

First Homecoming festivities in journalism's new quarters

Alumni celebrate, Weiss honored

Marshall Building tours offered; alum gets award

The journalism department provided a Homecoming Open House in its new quarters in the Louise Foucar Marshall Building on Oct. 30, and later joined the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences to honor Patty Weiss, a '71 journalism alumna and longtime Tucson television news anchor.

The weekend was the 90th annual Homecoming for the university, and the 53rd for the department.

The open house celebration included a Mexican buffet, a raffle for gag gifts and tours of the department's new third-floor facilities led by Jacqueline Sharkey, the journalism department head.

The department also welcomed Homecoming visitors at a tent set up by the college on the mall.

Among the alumni who visited were Professor Emeritus Donald W. Carson (class of '54), Ron Longenbaugh ('55), Michael Letson ('74) and Nancy Guthrie (MA 1987).

Recent grads who made appearances included Jennifer Karlman ('04), Joe Altman ('99) and John Brown ('98).

Later in the day, journalism and other SBS alums were invited to a reception at the Shanty Cafe on East Ninth Street hosted by Bill Nugent, third-generation owner of the 67-year-old tavern and a member of the college's advisory board.

Weiss was chair of the SBS homecoming event, marking the third year in four that a journalism graduate has been the host.

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Cursor photos by Ken Wolverton

Patty Weiss enjoys her crown, left. Above, Jacqueline Sharkey, journalism department head, introduces Weiss as Alumna of the Year. Below, journalism student Andrea Kelly, alumna Jennifer Karlman ('04) and journalism student Robert Garcia visit at the Shanty Cafe Homecoming event.



International journalism and technology classes planned

By Ken Wolverton
Journalism senior

The journalism department's newest curriculum initiatives include an expanded international journalism program and plans for a related interdisciplinary master's degree program, said department head Jacqueline Sharkey.

An interdisciplinary Information Technology and Society initiative is being launched by the journalism and communication departments along with the School of Information Resources and Library Science.

Sharkey said funds for these new initiatives came from federal and state grants, and not from the department's budget, which is dedicated to the core curriculum.

The interdisciplinary international program involves partnerships among journalism, the

Department of Near Eastern Studies, the Center for Middle Eastern Studies and the Center for Latin American Studies.

Two faculty members have been added for the program, both with half-time appointments in the journalism department. Each will be teaching and working in the department for one term each academic year.

Alan Weisman, who leads the Latin American segment of the program, is an award-winning journalist who has covered the region for decades.

His articles have appeared in publications such as the New York Times Magazine and Harper's. He has written four books, and also has helped produce international documentaries for National Public Radio.

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Enrollment boom continues with 17 percent increase in majors

The rush of majors into journalism studies at the University of Arizona continues.

"The department had a 17 percent increase in the number of journalism majors between fall 2003 and fall 2004," said Jacqueline Sharkey, journalism department head. "Enrollment has nearly doubled in the last six years."

The department had 531 majors and 72 minors taking classes during the fall term, said Paul Johnson, the department's senior academic advisor. Journalism is the ninth largest undergraduate major at the UA and the sixth largest major among freshmen, Johnson said.

Between fall 2000 and fall 2004, journalism enrollment increased 68 percent, the fastest growth in undergraduate BA programs in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, he said. During

the same period, SBS enrollment grew 32 percent and total undergraduate enrollment at the UA increased 7 percent.

The flood of majors forced the journalism department to suspend admission into its minor program in the fall of 2003. That suspension continues. Students who declared their minor before the freeze are being allowed to complete that coursework.

"We have not been able to hire new full-time faculty as fast as we have needed to," Sharkey noted. "Adjunct faculty are teaching many of the new class sections we've had to add in order to deal with this explosive growth."

Minors are required to take 18 units of journalism courses, which has diluted the resources the department could provide to journalism majors, and reduced classroom slots that majors needed, Sharkey said.

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Weisman took nine students to Chile in the spring 2004 term for two and one-half weeks. They wrote a series of articles and



Weisman

took photographs that explored the impact of political, economic and environmental issues in Chile on Arizona.

The series was published by the Tucson Citizen last summer. It's online at www.tucsoncitizen.com.

Sharkey said the journalism department and the Center for Latin American Studies have obtained funding to send students to Panama this year.

Maggy Zanger, who will focus on journalism in the Middle East, is the in-country director of the Institute for War and Peace Reporting in Iraq, which trains Iraqi journalists to work for independent news organizations.

Sharkey said the institute had been based in Baghdad, but recently was forced to relocate to the Kurdish region in the north because of concerns about the staff's safety.

Zanger formerly was on the faculty at the American University in Cairo, and also was director of the publications program of the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies at Georgetown University.

Zanger will begin work on the UA



Zanger

campus in January 2005. Sharkey said Zanger has developed a new focus for the department's class on news analysis that will look at news coverage of humanitarian crises in the Middle East.

During the first three years of the international journalism program, Zanger and Weisman will be developing new courses and helping the department to establish relationships with universities and news media in their respective regions, Sharkey said.

They'll also be seeking ways to involve professional journalists in those

regions in exchanges with UA journalism students and faculty, she said. They'll help with fund raising to support activities such as international travel and scholarships for students.

The international journalism classes are open to graduate and undergraduate students in the partner departments, Sharkey said.

A longer-range goal is for an interdisciplinary master's degree program in journalism and Latin American studies and in journalism and Near Eastern studies, Sharkey said. Students in these programs would take half their coursework in journalism and half in regional studies and language.

The paperwork is being prepared for a journalism-Latin American studies master's program, she said.

The interdisciplinary Information Technology and Society initiative has received state funds provided for new curriculum efforts in information technology and workforce development. Those funds were used to hire H. Iris Chyi with a joint appointment in the journalism and communication departments.

Chyi will be working with the faculties of journalism, communication and the School of Information Resources and Library Science to develop collaborative research and teaching projects in the new program.

Sharkey said an additional part-time faculty member will be hired for this initiative using the special funding and will begin work in fall 2005.

Sharkey said the department also will develop other cross-listed courses.

"The long-term goal of this initiative is to develop an interdisciplinary minor in information technology and society that would be available to students university-wide," Sharkey said.

That program would provide the curricular foundation for a proposed new College of Information Sciences that university administrators and journalism faculty are exploring the possibilities of developing over the next 10 years, she said.

Look for cross-listed courses, and information technology offerings

Tombstone Epitaph

The Tombstone Epitaph, which is approaching its 30th anniversary as a journalism department laboratory publication, collected two staff first places and seven individual awards at the 2004 Arizona Newspapers Association Better Newspapers Contest in September.

The fall 2003 and spring 2004 papers took top honors in the non-daily under 3,500 circulation category for best use of photography and page design excellence.

David Harden was the fall 2003 editor-in-chief. Andrea Kelly was the spring 2004 editor-in-chief.

Two former Epitaph staffers took firsts in writing categories. Ty E. Young won for best news-feature story. Lindsay Manroel took first place for best sports story.

Harden received second-place honors for best feature photo and best feature photo layout. Also a photographer for the Arizona Daily Wildcat, Harden took first place for best news photo in the non-dailies under 10,000 category.

Second-place awards went to Lara Foresman in the best headline category, and to Manroel and Alison Ecklund for sports beat or team coverage. Foresman also received a third place for lifestyle feature writing.

Homecoming/ from PAGE 1

In 2003, Thom Calandra, founding editor of CBS Marketwatch, was chair of the event; in 2001, the host was Michael W. Chihak, Tucson Citizen editor and publisher.

Weiss had remarked while on the air that she never had been chosen as homecoming queen, so Associate Dean for Instruction Jim Shockey surprised her with a tiara, crowning her Homecoming Queen for a Day.

"I didn't take it off all day," Weiss said later. "I even wore it to the football game."

Sharkey presented Weiss with a framed certificate recognizing her as Alumna of the Year. The award is given each year by the college to an outstanding alum who has had a significant impact on SBS.

Weiss was recognized for her key role in the journalism department's 50 for 50 campaign, which helped raise more than \$50,000. She also

took a lead in raising \$25,000 to establish the Jon Ruby Scholarship Endowment in Broadcast Journalism.

Weiss told the crowd at the Shanty Cafe how much her studies in journalism benefited her both in her career and in her life.

"We had to learn a lot to get through journalism — government, economics, history," she said, adding that she feels it's important to give back to the community.

In May, Chihak was recognized by the college and SBS alumni as SBS Alumnus of the Year at the Alumni Association Alumnus of the Year Awards Ceremony.

Chihak, a '71 journalism alumnus, has served on the SBS advisory board since 2001, and has been its chair since 2002. He helped start the SBS fundraising society, the Magellan Circle.

Ed Donnerstein, SBS dean, noted that Chihak had devoted "countless hours" to helping raise money for the college.

University program review, re-accreditation begin

The journalism department has some "tremendous advances" to report as it faces two major program reviews over the next several years, said department head Jacqueline Sharkey.

The first review is the university's Academic Program Review, which begins this fall, Sharkey said.

Every seven years the UA provost requires each department to undergo an exhaustive progress report, reviewing the current state of the department, where it is planning to go and the resources it needs to get there.

The review involves a self-study written by the department and a report by an external committee. The self-study is under way; the external review is scheduled to take place in

spring 2005.

Sharkey said that as soon as the university review is complete, the department will move into the re-accreditation process, which takes place every six years. The department is accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications, which evaluates journalism and mass communications programs in colleges and universities nationwide.

Re-accreditation will take place in the 2005-06 academic year.

In the past six years, "The department has made enormous strides in terms of facilities," Sharkey noted. "We now have a new building that has five instructional computer laboratories with up-to-date hardware and software."

She also cited a new broadcast news sequence that "we hope to expand within the next several years."

Journalism's steep enrollment growth has caused a strain, she said, noting that the department hasn't been able to add new full-time faculty as fast as it has needed to in order to meet student demand.

The department has had to turn to experienced adjunct faculty members to teach some of the additional class sections.

This is problematic, Sharkey noted, because "the accreditation team really wants to see the majority of journalism classes taught by full-time faculty. We have a commitment by the dean of our college to hire more faculty, but it takes a while to find and hire the right people."

University-wide budgetary restraints have slowed that process.

"This year we had to postpone two hires because the university experienced another unexpected, across-the-board budget cut," Sharkey said.

"The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences had to reduce the number of new faculty it could allow departments to recruit and so this year instead of recruiting three people we have been allowed to recruit only one assistant professor," she said.

However, she said, she is optimistic about the department's future, especially given the new facilities in the Marshall building and the dean's written commitment of five additional faculty members over the next three years.

Chyi launches work on interdisciplinary courses

When she arrived at the University of Arizona this fall, H. Iris Chyi noticed immediately a big difference between teaching in Hong Kong and in Tucson.

It's all about attitude.

"Hong Kong is a highly commercial city. People think about cost and benefit all the time, even in education, unfortunately," Chyi said. "I didn't feel that people cared about the students much there."

But the new assistant professor, who has a joint appointment in the journalism and communication



Chyi

departments, said she has found the University of Arizona to be another story altogether.

"I can tell they really care about the students here, and I think caring for the students is a really good thing," said Chyi, whose home department is journalism. "Otherwise, what is teaching but just a job?"

Chyi is working with the journalism and communication departments and the School of Information Resources and Library Science on research and course planning for a new interdisciplinary information technology and society program.

"Because of Professor Chyi's broad range of research and interdisciplinary focus, she will be taking a leadership role in developing this initiative," said Jacqueline Sharkey, journalism department head.

Initially, the program will promote interdisciplinary teaching and research efforts. Eventually, it is expected to result in an interdisciplinary minor.

During the spring 2005 term, Chyi will be teaching about 25 journalism students in a new 400-level Directions in News Technology class. It will cover online production skills ("How it really works," as Chyi said), but primarily the students will be exploring theories and economics of news technologies.

"Professor Chyi will bring

her research insights and experience into the classroom in important ways. The course she will be teaching in news technology will bring students cutting-edge information about this crucial topic," Sharkey said.

Also in the spring, Chyi will teach Introduction to Communication Technology in the communication department, which she said will cover theories of information technology, the meaning of digital versus analog, convergence, applications of technologies and online publishing.

A native of Taiwan, Chyi was on the faculty of the School of Journalism and Communication at the Chinese University of Hong Kong for the past four years.

She earned her BA in foreign languages and literature from National Taiwan University in Taipei, then a master's in media studies from Stanford University and a doctorate in journalism from the University of Texas at Austin. The focus of her doctoral work was communication technology and media economics.

Among the courses she has taught to graduate and undergraduate students: online journalism, multidisciplinary approaches to new media research, multimedia design and development and research methods.

"The journalism and communication departments are extremely fortunate to have a faculty member with such intellectual versatility," Sharkey said. "Professor Chyi has done important research that has been published in top academic journals and is very relevant for the profession of journalism."

One area of research is the profitability of online publications.

"Not many online newspapers are making money," Chyi said. "People are concerned about the future of this platform."

Chyi cited studies that demonstrate that although people use online news outlets, they don't like them. In fact, online news sites come in dead last on a likeability scale, behind television, print and radio.

"They use it, but they don't like it and they're not going to pay for it," she said. The Wall Street Journal's paid online service is among the few successful exceptions.

Why aren't people willing to pay for online news?

"It seems to me that people perceive different news media quite differently," Chyi said. "The next step of my research is to find out what factors influence that perception."

New professor focuses on teaching, service, Ph.D.

By Laurie Laine
Journalism senior

Gathering, evaluating and writing news is the focus of the journalism 205 class, and some recent journalism students may have learned these newswriting fundamentals from Jeannine Relly, the department's new assistant professor of practice.

"I'm excited about being a part of the department's growth phase in both faculty and programs," Relly said.

Relly joined the faculty full-time this fall after serving four semesters as an adjunct faculty member.

"I am extremely pleased Professor Relly has joined us," said Jacqueline Sharkey, journalism department head. "Her amazing combination of experience and work in her Ph.D. program will give students in their first reporting class the most solid foundation possible."

Sharkey said that Relly will be teaching "a lot of 205 classes. As enrollment continues to increase, our need to expand our really excellent teaching faculty and maintain our reputation will grow."

Sharkey pointed out that one indicator of Relly's teaching abilities is the fact that she won the Hugh and Jan Harelson Excellence in Teaching Award last spring, when she was an adjunct instructor.

One of Relly's 205 students, Mitra Taj, won a third-place award in an international journalism competition sponsored by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. Taj won for a story she did for Relly's class on economic issues on the U.S.-Mexico border.

Relly is an award-winning journalist who has herself reported on economic and political issues in Mexico.

"The border is a fascinating, news-rich place that is largely untapped," Relly said.

In more than a dozen years of reporting, Relly did in-depth and investigative work for the Tucson Weekly, and later served as an Associated Press reporter in the Caribbean. Relly wrote a series of articles for the AP on environmental and political issues in the region.

After returning to the United States, she accepted a job as a business reporter for the Arizona Daily Star, where her work included covering issues on the border.

"Professor Relly's superb experience as an international journalist focusing on politics and economics

means she will make invaluable contributions to the students and the department," Sharkey said.

She also will be working with Professor Bill Greer on diversity issues. In October, Relly took a dozen students to Los Angeles where they met with Greer to attend the California Chicano News Media Association job fair. The students had an opportunity to meet with 75 news media companies.

It was a great experience for the students, Relly said.



Relly

This is all a part of "our decades-long commitment to diversity," Sharkey said.

Relly, 45, received her bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech, her master's from the University of Arizona and is working on her Ph.D. at the School of Public Affairs at Arizona State University.

Relly is interested in studying open records laws in a number of other countries that have passed directives in the past 10 years, and may focus her dissertation on some aspect of U.S. information policy.

Relly spends at least one quarter of her time working with students, helping them get ready for job fairs and recruiting them to apply for internships.

"I love working with students," Relly said. "My eyes are opened every day."

"I have really enjoyed working with Professor Relly because of the motivational way in which she communicates with me," said Lauren Heft, a senior. "I am graduating in May of 2005 and she has worked extensively on my résumé with me."

The goals for spring are simple. Relly wants her students to enjoy reporting and to take a more active role as reporters.

Relly said she also would like to "set up relationships with newsrooms and universities in other countries and see the feasibility of working relationships with other universities."

Two new staffers join journalism department

April Thompson, an administrative assistant, and Matthew Helms, a support systems analyst, are new additions to the journalism staff.

Thompson started as a temporary employee during the spring 2004 term and took a full-time position in June. A native of Wyoming, she plans to study psychology at the UA.

Helms started as a half-time support systems analyst in October, working on upgrades to the computer systems, troubleshooting problems and planning design changes. A Californian, he earned a BA in environmental studies from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 1999. He worked in information technology in The Netherlands and Italy, and hopes to finish a computer-science BS at the UA in May 2006.

Alumnus Frederick L. Vance dies

Frederick L. Vance, a television and radio station owner and manager who built a second career covering professional golf, died June 30. He was 86.

Vance spent seven years as vice president and general manager of KVOA-TV in Tucson and then was vice president and general manager at KGUN from 1965 to 1969. He owned radio station KHOS.

After stints managing television and radio stations in Las Vegas and California, Vance came back to Tucson and earned his master's degree in journalism at the UA in 1976.

He covered as many as 30 professional golf events a year for major golf magazines as a freelance writer-photographer until his retirement in 1996.

He is survived by his wife, three children and one stepdaughter.

Alumni notes

What your former classmates are doing, and where they call home

1975

Ann Littrell was elected to the Cochise County Superior Court. She is the county's first female elected judge. She had been serving in the Cochise County Attorney's office, representing public schools and working on employment law issues.

1981

Dennis Joyce is now editorial page editor of the Arizona Daily Star.

1982

Carol Ann Bassett wrote the book "Organ Pipe: Life on the Edge," published by the University of Arizona Press. She teaches magazine writing, environmental journalism and literary nonfiction at the University of Oregon.

Andrew S. Howell has been promoted from assistant managing editor to managing editor of the Ogden (Utah) Standard Examiner.

Phil Matier is a reporter for KRON 4 News in San Francisco. Matier has contributed reports about the politics and personalities of

San Francisco and the Bay Area, talking not only about what local politicians are saying, but also about what they aren't. He also shares a column byline thrice weekly, "The Matier and Ross Report," in the San Francisco Chronicle.

1984

David Ord has been promoted from copy editor to assistant sports editor at the Arizona Daily Star.

1986

Jana Rivera Richman is living in Salt Lake City. Her book, "Riding in the Shadows of Saints: A Woman's Story of Motorcycling the Mormon Trail," is scheduled for publication in July 2005 by Crown.

1992

Kristen Cook and **Joe Salkowski** are parents of a new baby boy. Jameson Joseph Salkowski weighed in at 8 lbs. 11 oz. and was 21 inches long.

1993

Paul Allvin left his job as director for communications for Democratic Gov.

Janet Napolitano to become assistant vice president for strategic communications at the University of Arizona in October. Allvin will focus on statewide communication for the UA, particularly in Maricopa County, according to a UA press release.

Shannon Connor has moved from assistant city editor to regional editor of the Arizona Daily Star. She heads the Star Northwest Bureau and will oversee the Star's planned expanded regional coverage.

1995

Matt Tresaugue covers the California Angels for the Riverside (Calif.) Press-Enterprise.

1997

Carrie Howe Powell is academic affairs manager for the Institute for Professional Development, a sister company of the University of Phoenix.

Kelly Sampson is a freelance graphic designer in Tucson. She operates under the name Mosaic Design.

1999

For the second year in a row, **Susan Carroll** was named Virg Hill Journalist of the Year by the Arizona Press Club. Working out of Tucson, Susan covers immigration and the border for the Arizona Republic.

Patrick Cavanaugh left his position as a reporter at the Northwest Explorer in Tucson to take over as chief executive aide for Ann Day, the Republican Pima County supervisor for District 1.

2000

Nicole Acorn Crites is leaving KREM-TV in Spokane, Wash., to join KPHO-TV in Phoenix.

Kristen Davis moved to the Cleveland Plain Dealer in mid-October to coordinate high school sports coverage, a position similar to the one she held at the Arizona Daily Star.

2001

Bill Colella placed in the top 20 in the screenplay category of a Writer's Digest competition.

Jeff Ficker is managing editor of Arizona Monthly magazine. The Phoenix-based publication used to be known as Metro Magazine. In October, with a cover photo of John McCain and articles on Arizona politics, the magazine expanded its reach and became a statewide publication.

2002

Na'ama Tubman has moved to Las Cruces, N.M., to work in public affairs for the Bureau of Land Management, covering three field offices. She left her BLM regional office job in Santa Fe to take the new position.

In addition to sports reporting and working as assistant sports editor for the Idaho State Journal, in Pocatello, **Connor Doyle** writes a regular column.

Jason Watkins is a feature writer and designer at the Las Cruces (N.M.) Sun-News.

2003

Vanessa Cartwright is a first-year law student at the University of Arizona.

Jen Duffy is a feature writer at the Arizona Daily Star.

Lauren McCabe is working for CNBC-TV in Washington, D.C. She started as an assistant producer and now is a segment and field producer for the prime-time political and economic newscast, Capital Report.

Arek Sarkissian II is an editorial designer for Territorial Newspapers in Tucson. He also is writing for Territorial's Tucson Weekly and copy editing for its Inside Tucson Business. He and his partner are proud parents of Samantha Sarkissian, born

on Nov. 21.

Christopher Wuensch is a sports reporter with the Northwest Explorer in Tucson.

2004

After a feature-writing internship at the Tucson Citizen, **Jenny Hunsperger** joined the Hattiesburg (Miss.) American. She reports that one of her first stories on the cops beat, about "a fatal accident at the home of Green Bay Packers quarterback Brett Favre," was picked up by the Associated Press, numerous newspapers, ESPN, Fox Sports and NFL.com.

Jennifer Karlman is an anchor-reporter at KEPR-TV, the CBS affiliate serving the Pasco-Richland-Kennwick, Wash., market.

Daniel Mitchell is writing for Razor, a national men's magazine based in Scottsdale.

Bob Purvis was invited to join the staff of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel after spending a summer as a news intern. He's working on the paper's new weekly section aimed at attracting a younger readership.

Daniel Scarpinato is covering schools and other news out of the Arizona Daily Star's Northwest Bureau.

Shelley Shelton spent a summer as a Dow Jones Fellow at the Wall Street Journal and has joined the Arizona Daily Star's Northwest Bureau.

Jeff Sklar is enrolled in law school at the University of Southern California.

Tessa Hill is employed by Onvia, a Seattle-based firm that helps businesses find government contracts.

Ty E. Young is a reporter at the Arizona Republic.

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