

# Medill Centennial Timeline

## 100 Years of Medill



Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

A look back at innovations Medill has made during the past 100 years in order to train the world's best storytellers

[Timeline written by Al Cubbage (MSJ78, MSA87)]

## 1909: Advertising Instruction Begins



Photo Caption: The School of Commerce building  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Instruction in advertising is offered in the School of Commerce, the predecessor to the Kellogg School of Management.

## 1920: Walter Dill Scott Becomes Northwestern President



Photo Caption: Walter Dill Scott

Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Walter Dill Scott (BS1895), who taught advertising in the School of Commerce and wrote extensively on the psychology of advertising, becomes Northwestern's president. The first alumnus to become the University president, Scott was a key leader for nearly 20 years.

## 1920: Chicago Tribune Reporter Spearheads Drive for Journalism Program



Photo Caption: Edward J. Doherty  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Edward J. Doherty, the best-known reporter at the Chicago Tribune, urges Northwestern President Walter Dill Scott and Tribune publisher Robert R. McCormick to start a journalism program at Northwestern.

# 1921: Medill Established



Photo caption: Daily Northwestern coverage of Medill being established.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

With funding from the Chicago Tribune and backing from its publisher Robert R. McCormick, Northwestern establishes the Joseph Medill School of Journalism, initially a unit in the School of Commerce. The school is named for Joseph Medill, McCormick's grandfather and longtime crusading editor of the Tribune. Medill, an abolitionist, was a strong backer of Abraham Lincoln and an influential leader in Chicago in the 19th century. Classes are offered at Northwestern's building in Chicago, located at Lake and Dearborn, in the late afternoon and evening; and on the Evanston campus in the attic of the Mineralogy Department building, an old gymnasium located near Fisk Hall.

## 1921: Harry Harrington Named Director



Photo Caption: Harry Harrington  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Harry Harrington, dean of the journalism school at the University of Illinois, becomes the director of Medill. Harrington attracted Medill's first class of students. He built the curriculum and faculty and established the Master's of Science in Journalism degree. He laid the foundation for Medill's experiential learning program by taking students on a writing tour of Europe in 1927.

## 1921: First Courses Developed

The first courses offered in 1921-22 include: Reporting and News Writing; Law of the Press; History of Journalism; Editorial Writing and Policy; The Community Newspaper; Advertising; and Feature and Magazine Writing

## 1922: First BSJ Degrees Awarded

Nine students, five of whom transferred from the University of Illinois when Dean Harrington came to Northwestern, receive the first bachelor's degrees in journalism.

# 1922: Tuition Set at \$100 Per Semester

Tuition for Medill's program in Evanston is set at \$100 per semester, plus fees of \$16 for newspaper laboratory courses and \$5 for gymnasium and student activities. Chicago courses cost \$25 per semester for one course to \$55 per semester for five subjects, plus laboratory fees of \$16.

# 1922: First Woman Faculty Member Appointed

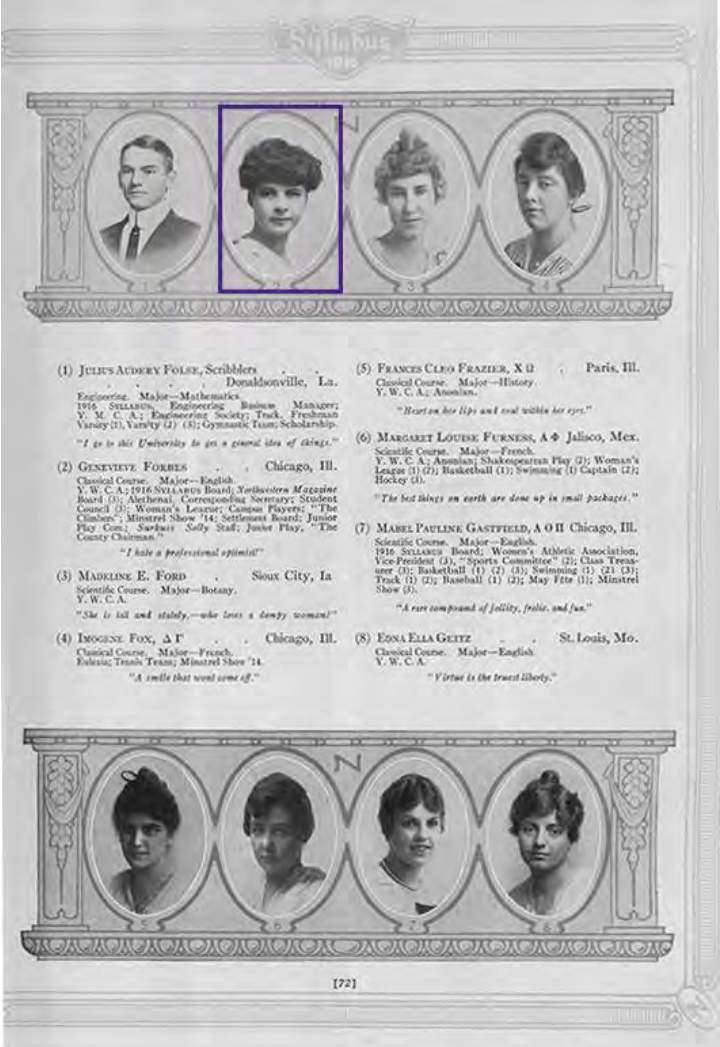


Photo Caption: Genevieve Forbes, highlighted with purple box.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Genevieve Forbes, a reporter for the Chicago Tribune, is hired to teach Reporting and Writing. A 1916 Northwestern graduate with a master's degree in English from the University of Chicago, Forbes was a star reporter for the Tribune. Her career included covering the famous Leopold and Loeb trial and an interview with notorious gangster Al Capone.

## 1924: First MSJ Degrees Awarded

Three students receive Master of Science in Journalism degrees.

## 1925: Classes Held in Old Gym



Photo caption: Students climb the outside stairs to the Medill classrooms, located in an old gym.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Medill's first classes were held in the Mineralogy Building, an old gymnasium located on the south end of the Evanston campus. The access was an iron staircase on the outside of the building.

## 1931: George Gallup Teaches at Medill



Photo Caption: George Gallup  
Media credit: Library of Congress

George Gallup, a pioneer in the field of public opinion polling, serves as the advertising faculty at Medill.

## 1931: Radio Writing Courses Created

The widespread adoption of radio in the 1920s created a demand for news reporters and editors in the new medium. Responding to the need, Medill introduces a course in Radio Script Writing. By the end of the decade, there were four courses: Radio Survey; Radio Advertising Copy; Radio Script Writing and Newscasting; and Radio Dramatic Writing.



## 1934: Cherub Program Begins at Medill



Photo Caption: Cherubs in the Class of 1940.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

The National High School Institute begins offering classes in journalism during the summer to high school students. In the first year, 40 students from 24 states attend. The Institute began at Northwestern in 1931 in the School of Speech with courses in debate and dramatics. According to legend, the nickname for the students came from Speech Dean Ralph Dennis who, when asked about the summer students, replied, "Cherubs they ain't." Associate Professor Emeritus in Service Roger Boye, director of the Cherubs program, started working with the program in 1971.

## 1934: First Medill Student Magazine Published

The Medill Copy debuts, a 12-page magazine that includes features, editorials and fiction. However, in the midst of the magazine's production, composing room employees went on strike and took a number of the articles with them. Today, there are more than 25 student-led publications and media organizations on campus.

## 1936: Photo Class Visits Steel Mill



Photo Caption: A photo class visits a steel mill.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

A Medill photography class visits a steel mill.

## 1937: Kenneth Olson Named Dean



Photo Caption: Kenneth Olson

Media credit: West Virginia and Regional History Center

Kenneth Olson, chair of the journalism department at Rutgers, is appointed Medill's dean. He advocated for a broad-based curriculum for journalism students and for professional standards for journalism education.

## 1937: Students Learn Copy Editing



Photo Caption: The copy desk where students learn copy editing.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Students learn copy editing as part of the early Medill curriculum.

## 1938: Medill Becomes Own School

Medill separates from the School of Commerce and becomes a school on its own.

## 1940: Students Receive Typesetting Education



Photo caption: Learning how to set type on a Linotype machine.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Medill had its own Linotype machines to teach typesetting.

## 1942: Medill Moves to Fayerweather Hall

After science classes are moved to the new Technological Institute, Medill moves into Fayerweather Hall, located at Sheridan Road and Hinman Avenue.

## 1944: Daily Northwestern Staff Nearly All Women

Feature staff includes: Pinky Hudgins, Alice Methudy, Editor Joan Wagner and Marilyn Sutherland.



Photo caption: Four female students work on The Daily Northwestern.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

With World War II continuing, the staff of The Daily Northwestern becomes almost entirely female, headed by Joan Wagner (BSJ45, MSJ47). She later married and as Joan Beck became a pioneering editor at the Chicago Tribune, including being the first woman member of the paper's editorial board.

## 1944: Medill Runs Own Printing Press



Photo caption: A small printing press, known as a job press.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

In addition to typesetting equipment, Medill had a small printing press.

## 1944: Home Economics Journalism Courses Offered

Northwestern acquired the School of Domestic Arts and Sciences of Chicago in 1943 and in 1944 the Department of Home Economics opened. Medill begins a Home Economics Journalism program with such courses as: Foods and Nutrition; Clothing and Textiles; and Home Management. The program was designed for women students and offered “excellent preparation for positions on newspaper women’s pages, women’s magazines...in advertising agencies and in radio or government service.” Northwestern eliminated the department in 1973.

## 1945: Students Learn Linotype



Photo caption: Students at a Linotype machine.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Women students learn typesetting. Traditionally done by men, women took over the duties during the war years.

## 1950: Typesetting Is Part of Medill Skills



Photo Caption: Typesetting class.

Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Students work on typesetting with Professor Albert Sutton.

## 1954: Medill Moves to Fisk

Medill moves to Fisk Hall, which was originally built for the Northwestern Preparatory Academy, a private high school that was part of the University. Fisk was designed by prominent Chicago architect Daniel H. Burnham and is now a historic landmark. After a major renovation of the building, Medill has room for more classrooms, photography and typesetting labs, printing presses, a library, and the school's first television studio.

## 1955: Ph.D. Program Established

Medill receives permission from the University to create a Ph.D. in Journalism program. However, the program never grew and produced only 18 graduates before being closed in 1965 and formally ended in 1974.



## 1957: Ira Cole Named Dean



Photo Caption: Ira W. Cole

Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Ira W. (Bill) Cole, dean of journalism at Penn State, becomes Medill's dean. Cole brought in more industry professionals into the school to support its teaching. He introduced internships for students to help them gain job experience. He also separated the school's programs into a journalism track and an advertising track.

## 1958: Medill Opens Its First Broadcast Studio



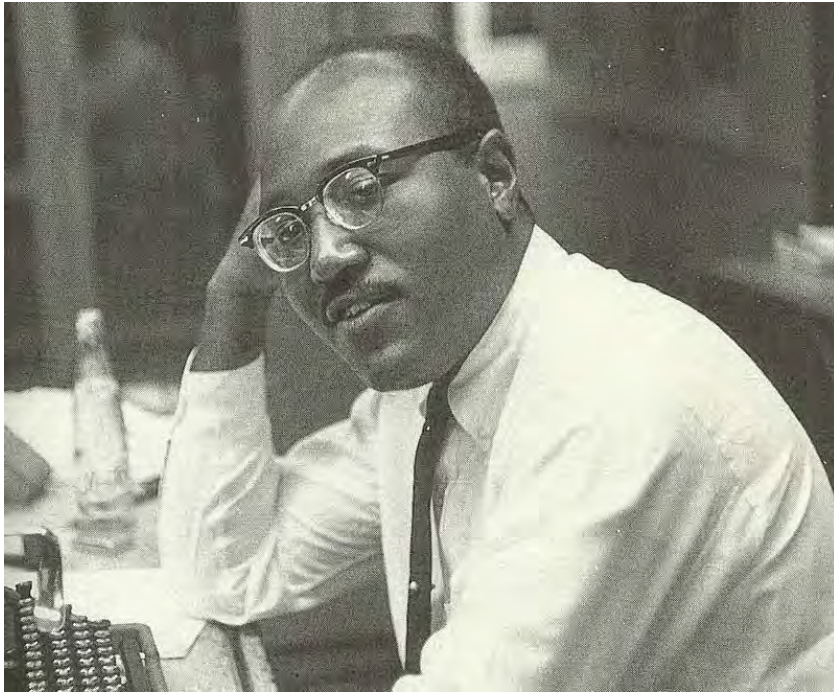
Photo caption: The broadcast studio in Fisk.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Medill opened its first television broadcast studio in the 1950s.

## 1959: Advertising Courses Move to Medill

The deans of the School of Business and Medill agree that all courses in advertising, except those in the MBA program, will be taught by Medill.

1960: Garfield Lillard Jr. becomes Medill's first Black faculty member



A graduate of Medill, Lillard (MSJ60) taught photography from 1960 to 1962. He left and went to New York, where he eventually started his own successful custom photography business.

## 1965: Editing Is Part of Core Classes



Photo Caption: Copy editing class.

Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Students learn copyediting in the 1960s.

## 1966: Washington Program and Medill News Service Begin



Photo Caption: Students in the Washington program in its early years.

Medill begins the Washington program, allowing students to cover politics and government. Along with that, the Medill News Service is created allowing students to provide stories from Washington for regional newspapers.

## 1966: Urban Journalism Center Established

A \$1 million grant from the Ford Foundation provides funding for Medill to establish the Urban Journalism Center. The new institution provides continuing education for journalism professionals and focuses on issues affecting American cities. The Chicago newsroom was among the first tenants of the Illinois Center, a new development that was part of Mayor Richard J. Daley's urban renewal project.

## 1967: Master's Program in Advertising Launched

A master's degree program in advertising begins.

## 1967: Students Learn in Photo Lab



Photo Caption: Learning in the photo lab.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Students worked in Fisk Hall photo lab.

## 1968: Students Interview Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley



Photo Caption: Chicago Mayor Daley with students.  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Students interview Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley in the 1960s.

## 1968: Black Students Take Over Bursar's Office

More than 100 Black students protest Northwestern's policy and treatment of Black students and stage a sit-in at the Bursar's Office. Medill students working at The Daily Northwestern cover the protest intensely, including putting out a special edition. When the Chicago Tribune editorial page blasts the University administration for "a complete capitulation" to students, Medill students meet with the Tribune editor and write a letter criticizing the paper's coverage.

## 1972: Teaching Newspaper Program Begins

The Teaching Newspaper program, which provides undergraduate journalism students experience in reporting at local newspapers, is launched. The first papers to participate are The Southern Illinoisan in Carbondale, Illinois and the Burlington, Iowa Hawk Eye. Teaching Newspaper is later segmented into Teaching Newspaper, Teaching Magazine and Teaching Television in 1990, before being consolidated into Teaching Media in 1996. In 2007, the program became known as Journalism Residency, which still exists today.

## 1976: Blackboard Magazine Launched



Media credit: Blackboard Magazine

As Northwestern University's Black student magazine, Blackboard serves as an open forum for student expression. The magazine aims to fill the void in the Black community most publications cannot reach and to inform readers with current news, thoughts, ideas and themes in a timely fashion following a sound journalism code of ethics.



## 1977: Don Schultz Joins Faculty

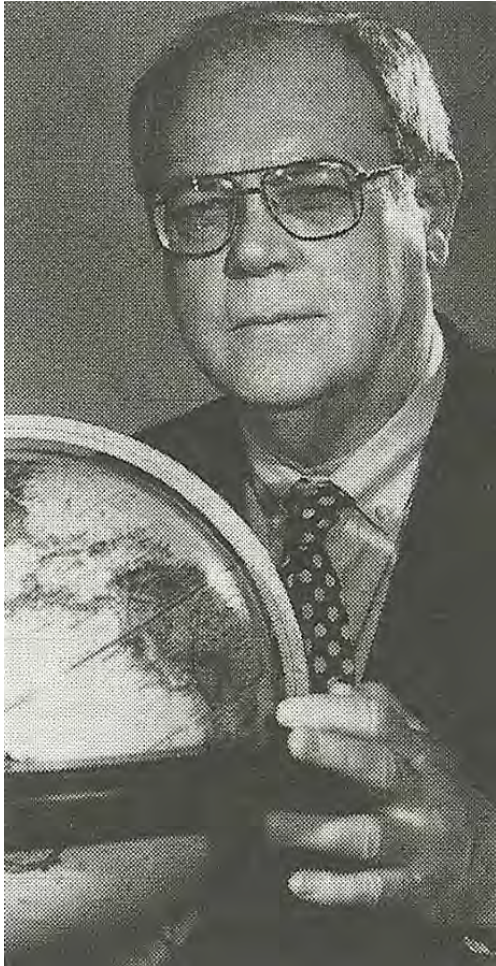


Photo Caption: Don Schultz

Don Schultz, known as the father of IMC, joins the Medill faculty. He passed away in 2020 while serving as emeritus professor.

## 1981: Magazine Publishing Project Launched

In the graduate Magazine Publishing Project, teams of students developed a new magazine or worked in collaboration with an existing publishing company to reinvigorate the editorial and business approach of an existing magazine.

## 1983: Medill Alumni Association Formed

The first official Medill alumni organization, the Medill Alumni Association, is formed, headed by Sam Saran (J50, GJ50), director of corporate communications at Inland Steel Company. A Board of Visitors is later established to provide advice and counsel to the dean.

## 1984: Edward Basset Becomes Dean

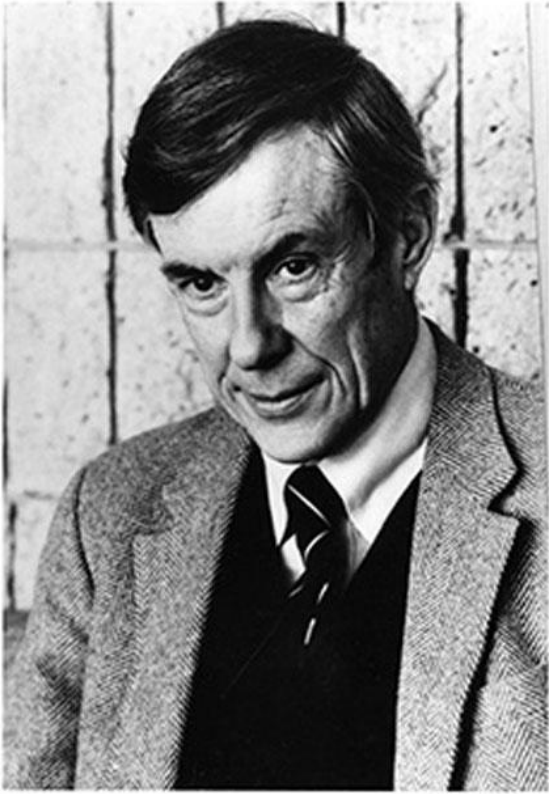


Photo Caption: Edward Basset

Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Edward Basset, editor of the Salem, Oregon newspaper, is named dean. Bassett brought Medill into the computer age by installing terminals at its campuses. He also expanded Medill's advertising program. He established the Accelerated Master's Program through which some journalism students earned a bachelor's and master's degree in four years.

## 1986: Direct Marketing and PR Programs Added



Photo Caption: 1988 Direct Marketing and PR students.

The graduate advertising program adds public relations and direct marketing as additional areas of specialization.

## 1989: Michael Janeway Named Dean

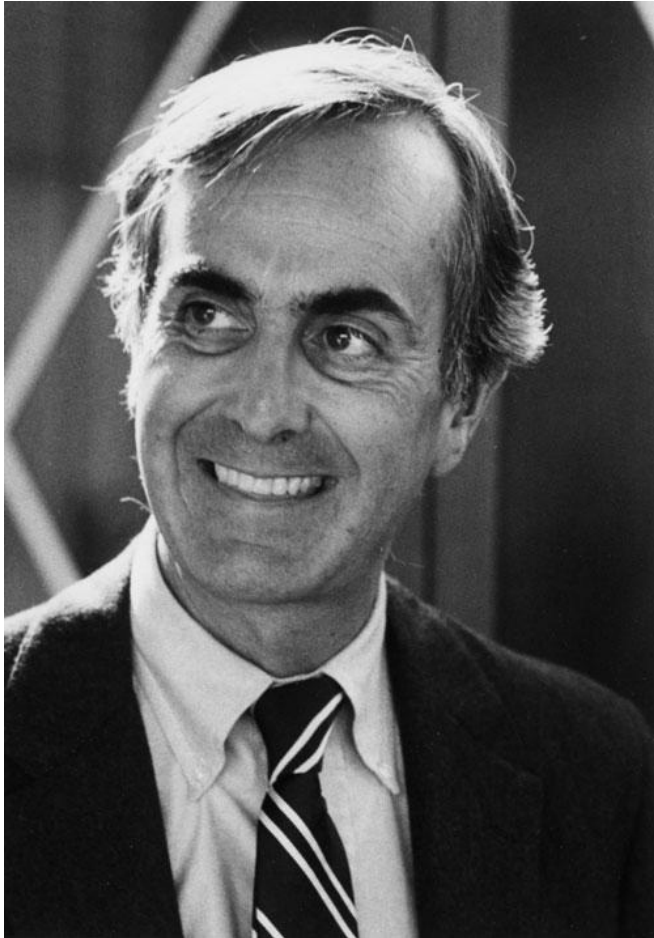


Photo Caption: Michael Janeway  
Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Janeway, former Boston Globe editor, established Medill's degrees in Integrated Marketing Communications. He also increased the technological capacity of the school by updating its computer system.

## 1989: Fisk Hall Renovated



Photo Caption: The dedication of the renovated Fisk Hall, with University President Arnold Weber on the left.

Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Fisk Hall undergoes a major renovation, thanks to a \$2 million gift from the McCormick Foundation and support from the State of Illinois and the University.

## 1990: First Journal of Integrated Marketing Communications Published



Photo Caption: Covers of various editions of JIMC.

The annual JIMC provides a comprehensive summary of what's happening in the world of integrated marketing. The print publication evolves to digital content over the years, with new content currently being published on the IMC Thought Leaders LinkedIn page.

## 1991: The Study of IMC Begins



Photo Caption: The IMC textbook written by Don and Heidi Schultz.

Medill begins the first-ever research study conducted on integrated marketing communications.

## 1991: IMC Graduate Program Launched

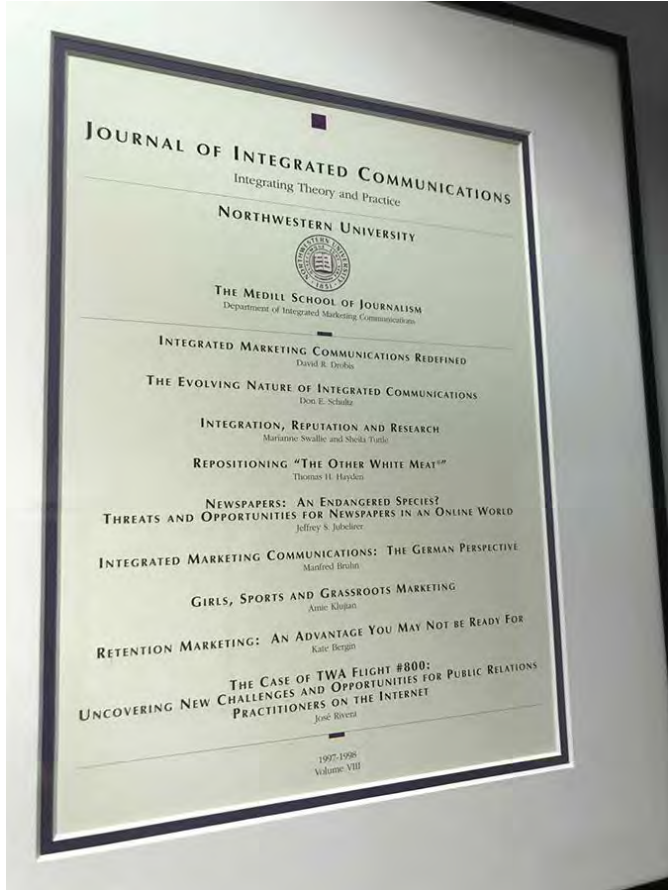


Photo Caption: The Journal of IMC.

IMC master's degree program is launched, combining advertising, sales promotion, direct marketing and public relations.

## 1991: Broadcast Studio Opens in Louis Hall

Funded by a gift from the McCormick Tribune Foundation, a new TV studio opens in Louis Hall.

## 1991: IMC Residency Program Begins

With the newly launched IMC program, Medill also begins offering IMC Residency. Full-time students are placed in individual internships to gain work experience and put their IMC skills into action.

## 1993: Northwestern News Network Debuts





Photo Caption: NNN broadcast studio.

Northwestern News Network, the student-run television news show, makes its debut.

## 1997: Ken Bode Becomes Dean



Photo Caption: Ken Bode

Media credit: Northwestern University Archives

Bode, former moderator for PBS Washington Week in Review, expanded Medill's broadcast news curriculum. He also started the Crain Lecture Series that brought in notable speakers such as Bob Woodward, Rep. Jesse Jackson, Sister Helen Prejean ("Dead Man Walking"), Garry Marshall (BSJ56), Benjamin Netanyahu, Rosalynn Carter, Sen. John McCain and Tom Brokaw.

# 1997: Medill Hall of Achievement Created



**MEDILL**  
Northwestern University

HALL OF ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARDS CEREMONY

*Joseph Medill*

As part of the celebration of its 75th anniversary, Medill creates the Hall of Achievement to honor alumni who are leaders in their professions.

# 1998: Crain Lecture Series Debuts



### Crain lecture series

- Monday — Jim Acosta, The New Yorker, news columnist.
- Sept. 28 — David Protess and Bob Winder, authors of "Whistle of Justice"
- Oct. 5 — Jack Smith and April Olay, former CNN producers
- Oct. 12 — Judy Bear Toppen, HIVOS, filmmaker
- Oct. 19 — Rep. James Jackson Jr., U.S. House of Representatives
- Nov. 2 — Christie Hefner, Playboy Entertainment Inc., chairman and CEO
- Nov. 9 — Bob Woodward, Washington Post reporter
- Nov. 16 — John Callaway, "Chicago Tonight" host
- Nov. 30 — Nicholas Dier, local broadcast journalist

Photo Caption: The Daily Northwestern article featuring launch of the Crain Lecture Series.

Media credit: The Daily Northwestern

A gift from Rance Crain (BSJ60) endows the Gertrude and G.D. Crain Jr. Lecture Series, enabling Medill to bring top-flight journalists, politicians and others to campus for talks.

## 1999: Medill Innocence Project Launches

The Project focuses on advocating for the release of wrongly convicted prisoners. In 2011, it is renamed the Medill Justice Project. Students investigate claims of wrongful imprisonment and publish stories about their findings. The scope is further expanded in 2019 with the launch of the Medill Investigative Lab.

## 2000: IMC Part-Time Program Launches



Photo Caption: IMC Part-Time students work on a group project.

Medill revives its master's program aimed at working professionals with the launch of the IMC Part-Time master's program.

## 2001: Loren Ghiglione Named Dean



Photo Caption: Loren Ghiglione

Loren Ghiglione, director of the journalism program at the University of Southern California, becomes dean. Ghiglione helped create the Journalism Residency program in South Africa to globalize the Medill curriculum. He also was the inaugural Richard A. Schwarzlose Professor of Media Ethics at Medill. During this time, he served on Northwestern's Native American Outreach and Inclusion Task Force, introduced an oral history course titled "Native Americans Tell Their Stories," and was chair of the university steering committee for the 2015-16 One Book One Northwestern program.

## 2002: McCormick Tribune Center Opens



Photo Caption: McCormick Foundation Center  
Media credit: Medill

McCormick Tribune Center opens, providing a new home for Medill in addition to Fisk. The building is subsequently renamed McCormick Foundation Center.

## 2002: South Africa JR Program Begins



Photo Caption: Students participating in the South Africa JR program visit Soweto.

The undergraduate Journalism Residency program expands to South Africa, providing an international experience for students. The program also expands to India. In addition to South Africa, Medill now also sends JR students to Argentina and Qatar.

## 2003: Medill Medal for Courage in Journalism Established



Photo Caption: The James Foley Medill Medal for Courage in Journalism.

The Medill Board of Advisers establishes the award to recognize reporters who best display moral, ethical or physical courage in the pursuit of a story or series of stories. In 2014, the award is named in honor of alumnus James Foley (MSJ08), who was captured and killed by Islamic State terrorists.

## 2005: IMC Global Experiences Begin



Photo Caption: IMC students at Wimbledon.

To give students experience in global marketing and communications, IMC starts offering the Global Perspectives course in Asia. The cities rotate each year, with students visiting top companies in the area to learn how they engage consumers locally and around the world. In the following years, IMC adds additional global courses in Europe and South America.



## 2006: John Lavine Becomes Dean

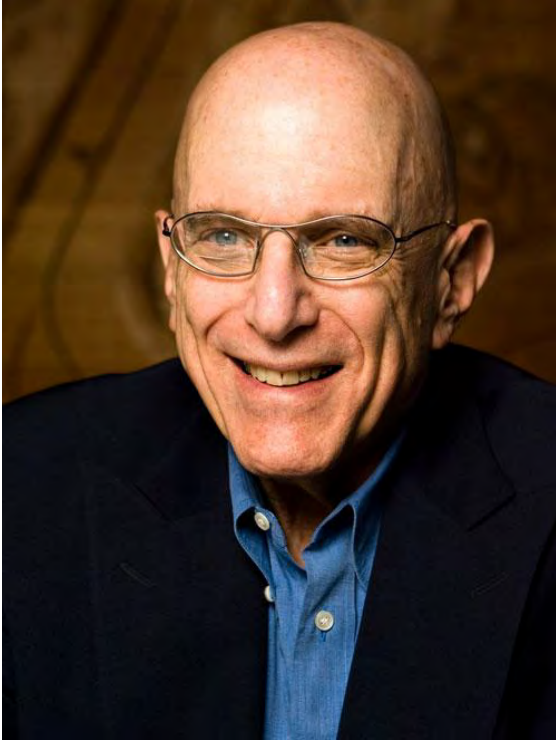


Photo Caption: John Lavine

John Lavine joined Medill from Northwestern's Media Management Center, which he founded in 1989. During his time as dean, Lavine spearheaded the launch of the Integrated Marketing and Communications Certificate. He also pushed the school to take a more digital approach to journalism, partnering with the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation to secure a four-year, \$4.2 million grant to create the Knight News Innovation Laboratory.

## 2006: North by Northwestern Launched

Media credit: North by Northwestern

The North by Northwestern publication launches online in 2006 and is followed by the launch of a print edition in 2008. It features stories about campus and culture. Many Medill students are on the NBN staff.

## 2008: NU-Q Opens Its Doors



Photo Caption: NU-Q journalism students.

Media credit: NU-Qatar

Northwestern University opens a new campus in Doha, Qatar, joining five other American universities that provide programs there. Medill and the School of Communication collaborate to offer degrees in journalism and communication.

## 2008: IMC Residency Team Projects Begin

IMC pilots team consulting projects during the Residency Program. Teams of IMC full-time master's students are paired with a sponsor company to address real business challenges of significant size and scope. In 2013, IMC Residency is rebranded as IMC Immersion Quarter and the majority of students participate in team projects.

## 2009: Undergraduate IMC Certificate Program Launched



Photo Caption: A team of IMC Certificate students won the FOX Sports Big Ten Challenge in 2017.

Media credit: FOX Sports

The undergraduate IMC certificate program is launched, offering courses in IMC to undergraduates from all Northwestern schools. Today, approximately 125 students complete the program each year.

## 2010: Medill Media Teens Launched



Photo Caption: High school students gain hands-on journalism experience through mentor-guided activities such as writing print stories and shooting/editing audio, video and photography. Media credit: Michelle Kim

Medill Media Teens, a program that teaches journalism skills to Chicago neighborhood high school students, begins.

## 2011: Medill Changes Name



Photo caption: Sign outside of Fisk Hall in Evanston.

Medill changes its name to the Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications.

## 2011: Spiegel Research Initiative Founded



Photo Caption: Professors Ed Mathouse and Tom Collinger with Audrey Spiegel.

The Medill IMC Spiegel Research Initiative is founded with the support of late Professor Emeritus Ted Spiegel and his wife Audrey, as well as support from corporations, alumni and friends. Following additional gifts from the Spiegel's estate, it became the Medill IMC Spiegel Digital & Database Research Center in 2014. The center's mission is to do evidence-based, data-driven analysis to prove the relationship between customer engagement and purchase behavior.

## 2011: Knight Lab Launched



Photo Caption: Students in the Knight Lab.  
Media credit: Knight Lab

The Knight Lab, a joint initiative of Medill and the McCormick School of Engineering, is launched with a four-year, \$4.2 million grant to create the Knight News Innovation Laboratory at Northwestern. The Knight Lab, the first of its kind in the country, brings journalists and computer scientists together to accelerate local media innovation by creating new digital tools, building partnerships with media organizations and expanding the media innovation community.

## 2012: Brad Hamm Named Dean



Photo Caption: Brad Hamm.  
Media credit: Sally Ryan

Brad Hamm, dean of the Indiana University School of Journalism, is named dean of Medill. During his time as dean, Hamm expanded opportunities for Medill students to travel throughout the U.S. and the world. Many of these experiential learning opportunities are still a part of Medill students' experiences today.

## 2012: Online IMC Program Begins



Photo Caption: Associate Professor Tom Collinger teaches online.

The IMC online program begins, allowing working professionals all over the world to have access to earn the IMC master's degree.

## 2013: Wilbon, Greenberg, ESPN Come to Northwestern



Photo Caption: Mike Wilbon and Mike Greenberg

ESPN with Medill alumni Mike Wilbon (BSJ80) and Mike Greenberg (BSJ89) comes to campus and broadcasts from the Deering Meadow.

## 2014: McCormick Foundation Day Celebrated



Photo Caption: Faculty panel on McCormick Foundation Day.

Medill celebrates McCormick Foundation Day, honoring the Robert R. McCormick Foundation's legacy of support of Medill, and the 20th anniversary of the McCormick Foundation Journalism Program.

## 2015: The Daily Newsroom Named for Madigans



In 2015, the Daily's newsroom was named for John Madigan and his late wife, Holly Madigan, in recognition of a substantial gift to the paper. John Madigan is the retired chairman and CEO of the Tribune Company, publisher of the Chicago Tribune and a life trustee of Northwestern.



## 2015: George R.R. Martin Visits Campus



Photo Caption: George R. R. Martin speaks to students in the Medill Foundation Center Forum as part of his visit honoring his induction into the Medill Hall of Achievement.

Medill alumnus George R.R. Martin (BSJ70, MSJ71), author of books on which the hit HBO series “Game of Thrones” is based, is inducted into the Medill Hall of Achievement and, after speaking to Medill students in MFC, gives a lecture at a packed Cahn Auditorium.

## 2016: Intent Lab Launches



IMC partners with Performics to launch a research unit known as Intent Lab. The research aims to uncover the intent behind consumer purchase behavior and deliver influential marketplace insights to strengthen brand engagement. The Lab regularly publishes the Digital Satisfaction Index™, a global measure of consumer attitudes and perceptions of online marketing.

## 2016: San Francisco Location Opens



Photo Caption: Student brainstorming session in the San Francisco space at 44 Montgomery Street.

Medill launches new space in San Francisco in a partnership with Northwestern's McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science. The integration of both schools further fosters the connections that engineering and computer science share with journalism and Integrated Marketing Communications. As Medill's first location on the West Coast, the San Francisco campus opens the school to a wealth of alumni and partners located in the Bay Area, and the curriculum has been designed to integrate those connections. Topics include technology, innovation, digital media, human-centered design and more.

## 2016: New Chicago Campus Opens



Photo Caption: Medill's Chicago campus at 303 E. Wacker.

Medill opens new state-of-the-art space at 303 E. Wacker Drive in The Loop. Overlooking the Chicago River and Navy Pier, the space is home to journalism and professional integrated marketing communications master's students. In addition to courses, Medill regularly hosts events for alumni and industry professionals.

## 2016: Washington Program Celebrates 50th Anniversary



The Washington Program, now open to both undergraduate and graduate students, celebrates its 50th anniversary with an event at National Public Radio in DC.

## 2017: Loew Named Director of Native American Center



Photo Caption: Patty Loew

Medill Professor Patty Loew is named director of the new Center for Native American and Indigenous Research.

## 2017: Trevor Noah Interviewed by John Eligon



Photo Caption: Trevor Noah and John Eligon (left) at Cahn Auditorium.  
Media credit:

“The Daily Show” host Trevor Noah is interviewed on campus by New York Times reporter and Medill alumnus John Eligon (BSJ04). Noah spoke on the subject of “Race and Identity in America Now” as part of a “Get With The Times” event co-hosted by The New York Times and Medill. It was webcast live to reach college campuses around the country.

## 2017: Global Experiences Initiative Launched



Photo Caption: Students visiting one of the San Blas islands in Panama as part of an environmental reporting trip to investigate the impact of global warming.

Close to 200 Medill undergraduates and graduate journalism students traveled domestically and to global destinations such as Panama, Cuba, South Africa, Japan, Israel and China to report on topics such as the arts, sports media, conflict journalism, climate change and the environment. Weeklong global programs for journalism students continue today.

## 2018: Local News Initiative Developed



Medill launches the Local News Initiative in partnership with various local news organizations and supported by a \$300,000 grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. and significant contributions from private donors. The project aims to spur experimentation of new approaches to local news through deeper audience insights that could give rise to more reader engagement, improved trust, and ultimately, more sustainable business models.

## 2019: Charles Whitaker Named Dean



Photo Caption: Charles Whitaker  
Media credit: Sally Ryan

Charles Whitaker (BSJ80, MSJ81) is the first Black dean of Medill and the first alumnus to serve as dean. He earned both undergraduate and graduate degrees in journalism from the school. He is focused on providing resources to attract diverse students.

## 2019: Daniel H. Renberg Chair Created



Photo Caption: Steven Thrasher

Medill creates the first-of-its-kind endowed professorship that focuses on social justice in reporting, with an emphasis on issues relevant to the LGBTQ community. Named the Daniel H. Renberg Chair, Steven Thrasher, a contributor for The Guardian and a contributing editor at BuzzFeed, is the first faculty member to hold the position.

## 2019: Timeline JS Views Reach New High



Photo Caption: TimelineJS

Online timeline creation tool TimelineJS, created in 2012 by the Knight Lab and used in newsrooms worldwide, logs 67.7M pageviews in 2019 with more than 300K timelines viewed.

## 2019: Barstow Wins Fourth Pulitzer



Photo Caption: David Barstow

Medill alumnus David Barstow (BSJ86) becomes the first journalist to win the Pulitzer Prize four times in the reporting categories.

## 2019: Medill Investigative Lab Launches

The Washington Post  
Investigative Lab at Medill

Business

### Hundreds of nursing homes with cases of coronavirus have violated federal infection-control rules in recent years

Of about 650 homes with publicly reported coronavirus cases, 40 percent have been cited more than once with violations related to infection control, a Post analysis found



Photo caption: An article written by Medill faculty and students published on April 17, 2020.  
Media credit: The Washington Post

Building on its years of experience in investigative reporting, Medill launches the new Medill Investigative Lab. Undergraduate and graduate students have the opportunities to work on deep investigative stories and have them published online and in professional outlets, such as The Washington Post.

## 2020: Washington Bureau Relocates



Medill relocates its DC bureau from I Street to the Washington Post building at 1301 K Street.



## 2020: IMC Professional Program Launches



Medill combines the IMC Part-Time and IMC Online master's programs into one program for working professionals. Students take courses entirely online, in the evening at Medill Chicago, or both.

## 2021: Medill Celebrates 100 Years



Photo caption: The undergraduate journalism Class of 2021 poses in the shape of 100 during their freshman year orientation in 2017.

Media credit: Northwestern IT department.

Medill alumni around the world mark the Centennial of their alma mater.