

# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE

**RALEIGH**  
NORTH CAROLINA  
FEBRUARY 24-27

Presented by  
IRE and NICAR

# Welcome to Raleigh!

Courtesy of [GROW.visitRaleigh.com](http://GROW.visitRaleigh.com)



Things are a little different than the first time IRE brought a Computer-Assisted Reporting Conference here.

The World Wide Web was in its infancy.

There was no NICAR.

There was, however, nine-track tape to be analyzed. And a debate over which was better: spreadsheets or database managers.

Those are a few of the memories from members who were in attendance in 1993 when IRE held its very first CAR Conference, here in Raleigh, under the leadership of then-IRE Board member Pat Stith.

Of course, times have changed. And embracing change always has been the overriding theme of the CAR Conference. Thanks to the work of Pat and the other early organizers, and all of the CAR pioneers, every year a dedicated group of journalists gathers to share the latest technological advances, the newest software, the cutting-edge practices that were impossible only a year or two ago.

And that's certainly the case this year. Sessions will introduce you to the latest tools and technology for a host of data analysis skills, from mapping and data cleaning to text mining. Other sessions focus on how to find stories in data. We have panels on mobile apps for investigations and APIs, topics that would have sounded as foreign in 1993 as the need to unpack fields does to many conference attendees today.

Some of you will attend our new, cutting-edge NewsCamp focusing on data visualization (it was so popular that the limited number of available seats were gone quickly); others will learn how to build interactive online tools in our Command Line to the Web boot camp. And newcomers to CAR have the chance to learn how to use spreadsheets and databases (we ended the competition between those tools years ago) using teaching techniques developed by several generations of IRE and NICAR trainers.

As we embrace the newest developments, we're not forgetting our past. Saturday afternoon at 4 p.m., we're bringing together a panel of those who have been around for the long haul to talk about how far things have come and to gaze forward in anticipation of what things will be like if we're back in Raleigh 10 or 20 years from now. We'll honor our legacy at a reception for Pat Stith on Saturday evening right after that panel.

We'll also honor some of the best CAR practitioners of the year on Friday at 5:30 p.m., when we gather to congratulate this year's winners of the Philip Meyer Award. We'll have the special honor of being joined this year by Phil, and we'll celebrate his pioneering contributions in bringing social science methods and precision journalism to our profession.

While much has evolved in the past 18 years, Pat offers this thought:

"One important thing that has not changed, I hope, is the willingness of people to help one another. If you called someone with a problem 'back when,' they helped you, whether they knew you or not – even if you worked for a competitor. And unless the ox was in the ditch at their place, they helped you right then. There was so much to learn, and so few ways to learn it, we stuck together."

Sticking together to help each other learn was what this conference was about in 1993. And it's still the heart of this conference, and the CAR community, in 2011.

So get ready for a weekend of sharing and learning. But you can leave the nine-track tape at home.

Mark Horvit, IRE Executive Director

# THANK YOU!

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- Bussian Law Firm

Thanks to the Missouri School of Journalism, which provides space and resources to IRE and NICAR, which is a joint program of IRE and the school.

## Fellowships

Congratulations to our 2011 CAR Conference fellows. Thank you to the donors who have sponsored fellowships or contributed to IRE's Endowment.

### Philip L. Graham Diversity Fellow

The minority fellowship program for professional journalists was established by the Philip L. Graham Fund and IRE.

- Melissa Sanchez, *El Nuevo Herald*

### Jennifer Leonard Scholarship

For women who have worked in journalism for three years or fewer or who study journalism, these scholarships were established by IRE member David Cay Johnston to honor his wife, president of the Rochester Area Community Foundation and a national leader in promoting ethical standards for endowments.

- Rhiannon Coppin, *The Vancouver Sun*

## CAR Contest for Student Journalists

Sponsored by three John S. and James L. Knight chairs in journalism: Sarah Cohen, Duke University; Steve Doig, Arizona State University; and Brant Houston, University of Illinois. Award winners are:

- Eliza Kern, University of North Carolina
- Tessa Muggerridge, Arizona State University and 2010 News21 team
- Mark Newton, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Jennifer Wheeler, University of Illinois

## General Conference Committee

- Phil Williams – WTVF-Nashville, chair
- Sarah Cohen – Duke University
- Mc Nelly Torres – Florida Center for Investigative Reporting

## Local Committee Members

- Chris Roush – University of North Carolina
- Steve Riley – *The News & Observer* (Raleigh, N.C.)
- Ryan Thornburg – University of North Carolina
- Stuart Watson – WCNC – Charlotte
- David Raynor – *The News & Observer* (Raleigh, N.C.)
- Ames Alexander – *The Charlotte Observer*
- Doug Pardue – *The Post & Courier* (Charleston, S.C.)
- Fran Gilpin – *The Fayetteville Observer* (Fayetteville, N.C.)

# CONFERENCE ESSENTIALS

Marriott Conference Center					
	Registration	Sales	Fundraising	Exhibitors/Recruiters	Cyber Café
Thursday	7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.	7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.	7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Friday	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday	8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.	8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.	8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday	Closed	8:30-10:30 a.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed

## Reprints and Tipsheets

Stop by the Marriott Conference Center to pick up copies of some of the top investigative work in the country using computer-assisted techniques, along with extra tipsheets and panel handouts. If you have copies of stories to share, please contact an IRE staffer. Don't forget that all tipsheets will be available from IRE's website and the Resource Center a short time after the conference.

## Demo Room (Chancellor)

Drop by to check out informal discussions about the latest applications for CAR. Today's topics may be essential tools in the not-too-distant future. NICAR Database Library staff will be available throughout the conference to answer questions and demonstrate the many datasets IRE and NICAR make available to journalists.

## Census

Get up to speed on All Things Census with a special track of three panels Thursday. Get story ideas to cover the big Census 2010 data releases that began this month and continue through summer. Dive deeper with the American Community Survey to mine stories from the every-year census. And learn how to navigate the newly revamped American FactFinder, the U.S. Census Bureau's online tool for extracting census data and mapping it. Check the schedule for other Census panels being offered throughout the conference.

## REMINDERS

### PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME TAG TO ALL IRE EVENTS.

Before you leave the conference, please drop off your name tag holder at the registration desk to be recycled.

### PLEASE SET ALL CELL PHONES TO SILENT OR VIBRATE WHILE IN SESSIONS.

The speakers and fellow attendees will appreciate it.

### PLEASE FILL OUT AN EVALUATION.

Your feedback helps us plan future events that meet members' needs. After the conference you will receive an e-mail with a link to complete an online evaluation of the conference. By completing this evaluation, you are entered into a drawing for free registration for the 2012 CAR Conference.

## Cyber Café (Marriott Conference Center)

Computers are available to check your e-mail on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

## Tweet during the conference

Please use #nicar11 in your tweets so everyone can follow the latest news and observations.

## EXHIBITORS (Marriott Conference Center)

Learn about products and services of interest to journalists.

- Bureau of Justice Statistics
- Tableau Public
- SAS Institute Inc., JMP Division
- OpenBlock

## Philip Meyer Journalism Award Presentation & Reception

Sponsored by UNC School of Journalism and Mass Communication and IRE

5:30-6:30 p.m. – Friday, Marriott Private Dining Room, off hotel lobby  
Join us for the awarding of this year's Philip Meyer Awards and honor the award's namesake, retired UNC professor Philip Meyer, at a reception sponsored by the UNC School of Journalism and Mass Communication and IRE. Reception with light hors d'oeuvres and cash bar. For more on the 2010 winners, see pp. 4-5.

## A Night on the Town

Join your fellow CAR colleagues at the Big Easy (222 Fayetteville Street, Raleigh, NC 919-832-6082, www.thebigeasyinc.com) for a night on the town on Friday, Feb. 25, beginning at 7:30 p.m. It's a great opportunity to listen to music and catch up with fellow journalists. The Big Easy is located just a few short blocks from the Raleigh Marriott.

A ticket buys your first two drinks (house wine, beer, soda and water). A full dinner menu will also be available. For those who missed the advance tickets, any remaining tickets will be sold at the conference sales desk for \$15.



## Reception honoring Pat Stith and the CAR Conference's history

Sponsored by The News & Observer and IRE

5:15-7 p.m., Saturday – Marriott State EF

Celebrate the history of the CAR Conference and honor one of its founding organizers, Pat Stith, at a reception co-sponsored by *The News & Observer* and IRE. Dessert reception and a cash bar. Each attendee will be provided with one complimentary drink ticket at the door.

## Brown Bag with Media Lawyers

Sponsored by Smallman Law PLLC and IRE

12-1:50 p.m., Friday – State A

Here's your chance for informal Q&A about legal issues. Bring your "hypotheticals" and your own lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided.

## CAR on campus: Top investigations by student journalists

The winners of IRE's first CAR Contest for Student Journalists will be presenting their work, and discussing how they did it, during a session at 10 a.m., Saturday in State B. The winners are:

- Eliza Kern, University of North Carolina, for her analysis of abortion practices in the state.
- Tessa Muggeridge, ASU, for her role in and on behalf of the 2010 News21 team, for their investigation of holes in the aviation safety system.
- Mark Newton, Virginia Commonwealth University, for a class project on grading practices at the university.
- Jennifer Wheeler, University of Illinois, for her project on the backlog of unpaid parking tickets at the university at a time of furloughs.

The contest is sponsored by three John S. and James L. Knight chairs in journalism: Sarah Cohen, Duke University; Steve Doig, Arizona State University; and Brant Houston, University of Illinois.

## Hands-on Classes

Classes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no pre-registration required for hands-on classes, except the mini-boot camp, Command Line to the Web and NewsCamp classes.

## CAR Mini-Boot Camp

The popular CAR Mini-Boot Camp offers an introduction to computer-assisted reporting, based on IRE and NICAR's popular CAR Boot Camps. The CAR Mini-Boot Camp provides eight hours of hands-on introduction in Internet, Microsoft Excel spreadsheets, Access database manager, and insights on how to apply CAR in news stories and beats. This option is limited to pre-registered attendees.

If you signed up for the CAR Mini-Boot Camp, then you will be assigned to an orange or green team. (The orange or green dot on your nametag is a reminder). The Orange Team will attend hands-on classes in University A; the Green Team meets in University C. See items marked "MB" in the schedule. Classes will be held Friday and Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning.

## Board of Directors Meeting

9 a.m., Sunday – Chancellor

The meeting is open to IRE members.

## Command Line to the Web

This intensive series of hands-on classes will walk you through the process of taking raw data and turning it into a searchable online database using the Python language and the Django Web framework. All Command Line to the Web classes will be held in University B. Instructors for this workshop are Chase Davis, Daniel Lathrop, Matt Waite, Ben Welsh, and Derek Willis. This workshop is limited to pre-registered attendees. See items marked "Command Line to the Web" in the schedule.

## Free Reynolds Business Journalism Workshop

Attend a free workshop presented by the Donald W. Reynolds National Center for Business Journalism. The workshop, "Investigating Private Companies and Nonprofits," will feature Ron Campbell of *The Orange County Register* and Chris Roush of the University of North Carolina and will help you find the public data on private companies and nonprofits. From incorporation papers to UCC records to court and regulatory filings and the revised IRS Form 990 – you'll emerge with a roadmap to public records for the private companies and nonprofits that are often some of the biggest employers in your town. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. The workshop will be held from 1-5 p.m. in Chancellor on Wednesday.



UNC

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**Congratulations to winners of the 2010 Philip Meyer Journalism Award.**

The UNC J-school is proud to support this award given in honor of Philip Meyer, professor emeritus and former Knight Chair of Journalism.

[jomc.unc.edu](http://jomc.unc.edu)

## Philip Meyer Journalism Award

Investigative Reporters and Editors announces winners of 2010 Philip Meyer Journalism Award.

Three major investigative reports that used social science research methods as key parts of their probes.

*The Los Angeles Times* took first place for its project "Grading the Teachers." Using gain-score analysis, the staff at the *Times* analyzed the test scores of individual students and their teachers to identify the most and least effective teachers based on the how much their students' test scores improved.

In second place is "Sexual Assault on Campus," a project spearheaded by the Center for Public Integrity. The series utilized survey methods to outline the impact of unreported sexual assaults on campuses across the country.

Third place goes to *The Orange Country Register* for "Immigrants and the California Economy." Through census and immigration data, the series revealed that the state of California relies on immigrant labor more than any other state. Analysis of these two data sets showed immigration enforcement policies have been ignored for decades in the state.

The Meyer Award recognizes the best uses of social science methods in journalism. The awards will be presented on February 25 in Raleigh at the 2011 CAR Conference. The first-place winner will receive \$500; second and third will receive \$300 and \$200 respectively.

The award is administered by the National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting (a joint program of Investigative Reporters and Editors and the Missouri School of Journalism) and the Knight Chair in Journalism at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University.

The Meyer Award is in honor of Philip Meyer, professor emeritus and former Knight Chair of Journalism at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Meyer is the author of "Precision Journalism," the seminal 1973 book that encouraged journalists to incorporate social science methods in the pursuit of better journalism. As a reporter, he also pioneered the use of survey research for Knight-Ridder newspapers while exploring the causes of race riots in the 1960s.

### Here are details on the winners of the 2010 Meyer Award:

#### **First Place: "Grading the Teachers," *Los Angeles Times***

Staff: Jason Felch; Jason Song, Doug Smith, Sandra Poindexter, Ken Schwencke, Julie Marquis, Beth Shuster, Stephanie Ferrell and Thomas Lauder (*Los Angeles Times*); Richard Buddin (RAND Corporation)

"Grading the Teachers" is a first-rate example of strong watchdog storytelling combined with innovative use of social science methods. Indeed, the point of the project was the failure of Los Angeles school officials to use effective methods to measure the performance of classroom teachers. *The Los Angeles Times*, applying a method called gain-score analysis to a huge database of individual students' test scores and their teachers, identified the most and least effective teachers based on how much the students' scores improved. The *Times* hired a national expert in gain-score analysis to do the data crunching, adding credibility to the results, but also did additional statistical analysis to identify high- and low-performing schools and otherwise verify their findings. In identifying and rating 6,000 teachers by name, the *Times* outraged the teachers' union, but the series has prompted district officials to begin negotiating with the union to use the gain-score method in evaluations. Another sign of the impact of this series is that newspapers across the country have begun requesting similar data from local school districts.

#### **Second Place: "Sexual Assaults on Campus," a collaboration of seven news organizations led by the Center for Public Integrity**

Staff: David Donald, Kristen Lombardi, Gordon Witkin, Kristin Jones and Laura Dattaro (Center for Public Integrity); Robert Benincasa and Joseph Shapiro (NPR)

In "Sexual Assaults on Campus," a collaboration of seven news organizations led by the Center for Public Integrity used sophisticated survey methods as the underpinning of a high-impact series that detailed the human cost of the hidden crime of rape on campuses, showing that those found responsible for sexual assault on public and private college campuses often face no punishment and that student victims face barriers to reporting the crimes. It combined compelling personal stories of the victims with solid research backing up the broad trends. The Center pieced together records from students who agreed to share their stories, reviewed 10 years of reports from universities, surveyed on- and off-campus rape crisis centers, and compiled lawsuits and complaints filed with the Education Department. The survey, while helping to document the problem of unreported and unpunished sexual assault on campuses across the country, also helped the reporters find sources and subjects for their stories. The series led to changes in policies concerning the treatment of students found responsible and the introduction of national legislation to fix the problem.

NPR partnered with the Center for part of the project. And several news organizations did regional stories, including the Rocky Mountain Investigative News Network, the Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism, Texas Watchdog, the New England Center for Investigative Reporting and InvestigateWest.

**Third Place: "Immigrants and the California Economy," *The Orange Country Register***

Staff: Ron Campbell

"Immigrants and the California Economy" is a meticulous and revelatory series of stories that makes extraordinary use of Census and immigration data to show that California relies on immigrant labor more than any other state and almost more than any developed country. By analyzing Census Public Use Microdata from 1970-2008 and combining that with other data and reporting, *The Orange County Register* staff writer Ron Campbell illuminated "the economics of immigration" and presented findings that showed that immigrants in California have filled most of the new jobs since 1970 and that foreign workers have become the primary outside source of labor. He also coupled his Census work with immigration data and studies that revealed immigration enforcement policies have been ignored for decades and that "the odds of an illegal immigrant being detained at work were 1 in 1,300." The series of stories angered many readers who interpreted the stories as "pro-immigrant," but no one challenged the accuracy of the data. Indeed, Campbell's analysis of the microdata and his particular attention to the margin of error in his results is a tutorial in itself for journalists employing statistical methods. All in all, it is a thorough and compelling data-driven project that replaced perceptions with the facts.

**The judges for the Philip Meyer Award for Precision Journalism were:**

- Sarah Cohen, Knight Chair in Computational Journalism at Duke University and a former database editor of *The Washington Post*.
- Steve Doig: Knight Chair in Computer-Assisted Reporting at the Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication of Arizona State University and a former research editor of *The Miami Herald*.
- Brant Houston, Knight Chair in Investigative Reporting at the University of Illinois and the former executive director of Investigative Reporters and Editors.

The Philip Meyer Journalism Award follows the rules of the IRE Awards in its efforts to avoid conflicts of interest. Work that included any significant role by a member of the IRE Board of Directors or Meyer Award contest judge may not be entered in the contest. This often represents a significant sacrifice on the part of the individual – and sometimes an entire newsroom. The IRE membership appreciates this devotion to the values of the organization.

The graphic features the year '2011' in large blue numerals. The '0' contains a white silhouette of a bird, and the '1' contains a white silhouette of a palm tree. Below this, the letters 'IRE' are rendered in large, bold, blue block letters. The 'I' is a solid blue bar. The 'R' contains a white silhouette of a swan. The 'E' contains a white silhouette of an orange. Underneath 'IRE', the word 'CONFERENCE' is written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font. Below that, 'ORLANDO • FLORIDA' is written in the same font, followed by '• JUNE 9-12 •' on the next line.

The best in the business will gather for more than 100 panels, hands-on classes and special presentations about covering business, public safety, government, health care, education, the military, the environment and other key beats. Speakers will share strategies for locating documents and gaining access to public records, finding the best stories and managing investigations. Join the discussion about how to practice investigative journalism in print, broadcast, Web and alternative newsroom models.

[www.ire.org/training/conference/IRE11](http://www.ire.org/training/conference/IRE11)

# IRE Census Toolkit

Investigative Reporters and Editors has produced, gathered and organized a wealth of resources for mining census data. New Census 2010 data will be released on a rolling basis through the summer. American Community Survey census data comes



out every year now, down to the tract level. Here's a sample of the tools to help IRE members with background, story ideas, data and more ...

## Webinars

Need a focused overview with loads of census story ideas, data tips and a detailed timetable of data releases? IRE has produced two half-hour webinars to help you gear up: one for Census 2010 and the other for the American Community Survey. Download them at <http://ow.ly/3PaSf>. Each half-hour webinar costs \$5 (IRE members) or \$10 (nonmembers). Each is a single PDF file with built-in audio.

## Custom Data

Through a new partnership with *USA TODAY*, IRE members can download analysis-ready files for census redistricting data, being released through March for all states. The spreadsheet files include comparable Census 2000 data for tracking trends during the past decade at several levels, including state, counties, cities, tracts, school districts and legislative districts. IRE members can download files as they're released state-by-state at <http://ire.org/getcensus>.

## Online Resources

Visit our one-stop site: [www.ire.org/census](http://www.ire.org/census). There, you'll find other training opportunities, links to think tanks and other online resources, IRE census tipsheets, IRE Journal stories about census coverage, and official documents and guides from the U.S. Census Bureau. New resources are added regularly.

## Census Listserv

IRE maintains various listservs, including one dedicated to the census. Members can search the list serv archives, post new questions seeking advice and contribute their census expertise to the greater IRE community. With each data release, activity picks up on the census listserv as members share knowledge, point out potential problems and help find solutions. Details are online at [www.ire.org/join/listserv.html](http://www.ire.org/join/listserv.html).



*With more than 8,800 acres of parkland in Raleigh alone, the area boasts recreational activities year-round for every skill level.*



# WEDNESDAY

Chancellor Room

**1-5 p.m.**  
**Investigating private companies and nonprofits**  
 • Ron Campbell, *The Orange County Register*  
 • Chris Roush, University of North Carolina



## THURSDAY PANELS AND CLASSES

	State A	State B	State D	Chancellor Room (Demo Room)		
8:30-8:50 a.m.		<b>Best use of the conference and introduction to CAR</b> • Jaimi Dowdell, IRE • Doug Haddix, IRE • Mark Horvit, IRE		<b>NewsCamp</b> (NewsCamp attendees will have first seating priority. Other attendees on a space available basis)		
9-9:50 a.m.		<b>Starting the CAR</b> • Steve Ahillen, <i>The Knoxville News-Sentinel</i> • Jaimi Dowdell, IRE	<b>Producing the CAR story: Techniques and alternatives to print</b> • Stuart Watson, WCNC • Ryan Thornburg, University of North Carolina	<b>NewsCamp:: Storytelling without prose: Narratives and visualization</b> • Amanda Cox, <i>The New York Times</i> • Martin Wattenberg, Google		
10-10:50 a.m.	<b>Almost scraping: Tools for extracting data from websites</b> • Michelle Minkoff, PBS News • Matt Wynn, <i>Omaha World-Herald</i>	<b>Data state of mind</b> • Mary Jo Webster, <i>St. Paul Pioneer Press</i> • Wendell Cochran, American University	<b>The latest in mapping</b> • Tim Barmann, <i>The Providence Journal</i> • Andrew Long, <i>The Arizona Republic</i>	<b>NewsCamp:: Online Data Visualization: What's in the secret sauce</b> • Mike Migurski, Stamen Design		
11-11:50 a.m.	<b>The aftermath of a disaster: Using CAR to follow the story</b> • Robert Benincasa, NPR • Andy Lehren, <i>The New York Times</i>	<b>Mining the Web for data and stories</b> • Helena Bengtsson, Sveriges Television • Jaimi Dowdell, IRE	<b>Creative ways to cover campaign finance</b> • Chase Davis, California Watch • Griff Palmer, <i>The New York Times</i>	<b>NewsCamp:: HTML 5 and Visualization: The future of data on the Web</b> • Len DeGroot, Knight Digital Media Center – U.C. Berkeley • Jeff Larson, ProPublica		
Noon	Lunch on your own			Census Sessions	University A Track 1: Jam Sessions	University B Track 2: Music lessons
2-2:50 p.m.	<b>Handling PDFs and scanned documents</b> • Jeremy Ashkenas, DocumentCloud • John Perry, <i>The Atlanta Journal-Constitution</i>	<b>Shutting down access to data</b> • Ryan McNeill, <i>The Dallas Morning News</i> • Martin Rosenbaum, BBC • John Bussian, Bussian Law Firm • Jonathan Buchan, McGuireWoods LLP, moderator	<b>Tracking the economy and business</b> • Chris Roush, University of North Carolina • Rick Brooks, <i>The Wall Street Journal</i>	<b>American Community Survey: Mining the every-year census</b> • Rob Gebeloff, <i>The New York Times</i> • Paul Overberg, <i>USA Today</i>	<b>NewsCamp:: Using R to visualize data sets and uncover their secrets</b> • Amanda Cox, <i>The New York Times</i> (pre-registered only)	<b>NewsCamp:: Google Fusion Tables</b> • Daniel Lathrop, <i>The Dallas Morning News</i> • Rebecca Shapley, Google (pre-registered only)
3-3:50 p.m.	<b>Social network analysis: Uncovering power and tracking questionable contracts</b> • Reg Chua, <i>South China Morning Post</i> • Tracy Loew, <i>Statesman Journal</i> (Salem)	<b>Stats the way we like 'em: Go deeper in your analysis</b> • David Donald, Center for Public Integrity • Jennifer LaFleur, ProPublica	<b>In the trenches: Hands-on teaching and working with students</b> • Danielle Cervantes, <i>San Diego Union-Tribune</i> • Wendell Cochran, American University • Maggie Mulvihill, New England Center for Investigative Reporting	<b>Census 2010: Story ideas for the big national count</b> • Steve Doig, Arizona State University • Burt Hubbard, Rocky Mountain Investigative News Network	<b>NewsCamp:: Javascript data visualization with HTML5</b> • Jeff Larson, ProPublica (pre-registered only)	<b>NewsCamp:: TimeFlow and Simile Timeline</b> • Sarah Cohen, Duke University • David Karger, Massachusetts Institute of Technology • Martin Wattenberg, Google (pre-registered only)
4-4:50 p.m.	<b>PostGIS is your new bicycle: Come and be wowed by a free alternative to costly desktop GIS</b> • Mike Corey, Center for Investigative Reporting • Ben Welsh, <i>The Los Angeles Times</i>	<b>Data visualization for beginners</b> • Sanjay Bhatt, <i>The Seattle Times</i> • Matt Stiles, Texas Tribune	<b>Five databases in 50 minutes: Education</b> • Rob Gebeloff, <i>The New York Times</i> • Jack Gillum, <i>USA Today</i>	<b>Navigating the new American FactFinder for Census data</b> • Ronald Campbell, <i>The Orange County Register</i>	<b>NewsCamp:: Customized mapping</b> • Mike Migurski, Stamen Design (pre-registered only)	<b>NewsCamp:: Tableau Public</b> • Cheryl Phillips, <i>The Seattle Times</i> • Ellie Fields, Tableau Public (pre-registered only)

# FRIDAY PANELS

	State A	State B	State D	Chancellor Room (Demo Room)
9-9:50 a.m.	<b>How to talk to developers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joe Germuska, <i>Chicago Tribune</i></li> <li>• Scott Klein, ProPublica</li> </ul>	<b>Peering inside the Internet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jack Gillum, <i>USAToday</i></li> <li>• Tom McGinty, <i>The Wall Street Journal</i></li> <li>• Scott Thurm, <i>The Wall Street Journal</i></li> </ul>	<b>Overview of the year in CAR</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doug Haddix, IRE</li> <li>• Mark Horvit, IRE</li> </ul>	<b>Visualizing culture</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Martin Wattenberg, Google</li> </ul>
10-10:50 a.m.	<b>Melding the cultures: Collaborations across journalism and technology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rich Gordon, Northwestern University</li> <li>• Scott Klein, ProPublica</li> </ul>	<b>Cracking open electronic records from e-mails to text messages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andrew Curliss, <i>The News &amp; Observer</i></li> <li>• David Smallman, Smallman Law PLLC</li> <li>• Hugh Stevens, Stevens Martin Vaughn &amp; Tadych PLLC</li> </ul>	<b>Strip-mining the Census: Digging deep with PUMS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ron Campbell, <i>The Orange County Register</i></li> <li>• Phillip Reese, <i>Sacramento Bee</i></li> </ul>	<b>Google Fusion tables</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rebecca Shapley, Google</li> </ul>
11-11:50 a.m.	<b>Visualizing text</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loretta Auvil, National Center for Supercomputing Applications</li> <li>• Brant Houston, University of Illinois</li> <li>• John Stasko, Georgia Tech</li> </ul>	<b>Methods and ethics of using identifiable data: From teachers to the accused</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jason Felch, <i>The Los Angeles Times</i></li> <li>• Doug Smith, <i>The Los Angeles Times</i></li> <li>• Matthew Waite, <i>University of Nebraska</i></li> <li>• Mark Horvit, IRE, moderator</li> </ul>	<b>Five databases in 50 minutes: Crime deep with PUMS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thomas Hargrove, Scripps Howard News Service</li> <li>• Janet Roberts, <i>The New York Times</i></li> </ul>	<b>Corralling data on the Web: Scraping, parsing, traffic-watching</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dan Nguyen, ProPublica</li> </ul>
Noon	<b>Media Lawyers Brown Bag</b> Sponsored by Smallman Law PLLC and IRE	<b>Lunch on your own</b>		
2-2:50 p.m.	<b>Storytelling with data</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeffrey Heer, Stanford University</li> <li>• Dan Keating, <i>The Washington Post</i></li> <li>• Aron Pilhofer, <i>The New York Times</i></li> </ul>	<b>Collaborative CAR</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Donald, Center for Public Integrity</li> <li>• Laura Frank, Rocky Mountain Investigative News Network</li> </ul>	<b>Five databases in 50 minutes: Government</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jim Miller, <i>The Press Enterprise</i></li> <li>• Ron Nixon, <i>The New York Times</i></li> </ul>	<b>Visual analysis of document collections with Jigsaw</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Stasko, Georgia Tech</li> </ul>
3-3:50 p.m.	<b>Investigative algorithms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• James Hamilton, Duke University</li> <li>• Dan Keating, <i>The Washington Post</i></li> </ul>	<b>Free software: From spreadsheets to GIS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jacob Fenton, Investigative Reporting Workshop</li> <li>• Anthony DeBarros, <i>USA Today</i></li> </ul>	<b>From projects to dailies: Integrating CAR into reporting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Fallis, <i>The Washington Post</i></li> <li>• Lise Olsen, <i>Houston Chronicle</i></li> </ul>	<b>Tasty treats from ProPublica</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ProPublica staff</li> </ul>
4-4:50 p.m.	<b>Lightning talks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Derek Willis, <i>The New York Times</i>, moderator</li> </ul>	<b>Social media tools for journalists</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doug Haddix, IRE</li> <li>• Adam Marcus, MIT</li> <li>• Julie Tate, <i>The Washington Post</i></li> </ul>	<b>Ready when the story breaks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheryl Phillips, <i>The Seattle Times</i></li> <li>• Fran Gilpin, <i>The Fayetteville Observer</i></li> </ul>	<b>Online freebies and cool software tools</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neil Reisner, Florida International University</li> </ul>
5:30-6:30 p.m.	<b>Philip Meyer Journalism Award Presentation &amp; Reception</b> Sponsored by UNC School of Journalism and Mass Communication and IRE (Marriott Private Dining Room, off hotel lobby)			

# FRIDAY CLASSES

University A	University B	University C	Congressional A	Congressional B
<b>Excel 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jennifer Forsyth, <i>The Wall Street Journal</i></li> </ul>		<b>Free tool for hot spot analysis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ted Mellnik, <i>The Charlotte Observer</i></li> </ul>	<b>Fundamentals of programming</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jeremy Ashkenas, DocumentCloud</li> <li>Jacob Harris, <i>The New York Times</i></li> </ul>	<b>SPSS 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ron Campbell, <i>The Orange County Register</i></li> </ul>
<b>Excel 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jill Riepenhoff, <i>The Columbus Dispatch</i></li> </ul>	<b>Intro to SQL with SQLite</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Troy Thibodeaux, Associated Press</li> </ul>	<b>TimeFlow and Simile Timeline</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sarah Cohen, Duke University</li> </ul>	<b>Intro to Python 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jacqueline Kazil, <i>The Washington Post</i></li> <li>Serdar Turgoren, <i>The Washington Post</i></li> </ul>	<b>SPSS 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thomas Hargrove, Scripps Howard News Service</li> </ul>
<b>Excel 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coulter Jones, IRE</li> </ul>	<b>Tableau Public</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cheryl Phillips, <i>The Seattle Times</i></li> </ul>	<b>Intro to QGIS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tim Barmann, <i>The Providence Journal</i></li> </ul>	<b>Intro to Python 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jacqueline Kazil, <i>The Washington Post</i></li> <li>Serdar Turgoren, <i>The Washington Post</i></li> </ul>	<b>SPSS 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David Donald, Center for Public Integrity</li> </ul>
<b>Excel 1 (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brant Houston, University of Illinois</li> </ul> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Command Line to the Web</b> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Excel 1 (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jo Craven McGinty, <i>The New York Times</i></li> </ul> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Google Refine</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David Huynh, Google</li> </ul>	<b>Access 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sydney Lupkin, ProPublica</li> </ul>
<b>Excel 2 (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Richard Mullins, <i>Aviation Week</i></li> </ul> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Command Line to the Web</b> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Excel 2 (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David Raynor, <i>The News &amp; Observer</i></li> </ul> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Introduction to MySQL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alex Richards, <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i></li> <li>Matt Wynn, <i>Omaha World-Herald</i></li> </ul>	<b>Access 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kevin Crowe, Watchdog Institute</li> </ul>
<b>Importing data into Excel (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burt Hubbard, Rocky Mountain Investigative News Network</li> </ul> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Command Line to the Web</b> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Importing data into Excel (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sean Sposito, American Banker</li> </ul> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Google Fusion tables</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daniel Lathrop, <i>The Dallas Morning News</i></li> <li>Rebecca Shapley, Google</li> </ul>	<b>Access 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Darnell Little, Northwestern University</li> </ul>

Philip Meyer Journalism Award Presentation & Reception  
 Sponsored by UNC School of Journalism and Mass Communication and IRE  
 (Marriott Private Dining Room, off hotel lobby)

# SATURDAY PANELS

	State A	State B	State D	Chancellor Room (Demo Room)
9-9:50 a.m.	<b>Mobile apps for investigations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chase Davis, California Watch</li> <li>Mike Corey, Center for Investigative Reporting</li> <li>James Turk, Sunlight Labs</li> </ul>	<b>Going it alone</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mc Nelly Torres, Florida Center for Investigative Reporting</li> <li>Richard Mullins, <i>Aviation Week</i></li> </ul>	<b>The Census: What you can do now</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steve Doig, Arizona State University</li> <li>Paul Overberg, <i>USA Today</i></li> </ul>	<b>From numbers to stories: How to find news stories in Web queries</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Bones, Verdens Gang</li> </ul>
10-10:50 a.m.	<b>News Apps: What works and why</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scott Klein, ProPublica</li> <li>Dan Nguyen, ProPublica</li> <li>Ken Schwencke, <i>Los Angeles Times</i></li> <li>Ben Welsh, <i>Los Angeles Times</i></li> <li>Aron Pilhofer, <i>The New York Times</i>, moderator</li> </ul>	<b>CAR on campus: Top investigations by student journalists</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eliza Kern, University of North Carolina</li> <li>Tessa Muggeridge, Arizona State University and the 2010 News21 team</li> <li>Mark Newton, Virginia Commonwealth University</li> <li>Jennifer Wheeler, University of Illinois</li> </ul>	<b>50 story ideas in 50 minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jo Craven McGinty, <i>The New York Times</i></li> <li>Jennifer LaFleur, ProPublica</li> </ul>	<b>Optimizing Data.gov for reporters</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jeanne Holm, data.gov</li> </ul>
11-11:50 a.m.	<b>R for statistics: From first steps to automated analyses</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peter Aldhous, New Scientist</li> <li>Jacob Fenton, Investigative Reporting Workshop</li> </ul>	<b>Effective information mining on the Web</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Margot Williams, NPR</li> </ul>	<b>Higher education: Covering campus from sports to administration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alex Richards, <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i></li> <li>Jodi Upton, <i>USA Today</i></li> </ul>	<b>The JMPing journalist</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David Jordan, SAS</li> </ul>
Noon	<b>Lunch on your own</b>			
2-2:50 p.m.	<b>When you need lots of eyes, try Mechanical Turk: Finding lost hikers to data entry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panagiotis G. Ipeirotis, New York University</li> <li>Amanda Michel, ProPublica</li> </ul>	<b>Lessons from WikiLeaks: Big data, deadlines, mining and collaborations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helena Bengtsson, Sveriges Television</li> <li>Jacqueline Kazil, <i>The Washington Post</i></li> <li>Andy Lehren, <i>The New York Times</i></li> <li>Sarah Cohen, Duke University, moderator</li> </ul>	<b>Health data: Finding stories in the numbers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David Donald, Center for Public Integrity</li> <li>Maurice Tamman, <i>The Wall Street Journal</i></li> </ul>	<b>DocumentCloud in depth</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jeremy Ashkenas, DocumentCloud</li> </ul>
3-3:50 p.m.	<b>Analyzing unstructured data: Docs and video</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alex Hauptmann, Carnegie Mellon University</li> <li>Jonathan Stray, Associated Press</li> </ul>	<b>Don't let the data fool you</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manny Garcia, <i>El Nuevo Herald</i></li> <li>Phil Meyer, University of North Carolina (retired)</li> </ul>	<b>CAR investigations for any state</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kevin Crowe, The Watchdog Institute</li> <li>Joe Neff, <i>The News &amp; Observer</i></li> </ul>	<b>A new way of visualizing data online: Tableau Public</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ellie Fields, Tableau Public</li> </ul>
4-4:50 p.m.	<b>APIs: Making the Web a data medium</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anthony DeBarros, <i>USA Today</i></li> <li>Derek Willis, <i>The New York Times</i></li> </ul>	<b>Building on CAR's legacy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pat Stith, <i>The News &amp; Observer</i> (retired)</li> <li>Brant Houston, University of Illinois</li> <li>Jennifer LaFleur, ProPublica</li> <li>Charles Lewis, American University/ Investigative Reporting Workshop</li> <li>Steve Doig, Arizona State University</li> <li>Sarah Cohen, Duke University, moderator</li> </ul>	<b>Protecting the people</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rob Cribb, <i>Toronto Star</i></li> </ul>	<b>Sunlight Foundation health data</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bill Allison</li> <li>Aaron Bycoffe</li> <li>Sarah Dorsey</li> <li>Anupama Narayanswamy, The Sunlight Foundation</li> </ul>
5:15-7 p.m.	<b>Reception honoring Pat Stith and the CAR Conference's history</b> Sponsored by <i>The News &amp; Observer</i> and IRE (Marriott State EF)			

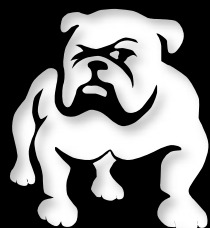
# SUNDAY PANELS AND CLASSES

	State A	State B	University A	University B
9-9:50 a.m.	<b>Best use of the Web for investigations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neil Reisner, Florida International University</li> </ul>	<b>Storyboarding your ideas</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doug Haddix, IRE</li> </ul>	<b>Building your own database (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David Donald, Center for Public Integrity</li> </ul> (pre-registered only)	<b>Command Line to the Web</b> (pre-registered only)
10-10:50 a.m.	<b>Mining the Web for data and stories</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jaimi Dowdell, IRE</li> </ul>	<b>Storyboarding your ideas</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doug Haddix, IRE</li> </ul>	<b>Final Q&amp;A (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David Donald, Center for Public Integrity</li> </ul> (pre-registered only)	<b>Command Line to the Web</b> (pre-registered only)

# SATURDAY CLASSES

University A	University B	University C	Congressional A	Congressional B
<b>Advanced functions in Excel</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MaryJo Webster, <i>St. Paul Pioneer Press</i></li> </ul>	<b>Mapping 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ted Mellnik, <i>The Charlotte Observer</i></li> </ul>	<b>Converting PDF to Excel</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neil Reisner, Florida International University</li> </ul>	<b>Introduction to MySQL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alex Richards, <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i></li> <li>Matt Wynn, <i>Omaha World-Herald</i></li> </ul>	<b>SPSS 4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jennifer LaFleur, ProPublica</li> </ul>
<b>Excel as a statistics package</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steve Doig, Arizona State University</li> </ul>	<b>Mapping 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Justin Mayo, <i>The Seattle Times</i></li> </ul>	<b>Cleaning data with Access (string functions)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jack Gillum, <i>USA Today</i></li> </ul>	<b>Web scraping without programming</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Michelle Minkoff, PBS News</li> </ul>	
<b>Importing data into Excel</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Garance Burke, Associated Press</li> </ul>	<b>Mapping 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maurice Tamman, <i>The Wall Street Journal</i></li> </ul>	<b>Downloading and analyzing Census data</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ron Campbell, <i>The Orange County Register</i></li> </ul>	<b>Google Refine</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David Huynh, Google</li> </ul>	<b>Social network analysis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aaron Kessler, <i>Sarasota Herald Tribune</i></li> </ul>
Lunch on your own				
<b>Moving into Access (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wendell Cochran, American University</li> </ul> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Command Line to the Web</b> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Moving into Access (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tom McGinty, <i>The Wall Street Journal</i></li> </ul> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Intro to R</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jacob Fenton, Investigative Reporting Workshop</li> </ul>	<b>QGIS 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mike Corey, Center for Investigative Reporting</li> <li>Daniel Lathrop, <i>The Dallas Morning News</i></li> </ul>
<b>Access 2 (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David McKie, CBC</li> </ul> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Command Line to the Web</b> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Access 2 (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ron Nixon, <i>The New York Times</i></li> </ul> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Learning to explore document collections with Jigsaw</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Stasko, Georgia Tech</li> </ul>	<b>Mapping 4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Andrew Long, <i>The Arizona Republic</i></li> </ul>
<b>Access 3 (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Richard Mullins, <i>Aviation Week</i></li> </ul> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Command Line to the Web</b> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Access 3 (MB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ryan McNeill, <i>The Dallas Morning News</i></li> </ul> <p>(pre-registered only)</p>	<b>Web scraping</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dan Nguyen, ProPublica</li> </ul>	<b>Regex to the rescue (data cleaning with regular expressions)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Serdar Tumgoren, <i>The Washington Post</i></li> </ul>

Reception honoring Pat Stith  
and the CAR Conference's history  
Sponsored by *The News & Observer* and IRE  
(Marriott State EF)



## Watchdog Workshops

The Watchdog Workshop series brings affordable training to cities around the U.S. Use the schedule to find a session near you, or contact IRE if you're interested in bringing one to your area. IRE's staff teams up with veteran journalists to lead the training.

## Upcoming Events

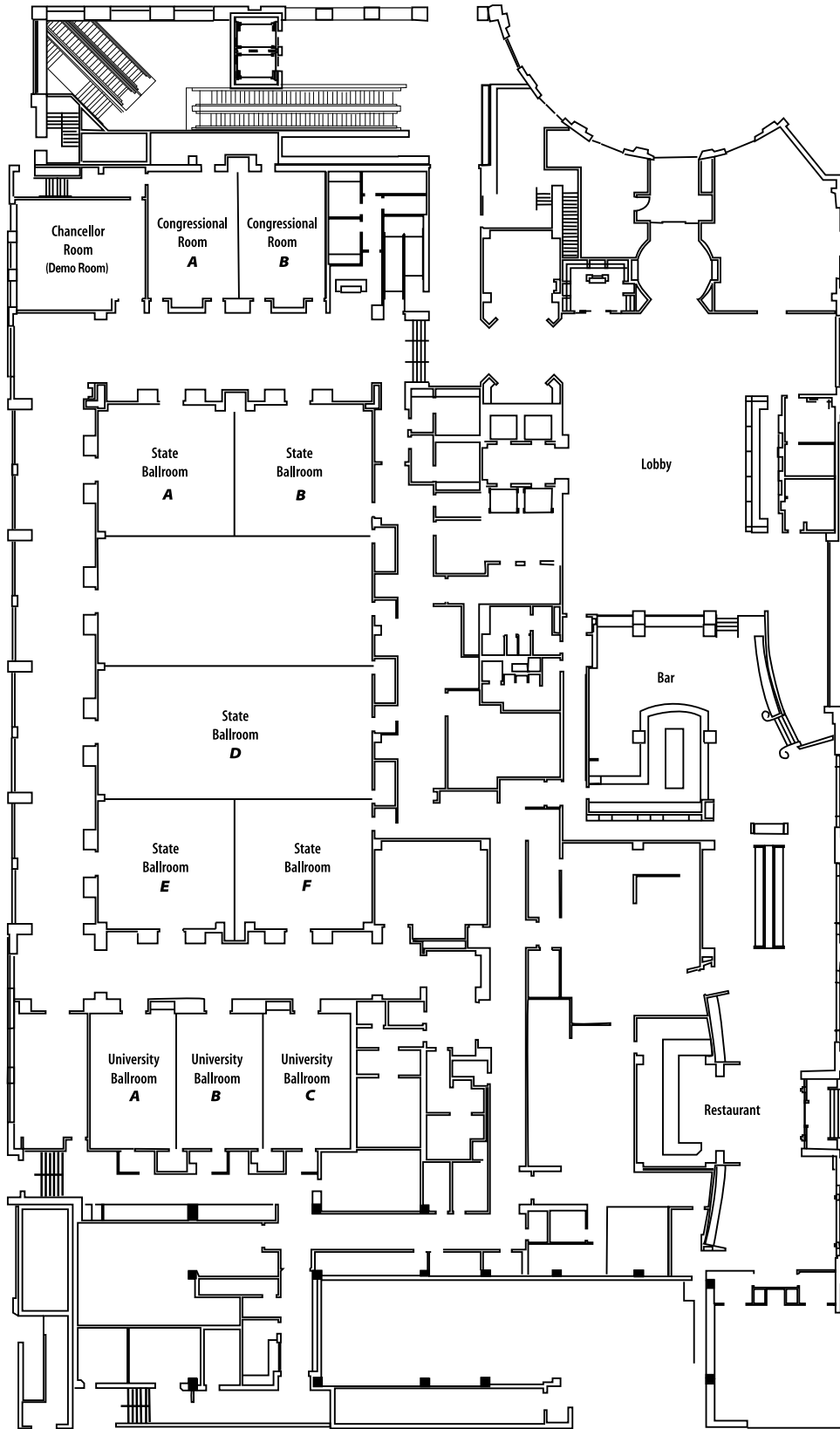
Missoula, Mont.  
March 12-13, 2011

Los Angeles, Calif.  
March 25-26, 2011

Toronto, Canada  
April 30 - May 1, 2011

Biloxi, Miss.  
May 13, 2011

# CONFERENCE CENTER MAP



# DINING GUIDE

Triangle restaurants offer quality in a wide variety of cuisine at reasonable prices. Ranging from down home Southern to contemporary to French brasserie, these restaurants are among the Triangle's best, according to N&O restaurant critic Greg Cox.

## RALEIGH

### Poole's Downtown Diner

426 S. McDowell St., Raleigh; 919-832-4477;  
www.pooledowntowndiner.com

Cuisine: American bistro

First-rate American bistro fare at reasonable prices, combined with a no-reservations policy, can add up to a long wait. It's worth the wait.

### 18 Seaboard

18 Seaboard Ave., Raleigh; 919-861-4318;  
www.18seaboard.com

Cuisine: contemporary Southern, grill

Southern-accented contemporary bistro fare is memorable and affordable. Options include fried green tomatoes, sautéed clams, hardwood-grilled steaks and seafood, and moist, crisp-skinned roast chicken.

### Bloomsbury Bistro

509-101W. Whitaker Mill Road, at Five Points, Raleigh; 919-834-9011;  
www.bloomsburybistro.com

Cuisine: contemporary

Excellent food and polished service in a comfortable setting. Grilled North Carolina yellowfin tuna over a pancetta-punctuated medley of spaghetti squash, haricots verts and Cabernet beurre rouge are some standouts.

### Angus Barn

9401 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh;  
919-787-3505; www.angusbarn.com

Cuisine: steakhouse

The wait staff is out to spoil you, and the steaks, aged in-house and grilled to order over live coals, are first-rate. Options range from a 7-ounce bacon-wrapped petite filet to a whopping 24-ounce T-bone. Crab cakes and oysters are among the best in town.

### Coquette

4351-119 The Circle at North Hills, Raleigh;  
919-789-0606; www.coquetteraleigh.com

Cuisine: French

A French brasserie with reasonable prices.

Recommended: everything. Cassoulet, coq au vin and quiche Lorraine are among the standouts.

### Flights

4100 Main at North Hills St., in Renaissance Raleigh North Hills Hotel, Raleigh;  
919-278-1478; bit.ly/gEtmJc

Cuisine: contemporary

Dramatic still-life-on-a-plate presentations in a sleek hotel setting. Try the "deconstructed" crab cake.

The restaurant name is a tribute to North Carolina's contribution to the history of aviation.

### Big Ed's City Market

220 Wolfe St., Raleigh; 919-836-9909

Cuisine: Southern

Country ham, grits and redeye gravy for breakfast.

Fried or barbecued chicken, chuck wagon steak or fried catfish, with butter beans and turnip greens, for lunch.

Don't forget the biscuits and cornbread.

### Sitti

137 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh;  
919-239-4070

Cuisine: Middle Eastern

Sitti is a celebration of the shared Lebanese heritage of its owners. A special oven was installed for baking the pillowy pita ovals that are served hot with a small dish of za'atar-spiced olive oil.

### Sawasdee

6204-120 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh;  
919-781-7599; www.sawasdeeraleigh.com

Cuisine: Thai

Some 75 listings, including an impressive 14 vegetarian entrees.

### Zely & Ritz

301 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh; 919-828-0018; www.zelyandritz.com

Cuisine: tapas

The dining room sets a vibrant and contemporary mood with bare tabletops and banquettes upholstered in faux black leather. A long communal table seats up to 18 people.

## DURHAM

### Magnolia Grill

1002 Ninth St., Durham; 919-286-3609;  
www.magnoliagrill.net

Cuisine: contemporary Southern

There are lots of reasons this Durham landmark has been winning national acclaim, including the James Beard Foundation Award to chef/proprietor Ben Barker as best chef in the Southeast, and Bon Appetit magazine's selection of Ben's wife and partner, Karen, as America's top pastry chef. Also: pan-seared foie gras on a citrus-fennel salad; grilled beef tenderloin with a salad of arugula; and house-made potato chips.

## CARY

### Hérons

100 Woodland Pond, in the Umstead Hotel & Spa, Cary;  
447-4200; www.héronsrestaurant.com

Cuisine: contemporary

Hérons' cuisine pays tribute to the finest North Carolina and Southern farmers and artisans, as well as to Herons' own herb garden. To complement the à la carte menu and seasonal Tasting Menu is a 2,500-bottle wine cellar for the young enthusiast and the wine connoisseur.

## PITTSBORO

### The Fearington House

2000 Fearington Village Center, Pittsboro;  
919-542-2121; www.fearingtonhouse.com

Cuisine: contemporary

North Carolina's only AAA Five Diamond restaurant, The Fearington House offers regional cuisine with a French influence in an elegant and romantic setting. The acclaimed menus change weekly to highlight fresh, seasonal and local ingredients, all created with exceptional attention to detail.

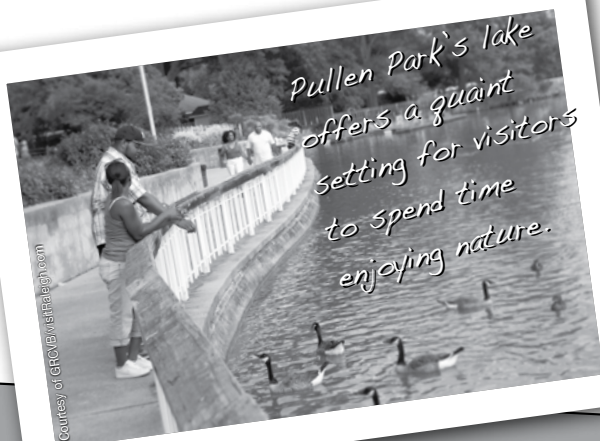
## CHAPEL HILL

### Allen & Son

6203 Millhouse Road, Chapel Hill; 919-942-7576

Cuisine: barbecue

If you're looking for hog heaven, you'll find it here. The best barbecue in the area and among the best in the state. No arguing allowed.



Thank you to Greg Hatem and Empire Eats Restaurants [www.empireeats.com](http://www.empireeats.com) for providing discount coupons to CAR conference attendees.

Gravy, 135 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, (919) 896-8513, [www.gravyraleigh.com](http://www.gravyraleigh.com)

Sitti, 137 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, (919) 239-4070, [www.sitti-raleigh.com](http://www.sitti-raleigh.com)

The Pit, 328 W. Davie St., Raleigh, (919) 890-4500, [www.thepit-raleigh.com](http://www.thepit-raleigh.com)

Morning Times, 10 E. Hargett St., Raleigh, (919) 836-1204, [www.morningtimes-raleigh.com](http://www.morningtimes-raleigh.com)

Raleigh Times, 14 E. Hargett St., Raleigh, (919) 833-0999, [www.raleightimesbar.com](http://www.raleightimesbar.com)

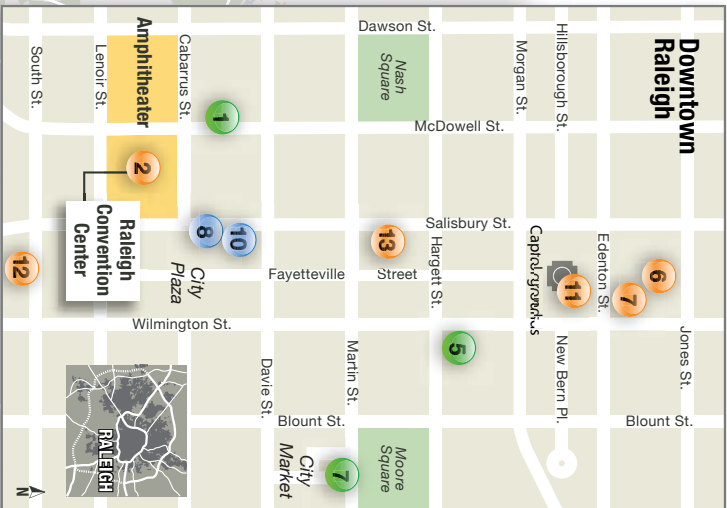
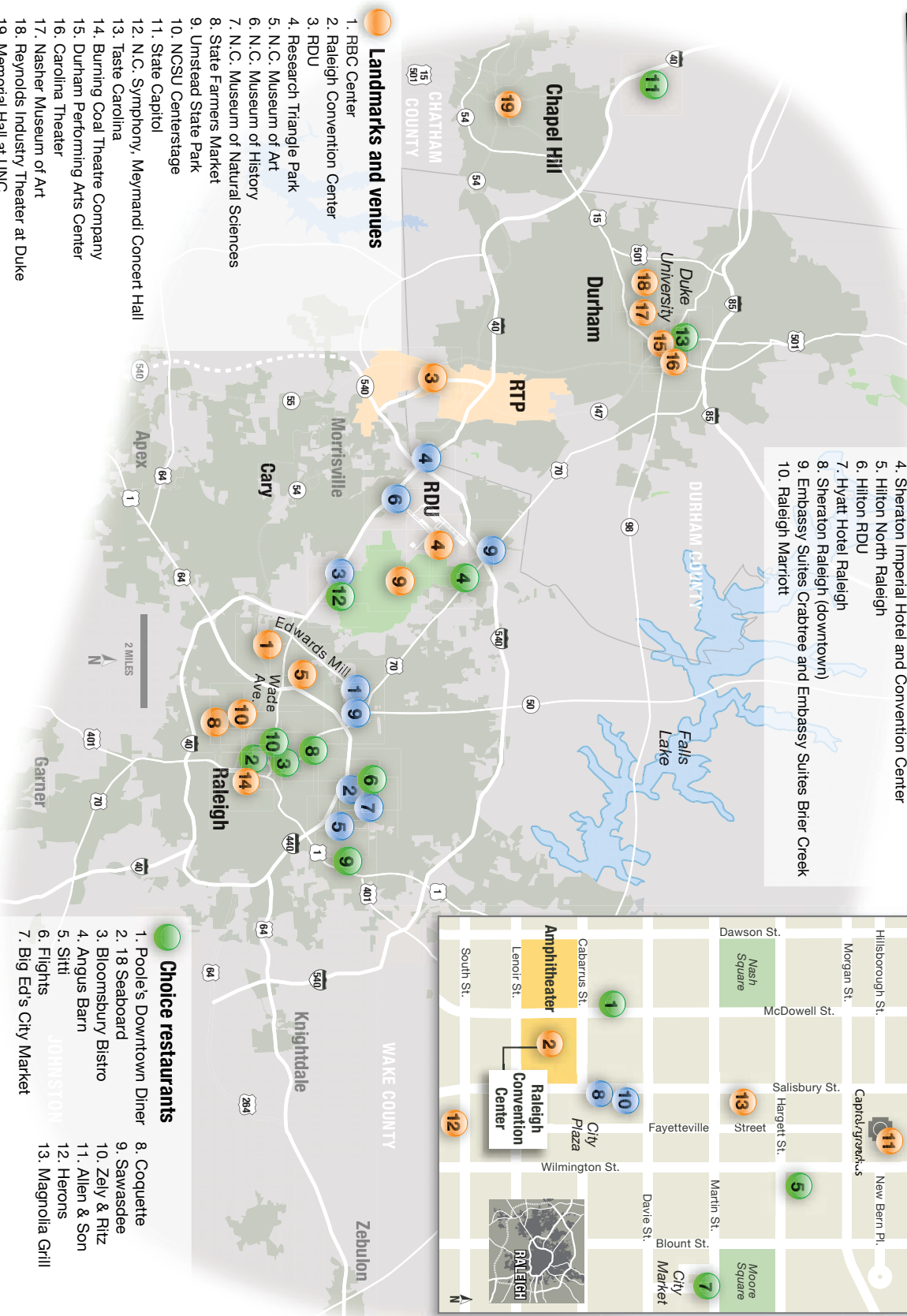
# AREA GUIDE

## Area hotels:

1. Crabtree Marriott
2. Renaissance at North Hills
3. The Umstead Hotel and Spa
4. Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center
5. Hilton North Raleigh
6. Hilton RDU
7. Hyatt Hotel Raleigh
8. Sheraton Raleigh (downtown)
9. Embassy Suites Crabtree and Embassy Suites Brer Creek
10. Raleigh Marriott

## Landmarks and venues

1. RBC Center
2. Raleigh Convention Center
3. RDU
4. Research Triangle Park
5. N.C. Museum of Art
6. N.C. Museum of History
7. N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences
8. State Farmers Market
9. Umstead State Park
10. NCSU Centerstage
11. State Capitol
12. N.C. Symphony, Meymandi Concert Hall
13. Taste Carolina
14. Burning Coal Theatre Company
15. Durham Performing Arts Center
16. Carolina Theater
17. Nasher Museum of Art
18. Reynolds Industry Theater at Duke
19. Memorial Hall at UNC



## Choice restaurants

1. Poole's Downtown Diner
2. 18 Seaboard
3. Bloomsbury Bistro
4. Angus Barrn
5. Sitti
6. Flights
7. Big Ed's City Market
8. Coquette
9. Sawasdee
10. Zely & Ritz
11. Allen & Son
12. Herons
13. Magnolia Grill



# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS

(Speakers were invited to include their Twitter handles if they use the social media service)

**STEVE AHILLEN** was named data editor at the *Knoxville (Tenn.) News Sentinel* in February 2010 after 29 years in the sports department – the last 20 as executive sports editor. Previous jobs included stints at the *Natchez (Miss.) Democrat*, the *Jackson (Tenn.) Sun* and the *Beaumont (Texas) Enterprise*. Ahillen graduated from the University of Missouri.

**PETER ALDHOUS** is San Francisco bureau chief with *New Scientist*, reporting on biology, medicine and the environment. He also teaches in the Science Writing Program at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Peter has used R for statistics and graphics while analyzing the dynamics of competition between stem cell scientists, and the relationship between consumer perceptions of corporate “greenness” and companies’ actual environmental impacts.

**BILL ALLISON** is the editorial director of the Sunlight Foundation’s reporting group (reporting.sunlightfoundation.com). 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 U.S. politics.

**JEREMY ASHKENAS** is the lead developer at DocumentCloud, working on tools for analyzing and publishing primary source documents online. He created the CoffeeScript programming language, the Ruby-Processing visualization toolkit, and is a two-time winner of the Sunlight Foundation’s Apps for America competition.

**LORETTA AUUVIL** works in the automated learning group at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications. She received a master’s in computer science from Virginia Tech and a bachelor’s in applied mathematics and computer science from Alderson-Broaddus College. She has worked with a diverse set of application drivers to integrate machine learning (data mining) and information visualization techniques to solve the needs of research partners. She has led software development and research projects for several years. (@lorettaauvil)

**TIMOTHY BARMANN** has been with *The Providence (R.I.) Journal* for 23 years, first as a photojournalist, then as a tech columnist and beat reporter covering technology, energy and utilities. He joined the staff of the newspaper’s website, *projo.com*, in 2009 as a programmer and producer, working on Web tools, mapping and database journalism projects. He received a bachelor’s degree in photojournalism from Kent State University and is a former Ohio Newspaper Photographer of the Year.

**HELENA BENGTSOON** is database editor for the News and Current Affairs Department at Sveriges Television, the national broadcasting company in Sweden. Since 1994, she has served as a researcher, assistant producer and projects editor with the company. During 2006 and 2007, she was a database editor at the Center for Public Integrity in Washington D.C. Her company website is [www.svt.se/nyheter](http://www.svt.se/nyheter). @HelenaBengtsson

**ROBERT BENINCASA** is the computer-assisted reporting producer for NPR News in Washington, D.C. His recent work includes data analyses of coal mine safety and nursing home populations. Prior to joining NPR in 2008, he was database editor at Gannett News Service, the Washington bureau for Gannett’s daily newspapers. Benincasa also serves on the faculty of Georgetown University’s master of professional studies program in journalism.

**SANJAY BHATT** is a reporter for *The Seattle Times*, currently covering banking and the economy in the Pacific Northwest. Last year he worked with ProPublica to investigate foreclosures in three metro areas and used Tableau to visualize a database. He’s received regional and national awards for his stories and multimedia reports. He’s former national vice president of the Association of Health Care Journalists and currently an advisory board member of the Asian American Journalists Association.

**JOHN BONES** is a senior staff reporter at *Verdens Gang*, Norway’s largest daily print newspaper and Norway’s largest online newspaper. For several years, Bones has been the computer-assisted reporting specialist at the newspaper and has earlier been news desk editor and political editor. He is educated in history, international politics, statistics and French.

**RICK BROOKS** is deputy editor of *The Wall Street Journal*’s Money & Investing section. His duties include overseeing coverage of 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.

**JON BUCHAN** represents newspapers, broadcasters and other journalists on defamation, privacy, and access issues. He has litigated access to court and court records disputes, as well as FOIA issues under federal and state statutes. In 2000, the North Carolina Press Association awarded him the William C. Lassiter First Amendment Award for his “tireless efforts to defend the First Amendment and to protect the public’s right to know.” He is a former political reporter and editor.

**GARANACE BURKE** is a California-based investigative reporter for The Associated Press, specializing in data-driven projects on government accountability on the regional investigative team. Her reporting has won honors from the Radio Television Digital News Association, the Society of Professional Journalists and Associated Press Managing Editors and has helped to spur government action in Washington and Sacramento. She has masters degrees in journalism and public policy from the University of California at Berkeley. (@garanceburke)

**JOHN BUSSIAN** is a lawyer, who serves the media industry exclusively in state and federal courts and in state legislatures. His principal clients are print and digital media businesses. John litigates libel, privacy, and records and meetings access issues, and defends journalists against forced disclosure of source material. He is national First Amendment counsel to Freedom Communications, Inc., which owns and operates 50 newspapers, network television affiliates, and related websites, First Amendment and legislative counsel to the North Carolina Press Association, and chairman of the Southern Newspaper Publishers’ Association’s First Amendment Committee.

**AARON BYCOFFE** is a developer at the Sunlight Foundation, where he works with the reporting group to make tools and datasets available for journalists to write stories. He also maintains the reporting group’s websites, including Reporting Group and Political Party Time. Before joining Sunlight, he worked as news database developer at *The Virginian-Pilot* in Norfolk, Va., and, as the database editor at the *Daily Press* in Newport News, Va. Previously he worked as a copy editor.

**RONALD CAMPBELL** is a reporter for *The Orange County Register*. He started *The Register*’s program in computer-assisted reporting and has worked on many investigations, including a probe of the trade in human body parts, abusive charitable fundraising tactics, fraudulent stock sales and California’s extraordinary dependence on immigrant labor. His work has won the Loeb, IRE and National Education Writers awards.

**DANIELLE CERVANTES** teaches CAR and investigative reporting at Point Loma Nazarene University, her alma mater. Until Feb. 2011, she was the CAR specialist and open records expert on the watchdog and investigations team at *The San Diego Union-Tribune*. Her recent work includes public compensation and pensions, stimulus spending, mortgage fraud and campaign finance and disclosures. Danielle has been a Livingston Award Finalist and earned national, state and local awards for FOI and investigative reporting. (@sddatadiva)

**REG CHUA** is the editor-in-chief of the *South China Morning Post*, a Hong Kong-based newspaper. Prior to joining the *Post* in July 2009, Reg was a deputy managing editor at *The Wall Street Journal* where he helped development of the *Journal*’s CAR capabilities and oversaw the paper’s graphics. He was the *Journal*’s correspondent in Manila, opened its bureau in Hanoi, and become the longest-serving editor of its Asian edition.

**WENDELL COCHRAN** is an associate professor at the American University School of Communication, where he teaches computer-assisted journalism and journalism ethics. He also is the founding senior editor of the school’s Investigative Reporting Workshop, where he oversees BankTracker. Previously, 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. He is a former IRE board member. (@wcochran)

**SARAH COHEN** is the Knight professor at Duke University. She worked as a database editor at *The Washington Post* for more than 10 years, where she shared in the Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting, the Goldsmith award and the IRE medal. She also has worked as a reporter in Florida and as IRE’s training director. She now researches new tools and techniques to apply to public affairs reporting and serves on IRE’s board of directors.

# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS

**MICHAEL COREY** is the digital innovations editor at the Center for Investigative Reporting in Berkeley, Calif. He specializes in interactive mapping, user interface design, and front-end development. Michael was formerly the digital projects editor at DesMoinesRegister.com, where his work received several national awards. (@mikejcorey)

**AMANDA COX** is a graphics editor at *The New York Times*. She joined the *Times* in 2005, after getting a master's degree in statistics at the University of Washington. (@amandacox)

**ROBERT CRIBB** is an award-winning investigative reporter at the *Toronto Star*. His investigations include reports on serious food safety problems, exploitation of foreign workers, illegal slaughterhouses, fraudulent telemarketing boiler rooms, dangerous doctors, decrepit rental housing, airline safety and government corruption. Cribb is past president of the Canadian Association of Journalists, current president of the CAJ Educational Foundation, a lecturer at Ryerson University's School of Journalism and co-author of "Digging Deeper: A Canadian Reporter's Research Guide" (Oxford University Press). He is a current IRE board member.

**KEVIN CROWE** is a computer-assisted reporting specialist for The Watchdog Institute at San Diego State University. He has worked on projects covering the whooping cough epidemic in California, municipal expenditures on lawsuits and air safety in and around San Diego. Prior to joining the institute, he worked for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, reporting on campaign finance, phantom real estate buyers and local government spending.

**ANDY CURLISS** is an investigative reporter at *The News & Observer* in Raleigh, N.C. He uses electronic records extensively, including in his recent reporting on former Gov. Mike Easley and previous work on former House Speaker Jim Black. Curliss was a finalist in 2010 for the Goldsmith Prize. He has won the North Carolina Press Association's award for public service in two of the past four years, and received the Associated Press's first Senator Sam J. Ervin award in 2001 for an investigation into secret actions by the Durham City Council.

**CHASE DAVIS** is a reporter focusing on money and politics for California Watch, a nonprofit investigative journalism organization that produces in-depth stories for media outlets around California. He also is a partner in the media-technology firm Hot Type Consulting. Chase previously worked at the *Des Moines Register* and the *Houston Chronicle* and is a graduate of the Missouri School of Journalism.

**ANTHONY DeBARROS** is senior database editor at *USA Today*, where he leads a team that mines data for stories. He recently analyzed complaints to NHTSA about vehicles, added e-book sales to *USA Today's* Best-Selling Books list, and helped develop data APIs. He's neck deep in the Census 2010 data release. Before joining *USA Today*, he worked at the *Poughkeepsie (N.Y.) Journal* and taught journalism at Marist College. Last year, he was part of a team awarded first place in the National Awards for Education Reporting by the Education Writers Association for a series on school lunch quality.

**LEN De GROOT** is the interactive design and data instructor for the Knight Digital Media Center at the U.C. Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism. He instructs mid-career journalists and graduate students on data and interactive tools. His tutorials appear on the KDMC web site and he is a frequent speaker and instructor at journalism conferences. Prior to that, he was an award-winning graphics director for the *Sun-Sentinel* newspaper, Web site and CW affiliate television news station in South Florida. He has worked nearly 20 years in news organizations as a graphics reporter and manager. (@lendegroot)

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

**DAVID DONALD** is data editor at The Center for Public Integrity, where he oversees computer-assisted reporting at the Washington-based investigative journalism nonprofit. His award-winning work there ranges from an investigation into the top sub-prime lenders behind the financial meltdown to the under reporting of campus rape. Previously, Donald served as training director for IRE and NICAR, and before that, oversaw CAR and research at the *Savannah Morning News* in Georgia. He has taught high school and college, including Savannah State University and the Washington bureau for Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism.

**SARAH DORSEY** is a computer-assisted reporter for the Sunlight Foundation. Before joining Sunlight, she was a radio reporter in the San Francisco Bay Area. Sarah earned her master's degree in journalism from American University, where she was a researcher for investigative journalist Charles Lewis. She holds a bachelor's degree in history from the University of California at Berkeley.

**JAIMI DOWDELL** joined IRE as training director in October 2008. Before that 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 to her work at the *Post-Dispatch*, she taught a CAR course for Washington University in St. Louis. (@JaimiDowdell)

**DAVID S. FALLIS** is a writer on *The Washington Post's* investigations unit. In 2002, he was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the Goldsmith Award for a report on shootings by police in Prince George's County. His 2004 investigation of deplorable conditions in Virginia's assisted-living facilities won the Heywood Broun Award. In 2008, his work investigating D.C.'s schools was awarded the Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism. He recently investigated the sources of crime guns.

**JASON FELCH** is an investigative reporter with the *Los Angeles Times*. His work has been honored by Education Writers Association, the National Association of Science Writers, the Society for Environmental Journalism and others. In 2006 he was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Investigative Reporting for exposing the role of the J. Paul Getty Museum and other American museums in the black market for looted antiquities. His first book, *Chasing Aphrodite: The Hunt for Looted Antiquities at the World's Richest Museum*, will be released in May 2011. Prior to joining the *Times* in 2004, Jason was a fellow at the Center for Investigative Reporting and a freelance writer for publications including *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Legal Affairs*, *San Francisco Magazine*, and the *Columbia Journalism Review*. (@jasonfelch)

**JACOB FENTON** is director of computer-assisted reporting at the Investigative Reporting Workshop, at American University. Previously, he was database editor at the *Morning Call* (Allentown, Pa.). He's also worked as a reporter at the *Intelligencer* (Doylestown, Pa.) and at the *Reporter* (Lansdale, Pa.) and as a software developer in Palo Alto, Calif.

**ELLIE FIELDS** is the director of product marketing at Tableau Public, which lets non-programmers visualize and publish data online. She is a lifelong data geek and is passionate about making information available in ways that people can actually use. Prior to Tableau, Ellie worked in product management at Microsoft and has also worked at a late-stage venture capital fund. Ellie is a graduate of Rice University and the Stanford Graduate School of Business and lives in Seattle.

**JENNIFER FORSYTH** is the Dallas bureau chief of *The Wall Street Journal*, in charge of the newspaper's coverage of the Southwest and its energy coverage worldwide. She oversaw the *Journal's* investigation of the Deepwater Horizon oil rig disaster in the Gulf of Mexico and more recently helped coordinate its coverage of the Tucson rampage shootings. Previously, she was the *Journal's* Law bureau chief, which included coordinating the newspaper's coverage of the Bernard Madoff scandal. Before joining the *Journal*, she was a reporter on the investigative team of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*.

**LAURA FRANK** is executive director of I-News: The Rocky Mountain Investigative News Network, a nonprofit news service, and a founding board member of the national Investigative News Network. She spent two decades at daily newspapers, radio and public television, most recently at the shuttered *Rocky Mountain News* (Denver, Colo.). Her reporting has won top awards in both print and broadcast, and helped release innocent people from prison, protect abused children and win aid for sick nuclear weapons workers.

# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS

**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.

**ROBERT GEBELOFF** joined *The New York Times* as a database projects editor in 2008, where he's worked extensively on projects involving demographics, 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 of Hackensack*.

**JOE GERMUSKA** is a news application developer for the *Chicago Tribune*, where he brings nearly 20 years of web development experience to a team which fosters innovation in investigation and publishing. Before coming to the *Tribune*, Joe led the software development team at an interactive marketing agency in Chicago. He began his career in Northwestern University's Instructional Technology Group. Joe is also a volunteer DJ at WNUR-FM and the sysadmin for LTHForum.com, a Chicago-based food discussion group. (@JoeGermuska)

**JACK GILLUM** is a database editor at *USA Today*, where he has worked on stories from tax dollars spent on college athletics to poorly performing nursing homes. He likes scraping the Web for data and delving into any CAR-driven project, but ultimately loves telling the human stories often missed in the numbers. Before coming to Washington, D.C., he was a reporter for the *Arizona Daily Star*.

**FRAN GILPIN** is a staff writer at *The Fayetteville Observer* in North Carolina. He covers business, government and nonprofits. He previously worked on the reporting staffs of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser* and *Tampa Tribune*. (@fo\_gilpin)

Way back in 1986, **RICH GORDON** assembled a pile of historical population data and didn't relish trying to make sense out of it with a pocket calculator. Lotus 1-2-3 changed his life – introducing him to computer-based analytical tools and leading him into a career spent at the intersection of journalism and technology. As a reporter and editor for newspapers in Virginia and Florida, he was one of the early leaders in computer-assisted reporting. That experience led to an interest in online publishing – and a job as the first online director for the *Miami Herald*. For the past 11 years, Rich has been on the faculty at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern, where he launched and has overseen the school's graduate program in interactive publishing. Most recently, he and three colleagues won a \$4.2 million grant from the Knight Foundation to set up the Knight News Innovation Laboratory at Northwestern. He also is a co-founder of Hacks/Hackers.

**DOUG HADDIX** joined IRE as training director in September 2008. He worked as projects editor at the *Columbus Dispatch* for 10 years. Previously, he worked as city editor in Scranton, Pa., and Danville, Ill and as a reporter for United Press International in Indianapolis and the Springfield (Ohio) News Sun. He earned a master's degree in journalism from Indiana University. (@DougHaddix)

**JAMES HAMILTON** is the Charles S. Sydnor Professor of Public Policy and director of the DeWitt Wallace Center for Media and Democracy at Duke University.

**THOMAS HARGROVE** is a national correspondent specializing in quantified research at Scripps Howard News Service. He co-founded the Scripps Survey Research Center at Ohio University. Hargrove's year-long probe "Saving Babies: Exposing Sudden Infant Death" won NICAR's 2008 Philip Meyer Award and prompted reform legislation by then-Sen. Barack Obama. A University of Tennessee research team led by former FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit program manager David Icovice in January began a review of Hargrove's methods identifying serial killers among FBI homicide files.

**JACOB HARRIS** is a senior software architect at *The New York Times* and one of the founding members of the Interactive newsroom technologies team there. He builds newsroom tools with Ruby on Rails, although he has earned the occasional byline. (@harrisj)

**ALEX HAUPTMANN's** research has combined man-machine communication, natural language processing, speech understanding, and video analysis. Currently, he leads the Informedia project for digital video analysis and retrieval. He received a B.A. and M.A. in Psychology from Johns Hopkins University, a 'Diplom' in computer science at the Technische Universität Berlin in 1984, and a Ph.D. in computer science from Carnegie Mellon University. He holds faculty appointments in computer science and the Language Technologies Institute at CMU.

**JEFFREY HEER** is an assistant professor of computer science at Stanford University, where he works on human-computer interaction, visualization, and social computing. He has also helped lead the design of the Prefuse, Flare, and Protovis visualization toolkits, in use by researchers, corporations, and thousands of data enthusiasts. Heer holds B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in computer science from the University of California at Berkeley and in 2009 was named to MIT Technology Review's TR35.

**JEANNE HOLM**, the evangelist for Data.Gov, leads collaboration with educators, developers, and international and state governments in using open government data. She is the chief knowledge architect at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, driving innovation through social media, virtual worlds, gaming, ontologies, and collaborative systems, including the NASA ([www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)) portal. She is a fellow of the United Nations International Academy of Astronautics and instructor at UCLA, with 120 publications on information systems, knowledge management, and innovation.

**MARK HORVIT** became IRE's executive director in January 2008. A longtime IRE member, Horvit most recently served as projects editor at the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. His journalism career includes reporting and editing duties at newspapers in Texas, North Carolina, Missouri and Florida. Horvit also is an associate professor at the Missouri School of Journalism, where he teaches the investigative reporting course.

**BRANT HOUSTON** is Knight Chair in Investigative Reporting at the University of Illinois, where he teaches, works on investigative projects, and finds and encourages the use of new digital and analytical tools in newsrooms. He is chair of the Investigative News Network, a consortium of more than 50 nonprofit newsrooms producing investigative work and is former executive director of IRE and NICAR. He coordinates a community journalism project, CU-CitizenAccess.org, and also is author of "Computer-Assisted Reporting: A Practical Guide" and co-author of "The Investigative Reporter's Handbook." Before entering the nonprofit world, he was an award-winning investigative reporter for 17 years.

**BURT HUBBARD** is the editorial director of I-News, a nonprofit center for in-depth, investigative news, where he specializes in computer-assisted reporting. He worked at the *Rocky Mountain News* (Denver, Colo.) for 25 years until it closed and for the *Denver Post* before he joined I-News. He also teaches investigative journalism at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

**DAVID HUYNH** performs advanced research and development in the Metaweb team with a strong focus on user interfaces for graph-structured and entity-centric data. Earlier, David was the research scientist on user interface research at Metaweb Technologies, Inc., which was acquired by Google in 2010. At Metaweb, he created Freebase Gridworks – now Google Refine – and Freebase Parallax. David earned a bachelor's degree in computer engineering at the University of Waterloo, and a master's and a Ph.D. degree in computer science at MIT. During his graduate work, he created several open source projects including Simile Timeline and Simile Exhibit, which are being widely used. (@dfhuynh)

**PANOS IPEIROTIS** is an associate professor at the Department of Information, Operations, and Management Sciences at Leonard N. Stern School of Business of New York University. His recent research interests focus on crowdsourcing and on mining user-generated content on the Internet. He received his Ph.D. degree in computer science from Columbia University in 2004, with distinction. He has received two "Best Paper" awards (IEEE ICDE 2005, ACM SIGMOD 2006), two "Best Paper Runner Up" awards (JCDL 2002, ACM KDD 2008), and is also a recipient of a CAREER award from the National Science Foundation. (@ipeirotis)

**COULTER JONES** is a senior information specialist for IRE/NICAR, helps run the database library and updates [ire.org](http://ire.org). He worked for three years at newspapers in Pennsylvania and is a graduate of the Missouri School of Journalism.

# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS

**DAVID KARGER** has been a professor of computer science at MIT for 15 years. His research focuses on tools that make it easier for people to create, find, organize, manipulate, and share information. Karger has received the ACM Doctoral Dissertation Award, the Tucker Prize, and the National Academy of Science Award for Initiatives in Research.

**JACQUELINE KAZIL** crafts data-driven web applications for all desks, with a focus on investigative and sports, at *The Washington Post*. Before her Python and Linux days, she was a photojournalist. In her spare time, she is working towards a degree in computational social science with a focus in social network analysis. She has some awards, but she has never seen them. (@jackiekazil)

**DAN KEATING** joined *The Washington Post* in 1999 after working for 11 years at *The Miami Herald*. Keating was part of a team that won the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting in 1999 for work on vote fraud in a mayoral election in Miami. He worked on a story about abuse of police overtime that was a finalist for the Pulitzer in Investigative Reporting in 1998. After four years in Key West that included reporting from Cuba, Keating specialized in computer-assisted reporting in 1993. He co-led a media consortium that recounted the ballots from the 2000 presidential election in Florida. He now crunches data for *Post's* paper and interactive graphics. His most recent projects have been on conflicts of interest between Congress-people's duties and personal assets, mortgages and real estate, DC government spending without contracts, DC schools paying millions to send children to private schools and DC school problems. Keating worked four years at *The Berkshire Eagle*.

**ELIZA KERN** is a junior at UNC Chapel Hill, where she is a Morehead-Cain Scholar and senior writer for the award-winning *Daily Tar Heel*. She was part of the team that took first place for best higher-ed reporting in North Carolina in 2010, winning the Duke University Green-Rossiter award. A political junkie, she spent last summer independently blogging about a Congressional race in New Hampshire. (@elizakern)

**AARON KESSLER** covers the real estate meltdown for the *Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Tribune*. His investigation of contaminated Chinese drywall prompted Congressional action and a deluge of lawsuits over the defective building product. He previously covered state government for *The (Charlottesville, Va.) Daily Progress* and *The Joplin (Mo.) Globe* and has worked on freelance investigative projects for *The Kansas City Star* and the *Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch*. He also served as deputy director of the Virginia Public Access Project.

**SCOTT KLEIN** is the editor of news applications at ProPublica. He directs a team of programmer-journalists doing interactive data reporting and development, multimedia production, and mobile app development. He is also a co-founder of DocumentCloud, a 2009 Knight News Challenge winner, which helps journalists and the public get the most out of primary source documents.

**JENNIFER LAFLEUR** is director of computer-assisted reporting for ProPublica, a public interest investigative newsroom in New York. She formerly was the CAR editor for the *Dallas Morning News*, where she worked on the *News'* investigative team. She has held similar positions at the *San Jose 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.

**JEFF LARSON** is a news applications developer at ProPublica where he has developed various news applications including the Unemployment Insurance Tracker, the Transparency Tracker and most recently the Stimulus Speed Chart. He maintains ProPublica's open source projects, among other projects. Before joining ProPublica he was online director at *The Nation*.

**DANIEL LATHROP** is the news applications editor on the projects team of the *Dallas Morning News*, where he focuses on developing cutting-edge Web experiences based on data and news. He is a winner of many awards for investigative reporting including the Edgar A. Poe Award from the White House Correspondents Association. He previously worked at the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, the Center for Public Integrity, the *Daytona Beach News-Journal* and *The Tribune of Ames, Iowa*.

**ANDY LEHREN**, a *New York Times* reporter, has covered WikiLeaks, the Gulf oil spill, the Afghanistan and Iraq wars, Hurricane Katrina and numerous other national stories. 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, Murrow, IRE and Emmy awards. He teaches investigative reporting at CUNY's graduate school and once ran the IRE/NICAR Database Library.

**CHARLES LEWIS** is a tenured professor and the founding executive editor of the Investigative Reporting Workshop at the American University School of Communication in Washington, D.C. He is the founder of the award-winning Center for Public Integrity including its International Consortium of Investigative Journalists as well as other nonprofit organizations. A bestselling author and former producer for ABC News and CBS News "60 Minutes", Lewis was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship in 1998.

**DARNELL LITTLE** is an associate professor of database journalism at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. Previously, he was a computer-assisted reporter for the *Chicago Tribune*, primarily focused on urban affairs issues like demographics, education and criminal justice. Prior to working at the *Tribune*, Little was a technology correspondent for *BusinessWeek* covering e-commerce across the Midwest. Before entering journalism, he was a software developer for AT&T Bell Labs.

**TRACY LOEW** is the database/projects reporter at the *Statesman Journal* in Salem, Ore., which serves Oregon's capital and the Mid-Willamette Valley with a circulation of about 46,000. She also is the Oregon correspondent for *USA Today*. Loew has been in Salem since 1999 and has won numerous state and regional journalism awards. Her most recent project, WESD's Web of Deals, examined cozy relationships among a regional education service agency, its board members, administrators and contractors, and state education department officials. (@SJWatchdog)

**ANDREW LONG** is the founder of Longcreative, a technical services company specializing in web development and news applications for media companies and non-profit journalism organizations. Before starting Longcreative, Andrew was an award-winning news artist for the *Arizona Republic*. Andrew is also an associate faculty member at the Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University. Last year, Andrew started JournalismGIS.com as a way to help teach GIS techniques to journalists. (@longcreative) (@journGIS)

**SYDNEY LUPKIN** has been ProPublica's CAR intern since September 2010. She has worked on ProPublica's Recovery Tracker and its analysis of BP's OSHA records, where she came across a hole in the way OSHA tracks contractor deaths. She interned on the *Boston Globe's* metro desk last summer after graduating from Boston University, where she was editor-in-chief of BU's independent student newspaper, the *Daily Free Press*. She has been a city desk editorial assistant at the *Boston Herald*, a reporting intern at the New England Center for Investigative Reporting, a reporter and web intern at television station WCVB-TV in Boston, and a reporter for BU's State House program, where she led a team project – published in several newspapers – on the expected impact of joblessness on state legislative races.

**ADAM MARCUS** is a Ph.D. candidate in computer science at MIT. His work ties traditional database systems to social streams such as Twitter and human computation platforms such as Mechanical Turk. Most recently, he has built TwitInfo, a timeline-based visualization that summarizes events as they are discussed on Twitter, Qurk, a database that optimizes Mechanical Turk workflows, and DataPress, a WordPress plugin that allows bloggers to blog data and visualizations.

**AMANDA MARTIN** In her role as general counsel to the North Carolina Press Association, Amanda Martin counsels reporters and editors at more than 200 newspapers about a wide array of topics, including resisting subpoenas, avoiding libel suits, complying with advertising regulations, and gaining access to closed government meetings and records. She also handles trademark, copyright and other intellectual property matters, and represents clients concerning internet issues.

**JUSTIN MAYO** has been a reporter with *The Seattle Times'* investigative team for 12 years. He specializes in database and spatial analysis covering a variety of issues, including criminal justice, demographics, elections, and education. Prior to *The Times*, he was the database administrator at the National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting in Columbia, MO. Mayo received an M.A. in journalism from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1998 and a B.A. in International Studies from the University of Washington in 1992.

**JO CRAVEN MCGINTY** is a projects editor for CAR at *The New York Times*. She has been a reporter for *Newsday*, an academic adviser to IRE and NICAR and she taught CAR at the Missouri School of Journalism. She is author of an IRE beat book, "Home Mortgage Lending: How to Detect Disparities," and won the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for public service with a team of reporters from *The Washington Post* for its series about the use of deadly force by police. She has been an editor and reporter at *The (Burlington, N.C.) Times-News*, *The Durham (N.C.) Sun*, *The (Durham, N.C.) Herald-Sun* and *The Raleigh (N.C.) Extra*.

# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS

**TOM MCGINTY** is an investigative reporter for *The Wall Street Journal* who specializes in computer-assisted reporting. He previously was a reporter for *Newsday*, in Long Island, New York, and the training director for IRE and NICAR.

**DAVID MCKIE** is an award-winning journalist with CBC News who depends on access-to-information and computer-assisted reporting for his stories that appear on radio, television and online. His past stories include investigations into drug, food and workplace safety, the Toyota recall and marriages of convenience among recent immigrants. In 2008, he was part of a team that won the Michener Award for its coverage of Taser use by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Working out of the Parliamentary bureau in Ottawa, David is now part of the network's political coverage. When not researching and filing stories, he teaches journalism part-time at Carleton University, Algonquin College, and the University of King's College. David has also co-authored two journalism textbooks.

**RYAN MCNEILL** has been computer-assisted reporting editor at *The Dallas Morning News* since 2008. He was most recently involved in an investigation of a land deal involving Gov. Rick Perry, as well as oversight of the Texas Emerging Technology Fund. He has also testified multiple times before the Texas Legislature on access to public information. McNeill was previously at the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* and *The Oklahoman* (Oklahoma City, Okla.). He is a graduate of Oklahoma State University.

**TED MELLNIK** is the 2011 Knight Wallace Fellow in Investigative Journalism at the University of Michigan. He is database editor at *The Charlotte (N.C.) Observer*.

**PHILIP MEYER** began his newspaper career in 1944 as a substitute carrier for *The Clay Center (Kan.) Dispatch*. He served in the Navy, worked for *The Topeka (Kan.) Capital-Journal* and then studied and taught political science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He's author of "Precision Journalism: A Reporter's Introduction to Social Science Methods." After 23 years with Knight Ridder, he returned to Chapel Hill in 1981. He retired as Knight Professor in 2008.

**AMANDA MICHEL** is the director of engagement at ProPublica, a nonprofit investigative newsroom located in Manhattan. ProPublica's crowdsourcing projects were recently honored with a Knight-Batten Special Distinction Award. Michel also directed Huffington Post's OffTheBus, a ground-breaking citizen journalism site. Michel got her start working on campaigns. She directed Howard Dean's youth organizing effort Generation Dean and belonged to John Kerry's Internet team. With colleagues she founded the New Organizing Institute in Washington, DC.

Stamen partner **MICHAL MIGURSKI** has overseen the research and development of Stamen's technology work since 2003, from running delivered code to prototypes and experiments to far-left-field disruption. He's responsible for numerous experimental projects including Crimespotting.org, Walkingpapers.org, Thistract.com. (@michalmigurski)

**JIM MILLER** covers the state Capitol for *The Press-Enterprise*, a newspaper based in Riverside, Calif. He has been a newspaper reporter since 1992 and has spent the past decade writing about state government and politics. A 2000 boot camp got him interested in computer-assisted reporting and he later earned an associates degree in GIS. He is a graduate of the University of California-Davis. (@jimmler2)

**MICHELLE MINKOFF**, data producer for PBS Interactive, creates data-driven web applications and visualizations for news designed to bring data to life and capitalize on the web's interactive nature. Previously, she was an intern at the *Los Angeles Times'* data desk, where she developed web projects across beats, including investigative work. She's a 2010 graduate of Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism.

**TESSA MUGGERIDGE** is graduating from Arizona State University's Cronkite School. During college, while working on her undergraduate and graduate degrees, she worked as the editor of the school's daily newspaper and magazine, reported on transportation safety for News21 and did two stints reporting at *The Arizona Republic* while spending summers repairing homes on Indian reservations for a nonprofit. She is looking for a reporting job and hopes to pursue investigative reporting.

**RICHARD MULLINS** is defense database manager for *Aviation Week*, Washington bureau. Previously, he was assistant database editor at the Center for Public Integrity. He was assistant professor at the Missouri School of Journalism, and academic advisor for NICAR.

**MAGGIE MULVIHILL** is the co-founder and co-director of the New England Center for Investigative Reporting. A former media lawyer, Mulvihill is an award-winning journalist with over 20 years' experience in print and broadcast reporting. A 2005 Nieman Fellow, she has worked at the Reporter's Committee for Freedom of the Press and taught journalism at Harvard University. Mulvihill serves on the New England First Amendment Coalition's board and is on the journalism faculty at Boston University.

**ANUPAMA NARAYANSWAMY** is an investigative reporter for the Sunlight Foundation reporting group. Before joining the Sunlight Foundation, she was a researcher with the Center for Public Integrity and also has worked with IRE as a graduate student.

**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 Blackwater and the V-22 airplane.

**MARK NEWTON** is a graduate journalism student at Virginia Commonwealth University. He graduated in 2006 from an information technology center at Deep Run High School and in 2010 from Christopher Newport University, studying journalism and literature. There, he was the arts and entertainment editor for the student newspaper for two years and a member of the President's Leadership Program. He was also a features intern at the *Daily Press*.

**DAN NGUYEN** is a news application developer at ProPublica. He was lead developer on several of ProPublica's largest news applications, including the Bailout Tracker, (Stimulus) Recovery Tracker, and Dollars for Docs. Previously, Dan worked as a reporter, Web developer and multimedia producer for the *Sacramento Bee* and sacbee.com. (@dancow)

**LISE OLSEN** is a member of the investigative team at the *Houston Chronicle* and an IRE board member. She has twice been named Texas reporter of the year. Her stories have changed state laws, exposed federal judicial corruption, freed prisoners and prompted a U.S. Supreme Court case. A computer-assisted reporting specialist, she was among the graduates of NICAR's first advanced boot camp. From 1996-1998, she served as founding director of the two-year project IRE-Mexico, which later became an independent nonprofit.

**PAUL OVERBERG** is a database editor at *USA Today* and member of its data team. He helps to shape its demographic coverage with data analysis, mapping and stories. He has conducted demographic workshops for journalists on behalf of IRE, ASNE, SPJ and other organizations. He also works with *USA Today* journalists on a range of other topics from idea to research to analysis to presentation. He had earlier been a science and environmental reporter and editor at Gannett News Service in Washington and a reporter and editor at *The Courier-News* in Bridgewater, N.J. (@poverberg)

**GRIFF PALMER** is a member of *The New York Times'* six-person computer-assisted reporting team, a position he has held for five years. Before coming to the *Times* he spent six years as database editor at *The San Jose Mercury News*. He spent 19 years at *The Oklahoman* in Oklahoma City, where he ushered the newspaper into the CAR era, becoming its first database editor in 1993.

**JOHN PERRY** recently moved to *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* as a computer-assisted reporting specialist on the investigative team. He was a senior fellow at the Center for Public Integrity, where he worked on projects including "City Adrift: New Orleans Before and After Katrina," "Political Consultants: The Price of Democracy," and "Windfalls of War II: Baghdad Bonanza." Before that, he worked 16 years at *The Oklahoman* in Oklahoma City, most recently as database editor.

**CHERYL PHILLIPS** is the data enterprise editor at *The Seattle Times*, where she has worked since 2002. She supervises computer-assisted reporting enterprise along with production of interactive data features. Previously, she was deputy investigations editor and an investigative reporter at the paper. She was one of the editors involved in breaking news coverage in 2009 of the shooting of four police officers, which received a Pulitzer Prize last year. Phillips has also twice been a member of reporting teams that were finalists for a Pulitzer. She is chairman of the IRE board of directors.

# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS

**ARON PILHOFER** is editor of interactive news technologies at *The New York Times*, overseeing a team of journalist/developers who build dynamic, data-driven applications to enhance online reporting. He is co-founder of DocumentCloud, a Knight Foundation-funded website and Web service designed to make primary source documents easier to publish, find and share. Previously, he was database editor at the Center for Public Integrity in Washington, D.C.

**DAVID RAYNOR** is news research database editor at *The News & Observer* (Raleigh, N.C.), which puts him in the middle of many of our major projects. Raynor works with reporters in acquiring, maintaining and analyzing data. Raynor joined *The N&O* in 1992. He has worked on several award-winning projects, including series about lax enforcement of speeding laws; the failures of state mental health reforms; and the failures of the state's probation system.

**PHILLIP REESE** is the database reporting specialist for the *Sacramento Bee*, a position he has held for six years. He previously did the same job for three years at the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. He started his journalism career a dozen years ago at the *News & Record* in Greensboro, N.C. He is a graduate of North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

**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* and served as training director for IRE and NICAR. He also taught at Columbia and Rutgers universities. Reisner's current interest concerns the ways journalists cover ethnicity, religion, gender issues and unconventional life styles. His Liberty City Link project at FIU has student journalists covering one of Miami's most troubled communities for a South Florida weekly serving the black community.

**ALEX RICHARDS** is a reporter for *The Chronicle of Higher Education* in Washington, D.C. He was the *Las Vegas Sun's* database reporter until June 2010, where he was a lead reporter for the *Sun's* "Do No Harm" series on hospital care in the Las Vegas valley, and also part of the team that created "Quenching Las Vegas' Thirst," a multimedia interactive that garnered accolades from APME, *Editor & Publisher* and ONA. Alex worked as a data analyst for IRE and NICAR while a student at the Missouri School of Journalism.

**JILL RIEPENHOFF**, an investigative projects reporter, joined *The Columbus Dispatch* in 1985. She and her colleagues have won dozens of state and national awards for their work on Ohio's foreclosure woes, the state's flawed teacher-discipline system, state laws aimed at cracking down on illegal immigration, youth sports, and abuses of a federal student privacy law by college athletics' departments.

**JANET ROBERTS** has been a member of the computer-assisted reporting team at *The New York Times* since 2005. Among other topics, her projects have focused on police enforcement, criminal sentencing, wrongful conviction, judicial elections, foreclosure and pharmaceutical marketing. Before joining *The Times*, Janet oversaw computer-assisted reporting at the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* in Minnesota and before that, at the *Wilmington* (N.C.) *Star-News*.

**MARTIN ROSENBAUM** is an executive producer in the BBC's political programmes department in London and a leading specialist in using the UK's Freedom of Information Act for investigative journalism. He has fought numerous successful battles with public authorities to obtain records, from environmental and safety data to cabinet papers. He has addressed conferences internationally about access to information in the UK. (@rosenbaum6)

**CHRIS ROUSH**, the Walter E. Hussman Sr. Distinguished Scholar in business journalism at UNC-Chapel Hill, was named the Journalism Teacher of the Year for 2009 by the Scripps Howard Foundation and the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, as well as the N.C. Professor of the Year in 2010 by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. A former business reporter for *BusinessWeek* and *Bloomberg News*, he has also taught business journalism at Washington & Lee University and the University of Richmond. Roush posts actively on his Talking Biz News blog on news in the world of business journalism.

**KEN SCHWENCKE** is a programmer, journalist and general-purpose nerd at the *Los Angeles Times*. He works on projects across the spectrum, from The Homicide Report to value-added teacher evaluations, from maps of marijuana dispensaries to NHTSA vehicle complaints. (@schwanksta)

**REBECCA SHAPLEY** is the product manager for Google Fusion Tables, a web application and API for data management, collaboration and visualization. She has a masters in Information Management from the U.C. Berkeley iSchool where she focused on user experience and how technology serves people. Her passion for data management started in her former career as an ecologist collecting specimens in remote reaches of the world. She has co-authored 15 papers and written for *New Scientist*. (@googleleft)

**DAVID B. SMALLMAN** is the managing member of Smallman Law PLLC, a Manhattan-based boutique firm that specializes in media, entertainment, and intellectual property law, and provides global insurance/risk management advice. The firm is longstanding outside general counsel to Investigative Reporters and Editors, Inc. (IRE) and David is contributing legal editor of *The IRE Journal*. Among other clients, Smallman Law PLLC represents documentary filmmaker Laura Poitras (THE OATH) and former CIA officer Valerie Plame Wilson (FAIR GAME), and is a member of the Media Law Resource Center (Defense Counsel Section) and Online Media Legal Network.

**DOUG SMITH** is database editor at the *Los Angeles Times*. In 40 years at the *Times*, he has covered sports, police, courts, schools, politics, local government, disasters and war in Iraq. He wrote the main story for the *Times'* Pulitzer-winning coverage of the North Hollywood shootout. He first used census data in the early 1990s to profile areas within the city of Los Angeles.

**SEAN SPOSITO** covers payment cards and networks at American Banker in Manhattan. Most recently, he was a yearlong intern at *The Star-Ledger*, where he covered residential and commercial real estate and worked on computer-assisted reporting projects. His work has appeared in the *Boston Globe*, *The Record*, in Bergen County, N.J., and the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*. He is also a former data analyst at NICAR.

**JOHN STASKO** is a professor in the School of Interactive Computing at Georgia Tech where he has been on the faculty since 1989. He is director of the Information Interfaces Research Group and is a widely published world expert on information visualization and visual analytics, recently chairing the lead academic conferences for these areas. Stasko is the creator of the Jigsaw visual analytics system for exploring and understanding large text document collections.

**HUGH STEVENS** is a nationally known media lawyer. For more than 20 years he served as general counsel to the North Carolina Press Association, which designated him as "counsel emeritus" upon his retirement in 2002 and honored him in 2003 with its W. C. Lassiter Award in recognition of his zealous defense of the First Amendment. In 2006 he became only the second lawyer elected to the North Carolina Journalism Hall of Fame. Hugh received his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina in 1965 and his J.D. from the UNC School of Law in 1968.

**MATT STILES** is a reporter and data applications editor at The Texas Tribune, a nonprofit news organization in Austin. He covers government and politics and oversees the Tribune's library of web applications and interactives. He previously worked at the *Houston Chronicle* and *The Dallas Morning News*.

**PAT STITH** was an investigative reporter for 35 years prior to his retirement in October 2008 from *The News & Observer* in Raleigh, N.C. He is a former IRE board member and chaired IRE's first national conference on computer assisted reporting in Raleigh in 1993. Stith won a Pulitzer Prize in 1996 and is a member of the North Carolina Journalism Hall of Fame. He works full time now as a consultant to a law firm.

**JONATHAN STRAY** worked as a computer scientist before turning to journalism, and has graduate degrees in both fields. He developed graphics software for Adobe for almost a decade, then moved to Hong Kong to work as a freelance reporter. His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Foreign Policy*, and *Wired*. He has been the Interactive Technology editor at the Associated Press since 2010.

# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS

**MAURICE TAMMAN** is a database editor and reporter with *The Wall Street Journal*. Before that he was online editor and investigative reporter with the *Sarasota (Fla.) Herald Tribune*. Recent work includes a series of stories titled "Secrets of the System" that examined fraud and abuse in the Medicare system using an unprecedented sample of claims data. Previously, he examined home-lending, banking and the financial crisis. Before joining *The Wall Street Journal*, he dissected the disputed District 13 congressional race with an analysis of every electronic ballot cast. He also has extensive experience analyzing property rolls and real estate transaction records. He also developed the IBISEYE.com hurricane tracking website. Previously, he was database reporter on *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution's* special projects team, and he worked for *Florida Today* in Melbourne, Fla., and the *Courier-Post* in Cherry Hill, N.J.

**JULIE TATE** has worked as a researcher at *The Washington Post* since 2002. She specializes in national security, defense and intelligence issues.

**TROY THIBODEAUX** is editor for newsroom innovation for the Associated Press. His primary interest is the intersection of technology and journalism: finding new ways to tell important stories. Based in New Orleans, Troy works with reporters and multimedia producers throughout the AP to develop data-driven stories and interactive applications.

**RYAN THORNBURG** teaches online news writing and editing at the University of North Carolina and the author *Producing Online News*, published in 2010. He also specializes in democracy and digital media, citizen journalism, and online writing/editing as a senior trainer for Webbmedia Group. Ryan has extensive experience training journalists and others in the U.S. as well as Argentina, Canada, China and Egypt. Ryan spent 10 years in online newsrooms including *The Washington Post*, *U.S. News & World Report* and *Congressional Quarterly*. Today, Ryan continues to consult, teach, write about and practice online journalism. At UNC, he is working on ways to collaborate with students and professional journalists to develop new editorial products and topical audience research. He received his master's degree in political management from The George Washington University in 2002, his bachelor's degree in journalism and mass communication from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1997.

**SCOTT THURM** is a senior editor for online journalism and investigations at *The Wall Street Journal's* wsj.com. In 2010, he helped direct the *Journal's* "What They Know" series on digital privacy. Thurm joined the *Journal* in 1998 as a reporter in San Francisco, and later held several editing posts. Thurm previously worked at the *San Jose Mercury News* and the *Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal*, among others. He won a 1997 Gerald Loeb Award for coverage of Silicon Valley, and shared a 1989 Pulitzer Prize for coverage of a fatal bus accident.

**MC NELLY TORRES** is an award-winning journalist and the associate director of Florida Center for Investigative Reporting. Previously, she was the stimulus team leader for EdMoney.org, a project of the Education Writers Association. Torres was a consumer writer for the *Sun-Sentinel* in Fort Lauderdale. Her consumer watchdog stories have won state, regional and national awards. Her work at the *San Antonio Express-News* contributed to the conviction of a school building architect. She was elected to the IRE board of directors in 2008.

**SERDAR TUMGOREN** is an ink-stained reporter turned data geek. The hunt for stories in government documents and databases led him into the world of programming and open-source software. When he's not busy enlisting converts to Python and Linux, he builds data-driven web applications for the national/politics desk at *The Washington Post*.

**JAMES TURK** is a developer and open source coordinator for Sunlight Labs (sunlightlabs.com). He is currently leading the Open State Project, an effort to scrape and standardize legislative information from all 50 states. He earned his Bachelor of Science in computer science from the Rochester Institute of Technology in 2008. (@jamesturk)

**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 2002-03 John S. Knight Fellow at Stanford University. Her awards include honors from the AP and Associated Press Managing Editors, and the Columbia University School of Journalism, as well as the 2007 APSE award and the 2007 Iris Molotsky Award.

**MATT WAITE** is an incoming professor of journalism at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and co-founder of Hot Type Consulting LLC. From 2007-2011, he was a hybrid programmer/journalist for the *St. Petersburg Times* where he developed the Pulitzer Prize winning PolitiFact. Before that, he co-authored a series of award-winning stories about Florida's vanishing wetlands, later expanded into a book, *"Paving Paradise: Florida's Vanishing Wetlands and the Failure of No Net Loss,"* published in 2009.

**STUART WATSON** is an investigative reporter at WCNC-TV, the Belo owned station and NBC affiliate in Charlotte, NC. Stuart is the winner of numerous national awards for investigative reporting including the George Foster Peabody Award (three times), the DuPont Columbia Silver Baton (twice) and the IRE Award (twice). He served two terms as an IRE board member and in 2007-08 received a Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University.

**MARTIN WATTENBERG** has been creating web-based visualizations of data since 1996. He is a co-leader, with Fernanda Viégas, of Google's "Big Picture" data visualization group. Past work includes "TimeFlow," a timeline tool for reporters; "Many Eyes," a public data visualization site; and the "Map of the Market" for SmartMoney.com. Wattenberg is also known for artistic data visualization projects, and he holds a Ph.D. in mathematics from U.C. Berkeley.

**MARYJO WEBSTER** has been the computer-assisted reporting editor at the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for six years. Her job includes a combination of solo reporting, teaming up with reporters on in-depth stories, training in CAR skills, managing an intranet and building and maintaining searchable databases for the paper's public data portal, Data Planet. She is also currently teaching a database reporting class at the University of Minnesota journalism school. Prior jobs include: sports database editor at *USA Today*; database editor at the Center for Public Integrity; database library administrator for IRE and NICAR; and various reporting and editing positions at small newspapers in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

**BEN WELSH** builds news applications at the *Los Angeles Times*. He is from Swisher, Iowa. He blogs at palewire.com.

**JENNIFER WHEELER** is a data journalist and daytime assignment editor for the Daily Illini at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She won IRE's student computer-assisted reporting contest for "Petty parking: big business," which revealed that the university and local cities have failed to collect hundreds of thousands of dollars in parking tickets in the campus area. She will graduate from the university this May.

**MARGOT WILLIAMS** is a database editor at NPR in Washington, D.C. Previously she was database research editor at *The New York Times*, research editor at *The Washington Post* and library director at the *Poughkeepsie (N.Y.) Journal*. She has been searching online for 30 years. Williams is the co-author (with Nora Paul) of *"Great Scouts! Cyberguides for Subject Searching on the Web."*

**DEREK WILLIS** helps build data-driven interactive web applications and APIs for *The New York Times*, with a focus on governmental and political information. Along with his colleague, Andrei Scheinkman, he shared a 2009 Knight-Batten Award for innovation for the *Times'* Represent application. Willis previously worked at washingtonpost.com, *The Washington Post*, the Center for Public Integrity, *Congressional Quarterly* and *The Palm Beach (Fla.) Post*.

**MATT WYNN** is a watchdog reporter and django developer at the *Omaha World-Herald*. Before joining the Herald, he was a data reporter for *The Arizona Republic*, where he partnered with reporters on data-driven stories and built interactive web experiences. He also taught Precision Journalism at Arizona State University. If you want to see him get geeky, ask him about baseball, public records laws or his kids.

# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE PANEL DESCRIPTIONS

## WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23

1–5 p.m.

### **Investigating private companies and nonprofits**

This workshop will help you find public data on private companies and nonprofits. From incorporation papers to UCC records to court and regulatory filings and the revised IRS Form 990—you'll emerge with a roadmap to public records for the private companies and nonprofits that are often some of the biggest employers in your town. Sponsored by the Donald W. Reynolds National Center for Business Journalismism

## THURSDAY, FEB. 24

8-8:30 a.m.

### **Best use of the conference and introduction to CAR**

Welcome to the conference! IRE staff will highlight key sessions and events that you won't want to miss while in Raleigh. We'll also give you a brief rundown on some of the resources IRE has to offer.

9-9:50 a.m.

### **Starting the CAR**

Are you new to data journalism or does this happen to be your first time at a CAR conference? If so, this session will help you get on track to make sure that you get the best experience possible from the 2011 CAR Conference. We'll highlight sessions and give you tips for success during and after the conference.

### **Producing the CAR story: Techniques and alternatives to print**

You've acquired the data. You've roughed out the storyline. Now how do you engage that group formerly known as the readers/viewers/audience? How do you make your reporting interactive? How do you make it clear, understandable, compelling? How do you avoid clutter and confusion? Our panelists offer some practical thoughts.

### **NewsCamp::Storytelling without prose - Narratives and visualization**

Visualizations can tell stories, though not always the ones you expected. We'll talk about some of our past attempts to tell tales and what we've learned from them.

10-10:50 a.m.

### **Almost scraping: Tools for extracting data from websites**

The Web is a fundamental part of life, and it's no secret that it holds the key to tons of information. You can unlock this info for analysis, even without programming, by using free point-and-click programs, some that install right in your Web browser (Ex: OutwitHub, Needlebase). We'll introduce you to some favorite tools and explore their benefits and drawbacks.

### **Data state of mind**

Developing story ideas with data. This panel will look at how to not only think about story ideas in a new way, but also how to figure out the obvious and not-so-obvious databases that might be out there to give your story context and depth.

### **The latest in mapping**

Get a handle on the latest developments in GIS, spatial analysis and geographic data. See how journalists are using cutting-edge tools for their stories and information graphics.

### **NewsCamp:: Online Data Visualization: What's in the Secret Sauce**

In this hour-long session, we'll deconstruct Stamen's Census data visualization site, Thisstract.com, to show how dynamic, interactive data browsers can be built from the simplest of tools. We'll start with the underlying data from the 2000 census, move on to maps and geographic boundaries and finish up with dynamic data displays based on modern Javascript. We won't be touching any technologies not immediately accessible via a Web browser and a simple text editor, or any services that can't be readily duplicated using open sources of code and data.

11-11:50 a.m.

### **The aftermath of a disaster: Using CAR to follow the story**

In the wake of disasters during the past year—including the Upper Big Branch Mine explosion, the BP oil spill and the gas pipeline blast in California—this panel will look at a combination of data analysis and traditional reporting to examine safety records, evaluate government regulators and explore past accidents.

### **Mining the Web for data and stories**

The Web is one of the first places we go for information, but so much of it is hidden deep beyond search engines' eyes. This session will highlight strategies for finding data that can't be found with a traditional search engine and will point you to the best sites for tracking down local, national and international data.

### **Creative ways to cover campaign finance**

Campaign finance is about more than tracking who's ahead in the political horse race. This panel will discuss ways that statistics and other unconventional approaches can reveal how influence moves between donors and politicians.

### **NewsCamp:: HTML 5 and visualization—the future of data on the Web**

A new class of emerging tools are shaping the delivery of data to readers on the Internet. Learn how the "new" HTML, JavaScript libraries and other tools offer new opportunities to tell stories with data.

2-2:50 p.m.

### **Handling PDFs and scanned documents**

The next time a document dump lands on your desk, there's no need for panic. Learn how to make PDFs and scanned documents searchable, perform OCR, extract plain text, and generate images for the web. We'll also cover taking advantage of DocumentCloud to accomplish these tasks.

### **Shutting down access to data**

The facts: The data is available and it's just what you need. The problem: The government agency doesn't want to give it up. Recent changes in access to public data and their impact on journalism in the U.S. and the United Kingdom will be discussed. Learn how to finesse data from officials by finding the right people to talk to, figuring out what is technically possible, understanding limitations and fashioning reasonable records requests that apply pressure while maintaining good relationships with officials. We'll discuss psychological strategies you can use to negotiate for data. And, when necessary, how to position yourself to take legal action to force disclosure and recover legal expenses.

### **Tracking the economy and business**

Tracking the economy and business can be as simple as knowing where to go to find the information from government and other sources. We'll walk you through some online databases that can be used to improve your economic and business reporting.

### **American Community Survey: Mining the every-year Census**

Census 2010 will come and go, but the American Community Survey will keep pouring out data on your community every year. It's critical for tracking local trends but it's big and complicated. Learn its schedule and makeup and some best practices. See how journalists are putting it to use and even how to use microdata to answer questions that standard ACS tables can't.

3-3:50 p.m.

### **Social Network Analysis: Uncovering power and tracking questionable contracts**

We'll discuss building databases to show social networks, and how reporters (and the public) can use them to uncover hidden power structures in communities.

### **Stats the way we like 'em: Go deeper in your analysis**

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 and wrap up with suggestions for learning more about stats during the conference.

### **In the trenches: Hands-on teaching and working with students**

Veteran educators share their techniques for building training programs in newsrooms and teaching successful CAR courses at universities. You'll get tips on how to develop a program with editors, resources for curriculum, getting your program branded, doing outreach in the newsroom, and keeping the program alive, especially as staff sizes shrink. Issues concerning teaching CAR to undergraduates and graduates both in standalone classes and in integrating CAR into investigative, enterprise and beat reporting classes also will be discussed.

### **Census 2010: Story ideas for the big national count**

Learn how to develop stories from the 2010 national Census count that is now being released state by state. Find the neighborhoods that have undergone the most dramatic changes in population and in segregation/integration. Track the percent of vacant homes by city, county and neighborhood. The seminar will also show how to combine the 2010 counts with other Census material and databases to develop enterprise stories.



# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE PANEL DESCRIPTIONS

4-4:50 p.m.

## **PostGIS is your new bicycle**

Come and be wowed by the power of free alternatives to costly desktop GIS. Two database developers will walk you through how to archive, analyze and publish geospatial data using open-source software like Quantum GIS, PostGIS and GeoDjango.

## **Data viz for beginners**

Learn about the different types of data visualizations, how news organizations use them and what free tools are available to create your own vizes. We'll build a few simple data vizes, offer some programming tips and answer questions about how to get started.

## **Five databases in 50 minutes: Education**

Mining the education beat: Essential databases and analytical techniques to help you go deep with your school's coverage. Two reporters walk through a handful of local and federal databases, including the Education Department's IPEDS dataset, and show you how to mine numbers from enrollment to budgets.

## **Navigating the new American FactFinder for Census data**

American FactFinder is the gateway to almost every scrap of information the Census Bureau has unearthed since the late 1990s. The Census redesigned FactFinder this year, adding search functions and other features that could make our jobs a little easier.

## **FRIDAY, FEB. 25**

9-9:50 a.m.

## **How to talk to developers**

You're a CAR nerd. You've gathered a great set of data, and you've cleaned it so well you can see your reflection in it. You know readers would love going through the data on your news organization's Website. But you're no coder. Now what? This panel will walk you through the finer points of putting together your vision for an interactive data application so developers – either in the newsroom or in the IT department – will not only understand what story you're trying to tell with data, but they'll get damn excited about it, too.

## **Peering into the Internet**

The Internet is a great reporting tool. But it's also a highly commercialized communications network. We'll explore the Internet's inner workings, from political cyberattacks to the "cookies" and "beacons" that track Web browsers. Two members of *The Wall Street Journal's* "What They Know" team will discuss how we gathered, analyzed and presented the data, and how we mined strong narratives from the data. Jack Gillum of *USA Today* will discuss the importance of understanding the nuance of all-things Internet.

## **Overview of the year in CAR**

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.

**Excel 1\*** – Performing simple calculations and sorting.

**Free tool for hot spot analysis \*** – CrimeStat is a free spatial statistics program that has typically been used for analyzing crime incident locations. You can use it to find "hot spots" for other topics as well.

**Fundamentals of programming\*** – Never programmed before, but want to learn the ropes? By the end of the hour, you'll be scraping the Web with Ruby. Learn about core programming concepts like functions, objects, strings, and control flow. No programming experience required.

**SPSS 1\*** – Navigate SPSS using descriptive statistics and frequencies. Create basic counts and percentages to help you understand your data.

## **Visualizing culture (Demo Room)**

Much work in visualization focuses on tables of numbers or lists of locations. But as visualization grows as a medium, we'll need to depict words, images, and even music. I'll talk about work from myself, Fernanda Viegas, and others that addresses these more exotic challenges.

10-10:50 a.m.

## **Melding the cultures: Collaborations across journalism and technology**

In news organizations and tech companies, journalists and technologists are collaborating in new ways and old. What do journalists need to understand to make these collaborations successful? And how can we engage technologists in the mission of journalism? Rich Gordon is one of the leaders of the brand-new Knight News Innovation Laboratory at Northwestern University, which aspires to be a hub for journalism-technology innovation. Scott Klein has been leading interdisciplinary journalism-technology collaborations at ProPublica and DocumentCloud. They will share their lessons learned and ideas for how to build your journalism-tech literacy as well as that of your news organization.

## **Cracking open electronic records from emails to text messages**

Practical tips for getting necessary data, including new case law you need to know that unlocks FOIA access to metadata and load files.

## **Strip-mining the Census: Digging deep with PUMS**

If the Census is a treasure chest of stories, the Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) is a gold mine-full of rich ore mixed with occasional collapsed shafts and pockets of poison gas. We'll introduce you to this statistical puzzle and help you safely navigate the maze.

**Excel 2\*** – Calculating ratios and rates.

**Intro to SQL with SQLite\*** – SQL is the lingua franca of the database world. It'll let you get up close and personal with you data in ways that few tools can. SQLite is a popular, free and portable database manager. (If you use Firefox, you already have it installed!) This hands-on session will get you up and running quickly creating your own SQLite databases and asking them to reveal their deepest secrets.

**TimeFlow and Simile Timeline\*** – Chronologies are a key part of most stories. Learn how to make interactive online timelines quickly and easily with these free tools.

**Intro to Python 1\*** – Core Concepts: A crash course in basic programming concepts using Python. On the menu are core data types, variables, loops, functions and library imports. We'll cover the most basic language features needed to start writing basic scripts.

**SPSS 2\*** – Doing crosstabs to show the data in different ways, and statistical tests.

## **Google Fusion Tables (Demo Room)**

Google Fusion Tables allows you easily to publish relatively large data sets. Learn how this free tool can help journalists create maps, graphs and timelines, mash-up different data sets and collaborate on data.

11-11:50 a.m.

## **Visualizing text**

From specific visualization software for data and text to the mash-ups that allow many of the tools to work in concert, this panel will offer journalists tips and techniques from other fields on how to more quickly make sense of massive amounts of documents and text coming at them.

## **Methods and ethics of using identifiable data: From teachers to the accused**

The explosion of public data coming from governments has created new challenges when it comes time to publish stories or build news applications. In this panel, we'll discuss the thinking behind two projects that have come under fire for using personal information and how to balance the public's right to know with an individual's privacy concerns.

## **Five databases in 50 minutes: Crime**

We'll walk you through some essential crime databases that can elevate your reporting about murder, drug enforcement, street-level policing, revolving door justice and more. Plus, learn where to go for free access to FBI case records to track murder - even identify serial killings - in your town.

**Excel 3\*** – Learn pivot tables, filtering and more.

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# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE PANEL DESCRIPTIONS

**Tableau Public\*** – In this hands-on session we'll walk through the process of creating a live, interactive visualization of local Census data that you can embed in your Website. Using the latest Census data, we'll go step-by-step to create the maps and other visualizations used by the Seattle Times for their local data. You'll learn the basics of the Tableau Public data visualization tool and how to publish your interactive visualization so you can embed it live in your Website. You'll walk away with a file that you can update and publish as soon as your own Census data is available.

**Intro to QGIS 1\*** – A hands-on introduction to using Geographic Information Systems using open-source software.

**Intro to Python 2\*** – Getting Things Done: Learn to use Python's built-in libraries to process data from a CSV and scrape data from a Web page. In this class, we'll apply the knowledge from Session 1 to build practical scripts for everyday data munging.

**SPSS 3\*** – Basic linear regression techniques and diagnostics.

**Corralling data on the Web: Scraping, parsing, traffic-watching (Demo Room)**  
Data is plentiful on the Web, and so are the tools to put it together. Learn a few of the easy-to-use solutions out there for gathering online data sets.

2-2:50 p.m.

## **Storytelling with data**

Have you ever met data that was so wonderful that you wanted to bring it home to meet your mother? Data so nasty you cross the street when you see it coming? Have you looked it in the eye and been able to get a sense of its soul? There are many ways to bring data alive to tell its story: statistics, graphics, interactives, maps and more. See examples and participate in a discussion about what has worked for you and others, and what challenges we've faced.

## **Collaborative CAR**

At first blush, collaborations between newsrooms sound like a good idea. They allow you to stretch scarce resources, take advantage of a wider variety of skills and divvy up the work load when you're asked to do more and more with less and less. But such collaborations are not simple and easy. Before jumping in, learn about the pitfalls and some best practices from two organizations that have collaborated on award-winning CAR. We'll explore CAR collaborations from both national and regional perspectives and give you some pointers to keep your collaborations on track.

## **Five databases in 50 minutes: Government**

From city halls to statehouses, government reporters can move beyond the anecdote, flesh out their coverage and hold officials accountable with the help of data. This session will highlight several databases that reporters can build and use to help them do their jobs for daily or enterprise pieces.

**Google Refine\*** – Learn how to use Google Refine to work with messy data, such as detecting and fixing inconsistencies; and transforming data from one structure or format to another. Use Google Refine when you need something: more powerful than a spreadsheet; more interactive and visual than scripting; more provisional / exploratory / experimental / playful than a database.

**Access 1\*** – The purifying experience of filtering your data. Learn to select and sort data items you choose.

## **Visual analysis of document collections with Jigsaw (Demo Room)**

Many types of investigators routinely perform analysis that involves large collections of documents. The Jigsaw visual analytics system helps investigative analysts with exploration and sense-making in such scenarios. Jigsaw acts like a visual index onto a document collection, highlighting connections between entities. Jigsaw provides multiple views onto the documents, including list, graph, and timeline-based representations, as well as different views onto the documents' text. Jigsaw helps analysts "put the pieces together" and link initially unconnected activities into a more coherent story. In this demonstration explore how to import documents into Jigsaw and how to explore the documents and entities via the system's visualizations.

3-3:50 p.m.

## **Investigative algorithms**

Data isn't going to put handcuffs on anyone, but constructing the right model is like shooting a lightning bolt through vast piles of information to find the cases or patterns that will get an investigative project underway. See examples and discuss approaches that have worked for you and challenges you've faced.

## **Free software: From spreadsheets to GIS**

Open Source software is cheap, powerful and easier to use than you think. We'll discuss some of the most popular stuff out there, from basics like OpenOffice to more complex database and mapping software.

## **From projects to dailies: Integrating CAR into reporting**

How to get yourself cranked up to incorporate CAR techniques in your beat-whether you cover education, city hall, courts, state government or an enterprise beat. This session will provide new ideas for stories, data and database acquisition, indispensable software and other organizational tools.

## **Introduction to MySQL\*** – The world's most popular database is also free. As in beer.

This class will get you up to speed on the same software that powers Twitter and is used around the world for high-level analysis of big datasets.

**Access 2\*** – Summarizing databases with counting and summing.

## **Tasty treats from ProPublica (Demo Room)**

Editors, developers and reporters from ProPublica will be on hand to demo some of their popular data projects and news applications, answer questions and help you use their data and techniques in your projects.

4-4:50 p.m.

## **Lightning talks**

Sometimes you don't need 45 minutes to explain a useful technique or interesting resource. Join your colleagues for a session of short (5-minute) talks about doing CAR, Web development or other related topics. Anyone can suggest an idea, and the most popular talks will be given at this session. We'll provide a computer with Internet access and a projector, and the rest is up to you.

## **Social media tools for journalists**

Explore how journalists are using social media for watchdog reporting and backgrounding people. Learn how to background an uncooperative subject through social media. See demos of social media tools such as TwitInfo, Qurk and DataPress-technology that ties social streams to database systems.

## **Ready when the story breaks**

When news breaks, you need to know as much as possible as quickly as you can. This panel will talk about resources to have on hand for these situations, as well as unsung documents that can help find stories on their own. In addition to national and local ideas, we'll give you tips that are North Carolina specific.

**Google Fusion Tables\*** – Google Fusion Tables allows you easily to publish relatively large data sets. Learn how to create maps, graphs and timelines, mash-up different data sets and collaborate on data using this free, point-and-click tool.

**Access 3\*** – How to join tables, matching information from one file to another.

## **Online freebies and cool software tools (Demo Room)**

The world is full of people whose mission in life is to build programs to make life easier. Some you have to install, some are on the Web. Most are free and 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 pretty much everything else easier.

# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE PANEL DESCRIPTIONS

## SATURDAY, FEB. 26

9-9:50 a.m.

### Mobile apps for investigations

Mobile devices are quickly becoming a big part of how we distribute news stories, but they also provide a unique platform for building data applications. This panel will explore several ways that app development, mobile utilities and the mobile Web are being used to enhance in-depth storytelling and data journalism.

### Going it alone

So you've become your own free agent. Don't panic. Your database skills are needed more than ever. This session will teach you how to create your own brand, find clients, negotiate rates as you balance business and editorial demands. We'll give you the tools you need to launch your own business and sell yourself across every platform available and beyond.

### The Census: What you can do now

The data has arrived. Get ideas for stories about your community: reapportionment and redistricting, segregation and diversity, growth and sprawl, cohesion and displacement.

**Advanced functions in Excel\*** – String functions, IF statements and other powerful tools.

**Mapping 1\*** – Displaying data geographically with ArcView.

**Converting PDF to Excel\*** – Stripping tables from a text document and importing them into a spreadsheet.

**Introduction to MySQL\*** – The world's most popular database is also free. As in beer. This class will get you up to speed on the same software that powers Twitter and is used around the world for high-level analysis of big datasets.

**SPSS 4\*** – Using logistic regression.

### From numbers to stories-how to find news stories in Web queries (Demo Room)

This session will look at three Web surveys conducted in 2010 and the news stories that came from them. Best practices for conducting Web surveys, and ways these kinds of numbers can become stories will be discussed.

10-10:50 a.m.

### NewsApps: What works and why

We'll take a look at some successful news apps and explore what the developers did and why, and the lessons you can take from them when building your own.

### Effective information mining on the Web

Are you drowning in high volume/low quality search engine results? Take home some sites and tools for targeting information and data while avoiding search spam and content farms. Share tips on investigative online research beyond Google.

### 50 story ideas in 50 minutes

If you leave this session without a story idea, you weren't listening. We've pulled together examples of data-driven stories from around the country to give you ideas for your own newsroom. From government waste to features, there's sure to be something for everyone.

**Excel as a statistics package\*** – Exploring advanced functions and features of spreadsheet software.

**Mapping 2\*** – Importing and selecting data by attribute with ArcView.

**Cleaning data with Access (string functions)\*** – Standardizing and cleaning dirty data.

**Web scraping without programming\*** – "How do I take information on the Internet and turn it into a spreadsheet? And don't make me code!" We'll walk through it, step-by-step, using two Web-based tools: OutwitHub and Needlebase. By the end, you'll have two data sets that aren't downloadable by those without these skills, and you'll know how to apply these tools to find your own stories.

### Optimizing Data.gov for Reporters (Demo Room)

Data.gov is a vast resource of information and data from across the government all in one place. With over 300,000 datasets and more coming each day, this is a treasure trove for reporters. Communities are rolling out that focus on health, law, education, human rights, energy and many more topics that bring context and allow public conversations about the data and policies behind it...but could it be better? See what Data.gov has to offer and give feedback on how it can support data journalists better.

11-11:50 a.m.

### R For statistics: From first steps to automated analysis

Need to perform statistical analyses but can't afford commercial software? Then try R. For the beginner, we'll explain how to read in your data and perform common statistical tests-both from R's command line and using a free Excel plug-in. Then we'll talk about how to integrate R with a scripting language and database to automate your analysis.

### CAR on campus: Top investigations by student journalists

The winners of IRE's first CAR Contest for Student Journalists present their work and discuss how they did it. Topics will cover an analysis of abortion practices, holes in the aviation safety system, grading practices and unpaid parking tickets. Come listen to their great work and support the next generation of CAR practitioners.

### Higher education: Covering campus, from sports to administration

Learn how to find data that will help you dig into everything from graduation rates at your local university to how much the football team spends on recruiting. We'll talk about sources of information from the NCAA, schools, government and other sources, as well as what to expect when you try to get the documents. We'll also show you examples from quick-hit stories and long-term investigations.

**Importing data into Excel\*** – By the time you leave this session you should be able to get text files into Excel and pull data directly from the Web into your spreadsheet.

**Mapping 3\*** – Geocoding to merge databases with street addresses into maps with ArcView.

**Downloading and analyzing Census data\*** – There are 100 billion numbers in the 2010 Census. We'll demonstrate ways to quickly download the numbers you really want and make sense of them for your audience. We'll also explore both American FactFinder and the geekier Data Ferrett.

**Google Refine\*** – Learn how to use Google Refine to work with messy data, such as detecting and fixing inconsistencies, and transforming data from one structure or format to another. Use Google Refine when you need something: more powerful than a spreadsheet; more interactive and visual than scripting; more provisional / exploratory / experimental / playful than a database.

**Social network analysis\*** – Connecting the dots and analyzing personal connections with UCLnet.

### The JMPing Journalist (Demo Room)

Imagine being able to visually explore some information and discover the stories hidden within. Quickly and easily create a variety of graphs and charts, interactively seeing the patterns and relationships emerge. JMP ([www.jmp.com](http://www.jmp.com)) is a comprehensive and extensible data visualization and discovery tool that supports a variety of simple graphs, as well as more advanced analytics and data mining capabilities, using the highly regarded statistical software from SAS Institute. Come watch us explore some data and show how easy it can be to discover and portray a story.

2-2:50 p.m.

### When you need lots of eyes, try Mechanical Turk: Finding lost hikers to data entry

Amazon Mechanical Turk is an online marketplace where anyone can hire workers to complete short, simple tasks online. Amazon says there are more than 100,000 Mechanical Turk workers in 200 countries. We'll show you how we use mTurk to collect, reformat, and de-duplicate data. We'll also share invaluable tips on running a successful project, and how to increase accuracy.

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# 2011 CAR CONFERENCE PANEL DESCRIPTIONS

## **Lessons from WikiLeaks: Big data, deadlines, mining and collaboration**

How three newsrooms dealt with the most controversial data dump of the year, what they learned in the process and how you can bring those lessons home to your newsroom.

## **Health data: Finding stories in the numbers**

In the summer of 2009 the Center for Public Integrity and *The Wall Street Journal* went on an unprecedented quest to gain access to a sample of Medicare claims data. After CPI sued to get the data, the two organizations negotiated a settlement that resulted in getting nearly 10 years of claims at a substantial discount, though both were forced to sign a draconian data use agreement. David Donald of CPI and Maurice Tamman of the WSJ discuss how - despite the severe limitations on what the agreement permitted them to publish - they sifted through billions of records and terabytes of data to publish stories that raise serious questions about fraud and abuse in the system, and how Medicare just might bankrupt the federal government.

**Intro to R\*** – Run stats without paying a dime! R is free statistical software that does everything from simple regressions and correlations to beautiful charts, maps and visualizations. We'll focus on importing data, running statistical tests, and looking for hidden relationships between variables.

**QGIS 2\*** – Connecting to external data, performing calculations and reprojecting files in QGIS, an open source GIS tool. Requires QGIS 1 or previous experience with GIS software.

## **DocumentCloud in depth (Demo Room)**

It's been a year since DocumentCloud opened its beta program at CAR 2010. Hear more about some innovative document-driven reporting from the past year, explore new DocumentCloud features, and learn about how you can use the API to publish rich document dives on your website.

3-3:50 p.m.

## **Analyzing unstructured data: Docs and video**

Large unstructured or semi-structured document collections-thousands or millions of pages-are near useless without good analysis methods. Keyword search is hit-or-miss and statistical summaries can be hard to interpret. Visual analytics techniques offer hope for making sense of very large document and data sets, and finding stories in them.

## **Don't let the data fool you**

You've gotten the data, done the analysis and written the story. Now comes that gnawing pit in your stomach, the 3 a.m. "did I check that number" warning that rips you from sleep. Avoid all that by doing everything you can while conducting the analysis to make sure your work is accurate and above reproach. We've got some tips to help.

## **CAR Investigations for any state**

Reporters Joe Neff and Kevin Crowe will show you examples of stories that used information obtainable in almost every state or municipality to tell quick-hit data-driven stories or produce long-term investigations. We'll cover state courts data, phone records, campaign finance, claims data, public employee pay and public safety data.

**Learning to explore document collections with Jigsaw\*** – Jigsaw is a visual analytics system that helps investigators explore and understand large collections of text documents and spreadsheets. Jigsaw acts like a visual index onto a document collection, highlighting connections between entities across the documents. It analyzes documents, identifies entities, clusters related documents, analyzes sentiment, and summarizes each document. Next, it provides multiple visualizations of the documents, entities, and the analysis results. You will get a copy of Jigsaw and we will walk through an example analysis session. We will discuss strategies for gathering documents and analyzing them. Attendees should leave with a good understanding of the system and how it may be able to help them in their investigations.

**Mapping 4\*** – How Spatial Analyst can pinpoint places and improve stories with ArcView.

## **A new way of visualizing data online: Tableau Public (Demo Room)**

Tableau Public is a free software product that you can use to create and publish interactive visualizations of any data set. The range of visualizations you can create is diverse, from maps using built-in geocoding to bar and line charts, heatmaps, sparklines and more. We'll take a tour of examples that journalists have published in papers around the world, and do a short demo. We'll show you how to publish your visualization to the Web so you can embed a live, interactive data widget on your website just like a YouTube video. You'll walk away with the tools to get your own visualization online-for free.

4-4:50 p.m.

## **APIs: Making the Web a data medium**

Forget sneaker-net or FTP downloads - more journalists these days are sharing and consuming data via an API, or Application Programming Interface. This panel will give an overview of APIs journalists should know about, discuss how they're useful for doing journalism, and offer perspective on how news organizations can build and use them.

## **Building on CAR's legacy**

Five veterans of the last data journalism, CAR and precision journalism revolution will discuss the changes in the specialty and how they see it evolving in the future.

## **Protecting the people**

Few issues draw greater public interest than food safety. The session will explore techniques for digging into everything from restaurant inspection databases to recall records to outbreak documents in order to penetrate intransigent health bureaucracies and tell readers and viewers what they need to know. We'll also look at general consumer-related topics that can be tackled in any newsroom.

**Web scraping\*** – Some of the most useful datasets are on the Web, and while they don't require FOIAs, you might need to do some work to get them into your spreadsheets. In this class, we'll take a look at techniques, both programming and non-programming, for mining data from the Web and making it useful.

**RegEx to the rescue\*** – Regular expressions, a mini-language used for matching patterns in text, can be found everywhere: from databases to text editors to programming languages like Python and Ruby. In this hands-on class, we'll demonstrate how to use regex in a variety of contexts to perform basic data-cleaning and querying.

## **Sunlight foundation health data (Demo Room)**

## **SUNDAY, FEB. 27**

9-9:50 a.m.

## **Best use of the Web for investigations**

If you're like most journalists, the Web has become one of your favorite places to go for backgrounding, digging and tip seeking. Imagine how much is out there that you haven't heard about. 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. We'll discuss Google applications you might not know about, and we'll explore specialized search engines and the latest search engines that have useful features for honing your search.

## **Storyboarding your ideas**

Don't leave the CAR conference without a battle plan for putting your new knowledge and skills to work back home. In this free-wheeling group session, we'll discuss your story ideas, flesh them out, and develop strategies for doing them amid the daily demands of every newsroom. We'll talk about navigating office politics and help you develop a personal action plan.

10-10:50 a.m.

## **Mining the web for data and stories**

The Web is one of the first places we go for information, but so much of it is hidden deep beyond search engines' eyes. This session will highlight strategies for finding data that can't be found with a traditional search engine and will point you to the best sites for tracking down local, national and international data.

## **Storyboarding your ideas**

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