Going Global –
new faculty, courses
offer a world of
opportunities

– Reaching high schools
– Covering communities
– Honoring Jacqueline Sharkey
Journalism, Cursor, evolve in changing times

This is an exciting – and unnerving – time to be a journalist. But despite what doomsayers claim, journalism is not dead. It’s evolving.

So is the University of Arizona School of Journalism, and even the Cursor you hold in your hands.

Welcome to the evolving Cursor alumni magazine, originally a newspaper, then converted to “digital-only” emails, and now to a hybrid of emails, Facebook posts and this new annual color magazine.

I hope you enjoy reading it as much as school Outreach Coordinator Kate Harrison and alum designer Gawain Douglas did putting it together, because exciting school developments should make every supporter proud:

- **Community watchdog journalism:** We are creating partnerships with Arizona Public Media, Wick Communications, the Arizona Daily Star and other media to provide students more engaged learning opportunities while serving community journalism.

- **Global journalism:** Faculty members, including newly hired Bill Schmidt, a Pulitzer-Prize-winning foreign reporter and senior editor from The New York Times, are creating a Center for Global Journalism to bolster interdisciplinary research, teaching and service in international journalism and border reporting.

- **Science/environmental journalism:** New interdisciplinary classes in science journalism are teaching students how to convey complicated subjects for the public, including the school’s first app, BioView.

- **Emerging models of news delivery:** Classes in multimedia, entrepreneurial journalism and news app development are empowering students to combine technology with fundamental journalism.

Ultimately, UA journalism students enjoy exciting opportunities that prepare them for the demands of today’s changing media. More than ever, with infotainment, government spin and shouting cable commentators, we need journalists who can effectively gather information, critically analyze it, and disseminate it clearly, accurately and ethically.

That’s what we do, all while protecting the values, principles and fundamentals that have been instilled in Wildcat journalism majors for more than 60 years by world-class faculty, including three current staffers who earned Pulitzers.

As a result, the program is attracting students with higher GPAs, improving graduation rates, and creating skilled journalists. See the school’s “Report Card” at http://bit.ly/17FddEw, and let me know what you think.

Of course, this does not come easy, or cheap, particularly with continued budget cuts. Students need your help.

Please give to the school in any number of ways, whether it’s through the Hugh and Jan Harelson Operations Endowment, the Jacqueline Sharkey Watchdog Journalism Fund, the student travel fund, scholarships, or the general gift fund (see page 22). Join the new Zenger Giving Circle this fall (page 28). Every dollar helps us help journalism, and that helps the world.

Isn’t that what it’s all about?

Be proud of what you have accomplished, and what Wildcat journalism grads do for society.

Support the team, because journalism is a calling. Journalism is strong. Journalism matters.

Bear down!

David Cuillier, Ph.D.
UA School of Journalism Director
Society of Professional Journalists President
cuillier@email.arizona.edu

The Cursor

An annual publication of the University of Arizona School of Journalism

Editor: Kate Harrison
Design: Gawain Douglas
School Director: David Cuillier
Assoc. Director: Nancy Sharkey
Contributing writers: Elena Stauffer, Iman Hamdan, Eric Swedlund
Printing: Casa Grande Valley News

Please send address changes or alumni news to:

journal@email.arizona.edu

University of Arizona
School of Journalism
845 N. Park Ave.
P.O. Box 210158B
Tucson, AZ 85721-0158
520-621-7556
journalism.arizona.edu

Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/uajschool
Follow us on Twitter: https://twitter.com/uajschool

Journalism staff members from left, Crystal Bumpers (administrative assistant), Elena Stauffer (program coordinator), Renee Schafer Horton (academic adviser) and Kate Harrison (senior program coordinator).
A Pulitzer Prize winner urges students to “dig deeper and do better.”

New faculty members bring research, multimedia skills.

Retired, but not gone. Catching up with former faculty.

New York Times editor helps launch Center for Global Journalism.

Fund honors Jacqueline Sharkey.

Sections

4 The Scoop
8 Faculty News
11 Student News
20 Alumni News
22 Donor Honor Roll

Photos

Above: Mirrors reflect multiple images of Stephanie Fousse at a sculpture garden near Tuscany, Italy, during the school’s Study Abroad program this past summer. (Photo by Kim Newton)

Cover: A hanging bridge in Costa Rica presented a well-framed photo for journalism student Mariah Davidson at the Study Abroad program. (Photo by Lisa Button)
‘Be tenacious,’ says Pulitzer winner to journalism students

Investigative reporting doesn’t need the biggest newsrooms or the biggest budgets to have a major impact.

“Any newsroom anywhere can produce powerful journalism,” Ryan Gabrielson, a University of Arizona journalism alumnus and Pulitzer Prize winner, told a crowd of journalism students March 27.

“Great investigative reporters are typically more tenacious than brilliant,” Gabrielson said. “Right now is the time for all of us to dig deeper and do better.”

Gabrielson took the lessons he learned from his UA journalism classes, the Daily Wildcat and the Northwest Explorer to The Monitor in McAllen, Texas, and then to the East Valley Tribune. At the Tribune, Gabrielson and fellow UA journalism alumnus Paul Giblin won a Pulitzer Prize for stories showing how Sheriff Joe Arpaio’s focus on immigration enforcement disrupted the agency and undermined investigations.

Now a public safety reporter at California Watch and the Center for Investigative Reporting (http://californiawatch.org/), Gabrielson recently won his second George Polk Award for Investigative Reporting for his stories on police failures to protect developmentally disabled adults in the state’s care. The series also was a finalist for the 2013 Pulitzer Prize.

Long-form investigative journalism is time-consuming, difficult and even risky, but reporters who keep pushing to find information, keep at their sources, and keep refusing to take no for an answer will find a way to the truth, Gabrielson said.

“Investigative projects never go in a straight line,” Gabrielson said. “Investigative reporting relies on momentum.”

Gabrielson answered audience questions about facing pushback for his work (which he welcomes, knowing his stories are backed up by the facts), getting ideas for investigative stories (through tips, sometimes, but the best ones usually come out of beat reporting) and challenges he faces during an investigation.

“The hardest part of investigative reporting is how long it takes. You have to fight that feeling that you’re running in cement and you’re fighting against powers that you feel are way beyond you,” he said. “Most investigative reporters doubt themselves, so I report like crazy to make sure the tip I get checks out.”

Restarted minor spreads media literacy to students

The School of Journalism has restarted its minor to help non-journalism majors better understand the role, skills and importance of journalism.

The 18-credit program, started May 2013, provides students with skills and knowledge in reporting, writing, photography, video, social media, web development, acquiring public records, and media literacy to enhance their careers and community. The emphasis of the program is on online communication and building civic engagement.

“These skills are essential to anyone who wants to learn how to effectively communicate and participate in public life,” said Professor Kevin R. Kemper, School of Journalism director. “Everyone – professional journalist or not – needs to be able to gather information, think critically, and communicate clearly to hold government accountable and empower their fellow citizens to self-govern in a democracy.”

The School of Journalism suspended its minor in 2003 because increasing majors outpaced the ability for the school to cover classes needed to ensure majors could graduate on time. Since the number of majors in the school has stabilized, faculty decided to restart the minor.

Classes include an introduction to journalism, writing and reporting, taking photos and video, media law and ethics, watchdog journalism, and a final journalistic professional project tailored to each student’s area of interest.

The school accepted 25 students into the minor the first year and will accept more for 2013-14.

“Amibitious and diligent students earn the minor in one or two summers,” Kemper said. “The courses are challenging and promote the kind of educational and journalistic excellence that the school expects and provides.”

For more information on the minor, see http://journalism.arizona.edu/content/journalism-minor.
Journalism major Mariana Dale (left) interviews Kierra Woods, a studio art student, about the freak February snowstorm in Tucson. Dale’s spring internship with Arizona Public Media led to a summer internship with National Public Radio.

Apprentices will work at AZPM

Journalism students are learning alongside pros in a class that fosters hands-on learning in newspaper, television, radio and online media.

The Apprentice class was started in 2007 by Professor Susan Knight and Leslie Newell, a former metro team leader at the Arizona Daily Star, to provide an internship experience both semesters. In addition to working in the Star newsroom, students meet at the school to talk with journalists, listen to panel discussions with community experts and learn about industry trends.

This fall the class will now include Arizona Public Media, the PBS affiliate on the UA campus, providing experience in television, radio and online. Faculty members say students are clamoring for these additional skills, evidenced by the intense response to a radio boot camp the school sponsored this spring.

Professor Jim Mitchell, who teaches broadcast and law courses, said the addition of Arizona Public Media to the class this fall is another step toward building collaborative learning opportunities with professional media, particularly those producing some of the best work in broadcasting today.

“This apprenticeship with Arizona Public Media will give our students wonderful opportunities to enhance the skills needed for reporting to a knowledgeable, discerning audience,” Mitchell said.

Community journalism the heart of the school

The School continues to provide students practical experience in community journalism through a variety of ways:

- Students taking the Arizona-Sonora News Service class write stories for Arizona media about the border and rural parts of Arizona. This is a continuation of the decades-old Community News Service.
- The Bolles Fellowship, funded by an annual donation from the family of Joni Hirsch Blackman ’82, provides a student the chance to live in Phoenix during the legislative session to cover stories for Arizona media.
- Students publish The Tombstone Epitaph for the town of Tombstone and cover Hispanic issues for the bilingual publication El Independiente, now published as a color magazine.
- The Wick Science Internship pays for a student to write stories about science for dissemination in Wick Communications newspapers throughout the Southwest.
Audrey Piña (right) interviews Alisha Vasquez, owner of Scrappy’s Youth Center, for a story for the high school workshop.

High school workshop fosters diversity, leadership, skills

High school students from across the state spent 10 days at the School of Journalism this summer reporting, editing, shooting video and producing a radio segment as part of the Journalism Diversity Workshop for Arizona High School Students.

Not only did participants produce a 12-page newspaper in a little more than a week, they also put together a web edition complete with daily blogs, videos, and connections to social media, said workshop director Elena Stauffer.

“My hope is that these young people walked away with a better understanding of journalism principles and the importance of diversity,” she said.

The School of Journalism has been hosting the workshop for more than 30 years.

Students wrote stories on topics ranging from the UA’s rainbow graduation ceremony for gay, lesbian and transgender students to off-beat Tucson businesses. They also took part in a photography workshop with an Arizona Daily Star photographer, learned about reporting and legal issues from UA journalism professors and learned to produce radio stories from reporters at Arizona Public Media.

Nicholas Trujillo, a junior at Tucson High Magnet School and this summer’s online editor, said the most important takeaway for him was the opportunity to be a leader.

“People needed my help,” said Trujillo, an html coding enthusiast. He added that having the chance to develop the skills to be a key player was a big accomplishment.

The workshop is sponsored by the Dow Jones News Fund and Concerned Media Professionals, a Tucson group that fosters diversity in journalism, led by former journalism head Don Carson and alums Pila Martinez and Michael Chihak.

The Dow Jones News Fund established its high school journalism program at American University in the summer of 1968. One of its primary goals was to try to increase diversity in the country’s newsrooms.

“It’s no longer enough to be a good reporter, or a good photographer or a good copy editor,” said Rich Holden, the DJNF executive director. “Today’s journalists must have skills in all of these areas, plus a strong knowledge of all things digital. That’s what we attempt to instill in the students when they attend our programs.”

Stauffer led the workshop with her spouse, Tom Stauffer. Both are graduates of the School of Journalism and former writers for the Arizona Daily Star and the Tucson Citizen. Elena is currently the graduate coordinator at the School of Journalism.

See bit.ly/2013hsworkshop for links to their work, including stories and videos.
Future for media is bright, Hicks tells UA students

More than three dozen students and faculty packed the School of Journalism’s reading room Feb. 21 to learn how a guy whose days taking Law of the Press and RPA propelled him to a career covering the NFL, professional golfers and Olympic events around the globe.

Dan Hicks ’84, the lead golf announcer for NBC Sports, chatted with students about his career and UA memories while in Tucson to cover the Accenture Match Play Golf Tournament. Hicks calls much of the action for the PGA, and handles coverage of both the Summer and Winter Olympics.

Prior to joining NBC, Hicks had been a sports anchor at CNN and Tucson’s KVOA-TV. As a student he wrote for the Arizona Daily Wildcat and announced several intercollegiate sports, including baseball and women’s basketball.

Hicks believes the future is bright for students wanting to go into broadcast journalism. “I think there’s more opportunities in broadcast and media than when I went into the business. When I was coming up it was three network stations in each market … now there’s cable and all sorts of different opportunities.”

Hicks said students need to laser focus their goals, then ask “lots of questions” of those higher up the career ladder.

“What’s your passion? What makes you happy? You gotta figure out what you want to do,” Hicks said. “Is it a producer, a writer, being in front of the camera? Then you have to say, ‘How am I going to go about doing this?’”

Journalism major Scott Oathout said meeting Hicks was “a dream come true,” since he’s followed Hicks’ career for years and aspires to work in sports broadcasting. Oathout said Hicks offered him advice on how to better position himself in the competitive sports journalism field. Hicks even critiqued some of Oathout’s work when he returned home from Tucson.

“I am extremely grateful for the feedback,” said Oathout, whose goal is “working with Dan one day!”

School launches high school outreach program

Starting this fall the school will bolster its scholastic outreach by providing new training for Pima County high school journalism programs.

Sarah Garrecht Gassen, a longtime adjunct instructor and editorial writer for the Arizona Daily Star, will lead the efforts, including:

• Providing resources online for high school journalism advisers and tips emailed monthly.
• Staffing a hotline for advisers and students to call if they have questions about writing, reporting, technology, ethics or the law.
• Offering in-class training in multimedia, reporting and other topics, taught by school professors.

• Inviting high school students, advisers and parents to an open house at the school Oct. 19.

Gassen said more activities could be added later, depending on the needs of the programs and available funds.

The new outreach program will be funded through revenues generated from summer and winter classes.

“We’re excited to build the relationships between high school journalists and the school,” Gassen said.

“Many of our students and faculty started their journalism careers in high school, and it makes sense to reach back and help support these young journalists and their programs.”
Whether your political media consumption is Fox News or Huffington Post, Myiah Hutchens has some advice for you: get out of the echo chamber.

“It’s about deliberative democracy,” explains Hutchens, who joined the UA journalism faculty in fall 2012 and researches how the information people select influences their political lives. “Get a variety of viewpoints, because the more information you get, the better decisions you’re going to make.”

Hutchens, who earned her Ph.D. in communication from Ohio State, is the co-principal investigator on a $474,000 National Science Foundation grant that looks at how people take in and digest information about nanotechnology, or the manipulation of small particles or matter. It’s a complicated topic with ethical concerns – think manipulating genes to make designer babies – and Hutchens hopes her studies will improve the way in which citizens offer input to government agencies on science policy.

Hutchens teaches the first-year general education course, News in the Digital Age, and a Research Methods class geared mostly to graduate students. She hopes to be an integral player with the development of the graduate program as faculty members continue to refine it and move toward eventually offering a Ph.D.

Hutchens’ NSF grant has her working with political scientists and psychologists from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. It’s a collaboration across disciplines.

“I like that at the UA they are walking the walk and talking the talk on interdisciplinary work,” said Hutchens.

Hutchens did her bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Washington State University, near her hometown of Spokane. While at WSU she was a dogged reporter on the student paper, The Daily Evergreen.

The newspaper adviser at the time said she was one of the most aggressive, intelligent students he had ever seen. That campus newspaper adviser was David Cuillier, who was in graduate school at the time and is now director of the UA School of Journalism.

“Myiah then and I’m fortunate now,” Cuillier said. “We’re going to see amazing things from her in the future – for the UA, for journalism and for society.”

Here’s a roundup of what faculty members have been doing:

David Cuillier, in his third year as the school’s director, became national president of the Society of Professional Journalists in August 2013 at the induction banquet in Anaheim, Calif.

Shahira Fahmy’s co-authored work with an MA journalism student won a national top paper award and was accepted for publication in The International Communication Gazette.

Celeste González de Bustamante has been promoted to associate professor with tenure. This year, she is a visiting professor at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City, where she will conduct research on violence and journalism in Mexico, and teach classes.

Myiah Hutchens had three papers accepted for the International Communication Association’s 2013 conference in London. A paper by Jeannine Relly, Maggy Zanger and Shahira Fahmy also was accepted for presentation at the conference.

Linda Lumsden was named a Fulbright Scholar for the 2012-13 academic year and conducted research for seven months in Malaysia on how digital media are influencing Malaysian politics.

Kevin R. Kemper spent fall 2012 as a fellow with the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy. He passed the Pascua Yaqui bar examination and was approved to serve as a lay advocate in the Pascua Yaqui tribal courts.

Susan Knight was selected by the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma for a 2012 fellowship at Columbia University. She was chosen one of 14 fellows from Europe, Asia Pacific, and North America.

Jim Mitchell’s latest novel, Our Lady of the North, has been published by Rafter Five.
Biking lets prof weave journalism, web skills

It took hard work, some savvy social media skills and a couple of wheels to transport former journalism student Michael McKisson to the front of the classroom.

McKisson, who joined the full-time faculty in August as an assistant professor of practice in digital media, has been an adjunct instructor in the school since 2008, teaching courses in multimedia and entrepreneurial journalism. His journey to teaching, though, began when he embraced cycling several years ago.

McKisson got his bachelor’s degree from the UA in 2008 and worked for the Arizona Daily Star’s website for two years. Then he branched out, getting a job in the School of Journalism weaving technology through the curriculum. And he started biking.

He used his interest in all things bike-related to launch a website – TucsonVelo.com – “as a way to fill a void in the local media landscape, stay current on media trends and keep my news skills sharp,” he said. The site has not only served the cycling community, but also has enabled McKisson to hone his social media skills, create multimedia projects and re-energize himself about journalism.

“I left a part-time job in the online department of the local daily to start working for the School,” he said. “I enjoyed working with the students, but eventually missed doing journalism. Tucson Velo has allowed me to have a balance between doing and teaching journalism and has provided me valuable experience in current trends that I get to pass on to students.”

McKisson, who will complete his MBA in September with a marketing and MIS focus, developed the entrepreneurial journalism course in 2012 to teach students to use their news skills to develop and cover a topic, then figure out how to make money to sustain it.

One student created Learniitladies.com, which focuses on empowering women through news and information. Nebula News was created to keep the millennial generation abreast of space science news. Another student created BaseballTucson.com, a news site covering Tucson’s baseball community. The site has become the go-to spot for baseball news in Tucson, landing the student job offers from local newspapers and the minor league baseball team in Tucson.

Next up for McKisson will be developing a course on coding for journalists and a mobile web app development course for this spring. The latter will help students go from an idea to application launch in the course of a semester.

“Mike’s talent and energy will help the school train students to use the fundamental skills of journalism in a new media environment,” said Director David Cuillier. “He was one of my most dogged, tenacious, bright students in class, and now he will use those talents to help Wildcats create new models for making money off news.

“Journalism will never die,” added Cuillier. “It just evolves and gets better, thanks to people like Mike.”

Michael McKisson bikes into work to teach courses in multimedia journalism.

Press. The book is the third in a series of novels featuring the Tucson private investigator Brinker. Mitchell’s previous two novels were nominated for Shamus Awards by the Private Eye Writers of America.

Jeannine Relly and Celeste González de Bustamante received a $25,000 Confluent Center Collaboration and Innovation Grant for their project, The Documented Border: An Open Access Digital Archive. The grant will support González de Bustamante’s and Relly’s collection of oral histories of journalists along the U.S.-Mexico border. Relly also was invited to be a fellow with the Udall Center for fall 2013.

Kim Newton helped students launch a National Press Photographers Association chapter this year. He presented images of his work at the American Society of Media Photographers board meeting in Tucson. This summer he led a student trip to Orvieto, Italy, for the third year.

Carol Schwalbe was honored as Educator of the Year by the magazine division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in August. Schwalbe was awarded a $10,000 Online Education Project grant from the UA to develop science journalism curriculum.

Nancy Sharkey served on a panel at a national summit on plagiarism and fabrication organized by the American Copy Editors Society. Sharkey is one of the chairs of a national effort by ACES to develop an e-book that offers practical guidelines for preventing, detecting and responding to plagiarism and fabrication in a digital age.

Terry Wimmer offered the keynote address at the National Federation of Press Women’s Conference in Scottsdale. He was recently elected to a three-year term on the University Hearing Board.

Maggy Zanger continues to serve as project director for a three-year U.S. State Department grant to create a professionally oriented journalism curriculum for Nangarhar University in Afghanistan. (See story, Page 18).
Here’s a brief update on what some of your favorite professors have been doing since retirement:

**Ford Burkhart**

Burkhart joined *The New York Times* in 1996, leaving the UA after 20 years on the journalism faculty. He was an NYT staff editor for 11 years, mainly on the foreign desk. He retired to Tucson in 2007 and does freelance writing and editing for clients that have included global photonics and optics groups, Research Corp., and AARP publications. He also is a contributing editor of *Arizona*, the UA alumni magazine.

**Don Carson**

After retiring, Carson worked as an *Arizona Daily Star* writing coach for about two years; served one year as president of Concerned Media Professionals; wrote with James W. Johnson *Mo: The Life and Times of Morris K. Udall*; served as an appointed lay member on the Supreme Court’s Disciplinary Commission for six years and the state bar’s board of governors for two years. He also edited six or seven books for friends without charge, and evaluated eight or nine books for a publisher. He remains active with Concerned Media Professionals, an organization seeking to improve the diversity of newsrooms that awards several thousand dollars each year in scholarships and other aid to UA journalism students. Carson also has campaigned for U.S. Rep. Raul Grijalva.

**Abe Chanin**

In the School of Journalism, Chanin’s name is synonymous with sports journalism, which is appropriate given the 30 years he spent as sports editor at the *Arizona Daily Star*. After teaching in the journalism program for 11 years, Chanin went on to direct the UA’s Southwestern Jewish Archives. The author of three books, Chanin, who was widowed in 2012, lives in Albuquerque.

**Bill Greer**

Greer has battled health problems since retirement in 2010, but manages to split his time between Tucson and San Diego. The longtime photojournalism professor and adviser to *The Tombstone Epitaph* hopes to start writing again soon.

**Bruce Itule**

Itule said, “Once my 45-year journalism career ended in December 2011, it became time to find out what else there is besides journalism. And I’m finding plenty. One goal I have is to visit all of the national parks in the West within the next couple of years. My wife, Carol, and I are also traveling quite a bit.” Itule splits his time between his home in Mesa and his antique shop – Main Street Mercantile – in Payson. “The fun of running an antique shop is the hunt for interesting stuff. We’re traveling throughout the West looking for great finds.”

**Jim Johnson**

Since retiring in 2003, Johnson has kept busy, writing books, working as an on-call sports copy editor at the *Arizona Daily Star* and traveling in his fifth wheel. He also is active in the alumni chapter of his college fraternity. Since he retired he has had three books published: *The Wow Boys: A Coach, a Team, and a Turning Point in College Football*; *The Dandy Dons: Bill Russell, K.C. Jones, Phil Woolpert, and One of College Basketball’s Greatest and Most Innovative Teams*; and *Double No-Hit: Johnny Vander Meer’s Historic Night Under the Lights*. The University of Arizona Press will publish *De Grazia: The Man and the Myths* early next year.

**Jim Patten**

Not long after retirement in 2002, Patten was elected to the Hall of Fame of the Arizona Interscholastic Press Association. He taught at the College of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Nebraska (his alma mater) for a semester, taught Jour 205 in the UA School of Journalism and writes an occasional op-ed. He’s been a writing coach at two Arizona newspapers and one in Nebraska.

**George Ridge**

Ridge, who retired in 1994, just turned 80 and continues to travel the world as a media consultant for the U.S. Army. He says he’s near the million-mile mark on Delta Airlines. This summer, he and his spouse, Earlene, spent a month trekking across Tuscany.

**Jay Rochlin**

Rochlin has spent his first year of retirement since 2012 pursuing his long-time passions of bicycling, photography, travel, and reading. He signed on as a Pima County Bicycle Ambassador, working as part of a bicycle safety program at Wakefield Middle School. He also takes the Pima County Book-Bike out to various festivals to give away books. Travel has included backpacking on the remote South Bass trail in the Grand Canyon, Kino Bay, and Tanzania and the Serengeti.

**Jacqueline Sharkey**

Sharkey has helped David Cuillier transition into his role as school director after she stepped down from that role in fall 2011. She officially retired in June 2013. Read the story on her retirement on Page 25.
Internships critical to students’ career success

Want to get a job after graduation? Then you better get an internship. Or maybe three.

Students in the School of Journalism are heeding that advice from professors and the program’s full-time internship coordinator, Lisa Button. That’s why you’ll find them balancing classwork with gigs at media outlets ranging from The Arizona Republic to Tucson’s Zocalo magazine.

Mariana Dale had a paid internship at National Public Radio’s “Morning Edition” in Culver City, Calif. Three others worked as Pulliam fellows at The Arizona Republic. Others covered the country at newspapers and TV stations in New Jersey, California, Texas and beyond.

Button helps students land internships by passing on tips through a weekly listserv, holding résumé critiquing sessions and twice-yearly internship fairs where students meet one-on-one with more than a dozen recruiters to interview for jobs.

Dale thought she was destined for a career in print journalism, but an internship with Tucson’s PBS affiliate gave her the confidence to look at other opportunities.

“I’m a big time NPR nerd, but six months ago I’m not sure I would have even applied for the internship because my background is in print journalism,” she said. “However, following the great experience I had interning with Arizona Public Media, I decided to give it a shot.”

Other students who landed internships for summer 2013 include:

• Kristina Bui, Brenna Goth and Kedi Xia - Pulliam fellows, The Arizona Republic. Bui has also accepted an offer to join the Los Angeles Times’ Metpro class in September 2013.
• Matthew Casey and Amer Taleb (Chips Quinn Scholar) - CNN.com, Atlanta
• Marcella Corona (Chips Quinn Scholar) – St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press
• Daniel Desrochers – The Courier-Post, (New Jersey)
• Jessica Dollin – Phoenix New Times
• Spencer Higgins – Entertainment Tonight, Los Angeles
• Britain Eakin, Al-Arabiya, Washington, D.C.
• Shannon Killy – KKTV News, Colorado Springs
• Brittny Mejia (Chips Quinn Scholar) – Oakland Tribune
• Megan Mohler – KRIS 6 News, Corpus Christi, Texas
• Evyn Murray - Universal Sports, Denver
• Sarah-Jayne Simon – KTLA5, Los Angeles
Awards, scholarships honor student work

Dozens of journalism students received awards and scholarships at the school’s annual Just Desserts event May 2.

Faculty presented awards for reporting, photography, multimedia journalism, senior capstone courses and a variety of scholarships.

Students said they appreciated the recognition. “I don’t have the words to convey how grateful, humbled and honored I was,” Amer Taleb, who also won the Doug Martin Award for Courage and Integrity, wrote in an email to faculty.

“Thank you so much for making everything I do possible.”


New York Times Institute finds home at UA

The UA School of Journalism is now the exclusive site for The New York Times Student Journalism Institute, offered to student members of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

The UA has partnered with The Times since 2008 to offer the institute every other January.

Don Hecker, senior editor at The Times and the workshop’s director, said Times officials decided to move the institute to May at the UA, “a school located right where a key issues for many Latinos, immigration, is a flash point. It’s also a home for the Institute that we’ve come to appreciate for the quality of the facilities it offers.”

In odd-numbered years, the workshop will be offered at the UA; in even years, The Times will hold the workshop at Dillard University for student members of the National Association of Black Journalists.

Two of the 23 students at the workshop this past May were from the University of Arizona.

Nancy Sharkey, school associate director and a former editor for The New York Times, co-founded the Institute and helped with this past summer’s gathering.

“The high-energy experience is really memorable for young people who have gone through it over the years,” said Sharkey (no relation to Jacqueline Sharkey). “They invariably associate the University of Arizona closely with the remarkable experience they have at the Institute.”

Twenty-five UA students have been selected for the program since 2008. They have gone on to careers at media outlets such as the Los Angeles Times, The Arizona Republic, Wired magazine, Arizona Public Media and the Orange County Register.

Read the work from the 2013 participants at http://tucson13.nytimes-institute.com/.
Lawyer, scientist, journalist: Student has done it all

For Susan Swanberg, writing is the thread that pulls together her background as a criminal lawyer, her Ph.D. in genetics, and her soon-to-be master’s degree in journalism. Take the article she wrote recently about two men whose interest in bugs has shaped their decades-long relationship.

“You can draw people into science through characters,” Swanberg said, referring not only to those men, but also the bugs, such as the moth – one of the insects the two men have observed and studied.

When you first look at a moth, you see a boring, gray insect, she said. But upon closer inspection, you notice a beautiful sheen, orange colors and intricate patterns on the wings that beg for further investigation.

Swanberg’s multiple and varied college degrees and seemingly boundless energy and curiosity complements her previous employment as a criminal lawyer for 18 years and a biologist and geneticist. Today she’s embarking on a career in science journalism.

Swanberg explained that while earning her advanced degrees in science, she fell in love with the research – the process of doing experiments, learning the facts, testing, and putting into words what was happening in the world.

Similarly, her life as a criminal attorney involved collecting and weighing evidence. “I enjoyed putting the pieces of a story together,” Swanberg said.

As Swanberg, 62, begins to walk in the shoes of a science journalist, she continues to gather facts, piece together information, observe, do research, test and as always, write about her findings.

As a science journalist, “You’re testing reality, collecting data, figuring out a model that explains what’s happening,” she said.

“By doing this, hopefully you will further the science.”

Swanberg, who’s been married for 14 years and has two children, received the Outstanding Graduate Student Award from the School of Journalism in May.

She’ll receive her M.A. in journalism in December after competing a professional project that focuses on scorpion antivenin. After that, she hopes to weave together her knowledge and experience in science, law and research to tell the stories of people, places and things.

Swanberg said that the downside to pursuing all your interests is that, “you always feel like you’re starting over.” The upside is that you gain a new perspective on life.

Susan Swanberg will add an M.A. in journalism to her collection of degrees this December. She also holds a Ph.D. in genetics and a law degree.

Clubs enhance student learning

Seven student clubs in the School of Journalism are giving young journalists an opportunity to network, have fun and learn valuable leadership skills.

The school has chapters of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, the Society of Professional Journalists, the Native American Journalists Association, the National Association of Black Journalists, the National Press Photographers Association, and the Asian-American Journalists Association. Aspiring sports journalists also formed a Sports Journalism Club.

The SPJ chapter brought in Pulitzer Prize winner Ryan Gabrielson for two days. The NPPA chapter held several photography workshops for students. And the Sports Journalism Club has an active Facebook group and got involved when former NBA star Bill Walton came to campus.

Professor Susan Knight, who coordinates activities for the student clubs, said it behooves students to make the time to join a club.

“The clubs give students the opportunity to develop skills beyond the classroom, in leadership, professionalism, planning, critical thinking, networking and professional development,” she said. “With seven clubs and counting, our students have plenty of ways to plug in and to focus more on their interests, whether they be in photo, sports, ethnic identity, global journalism and other areas.”
Britain Eakin was kicked out of the Cairo zoo for trying to take pictures of a giraffe.

Sam McNeil spent this summer in Tunisia, applying multimedia storytelling to document environmental destruction.

And journalism students explored the jungles of Costa Rica and the cobblestones of Orvieto, Italy, in search of good stories and photographs.

All of these students, and more, are learning how to cover the world.

The school is increasing opportunities for students to report outside the United States through Study Abroad classes and travel scholarships. The ultimate goal is to provide a majority of students the opportunity to expand their minds and life experiences by doing journalism abroad.

In Costa Rica, school Internship Director Lisa Button led a Study Abroad trip July 6-Aug. 10, where students learned about biodiversity and ecosystems in one of Central America’s most environmentally progressive countries. They reported on it for EcoChronicle.net while living with Costa Rican families.

Jade Nunes, a journalism junior, said the summer classes opened her eyes to a world beyond the United States.

“l’ve become more aware of my feelings toward the environment and even toward other cultures,” Nunes said. “I’m expanding my knowledge and practice of journalism,
Classes offer students a world of options

The walls of the classroom are expanding to Mexico, the Middle East and beyond.

Given the UA’s proximity to the Mexican border, and the fact that half the faculty members have international reporting experience, the school has carved out a specialty in global reporting that provides students an array of international journalism classes.

Reporting in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands is an elective started a year ago that enables UA students to meet in Nogales, Ariz., for a weekly class with students from Universidad de Sonora in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico, to explore binational topics, including tourism, border enforcement and immigration. The students keep in touch via email and Facebook, work on a joint project together, and then have their work disseminated by the Border Journalism Network (http://bordernetwork.com/).

U.S. Press and Latin America, taught by Professor Celeste González de Bustamante, explores the history, politics, economy and culture of Latin America and its media systems, with a focus on Mexico. In March 2013, during spring break, six students in the class traveled to Mexico City to participate in a weeklong colloquium featuring media experts and professionals, and toured major media outlets including Televisa and Reforma. On their return from Mexico City, the group toured the El Imparcial newsroom in Hermosillo, Sonora. Students produced multimedia news reports and research papers about media and Mexico.

International Reporting offers a study of world news systems, including news gathering agencies, the role of foreign correspondents, the foreign press and the factors influencing the flow of international news. Professor Mort Rosenblum, former editor of the International Herald Tribune and globe-trotting correspondent for the Associated Press for four decades, has taught the class since 2006.

International Opinion Writing explores the role and process of editorial and opinion writing about international events and issues, with emphasis on the Middle East and the Muslim world. Taught by Professor Maggy Zanger, project director for a three-year effort to develop a journalism department at an Afghan university, the course explores the role of foreign correspondents, the foreign press and the factors influencing the flow of international news and opinion.

Reporting the Middle East, also taught by Zanger, helps students understand current events in the Middle East and the challenges journalists face reporting from a region with authoritarian regimes and ongoing conflict.

Media and Terrorism focuses on how news media portray terrorism and terrorists, and how the media’s coverage affects the public. Professor Shahira Fahmy, who studies international reporting and visual journalism, particularly in the context of wars and conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa, teaches the course.

You can help

An anonymous donor has provided $35,000 to endow a student world travel scholarship fund.

If you would like to help students learn journalism abroad, you can add to the fund through direct donations, including a gift in your will, or both. Every bit helps to change students’ lives!

To give, go to http://journalism.arizona.edu/supportuaj, follow the prompts, then select from the designation menu “International Travel Fund for Students.”

but I’m also learning life skills and lessons that could never be taught in the classroom. ¡Pura Vida!”

This winter, Professor Maggy Zanger will take a class to Oman to learn about reporting in the Middle East.

It’s not easy – or cheap – going global. The Arizona in Italy program, led by Professor Kim Newton, costs each student $5,500, not counting airfare, food and incidentals, to spend the summer in Orvieto taking photojournalism classes. Some of the students’ work is featured online at http://pjinitaly2013.wordpress.com/.

Donors help some students make it this is exactly what I want to be doing for the rest of my life.”

Donors help some students make it this is exactly what I want to be doing for the rest of my life.”

Encinias wrote to her benefactor about the rewards she has already reaped from international travel. “When my colleague and I were riding in the back of a truck through Vicam, Sonora, I felt in my place … knowing this is exactly what I want to be doing for the rest of my life.”
Times editor to help build global center

Bill Schmidt, former deputy managing editor and foreign correspondent from The New York Times, will teach and help lead the Center for Global Journalism.

Schmidt, who spent 32 years with The Times before retiring in April, was the paper’s London correspondent and wrote from the Middle East, Africa and the Balkans as well as the United Kingdom. He spent 16 years as a member of senior management in The Times newsroom, which included responsibility for newsroom personnel, budgeting, labor issues, ethics and standards.

Schmidt said he was drawn to the UA because of the numerous connections between the school and The Times. Journalism faculty Nancy Sharkey, Bill Wellman and Fred Brock worked at The Times, and the school has been host of The New York Times Student Journalism Institute since 2008.

“The fact is,” said Schmidt, “the UA has a first-rate J-school, adapting in smart ways to the big challenges reshaping journalism. Like The Times, the staff and faculty here are engaging head-on a digital revolution that has forced our industry to rethink traditional business and distribution models and re-imagine the way in which readers consume the journalism we produce. The school’s evolving curriculum -- with its growing emphasis on multimedia presentation and entrepreneurial journalism -- mirrors that dynamic reality.”

Before joining The Times, Schmidt, who also serves on the board of directors of the Maynard Institute of Journalism Education, worked for Newsweek for eight years as a foreign and national correspondent. He was the magazine’s bureau chief in Moscow, Cairo and Miami. He also served as a correspondent in Newsweek’s Chicago bureau. From 1969 to 1973, Schmidt was a reporter with The Detroit Free Press.

The school is planning to create a Center for Global Journalism this year to foster research, teaching and journalism training in international reporting.

“Bill has amazing national and international experience,” said School Director David Cuillier, “not to mention contacts throughout the world that will help build a center and open up opportunities for students.”

In 1987, Schmidt was among a team at The Times who shared the Pulitzer Prize for national reporting for articles about the causes of the Challenger disaster. He also shares a George Polk Award for national reporting for coverage of the shootings at Kent State University, and an Overseas Press Club award for his reporting for Newsweek on the war in Lebanon.

Schmidt believes the Center for Global Journalism can play a role at a time when the world is shrinking and information moves at lightning speed.

“One of the most important investments we can make is to help shape a new generation of journalists who are not only capable of working across a global stage the way that, say, Mort Rosenblum did for so many years, but who are able to understand the interconnectedness of things,” said Schmidt, who started teaching part-time as a professor of practice this fall.
Zenger Award honors Jonathan Randal

Jonathan Randal, a globetrotting journalist described by a colleague as ever willing to “hop into a jeep or onto a camel to get to a story’s crux” is the 2013 winner of the John Peter and Anna Catherine Zenger Award.

Given by the School of Journalism since 1954, the award honors journalists who fight for freedom of the press and the people’s right to know. Randal will accept the award at a gala dinner Friday, Oct. 18, at the Westin La Paloma Resort in Tucson.

Randal spent most of his career at The Washington Post, first in Paris as the European economic correspondent, then covering wars from Indochina to sub-Saharan Africa to the Middle East. He’s also reported for UPI, Time Magazine and The New York Times.

In 2002, Randal was ordered to testify before the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia about a 1993 interview he conducted with a former Bosnian Serb. Randal refused to honor the international subpoena and ultimately won the case on appeal, establishing limited immunity from forced testimony for war correspondents and a victory for freedom of the press.

Fellow global journalist Mort Rosenblum, who teaches a course on international reporting each year in the UA School of Journalism and nominated Randal for the Zenger Award, said his work “inspires students and shows a broad public why insightful, brave journalism matters.”

Rosenblum has worked with Randal for four decades. When Rosenblum edited the International Herald Tribune, he said he always waited for Randal to file a story, because his writing was “always rich with history and cultural context but also wit. One line he restrained himself from writing at Ayatollah Khomeini’s funeral, when crowds were pushed toward ventilation blades: It was a case of Shiites hitting the fan.”

Randal is the author of several books, including Osama: The Making of a Terrorist and The Tragedy of Lebanon, re-released in 2012.

“The Zenger prize provides me with the chance to celebrate the virtues of a fast fading form of foreign correspondence, and, perhaps, to inspire would-be reporters to invent new approaches for a profession subject to its most wrenching changes in more than a century,” said Randal.

His Tucson visit will tentatively include a public talk and visits in journalism classes. For details, visit http://journalism.arizona.edu/zenger2013.

Juárez investigative journalists received 2012 Zenger Award

Ocio Gallegos and Sandra Rodríguez, investigative reporters with El Diario de Juárez, won the 2012 John Peter and Anna Catherine Zenger Award for their fight for press freedom in the face of threats from drug lords and government censorship.

Gallegos and Rodriguez led the investigative reporting team at El Diario, which had uncovered evidence of numerous deaths related to drug cartel action in Juárez, a city of more than 1 million located just south of El Paso, Texas.

Gallegos joined the publication in 1996. She covers the violence related to drug trafficking, particularly as it relates to women, and is also the news coordinator at El Diario de Juárez.

In April 2010, Gallegos co-founded the Network of Journalists of Juárez, a group that supports journalists through training and solidarity.

Rodriguez, now a freelance journalist, covered immigration, maquiladoras, urban growth, corruption, crime and punishment. In 2008, she focused her reporting on the violence among drug cartels for control of drug trafficking in Sinaloa and Juárez. In June, she won the Daniel Pearl Award for Courage and Integrity in Journalism at the 2013 Southern California Journalism Awards in Los Angeles.

In a speech accepting the award last October, Rodriguez and Gallegos said they appreciated the School of Journalism taking notice of the challenges they face.

“This recognition,” said Gallegos, “is an encouragement to not take any steps backward, to continue forward, to defend our right to know. We cannot remain without information, because information helps us give meaning to our reality.”

For more information, including a video of them accepting the Zenger award, go to http://journalism.arizona.edu/zenger.

Get tickets now

The 2013 Zenger Dinner will be held Friday, Oct. 18, at 7 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Westin La Paloma Resort, 3800 E. Sunrise Drive. A no-host cocktail reception begins at 6 p.m. Tickets are $75 per person ($28 is tax-deductible). Visit http://journalism.arizona.edu/zenger2013, and follow the link to buy tickets, or contact Kate Harrison, 520-626-3079, kateh@email.arizona.edu.
The School of Journalism’s partnership with an Afghan university swung into high gear this past year with the development of a computer lab for journalism students, and English language and teaching training for new professors.

Through a three-year, $1 million grant from the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, the school is working with Nangarhar University in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, to build a new journalism department. The NU program began in September 2012 with the admission of more than 120 freshmen and the hiring of four new professors.

“It’s so exciting to see a new journalism program take shape at Nangarhar U,” said Professor Maggy Zanger, director of the project. “But it’s also a huge challenge.”

She points out that the Afghan Ministry of Higher Education approved the new program and hired professors, but otherwise provides no resources. At first, there were no chairs for the lecture hall and no furnishings for professors’ offices; electricity is sporadically available and there is no Internet access.

“Our first priority was to carve out a simple computer lab where students can learn the basic software and get access to the Internet,” Zanger said. Coordinating with its implementing partner in Afghanistan, the Institute for War and Peace Reporting, she said digital, still and video cameras and audio recorders were purchased for students to check out and use in addition to the desktop computers that are available in the lab. IWPR personnel supervise the lab and are now training students to use the digital equipment and software.

UA professors have been working with the IWPR program coordinator and translator, Noorullah Dawari, who came to the UA to develop journalism classes with assignments and materials that reflect the Afghanistan political, social and economic environment.

Professors Jeannine Relly, Kim Newton...
Faculty study global, border journalism

Faculty members are helping the world better understand how journalists shape the news internationally and along the U.S.-Mexico border:

**Jeannine Relly’s** and **Celeste González de Bustamante’s** study, “Journalism in times of violence: Uses and practices of social media along the U.S.-Mexico border,” was accepted for presentation in the International Communication Division for the national AEJMC conference in Washington this August. The study was based on their interviews with journalists in northern Mexico. The pair also received a $25,000 Confluence Center Collaboration and Innovation Grant to produce a collection of oral histories of journalists along the U.S.-Mexico border, which will be included in a digital archive.

A paper by **Jeannine Relly, Maggy Zanger**, and **Shahira Fahmy** titled, “Journalists’ perceptions of professional ethics norms in post-Ba’athist Iraq,” also was accepted for the conference.

**Celeste González de Bustamante’s** co-edited book, *Arizona Firestorm: Global Immigration Realities, National Media and Provincial Politics* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2012), uses Arizona’s SB 1070 as a launching pad to explore the news media’s role in shaping public opinion about immigration. Another book, on Mexico, television and the Cold War, was published by University of Nebraska Press. González de Bustamante will spend 2013-14 as a visiting professor at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City to conduct research on violence, civil society, and journalism, and teach about news media in Latin America and the United States.

**Shahira Fahmy** authored “Shooting war or peace photographs? An examination of newswires’ coverage of the conflict in Gaza (2008-2009),” in *The American Behavioral Scientist* (with Rico Neumann). The article was featured under “Key Research Articles” on the main site of the Psychology Progress series in September 2012. Fahmy also has been widely quoted by media sources on her research on the selection of graphic images that different media outlets choose to show or withhold from the public.

**Jeannine Relly’s** article co-authored with Meghna Sabharwal titled “Perceptions of transparency of government policymaking: A cross-national study” is among the most cited articles listed in the academic journal, *Government Information Quarterly*. Relly’s study titled “News media constraints and freedom of information legislation in developing countries” was published as a lead article in *International Communication Research Journal*. 

Photos by Maggy Zanger

and Susan Knight, and several UA grad students developed syllabi, assignments, PowerPoint lectures, instructional videos and other materials for classes in principles of journalism, beginning reporting and beginning photojournalism, which are being taught this year at Nangarhar University. Dawari translated the materials into Pashto.

Nangarhar University professors also began English language tutoring on campus to build on their existing skills and prepare them to possibly acquire master’s or doctoral degrees in other countries. Afghan universities only offer bachelor’s degrees in journalism.

Last summer, Zanger traveled to Dubai to meet with 25 Afghans from five universities and their U.S. partnering universities for two weeks of training in curriculum development and teaching.

This summer, Zanger and UA multimedia professor Kim Newton participated in similar training with the Afghan professors in Hyderabad, India.
Phoenix talk explores science journalism

What are some of the most important – yet underreported – science stories of the day and how can we train journalists to better understand and communicate complex issues to the public?

Those were some of the questions that were discussed at a gathering focused on science journalism Feb. 7 in Phoenix, sponsored by the School of Journalism and hosted by 1977 alumnus Steven Hirsch.

Panelists included Professors Carol Schwalbe and Alan Weisman of the School of Journalism, along with Jeffrey Trent, the president and research director of the Translational Genomics Research Institute in Phoenix.

Steve Yozwiak, a ’77 journalism grad, former Arizona Republic reporter and current senior science writer for TGen, moderated the discussion. Fellow UA journalism graduate John D’Anna of The Arizona Republic helped plan the event.

Weisman talked about the need for journalists to explain complicated environmental issues to the public so they can understand the importance of what is happening to the planet. Weisman’s previous book, The World Without Us, was an international bestseller translated into 34 languages. His latest book, titled Countdown: Our Last, Best Hope for a Future on Earth?, was published in September.

Schwalbe enjoyed a long career with the National Geographic Society. Over the years she edited and rewrote many articles and book chapters on subjects ranging from geology and natural history to anthropology and archaeology.
When Paralympians competed in London last year, Jamie Blanchard was there with them, telling their stories of athleticism, inspiration and courage.

Blanchard ’08, communications manager for the United States Olympic Committee’s U.S. Paralympics division, once described herself as shy, but lost that label in middle school when she discovered journalism.

In 1999, as an aspiring tween journalist, Blanchard wanted to work with athletes. “I wrote to some of my favorite figure skaters and asked if I could create their official websites,” she said. “A few of them said ‘yes,’ and I have ended up working with everyone from Evan Lysacek to Sasha Cohen to Johnny Weir since then.”

As a journalism student at the UA, Blanchard said her fondest memories were learning from Professor Jay Rochlin. “After I took El Independiente in my fall semester of senior year, I took his Cat Scan class in the spring, just to earn my final credits,” Blanchard said. “He really exposed me to the power of online journalism.”

The summer before her junior year, Blanchard interned with USA Volleyball, the national governing body for the sport, located in Colorado Springs, Colo. She became more involved in sports when she accepted a part-time position at the Arizona Daily Star covering high school and some college sports.

“There was always a sense of chaos,” Blanchard said. “But those Friday nights taught me how to be quick without being careless.”

After graduation, Blanchard accepted a six-month internship with the communications department at the USOC, joining them during the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. She handled media relations at men’s gymnastic events and helped create President George W. Bush’s schedule for what events he would attend.

The next year she joined the Amateur Softball Association of America/USA Softball as the marketing and communications coordinator, before becoming their assistant director of marketing and communication.

Blanchard’s work from her previous internship with the USOC landed her a new position with the communications team for the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Games.

“The most rewarding part of my position is that through my work, I have a part in inspiring all Americans,” Blanchard said. “The stories of U.S. Paralympians are incredible. Whenever I set up an athlete interview, or post on our Facebook page, I know that I am a part of something larger than myself. I am the team behind Team USA. It gives me a great sense of pride to work with the incredible athletes who represent my nation.”

Although in years past the Paralympics have been overlooked, Blanchard is seeing a shift in awareness and popularity. In addition to television coverage of the Paralympic Games on the networks of NBCUniversal, and extensive online coverage including more than 500 hours of live streaming through USParalympics.org, Paralympians are making appearances on talk shows, in commercials and in magazines, allowing Americans a glimpse into what Blanchard calls “miraculous stories of perseverance.”

— Iman Hamdan

Iman Hamdan graduated from the School of Journalism in 2012 and is a freelancer on the sports desk at the Arizona Daily Star in Tucson.

Photo courtesy of Jamie Blanchard

Jamie Blanchard, before a Women’s College World Series game at the Amateur Softball Association of America Hall of Fame Stadium in Oklahoma City.
Donor honor roll

The School of Journalism is extremely grateful to the alumni, friends and foundations who supported us in Fiscal Year 2012-13 (July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013).

Gifts of more than $5,000
Arizona Newspapers Association
Dow Jones News Fund
Gannett Foundation
Julie & Matt Harelson
Armin & Esther Hirsch Foundation
Lunda Soldwedel

Gifts of $1,000-$4,999
Arizona Republic
Patty Weiss Gelsenberg ’71
John Guilbert
Sara Samtinger
Hammond ’77
Jan Harelson
Steven Hirsch ’77
Carol Hubbard
John Irish
Bill & Kennon Jamieson Charitable Fund
Kimberly Kayler ’94
Sandra & Robert Maxfield
New York Times Student Journalism Institute
Jon Rowley ’66 & Peggy Samartini Rowley ’89
Anne Fisher Segal ’75
Jacqueline Shankey ’72
Tom Stauffer ’00 & Elena Stauffer ’89
Wick Communications
Rob Wilson ’77

Gifts of $500-$999
William Randolph Hearst Foundation
K. Rebecca Hunt
Donovan Kramer Jr. ’76
William Murray ’80
Arlene Scadron ’75
Eric Sipos
Trone Family
Jay Zuckerman

Gifts of $101-$499
Jennifer Baldwin
Bill Bayne ’79
Don Carson ’54
Richard Casey
Christine Conner ’97
Marian Crane
David Cuillier
Kevin Dayton ’84
Cynthia Dickstein
Reginald Dowdall
Debra Golden-Davis
Kate Harrison ’12
Mary Elizabeth Hart
Paul & Vivian Johnson
Norman Komar
Stacey & Michael Lent
Rajiv Modak
Renee Calderon Munro ’72
Robert Leff
Jeannine Reilly ’91
Hugo & Cynthia Reyna
George Ridge
Mark Scarp
Ellen Schifman ’80
Michele Schulze ’77

Gifts up to $100
Edna Meza Aguirre
Andrea Aker ’04
Roy & Katayoun Anderson
Carlos Arias
Molly & William Assenmacher
Lee & Beth Baumgardner
Scott Boocher
Carol Riordan Borges ’78
Elinor Brecher ’77
Travis Burns ’06
Altaira Citron ’06
Kerri Bloom Cohen ’98
Edmund Collins & Nadine Butler
Bob Crawford ’59
Linda Della
David & Patricia Denomy
Thomas Duddleston Sr.
Nann Novinsky Durando ’66
Ryan Eigenbrode ’01
Yvonne Tost Ervin ’84
David Eubank ’76

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) or school Director David Cuillier, 520-626-9694 (cuillier@email.arizona.edu).

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 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 to find out if your company matches.

Gifts of $500-$999
Katharine Andrews
Arizona Daily Star
Ellen Downs Barnes
William Birch ’58
Betsy Little Bolding ’62
Rhea Farmer
Lawrence Fleischman ’73
Elizabeth McCorkle Gilbert ’81
Nancy Guthrie ’87
Chuck Halan ’78

William Randolph Hearst Foundation
K. Rebecca Hunt
Donovan Kramer Jr. ’76
William Murray ’80
Arlene Scadron ’75
Eric Sipos
Trone Family
Jay Zuckerman

Gifts of $101-$499
Jennifer Baldwin
Bill Bayne ’79
Don Carson ’54
Richard Casey
Christine Conner ’97
Marian Crane
David Cuillier
Kevin Dayton ’84
Cynthia Dickstein
Reginald Dowdall
Debra Golden-Davis
Kate Harrison ’12
Mary Elizabeth Hart
Paul & Vivian Johnson
Norman Komar
Stacey & Michael Lent
Rajiv Modak
Renee Calderon Munro ’72
Robert Leff
Jeannine Reilly ’91
Hugo & Cynthia Reyna
George Ridge
Mark Scarp
Ellen Schifman ’80
Michele Schulze ’77

John & Maria Schwarz
Nancy Sharkey
 Sue & Steve Sidles
Richard Smith
William Sotoyamoy ’66
Randi Steinberger
Susan Tarrance
Ruth Tatter
C. Ann Tousley ’76
Evan Unger
Paul Wattles ’78
Mark Woodhams

Mary Feeneey
David Feldman ’51
Hollye & Jairo Ferreir
Shawn Pendley Fichtner ’89
Alan Fischer ’80
Lillian Shapiro Fisher
Debra Fleischman
Victor Florez & Lorraine
Rivera Florez ’04
Doreen Frankel & Jake
Hurwitz
Sarah Garrecht Gassen ’95
Betty Geethan
Robert Giffords ’93
Nancy Greenway
Frederick Hirsch
Paul Horn ’64
Martin Houseman ’53
Susan Rabin Hymers ’68
Laurie Itow ’75
Teresa & Daniel Jacobson
Faith Johnston
Christine Jones ’78
George Kaine ’58
Stephen Kelley ’72
Paula Johnston Kelso ’91
Kathleen Kirk Anderson
Kari Kritzer ’98
John Lacy ’64
Kenneth Langone ’89
Alan & Lucille Leibowitz
Anne Leight
Mary Lippman ’80
Daniel Macy ’93
Shannon McCarty-
Caplan ’00
Frances Meredith
Debra & Bryan Motzkin

James Murphy
Kitty Jo Nelson
Lorraine Nelson
Elizabeth Nida ’96
Ann Farver Norton ’83
James Palmer
Jack & Joyce Parris
Mark & Gaby Renteria-
Poespel ’08
Patricia Poore
James Ratner
Subhash & Devyani Raval
Kristi Raymond
Kurt Reinke
Ruben Rillos
George Rosenberg
Robert Roth
Myron Rottenstein
Bob & Kathy Salois
Amy Miller Savener ’88
Ronald & Caryl Sharp
Leslie Sieveke ’79
Toni & John Siler
Ron Silverman ’55
Gayle Runke Siroky ’60
Anne Gardner Spieth ’04
R. Marsh Starks ’91
Lynda Zimmer Straw
Jane Swicegood
Mary Vandeviere ’93
Lisa Walter
Lisa & James Warneke
Joy Fischer Williams
Steve Yozwiak ’77
Alan Zehngut
Janet Zinder ’61
Robert Zucker ’77
Grad wants to build something special

You’d think he’d be worried.
Nathan Olivarez-Giles had just received a pink slip from the management at Wired magazine, where he spent the last year writing about all things tech.

But the 2008 graduate had a lot going for him, including living in San Francisco, the center of the tech universe. Within two weeks, Olivarez-Giles had multiple job offers and settled on The Verge, a news site founded in 2011 that covers technology and science, but looks deeper at the industry’s social, cultural and political impact on consumers’ lives.

“I feel like our industry needs a lot of new ideas,” said Olivarez-Giles. “This is an opportunity to be a part of something that has never existed before.”

Olivarez-Giles knows about taking advantage of opportunities. Before graduating from the UA with a double major in journalism and Mexican-American Studies, he built an impressive résumé: Wildcat reporter, Arizona Daily Star intern, New York Times Student Journalism Institute participant, followed by the prestigious Scotty Reston Fellowship at The Times and a MetPro internship at the Los Angeles Times that led to his first, full-time reporting job at the LA Times.

It was in Los Angeles that he carved his niche as a technology reporter. He’s active on social media and last year Huffington Post named him one of the top 50 Latino voices to follow on Twitter.

But Olivarez-Giles said he’s troubled at times by how consumer-driven the tech industry has become. “It’s a lot of reviewing the latest gadgets, and that’s fun,” he noted. “But rarely are we looking at deeper issues, like the environmental impact when you keep throwing away cellphones.”

Olivarez-Giles believes he can take on those kinds of stories at The Verge, where editors work with reporters based on content type, such as breaking news, long-form features and reviews. There are no beats and editorial decisions are made democratically in an Internet-relay chat room.

“I figured, if I’m going to take a risk — and journalism is inherently a risk — then why not take this one and build something special and meaningful,” said Olivarez-Giles. “It seemed like too much fun to pass up.”

Professor Susan Knight, who worked with Olivarez-Giles on several of the school’s student clubs, including founding a chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, isn’t surprised by his success.

“Nate came to the School of Journalism eager to learn and to contribute. He wasn’t always the best, but he had the work ethic, passion and dedication to get there. He engaged in the classroom and out of the classroom. Then he gave back to others, and he continues to give back to our students today.”

Fund will honor student killed May 26

Drew Gyorke should have become a UA graduate, shot photos for Powder ski magazine, and lived a happy life.

Instead, on May 26, the 21-year-old journalism major died in a car accident in Tucson. His enthusiasm for adventure, however, will live on forever through an endowed fund to inspire future photojournalism students.

Gyorke’s parents, Andrew and Sara Gyorke, are establishing the Drew Nicolas Gyorke Memorial Photojournalism Fund to inspire other students to follow their dreams. They raised an endowment of $20,000 to generate $800 a year toward a photojournalism competition held each semester in the school’s required photojournalism class.

Gyorke had planned to combine his love of skiing and journalism to shoot photos for Powder magazine, even calling the magazine’s director of photography to ask him how to break into the field.

“Drew got it. He understood journalism,” said School Director David Cuillier, who taught Gyorke in the introductory journalism class. “He was going to be the best at what he did and make the world a better place.”

To give to the Drew Nicolas Gyorke Memorial Fund, go to bit.ly/gyorkefund.
UA couple’s lifelong passion to help students for generations

Ralph and Janice Hemenway Carpenter fell in love on the campus of the University of Arizona nearly 75 years ago. Today, students in the UA journalism and music programs are benefiting from that lifelong love, thanks to the Carpenters’ establishment of an endowed scholarship that is guaranteed to help journalism students for generations to come.

The $75,000 endowed journalism fund generates about $3,000 per year in scholarships and has already helped a half-dozen students continue their school work, including an aspiring sports journalist and a first-generation college student. Proceeds from the endowment also help students travel to professional conferences, such as the Unity conference for journalism diversity, and then bring back the knowledge to share with their classmates.

The story of this endowed scholarship begins with Ralph flipping through college catalogs at his high school in Washington, D.C., in search of a university to attend. The University of Arizona caught his eye and his imagination, said his daughter Stacey Carpenter Bieler.

He left the East Coast on his new motorcycle in 1933 at the age of 19. In his cross-country trek he ran into a cow, totaling his motorcycle. The mishap forced Ralph to ride a freight train the rest of the way to Tucson. He arrived in the Old Pueblo with less than three dollars in his pocket.

“He enjoyed learning things,” Bieler said, adding that her dad chose journalism because it, “offered him a way of asking people questions, and that stayed with him the rest of his life. He was always interested in pushing to know more about a situation.”

While attending classes, Ralph worked by selling ads for the Wildcat. He met his future wife, Jan, at a close friend’s Christmas party, but the two parted ways when Ralph graduated and Jan still had three years left to complete her cello major.

In 1940, Ralph sent Jan a letter for the first time in years, asking Jan to marry him. Her friends were shocked, recalled their daughter Stacey. “My mom said, ‘I wanted an interesting life so I married your father,’ and that’s exactly what he gave her.”

They balanced one another out; she was peaceful and reserved, he was outgoing and adventurous. He needed a steadying influence and she provided that, Bieler said.

Eventually, the couple settled in Delano, Calif., where Ralph was put in charge of selling advertisements for the paper.

“My father visited businesses in his Navy uniform because he had no other suitable clothes,” Bieler said. “It was a tough time with two babies and no car. After a few years of working, and with two other newspapers in a small town, he realized that the future did not look very promising.”

Ralph decided to sell life and health insurance, which he did successfully until he retired at the age of 80. This enabled him to pursue his other loves: travel and philanthropy.

The Carpenters – along with Delano’s mayor – decided to establish a local college so students wouldn’t have to travel so far for their studies. The initial response from students who registered for classes was enthusiastic. Ralph and Jan both served on the board of the Delano College Center, which has become a branch of Bakersfield College. They also helped establish a foundation to provide scholarships for Delano students.

After having three children and being married for 70 years, Ralph died on June 23, 2010, at age 95. Jan died the next year on April 18, at 93.

The Carpenters’ generous nature and commitment to their community will live on in their children, among Bakersfield College students, and in aspiring journalists and musicians at the University of Arizona.

— Iman Hamdan

Endowed funds allow donors to leave lasting legacy

The Carpenter Fund is just one of a number of endowed funds helping students. Endowed funds are created with at least $10,000 initially, and then 4 percent in interest is gleaned annually for the fund’s intended purpose. Endowed funds provide a way for people to leave their legacy and serve student journalists forever.

Here are some examples:

• The Hugh and Jan Harelson Operations Endowment of about $121,000 provides permanent funding for operations and student activities. The goal is to get the fund to $2 million in the next five years, and then eventually to $15 million. The Hugh Harelson Lab Endowment, at about $118,000, refreshes a computer lab.

• The $60,000 Carson Journalism Fund, named for former department head Don Carson, provides travel expenses for students attending job conferences and special events.

• The $10,000 Steve Emerine Scholarship fund, named for the former Tucson journalist and UA journalism faculty member, provides a scholarship for deserving students.

• The Richard Gilman Scholarship has a base of about $100,000 to generate two, $2,000 scholarships each year. It’s named for a UA journalism grad and former publisher of the Boston Globe.

For a list of all the endowed funds and named scholarships, see http://journalism.arizona.edu/scholarships.
Sharkey retirement ends era of growth, change

Jacqueline E. Sharkey, a 1972 graduate of the UA journalism program — a program she would go on to lead for 11 years and teach in for 20 more — officially retired in June 2013.

Sharkey's directorship, the department became a school. During her tenure, the school increased the number of full-time faculty from four to 16, hiring top journalism scholars and professionals with Pulitzers and extensive national experience.

The school reopened the graduate program, moved into a new building, built multimedia labs, deepened its relationship with The New York Times, expanded the interdisciplinary global journalism program, and established an emphasis in science journalism.

Sharkey stepped down as director of the school in fall 2011 for a research leave to work on a book. David Cuillier was named interim director and became permanent director in February 2012.

"The school is a world-class journalism program, thanks to Jacqueline’s leadership and selfless dedication,” Cuillier said.

"Through her example and inspiration, we hope to continue providing students with an excellent education and producing top research while becoming more financially self-sufficient during these times of ongoing budget cuts.

"We are all eternally grateful and inspired by her incredible passion for the school, and for journalism.”

Sharkey’s journalism background includes covering the Iran-Contra scandal and reporting on insurgencies in Latin America. Her work won top awards from the Society of Professional Journalists and from Investigative Reporters and Editors, and was used in several congressional investigations.

School Director David Cuillier said proceeds will be used to help students practice watchdog journalism in and out of the United States, as Sharkey did while covering the Contras in Central America. The fund also will help students practice public affairs reporting in Arizona communities, including for El Independiente, the bilingual publication started by Sharkey in the 1970s. Every penny will help, and with enough contributions totaling at least $10,000, the fund can become endowed to help students produce quality work that is dogged, accurate and ethical for generations to come.

Every dollar donated will be matched one-to-one by an anonymous donor. To donate, contact Kate Harrison at kateh@email.arizona.edu or go to journalism.arizona.edu, click on the “Donate Now” link, then select “Sharkey Watchdog Fund.”

Fight for freedom on behalf of Professor Sharkey

Jacqueline Sharkey fought for press freedom, she taught a generation to fight, and now you can help the cause by supporting a fund in her name.

Sharkey, whose wish was to retire from the school with as little fanfare as possible, agreed to allow the school to establish a Sharkey watchdog fund, “if it will benefit journalism students.”

Indeed, it will.

Sharkey, who also earned her master’s in journalism from the UA, joined the journalism faculty in 1975, teaching courses in introductory reporting, photography, ethics, layout and design, and founding El Independiente, a publication that continues to serve the community of South Tucson. In 1980 she joined The Washington Post as a copy editor and taught part time at George Washington University. She returned to the UA in 1984, and during the next six years wrote a book about Pentagon press restrictions and won the Freedom Forum National Journalism Teacher of the Year award.

She became the journalism program’s first female department head in 2001, after a year as acting head.

Michael Chihak ’71, host of Arizona Public Media’s “Arizona Week,” believes the UA journalism program’s success is due in large part to Sharkey’s tenacity.

“Through what can only be described as administrative door-to-door combat,” Chihak said, “Professor Sharkey gained precious ground for the program over the last half-dozen years, securing a professorship here, a major scholarship or other contribution there, slowly but surely building the program into the powerhouse that it is today.”

Sharkey’s journalism background includes covering the Iran-Contra scandal and reporting on insurgencies in Latin America. Her work won top awards from the Society of Professional Journalists and from Investigative Reporters and Editors, and was used in several congressional investigations.

School Director David Cuillier said proceeds will be used to help students practice watchdog journalism in and out of the United States, as Sharkey did while covering the Contras in Central America. The fund also will help students practice public affairs reporting in Arizona communities, including for El Independiente, the bilingual publication started by Sharkey in the 1970s. Every penny will help, and with enough contributions totaling at least $10,000, the fund can become endowed to help students produce quality work that is dogged, accurate and ethical for generations to come.

Every dollar donated will be matched one-to-one by an anonymous donor. To donate, contact Kate Harrison at kateh@email.arizona.edu or go to journalism.arizona.edu, click on the “Donate Now” link, then select “Sharkey Watchdog Fund.”
1953
Martin Houseman is retired and living in San Diego.

1962
Bill Jamieson’s book, The Idea of America: Are the Principles Eroding or Enduring, was published last month. The project took him to 11 countries in 2010 where he formally interviewed more than 50 people and had dozens of spontaneous conversations. “Then last summer,” writes Bill, “I loosely followed John Steinbeck’s Travels with Charlie across 32 states and 13,000 miles in a camper van with my dog Amos to talk with Americans. After a career in politics and business it felt good to get back to my journalism school roots.” Bill lives in Asheville, N.C.

1963
Ford Burkhart reported about photonics technology used to search for the Boston Marathon bombers for the SPIE website. The story was published (and was a “most read” item) on the second day of the search. Read it at bit.ly/1d6Pi3S. He also wrote about new-wave night vision cameras (another “most read” item) and other photonics advances for Optics.org and SPIE Newsroom. See: http://optics.org/news/4/6/16.

1971
Michael Chihak marked his 100th episode as host of “Arizona Week” on Dec. 7, 2012. Launched in January, 2011, “Arizona Week” airs as part of the Friday evening public affairs line-up on KUAT, the PBS affiliate in Tucson.

Bruce Glikin has published a new novel called Gideon’s Bible. He and his family live in Houston.

1976
Donovan Kramer Jr. is the co-publisher and managing editor of Casa Grande Valley Newspapers Inc.

1977
Nancy Cleeland is the director of public affairs for the National Labor Relations Board in Washington.

Robert Zucker is president of BZB Publishing. He’s working on several books and publishing at EMOL.org (Entertainment Magazine Online) in Tucson.

1978
Chuck Halnan reports that he’s “still ek-

1979
Kim Smith has left the Arizona Daily Star as its court reporter to become a spokeswoman for the Pima County Juvenile Court.

1980
Geoff Oldfather is the communications and public relations manager for Arizona Electric Power Cooperative in Benson, Ariz.

William Murray has been named global media advisor and deputy spokesman for the International Monetary Fund. He manages the Washington-based IMF’s media activities worldwide, including the Fund’s relations with traditional and social media. The IMF, a 188-nation international financial institution, is headed by former French finance minister Christine Lagarde.

1981
Gilbert Bailon was inducted into the National Association of Hispanic Journalists Hall of Fame Aug. 26. He is the editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

1982
Carol Ann Bassett was interviewed for NPR’s L.A. Theatre Works Radio on a satire about the Galapagos, the subject of Carol Ann’s last book. Listen at: http://latw.nfshost.com/wp2/?p=279.

1984
Lynn DeBruin is a sports reporter with the Associated Press in Salt Lake City.

Colleen Niccum, director of community and government relations for Raytheon Missile Systems, was named Tucson’s 2012 Woman of the Year for her work in education and community improvement efforts.

1987
Gary Hovatter is the special assistant to the director of the Arizona Game & Fish Commission.

1988
Judy Bernas, associate vice president of University Relations for the University of Arizona in Phoenix, has been named the Woman of the Year by the Arizona chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society after outraising a group of nominees. Bernas was the top fundraiser in the annual campaign in which seven men and four women competed over a 10-week period with charity events and drives to support blood cancer research. She raised $40,070 during the campaign.

1991
Paula Johnston Kelso is a multiplatform editor on the copy desk at The Washington Post.

1992
Scott Kilbury has left KOLD-TV in Tucson for a new job at WHEC in Rochester, N.Y. He began July 15.

1993
Shannon Conner has moved from sports editor to a part-time position as Saturday editor at the Arizona Daily Star.

Daniel Macy is an editor with Thompson Publishing Group in Washington, D.C.

1997
Dorothy Parvaz has been named the 2013 recipient of the McGill Medal for Journalistic Courage. Parvaz, a reporter for Al Jazeera’s English-language channel in Doha, Qatar, was captured, jailed and interrogated for 19 days while covering the civil war in Syria. The University of Georgia’s Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication and its McGill Program in Journalistic Courage will present Parvaz with the medal during a ceremony in the fall.

1999
Mary Brandenberger is a public affairs director for the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C.

Jennifer Fitzenberger has joined Tucson Electric Power’s marketing/communications
team, focusing on corporate and customer communications and social media.

Susan Carroll Hem, an immigration reporter at the Houston Chronicle, was named the 2012 print journalist of the year by the Houston Press Club.

2001

Melissa Mazzella DeLaney is the vice president for communications and public affairs for the Greater Phoenix Economic Council.

2002

Ryan Finley is the new sports editor at the Arizona Daily Star.

Meghan Saar is editor-in-chief of True West magazine, based in Scottsdale, Ariz.

2003

Irene Fischler McKisson is the social media editor at the Arizona Daily Star.

Dave Roberts is the marketing director and digital filmmaking instructor with MindFire Academy in Wichita, Kan.

2005

Brett Fera has been named the managing editor of the East Valley Tribune.

In mid-August, Alex Chihak moved from the Austin American-Statesman to the consolidated copy desk for Cox Media Group. It’s based in West Palm Beach, Fla., and the news desk editors and designs the American-Statesman, The Palm Beach Post and the Palm Beach Daily News. Alex writes: “I’m a copy editor, as always.”

2006

Allie Bell left CNNMoney.com to join CNBC Digital as their manager of audience and digital editing and designs the American-Statesman, The Palm Beach Post and the Palm Beach Daily News. Alex writes: “I’m a copy editor, as always.”

Hillary Davis writes for the Yuma Sun.

Joe Ferguson has left the Arizona Daily Sun in Flagstaff to join the Arizona Daily Star in Tucson.

2007

Anthony Avila is teaching at Arizona College Prep Academy.

Victoria Harben is teaching in the New Media and Internet Marketing master’s program at the University of Denver and serves on the Advisory Board for the same program.

Ernesto Romero has been promoted to news director at KYMA News 11 in Yuma. Ernesto says, “I would personally like to thank everyone who mentored me and guided me in the right direction. You know who you are:)

Allison Slater is the marketing coordinator at Cal State Fresno.

2008

Michael McKisson has been hired as a full-time assistant professor of practice by the UA School of Journalism.

Gaby Renteria-Poepsel and her spouse, Mark, have relocated to Illinois from New Orleans for Mark’s new job as an assistant professor at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. They are parents to Sammy, who is almost 18 months old.

Nicole Santa Cruz is now covering homicides for the Los Angeles Times as part of an effort called The Homicide Report, which aims to cover every homicide in the largest county in the nation for an entire year. Read about it at: http://projects.latimes.com/homicide/post/homicide-report-returns/

Michael Schwartz moved to San Diego in January 2013 to pursue a sports MBA at San Diego State University.

2009

Stephanie Jerzy is the assistant marketing manager and online specialist at Nolet Spirits U.S.A. in Orange County, Calif.

Kristina Stevens is an English teacher at Croix Rouge IFSI in France.

2010

Angela Grossman is teaching English in Milan, Italy.

Lance Madden is writing for Forbes magazine.

2011

Samantha Sais had a photo of immigrants who were reuniting with family in Nogales run on Page 1-A, above the fold, in the June 12 New York Times. She also had a Page One photo in the June 11 issue of The Times.

Yael Schusterman is the director of marketing with Momentus Ventures in Morristown, N.J.

2012

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

Daniel Gaona is the high school sports coordinator at the Arizona Daily Star.

Marlena Hamilton has signed a two-year contract with KETK in Tyler, Texas. She had been working as an anchor/reporter in Alpena, Mich.

Michelle Monroe has joined the Gannett Design Studio in Phoenix as a copy editor.

Lucy Valencia took a job with KSWT News 13, the CBS-affiliate in Yuma, Ariz. She started out as an assignments desk editor but now is writing, producing, editing, controlling web/social media content and doing some of her own reporting. Lucy says, “I never thought I’d end up working in the broadcast world of journalism, but it turns out I love it and once I got used to writing for TV, it all fit me perfectly.”

Sand Westdahl was hired by Arizona Public Media for a full-time production technician job.

Jazmine Woodberry coordinates and assigns content for the sex and love section of an upstairs online women’s health magazine called InHue in Tucson.

2013

Bethany Barnes has landed a job as a courts reporter with the Las Vegas Sun.

Kristina Bui accepted an offer to join the Los Angeles Times’ Metpro class in September 2013.

Deaths

Martha Boerum ’71 — Nov. 10, 2012

John Clausen ’78 – March 20, 2013


Patricia Patten — July 15, 2013. Spouse of Jim Patten, former journalism professor and department head.

Lois Putzier-Wharton ’71 — Feb. 5, 2013

Duncan Robertson ’77 – April 15, 2012

Jency Houser Yall – Jan. 5, 2013. Former staff member in the journalism program.
This is one circle of friends that cares a lot about journalism.

The school is launching the Zenger Giving Circle this fall to build an endowment that will ensure a strong UA journalism program for generations to come.

Individuals or organizations who give at least $1,000 a year toward the school’s Harelson Operations Endowment, or to the annual Zenger Award Dinner, will be honored as Zenger Circle members.

The contributions will be matched 1-to-1, for a total of up to $25,000 a year, by Matt and Julie Harelson, the son and daughter-in-law of Hugh and Jan Harelson, for whom the endowment is named. Hugh Harelson, who died in 1998, devoted his life to the news industry, working in newspapers (The Arizona Republic), television (KPNX-TV) and magazines (Arizona Highways). Jan currently lives in Phoenix and is a longtime Journalism Advisory Council member.

Zenger Circle members will be recognized on the school’s website, in school external communications, and at the annual Zenger Award Dinner, to be held Oct. 18. Members also will receive invitations to gatherings to meet with journalists and students.

Currently, the Harelson endowment is at about $121,000 and the goal is to raise $2 million within the next five years, and then ultimately $15 million, which would establish the school’s strong student programming firmly in perpetuity. While the match program is hoped to raise more than $50,000 a year toward the endowment, to reach the school’s goal significant donations will be needed from individuals, corporations and people who leave legacy gifts in their wills.

“This is a big task, but it’s doable and absolutely necessary as the next phase in advancing this world-class journalism school,” School Director David Cuillier said.

Cuillier said the school receives no money from the university for operations, including printing the school publications, helping students travel and supporting faculty research. The school even has to pay its annual $17,000 computer-phone bill on its own, which it does through summer course fee revenue.

“Everyone knows that state funding of higher education has plummeted and it’s going to continue,” Cuillier said. “The reality is we need to put the school on its own secure funding course so it is guaranteed to thrive and serve students well forever – and ever – without the help of the state.”

The campaign isn’t unprecedented. Cuillier said the Arizona State University Cronkite School secured $15 million in endowments in the 1990s, which helped it become an independent school. Some journalism programs have raised hundreds of millions of dollars. “We don’t need to be the richest and we don’t need to be the biggest,” Cuillier said. “But like John Peter and Anna Catherine Zenger, we need to be secure in knowing we will be able to foster good journalism for generations to come.”