

**THINK GLOBALLY, REPORT LOCALLY:
WORLDWIDE CHALLENGES AND MEDIA TRENDS IN
LOCAL JOURNALISM**

Global Seminar on Local News

Date: June 25th, 2019

Venue: Medill School, Northwestern University
16th floor, West
303 E. Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois

Hosted by: Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung USA
Medill School, Northwestern University

Contact: Sabine Murphy (Project Manager at Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung USA)
Tel: +1(202) 464-5840 / Mail: sabine.murphy@kas.de
Cell: +1(410) 713-1068

Tim Franklin (Senior Associate Dean, Medill School)
Tel: +1(847) 467-1651 / Mail: timothy.franklin@northwestern.edu

Susan Zukrow (Project Manager, Medill Local News Initiative)
Tel: +1(312) 259-4493 / Mail: susan.zukrow@bascomhillgroup.com

THINK GLOBALLY, REPORT LOCALLY: WORLDWIDE CHALLENGES AND MEDIA TRENDS IN LOCAL JOURNALISM

Global Seminar on Local News

Local news is critical to building and maintaining democracy but local news coverage across the world is declining. Well informed citizens are essential for self-governing on a local and national level. How are local communities affected if local journalism is suffering? Without robust local news, citizens will not have the information they need for their everyday lives about their community's institutions, schools, businesses and neighbors. Newspapers and other trustworthy media outlets are crucial for communicating global issues such as climate change and its local consequences.

The economic challenges have been well documented. Both of the revenue streams that local news organizations have traditionally relied upon (subscriptions and advertising) have been dramatically undermined as journalism production, distribution, and consumption have migrated online.

Struggle with funding of newspapers, lack of trust in the era of "Fake News" and reporter shortage cause a worldwide cutback in newsrooms and therefore reduced access to profound, well researched information, especially in rural areas. Also, journalists are increasingly threatened by populist movements and restrictions of the freedom of speech.

That is why innovative ideas and new approaches to journalism and media are needed to tackle the issue of "News Deserts" all around the world. Artificial intelligence, data technology and mobile devices have huge potential in advancing the way journalists use and disseminate information. However, bringing innovation into newsrooms requires streamlined applications that journalists can easily use.

In this seminar, hosted by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung USA and Medill School, the participants will discuss these issues and look for a possible way forward.

Speakers

Penny Abernathy	Knight Chair in Journalism/Digital Media Economics, University of North Carolina School of Media and Journalism
Bettina Chang	Co-Founder, City Bureau, Chicago
Joie Chen	Director of Medill Programs, Washington
Idalmy Carrera-Colucci	Senior Director, Editorial Operations, Tribune Publishing
Maria Dimitrova	Editor-in-Chief, ZOV News, Bulgaria
Tim Franklin	Senior Associate Dean, Medill School
Eduardo Garcia	Editor, Sentido Comun, Mexico
Joe Germuska	Director, Knight Lab, Medill School
Rich Gordon	Director of Digital Innovation, Medill School
Pana Janviroj	Executive Director, Asia News Network
Joy Jenkins	Research Fellow, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, Oxford University
Paul Linnarz	Director, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung USA
Ed Malthouse	Research Director, Spiegel Research Center, Medill School
Amy Mitchell	Director, Journalism Research, Pew Research Center via Skype
Angie Muhs	President, Associated Press Media Editors
Jasmin Off	Deputy Editor, Lübecker Nachrichten, Madsack Media Group, Germany
Dapo Olorunyomi	Publisher/CEO, Premium Times/ Premium Times Centre for Investigative Journalism, Nigeria
Casey Pallenik	Strategic Partner Lead, News and Local Media, Google
Jen Sabella	Director of Strategy, Co-Founder, Block Club Chicago
Joel Simon	Executive Director, Committee to Protect Journalists
Matthew Weber	Cowles Endowed Fellow of Media Management, University of Minnesota
Charles Whitaker	Dean, Medill School

Global Seminar on Local News

~ Dress Code: Business casual ~ WiFi: Select "Guest-Northwestern" network. Enter your name and email address. Enter "Medill" for Sponsor name. Read and accept the University's policy.
Select "Register" to connect.

08.30 am Check-in and security check on first floor, 303 East Wacker Drive

09.00 am Welcome remarks
Charles Whitaker, Dean, Medill School
Paul Linnarz, Director of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung USA

09.15 am **Session 1**
"State of play of local news today in the United States and abroad"

- Tim Franklin, Senior Associate Dean, Medill School, Moderation and presentation
- Amy Mitchell, Director, Journalism Research, Pew Research Center, ~ Presentation via Skype
- Joy Jenkins, Research Fellow, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, Oxford University (England) ~ Presentation
- Ed Malthouse, Research Director, Spiegel Research Center, Medill School ~ Presentation

Followed by discussion with presenters and

- Pana Janviroj, Executive Director, Asia News Network (Thailand)
- Idalmy Carrera-Colucci, Senior Director, Editorial Operations, Tribune Publishing

Followed by Q&A

10.45 am Coffee Break

11.00 am **Session 2**
"News deserts: Shrinking coverage and the impact on local communities"

- Penny Abernathy, Knight Chair in Journalism/Digital Media Economics, University of North Carolina School of Media and

Journalism ~ Moderation and presentation

- Matthew Weber, Cowles Endowed Fellow of Media Management, University of Minnesota ~ Presentation
- Dapo Olorunyomi, Publisher/CEO Premium Times /Premium Times Centre for Investigative Journalism (Nigeria) ~ Presentation

Followed by discussion with presenters and

- Angie Muhs, President, Associated Press Media Editors

Followed by Q&A

12.30 pm Lunch break

01.30 pm

Session 3

“Innovative concepts, new approaches and a digital reality”

- Joe Germuska, Director, Knight Lab, Medill School ~ Moderation and presentation
- Rich Gordon, Director of Digital Innovation, Medill School ~ Presentation
- Casey Pallenik, Strategic Partner Lead, News and Local Media, Google ~ Presentation

Followed by discussion with presenters and

- Jen Sabella, Director of Strategy, Co-Founder, Block Club Chicago
- Bettina Chang, Co-Founder, City Bureau, Chicago
- Jasmin Off, Deputy Editor in Chief, Lübecker Nachrichten, Madsack Media Group (Germany)

Followed by Q&A

03.00 pm Coffee Break

03.30 pm

Open Event - Welcome

- Paul Linnarz, Director of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung USA
- Tim Franklin, Senior Associate Dean, Medill School

04.00 pm

Session 4

“Journalists and Journalism under Fire: A Crisis for Democracy”

- Joie Chen, Director of Medill Programs, Washington
~ Moderation and presentation
- Joel Simon, Executive Director at the Committee to Protect Journalists ~ Presentation

Followed by discussion with presenters and

- Maria Dimitrova, Editor in Chief ZOV News (Bulgaria)
- Eduardo Garcia, Editor, Sentido Comun (Mexico)

Followed by Q&A

05.30 pm Group Picture

Tour of Medill Campus led by Tim Franklin

06.00 pm Reception

Reception with Chicago style buffet in Medill Open Space, 16th floor
(Beer, wine and soft drinks will be served)

Conclusion of Global Seminar on Local News