

Tom Tomorrow wins PF&R Award

Ballot nomination and selection process deemed to be a success

JOYCE M. WOLBURG, MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY

This year the voting process for the Professional Freedom and Responsibility award went through a different series of events than in past years. In a shift from a committee decision to one that involved the total membership, nominations were solicited for the award winner for AEJMC 2000.



WE WERE VERY HAPPY TO RECEIVE 14 nominations, which included some excellent candidates.

The original list of 14 was: *AdBusters*: *Journal of Mental Environment*, Ben Bagdikian, Angela Davis, George Gerbner, Claudia Dreifus, Molly Ivins, Carl Jensen and Project Censored, Jim Larkin and Michael Lacey, Richard McCord, Randy Rothenburg, Michael Schudson, David Shaw, Dan Perkins a.k.a. Tom Tomorrow, and Gary Webb.

A ballot was then mailed to the entire membership, and about 40 people cast their votes.

Of the 14 nominees, no one had a majority, and the top four candidates had an equal number of votes: Ben Bagdikian, Angela Davis, Molly Ivins, and Dan Perkins/Tom Tomorrow.

AT THIS POINT it came to our attention that two of our top four nominees, Ben Bagdikian and Molly Ivins, were past recipients of the award. They were eliminated as contenders, which left the two remaining candidates.

Too little time remained for a vote of the entire membership via snail mail, and the committee did the next best thing. An e-mail vote with a very short turnaround time was conducted among those who had cast votes in the first round.

IN A CLOSE ELECTION, Dan Perkins/Tom Tomorrow took the lead over Angela Davis. As our top choice he was offered the award, which he graciously accepted.

He is scheduled to make a presentation in Phoenix, where he will receive the award. Had he declined, the award would have been offered to Angela Davis.

The feedback we received for the voting process was very positive, and I thank all of you for your patience and input in making this award the best reflection of the entire membership. ♦

Inside this issue

- Headnote address.....2
- Syllabus exchange (cont.).....3
- AEJMC 2000 Convention.....4
- C&CS programming.....5
- Media and WTO.....6

Syllabus exchange on its way

DON MCCOMB, MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
JAY HAMILTON, UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

“Teaching is the most obvious common denominator of the AEJMC membership. Whether from a large or a small university, whether a seasoned academic or a novice, whether rich with professional experience or an impressive graduate degree, each of us shares with our colleagues the challenge of effectively sharing what we know with students.”

In the statement above, the AEJMC Teaching Standards Committee notes the common mission that we share as educators. But our obligation to share our

(continued on page 3)

Headnote

Programming for Phoenix

ANA GARNER, MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY

Greetings all! The New Year is upon us and thoughts have already turned to our summer conference in Phoenix, Arizona, August 9-12, 2000, and some great conference programming.



The first bit of news is we have a PF&R Award winner: Mr. Dan Perkins, a.k.a. Tom Tomorrow. Perkins is best known for his cartoon "This Modern World." Those of you familiar with his work know it is a wonderful and often biting commentary on political and social life in the nineties.

I had the pleasure of hearing him speak at the political cartooning conference "Drawing the Line: Political Cartooning Under Pressure" held at the University of Iowa this past October. I think you will find him a wonderful speaker and worthy recipient of our award.

He is scheduled to speak on Friday, August 11 at 4:30 p.m. The

planning for the convention takes place.

One interesting twist to the planning occurred when the Council of Divisions decided to eliminate the Friday night 8:00 sessions so that the Closing Gala could be held at the Heard Museum. The museum was not willing to hold the Gala later in the evening and many on the Council felt that it would be worth losing these sessions so folks could see the wonderful exhibits.

I MUST ADMIT THAT while I was glad to hear of the opportunity to visit the Heard, I wasn't too happy with this idea overall, primarily because it would push research sessions into even worse time-slots than they usually received.

I also worry that an unhealthy precedent has been set by this action—one that places research as not only as a second cousin to panels (which it already is) but also to parties in great locations.

This being said, I must admit that we were able to come up with a pretty decent schedule for our sessions with no one presenting papers late at night or at 7:00 in the morning.

ONE SIGNIFICANT CHANGE to the programming is the scheduling of our business and top paper meeting. It has been moved up one time slot on Thursday evening starting at 6:15 p.m.

One reoccurring problem for many of our members has been the timing of our business meeting which was scheduled at the same time as many other division meetings. Many of our group are also members of the History division, for example, and they were forced to choose between the History division meeting or the C&CS meeting. The Council of Divisions this year

(continued on page 3)

Visual Communication division is our co-sponsor for this great session.

Speaking of the annual convention, Frank Durham and I just returned from the mid-winter meeting in Memphis. As most of you know this is where all the

Cultural & Critical Studies Division 1999-2000

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— <http://www.arches.uga.edu/~hamilton/ccs/> —

(**HEADNOTE**, *cont. from page 2*) agreed to try and stagger business meeting times and the History division and C&CS agreed not to schedule at the same time.

So, C&CS meets at 6:15 on Thursday, August 10 and History meets at 8:00 p.m. I also believe that Media Ethics is scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on the 10th so those of you interested can attend that meeting as well.

FINALLY, AS YOU CAN SEE from the conference schedule Frank has provided (see the story on page 4), we have a lot of really great sessions this year—including a mini-plenary based on a panel submitted by our own Joyce Wolburg.

The session, scheduled for Saturday, August 12, has only one other mini-plenary and two research sessions scheduled against it.

Co-sponsored by the Minorities and Communication, Law, and Communication Theory and Methodology divisions, the session asks six journal editors from a wide array of publications to address the plenary theme: Does academic research matter? Plan on coming and contributing to the debate.

OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS many questions about our division's history have developed—including who were our past PF&R Award winners. Many thanks to past division heads who helped me fill the holes.

I'd now like to create a complete file of past division newsletters which would be kept in the division history notebook. This notebook is maintained by the current Division Head and passed on as appropriate.

If you have old newsletter issues you are willing to copy or donate, please let me know.

IN THE MEANTIME, I encourage you to have a great start to the new year.❖

(**SYLLABUS**, *cont. from page 1*) knowledge doesn't stop with our students. We also need to share our knowledge with each other. To facilitate this goal, the Cultural and Critical Studies Division is soliciting contributions to a syllabus exchange web site.

The exchange is an innovative way to share successful teaching strategies. It can provide guidance for new and seasoned instructors who need help developing or updating their courses. It can benefit those at smaller schools who lack library facilities and other resources. It is also much more cost-effective than copying and distributing syllabi to our members.

Sharing resources on the Internet can encourage diversity in our curricula by incorporating information about global issues. It also allows us to integrate new media into the classroom. We can teach students about the location and availability of online databases and use research databases to enrich our teaching.

A shared database of teaching materials can help expand our vision

of education to accommodate different philosophical and methodological perspectives. A well-written syllabus can provide a model to others on how to introduce interdisciplinary materials and approaches. It also can provide an explanatory context or rationale for critical and cultural perspectives.

Down the road, the syllabus exchange can be used to evaluate and reward good teaching by promoting worthy teaching initiatives and by highlighting practices that demonstrate the connections between research and teaching.

The major challenges facing educators is how to respond to the changing nature of journalism and mass communication and how to prepare students for these changes. A syllabus exchange is one way to promote the sharing of ideas and approaches to these challenges. The goal isn't to promote a single approach or plan for a unified curriculum in cultural and critical studies. Rather it is to promote curriculum development, diversification and internationalization.❖

How to use the syllabus exchange

As long as you have access to the Internet, you can read and/or print others' syllabi, or contribute your own for others' benefit.

TO SEE AND READ SYLLABI, go to the C&CS web site at <http://www.arches.uga.edu/~hamilton/ccs/>, then click the link "Syllabus Exchange."

Click a link to display the contents of the chosen syllabus. Use the Print command to print it, or the Save As command to save it to your computer as a text file.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE a syllabus (undergraduate or graduate), use any of these methods:

- Send it in Microsoft Word format (either Windows or Macintosh) on a diskette to Jay

Hamilton, College of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-3018.

- Send it in Word format as an e-mail attachment to hamilton@arches.uga.edu.
- Send it on a diskette either through the mails or as an e-mail attachment, but in HTML format (you'll have more control over how it will be displayed on the web than if you send it as a Word file).
- Send the address of a link to a syllabus already posted elsewhere on the World Wide Web to Jay Hamilton at hamilton@arches.uga.edu, or call (706) 542-3556.

Questions? Please contact Jay Hamilton using any of the methods noted above.❖

2000 National Convention

Why this year's program will work

FRANK DURHAM, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

This year's program will be strong, interesting and innovative.

And it will succeed for three key reasons.

As I list and review them, take note of how you can write a successful panel proposal for the 2001 meeting. In addition to refereed papers, panels offer you a good way to participate in the conference program.

FIRST, AND MOST BASICALLY, each of the panels addresses the conference plenary theme. It turns out to be possible to write the panel question you're most interested in and to make it relevant to the conference membership.

Taking this approach also makes any panel proposal more likely to attract essential co-sponsoring from other divisions and interest groups. Conversely, without such co-sponsorship at the mid-winter planning meeting, almost all panel proposals fail.

Also, because this year's crop of panels has been built around the three types of panels required by the convention—Professional Freedom & Responsibility (PF&R), teaching, and research—our panels in Phoenix are more likely to attract the broadest range of conference attendees.

In an exceptional case, one of our panels, "Academic Research:

Questioning its Relevance, Impact, and Value to the Profession and to Society" aced this plenary theme/co-sponsorship formula by signing three co-sponsors to become a mini-plenary session. Co-sponsoring it with the Minorities and Communication, Communication Theory & Methodology, and Law divisions ensures that this panel will get center-stage treatment at the meeting.

THE SECOND REASON I look forward to a strong conference for C&CS is that the co-sponsorships we have arranged with other divisions and interest groups bridge every conceivable gulf in this widespread conference.

As well as from the mini-plenary session, we have made alliances with the Communication Technology & Policy, Ethics, Commission on the Status Women, Advertising, Visual Communication, and History divisions.

As important as building attendance is, one of the fundamental rewards I get from being active in AEJMC is overcoming the parochialism that limits interdepartmental scholarship on the home campus.

Not to romanticize things too much here, but where else but at a once-a-year, moveable meeting can we cross-pollinate things so well? Each year

after the conference has ended, I am grateful to have been reminded again that we share more scholarly community than we might find at home.

THE THIRD REASON: As has become the norm for C&CS, we're fortunate to have thoughtful speakers and topics. Our Professional Freedom & Responsibility Award winner this year is Dan Perkins, who produces his satirical political cartoons under the pen name of "Tom Tomorrow." Perkins' appearance promises an engaging and entertaining discussion of media criticism by one who aims at the media from the inside.

Our other panel proposals also represent a diverse and salient range of topics, including the effects of media representations on girls' lives, adult literacy and on-line journalism, Native Americans and the media, as well as two innovative teaching sessions devoted to teaching critical thinking for the professions and teaching postmodernism.

AT THE PLANNING MEETING in Memphis in early December, Division Head Ana Garner and I worked to schedule all of our meetings at reasonable times (see page 5). I believe that we arranged it so that you can get to any or all of these sessions.

If you have any questions, please contact me at fd@uts.cc.utexas.edu. Otherwise, I'll see you in Phoenix!❖

Computer/Internet and Audio-Visual Equipment Policies

Equipment and capabilities not provided, nor available through AEJMC: Computers; Internet access (speakers who wish to show a website should create a PowerPoint presentation or download web pages and bring them on their own computer); flip charts and markers; microphones (available only for

Association-wide events and Council of Division business meetings.)

Equipment and capabilities available through AEJMC if requested by June 1, 2000: Projection devices and/or monitors with correct cabling for computer projection (requests must be made by June 1, 2000, indicating IBM (or clone) or Macintosh to ensure

correct cabling; *there are no exceptions to this deadline*); overhead and screen, slide projector and screen, VCR w/monitor, audio-tape player.

These policies do not apply to pre- and post-convention sessions scheduled by members of the Council of Divisions.

Questions? Call Fred Williams at (803) 798-0274.❖

Convention program

Wednesday, August 9

- 8:15-9:30 a.m. "Brave New Public Sphere: Web-Based Journalism, Adult Literacy, and the Implications of Research for Both." PF&R panel co-sponsored with Communication Technology & Policy.
- 9:45-11:15 a.m. "The New Faces of an Ancient People: American Indian Cultures, the American Mass Media and the New Millennium." Teaching panel co-sponsored with Minorities and Communication.
- 1:30-2:30 p.m. "Is There Truth in this Class? Teaching Postmodernism." Teaching panel co-sponsored with Ethics.
- 4:15-5:45 p.m. Refereed research.
- 6:00-7:30 p.m. "Ophelia Redux: How Media Representations Affect Girls' Lives." PF&R panel co-sponsored with Commission on the Status Women.

Thursday, August 10

- 2:45-4:15 p.m. Refereed research
- 4:30-6:00 p.m. Refereed research
- 6:15-7:45 p.m. CCS business meeting.

Friday, August 11

- 8:30-10:00 a.m. Poster session. Co-sponsored with Advertising.
- 4:30-6:00 p.m. "In Honor of Dan Perkins a.k.a. 'Tom Tomorrow'." PF&R Award session co-sponsored with Visual Communication.
- 6:15-7:45 p.m. Refereed research co-sponsored with History.

Saturday, August 12

- 8:45-10:15 a.m. "The Ph.D. Curriculum in the New Millennium." Teaching panel co-sponsored with Communication Theory & Methodology.
- 8:45-10:15 a.m. "Academic Research: Questioning its Relevance, Impact, and Value to the Profession and to Society." Mini-plenary co-sponsored by CCS, Mass Communication and Society, Communication Theory & Methodology, and Law.
- 1:00-2:30 p.m. "Critical Thinking for the Professions: What is It? How do You Teach It?" Teaching panel co-sponsored with Ethics.
- 2:45-4:15 p.m. Refereed research. ❖

Call for papers

2000 AEJMC National Convention, Phoenix AZ

The Cultural & Critical Studies Division invites submissions of original research papers that are interdisciplinary in focus and are theoretically grounded.

IT WELCOMES A WIDE range of approaches, methodologies and perspectives including—but not limited to—cultural studies, historical studies, feminist scholarship, news analysis, political economy, literary analysis, qualitative methodologies, philosophy of communication ethics, and media criticism.

THE PREFERRED LENGTH is 7,500 words or approximately 25 pages. Important: Authors must also submit:

- 6 copies of a 75-word abstract without names or affiliations on them;
- one copy on a diskette as specified by AEJMC;
- and a completed permission form.

IN ADDITION, AUTHORS are responsible for following all AEJMC guidelines for paper submission published in the January issue of *AEJMC News*.

Papers that do not meet these guidelines or that are postmarked after April 1, 2000 will not be accepted.

SEND HARDCOPIES ONLY TO:

Prof. Shawn McKinney
Dept. of Journalism
University of Texas
Austin, Texas 78712.

Phone: (512) 232-5986
e-mail: smckinney@mail.utexas.edu. ❖

WTO

Popular protest against its policies and lack of public access to the process gets the “Mayor Daley” treatment on-site and is marginalized in mainstream media.

But popular movements push back, and information about what happened continues to emerge. Perhaps the most important outcome is the recognition that “globalization” is not inevitable, but, rather, the intentional perpetuation of a particular set of interests.

The real story is about organization

BILL CAPOWSKI

CENTER FOR CAMPUS ORGANIZING

I am writing from Seattle, amidst the clouds of tear gas, the percussion bombs/grenades, the several hundred arrested, the pepper spray, the national guard, the armored personnel carriers and the state of emergency declared by the governor of Washington.

I am writing to tell you that the first paragraph is really just a secondary story. It is dramatic and makes good copy, but the real story is much more encouraging.

AT THE LABOR RALLY yesterday there were dozens of huge labor unions, across sectors, represented in strength and unity. Students spoke on the main stage, as did individuals from China, India (Vandana Shiva) and several other countries. Canada was in the house. with perhaps 4-5,000 strong.

The march was so huge (about 60,000) that it became unwieldy in the narrow Seattle streets.

Environmentalists, anarchists, artists, farmers, students (5,000 or more!), pro-democracy folks, MEChAistas, pro-fair trade folks, peace and justice religious types, labor, and many, many more (this is incomplete—I am a bit nervous as I

am writing this and am sure I am missing things) were all in the march. All saying no to the violence of the WTO, and to the madness of its systemic destruction of farms, the environment, cultures, democracy, women, labor standards, etc.

WORLD “LEADERS” HAD to cancel the opening ceremonies of the WTO. The afternoon sessions of the WTO occurred, but many delegates could not get through the peaceful protesters...and apparently the afternoon sessions were worthless. And the vigorous protests are exacerbating the existing tensions within the WTO delegates.

Even if nothing else positive happens for the rest of the week, the protest has been a total success well beyond my expectations.

The world knows that this—the percussion grenades, the armored personnel carriers, the national guard, the attacks on civilians, the suspension of rights and announcements of “state of emergency”—are all required to make the WTO go.

As I write this, reports are coming in from friends of police riots, attacks on students, taking people into buses and spraying them with pepper spray directly in their faces, countless

accounts of folks denied their legal rights, women coming out of an approved NGO peace vigil and being attacked by police—it’s just madness.

There is some very bizarre police action. Several neighborhoods are, at 1 AM Pacific Time, still be deluged by police running through their streets and throwing tear gas canisters. Regular non-political neighborhood, middle aged folks, residents, are out in the streets, with their kids watching them out the windows, yelling at the police to go home, while their eyes and throats are burning, people spitting, water rolling out of their eyes and noses, people who can hardly breathe, they have their faces totally covered up.

Liz Carlyle, the Deputy Chair, and Jen Anthony, the incoming Deputy Chair of the Canadian Federation of Students have been arrested. Neither intended to be arrested but were caught in some kind of police “action.” Lydia Cabasco of People for Fair Trade was also arrested.

I will write more in another post. But remember, however dramatic the police rioting and police violence is, it is nothing compared to the violence of the WTO. That is the story of the week: the violence of the WTO has been named and challenged. People of all kinds will not stand for it anymore.❖

The current issue of *Infusion* has the WTO as the front page story and lots of pictures. For a copy or multiple copies (\$2 ea.), contact cco@igc.org.

A.P. accounts mislead

JARED ISRAEL
JAREDL@AOL.COM

On December 9, AP issued a news report about a Seattle City Council meeting in which citizens protested police behavior during the World Trade Organization protests.

I read this AP dispatch quickly but it bothered me so I read it again, and then once more, carefully, and found what seemed to be a deliberate effort at misinformation.

IT BEGINS WITH THE following headline: "Seattle Police Actions Questioned."

Even for those who read the entire text, the headline has a big impact. It lingers in the imagination, suggesting a certain tone, coloring the story.

But don't we use the verb "*to question*" to administer a mild rebuke?

For example, would you say, "I questioned the mugger's right to break my wife's jaw"? Would you say, "The policeman pulled off the non-violent protester's gas mask, sprayed pepper gas in his face at point-blank range and rubbed it into his eyes. I questioned his behavior"?

By saying police behavior is being "questioned", the headline suggests that people may be concerned but not terribly upset.

The first paragraph continues along these lines, creating a gentle ambiance:

"*Detractors* far outnumbered defenders of police at a special City

Council meeting on the handling of protests surrounding the World Trade Organization meeting" (my emphasis).

"Detractors" and "defenders"—nice, very balanced. What's a detractor, by the way? Isn't a detractor a gentle critic?

For example, mightn't one say: "Her detractors commented that she was too old for that outfit." But mightn't one be viewed askance (perhaps even questioned) if one said: "Charles Manson's detractors thought he should have been executed."

Doesn't it suggest that nothing much happened at the City Council?

It does. The suggestion is false.

READING ON, WE ARE informed that:

"[Resident Kathy] Cado and others described police officers indiscriminately tossing tear gas canisters at not only the demonstrators they were trying to disperse, but also at residents out shopping, dining and walking their dogs..."

"Speakers particularly took police to task for their actions the night of Dec. 1 in the Capitol Hill neighborhood east of downtown—first for forcing demonstrators in that direction from downtown, and then taking aggressive actions that included firing tear gas and pepper spray.

"I basically think they were treating residents of Capitol Hill like animals," said Clark Pickett."

Would you describe Kathy Cado's remarks as gently "questioning" the police? Is Clark Pickett merely a "detractor"?

What we saw in Seattle

The website I work on, www.emperors-clothes.com, had a reporter in Seattle. Jim Desyllas did not go there expecting a police attack. But when the police did attack, he observed them for almost two days.

He—and everyone else who was in downtown Seattle at the time—knows that the police started the violence.

Not only started it but continued to provoke it, brutalizing non-violent protesters and leaving the violent ones alone. Moreover, when the police had a group of about 100 people reliably throwing things, they herded this group around the city, providing plenty of photo-ops for the media.

Notes Jim: "A number of times they had these 100 or so protesters caught between buildings and walls of police. They could easily have arrested and detained this small number of people and gotten it over with. Instead they would gas them and let them go. Then trap them again, gas them again, and again let them go.... The police were using these people as extras. It was staged.

"I also believe the police had their own people in there, encouraging people to break stuff. If people think I may be exaggerating, I saw supposed protesters—they were screaming and so on—and then later, when everything was over, the same people tackled other protesters and put handcuffs on them."

I think the amazingly uniform duplicity of the media is the greatest threat to democracy. For how can people make decisions, how can they oppose police state tactics, if they are fed a diet of lies? ❖

***Noncommercial
sources of
commentary,
video, and audio
on WTO in
Seattle***

Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR)
(<http://www.fair.org/>)

Independent Media Center (<http://216.254.6.207/>)

Information Subway
(<http://www.infosubway.org/infosubway/>)

The Emperor's Clothes
(<http://www.emperors-clothes.com/>)

Award

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1979 <i>Columbia Journalism Review</i> | 1987 Molly Ivins |
| 1980 George Seldes | 1988 Randy Shilts |
| 1981 <i>The Progressive</i> (Erwin Knoll, editor) | 1989 I.F.Stone |
| 1982 Robert W. Greene, <i>Newsday</i> | 1990 <i>Utne Reader</i> |
| 1983 Ben Bagdikian | 1991 Noam Chomsky |
| 1984 Jean Otto, editorial page editor, <i>Rocky Mountain News</i> | 1992 Bill Kovach |
| 1985 Claude Sitton, Vice President and Editor, <i>Raleigh [North Carolina] Observer</i> | 1993 Committee to Protect Journalists |
| 1986 Penny Lernoux | 1994 Lilianne Pierre-Paul |
| | 1995 Nina Totenberg |
| | 1996 Christopher Hitchens |
| | 1997 Studs Terkel |
| | 1998 Hanno Hardt |
| | 1999 Herbert Schiller |
| | 2000 Dan Perkins, a.k.a. Tom Tomorrow. ❖ |

C&CS News seeks your contributions

We welcome longer contributions and commentary that aren't usually a part of traditional publishing outlets. *We also welcome graduate-student contributions.*

Editors will get in touch with authors before publishing any materials.

Copy deadlines: *March 10* (for Spring), and *June 9* (for Summer).

Contact any of the following editors with your ideas or suggestions for the newsletter:

- Carolina Acosta-Alzuru, cacosta@arches.uga.edu, (706) 542-5680,
- Jay Hamilton, hamilton@arches.uga.edu, (706) 542-3556, or
- Elli Lester Roushanzamir, elester@arches.uga.edu, (706) 542-5007. ❖

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