—half of active colonial prints from New York and Philadelphia to Williamsburg and Savannah—included some parts of their handicraft. The political commentary Bostonians fashioned in the waning daylight on the Gazette’s type tables found its way to hundreds of other tables, in public and private houses across New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Georgia.

The word most often enlisted to describe this kind of effort to manipulate information is “propaganda.” “Propaganda,” though, is problematic for several reasons, not least because it was a word unknown to late-eighteenth-century colonists. Also, because it recalls totalitarian systems, mass media, corporatism, and disinformation campaigns, “propaganda” fits awkwardly with the American Revolution. To match that word to the late eighteenth century, it has to be stripped of two key elements: the mass delivery systems that can saturate images and the

centralized clearinghouses that operate those systems. Only the husk remains.

“Propagate,” or “propagation,” is a far superior descriptor. This endorsement of a return to the Latin root, however, is much more than a shift of suffixes. “Propagation”—with its organic connotations to agriculture, nature, breeding, and disease—is a term contemporaries would have recognized as a central part of their lives. No matter where one lived in North America, everyone did his or her best to propagate: increase crop yields, breed animals, extend families, build estates for posterity. Or, in the case of smallpox or dysentery, one tried to limit propagation. For three generations, colonists throughout the Atlantic had become familiar with Anglican missionaries from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel who sought to convert Catholics, lapsed Christians, and “heathen” Indians or Africans. Less charged than “propaganda,” “propagation” better describes what the patriots were trying to do with the common cause—that is, grow more patriots.

Parkinson

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Notes

ⁱ Hawthorne, “Old News,” in [Pearce, ed.], *Tales and Sketches*, 259. For more on the European content of colonial newspapers in the early to mid-eighteenth century, see Charles E. Clark, *The Public Prints: The Newspaper in Anglo-American Culture, 1665–1740* (New York, 1994); Copeland, *Colonial American Newspapers*.

ⁱⁱ Philip Davidson, *Propaganda and the American Revolution, 1763–1783* (Chapel Hill, N.C., 1941), 245. In studying the effects of the exchanges, my thinking is influenced by theories of the role print played in the social construction of nations and nationalism, especially Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, rev. ed. (1983; London, 1991); Ernest Gellner, *Nations and Nationalism* (Ithaca, N.Y., 1983); Eric Hobsbawm and Terence Ranger, eds., *The Invention of Tradition* (Cambridge, 1983); Edmund S. Morgan, *Inventing the People: The Rise of Popular Sovereignty in England and America* (New York, 1988); E. J. Hobsbawm, *Nations and Nationalism since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality* (Cambridge, 1990); David Waldstreicher, *In the Midst of Perpetual Fetes: The Making of American Nationalism, 1776–1820* (Chapel Hill, N.C., 1997).

ⁱⁱⁱ Entry for Sept. 3, 1769, in L. H. Butterfield, ed., *Diary and Autobiography of John Adams*, series 1 of *The Adams Papers* (Cambridge, Mass., 1961), I, 343.

^{iv} *Boston Gazette*, Sept. 4, 1769; *Boston Chronicle*, Sept. 11, 1769; *Essex Gazette*, Sept. 12, 1769; Bos-

ton News-Letter, Sept. 14, 1769; *Connecticut Gazette*, Sept. 15, 1769; *Connecticut Journal*, Sept. 15, 1769; *New-Hampshire Gazette*, Sept. 15, 22, 1769; *Providence Gazette*, Sept. 16, 1769; *New-York Gazette*, Sept. 18, 1769; *Newport Mercury*, Sept. 8, 1769; *Pennsylvania Chronicle*, Sept. 18, 1769; *Pennsylvania Journal*, Sept. 21, 1769; *New-York Journal*, Sept. 21, 1769; *Georgia Gazette*, Sept. 27, 1769; *Virginia Gazette* (Purdie & Dixon), Sept. 28, 1769.

^v For generations, historians have grappled with the role of propaganda in the American Revolution. Progressive historians in the early twentieth century (themselves influenced by the propaganda campaigns of World War I) were the first to argue that the Revolutionaries, especially Samuel Adams, Paul Revere, and Benjamin Franklin, were master propagandists who used false arts to manipulate the American public into embracing radical political positions against their best interests—a claim that echoed contemporary loyalist critiques. But totalitarian techniques of mass propaganda, especially Joseph Goebbels’s black disinformation campaigns, in part discredited this interpretation, especially the Progressives’ insinuation that the populace was deceived. See John C. Miller, *Sam Adams: Pioneer in Propaganda* (Boston, 1936); Davidson, *Propaganda and the American Revolution*. When historians at mid-century emphasized ideas or ideology as the engines driving the Revolution, they argued that there was no false consciousness; patriot writers and their readers believed in the arguments about rights and representation they espoused.

Modern theoretical studies of propa-

ganda, influenced especially by Noam Chomsky, focus on the world wars, the Cold War, the “War on Terror,” and current corporate advertising campaigns. Their reliance on contemporary examples loads this work with too much cultural baggage. As one of the most important scholars of modern propaganda, Jacques Ellul, put it, before the twentieth century, propaganda “did not appear as a specific phenomenon that needed to be defined and considered in itself” (Ellul, *Propaganda: The Formation of Men’s Attitudes* [1962; rpt. New York, 1973], 5). In the eighteenth century, he argues, there was no recognition of propaganda. For an overview on theories of propaganda, see Garth S. Jowett and Victoria O’Donnell, *Propaganda and Persuasion*, 3d ed. (Thousand Oaks, Calif., 1999). For the philosophical underpinnings of propaganda, see Stanley B. Cunningham, *The Idea of Propaganda: A Reconstruction* (Westport, Conn., 2002). Chomsky’s critiques of modern propaganda techniques by corporations and the state are in his *Letters from Lexington: Reflections on Propaganda*, rev. ed. (Boulder, Co., 2004); Chomsky, *Media Control: The Spectacular Achievements of Propaganda*, 2d ed. (New York, 2002); Edward S. Herman and Chomsky, *Manufacturing Consent: The Political Economy of the Mass Media* (New York, 1988).

^{vi} For a modern defense of the patriots as effective propagandists, especially in print, see Russ Castronovo, *Propaganda 1776: Secrets, Leaks, and Revolutionary Communications in Early America* (New York, 2014); William B. Warner, *Protocols of Liberty: Communication Innovation and the American Revolution* (Chicago, 2013).

NEWS AND NOTES

Books, Awards, and Events

Membership Co-Chairs

Will Mari

Northwest University

Amber Roessner

University of Tennessee

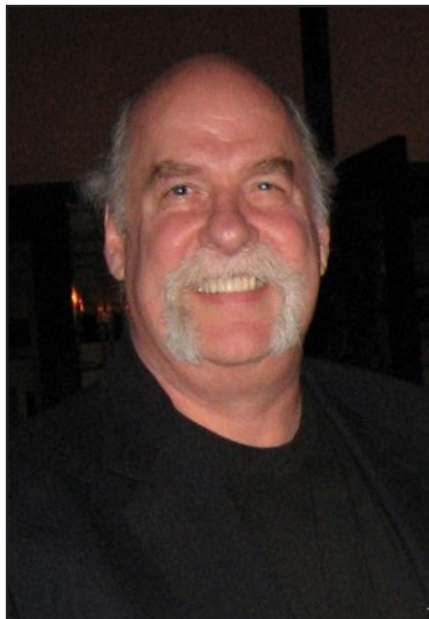
David Abrahamson's (Northwestern University) *The Routledge Handbook of Magazine Research: The Future of the Magazine*, co-edited with Marcia Prior-Miller, was published in soft cover in August. With 33 chapters by 39 authors from seven countries, the volume explores the digital challenges and opportunities that face the magazine world, offering readers a deeper understanding of the magazine form, as well as the sociocultural realities it both mirrors and influences.

In May, Abrahamson was a member of a committee overseeing a successful Ph.D. defense at the University of Texas at Austin; Miki Tanikawa of Akita University in Japan was the author of "Communicating Foreign Cultures: The Workings of Cultural Pegs in International Reporting and Communication."

W. Joseph Campbell (American University, seen above with AEJMC "Order in the Court" panelists) examined prominent media myths of Watergate in an op-ed in the *Baltimore Sun* in the run-up to the 45th anniversary of the Watergate break-in in June. Campbell also spoke about the myths of Watergate on Wisconsin Public Radio. And he placed President Trump's tumultuous summer in historical contexts in an interview with the *Toronto Globe & Mail* in July.

Teri Finneman (South Dakota State University) will receive an award for her paper, "The Greatest of Its Kind Ever Witnessed in America": The Press and the 1913 Women's March on Washington," at the 2017 AJHA conference in Little Rock. Finneman

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.



David Abrahamson

also recently was a guest on a podcast, "The Electorette," where she discussed her book, "Press Portrayals of Women Politicians, 1870s-2000s."

Tim Gleason (University of Wisconsin Oshkosh) is now serving as acting director of Interactive Web Management at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh after completing his term as chair of the Department of Journalism. IWM is an interdisciplinary program involving journalism, marketing, computer science, and information systems.

Kristin Gustafson (University of Washington-Bothell) was promoted from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer in September. She also co-published: "Visually Framing Press Freedom and Responsibility of a Massacre: Photographic and Graphic Images in Charlie Hebdo's Newspaper Front Pages Around the World" in *Visual*

Communication Quarterly 23(3). An earlier version of the article received second place for the 2015 faculty award in AEJMC's Visual Communication Division.

Gustafson and Amber Roessner (University of Tennessee, Knoxville) were among 47 women from colleges and universities across the nation to be named a Kopenhagen Center Fellow of the Lillian Lodge Kopenhagen Center for the Advancement of Women in Communication at the 100th Convention of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in Chicago in August.

Elliott King's (Loyola) Best Practices in Planning Strategically for Online Education will be published in October by Routledge.

Will Mari's (Northwest University) article, "Unionization in the American Newsroom, 1930 to 1960," was accepted to the *Journal of Historical Sociology*. It examines the American Newspaper Guild's impact on working conditions, building on the scholarship of labor historians such as Bonnie Brennan and Hanno Hardt.

Mari also signed a contract with Routledge for its *Disruptions* series, edited by Bob Franklin of *Journalism Studies*. Inspired by the work of Susan Keith, Jonathan Coopersmith, Michael Stamm and others and titled, *A History of Disruptive Journalism Technologies*, this short monograph will trace the pre-digital antecedents to our present newsroom tools, including fax, radio and early electro-mechanical computer technologies, and their impact on rank-and-file

News and Notes

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news workers.

David T. Z. Mindich (Temple University) became chair of the journalism department at Temple University's Klein College of Media and Communication in July. This follows 21 years at Saint Michael's College in Vermont. In 2016, Mindich wrote a widely quoted article for the Columbia Journalism Review called "For Journalists Covering Trump, a Murrow Moment." In 2017, Mindich appeared on BackStory to tell the story of Ida B. Wells and her contribution to journalism. The episode is called



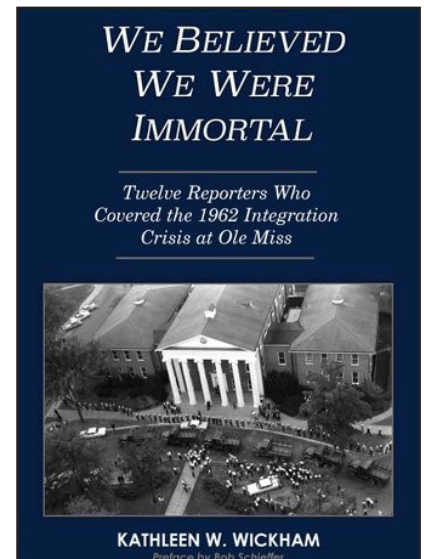
Amber Roessner

"Behind the Bylines: Advocacy Journalism in America."

Amber Roessner (University of Tennessee, Knoxville) was honored with the American Journalism Historians Association's 2017 Award for Excellence in Teaching. She will receive the award at the American Journalism Historians Association's annual conference in Little Rock, Ark., in October.

Katie Beardsley and Carrie Teresa (Niagara University) co-authored "The Journey from 'Just Us' to Some 'Justice': Ideology and Advocacy, the New York Amsterdam News, and the Central Park Jogger Story," which appears in the latest edition of American Periodicals. You can find the article at this link: <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/668549>.

Kathleen Wickham (The University of Mississippi) has published *We Believed We Were Immortal: Twelve Reporters Who Covered the 1962 Integration Crisis at Ole Miss* with a preface written by Bob Schieffer. The book appears on the 55th anniversary of the 1962 crisis at Ole Miss and traces the footsteps of 12 American journalists, including Claude Sitton of The New York Times; Karl Fleming, Newsweek; Sidna Brower, Daily Mississippian student editor, Moses Newson, of the Baltimore



Kathleen W. Wickham's newest book, "We Believed We Were Immortal."

Afro-American, CBS reporter Dan Rather, Richard Valeriani of NBC, Michael Dorman of Newsday, freelance photographer Flip Schulke, Fred Powledge of the Atlanta Journal/Constitution, Texas videographer Gordon Yoder, Dorothy Gilliam of The Washington Post, and Neal Gregory of the Memphis Commercial Appeal. It also examines the unsolved murder of French reporter Paul Guihard, the only journalist killed during the civil rights movement. Published by Yoknapatawpha Press, the book is available at yoknapatawphapress.com.



History Division members enjoy a night on the town in Chicago during their social hour.

Get to know your members with Will Mari

Name: Yong Volz

Where you work: University of Missouri, School of Journalism

Where you got/are getting your Ph.D.: University of Minnesota

Current favorite class: Qualitative Research Methods

Current research project: Media Treatment of Political Women across the Globe; Collective Identity and Associational Lives of Women Journalists

Fun fact about yourself: I never attended law school but managed to pass the Chinese bar exam.



Name: Melita M. Garza

Where you work: Texas Christian University

Where you got/are getting your Ph.D.: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Current favorite class: Historical Development of the Mass Media

Current research project: I am working on several projects, including an oral history of journalists who were at the forefront of reporting on the Long and Wide Civil Rights Movement.

Fun fact about yourself: In 2002, received 19,302 votes in an international election of fellow alumni worldwide, which earned me a seat on the Harvard Alumni Association Board of Directors.



Name: Madeleine (Maddie) Liseblad

Where you work: Arizona State University

Where you got/are getting your Ph.D.: Arizona State University

Current favorite class: Intro to editing (copy editing) because I enjoy the challenge of making that course exciting for students

Current research project: The role of American consultants in the privatization and development of television news broadcasting in the United Kingdom.

Fun fact about yourself: I was born and raised in Sweden and first came to the U.S. as a 16-year-old foreign exchange student.



Name: Mike Conway

Where you work: Indiana University

Where you got/are getting your Ph.D.: University of Texas at Austin

Current favorite class: History of Journalism

Current research project: Contested Ground: "The Tunnel" and the Struggle Over Television News in Cold War America

Fun fact about yourself: Milton Berle, "Mr. Television," once cussed me out on location just as he was going live on television.



Achieving deep work while dissertating

At dinner when I was thinking of starting doctoral work, the provost of a nearby college warned me, “Never list yourself as a Ph.D. before your dissertation is finished. A.B.D. (all but dissertation) doesn’t count.”

This collegial but ominous academic gatekeeper had earned his degrees at Georgetown and Notre Dame, and he forcefully defended the designation. I got the message: When the time came, finish my dissertation.

Well, now I’m writing my dissertation, and, as AEJMC History Division professors know, writing a dissertation in the historical method can seem overwhelming.

In the midst of my historical uncertainty, a serendipitous find is helping me finish my work. Cal Newport’s “Deep Work: Rules for Focused Success in a Distracted World” (New York, NY: Grand Central Publishing, 2016, 295 pages) is leading to precious progress on my dissertation. My hope is that it can help you, too.

Newport is probably best-known for a TED talk suggesting we quit social media for better productivity, and that is a supporting argument in this book. Yet, Newport’s book reaches much deeper, and his story is compelling for academics in training: Many of his examples come from university professors and his strongest evidence in support of deep work is his publication of nine peer-reviewed papers in one year and achievement of tenure while stopping work every day at 5:30 p.m.

What is deep work? The ability to maintain intense concentration on an idea or activity for hours at a time. Deep work is not another name for



Christopher Frear
Co-grad Student Liaison
University of South Carolina

the concept of “flow” — losing track of time while working on a project. In Newport’s description, deep work is a skill we develop, and flow might happen during deep work but flow is a subset of all deep work. More importantly, deep work is rare even as it becomes increasingly valuable in the knowledge economy. In light of its importance, deep work is a pathway to a fulfilling academic career. After all, most of us lined up in this queue because we like thinking closely and carefully about a topic.

Why should we work deeply? Most importantly, deep work is effective for helping graduate students achieve critical goals: dissertation completion, article publication, tenure, and an impact on the field. Academic life can be highly quantified — course reviews for teaching and author metrics on Google Scholar for research — giving it a clarity that few jobs have outside

Deep work is a pathway to a fulfilling academic career.

the trades. Newport’s book provides a structure in working toward those goals.

How do we reach deep work? This is where Newport’s suggestion to quit social media fits in, but it is only one tactic among several and not among his most important structural recommendations. To start deep work, Newport advises that we consider first where we can think and write with intense concentration, consider how to structure the time we spend, then establish a daily routine. Newport is best at providing the nuts and bolts — and the assembly instructions — for pursuing deep work. He never leaves me wondering how I can apply his ideas.

Newport’s advice is characteristically helpful for narrowing our focus to our most important goals and the few activities that will support those

goals. His method of evaluating the importance of a task: How long would it take to train an intelligent recent college graduate to complete the task? In addition to instructing us how to achieve and sustain deep work, Newport explains how to limit shallow, logistical work.

As usual with well-tested advice, several of the suggestions seem obvious only in retrospect. A few unexpected gems from Deep Work:

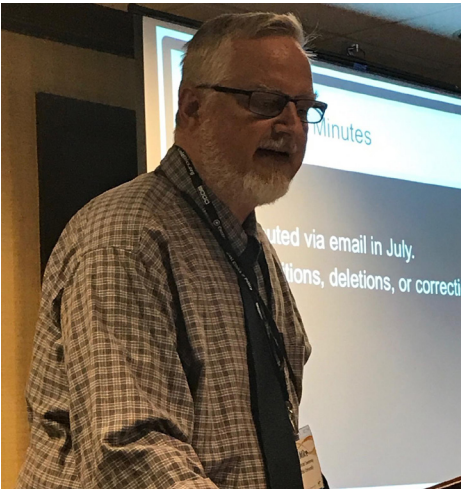
- Take a walk in the woods when you need to take a break. An experiment at the University of Michigan showed that a walk in the woods, no matter the weather, was the most advantageous in helping students work out a complicated problem.
- Think more intentionally about spending your leisure time. Develop a skill unrelated to your field rather than watch television, spend time in person with friends rather than on Facebook, read novels rather than scrolling a news app.
- Learn to write “closed loop” emails, borrowing from productivity guru David Allen. Rather than quickly popping off a short note, structure an inquiry to a professor or a reply to the graduate director that makes clear the project and the next step required for progress. When trying to arrange a meeting, list the possible open dates and treat a reply as confirmation.

For graduate students, Newport offers a path ahead to a sustainable, satisfying career. The short book is worth the time to read it.

My little secret: The old saying, “To learn, teach,” applies here. I used this column to consolidate my understanding of deep work as it applies to academic work.

AEJMC Chicago 2017

Members of the History Division convened in Chicago in early August for the AEJMC 100th Annual Convention.



Mike Sweeney ends his reign as division chair.



Division members applaud Sweeney for his service.



Members enjoy various social activities at the Museum of Broadcast Communications and the social hour.