New Wave of Local Journalists Sweats through Rights and Wrongs

The Miami Herald

A Miami Herald op-ed featured Navigating the New Ethics of Local Journalism, a new report from the School of Communication’s J-Lab. The report discusses the challenges local news sites face in balancing ethics with a new journalism environment. The article cites Jan Schaffer, executive director of J-Lab, "These questions are hardy perennials, and they're being answered in a setting where the threshold for what's news is lower, where stories are often reported as they unfold and where readers seem to value a journalism of engagement rather than distance." (8/14)

College101: Don’t Fall Behind on Attendance or Assignments

Marianne Huger, assistant dean of students, provided advice to new freshmen as a guest columnist for WashingtonPost.com’s Campus Overload. "Don’t become paralyzed by guilt, avoidance and self-doubt. Talk to an academic advisor, dean, professor or resident adviser. We want you to succeed; we are all on the same team," wrote Huger. (8/16)

William Randolph Hearst: Mythical Media Bogeyman

In an op-ed for BBC Online, W. Joseph Campbell, professor of communication, explained William Randolph Hearst’s influence on journalistic practices. "Hearst is typically remembered as the irresponsible media tycoon of the late 19th and early 20th Centuries who set standards by which journalism ought not be practiced. That reputation is not altogether fair, and yet not altogether surprising," Campbell wrote. (8/13)

Hillary for VP: Obama’s Best Hope for Re-election?

Richard Benedetto, adjunct professor of communication, explained why President Obama should choose Hillary Clinton as his 2012 running mate. "Clinton would add some much-needed pizzazz to a tough campaign that Biden does not. More importantly, she would shore up a shaky Democratic base, a huge part of which consists of disappointed women who still believe the secretary of state should have been president and would have done a better job than Obama," wrote Benedetto. (8/16)

Republican Party Still Looking for its Frontrunner

Leonard Steinhorn, professor of communication, discussed the contenders for the 2012 Republican presidential nomination with the Boston Herald, The Hill, and on WTTG-FOX5’s News at 10. "They want someone who’s going to express their indignation, anger, and desire for change," said Steinhorn on WTTG-FOX5. (8/14, 8/16)

Russia Still Lags on Democracy 20 Years After Coup

Anton Fedyashin, assistant professor of history, talked to Reuters about the fact that 20 years after the Soviet coup, Russia is still transitioning from socialist republic to democracy. "Looking back, it was one of the most astounding examples of historical events where the result achieved was exactly the opposite of what the perpetrators set out to do," Fedyashin said about the coup led by communists as a last ditch effort to save the Soviet Union. (8/16)
Renewing Cuba’s Entrepreneurial Spirit

On NBC’s Nightly News with Brian Williams, Robert Pastor, professor of international relations, analyzed the Cuban government’s adjustments to the communist system in an effort to boost Cuba’s economy. “President Raul Castro has come to understand that the Cuban economy is simply not working,” said Pastor. (8/13)

Supreme Court Ethics and Reviewing the Health Law

On NPR’s All Things Considered, Howard Schwartz, professor of law, explained why the Supreme Court needs an explicit set of ethics to review President Obama’s health care law. “Not everything depends on a sanction. A lot of rules that we live by are because it’s understood that there are certain things you don’t do and it helps to have it laid out,” said Schwartz. (8/17)

Europe’s Economic Crisis Claims Political Victims

James Golgeier, dean of the School of International Service, explained to NPR.org how Europe’s struggling economy will affect its member role in NATO. “They are in this deep, deep crisis that gets worse every day and they don’t have any money for defense,” said Golgeier. (8/15)

Defaulted Vitro Bond Ruling Signals Higher Yields: Mexico Credit

Arturo Porzecanski, professor of international economic policy, discussed with Bloomberg Businessweek Mexican glassmaker Vitro SAB’s test of the country’s 10-year-old revamped bankruptcy law. “There has been a fundamental questioning of what the workout process in Mexico is all about. Any corporation can write its own bankruptcy ticket,” said Porzecanski. (8/17)

Archaeological Finds Boost Profile of Arundel’s Pig Point

Joe Dent, associate professor of anthropology, spoke with the Baltimore Sun about a prehistoric Indian archaeological site in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, that has become one of the most significant sites in the Mid-Atlantic. “If they encountered pre-Paleo [pre-Paleo Indian, roughly 10,000 to 20,000 years ago], this would be an international site. Archaeologists worldwide would beat a path to it,” Dent said. (8/14)