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# Inside Journalism

Columbia College Chicago

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# Inside Journalism

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## Wallace speaks at Chicago conference

By Bob Chiarito

Mike Wallace, CBS news correspondent and co-editor of 60 Minutes, keynoted the 22nd annual Chicago Communications luncheon Nov. 13 at the Chicago Marriott. The luncheon benefits the Al Weisman Fund for Advancement of Communications at Columbia College.

In his hour-long speech, Wallace, considered by many to be the world's toughest interviewer, revisited much of what he was interviewed about in the December 1996 issue of Playboy magazine.

Wallace talked about working in Chicago, which he referred to as "his hometown," in the 1950s and 60s. He showed clips of "Night Beat," the famous interview show where Wallace first earned his reputation as the guy who isn't afraid to ask the tough questions. Wallace also showed clips from his 60 Minutes stories with liars, crooks and celebrities. Among the clips Wallace showed and talked about were interviews with Yasir Arafat, Malcolm X, Barbara Streisand and the Ayatollah Khomeini.

He also discussed how he gets his interview subjects "relaxed to the point that they'll level with me," showing many clips where he uttered the infamous



Mike Wallace speaks during the 22nd annual Chicago Communications luncheon.

words, "between you and me."

Sun-Times columnist Irv Kupcinet, Honorary Chair of the luncheon, took the podium to make comments about Wallace after Harriet Wilson Ellis of the National Equal Justice Library, Columbia President John Duff and Tony Weisman, son of the late Al Weisman, welcomed the crowd, which was composed of Chicago Communications mem-

bers and Weisman Scholars from Columbia.

WBBM-TV investigative reporter Pam Zekman introduced Wallace, whom she called her mentor and recalled working with on a story in the 1970s.

The Weisman Scholarship was established in 1974 in memory of Al Weisman to provide project grants to communications students from Columbia College.

In its 22-year history, the Weisman Scholarships have provided more than \$500,000 for Columbia College students. This year's Weisman Scholarship recipients were Ronit Bezalet, Lisa Cargill, Eric Chao, Michael Costello, Scott Dawson, Elena Diadenko, Bernard Dixon, Jr., Laurel Falls,

Andrew Farrell, Arthur Franz, Tom Fraterrigo, Wendy Greene, Gina Grillo, Rosalie Har-El, Duane Hlavka, Natasha Hollins, Marlon Hubbard, Elyn Koentopp, Irina Kruk, Rise Larson, Adam Mikos, Leah Missbach, Michael Moylan, Nathan Muggy, Bogdan Nastase, Mary Novak, Birgit Rathsmann, Donna Schudel, Sabatino Stefanile, Todd Voigt, Kathleen Walsh-Grant, Jacqueline Weissman, Shelley White, Claude Willey, Jr., Sam Wright and Elain Wyder-Harshman.

Chicago Communications is a nonprofit alliance of more than 40 professional organizations from the Chicago area that gather each year to discuss significant issues and benefit deserving students.

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Constance Hall



Clare LaPlante



Ann-Christe Young

## 3 for 1 equals positive program

By Rachel Woods

Introduction to Magazine Editing received a face lift this semester. The class is now being taught by three instructors rather than one. The catalyst for the change was the original instructor, Robert Sharoff, who decided to leave Columbia to become the senior editor for Builder magazine.

Scott Fosdick, director of the magazine program, found it easier to hire three part-time teachers than one. The result is a fresh approach to the class with three experienced editors who are currently working in the field.

Connie Hall, Ann-Christe Young, and Clare LaPlante agree that by teaching the class they have found their careers more interesting.

"I am learning more about my own business from the textbook—it makes it more interesting," said Connie Hall, copy editor for Chicago magazine. Hall has been the top copy editor at Chicago for 16 years. Before her work at Chicago, Hall taught English at a high school in Missouri and later became a literacy tutor.

"Teaching this class gives me a chance to learn what kids are interested in today. I can help students so they won't make the same mistakes I made," Hall said.

Ann-Christe Young, a graduate of Columbia's graduate journalism program in public affairs reporting, is an assistant editor for *U.S. Catholic* magazine. "I hope to sway people into editing as a career," she said.

Young hopes her students will "have an editorial eye and be sticklers for detail" after taking the class.

Clare LaPlante is a freelance journalist who previously worked for *Your Money* magazine. "I hope to gain knowledge about Columbia's students and the classes they attend," LaPlante said.

She has taught in the Adult Continuing Education program at Columbia, and she has taught a news reporting and writing course at Roosevelt University. LaPlante hopes that her students will "have the ability to generate good ideas, critique their own work and put together good magazine articles."

Each week, the class analyzes

a different magazine, reviews textbook material and completes in-class assignments. The three instructors alternate, which allows the students to have a fresh atmosphere for learning each week.

The overall class response has been positive to the new format. "Each class is a completely different experience. You actually look forward to working with trained professionals," said Tracy Malecki, a junior and a journalism major.

"I feel three different teachers give three different views. This is definitely a positive experience because we focus on different ideas," said Karyn McElroy, a junior.

One adjustment suggested by some members of the class was that more of the textbook material be implemented into the curriculum. When asked what she would like to see changed in the class, Sally Stege-

man, a senior, suggested that the class be more organized but retain the same format.

Judging from the responses of Introduction to Magazine Editing students, the new format has been accepted as a great way to teach the class.

"Courses change or atrophy," Fosdick believes. "Team teaching is a good way to inject varied perspectives. It works for this course because it is designed to be an introduction to the wild and wonderful world of magazines." Hall, LaPlante and Young will return to teach the course next semester.

### Inside Journalism

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Managing editor    | Carolyn Otto                                    |
| Art director       | Peter M. Verniere                               |
| Features editor    | Bob Chiarito                                    |
| Staff writers      | Roumiana Bankova<br>Jesse Lebus<br>Rachel Woods |
| Faculty advisor    | Scott Fosdick                                   |
| Production advisor | Omar Castillo                                   |

**Inside Journalism** is a student publication. The design was conceived by Carolyn Otto and Peter M. Verniere.

# What it takes to work overseas

By Roumiana Bankova

Foreign correspondence is an exciting and adventurous career option in journalism for international and bilingual American students. But what does it take to become a foreign correspondent, and what is it like to be one?

First, knowledge of the country's language is necessary. Then, one should research and know what to expect when going there, even though one could never predict what might happen. One must have basic knowledge of the country's economy, politics, people, and currency; of arrangements for accommodations; and of other basic information. There are numerous journalism clubs for foreign correspondents in the United States. The global network of working professionals is always beneficial. There will be veterans with vast knowledge of the country you are about to visit, and they will tell you what to expect, what to do and what not to do.

One of these clubs is the Overseas Press Club of America, located at 320 E. 42nd Street, New York, tel.: (212) 983-4655. The Overseas Press Club (OPC) was founded in 1939. It is a professional society of journalists with overseas experience including correspondents, editors, reporters, photographers, free-lance writers and authors of published books on foreign affairs. It maintains reciprocal privileges with numerous press clubs in the U.S. and abroad. Every year the OPC gives out awards for excellence in international coverage in 17 categories. Separately from the OPC, the OPC Foundation awards six scholarships of \$1,000 each.

"Let's not limit ourselves to America," said Rose

Economou, a journalism faculty member. "Students think that they become journalists at the time they graduate. No, they become journalists as they get published. Sure, they will continue to be learning journalism. We have to be networking now, internationally."

Rose Economou first encountered the OPC when she was doing research for a book on foreign affairs programming for the Counsel on Foreign Relations in New York City.

"Basically, there should be more international stories," said Economou. "We are all interrelated in terms of economics. All students should be concerned because, when you graduate, your ability to get a job is going to be determined by the international market place. We have a vested interest in finding out more about what's going on in the world."

In 1994, Economou recommended Atria Rai, an international student in broadcast journalism from Indonesia, for a summer internship in Washington D.C., with Temple Magazine. Unfortunately, the magazine closed down, but, instead, Rai found an internship in Indonesia with a local TV station. While there, she applied for a job as a reporter at two different TV stations. She came back to Chicago to finish her last semester, and at that time she received letters of acceptance from both TV stations. Her advice for international students: "During summer break, take an internship. Don't hurry to go home. Rai was able to

spend a summer interning in London with NBC and BBC, where she broadcasted five-minute feature stories. Rai



Rose Economou

wished she had learned and done more field reporting in school.

Virginie Malingre, a French journalist writing for LeMonde, was covering the International affairs beat recently with the Chicago Tribune as a part of a six week scholarship program. She said that the abundance of data in the U.S., as well as the network of people, help in finding any information that one wants. One of the difficulties, she said, is when people do not return phone calls.

Malingre talked about France and its economy, the newspaper Le Monde and the politics inside it. In France, she said, one does not have to have a higher degree in journalism to work as a journalist. Her employment history includes working in a bank for four years, but she realized she was unhappy and quit. After some unemployment and the help of a friend, she applied as a journalist for Le Monde.

Malingre liked Chicago, but she could not understand why people asked her if there were microwaves in France, or TVs or refrigerators. Jokingly, she responded with, believe it or not, yes, there were, since there'd been electricity for the last two weeks...

Malingre was invited as a guest in Economou's freshman seminar. Part of this class' curriculum was to recognize and avoid stereotypical thinking in our society and even beyond the American society. One of the first things the students asked her was whether French people are really rude and

arrogant toward Americans. Malingre was puzzled, but she explained that nationalism in France does not rule much more than it does in America. On the question of what Europeans really think of Americans she said:

"We are jealous of the American economy. Some 3.5 million Europeans are unemployed, people are scared, and nobody buys anything. We look at the American economy, and we say, 'Wow, how do they do that?' You are very practical," Malingre said. "The other thing is that we tend to think Americans do not know anything outside of America. I am very surprised when I read the newspapers here and when I watch TV, but people look amused. So maybe we are arrogant in that way, that we assume Americans do not know anything, which is wrong. I am sure."

# Fischetti and politics mix well

Editorial cartoonist Jimmy Margulies (New Jersey Record and King Features/North America Syndicate) and Chan Lowe (Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel and Tribune Media Services) are the first and second-place winners respectively in the 15th annual Fischetti Editorial Cartoon Competition sponsored by Columbia College Chicago.

Margulies' winning cartoon castigates Jesse Helms for the hypocrisy of his stand against AIDS research funding juxtaposed against his relationship with the tobacco industry lobbyists.

Lowe's entry depicts a resident of an Indian reservation musing over the irony of the congressional debate vs. illegal immigration.

Margulies received \$3,000 for his cartoon and Lowe received \$1,500 for his cartoon, and both were honored at a November 1 luncheon for the Fischetti Endowment. The cartoons were chosen from more than 300



The first place Fischetti cartoon by Jimmy Margulies.

entries of 110 cartoonists.

The competition annually honors individuals whose work is judged to be representative of

the best being done by professional editorial cartoonists in the U.S. and Canada. It is open to any salaried staff, syndicated

or regularly published cartoonist whose work appears in a daily or weekly newspaper or regularly published periodical.



Mystery man from the journalism department.

## Who is this man?

Can you figure out who this man is? There are clues in the picture that can help. He works in the journalism department and sometimes spends more time in the office than the teachers. The answer will be in the next issue.

## Thank You!

Hey, thanks for your contributions to the newsletter. We appreciate your story ideas. Keep them coming. Put them in the Inside Journalism mailbox in the J-Dept. Remember there's only one issue left this semester, so please get your ideas in!