

# THE WJI TIMES OBSERVER

NOVEMBER 2002

THE VOICE OF THE WORLD JOURNALISM INSTITUTE

ASHEVILLE, N.C.

## Summer Students Excel in Asheville

Our summer/fall course, held in the month of July, allowed us the privilege of training 15 eager journalism students. The course had the usual components of pre-class reading and writing, four weeks of intensive classroom lectures with reporting and field trips, and post-class reporting assignments.

Student Mark Bergin, a History major at the University of Washington, observed, "Perhaps most extraordinary about the WJI experience was the access to thoughtful intellectual Christians." Our faculty were indeed outstanding, and included such esteemed names as Michael Cromartie (Ethics and Public Policy Center), Nancy Pearcey (Discovery Institute), Anthony Bradley (Acton Institute), Sterling Chen (*The Philadelphia Inquirer*), Marvin Olasky (University of Texas, *World* magazine), Sonyrea Tate (formerly *Washington Informer*), Norman Geisler (Southern Evangelical Seminary), and Mary Dengler (Dordt College). Kristin Morgan of Grove City College, who went on to earn an internship, said of the faculty, "Through their influence I feel I grew as a person and child of God, as well as developed my journalistic skills."

David Aikman, international chairman of Geographa (a global fellowship of journalists), was our final banquet speaker. David is also a senior fellow of the Trinity Forum, an author, and a former 23-year veteran foreign correspondent with *Time* magazine. Following the banquet, Aikman graciously signed copies of his most recent book, *Great Souls: Six Who Changed the Century*. The book is currently in production for a six-part series for PBS during 2003.

Asked to reflect on her teaching experience, Mary Dengler (English



Robert and Kathy Case (far right) with summer/fall students at the final banquet in Asheville.



David Aikman pauses to speak with student Travis Hurley during the book signing.

professor at Dordt College) commented, "I was amazed at the calibre of many WJI students—from stellar undergraduates to graduate students and professionals. . . . Students with whom I talked were friendly, thoughtful, eager to exchange ideas on a number of issues." Mary is not alone in this assessment. This summer we offered paid internships to top students for the month of August. We were able to place driven, articulate interns at the *Asheville Citizen-Times* (Gannett-owned), *Hendersonville (N.C.) Times-News* (New York Times-owned), *Waterloo-Cedar Falls*

(Iowa) *Courier*, and the *Vandalia (Ill.) Leader-Union*. In addition, a summer/fall student had articles published in his home town paper (*Nevada [Mont.] Daily Mail*), and another student is writing weekly for the University of North Carolina-Asheville student newspaper (*The Blue Banner*), as well as freelancing for the *Hendersonville Times-News*. Also, one of our summer/fall term students (and a Geneva College graduate) is a CCCU intern at *The Washington Times*.

As we reflect on the summer/fall journalism course and strategize for four additional courses in 2003, we look forward to raising up even more reporters to enter mainstream newspapers! □

### WJI TIMES OBSERVER

**Institute Director:** Robert Case  
bcase@worldji.com

**Editor:** Amy Auten

**Staff:** Kathy Case

**Telephone:** (828) 232-5436

# WJI News

## A Look at Our Interns

**Judie Person** was in office management in Maryland, but to pursue her love



Person

of writing, she attended both the January WJI course in New York, and the May course in Washington, D.C. She subsequently was awarded a paid WJI internship

with *The Washington Times*. "What thrills me about this job is the exposure I have to the world, and to interviews." Judie sits at an open desk situated in the middle of about eight editors. "I hear what the editors like and don't like about the stories we're working on, and I get to hear other reporters pitch stories." Judie contributes weekly at the National Desk. WJI faculty members George Archibald, Julia Duin, and Lynn Vincent continue to offer Judie invaluable advice.

During his two year stint at the University of Pittsburgh, **Tony Mator** took only one journalism course before transferring to Geneva College. He graduated in 2001 with a B.A. in creative writing. While



Mator

working at a café, Tony saw an ad for WJI's May term course and signed up. Impressed with Tony's drive and skill, the institute offered him a paid

internship at the *Hendersonville (N.C.) Times-News*.

Asked about his internship, Tony claims, "The best part is being paid to write, which I've been doing for years for free. The worst part is that I write for an editor (we writers are very stingy about our work)." His favorite story so far was on a character named Christopher who "walks the streets of Hendersonville with a sign warning of God's judgment." □

## WJI Visits Nashville

Over the Oct. 10-12 weekend, WJI had a display table at the second annual Baptist Press Student Journalism Conference in Nashville, Tenn. More than 180 people from 20 Southern Baptist universities and colleges attended the conference. Among the presenters were Peggy Wehmeyer (former ABC religion reporter), Don Boykin (*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*), Gary Fong (*San Francisco Chronicle*), Julia Duin (*The Washington Times* and WJI faculty), Sterling Chen (*Philadelphia Inquirer* and WJI faculty), and Terry Mattingly (Scripps-Howard columnist and WJI faculty). Todd Starnes, assistant editor of Baptist Press, coordinated the very successful conference. We expect the relationship between the institute and the SBC to be long and fruitful. □

## Press Club Partnership

The institute has applied for membership in the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. The Press Club is, of course, the premier organization for working journalists in the nation's capital, and a tremendous source of information and networking. WJI will use the club facilities during its May term course for special dinners and meetings. George Archibald (*The Washington Times* and Regent University) and Dr. Doug Tarpley (Regent University) are sponsoring our membership application. We are quite grateful for their support. □

## Ask for Aikman Today

We now have on hand the marvelous final banquet speech, "The Three Callings of a Christian in Journalism," presented by David Aikman to our summer/fall students. Send for your free copy. □

## Generous Givers

Early this Fall WJI submitted a profile to "Generous Giving," thus affording us a constant national presence among major donors to Christian causes. Generous Giving is a division of the McLellan Foundation, a faithful evangelical charitable foundation. Daryl Heald is president of Generous Giving, and a very warm hearted believer who is very supportive of what the institute is doing. Visit the Generous Giving web site at [www.info@generousgiving.org](http://www.info@generousgiving.org). □

## Raab Funds Library

WJI recently received a generous endowment we have named the Gloria Raab Library Fund. Every year, the institute invests in subscriptions and book purchases. We want to be able to make available to students and faculty an extensive library of resources which will supplement their research and lectures. We are delighted that the Gloria Raab Library Fund will help equip us to successfully pursue this mission. To learn more about endowing a WJI project, contact our office. □

## Tax Deductible Gifts

Because WJI is a nonprofit educational institution, we are able to help our supporters in tax planning and reduction. In addition to financial contributions, we also welcome book donations on all facets of communication theory and practice. Also, WJI has accepted (and enjoys accepting) gifts of stocks and bonds (who wouldn't!). If you would like to memorialize a commitment to journalistic truth, consider including us in your estate planning. We will be glad to provide you with a letter stating the value of donations. For more information, feel free to call our office. □

## WJI News

### Recruiting Lawyers

Beginning with our January term in Los Angeles, we plan to invite attorneys of the Alliance Defense Fund and the Christian Legal Society to teach our legal module on First Amendment rights and challenges. Jordan Lorence, ADF senior attorney, will teach our three-hour segment on Jan. 10. Sam Casey of the CLS will be teaching in our May course in Washington. The ADF is a Christian legal organization that works to protect and defend traditional family values, religious freedom and the sanctity of life. The CLS is a national grassroots network of Christian lawyers and law students committed to Jesus Christ. For more information on ADF and CLS, go to: [www.alliancedefensefund.org](http://www.alliancedefensefund.org) and [www.clsnet.org](http://www.clsnet.org). □

### Gegrapha Retreat

Gegrapha, the international fellowship of Christian journalists, held its fall retreat at the beautiful Osprey Point Leadership Inn on the shores of Maryland Oct. 18-20. This was during the sniper attacks in the greater D.C. area, so there was a bit of apprehension among those present. The conference coordinator was Julia Duin (*The Washington Times*). There were approximately two dozen journalists from New York City and Washington who gathered to hear John McCandlish Phillips, formerly of *The New York Times*, and David Aikman, formerly of *Time* magazine. The retreat was a delightful time of fellowship and getting to know other evangelical journalists who are on the front lines of the media cultural battle. The institute distributed copies of David Aikman's WJI final banquet speech to all the conference participants. Please continue to pray for these bold and faithful Christians in the mainstream media. For more on Gegrapha, visit [www.gegrapha.org](http://www.gegrapha.org). □

### Noteworthy Faculty

**Nancy R. Pearcey** is a senior fellow at the Discovery Institute and a free-lance writer. She studied under Francis Schaeffer at L'Abri and went on to earn a



Pearcey

Master's from Covenant Theological Seminary, followed by graduate work in the history of philosophy at the Institute for Christian Studies in Toronto. Mrs. Pearcey has been writing and speaking on science and Christian worldview since 1977. In 1991, she became the founding editor of "BreakPoint," a daily radio commentary, and was executive editor for nearly nine years. Pearcey has served as the managing editor of the journal *Origins & Design*, and a commentator on Public Square Radio. She is coauthor of the books *How Now Shall We Live?* and *The Soul of Science*.

**William Edgar** studied at Harvard University (Honors B.A. in Music), Westminster Theological Seminary (M.Div.), and the University of Geneva (D.Th.). He has taught at the Brunswick School in Greenwich, Conn., and at the Faculté Libre de Théologie Réformée in Aix-en-Provence, France, where he continues as *professeur associé*. He is currently Professor of



Edgar

Apologetics and Chairman of the Apologetics Department at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, where he has been since 1989. Dr. Edgar belongs to a number of learned societies, including the American Musicological Society, the Evangelical Theological Society, the American Historical Association and the Society for Ethnomusicology. His books include *Reasons of the Heart* (1996) and *The Face of Truth: Lifting the Veil* (2001). □

## Meet WJI's Chairman

Dr. John H. White is the vice chairman of the Board of Directors of God's World Publications, and chairman of the oversight committee of the World Journalism Institute. After earning a bachelor's degree from Geneva College in 1958, Dr. White graduated from the Reformed Presbyterian Seminary in 1961 and earned a Master's degree a year later from the University of Pittsburgh. In 1977, he graduated



White

from the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary with his doctorate in ministry. In 1992, Dr. White became the 18th president of Geneva College in Beaver Falls, Pa.

In addition to being chairman of the board of Westminster Theological Seminary, Dr. White has been a member of the Board of Administration of the National Association of Evangelicals since 1975. From 1994 to 1997, Dr. White was chairman of the board of World Relief Corporation. He is also a founding board member of the Coalition for Christian Outreach—an evangelical college and university outreach ministry serving on over 45 campuses in western Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia.

Dr. White is the author of two books: *The Book of Books* (1978) and *Slavery to Servanthood* (1987), and he has written articles for such periodicals as *Christianity Today*, *Decision*, *Eternity*, and *Tabletalk*. Dr. White has been married to his wife, Norma, since 1961. They have two grown daughters, one grandson and one granddaughter. Jack is nationally recognized as a church statesman and ambassador, and is clearly a leader in some of the most significant Christian endeavors in this country. □

## WJI: New Year Plans

We are gearing up for our January course, to be hosted by The Master's College in Santa Clarita, Calif. The course will run Jan. 5-17. Our faculty include:

- Lori Arnold (*Christian Times*)
- Skip Bayless (*San Jose Mercury News*)
- Carl Ellis (Project Joseph)
- Brian Godawa (screenwriter)
- Peter Jones (Westminster Theological Seminary)
- Jordan Lorence (Alliance Defense Fund)
- Jennifer Mahaffey (New Life Presbyterian Church)
- James Patterson (*The Indianapolis Star*)
- Roy Rivenburg (*Los Angeles Times*)
- Jack Simons (The Masters College)
- Lynn Vincent (*World* magazine)
- Dallas Willard (University of Southern California)
- Dan Wooding (ASSIST News Service). □

## Faculty Reflections

"World Journalism Institute students come ready to work and write. Their



motivation is a step ahead of many students I have taught over the years perhaps because they are working for the Lord, not just for editors."

—RUSS PULLIAM  
*The Indianapolis Star*

"WJI provides an opportunity for journalists to receive superb instruction



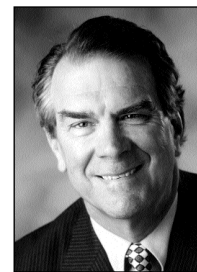
from some of the most gifted Christian specialists in the nation. There is no other place for Christian journalists to receive this type of instruction."

—ANTHONY BRADLEY  
Acton Institute

## Case in Point

*A Note from the Director*

The percentage of journalism graduates who found full-time employment was down 12 percent from 2001 and was the lowest in almost 10 years. Salaries for cub reporters also dropped dramatically from previous years. In 2001 there were approximately 38,000 graduates



Robert Case

from about 450 college journalism and communication departments. More 2001 grads took part time jobs than in recent years. The average salary of these new reporters was \$26,000 in

2001. Most interesting is the fact that in 2001, only 59 percent of those with BAs in journalism found a job in some field of communication. (*Communication* doesn't mean reporting; it could mean advertising, marketing, video, public relations or broadcasting.) WJI is blessed to be able to offer paid internships during such challenging times. □

—SOURCE: *Annual Survey of Journalism and Mass Communication Graduates*