Johnson retires after 24 years with the department

BY JUDY M. CHEWNING
Journalism senior

The towering seven-shelf, green metal bookcase, once filled to capacity, now contains only 11 books scattered around. Two are copies of "One Step from the White House: The Rise and Fall of Senator William F. Knowland," a book Professor James W. Johnson co-authored with Gayle B. Montgomery.

A poster hanging next to the bookcase announces a past book signing and discussion at Barnes and Noble. These remaining belongings still need to be tacked in boxes and hauled out.

University of Arizona journalism Professor James W. Johnson retired in May after teaching journalism here for 24 years. He is also an alumnus (1965).

"This is 24 years of collecting things," he said, gesturing to the accumulation of lecture notes, articles and other materials.

Johnson has taught all but two of the journalism classes offered by the department, and he advised both the Tombstone Epigraph and El Independiente. He also created the Cursor and ran it for more than 20 years.

Johnson's career in journalism began long before his years at the UA. He worked for the Oakland Tribune for 18 years before moving to Tucson. Until about four years ago when he began teaching summer classes, Johnson spent every summer working at newspapers across the country, mainly as a copy editor.

"Throughout his time at the U of A, he maintained his respect and love for the profession, spending innumerable summers at such newspapers as the Providence Journal, the Philadelphia Inquirer, the now-defunct Phoenix Gazette, the Arizona Republic, Contra Costa Times, the (Portland) Oregonian and the Arizona Daily Star," said Donald W. Carson, retired professor and department head.

Johnson also continued reporting over the years, writing articles for the Star, the Tucson Citizen, Tucson Monthly, the Oregonian, Tucson Weekly and others.

He did not limit his writing to news. He co-authored the 2001 book, "Mo: The Life and Times of Morris K. Udall," with Carson. He also co-authored the Knowland book, which was released in 1998. Johnson was sole author of "Arizona Politicians: The Noble and the Notorious," published last year.

The book titles illustrate his Please see Johnson; page 8

"I want to leave you with one piece of advice," Johnson told the students, after he had been both praised and roasted. "Work for the love of what you do and not for money. I've loved what I do and I have no money."

Professor Susan M. Knight, who has taught in the department for 10 years, received the Hugh and Jan Hareelson Award for Excellence in Teaching. She also won the award in 2000.

Senior Cyndy Cole won the Sherman R. Miller Award for Outstanding Newsperson of the Year.

Cole covered the Arizona Legislature full time as the department's Don Bolles Fellow this spring, turning out stories for Community News Service, with 80 newspapers in rural and suburban Arizona. Her work was so well received by Arizona newspapers that several editors tried to hire her away.

Cole worked for three years at the Arizona Daily Wildcat, first as an account executive, then as a news reporter, copy editor and city editor. After graduation, she will work as a copy editor at the San Francisco Chronicle this summer as a Dow Jones Fellow.

Vanessa A. Cartwright was awarded the Philip Mangeldorf Please see Awards; page 8

Journalism, other departments studying possibility of new information college

The university is studying a proposal to create a new college focusing on journalism, communication and information technology.

Along with the journalism and communication departments, the new college would include the media arts department and the School of Information Resources and Library Science (SIRLS).

"I see this as an opportunity for us to develop a cutting-edge curriculum, to do some very aggressive fundraising and make this college one of the leaders in this area," said Jacqueline E. Sharkey, head of the journalism department.

The proposal was one among a score of plans to reorganize the university that were revealed in the department’s 37th Annual Honors and Awards ceremony on May 7.

Scholarship money for the 2003-2004 year amounting to $30,000 was awarded to about 50 students during the event at the Marriott University Park.

Students and faculty members honored at annual celebration at annual celebration in May. From left, Judy M. Chewning, Professor Susan M. Knight, Jennifer E. Karlman, Department Head Jacqueline E. Sharkey, Vanessa A. Cartwright and Cyndy Cole.

"Throughout his time at the U of A, he maintained his respect and love for the profession, spending innumerable summers at such newspapers as the Providence Journal, the Philadelphia Inquirer, the now-defunct Phoenix Gazette, the Arizona Republic, Contra Costa Times, the (Portland) Oregonian and the Arizona Daily Star," said Donald W. Carson, retired professor and department head.

The proposal was one among a score of plans to reorganize the university that were revealed in the department’s 37th Annual Honors and Awards ceremony on May 7.
Arizona Press Club honors graduate and former professor

Retired UA journalism professor Donald W. Carson and 1999 graduate Susan K. Carroll took top honors at the Arizona Press Club’s annual awards banquet in April.

In addition, department graduates were runners-up as Photographer of the Year and Community Journalist of the Year; a third was second-runner up for Journalist of the Year and an adjunct professor was named Community Journalist of the Year.

In all, 29 UA graduates took home one or more awards at the banquet held April 12 at the Heard Museum in Phoenix.

Carson, who retired in 1997, was given the Distinguished Service Award for his mentoring of minority students in their quests for newspaper jobs long before the newspaper industry and others raised the diversity banner.

The awards magazine said Carson “came to be known as a tough but respectful professor who demanded the best work from his students.” He also has been inducted into the Arizona Daily Wildcat and Arizona Newspapers Association halls of fame.

Carroll, 25, received the Virg Hill Journalism to move to new building on campus in fall

By BRETT FEKA Journalism junior

After years of putting up with biohazards and uncomfortable workspace in the Franklin Building, the UA journalism department is preparing to move to its new location, the third floor of a new North Park Avenue facility under construction by the Marshall Foundation.

“They certainly are making very rapid progress on the build- ing,” said Jacqueline E. Sharkey, journalism department head.

Construction began on the five-floor facility in December. The projected completion date of December 2003 is still a realistic goal, said Johan Lahtinen, assistant director of space management for the UA.

The $16 million facility is a major step up from the department’s digs in the Franklin Building.

“There is going to be a lot more functional space, compared to the Franklin Building,” Lahtinen said. “I wouldn’t even compare the two.”

Sharkey said the department’s faculty and staff are looking forward to moving into the new building, after coping with a number of biohazards in recent years.

According to Sharkey, the department was faced with mold infestations, a sewage spill, a black water spill and a major water leak.

“We had a mild infestation in the faculty offices that caused the faculty corridor to be completely closed off,” Sharkey said. “Six offices had to be gutted and rebuilt. It was making people sick.”

Despite all of the obvious problems with the Franklin Building, Sharkey said that she was surprised when the opportu- nity to move was offered.

“In the summer of 2001, when Mercy Valencia (director of space management) came in and asked me if we would like to move, I asked her, ‘How soon?’” Sharkey said.

The journalism department will be housed on the third floor of the new building, which will share space with the UA Center for Middle Eastern Studies, the department of Near Eastern Studies, department of Judaic Studies and an engineering research unit, according to Lahtinen.

The media arts department is in the planning stages for obtaining space as well, he said. The first floor will house commercial businesses, Lahtinen added.

The journalism department will occupy the greater portion of the third floor, about 11,200 square feet, Sharkey said.

She added that students, faculty and staff are excited about the opportunity to move.

“People are very enthusiastic,” Sharkey said. “We will have win- dows, more space, no biological hazards in the building. We’ll have plenty of room to expand.”

Sharkey said that the Pulliam and Haresohl reporting labs will be replicated, along with the addition of plenty of office space.

The Mangelsdorf Room seminar space will be reestablished in the new building, she said, along with additional seminar rooms.

The space also will include a photojournalism lab, a video news lab, and a newspaper production lab, she said.

“Jeff Sklar, a journalism major who will be editor-in-chief of the Arizona Daily Wildcat for the fall semester, said that the department’s new location will be a refreshing change from its current space in the Franklin Building.

“It’s about time,” said Sklar. “The old facilities are pretty bad. Some of the classrooms — and the design — actually hinder your ability to learn.”

Please see Building; page 7

Journalism to move to new building on campus in fall
Students revive local chapter of the SPJ  

By DAN MCGUIRE  
Journalism sophomore

UA students interested in becoming involved with professional journalism will have that opportunity this fall, because the UA student chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists started up again this spring.

"I would say that finally we have an official organization that believes in teaching journalism ethics and discussing the importance of our role in society," said junior Jennifer E. Karlman, the SPJ president and moving force behind the new student chapter.

"We as students should want to be part of something bigger in our field and the Society of Professional Journalists provides that opportunity to improve the world of media," she said.

According to Karlman, the chapter has 47 nationally recognized members for the fall semester. More than 120 people signed up for information about the chapter, which will hold regular meetings and events next fall.

Karlman said she wants to form a core group of students who are passionate about journalism and eager to learn more about the business.

"SPJ offers students the opportunity to take our knowledge of journalism to the next step while building a system of support with other students, faculty and community professionals," she said.

SPJ is a national organization for students, educators, and professionals interested in journalism. Founded in 1919 as the Sigma Delta Chi fraternity, SPJ has 168 nationally recognized chapters, more than 70 percent of which are student chapters.

Karlman said she first heard about SPJ while working for her high school newspaper. But not until she attended a journalism conference in February did she seriously consider affiliation with SPJ.

While there, she met Mark Scarf, the regional director of SPJ for Arizona, California and Nevada, and they discussed the possibility of reopening a chapter in Tucson, she said.

"Six weeks later he contacted me and asked me if I would be willing to be the head person," Karlman said. "Absolutely. It's about time Tucson and the UA had an organization for journalists."  

Karlman said that although at times it has been difficult to work toward reopening the chapter, the UA journalism faculty has been supportive of her efforts.

"The entire faculty has gone above and beyond in showing support," she said. "I feel privileged to have not only support, but enthusiasm about our chapter among the faculty. It is obvious that they feel our chapter was not only needed, but will be a success."

Professor Susan M. Knight will be the chapter adviser.

Some of the advantages of being a member of SPJ, Karlman said, include the chance to work outside the classroom with other journalism students, professional journalists and faculty. The organization will also provide students with more opportunities to discuss media ethics and the role the media should play in American society, she said.

"It is also a great opportunity to network and form ties with other students and professionals who share the same interests," she said. "Can be a great tool to help plug students into jobs and internships, as well as make connections around the community."

Zenger award goes to Leggett, journalist who protected sources; reception postponed

By TRAVIS THOMAS  
Journalism junior

Vanessa Leggett, the Texas journalist and freelance writer who spent 168 days in jail rather than turn over her notes to a federal grand jury, will receive the John Peter and Anna Catherine Zenger Award in October. The award, which is made in recognition of "outstanding contributions in support of freedom of the press and the people's right to know," is traditionally given in the spring, but because of the war in Iraq the ceremony had to be postponed, according to Jacqueline E. Sharkey, UA journalism department head.

Leggett, 34, will be honored because "the faculty felt she exemplified the spirit of those people who made efforts to defend the freedom of the press," Sharkey said.

Leggett was jailed in July 2001 after she was held in contempt for refusing to give a federal grand jury research material she had gathered for her book about a 1997 murder.

Leggett was released without revealing her sources on Jan. 4, 2002, when the federal grand jury completed its term. She spent more than three times more days in confinement than any other U.S. journalist who has refused to disclose sources.

Leggett has appealed her case to the U.S. Supreme Court. Currently living in Houston with her husband, Leggett teaches at the University of Houston-Downtown. She graduated with honors from the University of St. Thomas, also in Houston, where she holds a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in liberal arts.

The Zenger Award is given biennially by the University of Arizona journalism department and the Arizona Newspapers Foundation. The award, which has been given since 1954, is named after John Peter and Anna Catherine Zenger, publishers of an 18th century New York journal.

Among those honored in the past are broadcaster Walter Cronkite; the late publisher of the Washington Post, Katharine Graham; and Peter Arnett, former correspondent for the Associated Press and CNN.

Journalism department enrollment steadily growing

By TIFFANY KELLER  
Journalism senior

The enrollment in the journalism department so heavily focuses upon is a requested background in the world today, she said.

All forms of mass media are looking for employees with strong backgrounds in research, writing and editing, Sharkey said. "They want the whole nine yards," said Sean Mooney, television producer for Fox Sports Network Arizona. "Companies are looking for people who can work on every angle of a story," he said.

With the media arts department not accepting any more majors, pressures will increase on the journalism department, Sharkey said. "This demand is expected to continue because that sector of the economy continues to expand," she said.

With the department focusing on preparing students to be able to gather information, evaluate it and organize it, journalism should expect to attract a growing number of students to the major, Sharkey said.

News media are an increasingly important segment of the economy, she said. "There is an enormous demand for a trained work force, especially in times of war," Sharkey said.

The department will respond to this increase by hiring more adjunct teachers to provide enough classes for the growing number of students, she said.
Conner Doyle is a writer/designer/copy editor at the Idaho State Journal in Pocatello, Idaho.

David Ceislak has left the Tucson Citizen for the Arizona Republic, where he is an education writer in the East Valley.

Amanda J. Halligan is reporting for the Potomac News, in Woodbridge, Va., covering the Fort Belvoir Army post.

Meghan Connelly and Bryan J. Gottfredson were married July 7 in San Pedro, Calif., where classmate Emily Holland (2001) was a bridal attendant. She completed a graduate program in education at the University of California at Irvine and teaches in the Irvine Public School District.

Melissa M. Mazzella has left her post at the National Republican Campaign Committee to take over as press secretary for U.S. Rep. Candice Miller, a Michigan Republican.

Katie M. Longworth is associate producer for Comcast SportsNet in Washington, D.C.

Michael C. Jenkins is teaching geography and is co-advisor to the school newspaper, the Round Table, at St. Mary’s High School in Phoenix.

Norma K. Greer has been promoted to community liaison/intake specialist at the Center for Juvenile Alternatives. She is a specialist instructor at the Tucson Police Academy in the areas of juvenile law and procedures.

Dan Rosen is a sports writer for the Record in Hackensack, N.J., where he covers high school sports and is a back-up on the Nets and Devils. The 185,000-circulation paper covers northern New Jersey and the New York metropolitan area.

David A. Diaz is a sports copy editor for the Cherry Hill (N.J.) Courier, a Gannett daily about five miles east of Philadelphia.

Matthew Meisinger is a writer for New City, an alternative newspaper in Chicago.

Lauren A. King is covering politics and growth issues in the Elizabeth City region, a new bureau for the Virginian Pilot in Norfolk, Va.

Topper D. Johnson has completed basic training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego.

Michelle J. Jones is a substitute teacher for the Anaheim Union High School District in California and is attending Cal State Long Beach to earn her teaching credential. She taught English to high school students in Japan for two years.

Joseph R. Barrios and his spouse, Anita McDivitt, both reporters at the Arizona Daily Star, are the parents of Iselle Marie, born Oct. 31. Iselle, named after a tropical storm, weighed 9 pounds, 5 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Kerri M. Ginis and Matthew C. Leedy, both reporters for the Fresno Bee, were married Nov. 9 in Mesa.

Ann S. Chihak and Curt Poff plan to marry Oct. 25. Both work for the Arizona Republic. Ann is a copy editor and Curt is an editor for the paper’s on-line site, azcentral.com.

Stanley Newman is writing a column for Senior Wire.

Trigie S. Ealey has been promoted to assistant managing editor of the Northern Virginia Journal in Arlington, Va.

Raya Tahan graduated from the Arizona State University law school in May. While there, she founded a law student pro bono organization that works against animal cruelty. She also teaches aerobics at World Gym.

Eddie O. North Hager is reporting for the South Bay Daily Breeze in Torrance, Calif.

Steven M. Delgado is a staff writer for Inside Tucson Business.

Diane M. Targovnik passed the Arizona State Bar examination last July.

Robert S. Lopez has been a public information specialist for the City of Tucson for the past nine years.

Pam Hubbard Scott is a photo archivist in the library at the Spokane Spokesman-Review.

Judith A. Bernas is an associate vice president at the University of Arizona in the Office of Federal Relations.

Nicole Acom Crites (2000) was promoted to morning news anchor at KREM-TV, Spokane, Wash. She was nominated for an Emmy and won a Society of Professional Journalists first-place award for her reporting.

Eugeno Garaygordobil is an assistant city editor at the Bakersfield Californian.

Steven T. Elliott received a master’s degree in business administration from Arizona State University in May. He is chief of the Phoenix bureau of the Associated Press.

Ignacio A. Lobos is a writer for Island Scene magazine in O‘ahu, Hawai‘i.

John R. O’Keefe is interim head of the media communications program at Pima Community College.

Douglas L. McDaniel is the editor of the Paradise Valley Independent. He has worked for newspapers from coast to coast for the past 20 years.

Ronald R. Rodgers is a Scripps-Howard Teaching Fellow at Ohio University, where he is working on a doctorate in journalism and mass communications. He had been an assistant city editor at the Bend (Or.) Bulletin.

Robert Tuhis Gale has opened Roberta Gale Media Coaching to help authors and experts develop interviewing and speaking skills. She has worked as a radio host in New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Atlanta, Miami, Baltimore and Cleveland, and was nationally syndicated by the Westwood One Radio Networks.

Gary Crooks is an associate editor at the Spokane Spokesman-Review, where he writes editorials. He had been assistant news editor. His spouse, Laura Plachecki (1991), is food editor at the paper.


Gary A. Dahl is natural resources park superintendent for Pima County.

Javier “Jay” Gonzales has been hired as the City of Tucson’s communications director.

Linda Fundling Valdez was a finalist for a Pulitzer in editorials in the Arizona Republic on undocumented immigrants and the state judicial system.

Maureen Ward Shields is marketing director of the Pyramid Credit Union in Tucson.
Stay in touch!

Let the department and your former classmates and colleagues know what you’ve been up to since you graduated. Where do you live and work?

Send an email, call, write or visit the department’s homepage to ensure your spot in next issue’s “Alumni Notes.”

Don’t forget to include your full name (plus your name as a student, if your name has changed) and your year of graduation so that we can correctly identify you.

Visit our online site:
www.journalism.arizona.edu
Telephone: (520)621-7556
Email: journalism@u.arizona.edu

Snail mail: Journalism Department Franklin Bldg. 101M The University of Arizona Tucson, AZ 85721

... more Notes

in the March 3 edition of Sports Illustrated in a story about the Ratings Percentage Index that helps the NCAA men’s basketball committee decide which teams get into the national championship tournament. He has worked with the NCAA for 19 years.

CLASS OF 1978
S. Joseph Keenan was appoint- ed the director of the U.S. Senate media gallery. He had been deputy director. He works as a media liaison between the Senate and media representatives, as well as between the Senate Standing Committee of Correspondence and the Senate Rules Committee. He has worked for the media gallery department for 24 years.

CLASS OF 1977
Steven A. Hirsch is head of commercial litigation at the law offices of Bryan Cave, an 850-lawyer firm with 85 lawyers in Phoenix.

Cindy Cofer Chojnacky is urban connections manager for the eastern region of the U.S. Forest Service, based in Washington, D.C.

CLASS OF 1976
Walter H. Nett left the Bakersfield Californian to return to Tucson, where he purchased The Bus Stop, a downtown restaurant.

CLASS OF 1975
Arlene R. Scadron left Pima Community College’s journalism program after 16 years to become medical ignorance collaborator-director in the UA’s Health Sciences Center. She works on media projects.

CLASS OF 1972
An exhibit of José L. Galvez’s photography, “Americanos: Latin Life in the United States” was on display at the UA Center for Creative Photography from Dec. 14 to March 2. Galvez and his spouse became first-time parents on Easter day when Nicolás José (7 pounds, 4 ounces, 20 inches) was born.

CLASS OF 1962
Betsy Little Bolding was named Tucson’s 2002 Woman of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce for her civic work. She has chaired the board of directors of the Community Food Bank, worked to save the Loft Cinema and has been active in Tucson’s Centers for Women and Children, the Arizona Theatre Company and the Tucson Community Foundation. She is consumer affairs director for Tucson Electric Power Co.

Remembering Doug Martin

Alumna Lou Ellen Gattin sat down one day and thought about Douglas D. Martin, head of the UA journalism department from 1951 to 1956. Here are some of those thoughts:

“Observe! Question! Listen! Remember!”

Exhorting his students to strive for high levels of professionalism, Professor Martin leaned forward over the lecture on his tiptoes, peering over the top of his glasses with his protruding eyes at the novice journalists in his class for beginning reporters. He often delivered lines at the beginning of his lecture as prelude and empha- sis to what he considered the most basic of rules for jour- nalists.

He urged us to add to the rules of accuracy, brevity and simplicity. The school of experience had honed the professional standards he brought with him to share with his students and inspire them to strive for the best. Just listening was an inspi- ration as he told how he had come up through the ranks from copy boy on small town papers in the Midwest to managing editor of the Detroit Free Press.

That newspaper won a Pulitzer under his leadership, a big accomplishment for an editor with only a high school education.

We listened intently, paying homage to a man who was a real-life Horatio Alger in our eyes, as he outlined his reporting and editorial rules. Ill health had forced him into semi-retirement from the newspaper game and prompted his relocation to Arizona. The university gave him an honorary degree and made him head of a new depart- ment where he was to mold a generation of newspaper reporters.

He was small in stature and pudgy around the middle. He used a gentle but firm hand to guide his students. His offices and classrooms were in the basement of the liberal arts building, where his students produced two campus newspapers each week. He ran them like a city newsroom, shouting orders and exhorting students to get all the news. We had beats to cover and were expected to unearth every gem of news from the departments in our charge.

Those who survived the sophomore year of reporting moved on to the copy desk. Finally, in the senior year, we were editors entrusted with making news assignments, doing page makeup and reading each edition for publication.

Along with the jobs, we developed camaraderie inher- ent in joint pursuits and a shared pride in producing a prize-winning newspaper. We also shared a reverent affec- tion for our mentor and leader.

Professor Martin built that journalism department from a state of non-existence to one of note. In the 10 years before his death, the campus newspaper he helped develop achieved professional stan- dards that resulted in recogni- tion among colleges as well as the professional journalism community.

Jay Marrone, former adjunct professor, dies

Jay Marrone, an adjunct journalism professor from 1984-87, died Feb. 14. He was 76.

Marrone taught Journalism 206, advanced reporting.

He had a long career in newspapers, including the New Orleans Times-Picayune and the New Haven Register. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves from which he retired as a lieutenant colonel.

Marrone was born July 2, 1926, in Auburn, N.Y. He is survived by his wife, Carole.

Letter to the Editor

Thanks for the Jack O’Connor profile

Hurrah for the department and the Cursor for reprinting Outdoor Life’s fine piece on Jack O’Connor by Jim Casada. As one of Jack’s former students, I can endorse all the praise heaped upon this man and add a little of my own.

Jack O’Connor was an outstanding teacher and a very inspirational man. He not only taught us the rudiments of newswriting, but was constantly suggesting books we should read to build background for our coming profession. He had a knack for offering constructive criticism, while still finding a way to praise what improvement there was in what we did write.

I last saw Jack in 1945 in Tucson. He was very much his old robust self then. I believe he moved to Idaho shortly thereafter, feeling Arizona was becoming too crowded. He was a free spirit and extremely intelligent man. In the 1950s, they called him “The Hemingway of the Southwest.” He deserved that accolade and more.

Thanks again for remembering him.

James Carey
Class of 1941
Boynton Beach, Fla.
New business manager brings experience from other departments

By ERIN SCHMIDT
Journalism junior

The UA journalism department's new business manager says her job has a big learning curve.

"My job here is more challenging than my previous positions. I am learning many different things," Cristina L. Ballard said.

Ballard began working in the department in February.

She said her responsibilities include controlling finances and balancing department books. She also has a hand in tracking scholarship funds.

"I am a kind of liaison for Jacqueline (Sharkey, head of journalism department). I field requests for the whole department," Ballard said.

"Having Cris in the office has been extremely helpful for everyone — students, staff and faculty," Sharkey said.

"The department has been short-handed for months, so Cris's ability to handle inquiries about all types of departmental matters has meant that we can respond much more quickly to requests and questions."

"In addition, Cris is revamping the department's accounting system and procedures, which will help streamline our operations and enable us to do more detailed budget projections.

"Cris takes her responsibilities as business manager seriously and interprets her mandate as business manager seriously," Ballard said.

Ballard is from Cave Creek. She received her master's degree in education and counseling from Northern Arizona University in 2001. Before Ballard moved to her new job she was a business manager at the UA's Teaching Center.

Her first job at the UA was in 1997 as a human resources coordinator for the department of medicine in the College of Medicine. Ballard also worked in the child support enforcement area of the state Attorney General's Office in Phoenix.

She spent three years in that post, and then left to go back to school.

"There wasn't much room for upward mobility," Ballard said. "I wanted to move up, but there wasn't anywhere to go."

Ballard said she has always worked before enrolling in any degree program.

"That is why there is a gap between all of my degrees. I always work and then see that I need more education," Ballard said.

Ballard was quick to label herself as a baseball fanatic and a dog lover.

She said she enjoys her new job.

"I am a real people person and I get along with everyone very well," Ballard said.

Ballard replaces department business manager Sylvia Quintero, who resigned to take a position in the private sector.

Comments? News? Email the Cursor at: journalism@u.arizona.edu

---

Books published

Journalism professor, ’69 alum write new mystery novels

By SIMONE LANGNESS
Journalism Junior

UA journalism Professor James C. Mitchell has done something he has always wanted to do — written and published a mystery novel.

"It's been an adventure," said Mitchell, referring to the four years he worked on the book. The novel, "Lovers Crossing," is a mystery about the death of a prominent Tucson woman, Sandra Crain. The protagonist is a former border patrolman named Brinker, who is hired by Crain's widower to investigate his spouse's murder.

Many southwestern U.S. locations, including the border towns of Nogales, are featured in the novel. "Lovers Crossing" is the name of a fictional border crossing. Writing a mystery novel was "harder than I thought it would be," Mitchell said. Inventing the characters and events so that they meshed correctly was most challenging for him, he said.

Mitchell has been an avid mystery reader since 1971, when he read his first Ross Macdonald crime novel. Since then, Mitchell said, he has "read zilcons" of crime novels.

The book is scheduled to be released July 1, but Mitchell said it will appear in some stores earlier. The 304-page book was published by St. Martin's Minotaur and will retail for $23.95.

Mitchell will travel to Illinois, California and Nevada as well as parts of Arizona on his book-signing tour.

Mitchell teaches media law and video-news courses and has been affiliated with the University of Louisville. Mitchell is a member of the Mystery Writers of America and has had some of his short stories published. He is now working on a second Brinker mystery.


Mefford also has published "Trump: 10 years with the Bengals," "Games of 80" and "The President's Brother."

After living in Sydney, Australia, for four years, Mefford returned to the United States and now lives in Cincinnati with his spouse, Marnie, and three children.
Students, faculty look forward to move; windows, clean air, new technology

"I would like to see every student have an internship."

— Undergraduate Advisor Paul Johnson

practice, so that people with these internship experiences applying for entry-level jobs have a little professional experience that gives them an advantage," Mitchell said.

"According to Mitchell, McCabe will have a big advantage. This was not her first internship. She interned for NBC, ABC, and CNN. McCabe also interned KOLD, for the local CBS affiliate. McCabe said that after she graduates, she will work for CNBC in Washington, D.C. McCabe said she is looking forward to collecting a paycheck at her first job out of college.

Paul R. Johnson, the department's undergraduate advisor, said students are not paid for their internships. If students are being paid, then the UA will not give them academic credit. The UA gives one credit of upper-division elective credit for every internship a student does.

Johnson said he recently submitted an 18-page proposal to the university requesting a change in the program so that students could receive up to three credits for one internship.

Under Johnson’s proposal, one credit would be awarded for every 45 hours a student works at the internship.

"I would like to see every student have an internship," Johnson said.

During the spring semester, 18 students out of the journalism department’s 425 majors and minors took on internships for academic credit, according to Johnson.

"Of the three (computers), it’s perfect."

— Professor William F. Greer

"Technically, it’s perfect."

— Undergraduate Advisor Paul Johnson

Students, faculty look forward to move; windows, clean air, new technology

Building: from page 2

like feel is not the best environment for students to learn in.”

Junior journalism major Ross Hammonds agreed.

"I am happy that we are finally going to have windows," Hammonds said. "A lot of (students) don’t like the Franklin Building. When you are happy with your surroundings, it makes it much more inviting to be there."

Sklar noted that the Arizona Daily Wildcat will have a new home early next year in the Park Student Union, which is undergoing renovation. The new facilities for the journalism department, and the Wildcat should make journalism students excited to be learning and working in two new state-of-the-art facilities, he said.

"It’s hard to say what the benefits are going to be, but it sounds like we’re going to have to be a great improvement." Sklar said. "I would imagine (the new facilities) will be a nice benefit to the university’s journalism students."

The university is entering into a long-term lease with the building’s owner, the Marshall Foundation. The foundation is a non-profit organization launched in 1930 by the University of Arizona’s first female professor, Louise Foucar.

Kammam said.

The department has received nearly $32,000 in grants from the Gannett Foundation since 2000. This includes two $10,000 donations that updated technology and equipment in the photojournalism lab and in the production area for the two student labproto-

newspapers, El Independiente and The Tombstone Epitaph.

"I feel it is important for my newspaper to invest in improving journalism education, especially at the University of Arizona," said Michael A. Chihak, editor and publisher of the Tucson Citizen. The Citizen benefits from these donations because they help prepare UA journalism students to use "the kinds of tech-

nology they will encounter in the work world," Chihak said. Chihak noted that more than two dozen journalists at the Citizen are UA journalism gradu-

ates, including himself and assistant managing editors Joseph C. Garcia and Jennifer Boice.

"Thus, it behooves the Citizen to invest in the journalism department, because it is a training ground for our future journalists," Chihak said.

The Gannett Foundation awards three grants a year in Tucson based on recommendations by the Citizen in areas of education, youth programs and journalism education and literacy, he said.
Johnson; from page 1
love for politics. While sports
writing first attracted Johnson to
the journalism business, he soon
became interested in writing
about politics.

"Politics is a lot like sports," Johnson
said. "Somebody wins and somebody loses. It's a
game."

But whether he is writing about sports or politics, journalism
is what counts for Johnson.

"I've always been passionate
about the journalism business," said Johnson. "If I wasn't report-
ing it, I was teaching it."

Johnson's enthusiasm for the
business is evident in his teach-
ing, former students say.

"His passion for reporting was
contagious and he helped me to see
how truly rewarding a career in journalism could be," said
Kerri Ginu, a county government
reporter for the Fresno Bee and
a 1997 graduate.

Johnson said he wants to be
remembered by his students as
tough but fair.

"He was really tough," said
Trudy Kingsley, an assistant manag-
ing editor of the Northern
Virginia Journal and a 1996 grad-
uate. "He impressed upon us the
importance of getting it right."

Another quality that Johnson's
colleagues and former students
point to is his open-door policy.

"What impressed me most
was that Jim's door always is
open to students," said Andrew
Scribner, a reporter for the
World, a newspaper in Coos Bay,
Ore., and a 1998 graduate of the
master's program. "I guess that's
a function of how accessible,
willling and committed he is to
young journalists."

Colleagues also praised
Johnson's commitment.

"He is in the department from
8 to 5 every day," said Jim
Patten, retired professor and
department head. "He does his
writing at home on nights and
weekends so he is always avail-
able to students."

Johnson said he will miss the
students the most when he retires.

"What he said he won't miss is
ggrading papers," Johnson estimat-
ed that throughout his teaching
years, most spent in the basement
of the Franklin Building, he
graded 65 to 70 assignments every
week — amounting to
about 50,000 over the years.

Johnson plans to spend his
retirement on the road — at least
seven months out of the year —
with his spouse, Marilyn, and
their two pets.

He bought a white, one-ton
1999 Ford Diesel extended cab
for the journey, which he calls
"The Queen Mary."

"It's so big we have to dock
it," he said. "We can't just park
it."

He said he needed the extend-
cab for his dog, a "cocker
poodle" named Maggie, and his
work truck.

The truck will pull a 29-foot
Arctic Fox Travel Trailer with a
slide-out living room.

"It's like a small one-bedroom
apartment on wheels," he said.

Their first trip will take them
to San Diego, then up the Pacific
Coast, across the country through
Michigan, then down the East
Coast through the South to get
back home to Tucson by
Thanksgiving, he said.

But the trip won't be all
leisure. Johnson has arranged
some stops around the country to
interview former athletes for his
next book on how the 1940
Stanford football team changed
football.

"That will be my creative
endeavor," he said. "I'm writing this book for
myself."

A few of Professor Johnson's pet peeves
Here are a few of the items on a list
of 36 "Mistakes Made Over and Over,"
gathered over the years by Professor
James W. Johnson:

-- There was, there is, there will be. Weak, weak, weak.
-- Agreement of noun and
antecedent: "The football team plays
ASU Nov. 28. They hope to win." It
should be: "It hopes to win."
-- Run-on sentences. A period is a
quotation, avoids you, us, we, me, I.
-- Passive writing.
-- Adverbs and adjectives, particular-
ly very.
-- Words like feel, think, believe
should be preceded by a "she" or
"she said she feels...", "she said she
believes..." Your subjects have to tell you
what they think or feel; you do not know
unless they tell you.
-- Never towards. It's toward.
-- Postal abbreviations.

Johnson will RV with spouse,
write a book in retirement

Johnson, from page 1

Weeds, dogged reporting and
in-depth writing honored

Awards; from page 1

Award for Outstanding Senior.
A member of the journalism
department's Student Advisory
Carnival worked at the
Reno Gazette-Journal as a
Dow Jones Fellow. She was also
president of the College of Social
and Behavioral Sciences Student
Advisory Board and the UA
chapter president of the National
Society of Collegiate Scholars.

The B.P. Campbell Award for
Outstanding Junior went to
Jennifer E. Karlman, who
revived the UA chapter of the
Society of Professional
Journalists this spring.

Karlman, who has an intern-
ship at KVOA-TV in Tucson, her
second broadcast internship,
attended the SPJ/IRE Better
Watchdog conference this spring
and served on the department's
Student Advisory Council.

The Kathryn Anne Governal
Perseverance Award was given to
Bryan D. Van Buren, associate
ditor for the Tombstone Epiph,
during the spring semester and
general manager for KAMP stu-
dent radio.

Nathaniel F. Searing was
selected for the Douglas D.
Martin Award for Integrity and
Courage in Journalism. Searing
doggedly chased stories on a bor-
er vigilante for the Epiph
twhile reporting part time for the
Northwest (Tucson) Explorer. He
will join the Explorer as a full-
time reporter.

Lirma Lewis Bravo, an intern
with the Arizona Daily Star, won
the Alex Parker Award for
Reporting for her efforts to
humanize stories on the police
beat and general assignment.

Six students won William
Hantch Awards for Journalism
Professionalism: Orih Ben-Dor,
Judy M. Cheyning, Cheryl D.
Lange, Daniel L. Scarpinato,
Stephanie L. Schwartz and
Jeffrey L. Sklar.

The Jack W. Sheaffer Award
for Outstanding Student
Photography went to Aaron D.
Farnsworth for the fall semester
and to Saul A. Loeb for spring.

Randy Metcalf won the J.Y.
Bryan Prize for Interpretive
Photography.

The Abe Chanin Award for
Sports Journalism went to Maxx
W. Wolfsen, sports editor of the
Tombstone Epiph in spring
and sports editor of the
Arizona Daily Wildcat last fall.

Rebekah L. Kleinman won the
Donald Still Award for
Outstanding Service to the
Arizona Daily Wildcat.

Kleinman, who served as the
paper's news editor during the
spring semester, created an irre-
cent Q-and-A column called On
The Spot, which was the
Wildcat's most talked-about fea-
ture since Police Beat.

For the Tombstone Epiph's
fall editions, R. Ryan Finley
received the J.Y. Bryan Clum
Award. Searing and Erica M.
Yoder took the Clum for spring.
El Independiente's top honors
went to Lange and Tamra E.
Kuehl for the fall semester.
Bibiana Rivera and Peggy L.
Brown won for spring.

Outstanding students for The
Cat's Eye were Lauren K.
McCabe and Hilary B. Wade.

This year's recipients received
Certificates of Special
Achievement: Jacqueline N.
Allgeier, Brett E. Applegate,
Alesha F. Black, José A. Ceja,
Chasity A. Cleveland, Jeremy D.
Cook, Kristina D. Dunham,
Martha D. Hebrank, Jennifer E.
Humpernick, Eric Impraim,
Virginia R. Long, Sarah M.
Osmont, Jennifer S. Rose-
Michelle "Shelley" D. Shelton,
Vui J. Yumehara and Erica M.
Yoder.