Scholarship winners, award recipients and faculty members celebrate at the annual student awards ceremony. Andrea Kelly and John de Dios (circled in group photo) were the top seniors. Kelly received the Sherman R. Miller Award for Outstanding Newsperson of the Year, and de Dios received the Philip Mangelsdorf Award for Outstanding Senior. The May 2005 ceremony was held at the Student Union Memorial Building.
James Mitchell retires to become full-time fiction writer

Jennifer Spensieri
The Cursor

Lawyer, author and educator James C. Mitchell — the journalism department’s expert on media law — has retired after a 10-year teaching career.

Mitchell, an assistant professor in the journalism department, retired recently to pursue fiction writing full time. He said that although he loves teaching, he wants to focus his energy on writing novels.

Mitchell worked in broadcast journalism for 25 years as a news director, producer and a television anchor. He is a member of the State Bar of Arizona and has published First Amendment Research in law reviews. He also has published numerous articles and reviews about media and current affairs for newspapers and magazines.

Associate professor William F. Greer said Mitchell has a “perfect background to teach journalism law” classes. “He will prevent many, many students from misunderstanding the law,” he said.

“His passion and excitement for background in the field to turn complex laws into concepts that the students can understand,” Shurkey said.

Mitchell developed a Web site for his media law class to provide accessibility to the course material for the students, setting a model for the rest of the faculty, she said.

“His passion and excitement for and has a tough grading policy. He has a strict grading system and attendance policy, said sophomore Cassandra Miles, a journalism major. “He more than makes up for that with his enthusiasm and knowledge of the material.”

Mitchell has twice received the journalism department’s Hugh and Jeanette Schachtner and Sarah Vadsworth

Future reporters, producers and videographers hone their skills in the journalism department’s Reporting for Broadcast News course. Their work results in reports broadcast on the local PBS affiliate.

The course, one of two broadcast journalism classes offered by the department, gives students a start in television news. “It would be a lot harder to find a job without this class,” said senior Lindsey Davies.

Working in groups of two, students are required to report, write, shoot and edit four stories. They witness the process firsthand and learn to finish like professional reporters.

“It was a lot of work, but I think it will pay off,” Rummel said. “Last night I was watching Channel 6 and one of the promos I made was on. It was so cool because I made that and everyone is watching it.”

Veteran broadcast journalist Celeste González de Bustamante, who has 16 years of reporting, anchoring and producing experience in commercial and public television, teaches the class.

Emmy award-winning photojournalist Martin Rubio, a videographer for KUAT-TV, teaches students how to shoot and edit stories using professional-quality cameras and software.

“Every Bayless provides technical support for students who edit in the four new journalism department editing labs. González de Bustamante has taught the class for the past three years and finds many aspects of the course rewarding.

“My favorite part of the class is the one-on-one interaction that I have with each of the students,” she said.

Last semester, the department enrolled 32 students in the popular course instead of the usual 20. A team of student producers selected the best stories to air on two episodes of “The Cat’s Eye,” a student-produced newsmagazine aired on KUAT-TV, the PBS affiliate.

Jennifer Spensieri

TOP: Lauren Heft and Barry Wolk edit their script in the new journalism video production lab.

BOTTOM: Nathaniel Ratey reports while Emily Mason shoots and Brittany Brenner monitors audio.

Broadcast journalists prepare for real world

Jennifer Spensieri
The Cursor

A team of student producers selects the best stories to air on two episodes of “The Cat’s Eye,” a student-produced newsmagazine aired on KUAT-TV, the PBS affiliate.

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TOP: Lauren Heft and Barry Wolk edit their script in the new journalism video production lab.

BOTTOM: Nathaniel Ratey reports while Emily Mason shoots and Brittany Brenner monitors audio.
Trip opens students’ eyes to Panama’s history, life

Ten students participating in the journalism department and the Center for Latin American Studies’ annual spring semester course, Press Coverage of Latin America, recently returned from 17 days of field research in Panama.

For most of the following century, the United States claimed Panama’s Canal Zone as a U.S. territory. Panama became headquarters for covert military operations throughout the hemisphere. In 1999, Panama acquired sovereign control of the canal and its surroundings.

Their work will appear as a weekly newspaper series to be published this summer in the Tucson Citizen. The class, taught by laureate associate journalism professor Alan Weisman, who has worked as a journalist in Latin America and other parts of the world for more than 25 years, is offered to students selected on the basis of relevance to their academic programs and fluency in Spanish.

Enrollment is open to journalism students and to those specializing in other disciplines who are interested in learning to communicate their expertise to the public.

This year’s participants included undergraduate, master’s and doctoral students in anthropology, public administration, history, Latin American Studies and journalism.

In 2004, the first year the course was offered, the class wrote a five-part series on Chile’s free trade accord with the United States (see http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/projects/childa/).

This year’s location is the crossroads of the Americas, Panama, now at a figurative crossroads as it enters its second century. Originally a province of Colombia, Panama’s 1903 independence movement was strongly supported by the United States.

Panama’s courtship of U.S. retirees; the United States.

Panamanian Tourism Minister (and singer/actor) Rubén Blades, Tucson Citizen Assistant City Editor Judy Carllock, Araceli Masterson, Maria Muñoz, Mitra Taj, Amie Kiddle, Leslie “Brooke” Ison, Cecil Macpherson.

Jenna Berman with Wounaán Indians, San Antonio de Wounain, Lago Gatún, Panama.

New faculty members from diverse backgrounds

Celeste González de Bustamante

Celeste González de Bustamante worked as an anchor, reporter and producer in commercial and public television for 16 years before joining the journalism department. She will begin her appointment as a full-time multi-year lecturer in January. She recently was political specialist for the nightly newsmagazine Arizona Illustrated and co-author of the bilingual newsmagazine Reflexiones Domingo at KUAT-TV, Tucson’s PBS affiliate. She reported on the Fox, CBS and NBC affiliates in the San Francisco area. She has more than a decade of experience reporting on issues related to the U.S.-Mexico border.

She was nominated for an Emmy award in 2003 for a series of news reports on undocumented migration in Arizona. She also has reported on politics, economics and culture in Mexico and peace-keeping efforts in Eastern Europe.

Her teaching interests include reporting for television news, ethical reporting practices for broadcast journalists, reporting on local issues in a global context and the history of broadcasting in Latin America.

She received her UA master’s in Latin American Studies with emphases on history and politics. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from San Jose State University.

She is writing her dissertation on television in Mexico and Brazil, and plans to finish her Ph.D. in history at the UA next spring. Her research involves the emergence of television through an analysis of news reports in those countries between 1950 and 1970.

For the 2003 war in Iraq, and assisted in developing a diploma program in media.

While there she conducted research concerning the development of the Kurdish news media in northern Iraq, and assisted in developing a diploma program in Forced Migration and Refugee Studies.

Zanger has a master’s degree at the Missouri-Columbia School of Law. He will attend the UA James E. Rogers College of Law to complete his course work and will graduate from the UM law college in May 2007. He also plans to take the Arizona bar examination.

He has given numerous speeches concerning issues relating to the internally displaced populations in Iraq, and Kurdish relations with Iraq and neighboring countries.

Zanger’s most recent publication, “Of Journalists and Dogs: Tales from the Northern Beyond,” is a chapter in Global Media Go To War (Marquette Books, 2004). It details the experiences of journalists covering the 2003 war in Iraq.

Zanger has a master’s degree in journalism from the University of Arizona.

Kevin R. Kemper

Kevin R. Kemper joins the faculty this fall as an assistant professor, specializing in media law, history and news reporting.

He has worked in communication for more than 20 years, mainly as a reporter and freelance writer.

He owned and operated a community newspaper in Oklahoma, his home state.

Kemper’s dissertation for a Ph.D. in journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia is “Rising Voices: How minority writers and supporters used free expression to battle governmental controls during the Jackson administration.”

Kemper studies free press issues as they relate to minorities in the United States. Kemper also has worked on a Juris Doctor degree at the Missouri-Columbia School of Law. He will attend the UA James E. Rogers College of Law to complete his course work and will graduate from the UM law college in May 2007. He also plans to take the Arizona bar exam.

Kemper has taught reporting and media ethics at the University of Missouri as a graduate instructor. He was journalism department chair at Eastern Oklahoma State College. He also has taught speech and other communication courses. He earned his bachelor’s in speech communication with a minor in mass communication with honors from East Central University in Ada, Okla., and a master’s in journalism and mass communication from the University of Oklahoma.

His master’s thesis was, “What motivates and influences media practitioners of religious organizations in Oklahoma: a qualitative study.”
Alumni Notes

1951 David A. Feldman says he enjoys working on the copy desk at the San Diego Union-Tribune. He also teaches a journalism class at San Diego State University.

1965 Lanny Rosenbaum is vice president for sales and marketing at Dick Blick Art Materials in Illinois.

1968 Lynda “Cueca” Straw was named employee of the year in 2004 at the News-Gazette, Champaign, III. She writes features, local religion, consumer and food columns, and is the restaurant reviewer at the newspaper.

1977 Steve Hirsch says he is still using information he learned in the journalism department in his profession as an attorney in Phoenix.

1978 Paula L. Green spent four months in Sri Lanka teaching journalism to journalists on a Knight fellowship. She says it was "great fun."

1979 Nelson Warnell, KUAZ-FM/89.1 and AM/1550 news and public affairs reporter, received an Arizona Associated Press Broadcasters Association Award for sports reporting. Warnell won for his feature, "Wildcat Football: Dollars and Cents," which aired in September 2004. The report examined the far-reaching effects that success on the football field has on the community.

1977–1978 Dellah “Clark” Lambka has joined Millward Brown, a global brand and advertising research company. She says she uses her journalism knowledge on the job. She lives close to classmate Joni Hirsch Blackman (1982) and she keeps in touch with Rita "McGinnis" Miller (1981), a lawyer in Connecticut.

1978 Steven E. Rosenberg is publisher of Tucson Lifestyle Home & Garden.

1984 Jennifer LaForgia is a communications consultant in the Patient Education Section at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

1988 Neelam Kumar wrote, "I have written several books, teach in numerous colleges and work full time as assistant general manager in the top steel company (in India)."

1989 Tom Gehinson is program coordinator at the University of Arizona Mexican American Studies and Research Center.

1989 Lesa “Morse” Glucroft is busy as a spouse, mother, attorney and corporate president in Calabasas, Calif. She is president of Tulip Boutique Inc., a company that manufactures signature brand and private label skin care gifts. She and her husband Robert own Tulip Boutique.

1991 Jace Polsgrove is a psychiatric social worker at Southeastern Arizona Behavioral Health Services. The organization serves Cochise, Santa Cruz, Graham and Greenlee counties. He says it’s the favorite job he has had “except when I ran the photo lab” in the journalism department.

1993 Kamal Al-Khars is working in the media department in the Kuwait petroleum industry. He wrote to say his job does not have much to do with what he learned in journalism, “but I have a good salary.”

1993 Gwain Douglas is the new senior editor for presentation at the Tucson Citizen. Douglas is a journalism graduate and has a master’s degree in art and design from the Robert Gordon University, Gray’s School of Art, in Aberdeen, Scotland. He has taught design in the journalism department.

1996 Trigle Ealey, copy editor for Stars & Stripes – Washington, D.C., stopped by the new journalism offices. “It’s great to see it (the department) now,” wrote Ealey in a note to Jacqueline Sharkey. “Great job.”

1997 Ann “Chihak” Poff and husband Curt Poff have moved to San Francisco. Ann says in an e-mail, “Curt interviewed for a job in San Francisco. Well, he was offered it, and we decided it was time for a change. We are very excited... and this is a little bit scary. I will be jobless initially. I may try something new, hopefully working with children.” Ann says she is "excited to live in a 'blue' state."

1998 Robert M. Engstrom resumed a flying career in 2001 and is director of flight operations for the Aerospace Research Equipment Organization in Apple Valley, Calif. The company is involved in testing and development of parachute delivery and emergency egress systems for the civilian and military markets. Engstrom has kept in journalism practice with several aviation-related articles and photographs. After graduation, he spent three years with the Casas Adobes Courier covering northwest Tucson, Oro Valley and Marana, and did freelance work for Tucson and Southwest publications.

2000 Kristen Davis has moved to Cleveland, where she is metropolitan sports editor at the Plain Dealer.

2003 Judy Chewning is an admissions officer at the University of Arizona’s Phoenix Office of Admissions.

2003 LaTroya Beatty is a health educator for the San Carlos Apache Tribal Diabetes Prevention Program, “...a field I never imagined myself in,” she states. Beatty married Anthony Tewaowina and lives in her hometown of White River, Ariz.

2004 Jennifer LaForgia was named employee of the year at the News-Gazette, Champaign, Ill. She writes in the journalism department in his profession as an attorney in Pennsylvania.

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2011 Vanessa Cartwright, a student in the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law, and Matt Johnson were married May 29 in Tucson.

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Editor-in-Chief
Laurie Laine
Design Editor
Matt Heltman
Faculty Advisor
Bill Greer

Department Happenings

Participants in the SPJ seminar, “Morbidity and the Media,” discuss visual journalism decisions. (From left) Tucson Citizen Photo Editor P.K. Weis, KGUN -9 TV Managing Editor Bob Dickey, Department Head Jacqueline Sharkey, Arizona Daily Star’s Victor Vaughn and David Sanders.

Graduation day in June for the journalism diversity workshop for Arizona high school students. Students stay in a nearby dorm while attending journalism classes with director Bill Greer.