

THE WJI TIMES OBSERVER

JANUARY 2004

THE VOICE OF THE WORLD JOURNALISM INSTITUTE

ASHEVILLE, N.C.



Students gathered for fellowship at the home of faculty member David Freeland.



Faculty member Dr. Michael Longinow shared advice about how to get that first job.

July Term in Asheville

The July 2003 term course was held July 5-25, at the headquarters of the institute in Asheville, N.C. Students from all over the country arrived and met for dinner and orientation at the home of the institute director, Dr. Robert Case.

Classes were held from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. with top-notch faculty sharing their experience and teaching subjects such as interviewing, journalistic grammar, radio news, photography, and newspaper design.

After giving instruction faculty members gave reporting and writing assignments.

Being with other like-minded students provided encouragement. Bethany Toews (Grove City College) said, "WJI was the first connection I had with other young people who shared my passions and my faith."

A closing dinner was held at the Renaissance Hotel. Students listened as Star Parker the Coalition on Urban Renewal and Education shared her story and challenged the students.

After leaving Asheville, students began the post-class reporting phase of the

course under the supervision of WJI faculty Les Sillars (Patrick Henry College), who, in the words of Loren

WJI 2004 COURSE SCHEDULE

African-American Conference

April 23-24 • Atlanta
Morehouse College

May Term

May 16-June 4 • Washington
Regent University

June Term

June 13-July 2 • New York
The King's College

July Term

July 11-30 • Los Angeles
Biola University

High-School Workshop

August 1-13 • Chattanooga
Covenant College

Paulsson, "helped me put shoe leather to all I learned."

July's faculty included: Julia Duin (*The Washington Times*); James Kurth (Swarthmore College); Russ Pulliam (*The Indianapolis Star*); Mindy Belz, Nick Eicher, Marvin Olasky, and David Freeland (*World* magazine); Anthony Bradley (Acton Institute); Bob Carey (Gardner-Webb University); William Dennison (Covenant College); Reggie Ecarma (North Greenville College); Michael Longinow (Asbury College); David McHam (University of Houston); Jeff Myers (Bryan College); Nancy Pearcey (WJI); Quentin Schultze (Calvin College); Karissa Taylor (King County deputy prosecutor); Nat Taylor (Ellis, Li and McKinstry); and Doug Trouten (Evangelical Press Association).

The fruit of WJI's July term can already be seen. Students have interned at papers including *The Enquirer Journal* (Monroe, N.C.), *New Ulm* (Minn.) *Journal*, and *Farm & Dairy* (Salem, Ohio).

Kristina Jergensen (Taylor University) has been hired by the *North Platte* (Neb.) *Telegraph*, and Ben Hoak (Kentucky Wesleyan College) was hired by the *Messenger-Inquirer* (Owensboro, Ky.). Bethel Barefoot (Appalachian State University) is working for *The Home News* (Marshville, N.C.).

Other July 2003 students are freelancing for the *St. Petersburg* (Fla.) *Times*, *Asheville* (N.C.) *Citizen-Times*, *Hattiesburg* (Miss.) *American*, *Lancaster* (Pa.) *New Era* and *Mankato* (Minn.) *Free Press*. □

WJI Grads

PAUL CHESSER

Paul Chesser (WJI, '99) is associate editor for the *Carolina Journal* and has done investigative reporting revealing government waste and abuse of power. Paul is a graduate of the University of Rhode Island.

Paul wrote a community column for the *Charlotte* (N.C.) *Observer* in 2002 and served as editor for *The Raleigh* (N.C.) *World* and *The Triad World* (Greensboro, N.C.). Paul's work has appeared in *WorldNetDaily*, *World*, *National Review Online*, *News & Observer* (Raleigh), and *News & Record* (Greensboro).

"WJI was a pivotal point in my life and gave me crucial insight and experience. As a result, I got my first full-time journalism job for a newspaper." □



Chesser

KRISTINA JERGENSEN

Four months ago Kristina Jergensen (WJI, '03) started out as a correspondent for the *North Platte* (Neb.) *Telegraph*. Two days after her first article ran, she was asked to join the staff full-time. At least six of her articles have been picked up by the Associated Press in Nebraska.

Kristina is a graduate of Taylor University with a B.A. in Spanish. She is a WJI Fellow.

Kristina writes, "I appreciate the writing training I received at WJI and the encouragement to aim high. I learned so much about writing, theology, and the importance of Christian influence in the media." □



Jergensen

JAMIE CORBETT

Jamie Corbett (WJI, '01) completed a 12-week editorial internship with the *Lexington* (Ky.) *Herald-Leader* in December.

She has recently received word of her acceptance to work in broadcasting at the Olympics in Athens, Greece, in August.

Jamie is a Fellow of the institute and will graduate from Asbury College in May with a degree in journalism and media communications.

She writes, "What a joy it is to talk to people all day long, hear their stories, get to know them and get paid to do it all. That's just one reward of doing what it is you feel God's called you to do." □



Corbett

JOY STODGHILL

Joy Stodghill (WJI, '03) received several national yearbook awards from the Baptist Press Excellence in Journalism Contest: 1st Place Color Sports Photography, 1st Place Best Overall for a Single Spread, 3rd Place for Portrait Spread Design, and 3rd Place for Sports/Clubs Design.

Joy is a junior at William Carey College in Hattiesburg, Miss., and a WJI Fellow. She has written for the *Hattiesburg American* and *Leatherneck* magazine and has served as an editor for the newspaper and yearbook at William Carey.

Joy said, "WJI taught me the importance of carrying my Christian worldview into the secular newsroom. The faculty filled us with such a fire for our careers that none of us will ever be the same again." □



Stodghill

WJI Board

KEVIN P. CUSACK

Kevin Cusack serves as treasurer for the board of directors of God's World Publications, Inc. He is a Managing Director with Oppenheimer & Co., Inc., and leads a team of 15 investment professionals offering a full range of investment services, including corporate finance and investment banking, private placements, stocks, bonds and qualified plans.

Cusack has been licensed in the securities industry since 1986, and is a member of the Profit Sharing Counsel of America. He currently manages approximately \$750 million for high net-worth individuals, corporations, and foundations and has advised on 401(k) retirement plans covering 90 corporations and totaling approximately \$1 billion.

Cusack is the chairman of Michigan Family Forum (a state family policy council affiliated with Focus on the Family and the Family Research Council), he serves on the board of directors of *World* magazine, and he advises Mackinac Center for Public Policy. He is currently a trustee of the Grand Valley State University Foundation. Cusack is a member of the Kent County 400 Club and attends Ada Bible Church.

A graduate of Grand Valley State University, Cusack pursued graduate work at Calvin College. He and his wife Meg have been married 23 years and have seven children. He and his family live in Grand Rapids, Michigan. □



Cusack

WJI TIMES OBSERVER

Institute Director: Robert Case
bcase@worldji.com

Editor: Kim Collins
kcollins@worldji.com

Telephone: (828) 232-5436

Website: www.worldji.com

WJI Activities

Baptist Press Journalism Conference

The institute set up a booth and gave away WJI booklets and books by WJI faculty to over 150 students and advisers who attended the third annual Baptist Press Journalism Conference held in Nashville last October. WJI staff attended workshops and met with keynoters such as Barbara Bradley Hagerty of NPR and other Christians in the media who teach for WJI.

National College Media Convention

In November, 2,500 students and advisers attended the National College Media Convention in Dallas, where they participated in workshops and attended keynote sessions by nationally known journalists. WJI had its exhibit at the convention for the first time, gave away copies of faculty speech booklets, and met with WJI faculty members.

High-School Workshop

WJI is preparing its first two-week high-school workshop to be held at Covenant College Aug. 1-13. Students will be taught by Christian journalists from major media outlets and will do the reporting, photography, and layout/design to produce a lab newspaper.

Push for Excellence

WJI is hosting a weekend conference for Christian African-American college journalists April 23-24 at Morehouse College in Atlanta. The institute has contracted with journalists from *The Washington Post*, *Charisma* and *The Indianapolis Star*, as well as Anthony Bradley (see p. 4) and Star Parker of the Coalition on Urban Renewal and Education.

New Staff

Kim Collins (Covenant College, '99) was hired in September as WJI's administrative assistant. Kim is a WJI Fellow and is a freelancer for the *Asheville Citizen-Times*. "Before coming to WJI as a student, I had high expectations for what I would learn, and those were exceeded in every way. It is exciting now to be a part of the important work of WJI." □

Case in Point

A Note from the Director



Dr. Henry talked with Robert Case at WJI's 1999 closing dinner.

Carl Henry Remembered

When Dr. Carl F.H. Henry died a month ago (Dec. 7, 2003) in his sleep, prominent evangelical Christians around the world rushed to eulogize him. His stature as evangelicals' most thoughtful and engaged spokesman demanded such a rush. In fact, just the opportunity to eulogize him somehow put one in his camp, which was enough motivation for most of us. Since Dr. Henry gave perhaps his last public presentation to the inaugural graduating class of WJI in August 1999*, I too want to put my oar in the water on behalf of Henry's legacy.

I have three personal reflections of my acquaintance with Henry:

- While at Covenant Seminary in the early '70s, I was required to read some of Henry's books. One day I casually asked my ethics professor David Jones why we had to read Henry. After all, he was just a journalist (*Christianity Today*, *Smithtown Star*, *New York Times*). Dr. Jones gently chided me by stating that Carl Henry was not just a journalist but a profoundly thoughtful Christian theologian, ethicist and apologist, and I would do well to study his thought.

- I took Jones's advice, and years later I had the opportunity (along with Robert Rayburn) to bring Dr. Henry out to Seattle/Tacoma for an extended period of public presentations. I cherish the photograph I have of the 80-year-old Henry bending over to whisper in the ear of my teenage daughter Karissa his advice to a young girl: "For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life. And who is adequate for these things?"

- When the institute began in 1998, we wanted to pronounce that it was a serious effort at engaging the journalistic culture with thoughtful, articulate, and warm-hearted Christian journalists. To put the exclamation point on this mission, Carl Henry was asked to keynote the closing banquet. He was in his late 80s and in constant back pain at the time. He had to fly all night from his home in Wisconsin to our outpost in Asheville. Yet he came. Always in awe of him, I asked him on our way to the airport why he would make such an arduous trek. He was almost offended that I didn't understand that as long as his God gave him breath he would minister until his glory.

The mission of WJI as expressed by me is largely taken from the mind of Carl Henry. You can find this on our website. □

**Dr. Henry's final speech, "Journalistic Truth in a Postmodern Age," is available free of charge upon request.*

WJI Faculty

Anthony Bradley

Anthony Bradley is a research associate at the Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty. He writes and speaks on the relationship between economics and theology in the areas of education, the environment, technology, international trade, effective compassion, and business. Bradley has degrees from Clemson University and Covenant Theological Seminary, where he is a visiting professor of systematic theology. He has written articles for *Presbyterion*, *World*, and the *Journal of Markets and Morality* and is completing a Ph.D. on Thomas Sowell at Westminster Theological Seminary. □



James Kurth

Dr. James Kurth teaches defense policy, foreign policy, and international politics at Swarthmore College. He holds degrees from Stanford University and Harvard, where he taught from 1967-1973. He has taught at Swarthmore since 1973. Dr. Kurth has been a visiting member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, and visiting professor of strategy at the U.S. Naval War College, where he was chairman of the Strategy and Campaign Department of the Center for Naval Warfare Studies and an adviser to the Chief of Naval Operations' Strategic Studies Group. □



Michael Longinow

Dr. Michael Longinow, professor in Asbury College's Department of Communication Arts is coordinator of the Asbury College Journalism Program where he advises an award-winning student newspaper. He is active in the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication and College Media Advisers, Inc., and is former president of the Association of Christian Collegiate Media. Mike is a former reporter for dailies in Chicago and Atlanta. He holds degrees from Wheaton College and the Universities of Illinois and Kentucky. □

