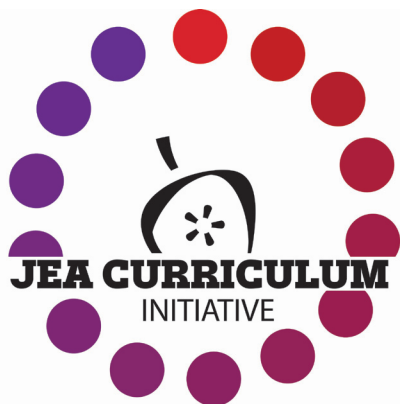




Journalism Education Association

Semiannual Report | Spring 2014



Design
Editing
Entrepreneurship
Law and Ethics
Leadership and Team Building
Multimedia Broadcast
News Gathering
News Literacy
Photojournalism
Web
Writing
Feature Writing
News Writing
Opinion Writing

Curriculum leaders report progress on 14 content modules



During the curriculum summit in Chicago Dec. 7, each of JEA's curriculum leaders gave an overview of the lessons, materials and assessments underway. Pictured clockwise from top left: Lori Keekley, MJE (Law and Ethics); Linda Ballew, MJE (Editing); Julieanne McClain, CJE (Photojournalism); Sarah Nichols, MJE. Beginning in mid-April 2014, completed curriculum is available to members at curriculum.jea.org.



Kelly Furnas

Kelly Furnas, CJE

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Membership: Voting membership stands at 2,062, up six members from last fall and 43 from a comparable time last spring. Our highest concentration of members is in the South Central region (493), although it still dropped 24 members since last spring. Three regions saw membership increases — Southwest (433), up 34 from last spring, North Central (285) up 26 from last spring, and Southeast (232) up 23 from last spring. California, with 252 members, is our most member-heavy state, with Texas close behind at 222.

Happenings:

Dec. 6-8: JEA curriculum summit, Chicago

Jan. 6: H.L. Hall Yearbook Adviser of the Year presentation in Hendersonville, N.C.

Jan. 24-26: Planning meeting for 2014 Spring National JEA/NSPA Convention, San Diego
Feb. 13-16: JEA finance committee meeting, Las Vegas
March 6-7: Site visit for 2017 Fall National JEA/NSPA Convention, Dallas
March 7-9: Planning meeting for 2015 Spring National JEA/NSPA Convention, Denver
March 28-30: JEA curriculum summit, Chicago

For the board: Headquarters staff has a vacancy for a Web/database developer, (job description is available at jea.org). This position has remained vacant for several months, and this month we decided to expand the search to include applicants who wished to work remotely.

Financially, as the third quarter of fiscal year 2014 comes to a close, JEA has brought in \$674,903 in income (66 percent of our budget) and \$598,084 in expenses (59 percent of our budget). The organization stands with about \$1.4 million in total current assets.

**Mark Newton, MJE****President**

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Mark Newton

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At the conclusion of my first term, every day I am reminded of what an honor it is to serve as JEA president. While the day-to-day tasks keep me busy, I am humbled by the work ethic of our executive director and the headquarters staff. Executive Director Kelly Furnas and the office staff — Connie Fulkerson, Pam Boller and Meredith Fey — are always dedicated to the improvement of JEA. One cannot thank them enough for all they do for me, the board of directors and, most importantly, our members.

Please take a few moments to review the notes from our Boston meeting last November and the subsequent motions and results.

The highlights of the last five months since my last report are:

- Represented JEA at the Scholastic Journalism Division of AEJMC midwinter meeting. The big ideas we wanted to address on our panel, “A View from the Trenches: What (AEJMC) Scholastic Journalism Can Do for For High School Advisers,” were the need to prove our worth to all constituents (community, educational leaders, students) and creating partnerships for possible research. Each of us was able to share our thoughts on the three most significant issues we identified as facing scholastic journalism: (1) Programs in jeopardy and adviser retention; (2) Old skills/new tools; and (3) Anticipating the skills our students need for the next levels. We also reminded our research colleagues to make their work practical and meaningful and to increase our access to the findings. In short: (1) How do scholastic journalism educators get viable research? (2) What do we do with it once we get it? (3) How do we, as JEA leaders, help make our members better teachers/advisers? (I’m proud to say that this question is always driving our discussions and actions.) My concluding remarks pointed to four next-steps for JEA/AEJMC: (1) Educational and workplace validation of (a) the skills taught in scholastic journalism and (b) the skills and the experiences fostered in scholastic journalism; (2) Best practices in implementing and developing comprehensive journalism programs; (3) A call to fight the battle of journalism/scholastic journalism at the personal, professional and organizational levels; and (4) Establishing partnerships between higher education and scholastic journalism, whether that be specific research, collaborative teaching/learning opportunities or organizational efforts that enhance all participants.
- Continued outreach to the Society of Professional Journalists, Society of News Design, the Education Writers Association, the New York Times Learning Network, the U.S. Department of Education and AEJMC regarding partnerships.
- Worked with our lawyer to craft the JEA/KSU contract for hosting our headquarters. At press time, the contract had been submitted to Dr. Birgit Wassmuth, the chair of the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism at Kansas State University. The final contract will be submitted to the board of directors at our spring meeting in San Diego. The new board will approve the contract and I expect to sign it with KSU officials at the new board retreat in Manhattan in early May.

- Created the JEA One Book initiative, a shared experience based on a member-selected book and series of online discussions, and hosted a Twitter chat for the inaugural selection, Amanda Ripley’s bestseller “The Smartest Kids in the World: And How They Got That Way.”

- Developed and appointed chairs Sarah Verpooten, MJE, and Carrie Wadycki, MJE, for the Day of Doing, a one-day event where scholastic journalism educators will produce journalism to share with our students, each other and other media. Individually or in maestro groups, participants will select a story to cover and a means of creating it. The content created will be shared on a new website, dayofdoing.jea.org.

- Supported commissions and committees with their efforts. Specifically, the Executive/Finance Committee met in February to craft the 2014-15 budget. The curriculum leaders met in March for their spring summit, a meeting I also was able to attend.

- Continued to spend a significant amount of time working on all kinds of JEA programs and initiatives, addressing challenges and working hard to accomplish everything that needs to be done. This includes planning for the new board retreat, May 2-5 in Manhattan at JEA headquarters at KSU. Look for some major announcements soon after.

I have said this in each of my reports as president and once again there is absolutely no reason to change even one word: I’ve had many conversations with board members and general members. I am amazed at the talent, dedication, work ethic, passion and vision of all involved in JEA. Like I said above, our headquarters staff is unbelievable. Our board members—elected and appointed—are exceptional. And, our members are incredible. We’ve had an amazing start and I’m excited about our ideas and plans as we work together to move JEA forward in the next three months of my term as JEA president. It truly is an honor to serve JEA. Thank you for the opportunity. I appreciate the overwhelming vote of confidence in the recent election. The newly elected board, a team a I believe is absolutely committed to JEA, will not let you down.



Sarah Nichols

Sarah Nichols, MJE**Vice President**

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Each time I write this report I am reminded of what an honor it is to be part of the largest — and best — organization for journalism educators in the world. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as an officer. From our headquarters staff to our board members, committee chairs, state directors and other volunteers, we are fortunate to be part of a such a wonderful professional organization.

Since my last report, I have been busy with a variety of JEA activities, which include:

- Working with Kelly Furnas as coordinators of the JEA Curriculum Initiative, overseeing 14 curriculum leaders and offering feedback during the lesson plan development stage, attending the

winter summit in December and spring summit in March (both in Chicago) and helping edit and prepare modules for member use on the new curriculum area of the JEA website;

- Attending AEJMC's Scholastic Division Midwinter Meeting at the First Amendment Center in Nashville and co-presenting a panel with other JEA representatives;
- Maintaining JEA's social media presence through our Facebook page and Instagram account (@journalismeducation).
- Posting articles as a contributor to JEA Digital Media website.
- Working with John Bowen and the SPRC members to implement a new resource called the Press Rights Minute, which is a SoundCloud channel of audio clips to teach about the First Amendment and scholastic press rights topics with tips from teachers and students;
- Attending the Finance Committee meeting in February to craft the 2014-15 budget;
- Developing and coordinating Lunch with the President, a new opportunity for students to kick off its first event in San Diego.



Mitch Eden

Mitch Eden, MJE

Secretary

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As I head to my last convention as an officer, I am indebted to the current board members for their service and passion to move JEA forward as the premier scholastic journalism organization in the country. The hours, planning and dialogue all are in the best interest of our members and profession, and I feel lucky to have been a part of it. Here are some of the projects I have worked on recently:

- 1forAll: Working on a potential partnership with the 1forAll campaign. Secured a grant and currently going through the process and setting up a model of sample grant proposals.
- JEA budget: Working to make sure JEA is set up for financial stability in 2014-15.
- SJOY solicitation: Working to create potential partnerships with local San Diego media outlets to help fund the Student Journalist of the Year scholarships.



Jack Kennedy

Jack Kennedy, MJE

Past President

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I was honored to chair the Awards committee and the Nominations committee, both for the final time. My sincere thanks to the committee members who generously give their time

to read through and analyze nomination materials, and to Connie Fulkerson for her wise and timely guidance in the process.

I was delighted by the number and quality of those who were candidates in the recently concluded election, our first under a new board structure. Equally exciting was the number of quality of those who chose not to run this time, but who expressed a desire to contribute to JEA in other ways, now and in the future. I have never felt so certain that the future of our organization is secure.

That is one reason I have taken the unprecedented action of resigning as past president. If interested, there is a fine article explaining this at <http://jea.org/blog/2014/02/20/kennedy-resign-past-president-bowen-assume-duties/>

This entire school year has been eventful, from our headquarters search to much-anticipated curriculum materials to an exciting new board of directors, set to begin on May 1. I was honored to play a small role in some of these activities and look forward to using JEA's energy and programming to rev up student media in Colorado.

A personal project in my immediate future: encouraging English Education programs in universities to include student media training/courses as part of their curriculum. I want to increase the numbers of educators who see value in not only student media programs, but using the skills and techniques used by student media in ELA classes.

Another personal project for me is being local chair for the 2015 Denver national convention. Many thanks to JEA and NSPA for bringing this amazing event to the Front Range, once again.

Awards report from coordinator Connie Fulkerson

These honorees will be recognized at the National High School Journalism Convention in San Diego:

2013 H.L. Hall Yearbook Adviser of the Year

Brenda Gorsuch, MJE, West Henderson High School, Hendersonville, N.C.

Distinguished Yearbook Advisers

- Brenda Field, CJE, Glenbrook South High School, Glenview, Ill.
- Jed Palmer, Sierra Middle School, Parker, Colo.
- Meghan Percival, CJE, McLean (Va.) High School

Special Recognition Yearbook Advisers

- Thomas Gayda, MJE, North Central High School, Indianapolis
- Patricia Monroe, Burges High School, El Paso, Texas
- Erinn Harris, CJE, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, Alexandria, Va.
- Nicole Wilson Laughrey, MJE, Carmel (Ind.) High School

2014 Broadcast Adviser of the Year

Michael Hernandez, Mira Costa High School, Manhattan Beach, Calif.

Distinguished Broadcast Advisers

- Alyssa Boehringer, McKinney (Texas) High School
- Don Goble, Ladue Horton Watkins High School, St. Louis, Mo.

Special Recognition Broadcast Advisers

- Michelle Turner, Washington (Mo.) High School
- Matthew Rasgorshek, Westside High School, Omaha, Neb.

2014 Teacher Inspiration Award

Jim McGonnell, New Smyrna Beach, Fla.

2014 JEA Rising Stars

- Adam Dawkins, CJE, Regis Jesuit High School, Aurora, Colo.
- Adrienne Forgette, CJE, Martha's Vineyard Regional High School, Oak Bluffs, Mass.
- Nima Kapadia, South Garland High School, Garland, Texas
- Melissa Larson, Mesa Middle School, Castle Rock, Colo.
- Jessica Leifheit, Castle View High School, Castle Rock, Colo.
- Pia Longinotti, Freeman High School, Rockford, Wash.
- Julieanne McClain, CJE, Rutherford B. Hayes High School, Delaware, Ohio
- Cory Morlock, Academy School District 20, Colorado Springs, Colo.
- Natalie Niemeyer, Des Moines East High School, Des Moines, Iowa
- Megan Ortiz, Summer Creek High School, Houston, Texas
- Kyle Phillips, CJE, George Washington High School, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- Rachel Rauch, Homestead High School, Mequon, Wis.
- Jesse Sutherland, CJE, Waterford Kettering High School, Waterford, Mich.
- Kim Vinh, Sequoia High School, Redwood City, Calif.

2014 Diversity Award

Arrow, Renton (Wash.) High School

Diversity Award Runner-up

PGTV, Prince George (Va.) High School

2014 Student Journalist Impact Award

Arrow newsmagazine, Renton (Wash.) High School

2014 First Amendment Press Freedom Award Winners

- Convent of the Sacred Heart High School, San Francisco
- Francis Howell North High School, St. Charles, Mo.
- Kirkwood (Mo.) High School
- Mountlake Terrace (Wash.) High School
- North Central High School, Indianapolis
- Townsend Harris High School, Flushing, N.Y.

JEA Commission Chairs



Kim Green

Kim Green, MJE

Certification Commission Chair

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We implemented the following:

- Because we had so many test-takers in Boston, we purchased nearly 50 jump drives to facilitate downloading test answers. This was piloted in Atlanta where 36 Herff Jones reps tested, and it

made downloading smooth and quick while protecting the integrity of the test.

- Liz Walsh's idea of videos promoting Certification added additional videos about the MJE process and its project. Check it out on the Certification page at jea.org.
- Chair Kim Green proctored CJE/MJE testing at JEA Advisers Institute again last summer, marking testing at both JEA since 2012. She also will proctor in July 2014.
- We tested yearbook reps at sales meetings this winter from Walsworth (6), Herff Jones (35) and Jostens (36).
- We added the Colorado High School Press Association as a testing site with Jack Kennedy, MJE, as the proctor; three new CJEs joined the ranks.
- A committee comprised of Liz Walsh, Jane Blystone and Candace Bowen revised the current law and ethics question on the MJE, which is more direct and more clearly guides the candidate on the expectations for the answer.
- For retired MJEs, we will offer the designation MJE-Emeritus. It is designed specifically for MJEs to retain the designation without having to reapply. A special area of the MJE Renewal Application will prompt those who qualify.

The following projects are in various stages of progress:

- Examining a potential online course of study in conjunction with the Poynter Institute and NewsU for a potential new CJE Option as well as serving other JEA initiatives.
- Posting the percentages of those successfully passing the exams on the JEA site.
- We had postponed but plan to begin a new initiative: Commissioners will begin contacting CJE Renewals from San Antonio, San Francisco and Boston, personally inviting them to apply for their MJE, offering to mentor each through the process.
- Creating three versions of the MJE exam, updating the application, finalizing project guide/rubric.
- Posting on the JEA website a database of all MJE projects.
- Posting on the JEA website that graduate credit from Kansas State can be earned for acquiring MJE status (project, exam, etc.).

Action items continue to be:

- Aligning Certification initiatives with other JEA commissions, committees, initiatives.
- Identifying more coursework/professional development that will help members complete the three required courses for CJE-Option A (news writing/reporting, media law and advising student media).
- Exploring using JEA Certification for state-approved certification in journalism. Still no word on results of Kansas advisers asking that CJE and MJE certification fulfill the state's journalism teaching certification in lieu of the PRAXIS.

Information items:

We have tested more candidates than ever in the past year. Boston broke a record for number tested, and the success rate has been amazing!



Anita Wertz

Anita Wertz, MJE

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The 2013 Aspiring Young Journalist was named at the Sunday awards assembly in November in Boston.

Ashton Leberfinger from Altoona, Pa. was named as the 2013 Aspiring Young Journalist in recognition of her work on the Maroon and White Gazette at Altoona Area Junior High School. Ashton was editor of the newswriting group for the newspaper. She was also president of the newspaper club.

Her newspaper adviser, Wanda Pletcher said, “In the journalism classroom, Ashton is a leader. Her stories are polished and show the maturity of a journalist that has been writing for many years, although this is her first year as a journalist.”

Applications for the 2014 Aspiring Young Journalist must be received by July 1, 2014. Portfolios may be submitted in hard copy or in a digital format. Information can be found on the JEA website (jea.org/home/awards-honors/aspiring-young-journalist/)



John Bowen

John Bowen, MJE

Press Rights Commission Chair

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Although the Scholastic Press Rights Commission has not tackled as many major projects as evidenced in the last several reports, its members have been busy with responding to requests for information and assistance, carrying out some projects and expanding legal and ethical information through its website, <http://jeasprc.org>.

In particular, commission work has focused on:

- Completion of the first 20 Press Rights minutes (<http://jeasprc.org/press-rights-minute/>), brief audio summaries of legal and ethical issues from copyright to April Fools issues.
- Ongoing work on a comprehensive set of ethical guidelines for handling typical yearbook situations.
- Ongoing development of guidelines for handling takedown demands for online materials.
- Ongoing work with the 45words student group.
- Ongoing development of a law and ethics Write Off test at conventions.

The commission will also engage some of the following over the next year as part of its mission and goals. Possible commission activities include:

- Developing a supplement to parallel the Principals Guide, focusing on how to build strong relationships to administrators

- Revitalizing the 45words initiative (Student Partners)
- Expanding the impact of the Making a Difference program, seeking more frequent examples of substantive reporting that makes a difference
- Developing a faculty guide to the First Amendment and student media; how to get and keep them on your side
- Working with mentoring program to update mentors on several new legal and ethical issues
- Creating Takedown Guidelines for online information based on legal and ethical principles, and options
- Publishing a list of ethical guidelines for yearbook advisers
- Developing guidelines on copyright and ownership of student media materials
- Expanding our Press Rights Minutes initiative
- Creating guidelines on how to handle student peer censoring; editor to editor, editor to staff
- Working to add press rights materials into each of the curriculum guides as needed
- Creating a white paper, scholarly guide and/or practical approaches to the idea that censorship and prior review interfere with “authentic learning,” accurate flow of information and civic engagement. Why should communities look to/at journalism for authentic learning when censorship exists and students only print permitted info? Free and journalistically responsible student media drive authenticity; censorship inhibits it. Rigor is restricted when students cannot use critical thinking and decision-making in their student media
- Compiling the “Best of” SPRC site materials into a book, ebook or special section of the commission website
- Expanding the “panic button” concept into the 50 states, working with state directors and SPA people to local first reactors to censorship and keep a better national eye on censorship. This would also include surveying (with CSJ) each state.

Individually, commission members report the following activities:

Jane Blystone, MJE

Since the last report, I have posted five blogs to the SPRC website featuring Making a Difference entries selected by a panel of national judges. I am pleased that this helps bring folks to our blog. I have also worked with Gillian McGoldrick at Neshaminy High School in Pennsylvania regarding a censorship issue at their school that has received wide national coverage. It is documented in the Dec. 24 blog.

Candace Bowen, MJE

Since the fall JEA/NSPA meeting, I joined the Tinker Tour and went to Des Moines. While there and afterwards, I was able to blog and tweet and post photos and then write the main article in the Dow Jones Adviser Update pullout about the experience. And it definitely WAS an experience.

I have been helping two Ohio advisers facing prior review/censorship issues. Both needed moral support and suggestions for approaches with their principals. Both seem to be doing OK now.

I participated in the selection process of the First Amendment Press Freedom awards, and sent the email notification to the winners of each round and notification and encouragement to those who did not win.

I wrote blog posts for jeasprc.org: Student free speech v. adviser job security, Civic engagement: More than a buzz word and contributions to The Tinkers return to their roots.

I contributed to the JEA Press Rights Minutes with a podcast on eliminating prior review.

Audrey Cunningham, CJE

This year, I've done the following:

- Continued to pursue research on the scholastic censorship phenomenon. I've found more outlets for publishing my findings as well. These include: a podcast with the SPLC, a publication in C:JET and an accepted panel at AEJMC.
- In addition, I also recorded a Press Rights Minute.

Mary Kay Downes, MJE

- Nominated my principal for the SIPA Administrator of the Year Award and accepted the award on her behalf, reading her speech which stated her unbridled support of First Amendment rights for student journalists.
- Worked with three schools in our district whose administrators were challenging stories or newscasts. Set them straight.
- Presented to a group of FCPS journalism advisers at our Winter in-service and stressed the importance of educating both the students and the administrators on press rights.
- In sessions at SIPA and at JEA/NSPA in Boston, stressed the importance of SPLC resources and the work of the SPRC.
- Completed three surveys having to do with student press rights.

Mitch Eden, MJE

As a new member, I have answered a few questions on the listserv and provided links to members when I see help is needed.

Personally, I am conducting a Editorial Leadership Seminar March 10 at our local Journalism Conference at Webster University. This seminar was possible through a 1forALL grant of \$500 secured through ASNE and Ken Paulson. The seminar will focus heavily on educating these juniors and rising editors on their responsibility as scholastic journalism leaders to educate, promote and practice the First Amendment.

Also, during SJW, my students filmed a few promos of all KHS media to promote and educate and well as going on announcements all week to discuss the First Amendment and KHS media.

Mark Goodman

- Helped compose and compile a survey of JEA/NSPA convention attendees in Boston regarding their experiences with censorship and prior review. See <http://www.splc.org/news/newsflash.asp?id=2671> for details.
- Concurrently helping conduct a survey of JEA listserv members on the same topic.
- Will present sessions at the spring 2014 Columbia Scholastic Press Association in New York.

I've been quoted in stories about invasion of privacy relating to "butt dailing" (<http://www.wksu.org/news/story/37656>) and FERPA as applied to disciplinary records (<http://www.freep.com/article/20140131/COL08/301310147/brendan-gibbons-michiganfootball>, http://www.mlive.com/wolverines/index.ssf/2014/02/plenty_of_unanswered_questions.html, <http://www.michigandaily.com/article/gibbons-document-faxed-athletic>

[department-offices-dec-23-press-conference](http://www.michigandaily.com/article/gibbons-document-faxed-athletic-department-offices-dec-23-press-conference)).

Lori Keekley, MJE

During this time I have continued to respond to newspaper and newsmagazine advisers or their students who have censorship problems and ask for help through either posting on the listserv or by hitting the Panic Button.

Additionally, with the help of John Bowen and several other commission members, I wrote the Law and Ethics portion of the JEA Curriculum Initiative. I also helped to judge the law and ethics Write-off at the Boston conference, and I created my first installment for the Press Rights Minute about the SPRC Panic Button.

Sarah Nichols, MJE

During the past few months I have been able to serve the SPRC in these ways:

- Proposed a new resource called the Press Rights Minute, which is a SoundCloud channel of informational clips related to scholastic press rights issues. I created the channel, established audio segment guidelines, suggested topics and recruited participants. To date, the channel has 20 clips ranging from topics like FOIA and FERPA to the dangers of publishing an April Fools edition.
- Connected advisers and students facing censorship challenges to their state director based on Panic Button contacts. The checklist system we established two years ago continues to work well for offering immediate assistance in this way.
- Volunteered to serve on a team working on ethical considerations for yearbook. Our team has just started this project.

Glenn Morehouse Olson, CJE

- Attended Journalism Education Minnesota State Convention (and brought around 30 students).
- Presented my "Win, Win, Win" presentation about The SFHS Crier Newspaper's censorship and how we "Won the Battle."
- Spoke with students about ways they could enhance their relationships with their administration to avoid the "chilling" effect.
- Created a Press Rights Minute about 10 tips for avoiding censorship.
- Spent time with SPLC making sure our own magazine focused on drugs and heroin was safe from censorship (articles were featured on SNO Best of Site).
- Created a spreadsheet to jumpstart conversation about Tips for Yearbook.
- Retweeted censorship issues and tried to raise awareness and give support to national censorship issues.
- Taught journalism, broadcast, online and mass media Classes at St. Francis High School and include media ethics, law, social media guidelines and censorship education.

Although I have not been able to attend national conventions this year and participate on panels, I have participated in discussions through the JEA listserv and through our SPRC communications and I have given my thoughts and 2 cents whenever needed.

Kathy Schrier, MJE

- Presented a session on Student Media Ethics at the Boston Convention.
- Submitted a post to the SPRC blog. (Still haven't done the Press

Rights Minute, however.)

- Started a full time teaching gig in December that will last through June, teaching newspaper and yearbook (plus four other classes.) A major goal is to fill these students in on law and ethics issues, as this was not a part of their prior curriculum.
- Tinker Tour visit on May 1: WJEA is working with our local ACLU to co-sponsor a Tinker Tour event specifically for student journalists in the Puget Sound region on Law Day, May 1. We are hammering out the details now.
- Was interviewed by a reporter from the Student Press Law Center, following last week's Court of Appeals ruling against the plaintiffs in the Sisley vs. Seattle Public Schools lawsuit, now in its third year. It appears there will be no further appeals.

Tracy Anne Sena, CJE

- Held a private school press rights forum session at both the JEANC Fall Conference in Sacramento in October 2013 and at the JEA/NSPA Fall Convention in Boston, November 2013.
- Submitted Press Rights Minute #6 - Understanding Fair Use and Press Rights Minute #7 - Using Expletives.
- Contributed to the Press Rights blog.
- Worked with two private schools advisers who are trying to negotiate prior review on Web stories.
- Danced exuberantly when my school with a past history of prior restraint and review was named a 2014 recipient of the JEA First Amendment Press Freedom Award.
- Will host Mary Beth Tinker (Tinker Tour) at all-school assembly in April, which will also include journalism programs from local public and private schools.

Matt Schott, CJE

- 45words students presented a session and stationed a booth at the Boston national convention.
- At our local SSP convention, spoke to Editorial Leadership seminar about 45words.
- 45words students reached out to two student newspapers dealing with censorship issues, including The Playwickian in Pennsylvania.

Randy Swikle, MJE

- I have been a classroom speaker on First Amendment values and the scholastic press.
- As a board member of the Illinois Press Foundation and the Northern Illinois Newspaper Association, I have been a strong advocate for student press rights, collaborating regularly with leaders of commercial newspapers and winning their enthusiastic support of our causes.
- I have been involved with the Illinois Civic Mission Coalition and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation in ways that support student press rights and strengthen the support of our causes in scholastic journalism.
- I questioned Justice Sandra Day O'Connor at a Civic Mission Coalition breakfast event and got her insights regarding student press rights. Those insights are invaluable in us helping to understand which arguments we must address to detractors of student press rights.
- I have communicated with many journalism teachers/student news media advisers who are experiencing censorship issues with school administrators. I've sent copies of the McCormick

Foundation's "Protocol for Free & Responsible Student Newspaper" to students, advisers and administrators and suggested ways to reach fair resolutions to conflicts.

- I have been writing extensively, working on several First Amendment & Scholastic Journalism topics. I hope to be submitting soon to SPRC a draft of an article that lists 45 activities for garnering community support of student press rights. I am also working on a list of new strategies for building partnerships with scholastic journalism stakeholders.

John Tagliareni

I again worked as a judge for the Making a Difference Project. I made extensive comments for Jane to consider for the entries. I also have suggestions for the future that may improve the project.

I have spent an enormous amount of time helping advisers in New Jersey with censorship or prior review issues. Two of our board members from the GSSPA have been affected. Tom McHale resigned as adviser, after his school imposed prior review, and Bill Gurden is embroiled in a battle with his administration for censoring his students at Pemberton High School.

SPLC reporter Casey McDermott interviewed me regarding the Pemberton situation. However, she has not published the follow-up to her original article because she can't get any new information. I also have tried to get updates, but I am having the same problem. She hopes to publish my comments in the future.

I sent the SPRC information regarding the Pemberton situation. I was encouraged by the support of Phil Gianficaro, of the Burlington County Times, with his terrific column. Phil sent a copy of his column, which I sent to the commission. I spoke to him at length, and I hope that he will continue to follow up on Pemberton and other censorship cases. I have invited him to speak at our Rutgers conference in October, 2014. I am including an attachment of his column for the report.

I spoke to Frank Burgos, also from the Burlington County Times, who is a strong supporter of student journalists. He was involved with Youth Communication as a student himself in Chicago, and I plan to contact the chapter in New York. I like their concept, and their goals to improve student writing and to encourage minority participation.

I talked to our strongest supporter from The Record, editor Joe Dziublenski, about Frank LoMonte's powerful piece criticizing professional journalists for not supporting student journalists. He again will do what he can, and I will send copies to various sources, including the NJPA, and I will try to speak at one of their meetings to get more professionals behind us.

I checked with Adam Goldstein to make sure I was correct in my understanding of the NJ Constitution and the Desilits case, which we believe can be applied in the Pemberton situation, if the students pursue it. I also checked with Adam about a high school yearbook case in NJ in which Hazelwood could not be applied, according to the decision. It was not the best example of student journalism and certainly not a noble cause, but it proved that the First Amendment protection, in the NJ context, was paramount.

I took this excerpt from All Academic Research Authors: Belmas, Genelle:

Salek v. Passaic Collegiate School, 605 A.2d 276 (App.Div. 1992) NJ (ap) High; Faculty Defamation: Picture of teacher with another teacher in yearbook with caption suggesting a sexual relation alleged

to be defamatory. Trial ct. granted summary judgment for school; appeals ct. affirmed. Picture was clearly understood in context to be satiric and humorous. Attempt to use Hazelwood was inappropriate: "We find no support for plaintiff's assertion that Hazelwood required defendant school officials to exercise greater censorship over the content and/or style of the yearbook."

I have included a link to the SPLC for the full article. <http://issuu.com/splc/docs/v13n3-fall92>

All of this is leading to a Jersey theme for our GSSPA conference, with reporters, photographers, and columnists, who face obstacles, and can relate as a parallel to student journalists. Even though most students here don't do investigative reporting, they still get censored for simple stories. I think many students will be energized by the determination of the reporters and other professionals covering the NJ scandals. Among some good things to come from the Watergate scandal, was a big interest and increase in careers in journalism.

Since my last report, I offered the following sessions in 2013: GSSPA Press Day Conference, Rutgers University, October 28; CSPA Fall Conference, New York, November 4. I will present the following sessions for Spring, 2014: CSPA Spring Convention, New York, March 19-21; Roxbury High School Media Conference in NJ, on May 2, and the GSSPA Spring Conference at Rutgers on May 2. I have been asked to speak at Communications High School, in Wall, N.J. No date has been set.

Stan Zoller, MJE

- Presented a session the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) at the Boston Convention
- Posted several blogs for the SPRC blog.
- Recorded three Press Rights Minute clips
- Provided information to advisers about freedom of information based on situations posted on the JEA Listserv
- Now teaching Comm. 120 / Intro. to Journalism at Lake Forest College — unit on press rights and ethics include extensive resources from SPLC.
- Continue as VP/FOI for Chicago Headline Club, Chicago's SPJ chapter. Signature event is March 14 – FOIA Fest, a daylong event examining Freedom of Information. Open to professional and student journalists.

JEACommittee Chairs and Liaisons



Bradley Wilson, MJE

C:JET Editor

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We set off this year ready to produce four quality issues pushing the envelope of journalism education while challenging educators and students in all aspects of media production. We succeeded. We have dealt with more demands on our time — reporting, meeting and creating the advisory group. The advisory group met in Boston and shared four ideas that resulted in one motion.

Motion: Money/Advertising: JEA has contracted with an outside vendor for advertising at www.jea.org. The new opportunity has resulted in expensive advertising to some of the same companies that have advertised in C:JET in the past. There was an initial wave of concern due to lack of contact from JEA in advance. But there were also companies who advertised online at substantial cost.

Discussion: We do not have, and need, a unified advertising policy, including contact information and potential advertising opportunities in printed magazine, online as well as conference program and pre-conference materials.

Board motion: Whereas JEA, for about 15 years, been accepting advertising for its magazine; whereas JEA has only this year begun accepting advertising online; and whereas both types of advertising are handled by different people with no coordination; therefore, be it resolved that JEA develop an advertising policy to include policies and procedures for advertising in all JEA media.

Future questions: Are we competing against ourselves? Is there a potential for package deals? What are the splits between partner organizations? When do we give complimentary ads to other organizations?



Aaron Manfull

Aaron Manfull, MJE

Digital Media Committee Chair

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JEA DigitalMedia.org has continued to grow and we have continually worked to reassess the most pressing needs of students and advisers. We have been tracking data so we can get a gauge of how we are doing with this. I will only touch on part of it here; please let me know if you'd like to have any other data and I will make sure to get it to you.

I have decided to compare six-month periods of the site (from March 13-Sept. 13 and Sept. 14-March 12) each year that I do this. They are even six-month periods and will allow us to get an annual report together in time for each convention.

In our four years of existence, we had more than 680 posts published (roughly three per week), 187,996 visits, and 381,782 pageviews. Including myself, there are more than 40 members of the committee who are on an email list. Sixteen different people contributed posts to the site during the past six months. Eight committee members are considered contributors for posting at least three times over the past six months or because they work with other parts of the site. They are:

Aaron Manfull - 14 posts

Michelle Harmon - 11 posts

Sarah Nichols - 9 posts

Michael Hernandez - 7 posts

Matt Rasgorshek - 6 posts

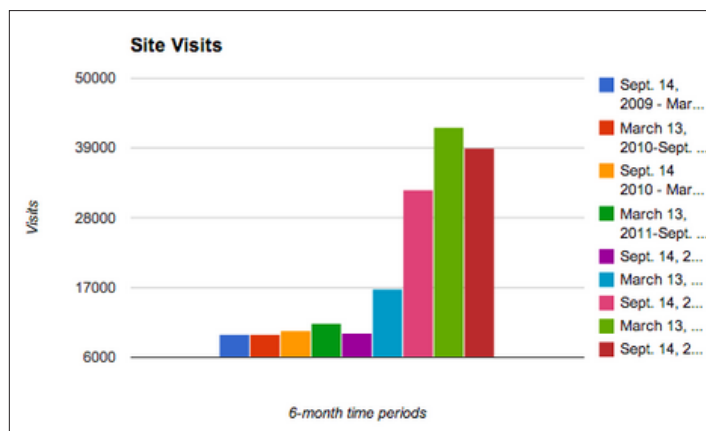
Jonathan Rogers - 4 posts

Michelle Balmeo - 3 posts

Don Goble - 3 posts

Evelyn Lauer for social media work

While some of the wording is cut off on the following charts, the graphs move from least the least recent 6-month period in dark blue to the most recent 6-month period, represented in light burgundy (on the far right). There is a decline in numbers from the previous six-month period, but if you compare the last six months to the same timeframe from the previous year, you will see the numbers are still trending up.



Below are the most clicked posts/pages from the last 6 months:

Page	
1. /	
2. /2012/06/06/tutorial-how-to-use-imovie-on-the-ipad/	
3. /2012/07/06/royalty-free-music-for-video-production/	
4. /royalty-free-music-and-audio-for-video-production/	
5. /guide-to-broadcast-video/	
6. /2013/03/05/how-to-choose-a-video-camera-for-broadcast-journalism/	
7. /2012/08/15/starting-a-broadcast-journalism-program-from-scratch-where-to-begin/	
8. /2012/06/18/how-to-generate-story-ideas-for-broadcast/	
9. /2012/01/10/13-steps-for-creating-a-student-news-package/	
10. /2012/09/04/plan-out-your-video-with-a-successful-storyboard/	

We have been busy with a few things since Boston. We had the first winners announced in the Broadcast Adviser of the Year competition. Michael Hernandez was named the National Broadcast Adviser of the Year. Don Goble and Alyssa Boehringer were named Distinguished Advisers and Matt Rasgorshek and Michelle Turner were named Special Recognition Advisers. The awards will be given in San Diego. Lindenwood University was the sponsor for these awards and we hope to work with them to secure 2015 sponsorship later this spring.

Sarah Nichols has been hard at work putting the finishing touches on the Yearbook Guide which will officially launch in the coming weeks. There are a lot of great posts on the site and it will be great to collect them into one place.

Evelyn Lauer worked with the Facebook and Twitter accounts leading up to each convention, working to help build excitement for the convention and gain new followers.

Aaron Manfull updated the site theme in March. The updated

theme makes better use of space on the homepage and moves our paid advertiser up above the fold. The site is still responsive.

As a reminder, Aaron Manfull worked to create an advertising structure for JEADigitalMedia.org. Information on advertising on the site can be found at: <http://www.jeadigitalmedia.org/advertise-with-us/>. School Newspapers Online has purchased the main widget area for the entire year. We also have a rotating ad area within posts and pages where we will work to push to summer journalism workshops and other advertisers as well. We currently have one summer workshop that has purchased space.

We will discuss our goals at our committee meeting in San Diego but I have a feeling we will work to continue some of our current areas of focus: 1) Continue to build a deeper broadcast presence on the site as it remains one of our biggest draws; 2) Continue to post relevant articles for those wanting help with their online journey; 3) Work to publicize the site more on the Listserv and other places.

As always, if there is anything anyone would like to see on the site, please email us at info@jeadigitalmedia.org. Here are the links I said I would make available:

Visitor data for JEADigitalMedia.org: <http://bit.ly/9fEoUf>

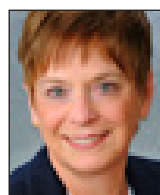
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/jeadigitalmedia>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/jeadigitalmedia>

Guide to Moving Online: <http://www.jeadigitalmedia.org/guide-to-moving-online/>

Guide to Video and Broadcast: <http://www.jeadigitalmedia.org/guide-to-broadcast-video/>

Guide to Multimedia Tools: <http://www.jeadigitalmedia.org/multimedia-tools/>



Candace Perkins Bowen, MJE
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Although this committee is officially sunset as of May 1, 2014, its concerns are still vital to JEA. For that reason, I will gather the most updated information from the subcommittee chairs to pass on to those on the new board who will be responsible for them. These are Common Core State Standards (Brian Wilson), P-21 (Gary Lindsay), Career Technical Education (Jon Reese) and the related student groups, CTSO (Alyssa Boehringer).

I have worked on gathering information about the Journalism Praxis test, now used to varying degrees in seven states (Wyoming, Kansas, Iowa, Wisconsin, South Dakota, West Virginia and Arkansas). Although a meeting to help "calibrate" the test included educators from these states, even they have been unable to find out who developed the test and what input, if any, journalism educators had in the process. As some parts of the test seems flawed, this is an investigation that needs to continue, possibly with the state departments of education in these seven locations.

In addition, I plan to pass on my contacts with media who have published articles or expressed interest in doing so related to JEA

and such educational initiatives. I'm unaware what is being done to announce the new curriculum, and some of these contacts might be helpful.



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Peggy Gregory, CJE
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Committee members: Bill Flechtner and Mary Anne McCloud. Julie Dodd and Judy Robinson have resigned from the Mentor Committee this winter, although Julie will continue to sponsor the mentor listserv at the University of Florida, provide technical support for webinars and maintain the JEAmentoring.org website. Additionally, a number of mentors have decided to retire at the end of this school year: Ron Bonadonna (N.J.), Babs Erickson (Ill.), Joe Pfeiff (Ariz.), Martha Rothwell (N.C.), Nora Stephens (Ala.) and Kay Windsor (N.C.).

We are hoping to train at least four more mentors in Las Vegas this summer at the same time as the Adviser Institute: three from North Carolina and one from Illinois. A couple other states are interested but they don't have a state association to sponsor and financially support mentors.

Changes to the Mentor Program

• JEA Funding for the Mentor Program

Starting with the 2014-2015 cycle, JEA funding will be used only for program operation, not for stipend support. State Scholastic Press Association Funding for Mentor Stipends The Yellow Chair Foundation has agreed to let us use its yearly donation to the Mentor Program to supplement mentor stipends that are not fully supported in some states. The amount available each year may vary and state scholastic press associations will be able to apply for this support on a yearly basis.

The Mentor Program recognizes that many states have found difficulty securing enough funding for the \$2,500 stipend amount for each mentor each year. While some stipend assistance is available from the Yellow Chair Foundation, we expect each state scholastic press association to make a good-faith effort to pay as much as they reasonably can toward its mentor stipends. If a state is still unable come up with enough funding, we offer the following recommendations for setting the stipend amount:

1. \$2,500 per mentor per year is the recommended stipend all states should aim for.
2. When situations make this impossible, stipends may be lowered, but no less than \$1,000.

3. States should take into consideration variables like the distances mentors travel to meet with their mentees, the amount mentors are spending on resources for their mentees, the number of mentees a mentor is working with.

• Mentor Program Plans for Working with the Outreach Academy Cadre

Because Outreach participants would benefit from follow-up support, we propose the following starting with the San Diego convention in April 2014:

1. With the help of the convention chairs and Outreach Cadre, we will pair up mentors and potential mentees who are signed up for the Outreach Academy in advance of the convention. All mentors at the San Diego Forum will attend lunch with the Outreach Academy participants. Those who are slated to possibly mentor one of the participants will also attend the afternoon portion of the Outreach Academy to establish the relationship with the potential mentee. Outreach Academy participants will decide whether they want a mentor or not. The mentoring partnership may be a long-distance one, not necessarily someone from the same state.
2. Mornings for all the mentors at the convention will be spent at the mentor forum learning the new JEA curriculum piece and refreshing their ideas about long-distance mentoring and mentoring in at-risk schools.

• Mentor Attendance at the Mentor Forum and Conventions

Starting in the fall of 2014, The Mentor Program will provide funding for mentors to attend only the Thursday forum at the convention closest to their homes. Work with the Outreach Committee as outlined above will continue. The morning forum will offer sessions presented by the press rights committee, certification committee and digital committee, as they are available, as well as further problem-solving sessions facilitated by the Mentor Committee members. *Mentor travel and two hotel nights will be paid from the mentor budget. No further convention requirements such as presenting sessions or judging will be asked of the mentors. Actual convention attendance and subsequent hotel nights will be optional for mentors and at their own expense or that of their state scholastic press association.* (This will be implemented for a one-year trial in response to the JEA Board's direction that on-going professional development for mentors at convention be more cost-effective.)

• Training for New Mentors and Follow-up for Outreach Participants

Both Outreach and Mentoring will take advantage of the hotel arrangements at the Adviser Institute to do further training.

1. The Outreach attendees from fall and spring will be invited to attend the summer Adviser Institute which should include special sessions for new advisers.
2. The new cadre of mentors each year will receive their training at the institute as well. This will allow for 2½ days of cost-effective training as part of the mentor budget.
3. New mentors will have the opportunity to meet potential mentees from among advisers attending the Adviser Institute.

For the board: On behalf of our funders and the mentors, the Mentor Committee still recommends that JEA return to a three-year commitment to the Mentor Program.

**Brian Wilson, CJE****NCTE Liaison**

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Membership: All members of JEA are automatically members of the NCTE Assembly for Advisors of Student Publications. Our group is the largest assembly in NCTE.

Happenings: The NCTE yearly convention will be held in Washington, D.C. Nov. 20-24. This is two weeks after the JEA convention, which is conveniently also in D.C. Several area-advisers are scheduled to join me for the conference, and we'll have a booth similar to what we've had in the past. As with last year, Carol Lange and a few other advisers have agreed to help out in the booth so that we are able to do more networking. We have some exciting proposals in the works. We have a Common Core panel in the works, headed up by Ed Madison of the University of Oregon. Here are our other submitted NCTE proposals:

"Everyone Has a Story: A 21st-century Model to Improve Student Writing" (Valerie Kibler, Megan Fromm)

Annotation:

This session will provide an overview of a new 14-part national curriculum based on 21st-century storytelling and share strategies for implementation that apply in any language arts classroom. The Journalism Education Association's Curriculum Initiative focuses on writing, editing, news literacy and skills necessary to communicate with authentic audiences.

Description:

Storytelling is at the core of every scholastic journalism program. Intended to inform, educate and entertain, the stories high school students report and present to authentic audiences help make the world a little smaller and a lot smarter. A new curriculum from the Journalism Education Association is designed to support all types of storytelling in any journalism classroom.

Based on 14 content areas to encompass everything from law and ethics to multimedia broadcast, the JEA Curriculum Initiative includes learner objectives, lesson plans, instructional materials, and both formative and summative assessments, including rubrics. This initiative marks the best of what JEA is and does — utilizing the expertise of its members as educational leaders in curriculum and instruction, solving a pressing need for all types of journalism and language arts educators. Developed by experts, the dynamic curriculum is tied to Common Core State Standards and 21st century skills. Beginning teachers can access tried-and-true lessons, activities and assessments to get a solid start in the journalism classroom during that "survival mode" stage, while veteran teachers will benefit from the ability to mix and match parts of each module to meet their own unique needs all as part of a national professional learning community.

This session will introduce each aspect of the curriculum and share strategies for implementation. Teachers with no journalism background can draw from the curriculum for new strategies and activities in writing, editing and media literacy for any type of

language arts class with an introduction to journalism. This type of storytelling and the skills surrounding it is the ideal path to help students gain 21st-century skills and demonstrate them to a variety of audiences.

"The Real Story: Intensive Journalistic Writing in the English Classroom" (Carol Lange, Valerie Kibler, Rebecca Sipos, Alex Kaplan, Will Higgins, Alan Weintraut)

Annotation:

Have you wondered how to get your students excited about writing, or how to bring nonfiction into your classes in a meaningful manner — or how to make your journalism program more challenging? Our team of experienced educators will share a journalistic writing approach and lessons filled with concrete methods and materials that you can use to integrate journalism and English.

Description:

Intensive Journalistic Writing is designed to offer students the best of both worlds: writing programs which teach the clear, concise style of the journalist and English programs which demand higher-level thinking skills and analysis of literature. Use traditional rhetorical modes in nontraditional ways and encourage student reading of journalistic modes, research and vocabulary development. Students write about their world, applying the techniques learned in classic and contemporary models. Attend to experience how to implement a curriculum that meets Common Core standards, the College Board AP English Language and Composition audit and engages students in improving their composition skills.

"Advising a Student Publication and Creating Powerful Student Leaders" (Frank LoMonte, Brian Wilson)

Annotation:

Are you just getting started in the amazing world of publications' advising? Or wondering how to get a newspaper, yearbook, website, or broadcast program off the ground? Or just want to find out more about how to infuse 21st-century skills into YOUR English classroom? Join us for an informal Q-and-A on all things writing and publishing. Any and all experience levels welcome!

Description:

Journalism represents an opportunity to gain optimum 21st-century skills; everything that we hope students will be able to do after exiting high school is wrapped up into publications classes. These skills, too, can be gained by applying journalistic principles to English Language Arts classroom settings. Students should be well-equipped to communicate effectively (through written and spoken word), write for an audience, market themselves, connect in group settings, etc. A journalism classroom gives them the opportunity to do all of these things and more.

This session will give participants an opportunity to find out more about infusing their classroom with these essential skills. Geared toward teachers who are new to advising a publication or are considering advising one, it will also provide a chance for teachers to learn what it might be like to take these vital skills to their non-publications English classrooms. This will include using journalism for positive results in the AP Language and Composition strand, but will also cover how to publish in a more traditional setting. We'll also cover legal issues that may arise when looking at publishing student work, both in print and on the web. The Student

Press Law Center's Frank LoMonte, one of the nation's premiere scholastic press rights legal experts will be on hand to answer questions and direct teachers to valuable resources.

Goals: Here is an update on our progress with my stated goals from last March:

1. Expand our sphere of influence within NCTE. As JEA members, we comprise the largest assembly in all of NCTE, called the "Assembly of Advisers of Student Publications". Working with a larger group of advisers certainly will help with that, as will having a second adviser available during the convention. This has definitely continued to trend in the right direction, as evidenced by the submitted proposals above. I believe that the more JEA members who have an opportunity to experience NCTE, the stronger our organization can become. We will have a strong contingent in D.C., for sure.
2. Seek out other convention speakers and officials with whom we might be able to work.
3. Attend sessions where we might be able to network. (Common Core, P21, media literacy groups, censorship awareness, etc.). Both #2 and #3 were made more of a reality because Carol Lange, Jane Blystone, and a few others were at the Boston convention to help run the booth. I spent more time networking than I ever had before. I have also created a data base of NCTE attendees and presenters who could be useful for JEA; this Google Doc has already been shared with Mark Newton and Sarah Nichols. Let me know if you'd like to take a look.
4. Present sessions that will draw in potential members and partners. Our sessions in Boston were our strongest yet, but they don't compare to those we have slated for D.C. Again, this is definitely trending in the right direction. I am ecstatic about the number of amazing JEA members who will be at the D.C. convention.
5. Meet with as many potential JEA members as possible in the exhibit hall booth. At the booth, it's important to remember that just about every person who walks by has connections to someone advising a publication. I've also noticed that the convention draws many college instructors who are working with student teachers and potential advisers; this is another untapped resource for JEA. If we can connect to advisers right when they're starting out, they'll be more apt to recognize JEA's importance. Having the university instructors hand out our information is a potential gold mine.
6. Work with other organizations (SPLC, ASNE, The Newseum, NSPA, CSPA) to our mutual benefit. I will again send emails to these organizations asking for materials that they might want us to have in the booth at the convention. D.C. will be a useful location, as the SPLC and the Newseum will both be able to easily connect. Frank LoMonte is planning on being at the convention for a new adviser session with me.

Frank LoMonte

SPLC Liaison

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The Student Press Law Center completed 2013 with a balanced budget and having accomplished the organization's top priorities for the year: (1) launching the Tinker Tour, a 16,000-mile, 19-state awareness campaign across the eastern United States that drew unparalleled attention to the shortcomings of legal protection for student speech (of which the JEA was a primary financial supporter) and (2) updating and reissuing the "Law of the Student Press" textbook to account for legal developments since the Third Edition in 2008. We're currently working on a digitized version of the book to be made available for Kindle readers, which we plan to begin offering this summer as teachers prepare for the fall semester.

We are also in the midst of a complete overhaul of the SPLC.org website that will refresh the site's educational resources and make them more visually appealing and easier to locate. The revamped site (being developed by StateNews.com) is expected to launch on May 1, 2014.

Drawing on the resources of our Attorney Referral Network, we have intervened in a number of cases implicating the free-speech rights of high school students. Recent activity includes: (1) a March 3 brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in *Susan B. Anthony Fund v. Dreihaus*, defending the ability of students to bring "pre-enforcement" challenges to the constitutionality of laws that chill the exercise of free speech without actually having to incur punishment and (2) a successful outcome in the case of *Frudden v. Pilling* before the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, which (in the context of a school-uniform challenge) established that students may not be compelled to display school slogans or mottos contrary to their beliefs.

We actively monitor and, directly or through partner organizations, intercede in state legislative issues where the rights of students and teachers are at risk. We are coordinating a nationwide monitoring effort in partnership with the state press associations to track "data privacy" legislation progressing through legislatures in at least two dozen states. This legislation, while mostly harmless, presents a potential danger of further restricting access even to non-confidential public records about schools. While the SPLC is not a lobbying organization, we can and do file testimony when asked for our expertise, as we did in Washington state when the legislature was on the verge of passing a dangerously broad amendment to the state's anti-bullying law. Had SB 6439 passed, any student speech causing "emotional harm" – even slight discomfort – would have been grounds for discipline. As a result of our intervention, the House Education Committee agreed not to call a vote on the bill (which had already passed the Senate), so it is on hold at least for 2014.

This year marks the SPLC's 40th anniversary, and we are planning a gala fundraising banquet for Washington, D.C., in October with the primary audience of law firms and media companies in the Washington area. We recently learned that SPLC supporters are also planning a birthday celebration geared toward

the student and adviser community as part of the JEA national convention in November, and we'll be delighted to support that event however we can.

We are in the midst of a search for office space in the Washington, D.C., area after learning that our lease will not be renewed in the current location in Rosslyn, Va. The staff and Board strongly prefer to remain in the Washington area, ideally co-located with other nonprofits. We've looked at several promising options and expect a final decision no later than May 1.

Finally, we thank the JEA for its continuing support of the Tinker Tour project, which – thanks to the help of this organization and many of its individual members – will officially kick off March 12 at California's Carlsbad High School. We are working with a filmmaking team from the University of Oregon and are applying to several potential funders to create a documentary film and accompanying lesson plans so as to give the Tinker Tour additional life into future school years.

Nancy Y. Smith, MJE

Write-off Committee Chair

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National Write-off Team:

Nancy Y. Smith, MJE Write-off Chair
Priscilla Frost, CJE Print/Design Coordinator
Bradley Wilson, CJE Photo Coordinator
Aaron Engelman, Broadcast Coordinator

Aaron Engelman will step down from his role after the San Diego convention. Kris Doran will transition into this role at the spring convention and will serve as the new broadcast coordinator.

Follow us on Twitter! @JEAwoff

JEA Regional Directors

Region 1: Northwest



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As the school year begins to wind down, Region 1 continues to look for ways to strengthen both state and regional membership. A large push in the region has been to provide advisers and students

with relevant opportunities that allow for collaboration and networking. A common philosophical trend seems to be: together we can accomplish more. Many advisers throughout the region are looking for ways to incorporate Common Core standards in their publication courses. Great interest has been shown in the JEA Curriculum Initiative and I look forward to sharing this information with the region's members, even after I leave this office.

Membership: Overall, the membership in the region has remained steady for the most part since this past Fall. Alaska, however, does not currently have any JEA members nor does it have a state director. Outreach has happened, although many of the newspapers in the state seem to have transitioned from the print form to online. None of them have expressed interest in joining, and outreach to the universities in the area has not produced any additional support.

Events: Many of the states in the region hold fall, spring and summer activities and events. Journalism is definitely thriving and there are some wonderful things happening at these events. Some of them have altered forms (with some membership events happening via Skype or Google Hangouts) but the increased communication and opportunities have existed.

Reports from Region 1 state directors are available online at northwest.jea.org.

Region 2: Southwest

Carrie Faust, MJE

Region 2 Director

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The Southwest region currently has 447 JEA members – Arizona 55, California 268, Colorado 80, Hawaii 12, Nevada 16, New Mexico 19, and Utah 12. Of those, 76 have earned Certified Journalism Educator (CJE) certification and 17 have earned Master Journalism Educator (MJE) certification.

Regional news: The following Region 2 advisers will be honored by JEA at the San Diego convention: Michael Hernandez, of Mira Costa High School, in Manhattan Beach, Calif., wins the inaugural Broadcast Adviser of the Year award. One of six schools being honored as a 2014 First Amendment Press Freedom Award winners is Convent of the Sacred Heart High School, San Francisco, only the second private school to receive this recognition. Jed Palmer of Sierra Middle School in Parker, Colo., will be honored in the Yearbook Adviser of the Year program as a Distinguished Adviser. The following five advisers will be among the fourteen recognized as JEA Rising Stars: Adam Dawkins, Regis Jesuit High School, Aurora, Colo., Melissa Larson, Mesa Middle School, Castle Rock, Colo., Jessica Leifheit, Castle View High School, Castle Rock, Colo., Cory Morlock, Academy School District 20, Colorado Springs, Colo., Kim Vinh, Sequoia High School, Redwood City, Calif.

I am excited to see many of you April 10-13 in San Diego for the JEA/NSPA Spring National High School Convention. Please plan to stop by and say “hi” to the rest of our region at the Regional Meet and Greet on Thursday at the Indigo Terrace, Level 2. Look for our table – Region 2 – and come introduce yourself.

Reports from Region 2 state directors are available online at southwest.jea.org.

Region 3: North Central



Gary Lindsay

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As regional director I have been monitoring JEAHELP and providing and help, especially for advisers in my region. There have been a number of prior review and censorship issues that have been well documented in other reports, most recently in northern Wisconsin. In this case, and others, when asked I have written letters of support to the advisers and staffs involved.

I was able to attend two regional scholastic press adviser events recently, IHSPA's Winter Thaw in Des Moines, and KEMPA's Winter Seminar, in southeast Wisconsin. Both events were well attended and participants were enthusiastic and expressed how helpful the events were to their professional development. At the Winter Thaw, two of the speakers will receive JEA's Rising Star Award at the upcoming convention: Natalie Niemeyer of Des Moines East and Kyle Phillips, CJE, of Cedar Rapids Washington. Both participated in the JEA Mentoring Program and both praised the program as a major influence in their professional development.

Western Regional Director Carrie Faust, MJE, was the keynote speaker at KEMPA's Winter Seminar. This event is a terrific professional development event, impeccably organized and managed by Linda Barrington, MJE, and the rest of the KEMPA staff. Newly elected Eastern Region Director Stan Zoller, MJE, is also involved in this event.

Visit northcentral.jea.org for state reports and additional information about Region 3.

Region 4: South Central

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With regional membership of over 522 in the South Central Region of JEA, the role of scholastic journalism in our region remains strong. We have 38 advisers who have obtained the MJE certification and 88 with CJE certification. Congratulations to these outstanding educators who have earned this special recognition.

Our region continues to produce some of the best publications in the country. These programs garner individual recognition on the state, regional and national levels and the publications and broadcasts are ranked among the top in the country. Check out how these schools, their journalists and publications did in recent contests:

Quill and Scroll quillandscroll.org.

Southern Interscholastic Press Association sipa.sc.edu

Columbia Scholastic Press Association cspa.columbia.edu

National Scholastic Press Association studentpress.org

Journalism Education Association jea.org

We are proud of Patricia Monroe, Burgess High School, El Paso, Texas who was named a Special Recognition Adviser in the JEA Yearbook Adviser of the Year contest.

I know each of you join me in congratulating our region's broadcast advisers who were recognized by JEA in the first Broadcast Adviser of the Year selection. Runners-up in this competition included Distinguished Broadcast Advisers – Alyssa Boehringer, MHS1, McKinney (Texas) High School and Don Goble, LHS-TV and Films, Ladue Horton Watkins High School, St. Louis, Mo. and Special Recognition Broadcast Adviser – Michelle Turner, Blue Jay Journal TV, Washington (Mo.) High School.

Kudos to Nima Kapadia, South Garland (Texas) High School, who was named a JEA Rising Star.

Congratulations to Pulaski Academy adviser Beth Shull who received the Gold Key recognition at the Columbia Scholastic Press Association's spring convention in March.

Since last fall I have visited with some of our region's advisers at workshops and events in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas promoting our organization and the spring JEA/NSPA convention. In addition to those regional events I have worked with advisers from Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, South Carolina, North Carolina and Tennessee and Texas at various winter and spring publications workshops and press association events.

It has been an honor, and a distinct privilege, to serve our region over the past nine years as the regional director. Our advisers are some of the most phenomenal in the country in this unique world of scholastic journalism, and I have been blessed to have you by my side during my tenure on the JEA Board. I hope you will continue to support the new JEA Board of Directors as a new era is begun on May 1.

As a lifetime JEA member I will always value this great

organization and the role it plays in our classrooms and for our advisers.

Visit southcentral.jea.org for state reports and additional information about Region 4.

Region 5: Southeast



Brenda Gorsuch

Brenda Gorsuch, MJE

Region 5 Director

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Since the Boston convention last fall, the Southeast Region 5 state directors and I have focused our attention on encouraging members to renew their memberships, vote in the JEA election and attend the San Diego and Washington, D.C. conventions.

SIPA, the North Carolina Scholastic Media Association, the Mississippi Scholastic Press Association and the Alabama Scholastic Press Association continue to support JEA mentors in Region 5 states. We currently have mentors in North Carolina (3), South Carolina (1), Mississippi (1) and Alabama (3).

In February, I attended the North Carolina Scholastic Media Advisers Association winter board meeting. I encouraged members to renew JEA memberships and to plan on attending either the San Diego or D.C. conventions.

In March I attended the Southern Interscholastic Press Association convention on the campus of the University of South Carolina. I met with the SIPA Endowment Committee and JEA mentor Marilyn Chapman to finalize plans for the National Journalism Quiz Bowl in San Diego.

I have spent much of my time since the SIPA meeting working on quiz bowl questions for the preliminary exam and buzzer rounds. I have worked with Kelly Furnas and the JEA staff on quiz bowl logistics to increase the number of teams in the buzzer rounds.

Visit southeast.jea.org for state reports and additional information about Region 5.

Region 6: Mid-atlantic/Great Lakes



Rod Satterthwaite

Rod Satterthwaite, CJE

Region 6 Director

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Membership: The Great Lakes/Mid-Atlantic Region has 336 JEA

members spread out over nine states/regions. This number is up 14 from last fall's report. We have 60 CJE's (nine more than fall 2013) and 29 MJE's (one more than fall 2013). Virginia leads the way in our region with 91 active members.

Happenings: There have been quite a few changes in state director positions within the region. The Delaware state director position has been filled by Amie King, CJE. The Maryland state director position has changed hands. Claire Burke is the new state director there. And West Virginia is director-less.

The fall 2014 convention (Washington, D.C.) will be in our region as will the fall 2016 convention (Indianapolis).

Ninety-seven advisers are now members of our regional Facebook group. If you'd like to join, search for the group name "JEA Mid-Atlantic/Great Lakes Region 6" and request to join.

Awards and honors: Congratulations to the following people from Region 6:

- North Central High School, Indianapolis, Ind. is a JEA First Amendment Press Freedom Award winner. The adviser at North Central is Tom Gayda, MJE.
- Julieanne McClain, CJE, Hayes High School, Delaware, Ohio who is a 2014 JEA Rising Star.
- Jesse Sutherland, CJE, Waterford Kettering High School, Waterford, Mich. who is a 2014 JEA Rising Star.
- Jim McGonnell, former student media adviser at Findlay (Ohio) High School is the 2014 Linda S. Puntney Teacher Inspiration Award winner.
- Sarah Verpooten, MJE, and Carrie Wadycki, MJE, of Lake Central High School in St. John, Ind., were named co-coordinators of a new JEA initiative, Day of Doing.

Final words of thanks (and I mean it this time): It's been an honor to serve Region 6 over the past three years. Your new east regional director is Stan Zoller (sezoller@gmail.com).

Visit magl.jea.org for state reports and additional information about Region 6.

Region 7: Northeast



Jane Blystone

Jane Blystone, MJE

Region 7 Director

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Happenings: The Boston convention was a huge success with 5,506 folks in attendance for the second largest JEA/NSPA convention ever. We are proud of the local committee headed by Brian Baron, who showcased some terrific local journalists for convention goers.

State directors: We are still in need of three state directors in Connecticut, Maine and New Hampshire. JEA members in Connecticut, Maine and New Hampshire are encouraged to apply.