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SURVEILLANCE, SECURITY AND
JOURNALISM ETHICS

THE UW-MADISON CENTER FOR JOURNALISM ETHICS PRESENTS

CONFERENCE 2014

WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER ERIC LICHTBLAU
OF THE NEW YORK TIMES

MAY 2, 2014
UNION SOUTH

The Center for Journalism Ethics

Welcome to a day that promises to be filled with thought-provoking discussion of some of the most significant issues ever to face journalism and government: Who has what obligations to whom in most appropriately resolving conflicts between the public's need for both information and privacy in a self-governing society and the need to protect citizens and the state from serious harm?

WELCOME
from Robert E. Drechsel
James E. Burgess Chair in Journalism Ethics

Journalists find themselves at the center of the debate in many ways. They provide a critical conduit for information the public and sometimes the government itself need to develop and deploy sound policy. But while gathering information, journalists may themselves become targets of government surveillance. And journalists, too, engage in surveillance, since that in part is what it means to gather news. New and surreptitiously intrusive technological tools are available to all parties, and the very definition of journalist and journalism is in flux.

Thus we offer a keynote, panels and breakout sessions that address serious ethical questions regarding surveillance of journalists and the public by government, as well as surveillance by journalists. Do the times demand a fundamental rethinking of journalistic ethics? We hope today's program will point to possible answers.

Again, welcome, and thank you for joining us.

Our Mission

To advance the ethical standards and practices of democratic journalism through discussion, research, teaching, professional outreach, and newsroom partnerships. The center is a voice for journalistic integrity, a forum for informed debate, and an incubator for new ideas and practices.

Schedule of Events

8:30   Breakfast/registration

8:50   Opening remarks, Robert Drechsel and Kathleen Culver

9:00   Keynote by Eric Lichtblau, New York Times
        Media Minefields: Journalism, National Security and the Right to Know

10:15   Break

10:30   Protecting Sources and Data in a Surveillance Environment
        Moderator: Jason Shepard, Cal State-Fullerton
        Brant Houston, University of Illinois
        Jonathan Stray, Associated Press
        Marisa Taylor, McClatchey DC

11:30   Anthony Shadid Award for Journalism Ethics, presented by Jack Mitchell
        to the Associated Press Matt Apuzzo, Ted Bridis and Adam Goldman

12:00   Lunch

1:00   Surveillance by Media: Ethical Bounds of Tools for Watching, Scraping and
        Sensing
        Moderator: Kathleen Bartzen Culver, UW-Madison
        John Keefe, WNYC
        Fergus Pitt, Tow Center at Columbia University
        Sisi Wei, ProPublica

2:00   Break

2:15   Breakouts
        10 ways to Technologically Protect Your Sources – Jonathan Stray
        Ethics When Using Data in Journalism – Alex Howard, Tow Center
        Cracking Local and State Government Secrecy – Dee Hall, Wisconsin State
        Journal and Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism

3:00   Radical Rethink: Do New Security Challenges Require New Norms?
        Moderator: Robert Drechsel
        Jay Rosen, New York University
        Gabriel Schoenfeld, Hudson Institute
        Stephen Ward, University of Oregon

4:15   Closing Remarks

CENTER FOR
Journalism Ethics
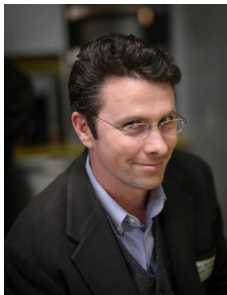UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

PRESENTERS & PANELISTS

DEE HALL

Hall is a volunteer and co-founder of the Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism. She also works as an investigative reporter at the Wisconsin State Journal, where in recent years she focused on stories involving official misconduct. Before joining the State Journal 19 years ago, Hall was a reporter for eight years at The Arizona Republic in Phoenix. She is a native of Madison and a graduate of Indiana University. @deejhall

ALEXANDER B. HOWARD

Howard is a writer and editor based in Washington, D.C. Currently, he holds a fellowship at the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia Journalism School, is a columnist at TechRepublic, founder of the "E Pluribus Unum" blog, and contributor to TechPresident, among other publications. He was previously a fellow at the Networked Transparency Policy Project at Harvard University, the Washington correspondent for O'Reilly Media, and an associate editor at TechTarget. Howard has appeared on air as an analyst for Al Jazeera English, WHYY, Washington Post TV, and WAMU multiple times. He is a member of the Government of Canada's independent advisory panel on open government. Howard holds a B.A. in biology and sociology from Colby College. @digiphile

BRANT HOUSTON

Houston is the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Chair in Investigative and Enterprise Reporting, College of Media, University of Illinois, where he teaches investigative and advanced reporting. Before moving to Illinois, he was executive director of Investigative Reporters and Editors and professor at the University of Missouri School of Journalism. He previously spent 17 years as an award-winning investigative reporter at daily newspapers in the U.S. Houston is the author of Computer-Assisted Reporting: A Practical Guide and co-author of the The Investigative Reporter's Handbook.

JOHN KEEFE

Keefe is the senior editor on WNYC's Data News Team, which helps infuse the public radio station's journalism with data reporting, visualizations, crowdsourcing and sensor projects. Keefe was WNYC's news director for nine years, has been an adjunct instructor at several New York area colleges and universities and is an advisor to Census-Reporter.org. @jkeefe

ERIC LICHTBLAU

Lichtblau joined the Washington bureau of the New York Times as an investigative reporter in 2002. Prior to that, he was with the Los Angeles Times for 15 years. He was awarded the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for national reporting, together with James Risen, for stories disclosing the existence of the Bush administration's secret wiretapping program. He is the author of Bush's Law: The Remaking of American Justice (Random House; 2008) and the forth-coming The Nazis Next Door: How America Became a Safe Haven for Hitler's Men (Houghton Mifflin). Lichtblau has been a visiting professor of journalism at Georgetown University and UCLA and is a frequent guest on news programs on CNN, PBS, NPR, C-SPAN, ABC and other net-works. He is a graduate of Cornell University (BA in both English and Government).

FERGUS PITT

Pitt is a research fellow at The Tow Center for Digital Jour-nalism at Columbia University and the editor of the Tow Center's collection of essays on the legal and ethical con-siderations of drones and sensors in journalism. He will be co-teaching the Tow Center's sensor newsroom R&D course over the summer. Before joining the Tow Center, Pitt led the design and development of digital products for the ABC Radio in Australia. He has also worked as a radio journalist, producer, project manager, barkeep and paperboy. @fergle

Jay Rosen

Rosen teaches journalism at New York University, where he has been on faculty since 1986 and was chair of the department from 1999-2004. He is also the author of PressThink, a blog about journalism's ordeals in the age of the Web, which he launched in 2003. In 1999, he released his book, What Are Journalists For, about the rise of the civic journalism movement. In 2013, he joined Pierre Omidyar's news start-up, First Look Media, as an adviser. @jayrosen_nyu

Gabriel Schoenfeld

Schoenfeld is a senior fellow at the Hudson Institute and the author of a number of books, including Necessary Secrets: National Security, the Media and the Rule of Law. He writes frequently for a wide variety of leading publications, including the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post and National Affairs. Schoenfeld was previously a senior adviser to the Mitt Romney for President Campaign, senior editor at Commentary magazine, and a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. He was also an IREX Scholar at Moscow State University and holds a Ph.D. in government from Harvard University. @gabeschoenfeld

Jason M. Shepard

Shepard is an associate professor of Communications and chair-elect of the Department of Communications at California State University-Fullerton. Shepard's first scholarly book, Privileging the Press: Confidential Sources, Journalism Ethics and the First Amendment, explored the relationship between journalism ethics and law in journalist-source protections. He has published related research in Communication Law and Policy, Journal of Media Law & Ethics, and Yale Journal of Law and Technology. Shepard earned his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is a former police reporter, education columnist and freelance reporter for The Capital Times and Isthmus. @jasonmshepard

Jonathan Stray

Stray is a journalist and a computer scientist. He is a fellow at the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia University, where he teaches computational journalism. He leads the Overview Project, an open source visualization system to help investigative journalists make sense of very large document sets. He has worked as an editor at the Associated Press, a freelance reporter in Hong Kong, and an algorithm designer for Adobe Systems. @jonathanstray

Marisa Taylor

Taylor, an investigative reporter, has 20 years of daily newspaper experience covering federal courts and agencies, crime and politics. Taylor started her career as a reporter in Mexico City. Most recently, Taylor and two colleagues have reported on the showdown between the CIA and the Senate Intelligence Committee over the agency's now-defunct interrogation program. She also has written about the Obama administration's crackdown on media leaks, known as the Insider Threat program. @MarisaHTaylor

Stephen Vaughn

Stephen Vaughn has taught the history of journalism and mass communication at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Journalism & Mass Communication since 1981. He is the Editor of the Encyclopedia of American Journalism and the author of such books as Freedom and Entertainment and Ronald Reagan in Hollywood, in addition to numerous articles. He is the winner of two Fulbright awards and a Vilas Associate Award. He is currently working on a book that deals with how new media since the late nineteenth century have changed American society.
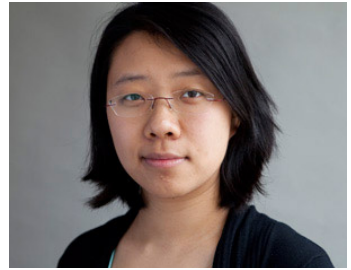
Stephen J. A. Ward

Ward is a media ethicist and professor at the University of Oregon in Portland. Previously, he was director of the George S. Turnbull Center in the UO School of Journalism and Communication. Also, he was the Burgess Chair of Journalism Ethics and founding director of the Center for Journalism Ethics at UW-Madison. Ward is the author of several award-winning books, including The Invention of Journalism Ethics, Global Journalism Ethics, Ethics and the Media: An Introduction, and most recently, Global Media Ethics: Problems and Perspectives. His new book, Radical Media Ethics, appears later this year. @mediamorals

Sisi Wei

Wei is the news applications developer at ProPublica, where she builds interactive stories that serve the public interest. Previously, she was a Graphics Editor at the Washington Post. She is also the co-founder of Code With Me, a high-impact workshop focused on teaching journalists how to code. Wei graduated from Northwestern University with majors in journalism, philosophy and legal studies. @sisiwei

Center Staff
Robert Drechsel

Drechsel holds the James E. Burgess Chair in Journalism Ethics and is director of the School's Center for Journalism Ethics. He also holds an affiliated faculty appointment in the Law School. His research and teaching focus primarily on media law, the relationship between media law and media ethics, and media coverage of the judiciary. Drechsel holds a Ph.D. in mass communication from the University of Minnesota, where he also earned undergraduate and master's degrees. He joined the Wisconsin faculty in 1983 after spending four years as an assistant professor at Colorado State University. Drechsel is the author of News Making in the Trial Courts and articles in a variety of legal and communication journals.

Kathleen Culver

Culver is an assistant professor in the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Journalism & Mass Communication and associate director of the Center for Journalism Ethics. Long interested in the implications of digital media on journalism and public interest communication, Culver focuses on the ethical dimensions of social tools, technological advances and networked information. She combines these interests with a background in law and the effects of boundary-free communication on free expression. She also serves as visiting faculty for the Poynter Institute for Media Studies and education curator for PBS MediaShift. @kbculver

Wendy Swanberg

Swanberg is a Ph.D. candidate in Mass Communication at UW-Madison, with emphases on First Amendment history and journalism in the Cold War era. She has spent the past ten years with the J-school as a teaching assistant in journalism and media law, as a research fellow working with the Wisconsin Historical Society, as project assistant for the Center for Journalism Ethics and the Center for Communication & Democracy. She also spent one academic year coordinating communications for Project HealthDesign, an experimental project funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Dave Wilcox

Wilcox is a Ph.D. student in UW-Madison's School of Journalism and Mass Communication. His dissertation research focuses on how different types of media content consumption interact with people's varying degrees of tolerance toward and acceptance of homosexuals in everyday life. His other research interests include the roles social media play in political communication and civic engagement. He currently serves as project assistant for the Center for Journalism Ethics. His teaching experience includes serving as a teaching assistant at UW-Madison and as an instructor of advertising and public relations at UW-Whitewater. He comes to UW-Madison after a 25-year career in advertising. @davewilcoxuw

Anthony Shadid Award for Journalism Ethics

The Center for Journalism Ethics proudly gives its annual ethics award in honor of Anthony Shadid, a UW journalism alumnus and foreign reporter for The New York Times who died in 2012 while covering unrest in Syria.

Shadid, who won two Pulitzer Prizes, had a special connection to UW-Madison, its School of Journalism & Mass Communication and the Center for Journalism Ethics. He sat on the center's advisory board and strongly supported promoting public interest journalism and stimulating discussion about journalism ethics.

A diehard Packer fan, Anthony celebrated his Wisconsin ties.

The 2014 Shadid Award goes to the Associated Press, Adam Goldman, Matt Apuzzo and Ted Bridis for their reporting on the disappearance in Iran of Robert Levinson, an American businessman, who they demonstrated was employed by the CIA even as the agency denied it to the White House, the FBI and Congress.

The center lauds the AP's responsibility in holding the story for three years until it was confident it would not cause harm to Levinson or to national security.

Other finalists:
- ProPublica and reporter Michael Grabell for reporting on the plight of temporary workers in American companies
- Stephanie Mencimer for her story in the Washington Monthly verifying the truthfulness of Kellogg, Brown & Root, the defense contractor, when it denied that employees in Iraq had gang-raped a female employee
- Minnesota Public Radio for documenting child abuse by priests in the St. Paul diocese, which had held itself up as a model for other dioceses to follow
- USA Today for its examination of "mass killings" in the United States

INTERACTIVITY

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Participant handles

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Dee Hall @deejhall
Alex Howard @digiphile
Brant Houston @branthouston
John Keefe @jkeefe
Fergus Pitt @fergle
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Jason Shepard @jasonmshepard
Lauren Simonis @simonislauren
Jonathan Stray @jonathanstray
Marisa Taylor @marisaataylor
Stephen Ward @MediaMorals
Sisi Wei @sisiwei
Dave Wilcox @davewilcoxuw

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Past Conferences

2013: Who is Shaping the News?

Brand journalism, investigative reporting, watchdog media and attacks on the news media.

2012: Ethics & Elections: Media, Money and Power

Implications of fact checking, political advertising, Twitter and votes, and a Tribute to Anthony Shadid.

2011: In Your Face: Partisan Media in a Democracy

Rise and fall of partisan journalism, nonprofit journalism and transparency, polling and polarization.

2010: New Journalism, New Ethics?

The new ecosystem, investigative newsrooms, old values in a new media world and verification journalism.

2009: The Future of Ethical Journalism

Tough newsroom calls, democratic journalism and a dialogue with the New York Times public editor.

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