

# The Cursor

FALL 2019

Uma Goyal, M.D.  
Radiation Oncology

  
Banner  
University Medicine

SKILLS  
*for*  
LIFE

Dr. Uma Goyal and  
other J-school grads  
use journalism tools  
in different careers



University of Arizona  
School of Journalism

# Journalism tools are transferable

**M**y family doctor majored in journalism. When I go in for a checkup, she always tells me how much her journalism training helps her every day in her medical practice. Journalism honed her communication skills, she says. It taught her how to think critically, conduct research, dig for answers, interview patients, listen carefully to their answers and write well.

Moreover, she is an ardent defender of a free press and its vital role in our democracy. She understands how relentless assaults on a free press have dangerous consequences. She supports journalism's role in holding the powerful accountable and shining light on the undercovered.



We hope our students become journalists, but if they don't, they can use the knowledge, principles and skills of good journalism in other ways, whether it's law or medicine, teaching history or running an airline. This important work has great social value too. Our graduates can develop content for NASA's website, craft informational brochures for the Cancer Society or join the Foreign Service.

As my colleague Bill Schmidt says of our graduates: "We know they will leave here steeped in the larger knowledge of why journalism is important, and we know they will be armed with the tools of sound journalism — the skepticism, the integrity, the empathy, the sense of fairness and ability to organize a clear narrative that will serve them (serve all of us), no matter what they do."

My doctor would wholeheartedly agree.

**Carol B. Schwalbe**  
*School of Journalism Director*  
 cschwalbe@email.arizona.edu

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Photo by Lexi Horsey

**COVER:** Dr. Uma Goyal, a 2008 School of Journalism graduate, uses her interviewing and writing skills as a professor in radiation oncology at Banner University Medical Center. *Story, page 14*

**ABOVE:** Lexi Horsey won third place in the school's spring 2019 Drew Gyorke photo contest for this image of UA women's basketball star Aari McDonald. More photos: [journalism.arizona.edu/Gyorke](http://journalism.arizona.edu/Gyorke)

THE CURSOR

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**THANK YOU:** The School of Journalism is grateful to the nearly 60 donors who contributed more than \$3,600 to a fall crowdfunding campaign to help students pay tuition and living expenses during unpaid summer internships.

# New profs, new plans

Retis maps bilingual journalism program; Guidi brings audio storytelling to mix

By **Andrés Domínguez**  
and **Melissa Vasquez**

**N**ew faculty member Jessica Retis is committed to developing a bilingual journalism program at the University of Arizona School of Journalism.

Ruxandra Guidi, another new faculty member, wants to help students improve their storytelling — a craft that has fascinated and driven her since her days growing up in Caracas, Venezuela.

Retis, an associate professor who grew up in Peru, comes from Cal State Northridge and specializes in the analysis of contemporary Latino diaspora and its media implications.

She's taught and conducted research in Mexico and Spain and has experience as a TV producer, scriptwriter and news anchor and in print journalism.

"I'm passionate about training open-minded and critically thinking journalists," Retis said. "I'm proud when I see my former students publishing stories and doing fantastic coverage."

Retis is developing courses, recruiting students and helping secure funding to start a UA bilingual journalism program, starting with an M.A. degree.

"This type of program," she said, "will help prepare journalists for the society we live in."

Retis, adviser of the school's National Association of Hispanic Journalists chapter, is vice president of the Binational Association of Communication Schools (BINACOM), which is



Photo by Mike Chesnick

Associate Professor Jessica Retis, left, chats with Assistant Professor of Practice Ruxandra Guidi.

bringing its annual international conference to the J-school and UA campus April 17-18.

Guidi, an assistant professor of practice, grew up in Venezuela and has been a freelance reporter, editor and teacher in the Los Angeles area.

"A lot of the things that I would hear (from friends and family) and on the radio and newspapers ... were the early seeds of my interest in journalism and current affairs," said Guidi, who immigrated to the U.S. at 14 with her mother.

Guidi's reporting for public radio, magazines and multimedia outlets has taken her throughout Latin America and along the U.S. and Mexican border. She was awarded a fellowship for women in documentary and journalism from Duke University in 2018.

She succeeds retired Professor Terry Wimmer as the in-

structor and editor for Arizona Sonora News, the school's capstone media course.

"I'm really excited about coming up with projects that we can do together as a class," such as podcasting or a long-form magazine with a theme, "encouraging students to pursue their own approach to storytelling," Guidi said.

In the spring, one of her classes plans to collaborate with the Patagonia Regional Times on a project examining the effects of mining in southern Arizona and along the border.

Both professors see a need for more diverse, investigative and collaborative reporting.

"I'm excited about having these talented, dynamic professors inspire our students," Director Carol Schwalbe said.

» Read full stories on each professor at [journalism.arizona.edu/retis](http://journalism.arizona.edu/retis) and [journalism.arizona.edu/guidi](http://journalism.arizona.edu/guidi)

## JESSICA RETIS

**Title:** Associate professor

**Research focus:** Contemporary Latino diaspora and its media implications

**Teaching:** Cal State Northridge for 11 years, universities in Spain and Mexico.

**Journalism experience:** TV producer, scriptwriter and news anchor. Wrote for *Fin de Semana*, *Universal* and *Ojo* in Peru; *Revista Mexicana de Comunicación*, *El Nacional* and *Reforma* in Mexico

**Education:** Ph.D. Contemporary Latin America, *Universidad Complutense de Madrid*; M.A. Political Science, *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México*; B.A. Communications, *Universidad de Lima*

**Did you know?** Retis worked for Lima High School's student media in Peru. "I knew I was passionate about reporting and writing and telling stories," she said.

## RUXANDRA GUIDI

**Title:** Assistant professor of practice

**Expertise:** Audio storytelling, longform reporting

**Journalism experience:** Contributing editor, *High Country News*; freelance reporter at *The Atlantic*, *Pacific Standard*, *BBC's The World*, *Latino USA*, *The Guardian* and *NPR*. Board president, nonprofit *Homelands Productions*

**Education:** M.A. Journalism, *University of California, Berkeley*; B.A. Political Science and Latin American Studies, *Rutgers University*

**Did you know?** Guidi and her husband, photographer *Bear Guerra*, collaborate under the name *Fonografía Collective* ([fonografiacollective.com](http://fonografiacollective.com)), which tells local and international stories about human rights, the environment and social issues.

## DIFFERENCE

**David Cuillier** was elected president of the National Freedom of Information Coalition and became editor of the new Journal of Civic Information. He completed a sabbatical, including revising his "Art of Access" textbook and giving a research presentation in Rio de Janeiro.

**Geoff Ellwand** gave students résumé and portfolio advice at Pizza & Portfolios and served as a judge for the Mark Finley Gold Pen news writing contest.

**Rogelio Garcia** started a new documentary feature film with producer Frances Causey about mental health and military veterans. He was the director of photography for Causey's 2018 film "Is Your Story Making You Sick?"

**Celeste González de Bustamante** is the new director of the school's Center for Border & Global Journalism, which focuses on the challenges facing journalists in peril around the world, through training, research and outreach. She also launched FronteraBeat, a high school mentoring program through which UA journalism students are helping high school students in Nogales, Arizona, and Nogales, Sonora.

**Ruxandra Guidi** participated in a panel discussion at the Women's Rural Summit in Greenville, South Carolina. She also won an Al Litzow grant to buy new audio recording kits for students' podcasting projects.

**Susan Knight** worked on C-SPAN's social media desk in July in Washington, D.C. – one of six visiting professors awarded a fellowship from the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) and the Scripps Howard Foundation. She also was a writing coach for the Donald W. Carson Journalism Diversity Workshop for Arizona High School Students and advised the school's student clubs.

**Linda Lumsden's** book "Social Justice Journalism: Social Movement Media from Abolition to #womensmarch" was published in July. She also authored the lead article for American Journalism's special issue "Suffrage and the Media" in April and spoke in May at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

**Michael McKisson**, associate director and director of undergraduate studies, won a Rocky Mountain Emmy Award as part of Arizona Public Media's sports story "When Sarah Runs." He's helped train five students who earned their drone licenses and will offer a drone journalism class open to all UA students in the spring.

**Kim Newton's** photo titled "Traditional Wedding," a 2013 image taken at Meiji Shrine in Tokyo, will be exhibited during



Photo by Mike Chesnick

School of Journalism faculty, from left: Jeannine Relly, Geoff Ellwand, Jessica Retis, David Cuillier, Celeste González de Bustamante, Maggy Zanger, Michael McKisson, Carol Schwalbe, Kim Newton, Susan Swanberg, Susan Knight, Ruxandra Guidi and William Schmidt. Not pictured: Rogelio Garcia, Linda Lumsden, Mort Rosenblum and Nancy Sharkey.

the UA Center for Creative Photography's "Qualities of Light" exhibition through May 9 and will be archived there. Also, he and director Man-jin Kim accepted a Gold World Medal for best documentary in current affairs at the New York Festivals TV & Film Awards – a month after "Witnesses to Democracy: The Journey of a Mother and a Photographer" was shown at the school's Journalism on Screen series.

**Jeannine Relly** is serving as director of global initiatives for the school's Center for Border & Global Journalism and working on global partnerships and grants. She co-authored a Journalism Studies article on "Human Security as a Conceptual Framework: The Case of Palestinian Journalists" with Carol Schwalbe and two others.

**Jessica Retis** was elected chair of the International Association for Media and Communication Research's Diaspora and Media Working Group for a four-year term. She and Celeste González de Bustamante also received the Latino/Latin American Research Award from the Association for Education in

Journalism and Mass Communication's International Communication Division for their paper "Latina Millennials in a Post-TV Network World."

**Mort Rosenblum** taught a community class, "Keeping Tabs on a Mad World: A Correspondent's Guide to Global News That Matters," and introduced CNN's Christiane Amanpour at the Zenger Award for Press Freedom lunch.

**William Schmidt** led the James W. Foley Freedom Run and worked on the fourth and fifth seasons of co-hosting Journalism on Screen at The Loft Cinema. The series, which has shown 23 films since 2015, brings nationally known authors and reporters to join discussions about the challenges facing journalism.

**Carol Schwalbe**, school director, was promoted to full professor and received the Provost Award for Innovation in Teaching, which was established this year "to acknowledge outstanding faculty whose teaching portfolios and instructional effectiveness merit special recognition." The award comes with \$1,000 to apply toward teaching innovations.

**Nancy Sharkey** helped evaluate nearly 200 stories written by beginning reporting students and graduating seniors as part of the school's assessment standards. Sharkey, who took a professional development leave in the fall, also introduced the school's Journalism on Screen showings of "Anthropocene: The Human Epoch" and "The Post."

**Susan Swanberg** received the school's Hugh and Jan Harelson Excellence in Teaching Award and moderated a panel discussion at the Journalism on Screen premiere of "Anthropocene: The Human Epoch" at The Loft. Her manuscript "Wounded in Mind" about Science Service writer Marjorie Van de Water was published in the journal Media History.

**Maggy Zanger**, director of graduate studies, moderated a discussion with students and author-journalist James Verini and moderated a panel on "Fixing Journalism: Local Journalists and International Correspondents in Mexico's Zones of Conflict." She and Jeannine Relly also organized an all-clubs diversity discussion and mixer.

# ‘Go figure it out’: Wimmer mantra endures

*“I never gave gold stars to my students for participating. You had to make the effort.”*

— Terry Wimmer

By Geoff Ellwand

**M**aking the effort proved to be a driving principle behind Terry Wimmer’s career as a journalist and educator.

Wimmer retired from the School of Journalism after the 2018-19 school year, having set students “on the road to truth,” as he put it, for 13 years while advising Arizona Sonora News, the Tombstone Epitaph and El Independiente.

“My students are at Reuters. They’re at The New York Times, the LA Times. They’re at azcentral,” he said. “They’re at papers around this country.”

Marisa Gerber, a 2011 grad and now a reporter at the Los Angeles Times, remembers complaining to Wimmer in a long email after one of her sources bailed on an interview.

“His response was short. Something like: ‘I know it’s hard! Go figure it out!’” Gerber said. “I still think of his email every time an interview falls through or something goes wrong with a story and I feel bad for myself. I hear his voice in my ear: ‘Go figure it out!’”

Wimmer’s first taste of journalism came in the eighth grade. His teacher told him to take his Career Day essay to the Princeton (West Virginia) Times. Up until then, he had no idea where life would take him. “I knew I didn’t want to be a coal miner. My father died in the mines when I was 9.”

Wimmer recalled stepping into the



Photo by Mike Chesnick

Terry Wimmer, holding court in the Marshall Building “fishbowl” (Room 322), taught the school’s capstone classes for 13 years.

offices of the Times. “It was glorious bedlam. Phones were ringing, people were yelling, things were happening, typewriters clacking, wire machines going.” He stammered his name to the editor. According to Wimmer, she changed almost every word in his story, but the next day he had his first byline.

“I was hooked,” he said.

Wimmer graduated from West Virginia University in 1976 and landed a reporting job at the Charleston Gazette. After moving to the Orange County Register in California, he uncovered “the story that changed my life.” As the health and technology editor, he and staffers reported that some doctors in the fertility clinic at the University of California Irvine were selling eggs retrieved without the donors’ full knowledge or consent.

The story resulted in investigations, state Senate hearings and 128 legal

settlements totaling more than \$20 million. Several physicians were indicted. In 1996, he and the Register won the Pulitzer Prize in investigative reporting.

Wimmer became a journalism professor at the University of Alaska. Next, he won a fellowship to the University of North Carolina. In 2000, after 28 months of study (“the hardest I ever worked”), he got his Ph.D. Then he taught journalism at West Virginia, his alma mater.

But “the huge power of advertising and public relations programs” troubled him, he said, so in 2006 he moved to the UA J-school, impressed by its “just journalism” motto. “I wanted to teach a core of students how to practice this kind of journalism. When they got it, I could feel it.”

“I have tried to steer them the best I possibly could,” Wimmer wrote in his final editorial to readers of The Tombstone Epitaph last December.

## OTHER FORMER FACULTY: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

**Edith Auslander** received the University of Arizona Foundation’s Leo B. Hart Humanitarian Award in May. A former president of the Arizona Board of Regents, Auslander was named in 2003 to coordinate the university’s diversity initiatives. She also established the Arizona Assurance Scholarship program in 2008 and helped provide more than 6,000 students a chance to graduate from the university debt-free.

**Ford Burkhardt** writes and edits for the Arizona Alumni magazine and for AARP publications. He also writes for Optics.org and the photonics magazine SPIE Professional.

**Virginia Escalante** continues to teach writing at San Diego City College.

**Bruce Itule**, a Journalism Advisory Council member, is helping run a school event showcasing Sen. Barry Goldwater’s photos March 21, 2020, at 11 a.m. at Tempe’s Salt River Project PERA facility, 1 E. Continental Drive.

**Jim Johnson** donated his eight books to the J-school, including his most recent, “The Black Bruins,” about UCLA athletes who faced discrimination in the 1930s.

**Jim Mitchell** is working on his fourth mystery novel in his “Brinker” series about a Tucson private investigator.

**Addie Rimmer** is a doctoral candidate in the Adult Learning and Leadership program at Columbia University and works at Workforce Opportunity Services.

**Jay Rochlin** continues to work on pencil and pen-and-ink drawings. His website is at [rochlin.wixsite.com/drawings](http://rochlin.wixsite.com/drawings)

**Jacqueline Sharkey**, former school director, continues to support the school. Her longtime partner, Bill Wing, died Aug. 4. (*Obit, page 19*)

» **Calling all former faculty:** Please let us know what you are doing by emailing outreach coordinator Mike Chesnick at [mchesnick1@email.arizona.edu](mailto:mchesnick1@email.arizona.edu)

# Jandu wins Don Bolles Fellowship

**P**riya Jandu dreams of being a political reporter in Washington one day, so she's excited about covering the Arizona Legislature in the spring as the school's 2020 Don Bolles Fellowship winner.

Jandu, a reporter on the investigation desk of the Arizona Daily Wildcat, will report from Phoenix for the school's Arizona Sonora News media service. The senior, who is double-majoring in journalism and political science, will work with Professor Susan Knight on story ideas and editing.

"I want to get a better understanding of how enacted legislation affects various populations throughout the state," Jandu said. "I know how the state Legislature theoretically functions, but it'll be interesting to see how efficient it is in practice."

Jandu also covered government for the Wildcat, including an Associated Students of the University of Arizona cultural forum during election season. "It was interesting to see students actually show up, participate in the forum and hold their future executive officers accountable," she said.

The Chandler (Arizona) High School graduate also has worked on a podcast about the herbal supplement kratom, which has been tied to overdose deaths in the U.S.

The fellowship is named after Don Bolles, an investigative reporter for The Arizona Republic who was killed in a car bombing in 1976. The award has been handed out by the UA School of Journalism since 1977.

"Don Bolles was a man who cared deeply about getting to the very bottom of the issues he covered, from land deals to bribery," said Erik Kolsrud, the 2018



Photo by Amy Bailey

Priya Jandu is on the investigation desk at the Daily Wildcat.

Bolles Fellow. "His dying words served to convict the man who killed him and opened up investigations that changed law in Arizona. He's an inspiration."

The fellowship is funded through an annual donation by the Armin and Esther Hirsch Foundation. Joni Hirsch Blackman ('82) is an author in Chicago.

In other student news:

- Shayne Tarquinio's Arizona Sonora News story on the Raging Sage coffee shop took first place in the 2019 Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Student Magazine Contest in the specialized business category.
- Alec White, the school's Outstanding Junior, landed a sports digital reporting job at the Arizona Daily Star.
- Rocky Baier and Mark Lawson won Arizona Press Club scholarships.
- Pascal Albright (fall 2018), Quincy Sinek (spring 2019) and Denali Keefe (fall 2019) won the Mark Finley Gold Pen Award for best beginning new writers.
- Marisa Latzman (spring 2019) and Kasey Adrian (fall 2018) took first place in the Drew Gyorke Photo Contest.

» Student awards: [journalism.arizona.edu/school-awards](http://journalism.arizona.edu/school-awards)

» Summer interns: [journalism.arizona.edu/summer19](http://journalism.arizona.edu/summer19)

# Daily Wildcat weathers move

**U**niversity officials found a suitable home for the Arizona Daily Wildcat and its television and radio entities after students, alumni, faculty and the school's Journalism Advisory Council wrote letters of concern to President Robert Robbins.

In spring, UA decided to move Arizona Student Media from the Park Student Union to make room for the UA Global Center without a fair replacement facility identified. Jasmine Demers, then editor-in-chief, and Student Media staffers sent a letter to Robbins, saying, "While we accept that we have to move, we refuse to be treated as though we don't matter."

By June, UA officials had found the Wildcat, KAMP Student Radio and UATV-3's daily operations an equitable home on the third floor of the University Services Building, just west of the Tucson Marriott University Park hotel.

The Wildcat's new digs are closer to the J-school's Marshall Building, "which is great for students majoring in journalism," said Brett Fera ('05), Arizona Student Media adviser. "I'd like to thank all alumni for not only taking the time to write letters and help spread the word, but also for reminding the current student media staff that what we do is valuable."

Students were sad to leave Park Student Union, but editor-in-chief Nicholas Trujillo said, "With the new space comes the opportunity to ... start a new culture."

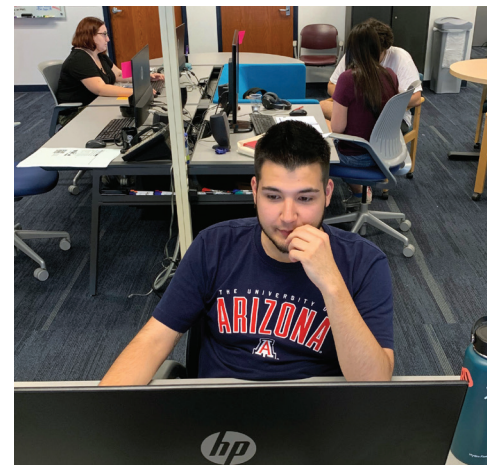


Photo by Amy Bailey

Reporter Jesse Tellez works in the new Wildcat newsroom.



Photo by Michael McKisson

From left, Ava Garcia, Rocky Baier, Erin Thomson and Phillip Bramwell collaborated with editors at the Star newsroom last spring.

# Product development class works with Star on projects

As newspapers scramble to develop new business models and products, four UA School of Journalism students helped the Arizona Daily Star find new ways to engage with the community.

Erin Thomson ('19) and senior Phillip Bramwell created "Tucson Access Guide," a mobile phone news app that gives people with physical disabilities details and reviews of accessibility at restaurants and tourist destinations.

Ava Garcia ('19 M.A.) and senior Rocky Baier produced "Tu Salud Tucson" ("Your Health Tucson"), a bilingual mobile website with health resources for Latinx families.

The four conducted more than 100 empathy interviews with the public to develop their projects. In turn, the students hope those citizens will spread the word about the products and remain sources for feedback.

"We are getting to a deeper level with people ... trying to help the community," said Thomson, who suffered a spinal-cord injury in 2009.

Baier said, "People thanked us for making" the health-care site, "grateful that something like this was going to exist. Health organizations had the

same sentiments, thanking us for our work and even offering to pay us for our product."

Baier, a senior, interned at The Arizona Republic over the summer.

"Product development is cool because it can help newsrooms (financially) as well as the community," she said.

The projects evolved from the school's Product Development in Journalism class taught by Professor Michael McKisson and a \$35,000 grant that he secured from the national Online News Association.

Each student received \$4,700 to work with Arizona Daily Star Product Manager Becky Pallack and Director of Digital Innovation Rob Wisner. The two teams demonstrated their projects to Star Editor Jill Jordan Spitz ('86) and other executives at the newspaper.

McKisson said there's interest on the Star's part in continuing the product development partnership with the school.

"The students made a great case for both the importance of the products that they've created and also the sustainability and viability from a business perspective," he said. "And the projects really opened their eyes about alternatives in journalism."

# What's new?

Undergraduate students now have a third option — digital journalism — for earning a specialization on their transcripts and diplomas. Undergrads also can specialize in broadcast journalism or global journalism. (M.A. students can specialize in digital, global or science and environmental journalism.)

"The digital specialization includes some amazing classes like product development, data reporting, mobile application development and advanced multimedia production," Professor Michael McKisson said. "These classes will help students stand out and get a job."

And here's a look at some new classes:

## FULL STEM AHEAD

**Course:** Science and the News

**Description:** Students will learn how media outlets cover science and how scientists see the pros and cons of science media.

## MEDIA COLLABORATIONS

**Course:** Arizona Sonora News

**Description:** Students will examine the effects of mining in southern Arizona for the Patagonia Regional Times and participate in other reporting projects with Arizona Public Media and the Arizona Daily Star.

## FOOD JOURNALISM

**Course:** The literature of growing, cooking and eating our meals

**Description:** Food can be deeply personal. Students will discuss assumptions and perspectives, from restaurant reviews and nutritional news to culture and race.



Photo by Michael McKisson

Student Rocky Baier practices her drone videography skills.

## DRONE ZONE

**Course:** Become a licensed drone pilot

**Description:** Students will learn how drone controls work, videography techniques, rules and laws, preparing them to take the FAA's drone license test.

## FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

**Course:** Sports Broadcast Reporting

**Description:** Students will learn how to cover football and other sporting events for television/radio — from sideline reporting to interviewing athletes and coaches.

# Take 5



Photo courtesy of school's SPJ chapter

**1 SPJ CHAPTER AWARD:** Led by (from left) Ava Garcia, Dalal Radwan and Pascal Albright, the University of Arizona Society of Professional Journalists was named the outstanding Region 11 campus chapter among schools in Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada. The three students, who attended a conference in Las Vegas, "dedicated their personal time to planning activities to engage their classmates in learning more about the importance of journalism in a democracy," said Professor Susan Knight, adviser. The club held a community forum ("Satire in the Age of Fake News"), designed press freedom buttons as a fundraiser with messages such as "Journalists Are Not the Enemy" and participated in the James W. Foley Freedom Run. "Journalism is all about unity and working together to tell and defend the truth," said Albright, chapter president, "and I believe the unity and closeness of the clubs at the J-school do a good job of holding to that."



Photo by Michael McKisson

**2 JUST DESSERTS:** Some graduates from the 2019 spring class posed for a photo after the school's annual award ceremony. M.A. grad Jasmine Demers received the top award, the Philip Mangelsdorf Award for Outstanding Newsperson of the Year.



Photo by Mike Chesnick

**3 NAHJ STUDENTS HONOR SLAIN LATINX JOURNALISTS:** Rose Garcia of the school's National Association of Hispanic Journalists chapter adds to a Día de Muertos altar in October. The NAHJ club, under Prof. Jessica Retis, has a dozen members.



Photo by Mike Chesnick

**4 FOLEY RUN:** Students (from left) Marison Bilagody, Mandy Loader and Conor Villines start the James W. Foley Freedom Run and Walk in October. The school contributed \$550 in donations and registration fees to the Foley Legacy Foundation.



Photo by Mike Chesnick

**5 JOURNALISM ON SCREEN MILESTONE:** Vanessa Ontiveros of the Arizona Daily Wildcat interviews Profs. Nancy Sharkey and William Schmidt, organizers of the series, which marked its 20th film last March and is in its fifth season at The Loft.



RECIPIENTS

Since 1954, the UA School of Journalism has given the John Peter and Anna Catherine Zenger Award for Press Freedom to a journalist who fights for freedom of the press and the people's right to know.

- 2019 – Christiane Amanpour, CNN
- 2018 – Carmen Aristegui, CNN en Español
- 2017 – Dean Baquet, The New York Times
- 2016 – Dana Priest, The Washington Post
- 2015 – Kathy Gannon, The Associated Press
- 2014 – Paul Steiger, ProPublica
- 2013 – Jonathan Randal, The Washington Post
- 2012 – Rocío Gallegos Rodríguez & Sandra Rodríguez Nieto, El Diario de Juárez
- 2009 – Tom Arviso Jr., The Navajo Times
- 2007 – Jerry Mitchell, (Miss.) Clarion-Ledger
- 2005 – Bill Moyers, broadcast journalist
- 2003 – Vanessa Leggett, freelance writer
- 2001 – Lou Boccardi and The Associated Press
- 2000 – Paul K. McMasters, Freedom Forum
- 1998 – U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vermont
- 1997 – Mark Goodman, Student Press Law Center
- 1996 – Nat Hentoff, The Washington Post
- 1995 – Ben Bagdikian, media scholar
- 1994 – Investigative Reporters & Editors
- 1993 – Jane E. Kirtley, Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press
- 1992 – Helen Thomas, United Press International
- 1991 – Peter Arnett, CNN
- 1990 – Terry A. Anderson, The Associated Press
- 1989 – Robert C. Maynard, Oakland Tribune
- 1988 – Jean H. Otto, Rocky Mountain News
- 1987 – Eugene L. Roberts Jr., Philadelphia Inquirer
- 1986 – John R. Finnegan, St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press & Dispatch
- 1985 – Thomas Winship, The Boston Globe



Photos by Nick Smallwood  
Hilde Lysiak, now 13, and Christiane Amanpour

# School honors Amanpour, Lysiak

Christiane Amanpour received the Zenger Award for Press Freedom, and reporting sensation Hilde Lysiak accepted a Junior Zenger before more than 300 people Sept. 20 at the campus Marriott. Attacks on the press “go to the heart of the most important currency in journalism — credibility,” said Amanpour, CNN’s chief international anchor. “I do worry because you don’t know how effective this constant assault will be ... but we’re resilient and the truth always wins out.” In his introduction, Prof. Mort Rosenblum said Amanpour “has the guts and ingenuity to wade into mayhem anywhere ... and then get to the heart of the most complex stories.”

» See videos and photos at [journalism.arizona.edu/Zenger2019](http://journalism.arizona.edu/Zenger2019)



University President Robert C. Robbins gave Amanpour the Zenger Award. Afterward, he attended a Q&A with students at the J-school.



“It is what I am and who I am,” Christiane Amanpour said about her slogan, “Be truthful, not neutral.”



Dean JP Jones gave Lysiak her award and a UA J-school notebook. “Reporting is one of the noblest professions,” said Lysiak, who began Orange Street News at age 8.



Student Rocky Baier, left, and 2018 M.A. graduate Zeina Cabrera-Peterson sat at the head table with Amanpour.

- 1984 – Tom Wicker, The New York Times
  - 1982 – Fred W. Friendly, Columbia Graduate School of Journalism
  - 1981 – Paul S. Cousley, Alton (Ill.) Telegraph
  - 1980 – Walter Cronkite, CBS
  - 1979 – Jack C. Landau, Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press
  - 1978 – Robert H. Estabrook, Lakeville (Conn.) Journal
  - 1977 – Robert W. Greene, Newsday
  - 1976 – Donald F. Bolles, The Arizona Republic
  - 1975 – Seymour M. Hersh, The New York Times
  - 1974 – Thomas E. Gish, Mountain Eagle
  - 1973 – Katharine Graham, The Washington Post
  - 1972 – Dan Hicks Jr., Monroe County (Tenn.) Democrat
  - 1971 – The New York Times
  - 1970 – Erwin D. Canham, Christian Science Monitor
  - 1969 – J. Edward Murray, The Arizona Republic
  - 1968 – Wes Gallagher, The Associated Press
  - 1967 – John S. Knight, Knight Newspapers
  - 1966 – Arthur Krock, The New York Times
  - 1965 – Eugene C. Pulliam, The Arizona Republic and Phoenix Gazette
  - 1964 – John Netherland Heiskell, Arkansas Gazette
  - 1963 – James B. Reston, The New York Times
  - 1962 – John H. Colburn, Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch
  - 1961 – Clark R. Mollenhoff, Cowles
  - 1960 – Virgil M. Newton Jr., Tampa Tribune
  - 1959 – Herbert Brucker, Hartford Courant
  - 1958 – John Moss, U.S. House Government Information Subcommittee
  - 1957 – James R. Wiggins, The Washington Post and Times-Herald
  - 1956 – James S. Pope, Louisville Courier-Journal
  - 1955 – Basil L. Walters, Chicago Daily News and Knight Newspapers
  - 1954 – E. Palmer Hoyt, The Denver Post
- » Read more at [journalism.arizona.edu/zenger](http://journalism.arizona.edu/zenger)
- » Note: Some years, the award was not given.

The University of Arizona School of Journalism is grateful to the alumni, friends and foundations who supported the school during the last fiscal year (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019).

**ZENGER GIVING CIRCLE: GIFTS OF \$1,000 OR MORE**

- The Arizona Republic
- Margaret J. Barnett
- Jim ('84) and Kim Calle
- Dow Jones News Fund
- Shawn Pendley Fichtner '89
- John B. Freeman '73
- Gannett Co.
- Patty Gelenberg '71
- Armin and Esther Hirsch Foundation
- Carol Hubbard
- William Jamieson '65 and Community Foundation of Western North Carolina
- Little Chapel of All Nations
- Al Litzow '73
- Sam Ramirez '80
- Jon ('66) and Peggy Rowley
- Carol and Cecil Schwalbe
- Jacqueline Sharkey ('72) and Bill Wing
- Frank ('66) and Barbara Sotomayor
- Jane Swicegood
- UA College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
- UA Latin American Studies
- Rob and Jody Wilson (both '77) and Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program

**GIFTS OF \$500-\$999**

- Ballard Spahr Law Firm
- Ellen D. Barnes
- Gordon R. Brown '72
- Kyle M. Dillingham '08
- Lewis Diuguid
- Margaret Houghton
- Bruce '69 and Carol Itule
- Beverly L. Milkman '67
- William Murray '80
- Montine Rummel '05 and American Online Giving
- Arlene Scadron '75
- Ruth J. Tatter '72

**GIFTS OF \$101-\$499**

- Baltazar Ahumada
- Nadia Alvarez Mexia



Photo by Mike Chesnick

Alana Minkler, recipient of the Sandra Ann Kelly Ramirez Memorial Scholarship, chats with Sam Ramirez (right), his brother Billy and Suzanne Fender (Sandra's sister).

**Ramirez scholarship honors wife**

Undergrad student Alana Minkler received the inaugural Sandra Ann Kelly Ramirez Memorial Scholarship and met in October with Sam Ramirez ('80) and family members.

Ramirez started the scholarship to honor his late wife and benefit Native American students preparing for a career in journalism. Minkler, who is Navajo, is the investigative editor at the Arizona Daily Wildcat. Ramirez is wire editor for the Southern California News Group in Monrovia, California. Sandra, who died in 2016, was an Army Reserve lieutenant who graduated from the University of Maryland with a B.A. in Government.

"Sandy understood the importance of a free press," Sam said, and "advocated equality and fairness for all."



Jane Swicegood

**Swicegood starts exploration grant**

Thanks to Jane Swicegood, students can apply annually for a \$1,000 grant to produce investigative reports, long-form stories, podcasts, photo projects, documentaries or other work to broaden their portfolios. The new Jane Swicegood Student Exploration Grant can be applied to equipment, travel and research. "Jane wants her gift to make a difference for students," Director Carol Schwalbe said.

- Arizona Daily Star
- Sean Amour
- Raquel Baez Duran
- Colleen Bagnall
- Jo M. Barkley '86
- Anne Betteridge and Jalal Sadeghi
- David J. Bodney
- Betsy Bolding '62
- Paloma Boykin '09

- Bobbie Jo Buel ('79) and David Carter
- Dell Inc.
- Pam Drake
- Nann ('66) and Tony Durando
- Ryan C. Eigenbrode '01
- Geoff Ellwand
- Brett ('05) and Lindsey ('06) Fera
- Alan Fischer '80
- Lawrence Fleischman '73

- Elizabeth Gilbert '82
- Brenda Gregory
- Roberto Guzman
- Sara Hammond ('77) and David Fales
- Luz Hidalgo
- Susan R. Hymers '68
- Paula Johnston Kelso '91
- MacArthur Foundation
- Irene Manzando
- Pilar Martinez '92

- Kirstin and Tom Miller
- Bryan and Debra Motzkin
- Charlotte Mullis
- Jane Nakazato
- Kitty Jo Nelson '59
- Arthur Patterson '88
- Raytheon
- Lorraine Rivera ('04) and Victor Florez
- Salesforce.com
- Humberto Sarabia-Fulgencio



Al Litzow

**Litzow aids projects**

Al Litzow ('73) funded four faculty engagement grants totaling \$6,000 in 2019: Ruxandra Guidi, podcasting; Joe Ferguson, reporting project on evictions; Michael McKisson, drone training; and Linda Lumsden, journalists' oral histories. "We're indebted to Al for his support of innovative and engaging teaching," Director Carol Schwalbe said.

- William Schmidt
- Nicholas Smith
- Susan Swanberg '14 (M.A.)
- Heather Tilton
- Timothy Tilton
- C. Ann Tousley '76
- Armando Verdugo
- Pam White
- Mark and Helene Woodhams
- Janet Zinzer '61

**GIFTS UP TO \$100**

- Joseph Altman '99
- Anne E. Belli Perez '85
- Idalia Carbajal-Porter
- Geraldine ('67) and Andrew Costello
- Michael G. Downs '86
- Claudio Estrada
- La Monica Everett-Haynes '01
- Betty Fink
- Diana Freshwater
- Cheryl S. Gerken
- Nancy Guthrie '87
- Kate Harrison '12 M.A.
- Gwendoline Hernandez
- Daniel Hernandez-Cortes
- Richard and Mary-Anna Holden
- Hervey and Susan Hotchkiss
- Olivia Jackson '19
- Tremaine M. Jasper '95
- Juliette Jordan '93
- Cyrille Kane '58
- Steve Kelley '72
- Lisa Kiser
- Donovan Kramer Jr. '76
- Amy Labbe '03
- Chyrl Hill Lander '76
- Cynthia Laughlin '97
- Rachel Lepold '06
- Charles A. Loop '61
- Daniel J. Macy '93
- Miriam R. Morgan '76
- Ann M. Norton '83
- Cristina Ramirez
- Martha Rascon
- Christopher Robertson
- Gabriela Ruiz
- Entisar A. Sabbagh
- Mark J. Scarp
- Chris Stidley
- Hanna Strauss
- Michael (74) and Luann Trout
- Marisol Vindiola
- John D. Wagner '87
- Kathleen H. Wilson '71
- Patricia Zapor '80

# Paying it forward brings joy

By Frank O. Sotomayor

If you've donated regularly to our shared alma mater, the UA School of Journalism, thank you. If you have not, please allow me to politely call you out.

As an elderly dude — a really OLD journalism grad — let me be Frank. I'm upset by UA graduates who have benefited so much from their journalism education but have given back so little — or nothing — to the school. To me, that does not compute. The good news is that you can easily make things right.

Let's go back to you regular donors. Your donations provide scholarships for students, most of them in financial straits now that tuition has ballooned to \$11,300 a year (or \$35,300 for out-of-staters). Your donations enable the school to buy equipment and produce print, broadcast and on-line products that give the students hands-on training. Your donations help students to travel on reporting assignments, bring in out-of-town speakers and much more.

Your generosity is truly appreciated.

For non-donors, I'm sure you can come up with an excuse each year to take a pass on contributing. Maybe the dishwasher breaks down, the rent is hiked, a family member takes ill. Of course, you take care of those immediate needs. But let's be honest: A modest gift (say \$25-\$50) to the school isn't going to break your budget for the entire 12 months.

I value the school's mission. Since its beginning in 1951 as



Photo by Nick Smallwood

Frank O. Sotomayor, a 1966 journalism graduate and Daily Wildcat editor, worked for 35 years at the Los Angeles Times. He co-led a team of journalists who produced a landmark 1983 Latinos series that won the 1984 Pulitzer Prize for public service.

## JOURNALISM ADVISORY COUNCIL

The school welcomed four new members this fall: Valerie Cavazos, KGUN9-TV; Chris Kline, Arizona Broadcasters Association; Mikayla Mace ('17 M.A.), University of Arizona Communications; and Tim Thomas, Arizona Newspapers Association.

The other members are Jo M. Barkley, Hipolito Corella, John D'Anna, Scott Harelson, Bruce Itule, Chyrl Hill Lander, Jon Rowley, Pat Sallen, Nicole Santa Cruz, Arlene Scadron, Anne F. Segal, Frank O. Sotomayor (vice chair), Pam White (chair) and Mark Woodhams. Honorary members are Bobbie Jo Buel Carter, Michael Chihak, Patty Gelenberg, Rich Holden and Gerald Sass.

the Journalism Department, the program has taught both the essential skills and the fine points of newsgathering and news dissemination. It teaches accuracy (remember the automatic flunking grades?), balance, perspective and integrity. As times and tech have changed, the school has also made adjustments to give students a state-of-the-art education.

In today's world, many partisan outlets and voices masquerade as true "media." Therefore, a continuing corps of expertly trained, ethical journalists stands vital to our

nation's democracy.

Because of my belief in the school's mission and principles, I serve as vice chair of the Journalism Advisory Council, which provides support in fundraising and in conducting annual events, such as the Zenger Award for Press Freedom.

For the last 10 years, I've funded a scholarship for deserving students. This year, I'm also making a contribution to the school's operating fund. With the Arizona Legislature's budget cuts to the state's three universities, the school is responsible for

## HOW TO GIVE

**Online:** Go to the school's secure University of Foundation site at [tinyurl.com/SOJdonate](http://tinyurl.com/SOJdonate)

**Mail:** Use the envelope provided here. Postmark by Dec. 31 for 2019 tax benefits.

**More info:** Go to [journalism.arizona.edu/donate](http://journalism.arizona.edu/donate) for more details on recurring gifts, planned gifts, employer matching gifts and more. Or call 520-621-7556.

vital little things that keep its operations humming.

Please take a moment to remember your days in the journalism program and the dedicated past faculty members who made a difference in your career and in your life: Doug Martin, Sherman Miller, Phil Mangelsdorf, George Ridge, Jim Johnson, Jim Patten, Jacqueline Sharkey, Bill Greer and many others. You can also make a contribution to celebrate the work of a current instructor. Or how about doing a payback to the school by paying it forward?

This is your time to make things right — to thank the program that helped prepare you for your career. Please use the envelope in this magazine to ship your check, or go to [tinyurl.com/SOJdonate](http://tinyurl.com/SOJdonate) and use your credit card.

As I've followed the progress of past scholarship winners, I've felt great satisfaction in having provided a small measure of assistance. As I visit the school and see professors working with students eager to become journalists, I also feel satisfaction.

I'm hoping you will experience that feeling of satisfaction, too.

› Meet 7 alums who use their journalism degrees in other

# Kidney transplant



Photo courtesy of UC Davis

## › Lorena Oropeza, history professor

**L**orena Oropeza (1986) worked as a reporter at the Tucson Citizen, Arizona Daily Star and Orlando Sentinel before receiving her M.A. and Ph.D. in history from Cornell. She's now an assistant professor of history at the University of California, Davis, where she focuses on Chicano/Latino history.

**Journalism helps:** "I have always said that history is like journalism but with much longer deadlines. Both professions seek to tell a story about what happened. As a historian, I strive to write clear prose that is easily accessible to anyone who is interested in the topic, a craft I honed as a journalist."

**Courage:** "My latest book focuses on a Chicano movement leader, Reies López Tijerina. Without the interviewing experience I had picked up as a journalist, I would never have had the courage to knock on the door of his first wife, of his daughter and of Tijerina himself. I also used oral history interviews in my first book ("Raza Sí! ¡Guerra No!") about Chicano protest to the Vietnam War. They were critical because the archives were relatively thin on this topic."

**Diversity:** "Two of my favorite UA professors, Don Carson and Edith Auslander, shared a sterling commitment to making the newsroom reflect the demographics of the city it covered. As for the importance of diversity in education, the same ... applies to our understanding of the American past. Whose stories get included? Whose stories are even known? Only recently have U.S. historians paid attention to disability history. As it turns out, it's an excellent way to understand the priorities embedded in immigration policy 100 years ago or even today."

- › Tom Collins, clean elections head
- › Bryan Hance, technical support

**T**om Collins and Bryan Hance worked together on the Arizona Daily Wildcat. Twenty years later, the 1998 School of Journalism grads collaborated on a more serious project — Collins' health.

When he heard that his former colleague needed a kidney transplant, Hance wanted to help and underwent tests that confirmed he was a blood match. Collins, executive director of the bipartisan Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission in Phoenix, didn't know Hance would be the donor until about a week before the 2018 surgery.

"This was a miracle," Collins said. "It's the kind of thing only a guy like Bryan would do. He has a deep sense of justice and fairness and a commitment to the communities he's part of. To be a beneficiary of that is a blessing."

Both Hance and Collins are doing well following the transplant surgery.

"That there is a little part of me out there helping Tom just live his life, with so little long-term impact to me, it's unbelievable," said Hance, who provides technical support for privately owned superyachts in Portland, Oregon.

### How they use their J-degrees:

- Collins: "Journalism school turned out to be really formative for me, especially for law school (he earned his J.D. from UA in 2005). First, law school requires you to be able to write and synthesize lots of information quickly. And going to court the first time was far less intimidating having been there for RPA (Reporting Public Affairs).

"The school and Professor (Jim) Johnson were kind enough to allow me to be a Don Bolles Fellow in 1997, which gave me a first-hand look at the Legislature and the courts and in



Alums Tom Collins, left, and Bryan Hance stay in touch on Facebook.

reading legal documents. Those skills, plus luck, allowed me to get on at the Arizona Capitol Times, then the Tucson Citizen, covering state government. Reading documents and being able to write persuasively are crucial now."

- Hance: "I didn't expect to need my J-school skills once I transitioned into tech, but I use them every day. I'm usually communicating large amounts of complex information to many people at once, and the ability to do that quickly and clearly is invaluable. Just having the ability to simply write well — and rework other people's content — has been superhelpful."

careers — from higher ed and law to business and medicine

# reunites '98 alums



Photo courtesy of the Arizona Mirror

"I'm happy and grateful to have the opportunity to lead a fuller life," Collins said, and Hance said he's back to cycling and running.

## Projects keeping them busy:

- Collins: "We're working on voter education plans for the coming 2020 elections. One of our focuses will be on election security: ensuring voters know the facts and how to ensure their vote is cast and counted. Foreign meddling in Arizona elections is definitely something (we) care about. We want to build confidence in the election process."

- Hance: "On the side, I took a project I started in Arizona (stolenbicycleregistry.com) and merged it into BikeIndex.org in 2013. Bike Index is a nonprofit, community-run site for protecting and recovering people's bikes."

## Memory lane:

- Collins: "I thought taking RPA from Professor Susan Knight provided me a good, broad understanding of government. ... The department had a small-school feel to it, where you actually interacted with professors and students."

- Hance: "More than specific professors or classes, it was just meeting other people who were also well read and daily newspaper readers — a rarity, these days. ... I'd love to come back to Tucson some day. I spend some late nights secretly searching around for Tucson houses on Zillow, I won't lie."



Photo courtesy of JetBlue

## › Stephen A. Forte, airline executive

**S**tephen A. Forte (1978) started his career at United Airlines as a line pilot. He transitioned to various management roles, rising to senior vice president of flight operations. He's now vice president of JetBlue University in Orlando, Florida, responsible for all training at JetBlue Airways.

Forte, who also earned his MBA from UA, was the executive producer of the movie "Under the Eiffel Tower," and his motivational book, "Take Off! 21 High-Flying Secrets for Career Success," was published this summer.

**Training:** "At United, I spent a good deal of time writing pilot training manuals and programs. The ability to 'write tight,' being clear and concise, helped students learn faster, which saved out-of-schedule time."

**MBA:** "Much of my curriculum involved writing. Business people have limited time, and it is very important to make your case as quickly as possible."

**9-11:** "At United, I was responsible for 13,600 people. On Sept. 11, 2001, we had airplanes and crews stranded all over the world. They were relying on us to keep them informed during the crisis. Email and faxes weren't working, so I set up an 800-number that I updated daily for many weeks. It kept our people connected, and we continued to use it as a communications tool."

**Auto E!** "Professors Don Carson, George Ridge and others were responsible for teaching me the basics of journalism: Don't ever spell a name wrong, and you are allowed zero errors of fact. They reminded me of some of my early mentors in aviation, who taught me how to stay out of trouble in an airplane."

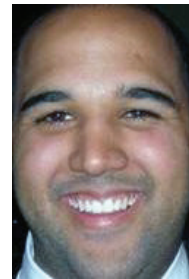
## › Tyler Smith, brewery owner and former NIKE manager

**T** Tyler Smith (2008) started Kitsune Beer Co., a microbrewery set to open in Cave Creek, Arizona, in summer 2020. Kitsune is a Japanese fox depicted in folklore as having knowledge and wisdom — much like Smith!

The former YMCA youth basketball coach spent six years as an executive for NIKE in Oregon after stints as a manager of operations for Old Navy and a marketing manager for Meritage Homes.

**Spreading the word:** “I have always highlighted my journalism background when going for all of my jobs, and it’s been very valuable. I’d love to show people that a newspaper isn’t the only way (to utilize a journalism degree).”

**Energizer:** One of Smith’s clients said on LinkedIn: “Tyler is an asset in all areas. A dependable, go-to source of support who always energizes those around him, needing little to no direction for the task at hand.”



## › Tessa Patterson, law school student

**T**essa Patterson (2017) doesn’t fear the rigors of law school after completing internships with KGUN-TV, two magazines and the offices of the governor and Sen. John McCain. Oh, and she also was a science writer at UA, a media specialist for a drilling company and founder of a cookie business at age 13 in Tempe.

Patterson entered the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona State University this fall.

### Writing

**helps:** “Being able to write was an obvious benefit in preparing for law school. It amazes me how many people are either scared of writing or have absolutely no

idea how to do it. The law field is one that requires tons of writing.”

**UA favorites:** “Kim Newton’s multimedia class gave me my passion for producing and editing videos. Every class taught by Nancy Sharkey (editing, N.Y. Times and features) was great. Features let me find my style and voice. In Journalism 105, Susan Knight’s kindness and enthusiasm for her field is what made me devote the other three years of college to journalism.”

**Good fit:** “At the J-school, we were taught to question everything. ... I also did a lot of questioning of attorneys. I wanted to know if working in law would make me happy. With my background in journalism, I knew I could be happy.”



Photo by Nick Smallwood

## › Dr. Uma Goyal, radiation oncology prof

**U**ma Goyal (2008) double-majored in journalism and molecular and cellular biology. She chose medicine over a reporting career but still uses her journalism skills as an assistant professor in radiation oncology at Banner-University Medical Center Tucson.

Goyal, who received her medical degree from the University of Arizona, is also the assistant program director for the residency program and medical student clerkship director at Banner-UMC. She specializes in GI and sarcoma cancers. Goyal is married with a 6-month-old son. “He’s my world,” she said.

**Double major:** “Science has always been an interest, so much so that my parents bought me a microscope as a kid. When I was an editor for my high school newspaper and won a national award for an editorial, I realized I enjoyed both fields and wanted degrees for both. The journalism school was great, and

Dr. (Jeannine) Relly was my mentor for my journalism honors thesis. I enjoyed photojournalism, and I use my copy editing skills for medical writing and my time with El Independiente newspaper to work as a team in my clinic.”

**Outside the box:** “Journalism prepared me for both medical school and medicine with interviewing patients, truly listening to their questions and concerns, and helping me think outside of the box when it comes to treatment plans and research projects. I use my skills to write study protocols and manuscripts. In the clinic, journalism has allowed me to appreciate parts of a patient’s story that may otherwise be overlooked.”

**The future:** “I continue to work on research projects with students, residents and faculty. I hope to continue using my journalism degree with medical writing for a local or national newspaper or news station.”

1966

**Frank O. Sotomayor** wrapped up his second year as a sports stringer for the Arizona Daily Star, and he wrote about his journalism career coming full circle in a column. Sotomayor, vice chair of the school's Journalism Advisory Council, started at the Star as a correspondent nearly 60 years ago. The Pulitzer Prize winner says he'll keep writing but let others cover the week-to-week meets this season.

1969

**Lynne Olson's** eighth book, "Madame Fourcade's Secret War: The Daring Young Woman Who Led France's Largest Spy Network Against Hitler," received positive reviews from Publisher's Weekly and Kirkus and made The Washington Post's top 50 nonfiction books list for 2019. Olson is a member of the J-school's Hall of Fame.

1971

**Michael Chihak** retired as an adjunct instructor for the UA School of Journalism and is teaching at Mindful Yoga, his wife's studio.

1973

**David Dykes**, a freelance finance reporter and editor, highlighted the issues of changing journalism to students at Nagpur University in India. Dykes, a longtime Greenville (S.C.) News journalist, joined other key alumni in the mid-1990s to help persuade administrators not to eliminate the UA journalism program. Last year, he gave the school all of his files from that save-the-department campaign.

1975

**Tim Fuller** wrote about how his Woodstock experience 50 years ago helped jump-start his photography career. His cover story for the Tucson Weekly includes a photo of Jimi Hendrix. Fuller is a former Arizona Daily Wildcat photographer who interned at the Tucson Citizen for three summers.

1977

**Steve Hirsch**, an attorney who died in 2016, was honored posthumously at the Arizona Region of the American Jewish Committee's Judge Learned Hand Award lunch in Phoenix. "Nobody gave more to his community," said retired Prof. Jim Mitchell about Hirsch, who served on the school's Journalism Advisory Council.



## SHE CHRONICLES THE WORLD FOR FRIENDS

**Philanne "Toppo" Burke** (1991 M.A.) is a former senior assistant to the chancellor at Pima Community College and a former public relations and development officer for Arizona Children's Home. Since retirement, Burke has traveled the world, "reveling in different cultures and world history that we somehow gave short shrift to in my generation's educational programs," she said. For fun, she writes travel stories, shares photos and makes slideshows when she comes home, sending them as PDFs to friends who are interested. In the last five years, she's chronicled trips to Vietnam, Peru, Bolivia, Africa, Indonesia, Cuba, China, Cambodia, Mongolia, Turkey and Bhutan (above), where she showed a woman at a monastery one of her images. In Hoi An, Vietnam (below), Burke said, "I thought I was taking a photo of two lovely ladies posing on the bridge when this happened! I don't know what it was about, but they asked for the photo, which I happily air-dropped to them."



1980

**Alfredo Eduardo Araiza** retired as a photographer at the Arizona Daily Star in April. Fred, who spent 34 years at the paper, also took time to help mentor J-school students and apprentices and give tips to teens at the school's Donald W. Carson Journalism Diversity Workshop for Arizona High School Students in June.

**Carmen Duarte**, a reporter for the Arizona Daily Star for the last 38 years, talked to Professor Jeannine Relly's apprentice class about the many diverse communities in the region, how to conduct interviews in investigations related to sensitive cases and self-care for journalists when working on projects that involve trauma.

**Jay Gonzales** was named president of the Tucson Sugar Skulls indoor football team. He's responsible for all non-football operations, including corporate sales and sponsorships, ticketing, game operations, and media and community relations. During the inaugural season, Gonzales served as the team's director of media relations and mentored several J-school students who helped the team with communications.

1981

**Gilbert Bailon** celebrated the St. Louis Post-Dispatch's second Pulitzer Prize during his reign as editor after metro columnist Tony Messenger won for commentary on debtors prisons. Bailon is a member of the J-school's Hall of Fame.

**Eric Madeen**, an associate professor of English at Tokyo City University and adjunct at Keio and Aoyama Gakuin universities, saw his second novel, "Massage World," released last December by Anaphora Literary Press.

1983

**John D'Anna** of The Arizona Republic won an Arizona Press Club award in statewide arts reporting for "Why Barry Goldwater's granddaughter wants to share his photography with the world." He also won an Arizona Newspapers Association award for best sustained coverage for his 10-part series on "Solving the Mystery of Arizona's Hatbox Baby." D'Anna, a member of the school's Journalism Advisory Council, also talked to several classes and was a writing coach at the school's diversity workshop.

**A.J. Flick** spoke at two crime panels at the 2019 Tucson Festival of Books. Her novel, "Toxic Rage: A Tale of Murder in Tucson," is based on the Brian Stidham murder trial, which she covered for the Tucson Citizen in 2004.

1984

**Dave Ord** of the Arizona Daily Star won an Arizona Press Club award in statewide headline writing for entries that included "Scum like it hot."

1985

**Joesph Garcia** became director of public policy for Chicanos Por La Causa, founded in 1969 to confront oppression facing Latinos in Phoenix.

**Rogelio Yubeta Olivias**, news editor at the Yuma Sun, was named manager of the year by the newspaper. He's a former Tucson Citizen journalist.

**Dan Shearer**, editor of the Green Valley News & Sahuarita Sun, and Wick Communications won a Google News Initiative Challenge. Shearer also won Arizona Newspapers Association awards in feature writing and commentary.

1986

**Christopher Rowland**, a health care business reporter for The Washington Post, received national attention for his story "Pfizer had clues its blockbuster drug could prevent Alzheimer's. Why didn't it tell the world?"

1988

**Gabrielle Fimbres** was among a panel of Tucson Citizen alums who talked about community journalism to mark the 10-year anniversary of the newspaper's closing at a Journalism on Screen event at The Loft Cinema on April 14.

## 1989

**Kim Smith** is assistant editor/reporter at the Green Valley News & Sahuarita Sun.

## 1992

**Brian Ballou**, a former South Florida Sun Sentinel reporter, wrote stories related to the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. The Sun Sentinel won the Pulitzer Prize for public service for its coverage. Ballou is now an information specialist with the Miami-Dade Police Department.

**Rhonda Bodfield**, director of communications for Tucson Medical Center, took part in the April 20 Dancing with Our Stars, a fundraiser for the Diaper Bank of Southern Arizona.

**Kristen Cook**, an award-winning journalist at the Arizona Daily Star who left in 2017, wrote and self-published her first book: "This." The collection of short, funny essays is available on Amazon.com and is about raising her three children and living life.

## 1993

**Savannah Guthrie** received positive reviews for her moderating skills during a Democratic candidate debate. "So proud," said her mom, Nancy Guthrie ('87 M.A.), a former member of the school's advisory council. In May, Savannah thanked former UA adjunct instructor Ted Robbins of NPR for making her "dream big" during a segment for Teacher Appreciation Week.

## 1995

**Sarah Garrecht Gassen** ('10 M.A.), an adjunct instructor and editorial page editor of the Arizona Daily Star, shared an Arizona Press Club award in statewide public service journalism for the package "Fixing our foster care crisis."

## 1996

**Morgan Loew** of CBS 5 in Phoenix was named a Rocky Mountain Emmy award investigative nominee for "Poison pill."

## 1997

**Ann Chihak Poff** moved back from Portland, Oregon, to become the administrative coordinator at the Pima County Medical Society, where she edits the website, newsletter and social media. She's also a teacher at Mindful Yoga.

## 1999

**Susan Carroll** was promoted to investigations editor at the Houston Chronicle.



## VIDEOGRAPHER PART OF PULITZER PRIZE

**Rob Alcaraz** (2012, 2013 M.A.), lead videographer at The Wall Street Journal, contributed to the newspaper's 2019 Pulitzer Prize in national reporting as the staff uncovered President Trump's secret payoffs to two women during the 2016 campaign. Alcaraz helped produce the video "What Trump Did to Silence Stormy Daniels and Karen McDougal," part of the Journal's 10 entries. Before working at The Wall Street Journal, Alcaraz was a contributing writer and photographer for the Tucson Weekly. In his spare time, Alcaraz takes photos of LEGO Stormtroopers for his Instagram account, which has nearly 20,000 followers, including one who asked, "Why does your page make me so happy?" At least 22 alums of the University of Arizona School of Journalism have received or contributed to a Pulitzer Prize. Go to [journalism.arizona.edu/Pulitzers](http://journalism.arizona.edu/Pulitzers) for details.

**David Diaz** of the Sierra Vista Herald won an Arizona Press Club award in community non-deadline layout/design for a package on the NFL's Larry Fitzgerald.

## 2000

**April Warnecke**, a meteorologist for CBS 5 in Phoenix, interviewed UA athletic director Dave Heeke about the new Cole and Jeannie Davis Sports Center across from Arizona Stadium.

## 2002

**Ryan Finley** and Justin Spears ('17) of the Arizona Daily Star spoke to Professor Susan Knight's Principles of Journalism class. Finley, sports editor, and Spears, a reporter, encouraged students to get involved at the school and work at the Arizona Daily Wildcat.

**Maggie Whiting** works at Target headquarters in Minneapolis as a lead copywriter for brand design and packaging.

## 2003

**Irene McKisson**, an adjunct instructor, and Becky Pallack of the Arizona Daily Star's #ThisIsTucson received a Google News Initiative Challenge award to "prove that hyperlocal digital news can be sustainable," McKisson said.

**Diana Steffen**, a lifestyle blogger, photographer and graphic designer in Phoenix, has become a successful entrepreneur after working for E! Entertainment and The Arizona Republic.

## 2004

**Shelley Shelton Coltrin**, a freelance content specialist, said she's getting "a little better every day" after being diagnosed with an autoimmune muscle disease last November.

**Shane Dale** left ABC15 in Phoenix and is a digital journalist with the City of Goodyear. He also plans to start a new sports website/blog.

**Lorraine Rivera**, host of Arizona Public Media's "Arizona 360," won a Rocky Mountain Emmy award in politics for "El Paso Road Show." She also gave 10 journalism students from Douglas High School a tour of the AZPM studios in the spring along with adjunct instructor Christopher Conover of AZPM.

## 2006

**Shane Bacon** helped announce the U.S. Open golf tournament at Pebble Beach for Fox Sports. The Arizona Daily Wildcat alum just missed playing in the tourna-

ment after winning a Phoenix sectional.

**Joe Ferguson**, an adjunct instructor and reporter for the Arizona Daily Star, won the Sledgehammer Award from the Arizona Press Club for his use of public records to shine a light on the truth. He also received an Al Litzow engagement grant for a reporting project on evictions.

## 2007

**Ernesto Romero**, news director at KYMA-TV in Yuma, captured a Rocky Mountain Emmy award for producing a team story called "Crisis on the Border."

## 2008

**Paloma Boykin**, academic adviser for the UA School of Journalism, celebrated her 10th year at UA and was recognized at the university's Annual Service Awards Reception on April 4.

**Michael Schwartz**, a co-producer of ESPN's "The Jump" along with Eitan Cramer ('12) and Danny Corrales, another UA alum, saw their NBA show receive a Sports Emmy nomination in the Outstanding Studio Show – Daily category.

## 2009

**Veronica Cruz-Mercado** joined the Arizona Daily Star's #ThisIsTucson as a feature writer after previous work at Arizona Student Media.

**Shalane** and **Devin Simmons**, who began dating while they were journalism students, were featured in the UA Alumni Association's "10 by 10" for the Class of 2009. Shalane is a community relations manager at Raytheon, where Devin is a program operations manager.

## 2010

**Jeff Feld** was named the general manager of the Northern Arizona Suns, an NBA G League basketball team based in Prescott Valley. Feld, who has written for Forbes and the Athletic, is a former UA basketball staffer and NBA scout.

**Jacelle Ramon-Sauberan** is a Ph.D. student in American Indian Studies with a minor in Journalism and helps the school by designing fliers, writing grants and recruiting. She and adjunct instructor Cynthia Lancaster ('76) pitched the school to 30 Baboquivari High School students in Sells, Arizona.

## 2011

**Mike Christy** became director of photography for University of Arizona Athletics after seven years at the Arizona Daily Star. Christy studied under Professor Kim Newton and taught his beginning photojournalism class in fall 2017.



**Paul Ingram**, a reporter for the Tucson Sentinel and former master's candidate, was named community journalist of the year by the Arizona Press Club.

**Sarah Kezele** joined the USA Today Sports/SMG team as a video host from Phoenix. She also was the in-game host for UA Football for a second season.

**Kassandra Lau**, a producer for Arizona Public Media, won a Rocky Mountain Emmy award in politics for "El Paso Road Show."

**Curt Prendergast** (M.A.) and Alex Devoid ('17 M.A.) of the Arizona Daily Star analyzed 750 federal drug-smuggling cases to see what types of drugs the new border wall would slow down in Arizona. Their reporting project showed the wall would not stop hard drugs.

**Jackie Tran**, a staff writer and photographer at Tucson Foodie, saw his photo used on a downtown billboard.

## 2012

**Kellie Mejdrich** was hired as a financial services reporter covering capital markets for POLITICO Pro. She previously was a budget and appropriations reporter for CQ Roll Call.

**Luke Money** was promoted to assistant city editor of the Daily Pilot, a community publication of the Los Angeles Times.

**Sandra Westdahl** won a national Edward R. Murrow award in feature reporting as the producer for "Where dreams die," a story for Arizona Public Media on migrants who've died while crossing the desert. Westdahl is now a producer for the UA College of Agriculture & Life Sciences' cyber-technology team. She also won a Rocky Mountain Emmy award for "When Sarah Runs," about a nurse who finished second at the Boston Marathon.

## 2013

**Bethany Barnes** (M.A.), a Tampa Bay Times reporter, was one of six journalists elected to the Investigative Reporters & Editors board. Barnes was a Livingston Award finalist for journalists under the age of 35 for the second straight year.

**Kristina Bui**, a copy editor at the Los Angeles Times and vice chair of the L.A. Times Guild, helped the newspaper and guild reach an agreement on hiring and diversity language.

**Andrés Domínguez**, the J-school's administrative assistant, directed the Donald W. Carson Journalism Diversity Workshop for Arizona High School Students for a second year. He wrote a column for the Arizona Daily Star and was interviewed by KVOI-AM.



## REPORTER WINS MURROW AWARD

**Mariana Dale** (2014), a former reporter for KJZZ radio in Phoenix, captured a national Edward R. Murrow Award in continuing coverage with colleague Casey Kuhn for their teacher strike reports during the RedforEd movement. Dale left KJZZ in November to cover early childhood education for KPCC, a National Public Radio affiliate, and its website (LAist.com). Dale, who emceed the school's 2015 Zenger Award dinner, also collaborated on an investigation of the pitfalls in the accountability system for Arizona teachers accused of sexual misconduct.

**Kedi Xia**, an associate visiting scholar at the UA School of Journalism, was admitted to the M.S. Data Journalism program at Columbia University.

## 2014

**Anna Augustowska** (M.A.) and her UA College of Social & Behavioral Sciences colleagues won a national Telly Award for their alumni spotlight video of 2010 graduate Alex Prewitt.

**Stephanie Casanova** became a breaking news reporter for the Arizona Daily Star after work at Today's News-Herald in Lake Havasu City and the Manhattan (Kansas) Mercury.

**Alison Dorf** is a news producer at the ABC affiliate KATU-TV in Portland, Oregon, after work at Tucson's KOLD-TV.

**Brittney Mejia**, a reporter for the Los Angeles Times covering breaking news and immigration and race, was one of eight journalists nationally to be awarded a Rosalynn Carter Fellowship for Mental Health Journalism by the Carter Center.

**Justin Sayers** returned to finish his master's degree at the J-school. He was hired as a government reporter for the Arizona Daily Star – covering Marana, Oro Valley and the Arizona Board of Regents – after a three-year stint as a news and sports reporter at the Louisville Courier Journal in Kentucky, where he earned a national

Top-10 award in breaking news in the Associated Press Sports Editors contest.

**Caitlin Schmidt** of the Arizona Daily Star won an Arizona Press Club award in statewide breaking news for "Man charged in killing of Tucson girls has long, cross-country criminal record." She moved to the Star's sports desk to cover investigations and long-form features, and saw her "Title Wave" series on Title IX featured by Poynter.

**Shea Sorenson** returned as the morning and noon meteorologist for KVOA-TV after previous work in Knoxville, Tennessee, and South Bend, Indiana.

**Murphy Woodhouse**, a reporter for the Phoenix radio station KJZZ and based in Hermosillo, Mexico, won a Regional Edward R. Murrow Award in the radio hard news category for his story "On Arizona border, some migrants plan on arrest – others have no plan at all."

## 2015

**Nicole Cousins** left ABC 8 Eyewitness News in Lincoln, Nebraska, to join the marketing/PR team at Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital in Lincoln.

**Kendra Paige Hall** left Tucson's KVOA-TV as a reporter to be the city's environmental services public information specialist, shooting video, writing stories and doing graphic design. Hall, who

started her TV career in Amarillo, Texas, gave students job tips at the school's 2019 spring career forum.

**Yoohyun Jung** is a criminal justice reporter for Honolulu Civil Beat after working as a radio writer for the Korea Broadcasting System in Seoul and as a reporter at the Arizona Daily Star.

**Jade Nunes** is a marketing coordinator for RSP Architects in Tempe after previous work with FITCH Design in Scottsdale. She participated in the school's 2019 spring career forum.

**Briana Sanchez** became a photojournalist at the El Paso (Texas) Times after two years at the Argus Leader in South Dakota. She helped cover the Aug. 3 mass shooting at an El Paso Walmart.

## 2016

**Karen Cruz-Orduña**, who studied at the J-school in 2016 through the National Student Exchange program, is a digital reporter at KGET-TV 17 in Bakersfield, California, after being a production assistant at CBS Los Angeles.

**Natalie J. D'Anna** graduated in July with an M.S. in integrated marketing from the Reed College of Media at West Virginia University. The daughter of Arizona Republic reporter John D'Anna ('83), she's an assistant sports information director at Loyola Marymount in Los Angeles.

**Abby Friedemann** is a communications specialist at Dignity Health in Phoenix after previous work as a news producer at KVOA-TV in Tucson.

**Kyle Hansen** left the Missoulian in Montana as a sportswriter to be a sports reporter at KPAX News, a CBS television affiliate for Scripps, covering western Montana sports in Missoula.

**Malena Larson** is a freelance production assistant for Fox Business Network. She works on two shows: "Mornings with Maria" and "Varney & Co."

## 2017

**Alex Devoid** (M.A.) accepted a job at the Arizona Daily Star as a data/investigative reporter after previous fellowship work as an environmental reporter at The Arizona Republic.

**Maritza Dominguez** became an audio producer for The Arizona Republic and azcentral.com, working on podcasts "Valley 101" and "The Gaggle."

**Michelle Floyd**, a former UA softball pitcher who played professionally in Italy, received her master's in strategic brand communications from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

**Danielle Fork** accepted a position as director of development and marketing at Youth 180 in Dallas after previous work at Promise House in Dallas.

**Jordan Glenn**, a marketing producer at KOLD-TV, won a Rocky Mountain Emmy award as a photographer (short form) for "Arizona Weekend Cinematography." He also was nominated as a producer/director/cinematographer.

**Jennifer Hijazi** (M.A.) is a legal reporter at E&E News in Washington, D.C., covering climate change in the judiciary after previous work at Courthouse News and PBS NewsHour.

**Betsy Kaplan** is a client services coordinator at AKA NY in New York City.

**Stevie Katz** is a digital producer for the NFL's Washington Redskins in Ashburn, Virginia.

**Danyelle Khmara** of the Arizona Daily Star won an Arizona Press Club award in community investigative reporting for an earlier Tucson Weekly story on a jailhouse murderer. At the Star, she covers K-12 education and received national attention for a Good Samaritan story, "Tucson man helps save woman with CPR he learned from TV's 'The Office.'"

**Julia Leon** is a digital content producer for KVOA-TV, Tucson's NBC affiliate.

**Mikayla Mace** (M.A.) left the Arizona Daily Star as a science and higher education reporter to become a science reporter for University of Arizona Communications. Mace, a new member of the Journalism Advisory Council, spoke to teens about health reporting at the school's Donald W. Carson Journalism Diversity Workshop for Arizona High School Students.

**Alex McIntyre** is a staff photographer at the Greeley (Colorado) Tribune after previous work in Bloomington, Indiana.

**Brandon Mejia** was promoted to the evening anchor for KSWT Channel 13, the CBS affiliate in Yuma. He and his wife also welcomed a baby boy.

**Natalia Navarro** (M.A. '18), a general assignment reporter for Colorado Public Radio in Denver, talked about audio journalism via Zoom with the school's Arizona Daily Star apprentices.

**Rebecca Noble** is a staff photographer at the Lewiston (Idaho) Tribune after jobs at the Jackson Hole (Wyoming) News & Guide and Cody (Wyoming) Enterprise. She's an associate member of American Reportage, a collective of documentary photojournalists.

**Christianna Silva** is editor of social impact at MTV News (Viacom) in New York City after previous work at



## FROM WILDCAT EDITOR TO STAR REPORTER

**Jasmine Demers** (2019 M.A.) took a job at the Arizona Daily Star as a science reporter. She received the school's Philip Mangelsdorf Award for Outstanding Newsperson of the Year in May. A former features apprentice at the Star and editor-in-chief of the Arizona Daily Wildcat, she defended her master's project, "42 Repeats: A Family's Multigenerational Battle with Huntington's Disease," which included an emotional video at [jasminedemers.com/42repeats](http://jasminedemers.com/42repeats)

Newsweek and other outlets. She also started a new weekly LGBTQ newsletter, "The Bottom Line," in New York with her friend Danny Nett.

## 2018

**Simon Asher** became the first J-school student to earn his remote pilot license to fly a drone. He and Professor Michael McKisson worked on drone videography projects together for Arizona Public Media.

**Zeina Cabrera-Peterson** (M.A.) won a top student paper award in the Minorities and Communication Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication at the annual AEJMC conference in August. The paper was based on her thesis, "Politicking While Black." She also won the J-school's Excellence in Research award at the 2019 Just Desserts celebration.

**Brandon Dawkins**, former UA quarterback and Arizona Cat's Eye anchor, is a sports marketer for Adidas in Portland, Oregon, in the football division.

**Ciara Encinas**, a multimedia journalist at KYMA-TV in Yuma, won a Rocky Mountain Emmy award for collaborating on the story "Crisis on the Border."

**Gloria Knott**, a reporter at the Arizona Daily Star, visited Pueblo High School students who wrote her letters after reading her spring 2018 El Independiente story on the gender wage gap.

**Andrew Koleski** returned to Tucson in July to be a copy editor for the Arizona Daily Star after earlier work at the Yuma

Sun and an apprenticeship at the Star.

**Tirion Morris** became the nightlife reporter on the food desk at The Arizona Republic/azcentral.com after working as web editor at the Tucson Weekly.

**Andrew Paxton** is an assistant editor/city editor at the Sierra Vista Herald/Review after previous work at the Green Valley News & Sahuarita Sun. Earlier, he helped produce the Sidney (Montana) Herald, another Wick newspaper.

**Nickella Pierre** is a news writer at Miami's WSVN-TV, a Fox-affiliated station. She married Sean Battle Jr. in June.

**Courtney Rice** joined the NFL's social media team as a social content editor. Rice, who had been a social media intern for the Arizona Diamondbacks, is in charge of posting game coverage, highlights, graphics and other content.

**Courtney Talak** is a staff photographer and reporter for the Longview (Washington) Daily News.

**Justyn Thomas** is a UA men's basketball graduate assistant. Thomas, who is studying educational leadership, was a UA student manager from 2014 to 2018. He spent last year working as an assistant basketball coach at El Cerrito High in California.

**Carmen Valencia**, a multimedia journalist at KYMA-TV in Yuma, won a Rocky Mountain Emmy award for collaborating on the story "Crisis on the Border." She also was a fill-in anchor for the 9 p.m. news show and spoke to J-school students about diversity in the fall.

**Jamie Verwys** became the web editor at the Tucson Weekly after a year as a reporter at Herald/Review Media in Sierra Vista. She captured first place in the 2019 AEJMC Student Magazine Contest in the investigation and analysis category for her Arizona Sonora News story "Exploring gender (pay) gap in Arizona's college leadership."

## 2019

**Eddie Celaya** is an opinion writer for the Arizona Daily Star. He wrote a column after the Zenger Award luncheon on President Robbins' statement that the UA School of Journalism needed a new building. Celaya, an alum of the Arizona Daily Wildcat, won the school's Alex Parker Reporting Award.

**Vivian Colter** (M.A.) defended her master's project, "People Who Look Like Me: Media Influence on Racial Identity" ([looklikemedoc.wordpress.com](http://looklikemedoc.wordpress.com)). Colter is a communications specialist for Tucson Unified School District.

**Luke Corvello** landed a reporter's job at TMZ in New York City after a production internship at ABC's "Good Morning America."

**Carsyn Currier** is a reporter at KTLV-TV in Medford, Oregon, a CBS affiliate and Sinclair Broadcast Group station.

**David J. Del Grande** is a customer support specialist at Friends of the Pima County Public Library.

**Alex Eschelmann** is a content intern at Pac-12 Networks in San Francisco.

**Alex Gonzalez** joined KSBY News TV as a multimedia journalist in San Luis Obispo, California.

**Marissa Heffernan** took a job as an education reporter at the Daily News in Longview, Washington. Heffernan received the school's 2019 Sherman R. Miller 3rd Outstanding Senior Award.

**Ty Hudson** (M.A.) became a breaking news intern for the Arizona Daily Star.

**Olivia Jackson** was hired by KGUN9-TV in Tucson as a real-time editor. Jackson was the general manager of UATV3 and won the school's 2019 Douglas Martin Courage and Integrity Award.

**Rob Kleifield** was admitted into the sports journalism master's program at ASU's Cronkite School.

**April Lanuza** (M.A.) defended her master's project and thesis, "Boom: Latinos, The Modern Pioneers," and showed her documentary at the Screening Room.

**Robby Leño** joined Tucson's 1290-AM sports radio crew as a board operator, co-host and field reporter. He also is a

podcast manager for Five for Howling for Arizona Coyotes hockey fans.

**David Martinez** (M.A.) defended his master's project, "The Reality of Hate Speech and Social Media." He's a production assistant at Arizona Public Media and a freelance photojournalist for the Arizona Daily Star.

**Emmalee Mauldin** accepted a full-time job as a media/social media specialist for NASA's Human Research Program at Johnson Space Center in Houston. She is a former intern at NASA.

**Shanshan Niu** (M.A.) defended her master's thesis, "Framing of China's Belt and Road Initiative by the U.S. and Indian Media," through a video chat.

**Kristan Obeng** (M.A.) landed a reporting job at the Lansing State Journal in Michigan. Obeng finished a Pulliam Fellowship at The Arizona Republic, where she was a digital producer and worked with copy editor Becca Dyer ('85). Obeng, the school's Zenger Fellow, defended her master's project, "Compromised Freedoms & Checkpoint Trauma: A 14-month Investigation into What It's Like to Be an American in the Arizona Borderlands" (*compromisedfreedoms.com*).

**Hector Ponce** is a multimedia producer at KSTU Fox 33 television in Salt Lake City.

**Dalal Radwan** (M.A.) defended her master's thesis, "Framing Palestine: News Framing of United Nations Resolutions on Palestine in U.S. and British Newspapers, 1993-2017." Her family from Palestine watched Radwan, a Fulbright scholar, through a video chat. Radwan also received a Journalism in the Era of Disinformation fellowship with senior Ashley Frede in Washington, D.C.

**Teagan Rasche** accepted a full-time job as a TV reporter with KSWT in Yuma. She was a javelin thrower for the UA track team. "I fell in love with journalism more than I ever thought possible," she said.

**Micheal Romero** is a producer at KVOA-TV in Tucson. He filmed the 2018 Hall of Fame and Zenger events.

**Jessica Suriano** (M.A.) freelanced two stories for MTV News about young activists suing over the climate crisis and about delivery drivers being short-changed tips from digital apps. Suriano was named the Outstanding Graduate Student at the school's awards ceremony. She defended her master's project, "Prove It" (*theproveitproject.com*), which focused on sexual assault on campus.

**Jordan Williams** began working at FDANews, a Washington, D.C.-area publication that covers the FDA and pharmaceutical industry. Williams, the school's spring 2019 Bolles Fellow, is reporting on drug approvals and industry litigation for the Drug Industry Daily newsletter.

## CONTACT US

**Updates needed!** To help expand the Alumni Notes, please send news and photos about your job or life to outreach coordinator Mike Chesnick at [mchesnick1@email.arizona.edu](mailto:mchesnick1@email.arizona.edu) or mail to University of Arizona School of Journalism, P.O. Box 210158B, Tucson, AZ 85721-0158.

## GEORGE RIDGE: 1933-2019

# 2-time director's law class left mark

**P**rofessor Emeritus George W. Ridge Jr., who helped establish many of the cornerstone programs at the School of Journalism as its only two-time director, died April 24.

Ridge, 86, underwent heart surgery in Tucson in March but later suffered pneumonia.

The versatile Ridge was a reporter at The Arizona Republic, city editor at the Arizona Daily Star and an assistant attorney general for the state before beginning his career as a UA journalism professor in 1968.

"George taught me journalism when that word was universally respected — a calling with ethics and tenets, not for hobbyists," said Professor Mort Rosenblum, who worked for Ridge at the Star.

Ridge's law and ethics class was his hallmark. "The best journalism class I ever took," said Nicole Greason ('88).

As department head from 1972 to 1978 and 1985 to 1991, Ridge secured a

deal to let students produce the Tombstone Epitaph and found funding for El Independiente and other publications.

"George had a deep understanding of the role of the press from his work as a journalist and an attorney, and focused on ensuring the school's curriculum reflected the challenges and opportunities that students would encounter in the real world," said Jacqueline Sharkey, former school director.

When Arizona Republic reporter Don Bolles died after a car bombing in 1976, Ridge arranged for students and the school to be heavily involved in the ensuing media coverage.

"Students rotated weekly investigative shifts in Phoenix, working side-by-side with professional journalists," said Deborah Whitaker, one of his four children. "The school's Don Bolles Fellowship was a direct result of this effort."

» Full obit and recollections at [journalism.arizona.edu/gwr](http://journalism.arizona.edu/gwr)



George Ridge

## PASSAGES

**Debra A. Castelan**, program coordinator for the Editing Program for Minority Journalists at the UA School of Journalism in the early 1980s, died Feb. 4 from cancer. Castelan, 65, received her M.A. in education from UA and worked as the student services coordinator at Edge Charter School in Tucson after years at Pima College.

**Yvonne Ervin** (1984), founding director of the Tucson Jazz Society, died Dec. 26 from a heart attack after liver transplant surgery. She was 59. Ervin interviewed more than 150 jazz legends during her career as a writer and radio host at KUAZ-FM. "She had an enduring passion for jazz and music," said Mark De La Vina, her Arizona Daily Wildcat colleague. Read her obit at [tinyurl.com/s9solrd](http://tinyurl.com/s9solrd)



**David Feldman** (1951) died on May 16. Feldman, 91, spent 30 years as a copy editor at the San Diego Union Tribune and taught journalism at UA. His memoir, "Irreverent Forever: True Tales from a Newspaperman's Outrageously Rewarding Life," is on Amazon.com. Read his obit at [tinyurl.com/qw8gtcr](http://tinyurl.com/qw8gtcr)

**Lauren (Lund) Lewis** (2006) died Aug. 10 of cancer. She was 35. Lewis, an Arizona Daily Wildcat alumna, was director of marketing and communications at Five

Guys Enterprises in the Washington, D.C., area. Friends set up a college fund for her two young boys and to help her husband, Brian, at [tinyurl.com/yya69kjo](http://tinyurl.com/yya69kjo)

**Hal Marshall** (1975 M.A.), a former UA journalism instructor, died May 18. Marshall, 91, worked at the Arizona Daily Star and was director of the UA News Bureau before retiring from the university in 1984.

**Jeffrey S. Williams** (2000) died Aug. 7 of pneumonia. Williams, 40, earned his Ph.D. in education from ASU in 2013. He was assistant principal of instruction for the Phoenix Union High School District.

**Bill Wing**, the longtime partner of former J-school Director Jacqueline Sharkey, died Aug. 4 after suffering a heart attack. He was 80. Wing, a two-time Nobel Prize nominee and professor emeritus in the UA Physics and Optical Sciences departments, designed the lab and seminar rooms in the school's Marshall Building from 2002 to 2004. His work on wiring and data ports let the school's infrastructure expand as technology evolved. "Bill was dedicated to ensuring that journalism students received the best education possible — then and now," Director Carol Schwalbe said. Read his obit at [journalism.arizona.edu/Wing](http://journalism.arizona.edu/Wing)





# HS diversity workshop marks 40th year

**C**elebrating its 40th year in 2020, the Donald W. Carson Journalism Diversity Workshop for Arizona High School Students will be held May 31 to June 6 at the School of Journalism.

Sixteen teens studied reporting, photography, multimedia and ethics at the 2019 workshop, sponsored primarily by the Dow Jones News Fund and the University of Arizona Office of Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement.

By the end of the week, students had produced stories and photos for The Chronicle newspaper along with multimedia and blogs for a website. Students tackled tough subjects, including abortion rights, immigration and the border, sexual assault, mental illness, climate change and vaping.

"Frankly, I was blown away by their story ideas," said John D'Anna ('83), an Arizona Republic reporter who helped the teens with their writing. "I would push for a bunch of their ideas to be on our front page at the Republic."

The workshop, founded by Carson, was renamed in his honor



Photo by Mike Chesnick  
Kristen Bia of Ganado High School flies a drone with the help of Professor Michael McKisson.

after he died in 2018. The revered professor and former department head was one of the nation's early leaders in diversifying newsrooms.

High school students in 2019 worked with writing coaches (Professor Susan Knight and D'Anna), administrative assistant Andrés Domínguez and mentors.

"These students are passionate

about telling stories about the world they live in," Knight said.

Frank O. Sotomayor, a 1966 alum and Pulitzer Prize winner, opened the workshop with an inspirational talk about journalism and diversity.

» High school students can apply at [journalism.arizona.edu/HSwork](http://journalism.arizona.edu/HSwork) or email the school at [journal@email.arizona.edu](mailto:journal@email.arizona.edu)



## SAVE THE DATE

**What:** A presentation of the photography of Sen. Barry M. Goldwater (above) and Q&A by Robert Stieve, editor of Arizona Highways. Goldwater, who died in 1998, was an avid photographer of the state's landscapes.

**When:** March 21, 2020, 11 a.m.

**Where:** Salt River Project's PERA Facility, Tempe, 1 E. Continental Drive

**Sponsor:** The school's Journalism Advisory Council is hosting the fundraiser. Go to [journalism.arizona.edu](http://journalism.arizona.edu) in early 2020 for ticket info.

