



2009

IRE

CONFERENCE

BALTIMORE

JUNE 11-14





Welcome to Baltimore

The challenges our profession faces are well known.

Some see the budget and staffing cuts and believe that the time for enterprise and investigative reporting is passing.

But the hundreds of journalists gathered here this week tell a different story.

We have come to Baltimore because we know that, even as times and news-delivery systems change, the skills necessary to uncover facts, root out documents, track down sources and expose wrongdoing remain essential.

And with fewer of us in newsrooms – and newsrooms themselves changing – it's incumbent on every reporter, editor and producer to dig deeper, work smarter and incorporate new skills.

That's why the focus of the 2009 IRE Conference is squarely where it's always been: giving you the tips, knowledge and newest tools you need to serve as the watchdogs of your communities.

You'll learn from some of the biggest and best names in investigative reporting. Dozens of winners of the nation's top journalism awards join a roster of speakers who will tackle a host of topics from covering beats to exploring new ways of doing investigative reporting.

We'll show you how to dig into the key issues of the financial crisis and how to measure the impact of the meltdown, both nationally and locally.

We'll help you sharpen your computer-assisted reporting skills and show you how to better use the Web, both as a reporting tool and a way to have higher impact with your stories.

At our two showcase panels on Friday, gain insights from Bob Woodward and Len Downie Jr. and join a discussion highlighting some of the great work that continues to be done in these tough economic times. On Saturday, celebrate some of that work at the IRE Awards Luncheon, where CNN/U.S. President Jon Klein will deliver the keynote address.

The message of the award ceremony is really the theme of this week. Great work continues to be done throughout the country and the world, and every journalist can – and must – strive to do work with similar impact.

These days, that's more important than ever.

Mark Horvit, IRE Executive Director

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Conference Sponsors	1	Mentorship Program	7	Conference Speakers	18-28
Conference Fellowships	2	Exhibitors	8	Schedule	29-33
Conference Essentials	3	Official Business	9	Dining and Entertainment	34-35
Special Events	4	Computer-Assisted Reporting	10	Conference Meeting Rooms	back cover
Schedule Highlights	5	IRE Services	13		
Keynote Address	6	2007 IRE Awards Winners	14-17		

Conference Sponsors

IRE would like to thank the organizations and foundations contributing to this conference and the programs related to the conference.

Host

- *The Baltimore Sun* for serving as our conference host and for general support

Featured sponsor

- **Bloomberg** for its support of conference programming, including the business-track panels

Primary sponsors

- **John S. and James L. Knight Foundation** for co-sponsoring programming on alternative models for investigative journalism
- **Lumina Foundation for Education** for its support of the conference, including panels on higher education
- **Scripps Howard Foundation** for sponsoring the IRE mentorship program

Sponsors

- **American University School of Communication** for hosting the international luncheon and support of international fellows
- **Criminal Justice Journalists** for co-sponsoring the Criminal Justice Track panels
- **Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma** for its support of conference programming
- **Dart Society** for its support of conference programming
- **Philip L. Graham Fund** for supporting the Graham Diversity Fellow
- **Hearst Newspapers** for assistance in bringing journalists to the conference
- **Investigative Reporting Workshop** for general conference support
- **Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas at the University of Texas at Austin** for assistance in bringing journalists to the conference
- **Donald W. Reynolds National Center for Business Journalism at Arizona State University** for its support of the conference, including the business-track panels
- **Smallman Law PLLC** for co-sponsoring the Brown Bag with Media Lawyers
- **Sunlight Foundation** for general conference support, including FOI and campaign finance panels
- *The New York Times* for general conference support
- *The Wall Street Journal* for general conference support
- *The Washington Post* for general conference support
- *USA Today* for general conference support
- **James Richard Bennett Scholarship Fund** for supporting the Bennett Scholar
- **Robert W. Greene Fellowship Fund for Young Journalists** for supporting the Greene Fellow
- **Brant Houston International Journalism Fund** for supporting the international fellows
- **Jennifer Leonard Scholarship Fund** for supporting the Leonard Scholar
- **Godfrey Wells Stancill Fellowship Fund** for supporting the Stancill Fellow
- **Missouri School of Journalism** for continuing to provide space and support for IRE and the National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting

Bloomberg News



John S. and James L.
Knight Foundation

www.knightfoundation.org



LUMINA
FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION

Many thanks to everyone who shared their time, energy and ideas to help make IRE'09 a success, including:

Baltimore Local Committee

Chair: Tisha Thompson, WTTG-Washington, D.C.

Roberta Baskin, Freelance

Fred Schulte, Freelance

Deb Nelson, University of Maryland

Jennifer LaFleur, ProPublica

Sarah Cohen, *The Washington Post*

Amy Webb, Webmedia Group LLC

John Sherman, WBAL-Baltimore

Wendell Cochran, American University

John Fairhall, *Kaiser Health News*

Bernie Kohn, Freelance

Rick Yarborough, WTTG-Washington, D.C.

Blake Morrison, *USA Today*

Caryn Tamber, *The Daily Record* of Baltimore

IRE Conference Committee

Phil Williams, WTVF-Nashville, co-chair

Duff Wilson, *The New York Times*, co-chair

Matt Goldberg, KNBC-Los Angeles

Jason Grotto, *The Chicago Tribune*

Aron Pilhofer, *The New York Times*

Tisha Thompson, WTTG – Washington D.C.

Mc Nelly Torres, Freelance

Conference Fellowships

IRE fellowships and scholarships allow professional journalists or students to attend training events. Fellowships typically include a one-year IRE membership, conference or seminar registration fees, and reimbursement for hotel and travel expenses. (www.ire.org/training/fellowships)

James Richard Bennett Scholarship

These were established by James Richard Bennett, Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Arkansas, and are awarded to college students in Arkansas, Mississippi, Oklahoma or Louisiana.

- Emily Holman, Oklahoma State University

Philip L. Graham Scholarship

This minority fellowship program was established by the Philip L. Graham Fund.

- Marian Wang, Freelance

Jennifer Leonard Scholarship

These scholarships are awarded to women of modest means who are college students studying journalism or professional journalists with no more than three years' work experience. The scholarships were established by IRE member David Cay Johnston to honor his wife, the president of the Rochester Area Community Foundation and a national leader in promoting ethical standards for endowments.

- Jennifer Kastner, KVOA-Tucson

Godfrey Wells Stancill Small News Fellowship

These fellowships were established by IRE member Nancy Stancill and her family to honor the memory of her father, Godfrey Wells Stancill, former editor and publisher of the *Suffolk* (Va.) *News-Herald*.

- Leslie Parilla, *The Tribune* (San Luis Obispo, Calif.)

CAR Boot Camp Fellows

The minority fellowship program was established by the Ottaway Family Fund to allow a limited number of professional journalists to attend IRE's week-long computer-assisted reporting training.

- Hubert Tate, WALA-Mobile, Ala.
- Stella Chavez, *The Dallas Morning News*



BARLETT & STEELE AWARDS

RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE IN INVESTIGATIVE BUSINESS JOURNALISM

Presented by the Donald W. Reynolds
National Center for Business Journalism

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 3, 2009

GOLD AWARD \$5,000

SILVER AWARD \$2,000

Named for the widely acclaimed investigative business reporting team of Don Barlett and Jim Steele, these awards, funded by the Reynolds Center, celebrate the best in print and online investigative business journalism.

**For complete rules and details, go to
www.businessjournalism.org/barlettsteeleawards/**

**Jim Steele will present "Investigative Business Journalism,"
a free one-day workshop, at the *Los Angeles Times* on Oct. 21.
Seats are limited. Please sign up at www.businessjournalism.org**



Donald W. Reynolds
**National Center
for Business Journalism**

Andrew Leckey, President
andrew.leckey@businessjournalism.org • 602-496-9186

Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication
Arizona State University

Funded by a grant from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation,
based in Las Vegas, Nev.

Conference Essentials

Grand Ballroom Registration Desk

Wednesday 4–6 p.m.

Thursday 7:30 a.m.–6 p.m.

Friday 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Saturday 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

IRE Sales & Fundraising – Grand Ballroom Rotunda

Thursday 7:30 a.m.– 6 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m.–6 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m.– 5 p.m.

Sunday 8:30–10:30 a.m.

CyberCafe – Grand Ballroom II

Stop by to check your e-mail at computer stations provided by IRE.

Thursday 5:50–7 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m.–5:50 p.m.

Saturday 8:30 a.m.–5:50 p.m.

Reprints & Tipsheets – Grand Ballroom Foyer

Read the original stories highlighted in panel discussions and other examples of outstanding investigations shared by IRE members. If you have copies of stories you'd like to make available, then please leave them with one of the reprint area staff members.

Tipsheets and other handouts from speakers are available on tables in each panel session. Any remaining copies will be available in the Grand Ballroom Foyer. After the conference, IRE will offer copies through the Resource Center. IRE members can purchase the entire IRE 2009 collection on CD or download individual tipsheets from the IRE Web site. Order forms are available at the sales desk.

Conference Audio

Review your favorite panels, or catch the ones you missed with professional audio recordings of panels in convenient MP3 format. IRE will notify conference attendees when the compilation is completed. Registered attendees can download the audio files for free from the IRE Web site.

The collection is also available on CD. Conference attendees can order one copy for the price of shipping. IRE members who did not attend the conference can purchase the CD for \$20 plus \$5 shipping. Order forms are available at the sales desk.

Don't forget your evaluation!

You will receive an online conference evaluation in your inbox. Please take a moment to let us know what you liked in Baltimore and what you'd like to see in the future. IRE uses your feedback to plan future conferences, develop new training programs and resources, and demonstrate our performance in reports to current and prospective sponsors. By completing an evaluation, you can enter a drawing to receive free registration to the 2010 IRE Conference.

Your Professional Journey Starts Here

American University invites
applications for fellowships
offered jointly with:



33 credit hours plus
a generous stipend



24 credit hours plus
a generous stipend



18 credit hours plus
a generous stipend

Fellows work on a variety of projects
at the partner organization while
completing an intensive
33-credit graduate
program in journalism.

www.soc.american.edu



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC

eo/aa

Special Events



Blues Bash

Blues great Eddie Shaw & his Wolf Gang will headline the 11th annual IRE Blues Bash on Thursday.

Eddie Shaw is a living history of the blues — one of the last in a lineage that includes Howlin' Wolf, Muddy Waters and other legends. Since his sold-out Blues Bash appearances in 1999 and 2001, Eddie made his movie debut last year in John Sayles' "Honeydripper," which starred Danny Glover. In the film, Shaw portrays Time Trenier, a sax-blowing music teacher in a 1950s Mississippi juke joint.

Equally cool is our venue: The 8x10 at 10 East Cross Street (www.the8x10.com) — in the heart of Baltimore's Federal Hill neighborhood.

The revelry begins at 7 p.m. with a social hour and cash bar, plus complimentary pizza while supplies last. The Wolf Gang will take the stage at 9 p.m. The 8x10 is closed to the public until midnight for our private party. Don't miss out! We expect another sold-out show. Tickets, if any remain, are \$25 at the conference sales desk or \$30 at the door.

The Blues Bash has raised more than \$32,000 for IRE's Resource Center; the event is organized by longtime member Mark Lagerkvist.

Baseball Night at Camden Yards

Come out to the ballpark on Friday at 7:05 p.m. for the Orioles vs. Braves. It's a fun opportunity to unwind and support IRE. We have a block of tickets reserved in left field—lower reserve, section 81. If you purchased advanced tickets, you can pick them up at the conference Sales Desk from 9 a.m. to noon on Friday.

If you missed the advanced tickets but would like to join the group, you can buy regular game day tickets and request seats in or near lower reserve, section 81, if available.

More information about Orioles Park at Camden Yards (333 West Camden St. in downtown Baltimore) and ticket sales is online at <http://baltimore.orioles.mlb.com>.

Closing Reception—Saturday

Join us for a closing reception, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom Foyer, and enjoy one last evening of catching up with old and new friends, speakers and colleagues. Hors d' oeuvres and a cash bar will be available. Conference nametags are required for entry.

Schedule Highlights

Showcase Panels

Accountability reporting and digging deep

Noon-1 p.m. Friday, Grand Ballroom V

- Bob Woodward, *The Washington Post*
- Leonard Downie Jr., *The Washington Post*

Doing great work in tough times

4:35-6 p.m. Friday, Grand Ballroom V

- Jill Abramson, *The New York Times* (moderator)
- Andrew Donohue, voiceofsandiego.org
- Mark Katches, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*
- Brian Ross, ABC News
- Paul Steiger, ProPublica
- Lawan Williams, *E.W. Scripps*

Broadcast Show and Tell

Do you want to see what other broadcasters have been doing this past year? Stop by the Show & Tell room to see the investigations and how the stories came together. Time slots will be available on Friday and Saturday in Dover A-B-C. If you'd like to make copies of Show & Tell room material, a dubbing station will be set up nearby. Please bring your own DVDs to use this service.

Demo Room

On Friday and Saturday, the Demo Room (Grand Ballroom II) offers sessions on demonstrating new technology and tools, a special hands-on intro to shooting video, and other informal group discussions tailored to attendees' interests. See schedule for details, or contact IRE Conference Coordinator Stephanie Sinn if you are interested in adding a session.

Awards Luncheon

A highlight of the IRE conference, the IRE Awards Luncheon begins at noon Saturday in Grand Ballroom V-VI. We will present the 2008 IRE Awards and salute some of the best investigative work of the past year. (See a complete list of winners and finalists, starting on p. 14-17.)



Admission to the luncheon is included with your conference registration. Guest tickets are available for \$55 at the IRE sales desk.

Building investigative journalism centers and funding your own projects

Find out about ways to build and fund the future of investigative journalism through the development of state and regional centers. Limited seating is available for a special track of Thursday panels that will talk about the challenges and solutions to the creation and operation of such centers. Sessions will include advice on getting started, pitfalls to avoid, how to create successful partnerships, and how to get and use cutting-edge technology. The day's final session will feature foundation leaders discussing what they consider when evaluating which projects to support. (Sponsored by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation)

And don't miss two "Funding Your Work" panels on Friday (2:15 in Grand Ballroom VII-VIII) and Saturday (3:40 in Grand Ballroom IX-X) where you can learn about how to get support for your investigative project.

Brown Bag with Media Lawyers

Sponsored by Smallman Law PLLC

1 p.m. Friday, Grand Ballroom VII & VIII

Here's your chance for informal Q&A about legal issues with IRE's pro bono counsel, David B. Smallman, Esq. and other friends of the First Amendment. Bring your "hypotheticals" and your own lunch. Beverages and desserts will be provided.

Brown Bag for Researchers, News Librarians and Friends

1 p.m. Friday, Grand Ballroom III-IV

Networking Breakfast for IRE Mentoring Program Participants

Sponsored by the Scripps Howard Foundation

8 a.m. Friday, Essex A-B-C

Coffee and pastries will be served. *This is an invitation-only event.*

Networking Session for International Journalists

1 p.m. Friday, Essex A-B-C

Sponsored by American University School of Communication

Journalists from outside the United States will meet and discuss strategies for training and working together.

This is an invitation-only event.

Caspio Hands-on and Consultations

Caspio will offer free hands-on training for existing Caspio Bridge clients on Thursday. Classes provide in-depth training to empower participants with the latest tools and insights to create complete end-to-end web applications efficiently and maintain them with ease. Caspio's Ed Garcia is also available for one-on-one consultations during the conference (sign-up required).

Keynote Address

The IRE Awards Luncheon begins at noon
Saturday in Grand Ballroom V-VI.

Jonathan Klein, president of CNN/U.S., will deliver the keynote address at the IRE Awards Luncheon.

Klein is responsible for management oversight of all programming, editorial tone and strategic direction of the network. Named to this position in November 2004, he previously served as president and chief executive officer of The FeedRoom, a broadband video company he founded in 1999. Under his direction, The FeedRoom became one of the leading online broadcasters in the world, delivering more than 1 million video clips each day to customers including CBS, NBC, ESPN, Reuters, Tribune television stations and newspapers, *USA Today*, *BusinessWeek*, General Motors, Cisco Systems, Sun Microsystems, General Mills and the U.S. Department of Defense.

Before founding The FeedRoom, Klein was an executive vice president at CBS News, where he oversaw prime-time programming including “60 Minutes,” “48 Hours” and “Public Eye With Bryant Gumbel.” Klein also oversaw off-network production, guest booking, investigative reporting and strategic planning.

Klein began his television career in 1980 as a news producer at WLNE-Providence, R.I., and the following year moved to a similar position at WPIX-TV/Independent Network News in New York. In 1982, he joined CBS News as a writer and news editor on the overnight broadcast “Nightwatch.” He subsequently served as broadcast producer on “CBS Morning News” and then “CBS Evening News Weekend Edition,” where he won an Emmy Award for live coverage of the 1986 Reagan/Gorbachev summit in Reykjavik, Iceland.

In 1988, Klein joined the fledgling prime-time magazine series “48 Hours” as a field producer, eventually winning an Emmy Award for coverage of Hurricane Hugo and a Peabody Award for an hour he produced on the anti-abortion movement. Klein served as senior producer for CBS’s 1990 late-night series “America Tonight” with Charles Kuralt and Lesley Stahl, as senior producer for the network’s coverage of the 1991 Gulf War and later for the documentary “Back to Baghdad,” in which foreign correspondent Bob Simon returned to the Middle East following his imprisonment by the Iraqis during the war.



In 1993, Klein launched a unique prime-time documentary series, “Before Your Eyes,” two-hour movies-of-the-week that explored social issues such as child abuse, AIDS and juvenile delinquency through the eyes of real people living through dramatic moments in their lives with the cameras rolling. The series, for which Klein served as executive producer and director, was acclaimed for pioneering new forms of storytelling and received numerous national awards.

In 1997, Klein conceived and executive produced the CBS documentary “Inside the Jury Room,” in which network television cameras were permitted for the first time to observe deliberations in a criminal trial. The documentary won a Columbia-duPont Silver Baton.

Klein also wrote the story for the TNT Original film “Buffalo Soldiers,” a 1997 historical drama starring Danny Glover.

Klein graduated magna cum laude from Brown University in 1980 with a degree in history.

Mentorship Program



The 2009 IRE Conference offers a unique opportunity for in-depth, one-on-one coaching. Mentees get advice from experienced journalists on improving their skills as reporters, editors or producers. The mentoring that occurs during these sessions often continues in a more informal way for months, even years, after the conference concludes.

Special thanks to the Scripps Howard Foundation for its continuing support of the IRE Mentorship Program.

The following journalists volunteered their time as mentors at this year's conference:

Joe Bergantino, New England Center for Investigative Reporting	Hagit Limor, WCPO-Cincinnati
Daniel Bice, <i>Milwaukee Journal Sentinel</i>	Miles Moffeit, <i>The Denver Post</i>
Walt Bogdanich, <i>The New York Times</i>	Blake Morrison, <i>USA Today</i>
Tom Brune, <i>Newsday</i>	Eric Nalder, Hearst Newspapers
Jeff Burnside, WTVJ-Miami	James Neff, <i>The Seattle Times</i>
Rose Ciotta, <i>The Philadelphia Inquirer</i>	Deborah Nelson, University of Maryland
Wendell Cochran, American University	Robert O'Harrow, <i>The Washington Post</i>
Sarah Cohen, <i>The Washington Post</i>	Lise Olsen, <i>Houston Chronicle</i>
Chase Davis, <i>The Des Moines Register</i>	Doug Pardue, <i>Post and Courier</i> (Charleston, S.C.)
David Donald, Center for Public Integrity	Cheryl Phillips, <i>The Seattle Times</i>
Jaimi Dowdell, IRE and NICAR	Aron Pilhofer, <i>The New York Times</i>
Stephen Engelberg, ProPublica	Duane Pohlman, WEWS-Cleveland
Laura Frank, freelancer	Jim Polk, CNN
Ellen Gabler, <i>Milwaukee Journal Sentinel</i>	Brian Ross, ABC News
Manny Garcia, <i>El Nuevo Herald/The Miami Herald</i>	Norberto Santana, <i>The Orange County (Calif.) Register</i>
Matt Goldberg, KNBC-Los Angeles	Rhonda Schwartz, ABC News
Mark Greenblatt, KHOU-Houston	Teri Sforza, <i>The Orange County (Calif.) Register</i>
Drew Griffin, CNN	James Steele, <i>Vanity Fair</i>
James Grimaldi, <i>The Washington Post</i>	Ruth Teichroeb, freelancer
Jason Grotto, <i>Chicago Tribune</i>	Sandra Thomas, Thom Thom Media
Doug Haddix, IRE and NICAR	Mc Nelly Torres, freelancer
Andy Hall, Wisconsin Center for Investigative Reporting	Stuart Watson, WCNC-Charlotte
Lorie Hearn, <i>The San Diego Union-Tribune</i>	Anna Werner, KPIX-San Francisco
David Heath, <i>The Seattle Times</i>	Lawan Williams, E.W. Scripps
Brant Houston, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Phil Williams, WTVF-Nashville
David Cay Johnston, freelancer	Derek Willis, <i>The New York Times</i>
Kathleen Johnston, CNN	Duff Wilson, <i>The New York Times</i>
Mark Katches, <i>Milwaukee Journal Sentinel</i>	Alison Young, <i>The Atlanta Journal-Constitution</i>
Chris Knap, <i>The Orange County (Calif.) Register</i>	Scott Zamost, CNN
Jennifer LaFleur, ProPublica	

Exhibitors

Visit with the exhibitors in the Grand Ballroom Foyer to learn about new products, services and news sources available to journalists.

Hours
Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

ADMIT ONE



Investigative Mechanics Inc.
Advanced Surveillance Technologies
Investigative Mechanics, Inc.
www.bagged.us
New York, N.Y

**United States[®]
Census
2010**

U.S. Census Bureau
It's In Our Hands
2010.census.gov/2010census

PETA

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
(PETA) peta.org



Donald W. Reynolds National Center for
Business Journalism
www.businessjournalism.org
Arizona State University, Tempe, Ariz.

 **The Journalism School**
Columbia University

Graduate School of Journalism
2950 Broadway, New York
www.journalism.columbia.edu

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University School of Communication
soc.american.edu



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Office of Public Affairs
Suite 11200
1141 Jefferson Davis Hwy
Arlington, VA 22202-3231
703-607-2584



SEJ
www.sej.org



Office of Justice Programs
www.ojp.usdoj.gov
Washington, D.C.



**Union of
Concerned
Scientists**

Citizens and Scientists for Environmental Solutions
Union of Concerned Scientists
www.ucsusa.org



The Baltimore Sun Media Group

- #1 Newspaper: The Baltimore Sun*
- #1 source of news: The Baltimore Sun*
- #1 local news website: baltimoresun.com**
- #1 in weekly community news: Community Newspaper Group***
- #1 Young adult daily publication: **b** free daily



*Among regional news media. Sources: Scarborough 2008 R2; ** 2008 Media Audit. ***Evaluation of CAC, CVC, ABC Audits and USPS Statements of Ownership, Management and Circulation

Official Business

Board of Directors Meeting

1 p.m. Thursday, Executive Boardroom

The meeting is open to members. The board also will meet briefly on Saturday after the membership meeting to elect officers.

Membership Meeting

6 p.m. Saturday, Grand Ballroom IX-X

Once the doors are closed, no one is allowed to enter or exit until voting is complete.

Plan to attend the annual membership meeting in order to cast a ballot in the Board of Directors elections. Six seats on the 13-member board are up for election this year.

Prior to the election, the membership also will vote on a proposed amendment to the organization's Articles of Incorporation to lift the restriction on the number of academic members who can serve on the board. Currently only one member of the 13-member board may fall into this category. If this amendment passes, there would be no limit. If passed, the changes would apply to the election held immediately afterward. (There are no academic members on the current board.)

IRE members who filed their candidacy before the pre-conference deadline were allowed to submit a statement for posting on the IRE Web site. Anyone who declares candidacy at the conference must deliver a one-page statement/biography to the executive director by noon, local time, on Friday, June 12.

Those statements, along with those previously posted online, and the text of the proposed amendment regarding academic board members will be displayed on a bulletin board in the main conference area.

At the membership meeting, candidates must be nominated and seconded from the floor by two other IRE members. There will be no nominating speeches, but candidates will have two minutes to address their peers.

Immediately following the board elections, there will be a separate election for two IRE Awards contest judges. Those candidates will be nominated and seconded from the floor. Voting will be by ballot.

More information about the IRE board's duties and the election rules are online at www.ire.org/about/procedures.

Voting and Absentee Ballots



The ballot at the membership meeting will include all candidates who declared by the June 12 deadline.

Members unable to attend the conference were allowed to participate via absentee balloting. Absentee balloting is meant to supplement—not replace—IRE's traditional election process, which encourages membership meeting attendance as a sign of commitment to the group and to involve as many members as possible in important discussions.

Candidates who declared by May 1 were included on the absentee ballot. Members were allowed to request absentee ballots from May 1-20. The deadline for returning absentee ballots was June 3. The absentee ballots have been kept sealed in special ballot envelopes and are not opened until the general election count on Saturday. Absentee ballots are not available, nor are late submissions accepted, at the conference.

Current IRE Board Members

President

Cheryl Phillips, *The Seattle Times*

Vice President

Alison Young, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

Treasurer

Lea Thompson, broadcast journalist/producer

Secretary

Duff Wilson, *The New York Times*

Manny Garcia, *El Nuevo Herald/The Miami Herald*

James V. Grimaldi, *The Washington Post*

Jason Grotto, *Chicago Tribune*

Stephen C. Miller, freelance reporter/editor

Lise Olsen, *Houston Chronicle*

Marilyn Thompson, *The Washington Post*

Mc Nelly Torres, Freelance

Lawan Williams, E.W. Scripps

Phil Williams, WTVF-Nashville

Computer-Assisted Reporting

IRE hands-on classes

CAR for beginners

Veteran CAR specialists lead sessions that combine data exercises and tips for using these techniques in your work. Classes are held in Grand Ballroom I; seating is first-come, first-served.

- Mastering the Spreadsheet
 - Excel 1: Performing simple calculations and sorting
 - Excel 2: Calculating ratios and rates
 - Converting and importing PDFs into Excel
 - Importing text and HTML into Excel
- Mastering the Database
 - Access 1: Selecting and sorting data items you choose
 - Access 2: Summarizing databases with counting and summing
 - Access 3: Joining tables, matching information from one file to another

Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp

Go from the basic concepts of moving data to the Web all the way to a fully functioning data-driven application with this intensive hands-on course. The classes use Django, the Web framework behind award-winning projects such as EveryBlock, PolitiFact and *The Washington Post's* Congressional Votes database. Classes will be held in Grand Ballroom II.

For pre-registered participants only.

If you missed the sign-up for Baltimore, see www.ire.org/training/bootcamps/webcamp for the next scheduled Web Programming and Django for Djournalists boot camps — in-depth three or six-day training at our headquarters in Columbia, Mo.

Frameworks topics:

- Objects, Models and the ORM: The foundations of frameworks, the object, the model and the object relational model, or ORM.
- Prepping your data: How to turn your data into the foundation of your application. Here we talk about relational data, good model design and putting that data into your models.
- Using the ORM to get data: All that data we put in? Now we start to get it out by learning the foundations of the ORM's query syntax.
- Design by URL: Used to be, a URL went to a static file. In a framework, a URL is a critical component of your application.
- Views: The view is where the work gets done. Information from the request goes in, and data for your templates goes out. Here we take another step toward putting it all together.
- Templates are what your users see. Here we talk about how to take the data passed from the view and turn it into something your designers can start to work with.

Data and analysis for stories

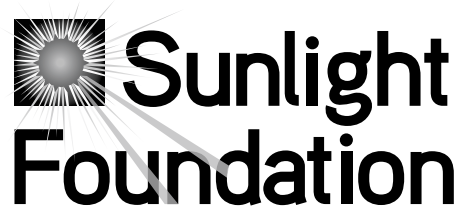
The Database Library staff maintains a collection of government databases on a wide array of subjects, provides data analysis services for news organizations and assists journalists trying to solve data problems. Visit data.nicar.org/data for details. The library is operated by IRE and the National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting, a joint program of IRE and the Missouri School of Journalism.

Our expert staff can provide custom database analysis or mapping services to help produce stories with impact that are backed by quality research. For more information, contact Executive Director Mark Horvit, mark@ire.org.

Affordable advanced training

IRE and NICAR offer intensive boot camps (three- and six-day options) for CAR fundamentals or advanced skills, such as statistics or mapping. Veteran staffers teach and provide follow-up support when you put your new skills into practice. See the full schedule at www.ire.org/training/bootcamps.php. Fees are based on a sliding scale. Fellowships are available for minority journalists and those from small news organizations.

Committed to improving
access to _____
information, digitizing
new _____, creating
new _____ and _____
and offering training on
how to use them to
enable _____ to _____
in fostering greater
government _____
and transparency.



We had a feeling you'd read the fine print! The actual copy can be found at SunlightFoundation.com/IRE2009/. Or you can simply write your own and send it to us. We'll send you something in return.

PLEASE HELP IRE OBTAIN A \$50,000 CHALLENGE FUND FOR JOURNALISM GRANT

At this crucial time for our industry and a challenging financial time for IRE, support for IRE's mission becomes more important than ever. IRE gives journalists the skills and tools that enable them to fulfill their watchdog role, and your contribution will assist in continuing these efforts.

Year after year, IRE works hard to raise the standards for reporting and editing, and to stay on the cutting edge of the best journalism techniques. Year after year, we help print, broadcast and online journalists throughout the world become better watchdogs for society. And year after year, IRE helps journalists keep governments, businesses and individuals accountable for their actions.

The \$50,000 grant will help IRE improve our Web site, with a focus on developing online training initiatives, and modernize our database systems to better deliver resources and services to our members.

What donations qualify for the program?

- If you've never given to IRE – or haven't made a donation in the past three years – anything you give will count toward our goal.
- If you are a recent donor, then we can still count anything you give if it's more than you've given in any of the past three years.
- Although the focus of the program is on individual donors, your contribution will qualify if you give through your family foundation or business. In addition, if your employer has a matching-gifts program, the corporate match will also count toward the challenge.
- Donations may be directed toward the IRE Endowment Fund, general operations and/or targeted programming.

What is IRE's challenge?

The Challenge Fund for Journalism V launched in August 2008. Fifteen journalism organizations, including IRE, were awarded a total of \$565,000 in challenge grants as part of the program; the organizations represent a broad range of sectors and interests.

IRE was given a \$50,000 grant and must raise \$75,000 in donations from individual donors by August 8.

How can you help?

If you are a current donor, then please consider giving \$50 to \$100 more than you've given in any of the past three years. The amount of the increase will count toward the challenge.

If it's been three years or more since you last donated to IRE, then please consider making a donation today. The full amount of your donation will count toward the challenge. Not sure when you donated last? Contact IRE development officer Jennifer Erickson to check the date of your most recent donation: 573-884-2222 or jennifer@ire.org.

If you know of someone who understands the importance of investigative and watchdog journalism, then please ask him/her to consider a donation to IRE.

How can I make a donation to support the challenge?

During the conference, stop by the IRE sales table in the registration foyer and drop off your tax-deductible donation. Following the conference, please visit www.ire.org/donate. Or you may send a check payable to "IRE" to: IRE, Missouri School of Journalism, 141 Neff Annex, Columbia, MO 65211. Please write "donation" in the memo field.

To learn more about the program, contact Jennifer Erickson at 573-884-2222 or jennifer@ire.org.

YES! I would like to support IRE.

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Company Address _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

To pledge, check one of the boxes and sign your name:

I will pledge \$ _____ per year for _____ years.

Signature for pledges _____

One-time donation:

I would like to support IRE with a \$ _____ donation.

Payment Method:

My check is enclosed and made payable to IRE. Please write "donation" in the memo line of your check.

Please charge my credit card with the amount indicated: \$ _____ Visa MasterCard American Express

Account Number _____ Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

I would like my gift to benefit IRE in this way:

General operations

Endowment - general fund

Endowment - specific program, services or resource area

Name area _____

My company will match my contribution (For a list of matching participants, see www.ire.org/endowment/matching.html.)

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IRE Services

Resource Center

With more than 23,000 print and broadcast stories, the IRE Resource Center is a starting point for any story you're working on. The center also houses more than 3,000 tipsheets created for past IRE conferences. Tipsheets in PDF format can be downloaded free by members. Search for stories or tipsheets at www.ire.org/resourcecenter. For questions or to place an order, call 573-882-3364 or e-mail rescntr@ire.org.

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- IRE Journal online – Read Member News, features and updates about investigative reporting in between print issues of *The IRE Journal*. (www.ire.org/journal)

You can also follow us on Twitter ([ire_nicar](https://twitter.com/ire_nicar)) and become a fan of IRE and NICAR on Facebook.

Books and Periodicals

IRE's quarterly magazine, *The IRE Journal*, is the industry's only magazine offering how-to advice on investigative reporting.

IRE and NICAR's bookstore contains an array of books on investigative and computer-assisted reporting, including the fifth edition of "The Investigative Reporter's Handbook," Brant Houston's "Computer-Assisted Reporting: A Practical Guide" and "Computer-Assisted Research: Information strategies and tools for journalists" by Nora Paul and Kathleen Hansen. In 2009, IRE will offer its first e-books in the popular Beat Book series. Watch for details on IRE's Web site and social networking feeds.

IRE and NICAR Staff

Mark Horvit, Executive Director
John Green, Membership Coordinator
Stephanie Sinn, Senior Conference Coordinator
Heather Feldmann Henry, Financial Officer
Jennifer Erickson, Development Officer
Amy Johnston, Administrative Assistant
Jaimi Dowdell, Training Director
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David Herzog, NICAR Academic Adviser
Beth Kopine, Resource Center Director
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Ted Peterson, Systems Administrator

Training

IRE and NICAR take training sessions on the road year-round to provide regional seminars, workshops and customized training for individual newsrooms. These convenient, affordable programs feature top journalists and experienced IRE trainers. Read about where we've been at www.ire.org/training.

IRE offers several established training series. Check the calendar at www.ire.org/training/otr.php. To find out how to bring these or other IRE programs to your area, e-mail training@ire.org.

- Watchdog Workshops: Customizable training for reporters, editors or producers. Helping beat reporters at small to mid-sized organizations or bureaus develop everyday investigative skills. Teaching mid-level editors or producers learn to launch and manage watchdog stories.
- Ethnic Media Watchdog Workshops: This new program offers affordable training to journalists working for ethnic news media outlets to help them pursue public service and in-depth stories with impact.
- CAR Boot Camps: Learn computer-assisted reporting in an intensive, hands-on environment guided by experienced CAR practitioners. Read more on p. 10.

Database Library and NICAR

IRE offers extensive training, data sets, analysis services and more for journalists using computer-assisted reporting on projects or everyday reporting, along with a network of IRE members who share ideas and problem-solving strategies. See p. 10 for more.

IRE Awards

The annual IRE Awards recognize outstanding investigative work with IRE Certificates and IRE Medals, the highest honor. Contest entries also help identify the techniques and resources used to complete each story. To encourage journalists to learn from each other, IRE members can access past entries through the Resource Center. See complete details on this year's winners on pp. 14-17.

Philip Meyer Journalism Awards

The Philip Meyer Journalism Awards recognize the best journalistic work using social science research methods and are sponsored by NICAR, a joint program of IRE and the Missouri School of Journalism; the Knight Chair in Journalism at Arizona State University; and IRE. They're named in honor of Philip Meyer, retired Knight Chair in Journalism at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and author of "Precision Journalism," the seminal 1972 book (and subsequent editions). Award details and past winners can be viewed at www.ire.org/meyeraward.

2008 IRE Awards winners



Complete list of 2008 IRE Award Winners and Finalists

IRE MEDALS

The highest honor IRE can bestow for investigative reporting is the IRE Medal.

THIS YEAR'S MEDAL WINNER IS:

NOAH Housing Program — WWL-New Orleans; Lee Zurik

SPECIAL AWARDS

The IRE Medal is also awarded to winners of two special award categories:

RENNER AWARD:

Tobacco Underground — The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists and the Center for Public Integrity; Stefan Candea, Duncan Campbell, Te-Ping Chen, Gong Jing, Alain Lallemand, Vlad Lavrov, William Marsden, Paul Cristian Radu, Roman Shleyenov, Leo Sisti, Drew Sullivan, Marina Walker Guevara, Kate Willson, David E. Kaplan

FOI AWARD:

The E-mail Trail — KTRK-Houston; Wayne Dolcefino, Steve Bivens, David Defranchi

IRE CERTIFICATES

NEWSPAPERS

CIRCULATION OVER 500,000 AND WIRE SERVICE: (Two certificates awarded)

A Mayor in Crisis — *Detroit Free Press*; Jim Schaefer, M.L. Elrick, David Zeman, Jennifer Dixon and Dawson Bell, with contributions from Free Press staff

Guantanamo: Beyond the Law — McClatchy; Tom Lasseter, Matthew Schofield

CIRCULATION 250,000-500,000:

Culture of Resistance — *The Seattle Times*; Michael J. Berens, Ken Armstrong

CIRCULATION 100,000-250,000:

Chauncey Bailey Project — *Oakland Tribune*/Chauncey Bailey Project; Thomas Peele, Mary Fricker, Bob Butler, A.C. Thompson, Josh Richman

CIRCULATION UNDER 100,000:

Hospital Corruption — *Virgin Island Daily News*; Tim Fields, Joy Blackburn

LOCAL CIRCULATION WEEKLIES:

Hear No Evil, Smell No Evil — *Fort Worth Weekly* and the Center for Public Integrity; Joaquin Sapien, Ben Welsh

TELEVISION

NETWORK/SYNDICATED:

The Wasteland — CBS News-60 Minutes; Jeff Fager, Bill Owens, Scott Pelley, Solly Granatstein, Tom Honeysett, Claudia Weinstein, David Lom, Brad Simpson, Somyot Pisapark, Nicole Young, Lamy Li, Kevin Livelli

TOP 20 MARKETS:

Contaminated Water — KNBC-Los Angeles; Joel Grover, Matt Goldberg

OTHER MEDIA

MAGAZINE/SPECIALTY:

Cyber-War — *BusinessWeek*; Keith Epstein, Brian Grow, Ben Elgin, Cliff Edwards, Chi-Chu Tschang

RADIO:

36 Years of Solitary: Murder, Death and Injustice at Angola — NPR; Laura Sullivan, Amy Walters, Steven Drummond

ONLINE:

The Redevelopment Investigation — voiceofsandiego.org; Will Carless, Rob Davis, Andrew Donohue

BOOK:

The Shadow Factory by James Bamford

SPECIAL CATEGORIES

STUDENT: (All Media)

Sexual Harassment at UGA — *The Red and Black*; Kristen Coulter, Brian Hughes, Carolyn Crist, Melissa Weinman, Matthew Grayson

NEWSPAPERS

LARGEST NEWSPAPERS (circulation more than 500,000) or wire service:

CERTIFICATES:

A Mayor in Crisis — *Detroit Free Press*; Jim Schaefer, M.L. Elrick, David Zeman, Jennifer Dixon and Dawson Bell, with contributions from *Free Press* staff

Judges' comments: *Detroit Free Press*

reporters Jim Schaefer and M. L. Elrick spent four years trying to get text messages that Detroit's mayor exchanged with his top aide, eventually breaking stories of their affair, exposing perjury, and the expenditure of \$9 million of taxpayer money spent to cover up wrongdoing and vast corruption in the Kwame Kilpatrick administration. Through careful analysis of public records obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, the reporters verified a trove of text messages and then, with the aid of other Free Press reporters, methodically demolished the mayor's carefully built façade of lies, pay-offs and cronyism — a compelling example of investigative reporting's ability to reveal abuses of power.



Guantanamo: Beyond the Law — McClatchy; Tom Lasseter, Matthew Schofield

Judges' comments: McClatchy Washington Bureau reporters Tom Lasseter and Matthew Schofield invested extensive time and resources to track down 66 Guantanamo detainees in 11 countries on three continents over eight months to expose abuses at the Guantanamo Bay prison. Their lengthy interviews, in often dangerous places, allowed the American public to find out what really happened at Gitmo and other American detention camps. Equally impressive was the commitment of the newspaper chain: The thorough findings in a five-part series were published on the front pages of 25 McClatchy newspapers.



FINALISTS:

- Careless Detention — *The Washington Post*; Amy Goldstein, Dana Priest
- Neighborhoods for Sale — *Chicago Tribune*; Dan Mihalopoulos, Robert Becker, Todd Lighty, Darnell Little, Laurie Cohen
- Broken Markets: The Panic of 2008 — *The Wall Street Journal*; Carrick Mollenkamp, Susanne Craig, Jeffrey McCracken, Jon Hilsenrath, Susan Pulliam, Serena Ng, Randall Smith, Aaron Lucchetti, Kara Scannell, Liz Rappaport, Jenny Strasburg, Tom McGinty, Liam Plevin, Kate Kelly, Ellen E. Schultz

LARGE NEWSPAPERS (circulation 250,000-500,000):

CERTIFICATE:

Culture of Resistance — *The Seattle Times*; Michael J. Berens, Ken Armstrong

Judges' comments: Through their skillful reporting, Berens and Armstrong exposed a silent killer epidemic of the antibiotic resistant bacteria known as MRSA, which Washington state hospitals ignored for decades. The reporters analyzed millions of computerized hospital records, and death certificates and created their own database to uncover nearly 700 previously undisclosed deaths attributed to the infection. Families were never informed that MRSA was the cause of death. Their extensive analysis provided the first accounting of MRSA infections in Washington hospitals. Because of their investigation, MRSA infections are now being counted and legislators have proposed requiring a \$20 MRSA test for all vulnerable patients.



FINALISTS:

- Social Security Backlog — *The (Portland) Oregonian*; Brent Walth, Bryan Denson
- Nail Gun Safety Under Fire — *The Sacramento (Calif.) Bee*; Andrew McIntosh, Amy Pyle, Nathaniel Levine, Mitchell Brooks, Andy Alfaro, Hector Amezcua, Dan Nguyen
- Mistaken Identities — *Dallas Morning News*; Steve McGonigle, Jennifer Emily
- The Protected — *Orange County (Calif.) Register*; Jennifer Muir

MEDIUM NEWSPAPERS (circulation 100,000-250,000):

CERTIFICATE:

Chauncey Bailey Project — *Oakland Tribune*/Chauncey Bailey Project; Thomas Peele, Mary Fricker, Bob Butler, A.C. Thompson, Josh Richman

Judges' comments: Under the most difficult of circumstances, the reporters exposed deep flaws in the police investigation of the murder of journalist Chauncey Bailey. Through tenacious reporting and deep source development, Chauncey Bailey Project reporters Thomas Peele, Mary Fricker, Bob Butler, Josh Richman and A.C. Thompson reported on a stunning videotape linking someone to the murder, yet the individual had not been charged in the case and the evidence had been seemingly overlooked or dismissed by police. The project, a collaboration of more than 20 news organizations and journalism nonprofit groups, began in 2007 to pursue an investigation Bailey started. The trail continuing in 2008 with reporters looking more directly into a probe of Bailey's slaying and possible police obstruction of a local organization. The investigation was published in papers owned by the Bay Area News Group, primarily the *Oakland Tribune*, and aired on KTVU, which is participating in the project. (The Chauncey Bailey Project has received support from The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, The Newspaper Guild, Sigma Delta Chi, the National Association of Black Journalists, George Washington Williams Fellowship and the University of California, Berkeley, Graduate School of Journalism.)



FINALISTS:

- A Troubled Diagnosis — *Asbury Park (N.J.) Press*; Alan Guenther, Paul D'Ambrosio, Keith Newman
- Mental Disorder: The Failure of Reform — *The News and Observer (Raleigh, N.C.)*; Pat Stith, Michael Biesecker, Lynn Bonner, David Raynor, Steve Riley, Brooke Cain
- Broken Families, Broken Courts — *San Jose Mercury News*; Karen de Sá
- Las Vegas Construction Deaths — *Las Vegas Sun*; Alexandra Berzon, Drex Heikes

NEWSPAPERS (circulation under 100,000):

CERTIFICATE:

Hospital Corruption — *Virgin Island Daily News*; Tim Fields, Joy Blackburn
Judges' comments: Reporters Joy Blackburn and Tim Fields took on one of the island's most powerful institutions, the Charlotte Kimelman Cancer Institute, which opened with great promise but ultimately became a financial spigot for its administrators. Through source development and relentless reporting, the paper's stories led to the ouster of several executives. One former executive took a top job at Memorial Regional Hospital in Broward County, Florida, but resigned when his prior criminal background came to light. The report is a clear example of journalism with impact for its community.



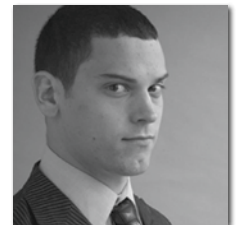
FINALISTS:

- University of Iowa sexual assault investigation — *Iowa City Press-Citizen*; Brian Morelli, Lee Hermiston
- Reasonable Doubt — *East Valley Tribune (Mesa, Ariz.)*; Ryan Gabrielson, Paul Giblin
- Academics and Athletics at Michigan — *Ann Arbor (Mich.) News*; Jim Carty, John Heuser, Nathan Fenno, Dave Gershman, Pete Bigelow
- Sex Ghetto Raided — *The Crusading Guide*; Anas Aremeyaw Anas

LOCAL CIRCULATION WEEKLIES:

CERTIFICATE:

Hear No Evil, Smell No Evil — *Fort Worth Weekly* and the Center for Public Integrity; Joaquin Sapien, Ben Welsh
Judges' comments: In a story published in the *Fort Worth Weekly*, Joaquin Sapien and Ben Welsh of the Center for Public Integrity exposed environmental abuses by Texas energy producer TXU by analyzing more than 25 million EPA emissions records over 10 years. The report found an ongoing trail of emission violations and emission levels more than eight times the federal limit for sulfur dioxide. In the community, they tracked down local families suffering from respiratory ailments. But the self-reporting by TXU meant the energy giant was penalized just once for \$720.



FINALISTS:

- Prescription for Disaster — *Phoenix New Times/Village Voice Media*; John Dickerson
- Arpaio Jails — *Phoenix New Times/Village Voice Media*; John Dickerson
- Prison Cover-up — *Houston Press/Village Voice Media*; Chris Vogel

TELEVISION

NETWORK/SYNDICATED:

CERTIFICATE:

The Wasteland — CBS News-60 Minutes; Jeff Fager, Bill Owens, Scott Pelley, Solly Granatstein, Tom Honeysett, Claudia Weinstein, David Lom, Brad Simpson, Somyot Pisapark, Nicole Young, Lamy Li, Kevin Livelli

Judges' comments: Exposing themselves to extraordinary personal risk, Scott Pelley, Solly Granatstein and the "60 Minutes" team tracked a container full of recycled electronic waste from Denver to a small town in China, where they discovered archaic methods of breaking apart America's old computers, televisions and electronic equipment. The outrageous environmental conditions in the village included a river filled with toxic chemicals, children suffering from lead poisoning and pregnant women six times more likely to miscarry. Despite being forced from town by thugs protecting the dump, the crew returned to finish the story. The city of Denver canceled the contract with the recycler, and the EPA opened an investigation of other companies suspected of shipping old electronics to toxic dumps overseas.



FINALISTS:

- Hurricane Giveaway — CNN; Abbie Boudreau, Scott Zamost, Patricia DiCarlo, Scott Matthews, Rich Brooks, Sean Sullivan, Mark Biello
- The Forgotten — NBC News - Dateline; Ann Curry, Tim Sandler, David Corvo, Elizabeth Cole, Allan Maraynes, Paul Nichols, Cristina Boado, Zoran Stanojevic, Diane Chang, Mike Simon, Robert Lapp
- Brian Ross Investigates: America's Corporate Royalty — ABC News; Brian Ross, Rhonda Schwartz, Joseph Rhee, Maddy Sauer, Avni Patel

TOP 20 MARKETS:

CERTIFICATE:

Contaminated Water — KNBC-Los Angeles; Joel Grover, Matt Goldberg
Judges' comments: Joel Grover and Matt Goldberg embarked on an exhaustive investigation after getting a tip from a parent that students were told not to drink from a Los Angeles elementary school's water fountain because it contained lead. To see if the problem was widespread, the journalists tested the water at numerous LA schools and found lead levels higher than the EPA standard. The reporters also went undercover for days to capture janitors falsifying records saying they had flushed fountains daily to protect children from lead exposure. This explosive eight-month investigation set off a firestorm and held school officials accountable for breaking promises time and time again. The results: The district tested the water at all schools and replaced lead pipes to provide safe drinking water for children.



FINALISTS:

- Juiced in the Valley — KNXV-Phoenix; Josh Bernstein, Dan Siegel, Susan D'Astoli, Erin Gramzinski, Darren Bailey, Vivek Narayan
- The E-mail Trail — KTRK-Houston; Wayne Dolcefino, Steve Bivens, David Defranchi
- A Dangerous Lesson — KHOU-Houston; Jeremy Rogalski, Keith Tomshe, David Raziq
- Rejecting the Vote — KHOU-Houston; Mark Greenblatt, David Raziq, Keith Tomshe

BELOW TOP 20 MARKETS:

MEDAL:

NOAH Housing Program — WWL-New Orleans; Lee Zurik
Judges' comments: In a rolling investigation of 50 television segments, WWL-TV of New Orleans uncovered corruption in a city agency charged with helping rebuild homes in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Following a source's tip, reporter Lee Zurik and his team examined New Orleans Affordable Housing records and found that money was paid to contractors to repair homes that never received any improvements—or didn't exist at all. WWL's investigation found close ties between agency managers, Mayor Ray Nagin, and the contractors doing the alleged improvements. The journalist stuck to the story in the face of public intimidation and strong initial denials by Nagin. In court, WWL forced the city to disclose agency records. The results were impressive: The program was suspended, the employees were fired and a federal grand jury launched an investigation.



FINALISTS:

- Broken Buses; WTHR-Indianapolis; Bob Segall, Bill Ditton, Toby Capion, Holly Stephen
- Lead in Dental Work; WBNS-Columbus, Ohio; Lindsey Seavert, Bill Reagan, Joel Chow, Karen Salajko, John Cardenas
- Ghost Drivers; WTHR-Indianapolis; Sandra Chapman, Steve Rhodes, William C. Ditton

OTHER MEDIA

MAGAZINE/SPECIALTY PUBLICATION:

CERTIFICATE:

Cyber-War — *BusinessWeek*; Keith Epstein, Brian Grow, Ben Elgin, Cliff Edwards, Chi-Chu Tschang

Judges' comments: More frightening to read than a modern techno-thriller novel, *BusinessWeek*'s real-life series of stories on the growing cyber-war between East and West rivets the reader with dozens of breaches in American security networks. The writers pieced together seemingly unconnected online security problems at several federal departments to reveal a wide-scale problem. Working at levels where government security made reporting extremely difficult, the stories resulted in a change in Pentagon contracting policy and briefing procedures for military and intelligence officials. The series shows work on a global scale that reaches the highest levels of government policy.

BusinessWeek

FINALISTS:

- Broken Promises — Bloomberg News; William Selway, Martin Z. Braun
- Way Ahead of the Curve — Bloomberg News; David Evans
- The Subprime Wolves are Back — *BusinessWeek*; Chad Terhune, Robert Berner
- (Dis)Service: Fallen & Forgotten — *The Chicago Reporter*; Fernando Diaz, Madelaine Burkert, Alex G. Campbell, Tatiana Granados, Matthew Hendrickson, Lourdes G. Vazquez, Beth Wang

BOOK:

CERTIFICATE:

The Shadow Factory by James Bamford
Judges' comments: James Bamford does it again – and wins his third IRE Award – for the latest exposé of the National Security Agency. No journalist has invested more time scrutinizing the NSA, one of the most secretive agencies in the world. Among his findings, Bamford reveals that the agency had been targeting the Yemeni home that served as Osama bin Laden's operations center prior to 9/11 but had never told the FBI that the al-Qaida terrorists were there. This is journalism that influences the national conversation on a vital topic, and Bamford has demonstrated an unparalleled ability to penetrate the most secretive of institutions.

FINALISTS:

- The War Behind Me by Deborah Nelson
- Zero Day Threat by Byron Acohido and Jon Schwartz

RADIO:

CERTIFICATE:

36 Years of Solitary: Murder, Death and Injustice at Angola — NPR; Laura Sullivan, Amy Walters, Steven Drummond

Judges' comments: Acting on a tip, NPR reporter Laura Sullivan spent months investigating the 1972 murder of an Angola prison guard Sullivan dug through public records and patiently persuaded prisoners, guards and others who had long kept quiet to open up about the murder. The reporters turned up such compelling new evidence that the guard's widow now doubts that two men who spent 36 years in solitary were even involved in the crime. In a graceful and compelling way, Sullivan tells a chilling tale of injustice.

FINALISTS:

- Natural Gas Drilling: Is New York Ready? — WNYC; Ilya Marritz, Abraham Lustgarten, Andrea Bernstein; Karen Frillmann
- Dirty Money — NPR; John Burnett, Marisa Penaloza, Quinn O'Toole
- Witnesses Wait — Public Radio International; Ingrid Lobet
- Putting Tasers to the Test — CBC; Sandra Bartlett, Frédéric Zalac, Sue Bailey, Jim Bronskill, Susanne Reber, Phil Harbord, David McKie, Alex Shprintsen, Kevin Wiltshire, Darlene Parsons, Kris Fleerackers, Georges Laszuk

ONLINE:

CERTIFICATE:

The Redevelopment Investigation — voiceofsandiego.org; Will Carless, Rob Davis, Andrew Donohue

Judges' comments: Voiceofsandiego.org reporters Will Carless, Rob Davis and Andrew Donohue work for a new breed

of news organization, but have executed with aplomb a classic old-style investigative story of civic graft, insider dealing and taxpayer abuse. Working for the nascent online news publication, the reporters exposed the questionable activities of two multimillion-dollar San Diego redevelopment agencies. The rolling yearlong investigation ultimately forced out the presidents of the agencies and prompted criminal investigations and reforms.



FINALISTS:

- Tobacco Underground series — The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists and the Center for Public Integrity; Stefan Candea, Duncan Campbell, Te-Ping Chen, Gong Jing, Alain Lallemand, Vlad Lavrov, William Marsden, Paul Cristian Radu, Roman Shleynov, Leo Sisti, Drew Sullivan, Marina Walker Guevara, Kate Willson, David E. Kaplan
- Perils of the New Pesticides — The Center for Public Integrity; M.B. Pell, Jim Morris, Jillian Olsen
- Secret Money Project — NPR and the Center for Investigative Reporting; Will Evans, Peter Overby
- Mental Disorder: Failure of Reform — *The News and Observer* (Raleigh, N.C.); Travis Long, Juli Leonard, Michael Biesecker, Judson Drennan, Valerie Aquirre, Scott Sharpe

SPECIAL CATEGORIES

TOM RENNER AWARD

MEDAL:

Tobacco Underground — The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists and the Center for Public Integrity; Stefan Candea, Duncan Campbell, Te-Ping Chen, Gong Jing, Alain Lallemand, Vlad Lavrov, William Marsden, Paul Cristian Radu, Roman Shleynov, Leo Sisti, Drew Sullivan, Marina Walker Guevara, Kate Willson, David E. Kaplan

Judges' comments: Fourteen journalists in 10 countries took great risk to provide a comprehensive and compelling look at the illicit trafficking in tobacco. The reporters found organized criminal activity robbing governments of tax money. Using hidden cameras and computer-assisted reporting, the team uncovered the story of hundreds of billions of contraband cigarettes, many being sold in the United States through Indian reservations.

FINALIST:

- Grim Sleeper — *LA Weekly/Village Voice Media*; Christine Pelisek

FOI AWARD

MEDAL:

The E-mail Trail — KTRK-Houston; Wayne Dolcefino, Steve Bivens, David Defranchi

Judges' comments: The newest frontier for freedom of information efforts resides on e-mail servers in government IT facilities across the country. Wayne Dolcefino and his tireless team at KTRK-Houston combed through 700,000 e-mails from the Harris County Sheriff's Department in Houston to find evidence of racism, secret surveillance, and covert work for campaign contributors to the sheriff. The station sued the county to stop a sheriff's policy that called for the deletion of all e-mails after 14 days.

FINALISTS:

- A Mayor in Crisis — *Detroit Free Press*; Jim Schaefer, M.L. Elrick, David Zeman, Jennifer Dixon and Dawson Bell, with contributions from *Free Press* staff
- The FBI Files — WTTG-Washington, D.C.; Tisha Thompson, Steve Jones
- Gov. Easley's E-mail — *The News and Observer*; Pat Stith, Michael Biesecker, Dan Kane, Joe Neff, Steve Riley, Matthew Eisleby, Benjamin Niolet, Lynn Bonner, Ryan Teague, John Drecher, Steve Riley, Bill Krueger
- United Way series — *The Charlotte Observer* and WCNC-Charlotte, N.C.; Stuart Watson, Eric Frazier, Mike Gordon, Kerry Hall, Mark Price

STUDENT WORK (All Media):

CERTIFICATE:

Sexual Harassment at UGA; *The Red and Black*; Kristen Coulter, Brian Hughes, Carolyn Crist, Melissa Weinman, Matthew Grayson

Judges' comments: For two decades professors who sexually harassed students at the University of Georgia continued to teach or were allowed to move on quietly. Then an anonymous tip sent reporters Kristen Coulter, Brian Hughes, Carolyn Crist, Matthew Grayson and Melissa Weinman digging. Despite threats of lawsuits by some professors, they produced such compelling reports that the university now requires extensive anti-harassment training for both faculty and all administrators.

FINALIST:

- Felons hunting with guns slip past state law — *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* (Little Rock); Andy Boyle



Conference Speakers

JILL ABRAMSON was appointed managing editor of *The New York Times* in August 2003, after having been Washington bureau chief. As bureau chief, a job she assumed in December 2000, Abramson directed the work of *The Times's* 60-member Washington bureau. She joined the newspaper in 1997 and became Washington editor in 1999. Previously, she worked at *The Wall Street Journal* from 1988 to 1997. While there, she served as deputy bureau chief in its Washington, D.C., bureau and investigative reporter, covering money and politics.

AMES ALEXANDER, an investigative reporter for *The Charlotte Observer*, has examined the mistreatment of injured poultry workers, dangerous trends in airline maintenance, lives endangered by slow ambulance service and many other subjects. His stories have won national awards from groups including IRE, the American Society of News Editors, the Robert F. Kennedy Center and the National Press Club. In 1995, he and several colleagues were Pulitzer finalists for a series on inner-city crime.

BRIGITTE ALFTER is a journalist based in Copenhagen. She was a Brussels correspondent for *Danish Daily Information* from 2004-2008 and has covered European affairs for years. She is specialized in European FOI and currently dedicates part of her time to establishing the European Fund for Investigative Journalism. In 2006 she and her colleague Nils Mulvad won the IRE Freedom of Information Award for unveiling the recipients of the EU farm subsidies.

BILL ALLISON is a senior fellow at the Sunlight Foundation. He worked for The Center for Public Integrity for nine years, where he co-authored "The Cheating of America" and was co-editor of *The New York Times* best-seller "The Buying of the President 2004." He edited projects on topics including the role of arms smugglers and private military companies in failing states around the world and the rise of Section 527 organizations in American politics. He blogs at <http://realtime.sunlightprojects.org>.

SCOTT AMEY has worked at Project On Government Oversight for more than 10 years and directs POGO's contract oversight investigations, including reviews of federal spending, responsibility records of federal contractors and conflicts of interest. He clerked for the Honorable James A. Kenney III at the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland from 2001-2003. Amey received a juris doctorate from the University of Baltimore School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Pittsburgh.

PEDRO ENRIQUE ARMENDARES teaches journalism at the University of Miami and the Technological Institute (Tec) in Mexico City. He was executive director of the Centro de Periodistas de Investigación and previously he worked for the Mexico City daily *La Jornada*, reporting on international issues and the Mexico-U.S. relationship. He has contributed to other Mexican and international media, and he is a member of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists.

CHERYL ARVIDSON, executive director of the Fund for Investigative Journalism, is an investigative reporter and freelance writer. Arvidson covered national politics and economics for United Press International and Cox Newspapers and was Washington bureau chief of the *Dallas Times Herald*. She also worked for the Freedom Forum, where she worked in media relations and program planning for the Newseum and directed the Paul Miller Regional Reporting Fellowships. She is historian of The Gridiron Club.

SHARYL ATTKISSON is CBS News' investigative correspondent focusing on government spending and taxpayer issues, primarily for the "Follow the Money" franchise of the "CBS Evening News with Katie Couric." Attkisson has previously covered Capitol Hill and other beats. She was part of the CBS News team that received the RTNDA-Edward R. Murrow Award in 2005 for Overall Excellence. She also received an Emmy Award in 2002 for her series of reports about the Red Cross.

RUSS BAKER is author of "Family of Secrets: The Bush Dynasty, The Powerful Forces That Put It In The White House, And What Their Influence Means For America" (2009). An award-winning independent journalist for two decades and contributing editor to the *Columbia Journalism Review*, he has written for *The New Yorker*, *Vanity Fair*, *The Nation*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Village Voice* and *Esquire*. He founded the nonprofit investigative news organization, WhoWhatWhy.com.

JAMES BAMFORD is a bestselling author and leading writer on the National Security Agency. His most recent book, "The Shadow Factory: The Ultra-Secret NSA from 9/11 to the Eavesdropping on America," became a national bestseller and won the 2008 IRE Award for books, his third. Bamford also spent a decade as the Washington investigative producer for ABC's "World News Tonight," taught at UC Berkeley and has written for many national magazines. In 2006 he won the National Magazine Award for Reporting.

JACQUI BANASZYNSKI is an award-winning reporter and editor who coaches journalists around the world. She won the 1988 Pulitzer Prize in feature writing and was a finalist for the 1986 Pulitzer Prize in international reporting. A series she edited on failed public defense was a finalist in 2005 for both the Goldsmith and Selden Ring awards. She is the Knight Chair Professor at the Missouri School of Journalism and Editing Fellow at The Poynter Institute.

DEAN BAQUET is an assistant managing editor and Washington bureau chief for *The New York Times*. In 2006, he was fired as editor of the *Los Angeles Times* for refusing to make more sweeping cuts. He was previously managing editor for the *Los Angeles Times* and national editor at *The New York Times*. Baquet, a native of New Orleans, won the 1988 Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting for articles about city council corruption when he was a reporter with the *Chicago Tribune*.

DONALD L. BARLETT began his daily newspaper career in 1956 at the *Reading Times* in Pennsylvania. Except for three years as a U.S. Army Counter Intelligence Corps agent, he has worked for newspapers or magazines ever since. He became a full-time investigative reporter in 1965 at *The Plain Dealer* in Cleveland and held a similar position at the *Chicago Daily News*. He joined *The Philadelphia Inquirer* in 1970, where he teamed up with James B. Steele the following year. Their work has won scores of journalism awards.

DAVID BARSTOW, a reporter in the investigative unit at *The New York Times*, has won two Pulitzer Prizes. In 2004 he and Lowell Bergman were awarded the Pulitzer Prize for public service for their reporting on workplace safety in America. This year he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting for his series on a Pentagon public relations program that sought to co-opt military analysts working for the major TV and radio networks.

ROBERTA BASKIN is an investigative journalist who has won more than 75 journalism prizes, including duPont-Columbia Journalism Awards, Peabody Awards, the IRE Award and numerous Emmys. Baskin has led the Center for Public Integrity, served as senior Washington correspondent for "NOW with Bill Moyers," senior investigative producer for ABC News "20/20" and chief investigative correspondent for CBS News "48 Hours." She's a former IRE board member and Nieman Fellow. Many of her investigations focus on human rights, corporate misconduct and corruption.

JO BECKER is a reporter on *The New York Times* investigative unit. She previously worked for *The Washington Post*, where she covered politics before joining the investigative team, the *St. Petersburg Times*, the *Concord (N.H.) Monitor* and the MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour. Becker won the Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting, the Goldsmith Prize and the George Polk Award for a series on Vice President Cheney. Previous honors include the Selden Ring Award and the Livingston Award.

MARK BENJAMIN is an award-winning investigative reporter with Salon.com's Washington bureau. Since 2001, Benjamin has focused on national security issues with an emphasis on the plight of returning veterans and detainee abuse. He was hailed for exposing problems caring for veterans at Walter Reed starting in early 2005 and also obtained for *Salon* the Army's entire Abu Ghraib investigative files.

MICHAEL J. BERENS is a *Seattle Times* reporter on the investigative team. His projects include an examination of how hospitals failed to prevent the MRSA epidemic, FDA failures to thwart fraudulent medical devices, the widespread and unchecked sexual misconduct among health practitioners and how a discarded military vaccine has resulted in the deaths of soldiers. His work has garnered numerous national awards including an IRE certificate this year.

JOSH BERNSTEIN is a multiple Emmy award-winning investigative reporter. His investigation into AIG aired nationwide on CNN, “ABC World News Tonight” and “Good Morning America” and resulted in calls for congressional hearings and public outrage. After exposing how the military lied about the deaths of several soldiers, the Pentagon announced it was reopening all death investigations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Bernstein’s primary beat is corruption, fraud and government waste. He is currently working for KNXV-Phoenix.

DANIEL BICE has been the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel’s* political watchdog columnist since March 2007. Bice won this year’s National Headliner Award for best local interest column on a variety of subjects, which is the second time he has received this honor. Earlier this year, he also won best project honors for large newspapers from SABEW for a series on mortgage fraud. He holds a master’s degree from the University of Chicago.

TOM BLANTON is the director (since 1992) of the George Polk Award-winning National Security Archive at George Washington University and series editor of the Archive’s Web, CD-DVD, fiche and book publications of documents obtained through more than 35,000 Freedom of Information Act requests. His books include “White House E-Mail” (1995) and “The Chronology” (1987) of the Iran-contra scandal; he also won the 2005 Emmy Award for news and documentary research.

GOLDIE BLUMENSTYK In her 21 years as a reporter and editor at *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Blumenstyk has covered topics touching every corner of higher education. In May, she also began writing a new monthly column called “Financial Affairs.” She earned a B.A. from Colgate University and an M.A. from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Previously, she covered politics and government at *The Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel*.

DAVID BOARDMAN is executive editor of *The Seattle Times*. He has directed two Pulitzer Prize-winning team projects and edited six stories that were Pulitzer finalists. He has won the Goldsmith Prize, Worth Bingham Prize and IRE Award, among others. He is a past president of IRE’s board of directors and is currently on the board of ASNE.

WALT BOGDANICH, a three-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize, is an assistant editor on *The New York Times* Investigations Desk. Before joining *The Times* in 2001, he was an investigative producer for “60 Minutes” on CBS and before that for ABC News. Previously, he worked as an investigative reporter for *The Wall Street Journal* in New York and Washington. He has also won four George Polk awards and two IRE awards.

ABBIE BOUDREAU is an investigative correspondent for CNN. She is an IRE finalist this year for “Hurricane Giveaway,” and is also a Livingston Awards finalist. Throughout the past year, she also has been the correspondent for several CNN documentaries, including “Campus Rage” and “Biden Revealed,” and she has anchored prime time programs. Prior to joining CNN in October 2007, she was an award-winning investigative reporter at KNXV-Phoenix. She has a master’s degree from Northwestern University.

RICK BROOKS is deputy editor of *The Wall Street Journal’s* Money & Investing section. He oversees coverage of commercial banks and Wall Street firms. He is a former deputy bureau chief in Atlanta. As a *Journal* reporter, he covered airlines, banking, sports, Southern culture and the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

MICHELLE BUTT has been news director at WBAL-Baltimore since September 2003; previously she was news director at WXII in Winston-Salem, Greensboro, N.C. Since Butt arrived at WBAL, the newsroom has been honored with investigative and enterprise reporting honors including the George Foster Peabody, Alfred I. duPont, Edward R. Murrow, National Headliner and national Emmy awards. A native of Southeastern Virginia, she is a graduate of Old Dominion University and is a member of RTNDA.

BILL BUZENBERG became executive director of the Center for Public Integrity in December 2006. He has been a journalist and news executive at newspapers and in public radio for more than 35 years. Most recently, as senior vice president of news at American Public Media/Minnesota Public Radio, Buzenberg launched such programming initiatives as American RadioWorks, public radio’s major documentary and investigative journalism unit, and “Speaking of Faith,” public radio’s signature program on religion.

VICENTE CALDERÓN has more than 20 years of experience covering the U.S.-Mexican border and is one of the most recognized reporters in the Tijuana-San Diego region. He was the first journalist based on the Mexican side of the border assigned to cover San Diego’s Hispanic community full time for a Tijuana news outlet. Calderón created and continues to direct TijuanaPress.com. Until November, he also anchored TV Azteca’s statewide primetime newscast in Baja, Calif.

WILL CARLESS is a staff writer with voiceofsandiego.org, an online nonprofit news Web site. He covers public safety and crime and also works on the publication’s regular investigations, primarily focusing on public corruption investigations.

MIMI CHAKAROVA is a documentary photographer working on two long-term projects that examine the conflict in Kashmir and sex trafficking of women in Eastern Europe. She’s taught photojournalism at UC Berkeley’s Graduate School of Journalism for 11 years and is the recipient of the 2003 Dorothea Lange Fellowship and the 2005 Magnum Photos Inge Morath Award. In 2008, Chakarova’s work on sex trafficking was awarded a People’s Voice Webby. She is currently a correspondent at the Center for Investigative Reporting.

ROSE CIOTTA is the deputy city editor at *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and veteran investigative reporter. She’s the author of the recently published true-crime murder mystery “Cruel Games” by St. Martin’s Press. She was formerly the education editor and computer-assisted reporting editor. A graduate of Syracuse University, she attended Stanford University as a John S. Knight journalism fellow. She’s a former IRE board member.

WENDELL COCHRAN is associate professor in the American University School of Communication, where he teaches computer-assisted journalism and journalism ethics courses, among others. He also is the senior editor of the school’s Investigative Reporting Workshop. Before joining the American faculty, Cochran spent more than 25 years in daily journalism. He has won the John Hancock Award for Excellence in Business and Economic Journalism, the Amos Tuck Award for Economic Understanding and the National Headliners Award.

SARAH COHEN is a database editor for *The Washington Post* and specializes in national and local investigative projects. She has shared in the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting, the IRE Medal and the Goldsmith Award, among others. She co-authored the series “Harvesting Cash” in 2006, which was a named finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in public service. More recently, Cohen co-wrote “Forced Out,” a series about landlord abuses in Washington, and on Iraq reconstruction funds.

BRIAN COLLISTER is an investigative reporter at WOAI-San Antonio. Since graduating from Sam Houston State University with a degree in broadcast journalism, Collister has also worked at stations in Austin, Phoenix, Bryan and Lake Charles. His awards include six regional Emmys. His most recent Emmy was in 2007 for a story uncovering hundreds of DWI cases that were thrown out of court because the arresting officer did not show up to testify.

SUSAN STONED’ASTOLI is currently the senior executive producer of the investigators at KNXV-Phoenix. She and her team have been finalists in IRE, won multiple Emmys and a Peabody in 2007 for their work exposing security gaps at Sky Harbor Airport. Prior to Phoenix, she worked at WSB-Atlanta, overseeing investigations and special projects, including multi-camera remotes, town halls and elections.

CHASE DAVIS is an investigative reporter and CAR specialist at *The Des Moines (Iowa) Register*. Before joining the *Register*, he spent more than two years as a reporter at the *Houston Chronicle*. He has done contract Web development work for a number of organizations and taught investigative reporting and CAR as an adjunct professor at the University of Houston.

MICHAEL DE YOANNA is a freelance journalist based in Colorado. His articles have appeared in many magazines, newspapers and online publications, including Salon.com, *5280 Magazine* in Colorado, *The Washington Times* and the now-defunct *Rocky Mountain News*. He has appeared on National Public Radio, Colorado Public Radio and other radio and television programs and forums. De Yoanna has won 12 awards from the Society of Professional Journalists and Colorado Press Association for investigations and features on the military, crime, politics and the environment.

Conference Speakers

ANTHONY DeBARROS is senior database editor at *USA Today*. In two decades with Gannett – starting in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., before joining *USA Today* in 1997 – he’s made the long journey from writing obituaries to writing SQL. Along the way, the Education Writers Association and the Association of Education Publishers have cited his work, and he and colleague Bob Davis won a Missouri Lifestyle Journalism Award in 2007 for their study of college student deaths.

KAREN DeYOUNG is senior diplomatic correspondent and associate editor of *The Washington Post*. Also at the *Post*, she has served as bureau chief in Latin America and in London, as foreign editor and assistant managing editor for national news, as national reporter covering intelligence and global issues and White House correspondent for national security. She is a graduate of the University of Florida and lives in Washington, D.C.

STEPHEN K. DOIG holds the Knight Chair in Journalism, specializing in computer-assisted reporting, at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism & Mass Communication of Arizona State University. Before joining ASU in 1996, he was associate editor/research of *The Miami Herald*. Projects on which he worked at *The Herald* have won the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service, the IRE Award, the Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting and other awards. He is a former IRE board member and coordinator of the annual Philip Meyer Journalism Award.

TOM DOLAN is a 25-year news veteran and president of Dolan Media Management, which builds and trains management teams for TV stations. Dolan served as vice president of news at KSAZ-Phoenix and spent 20 years with ABC-owned stations in Philadelphia, San Francisco, New York and Chicago. ABC hired Dolan as part of a group that rebuilt WLS-Chicago from last to first during the 1980s. He modeled one of the first investigative units at WLS that used a reporter/producer team.

DAVID DONALD is data editor at The Center for Public Integrity, where he oversees computer-assisted reporting at the Washington, D.C.-based investigative journalism nonprofit. Previously he was training director at IRE and NICAR for nearly five years, conducting more than 150 training events for thousands of journalists. He spent 11 years at the *Savannah Morning News* in Georgia as research and projects editor, working on stories that won two James K. Batten Awards and two Hammet Awards.

WAYNE DOLCEFINO is an investigative reporter at KTRK-Houston. His awards include two IRE Medals, and he was a finalist three other times in the IRE Awards. He has earned 22 Emmys, National Headliners and the Jack Howard Award. He also won Texas Association of Broadcasters Awards for investigative reporting and FOI. He has been head of the 13 Undercover Unit since 1991. The investigative unit specializes in government corruption and waste.

ANDREW DONOHUE is editor of voiceofsandiego.org, the nonprofit online daily that focuses on in-depth and investigative reporting in San Diego. He oversees the publication’s news coverage, investigative projects and outside contributions. As a member of its founding staff, he has fostered the nonprofit’s growth from a small ragtag group of reporters in a cramped, dark office to an established and expanding news outlet that’s being replicated in other cities.

JAIMI DOWDELL joined IRE as training director in October 2008. Previously, she was computer-assisted reporting editor at the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* for more than three years. Her duties included obtaining and analyzing data, training staff on CAR and investigative techniques and maintaining the newspaper’s online data center. In addition, she taught a CAR course for Washington University in St. Louis. She previously worked at IRE and NICAR while completing her master’s degree at the University of Missouri.

LEONARD DOWNIE JR. is vice president at large of *The Washington Post*, where he was executive editor from 1991 to 2008. During his 44 years in *The Washington Post* newsroom, he also was an investigative reporter, editor on the local and national news staffs, London correspondent, and, from 1984 to 1991, managing editor under then executive editor Ben Bradlee. As deputy Metro editor from 1972 to 1974, Downie helped supervise the newspaper’s Watergate coverage. He is the author of five books.

BRIAN DUFFY recently assumed the newly created position of director, investigative and enterprise reporting, at NPR News, after having served more than 18 months as NPR’s managing editor. Before joining NPR, Duffy served in a variety of positions at *U.S. News & World Report*, including editor, executive editor, investigations editor and national editor. Duffy also has worked at *The Washington Post* and *The Wall Street Journal*. The recipient of many journalism honors, Duffy is author or co-author of five books, including a novel, “Head Count.”

JOHN DUNBAR, project director at the Investigative Reporting Workshop, comes to the workshop after completing a five-month stint at the Center for Public Integrity, where he was the project manager and lead author of “Who’s Behind the Financial Meltdown? The Top 25 Subprime Lenders and their Wall Street Backers.” Prior to that, he covered information technology and economics for the Washington, D.C., bureau of The Associated Press. Prior to AP, he spent seven years at the Center.

M.L. ELRICK is a Pulitzer Prize and Emmy Award-winning investigative reporter. He started his career in 1992 as a political reporter and columnist at the *Concord (N.H.) Monitor*. In 1997, he became enterprise reporter at the *Daily Southtown* in Chicago. Elrick came to the *Free Press* in 1999 as obituary writer, then covered Macomb County courts and government before moving to Detroit City Hall. In 2006, he became an investigative reporter at WDIV. Elrick returned to the *Free Press* in 2007 as an investigative reporter.

ASA ESLOCKER is an Emmy award-winning field producer in the Brian Ross Investigative Unit producing stories for all ABC News platforms, as well as reporting for ABC’s investigative Web site “The Blotter.” His most recent Emmy was for a report exposing a mining company’s efforts to influence the West Virginia Supreme Court. Eslocker contributes to the Ross Unit’s “Money Trail” coverage and made headlines when he was wrongly arrested while covering a congressional fundraiser at the 2008 Democratic National Convention.

ISMAEL ESTRADA is a producer for CNN’s “Anderson Cooper 360.” His investigative reporting ranges from law enforcement and political corruption to the current drug war in Mexico. He has earned various local and regional awards and was nominated for a national Emmy in 2008 for an investigation into police abuse. Prior to his work at CNN, he was an investigative producer for WMAQ-Chicago, senior investigative producer for KPHO-Phoenix and investigative producer for WFLD-Chicago.

DAWN FALLIK is a former medical writer for *The Philadelphia Inquirer* who now teaches full-time at the University of Delaware and freelances for *AARP Magazine*, *Neurology Today* and *The Boston Globe*. During graduate school at the University of Missouri, she was co-director of NICAR and helped teach many CAR boot camps. She is spending the summer on the multimedia desk at *The Wall Street Journal* as the oldest college intern ever.

MARK FAZLOLLAH is a reporter with *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. He has worked on projects that won several national awards, including the George Polk, the Roy Howard and the Selden Ring awards, and that have been Pulitzer Prize finalists. Prior to joining the *Inquirer*, he covered Latin America for London’s *Daily Telegraph*.

MARK FELDSTEIN, a veteran investigative reporter now teaching journalism at George Washington University, has been subpoenaed on numerous occasions by prosecutors and defendants, testified as an expert witness in media litigation and been a plaintiff in First Amendment lawsuits. Feldstein’s book “Poisoning The Press: Richard Nixon, Jack Anderson, and the Rise of Washington’s Scandal Culture,” will be published next year by Farrar, Straus & Giroux.

JOSH FINE is an investigative producer at HBO Sports. His pieces appear on “Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel” and Bob Costas’ program “Costas Now.” Prior to HBO, Fine was an associate producer for Mike Wallace at CBS News’ “60 Minutes” and an off-air reporter for the investigative unit at ABC News’ “World News Tonight with Peter Jennings.” His 2007 piece on the NFL’s disability crisis was nominated for an Emmy for Outstanding Sports Journalism.

LAURA FRANK, an investigative reporter at the *Rocky Mountain News* in Denver until it closed, has nearly two decades of experience at metropolitan daily newspapers, radio and public television. Her stories have helped release innocent people from prison, protect abused children and restore aid denied to Cold War heroes. Now she is helping launch the nonprofit Rocky Mountain Investigative News Network at the University of Colorado, where she also will be a Scripps Fellow at the Center for Environmental Journalism.

ELLEN GABLER is one of two *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* investigative reporters assigned to the Public Investigator Team focusing on consumer watchdog stories. She has written about employers who pocket employees' child support checks, Medicaid backlogs and various scams and scoundrels that irk Wisconsin residents. Before coming to the *Journal Sentinel* in June 2007, Gabler earned her master's degree through Columbia University's investigative reporting program. She worked for three years in Minnesota as a reporter before graduate school.

RYAN GABRIELSON is a staff writer at the *East Valley Tribune* in Arizona and covers higher education, law enforcement, federal, state and local government and special projects. His work has garnered numerous awards and shared this year's Pulitzer Prize for local reporting.

MANNY GARCIA is the executive editor of *El Nuevo Herald*. He is a former metro editor, special projects editor, courts and cops editor and member of *The Miami Herald's* I-team. Garcia was a key reporter and writer in *The Herald's* 1999 and 2002 Pulitzer Prize-winning investigations. He and Jason Grotto shared a 2004 IRE Award for their project "Justice Withheld." Garcia has done numerous seminars about journalism. He serves on the IRE Board of Directors.

ROBERT GEBELOFF joined *The New York Times* as a database projects editor in 2008 and has worked extensively on projects involving immigration and education. Previously, he worked 14 years for newspapers in New Jersey, including stints as database editor for *The Star-Ledger* in Newark and *The Record* in Hackensack.

TED GEST is president of Criminal Justice Journalists, a national organization based in Washington, D.C., and affiliated with the University of Pennsylvania and John Jay College of Criminal Justice. The group publishes a daily news digest on www.thecrimereport.org. Gest formerly was a reporter and editor at the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and *U.S. News & World Report*. His book, "Crime & Politics," was published in 2001 by Oxford University Press.

RICHARD GOEHLER's practice is concentrated in the areas of media law, including digital and interactive media, advertising law, copyright and trademark and complex intellectual property and business litigation. He represents media clients in all aspects of First Amendment and newsroom-related matters, including prebroadcast/prepublication review, newsgathering, defense of defamation and privacy claims, and access and freedom of information matters. He handles a variety of Internet, digital and interactive media issues. Goehler is the immediate past chair of the American Bar Association Forum on Communications Law.

MATT GOLDBERG is the senior investigative producer at KNBC-Los Angeles. His stories have exposed environmental hazards, consumer fraud, organized corruption, transportation safety issues, as well as health and human rights violations. He has been honored with numerous local and national awards. Goldberg has worked for television stations in Phoenix, Houston, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

CHUCK GOUDIE has been at market-leader WLS-Chicago since 1980 and investigative reporter at the ABC-owned station since 1990. Goudie regularly reports on Chicago organized crime, political corruption, breaking news and scores big interviews. He has investigated stories on four continents and in numerous war zones. His awards include a national Edward R. Murrow and a national Emmy. In addition to his broadcast work, Goudie writes a news column for the *Chicago Daily Herald*.

MARK GREENBLATT is an investigative reporter at KHOU-Houston. He earned the 2008 Lone Star Award as Television Journalist of the Year, and the Houston Press also named him Reporter of the Year in its "Best of Houston" edition. He's won five Edward R. Murrow Awards, including a National Murrow for best investigative report, a 2008 National Headliner, multiple Emmy Awards and an IRE Award. His work has led to numerous new state and federal laws.

JAMES V. GRIMALDI, the past president and a member of the IRE Board of Directors, is an investigative reporter for *The Washington Post*. In 2006, he won a Pulitzer Prize, the Selden Ring Award and the Worth Bingham Prize for his work investigating the Jack Abramoff lobbying scandal. A winner of numerous journalism awards, he has reported on business, legal affairs, nonprofits, Congress, national politics, and last year did investigative work on candidates for president and vice president.

JASON GROTTO is an investigative reporter at the *Chicago Tribune* and a member of the IRE Board of Directors. Prior to joining the *Tribune*, he spent seven years working on investigations for *The Miami Herald*, where he uncovered fraud and corruption in Miami-Dade County's largest poverty program and exposed breakdowns in Florida's criminal justice system, child welfare agency and Miami's public school system. Before joining the *Herald*, Grotto worked for IRE and NICAR.

JOEL GROVER is the investigative reporter for KNBC-Los Angeles. Grover has won every major award for investigative reporting, including the George Foster Peabody Award, the duPont-Columbia Award, five national Edward R. Murrow Awards from RTNDA, two IRE Medals and 20 Emmys. He and his producer, Matt Goldberg, are the winners of this year's IRE Award in the category of Top 20 Television markets. His investigations have resulted in dozens of arrests and prosecutions and millions of dollars in refunds to consumers.

BRIAN GROW is a senior writer on *BusinessWeek's* special projects team. He joined *BusinessWeek* as a staff writer in 2004. In 2008 and 2009, his series on the business of poverty and on cyber warfare have won multiple national awards. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame and a master's degree from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies.

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KELLY GUCKIAN is the database editor at the *San Antonio (Texas) Express-News*. She assists reporters and editors in negotiating for data from agencies, provides data cleanup and analysis and trains reporters to use computer-assisted reporting tools. She posts searchable databases on the newsroom intranet and participates on news project teams. She worked in news research for 10 years at the *Express-News* and was awarded an Editorial Unsung Hero Award by her peers in 1996 and 2003.

SUE HALE is the former executive editor of *The Oklahoman*. She retired in October 2008 and became a media consultant for the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation. Prior to retirement, Hale led *The Oklahoman's* newsroom for eight years before launching a Community Engagement Department that developed a statewide Web-based entertainment calendar called wingo.com. Hale's career covered reporting for *The Winfield Daily Courier*, *The Topeka Capitol Journal*, WREN radio in Topeka and the *Oklahoma City Times*.

DOUG HADDIX joined IRE as training director in September 2008. He worked as projects editor at *The Columbus Dispatch* for 10 years, where he oversaw an investigation of Ohio's DNA-testing system for inmates claiming innocence and a project that uncovered holes in the safety net for disciplining teachers statewide. His team investigated mortgage fraud, rogue school-bus drivers and the growing global market for counterfeit goods. Previously, he worked as an editor in Scranton, Pa., and Danville, Ill.

ANDY HALL is executive director and reporter for the Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism, an independent nonprofit news organization. The center and its partners – Wisconsin Public Radio, Wisconsin Public Television and the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Journalism & Mass Communication – collaborate with mainstream and ethnic media to examine government integrity and quality-of-life issues. A former IRE board member, Hall has won dozens of awards for his reporting over the past 26 years at the *Wisconsin State Journal* and *The Arizona Republic*.

MARK HALLETT is a senior program officer in the journalism program of the McCormick Foundation. He joined the foundation in 1995 and coordinates grantmaking in a number of areas, including youth journalism, free press in the U.S. and Latin America, diversity in journalism and First Amendment initiatives. Hallett has led workshops on nonprofit communications, Internet-based research and Web site development.

CHRIS HALSNE is lead investigative reporter at KIRO-Seattle. His work includes exposing a secret program where the government traded human brains for money, a hidden-camera investigation uncovering physical abuse at a state-run school for the severely disabled and computer analysis of fatal RV crashes that revealed design flaws. Halsne won the 2008 and 2006 National Press Club Consumer Journalism Award and the 2005 National Edward R. Murrow award for investigative reporting. He is also a two-time finalist in the IRE Awards.

MELISSA HARRIS covers city courts for *The Baltimore Sun*. Prior to arriving at *The Sun* in 2005, she was a government reporter for *The Orlando Sentinel*. She received her bachelor's degree in journalism from Northwestern University in 2002 and her master's degree in government from Johns Hopkins University in 2008. She teaches news reporting at Towson University.

MARY HARTNEY is the director of audience engagement at *The Baltimore Sun* and oversees a team of six community coordinators. The community team uses social media and other crowdsourcing techniques to find and engage new audiences and better communicate with current readers. At the *Sun*, Hartney has also been the breaking news director, multimedia editor, night news editor and a copy editor. She previously worked at the *Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch* and the *Virginian-Pilot* of Norfolk.

BRAD HEATH is a national reporter at *USA Today*, where he specializes in data-driven enterprise and has covered subjects ranging from the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina to aviation safety. Before joining *USA Today*, he was an enterprise writer for *The Detroit News* and was the investigative reporter for *The Press & Sun-Bulletin* in Binghamton, N.Y.

DAVID HEATH is an investigative reporter for *The Seattle Times*. In recent years, he's written about Congressional earmarks, corporate deception, conflicts in medical research and terrorism. He's won a number of national awards, including the Goldsmith, the George Polk, the Gerald Loeb and the Heywood Brown. He's been a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize three times. In 2006, Heath was a Nieman fellow at Harvard, where he also taught a journalism class.

TIM HENDERSON has been a data analyst for the *Journal News* in White Plains, N.Y., since 2007. Previously he was a reporter and database editor at *The Miami Herald* and a freelance reporter for *The Cincinnati Enquirer*.

DIANA B. HENRIQUES is a senior financial writer for *The New York Times* and previously worked at *Barron's* magazine, *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and *The Trenton (N.J.) Times*. In 2005, she was a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize and won a George Polk Award, the Worth Bingham Prize and Harvard's Goldsmith Prize for her 2004 series exposing financial rip-offs of young military consumers.

SEYMOUR M. HERSH has been a regular contributor to *The New Yorker* since 1993. His investigative reporting awards include the Pulitzer Prize, five George Polk Awards, two National Magazine Awards, among others. Hersh has published eight books, most recently, "Chain of Command," based on his reporting on Abu Ghraib. His book prizes include the National Book Critics Circle Award, the *Los Angeles Times* award for biography and a Sidney Hillman award, along with two IRE prizes.

CYNTHIA HOLLINGSWORTH is chief of the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey Office Data Analysis and User Education Branch.

MARK HORVIT became IRE's executive director in January 2008. Horvit most recently served as projects editor at the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* in his native Texas. His journalism career includes reporting and editing duties at half-a-dozen daily newspapers in Florida, North Carolina, Missouri and Texas.

BRANT HOUSTON is Knight Chair in Investigative Reporting at the University of Illinois, where he teaches, works on investigative projects and on bringing new digital and analytical tools into newsrooms. He is co-founder of the Global Investigative Journalism Network and is former executive director of IRE and NICAR. He also is author of "Computer-Assisted Reporting: A Practical Guide" and co-author of "The Investigative Reporter's Handbook" and was an award-winning investigative reporter for 17 years.

AMY ISACKSON covers Tijuana, the border and immigration for KPBS, which is National Public Radio's San Diego affiliate.

CHRISTOPHER ISHAM is vice president and Washington bureau chief for CBS News. He has held that position since September 2007 and oversees the editorial output and technical operations of CBS News' largest bureau. Prior to coming to CBS, Isham was the chief of investigative projects for ABC News where he built a unit that broke hundreds of exclusive reports on terrorism and political corruption. Isham organized the first major network interview with Osama bin Laden in 1998.

DAVID CAY JOHNSTON, an IRE medal winner and Pulitzer Prize recipient, retired from *The New York Times* this past year. He is now a columnist for *Tax Notes*, teaches the law of the ancient world at Syracuse University's law and management schools, writes for magazines, does commentaries for NPR, Lou Dobbs and Rachel Maddow and lectures around the world on journalism, tax and economic issues. His next book, "The Fine Print," will be out next year.

KATHLEEN JOHNSTON is a senior investigative producer at CNN. She has broken stories about insurance improprieties, poor cargo screening practices, the lack of federal air marshals, the number of citizens thrown on watch lists and allegations that personnel at a New Orleans hospital killed patients in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Johnston also worked at WTHR, *The Indianapolis Star* and *News*. She has received a duPont Silver Baton, a National Business and Financial Reporting Emmy and an IRE award.

LINDA JUE directs the G.W. Williams Center for Independent Journalism, which develops national public interest and investigative reporting projects for journalists of color, women and youth. She was associate director of the Independent Press Association, a national magazine association. Before that, she directed San Francisco State University's Community Press Consortium. Jue was also an associate of the Center for Investigative Reporting and a former editor at *San Francisco Focus* magazine.

LEWIS KAMB has written about police corruption, prostitution scandals, tribal whale hunts and Boy Scouts' clear-cuts. He has reported for Knight-Ridder's Washington, D.C., bureau, the *Birmingham Post-Herald*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*. The winner of more than a dozen regional and national awards, Kamb's most gratifying work comes from journalism that has direct social impact. He currently works at *The Seattle Times* and is a founding member of the nonprofit investigative journalism start-up InvestigateWest.

ESTHER KAPLAN is editor of The Nation Institute's Investigative Fund, which supports in-depth reporting in the independent media. In recent years, Investigative Fund stories won a National Magazine Award as well as Polk, Aronson, Hillman and IRE awards and sparked Congressional hearings, federal legislation and an FBI investigation. Kaplan is a radio and print reporter, a former editor at *The Nation* and the author of "With God on Their Side: George W. Bush and the Christian Right" (New Press).

MARK KATCHES is deputy managing editor at the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* overseeing projects, investigations and newsroom planning. He joined the paper in 2006 after 10 years at *The Orange County (Calif.) Register*. In the past six years, he has edited or directed one Pulitzer Prize winner and three finalists. Stories he edited have won the George Polk, Sigma Delta Chi and National Headliner awards. As a reporter, he won the Gerald Loeb, Sigma Delta Chi and IRE awards. Katches oversees IRE's mentorship program.

BILL KURTIS has worked as a documentary host and producer, network and major market news anchor, author and multimedia production company president. Kurtis' career has included anchoring the CBS Morning News and contributing to CBS Reports. He has produced programs for the A&E Network, including "Investigative Reports" and "Cold Case Files," as well as "Investigating History" for The History Channel. Kurtis has also served as host of A&E's "American Justice."

DAN KEATING is a database editor at *The Washington Post*. He has written lately about FHA loan defaults, real estate values, charter school performance with disadvantaged students, special education, city embezzlement, car-deer collisions, robbery surges, cops drinking on duty and the District of Columbia's spending without contracts. He has worked at *The (Pittsfield, Mass.) Berkshire Eagle* and *The Miami Herald*, where he reported from Key West for four years.

AARON KESSLER investigates mortgage fraud and other issues related to the real estate meltdown for the *Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Tribune*. He previously covered higher education and state politics for *The Daily Progress* in Charlottesville, Va., and was deputy director at the Virginia Public Access Project, which maintains a political money database. Kessler also covered state government for *The Joplin (Mo.) Globe* and worked on freelance investigative projects for *The Kansas City Star* and the *Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch*.

ARMEN KETELYAN, an eight-time Emmy award winner, is the chief investigative correspondent for CBS News in New York and the head of its investigative unit. Praised for his "uncommon" reporting, Ketelyan's 25-year journalism career includes work as a special features reporter for CBS Sports, correspondent for HBO's "Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel," correspondent for ABC News and writer-reporter at *Sports Illustrated*. He is also the author or co-author of nine books.

PAUL KIEL is the lead bailout reporter for ProPublica, where he helped create the site's bailout database. Before joining ProPublica, he wrote for "TPMmuckraker," Talking Points Memo's investigative reporting blog, from 2006 to 2008. TPM's coverage of the firings of U.S. attorneys and politicization of the Department of Justice won a George Polk Award for legal reporting.

PAMELA KLEIN is a statistician with the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey Office Data Analysis and User Education Branch.

BERNIE KOHN has spent most of his 27-year career in business reporting and editing and just finished his term as SABEW president. As AME/Business at the *Baltimore Sun*, Kohn conceived and co-edited a series on Maryland's ground rent system that was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in local reporting in 2007. Kohn has been a Loeb Awards preliminary judge for the past two years and has spoken at American Press Institute and the Knight Center for Specialized Journalism seminars.

CHRIS KNAP is the investigations editor for *The Orange County (Calif.) Register*. He has 25 years of investigative reporting experience in the areas of government, business and health care, and he was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2004. Knap was named *The Register's* investigations editor in 2006. In 2008 he took oversight of government and politics coverage as well. He is also an adjunct professor of journalism at California State University, Long Beach.

JENNIFER LaFLEUR is director of computer-assisted reporting for ProPublica, a public interest investigative newsroom in New York. She formerly was the computer-assisted reporting editor for *The Dallas Morning News*, where she worked on the News' investigative team. She has held similar positions at the *San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. She was IRE training director back in the olden days and co-authored an IRE beat book on mapping.

EDEN LAIKIN, a beat reporter for *Newsday*, uses her computer-assisted reporting skills to cover the town of Hempstead – the largest township in America. She joined *Newsday* as an editorial aide in 1987 and went on to become the researcher for the investigations team. She and a colleague won this year's Selden Ring award for uncovering abuse of the public pension system, resulting in the passage of new pension reform laws.

DANIEL LATHROP is chief data evangelist for InvestigateWest, a nonprofit investigative journalism start-up focused on the western U.S. and Canada. He is also an independent journalist working for media and nonprofit clients. Previously, he was a member of the investigative projects team at the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*. A frequent speaker on Web technology, multimedia and open government issues, Lathrop is editor and lead author of a forthcoming book on open government from O'Reilly Media.

PAULA LAVIGNE is a reporter and data analyst for ESPN's investigative unit. Her work appears in TV and online versions of "Outside the Lines," including two episodes in 2008 that earned Emmy nominations. She previously reported for *The Dallas Morning News*, *The Des Moines Register* and *The News Tribune* in Tacoma, Wash. She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska and is getting an MBA from Creighton University.

ELISABETH LEAMY has reported and investigated a wide range of topics since joining "Good Morning America." She was the first journalist to question claims made by the popular cold remedy Airborne. Eventually, the company that made it ended up settling with consumers for \$24 million. After the Mattel recalls, Leamy tested hundreds of toys for lead and discovered that the Consumer Product Safety Commission's lead testing method sometimes missed the poison. The agency soon switched methods.

ANDREW LECKEY is president of the Donald W. Reynolds National Center for Business Journalism and the Reynolds Endowed Chair at Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School. The center runs BusinessJournalism.org and the Barlett & Steele Awards. A syndicated columnist for *Chicago Tribune*, Leckey was a CNBC anchor and has written or edited 10 financial books. He was director of business journalism at UC Berkeley and Boston University and received the National Association of Investors Corporation's Distinguished Service Award in Investment Education.

MICHELLE LEDER runs Footnoted.org, which reveals daily things companies try to hide in routine Securities and Exchange Commission filings. The site, which was named one of *Time* magazine's 50 Coolest for 2006, launched in August 2003, following the publication of Leder's first book, "Financial Fineprint: Uncovering a Company's True Value." Leder articles have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Slate*, *BusinessWeek*, *Worth* and others. Leder speaks about SEC filing and media convergence trends and blogging.

Conference Speakers

JEFF LEEN is the assistant managing editor in charge of *The Washington Post's* investigations unit, which he joined as a reporter in 1997. He has led or supervised investigations of Hurricane Andrew's destruction, D.C. police shootings, Jack Abramoff and Dick Cheney. He is the co-author of "Kings of Cocaine" and author of "The Queen of the Ring," which will be published in August by Atlantic Monthly Press.

ANDY LEHREN is on *The New York Times* computer-assisted reporting team. He has reported on the Iraq war, Hurricane Katrina, and religion and politics. He's part of the *Times* team honored with a 2007 IRE Medal for examining China's pharmaceutical industry. A former NBC producer, Lehren won Peabody, Polk, duPont-Columbia, Edward R. Murrow, IRE and Emmy awards. He teaches investigative reporting at the CUNY's graduate school and once ran IRE and NICAR's Database Library.

CHARLES LEWIS is executive editor of the Investigative Reporting Workshop at American University in Washington. A former ABC News and CBS News "60 Minutes" producer, he founded and for 15 years was executive director of the Center for Public Integrity. Co-author of five Center books, including the bestseller, "The Buying of the President 2004," Lewis was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship in 1998 and received the PEN USA First Amendment award in 2004.

HAGIT LIMOR serves as WCPO-Cincinnati's investigative reporter. Born in Israel, she holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Northwestern's Medill Journalism School. Awards include a National Headliner Award, three national Sigma Delta Chi Awards, eight Emmys, National Association of Health Care Journalists and Society of Environmental Journalists, state Associated Press and SPJ awards. Limor serves as national secretary/treasurer for the Society of Professional Journalists and was recently awarded by the Bethesda Foundation for her community volunteer work.

LAURA A. LOREK is a senior writer at *San Antonio Express-News* covering technology and business news. She previously worked as a senior writer at Ziff Davis' *Interactive Week* magazine and as a technology columnist and business specialty writer for the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*. Throughout her career, she has received several awards and fellowships. She received a bachelor's degree in journalism with a focus on economics from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.

JOE MAHR is the investigative reporter/editor for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. He has won numerous statewide and national awards during 15 years of reporting for newspapers in Illinois, Ohio and Missouri, including sharing a 2004 Pulitzer Prize for investigating reporting.

MARK MAREMONT is a senior editor at *The Wall Street Journal*, where he directs a small investigative unit. In 2007, he was part of a team of *Journal* reporters who won the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for an investigation into stock option backdating abuses. Maremont is a two-time winner of the Gerald Loeb Award and in 2003 was part of a team that won a Pulitzer for a series on corporate scandals. Maremont joined the *Journal* in 1997 after working at *BusinessWeek*.

SCOTT MATTHEWS is director of programming for CNN/U.S. Named to this position in February 2008, Matthews serves as the network's primary programming executive in Atlanta, responsible for all CNN/U.S. newscasts emanating from CNN headquarters and for CNN's special investigations unit. Matthews joined CNN after serving as vice president and news director for WNYW and WWOR in New York City.

LINDSAY RENICK MAYER came to the Center for Responsive Politics in July of 2006 prepared to "follow the money" in politics as the reporter for the organization and its blog, "Capital Eye." She earned her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University. She has worked as a political writer for two daily newspapers in Colorado and as a science writer for NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

SUZANNE McBRIDE is associate chair of the Journalism Department at Columbia College Chicago. McBride was an editor and reporter for 13 years at *The Indianapolis Star* and now-defunct *Indianapolis News*, where she investigated a lead-poisoned neighborhood, the influence of campaign cash on state lawmakers and the militia, among other things. She's co-founder and co-publisher of a local news site, ChicagoTalks.org, which has published investigative stories about the Chicago City Council and the Chicago Transit Authority.

CRAIG R. McCOY is an investigative reporter for *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. He has reported on vote fraud, Medicaid profiteering, gun trafficking, police "downgrading" of crime reports and police mistreatment of rape victims. He was part of a team whose work on the Philadelphia police was a finalist for a public service Pulitzer Prize. The coverage won a Selden Ring Award for investigative reporting and a Roy Howard Award. He's also looked at how insiders, including politicians, have exploited nonprofit organizations.

SHARON McNARY recently launched Public Insight Journalism for Southern California Public Radio KPCC. She uses social media and data tools to interact with thousands of experts and everyday people who are sources for the station's news, Web and talk shows. McNary is a longtime computer geek who has worked in investigative TV news and documentaries, radio, wire service and newspapers in Southern California. She has been a proud IRE member since 1981.

MATT MEAGHER has been part of the "Inside Edition" investigative unit for 19 years. Before that, he worked on investigative teams in Boston, St. Louis and Tampa. He has been doing investigative reporting for 35 years and has been the recipient of a number of awards, including the Alfred I. duPont, George Polk, National Headliner, Overseas Press Club and eight local Emmys.

JOSH MEYER has been an investigative reporter and staff writer for the *Los Angeles Times* for nearly 20 years. He has won local, state and national awards, many of them since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, when he created a Washington-based national terrorism beat that focuses on intelligence, law enforcement and national security issues. Meyer routinely invites public embarrassment by singing and playing lead guitar in the band Suspicious Package.

JAYNE MILLER is chief investigative reporter for WBAL-Baltimore. She's been a broadcast journalist for more than 30 years. Her reporting has led to changes in legislation, public policy and industry practices and standards. Miller has a reputation for breaking news. Her work has earned national and regional recognition. She was named to *Baltimore Magazine's* Power 50 list in 2007 and *The Daily Record's* list of Most Influential in 2009.

T. CHRISTIAN MILLER is a senior reporter for ProPublica, an independent investigative newsroom. Miller's recent work has appeared on ABC's "20/20," PBS' "Frontline" and in *The New York Times*. Prior to ProPublica, Miller reported for the *Los Angeles Times*, where his work included coverage of Iraq, the 2000 presidential campaign and three years as bureau chief in Colombia. He has received an Overseas Press Club award, a Livingston Award for Young Journalists and the John B. Oakes Award.

KIRSTEN B. MITCHELL, an expert on government secrecy issues, is a veteran Washington journalist, most recently with the New York Times Regional Media Group. From 2004 to 2006, she was a journalism fellow at The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press. Her work has been recognized by the chairman of the New York Times Co., the Society of Professional Journalists and the N.C. Press Association.

MILES MOFFEIT is a reporter with *The Denver Post* currently covering economic-stimulus and banking issues. He was a finalist for the 2008 Pulitzer Prize in Investigative Reporting for his reports on how police and prosecutors trash DNA evidence. He is vice president of The Dart Society, a national organization of journalists who cover violence and social injustice.

BLAKE MORRISON is the deputy enterprise editor at *USA Today*. In that role, he reports and helps direct projects and investigations for the nation's largest newspaper. He joined *USA Today* as a national reporter in October 1999 and began covering aviation security after 9/11. His most recent project on the impact of industrial pollution on the nation's schools earned the Fourth Estate Award, a National Headliners award and the Fred M. Hechinger Grand Prize for Distinguished Education Reporting.

JENNIFER MUIR covers consumer health issues for *The Orange County (Calif.) Register*. Muir joined the *Register* in 2003 and covered city governments and breaking news before joining the investigations team. Before the *Register*, Jennifer covered crime for the *Brownsville Herald* on the Texas/Mexico border.

RICHARD MULLINS, most recently was an assistant database editor at The Center for Public Integrity. The Center's Superfund project won the SEJ Award for Best Online Reporting in 2008. Formerly, he was academic advisor for NICAR and an assistant professor at the Missouri School of Journalism. He lives and works, sometimes on journalism, in his hometown, Huntington, W.Va.

MAGGIE MULVIHILL is the associate director and senior investigative producer of the New England Center for Investigative Reporting at Boston University. A former media lawyer, Mulvihill has worked for the NBC and CBS affiliates in Boston, the *Boston Herald*, The Associated Press and numerous legal publications. A 2004 Nieman Fellow, she also worked at the Reporter's Committee for Freedom of the Press, taught journalism at Harvard and is a clinical professor in journalism at BU.

CHUCK MURPHY is the public affairs editor at *The Denver Post*. Before that, he was projects editor. A series edited by Murphy in 2008, "The Battle Within" will be awarded the national Society of Professional Journalists/Sigma Delta Chi award for investigative reporting later this summer. Before joining *The Post* in 2003, Murphy was a projects reporter and editor at the *St. Petersburg Times* in Florida.

ERIC NALDER coordinates investigative reporting as senior enterprise reporter for Hearst Newspapers. He coaches reporters, writes and teaches workshops. With colleagues, he received two Pulitzer Prizes, two IRE awards, the George Polk Award, the Goldsmith Prize, the Worth Bingham Prize and other citations. He previously worked at the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, *San Jose Mercury News* and *Seattle Times*. He lives in Suquamish, Wash.

JAMES NEFF has worked at *The Seattle Times* as its investigations editor since 2001. He is the author of four books, including "The Wrong Man: The Final Verdict on the Dr. Sam Sheppard Murder Case" (Random House) and "Mobbed Up" (Atlantic Monthly Press), which won an IRE award and was made into the HBO movie "Teamster Boss." He is a past president of the IRE Board of Directors.

JOSEPH NEFF is an investigative reporter at *The News & Observer* of Raleigh, N.C. His stories have led to the exoneration of an innocent man on death row, disciplinary proceedings against cheating prosecutors, the convictions of former Agriculture Commissioner Meg Scott Phipps and seven of her colleagues and the disciplining of bad doctors. He has written extensively on the four private contractors killed in Fallujah in March 2004 and on the V-22 airplane.

DEBORAH NELSON is author of "The War Behind Me: Vietnam Veterans Confront the Truth About U.S. War Crimes" (Basic Books, 2008), which draws on extensive interviews with combat veterans and military leaders to shed light on a once-secret Army archive. Nelson is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and visiting Carnegie professor at University of Maryland's College of Journalism. She's a past president of IRE and on the Fund for Investigative Journalism board.

ERIC NEWTON is vice president of the journalism program for the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, where he has developed \$250 million in grants to advance quality journalism and freedom of expression. Previously, Newton was founding managing editor of the Newseum. During his tenure as managing editor at the *Oakland (Calif.) Tribune*, the newspaper won 150 journalism awards, including a Pulitzer Prize. Newton shared a Peabody award and won the DeWitt Carter Reddick Award at the University of Texas at Austin.

RON NIXON is a reporter on *The New York Times'* computer-assisted reporting team and is assigned to the paper's Washington bureau. Prior to joining *the Times*, he was CAR editor for *The Star Tribune* in Minneapolis-St.Paul. He was training director for IRE and trained hundreds of reporters around the world in CAR and investigative reporting techniques. Nixon was also an investigative reporter at *The Roanoke (Va.) Times*.

ASRA NOMANI is co-director of the Pearl Project, an investigation at the Center for Public Integrity into the murder of *Wall Street Journal* reporter Daniel Pearl. The project began as a course at Georgetown University, where Nomani is an adjunct professor of journalism. She is a former *Wall Street Journal* reporter and the author of "Standing Alone: An American Woman's Struggle for the Soul of Islam." She publishes commentaries on Islam.

WILLIAM P. O'HARE's work over the past 30 years has been defined by the use of statistical data to elevate the needs of disadvantaged populations such as children, the poor and racial minorities on the public agenda. He served on the Census Bureau's Professional Organization Advisory Committee from 1997 to 2003, and he currently serves on the Census Advisory Committee for the 2010 Census.

ROBERT O'HARROW JR. is a reporter on the financial and investigative desks at *The Washington Post*. This year, he is a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and Gerald Loeb award for a series of stories about a company at the center of the global financial meltdown. In 2006, O'Harrow and Scott Higham, won an IRE Award for the series "The High Price of Homeland Security." O'Harrow is the author of the book "No Place to Hide."

MARTÍN ORQUIZ has worked for *El Diario* since 1992 and reported on city issues and edited a variety of sections. He previously reported and edited at *El Fronterizo* from 1986 until 1992. Orquiz has a degree in communications from the Facultad de Ciencias Sociales y Políticas de la Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua and a master's degree in investigative journalism from the University of Texas at El Paso.

PAUL OVERBERG is a database editor at *USA Today* and does much of its demographic data analysis. With other data team members, he helps its staff of 400 journalists with training, data analysis and custom applications. Overberg is a former science and environmental reporter and editor at Gannett News Service in Washington, D.C. He started at *The Courier-News* in Bridgewater, N.J.

DOUG PARDUE is watchdog editor for *The Post and Courier* in Charleston, S.C. His work as a reporter and editor has received five National Headliner Awards, a Robert F. Kennedy Citation, an ASNE Award, two SPJ First Place Awards, an APME Award, a Gerald Loeb Citation and a Gerald Ford Award for coverage of national defense. He also was part of a *Roanoke (Va.) Times* team that was a 1990 Pulitzer Prize finalist.

SANDRA PEDDIE is an investigative reporter at *Newsday*. She and a colleague won the 2008 Selden Ring Award for Investigative Reporting for their stories on pension abuses and special districts. Peddie is a board member of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, has won more than 24 awards for her investigative work and has authored one book. She is also an adjunct professor of journalism at Hofstra University.

THOMAS PEELE is an investigative reporter for the Bay Area News Group and the Chauncey Bailey Project in suburban San Francisco. He has won many journalism awards during a nearly 25-year career, spent mostly in California and at *The (Pleasantville, N.J.) Press* of Atlantic City. Peele has written for both *The IRE Journal* and *Uplink*.

MIKE PELL joined The Center for Public Integrity's staff in December 2007. From 2002 to 2006, as a reporter for the *Watertown Daily Times* in upstate New York, Pell covered local politics, the Canadian border and environmental issues related to the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River. He then went to the Missouri School of Journalism to study computer-assisted reporting; in 2007 he was a Pulliam Fellow at *The Arizona Republic*.

Conference Speakers

NICK PERRY has covered higher education at *The Seattle Times* for the past three years. This year, he won a beat reporting award from the Education Writers Association. Perry and co-author, Ken Armstrong, also wrote the investigative series "Victory and Ruins," which exposed a community's complicity in fielding a winning college football team. The series earned a George Polk Award.

CHERYL PHILLIPS is president of IRE's Board of Directors. She is the data enterprise editor at *The Seattle Times*, where she supervises a team that works across departments to produce interactive stories and databases. Previously, she served as deputy investigations editor and an investigative reporter. She has twice been a member of teams that were finalists for the Pulitzer Prize. She has worked at *USA Today*, *The Detroit News*, the *Great Falls Tribune* in Montana and the *Fort Worth (Texas) Star-Telegram*.

ARON PILHOFFER is editor of interactive technologies for *The New York Times* and leads the newsroom Web team. Prior to that, he was on *The Times'* computer-assisted reporting team and the paper's politics desk. Pilhofer also spent a year on IRE's national training staff.

RODNEY PINDER, a veteran former foreign correspondent for Reuters and The Associated Press, is director of the International News Safety Institute (www.newssafety.org), a nonprofit created in 2003 out of concern over the rising death toll amongst journalists worldwide. INSI is the only organization in the world solely concerned with safety and survival of news media in all kinds of danger.

TONY PIPITONE, investigative reporter at WKMG-Orlando, has been an IRE member for more than 15 years. Before switching to television at WKMG in 1987, he had been a reporter for the *Baltimore Evening Sun* since his 1983 graduation from the University of Maryland at College Park.

BYRON PITTS was named a contributor to "60 Minutes" and chief national correspondent for "The CBS Evening News with Katie Couric" in January 2008. Pitts was one of CBS News' lead reporters during the Sept. 11 attacks and won a national Emmy award for his coverage. As an embedded reporter covering the Iraq War, he was recognized for his work under fire. His interview with New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin in August 2006 made national news.

DUANE POHLMAN is the chief investigative reporter and an anchor at WEWS-Cleveland. He is the former vice-president and treasurer for IRE's Board of Directors and has served as treasurer and governor for the Lower Great Lakes Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. He has been named reporter/journalist of the year five times in three states and has won more than 100 national, state and local television journalism awards.

JAMES POLK is a senior documentary producer at CNN and was one of the first presidents of IRE. He was a national correspondent for NBC News in the 1970s and 1980s before joining CNN 17 years ago. In his half century in journalism, Polk has received a Pulitzer Prize for his Watergate reporting, the SPJ medal and more recently at CNN has shared in a national Emmy, a Peabody, a duPont and had a few runner-up finishes as well.

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BOB PORT is senior editor/investigations at the *Albany (N.Y.) Times Union*, where his campaign to publish legislative earmarks won a 2006 IRE FOI award. He was an investigative reporter at the *New York Daily News* and senior editor at APBnews.com, where his campaign to publish judicial financial disclosures on the Internet won a 1999 IRE special citation. Port was Associated Press special assignment editor from 1995-1999. He is an adjunct professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

DEBORAH POTTER is an experienced journalism trainer and veteran television reporter. She's the founder and executive director of NewsLab (www.newslab.org), an online resource for journalists. She also leads training sessions for working journalists in the United States and around the world. Potter spent 16 years as a network correspondent for CBS News and CNN. She is co-author of "Advancing the Story: Broadcast Journalism in a Multimedia World" and is a featured columnist for *American Journalism Review*.

PAUL RADU is a cross-border investigative projects coordinator in the Balkans and a Knight fellow with the International Center for Journalists.

MICHAEL R. RAND is chief of victimization statistics at the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics and oversees the collection of data related to crime and victimization, including the National Crime Victimization Survey, one of the two leading crime indicators in the United States. Rand is the author or co-author of several published articles and BJS reports on the extent and nature of crime victimization and crime's impact on victims.

NEIL REISNER is a professor of journalism at Florida International University in Miami. He has been a reporter, editor or both at *The Miami Herald*, *The Record* in Bergen County, N.J., and the *Miami Daily Business Review*. He served as training director for IRE and NICAR, and he also taught at Columbia and Rutgers universities.

WALTER V. ROBINSON has been distinguished professor of journalism at Northeastern University since 2007. His students do investigative stories for the *Boston Globe*. During 34 years at the *Globe*, he reported from 48 states and more than 30 countries. Robinson was editor of the *Globe Spotlight Team* from 2000 through 2006. In 2003, the *Globe* won the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for the team's investigation of sexual abuse of children by Catholic priests.

IRA ROSEN is a producer with "60 Minutes." In 2008 he won the Sigma Delta Chi and RFK awards. He has won a Peabody, five IRE awards, three duPont-Columbia awards, two RFK awards and 20 national Emmys. Previously he had been senior producer in charge of investigations with "Prime Time Live" for 15 years. He was a Nieman fellow at Harvard University and co-authored "The Warning" about Three Mile Island.

ROBERT ROSENTHAL is an award-winning journalist with nearly 40 years of experience. He became executive director of the Center for Investigative Reporting in January 2008. Before joining CIR, he worked for *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and, most recently, the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Since September of 2007 he has also been the executive editor of the Chauncey Bailey Project. As a reporter, Rosenthal was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in international reporting.

BRIAN ROSS is ABC News' chief investigative correspondent and reports for "World News with Charles Gibson," "Nightline," "Good Morning America" and "20/20" as well as ABC News Radio and ABCNews.com. His reports have exposed corruption at all levels of government, changed domestic laws and prompted reforms abroad. He has won four DuPont awards, five Peabody awards, five awards from the Overseas Press Club, 11 Emmys, two Murrow Awards and an IRE award in 2006 for breaking the Mark Foley-congressional page scandal.

RANA SABBAGH-GARGOUR, executive director for Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism, is a career journalist, columnist and media trainer with 25 years of experience in print journalism throughout the Arab world. A former chief editor of the *Jordan Times*, the first Arab female journalist in the history of the Levant to hold such a post, she was correspondent for Reuters International News Agency and helped establish Jordan's newest newspaper, *Al-Ghad*. She is also the Jordan correspondent for *The Times* of London.

JUDITH SACHWALD retired in November 2007 after serving nearly 31 years as an employee of the State of Maryland, the final 7-1/2 years as director of the Division of Parole and Probation. The division employs approximately 1,300 employees who supervise about 70,000 individuals under probation, parole, mandatory supervision or home detention. Sachwald now serves as senior policy adviser for the Crime and Justice Institute and also works as an independent consultant.

JONATHAN D. SALANT covers campaign finance and lobbying for Bloomberg News. A Washington journalist for more than 20 years, he has reported on candidate fundraising for every presidential election since 1996 and is a frequent speaker on the subject at regional and national IRE conferences. He is a past president of the National Press Club and is the co-author of the revised edition of the "Follow the Money Handbook," published by the Center for Responsive Politics.

NORBERTO SANTANA JR. is an investigative reporter with *The Orange County (Calif.) Register*, covering government and politics. He has been with the *Register* since 2004. He also covered government issues at *The San Diego Union Tribune* and the *San Bernardino County Sun* in California, the *Virgin Islands Daily News* and *Congressional Quarterly* in Washington, D.C. Before his stints as a government reporter, he worked with National Endowment for Democracy programs in Latin America.

JIM SCHAEFER has investigated Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, sexual abuse among clergy, the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and sports ticketing issues for the *Detroit Free Press*. Since 2002, Schaefer and partner, M.L. Elrick, have teamed up for ongoing investigations of Kilpatrick. In January 2008, the pair broke the text message scandal that led to the resignation and conviction of the mayor. The duo won the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for Local Reporting as well as a 2008 IRE award.



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Conference Speakers

CHRISTOPHER H. SCHMITT is a senior analyst in the financial markets and community investment team of the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Before joining GAO in 2006, he was a reporter and editor for more than 20 years at the *San Jose Mercury News*, *BusinessWeek*, *U.S. News & World Report*, and other publications. With a focus on computer-assisted reporting, he completed projects on topics including toxic waste, politics, nursing homes, business, government secrecy and criminal justice.

RHONDA SCHWARTZ, chief investigative producer at ABC News, runs the Brian Ross Investigative team, which provides reporting for all ABC News programs and "The Blotter" on ABCNews.com. Throughout a 30-year career in network news, Schwartz's wide-ranging reporting on Wal-Mart's use of child labor, the Mark Foley congressional page scandal, nuclear smuggling, and the political "Money Trail" have received top honors including four Polk awards, six Emmys, the duPont-Columbia, Peabody, Murrow, Overseas Press Club and IRE's Renner award.

LANA DURBAN SCOTT, director of news strategy and operations for The E.W. Scripps Television Division, spearheads strategic initiatives across the nine Scripps stations. She also orchestrates plans for special and investigative reports, manages a system of sharing resources and best practices and provides guidance on hiring decisions. While at WEWS-Cleveland, she earned a regional Edward R. Murrow Award, two regional Emmy awards and two Ohio Associated Press Awards.

TERI SFORZA is a dinosaur at *The Orange County Register* and has worked dazzling assignments, from features on sick sea lions to investigations of crumbling sewer systems. She contributed to the *Reg's* Pulitzer Prize-winning investigation of fertility fraud at UC Irvine, and that's as close as she expects to get. Her constant carping re: more hard-hitting local news resulted in her current assignment as keeper of the "OC Watchdog" column/blog, which proves you must be careful what you wish for.

ROBERT SHALER is a professor of biochemistry and director of the forensic science program at Penn State. He is a forensic scientist and author of "Who They Were, Inside the World Trade Center DNA Story: The Unprecedented Effort to Identify the Missing." He was featured on "Crime Scene University" a Discovery Channel miniseries and was a member of the National Academies' NRC committee "Identifying the Needs of the Forensic Science Community."

ANDREW J. SIEGEL is vice president and assistant general counsel for CBS Broadcasting Inc. He represents 29 CBS owned and operated television stations, handling, among other things, news counseling, talent contracts and general business guidance, as well as sports rights agreements with the NFL, MLB and NBA. Siegel is also primary counsel for CBS Television Stations' Digital Media Group. He is a graduate of St. John's University and the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.

DAVID SIMON is a Baltimore-based journalist, author and television producer. A former police reporter at the *Baltimore Sun*, he has written two nonfiction narratives, "Homicide: A Year On The Killing Streets" and "The Corner: A Year in the Life of an Inner-City Neighborhood." Simon has also served as a writer and executive producer for the HBO dramas "The Corner," "The Wire" and "Generation Kill." He is currently working on "Treme," a chronicle of post-Katrina New Orleans for HBO.

JOEL SIMON began his career as a writer and photographer in Central America. After obtaining a master's degree in Latin American studies, he moved to Mexico City in 1989 and worked as an associate editor for Pacific News Service and as a freelancer. From 1991 to 1994, Simon worked as a contributing editor to *SFWeekly*. He returned to Mexico in 1994 to report on the Zapatista uprising for the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Simon is the executive director of Committee to Protect Journalists.

DAVID B. SMALLMAN is managing partner of Smallman Law PLLC in New York, specializing in media law, intellectual property, publishing, risk management and complex insurance coverage disputes. He's been primary outside counsel to IRE/NICAR for 14 years. Smallman is representing former CIA officer Valerie Plame Wilson and her publisher in a dispute over censorship of public domain information, providing insurance and clearance advice to the producers of the movie "Fair Game," starring Sean Penn and Naomi Watts.

KARYN SPENCER is an enterprise reporter with the *Omaha World-Herald* in Nebraska. She won the 2009 Al Nakkula Award for Police Reporting for an investigative series on how Nebraska's coroner system lets people get away with murder. She received a 2008 Ochberg fellowship from the Dart Center for Journalism & Trauma. She often covers crime, foster care and mental illness.

JAMES B. STEELE is a contributing editor for *Vanity Fair* and one-half of Barlett and Steele, the longest running investigative reporting team in American journalism. Recipients of virtually every major national journalism award including two Pulitzer Prizes, two National Magazine Awards and five IRE awards, Barlett and Steele are also the authors of seven books, including "America: What Went Wrong?" Their latest project, "Monsanto's Harvest of Fear," appeared in the May 2008 issue of *Vanity Fair*.

PAUL E. STEIGER is the editor-in-chief and chief executive of ProPublica, a nonprofit, nonpartisan investigative journalism team launched in January 2008. For 16 years, he was the managing editor of *The Wall Street Journal*. Under his leadership, the *Journal's* reporters and editors were awarded 16 Pulitzer Prizes. He is also the chairman of the Committee to Protect Journalists. He is a trustee of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, which supports transformative programs in areas including journalism and community development.

JOE STEPHENS has worked for a decade as an investigative reporter for *The Washington Post*. He is a three-time winner of the George Polk Award and, with colleagues, has on three occasions been a nominated finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. His articles have led to congressional hearings, remedial legislation, prison terms and millions in fines. His reporting prompted Nigeria to charge Pfizer and its CEO with homicide and demand \$8.5 billion in damages.



STEPHEN STOCK is an investigative reporter for WFOR-South Florida's I-Team. Prior to that, he was lead investigative reporter for WESH-Orlando. Stock's investigations uncovered tax fraud by Florida prison inmates, the exact cause of Ford truck fires and system-wide problems in day cares. He's won eight regional Emmys, a Peabody, duPont, two Murrows, three Green Eyeshades, including Best of TV, and was named a 2004 Poynter Ethics Fellow. His work has prompted U.S. congressional hearings and changes in Florida law.

JIM STRICKLAND, a WSB-Atlanta consumer investigator, is on the alert wherever scam artists lurk. Strickland's investigations have led to arrests, corporate shake-ups and federal raids on offending businesses. Strickland's groundbreaking investigation led to sweeping regulation of Atlanta's car booting industry. Strickland is a six-time Emmy winner and the first-ever Journalist of the Year named during the Georgia Life, Fire & Safety Awards. The Associated Press has named him Georgia's best specialized reporter six times.

LAURA SULLIVAN has been on NPR's National Desk since 2004. She's covered crime and punishment issues for "Morning Edition," "All Things Considered, Day to Day" and other NPR programs. Her 2008 series, "36 Years of Solitary: Murder, Death and Justice on Angola," won a Peabody, Robert F. Kennedy and the IRE award for investigative reporting. Her series investigating sexual assault of Native American women received an Alfred I. duPont Award, the DART Award for outstanding reporting and an Edward R. Murrow Award.

JEFFREY TAYLOR is managing editor for U.S. corporate news and San Francisco bureau chief at Bloomberg News. He supervised "Wall Street's Faustian Bargain," a 2007 series on the subprime mortgage crisis that won the Gerald Loeb award, and 2008 coverage of the federal bank bailout that is a current Loeb finalist. Previously he worked as an editor at the *Denver Post* and *Chicago Tribune* and as a reporter at the *Wall Street Journal*. He is the author of "The Pru-Bache Murder."

RUTH TEICHROEB is an award-winning investigative reporter who worked at the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* from 1997 until it closed in March. Her stories have uncovered sexual abuse in residential schools for deaf children, the fatal neglect of children in state care, and the mistreatment of developmentally disabled adults. She's won many national and regional awards, including a National Press Club award and a Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award. Teichroeb was a John S. Knight Fellow at Stanford University from 2007-2008.

A.C. THOMPSON is a staff reporter at ProPublica. Before joining ProPublica, Thompson spent nine years at alt-weeklies, toiling as a staff reporter at *SF Weekly* and the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*. His reporting has helped to exonerate two men wrongly convicted of murder, exposed slum conditions in San Francisco's public housing, and, most recently, prompted the FBI to investigate a killing in New Orleans. He is a co-founder of the Chauncey Bailey Project.

CHERYL WHITLOW THOMPSON is an award-winning investigative reporter for *The Washington Post* and is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University. She was part of the *Post* team that won the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for national reporting. Most recently, she chronicled the fatal police shooting of a 14-year-old D.C. boy and the missteps and oversights of the officers involved. She previously worked as a reporter for the *Kansas City Star*, *Chicago Tribune* and the *Los Angeles Daily News*.

TISHA THOMPSON first joined IRE when she was 16 years old. She is the investigative reporter and CAR specialist for WTTG-Washington, D.C. Thompson was a finalist in the 2008 IRE Awards FOI category for exposing significant problems with how the FBI archives files, and she a 2005 IRE Awards finalist for her investigation into lead in children's toys. Thompson has won more than 60 national and regional awards, including six Emmys and Murrow, National Headliner, AP and Sigma Delta Chi awards.

KATHY TIMES is an anchor/investigative reporter for WDBD in Jackson, Miss. She has won top honors, including a Southeast Emmy and Edward R. Murrow Award for her in-depth reports in Birmingham, Alabama. Some of her most memorable television moments include being held at gunpoint while investigating police corruption, covering the capture of Olympic Park bomber Eric Robert Rudolph for MSNBC and landing one-on-one interviews with Former President George H.W. Bush and Condoleezza Rice.

MC NELLY TORRES was most recently a consumer/watchdog reporter for the *Sun-Sentinel* in Fort Lauderdale. Previously she covered education for the *San Antonio Express-News*, where she wrote about corruption in school construction. She garnered local and state awards for investigative work on South Carolina's hog farm permit process. In Oklahoma, she wrote a three-part series illustrating the sheriff's inability to solve homicides. Torres is a member of IRE's Board of Directors.

JODI UPTON is the database editor for sports at *USA Today*; she does investigative work and oversees most indexes, ratings and other stats in the department. She was an investigative reporter at *The Detroit News* and a 2002-2003 John S. Knight Fellow at Stanford University. Her awards include honors from the Associated Press Managing Editors and the Columbia University School of Journalism, as well as the 2007 APSE award and the 2007 Iris Molotsky Award.

HEATHER VOGELL is an investigative/watchdog reporter for *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. She has focused recently on stories that seek to hold state and local educators accountable for student learning and spending. Vogell has also written for *The Charlotte Observer*, *The Chicago Tribune* and *The Day Newspaper* in New London, Conn. She was one of the lead writers and data analysts for a series on Georgia's death penalty that won second place in IRE's 2007 Philip Meyer Journalism Awards.

MIKE WALTER is a documentary filmmaker and award-winning broadcast journalist. In 2009, he created Walter Media. His first film, "Breaking News, Breaking Down," premiered at the Washington, D.C., International Film Festival. From 2003 to 2009, Walter anchored the Emmy award-winning morning news at WUSA-Washington, D.C. He has won four Emmy awards and was a key contributor to two books on the Sept. 11 attacks, "Covering Catastrophe," and "Broadcasting through Crisis."

STUART WATSON is an investigative reporter at WCNC-Charlotte, N.C. Watson served on the IRE Board of Directors for two terms. He was a 2008 Nieman Fellow at Harvard University and has repeatedly won national awards, including three George Foster Peabody awards, two duPont-Columbia Silver Batons and two IRE Awards. Most recently he won the National Headliner Award for public service for coverage of executive compensation at the United Way of the Central Carolinas.

LAWAN WILLIAMS is not the traditional journalist. She served in the U.S. military and worked for The Coca-Cola Company for almost 10 years before pursuing journalism. She has worked at WSB-Atlanta, WFTV-Orlando, KNXV-Phoenix and KSHB-Kansas City. Williams continues her career with E.W. Scripps as data projects manager at the company's headquarters in Cincinnati, Ohio, where she works to enhance the online user experience of Scripps' Web sites. She is a member of the IRE Board of Directors.

AMY WEBB is an author, speaker and future thinker and heads the Webmedia Group, www.webbmediagroup.com, an international digital strategy consultancy that adapts current and emerging technologies to solve problems in mainstream journalism/journalism education. Her team of consultants and programmers at Webmedia helps news and tech organizations around the world innovate. She is also the founder of Knowledgewebb, www.knowledgewebb.net, a hands-on training Web site for journalists. Twitter: @webbmedia. E-mail: amy@webbmediagroup.com.

STEVE WEINBERG served as IRE executive director from 1983-1990 and is a contributing editor at *The IRE Journal*. He also teaches reporting and writing courses part-time at the Missouri School of Journalism. Since 1978, his freelance writing career has spawned hundreds of magazine and newspaper pieces plus eight nonfiction books. His most recent book is "Taking on the Trust: The Epic Battle of Ida Tarbell and John D. Rockefeller."

MARGOT WILLIAMS is the database research editor at *The New York Times*. She moved to *The Times* in 2004 after 14 years at *The Washington Post* and previous positions at the *Poughkeepsie (N.Y.) Journal* and Time Warner. Williams is the co-author with Nora Paul of "Great Scouts! Cyberguides for Subject Searching on the Web."

Conference Speakers

PHIL WILLIAMS is chief investigative reporter for WTVF-Nashville. His work has been honored with numerous national awards, including two George Foster Peabody Awards, a duPont-Columbia Award, a George Polk Award, a national Emmy Award, three IRE Awards (including an IRE Medal), National Headliner Awards and Sigma Delta Chi Awards. A former print journalist, he was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. He is on the IRE Board of Directors.

DEREK WILLIS joined a Web development team at *The New York Times* in November 2007. He has covered campaign finance issues as a database editor at Washingtonpost.com and at The Center for Public Integrity. He is co-author of "Unstacking the Deck," an IRE beat book about covering campaign finance. He also covered Congress for *Congressional Quarterly* and worked as a reporter and technology specialist at *The Palm Beach Post*. He lives online at www.thescoop.org.

DUFF WILSON covers the pharmaceutical and tobacco industries for *The New York Times*. He is the first two-time winner of the Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting, twice honored with Polk awards and three times a Pulitzer finalist for *The Seattle Times*. Duff is on the IRE Board of Directors and executive committee. His 2001 book, "Fateful Harvest," won an IRE award. He is also Webmaster of The Reporter's Desktop, a launch pad for daily and investigative reporting at www.reporter.org/desktop.

NANCI WILSON will begin work for KXAN-Austin, Texas in August. In 2007, she received two Emmys and a Texas AP Broadcasters Award for best investigative report. In 2003, she received the Scripps Howard Foundation's National Journalism Award and the RTNDA Edward R. Murrow Award. She serves on the board of directors for Criminal Justice Journalists and attended The National Judicial College's Media and Courts Conference. Previously, she was a co-owner and co-executive producer of Texas Entertainment News.

BRAD WOLVERTON is a reporter and editor at the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, where he covers sports and finance issues. Previously he was a freelance correspondent for *BusinessWeek*, focusing on sports business. He has also contributed to *Men's Journal*, *Forbes* and *USA Today's* opinion page. Winner of the 2008 Dick Schaap Excellence in Sports Journalism award from Sport in Society, he has appeared as an expert commentator on ESPN's "Outside the Lines," NBC "Nightly News," and CBS "Sunday Morning."

JOHN WONDERLICH is the Sunlight Foundation's policy director. He heads collaborative examinations of government and also works with both Congress and public communities, developing and implementing government reform policy for the Sunlight Foundation. He has a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Penn State University.

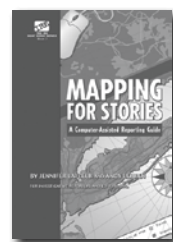
MARTHA WOODALL, joined *The Philadelphia Inquirer* as a staff writer in 1982, specializing in education and child welfare. For seven years she has written about Philadelphia's public schools with a special focus on charter schools. A native of Akron, Ohio, Woodall earned a bachelor's of science in journalism degree from Ohio University in 1973. Before joining the *Inquirer* she was a general assignment reporter in Northampton, Mass., and Greensboro, N.C.

BOB WOODWARD has worked for *The Washington Post* since 1971 and is currently an associate editor. In 1972, Woodward was teamed up with Carl Bernstein, and the two did much of the *Post's* Pulitzer Prize-winning reporting on the Watergate scandal. Woodward has authored or coauthored 15 non-fiction books. His latest book is "The War Within: A Secret White House History, 2006-2008."

RICK YARBOROUGH is the investigative producer for WTTG-Washington, D.C. A police chief and his entire command staff were replaced as a result of his recent investigation into safety of government buildings. His reports have also led to changes in state law and criminal arrests. He has won national awards, including the Peabody, duPont-Columbia and Scripps Howard. His work has also been honored with eight Emmys and five Edward R. Murrow awards.

ALISON YOUNG writes a weekly watchdog column called "Spotlight" for *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. Young was a member of Knight Ridder's Washington-based investigative team from 2003-2006. Before that, she worked at the *Detroit Free Press*, *The Arizona Republic* and the *Dallas Times Herald*. Her awards include two Scripps Howard awards, two Gerald Loeb Awards, two National Headliners and honors from Sigma Delta Chi, the Heywood Broun Awards and the National Press Club. She is vice president of the IRE Board of Directors.

SCOTT ZAMOST is a senior investigative producer for CNN's Special Investigations Unit. He was an IRE finalist this year for "Hurricane Giveaway." Besides ongoing investigative reports, he has produced several prime time specials. A former CBS News producer, he was also the investigative producer for WTVJ-Miami. He has won an IRE award, a National Press Club award, five Edward R. Murrow awards, two National Headliner awards, two Clarions and 23 Emmys.



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- **Computer-Assisted Reporting: A Practical Guide**, by Brant Houston
- **Unstacking the Deck: A Reporter's Guide to Campaign Finance**, by Michael A. Weber, Aron Pilhofer and Derek Willis

Thursday Panels

B = Beginner I = Intermediate
A = Advanced E = Everybody

	Grand Ballroom I Hands-on Classes	Grand Ballroom II Demo Room/Cyber Café	Grand Ballroom VII-VIII	Grand Ballroom IX-X	Harborside A	Harborside B
9-10 a.m.		Objects, Models and the ORM (Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp) • Chase Davis, <i>The Des Moines (Iowa) Register</i> • Daniel Lathrop, Freelance • Ben Welsh, <i>Los Angeles Times</i> • Derek Willis, <i>The New York Times</i>		CAR's greatest hits: 2008-2009 (E) • Mark Horvit, IRE and NICAR • Doug Haddix, IRE and NICAR		
10:10-11:10 a.m.	Caspio: Learn how to put your data online in a snap! (Vendor session for Caspio Bridge clients only) • Edward Garcia, Caspio, Inc.	Prepping your data (Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp) • Chase Davis, <i>The Des Moines (Iowa) Register</i> • Ben Welsh, <i>Los Angeles Times</i> • Derek Willis, <i>The New York Times</i>	Criminal Justice: Understanding crime statistics (E) (Sponsored by <i>Criminal Justice Journalists</i>) • Ted Gest, <i>Criminal Justice Journalists</i> • Mark Fazlollah, <i>The Philadelphia Inquirer</i> • Brant Houston, University of Illinois • James Lynch, John Jay College of Criminal Justice • Michael Rand, U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics	Scraping the Web for hidden treasures (A) • Brad Heath, <i>USA Today</i> • Daniel Lathrop, Freelance	Social network analysis: New tricks and tactics (I) • Jaimi Dowdell, IRE and NICAR • Aaron Kessler, <i>Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Tribune</i>	Bolstering your newsroom intranet for investigations (I) • Tim Henderson, <i>The Journal News</i> (White Plains, N.Y.) • Paula Lavigne, ESPN
11:20 a.m.-12:20 p.m.	Caspio: Yahoo! and Google map mashups made easy (Vendor session for Caspio Bridge clients only) • Edward Garcia, Caspio, Inc.	Using the ORM to get data (Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp) • Chase Davis, <i>The Des Moines (Iowa) Register</i> • Daniel Lathrop, Freelance • Ben Welsh, <i>Los Angeles Times</i> • Derek Willis, <i>The New York Times</i>	Criminal Justice: The flaws of forensic science (E) (Sponsored by <i>Criminal Justice Journalists</i>) • Melissa Harris, <i>The Baltimore Sun</i> • Patrick Kent, Maryland Public Defender's Office • Thomas Mauriello, Univ. of Maryland • Robert Shaler, Pennsylvania State University		Math for journalists (E) • Sarah Cohen, <i>The Washington Post</i>	Mapping: New frontiers and strategies (I) • Tim Henderson, <i>The Journal News</i> (White Plains, N.Y.) • Dan Keating, <i>The Washington Post</i>
12:30-2:30 p.m. — Lunch on your own						
2:30-3:30 p.m.	Caspio: Learn how to put your data online in a snap! (Vendor session for Caspio Bridge clients only) • Edward Garcia, Caspio, Inc.	Design by URL (Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp) • Daniel Lathrop, Freelance • Ben Welsh, <i>Los Angeles Times</i> • Derek Willis, <i>The New York Times</i>	Statistics: Ratchet up your investigation (I) • David Donald, Center for Public Integrity • Jennifer LaFleur, ProPublica	Free software: Open source tools for daily task - Derek Willis, <i>The New York Times</i>	Future CAR: Emerging trends and strategies (I) • Sarah Cohen, <i>The Washington Post</i> • Chase Davis, <i>The Des Moines (Iowa) Register</i> • Steve Doig, Arizona State University	International: Mining databases and the deep Web (E) • Pedro Amendares, CEPET • Margot Williams, <i>The New York Times</i>
3:40-4:40 p.m.	Caspio: Tips & tricks for working with user-generated data (Vendor session for Caspio Bridge clients only) • Edward Garcia, Caspio, Inc.	Views (Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp) • Chase Davis, <i>The Des Moines (Iowa) Register</i> • Daniel Lathrop, Freelance • Ben Welsh, <i>Los Angeles Times</i>	Criminal Justice: Can repeat criminals be stopped? (E) (Sponsored by <i>Criminal Justice Journalists</i>) • Ted Gest, <i>Criminal Justice Journalists</i> • Joe Neff, (Raleigh N.C.) <i>News & Observer</i> • Doug Pardue, <i>Post and Courier</i> (Charleston, S.C.) • Judy Sachwald, Crime and Justice Institute	Fun software, toys and freebies (E) • Neil Reisner, Florida International University	Money matters: How CAR can strengthen coverage of the financial crisis (E) • Wendell Cochran, American University • Ron Nixon, <i>The New York Times</i>	Data basics: How to find it and get it in electronic form (E) • Jennifer LaFleur, ProPublica • Eden Laikein, <i>Newsday</i> • Andy Lehren, <i>The New York Times</i>
4:50-5:50 p.m.	Caspio: Learn how to put your data online in a snap! (Vendor session for Caspio Bridge clients only) • Edward Garcia, Caspio, Inc.	Templates are what your users see (Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp) • Chase Davis, <i>The Des Moines (Iowa) Register</i> • Daniel Lathrop, Freelance • Ben Welsh, <i>Los Angeles Times</i> • Derek Willis, <i>The New York Times</i>	Computer programming: Learn the basic lingo and gain new powers (A) • Anthony DeBarros, <i>USA Today</i> • Ron Nixon, <i>The New York Times</i>	Cutting-edge Internet tips and tricks (E) • Laura Lorek, <i>San Antonio (Texas) Express-News</i> • Neil Reisner, Florida International University	Broadcast CAR: Strategies for quick hits and sweeps packages (E) • Tisha Thompson, WTTG-Washington, D.C. • Nanci Wilson, KXAN-Austin	Getting it right: Bulletproofing your data analysis (E) • Sarah Cohen, <i>The Washington Post</i> • Robert Gebeloff, <i>The New York Times</i>
7 p.m.	Blues Bash, 7 p.m.-Midnight (details on p. 4)					

Friday Panels and Classes

B = Beginner I = Intermediate
A = Advanced E = Everybody

	Grand Ballroom I Hands-on Classes	Grand Ballroom II Demo Room/Cyber Café	Grand Ballroom III-IV	Grand Ballroom V	Grand Ballroom VI
8:30-9:30 a.m.	Excel 1 (B) • Andy Lehen, <i>The New York Times</i>		International: Covering armed conflicts and staying safe • Rodney Pinder, International News Safety Institute	Ethics, shmethics! • Jim Polk, CNN • Nanci Wilson, KXAN-Austin	Follow the money: Campaign finance and political power (Sponsored by Sunlight Foundation) • Bill Allison, Sunlight Foundation • Lindsay Renick Mayer, Center for Responsive Politics • Jonathan Salant, Bloomberg News
9:40-10:40 a.m.	Excel 2 (B) • Tim Henderson, <i>The Journal News</i> (N.Y.)	Spycraft • Steve Doig, Arizona State University	Toxic trouble: Examining shortcomings in federal environmental regulation • Michael Pell, Center for Public Integrity • Blake Morrison, <i>USA Today</i> • John Sullivan, <i>The Philadelphia Inquirer</i>	Web mapping and visualization: Successes and pitfalls • Sarah Cohen, <i>The Washington Post</i> • Simon Thompson, ESRI	International: Best investigations of the year • Sheila Coronel, Columbia University (moderator) • Rana El-Sabbagh, Arab Investigative Journalists • Mabel Rehnfeldt, ICIJ • Marina Walker, ICIJ
10:50-11:50 a.m.	Convert and import PDF to Excel (B) • Neil Reisner, Florida International University	Vendor session: Caspio users group meeting • Edward Garcia, Caspio • David Milliron, Caspio	Investigating the casualties of war • Mark Benjamin, Salon.com • Michael De Yoanna, Freelance • Deb Nelson, University of Maryland	What went wrong: Government's role in the meltdown (Sponsored by Bloomberg) • Jon Hilsenrath, <i>The Wall Street Journal</i> • Eric Nalder, Hearst Newspapers	Higher education: Examining college finances (Sponsored by Lumina Foundation for Education) • Goldie Blumenstyk, <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i> • Nick Perry, <i>The Seattle Times</i> • Jodi Upton, <i>USA Today</i>
12-1 p.m.				Showcase Panel: Accountability reporting and digging deep • Leonard Downie Jr., <i>The Washington Post</i> • Bob Woodward, <i>The Washington Post</i>	
1-2:15 p.m.	Lunch on your own, OR:		Brown Bag for Researchers, News Librarians and Friends		
2:15-3:15 p.m.	Mining the invisible Web (B) • Amy Webb, Webbmedia Group LLC	"Expose: America's Investigative Reports" • Tom Casciato, Executive producer • Scott Davis, Senior producer	On the Beat: Covering cops and courts • Joe Mahr, <i>St. Louis Post-Dispatch</i> • Thomas Peele, Bay Area News Group/Chauncey Bailey Project • A.C. Thompson, ProPublica	The art of the interview • Walt Bogdanich, <i>The New York Times</i>	Fighting back after journalists are killed • Asra Nomani, Daniel Pearl Project • Martin Orquiz, <i>El Diario de Juarez</i> (Mexico) • Joel Simon, Committee to Protect Journalists • Robert Rosenthal, Center for Investigative Reporting
3:25-4:25 p.m.	Importing text and HTML into Excel (B) • Jack Gillum, <i>USA Today</i>	Accessing and working with American Community Survey data • Cynthia Hollingsworth, U.S. Census Bureau • Pamela Klein, U.S. Census Bureau	Web: Ten tech trends that every journalist should know • Amy Webb, Webbmedia Group LLC	The bailout: Tracking the money (Sponsored by Bloomberg) • David Donald, Center for Public Integrity (moderator) • John Dunbar, Center for Public Integrity • Paul Kiel, ProPublica • Ron Nixon, <i>The New York Times</i>	The art of source development • Jo Becker, <i>The New York Times</i> • Jim Schaefer, <i>Detroit Free Press</i> • David Simon, Writer/producer
4:35-6 p.m.				Showcase Panel: Doing great work in tough times • Jill Abramson, <i>The New York Times</i> (moderator) • Andrew Donohue, voiceofsandiego.org • Mark Katches, <i>Milwaukee Journal Sentinel</i> • Brian Ross, ABC News • Paul Steiger, ProPublica • Lawan Williams, E.W. Scripps	

Grand Ballroom VII-VIII

Grand Ballroom IX-X

Harborside A

Harborside B

Dover A B C

Show and Tell

Back to Basics: Finding news in what most reporters overlook

- David Cay Johnston, Author
- Andy Hall, Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism
- Norberto Santana, *Orange County (Calif.) Register*

Backgrounding people and businesses

- Margot Williams, *The New York Times*

Charitable acts: Nonprofits and the new 990

- Craig McCoy, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*
- Fred Schulte, Freelance
- Dean Zerbe, Alliantgroup

Consumer investigations for tough times

- Jim Strickland, WSB-Atlanta (moderator)
- Elisabeth Leamy, Good Morning America
- Matt Meagher, Inside Edition
- Mc Nelly Torres, Freelance

See what broadcast colleagues have been up to this year. Sign up for a time slot to show your own work, or stop by to watch stories and find out how they came together.

Managing up: Selling your editor on an investigation

- David Barstow, *The New York Times*
- Chuck Murphy, *The Denver Post*
- Bob Port, *Albany (N.Y.) Times Union*

Investigating business: From credit and debt deception to CEO greed

- (Sponsored by Donald W. Reynolds National Ctr for Business Journalism)
- Brian Grow, *BusinessWeek*
 - Andrew Leckey, Reynolds National Ctr
 - Michelle Leder, Footnoted.org

Editors: Seeding the investigation from the news

- Dean Baquet, *The New York Times*
- Michelle Butt, WBAL-Baltimore
- Bernie Kohn, Freelance
- Chris Knap, *Orange County (Calif.) Register*

Broadcast: Watchdog investigations for tough times

- Kathy Times, WDBD-Jackson, Miss. (moderator)
- Brian Collister, WOAI-San Antonio, Texas
- Susan D'Astoli, KPNX-Phoenix
- Drew Griffin, CNN

Quick hit investigations: The watchdog column

- Dan Bice, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*
- Teri Sforza, *Orange County (Calif.) Register*
- Alison Young, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

Including your audience: Crowdsourcing to social networking

- Mary Hartney, The Baltimore Sun
- Sharon McNary, *The Press-Enterprise (Pasadena, Calif.)*

Editors: Conceiving the investigation

- Jill Abramson, *The New York Times*
- Stephen Engelberg, ProPublica
- Mark Katches, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*
- Scott Matthews, CNN

Broadcast: Powerful words, powerful images

- Roberta Baskin, Investigative journalist (moderator)
- Wayne Dolcefino, KTRK-Houston
- Joel Grover, KNBC-Los Angeles
- Byron Pitts, CBS News

Brown Bag with Media Lawyers

- Richard Goehler, Frost, Brown, Todd LLC
- David Smallman, Smallman Law PLLC

Funding your work 1: Sources that can help with individual projects

- Brant Houston, Univ. of Illinois (moderator)
- Cheryl Arvidson, Fund for Investigative Journalism
- Peggy Engel, Alicia Patterson Fdn.
- Esther Kaplan, Investigative Fund of the Nation Institute
- John Sawyer, Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting

Fraud: Uncovering scandals

- (Sponsored by Bloomberg)
- Diana Henriques, *The New York Times*
 - Mark Maremont, *The Wall Street Journal*
 - Chris Schmitt, Government Accountability Office

Editors: Managing the investigation

- Rebecca Corbett, *The New York Times*
- Brian Duffy, National Public Radio
- Jeff Leen, *The Washington Post*

Broadcast: Getting great video (without hidden cameras)

- Stuart Watson, WCNC-Charlotte, N.C. (moderator)
- Asa Eslocker, ABC News
- Andrew Siegel, CBS News
- Tisha Thompson, WTTG-Washington, D.C.

Unsung documents

- James Steele, *Vanity Fair*
- Joe Stephens, *The Washington Post*

On the beat: Schools

- Josh Bernstein, KNXV-Phoenix
- Heather Vogell, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*
- Martha Woodall, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*

National security, counter-terrorism and your community

- Kathleen Johnston, CNN
- Josh Meyer, *Los Angeles Times*

Partnerships: The promise and the pitfalls

- Bill Buzenberg, Center for Public Integrity
- Hagit Limor, WCPO-Cincinnati
- Ira Rosen, 60 Minutes
- John Solomon, *The Washington Times*

Saturday Panels and Classes

	Grand Ballroom I <small>Hands-on Classes</small>	Grand Ballroom II <small>Demo Room/Cyber Café</small>	Grand Ballroom III-IV	Grand Ballroom VII-VIII	Grand Ballroom IX-X
8:30-9:30 a.m.	Access 1 (B) • Doug Haddix, IRE and NICAR	Fun software, toys and freebies • Neil Reisner, Florida International University	College connection: Working with students to beef up watchdog coverage • Suzanne McBride, Columbia College (Chicago) • Maggie Mulvihill, New England Center for Investigative Reporting • Walter Robinson, Northeastern University	From Twitter to Facebook: An intro to Web tools you can use • Jaimi Dowdell, IRE and NICAR • Kelly Guckian, <i>San Antonio (Texas) Express-News</i>	Exposing housing scandals • Sarah Cohen, <i>The Washington Post</i> • Jason Grotto, <i>Chicago Tribune</i> • Lee Zurik, WWL-New Orleans
9:40-10:40 a.m.	Access 2 (I) • Richard Mullins, Freelance		What you need to know to cover an economy in crisis (Sponsored by Bloomberg) • Rick Brooks, <i>The Wall Street Journal</i> • David Cay Johnston, Author	Blowing the whistle without blowing their cover • Scott Amey, Project on Government Oversight • Tony Pipitone, WKMG-Orlando • Scott Zamost, CNN	Sports business: Investigating teams and companies that own them • Paula Lavigne, ESPN • Jodi Upton, <i>USA Today</i>
10:50-11:50 a.m.	Access 3 (I) • Jennifer LaFleur, ProPublica		Covering invisible populations (Sponsored by the Dart Society and Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma) • Karyn Spencer, <i>Omaha (Neb.) World-Herald</i> • Ruth Teichroeb, Freelancer • Mimi Chakarova, Univ. of California-Berkeley	Writing without veils: How to get sources on the record • Eric Nalder, Hearst Newspapers	Is this thing recording? Tips on shooting video for beginners • John Anglim, Freelance videojournalist
12-2 p.m.	Grand Ballroom V-VI IRE Awards Luncheon — Keynote speaker: Jon Klein, President of CNN/U.S.				
2:30-3:30 p.m.	Excel 1 (B) • David Donald, Center for Public Integrity	Hands-on: Shooting for the Web • John Anglim, Freelance videojournalist	How they failed: Tracing the roots of a financial failure (Sponsored by Bloomberg) • Miles Moffeit, <i>The Denver Post</i> • Robert O'Harrow, <i>The Washington Post</i>	Succeeding as a freelancer and author • Steve Weinberg, Univ. of Missouri (moderator) • Russ Baker, Author • Rose Ciotta, <i>The Philadelphia Inquirer</i> • Penny Loeb, Freelance	International roundable: Sharing resources and knowledge • Brant Houston, Univ. of Illinois (moderator) • Brigitte Alfter, European Investigative Center • Tom Blanton, National Security Archive • Rana El-Sabbagh, Arab Investigative Journalists • Paul Radu, Romanian Investigative Reporting Center • Mabel Rehnfeldt, ICIJ
3:40-4:40 p.m.	Excel 2 (B) • Steve Doig, Arizona State University		Earmarks: Tracking the money federally and locally • Ron Nixon, <i>The New York Times</i> (moderator) • David Heath, <i>The Seattle Times</i> • Steve Ellis, Taxpayers for Common Sense • Patrick O'Connor, Politico	Transparency: The state of open records laws • Wendell Cochran, American University • Jennifer LaFleur, ProPublica • David Smallman, Smallman Law PLLC • John Wonderlich, Sunlight Foundation	Funding your work 2: Working with foundations • Sue Hale, Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation • Mark Hallett, McCormick Foundation • Eric Newton, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
4:50-6 p.m.	Internet searching for data (E) • Jaimi Dowdell, IRE and NICAR		Preparing for the 2010 U.S. Census • William O'Hare, Annie E. Casey Foundation Fellow • Paul Overberg, <i>USA Today</i>	Measuring the impact of the financial crisis (Sponsored by Bloomberg) • Rose Ciotta, <i>The Philadelphia Inquirer</i> • Adam Davidson, National Public Radio • Jeff Taylor, <i>Bloomberg News</i>	Web: The multi-platform investigation • Cheryl Phillips, <i>The Seattle Times</i> • Aron Pilhofer, <i>The New York Times</i>
6 p.m.	Membership Meeting (6 p.m. Grand Ballroom IX-X) Closing Reception (7:30-8:30 p.m. Grand Ballroom Foyer)				
Sunday Panels	Grand Ballroom III-IV			Grand Ballroom VII-VIII	
	9-10 a.m.	How IRE and NICAR can help your investigation • IRE Staff			Watchdog 101: Getting the most from the Web • Jaimi Dowdell, IRE and NICAR
10:10-11:10 a.m.	Preparing yourself for a career in today's newsrooms			Watchdog 101: Documents you can't live without • Doug Haddix, IRE and NICAR	

B = Beginner I = Intermediate
 A = Advanced E = Everybody

Waterview	Essex A B C	Harborside A	Harborside B	Dover A B C
<p>Investigating college athletic programs (Sponsored by Lumina Foundation for Education) • Josh Fine, HBO • Brad Wolverton, <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i></p>		<p>Sealed court documents, jury lists and military courts • Lucy Dalglish, Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press • Mark Feldstein, George Washington University • Kirsten Mitchell, Freelance</p>	<p>Broadcast: Quick hits to impress your boss • Duane Pohlman, WEWS-Cleveland</p>	<p>Show and Tell See what broadcast colleagues have been up to this year. Sign up for a time slot to show your own work, or stop by to watch stories and find out how they came together.</p>
<p>Higher ed: Measuring college performance and holding administrators accountable (Sponsored by Lumina Foundation for Education) • Ryan Gabrielson, <i>East Valley Tribune</i> • Doug Lederman, <i>Inside Higher Ed</i> • Mary Beth Marklein, <i>USA Today</i></p>	<p>Wrongful convictions: What to do when the wrong person is behind bars • Lewis Kamb, InvestigateWest • Bill Kurtis, Kurtis Productions • Laura Sullivan, National Public Radio • Steve Weinberg, University of Missouri</p>	<p>Editors: Keeping investigative reporting alive with fewer people, resources, space and time • David Boardman, <i>The Seattle Times</i> • Leonard Downie Jr., <i>The Washington Post</i> • Manny Garcia, <i>The Miami Herald</i></p>	<p>Broadcast: Staying on the air, staying relevant • Chris Halsne, KIRO-Seattle (moderator) • Ismael Estrada, CNN • Jayne Miller, WBAL-Baltimore • Chuck Goudie, WLS-Chicago</p>	
<p>On the beat: Healthcare Duff Wilson, <i>The New York Times</i> (moderator) • Mike Berens, <i>The Seattle Times</i> • Dawn Fallik, University of Delaware • Fred Schulte, Freelance</p>	<p>Drug trafficking and organized crime • Alfredo Corchado, <i>The Dallas Morning News</i> • Amy Isackson, KPBS-San Diego • Vicente Calderon, Tujanapress.com • Paul Radu, Romanian Investigative Reporting Center</p>	<p>Building the story: From getting started to knowing when to stop • Donald Barlett, <i>Vanity Fair</i> • James Steele, <i>Vanity Fair</i></p>	<p>Broadcast: It's not just TV (multi-platform investigations) • Lawan Williams, E.W. Scripps (moderator) • Rhonda Schwartz, ABC News • Stephen Stock, WFOR-South Florida • Rick Yarborough, WTTG-Washington, D.C.</p>	
<p>Anonymous sources and national security reporting • James Bamford, Author • Karen DeYoung, <i>The Washington Post</i> • Seymour Hersh, Investigative journalist</p>	<p>Government regulation: Lapses in protecting workers and consumers • Alexandra Berzon, <i>Las Vegas Sun</i> • Ellen Gabler, <i>Milwaukee Journal Sentinel</i> • Aaron Kessler, <i>Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Tribune</i></p>	<p>Editors: Coaxing great writing out of reporters • Jacqui Banaszynski, University of Missouri • Flynn McRoberts, Bloomberg</p>	<p>Broadcast: Rolling investigations • Matt Goldberg, KNBC-Los Angeles • Mark Greenblatt, KHOU-Houston • Anna Werner, KPIX-San Francisco</p>	
<p>Parachuting In: How to get up-to-speed quickly • Sharyl Attkisson, CBS News • James Grimaldi, <i>The Washington Post</i> • Serge Kovaleski, <i>The New York Times</i></p>	<p>On the beat: Holding local government accountable • Cheryl Thompson, <i>The Washington Post</i> (moderator) • Will Carless, voiceofsandiego.org • Jennifer Muir, <i>Orange County (Calif.) Register</i> • Sandra Peddie, <i>Newsday</i></p>	<p>Writing the narrative story • Laura Frank, Freelance • T. Christian Miller, ProPublica</p>	<p>Broadcast: Getting the big interview, getting it right • Abbie Boudreau, CNN • Armen Keteyian, CBS News • Phil Williams, WTVF-Nashville</p>	
<p>Making FOIA work for you (Sponsored by Sunlight Foundation) • Ames Alexander, <i>The Charlotte (N.C.) Observer</i> • Brigitte Alfter, European Investigative Center • M.L. Elrick, <i>Detroit Free Press</i></p>	<p>Alternative models for investigative reporting • Chuck Lewis, Investigative Reporting Workshop (moderator) • Joe Bergantino, New England Center for Investigative Reporting • Andrew Donohue, voiceofsandiego.org • Nick Penniman, <i>Huffington Post</i> • Robert Rosenthal, Center for Investigative Reporting</p>	<p>Editors: Bulletproofing the investigative article • Chris Isham, CBS • Jim Neff, <i>The Seattle Times</i></p>	<p>Broadcast: Making the case for your TV job • Deborah Potter, Newslab (moderator) • Tom Dolan, Dolan Media Management • Lana Durban Scott, E.W. Scripps • Scott Matthews, CNN</p>	

Grand Ballroom IX-X

9:30 a.m. panel: Staying optimistic during dark times
 (Sponsored by Dart Society)
 • Miles Moffeit, *The Denver Post* • Mike Walter, Documentarian

Staying optimistic during dark times (Sponsored by Dart Society)
 • Miles Moffeit, *The Denver Post*
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Dining and Entertainment

Crab cakes. Steamers. Raw Bar. It's all about the seafood in Baltimore, with a heavy dose of Old Bay on everything from French fries to locally-grown corn on the cob.

WTTG-TV's Tisha Thompson and Rick Yarborough met while trying to figure out where to eat at an IRE Conference many years ago. Tisha grew up in Maryland and has some serious opinions on crab cakes (no bread, no filler...and none of this goofy chipotle mayo business). Rick Yarborough spends many weekends in Charm City and doesn't want you to end up at the same dives he's been to in the past. Recognizing how important food is at these shindigs, they volunteered to give their best recommendations.

The hotel is very close to two big tourist destinations. The Inner Harbor is Baltimore's main attraction, with an aquarium, shops and tons of places to grab a quick bite. The Power Plant offers a number of restaurants and bars, including Howl at the Moon, and tends to draw a younger crowd. But to really get a feel for Charm City, hit one of the markets or a crab shack.

Price guide (general estimates for entrée prices): \$ = \$10 and under; \$\$ = \$10 to \$20; \$\$\$ = \$20 to \$40; \$\$\$\$=\$40 and up.

The Crab Shacks

Obrycki's Crab House & Seafood Restaurant \$\$\$

1729 E. Pratt, 410-732-6399, www.obryckis.com
The MOST famous crab house in Baltimore.

Captain James \$\$\$

2127 Boston St., 410-327-8600, www.captainjameslanding.com
You'll see it from afar. The main restaurant is inside a building shaped like giant ship. Go across the street to the shack along the waterfront to pick crab, drink pitchers and watch the sunset.

The Markets

Lexington Market \$-\$\$

400 W. Lexington St., 410-685-6169, www.lexingtonmarket.com
Even though it's not in the best of neighborhoods, this is the most famous and largest of the Baltimore markets and definitely worth a visit.

Cross Street Market \$-\$\$

1065 S. Charles St.
Much smaller than its Lexington counterpart, this market is a local favorite with crabs, oysters, sushi bar and a heavy-duty bar scene on weekend evenings.

A block or two from the hotel

Roy's \$\$\$\$

720 Aliceanna Street #B, 410-659-0099, www.roysrestaurant.com
Rick and Tisha both have celebrated special occasions here (not together!). Fabulous Hawaiian-oriented cuisine with over-the-top cocktails. You'll feel like you're at an exotic resort.

Oceanaire \$\$\$\$

801 Aliceanna St., 410-872-0000, www.theoceanaire.com
Very pricey with giant sides and old-fashioned cocktails. If you can't afford dinner, it's worth going in for a drink and the terrific raw bar featuring oysters from both coasts.

James Joyce Irish Bar Restaurant \$\$

616 S. President St., 410-727-5107, www.thejamesjoycepub.com
The quintessential America goes back to the Old Country, with wood paneling and high-end pub details. Crowded spot during the evening happy hour.

Charleston \$\$\$\$

1000 Lancaster Street #1E, 410-332-7373, www.charlestonrestaurant.com
Probably one of the most well-known—and expensive—restaurants in Baltimore. This is the place people go to propose and conduct the big deal.

Little Italy

About a 10 minute walk, the neighborhood around Eastern Avenue is filled with Baltimore's trademark row homes housing some of the best restaurants in town. We recommend just walking around and picking one that appeals to your inner Italian. You really can't go wrong, but if you need a recommendation...

Amicci's \$\$

231 S. High St., 410-528-1096, www.amiccis.com
This is Rick's favorite Italian joint. Make sure to try the "Pane' Rotundo" which feeds about five people.

Sabatino's Italian Restaurant \$\$

901 Fawn St., 410-837-6540, www.sabatinos.com
One of Little Italy's most famous spots. Maryland's only vice president, Spiro Agnew (yeah...the one who got in trouble) used to eat here.

Vaccaro's \$

222 Albemarle St., 410-685-4905, www.vaccarospastry.com
Cookies, cannolis and cakes (Oh Mamma Mia!)

Fells Point

This is the oldest section of Baltimore and a quick Water Taxi ride away (or easy 20 minute walk along the waterfront). The green cobblestones lining the streets were used as ballast inside tall ships dating back to the 1700s. The entire area was underwater during 2003's Hurricane Isabel.

Jimmy's Restaurant \$

801 S. Broadway, 410-327-3273

This super-cheap diner has an awesome breakfast and a decent crab cake for less than \$10. A favorite haunt of Maryland legend and former Governor William Donald Schaefer.

Mezze \$\$

1606 Thames Street, 410-563-7600, www.kaliscourt.com

Tisha says this is the best tapas in town. Big (for tapas) portions and a decent price tag. The owner also runs Kalis Court next door, which has very expensive but delicious seafood.

Kooper's Tavern \$

1702 Thames St., 410-563-5423, www.koopers.com

A terrific local pub with the best crab soup in town. Great burgers and local beer. Terrific Sunday brunch overlooking the harbor. If you want a quieter section, ask to eat on the second floor.

John Steven Ltd \$\$

1800 Thames St., 410-327-5561, www.johnstevenltd.com

A local's joint with classic Baltimore seafood in a colonial dining room, or for a more relaxed atmosphere, order the pound of shrimp at the bar.

Max's On Broadway \$

735 S. Broadway, 410-276-2850, www.maxs.com

A HUGE selection of microbrews with more 60 exotic beers on tap.

Bar \$

1708 Lancaster St.

If you're really lucky, it will be open. It all depends on the owner's mood. It's just down the street from Max's and Tisha only knows about it because she used to live across the street. It'll be the strangest, smallest bar you've ever been too...

Mt. Vernon & Beyond

The historic address for some of Baltimore's wealthiest citizens, including former railroad barons, Mt. Vernon is literally up the hill and peppered with gigantic mansions, art students and other trendsters.

13TH Floor & Owl Bar (The Belvedere Hotel) \$

1 East Chase St.

Two bars located inside the historic Belvedere Hotel (featured in the HBO film "Something the Lord Made"). 13th Floor is on... the 13th floor and has terrific views of the city and live music each night. The Owl Bar is located in the basement – make sure to ask the bartender about the legendary stories from Prohibition. Make sure to try the brick oven pizza.

The Helmand Restaurant \$

806 North Charles St., 410-752-0311

Phenomenal Afghan food owned by the brother of Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai

Brewer's Art \$\$

1106 N. Charles St., 410-547-6925, www.thebrewersart.com

See this local microbrewery at work inside a grand Mt. Vernon mansion. High-end cuisine with a long wine list.

The Hippo & Grand Central Station \$

1 W. Eager St., 410-547-0069, www.clubhippo.com

1001 N. Charles St., 410-752-7133, www.centralstationpub.com

Baltimore's two premiere gay clubs are located across the street from each other and offer some of the best dancing in the city.

The Prime Rib \$\$\$\$

1101 N. Calvert St., 410-539-1804, www.theprimerib.com

Referred to as Baltimore's 21 Club, this restaurant is svelte, sleek, sophisticated and noted for its perfect martinis, slabs of juicy prime rib, giant veal chops, crab imperial and crab cakes.

Café Hon \$

1002 W. 36th St., 410-243-1133, www.cafehon.com

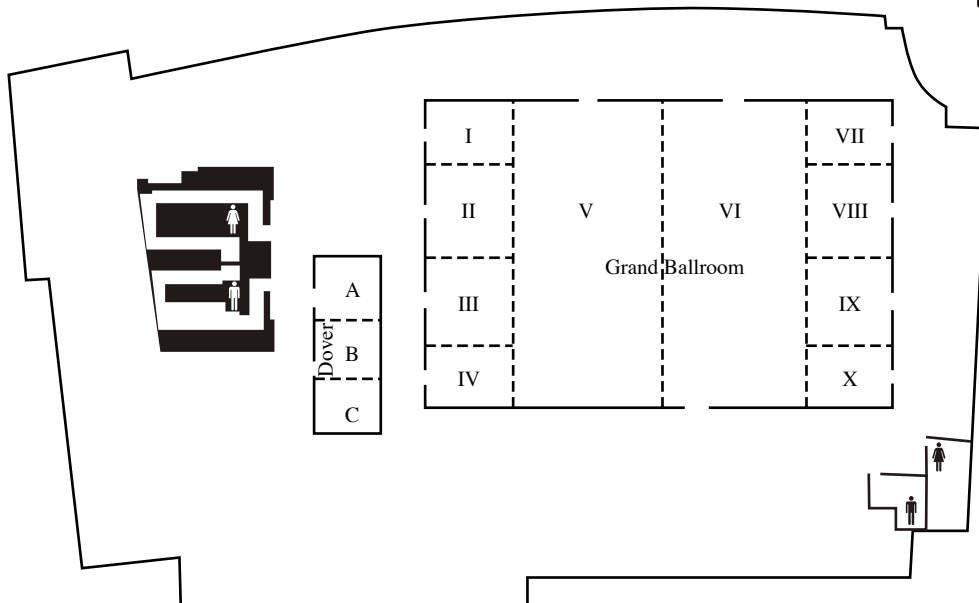
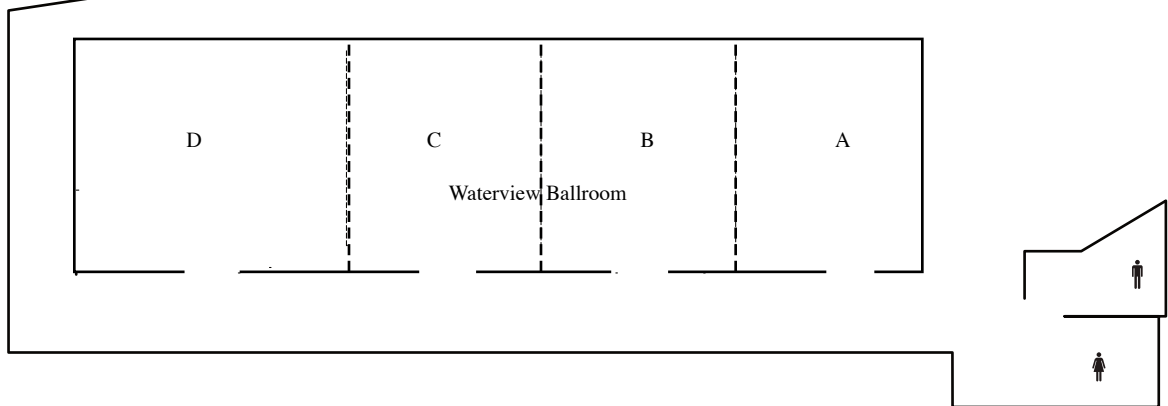
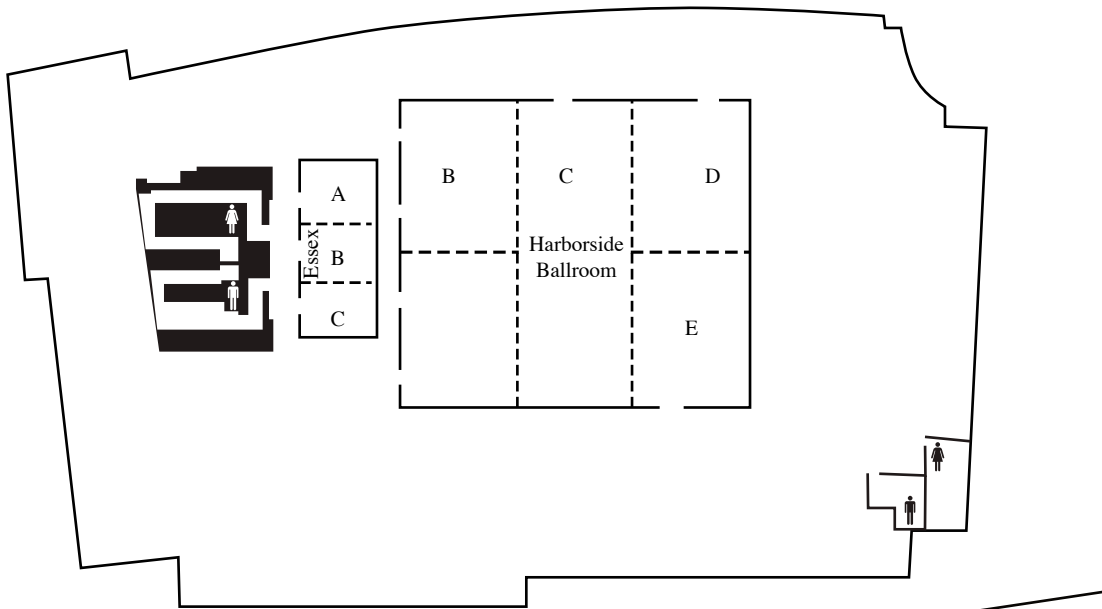
This is Baltimore, John Waters' style. Specialties include Much Better than Mom's Meatloaf and a full bar.

Mustang Alleys \$

1300 Bank St., 2nd Floor, 410-522-2695, www.mustangalleys.com

Bar, bowling and bistro. Seriously.

Conference Meeting Rooms



THURSDAY PANELS

9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

CAR's greatest hits: 2008-2009 — What were the big stories of the year? What were the most creative uses of data analysis? See what your colleagues have been up to and pick up some story ideas at the same time. (E)

Objects, Models and the ORM (Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp) — Learn about the foundations of frameworks: the object, the model and the object relational model, or ORM.

10:10 to 11:10 a.m.

Prepping your data (Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp) — Learn how to turn your data into the foundation of your application. Speakers will discuss relational data, good model design and putting that data into your models.

Caspio: Learn how to put your data online in a snap! — Learn how to import your data into Caspio, rapidly create a searchable widget using Caspio's web-based point-and-click wizards and seamlessly integrate the app into your website, all without any programming.

Scraping the Web for hidden treasures — Public records—from documents to databases—are often the backbone of investigations, and increasingly, they're on the Web. How do you get your hands on so many records? By "scraping," automatically pulling the data you want off the Web. This panel will give an overview of what's possible and some of the tools you can use. (A)

Bolstering your newsroom intranet for investigations — Learn how to build a newsroom resource for investigations by selecting and organizing the most useful sources, Web sites and databases to help your colleagues find information fast. Make your intranets interactive, user-friendly and adaptable, so they don't end up in the newsroom intranet graveyard of outdated information. (I)

Social network analysis: New tricks and tactics — From terrorists to fraudsters to property flippers, social network analysis can help your investigation by allowing you to see connections between individuals and organizations. Uncover relationships you didn't know existed and show your audience graphic representations of links you've documented. We'll show you the latest stories journalists have done using social network analysis. Also, this session will serve as an introduction on the best ways to start using the method in their newsrooms. (I)

Criminal Justice: Understanding crime statistics (Sponsored by Criminal Justice Journalists) — Crime is going down—or is it? Some cities say crime rates are rising. It may depend on the type or crime, the location, and how accurately police record it. FBI crime data are incomplete and a federal survey of crime victims is due for an overhaul. Hear from speakers about how you can sort through the data and produce good stories about crime trends in your area. (E)

11:20 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.

Math for journalists — Few reporting chores dredge up such dread as the thought of fifth-grade arithmetic. You had 10 years in high school and college not only to forget this basic math, but also to learn to fear it. This therapeutic session will put numbers back into the place they belong as an element of reporting, not a last-minute chore. (E)

2009 IRE CONFERENCE



11:20 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. continued

Using the ORM to get data (Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp) — All that data we put in? Now we start to get it out by learning the foundations of the ORM's query syntax.

Mapping: New frontiers and strategies — Geography is sometimes just the added dimension you need to catch the bad guys, anything from people whose residency claims and parking habits fail to coincide, to hurricane damage claims that don't jibe with wind speed and rainfall measurements. How mapping tools can supplement shoe leather to paint a picture of abuse. (I)

Caspio: Yahoo! and Google map mashups made easy — Learn how to publish any address-centric data in Caspio Bridge and present it on your site using Yahoo! or Google maps, all without any programming.

Criminal Justice: The flaws of forensic science (Sponsored by Criminal Justice Journalists) — Controversial criminal cases can turn on forensic evidence. This year, a National Academy of Sciences study concluded that much court testimony on forensic issues lacks scientific proof, and that crime labs should be overhauled. Hear from a member of the study panel, an academic, a defense lawyer and a journalist who covers courts, about how reporters can cover forensics accurately and find reliable sources to interpret critical evidence. (E)

2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Caspio: Learn how to put your data online in a snap! — Learn how to import your data into Caspio, rapidly create a searchable widget using Caspio's web-based point-and-click wizards and seamlessly integrate the app into your website, all without any programming.

Future CAR: Emerging trends and strategies — Web scraping has replaced 9-track tape-reading as the critical skill in CAR today, but the challenges remain the same. Sophisticated computer-assisted reporting remains the realm of a few specialists who are increasingly being asked to use their rare skills to produce data for the Web. This panel will be a free-wheeling discussion about where the craft heads from here in the world of open-source software, difficult public records environments and shrinking or nonexistent investigative reporting staffs. (I)

Design by URL (Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp) — It used to be that a URL went to a static file. In a framework, a URL is a critical component of your application.

Statistics: Ratchet up your investigation — See the death-defying high ladder act. Learn what tools go with what sorts of data. From medians and modes to statistical tools, such as regression, we'll discuss when and how to use them. But don't run with scissors. We'll show you how to keep out of stats trouble. (I)

International: Mining databases and the deep Web — Two internationally known Web gurus team up to forge deep into the Web in the United States and abroad to provide participants with new reporting tools and valuable tips. (E)

2:30 to 3:30 p.m. *continued*

Fun software, toys and freebies — The world is full of people whose mission in life is to build programs called “utilities” to fill gaps left open by mainstream software. Some you have to install, some are on the Web. Many are forehead-slappers: “Why didn’t Microsoft add that instead of making unnecessary changes that force me to upgrade?” We’ll look at how they can make reporting, writing and life easier. (E)

3:40 to 4:40 p.m.

Criminal Justice: Can repeat criminals be stopped? (Sponsored by Criminal Justice Journalists) — Five million U.S. offenders are on probation or parole. Sometimes, a murderer, rapist or robber freed on parole returns to town, seething with anger. It’s a nightmare that can have deadly consequences. How can journalists take a hard look at a system that aims at rehabilitating criminals and protecting the public, yet fails at both? Where are the break points? How can you document it? What can be done? (E)

Money matters: How CAR can strengthen coverage of the financial crisis — From TARP to stimulus, CAR tools are indispensable for keeping track of the hundreds of billions of dollars the federal government has committed to trying to help revive the nation’s struggling economy. We’ll show you the data sources and some of the tools journalists have devised to help cover this story nationally and locally. (E)

Free software: Open source tools for daily tasks — Learn about free and open source utilities for retrieving Web pages, storing and sharing information, and other common needs of investigative reporters. Panel includes useful Web sites and desktop applications. (E)

Data basics: How to find it and get it in electronic form — Build your data arsenal. Learn how to develop a data strategy for your beat and how to go after the data you need. Get tips for negotiating for data and alternative strategies for when you can’t get the data you need from traditional sources. (E)

Caspio: Tips & tricks for working with user-generated data — Learn how to capture user-generated data on the web using Caspio and then repurpose it for publication online, all without any programming.

Views (Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp) — The view is where the work gets done. Information from the request goes in, and data for your templates goes out. Here we take another step toward putting it all together.

4:50 to 5:50 p.m.

Cutting-edge Internet tips and tricks — If you’re like most journalists, the Web has become one of your favorite places to go for backgrounding, digging and tip seeking. With a careful strategy and knowing where to look you can make your time online more effective and efficient. This session will help you do all these things and point you to the latest sites you never knew you couldn’t live without. (E)

Broadcast CAR: Strategies for quick hits and sweeps packages — Using CAR in broadcast can be a tricky business. This panel will show you how CAR can make day-to-day tasks so much easier and how to transform statistics, data sets and other CAR buzzwords into sexy television. (E)



2009 IRE CONFERENCE

4:50 to 5:50 p.m. *continued*

Templates are what your users see (Web Frameworks Advanced Boot Camp) — Speakers discuss how to take the data passed from the view and turn it into something your designers can start to work with.

Computer programming: Learn the basic lingo and gain new powers — Whether you want to scrape data off the Web, build a data-driven interactive graphic or automate repetitive tasks, programming is a valuable skill for journalists. This panel will introduce you to the basics: deciphering the lingo, picking a programming language and getting started on building your skills. (A)

Caspio: Learn how to put your data online in a snap! — Learn how to import your data into Caspio, rapidly create a searchable widget using Caspio’s web-based point-and-click wizards and seamlessly integrate the app into your website, all without any programming.

Getting it right: Bulletproofing your data analysis — Getting data analysis and computer-assisted reporting projects right comes down to the same word as any other story: reporting. But in many cases these stories break new ground and can’t be confirmed by anyone else. This panel will walk through several projects where the process went well—and not so well—to provide a road map for accurate stories. (E)

FRIDAY

8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Follow the money: Campaign finance and political power (Sponsored by Sunlight Foundation) — New tools and techniques exist for tracking campaign contributions. Lobbyists must now disclose their contributions to campaigns, presidential libraries and nonprofits linked to lawmakers. Campaigns will provide lists of the lobbyists who “bundle” contributions. Learn how to find out that information, as well as uncovering the Web sites that link votes and contributions, and post invitations to congressional fundraisers. Find out what’s out there and how to make use of it in your reporting.

Back to Basics: Finding news in what most reporters overlook — Some of the best enterprise journalism comes from details and sources that are often taken for granted or ignored. Three veteran reporters offer tips and advice on how to find those stories and show you a different way to think about the news.

Ethics, shmethics! — Cupidity, stupidity and duplicity. An audience debate over rules that do not exist. For print, TV and anyone who has ever told at least one lie.

Charitable acts: Nonprofits and the new 990 — Panelists will provide a step-by-step walk-through on the new Form 990 and Schedules that charities file with the IRS and are publicly available. They will also provide a road map to what are the potential red flags and problem areas for a charity that are highlighted by the Form 990.

8:30 to 9:30 a.m. *continued*

Excel 1 (Hands-on class) — Performing simple calculations and sorting. (B)

Backgrounding people and businesses — Resources and Web sites to quickly gather personal, business, political, family and other material about a person or company.

Consumer investigations for tough times — The down economy gives investigators great opportunities and difficult challenges. Scam artists target job seekers and lure investors with promises of stable returns. This panel presents new approaches to find and develop these stories, while working within the current realities of diminished resources and diminished time both on and off the air.

9:40 to 10:40 a.m.

Editors: Seeding the investigation from the news — The train crashed, the building collapsed, the boat sank — that's the daily story. But when and how do you look behind the news for systemic problems that may have festered for years? Whether you cover the big city, the state or a suburban region, the panelists will offer tips on asking questions, finding patterns and getting proof — with real-life examples.

Excel 2 (Hands-on class) — Calculating ratios and rates. (B)

Toxic trouble: Examining shortcomings in federal environmental regulation — Panelists will discuss ways to use data to examine environmental regulations and how to cultivate sources to help understand policies and practices. They will talk about practices under the Bush administration as an instructive way to measure work under the Obama administration. They will also discuss ways to obtain information and will offer story ideas that can be pursued at the local level.

Spycraft — This session will cover the use of cryptography, spoofing caller ID, anonymous email, throwaway phones, steganography (that's not a typo) and other covert techniques for communicating with sources without leaving a trail.

International: Best investigations of the year — This year saw a bumper crop of award-winning investigative reports from around the world, including places such as China and the Arab world. This panel will feature speakers from Asia, the Middle East and Latin America who will talk about the trail-blazing investigations that have been done in those places. It will also feature an award-winning, cross-border project on tobacco smuggling put together by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists.

Broadcast: Watchdog investigations for tough times — Learn tips and tricks to being a watchdog in tough times. Session will cover holding elected officials accountable and tracking the tax dollars. Speakers will share how to turn multiple stories, do the big investigation, please your boss—and how to get it done without any money.

Managing up: Selling your editor on an investigation — How do you get the green light to go deeper? How do you persuade impatient bosses to give you that extra month? What do you do when your editors are pushing to publish before you feel absolutely ready? How do you fight for more space? How do you deal with an editor with cold feet? How do you prepare editors for blowback? What if you discover—months in—that the story really isn't there?

9:40 to 10:40 a.m. *continued*

Investigating business: From credit and debt deception to CEO greed (Sponsored by the Donald W. Reynolds National Center for Business Journalism) — Launch your own investigations of company credit practices and perks following the game plans from this session. Focus your coverage through the insight of Brian Grow of the *BusinessWeek* team that won the 2008 Barlett & Steele Award for Investigative Business Journalism; Andrew Leckey, president of the Reynolds National Center for Business Journalism; and CEO-perk-tracker Michelle Leder of footnoted.org. Find out how they do it and how you can, too.

Web mapping and visualization: Successes and pitfalls — Examine the best uses and the potential for problems, when mapping data and using other visualization tools.

10:50 to 11:50 a.m.

What went wrong: Government's role in the meltdown — Jon Hilsenrath and Eric Nalder look at this reporting challenge from different perspectives, Wall Street and Main Street, insider and outsider, the Federal Reserve and the Treasury Department, the feds and the states. How did journalists fare following symptoms to deeper problems? What is needed in the future?

Editors: Conceiving the investigation — What are the keys to successfully pitching and pursuing investigative stories, especially at a time when resources are shrinking? Top editors and producers walk through the first stages of the investigative process and how they help shape stories into the big multi-part project or into rolling investigations that are spun off the news.

Broadcast: Powerful words, powerful images — It takes powerful words and images to put together hard-hitting investigative reports. In this panel, leading broadcast investigative reporters will reveal the techniques they use to create stories that grab viewers by the eyes and ears. In the new media world, print reporters are also being challenged to tell their stories visually for a broader impact on the Web. How do you find compelling characters, crucial documents, and magical moments to make a spellbinding narrative?

Convert and import PDF to Excel (Hands-on class) — Stripping tables from a text document and importing them into a spreadsheet. (B)

Including your audience: Crowdsourcing to social networking — Partner with the public for investigative reporting. As marketing budgets shrink and the web displaces print, use social media to get your work the audience it deserves and feedback to fuel your next story. Build a powerful source network and mine it to get ahead of the news. Learn which DIY tools and tactics will improve your outreach.

Investigating the casualties of war — Journalists document the true cost of war through graphic, helmet-camera footage of a deadly alleged friendly fire incident in Iraq, a surreptitious audio tape recording of a doctor admitting pressure to misdiagnose soldiers to save on benefit payments and by exposing documented war crimes buried for decades. Learn to exploit fissures in a military cover-up, handle extremely vulnerable sources and use documents and the Web to vitalize and strengthen your story.

10:50 to 11:50 a.m. continued

Higher education: Examining college finances

(Sponsored by Lumina Foundation for Education)

— Universities are getting hit hard with less public funds, falling endowments and a drop in donations, while everything from costs to tuition continue to rise. We cover documents that help monitor how schools cope, from the athletic department to the board room, including credit-rating reports, financial information from IRS Form 990s, NCAA financial reports and more.

Quick hit investigations: The watchdog column — Learn tips for doing investigations fast, strategies for pursuing multiple stories at once and get dozens of quick-hit ideas you can take back to your newsroom and start working on immediately. This session will help anyone interested in doing investigative and accountability journalism fast and will provide a road map for those who may be interested in launching a watchdog column of their own.

12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Showcase Panel: Accountability reporting and digging deep

1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Brown Bag with Media Lawyers — Here's a chance for informal Q&A about legal issues. Bring your hypotheticals and your own lunch.

Brown Bag for Researchers, News Librarians and Friends — Bring your lunch and mingle with colleagues.

2:15 to 3:15 p.m.

Exposé: America's Investigative Reports — Watch an episode of "Exposé," the PBS series that documents the work behind investigative projects, with executive producer Tom Casciato and senior producer Scott Davis.

Broadcast: Getting great video (without hidden cameras) — A plethora of new technology and digital video offers investigative reporters a wealth of resources to document and illustrate investigative reports. Where are the archives? What technology is being used? What are the legalities of using the archives and the technology? Are there copyright issues? Privacy issues? This is not last year's hidden camera panel. The issues and resources are evolving rapidly. Get out in front.

Fraud: Uncovering scandals (Sponsored by Bloomberg) — Red flags and red herrings. As journalists cope with a bumper crop of public and private scandals, the public is wondering how so many got away with so much for so long. As the mopping up continues, this panel looks forward, with three experienced fraud-detectors offering practical tips and strategies for finding the next big business or financial scam before it hits the nightly news.

The art of the interview — Walt Bogdanich of *The New York Times* offers tips and advice on how to get the most out of your conversations with sources.

Mining the invisible Web (Hands-on class) — Two internationally known Web gurus team up to forge deep into the Web in the United States and abroad to provide participants with new reporting tools and valuable tips. (E)



2009 IRE CONFERENCE

2:15 to 3:15 p.m. continued

Editors: Managing the investigation — In our increasingly overtaxed newsrooms, where time is a precious commodity, how do we manage investigative projects to maximize efficiency without diluting impact? How do we sell them to top editors? How do we make sure we're not chasing our tails, or digging dry holes? Three top investigative editors will share some of the secrets to keeping reporting efforts focused, minimizing wasted time and delivering results with impact.

Funding your work 1: Sources that can help with individual projects — This session is an excellent opportunity to find out how to get your independent investigative project funded. Representatives from funds that have financed hundreds of thousands of dollars in print, broadcast and Web stories will explain what they expect in project proposals and in results. Send questions ahead of time to Brant Houston at brant.houston@gmail.com.

Fighting back after journalists are killed — Journalists and the organizations that support them must understand the risk they face every day. In some parts of the world, the risk is violent. Understanding these issues is crucial before you "get to the story." The Chauncey Bailey Project shows what journalists can do to bring killers to justice and ensure consequences for those who might seek to kill or harm them because of their work.

On the Beat: Covering cops and courts — Go beyond the beat in this workshop aimed at crafting in-depth criminal justice stories. Joe Mahr will look at using law enforcement databases to police the police, while Thomas Peele and A.C. Thompson will discuss the Chauncey Bailey Project and show how reporters can uncover fresh evidence in unsolved homicide cases — even those dating back more than 40 years.

3:25 to 4:25 p.m.

The bailout: Tracking the money — Learn how to track stimulus dollars, where to get the information, what the rules are and how to use documents and data to track those dollars in your area. See how the data are made accessible by building a database, what it shows and what Treasury hasn't made available. Finally, find out how data tracking TARP money and recipients can be linked to other data for a comprehensive story of lending institutions.

Web: Ten tech trends that every journalist should know — See 10 emerging technologies that you've probably never heard of, learn what's coming next and understand how all of it is impacting journalism. We'll introduce them, explain how they work and demonstrate how they can be adapted for use in investigative reporting and throughout your newsroom. Everyone will leave with access to software betas/demos, explainer tipsheets for each technology and a whole new appreciation for tomorrow.

3:25 to 4:25 p.m. continued

Unsung documents — Veteran investigative reporters list little-known but powerful documents that anyone can use to super-charge a project or muscle-up daily beat coverage. They also provide practical guidelines for obtaining, examining, managing and triangulating routine documents to unleash their full investigative power.

The art of source development — Writer/producer David Simon and reporters Jo Becker of *The New York Times* and Jim Schaefer of the *Detroit Free Press* share their secrets for earning the trust of sources.

Partnerships: The promise and the pitfalls — Are you trying to do “Big J” at a time of shrinking resources? No matter your market/paper size, this panel’s for you. Panelists will detail how they’ve used collaborations with untraditional partners to research and present investigations they might otherwise have been unable to bring to light. Tips include how to find collaborations your trust, how to split tasks and the pitfalls to avoid.

National security, counter-terrorism and your community — Panelists will discuss the nuts and bolts of how to do great investigative national security stories in your area, from where terrorists, drug traffickers, economic spies and transnational mobsters are lurking to what kinds of controversial and possibly illegal tactics the local, state and federal authorities are using to find them. Chock full of handy tips and examples. Also, what kind of Homeland Security debacles and boondoggles await those willing to dig (and not very deeply).

Importing text and HTML into Excel (Hands-on class) — Overcoming format hurdles to your analysis. (B)

Accessing and working with American Community Survey data — This session will provide participants with an understanding of the fundamentals of the American Community Survey, including questionnaire content and data products. Census Bureau staff will demonstrate how to access ACS data through the American FactFinder. Session will include discussions on period estimates and margins of error, as well as an open Q&A period.

On the beat: Schools — *The Atlanta Journal Constitution’s* Heather Vogell talks about using school data to investigate testing, student achievement and teaching. Josh Bernstein of KNXV-Phoenix focuses on investigating the educators, student safety taking a back seat to budget cuts and telling visual stories to make an impact. Martha Woodall of *The Philadelphia Inquirer* discusses how to mine an array of public records to uncover financial wrongdoing in charter schools.

4:35 to 6:00 p.m.

Showcase Panel: Doing great work in tough times

SATURDAY

8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Investigating college athletic programs (Sponsored by Lumina Foundation for Education) — Most coverage of college football and other athletic programs focuses on performance on the field, but there are a host of issues worth examining that have nothing to do with X’s and O’s.

College connection: Working with students to beef up watchdog coverage — Learn how dogged college students, overseen by seasoned faculty members, can produce investigative stories that help news organizations fulfill their watchdog responsibilities.

Broadcast: Quick hits to impress your boss — Learn how to put it all together in the real world, with a focus on quick-turn watchdog stories that you can produce in your newsroom.

Access 1 (Hands-on class) — The purifying experience of filtering your data. Learn to select and sort data items you choose. (B)

Inside the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel: Building a watchdog brand — Three members of the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* investigative team talk about how the Wisconsin daily has blazed trails with its mix of quick hit investigations, prize-winning projects, consumer watchdog stories and searchable databases.

From Twitter to Facebook: An intro to Web tools you can use — Panel offers an introduction to the tools and technologies that are driving these Web phenomena and suggestions on how journalists can utilize them to spot new trends, network the news, connect with the community and promote government transparency. Jaimi Dowdell and Kelly Guckian delve into the nuts and bolts of social networking, micro-blogging and bookmarking tools that increase your visibility, awareness and productivity online.

Exposing housing scandals — From New Orleans to Chicago to Washington, D.C., top reporters reveal how they uncovered flaws and corruption in affordable and public housing developments funded with taxpayer money. Learn how to peel back the layers, what documents to mine and problems to look for to bring depth to your next housing story.

Covering outbreaks: From flu scares to food-related illnesses — Get tips for digging deeper when outbreaks happen. Learn how to investigate the performance of agencies responsible for inspecting plants, and preventing and tracking outbreaks. As the new H1N1 swine flu virus spreads, is your community ready for a potential pandemic? How safe is the food at local grocery stores? Are unvaccinated children putting your city’s schools at risk of an outbreak? This panel will give you the tools to find the answers.

Sealed court documents, jury lists and military courts — The U.S. Supreme Court has made clear that our courts are public. So why are documents sealed, dockets disappearing, jury lists shrouded and courtroom doors locked? This panel offers tools journalists can use to pierce judicial secrecy, from conducting surveillance of who goes into the grand jury room to testify and tracing witness license plates to uncovering hidden dockets and perusing trash bins.

9:40 to 10:40 a.m.

What you need to know to cover an economy in crisis (Sponsored by Bloomberg) — Many journalists with little or no background in business reporting now find themselves trying to help readers and viewers make sense of the economic meltdown. This session will give you the knowledge you need to dig into key economic issues.

Access 2 (Hands-on class) — Summarizing databases with counting and summing. (B)

Sports business: Investigating teams and companies that own them — Sports are as much about money as they are about winning. In this panel you'll learn how to get salary data for athletes and coaches, how agent representation works and how to get behind some of the sponsorship deals and contracts involved in both professional and collegiate sports. Other topics related to investigating athletes and team business deals might be discussed.

Fun software, freebies and toys — The world is full of people whose mission in life is to build programs called “utilities” to fill gaps left open by mainstream software. Some you have to install, some are on the Web. Many are forehead-slappers: “Why didn't Microsoft add that instead of making unnecessary changes that force me to upgrade?” We'll look at how they can make reporting, writing and life easier.

Higher ed: Measuring college performance and holding administrators accountable (Sponsored by Lumina Foundation for Education) — Student success and accountability are buzzwords in higher education. But how do you measure success? This panel talks about some of the current trends in how to measure college performance, including NSSE and graduation rates, along with some of the caveats.

Editors: Keeping investigative reporting alive with fewer people, resources, space and time — How can newsrooms continue to devote resources to investigative and enterprise reporting in tough economic times? Three top editors discuss the difficulties and the reasons why the investment pays off.

Blowing the whistle without blowing their cover — A local reporter, network producer and Washington-based lawyer discuss how to handle whistle-blowers in a way that protects both you and them from litigation and public disclosure. From first contact through legal challenges and threatened retaliations, learn how to minimize risk and exposure while maximizing the public disclosure of important issues.

Wrongful convictions: What to do when the wrong person is behind bars — Police, prosecutors, forensic examiners, judges and others who drive the criminal justice system misbehave sporadically or regularly in the thousands of jurisdictions across the nation. Sometimes, the misbehavior results in wrongful convictions and other consequential miscarriages of justice. The panelists will discuss how to launch projects looking at the flaws of the criminal justice system, and how to complete them despite the inevitable obstacles.

Broadcast: Staying on the air, staying relevant — Hear from seasoned TV journalists the art of nailing down blockbuster investigations, without disappearing from the airwaves. This panel has a combined 100 years of experience juggling ratings expectations with the daily grind.



2009 IRE CONFERENCE

10:50 to 11:50 a.m.

Municipal bonds: A new free data trove

Access 3 (Hands-on class) — How to join tables, and matching information from one file to another. (I)

Is this thing recording? Tips on shooting video for beginners — Video 101: How you can shoot great video for the Web.

Broadcast: It's not just TV (multi-platform investigations) — The future is now. Welcome to the new frontier. We've all seen the changes and new demands in our newsrooms. Learn how to drive your investigations on air—online and back again. We'll arm you with ideas and tools that can help your investigations live longer across multiple platforms utilizing social networking sites, searchable databases, mapping and more. Learn to harness new technologies so you don't get left behind.

On the beat: Health care — Four— count 'em, four— savvy journalists give their best tips and handouts for investigating medicine. The public loves these stories, and there's great TV and freelance potential, too. Panel will suggest 10 quick-hit ideas with sources and records to get you started, as well as ways to dig deep into hospitals and other health-related businesses, spot new trends, find new sources, follow new money streams and question the authorities we rely on for life-and-death decisions.

Drug trafficking and organized crime — Mexico, especially the U.S.-Mexico border, is now considered the most dangerous place to practice journalism. In the past six years, more than 35 journalists have either been killed or have disappeared. In spite of the deadly beat, some journalists are doing courageous work, although those examples are increasingly fewer. We'll discuss the challenges faced by the Mexican press at a time when U.S. media companies are also downsizing, particularly border bureaus.

Covering invisible populations (Sponsored by the Dart Society and Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma) — This panel will provide tips on finding and covering stories about people on the fringes of society — from victims of sex trafficking to vulnerable adults abused in state care or prisoners mistreated by guards. How do you get access to them? What about confidentiality? How do you tell someone's story without putting him or her at risk? How do you interview a traumatized victim without making things worse?

Writing without veils: How to get sources on the record — Eric Nalder's popular interviewing panel, “Loosening Lips” is aimed this time at getting on-the-record information. His psychological techniques teach us to open doors and conversations, organize the subject's brain, penetrate levels of privacy and bring those once-private thoughts to the page with names attached.

10:50 to 11:50 a.m. *continued*

Building the story: From getting started to knowing when to stop — The stages of an investigative story are explored in this session led by the veteran team of Donald Barlett and James Steele. The duo will discuss how to generate story ideas, map out a reporting plan and gather information, as well as how to turn all of those interviews, documents and data files into a story.

2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Hands-on: Shooting for the Web — Video 101: How you can shoot great video for the Web. (E)

International roundtable: Sharing resources and knowledge — Using real-life examples, journalists from around the world will talk about how to build and share story tips, databases and resources and collaborate on cross-border stories. Experiences with using specific networking tools on the Web will be discussed, and there is expected to be a wide-ranging Q&A throughout the session.

2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Anonymous sources and national security reporting — Explore key issues in one of the most difficult areas to gather information, including the practical and ethical questions surrounding the use of anonymous sources.

Broadcast: Rolling investigations — Session includes tips, suggestions and examples for making your stories bigger. See how to unravel the cover-up, stay ahead of the competition and hold public officials accountable through multi-part reporting. Your first story is only the beginning!

How they failed: Tracing the roots of a financial failure (Sponsored by Bloomberg) — This panel will cover the demise of financial institutions and how to show readers why these tales matter, even after the dust begins to settle.

Excel 1 (Hands-on class) — Performing simple calculations and sorting. (B)

Editors: Coaxing great writing out of reporters — A Zen koan for investigative reporters: If you nail the bad guys, but no one can read your story, did you do any good? Two player-coaches reveal concrete tips for making storytelling sense out of all that juicy data and for creating reporter-editor partnerships that honor the needs of the new digital newsroom and the investigation.

Succeeding as a freelancer and author — Obtaining freelance assignments at a good pay rate from print, broadcast and online outlets has never been easy. It becomes harder still when the topic is controversial, requires in-depth reporting and an adequate budget, to say nothing of extraordinary persuasion skills. Learn how to overcome barriers as a freelancer and also how to progress to book authorship, if you feel the call.

Government regulation: Lapses in protecting workers and consumers — Workers and consumers face serious threats from defective products and dangerous work conditions governed by a patchwork of governmental agencies. Learn how to use documents, data and old-fashioned shoe-leather reporting to uncover companies exposing people to harm and shed light on negligence by the regulatory agencies themselves. We'll touch on issues ranging from construction worker deaths to defective drywall and discuss developing shorter-term stories as well as Pulitzer Prize winners.

3:40 to 4:40 p.m.

Funding your work 2: Working with foundations — Foundation officers will talk about their journalism programs and what they expect to fund in the coming years for investigative reporting. They also will discuss how to prepare and submit a successful proposal. Send your questions ahead of time to Brant Houston at brant.houston@gmail.com.

Writing the investigative story — Session offers tips and practical advice for overcoming the challenges of writing that hard-hitting investigative story. We'll explore some examples of what worked—and what didn't—and talk about what's next for the future of writing investigative stories.

Broadcast: Getting the big interview, getting it right — In broadcasting, great facts are brought to life by great interviews. This panel will analyze clips to illustrate techniques for getting a subject into an interview, then conducting the interview to illicit the memorable moments that bring a story to life.

Parachuting In: How to get up to speed quickly — Three veteran, award-winning journalists reveal their secrets for diving into an unfamiliar topic or parachuting into foreign territory to unearth previously unknown or overlooked material. The reporters will offer specific tips about how to navigate these tricky waters, but also offer real-life examples. Find out how to land in Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina and find gouging landlords, arrive in Alaska and try to find something new about Gov. Sarah Palin and more.

Excel 2 (Hands-on class) — Calculating ratios and rates. (B)

On the beat: Holding local government accountable — Investigating on the beat often has more impact than projects that have taken months to produce. Panelists will discuss how to build sources and find stories, develop quick and high-impact enterprise stories and what records and databases to request. They'll also talk about how to use blogs and e-mail to engage readers and keep the pressure on.

Transparency: The state of open records laws — Join Wendell Cochran of American University, Jennifer LaFleur of ProPublica, David Smallman of Smallman Law PLLC and John Wonderlich of the Sunlight Foundation for a discussion of the latest developments in laws governing open records.

Earmarks: Tracking the money, federally and locally — Earmarks are line-items inserted into spending bills to direct funds to a specific project or recipient. The practice has become controversial in recent years and has led to a number of political scandals. This panel will introduce participants to the practice of earmarking in the federal appropriations process and provide the tools and sources of information journalists need to track earmarks nationally and locally.

4:50 to 5:50 p.m.

Making FOIA work for you — When do you write a sweeping “any and all documents” request? When should you narrow your focus to specific information or documents? A lot depends on what you learn before you file your request. Find out how to be more resourceful and get the goods — both at home and overseas — as well as what to do after officials say they have “fulfilled” your request.

Internet searching for data (Hands-on class) — From online searchable databases to files posted by government agencies, the Web is teeming with useful data. But with so much information available, it’s hard to know where to start. This hands-on session will show you the best sites and strategies for tracking down data online. We’ll also discuss how to download the information once you’ve found something good. (E)

Editors: Bulletproofing the investigation — This workshop covers bringing a watchdog story from conception to completion and making stories airtight with line-by-line editing.

Measuring the impact of the financial crisis (Sponsored by Bloomberg) — Like a pebble tossed in a pond, the financial crisis continues to reverberate through communities, which leaves families, companies and individuals in financial peril. Learn how to measure the pain through housing foreclosures, job loss, a banking crisis that deprives consumers of access to credit and a sharp drop in spending that chokes the economy. We discuss how to tell the stories behind the numbers.

Web: The multi-platform investigation — Multimedia investigations: What works, what doesn’t. Practical ways to think about stories across platforms.

Preparing for the 2010 U.S. Census — Panelists will highlight potential trends and stories from the American Community Survey, the “every-year census” that is unleashing a flood of data for states and localities as it reaches full speed. They also will talk about how to plan for the pared-down Census 2010, which promises to shake up political districts nationwide.

Broadcast: Making the case for your TV job — How can investigative journalism survive in a time of budget cuts and layoffs? Learn how to make the “business case” for visible, valuable investigative reporting from Tom Dolan of Dolan Media Management, Lana Durban Scott of Scripps and Scott Matthews of CNN. Deborah Potter of NewsLab will moderate.

Alternative models for investigative reporting — In the wake of the economic crisis in journalism, the search is on for alternative models to create and disseminate investigative reporting. From philanthropic contributions to micropayment systems, from crowd-funded reporting projects to online advertising, this panel will address what is happening now and in the foreseeable future.



2009 IRE CONFERENCE

SUNDAY

9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

How IRE and NICAR can help your investigation

Watchdog 101: Getting the most from the Web — What reporters and editors need to know. From better search techniques to the invisible Web, how to find documents and databases on deadline and where to find reliable Web sites for enterprise stories. The craft of better searching and not wasting time.

9:30 to 11:10 a.m.

Staying optimistic during dark times (Sponsored by Dart Society) — During this interactive session, reporters are broken into discussion groups to talk about their careers and the future of journalism. Modeled after programs led by The Dart Society across the country in recent months, the gatherings connect journalists who entered the news business to make a difference and allow them to share experiences, ideas and understand innovative trends in the industry.

10:10 to 11:10 a.m.

Watchdog 101: Documents you can't live without — How to find and get documents you need for any beat or topic.

Preparing yourself for a career in today's newsrooms — Cheryl Phillips of *The Seattle Times* will lead a roundtable discussion.