

# The Cursor

Fall 2014

**Bright future –  
Apps, multimedia  
take learning from  
chalkboard to tablet**



University of Arizona School of Journalism



# Director's Letter

## Students learn fundamentals-plus

Never before has journalism experienced so many challenges as it has today.

Or incredible potential.

I have been completely floored this past year by the innovation and enthusiasm I've witnessed around the nation while serving as president of the Society of Professional Journalists. It makes me feel hopeful about the amazing opportunities for University of Arizona journalism graduates.

They are prepared for the task.

The UA journalism program continues its tradition of instilling strong journalism fundamentals by requiring extensive writing classes, a course in ethics, the challenging Reporting Public Affairs class, and a school media experience where students learn by doing. Professors still fail students on assignments if they spell a name wrong. The Auto E will live on because the need for accuracy and credibility is stronger than ever in a world of mass disinformation.

In addition to the core skills taught at the school for more than 60 years, we have layered opportunities for students to meet the needs of today's changing media

world:

- We require a multimedia course, and this year we are adding an advanced multimedia elective.
- Students can take classes in entrepreneurial journalism and in developing news apps for mobile devices (see page 16).
- Our science journalism students disseminate their stories and multimedia projects through a print magazine and an iPad app (page 16).
- School media through Arizona Sonora News produce in-depth stories covering southern Arizona with multimedia elements for commercial news outlets (page 10).



Ultimately, UA journalism students enjoy exciting opportunities that prepare them for the demands of today's changing media, whether they work for television, online, community newspapers or major metros. More than ever, with infotainment, increasing government secrecy and shouting cable commentators, we need journalists who can effectively gather information, critically analyze it, and disseminate it clearly, accurately and ethically.

This was emphasized Oct. 17 when we honored Paul Steiger with the John Peter

and Anna Catherine Zenger Award for press freedom. Steiger, a longtime editor for the *Wall Street Journal*, *Los Angeles Times* and other newspapers, founded the groundbreaking online news outlet ProPublica, melding Pulitzer-Prize-winning investigative reporting with new media.

I'm proud of our faculty and students. Check out the school's "Report Card" on page 27 and at <http://bit.ly/17FddEw>, and let me know what you think.

Of course, these initiatives in educating the world's future journalists do not come cheap. Students need your help.

Please give to the school in any number of ways, whether it's through the Hugh and Jan Harelson Operating Endowment, the Jacqueline Sharkey Watchdog Journalism Fund, the student travel fund, scholarships, or the general gift fund (see page 22). Every dollar helps us help journalism, and that helps the world.

Be proud of what you have accomplished, and what UA journalism grads do for society. Support the team, because journalism is a calling. Journalism is strong. Journalism matters.

**David Cuillier, Ph.D.**

UA School of Journalism Director  
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## The Cursor

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The proprietor of a leather shop in Florence, Italy, passes time between assisting customers. The photo was one of many taken by students participating in the School of Journalism's Study Abroad program.

*Photo by McKenzie Colson*

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*Photo by Danni Valdez*

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*Photo by Hannah Gaber*



# The Scoop

## New class offerings include environmental, digital journalism

New classes at the school this year will provide students more flexibility, variety and the ability to specialize in an ever-changing media landscape.

The school has created a variety of electives, including 1-credit five-week “classlets” that expose students to specific topics and skills that might not require a full 3-credit class. Here are some of the new classes launched this year:

- Environmental Journalism, taught by former *National Geographic* editor Carol Schwalbe, will be offered spring 2015 to teach students how to write compelling, substantive stories that illuminate environmental subjects, trends and issues, often in human terms.
- Advanced Multimedia, to be taught by award-winning photojournalist Kim Newton in spring 2015, will help students produce multimedia projects combining text, video, audio, still photographs and graphics that will be presented on a website.
- Sports Journalism is being taught fall 2014 by Shannon Conner, former sports editor at the *Arizona Daily Star*. This has been taught summers but for the first time it will be open during the regular school year.
- Career Success is a new 1-credit five-week “classlet” to help students explore careers, develop portfolios, and discuss jobs, money, bosses and the future of journalism.
- Radio Journalism, also a 1-credit five-week classlet to intro-



Photo by Colin Prenger, Pac-12 Networks

**Journalism major Justice Davis gets an assist from Storm Hayes, an engineer with Pac-12 Networks, who were in Tucson last spring offering video training to students.**

duce students to the basics of radio and creating audio stories for a listening audience, either on air or online.

- On the Aisle is a 1-credit class for students who want to learn how to review movies, music, books, dining and the theater and experiment with voice, style and form.
- Digital Communication Law is a new class that will be available to anyone on campus and is targeted for the university’s new eSociety major. The class is scheduled to begin fall 2015.
- Journalism History will be offered spring 2015 for the first time in years, taught by nationally known journalism historian Linda Lumsden.



Photo by Madeline Rullo, NBC News

**New journalism course offerings this past year included “Inside *The New York Times*: Behind the Headlines at the Nation’s Greatest Newspaper.” Taught by Associate Director Nancy Sharkey, a long-time reporter and editor at *The New York Times*, the course helped students gain news literacy and provided an insider’s look at how *The Times* is produced every day and the challenges it faces in a digital world. It was capped off with a five-day field trip to the Big Apple. The students’ itinerary included a march through Lower Manhattan to the Ground Zero site, a day of workshops at *The New York Times*, a visit to the Metropolitan Art Museum and International Center for Photography, and visits to the Daily Show, the Today Show and the *Wall Street Journal*.**



# School launches center for border, global journalism

The School of Journalism is launching its Center for Border and Global Journalism this year to help students, journalists and scholars navigate the increasingly complex world of cross-border and international reporting.

With the help of donors such as Luda Soldwedel, faculty members are hosting a variety of workshops and guest speakers, including global journalist Luis Albert Urrea, author of *The Devil's Highway*.

The School of Journalism has a long tradition of excellence in international journalism, mostly with Mexico, Latin America, and the Middle East. The center will draw upon the school's existing relationships with the UA's School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Center for Latin American Studies, and Institute of the Environment.

The center also will strengthen ties already established with the U.S. State Department, the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma, Investigative Reporters and Editors, the London-based Institute for War and Peace



Photo by Lisa Button

**Elizabeth Eaton takes notes for her EcoChronicle story as orchid expert Gabriel Barboza explains features of the new orchid garden he is constructing at the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve. Journalism professor Lisa Button leads a study abroad trip to Costa Rica every summer.**

Reporting, the National Press Foundation, and the Overseas Press Club, and forge stronger ties with the Committee to Protect Journalists and Human Rights Watch. Relationships with *The New York Times* and the Associated Press, as well as other first-line media organizations, also will be enhanced.

Leading the effort are the professors on the school's Global Journalism Committee: Celeste González de Bustamante, Kim Newton, Jeannine Relly, Mort Rosenblum, Bill Schmidt and Maggy Zanger. For info, go to [journalism.arizona.edu/center-border-global-journalism](http://journalism.arizona.edu/center-border-global-journalism).



Photo by Noelle Haro-Gomez

## Teaching the next generation

High school students Thomasina Dinehdeal, left, of Tuba City, and Bryan Orozco, Tucson, learned the finer points of photojournalism from Jose Galvez, a 1972 grad of the School of Journalism who won a Pulitzer Prize while at the *Los Angeles Times*. Galvez helped lead the school's annual diversity workshop for high school students in June, which

drew 16 students from around the state, including four from Native American communities. In an effort to reach out to more high school students, Sarah Gassen, an adjunct instructor and editorial writer at the *Arizona Daily Star*, visited local high school campuses with students and recent alumni to talk about the UA School of Journalism.

## Zenger winner blazes investigative reporting trail

Paul Steiger, the founding editor-in-chief and CEO of ProPublica, an independent, non-profit newsroom that produces investigative journalism in the public interest, is the 2014 winner of the John Peter and Anna Catherine Zenger Award.

Steiger accepted the award Oct. 17 before a crowd of about 140, noting that it wasn't much of a hardship to trade a cool New York autumn for sunny Tucson weather.

"But I would have come on my knees to accept this award," he said.

Before founding ProPublica, Steiger served as managing editor of the *Wall Street Journal* from 1991 to 2007. During his tenure, the *Journal* won 16 Pulitzer Prizes.

Steiger worked for 15 years as a reporter, the Washington economics correspondent, and the business editor for the *Los Angeles Times*. He also is a past chairman of the Committee to Protect Journalists, a New York-based nonprofit that advocates for press freedom around the globe.

When ProPublica won its own Pulitzer in 2011 it marked the first time a Pulitzer was awarded for stories that did not originate in print.



Paul Steiger

## Student favorite, Garcia, joins faculty

The newest member of the School of Journalism faculty isn't all that new.

This spring, Rogelio Garcia was appointed to a half-time position as an assistant professor of practice, co-teaching the Arizona Cat's Eye and Beginning TV Reporting and Production courses. Garcia has actually been teaching those courses as the lab instructor since 2008. He was appointed to the permanent position after a national search following the retirement of longtime faculty member Jim Mitchell.



Garcia

Garcia has 17 years' experience in professional video production that includes video news-gathering, documentary production, cinematography and commercial work.

The documentaries he has worked on have tackled meaty subjects, garnered high praise and been shown at numerous film festivals around the country. "Heist," released in 2012, argued that the banking collapse had less to do with Wall Street greed than with systematic government deregulation.

"Democracy," the feature-length documentary Garcia is currently working on with the same team that produced "Heist," looks at Uruguay, a South American nation with a progressive democracy.

Garcia, a 1990 Baylor University graduate, came to the UA to pursue graduate studies in anthropology, but got hooked on documentary work. Since he didn't major in journalism in college, Garcia decided he better get some news experience if he wanted to continue as a documentarian.

That led to jobs as a video journalist at the CBS and NBC affiliates in Tucson. In 2003, Garcia joined KUAT, Tucson's PBS affli-



Photo by Alphonso Sahuagún

**Rogelio Garcia shoots video in front of the parliament building in Montevideo, Uruguay, for the documentary he and his team are producing on democracy.**

ate, where he still continues as a freelance videographer.

He is the only adjunct instructor to have won the school's competitive Hugh and Jan Harelson Excellence in Teaching Award, a \$500 honor based on student nominations. And he won twice.

"Rogelio is always in a good mood and never gets annoyed when we ask him questions every 5 seconds," wrote one student nominating him for the award. Added another: "He's AWESOME! And he always goes out of his way to make sure Cat's Eye broadcasts run 100 percent smoothly. Basically, he's the bomb.com."

Garcia's reaction is, not surprisingly, self-deprecating.

"I think what they get out of the classes are, 'How to avoid 10 years of mistakes,'" he observes. "I've been there, done it and made the mistakes, so I think I can prevent them from doing the same thing."

## Professors making a difference

**David Cuillier** is second author with Charles N. Davis on *Transparency 2.0: Digital Data and Privacy in a Wired World*. In September 2014 he ended his year as president of the Society of Professional Journalists and returns as Freedom of Information Committee chair.

**Shahira Fahmy** was invited to lecture at the Universität der Bundeswehr in Munich this spring. Fahmy and graduate student Britain Eakin had their article "High Drama On The High Seas: Peace versus war journalism framing of an Israeli/Palestinian related incident" published in *International Communication Gazette*.

**Rogelio Garcia's** documentary "Heist" was shown at a number of film festivals across the country. His new documentary examines democracy.

**Celeste González de Bustamante** and **Jeannine Relly** interviewed more than 60 journalists who work along the border on dangers they face. The oral histories will be preserved in the UA Special Collections library. González de Bustamante's book *Muy buenas noches: Mexico, Television and the Cold War* (Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 2012) will be published in Spanish by Fondo de Cultura Económica, Mexico City.

**Susan Knight** is leading the coordination of a half-dozen student clubs, expanding programming and gatherings for students to network with professionals and learn outside the classroom.

**Linda Lumsden** published an article entitled "How Independent? An Analysis of GE13 Coverage by Malaysia's Online News Portals" in the December issue of the *Malaysian Journal of Communication*.

**Mike McKisson** participated in a panel about alternative and non-traditional journalism at the Greater Tucson Leadership's media day May 9.

**Kim Newton** was invited to present images of recent work taken on trips to Japan and India at the American Society of Media



# Dangers facing border reporters focus of research

Often scholarly work stays in the hands of the researcher.

Celeste González de Bustamante wants to change that.

The associate professor in the School of Journalism and an affiliated faculty member of the Center for Latin American Studies has spent the last year on sabbatical in Mexico City, teaching and furthering research conducted with fellow professor Jeannine Relly on violence against journalists in northern Mexico.

The two interviewed dozens of journalists, resulting in the creation of an open-access archive called The Documented Border that will be housed in Special Collections, part of the UA Library, and available on the library's website.

"We consider these interviews to be oral histories, so people who are interested in this issue can understand the innovative ways journalists are trying to work around limitations," González de Bustamante explained.

She arrived last fall at the Universidad Iberoamericana where she taught a global communications course for undergraduates and a class for master's students called Silence and Censorship in the Americas. Many of the graduate students are working journalists from different parts of the country who were taking a break from their reporting to pursue degrees, said González de Bustamante.



**González de Bustamante**



Photo by Hector Bustamante

**Associate Professor Celeste González de Bustamante chats with journalist Guillermo Espinoza in downtown Mexico City where she spent the last year on sabbatical.**

Part of her research has involved interviewing representatives of the many different journalism advocacy groups that look at issues of freedom of expression in the Americas and Mexico. There are dozens of these organizations in Mexico, said González de Bustamante, and "they all have a different piece of the pie that they're trying to work on."

Her and Relly's research looks at how those groups are working together to keep journalists safe. Their findings will be part of a book the two hope will be published in the next year or so on the dangers and changes related to reporting the border.

González de Bustamante, who teaches the UA's Beginning TV Reporting

and Production course as well as a class on Reporting the U.S.-Mexico Border, was one of three faculty members out of 2,600 across the university to be awarded the 1885 Distinguished Scholars Award by the university in May.

The award, which comes with a \$10,000 prize, acknowledges outstanding mid-career faculty who are both leading experts in their fields and highly valued contributors to the teaching, research and outreach missions of the UA, and are given to those with the "promise to catapult their disciplines to new levels of innovation."

School Director David Cuillier calls the award "an incredible honor for Dr. González de Bustamante, and truly well-deserved for her groundbreaking research in journalism along the U.S.-Mexico border."

Photographers (ASMP) board meeting. Newton traveled to Istanbul this summer to help train Afghan journalism professors on how to weave social media into class assignments.

**Jeannine Relly, Maggy Zanger and Shaira Fahmy's** manuscript titled "Democratic norms and forces of gatekeeping: A study of influences on Iraqi journalists' attitudes toward government information access" was accepted by *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*.

**Mort Rosenblum** took part in a free public discussion "Reporting Border Conflict: Stifled News, Lost Lives" sponsored this spring by the School of Journalism and the Overseas Press Club.

**Bill Schmidt** ran a management-training workshop for the senior leadership of Human Rights Watch, a global human rights organization based in New York City. The training was initially designed for senior editors at *The New York Times*.

**Carol Schwalbe** received the Leicester and Kathryn Sherrill Creative Teaching Award, sponsored by the University of Arizona Foundation. The award comes with \$2,500 and the placement of a plaque in the Student Union Memorial Center.

**Nancy Sharkey** was one of nine professors from throughout the UA to receive an award for teaching and mentoring from the Honors College. Sharkey also received an Innovative Learning Project

Catalyst Grant to develop smart videoconferencing in classes.

**Terry Wimmer** spoke Sept. 5-7 at the Chapman University Excellence in Journalism program sponsored by the Orange County Press Club in California. He led a session called Math for Dummies and a symposium on the *Orange County Register's* investigation into a fertility scandal that won a Pulitzer for investigative reporting in 1996.

**Maggy Zanger** has served as project director for the UA's partnership with Nangarhar University in Afghanistan that is helping Afghans build their own journalism program. The project, supported with a \$1 million grant by the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, ends this year.

## Ford Burkhart

Ford Burkhart says, “I’ve enjoyed working with J students this year – with newsroom interns at science and technology meetings in San Francisco, Baltimore and San Diego, and at two local magazines I help edit, the *Arizona Alumnus* magazine and *Edible Baja Arizona* magazine. Give a student the old Sherman Miller formulas for good feature writing and they show improvement overnight. What could be more fun?” Burkhart produces his own science writing, most recently a long profile of Skip Garcia, the new VP in charge of UA health sciences. He’s also a regular writer for AARP newsrooms. Recently, he’s reported on a twice-injured UA Para-Olympics athlete and the giant OSIRIS REx space mission (check the UA alumni website for links), and the latest in global photonics and optics. Burkhart also is still reworking that 1917 bungalow that he’s called home since 1946, his own “This Old House.”

## Jay Rochlin

Jay Rochlin is teaching, but not journalism. He is working part time for the Pima County Middle School bicycle safety program with students from Wakefield, Doolen and St. Gregory middle schools. Rochlin also is taking photos as chief photographer for his own (not yet registered) non-profit company, Pro-bono Photo. His recent clients include Catholic Community Services and Hope Animal Shelter. One of his photos was selected for display in Photographic Works’



Photo by Kate Harrison

**Current and past directors of the journalism program gathered for a memorial service for Professors Abe Chanin and Bill Greer, who died in February. From left, David Cuillier, Jacqueline Sharkey, Jim Patten, George Ridge and Don Carson.**

Curious Camera exhibit. He shot that picture with a plastic toy camera that he picked up for \$20. For physical fun, he is still spending plenty of time on his bike. Rochlin also says he is on Facebook where he loves keeping up on former students’ accomplishments (and non-accomplishments). He’s on Twitter and recently joined Instagram, but says “he doesn’t get it about Instagram yet.”

## Bruce Itule

Bruce Itule reports that he’s “still running an antiques store in Payson and trying not to get too crazy about the state of our state, its universities and journalism education.”

## Jim Patten

Since the death on July 15, 2013, of his wife of 57 years, Patricia Jean Patten, Jim Patten has relocated to Prescott. His new email address is [jimpatten712@gmail.com](mailto:jimpatten712@gmail.com).

## Jim Johnson

(Left) Professor Emeritus Jim Johnson and his spouse, Marilyn, signed copies of the book they wrote on Tucson artist Ted DeGrazia in front of the adobe chapel at the DeGrazia Gallery in Tucson. Order the book, published by UA Press, at: [www.uapress.arizona.edu/Books/bid2462.htm](http://www.uapress.arizona.edu/Books/bid2462.htm). The Johnsons plan to relocate to California’s Central Valley.

## George Ridge

Writes George Ridge: “The Ridge family, now 24 strong, celebrated George and Earlene’s 60th wedding anniversary with a reunion July 7-11 in Durango, Colo. Generally, the sun never sets on the extended Ridges.”

## Don Carson

Don Carson and his wife, Helen, continue to make their home in Tucson. He still keeps in touch with a number of alumni and is always happy to hear from grads of the journalism program. Email him at: [dcarson@email.arizona.edu](mailto:dcarson@email.arizona.edu).

## Comings and Goings

Professor **Jim Mitchell** retired in December 2013 and is catching more baseball games and working on the next novel in his Brinker series. Adjunct instructor **Rogelio Garcia** was hired to replace him.

Award-winning academic adviser **Renée Schafer Horton** left the UA for an advising leadership position at Pima Community College in July.

Assistant Professor **Kevin R. Kemper** is now conducting research full-time for the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

The school is currently searching for a new tenure-track assistant professor in science/environmental journalism to start in fall 2015.





## School loses two veteran professors in Greer, Chanin

The School of Journalism mourned two former faculty members, **Abraham S. Chanin** and **William F. Greer**, who passed away this year after distinguished service to the school and profession.

Chanin, 92, who died Feb. 1, taught for 12 years in the UA journalism program, serving for a time as interim department head. He spent 1940-1976 at the *Arizona Daily Star* as a reporter and sports editor. The School of Journalism continues to give out its top sports reporting award in his name each year.

Chanin was probably best known for his 1979 book *They Fought Like Wildcats*, considered by many to be the most complete history of UA athletics ever written.

He was “absolutely one of the giants,” recalled 1982 graduate Hans Laetz in a Feb. 1 Facebook post. “*They Fought Like Wildcats* is one of the best sports history books I have ever read.”

Chanin and his spouse, Mildred, who died in 2012, also published the *Arizona Jewish Post* from 1956 to 1965. In 1988 he was named director of the Bloom Southwest Jewish Archives at the UA, a post he held until 1994.

Laetz’s favorite Abe Chanin story illustrates his professor’s old-school manner.

“In 1978 the *Arizona Daily Wildcat* got the first newsroom computers in Arizona. I was in Chanin’s editorial writing class. It took me about five seconds to figure out that typing on a computer was much faster, easier and idiot proof than typing on paper. So I wrote my first class assignment, that first night, on a Wildcat computer and sent it to the crappy line-printer. The next morning I happily handed it in to the professor. He

“What’s made Bill Greer such a cherished teacher by so many is that he always sees the potential in every student.”



Archival photo

One of Professor Bill Greer’s favorite duties in the school was mentoring students from diverse communities, such as 2008 grad Nathan Olivarez-Giles.



Photo courtesy of Beth Rudolph

Abe Chanin

looked at it, looked at me, and said, ‘Not double-spaced. But it’s the future.’ And he took it.”

• • •

Bill Greer, who taught decades of students the basics of photojournalism, died Feb. 8 in San Diego. He was 68.

Greer joined the UA journalism program in 1980 after a dozen years with The Associated Press in roles that ranged from Arizona state editor to broadcast executive. When he left the AP in 1980, he was managing its bureau on the U.S.-Mexico border.

Greer, who retired from the UA in 2008, also was adviser to *The Tombstone Epitaph* and directed the school’s diversity program by recruiting, advising and mentoring students from minority communities.

While serving as adviser to *The Epitaph*, the newspaper UA students have produced for that historic Arizona town since 1975, Greer and his students won more than 60 awards for excellence in the Arizona Newspapers Association statewide competition from 1996 to 2005.

Susan Knight, an associate professor of practice in the School of Journalism, taught alongside Greer since 1991. “What’s made Bill Greer such a cherished teacher by so many is that he always sees the potential in every student,” said Knight. “Bill viewed students on a path of life-learning in addition to building specific knowledge in their major. Students appreciated that perspective.”

Susan Knight,  
associate professor of practice



## Well-traveled journalism student grateful to faculty who pushed her

**B**rittney Mejia was a backpack journalist before it was cool.

“When I was a kid, I went around with a backpack and a recorder and just recorded people,” recalled Mejia, who graduated from the UA in May with a journalism degree, a paid summer fellowship and a slew of awards and honors on her resume.

Mejia jumped into journalism by producing a newsletter in eighth grade, but had no journalism training in high school since those electives were routinely cut.

But she listened and observed as her father’s military career took the family around the globe: California, England, New Mexico, Germany. Journalism seemed like a good fit for her curious nature, she said. Mejia selected the University of Arizona – sight unseen – after researching its programs and faculty, and hasn’t regretted the decision.

“I loved the professors so much,” said Mejia, who spent the summer following graduation as a Pulliam fellow at the *Arizona Republic* in Phoenix. “I had the opportunity



Photo by Michael McKisson

**Brittney Mejia found video and multimedia skills were highly in demand during her fellowship at The Arizona Republic this summer.**

to meet some great people and I wouldn’t have had those opportunities if some people didn’t push me.”

The summers of her freshman and sophomore years, Mejia returned to Germany, where her parents and sister still live, to intern at a German publishing house. The next year, Professor Jeannine Relly encouraged her to apply for a prestigious Chips Quinn internship. She landed at the *Oakland Tribune* where the highlight of her tenure was three Page One bylines earned in one day.

After her Oakland internship, Mejia returned to the UA to become editor-in-chief of the *Daily Wildcat*. During her senior year, she also interned at *The New York Times*’ Phoenix bureau, led the school’s

Arizona Sonora News and was an apprentice at the *Arizona Daily Star*. *The Nogales International* even hired her – while still a student – to fill in for a vacationing reporter this spring.

Following her fellowship at the *Republic*, Mejia was off to LA for a prestigious Met-Pro internship at the *Los Angeles Times*. She minored in Arabic at the UA and dreams of becoming a foreign correspondent.

Professor Michael McKisson doesn’t doubt that Mejia will do well.

“Brittney is one of those students who makes professors excited about teaching,” he said. “She is energetic, curious and passionate about journalism ... and while she was a wonderful student, she is an even better reporter.”

## ASN/Community Journalism effort emphasizes digital-first reporting

**A**n expanded digital-first converged school media class is giving students more opportunities for professional clips and providing Arizona news outlets more stories for their communities.

This fall Arizona Sonora News is providing more than 40 students the chance to work in teams to produce in-depth written and video coverage of the border, Arizona communities, science, public affairs and other topics. The converged class includes a new data journalism team, investigations reporters, and social media editors.

alumni know, the school has a long tradition of providing engaged learning opportunities to supply news for Arizona communities, including *The Tombstone Epitaph* newspaper and the bilingual publication *El Independiente* that has served South Tucson since 1976.

To better prepare students for the demands of today’s newsrooms – producing written stories accompanied by audio, video, graphics, digital elements and social media promotion – the school is focusing its efforts on serving a broader scope of communities, all building on the school’s past fundamentals.



Photo by Samantha Sais

**Arizona Sonora News student Stephanie Casanova photographs a Wilbur the Wildcat suit for a multimedia piece about the school’s mascot and traditions.**

The “teaching hospital” model isn’t new. As

See ASN, page 12



# Parents' journey inspires award-winning student

When Amer Taleb speaks, most people weep.

The journalism senior has accumulated an impressive resume so far, and was named the distinguished student by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences as part of Homecoming festivities Nov. 9, 2013. He was chosen for the honor from among more than 5,000 students in the College and spoke to a crowd at McKale Center.

The following is an edited version of the speech he gave after accepting the award, which left people stunned and touched:

"Years ago a little girl was born in a poor Mexican village. Maria had one set of clothes, no running water and parents who, although loving, were very inept. At times, things were so bad, she and her family actually had to live in a cave. That level of poverty is one I think many of us, maybe all of us, can't even begin to understand.

"Her family migrated to the U.S. and in spite of living in a household ravaged by alcohol and drug abuse, she thrived academically.

"The University of Arizona noticed her. And by educating Maria, saved her from a perennial cycle of poverty she was otherwise doomed to.

"On the other side of the world, at a time when Maria would have still been a young girl, bullets and bombs were destroying the childhood of a young man. Living in a Sunni enclave in Tripoli during the Lebanese



Photo by Kate Harrison

## Amer Taleb receives the distinguished student award from SBS Dean J.P. Jones.

Civil War, Azzam was too young to process the complexities of sectarian violence but old enough to understand that he was living in a war zone.

"Through a very strenuous, sad, ironic, joyous and ultimately triumphant journey, Azzam made it to Tucson on a scholarship to study business. And by admitting him to its university, the UA, quite possibly, saved his life.

"Maria and Azzam. Success stories. UA graduates. And, my parents.

"My mom and dad personify the transformative power of a UA education. And the greatest gift the UA ever gave them, was hope.

"Growing up in their household, my parents were a tough act to follow. But I think I've managed to do all right.

"Over the course of my three years at the UA, I've worked or interned for more than 15 outlets, including CNN, *The New York Times*, The Associated Press, *The Nation* and Scripps Howard.

"That in just a few years I could go from one of the poorest schools on the east side of Tucson to covering an inauguration or working for CNN speaks volumes about the UA, its mission, and the system it implements to foster student achievement.

"The UA represents many things: learning, growth, hard work. But I think near the top of that list would be opportunity. The idea that you can start off in a cave in the middle of nowhere or stuck in the midst of a civil war, and it's still possible for you study at one of the best universities on the planet, is nothing short of a miracle."



Photo by Samantha Sais

**Professor Nancy Sharkey congratulates Kyle Johnson, winner of the Abe Chanin Excellence in Sports Reporting Award.**

## Students earn Just Desserts

The School of Journalism on May 15 honored dozens of journalism students at the annual Just Desserts awards celebration.

Faculty handed out awards for reporting, professionalism, photography, innovation and a host of other categories. More than 200 students, faculty and family members attended the event.

See [bit.ly/jourwinners2014](http://bit.ly/jourwinners2014) for a complete list of award and scholarship recipients. Some of the top award winners included:

- Jade Nunes: B.P. Campbell Outstanding Junior

- Derek Evans: Kathryn Anne Gervernal Perseverance Award
- Jason Davis: Outstanding Graduate Student
- Brittany Mejia: Philip Mangelsdorf Outstanding Newsperson
- Yoohyun Jung and Caitlin Schmidt: Douglas Martin Courage and Integrity Award
- Mariana Dale: Sherman Miller Outstanding Senior
- Michael McKisson, assistant professor of practice: Hugh and Jan Harelson Excellence in Teaching Award



# Endowed awards honor beginning reporters, photogs

Journalism students in beginning newswriting and photography courses took home honors and cash awards in separate competitions this year.

Six students were honored as winners of the new Drew Gyorke Photojournalism Contest. The competition is named for a journalism student with a passion for photography who was killed in a Tucson car accident in spring 2013. His family and friends raised more than \$25,000 to create an endowment in his name that honors three students each semester who take the best photos in the required photojournalism course.

The three winners each semester – and up to nine other beginning photojournalism students – have their images displayed in the halls of the School of Journalism. First-place winners also have their names etched on a plaque exhorting students to “Shoot for the best, shoot for the stars.”

The school also hosts an endowed writing award, the Finley contest, for students in the beginning writing/reporting class. Students who took part in the most-recent contest attended a press conference with Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild. He talked about his economic vision for Tucson, then took questions from the students, who then had one hour to write and complete a news story.

The newswriting contest is named for Mark Finley, a UA graduate, a journalist and assistant for the publisher of Hearst’s Boston newspaper for 17 years.



Photo by McKinzie Frisbie

## 2013-14 winners:

### Fall 2013 Gyorke contest

- First – Corina Gallardo
- Second – Kathryn Mailliard
- Third – Liza Rubin

### Fall 2013 Finley contest

- First – Katelyn Kennon
- Second – Jalyn Wheatley
- Third – Cassandra Manriquez

### Spring 2014 Gyorke contest

- First – McKinzie Frisbie
- Second – Karen Schaffner
- Third – Joshua Nothnagle

### Spring 2014 Finley contest

- First – Melissa Hughes
- Second – Joshua Nothnagle
- Third – Abby Friedemann



Photo by Corina Gallardo

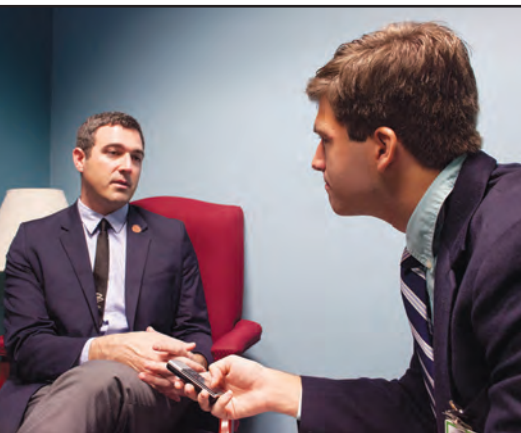


Photo by Samantha Sais

**Dan Desrochers (right), who served as the 2014 Don Bolles Fellow, interviewed Demion Clinco, the only openly gay member of the Arizona House of Representatives, about the controversial SB1062 bill at the Arizona State Capitol.**

## ASN from page 10

Community News Service, started in the '70s by Professor Don Carson, morphed several years ago into Arizona Sonora News, providing the best journalism being produced by UA J-School students to readers and media outlets.

Each spring, under the aegis of Arizona Sonora News, a journalism student serves as the Don Bolles fellow, covering the Arizona Legislature. Bolles was the *Arizona Republic* reporter investigating organized crime who was killed in 1976 after a bomb was placed under his car.

The family foundation of journalism grad Joni Hirsch Blackman '82 funds the cost to send a UA student to Phoenix each year. Dan Desrochers, the 2014 fellow, posted weekly overviews of Capitol news as well

as longer stories on topics such as the controversial bill that would have allowed businesses to deny service for religious reasons.

Joe Sharkey, a veteran *New York Times* contributor who taught the ASN class in spring 2014, was pleased with the coverage students received in newspapers from *Inside Tucson Business* and the *Arizona Republic* to *Lake Havasu Times* and the *Casa Grande Dispatch*.

“As we continue to come up with smart news features on compelling subjects, and fill in gaps that the commercial media are missing in Arizona, ASN is making a name for itself, and for the university, in real-world journalism,” said Sharkey.

This fall 2014, the school faculty will look closely at what media structures will provide the best education for students and



# Internships took J-School students to New York, Cairo and points beyond

Graduate student Sam McNeil joined The Associated Press in the Middle East this fall on a prestigious Overseas Press Club Fellowship.

McNeil was among 14 aspiring foreign correspondents selected by a panel of leading journalists from a pool of 175 applicants from 65 different colleges and universities, according to the OPC Foundation. His master's project was a documentary on environmental degradation in Tunisia.

McNeil, who graduated in May with a dual master's in journalism and Middle Eastern and North African Studies, traveled to New York this spring to accept the honor. The trip included \$3,000, an awards luncheon, a visit to the AP's "nerve center" and a behind-the-scenes look at the CBS News set. (Fun fact McNeil shared in his note to faculty: "Scott Pelley wore purple pants with white stripes behind the desk.")

In a letter to faculty mentors, McNeil credits "the UA's strong ability, which predates me, to compete with schools across the world."

McNeil wasn't the only UA student practicing journalism this summer. Yoohyun Jung and Mariana Dale were among 24



Photo courtesy of Sam McNeil

**Sam McNeil was able to tour the CBS News studios while in New York for an Overseas Press Club luncheon.**

students nationwide selected to take part in The New York Times Student Journalism Institute held this spring at Dillard University in New Orleans. Jung worked as a photographer and Dale as a multimedia journalist.

From New Orleans, Jung and Dale joined fellow students Kyle Mittan and Brittny Mejia as Pulliam fellows at the *Arizona Republic*. Internship coordinator Lisa Button reports that that is the most UA students ever to earn the highly competitive internship in one summer.

### Other students interning this summer & fall include:

- **Justin Sayers**, Dow Jones News Fund intern, Hartford Courant
- **Joey Putrelo**, Universal Sports Network
- **Rose Valenzuela**, Cape Cod Baseball League
- **Kimberly Cain**, Good Morning America
- **Shannon Lilly**, Fox 21, Colorado Springs
- **Chelsea Hemphill**, Fox 5, Washington, D.C.
- **Gabby Ferreira**, Jewish Post, Dallas
- **Britain Eakin**, Investigative Reporting Workshop, Washington, D.C.
- **Liza Rubin**, Women's Fitness Australia

serve communities best. All the school media students, including the video-oriented students who produce a Cat's Eye news show, have been combined into one class – a truly converged newsroom, with the focus on producing good reporting for broader reach in Arizona and beyond.

Students will be able to travel the region for their reporting, thanks to the creation of the new endowed Jacqueline Sharkey Watchdog Journalism Fund.

"The UA journalism program has such an amazing tradition in getting students out into the real world to produce real journalism that benefits real people," school Director David Cuillier said. "We want to build on that and provide a learning environment that prepares students for the demands of today's newsrooms."



**Stephanie Casanova (right) and Jade Nunes interview Forrest Gmitro on his experience as Wilbur the Wildcat for a story for Arizona Sonora News.**

Photo by Samantha Sais



# Suited

for a

# New Age

## Grad student shoots for the moon in documentary

The pursuit of happiness can make people do crazy things. Just ask Jason Davis.

The May UA journalism grad had a well-paying job in Chicago. He and his wife were expecting their first child. Life was good.

“But I wasn’t happy,” said Davis, who has a self-professed love affair with the space industry. It wasn’t enough to blog about spaceflight in his spare time, so he followed his dream to pair his interest in spacecraft with his writing skills to try to create a career in science journalism.

“The realization that I wanted to do something that made me happy was a big deal in my life,” said Davis, who has had a fascination with the U.S. space program since the Challenger disaster. So he and his spouse, Jessica Manvell, packed up and moved across the country in 2012 so Davis could enroll in the UA’s master’s program in journalism.

“When he started to rediscover his interest in space and his ability to write really well, it became clear this was what he was meant to do,” Manvell said. “It was really important to both of us to make it happen.”

Davis chose the UA, he said, because of its world-class space sciences program. That provided access to dozens of scientists he was able to interview during his course of study.

The culmination of his time at the UA was production of a 30-minute film called

“Desert Moon” that tells the story of Gerard P. Kuiper, a Dutch astronomer considered a pioneer in modern planetary science, and specifically Kuiper’s fascination with the moon. Davis shot and co-produced the film as a paid NASA Space Grant Fellow, then based his master’s project on the same subject.

“Desert Moon” premiered June 28 at the UA’s Flandrau Science Center and Planetarium. Among the guests were former astronaut Mark Kelly, the narrator of the film, Kelly’s spouse, former U.S. Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, and two retired UA planetary scientists who worked with Kuiper and are featured in the documentary (see trailer at <http://flandrau.org/exhibits/desert-moon>).

“I feel like I’ve done some good work and that I’ve become a member of the space journalism community now. I was on the outside looking in until I finished,” Davis said.

His newly-earned master’s degree and the skills Davis developed and refined at the School of Journalism earned him a full-time



Photo by Shipherd Reed

**Jason Davis poses with retired astronaut Mark Kelly at Flandrau Science Center and Planetarium. Kelly narrated Davis’ documentary film “Desert Moon.”**

job as a media producer for The Planetary Society, which was co-founded by Carl Sagan and is currently led by Chief Executive Officer Bill Nye, the creator of “Bill Nye the Science Guy” and other shows.

“I can’t believe this really worked and that





Photo by Shipherd Reed

Davis donned a spacesuit in Saguaro National Park East to be photographed for a movie poster promoting his “Desert Moon” film.

“I’ll be doing something I really love,” Davis said.

In the journalism program, Davis was able to refine his writing and multimedia skills, working closely with his adviser, Professor Carol Schwalbe, who spent much of her career with *National Geographic*, and Professor Kim Newton, who worked in Africa, Asia and the Middle East as a photo editor for major news wires.

Schwalbe has been leading the effort in the school to create a science/environmental

journalism niche that directly influenced Davis’ future. Schwalbe teaches several classes in science journalism, and the school is about to launch a class in environmental journalism in spring 2015.

“Whereas I thought I was a decent writer before going to grad school, going showed me I wasn’t as great as I thought I was,” Davis said. “I learned how to work with editors, how to take constructive criticism, and I definitely refined my techniques from writing to shooting video to interviewing.

“It was definitely a great move for me to get launched into this new career.”

Both Davis and Manvell said they hope their daughter, Marian, who turned 2 on Sept. 20, follows her own dreams and sees the value in earning advanced degrees if that leads her to find happiness.

“I think it’ll be a neat story for her to hear about what her crazy parents decided to do,” Manvell said. “It’s hopefully a good example for her that it can be worth it to follow your dreams.”



# Future media

## New classes expose students to apps, online journalism

**N**eed information and news? We have an app class for that.

Assistant Professor Michael McKisson started teaching a new class in spring 2014 that shows students how to develop news apps for mobile devices that do social good.

The first third of the semester students learn basic html and programming while developing their app ideas. Students interview sources who would potentially benefit from the app

to determine whether the users would consider it useful.

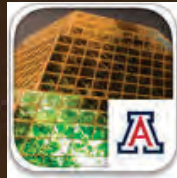
A panel that included three staffers from the *Arizona Daily Star*, including Rob Wisner, the *Star*'s director of innovation, who co-taught the class with McKisson, listened to the students' pitches. The panel narrowed the projects to the top four, with the project's creator serving as team leader to bring the idea to reality:

- The Giving Game: Helps the Southern Arizona Food Bank

assemble emergency food boxes by getting users to participate in a scavenger hunt for the items needed to make up the box. <http://bit.ly/givinggame>

- Water Conservation Station: Offers conservation resources, water facts and a quiz for users to calculate their water usage. <http://bit.ly/waterstation>

- Budget Bites: Helps those receiving public assistance make healthy food choices and stretch their benefits by making more meals with fresh ingredients instead of with processed food.



An airplane streaks across the sky past the geodesic dome atop Mount Lemmon. The dome was originally developed by the Air Force as a radar-tracking facility. A story on Mount Lemmon Sky Center was featured in a print magazine and iPad app created by UA students called Sky View.



<http://bit.ly/budgetbites>

• **Paw Poster:** Allows users to post their lost pets or pets that they have found with a description and geo-location. <http://bit.ly/pawposterapp>

Drew McCullough, who created the water conservation app, was hired shortly after his May 17 graduation as an online content producer for the *Arizona Daily Star*. McCullough said he “absolutely enjoyed the class,” and is convinced the skills he learned in McKisson’s class are “a major reason why I got the job.”

McKisson said the class wasn’t meant to turn students into computer programmers, but “it’s a way to get them to think about news in a different way.” That’s important, stressed McKisson, who cited a Pew Research Center study revealing that 60 percent of tablet users and 61 percent of smartphone users get their news from mobile devices.

School Director David Cuillier said the class is just one of several initiatives by the school to meld the fundamentals of journalism with new technol-

ogy emerging in a multimedia world. The Arizona Sonora News class has expanded its offerings in digital media and the school created a new class in advanced multimedia.

McKisson said he was gratified by the number of “ah ha” moments in the class, including the one by a senior who admitted on the course evaluation that he hadn’t been sure where his journalism education would take him. “Now I have direction,” he wrote. “Now I know what I want to do.”

## Journalism from chalkboard to tablet

Journalism students are developing tablet apps to help spread science information.

Recent master’s-degree recipient Jason Davis created two iPad apps for magazines produced by students. In spring 2013, he was part of the Multimedia Storytelling: Science and Technology class, taught by Professor Carol Schwalbe, that created a multimedia magazine called *Scientific Tucsonan*. He volunteered to serve as editor of the magazine, then taught himself

InDesign and the logistics of designing an app, said Schwalbe. Davis also created an app for *SkyView*, a print magazine produced by science journalism students in fall 2013.

“Jason exemplifies a journalist who can do it all,” said Schwalbe. “He can write, shoot and edit photos and video, do simple animations, create websites and produce apps.”

Download the free apps by going to the iTunes Store, then search for “Scientific Tucsonan” and “SkyView Magazine.”



Photo by Samantha Sais

Michael McKisson (left), who created the apps class, was presented with the school’s Harelson Teaching Award this spring by Director David Cuillier.



## Advisory council chair means business when it comes to journalism

Sixty years ago, you might have found Jon Rowley crouched around a linotype machine, dirty rag in hand. Today, you're likely to find him perched atop a horse, riding herd on 300 head of cattle that roam his southeastern Arizona ranch.

But journalism remains the thread that connects them both.

Rowley, a 1966 UA journalism graduate who chairs the school's external advisory council, was raised around printing presses and newsrooms, thanks to his family's ownership of several newspapers and radio stations in northeastern Ohio.

As a kid, he cleaned out the ink from under the presses and

delivered papers. Once he reached high school age, he put together classifieds and display ads and filled in for vacationing employees. At the UA, he majored in journalism, though he knew his career path lay on the business side of the industry, not as a journalist.

The financial part of the field proved fascinating. Since Rowley Publications also owned several radio stations, the family had access to microwave towers, which they used at

**“When I came into the program, we started on typewriters and we ended on typewriters. Now, they may start reporting on iPhones and end on pinkie rings.”**

**— Jon Rowley**

their newspapers so the advertising staffs could communicate with one another. That's ancient technology today, but unheard of in the 1960s and '70s, said Rowley. It gave them a huge competitive advantage.

Meanwhile, Rowley's parents had been traveling to Phoenix and Sasabe by train, trading Ohio winters for stays at dude ranches. In the early 1950s, they bought their own chunk of land near Arivaca — about 60 miles southwest of Tucson — eventually rehabbing a nearly 100-year-old mud adobe ranch house. It's the same structure, thanks to a 2009 makeover, that Rowley and his spouse, Peggy '89, call home today.

His parents, said Jon, “didn't know diddly about ranching” when they came to Arizona in the 1950s. Frankly, neither did Jon and Peggy when they moved west 30 years later after his family had sold off the newspapers that Rowley Publications owned.

“Peggy and I said, ‘Let's go to Arizona and learn how to ranch,’”



**Jon Rowley was named 2013 Cattleman of the Year by the Arizona Hereford Association.**

Jon recalled. Learn it, they did. Today, they work their own cattle ranch, located in the midst of more than 30,000 acres of government and privately owned land.

A typical day can range from climbing atop a horse and herding cattle to using the front loader to dig a grave for a deceased animal. And like fellow ranchers in this part of the country, the Rowleys, whose ranch is 30 miles from the U.S.-Mexico border, see first-



# From headlines to herding



*Photo by Kate Harrison*

hand the price many migrants pay trying to enter the United States.

The Rowleys have invited journalism students down to their ranch to observe and write about the immigration issue. They also raise money for the program, says Jon, “because it takes money to produce that finished product: the student. We need a stable and well-funded School of Journalism that can weather the ups and downs of the industry.”

It’s an industry that has changed exponentially since Rowley’s days as a student taking classes with the “gruff and grizzly” Sherman Miller, who led the UA journalism program from 1958 to 1967.

“When I came into the program, we started on typewriters and we ended on typewriters,” Rowley observed. “Now, they may start reporting on iPhones and end on pinkie rings.”





Photo by Ravonelle Yazzie

Candace Begody chats with constituents at a presidential forum sponsored by the *Navajo Times*.

## Grad gives voice to Native issues

Candace Begody has crashed through so many glass ceilings, she may need to invest in a hard hat.

Founding president of the UA's Native American Journalists Association chapter. First – and youngest (at age 24) – woman editor of the *Navajo Times*, the largest Native American newspaper in the country. National winner of a “40 Under 40” award by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development.

It's all in a day's work for the 2010 J-School alum, who wasn't sure she'd survive her first year at the UA, let alone graduate. When her older brother died during Begody's first year at the UA, she was convinced she should leave the UA and return home. Mentors like Karen Begay, assistant vice president for tribal relations at the UA, helped her persevere, Begody recalled.

At the UA, she did more than persevere. She took on leadership roles, launching the university chapter of the Native American Journalists Association and the journal, *Native Perspectives*.

Assistant Professor Jeannine Relly met Begody when she first entered the journalism program. “Candace was a tremendous student leader during her years in the School of Journalism and a wonderful mentor to fellow students,” said Relly. “One of Candace's many great qualities is that she always knows that the project is possible and doesn't become distracted by challenges

that others may perceive as barriers.”

In her current position as *Navajo Times* editor — a post she's held for two years — Begody oversees production of a 36-page weekly newspaper that encompasses three states and 27,000 square miles, as well as bordering communities such as Phoenix and Albuquerque. She heads a staff of more than a dozen, including several interns and correspondents in remote locations.

The *Navajo Times* is unique, said Begody, because it's a for-profit entity whose shareholders are the Navajo people. Most native newspapers are owned and editorially controlled by their tribes.

“The *Navajo Times* is really the leader in journalism in native country,” said Begody. “What we do, a lot of other native journalists are watching. We try to hold our tribal leaders accountable.”

Begody said her biggest challenge – and opportunity – is being a 26-year-old woman in such a high-profile position.

“I'm always in the public eye, so I seem to never have a private life,” said Begody with a laugh. “People criticize you no matter what you do. And people think you can't do the job because you're young or a woman or both.

“Whenever I'm in meetings, it's nothing but men. White men, Native men, Hispanic men. So I'm making sure I have a seat at the table.”

**“Whenever I'm in meetings, it's nothing but men. White men, Native men, Hispanic men. So I'm making sure I have a seat at the table.”**

**– Candace Begody**





Photo courtesy of Curson Estate

Shirley Curson never worked as a journalist, but she was an avid news consumer who valued the role journalism plays in society.

## Donor valued world travel for students

The School of Journalism mourned the loss this past year of Shirley D. Curson, who had a passion for helping journalism students travel the world. Curson died April 20 after a full life of world travel.

The native New Yorker had lived in Tucson and attended school functions

with an interest in seeing students expand their horizons. She funded the \$50,000 endowed Shirley D. Curson Travel Fund to help journalism students study abroad and travel to other countries for reporting projects. While never a journalist, she valued the role journalism plays in informing the world.

She once said: "I want to help young people do things they normally couldn't afford. My gifts should be viewed as 'education plus,' that is I wanted to augment what they are learning in the classroom by going outside of Tucson to visit major museums or to travel to other parts of the world."

## Harelson Endowment has goal of \$2 million to help students

The Hugh and Jan Harelson Operations Endowment is making a difference in students' lives, and it will continue to do so forever.

Last year Matt and Julie Harelson, through Julie's family Briskin Foundation, pledged to match up to \$25,000 in contributions toward the endowment, and the campaign was a success. About \$60,000 was added to the endowment, bringing it to nearly \$200,000. The goal is to raise \$2 million within the next five years, particularly through legacy gifts in donors' wills.

Hugh Harelson, who died in 1998, devoted his life to the news industry in Arizona, and his spouse, Jan, is a longtime Journalism Advisory Council member and lives in Phoenix.

Matt is their son.

Arizona State University's journalism program raised \$15 million toward its endowments in the 1990s, which helped it become an independent school. Some schools have raised hundreds of millions of dollars.

Interest earned on the endowment goes toward school expenses, including computing services for students, student travel and new equipment.

"Every bit helps," School Director David Cuillier said. "A gift to the Harelson Endowment will help students, journalism – and ultimately society – forever."

To give to the fund, go to journalism.arizona.edu/supportuaj.

## Wildcat alumni are Hall of Famers

Several alumni of the School of Journalism were inducted into the *Arizona Daily Wildcat* Hall of Fame Jan. 25: Joni Hirsch Blackman '82, Joe Cole '61, John D'Anna '83, Mark Emmons '84, Gordon Evans '58, Tim Fuller '75, Ryan Gabrielson, J. Jennings Moss '87, Dorothy Parvaz '97 and Frank Rizzo. Read bios on all the winners at: [bit.ly/wildcatHOF2014](http://bit.ly/wildcatHOF2014).

In addition, alumni winning Young Alumni Awards included Brett Fera '05, Kelly Lewis '08, Aaron Mackey '06, Lance Madden '10 and Arek Sarkissian II '03. Read their bios at: [bit.ly/youngwildcat2014](http://bit.ly/youngwildcat2014).

# Donor honor roll

The School of Journalism is extremely grateful to the alumni, friends and foundations who supported us in Fiscal Year 2013-14 (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014).

## Gifts of more than \$5,000

Judy & Bernard Briskin  
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## Ways to Give

Want to join fellow alumni and friends in keeping journalism strong? Here's how to help:

**Give online:** Visit [journalism.arizona.edu](http://journalism.arizona.edu) and click on the "Donate Now" link on the left side of the page, then follow the prompts.

**Make it recurring:** Follow the steps above, then check the box that says "recurring gift." If your credit card expires before the ending date, the gifts stop at the expiration date.

**Mail:** Make your check payable to UA Foundation/Journalism and mail to: University of Arizona School of Journalism, Marshall Building Room 334, Tucson, AZ 85721-0158.

**Employer matching gifts:** Some employers match 1-1 or 2-1 on contributions. This is a powerful way to leverage your support. Go to [bit.ly/uagiftmatch](http://bit.ly/uagiftmatch) to find out if your company matches.

**Appreciated stocks, real estate, life insurance:** Support can be creative, depending on how you want to make a special gift.

**Planned gifts:** Leave your legacy by including the school in your will through a variety of vehicles, such as bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts and retirement accounts.

The No. 1 priority for the school is building the Hugh and Jan Harelson Operations Endowment to \$2 million to pay for a variety of initiatives. All donations are tax-deductible. Gifts of \$5,000 or more are assessed a 6 percent fee by the UA Foundation, and the UA charges a 3 percent fee on credit cards. Endowed funds of at least \$10,000 live on forever.

For more information, contact school Outreach Coordinator Kate Harrison at 520-626-3079 ([kateh@email.arizona.edu](mailto:kateh@email.arizona.edu)) or school Director David Cuillier, 520-626-9694 ([cuillier@email.arizona.edu](mailto:cuillier@email.arizona.edu)).

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Photo by Michael McKisson

**Mariana Dale was among the many journalism students benefiting from scholarships established by generous alumni and friends.**

William Cowle '85  
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Paul Johnson  
Christine Jones '78  
Paula Johnston Kelso '91  
Annemarie Korp '93  
Barbara Lacey

John Lacy '64  
Hans Laetz '82  
John Lindback '76  
Mary Lippman '80  
Mama's Family Restaurants  
Lorraine & Howard McKinley  
Renee Calderon Munro '73  
National Press Photographers Association  
Kitty Jo Parker Nelson  
Elizabeth Nida '96  
Ann Farver Norton '83  
Jim Patten  
Gerry Pedroncelli  
Shari & Frank Pedroncelli  
Cecelia Perry '10  
Linda Platts '86  
Raytheon Corp.  
David & Cynthia Real  
Robert Roth '76  
Mary Louise Sassé  
Mark Scarp  
Coralee & Leslie Schellie  
Michele Schulze '77  
Gayle Runke Siroky '60  
Robert Walker '57  
Margo Warren '76 & H. Darr  
Beiser '76  
Paul Wattles '78  
Paul & Elizabeth Weintraub  
Kathleen Wilson '71  
Mark Woodhams  
Kathryn Epperson Young '91  
Steve Yozwiak '77  
Robert Zucker '77



# School of Journalism grads among Pulitzer notables

Four graduates of the University of Arizona School of Journalism were among the winners and finalists announced in April by the Pulitzer Prize committee.

**Brian Ballou**, a 1992 UA graduate who, as a general assignment reporter at *The Boston Globe*, was part of the team that won in the breaking news reporting category for the paper's coverage of the Boston Marathon bombing. *The Globe* also won a number of Sigma Delta Chi awards from the Society of Professional Journalists.

Ballou, who earned his master's in journalism from Columbia University in 1998, reported for the *Detroit Free Press*, the *Los Angeles Times* and *Newsday* before joining *The Globe*. In a video on *The Boston Globe's* website, Ballou talked about reporting. "I think that journalism is a calling. It's not for everyone. It's a very tough job. There are a lot of things about it that demand a certain type of character. But if you're that type of person, it's one of the most rewarding jobs out there."

See the *Globe's* Pulitzer-winning coverage at: <http://www.pulitzer.org/works/2014-Breaking-News-Reporting>.

The *Arizona Republic* was named a finalist in the breaking news category for their coverage of the 2013 Arizona wildfire that killed 19 firefighters. UA journalism alumni **John D'Anna** '83, a Page One editor at

the *Republic*, and **Abe Kwok** '88, a senior platform digital manager, were key members of the team coverage. D'Anna also is a member of the UA School of Journalism Advisory Council. See [http://www.pulitzer.org/2014\\_breaking\\_news\\_reporting\\_finalist\\_1](http://www.pulitzer.org/2014_breaking_news_reporting_finalist_1).

In addition, 1982 graduate **Cynthia Hubert** was a finalist for the Pulitzer in investigative reporting for the five-part series "Nevada Patient Busing."

She and her colleague at the *Sacramento Bee* previously won the 2013 Worth Bingham Prize for Investigative Journalism and a Polk Award for the series. Read it at <http://www.sacbee.com/2013/05/20/5432780/la-poised-to-go-after-las-vegas.html>.

Other UA journalism grads also are garnering attention for their reporting. **Jim Steinberg**, a reporter at the *San Bernardino Sun*, did a project on continued contamination of drinking water in the town of Hinkley, Calif., that won a 2014 Digital First Media award for watchdog journalism and a Sigma Delta Chi award. Steinberg earned a master's in journalism from the UA in 1972. See the Hinkley project at <http://www.sbsun.com/hinkley>.

**Savannah Guthrie**, co-host of NBC's Today Show, also was part of a team winning a Sigma Delta Chi award for their coverage of the Boston bombings. She's a 1993 UA journalism graduate.



**Brian Ballou '92** was part of the team that won in the breaking news reporting category for the *Boston Globe's* coverage of the Boston Marathon bombing.

## Alumni Notes

### 1938

**Mary-hill Gleason** shares the following: "I am 97 years old. I worked on the old Citizen, 10 years with Bechtel, and 25 years with Lockheed Missiles and Space. During my last seven years there, I was liaison to three admirals, writing their congressional presentations for Polaris and Trident Missiles. I dropped out of UofA before graduating to take care of my mother, who was dying. Jack O'Conner was my professor!"

### 1951

**David Feldman** is retired and living in San Diego where, he writes, he is "still kicking (but not as high)."

### 1961

**Jim Johnson's** biography on artist Ted De Grazia was published by the UA Press this spring. See story, Page 8.

### 1962

**Karen Despain** is a managing editor with Prescott Newspapers. Karen writes, "I won't tell you how old I am – but you can

probably guess. I am still going strong in the news business. Cheers to the memory of Sherman Miller – without him, I would have had no career as a journalist."



**Carolyn Niethammer** with spouse, **Ford Burkhart**.

### 1966

**Carolyn Niethammer** has published her first novel and 10th book, *The Piano Player* (Oak Tree Press). Some of the research was done when Carolyn accompanied her husband, Ford Burkhart, on many trips to

Tombstone when he was the adviser for *The Tombstone Epitaph* in the 1980s and 90s. The book is available from all bookstores and on-line retailers in paper and e-book formats.

**Frank Sotomayor** married Barbara Benton on Aug. 24, 2013.

### 1968

**Susan Hymers** is the owner of Creative Copy Writing. She writes that she is "married, happy and still writing! I'm very proud to be a graduate of the UA School of Journalism. It was still a 'department' when I was in school." Susan lives in Aurora, Colo.

### 1971

**Patty Weiss Gelenberg** will be moving to downtown Seattle in early 2015, following her spouse's retirement.

### 1976

**Robert Roth** is a reporter with KTVU in Oakland.

1977

**Elinor J. "Ellie" Brecher**, a Wildcat Hall of Famer, retired on Sept. 20, 2013, after a 36-year career in newspaper journalism. She'd been *Wildcat* city editor and *Epitaph* news editor (and head waitress at El Charro downtown). Ellie spent the first 12 years of her career at the *Courier-Journal* in Louisville, had a Nieman Fellowship in 1988, went to the *Miami Herald* in 1989, was on the news staff that won the 1992 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for coverage of Hurricane Andrew, and in 1994 wrote a best-selling non-fiction book, *Schindler's Legacy: True Stories of the List Survivors* (Dutton). She hopes to return to Tucson (where there are no hurricanes) in the next year with her longtime partner, Jake, and their four dogs.

**Burt Schneider** is featured in a documentary about Zoom Records, the late 1950s record company that he and high school classmate Ray Lindstrom started when they were seniors at Catalina High School. The film, directed by Dan Kruse, won "Best of Arizona" at the 2013 Tucson International Film Festival. Schneider worked with Armed Forces Radio in New York and Taipei in the mid-1960s and was an announcer and news director at several Tucson radio stations. He retired in 2010 from the University of Arizona's NPR affiliate where he was afternoon host. See: <http://youtu.be/JVmh0SMbbqE>.

**Steve Yozwiak** is a senior science writer with Translational Genomics Research Institute in Phoenix. He has been with them for more than five years.

1978

**Paula Green** is still working with the United Nations in their Department of Public Information. She's a freelance journalist in New York City.

**Chuck Halnan** is a self-employed lobbyist in Sacramento. He writes that he "survived another year in California politics, saw the Rolling Stones three times, went to Germany, visited the Journalism School and the Wildcat at Homecoming, went to Panama and met Roberto Duran. Not a bad year ..."

1979

**Bill Bayne** has relocated from Tucson to Morrison, Colo., where he is substitute teaching in the Jefferson County School District.

## Send your news

OK, we all know the Alumni Notes are your favorite part of *The Cursor*. So why aren't more of you in here?

Send your news to [journal@email.arizona.edu](mailto:journal@email.arizona.edu).

1980

**Hans Laetz** has been granted a license by the FCC to construct and operate KBUU, 97.5, Malibu.

1982

**Carol Ann Bassett**, who teaches journalism at the University of Oregon, won first place in the SPJ national contest in the online in-depth reporting category for a report she and her students compiled called "Along the Route of the Whale." See it at [www.routeofthewhale.org](http://www.routeofthewhale.org).

**Barbara Williamson** is the media relations manager for Best Friends Animal Society in Kanab, Utah.

1983

**John D'Anna**, Page One editor at *The Arizona Republic*, hosted *New York Times* best-selling author Mark Leibovich for an hourlong Q&A about his book *This Town* and the Washington insider culture May 7 at ASU's First Amendment Forum.

**A.J. Flick** is a senior editor at Madden Media. She manages the company's division that publishes more than 60 tourism publications a year. See: <http://www.maddenmedia.com/publications>.

1985

**Toni Hellon**, an Arizona state senator from 2001 to 2007, is now the Clerk of the Superior Court for Pima County.

**Maggie Hall Walsh** is the director of development communications at Colorado State University.

1986

**Linda Platts** is self-employed and living in Bozeman, Mont.

1989

**Pam Hubbard Scott** is vice president of communications for Red Lion Hotels. She and her family live in Spokane, Wash.

1994

**Mark Evans** is a senior editor with the Pima County Communications Department.

1996

**Jayda Evans** covers the women's NBA and women's college basketball for *The Seattle Times*.

1997

**Kerri Ginis Leedy** is the media relations specialist for Kaiser Permanente Fresno.

**Krista Schlyer** recently won the 2013 National Outdoor Book Award for her book *Continental Divide: Wildlife, People, and the Border Wall*.

1998

**Thomas M. Collins** was appointed the executive director of the Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission effective Aug. 5, 2013. As executive director he is responsible for day-to-day operations for the Commission, a five-member board that administers and enforces Arizona's Citizens Clean Elections Act, including voter and public education, public financing for statewide and legislative candidates who qualify, and campaign finance enforcement. Prior to becoming executive director of the Commission, Collins was an assistant attorney general for the Arizona Attorney General's office.

2001

**Jenna Duncan** teaches English, journalism and reading at Glendale Community College.

**Ryan Gabrielson** joined ProPublica from the Center for Investigative Reporting, where he has worked as a reporter since 2010. He won the Pulitzer Prize for local reporting in 2009 and was finalist for it in 2013. Ryan also received an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award for the multimedia report "Broken Shield." The report was cited for "investigating the failures of a special California state police force assigned to protect residents of state facilities with severe mental and emotional disabilities."

2002

**Jeremy Duda**, reporter for the *Arizona Capitol Times*, made the list of best state capitol reporters in America compiled by *The Washington Post*. The list was compiled based on reader input.



**Dylan McKinley** has taken a position with TownNews.com, a Lee-owned software company that develops content management systems with print publications and newspapers transitioning to a digital world. He's based in Tucson.

## 2003

**David Stevenson** graduated with an MBA from the University of Houston and took a new job as a proposal coordinator in the Atlantic region at McDermott International, Inc. in Houston.

## 2004

**Tessa Bajema** is the public relations manager with the Hilton Hotels and Resorts in Phoenix.

**Shelley Shelton** is a grant and communications writer with Interfaith Community Services, which includes managing social media and conducting public relations. ICS is a nonprofit social services organization located on Tucson's northwest side.

## 2005

**John de Dios** is the director of digital media for the Genetic Literacy Project. He edits their website and runs social media. He's also a producer and regular contributor to *National Geographic News*. John also does a lot of work with the UA Graduate College's office of recruitment. He lives in Tucson.

## 2006

**Hillary Davis** is a reporter with *Inside Tucson Business*.

**Patrick McNamara** is a reporter with the *Arizona Daily Star*.

**Nick Smith** moved to Austria this summer after finishing the M.S. program at the Columbia Journalism School. He was awarded one of two 2014 Lynton Fellowships in Book Writing. His book project is on the social history of athletic shoes. Nick also is continuing to freelance and teach English in Vienna.



**Echavarrri**

## 2007

**Fernanda Echavarrri** was a *New York Times* fellow at The Changing Face of America: Immigration and the Politics of Re-

form, a five-day intensive fellowship at the University of California, Berkeley, Graduate School of Journalism. Echavarrri covers immigration and the border in addition to education and public affairs for Arizona Public Media. Fernanda won an Emmy at the Rocky Mountain Emmy Awards in October for her report on homeless teens.

**Victoria Tinajero Bray** and her spouse, Michael, announced the birth of their son Charles Spencer, born Nov. 1, 2013.

## 2008

**Morgan O'Crotty** is the marketing and communications administrator with the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona in Tucson.

**Nathan Olivarez-Giles** is a San Francisco-based assistant news editor at the *Wall Street Journal*. He works with a team relaunching the WSJ's tech page online.

**Michael Schwartz** finished his master's in sports management in San Diego and is now working as a production researcher for ESPN.

## 2009

**Jenna Davis** is a copy editor at Yonhap Infomax news agency in Korea.

**Lauren LePage** married Jared Harrelson on Nov. 30, 2013.

**Jenna Rogers** has left KIDY in San Angelo to take a job as communications coordinator for Goodwill in Abilene, Texas.

**Kristina Stevens** is teaching English at the British-American Institute in Nantes, France.

## 2010

**David Diaz** has moved from the *El Paso Times*, where he was a copy editor-page designer, to the *Arizona Daily Star*, where he is a page designer.

**Brett Fera** has joined the UA's Student Media division as assistant director.

**Jeremy Hawkes** is assistant director of sports information at Arizona State University. He is currently the secondary contact for the Sun Devil football program and the primary publicist for the ASU water polo team. After two years as the SID for track and field and wrestling, he was recently promoted to head the publicity efforts of the perennial powerhouse Sun Devil softball team.

**Marcy Jones** is a reporter at KGAN CBS 2 and Fox 28 News in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Marcy does all live segments in the morning, and often does noon segments and some packages for the evening news.

**Meaghan Wallace** has left her job at KREX, Grand Junction, Colo., to become the weekend anchor and weekday reporter at WCSC in Charleston, S.C. She said her student internship at KOLD in Tucson paid dividends since KOLD and WCSC are both Raycom stations.

## 2011

**Samantha Sais** has succeeded Joshua Lott as the main freelance photographer for *The New York Times*' Phoenix bureau.

## 2012

**Eitan Cramer** is a production assistant at ESPN in Bristol, Conn.

**Tyler Kurbat** is a content journalist at iAquire.

**Rikki Mitchell** has been promoted to a full-time reporting position at KGUN-9 in Tucson.

**Rebecca Rillos** is a designer at *The New York Times*.

**Lucy Valencia** is a public affairs coordinator for the City of Yuma.

**Jazmine Woodberry** is working in Phoenix for PetSmart's nonprofit division, PetSmart Charities. She's the associate manager of internal communications, producing multi-channel content and writing, editing, producing multimedia, and handling some social media. She works with fellow J-School grad **Laura Ingalls** '96, who is PetSmart Charities' senior manager of communications and a *Daily Wildcat* alum.



**Woodberry**

## 2013

**Rob Alcaraz** was hired as a video producer/editor at *The Wall Street Journal*.

**Bethany Barnes** got lots of shoutouts for the investigative piece she broke in August on the practice by the Clark County District Attorney's Office of paying witnesses' rent



Photo by Kate Harrison

**Cece Marshall '13 (right) dropped by the School of Journalism this summer to say hi to faculty and staff, including Elena Stauffer, graduate program coordinator.**

and other expenses. The Nevada ACLU, local defense attorneys and leading legal experts are demanding the practice be halted and investigated immediately in response to Bethany's investigation. And ProPublica picked up the story for its weekly MuckReads roundup (<http://bit.ly/1ojtwtw>). Bethany reports for the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*.

**Matthew Casey** has moved from a reporter with the *Laramie (Wyo.) Boomerang* to a general assignment job with *The Arizona Republic*.

**Marcella Corona** is a continuous content reporter covering breaking news updates and crime stories at the *Reno Gazette-Journal* (owned by Gannett).

**Maxwell Mangold** is a national sales trainee at Major League Soccer.

**Cece Marshall** is a reporter with the *Khmer Times* in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

**Hannah McLeod** is a reporter with *Inside Tucson Business*.

**Cameron Moon** is a full-time high school sports network producer in Cleveland with the Northeast Ohio Media Group.

**Lynley Price** was hired as a designer and copy editor for a new design hub called the Northern California Design Center, which is

in the *Chico (Calif.) Enterprise-Record* plant. She started March 17.

**Piper Stoeckel** coordinates alumni travel and membership for the UA Alumni Association. She represented Arizona in the Miss America pageant.

## 2014

**Billy Braceda** is producing content and social media for Truly Nolan in Tucson.

**Vianca Cao** has been hired as the marketing and sales coordinator at the National Curriculum & Training Institute in Phoenix.

**Mariana Dale** is a reporter at the *Arizona Daily Star*.

**Alan Davis** was one of "20 promising digital journalists" selected for the student newsroom at the annual Online News Association conference in Chicago in September. More than 100 students applied from around the world.

**Jessica Dollin** got a fellowship with Participant Media in Los Angeles. She started Aug. 18, writing articles for their news site, [takepart.com](http://takepart.com).

**Derek Evans** accepted a job as a full-time sports reporter for the *Camp Verde Bugle* and *Verde Valley Independent*. The two small newspapers are based out of Cottonwood, about three and a half hours north of Tucson.



Jung

**Yoohyun Jung** has been hired as a reporter at the *Arizona Daily Star*.

**Jackie Kent** is a newsroom reporter and web producer at Tucson News Now, the home of KOLD News 13 and KMSB Fox 11.

**Stew McClintic** was offered a job as a reporter at the *Silver City Daily Press* in Silver City, N.M. He said landing the job is a triumph of networking: His former fraternity brother lives in Silver City and bought the newspaper before it was shut down by the previous owner.

**Drew McCullough** landed a job as an online content producer with the *Arizona Daily Star*.

**Brittney Mejia** has finished her fellowship at *The Arizona Republic* and is now off to LA for a prestigious two-year Metpro internship with the *Los Angeles Times*.

**Sariah Schroader** has been hired at KOLD as a full-time producer. She will produce the 9 p.m. weekend show and take on assignment desk and web producer assignments.

**Shea Sorenson** was accepted to Mississippi State University to earn a degree in Broadcast Meteorology. It's a distance-learning program that lasts three years. Shea has interned at KOLD and KVOA where she built weather graphics.

**Tatiana Tomich** is working as a content writer and strategist at Nuanced Media – Digital Marketing Agency in Houston.

## Deaths

**Abe Chanin '47** — Feb. 1, 2014. See story, Page 9.

**Tom Dau '60** — April 18, 2013

**Lynn DeBruin '84** — Sept. 7, 2013

**Eleanor Rice Feeney '45** — April 21, 2014

**William F. Greer '70** — Feb. 8, 2014. See story, Page 9.

**Elaine Hardin '71** — Sept. 14, 2013

**Jim Lamb** — May 27, 2014. Former journalism faculty member and longtime reporter and columnist, *Green Valley News*

**Keith Leighty '76** — Nov. 17, 2013

**Rosalie Carroll "Rosie" Muldoon**, former adjunct instructor — July 6, 2014

**Walter Nett '76** — April 23, 2014

**Will Seberger '05** — Aug. 17, 2014

**Ramon Valdez** (journalism student) — April 13, 2014

**Charles Waters Jr. '69** — Oct. 8, 2014



# School of Journalism Report Card

We at the UA School of Journalism believe in holding students accountable, and teaching young journalists how to hold the government accountable, so we should hold ourselves accountable!

Self-assessment is paramount for improvement. It's also an essential element to remaining one of the 100 or so journalism programs in the nation accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications. Below are quantifiable measurements of school performance, and what we are doing to improve our goal of educating the world's top journalists to best serve Arizona and society at large. See more at <http://journalism.arizona.edu/school-journalism-report-card-2014>

## Retention rates increasing

This is an indicator of whether incoming freshmen tend to stay with the major or switch to another major by their second year. Our analysis indicates that some of our entering majors tend to move out to other majors by their sophomore year, more so than other parts of campus, as opposed to being a major that attracts students who switch to us from other programs. An introductory class for pre-majors started in 2008 has helped students decide whether journalism is for them, which has lowered the retention rate. We consider that a good thing – students continue in the major dedicated and knowing what they want, which leads to higher graduation rates for the school. In recent years the retention rate has increased, and now exceeds the UA rate.

Fall Term	Freshmen	Returned 2nd Year	UA return rate
2001	63	83%	76%
2002	91	78%	77%
2003	75	79%	79%
2004	101	83%	79%
2005	102	74%	79%
2006	96	75%	80%
2007	82	76%	79%
2008	96	82%	78%
2009	104	72%	77%
2010	106	77%	79%
2011	108	77%	77%
2012	82	80%	78%
2013	90		

## Graduation rates improving, consistently higher than UA average

Below are the percentages of freshman journalism students who graduate within four years and within six years, compared to the University of Arizona as a whole. The trend is showing improved graduation rates for the school over the past five years, since we initiated higher standards for majors, the introductory class, flexible class scheduling (e.g., night classes), and student-centered advising.

Fall Term	Graduated by 4th Year	UA 4th-Year Average	Graduated by 6th Year	UA 6th-Year Average
2001	37%	34%	56%	56%
2002	35%	32%	59%	57%
2003	29%	32%	56%	58%
2004	41%	34%	56%	60%
2005	39%	36%	65%	61%
2006	44%	35%	64%	61%
2007	42%	40%	54%	
2008	47%	40%	54%	

## Students leave the school better writers

The school tests beginning students' writing ability (in Journalism 205) and compares it to the writing ability of those in senior school media courses. Students write a story based on provided notes and a panel of judges rates the stories based on several criteria. In spring 2013 we found that students improved in writing, critical thinking, ethics and research. All of these numbers indicate improvement from the 2012-13 school year. In particular, we saw improvement in numeracy and accuracy following adjustments to the curriculum to emphasize math.

	JOUR 205	JOUR 490	Difference
Writing	2.2	3.52	1.32
Numeracy	1.95	2.18	0.23
Critical Thinking	2.24	3.42	1.18
Ethics	2.31	3.12	0.81
Accuracy	2.36	3.19	0.83
Average	2.21	3.09	0.87

# Journalism master's degree ticket to world

Climate change in Tunisia. Creative solutions to bipolar disorder. How the UA helped win the space race.

These are among the topics the master's students of today are tackling in UA's School of Journalism.

Since 2010, 20 students have earned a master's degree from the UA J-School, taking classes in reporting, writing, multimedia, journalism theory and practice, research methods, media law and ethics. Students also can pursue one of five different dual degrees, including Middle Eastern and North African Studies and Latin American Studies.

Two students have finished the Accelerated Master's Program, which enables under-

**Earn your master's. Learn more at [journalism.arizona.edu/graduate](http://journalism.arizona.edu/graduate).**

graduates with a minimum 3.3 GPA to earn a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in five years.

Our graduate students have included a Fulbright Scholar, a John Peter and Anna Catherine Zenger Fellow, and an Edmund S. Muskie Fellow. International students hail from Poland, Russia, China, Indonesia, Azerbaijan, Saudi Arabia and the Netherlands.

Graduates of the master's program are pursuing Ph.D.s at the UA, Indiana University and the University of Washington. Others

are working at the *Wall Street Journal*, *Arizona Daily Star*, *Nogales International*, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, Center for Biological Diversity and Planetary Society. And yet others are freelance journalists.

Our Ph.D. Minor in Journalism Studies welcomes doctoral students in other UA programs who want to increase their understanding of journalism practices and professional skills in the United States or globally. Three doctoral candidates are in the program now—one from the College of Public Health, one from the School of Government & Public Policy and one from the Department of Educational Leadership, Policy and Technology Studies.



The tools change but the mission of the school remains the same: instilling strong journalism fundamentals in students so they can report accurately and ethically in an ever-changing digital media environment. At right, Hannah Gaber interviews students during a freak Tucson snow storm while reporting for Arizona Public Media.

