Digital Discovery workshop sets record

This marked the third year of the Digital Discovery High School Journalism workshop. The workshop was conceived as a way to introduce key skills and concepts to top scholastic journalists in the region, with an emphasis on reaching out to underserved groups.

Attendance set a record this year, with 28 attendees and two advisers. This is up from nine last year, and 21 the first year, according to Dr. Ed Simpson, the director of the program.

This year, attendees covered a 4-H horse show at the Isabella County Fairgrounds in Mt. Pleasant. During the 2.5 days of the program, the students attended six sessions, produced a video story on each other, created their own websites and reported and produced news/feature stories as part of a team.

One attendee said, “I loved filming and going to the horse show and interviewing people. I loved to see the play! And, I also enjoyed learning how to make my own video. There was nothing I didn’t like the least ... and I want to come back next year!”

Planning for the Digital Discovery program begins in October, with the help of a team assigned to the initiative from PRCentral, CMU’s student-run public relations agency. The team, led by Natalie Kaczorowski, was instrumental in the planning and marketing of the event.

This was the first year one of the counselors was an alum of the Digital Discovery camp, a photo-journalism major who had not considered CMU before coming to campus in 2013. At least two students from last year’s camp indicated they decided to come here after attending the program. Professor Teresa Hernandez, Dr. Lori Brost and Dr. Elina Erzikova helped run the workshop and teach the sessions students attended.

Department garners full re-accreditation from ACEJMC

Dear Alumni,

I’m very happy to report the biggest news of the year, which you may have already heard, that the department was granted full re-accreditation at the ACEJMC’s council meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, in May. The final approval came after the department went through a rigorous re-accreditation process when it was inspected by a four-member site-team in October and reviewed and voted on by the Accrediting Committee at its March meeting in Chicago. The final vote of approval by the Accrediting Council in early May was unanimous.

At each level of the inspection and reviews, the department was judged as “in compliance” with all of the nine standards of accreditation, which include:

1. Mission, governance and administration
2. Curriculum and instruction
3. Diversity and inclusiveness
4. Full-time and part-time faculty
5. Scholarship: Research, creative and professional activity
6. Student services
7. Resources, facilities and equipment
8. Professional and public service
9. Assessment of learning outcomes.

On curriculum, one of the indicators focuses on the currency of journalism programs, particularly the application of current tools and media technologies appropriate for the communications professions and the understanding of the digital world.

Re-accreditation comes up once every six years. Preparation for the process usually starts a couple of years earlier, but the work to meet and maintain the standards for the next re-accreditation starts the day after a site-team leaves campus. It was the work done in the past six years that helped us sail through this round of re-accreditation. I’m grateful that we had the support of our dedicated faculty, past and present; hard-working staff, involved students and you, our loyal alumni, who through-out the years provide internship and employment opportunities for our students, speak to our classes, offer professional advice, and participate in events and activities organized for our students and prospective students.

Journalism education faces many challenges. We want to assure you that we will spare no effort at staying current with communication technologies so as to maintain the high standards this department has always held. The following pages provide you with glimpses of what our students, alumni and faculty are doing and saying. In the meantime, we would love to hear from you about your life and work, our programs and graduates.

Thank you for another year of support!

Jiafei Yin, PhD
Professor & Chair
Department of Journalism, CMU
Instead of a luncheon, the annual Journalism Awards Banquet was a dinner affair on Friday, April 10, in the University Center Rotunda. The event honors the Alumnus of the Year, scholarship recipients and other awards won by journalism students throughout the year.

Sheila Reincke, a 1983 alum, received the Alumnus of the Year award. While at CMU, she sold advertising for Central Michigan Life for two years. She currently works for MLive Media Group as a national account manager. Reincke spoke about how her experiences at CMU helped shape her career. She continues to mentor students during their internships, and has helped hire CMU grads. She lives in Grand Haven, Mich., with her husband and has three children.

Students from the Ad Club, CM Life, Grand Central Magazine, the Society of Professional Journalists and photojournalism program were recognized for the awards they received at a variety of other ceremonies throughout the year.

The department awarded 21 scholarships to current students. The recipients:
- Claire Abendroth, Matt Dobek Endowment
- Malachi Barrett, Roger and Lisa Hart Award; Wyatt Bush, Journalism Scholar of the Year Award for Merit and Matt Dobek Endowment
- Carlee Campbell, Dennis Jeffers Memorial Scholarship
- Kathryn Carlson, Robert E. McCabe Scholarship
- Emily DeRuiter, Jim and Carol Wojcik Scholarship for Merit
- Taylor DesOrmeau, Pam Klein Endowed Journalist Scholarship
- Mary La Victor, Suzanne Nichols Endowed Scholarship in Journalism
- Emily Mesner, Gilbert O. Maienknecht Scholarship for Merit
- Shannon Millard, Robert E. McCabe Scholarship
- Kai Niezgoda, Kenneth & Margaret Cuff Sanders Scholarship
- Hannah Packan, Friends of Journalism
- Rachel Quinn, Opperman Public Relations Internship Endowment
- Samantha Smallish Study Abroad Scholarship and Leadership Award
- Morgan Taylor, Matt Dobek Endowment
- Breann Wasson, Gilbert O. Maienknecht Scholarship for Merit
- Jennifer Weingart, Dr. Michael Petrick Journalism Scholarship
- Greg Wickliffe, Dr. Michael Petrick Journalism Scholarship
- Kaitlyn Chritz, Outstanding Senior Award
- Dr. Jiafei Yin gave Nathan Clark the Chair’s Award. He is scheduled to graduate in 2016. Professor Jim Wojcik and a group of PR students planned and hosted the banquet.

High school journalism students loved the enthusiasm and energy the presenters and instructor Betsy Rau brought to Journalism Rocks 2 on Feb. 28, in Moore Hall. Fifty-two students from across Michigan attended the event aimed at giving them a look at what the Department of Journalism has to offer.

Students could attend a variety of sessions during the day, all focusing on journalism-related topics. Attendees learned about photojournalism, advertising, public relations, social media, online journalism and writing. They also had a chance to have their newspapers or yearbooks critiqued by a faculty member.

Jim Streisel, an adviser and communications teacher from Carmel High School in Indiana, gave a keynote speech called “Broccoli.” Students were asked to evaluate the event, and many had positive things to say.

“I enjoyed the fact that everyone here has a passion for what they do,” one student said.

“I loved that the teachers of the courses were able to give the real world perspective on journalism,” another student said.
SPOTLIGHT ON RECOGNITION

A roundup of the year’s award winners

In the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) Region 4 Mark of Excellence Awards competition in March 2015, the department’s student-run Grand Central Magazine won first place for Best Independent Online Student Publication. This was the fifth time in six years that the online student publication has placed first.

Editor and Publisher Magazine named Grand Central a finalist for Best College/University Journalism Website for the third consecutive year.

Senior Zack Wittman made one of the three finalists in Hearst National Photojournalism Championship.

MPPA awards—Central Michigan University photojournalism students swept the 2015 top awards in the College Photographer of the Year category at the Michigan Press Photographers Association awards:
- Novi senior Zack Wittman took first place,
- Beal City senior Shannon Millard placed second
- Chicago senior Taylor Ballek took third

Taylor Ballek also won second place in the News Story category for her story ‘Reckless Control,’ about a business owner addicted to meth.

Spring graduate Taryn Waffles took second-place in the Personal Vision category and fellow spring grad Emily Brouwer was an honorable mention in the Sports Photography category.

Other photojournalism students also received awards in categories where they competed against professionals in the industry.

CMU’s American Advertising Federation (AAF) Club team won Third Place in Track (Third overall) at the District 6: NSAC (National Student Advertising Competition) in South Bend, Indiana, in April 2015.

Arielle Breen was among the top 20 winners in the 2015 Hearst Radio Competition, the first time the department’s students placed in the category.

Central Michigan Life’s 2013-2014 staff won the Associated Collegiate Press Pacemaker Award. The Pacemaker is the fourth for CM Life in the last 10 years. CM Life also was named Best College Media Company by the College Media Business and Advertising Managers Association (CMBAM). The staff also received 11 other first place awards, seven second place awards and three third place awards.

The Michigan Press Association also honored CM Life with a total of 17 awards.
SPOTLIGHT ON INTERNSHIPS

Students intern in the studio and in the wild

“I have spent the summer interning at Michigan Radio, an NPR affiliate. It’s been great to apply my skills to a new medium. I have been able to cover a variety of stories that pertain to business and public affairs. I have interviewed multiple politicians, presidents of nonprofits and business leaders. In addition, I have been collaborating with a full-time reporter on a data analysis project. The cherry-on-top of my summer is having my internship sponsored by the Donald W. Reynolds National Center for Business Journalism, which is generously providing me monetary compensation. It’s been a pleasure to be able to work with some of best reporters in Michigan.”

- Arielle Hines

“When you’re lying on the Alaskan tundra, nose to nose with a wild (tranquilized) brown bear, your view on the typical “work day” starts to change. My main assignment as the Ocean Alaska Science and Learning Center media intern was to fly out to Katmai National Park, home to the world’s largest protected population of brown bears, to document the work scientists are doing on the Changing Tides Project. Taking photos and video of scientists collaring and observing wild Alaskan brown bears in the backcountry of Katmai feels surreal to this day, and I’m sure it always will. Other assignments took me into Kenai Fjords National Park, where I experienced breaching humpback whales and calving glaciers. I’ve been able to see so many incredible things through the lens of my camera this summer, but the most exciting part of this adventure is being able to share the stories of this land, the creatures who call it home, and the people who dedicate their life to learning about and protecting it.”

- Kaiti Chritz

“My photography internship with University Communications has taught me so much more beyond photography. It has taught me how to work alongside writers, designers and other photographers, as well as helping me connect so much more with CMU and its community. My photography skills have grown so much over these past few months and I have been able to work with some of the most talented mentors in the industry. Getting one-on-one help from Steve Jessmore has been a tremendous learning experience. He has forced me to continuously strive to make myself better, learn from my mistakes and take pride in the work I am doing. This experience has been one of the greatest learning opportunities I have had during my time at CMU.”

- Emily Mesner
“This summer I’m continuing my internship at WCMU Public Radio. We’re an NPR affiliate here in Mt. Pleasant. I’m the station’s environmental reporter, and I periodically host shows on the air. I tend to write more long-form pieces that encapsulate an entire issue. Two of my recent features focused on chemical contamination of a small town in mid-Michigan. Not all of my stories are as morbid, however. I was also sent to Beaver Island for three days this summer to write three stories about different aspects of life on the island. Travelling has to be my favorite part about the job. I can go somewhere, finish up my work, and spend some time getting to know new places. I can’t think of anything better than that!” – Dominic Vincent Trimboli

“In the classroom at CMU I was able to harvest a love for documentary photography that has allowed me to discover well beyond what I had planned for myself. My internship at Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park in Skagway, Alaska, has taught me to slow down, explore endlessly and document the quiet moments. I never envisioned myself photographing changing tides or bears grazing or mountain landscapes, but it has given me fresh eyes and even more love for photojournalism. My main assignment as the media intern was to hike the Chilkoot Trail, a 33-mile journey that starts in Dyea, Alaska, and ends in Bennett, British Columbia, in Canada. I documented the trail over five days with the National Park’s Archaeology team photographing the landscape and the artifacts left behind. As I wrote in the trail log, “You think you know your strengths and weaknesses, and then you climb a mountain.” I can’t wait to continue finding my mountains and documenting our beautiful and diverse world.” – Shannon Millard

“I have always loved the outdoors and I thought I had seen some of the most beautiful places in North America, but when I arrived in Alaska for the summer, I knew that I was wrong. Alaska is a place that is so different from anywhere else in the world. Being able to spend my summer in Denali National Park and explore its beauty has been truly amazing. The landscape is so vast and open, it makes you stop in your tracks. I have had the pleasure of exploring this park while taking photos and shooting video of all the park has to offer. From the Alaskan Husky sled dogs to the wild animals that roam the park, I’ve seen so much while only really seeing a small portion of this 6 million acre park. I’ve been lucky enough to see the tallest mountain in North America, Mt. McKinley, also known as the “High One,” on clear days. Only 30 percent of park visitors get to see it. My experience working in this park is one I will never forget. This place is always changing, and there is always a new adventure to be had.” – Emily Brouwer
The department’s Journalism Hall of Fame inducted four new members on Nov. 15, 2014, in the Powers Ballroom on campus.

Kelly Kolhagen Crawford, Rick Fitzgerald, Guy Meiss and Tim Smith were honored at the 12th annual event.

Kolhagen Crawford, a 1981 graduate, serves as senior vice president for MSL Group for General Motors’ Global Communications. She started at the Detroit News on the copy desk and moved up as assistant managing editor for features. Her work has been recognized by the Poynter Institute and the American Copy Editors Society. In 1998, she was named one of the nation’s “Most Influential Media Elite.”

Rick Fitzgerald, a 1975 graduate, is director of public affairs and internal communications at the University of Michigan. He was the metro editor for the Muskegon Chronicle and the Ann Arbor News. He has served on the Journalism Hall of Fame Committee since it began. He is known as a community leader and participates in a variety of fundraising events.

Guy Meiss started working for the department in 1977 and served as chair. He held several public relations positions, including customer relations for Liberty Mutual Insurance and Ryerson Steel. Meiss was chosen as a Gannett Teaching Fellow at the School of Journalism at Indiana University.

Tim Smith, a 1986 graduate, is owner and CEO of Skidmore Studio in Detroit. Skidmore helps companies develop branding strategies. Smith volunteers his time to Reading Works, an organization that promotes adult literacy, and is a board member of the Detroit Creative Corridor and the Detroit Regional Chamber.

The event also recognized “Young Journalist of the Year” Sean Proctor, photographer at the Boston Globe. Central Michigan Life, the university’s student newspaper, celebrated its 95th anniversary and honored its 1984-85 staff.

Four inducted into Journalism Hall of Fame

SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI

Photojournalism alum Ken Stevens dies

Alum Ken Stevens died unexpectedly in October 2014 at the age of 51. In addition to his award-winning career, Ken served as a mentor for student photographers, and he also consistently contributed his time and talents to CMU.

“He was humble and kind. His gentle manner shone through when he would work with students. He was quiet, but his work spoke volumes. He was extremely generous with the time and energy he contributed to our department.” - Teresa Hernandez, photojournalism professor

“During our 25-year friendship, I watched Ken’s humble and caring interactions with colleagues and the people he photographed. From those experiences, I was taught life-changing lessons on how to treat people.” - Tim Fitzgerald, photojournalism professor

“Kenny was just the ultimate great guy. There’s nothing he did that couldn’t be described as great. He always wore a smile and had time for conversation. He loved his family, his community and his chosen profession - each of those I’d guess not feeling less loved than the other. From that first moment I met him at CMU when he was a freshman photographing volleyball just for fun, I knew he was something special. Talented in so many ways and most of all kind. My life is richer for knowing Ken.” - Steve Jessmore, CMU photographer
Yin catches up with alumni in Beijing

Editor’s Note: Written by Department Chair Dr. Jiafei Yin

I had the opportunity to visit China early in the summer. During my visit to the Beijing headquarters of the China Daily, I was asked again to host a seminar for the paper’s editorial staff. I prepared a presentation on the principles, standards and challenges of American journalism. At the end of the seminar, I asked several questions. One of them was: “are you a journalist or are you a patriot” while I was discussing the coverage of international news. One quick answer was: “a patriotic journalist”. According to a CD internal newsletter, the seminar was attended by about 70 news editors and reporters.

I also had the pleasure of meeting our alumni for lunch while I was in Beijing. The four that I know were former interns to the China Daily.

Erik Nilsson, (first from right) 2006: assistant director of the feature department at the China Daily. Erik was featured in the “10 within 10” segment in the summer 2015 issue of the CMU alumni magazine Centralight for the impact of his work since graduation. He covered the devastating earthquake in Sichuan, China, in 2008 and has never forgot the people there. He returned for follow-up coverage and for trying to help. He started his own NGO in China in order to make an even bigger impact. He has published more than two dozen books on China and gained enormous pride in not only mastering mandarin, but also the Beijing dialect.

Here is the link to “10 within 10” in Centralight: https://www.cmich.edu/news/article/Pages/10within102015.aspx

Mike Fuxman, (second from right) 2008: works for the Xinhua News Agency in Beijing after interning at the China Daily. He keeps busy between his job at Xinhua and his work with a band.

About his experience in China, Mike said, “I first came to Beijing about six years ago, when I began an internship at the China Daily. I had no plans to reside in China permanently at the time, but it only took me about two months to decide to stick around after my internship ended. I went on to work as an editor at Beijing Review magazine before finding a position with my current employer, the Xinhua News Agency - otherwise known as China’s official news agency.

“I edit scripts and record voice-overs for video content that focuses on newsworthy happenings around China. I’ve also started advising the company in its recent efforts to expand its social media presence. Of course, that’s not all I do with my time — I play drums in a rock band and hang out in the quiet alleys that make up the center of the city when I’m not at work. And, of course, find some time to spend with the many friends I’ve made during my time here.”

Darnell Gardner, (first from left) 2013: copy-editor for the 21st Century newspaper, a publication of the China Daily targeting high school students who study English. He is considering going to grad school in Shanghai, where he studied mandarin for two months during the summer of 2010 when the city hosted the World Expo.

About his life in the Chinese capital, Darnell had this to say, “I recently asked a co-worker how many years he’d been in Beijing. “I’m going on seven years,” he replied, wincing like he’d just been pricked with a needle. I think I know where his trepidation comes from. Beijing is tough. It isn’t really a home, though many expats try to piece lives together here. That’s what I’ve done for the past year—try. On good days Beijing leaves me stricken with awe. Things function here not in spite of the chaos, but because of it. On difficult days that chaos keeps me locked in my apartment, and even there I can still feel it churning outside my window. No regrets though. I have the rest of my life to calm my nerves.”

Todd Balazovic, 2009: copy-editor at the national news desk at the Xinhua News Agency. He worked as a reporter for the China Daily before he joined the news agency, where he mingles with journalists from UK and has developed a detectable British accent. He promised he would get his Midwestern American English back once he returns.

Reflecting on life in Beijing, Todd said, “Life in Beijing is diverse. The country’s capital draws people from every country and all walks of life. Living here, you not only learn about Chinese culture, but get a better understanding of the world. After seven years, I’m still pleasantly surprised to find myself learning or encountering something new almost daily. It’s rarely dull!”

About journalism in China, Todd said, “Practicing journalism in China presents its own set of challenges. Whether its language or red lines, figuring out how to navigate the country’s obstacles is part of what makes this experience worthwhile. It also exposes you to a wider variety of media. While a majority of my news still comes from US-based services, I find myself seeking out three or four different reports on a news story. Generally, the truth falls somewhere in the middle.”
Editor’s Note: Written by Photojournalism Professor Kent Miller

I was fortunate to be granted a sabbatical during the spring semester of 2015. During that time, I recharged myself mentally and physically. I grew as an environmental photographer, and was exposed to new ideas for learning and teaching.

For many years, I yearned to travel to Africa to photograph the people, wildlife and land. I went to Kenya in March of 2015 to participate in a photographic wildlife safari studying and shooting with nationally-renowned wildlife photographer, Ken Conger. Our group spent 11 days in four different national parks. Each park offered different types of wildlife and unique surroundings. I photographed lions mating, baboons playing and fighting, a lone cheetah, leopards and the extremely endangered black rhino. I also captured hippos in the Mara River and many elephants, antelopes, birds and hyenas. I arrived home with a portfolio of images that I am currently selling to raise funds to travel back to Africa and to donate to Rhinos Without Borders.

From the equator, I went straight to the Arctic to spend three weeks at Denali National Park in Alaska. I have travelled, worked and volunteered as an environmental photographer for the national park service for the past six summers. My sabbatical enabled me to work in Alaska during the winter season for the first time. Winter in Alaska lent itself to a variety of photographic new imagery, including the Northern Lights, icy landscapes and hired sled dog teams. I also captured animals such as the lynx, beaver and caribou, as well as people cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking and winter campers and backpackers.

In July, I returned to Denali National Park for two more weeks to complete a photographic project slated for an exhibition entitled “People in the Park.” This project will include photographs from all of my visits to the park since 2008.

I have established an internship agreement between the Department of Journalism and Denali National Park. The park (in consultation with me) hires a Central Michigan University photojournalism student intern from the Department of Journalism each summer to work as a digital media specialist. CMU interns have worked at the park shooting stills and video every summer, since 2009.
Hartman, Rau leave lasting legacies

At the end of the school year, two faculty members retired: Long-time faculty member Dr. Jack Hartman and instructor Betsy Rau, CMU alumnus-turned-instructor. Both have touched the lives of many of our students.

Dr. John K. Hartman, emeritus professor of journalism, was at CMU for 31 years. During that time he taught numerous journalism classes and served as chair on two occasions. He helped the department achieve accreditation for the first time 18 years ago and helped maintain that accreditation through three subsequent reviews. He was nominated for the Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award on three occasions. Hartman also taught and consulted at King Saud University in Saudi Arabia for two-week periods in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

In addition to teaching, Hartman was a Spirit of Detroit Award recipient in 1997 and is author of “The USA TODAY Way” (1992) and “THE USA TODAY Way 2 The Future” (2000). Hartman’s research focused on free young-adult targeted daily newspapers and online news sites as well as the decline of college newspapers. He was quoted in major publications such as the New York Times, Washington Post, Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Times and the Times of London. He presented findings on college newspapers at the Convergence Conference at the University of South Carolina in 2012. Hartman was a delegate to the 2004 Democratic National Convention in Boston and he covered the 2008 Democratic National Convention in Denver. He lives with his wife Kay in Powell, Ohio. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

Betsy Pollard Rau graduated in 1975 from CMU with a degree in journalism. She taught for over 30 years in the Sacred Heart, Vestaburg and Midland school districts, spending her last 10 years at Dow High in Midland. She advised yearbooks and newspapers for most of those 30 years before retiring in 2008. From 1992-2011, she directed the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association (MIPA) high school journalism workshop.

Rau advised the Eppy Award winning online magazine, Grand Central (www.gcmag.org) and taught full time in the journalism department until her retirement in May. She still teaches in the social media online certificate program.

In 2009, she was inducted into the CMU Journalism Hall of Fame and in 2013 was inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame. She won the 2012 John V. Field Award from MIPA and in 2004 was named the Walmart Michigan Teacher of the Year. She was teacher of the year in both the Vestaburg and Midland school districts, and is a Dow Jones Distinguished Adviser and a National Scholastic Press Association Pioneer.

Most importantly, Rau is the Yaya of Gwenna Rose Lukenbill, age 5 and Larson Jason Lukenbill, age 1. She has been married to Ron Rau, the former operations manager of Fabiano Brothers for 41 years and is the mother of the 1997 Michigan High School Journalist of the year, Jessica Rau Lukenbill. She is also the mother of an award winning page designer — formerly with the Detroit News, who now works for UT San Diego — Tyler Pollard Rau.

Professors on faculty


Dr. Tim Boudreau and his wife traveled to Hong Kong and then to Malaysia for about two weeks to visit their daughter. He also traveled to India to visit a friend and to discuss some journalism initiatives.

Dr. Lori Brost developed an oral history of journalists who reported on the 1967 Detroit riot.

Dr. Elina Erzikova was selected as a summer fellow at Edelman Chicago through the Plank Center for Leadership in Public Relations.

Dr. Richard Ren provided a free two-day PR consultation for Beijing Cihong Charity Foundation, a local charity organization focused on promoting children’s education in China.

Dr. Alice Tait won the Lionel C. Barrow Jr. Award for Distinguished Achievement in Diversity Research and Education from AEJMC.

Editor of the Headliner: Renae Gould
SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION

Photo workshop focuses on the invisible

Photojournalist Danny Wilcox Frazier led “Concerned Photographer: The Untold in Central Michigan,” an intensive week-long visual storytelling workshop that was rooted in the tradition of Cornell Capa’s book and exhibit, “The Concerned Photographer.”

A total of 16 photojournalism students were involved in the training and activities of the professional workshop, and a couple of photojournalism alumni volunteered their time to help with the workshop.

Under the guidance of two visual media professionals, students and young professionals produced socially concerned documentary projects that highlighted issues Central Michigan residents face. The students participated in meetings exploring topics and subjects and discussing details and requirements of assignments, started shooting and capturing images and videos at sunrise and were actively involved in critiquing and editing their work before they presented their finished product to the campus community in an open and free presentation on campus.

Workshop participants worked closely with Frazier, photographer and CMU faculty member Kent Miller and visiting filmmaker John Richard to create photo essays and videos that speak to the conditions of life across Middle America.

“Concerned Photographer” participants presented their photo essays and videos to the campus community and their families in Anspach Hall. The workshop took place from Nov. 2-11.

SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION

Photojournalism students attend The Image Deconstructed Workshop

Six photojournalism students attended The Image Deconstructed Workshop (TID) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from April 10-12. TID’s primary goal is “to provide a collective insight to the psychology of photojournalism and serves as a resource for a purposeful approach to photography.”

The workshop consisted of presentations, exercises and portfolio reviews. The students were able to attend the workshop with funds provided by friends of the department.

Katy Kildee said the feedback was invaluable.

“I had four critiques of my portfolio from some of the most talented photographers I will ever meet, and their feedback helped me realize the direction I need to take to improve my work and also to stay true to myself as a photographer,” Kildee said.

Kildee and Taylor Ballek agreed the connections they formed the past two years have been instrumental to their development as photojournalists.

“TID allowed us to network with students and professionals beyond the border of Michigan and expand our network into multiple, different states,” Ballek said. “I now have connections and friends in Ohio, Kentucky, North Carolina, San Francisco, Canada, New York and many more. TID reconfirmed for me that I love what I do, and that I am supposed to be here.”

Emily Mesner said she regained her love of photojournalism during the workshop.

“Attending TID has helped me find passion in my photography, as well as remain and grow closer to the other photojournalism students in the department who continue to critique my work and help me grow,” Mesner said.

Shannon Millard stressed the importance of getting feedback from professionals.

“Getting the opportunity to talk with (AJ) Chavar during a critique night was, without being dramatic, life changing,” Millard said.
I would like to receive this alumni newsletter in the future.

I would not like to receive this alumni newsletter in the future.

I would be interested in being a guest speaker at CMU.

I would be able to host a class at my place of employment.

My company/employer offers internship opportunities for CMU students and can be reached by phone at:______________

I would like to support the Department of Journalism's outreach programs.

Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
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Phone: (___) ___-________ E-mail: ________________________________
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☐ Check (Payable to Central Michigan University)
Credit Card  (Check one) ☐ Mastercard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Amount: _______ Card #: __________________________ Exp. Date: ___ / ___

Thank you for your contribution! CMU, an AA/EO institution, strongly and actively strives to increase diversity within its community (see www.cmich.edu/aaeo.html).

Upcoming Alumni Events

Homecoming - October 3
Hall of Fame Dinner - November 14
Awards Banquet - April 8