

Journalism Education Association

Semi-annual Report

President's Report--Candace Perkins

Following the goals previously set by the Board, I have worked to expand the visibility of JEA and its ability to meet members' needs:

- Attended state, regional and national press association meetings. Since January, I have represented JEA and/or presented sessions at Columbia Scholastic Press Association (New York City), Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication - Secondary Education Division (Phoenix) and AEJMC annual meeting (Washington, D.C.), Southern Interscholastic Press Association (Columbia, S.C.), Council of Presidents of National Journalism Organizations (Dallas and Indianapolis), Texas Association of Journalism Educators (San Antonio), Virginia Association of Journalism Teachers and Advisers (Fairfax Co., VA), and Great Lakes Interscholastic Press Association, Journalism Association of Ohio Schools and Northeast Ohio Scholastic Press Association (all Ohio). At many, I distributed JEA literature, spoke about certification, upcoming conventions, and the value of joining JEA.
- Taught workshops at Kent State University, the University of Missouri and Kansas State University where I was afforded the opportunity to invite all participants to this fall's Kansas City JEA/NSPA convention.
- Wrote columns about JEA for each Quill and Scroll magazine and recently began a column with Scholastic Press Rights Commission chair John Bowen to run in each issue of Dow Jones' Adviser Update about student legal issues.
- Increased communication by spreading JEA's message about the value of a free and active student press to such groups as National Collegiate Athletic Association, *Seventeen* magazine, and the American Civil Liberties Union as their activities and/or publications impacted on our student's lives and by maintaining internal communication with such things as the President's Memo.
- Aided various commission and committee chairs, other officers and regional and state directors through discussions, suggestions and encouragement.

Vice President's Report--H. L. Hall

Regional directors have been busy working on a variety of items since the spring convention, including the following:

- Gathering information on extra pay for extra duty from their state directors. This is a slow process, but the directors are discovering a wide variety in how school districts compensate advisers. Some

districts provide no extra pay while others pay extra and also allow released time. Eventually, we hope to compile enough data to help advisers around the country as they negotiate their contracts.

- Gathering information on how to combat colleges, state organizations and the NCAA's refusal to accept yearbook and newspaper as academic classes.
- Creating an exit poll to be used at national conventions.

Certification Commission Report--Susan Hathaway-Tantillo, chair

As of the close of the San Diego Convention last spring, we had recognized a total of 306 CJE's and 49 MJE's from 38 states and the District of Columbia. In addition, at that convention we recognized 15 CJE's of those needing to renew their certification in 1995.

At this convention in Kansas City, we expect to honor at least 55 new CJE's, 3 renewal CJE's and 7 new MJE's. In this group, we gain an additional state, Mississippi, and two international teachers. Obviously, the Certification Program continues to grow!

Both CJE and MJE tests will be given as usual from 3:30 to 6 p.m. on Friday at the convention. Tests have also been given since April in New Mexico, Washington, Kansas, Virginia, and Texas. Tests will also be given in Boston next month.

The Commission sponsors two sessions at this convention: An informational session about Certification (please check your program for time, day, and location), which has been popular at recent conventions, and its usual Commission meeting on Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. In addition, Commission members and Regional Directors will promote Certification at Regional, State Directors, and Business meetings.

Current members of the Certification Commission, all of whom are MJE's as required when the commission was formed, include Julie Dodd, Florida; Jack Dvorak, Indiana; Pat Graff, New Mexico; H. L. Hall, Missouri; Carla Harris, Oregon; Gloria Olman, Michigan; Kay Phillips, North Carolina; Fern Valentine, Washington. They can be called upon to administer Certification tests at times other than national conventions. For more information, contact JEA Headquarters or the Commission chair.

Scholastic Press Rights Report--John Bowen, chair

The committee is working toward putting together a curriculum, plus supplementary materials on law and ethics. Part of what the group is working on includes:

- a code of ethics for advisers
- compilations of supplementary materials for teaching law
- ideas for working law and ethics into teaching of all areas of journalistic writing, photography, illustration, advertising and design
- models of editorial policies and codes of ethics for staffs
- models of handling multicultural coverage
- stories illustrating law and ethical issues at the high school level
- examples of stories where good coverage beat back censorship or where students did professional quality jobs handling sensitive issues

South Central Regional Report--Kathy Craghead, director

The South Central region welcomes two new state directors this fall. In Missouri, Bill Hankins of Oak Park High School in Kansas City replaces Sandy Newcomer. Newcomer is the new principal at Mack's Creek High School in southwest Missouri. In Louisiana, Judy Domingue of St. Thomas More High School in Lafayette replaces Hope Carroll, who has moved to Evansville, Indiana.

The South Central region again welcomes the fall JEA/NSPA convention to our area. Many Missouri and Kansas advisers have been members of the convention committee.

Northeast Regional Report--Betty Morton, director

Thanks to efforts of JEA members within the region working with the director, the Northeast Region is once again at 100% with its state director participation back to 18. We want to welcome the following new state directors: Delaware- Betsy Diemer, Salesianum School, Wilmington, DL, librarian and yearbook adviser; New Hampshire - Don Provenchur, Nashua Senior High School, Nashua, NH, yearbook adviser; Ohio - Sarah L. Ortman, Upper Arlington High School, Columbus, OH, Journalism teacher and former adviser to the award-winning Arlingtonian, active JEA member, involved with state organizations, and recent co-chair of Columbus JEA national convention; Virginia - Alan Weintraut, Annandale High School, Annandale, VA, newspaper adviser.

In reply to a newsletter to the region requesting each state director to obtain extra pay for extra duty schedules for schools in their state, several have reported they are working on getting this information available by the Kansas City convention. Directors were also asked to compile information about NCAA's stand that journalism will not be accepted as part of the core curriculum for admitting athletes to colleges and universities.

Reports received also noted that many of the state directors are planning to attend the Boston convention. JEA/NSPA, along with the Yankee Press Education Network (Yankee PEN) has invited teachers and students to attend an East Coast high school journalism convention in historic Boston, Dec. 7-10. Instructional sessions will cover newspaper, yearbook, broadcast, literary magazine, advertising, computers and advising student publications. Along with write-off competitions, on-site publications critiques, "Break with a Pro," "Best of Show" competition, publication swap shops, awards assembly, exhibits, media and local tours, JEA Bookstore and more, participants will enjoy sight-seeing and shopping.

This event has attracted much attention, and attendance is expected to be high. A meeting with directors in the 13-state East Coast area is planned for Friday morning. Other state directors in the Northeast Region are also planning to attend, and hopefully the participation in JEA activities will be increased due to the efforts of these directors and the advisers in their states. Continued effort is being focused on adviser recertification and state winners in the High School Journalist of the Year contest. A full report from each state will appear in the Spring Regional Semi-Annual Report.

Southwest Regional Report--Tony Gomez, director

Patti Sullivan, Hawaii state director, reports that there is no extra pay for advisers in her state. Some administrators give an extra prep period. She also reports that whether or not the NCAA accepts journalism class for credit depends on whether an elective credit or an English credit is given.

North Central Regional Report--Judy Knudtson, director

Over 500 journalism students and advisers attended the Minnesota High School Press Association convention, Sept. 19. JEM recognized advisers with 10 or more years of experience. Vern Hollister was the most experienced advise attending with 28 years. Vern's whole program is extracurricular. JEM also announced winners in the All-State Publications Contest. St. Louis Park High School earned an All-State Award for all three of its publications.

The Society of Professional Journalists hosted a day-long seminar for advisers, Oct. 11 in St. Paul, the site of their national convention. Advises were encouraged to contact their SPJ representative and use this person as a resource. Kelly Zwagerman, state director, reported that SPJ has produced a catalog with great journalism-related T-shirts, mugs, pins, books and other reference material.

South Dakota held a spring convention for the first time last year. Sturgis will host the second convention in March 1996. To try to increase JEA membership in South Dakota, state director Deb Merxbauer distributed membership applications and this year's Journalist of the Year information and applications at the fall convention, Oct. 9. South Dakota is working within the state to promote support for the NCAA journalism credit resolution.

Nebraska held a summer workshop for newspaper, yearbook, desktop publishing and photography students. The fall conference of the Nebraska High School Press Association was Oct. 23, and Doyle Schwaninger, state director, led a session for new advisers. The Freedom of Expression bill never got out of the Education Committee, but the association is still trying to get one passed.

Illinois held its summer IJEA meeting at Eastern Illinois University, in Charleston, July 29. The Illinois State High School Press Association convention was held at UI-Urbana-Champaign, Sept. 29. Approximately 375 students attended with 33 schools represented. The spring convention will be in Naperville hosted by State Director Linda Kane, March 2. Work continues on the anti-censorship bill to overturn Hazelwood. The IJEA is working closely with Mary Dixon, ACLU legislative director. IJEA local committees have met once to help Susan Tantillo (and others) prepare for the 1996 fall JEA/NSPA national convention in Chicago.

Publications Committee Report--Connie Fulkerson, chair

The new catalog, designed in a vertical format with more photos, was mailed in August to nearly 30,000 public, private and parochial high schools, college journalism departments and junior high schools in the Kansas City area. In addition, more than 1,600 catalogs and other JEA promotional materials were provided in September and August for state conferences and other meetings in New Jersey, Oregon, Alabama, Florida, Iowa, Indiana, New Mexico, Kansas, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, Hawaii, Michigan, New York, Virginia and Minnesota.

State director Gary Harlow organized a bookstore exhibit at the Texas Association of Journalism Educators convention in late October. Many new books were added, particularly in the areas of computer technology, word usage and broadcasting. Rob Melton suggested several good ones on the World Wide Web and Internet.

The winners of the 1994 Professional Contribution Prize have been incorporated into the bookstore. Alyce Culpepper's Broward Teen News TV Production Manual and Steve Matson's Academy Times

Staff Manual were added this year and will be available at the Kansas City convention.

It is hoped this year will bring updates to some of the current items, particularly in the yearbook area, since a number of books in that area have gone out of print or will do so soon.

Development/Curriculum Commission Report, Jack Kennedy chair

The major initiative of the Commission since San Diego has been to get the JEA National High School Yearbook Adviser of the Year going. After securing the monetary support of the five major yearbook publishers, an application brochure was developed, and bulk mailed to every U.S. high school. Plans for judging the competition are being finalized, with the Kansas City convention being the venue for the actual choice. Honorees will be announced in early December, with the official honors being presented in San Francisco.

A parallel project to the Adviser of the Year is the publication of "The Missing Chapter of Cheeseburger," essentially a chapter on the role, current status and history of yearbook journalism in America. This will be available for the first time at the San Francisco convention. We look forward to April of 1996 being a true time to celebrate yearbook.

No major curriculum revisions have been proposed, but several reports are being contemplated, including one on international scholastic journalism and one on effective use of the World Wide Web in the journalism classroom. Persons interested in contributing articles, background, or research time to either of these projects are invited to contact Jack Kennedy. It is also possible that the Commission will be working with Channel One to update our video curriculum offerings. Discussions will be held following the Kansas City convention (the first in which Channel One will work in partnership with JEA to present video sessions).

In the next year, the Commission will likely divide its energies between emerging technologies and consolidation of basic journalism curriculum reports. As always, we welcome member input. See you in San Francisco!