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A portrait of Susan Conroy McLeod, a woman with shoulder-length blonde hair, smiling. She is wearing a dark blazer over a purple ruffled top. The background is a blurred office setting with bookshelves.

FORWARD MOTION

SUSAN CONROY MCLEOD (IMC14) KEEPS PACE WITH THE DIGITAL MARKETING EVOLUTION

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MEDILL REMEMBERS ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EMERITUS ROBERT MCCLORY



YOU LEARN. WE PAY.

Looking to enhance your media skills or learn to tell better stories with multimedia tools? Medill will award full scholarships to qualified alumni for continuing education at **The Poynter Institute for Media Studies**, in St. Petersburg, Florida, and Poynter.org.

Applications will be considered and awards will be given for both on-campus and online courses offered by Poynter.

www.medillpoynterscholarships.com.

Medill Media Teens and mentors: Back row (L to R), Katherine Mirani (BSJ15), Carlin McCarthy (BSJ17), Marcus Jackson, Lawrence Wilk-Rodgers, Damien Gonzalez; Front row (L to R), Markela Moore, Allison Shapiro (BSJ16)



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FIRST LOOK: MEDILL MEDIA TEENS

Lecturer Sarahmaria Gomez (BSJ05) and Northwestern undergrads teach and inspire high schoolers through multimedia journalism.



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Susan Conroy McLeod (IMC14) propels further into the digital marketing era.

COVER PHOTO BY NATHAN WEBER

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A look into the varied work lives of five alums in the Emerald City.



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Visual storyteller

Amina Ismail (MSJ15) reporting in Cairo's Tahrir Square while Egyptian security forces clashed with protesters in August 2011.

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Living out loud

Spanning five continents over 60 years, Medill alum Pat Phillips (BSJ54) and her adventures reporting medical and science news.



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Career coach

Pranav S. Ramanathan's (IMC10) diverse career lands him in a role he relishes: at Coacharya.

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Dual citizen

Author and expat Harriet Welty Rochefort (MSJ69) finds herself at home in The City of Light.

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Honoring Bob McClory

A tribute to the journalist, author, and beloved Medill associate professor emeritus.

LETTER
FROM THE
DEAN

Bradley J. Hamm
Dean

Medill is a top-tier school with tremendous opportunities and challenges. As leaders of Medill, we aim to:

- Build the strongest foundation for the school's future through financial aid for students, support for a world-class faculty and new and renovated facilities.
- Create unique, important programs that keep our teaching, service and research at the forefront of the field.
- Become the thought leader on crucial issues, specializations and strategy.
- Attract the best students and faculty of any school of our kind in the world.

We are making tremendous progress, and I want to update you on some new developments. We'll share more information in future issues of this magazine.

A new Fisk Hall: Our construction plans are nearly set for the complete renovation of this historic space starting in summer 2017 with completion in two years. Northwestern President Morty Schapiro and the facilities team promise a new version of Fisk Hall that will restore the Daniel Burnham building to its original grandeur. If you've seen the recent restorations on campus, you will understand our excitement about what the future will bring.

We are thinking in an ambitious way about designing a third Medill building to link Fisk Hall and McCormick. The new building would face Lake Michigan and house the modern learning and digital lab spaces necessary for our future excellence.

San Francisco: We are very close to signing a lease along with the McCormick School of Engineering for a West Coast presence. Our San Francisco program will be open to undergraduate and graduate students starting in winter and spring 2016, which coincides with the 50th anniversary of the start of Medill's D.C. program.

Our goal is to be the first, and most significant, school at the center of innovation and technology combined with journalism, media and integrated marketing communications. Medill's presence in San Francisco, Chicago and D.C. will be unmatched.

The D.C. program established Medill as a national school and leader in political journalism and communications with hundreds of alumni now working at top D.C. outlets. I believe the San Francisco presence will be just as transformative over the next decade.

The University Fundraising Campaign: Our focus is to provide the resources necessary to support our students, faculty, and facilities and ensure that Medill is the top school of its kind in the world. So far, we have raised nearly \$35 million toward our \$60 million goal — as we approach the campaign halfway point in September 2015. Last year, we raised a record \$14.7 million.

These funds have provided for undergraduate financial aid, graduate fellowships, the Spiegel Research Center, National Security Journalism, the Medill Justice Project and life-changing student experiences such as study abroad. We are grateful for the support our alumni and friends have shown for Medill's priorities.

As we move toward Medill's centennial in 2021, I am confident we are positioned to accomplish these important goals and set up Medill for an incredible future.

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Unlike a business degree

IMC

IS ALL ABOUT

understanding

the customer and
applying the insights.

JEFF HAN (IMC97)

GENERAL MANAGER OF
MARKETING, VIDEO CONTENT
CO-OP, AND E. CHINA FMCG
SALES, ONLINE MEDIA GROUP
AT TENCENT



MEDILL NEWS

Medill announced the 2015 Hall of Achievement inductees and hosted a special event May 14 at the Chicago History Museum. The 2015 honorees are: **David Barstow (BSJ86)**, **Patricia L. Blackburn, (BSJ74, MSJ76)**, **George R. R. Martin (BSJ70, MSJ71)**, **Jack Modzelewski (MSJ80)**, **James Risen (MSJ78)** and **Nancy Utley (BSJ77, MSJ78)**. Full story can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/pbxtsuj>.

Leading national sports journalists **Christine Brennan (BSJ80, MSJ81)** of USA TODAY and **Michael Wilbon (BSJ80)** of ESPN will join the faculty as professors of practice as part of the school's new sports journalism graduate program. Both will work out of the Washington newsroom and will contribute regularly to classes, projects and events on the Evanston and Chicago campuses.

The Medill Justice Project (MJP) won three of the competitive Peter Lisagor Awards, which were presented by the Chicago Headline Club on May 8. For their coverage of wrongful convictions, MJP won in the categories: Best Feature Story or Series (Online); and Best Investigative Reporting (All Media). MJP also won for Best Deadline Reporting (All Media) for their coverage of Jennifer Del Prete's release from prison.

The Medill Justice Project also won a Sigma Delta Chi Award from the Society of Professional Journalists. MJP was honored in the Independent/Deadline Reporting category (Online) for their coverage of Jennifer Del Prete's release from prison.



Christen Johnson (BSJ16)
and honoree **Mara Brock Akil (BSJ92)**

At the annual NAA Awards in Chicago on April 25, Medill alumna **Mara Brock Akil (BSJ92)** received an Alumni Merit Award from the Northwestern Alumni Association. Brock Akil is the writer, creator and producer of several hit television series, including "Being Mary Jane," now shooting its third season on BET; "Girlfriends," which ran for eight years on UPN and The CW; and the "Girlfriends" spinoff "The Game," which finishes its history-making run with 147 episodes and nine seasons on The CW and Black Entertainment Networks.

The Medill National Security Journalism Initiative (NSJI) has been elected to membership in the Global Investigative Journalism Network, an international association of nonprofit organizations that support, promote and produce accountability and watchdog reporting.



WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENTS' ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

MSJ students **Grace Eleyae (MSJ15)**, **Ezra Kaplan (MSJ15)** and **Noor Wazwaz (MSJ15)** each received \$5,000 scholarships from the White House Correspondents' Association (WHCA) and attended the dinner on April 25 in Washington. The WHCA, whose mission is to promote journalism education, provides scholarships to 16 worthy college students, while also funding programs for hundreds more in local D.C. high schools through our partnership with Prime Movers Media.

By Jasmine Rangel Leonas

STUDENT REPORTING PROJECT ADDED TO U.S. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM COLLECTION

A summer reporting project that sent Medill graduate journalism students to Germany to record personal stories and testimonies has been added to the collection of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) in Washington.

The Memory Archives project was created through a collaboration between students from Medill and HAW Hamburg School of Design, Media and Arts in the summer of 2014. The students tracked dozens of Holocaust survivors and their family members in Chicago and Hamburg, Germany, and recorded their testimonies in text, video and audio. The project, now available through the museum's digital collection, can be accessed at the museum's library or through the online catalog.

Keeping records of events from more than 70 years ago becomes increasingly difficult as the years pass.

"We're in a race against time to record as many Holocaust testimonies as possible, but we can't reach everyone, so we are always grateful for donations of collections like The Memory Archives," says James Gilmore, archives specialist in oral history at USHMM.

The museum has worked with students to collect oral histories, but this is the first time student journalists have conducted the interviews.

"Since the students are journalists, they understand the different protocols with interviewing," Gilmore says. "There's a line you have to walk between sensitivity to the interviewee and objectivity to the subject matter. They're more familiar with that kind of methodology."

Nearly 90 percent of the museum's oral history collection is available online. Since 1989, the Oral History Branch of the USHMM



(L-R) Medill students Michael Smith (MSJ14) and Jesse Kirsch (BSJ17) and HAW Hamburg School of Design, Media and Arts students Jan Schacht and Markus Günther worked together to capture Holocaust survivor stories.

PHOTO BY ANNE EVANS (MSJ14)

has collected about 15,000 interviews. Medill's recent addition to the collection adds more survivor testimony to reinforce the larger goal of the museum.

"We hope this broad accessibility through our online catalog will help play a role in Holocaust studies and in fighting Holocaust denial and anti-Semitism today," Gilmore says.

STUDENT NEWS

Yu Sun Chin (BSJ15) will receive the prestigious NPR Kroc Fellowship dedicated to developing "a new generation of extraordinary radio journalists." Chin will spend a year being trained by NPR editors in all aspects of radio journalism, including on-air reporting, web writing, story editing and multimedia production. The fellowship, which is funded by a donation from the late Joan Kroc, wife of former McDonald's CEO Ray Kroc, is established to identify and develop the radio talents of remarkable upcoming journalists. Kroc fellows are awarded a stipend of \$40,000 including benefits and a paid vacation. They are also assisted in job placement and granted professional guidance by NPR.

Congratulations to **Omar Jimenez (BSJ15)**, who placed second nationally out of 66 entries in the Hearst television news category. Jimenez wins \$2,000 and is one of 10 students to advance to the semi-finals of the broadcast competition.

Steven Goldstein (BSJ15) placed sixth nationally in the Hearst profile writing category and **Christina Cala (BSJ14)** placed 17th nationally in the multimedia enterprise category.

Knight Lab student fellows **Alex Duner (BSJ17)** and **Anne Li (BSJ16)** were featured in an American Journalism Review article on how tech-savvy journalism students view innovation. Li called for greater use of Google Spreadsheets in newsrooms, particularly when integrated with software such as Tarbell, which was developed in part by the Knight Lab's Heather Billings. Duner called for greater use of reusable interactive tools.

By Noah Fromson (BSJ17)

TEACHING TEENS TO BE JOURNALISTS

When Medill Media Teens began in 2010, Sarahmaria Gomez (BSJ05), Medill lecturer and director of the program, could fit all of Medill's undergraduate mentors in her Honda CR-V as they drove downtown to teach journalism to Chicago teens. The undergraduates trained students from Chicago's Greater Grand Crossing neighborhood in basic journalism skills.

Now, in the fifth year of the program, Gomez guides a group of 30 high school students and 32 Medill undergraduates. The teens are no longer taught just the basics; they now learn advanced print and multimedia skills in two years.

"We all come to class for three hours, eight weeks out of each semester for two years, which is a big chunk of time," Gomez says. "But [the teens] walk away with nice portfolios and learn how to shoot and edit multimedia stories."

Over the course of the program, mentors help students conduct interviews, learn editing software, and craft print and multimedia stories that they publish to a class website. The main focus of Medill Media Teens is to help students realize their overall academic capabilities, Gomez says.

"We don't want to force them to be journalists," she says. "The point is to realize potential and become successful college students. We have a 100 percent high school graduation rate among students, and almost 90 percent are involved in some type of college or postgraduate education, which is an incredible achievement."

Students are placed in groups of two or three with two undergrad mentors assigned to each group. High schoolers Marcus Jackson, Lawrence Wilk-Rodgers and Damien Gonzalez are all in a group together and have very different plans for the future. Jackson likes

radio broadcast, and Wilk-Rodgers wants to be a filmmaker like Martin Scorsese. Gonzalez is still unsure what he wants, but says the writing and social skills will carry over not only to journalism, but also to any career path.

"Whatever I do will be helped by my experiences here," Gonzalez says. "Whether it's being comfortable approaching strangers and professionals, or writing and editing pieces, I can apply any of these skills to my future."

Because the groups typically stay the same for both years, students and mentors get to know each other very well, says Gomez.

"It's an eye-opening experience for all parties involved because you can see how the mentors' and teens' perceptions change," she says. "The first day, you could hear a pin drop. But halfway through the first semester, they all got so close."

For Diamond Delay, her mentor Julia Jacobs (BSJ18) is more like a big sister.

"We always FaceTime. She tells me about what to expect from college life," Delay says. "But more than that, somebody likes who I am and she helps me feel comfortable being myself."

Carlin McCarthy (BSJ17) has been a mentor for two years and enjoys working with her group so much that she comes on her off-weeks as well. McCarthy says watching her group graduate from the program will be hard because of the bond they've developed.

"We've been in each other's lives for two years, and you just can't drop that off," she says of the relationships made. "There is no doubt in my mind we will keep in touch. I believe in them. It's so important that they know that these two years meant so much to us, and hopefully, as much as it meant to them."

As part of the program, the high school students use Mac laptops. If they successfully complete Medill Media Teens with no more than two unexcused absences, the laptops are theirs to keep.

Many of the Medill Media Teens say Gomez's guidance sticks with them. Jackson says her combination of "lovin'-touchin' feelings" and encouragement to stick to responsibilities make her "like a mother to us."

Delay says Gomez is the reason she is going to major in early childhood education or social work when she goes to college.

"Sarahmaria got a group of kids from the South Side and got them together," Delay says. "Now I'm friends with people I never knew I'd be friends with, and it's that family bond we have that makes me want to show [other kids] the ways to [achieve that] bond."

Gomez says a particularly poignant moment happened at the end-of-year ceremony in May 2014. One teen spoke about how much she loved the program and how it changed her life. After, the girl's mother approached Gomez to tell her she couldn't believe that her daughter, who usually gave one-word answers and was an introvert at home, gushed about her love for the program in front of a crowd.

Reflecting on what Medill Media Teens means to her, Gomez is emotional.

"There is something about this program that brings out the best in everyone that is involved—it brings out the best in me," she says, as she wipes away a tear. "We work hard and spend time together, and the students produce top notch work. It changes the lives of everyone involved, and that is evident from people who see the program in action."



In front (L-R) high-school students Lawrence Wilk-Rodgers, Marcus Jackson, Damien Gonzalez, and standing, lecturer Sarahmaria Gomez (BSJ05)

NOAH FROMSON (BSJ17) IS A SOPHOMORE BROADCAST MAJOR FROM CLEVELAND, OHIO. ON CAMPUS, HE PRODUCES AND REPORTS FOR THE NORTHWESTERN NEWS NETWORK AND LEADS REFORM SERVICES AT THE FIEDLER HILLEL CENTER.

STUDENT NEWS

Timeline JS, a timeline building tool created by the Knight Lab, was featured in news coverage that garnered the (Torrance, California) Daily Breeze the 2015 Pulitzer Prize in Local Reporting. The tool helped the Daily Breeze tell the story of the local school superintendent's outside salary and was mentioned in a letter by the executive editor to the Pulitzer judges. This is the second time Timeline JS was used in a Pulitzer-winning story. The Denver Post used the tool in 2013 in their award-winning coverage of a movie theater shooting in Aurora, Colorado.

The Northwestern News Network's newscast of the 2014 election won the Bronze Emmy at the 36th Annual College Television Awards April 23 in Los Angeles. **Gabrielle Ake (BSJ16)**, **Orko Manna (BSJ16)**, **Catherine Reid (BSJ15)** and **Sharon Yoo (BSJ15)**, who worked on the newscast, attended the awards ceremony and previously participated in two days of leadership workshops and seminars with industry leaders.

FACULTY NEWS



From left: Valerie Plame and Mary Coffman

Associate Professor Emerita **Mary Coffman** interviewed former CIA covert operations officer Valerie Plame April 19 at the AAUW New Mexico state convention in Santa Fe. The hour-long interview before a live audience focused on Plame's transition to becoming an author, her involvement in anti-nuclear proliferation group, Global Zero, her support of Hillary Clinton for president, as well as her life in the CIA.

IMC Professor **Kalyan Raman's** paper, titled "Age-related Striatal BOLD changes without changes in Behavioral Loss Aversion," co-authored with 14 others, has been accepted for publication in the journal "Frontiers in Human Neuroscience." Another paper, written by Raman four years ago, remains in the top 20 on biomedcentral.com. That paper was on brain dynamics and was written for Raman's second Ph.D., which was in electrical engineering.

Assistant Professor **Brent Huffman** was awarded the prestigious Abu Rayhan Biruni Award at the Ahvaz International Science Film Festival in Iran for his documentary film "Saving Mes Aynak." The documentary follows the fight to save an archaeological site in Afghanistan from destruction. The film was screened at the Full Frame Documentary Film Festival in Durham, North Carolina, the American Documentary Film Festival in Palm Springs, California, the Vera Film Festival in Aland, Finland, and the Millennium International Documentary Film Festival in Brussels.

Assistant Professor **Stephanie Edgerly's** research paper, titled "Sparking interest, modeling consumption: A contingency model for youth news socialization," was named a "Top Paper" in the Children, Adolescents, and Media division of the International Communication Association (ICA). The award was presented during the ICA annual conference May 21-25 in Puerto Rico.

On Feb. 20, Professor **Loren Ghiglione** spoke on the following topics: the treatment of American Indians by Northwestern founder, John Evans; the recommendations of the university's John Evans Study Committee from May 2014; and the recent recommendations of the university's Native American Outreach and Inclusion Task Force, on which he also served.



Associate Professor **Peter Slevin** did two readings and Q&As on his new book, "Michelle Obama: A Life," in the Medill Washington Newsroom on April 14 and in Evanston on April 21. His book traces the First Lady's rise from Chicago's South Side to the White House, exploring the decisions she made along the way.



1. Panelists, from left to right: Christina Bryza (BSJ05), Marysue Rucci (WCAS92), Maria Murnane (MSJ93); Sally Slater (BSJ10); Whitney Frick (WCAS06) and Renee Zuckerbrot (COMM86)

2. From left, Sharon Coleman (BSJ80) and Aaliyah El-Amin

3. From left, Sneh Naik (BSJ09), James Sowell (WCAS10) and Brian Aston

Medill Club of NY Publishing Panel - April 20



Medill Club of SoCal Board Luncheon - Feb. 14

4. From left to right, back row: Maria Iacobo (MSJ84); Tajuana Bates (BSJ03); Belinda Clarke (MSJ94); Victor Chi (BSJ91); Lindsay Claiborn (MSJ06); front row Ann Lee (MSJ07) and Jonathan Lababit (MSJ12)





5. From left, Hema Padhu (IMC98) and Sharon Paravastu (BSJ13, IMCCert13)

IMC in SFO alumni reception - March 19



6. From left to right, Lecturer Marty Kohr, Alli Goldstein (IMC03), Associate Professor Tom Collinger and Rei Damond (current IMC student)

Northwestern Club of Atlanta at CNN- April 23



7. From left, Omar Jimenez (BSJ15), Derrick Ogletree and Kelsey Ogletree (MSJ11) at the Medill reception in Atlanta



8. Associate Professor Rachel Davis Mersey talks to members of the Northwestern Club of Atlanta

THANK YOU

Medill alumni hosted students in their homes, or at restaurants, as part of Northwestern Alumni Association's Dinner with 12 Strangers program. The program gives students a chance to connect with fellow students, alumni and faculty over a casual meal. Medill recognizes the following alumni for their participation.

Derrick Blakley (BSJ75)
Frank Corrado (MSJ66)
Susanna Forstner (BSJ04)
Stefanie Groner (BSJ13)

Deborah Harvey (IMC01)
Margaret Reitz (BSJ80)
Richard Turner (BSJ62)



There aren't many places like this Pacific Northwest city where one view holds a stunning skyline and a snow-capped volcano. "I love living in Seattle because it is the perfect combination of comfortable weather, easygoing people and some of the most beautiful mountain backdrop landscapes in the world," says Scott Russell (IMC03). But Seattle's beauty is just the beginning. With its tech industry, food culture, and memorable landmarks, it is one of the most vibrant places to live and work. **Angela Kwan (MSJ09)** talks to Russell and four other grads about their careers in the Emerald City and how Medill prepped them for their roles.



KJERSTIN WOOD | MSJ14
**ADVOCATE ENGAGEMENT
MANAGER**
HEALTH ADVOCACY STRATEGIES

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO THIS POSITION?

This job is all about sharing patients' stories in order to advance human health. We keep patients at the heart of everything we do and try to connect them with companies we work with. Clients vary from pharmaceuticals to biotech.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE?

I was nervous about learning the privacy laws and HIPAA, but there's a great support system in place for learning. There are all these rules you have to follow to protect patient information, and you have to learn to be creative within those rules. I love a good challenge.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT WORKING IN HEALTHCARE?

Healthcare touches everyone's life. People are so grateful for a device or medicine because it improved their lives, and you're helping them help others. The ripple effect is really amazing.



WHAT WAS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MEDILL EXPERIENCE?

I did a long-form written piece about a Northwestern student, her mother, and grandfather, who is a Holocaust survivor. The grandfather lived in Hamburg, Germany, and his family was taken as part of the mass deportation to the Minsk Ghetto in Belarus. I got to visit his childhood home in Germany. It's one thing to interview someone, but it's an entirely different thing to stand outside a home that Nazis invaded. He is no longer alive. I got to be a part of history, and I helped preserve his story. No matter what is going on politically, he still deserves to be remembered.





STACEY DEDDO (NÉE MAJERS) | MSJ99

LOCALIZATION WRITER/EDITOR

NINTENDO OF AMERICA INC.

SO, WHAT EXACTLY DOES A LOCALIZATION WRITER/EDITOR DO?

Nintendo develops most of its video games in Japan. When we bring a game to the U.S., I take the translated text and make it culturally appropriate for an English-speaking American audience. I localize jokes and instructions. We take the rough translation and polish it for our audience. That's what makes Nintendo games so funny and charming.

WHAT'S ONE OF THE BEST PARTS OF YOUR JOB?

Coming up with the names of the characters is such a fun challenge. The name of the main character can't be too common or too hard to pronounce.

YOU'VE SPENT A LOT OF TIME IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY. WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO BREAK INTO THAT SPACE?

You don't have to be super special—you just need to be persistent. You need to go where the industry is. I saved up a few thousand dollars, drove to L.A., and got a low-paying job as a production assistant for a TV show. Once you're in, you can work your way up by being clever, fun, funny and nice.

HOW HAS MEDILL CONTRIBUTED TO YOUR SUCCESS?

Medill gave me confidence to talk to the right people. For instance, I got to interview Yasser Arafat when I was working at Reuters in Paris (through Global Residency). He only wanted to answer questions in English, and none of the other reporters spoke fluent English, so I got to ask him a few questions.

SCOTT RUSSELL | IMC03

DIRECTOR OF MEDIA

HOTWIRE

WHAT DOES YOUR JOB ENTAIL?

I lead all the media planning for Hotwire, which is part of Expedia network. I'm trying to grow our business within the online travel agency category.

HOW HAS MEDILL IMC HELPED ADVANCE YOUR CAREER?

Having the Northwestern and Medill brands on my resume was a big reason why I got my first job at Microsoft 10 years ago. That pushed my resume to the top of the stack. I've realized how far ahead of its time the IMC program was. As technology has advanced, it has made those skill sets more relevant and important for connecting with audiences in a deeper way.

WHAT ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR CAREER?

I had the opportunity to live in London and work abroad as an international media lead at Microsoft. One of my first opportunities to work with globally diverse people was at Northwestern. Getting to live in London was a great way to extend that experience. As far as work goes, launching media for the Xbox One in the UK was pretty amazing. I never thought I'd get to work on the Xbox One and be the lead for most markets.

THIS IS A RELATIVELY NEW ROLE FOR YOU.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST EXCITED ABOUT?

Aside from the people, I'm most excited about access to data and, since it's a smaller company, the ability to feel the impact on the business.

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR PURSUING A CAREER IN IMC?

I would highly recommend going to Medill IMC. Then, get to understand the technology, and work for a company that really believes in collecting data and using it in a smart way that can create more meaningful experiences. Companies that aren't able to do that aren't going to succeed.





CORINNE CHIN | BSJ13, MSJ13
VIDEO EDITOR
 THE SEATTLE TIMES

WHAT ARE YOUR MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES?

I do everything related to video. I shoot and edit. Sometimes I do my own reporting. Other times, I collaborate with other journalists. I work with footage from our wonderful photographers. I also work with photographers in a training capacity to help the newsroom get better acquainted with video now that we have a new website.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT VIDEO AS A MEDIUM?

I really like how in the newsroom, in particular, we have lots of opportunities and freedom to experiment and try new things. Video is a way to engage people with good journalism, especially younger people who may be used to getting their news through video.

IS THERE A STORY YOU'RE MOST PROUD OF?

Last year, I was reporting on the World Cup protests in Brazil with another alum. Having the experience of doing everything on my own really set me up for where I am today. He and I were in different places and it was a good experience working remotely. Our story (text and video) got published in GlobalPost.

HOW DO YOU SEE YOUR ROLE EVOLVING?

I'm learning how quickly the online audience changes—their needs and wants and how they access news. My job is going to change in the next few months because the industry is changing. The challenge will be not to get distracted by bells and whistles, but to maintain strong journalistic integrity and solid storytelling values.

TINA CHA | MSJ03
LEAD EDITOR
 MSN TV

WHAT ARE YOUR MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES?

I'm responsible for content programming for the TV part of the MSN portal. I make sure we have the best selection of news and features, the strongest content partners and compelling reasons for our users to come back every day.

HOW DID MEDILL PREPARE YOU FOR THIS ROLE?

In addition to exposing me to data-driven decision-making, Medill also provided me with the framework of trusting others in a work environment. In one class, we were forced to rely on and trust classmates in order to complete and present our final proposal to a client (Milwaukee Journal Sentinel). This is something I work on all the time at MSN.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT AT MSN?

It may not seem sexy to say that as a group we overhauled a publishing platform in a very quick timeframe, while redesigning a global portal site from top to bottom, but that is what I've lived and breathed for the past 18 months. You do your best to do your job so your team can do theirs.

WHAT'S ONE OF THE PERKS OF YOUR JOB?

I get to discuss epic moments on my favorite TV shows in legitimate meetings every day. That's the fun part. Talking about what happened on "Empire" every week was a highlight of my winter.



MEDIA PRO

Susan Conroy McLeod (IMC14)
and the changing media landscape

BY DONNA MARBURY (MSJ13)





Photo by Nathan Weber

As technological innovations in the web and digital age continue to change the media landscape, Susan Conroy McLeod (IMC14) knows she and her company, Conroy Media, Ltd., must also keep changing in order to stay relevant. • “I’m more confident I know the right questions to ask and that I have a high-level mindset,” says McLeod, company founder and president. “As media managers, we keep up with what’s next and make sense out of it for our clients.”

In its 25th year, Conroy Media, Ltd., in Willowbrook, Illinois, bills from \$15 million to \$20 million annually with a client roster that includes Sylvan Learning, William K. Busch Brewing Company, Merchandise Mart Properties and Bridgestone-Firestone Tire Operations, among others. The company offers media management services, and the planning and buying of placements in television, radio, digital, print, transit and business-to-business media.

Currently, the company provides its media services for the Illinois Department of Public Health’s Affordable Care Act marketplace: Get Covered Illinois. The marketplace is a resource for Illinois residents to enroll in and manage their health coverage.

“This is an aggressive marketing campaign for a new brand,” says McLeod, who secured the multimillion dollar campaign in 2013. “We are working with high-level decision makers in the state. The content is front and center in the news and there’s so much social awareness.”

Throughout her 33-year career, McLeod has always been an early adopter — she never wants complacency to halt her, or for technology to pass her.

In 1990, in the midst of a successful career as executive vice president at Berman Lloyd & Associates, she decided to launch her own media management business, Conroy Media. Her clients from Berman Lloyd & Associates followed her.

“When I started the business, it grew organically and not by design,” says McLeod. “I got more activity than I could handle on my own, and I started hiring more people.”

While seeking out a new employee with digital experience for Conroy Media, McLeod came across a banner ad for the Medill IMC program. It gave her the idea that maybe she could fill that role herself. In the fall of 2012, she became one of the first students to sign up for the Medill IMC online master’s program.

“It’s a fundamental difference in how you do business and the product you produce,” McLeod says of adding digital-based knowledge to her skill set. “Those who have

been around since the analog days need to understand it takes effort to change the way you do business.”

For the busy entrepreneur, wife and mother of two daughters, McLeod knew that carving out time to sit in a classroom was out of the question.

“I had no downtime, but Medill inspired me to want to engage in education in whatever form,” she says.

McLeod graduated from the online IMC program in the summer of 2014, over the course of seven quarters and in less than two years.

She says that the program exceeded her expectations of an online learning experience and helped her to think “outside of the box.” The 18-course curriculum features studies in consumer insight, digital, social and mobile marketing, and segmenting consumer data, among other topics.

“It’s an urban legend that correspondence courses are five times more work and no interaction,” McLeod says. “We had high level discussions on our discussion boards, and I really enjoyed the diversity of our class profile. The plus side: I learned so much from my classmates.”

Medill’s online program is one of the first to use full-time faculty instead of adjuncts to teach courses, offering students the same kind of learning experience as if they are on campus. It is an immersive, rich web environment where individual classes never have more than 30 students. Currently, the median age of students is 36, and most have at least 15 years of work experience.

McLeod says she received close interaction with faculty. She also took an on-campus, five-day immersive leadership course that focused on management, economics, business planning and accountability.

“The program we offered when we started it was the early stages of a revolution,” says Tom Collinger, associate professor, senior director of Medill Distance Learning Initiative and executive director of Medill IMC Spiegel Digital & Database Research Center. “We had high hopes of delivering on learning outcomes, but we didn’t know how the program would be perceived.”

When he tells prospective students about McLeod’s

experience transitioning from analog to digital media, and of her success after completing the IMC online program, it encourages seasoned professionals to pursue the program. “[McLeod’s] profile helped us to candidly talk about the quality of the program and students to other students,” he says.

Collinger stressed Medill’s history of thinking ahead of the curve as a big part of what makes it attractive to professionals across the globe. “The DNA of the IMC program has always been on the leading edge of communications and marketing,” Collinger says. “We knew the field was becoming very customer centric, and very data driven. There’s a data trail for everything. We turn that data into insight, and the insight into strategy. That is the rocket fuel for our students.”

McLeod started her career in Chicago at SMY Media in 1982, as a media estimator, after graduating from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a bachelor’s degree in business administration and marketing. She continued on as an assistant media buyer at Tatham-Laird & Kudner, and as a broadcast buyer promoted to account executive at HDM/Dawson Johns & Black (formerly Marsteller), both in Chicago. She was with Berman Lloyd & Associates for two years before she founded Conroy Media.

“I started out where there were no computers, analog phones, no automation. Everything was done from a manual perspective,” McLeod says. “It was a great place to learn, because it taught me the mechanics of Nielsen and Arbitron data,” she says of the television and radio consumer analytics the media industry uses. “The premise of building audience relationship has been constant. The way I’ve gone about doing that has changed over the years.”

McLeod says she has watched the media management industry shift from mainly print and television to include web and social media. As seasoned media managers, she says she and her team of seven associates help clients make sense of the increasing amount of analytics surrounding web and digital media.

“Return on investment is an elusive concept and carries many different definitions,” McLeod says. “We are tying marketing investments to ROI using the data we have at our disposal.”

The emphasis on data analytics and strategy has inspired McLeod to expand her company’s digital offerings, and to spend more time constructing long-term media growth for her clients.

“I’ve put the IMC program to work immediately. I want to spend more time problem solving, and spend less time dealing with manual activity,” McLeod says. “I want to let the systems do the heavy lifting.”

McLeod encourages her employees to work with

“

The premise of building audience relationship has been constant. The way I’ve gone about doing that has changed over the years.”

— SUSAN CONROY MCLEOD (IMC14)

an entrepreneurial mindset. She draws inspiration from innovator and Apple co-founder Steve Jobs and from entrepreneur and Virgin Group founder Richard Branson.

“I don’t believe in micromanaging,” McLeod says, adding that some employees work remotely and out of state. “I’m proud of my team that we have been able to stay customer centric and are doing well after 25 years.”

McLeod counts her husband, Ian, as an essential part of her success and ability to try new things in her career.

Her daughters, Emily, 14, and Kathleen, 12, have also helped her adopt a digital mentality. “Technology is very natural for [them], but at times it’s not immediately what I think. I’m adopting the digital native mindset,” she says.

The tendency to be a trailblazer has McLeod considering executive training programs from the Kellogg School of Business at Northwestern and the Harvard Business School in order to stay keen on trends. She says: “Business changes rapidly. If you continue to do things one way, you will fade into obsolescence.”

DONNA MARBURY (MSJ13) IS A FREELANCE WRITER AND NEW MOM WHO RESIDES IN COLUMBUS, OHIO.



By Amina Ismail (MSJ15)

VISUAL STORYTELLER

AMINA ISMAIL REFLECTS ON COVERING THE POLITICAL DEMONSTRATIONS IN CAIRO'S TAHRIR SQUARE

My breathing sped up immediately. My hands started shaking. My heart was in my mouth. I knew that this day would not end well.

It was the first day of the holy month of Ramadan on the hottest month of the year in August 2011. It was nearly 110 degrees, and the scorching sun beat down on Tahrir Square in Cairo, the birthplace of hope for freedom, democracy and social justice in Egypt.

The moment I stepped out of the underground metro station in Tahrir, which means liberation in Arabic, I saw troops occupying the square and violently forcing protesters to leave. Seven months earlier, this had been the same square to which hundreds of thousands of Egyptians – from all walks of life and from all over the country – had marched, calling for the overthrow of long-term dictator Hosni Mubarak.

I read a tweet saying that protesters in the square were being violently dispersed. I rushed to the closest metro station to see what was happening, because most local media outlets would not cover these events objectively.

On July 8, tens of thousands of protesters had mobilized in Tahrir Square to express their anger over the slow response of the Supreme Council of Armed Forces, which took control of the country after Mubarak's ouster in February, to the people's revolutionary demands.

These included seeking the truth about crimes that happened during the 30 years of Mubarak's rule, and the lack of prosecution of police responsible for the killing of approximately 900 protesters at the initial protests in January.

This new round of protests continued for nearly a month, in gradually decreasing numbers. On that August day, I happened to be standing next to a dozen protesters who were

behind a fence that surrounds the Mogamma, the huge government building that houses Egypt's extensive bureaucracy. One of the protesters cursed at soldiers who were standing on the other side of the fence.

In a split second, the soldiers grabbed this protester, flipped him over the fence and began to beat him brutally with their clubs. The man was suddenly lost among the soldiers and their clubs; I could only hear him scream. With my phone as my sole journalistic tool, I immediately hopped the fence and started to shoot video. I could only think: If I can't help this man, then at least I could film what's happening to him and show it to the world. As one of few witnesses to the scene, I felt responsible.

I was only about 10 feet from the beating when at least five soldiers noticed that I was recording and started running toward me.

I thought it would be stupid to run, because they were too close and would catch me. So I just crouched near a wall, held my phone very tightly in my clammy hands, closed my eyes and screamed at the top of my lungs. The only thing that was going through my mind was not losing my phone or the only evidence showing the soldiers brutally beating this unarmed man.

Suddenly I was surrounded by at least five soldiers who started grabbing at me to get my phone. They grabbed my shirt and started pulling aggressively, which left a bruise on my neck, I later discovered. They used their clubs to push me against the wall. I opened my eyes, to see a raised club obscuring the sunlight. In another split second, I saw the hand of another soldier reaching out to block the club, which was just inches from hitting my back.

An officer grabbed my arm, pulled me to my feet and said in a deep voice, "Give me the phone, and I will leave you alone." This is the moment that I learned how stubborn I am. Even though I was shaking and my legs were barely supporting me, I refused to give him the phone.

I argued with him, hoping that maybe logic would prevail and save the evidence I was carrying. But he lost patience and hit me hard on the hand to get me to drop the phone. I was shocked – not by the pain but by this act of cowardice – and quickly moved my hand behind my back. Another soldier reached around and snatched the phone away, threw it on the ground and started smashing it with his booted foot. His colleagues joined in.

I will never forget this moment. My heart was breaking along with my phone and the evidence it contained. At this very moment I understood as never before the power of media, the power of video and how it can be stronger than bullets!

This experience didn't break me. It made me understand the importance and impact of visual journalism for my country, and our collective lack of skill in using such power.

The fall of Mubarak provided hope for a new era of freedom of expression. However, much of this hope

appears lost after former defense minister, Abdel Fatah Al-Sisi was elected as Egypt's new president in 2014. Egypt's military regime is violently suppressing freedom of expression.

This wasn't the toughest experience that I endured while covering the uprising. But it was the first, and it had the strongest impact on me.

In the three years since the uprising, I worked as a journalist for several Western news agencies. Reporting on the post-revolutionary period exposed me to some of the biggest risks of journalism. I have tiptoed among piles of dead bodies. I have dodged bullets. And as an Egyptian journalist, each day I faced the threat of being arrested on trumped-up charges including "terrorism" simply for trying to be objective in my reporting.

“AT THIS VERY MOMENT I UNDERSTOOD AS NEVER BEFORE THE POWER OF MEDIA, THE POWER OF VIDEO AND HOW IT CAN BE STRONGER THAN BULLETS!”

Before the revolution, I was an intern for The Daily News Egypt. After the uprising, I began stringing for the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, the New York Review of Books and PBS. And then I was hired as a full-time correspondent for McClatchy newspapers from 2012 to 2014.

I enjoyed working for American media outlets, but after three years I felt the time had come to pursue a master's degree in video journalism. My goal is to reach out to my people in their own language. There is a severe lack of objective Arabic-language news in Egypt, and English-language media reach only the elite class. Further, nearly 40 percent of Egypt's 90 million people are illiterate.

Recent history had been defined by journalistic images, and visual storytelling has never been more important, including for my country's future. This is why I decided to take a break from my career.

I want to learn how to educate my people about what is happening in their country in a visual and a creative way. I was accepted to Medill, one of the top journalism schools in the U.S., and was generously awarded a full-tuition scholarship.

Medill is doing a great job of teaching me those skills in a very short period of time. I am preparing for the new journey that awaits me back home – a journey on which I aspire to help bring revolutionary change to my country.

living out loud

- Pat Phillips (BSJ54) on a well-traveled career and the importance of being in the moment

By Beth Moellers

Pat Phillips' career as a freelance medical and science writer and producer has spanned six decades since her graduation from Medill in 1954.

"I believe you should live intensely in the present. You never know what tomorrow will bring," she says while sitting down at Stella's Diner, her neighborhood coffee shop in Chicago.

For Phillips, 82, living intensely means a lifetime of international travel to more than 20 countries covering medical conferences. Many places she visited several times on the trail of some of the major medical advances in the last 60 years.

Phillips' passion for travel began shortly after graduating from Medill, but not before her first professional job working as a writer for CBS television in Chicago. She was the only one from her class to get a job in television, and it was an unusual first post for a young woman graduating at the time.

After working at CBS for a year, she and her best friend took a six-month trip across Europe, two tall blond Americans in a Volkswagen loaded with a tent, four camp chairs and a Bunsen burner for cooking. Together they visited France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland and Italy. They wanted to travel through Bulgaria but couldn't (then part of the Eastern Bloc) so they took a ship from Athens to Istanbul to add Turkey to their itinerary.

On a solo side trip to Sweden, Phillips was the first member of her family to reconnect with Swedish relatives, and was the first to visit the Nordic country since her grandfather emigrated from there.

She enthusiastically supports Medill's new international initiatives, which provide financial support to students who have never traveled abroad, so they can experience it during their time at the university with guidance and support from faculty and staff.

"Being in a country other than your own you learn an amazing amount of things," Phillips says. "Beyond science and medicine" there is "history, art, culture and cuisine."

Phillips' work took her around the world to numerous cities on five continents, including Buenos Aires, Argentina; Sydney; Barcelona, Spain; and Venice and Sorrento in Italy. She covered major medical gatherings like the International Society of Hypertension in Milan, the International Society of Transplantation in Kyoto, Japan, and the World Health Organization Assembly in Geneva.

Her writings have appeared in specialty publications and popular press, such as *McCall's* and *Reader's Digest*. In addition, she has produced documentaries and judged the news and documentary category for the Emmy Awards.

Covering global conferences has had its uncertain moments. In the late-1980s, Phillips got into a scrape just over the border in Eastern Bloc Czechoslovakia en route to a meeting in Vienna. While traveling alone, Phillips was



Photo by Isaiah Grant

pulled from a train in Czechoslovakia by machine gun-toting police officers. They took her passport and locked her in a room. No one spoke English. After waiting and worrying whether anyone knew where she was, Phillips was allowed to continue on a different train to Vienna.

“I really did keep my cool and didn’t change my expression the entire time that I was in that room, which was about an hour,” Phillips says.

By contrast, there were lighter moments. At an international dermatology conference in Cannes, France, Phillips reported on retin-A and its possible role as a treatment for skin cancer. Ironically, she says, the conference center overlooked a nude bathing beach where plenty of sun-damaged skin was on display.

On another trip, during a meeting of transplant surgeons held at the Waldorf Astoria in New York, Phillips needed to do a radio interview with a prominent surgeon. The only problem: the air was filled with incessant Muzak making it impossible to capture an interview she could air. The only quiet spot in the hotel was the restroom.

“I tugged him into the ladies room, shooed the attendants out and we did our short interview,” she says.

A firm believer in lifelong learning, Phillips continues to do editorial work and is the programming chair of the Chicago Science Writers,

a professional group for people in the area who communicate science to the public.

Through her involvement in the Chicago Lights Tutoring Program of the Fourth Presbyterian Church on Michigan Avenue, Phillips tutored a boy, Tietl Gonzalez, from age 12 to 18. The pair met once a week over a six-year period. Phillips, who began teaching him in her mid-70s, says the two keep in touch even though he graduated from the program.

“He and his parents told me I had transformed his life,” she says. He received a scholarship to go to Chicago’s North Park University. “It was an exhilarating experience.”

Phillips, a native of the Pacific Northwest, relished her time at Northwestern and working on *The Daily Northwestern*, where she met Howard Dubin (BSJ54), who became a lifelong friend. The pair recently attended their 60th class reunion.

“We are survivors,” she says with a grin. “Northwestern University gives a wonderful foundation for learning how to think with clarity and make your own decisions.”

BETH MOELLERS IS A FREQUENT CONTRIBUTOR TO MEDILL'S MAGAZINE, AND THE MARKETING, COMMUNICATIONS AND ALUMNI RELATIONS PROGRAMS. SHE LIVES IN BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA.

Photo by Nathan Weber

CAREER COACH

ONE IMC GRAD'S WINDING PATH TO SUCCESS

By Anna Keller (MSJ09)

P

ranav S. Ramanathan's career has shifted from architecture to digital marketing, and from tech consulting to executive coaching. Despite his rather unconventional path, Ramanathan (IMC10) says things have turned out just right. • Ramanathan is the managing director and a principal of the executive coaching practice Coacharya, a business he manages along with his father, Ram. He marvels at how good a fit it is for him. His role at Coacharya allows him to use the marketing and communication skills he sharpened at Medill. It also gives him the ability to take the experience he has gained from working in different fields and use it to offer guidance to others going through a career shift or growth.

"At Coacharya, I'm constantly learning," he says. "That's my favorite part. Present to me what needs to be done and I'll figure out how to do it. Give me something to fix and I'll fix it. I love being an entrepreneur, and this job was my best calling yet."

Coacharya's coaches work with groups or individuals in a professional context, helping them with a variety of issues. They are trained to equip executives as they move up or into leadership roles, and to help those in the C-suite with strategic development. Coacharya also on-boards

new hires—prepping them to succeed when they first join a company—and assists others with career guidance, interpersonal skills and work-life balance.

In his role as managing director, Ramanathan, along with his father, leads ongoing growth and strategy for the business and its worldwide subsidiaries. He participates in numerous speaking engagements and facilitates the training of other coaches. The Chicago-based company has clients in the United States, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and Asia.

“

When I heard about Medill, it seemed like the right fit for me: I was a self-made marketing guy, and I was looking for some theoretical backing to what I did.”

— PRANAV S. RAMANATHAN

Ramanathan, who was born in India and grew up in both India and Indonesia, moved to the U.S. to attend Arizona State University. He majored in architecture, but never felt particularly at home in that world, although he did enjoy the business classes he took during his years at ASU.

“My father is a mechanical engineer by training, and my mother is an artist,” he says. “I didn’t inherit either end of the spectrum, so the middle of the road—architecture—seemed the most logical at the time.”

After graduating in 1998, Ramanathan was drawn to San Francisco. He moved there and landed at a tech consulting start-up called Karna, working in many capacities, including as a web-graphic designer and as a sales and marketing associate. Six years later, he relocated to New York, where he joined the business-to-business media company, Advanstar, as a marketing manager focused on digital execution. In 2007, he became an online marketing director for a business unit at The Nielsen Company, where he did more work in the digital sphere “overhauling websites” and “finding new ways to launch digital content.”

Then it was time for Medill.

Ramanathan says he was starting to feel ready to go back to school. While at Nielsen, he attended a Medill IMC info session at Bloomberg in New York.

“At that point, I was about 12 years into my career and I’d always had an urge to go to business school or grad school,” he says. “When I heard about Medill, it seemed like the right fit for me: I was a self-made marketing guy, and I was looking for some theoretical backing to what I did.”

Medill introduced him to the study of statistics. “Sample size, predictive analytics, regressions—those weren’t things I necessarily thought about and are things I now use all the time in my thought process.”

Interestingly, he says, some of the best skills he gained from his 15 months at Northwestern weren’t things he anticipated learning. For instance, Ramanathan, who started in the fall of 2009, was 33 years old and a bit older than most of his classmates. Through observation, he learned about the way millennials communicate, learn, and socialize—a skill he says is invaluable in his work as a coach.

“There’s talk about how the millennial generation is the next set of leaders. I never thought at the time it would come in handy with what I do now, but those insights were useful to me,” he says. “To be able to relate to a generation behind me applies to what I do now in terms of coaching executives.”

Ramanathan graduated from the IMC program in 2010 with a concentration in media management. After consulting in digital strategy for a while, he teamed up with his father, who was already working as an executive coach, to launch Coacharya in January of 2013.

Thankful to finally feel like he has found his career calling, Ramanathan is thriving in the role of entrepreneur. In addition to executive coaching, he and his father train other coaches (they have about 200 trained) and speak at events across the globe.

What sets Coacharya apart, Ramanathan says, is its fusion of Western and Eastern approaches.

“The idea is to integrate Western elements, like personality profiles and assessments, with Eastern spiritual philosophies,” he says. “Western culture is more about being objective and rational; Eastern culture is more about internal awareness. We’re putting the two together, and it works well.”

He knows because he has the client satisfaction and an award to prove it.

Last year, Coacharya was selected from a pool of 65 nominees to receive the Coaching Company of the Year award from the European Mentoring and Coaching Council, an organization that leads research in the coaching industry and helps grow awareness of it. This was the first time a non-European company was awarded the distinction.

Ramanathan’s father, Ram, works alongside his son, and is proud of his son’s professional journey: “Pranav struggled to find his niche, and he was persistent,” Ram says. “I am glad that he followed his passion rather than a proven path.”

ANNA SWINDLE KELLER IS AN ACCOUNT SUPERVISOR AT THE VARIABLE, AN ADVERTISING AGENCY IN WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA, AND ALSO WORKS AS A PART-TIME FREELANCE WRITER AND BLOGGER.

1960s

Ira Berkow (MSJ64) was honored with the A.J. Liebling Award for Outstanding Boxing Writing for his book, "Counter Punch: Ali, Tyson, the Brown Bomber and Other Stories of the Boxing Ring." The book, a compilation of Berkow's many columns on boxing, includes some of the sport's greatest names and moments over the past four decades. He received the award in

April from the Boxing Writers Association of America. With this distinction he joins previous winners including writers George Plimpton, Pete Hamill, John Lardner and Liebling himself. Berkow is the author of numerous books, and was a longtime sports columnist and feature writer for The New York Times.

1970s

Kerrie Logan Hollihan (MSJ74) is a member of iNK Think Tank's Authors on Call, a national group of nonfiction authors who work with students and teachers using interactive web conferencing. Hollihan's recent book, "Reporting Under Fire: 16 Daring Women War Correspondents and Photojournalists" became a 2015 Notable Trade Book for Young

People. Journalist Georgie Anne Geyer (BSJ56) is among those profiled. The award, which is from the Children's Book Council and National Council for the Social Studies, puts the book on a recommended reading list for use in social studies classrooms.

1980s

Nancy Ben-Asher Ozeri (BSJ85) received a first place 2014 Simon Rockower Award for Excellence in Feature Writing from the American Jewish Press Association. Her article, "Warmth, Eye-Opening Perspective for Local Firefighters in Israel," was published in the Arizona Jewish Post. It chronicled the first Firefighters Without Borders mission to Israel.

The Simon Rockower Awards recognize excellence in Jewish journalism.

Amy Wilen Buckman (BSJ86, MSJ86) became manager of public relations and special events at Interstate General Media, publisher of The Philadelphia Inquirer, Daily News and Philly.com. Prior to this, she was a reporter and producer at ABC-owned WPVI-TV in Philadelphia for 25 years. Amy and her husband, Terry Buckman (WCAS85), have three sons.

Maudlyne Ihejirika (MSJ87) received a 2015 Studs Terkel Community Media Award in March for her work covering Chicago's diverse communities. She is an urban affairs reporter and assistant city editor for the Chicago Sun-Times. The Studs Terkel Awards, given by Community Media Workshop, recognize thoughtful and innovative storytelling of Chicago's neighborhoods. They are named after the late Chicago author, historian and broadcaster.

By **Maureen Jenkins (BSJ89)**

FRENCH-INSPIRED

AUTHOR HARRIET WELTY ROCHEFORT (MSJ69) IS AN AMERICAN LIVING IN PARIS. AFTER WRITING THREE BOOKS ON THE NUANCES OF FRENCH CULTURE, SHE TALKS TO MEDILL ABOUT HOW SHE ARRIVED IN THE CITY OF LIGHT—AND WHY SHE NEVER LEFT



PHOTO BY JEN GEER

When a wide-eyed Harriet Welty Rochefort (MSJ69) first arrived in France in 1967, the future author, freelance journalist and college professor never imagined she'd end up calling it home for the rest of her life.

Nor did she expect that the country—and its ever-fascinating culture—would become the subject of three books, the latest of which is 2012's, "Joie de Vivre: Secrets of Wining, Dining, and

Romancing Like the French."

With an English degree from the University of Michigan in hand, Rochefort had arranged to live with a French family and spend one year abroad. At that time, she says, it was very easy to work in France as a foreigner.

Among Rochefort's many jobs: serving as assistant to Bernard Redmont, the award-winning, Paris-based correspondent for the legendary Westinghouse Broadcasting Company (also known as Group W), which years later merged with CBS.

"He surely sensed I admired him and his craft and wanted to

get out in the world and report, but needed the skills to do it," says Rochefort, a Shenandoah, Iowa, native. Knowing she was planning a return to the States, Redmont suggested she attend his alma mater, the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

"I was this little Midwestern girl. I was in Paris, yet I couldn't fathom going to New York," she says. "I applied to Medill because I'd heard good things about it and it was in the Midwest." After completing her master's degree with a magazine focus, she thought about settling down, but returned to France for a visit. "And then I met my husband."

"The second time around, I wasn't going to stay at all. I had big wanderlust. I was going to go to Argentina," she says. But after meeting Philippe Rochefort in France, everything changed. "He made me laugh, and I love to laugh."

Three children, six grandchildren, and 44 years later, this French-American dual citizen has built a name for herself on both sides of the Atlantic by shedding light on the cultural differences between Americans and the French. She writes, teaches, and gives frequent speeches and guest lectures, thanks largely to the popularity of her books.

"I also describe myself as a journalist. It's just who I am," says Rochefort, who lives in Paris' 20th arrondissement, not far from the famed Père Lachaise cemetery where rock star Jim Morrison and writers Marcel Proust, Gertrude Stein and Colette are buried.

"I use all my power of reporting and observation and everything we learned at Medill. I don't think I ever worked as hard as a reporter as I did during grad school. I really appreciated it all those years later because [our professors] prepared us for real life."

For her, "real life" is found on the storied streets of Paris. "There are so many things to do, places to see," says Rochefort, who as a freelance reporter has written about French business, culture and lifestyle for publications including the International Herald Tribune,



Maureen Jenkins (BSJ89) joined Abbott as its first director of story development. In this role, she serves as the global healthcare company's lead storyteller, uncovering stories and developing content on its people, places and science. Previously, Jenkins worked in global internal communications at McDonald's Corp. and in employee communications at Boeing. She writes freelance travel and food articles for

various publications including About.com Luxury Travel and the Chicago Sun-Times. A former features and religion reporter at several U.S. newspapers, Jenkins has lived and worked in Italy and France, and has taught undergraduate journalism at Medill.

1990s

Victor Lambert (MSJ92) was selected to head internal and external communications for the Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity division of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington. Prior to this, he developed print, electronic, and social media campaigns for the department. The campaigns were designed to increase public awareness of

housing discrimination and housing rights; they also highlighted department efforts to create equal housing opportunities.

Mike Reilley (MSJ95) was named professor of practice and director of the digital production bureau at Arizona State's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism. Reilley oversees the school's Cronkite News website, and helps students develop cross-platform storytelling. He previously taught journalism at Northwestern from 1997-2000, and at DePaul University from 2009-2014. Reilley founded the research site, The Journalist's Toolbox, which he updates for the Society of Professional Journalists. He also founded the innovative mobile urban affairs reporting site, The Red Line Project, where he and his DePaul students published for four years. Reilley serves on the SPJ national board of directors, and was the 2013 winner of the David Eshelman award for SPJ's top faculty adviser for his work with SPJ/ONA (Online News Association) DePaul.

Catherine S. Blakespear (BSJ98, MSJ99) was elected in November to serve a four-year term on the City Council for Encinitas in California. Blakespear is an attorney and a former reporter for the Los Angeles Times and The Associated Press. She is a fourth-generation Encinitas resident.

Cara Rubinsky (BSJ99) became the associate Europe editor for The Associated Press in April. From her new post in London, Rubinsky oversees the daily news report from Europe and manages the regional editing desk. Prior to this, she covered many leading stories for the AP, including the Boston Marathon bombings, the Newtown school shootings, and the grand jury decision over the Ferguson, Missouri, police shooting.

the Huffington Post and Time magazine. "It's one thing to be in a college classroom and study history; it's another thing to live among it. It's just fabulous for your imagination."

And what a place for a wordsmith to practice her craft.

"There's such a rich history of people who've been here before you," she says. Among the French, "I was respected just for writing." There is so much culture "all around you, especially in Paris."

From 2007 to 2011, she taught reporting, in English, at the world-renowned Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris (known as Sciences Po) in the journalism school's international program. "I co-taught this course, and we would have [students] go out and report on various aspects of French life," says Rochefort. "It was how they'd learn to write and observe."

Each year, she's invited to the American University of Paris to speak at the International Media Seminar. It was created by Northwestern alumnus and former Medill professor Lee W. Huebner (WCAS62), who previously served as publisher and CEO of the International Herald Tribune. Rochefort brings her good-natured assessments of French life to other university programs, travel groups, and cultural organizations throughout the United States and France.

Years of varied experiences—and life as an American in an extended French family—provided the humorous insights she shared in her first book, "French Toast: An American in Paris Celebrates the Maddening Mysteries of the French."

"As far as subject matter, it was just staring me in the face," says Rochefort. Writing the first book "was cathartic. Why, if I spoke fluent French and was very integrated in French society, I still couldn't figure things out? Once I really started investigating, things weren't nearly as frustrating as I thought," she says. "But boy, did I have a hard time getting that published."

Countless rejections ensued.

"All of the New York agents wanted the next Peter Mayle," says

Rochefort, referring to the author of 1989's, "A Year in Provence" and subsequent autobiographical tales of expat life in France. "But I persisted, because I really wanted to tell my story. I really do think I was a pioneer." Since then, she says, "it has become a cottage industry" of Americans and other women penning books about their lives, loves, and adventures in France. With the success of 1997's "French Toast" under her belt, Rochefort had an easier time with 2001's, "French Fried: The Culinary Capers of an American in Paris," in which she interviews French food and wine experts and personally explores the wonders of French cuisine, using her mother-in-law's tips to learn to cook à la française.

Over the years, Rochefort says, "Many American women married to Frenchmen wrote to me and said, 'You saved my marriage,'" of her demystification of French culture to those in French-American relationships. And how have her fellow French citizens received her cultural commentary?

"The French are very critical of themselves," she says. In "French Toast," the only one of her three books translated into French, "some people thought I was critiquing the educational system, but most saw it was well-intentioned, well-meaning and affectionate."

Decades later she still draws on those Medill learnings. "I don't think I've ever missed a deadline," she says as she teaches, reports and writes. She's also stepping into a different genre: fiction. And although it's also set in France, Rochefort says that for her this new writing approach is "very foreign territory."

Quite appropriate for a Francophile whose life's work involves dispelling long-held stereotypes, one myth at a time.

MAUREEN JENKINS IS THE DIRECTOR OF STORY DEVELOPMENT AT ABBOTT. SHE IS ALSO A CHICAGO-BASED FREELANCE JOURNALIST WHO WRITES ABOUT TRAVEL, FOOD, AND LIFESTYLES, AND RECENTLY SPENT A YEAR LIVING OUTSIDE PARIS.

2000s

Laura Berger (MSJ03) won a daytime Emmy for Outstanding Special Class Series as a producer for "Super Soul Sunday" on the Oprah Winfrey Network. Berger is a co-producer on the show. It features conversations between Oprah Winfrey and top thinkers, authors, visionaries, and spiritual leaders. The series explores themes such as happiness, personal fulfillment, spirituality and conscious living. Previously, Berger was an associate producer for CBS News, in New York, on the program formerly known as The Early Show. She held this position for four years.

Iris Amador (MSJ03) began a column of hope and encouragement after traveling to her home country of Honduras to visit family, and being affected by the daily reports of violence in the news. The column, which features her motivational and life-affirming writings, runs on Sundays in La Tribuna, one of the largest newspapers in Honduras. To learn more about "Pieces of Life," visit: facebook.com/PedacitosdeVida.ia.

Allecia Vermillion (MSJ05) was nominated for a 2015 James Beard Journalism Award for her feature on the Starbucks Pumpkin Spice Latte. The article appeared in Seattle Met, where Vermillion is the food and drink editor for the magazine. The James Beard awards recognize inspiring and educational food and culinary writing.

Jing Zhou (MSJ07) recently founded Elemoon, a high-end fashion and tech startup. The company launched its first product, a smart bracelet. The cuff is designed to coordinate with changing outfits, provide custom call notifications and locate a smartphone. It has been featured in The New York Times, TechCrunch, Us Weekly and Fox Chicago. Zhou previously co-founded a mobile media advertising firm in China. Prior to becoming an entrepreneur, she was a journalist for Businessweek magazine and Crain Communications. Zhou is dedicated to supporting women entrepreneurs and innovators. She lives in New York City.

2010s

Kristin Rogers (IMC10) married Andy Thwaites on Oct. 4, 2014, in Healdsburg, California. Rogers is an Account Director at Olson Engage Agency in Chicago.

Lauren Bohn (MSJ10) joined the GroundTruth Project as their inaugural Middle East correspondent, focusing on women and minorities after the Arab Spring. Bohn, a multimedia journalist and an entrepreneur, is based in Istanbul. Her new position was made possible through the financial support from the Ford Foundation, which promotes social justice reporting to develop a better-informed and engaged citizenry.

Mike Leonard (MSJ10) and Picture Show Films have created an hour-long documentary about Northwestern alumnus Newton Minow. "Newton Minow: An American Story" aired May 7 on WTTW at 8 p.m. CDT. The film is produced by two Medill alumni, Brian Gailey (BSJ11) and Katie Prentiss (BSJ13). The intern for the film is current Northwestern student Matthew Silverman (BSJ16). Newton Minow is a life trustee and professor emeritus of Northwestern University. He met his wife, Josephine Baskin, at Northwestern in the 1940s.

Bryan West (BSJ11) is a reporter and multimedia journalist for KPNX, the NBC affiliate in Phoenix. West—as part of an investigative team—received an Alfred I. duPont award in January for a series of stories on the Phoenix Fire Department's arson unit. The team's discoveries led to an FBI and a criminal investigation, and the early retirement of the Phoenix fire chief. The duPont award recognizes outstanding reporting and storytelling in broadcast news.

Bryan Lowry (MSJ14) was part of a group of Kansas statehouse press corps reporters who staged a walk-out on legislators in March, after being told that a briefing for a controversial school-funding bill would be off-record. After the reporters' collective decision not to attend, the briefing was rescheduled and made on-record. Lowry is a bureau reporter at The Wichita Eagle. Reporters from other major Kansas news sources, such as The Associated Press and The Topeka Capital-Journal, also took part in the walk-out.



Josh Lederman (MSJ11) was awarded the Merriman Smith Memorial Award in April for his September 20, 2014, Associated Press story about a fence-jumper who made it past Secret Service agents and through the White House front door. Lederman was one of few people—including other presidential staffers—at the White House when the incident occurred. The prestigious journalism award is given by the White House Correspondents' Association and honors objective and accurate on-deadline presidential news coverage. Lederman is a White House reporter for The Associated Press. He covers politics, Vice President Joe Biden, and domestic and foreign policy issues.

(AP PHOTO/EVAN VUCCI)

THANK YOU

The Northwestern Externship Program (NEXT) is a job-shadowing program where students work beside alumni in their various professions for a day in the spring (between March 23 and April 23). Medill is grateful to the following alumni who volunteered to host and mentor students.

Yvonne Agnello-Adams (IMC93)	Cristina Garratt (BSJ10)	Natalie Moore (MSJ99)
Frank Anton (MSJ74)	Stuart Gibson (BSJ73)	William O'Neill (BSJ73, MSJ74)
Mary Baglivo (MSJ81)	Tom Giratikanon (BSJ09)	Rafe Offer (MS86)
Shera Balgobin (BSJ07, MSJ07)	Jodi Gralnick (BSJ93)	Maegan Paniewski (IMC12)
David Barstow (BSJ86)	Leonard Greenberger (MSJ90)	Stephen Pastorino (BSJ90)
Michelle Befeler (IMC96)	William Halldin (BSJ84)	Philip Pikelny (BSJ73, MSJ74)
Elizabeth Bozdech McNab (BSJ97, MSJ97)	Leigh Hayden (BSJ85)	Lauren Pollack (WCAS14, IMCCert14)
Tanya Chakraborty (IMC11)	Benjamin Helfrich (MSJ08)	Janet Raloff (BSJ74, MSJ75)
Guangming (Derek) Chen (IMC01)	Mary Henning (BSJ82)	Matthew Repchak (BSJ05)
Hal Christensen (MSJ80)	Lisa Hiller (BSJ75)	Janice Rotchstein (MSJ67)
Douglas Clancy (MSJ76)	Maudlyne Ihejirika (MSJ87)	Shane Shifflett (MSJ10)
Xiaoxiao Cui (IMC09)	Meagan Ingerson (BSJ08)	Daniel Skinner (BSJ99)
Ashley Cullins (MSJ11)	Rachel Janutis (BSJ92)	Jennifer Sonnenschein (BSJ89, MSJ90)
Scott Curcio (BSJ00)	David Johns (MSJ05)	Michael Sperling (BSJ83)
Scott De Angelo (IMC96)	Brenda Kahn (MSJ77)	Jennifer Stoffel (MSJ84)
Andrew deGrandpre (MSJ02)	Matthew Kelley (BSJ01)	Julianne Waldron (IMC02)
Madelyn Dinnerstein (BSJ83)	Leanne Kleinmann (BSJ81)	Kay Watson (BSJ00)
William Doran (BSJ62)	Donnelle Koselka (MSJ91)	Sisi Wei (BSJ11)
John Eade (BSJ86)	Angela Kucharski (BSJ87, MSJ88)	Alan Weiss (BSJ73, MSJ74)
Christopher Egusa (IMC12)	Trevor Lazarus (BSJ11, IMCCert11)	Kevin Williams (BSJ82)
Joel Engelhardt (BSJ83)	Hal Lewis (BSJ70)	Corinne Worthington (BSC14, IMCCert14)
Jeffery Erdman-Bonee (BSJ92)	Michelle Madigan (BSJ02, MSJ03)	Ming-Chin Wu (IMC07)
Melissa Feldsher (IMC07)	Bethany Marzewski (BSJ09)	Lauren Young (MSJ93)
Kathryn Ferrara (BSJ11, MSJ12)	Elizabeth McNab (BSJ97, MSJ97)	Christina Zdanowicz (MSJ08)
Beth Furtwangler (MSJ09)	Brina Monterroza (MSJ13)	

OBITUARIES



Photo courtesy of Nancy Claus

Lois Marsh Claus (BSJ46), 89, of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, died Jan. 10. Devoted to journalism and teaching, Claus attended Medill and became one of the first female editors of *The Daily Northwestern* during her undergraduate years. She continued her education at the University of Notre Dame, receiving a master's degree in teaching in 1963. For 27 years, Claus taught English and journalism at

high schools in Indiana, and was selected as one of the top journalism teachers in the country in 1971 by The Newspaper Fund, a foundation that encouraged careers in journalism. She retired from education and became a copy editor at the *South Bend Tribune* in Indiana. In 1987, Claus moved to Hilton Head Island with her husband, Don. They were together for 56 years before he preceded her in death. Claus was a freelance writer and editor for several Hilton Head publications. She was also a columnist. For years, she volunteered regularly at the Bargain Box, an established island thrift store, and even founded and edited its in-house newsletter. Claus is survived by her daughter, Nancy; two sons, Christopher and Stephen; and four grandchildren.

Beverley S. Davis (MSJ49), 90, of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, died Jan. 15. Originally from Nashua, Iowa, Davis went to the University of Northern Iowa before becoming an English teacher in Ames. She studied journalism at Medill and worked as an editor after graduation. She was a citizen advocate in the Governor's Action Center in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and was president of the Three Mile Island Legal Fund. Davis was also a member of the NAACP

and the Upper Allen Heritage Committee (in the Pennsylvania township). This past year, she celebrated 64 years together with her husband, Frank (MSJ48). She is survived by six children, Blake, Mark, Sally, Lynn, Wendy and Quentin; 10 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. Her son, Timothy, preceded her in death. Davis had an interest in genealogy. She enjoyed global travel with her husband. Together they hosted families through Friendship Force International, which encourages cultural exploration through hospitality.

Ivan C. Doig (BSJ61, MSJ62), 75, of Seattle, Washington, died April 9. Doig was an author and novelist known for his richly-textured, carefully-researched books about life in the West. Raised in rural Montana, Doig (pronounced doi-guh) used the beautiful Rocky Mountain Front as the setting for much of his work. In 1979, his first novel—a memoir titled "The House of Sky"—was a finalist for a National Book Award for Contemporary Thought, which honors exceptional American literature. It was the first of 16 books, and one of numerous awards for the author. He received the Wallace Stegner Award in 2007, named after the Pulitzer-Prize winning historian and writer, and a Western Heritage Award in 1985 for best western novel. In 1989, the Western Literature Association honored him with a Distinguished Achievement Award. Doig decided to become a writer in high school. He studied at Medill, where he met his wife, Carol (BSJ55, MSJ56). She survives him, and is an English professor in Seattle. They moved there in 1966 from Chicago. But not before he worked as an editorial writer in Decatur, Illinois, and as an assistant editor of *The Rotarian* magazine in Evanston. Doig earned a doctorate in American history at The University of Washington, and is a member of the Medill Hall of Achievement.

Robert McClory, one of Medill's most honored, dies at 82

PRIEST, AUTHOR, LONGTIME CHICAGO JOURNALIST, STARTED ON JOURNALISM FACULTY IN 1983

By Storer H. Rowley

Robert “Bob” McClory, a Catholic priest turned journalist, author, educator and, most recently, associate professor emeritus at Medill, died on Good Friday (April 3). He was 82.

McClory (MSJ71) with his snowy white hair, wry humor and keen sense of social justice, was a storyteller who looked for the heroes in everyday life, ordinary people trying to do the right thing. To him, they exemplified what he called the “Great Truths” — love and hate, success and failure, loyalty and betrayal.

McClory died of complications from a blood disorder. He was respected by his Medill colleagues and throughout the journalistic world for his thought-provoking articles on civil rights and human experience.

“What makes a good story is the ability to touch honestly — without phoniness — on the great realities,” McClory explained in a profile in *Northwestern* magazine’s spring 2002 issue. “You don’t get those unless you really take the time to ask the questions and listen.

“Deep down,” he observed, “everyone wants to tell you his or her story.”

A 1971 master’s degree graduate of Medill, McClory taught at the school on a full-time or part-time basis since 1983, and he became one of Medill’s most honored faculty members. His students and colleagues remembered him as a peerless educator who taught them how to make a difference and left a lasting impression on their lives and careers.

Roger Boye (MSJ71), emeritus associate professor-in-service and longtime Medill assistant dean and director of Medill’s undergraduate program, described McClory as “a kind, patient, thoughtful teacher, the taskmaster with a velvet heart. His lessons transcended journalism. He taught students how to have a life worth living.”

Mary Lou Song (BSJ91), CEO of FUEL451 and Medill Board of Advisers member, said, “I’ll always be grateful to Bob for asking me the tough questions that shocked me into taking a good, hard, honest look at my life ambitions. That was a turning point in my college career. He inspired me to always do my very best and to shoot for the moon.”

Cynthia Wang (BSJ93), veteran *People* magazine writer and longtime Medill instructor in Northwestern’s Cherubs Program for high school journalists, noted: “Bob was my magazine writing professor and my Teaching Magazine (academic internship)



adviser. What he taught me, I teach to Cherubs and carry with me throughout my career and life.”

Before entering journalism, McClory was a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago, serving at several parishes and as a lecturer at Loyola University. He was a co-founder and former board member of the Call to Action organization.

In a story posted after his death by the *National Catholic Reporter*, he was described by his editors as “a fluid writer, a disciplined and diligent reporter who earned the readership’s respect” and as “a journalist with a passion for justice, a person able to find humor in all things.”

In an obituary published in the *Chicago Tribune* (April 6), a former colleague, Medill Professor Emeritus Abe Peck, who hired McClory in 1983, said, “Bob was so encouraging, especially with our younger students.”

“He could teach the basics, and when he had criticism, it was always tempered criticism that a student wouldn’t forget,” Peck noted. “He’d always pick a student up, and that student would go forward and write that great story.”

Though he worked mainly as a magazine writing teacher, McClory also taught freshman and sophomore writing classes. He judged numerous journalism competitions and was for many years a coordinator of summer programs on religion and media for graduate students.”

He was a recipient in 1999 of the Excellence in Teaching Award from the Northwestern University Alumni Association.

McClory began his journalism career with *The Chicago*

Defender as reporter, feature writer and city editor. He had since been a staff writer for the Chicago Reader and the National Catholic Reporter and a contributor to many publications, including Chicago magazine, the Chicago Tribune and U.S. Catholic magazine.

He was the author of several books, including, "Radical Disciple: Father Pflieger, St. Sabina Church and the Fight for Social Justice," "The Man Who Beat Clout City," "Racism in America," "Turning Point: The Inside Story of the Papal Birth Control Commission" and "As It Was in the Beginning: The Coming Democratization of the Catholic Church."

He was co-author of the play "Haunted by God: The Life of Dorothy Day."

McClory's journalism work won awards from a variety of journalism associations over the years, including Women in Communications, the Chicago Headline Club, Associated Church Press, the Catholic Press Association and the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. He is a member of the Medill Hall of Achievement.

Robert Joseph McClory was raised in the Garfield Park neighborhood on Chicago's West Side and grew up in an environment he described as "middle-class Catholic." His father was a postal worker, and young Robert attended a Catholic grammar school.

From his childhood, priests represented authority figures and leaders in the community. He entered Quigley Preparatory Seminary for high school and went on to study at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Illinois. In 1958, he was ordained.

After leaving the seminary, McClory asked to be sent to an African-American parish in Chicago, where he felt he could do the most good. "I don't know where the impulse came from, because my parents weren't social activists," he told the magazine. "I always just wanted to help the underdog."

Eventually he got his chance, when he transferred to St. Sabina, a church in the South Side neighborhood of Auburn-Gresham. It was an all-white parish, but in his nearly seven years at St. Sabina, McClory learned some powerful lessons on race relations.

The years saw an influx of African-Americans to the area, leading to widespread white flight, and sometimes, violent incidents. By the time he left, McClory not only left his position, he also left the priesthood.

"The reasons can't really be separated," he explained in the magazine article. "It was a combination of a few things." He had come to disagree with some of the church's positions and no longer felt that he could be the voice of an organization with which he didn't fully agree. He also met Margaret McComish, the St. Sabina school principal with whom he had worked closely during the racial turmoil.

"We worked so well together that we decided to keep doing it," he recalled. The two married in November 1971, after McClory had been officially "dispensed by the pope" from his priestly obligations. In 1972, their daughter, Jennifer, was born. Seeking a new profession, McClory was unsure what his next step should be. He had an avid interest in writing and literature and decided that journalism would be a good fit.

Ultimately, when he turned to teaching, the students of Medill were the beneficiaries.

Jenny Hontz (BSJ93), former Variety writer and now journalism adviser at Harvard-Westlake High School in Los Angeles, said, "I took Bob's magazine class and always found him to be one of the kindest, classiest people I encountered at Medill."

Abigail Foerstner (BSJ71, MSJ72), a Medill assistant professor, said, "Bob is going to continue to inspire us and all those countless students whose lives he so influenced. "One student wrote on a review of a lecture (Bob had given), 'I want Bob McClory to adopt me!'"

STORER H. "BOB" ROWLEY, DIRECTOR OF MEDIA RELATIONS FOR NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY AND AN ADJUNCT LECTURER AT MEDILL, SPENT 30 YEARS AT THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE AS A NATIONAL AND FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT, A MEMBER OF THE TRIBUNE'S EDITORIAL BOARD AND NATIONAL EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER. HE RECEIVED HIS MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATION FROM NORTHWESTERN IN 2013.

"What makes a good story is the ability to touch honestly — without phoniness — on the great realities."

— Robert McClory



Virginia "Ginny" M. Dowling (BSJ72), 61, of Winfield, Illinois, died Dec. 21, 2011. A journalist and attorney, Dowling attended Medill and graduated with highest distinction in 1972. She worked in journalism in Chicago before returning

to school. In 1983, she graduated from DePaul University College of Law with honors. From 1983 to 1989, Dowling was a securities attorney at DLA Piper, a top global law firm. She then joined Ryerson Inc. (which later merged with Inland Steel Company) in various roles, including vice president and deputy general counsel. Most recently, she was with Career Education Corporation, an educational services company in Schaumburg, Illinois, as vice president and assistant general counsel of securities. Born in Chicago, Dowling also lived in Oak Park and River Forest. She married her husband, Owen, in Oak Park in 1980. She liked to cook and sew. She appreciated music, and was a season ticket holder at the Lyric Opera of Chicago; she also attended the Chicago Symphony Orchestra often. An avid traveler, Dowling went with her family to Austria, Germany, Greece, Spain, Hawaii, Bermuda, Ireland and Italy. She is survived by her husband, Owen; brother, Ed; and sister, Tina.

Frances Traxler Greiff (MSJ50), 88, of Atlanta, Georgia, died Dec. 17, 2014. Known as having a sharp intellect and a deep interest in literature, Greiff taught high school English and journalism for 26 years in Atlanta, becoming Druid Hills High School's teacher of the year in 1991. She was raised in Gainesville, Florida, and went to Florida State University for her bachelor's and then to Medill, where she received her master's degree in journalism. An Atlanta resident for 61 years, Greiff advised on school newspapers, and was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, an international honor society for women educators. She was also a member of Grace United Methodist Church, and the P.E.O. Sisterhood, an international organization focused on providing educational opportunities for female students. She published "Printer Lady," a biography about Sarah Hillhouse, the first female newspaper printer and editor in Georgia. It earned Hillhouse a Georgia Women of Achievement honor, which recognizes important women in the history of the state. Greiff was known for her interest in others and delivered Meals on Wheels for 17 years. She liked to write and paint. She was married to her husband, George, a former journalism professor, from 1950 until his death in 2003. Greiff is survived by her son, Richard; her daughters, Mary and Leila; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.



Lynn S. Slovosky

Slovosky (BSJ58, MSJ70), 77, of New Castle, Pennsylvania, died April 10, 2014. Slovosky was a committed journalist and teacher. His career took him from managing editor of The Daily Northwestern at Medill, to reporting and editing at Chicago Daily News, a city news pioneer that once shared space with Chicago Sun-Times. Slovosky was born in Youngstown, Pennsylvania. His family owned Gus' Menswear and Sporting Goods in nearby New Castle, where he liked to help out growing up. While attending New Castle High School, he wrote a weekly column for the local paper. He pursued journalism at Medill, reporting and editing the campus paper during his time as an undergraduate. Later, as an educator and a mentor, Slovosky helped launch the careers of aspiring young journalists. He taught journalism at Medill and at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he won an award for excellence in undergraduate teaching in 1976. He liked handwritten letters and corresponded by mail weekly with his brother, Mark, for more than 50 years. He was also a sergeant in the Pennsylvania National Guard. In 1978, he returned to his hometown to help his father close the family business after 40 years. During that time, he continued to write for the Youngstown Vindicator and the New Castle News. "He was very fond of Northwestern and was a dedicated journalist of the newspaper era," said Charles Remsberg (BSJ58, MSJ59), his longtime friend and fellow editor at The Daily Northwestern. "He had a great sense of humor and a terrific memory for trivia. His heart and soul was in newspaper work." Slovosky is survived by his brother.

Irwin C. Harris (MSJ43), 95, of Beaverton, Oregon, died Jan. 25. For his outstanding work in the athletics department at Oregon State University (OSU) during his career, Harris was inducted into their Sports Hall of Fame in 1994. He went to OSU for his bachelor's degree in education and was the sports desk editor of the campus paper, the Daily Barometer. He graduated in 1941; that same year he was editor of the university yearbook. Harris continued his studies at Medill. For nearly a decade beginning in the early 1940s, he returned to OSU as athletic news director dedicated to the news bureau in the sports stadium, Gill Coliseum. He also coached men's varsity tennis from 1943 to 1964. He later taught journalism and directed student activities and publications. He received an award in 1967 for Outstanding College Newspaper Advisor in the U.S. by the National Council of College Publication Advisers. Harris was married to his wife, Kathryn, for 70 years, before she preceded him in death. He is survived by daughters, Lois, Celia and Marilyn; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Thomas F. Koch (BSJ46, WCAS51), 89, of Laguna Woods, California, died March 22. In the world of comedy and satire, Koch was a longtime writer for the legendary radio-comedy duo, Bob Elliott and Ray Goulding, and for Mad magazine. He penned more than 300 pages over 38 years for the humor magazine, including its most-requested reprint—an article on Squamish—a sports parody of a game played with sticks that curl at the end and a ball stuffed with bird feathers. Born in Charleston, Illinois and raised in Indianapolis, Koch (pronounced “cook”) went to Northwestern and studied journalism first, before returning for a master's in political science. In 1946, he started his career as a news writer in Chicago, then went to New York. In the 1950s while in New York working for NBC, he began to write comedy for Bob and Ray. Koch composed roughly 3,000 radio sketches over 33 years. He also wrote for television, lending his humor to numerous programs, including “Petticoat Junction,” “All in the Family” and “The Lucy Show,” and to TV personalities Dinah Shore, Pat Paulsen, Dave Garroway, Tennessee Ernie Ford, George Gobel and Jonathan Winters. His 30-minute TV sketch, “Bob and Ray's Cure for California,” won an Emmy in 1976. He was a California resident for nearly 60 years. Survivors include his son, John, from his first marriage to Alice Methudy; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.



Janet Smith Otwell (BSJ50, MSJ51), 86, of Evanston, Illinois, died Feb. 23. Drawn to journalism, the Philadelphia-raised Otwell came to the Chicago area to attend Medill. She met her husband, Ralph (BSJ51), while working at The Daily Northwestern when she was managing editor

and he was a reporter. They married in Philadelphia in 1954 and, later, raised their family in Wilmette and Evanston. Her husband is a former editor of the Chicago Sun-Times. From 1968 to 1982, Otwell was a member of the Illinois League of Women Voters. While league president, she developed the Illinois Juvenile Court Watching Project, which assigned league members to watch over the juvenile courts of Cook County. She also championed statewide efforts to endorse the Equal Rights Amendment. She is a recipient of the Carrie Chapman Catt Award for her work, the

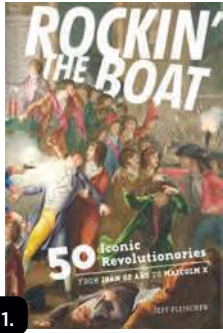
league's highest distinction named after Catt, the Iowan famously devoted to women's rights. Otwell was part of Gov. James Thompson's cabinet serving as director of the Illinois Department on Aging from 1984 to 1990, when Thompson left office. From 1991 until she retired in 2000, she was the Midwest director of AARP, managing activities for 10 Midwestern states. She enjoyed watching the Cubs and was a huge fan of Ernie Banks. Otwell is survived by her husband, Ralph; three sons, Brian, Douglas and David; five grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

Bruce Silverman (BSJ84), 52, of New York, New York, died Feb. 2. Dedicated to sports and journalism, Silverman was a television sports producer who began his career at NBC News and NBC Sports in 1984. From there, he went to Major League Baseball Productions and Sports NewSatellite where he was a producer and editor assigned to high-profile events including the Super Bowl and World Series. He later started and managed the public relations and corporate services department at Phoenix Communications. Most recently, he founded Bruce Silverman Productions in 2013. Silverman coached and mentored his Riverdale community in a variety of youth sports, and was especially vibrant as president of the Riverdale Soccer Club. While studying at Medill, he was a sports announcer on the campus radio station. Silverman is survived by his wife, Lydia, daughter, Julia, and son, Evan.

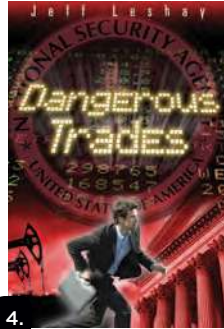


Photo courtesy of the Illinois Comptroller's Office

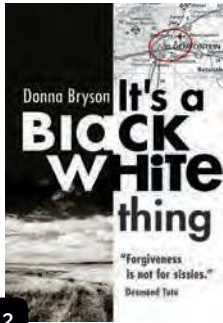
Judy Baar Topinka (BSJ66), 70, of Riverside, Illinois, died Dec. 10, 2014. An often blunt and outspoken politician, Topinka served three terms as Illinois treasurer before losing her bid for governor to Rod Blagojevich (WCAS79) in 2006, when she became the first female Republican nominee for the state's highest office. Topinka was the first woman in Illinois history to serve as treasurer and later became the first state treasurer to be re-elected to three consecutive terms. A recognized and respected taxpayer watchdog and advocate for fiscal responsibility, Topinka had a reputation for speaking up against mismanagement of public funds. After her loss in the governor's race, Topinka returned to statewide office with her election as Illinois state comptroller in 2010, making her the first female to hold two statewide elected offices in Illinois. In November, Topinka was re-elected to a second term as Illinois comptroller. Her term was set to begin in January. An architect of the moderate wing of the Republican Party in Illinois, Topinka was a fiscal conservative but also a supporter of abortion rights and gay rights. She chaired the Illinois Republican Party from 2002 to 2005. Few topics were off limits for the witty and self-deprecating Topinka. She often bragged about her thrift store clothing finds, joking that the state must be in rough shape if the comptroller had to shop at Goodwill. She also loved to polka. Prior to her political career, the journalism graduate worked for several suburban newspapers. In 1980 she was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives, marking her move to politics. She later spent a decade in the Illinois Senate. Survivors include her son, Joseph, and a granddaughter, Alexandra.



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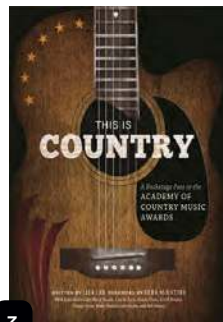
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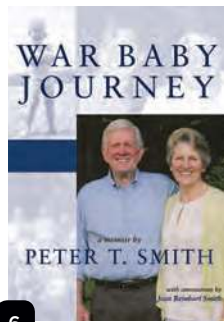
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1. "Rockin' the Boat: 50 Iconic Revolutionaries"

Jeff Fleischer (MSJ03)

With lively and humorous narrative, Fleischer details the lives of 50 revolutionaries around the world and throughout history. The compilation describes individuals—from Joan of Arc to Malcom X—who have moved others towards dramatic political, religious and social change. Fleischer's second book looks at the successes, failures and personalities of these historical figures.

2. "It's a Black White Thing"

Donna Bryson (BSJ86, MSJ86)

In her first book, Bryson explores race relations among young South Africans and the struggle to get past racism in South Africa since the dismantling of apartheid. The author also touches on parallels to the American Civil Rights Movement. The book has received praise for its compelling examination of race politics, and was short-listed for the City Press Tafelberg Nonfiction Award, a national South African prize.

3. "This is Country: A Backstage Pass to the Academy of Country Music Awards"

Lisa Lee (MSJ93)

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Country Music Awards, the academy reveals never-before seen photography and memorabilia from its archive. Snapshots taken from behind the stage and during performances, along with accounts from numerous country music artists, give a candid retrospective. The book begins with a forward by Reba McEntire, country music star and former awards host.

4. "Dangerous Trades"

Jeff Leshay (MSJ86)

After getting a series of mysterious tips and armed with classified NSA intelligence, business reporter Mark Jamieson breaks a major market-moving story. His story causes huge shifts in oil and stock prices, and his sources and reporting quickly come under fire. Facing mounting allegations and a deadline, he returns to the kind of investigative reporting that once made him famous and destroyed his personal life. In this thriller, Leshay draws from his own experiences as a journalist covering the volatile financial markets for CNBC and Fox News. It is the author's second book and first novel.

5. "Still Missing Beulah: Stories of Blacks and Jews in Mid-Century Miami"

Joan Lipinsky Cochran (BSJ75)

Cochran's debut book is an engaging look into the lives of minorities in Miami during the 1950s and 1960s. In one story, a woman realizes how her father's prejudices have tainted her own thinking; in another, the bond between a child and the housekeeper who raised her is broken. This collection of short stories illustrates the effects of racism and anti-Semitism and is told through the perspective of an aging Jewish businessman, Tootsie, and his daughter, Rebecca.

6. "War Baby Journey"

Peter T. Smith (BSJ64)

Smith writes about his personal and professional journey over the past seven decades in this memoir. From small town beginnings, to an education at Northwestern University where he meets his future wife, Jean, to years spent living and working abroad—Smith gives a candid portrait of his life. His story is a reflection on family, school and career, and most of all, love.



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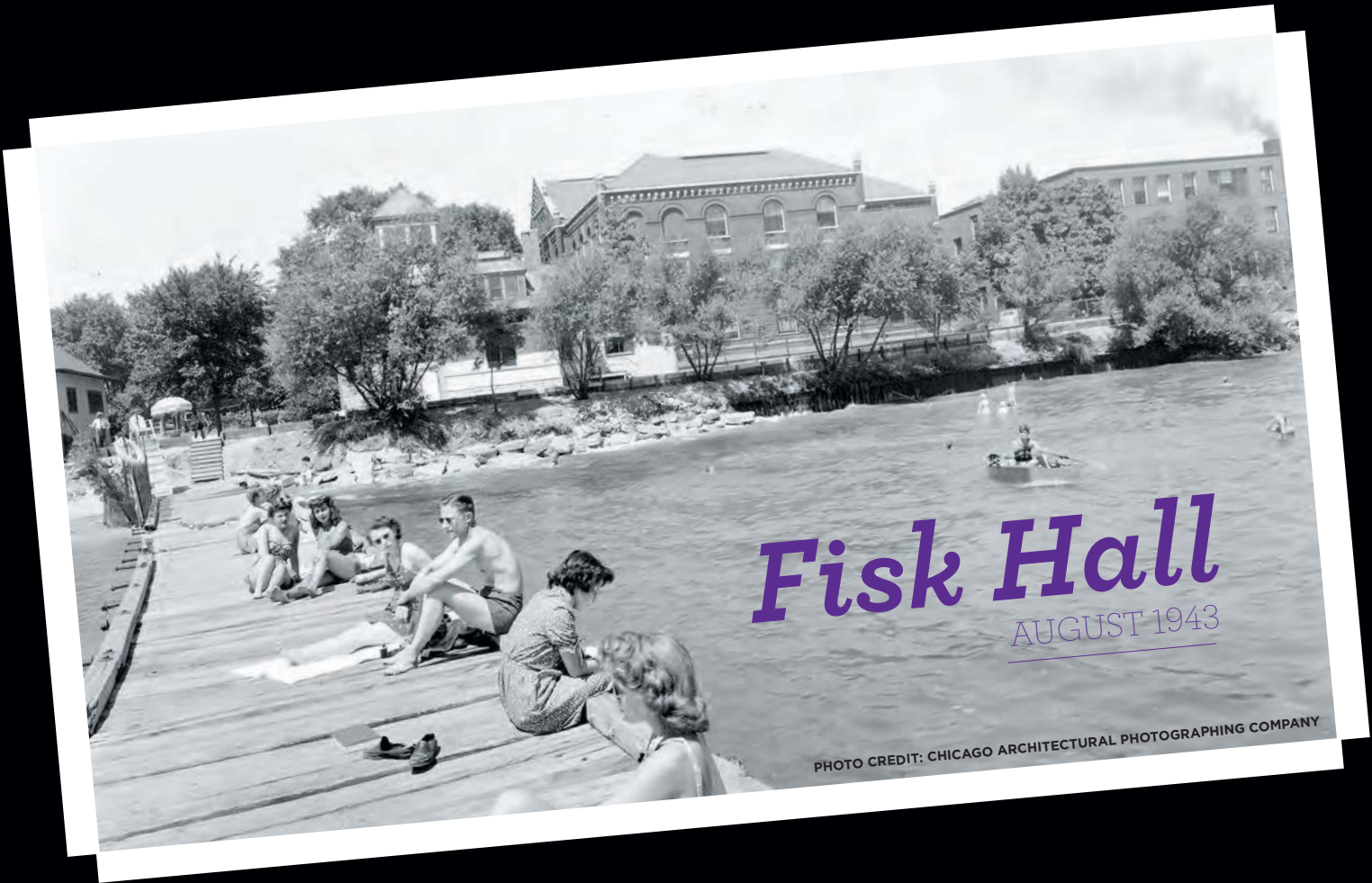
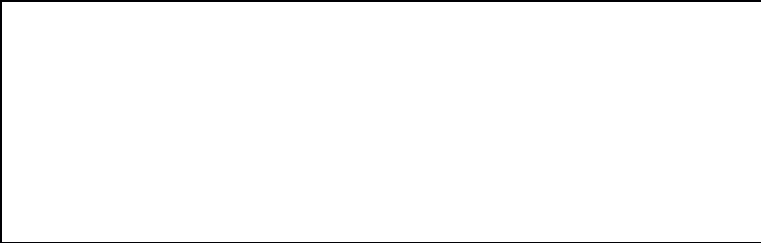


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