

SOJC Research Newsletter

June 2013



Senyo-Orfori-Parku has received an Oregon University System Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (SYLFF) award for international research for the 2013-14 academic year. The fellowship is very competitive, with only a small handful of recipients selected by graduate deans from PSU, OSU and UO. Senyo is the SOJC's first nominee to be selected. The SYLFF Fellowship will fund his dissertation research on risk perceptions and corporate sustainability communications related to offshore oil extraction in Ghana.

Ben Birkinbine, Jacob Dittmer, Gabriela Martinez, and Janet Wasko recently returned from a road trip to Vancouver, B.C., to attend Communication and Global Power Shifts, an International Conference in Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the School of Communication, Simon Fraser University. Ben presented a paper entitled, "Socio-Technical Communities of Practice: Open Source Software and Resistance to Audience Commodification."

Iris Bull will present a paper titled, "From Saloon and Into Space: A Critical Analysis of Feminine Identity in the Space Western Genre" at Console-ing Passions, an international conference on television, new media, and feminism in Leicester, UK, later this month.

Donna Davis and Willemien Calizt's article, "Finding Virtual Support: An Exploration of the Evolution and Efficacy of Healthcare Support Groups from the Physical to the Virtual World," has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Virtual Worlds Research*. Additionally, Donna's paper, "Exploring the Influence of Avatar Performance on Individuals with Parkinson's Disease," was accepted for a panel presentation at the Association of Internet Researchers annual international conference in October. Donna will be spending during the summer recruiting study participants and conducting virtual media use training in collaboration with UC Irvine Medical Center's Movement Disorder's program, University of Pennsylvania's Parkinson's and Movement Disorders program and University of Florida's Brain Institute.

Mary Erickson (Ph.D., 2010) will be conducting research at the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies archive at Western Washington University at the end of June, as part of a James W. Scott Fellowship. Her research will look at audiovisual media production in Whatcom County in Washington, with particular focus on the locally-operated TV station, KVOS. She has also been invited to contribute to *The Blackwell Companion to Indie Film*, edited by Geoff King (to be published in 2014).

Jeremiah Favara will be present his paper on media representations of celebrity transnational adoption called, "Global Mothers, Phantom Lives, and Transnational Adoption: A Case Study of

Angelina Jolie,” at Console-ing Passions in Leicester, England. He will also be presenting, “It's Not Science Fiction: Gender & Symbolic Militarisation in USAF Ads,” on the manoeuvring of military masculinity in US Air Force advertisements as part of a panel he organized on Media, Masculinities and Fantasy.

Jolene Fisher is the first-author (with **Toby Hopp**) of “Coverage of Human Trafficking in the Elite Press,” to be presented at AEJMC in August.

Melissa Hart will present workshops in essay and memoir writing at the Summer in Words Conference in Cannon Beach, and at the Willamette Writers Conference in Portland. Lyons Press has just purchased her third book, *Learning to Triangulate: A Romance, An Adoption, and a Baby Barred Owl*, for publication in Fall 2014.

Toby Hopp is the first author of two papers (with Harsha Gangadharbatla) to be presented at AEJMC in August: “The Novelty Effects of Augmented Reality Advertising” and “Development and Initial Test of a Technological Self-efficacy Scale.”

Jher will present a lecture at the National University of Ireland, Galway, later this month. He will be the invited discussant on the "Sound, Music & Audio/Radio Communications in Social Media Environment: Theoretical and Practical Perspectives" panel at the IAMCR conference in Dublin. In May, he presented a retrospective of his co-created work at the 2013 Open Engagement: Art & Social Practice conference. Oregon-based co-sponsors included: Portland State University, the Portland Art Museum (PAM), the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA), and the Museum of Contemporary Craft (MoCC).

Ammina Kothari (M.A. 2008) was awarded a seed grant from Rochester Institute of Technology to support her summer research field trip to Tanzania to conduct an exploratory study about use of cell phones and text messages for communicating health information. Her book chapter, “Media Constructed Muslim Identity: 1999 – 2009,” was published in *Identity and Communication: New Agendas in Communication* (eds., Dominic Lasorsa and America Rodriguez, Routledge). She will present a paper entitled “Web-Based HIV/AIDS Information: Potential for Effective Communication,” at the IAMCR conference in Dublin, as well as “Keeping HIV/AIDS Newsworthy: Ethical Dilemmas,” at the AEJMC conference in Washington, DC, August 8-11. She also organized a panel title, “Social Media and International News Reporting: Responses and Case Studies” for AEJMC.

Janet Kwami (Ph.D, 2010) was one of five members of the Furman University faculty to recently receive a special commendation for "work that significantly exceeds Furman's high standards for teaching, professional activity, and service." Janet is currently in Ghana doing National Science Foundation-funded research on how market women use technology.

Peter Laufer is returning to Oregon this summer after teaching SOJC students in Vienna spring term. This summer, Laufer will be completing research for his book on the provenance of so-called organic food products. While in Europe, he made a presentation at the Robert Bosch Foundation Alumni Association annual conference in Berlin. The RBFSA provided support for

the April SOJC radio conference, and further potential SOJC-RBFAA cooperation was discussed during the Berlin meeting.

Micky Lee's (Ph.D. 2004) article, "What Can Political Economists Learn from Economic Sociologists? A Case Study of NASDAQ," will be published in *Communication, Culture, and Critique*. Her co-authored conference paper (with Monika Raesch), entitled "'Money's a Bitch': Women, Gender, and the Financial Markets in Hollywood Films," was presented at the International Journal of Arts and Sciences, 4th Annual Boston Conference at Harvard University. Micky was also on the concluding roundtable at the Communication and Global Power Shifts conference at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC, on June 9.

Scott Maier will be in Vienna this month to report on his news accuracy research in presentations at the Austrian Press Council, the University of Vienna and at a leading Austrian newspaper. He also will join MediaAct, a 14-nation research consortium, in presentations at a European Union meeting in Brussels and the ICA conference in London.

Ed Madison and **Toby Hopp's** paper, "iPads and Tablet Acceptance by Educators: Technology Acceptance Model and K-12 Educators," will be presented at the AEJMC conference in Washington, D.C.

Mark H. Massé (M.S. 1994) recently presented research on the negative effects of extended immersion on literary journalists at the eighth annual conference of the International Association for Literary Journalism Studies (IALJS) at Tampere University, Finland. He is also pleased to announce that the Kindle (\$2.99) and paperback (\$14.99) editions of his second novel are now published. *Whatever Comes* is about an Irish-American author's sentimental fool's journey to find love and success in 1970s Cleveland.

Bryce Peake will be doing archival research in London, while attending ICA and Consoling Passions. Using research funding from his HASTAC Fellowship, he will be examining archived letters and papers in the Stuart Hall Library for historiographical research that recovers and re-centers feminists of color in the intellectual history of British cultural studies. He will also be visiting the National Archives to examine colonial radio, phonograph, and record distribution regulations as part of his dissertation on the entangled histories of listening, mass media, and British colonial masculinity in Gibraltar. On May 31-June 1, **Bryce** and Jenny Mendoza (Psychology) hosted Mara Mills (NYU), Sandra Trehub (University of Toronto), and other scholars from around the US, for Listen Up! A Conference on Sound & Technology, Gender & Ability. The event was lauded for both its interdisciplinarity and focus on emerging media issues around disability.

Carol Stabile, **Karen Estlund**, and **Bryce Peake** launched the second issue of *Ada: A Journal of Gender, New Media, and Technology* on June 1. Focused on Feminist Video Game Studies, the second issue has received over 5,000 pageviews, with the journal having been viewed over 60,000 times since its first issue in the Fall. In the coming months, the interview series, *Books Aren't Dead*, will appear on *Ada*, including **Staci Tucker's** interview with T.L. Taylor about her recent book *Raising the Stakes: E-sports and the Professionalization of Computer Gaming*. The

third issue of *Ada* on Feminist Science Fiction is currently under review, and will be published in Fall 2014.

David Staton is attending the VisCom 27 Conference, June 26-30, in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, to present a paper, "Joe Klamar's Furious Five Ring Circus." He will also attend the International Visual Methods Seminar, "Observing and Visualizing Urban Culture," at the University of Antwerp, Belgium, August 25-Sept. 3.

Leslie Steeves spent two weeks in Ghana in early spring, gathering information on project partnerships between the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Coalition of Muslim Organizations of Ghana (COMOG). The material is for a case study in the third edition of her book on development communication, co-authored with Srinivas Melkote. Her film, "Give a Laptop, Change the World: The Story of OLPC in Ghana," is almost finished. **André Sirois** (PhD, 2010) edited the film. After graduation, Leslie is departing to direct her annual Media in Ghana program, with 16 students participating this year, including two graduate students, **Leslie Howerton** and **Carson York**. **Ed Madison** is also participating. As in previous years, the students will contribute to a multimedia blog, initially created by **Sung Park**. See ghana.uoregon.edu.

Mickey Stellavato worked on Project MyVoice, a grant written by **Alina Padilla-Miller**, that connected J-School students with the community group "Autism Rocks." The undergrads showed their multimedia projects to a sold out crowd at the Bijou Cinema. Mickey also interviewed **Lauren Kessler** for *Books Aren't Dead*, the monthly podcast available on the Fembot website.

Janet Wasko contributed the introductory essay for the newly launched online journal, *Political Economy of Communications*, published by the Political Economy Section of the IAMCR. The essay traces the history of the section; the journal can be found at: available online at www.polecom.org She will moderate the IAMCR panel at ICA's conference in London, as well as participating in various ways in the IAMCR conference in Dublin. Later in the summer, she will attend the conference of INTERCOM, the Brazilian association for communication researchers, in Manaus, Brazil.

Kyu Ho Youm traveled to China, Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea, and Singapore on behalf of AEJMC in connection with his ongoing efforts to globalize AEJMC in May. During his trips to China and Singapore, he delivered lectures on American media law at the Communication University of China and the National University of Singapore. In Hong Kong, he gave a keynote speech at the comparative social media law and policy conference hosted by Hong Kong Baptist University and Tsinghua University of China.

Thanks to Kris Wright for assistance on this issue of the newsletter.

The ***SOJC RESEARCH NEWSLETTER*** is a semi-monthly electronic newsletter, announcing research and creative work by School of Journalism and Communication faculty and graduate students. The newsletter includes:

- publications • conference participation • awards, grants, fellowships
 - creative projects • community projects • theses, projects, dissertations • work-in-progress
 - other activities or achievements
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