**School of Journalism and Media Studies**

**Introduction**

**Postgraduates / Graduations**

The School of Journalism and Media Studies celebrated 103 JMS graduates during the 2017 graduation ceremonies, ranging across bachelors degrees in Arts and Journalism, postgraduate diplomas in Journalism and Media Studies, Media Management and Economics Journalism as well as masters and doctoral degrees. A range of thought-provoking research topics have been added to the university’s research commons by the three PhD and 11 Masters students who graduated. MA graduates Ahmad Yusuf Jamal and Kayla Roux both achieved distinctions. In addition two of our staff members, Dr Priscilla Boshoff and Dr Alette Schoon, graduated with their PhDs in 2017.

**Distinguished Visitors/International Visits**

The School continued using its weekly research seminars as a space for ongoing critical discussions about theoretical issues and changes in the media landscape. We approached academics, researchers, journalists, writers and multimedia specialists to share their experiences and findings. Similarly to previous years, the format was a series of conversations that aimed to guide and connect the School to happenings and people in other spaces.

Advocate Wim Trengrove SC, one of South Africa’s sharpest legal minds spoke to staff and students about hate speech and South African law. Professor Sally Hunt, from the English Language and Linguistics Department, discussed “The representation of women in the media – a corpus study’ – which emphasised gendered messages via use of language in news media which contribute to hegemonic views of women as second class citizens.

Former Editor-in-Chief of Rolling Stone South Africa, Miles Keylock, joined the department as a Masters student and also shared his experience of working as an arts and music writer. Martina Della Togna discussed her position as first multimedia manager for the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa and her experience an independent documentary producer and multimedia/social media consultant using the media as a tool for public education, citizen empowerment and sustainable development communications.

**Significant Research Aligned Events**

The 21st Highway Africa conference was held at the end of August under the theme “Media, Accountability and Local Governance”. The conference was attended by over 500 delegates and was a historic and momentous one as it brought together, for the first time, the Highway Africa Conference and the South African Communication Association (SACOMM) in the hosting of a dual conference. SACOMM delegates held their conference at Rhodes University with the separate theme of “Locating the power of communication in a time of radical change” which sought to explore the implications of the ‘post-truth’ world and how it impinges on the idea of the power of communication right now in South Africa’s history. At Highway Africa, editors, journalists, civil society activists and local government practitioners talked about notions of public and social accountability and the role of citizens, policymakers and journalists. The conference delegates explored the capacity of local media to generate news and information in the public interest; covering the local government to understand the intricacies of policy, budgeting processes, expenditure and operational processes of municipalities.

The South African Reserve Bank Centre for Economic Journalism (SARBCEJ) worked together with Bloomberg, based in New York, and the Gordon Institute of Business Science in Johannesburg, to produce a 19-day programme called the Bloomberg Media Initiative Africa for African journalists to enhance their skills in business journalism. The initiative which operates across the continent aims to increase the number of skilled financial journalists and analysts working in the media in Africa.

Anthea Garman and Gillian Rennie attended the inaugural IABA Africa colloquium hosted by Stellenbosch University which attracted researchers working on auto/biography from South Africa, other African universities, as well as from universities in Australia and England.

Funding awarded to the Sol Plaatjie Institute (SPI) by UNESCO saw the publication of a 74-page booklet in 2017, “A Directory of Community Media and Advertising Trends in Southern Africa”. This research was conducted by a Rhodes University MA graduate in Journalism and Media Studies, Meli Ncube, and explores the financial viability of Southern Africa’s community media.

Senior students represented the School and worked in the student newsroom at the Menell Media Exchange conference in Johannesburg with the focus of “Truth & Trust: Mapping media’s new terrain”. The Menell Media Exchange is a flagship programme of Duke University in Durham, North Carolina and is focused on strengthening independent media in South Africa.

Prof Steenveld was awarded funding for a seminar series titled ‘Southern Epistemologies: Thinking beyond the abyss for a transformative curriculum’ as part of Mellon’s 30th Anniversary Seminar Program.  This seminar series responds to continuing demands for the transformation of South African tertiary education by focusing on the essence of what Universities do: continually problematizing knowledge creation. In particular, this series offers an approach to knowledge production that is transdisciplinary, thereby enabling participants to see the ways in which different disciplines approach similar broad structural conditions. The selection of the seminars is purposeful, combining the theoretical and philosophical problematization of ‘knowledge’ as a category, and then its ‘application’ in fields that are broadly communicative, but in different ways.

A new research programme in Media and Social Belonging received funding from the Andrew W Mellon Foundation. This programme focuses on the complex relationships between South Africa’s changing media environment and its changing political environment with the key question: “What kinds of sociality are constituted by different forms of media and how do these (forms of sociality) speak to issues of social belonging and calls for social change? The core issues of the programme are Coloniality, Digitality and Sociality and the interconnections between them. The programme is led by Prof Lynette Steenveld and has entailed the teaching of a new core media studies and social theory programme at postgraduate levels.

Books/Chapters/Monographs

**Berger, G.**

**Berger, G.** (2017) The Universal Norm of Freedom of Expression - Towards an Unfragmented Internet. In: Kohl, U. (ed.). *The Net and the Nation State: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Internet Governance*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. p.27-38. ISBN: 9781107142947.

**Berger, G.** (2017) Why the World Became Concerned with Journalistic Safety, and Why the Issue Will Continue to Attract Attention. In: Carlsson, U. and Poyhtari, R. (eds.). *The Assault on Journalism*. Gothenburg: NORDICOM (University of Gothenburg). p.33-43. ISBN: 9789187957512.

**Berger, G.** (2017) Foreword. In: Frey, E., Rhaman, M. and El Bour, H. (eds.). *Negotiating Journalism: Core Values and Cultural Diversities*. Gothenburg: NORDICOM (University of Gothenburg). p.7-8. ISBN: 9789187957673.

**Berger, G.** (2017) Expressing the changes: International perspectives on evolutions in the right to free expression. In: Tumber, H. and Waisbord, S. (eds.). *The Routledge Companion to Media and Human Rights*. New York: Routledge: Taylor and Francis. p.17-29. ISBN: 9781138665545.

**Berger, G.** (2017) Taking stock of contemporary journalism education. In: Goodman, R.S. and Steyn, E. (eds.). *Global Journalism Education in the 21st Century: Challenges and Innovations*. Texas: Knight Centre for Journalism in the Americas. p.245-266. ISBN: 9781587903885.

**Garman, A.**

**Garman, A.** and Wasserman, H. (2017) Citizens and journalists: The possibilities of co-creating the democracy we want. In: Garman, A. and Wasserman, H. (eds.). *Media and Citizenship: Between marginalisation and participation*. Cape Town: HSRC Press. p.3-15. ISBN: 9780796925565.

**Gordon, J.R.**

Du Toit, M. and **Gordon, J.R.** (2016) *Breathing Spaces*. Durban: UKZN Press. ISBN: 9781869142797.

**Mati, S.A.**

Houston, G., **Mati, S.A.**, Magidimisha, H., Vivier, E. and Dipholo, M. (2017) *The Other Side of Freedom: Stories of Hope and Loss in the South African Liberation Struggle 1950-1994*. Cape Town: HSRC Press. ISBN: 9780796925572.

**Mufamadi, A.E. and Garman, A.**

**Mufamadi, A.E.** and **Garman, A.** (2017) The media, Equal Education and school learners: 'Political listening' in the South African education crisis. In: Garman, A. and Wasserman, H. (eds.). *Media and Citizenship: Between marginalisation and participation*. Cape Town: HSRC Press. p.181-199. ISBN: 9780796925565.

**Schoon, A. and Strelitz, L.**

**Schoon, A.** and **Strelitz, L.** (2017) Mixing with MXit When You're 'Mix': Mobile Phones and Identity in a Small South African Town. In: Willems, W. and Mano, W. (eds.). *Everyday Media Culture in Africa: Audiences and Users*. London: Routledge. p.180-197. ISBN: 9781138202849.

Concerts, Exhibitions, Performances, Workshops, Events

**Garman, A.**

**Garman, A.** Convenor. Think!Fest. *National Arts Festival public lecture series*. 1820 Settlers Monument, Grahamstown. South Africa. 30 June - 7 July 2017.

**Garman, B.D.**

**Garman, B.D.** and **Dixie, C.** Co-convenor. The Making of a Book. *The Making of a Book*. Fine Art Department, Rhodes, Grahamstown. South Africa. 15 - 22 September 2017.

**Gordon, J.R.**

**Gordon, J.R.** Exhibition. . *Breathing Spaces: Environmental portraits of South Durban*. National Arts Festival: Monument, Grahamstown. South Africa. 29 June - 9 July 2017.

International Visits

**Dugmore, H.**

**Dugmore, H.** Third International German Forum - What matters to people global health and innovation. Federal Chancellory, Berlin, Germany. *Innovation in Health Promotion in South Africa*. 21 - 23 February 2017.

**Dugmore, H.** World Conference of Science Journalists, UCLA and USC, San Francisco, USA. *Convener of and speaker on panel: Levelling the Playing Fields – Science Journalism and Big Food.* 26 - 30 October 2017.

Other Publications

**Schoon, A.**

**Schoon, A.** (2017). In: *Izolo: mobile diaries of the less connected*. Brighton, UK: The Institute of Development Studies.

Peer Reviewed Non-Subsidy-Earning Journal Research Publications

**Berger, G.**

**Berger, G.** (2017) Afterword by UNESCO. *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator*. 72 (3). p.319-321.

**Garman, A. and Van Der Merwe, M.**

**Garman, A.** and **Van Der Merwe, M.** (2017) Riding the Waves: Journalism Education in Post-Apartheid South Africa. *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator*. 72 (3). p.306-318.

Peer Reviewed Subsidy-Earning Journal Research Publications

**Amner, R. and Mpofu, N.**

**Amner, R.** and **Mpofu, N.** (2017) 'Doing things that make you feel valuable': Students' experiences with a critical pedagogy of place in the journalism curriculum at a South African University. *Journal of Educational Studies*. 16 (1). p.1-20.

**Berger, G.**

Banda, F. and **Berger, G.** (2017) Afterword by UNESCO. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly.* 72 (3). p.319-321.

**Boshoff, P. and Prinsloo, J.**

**Boshoff, P.** and **Prinsloo, J.** (2017) Secrets, lies and redemption. *African Studies.* 76 (1). p.121-139.

**Garman, A. and Malila, V.**

**Garman, A.** and **Malila, V.** (2017) Listening and the Ambiguities of Voice in South African Journalism. *Communicatio*. 43 (1). p.1-16.

**Gush, C.**

**Gush, C.** (2017) The Intsomi Project: Using a Communicative Ecology Approach to Create Literacy Activists. *Journal for New Generation Sciences*. 15 (1). p.94-107.

**Prinsloo, J.**

**Prinsloo, J.** (2017) GroundWork's Environmental Justice School for Activists - A Praxis-based Curriculum. *Journal for New Generation Sciences*. 15 (1). p.157-175.

Livingstone , S., Lemish , D., Lim , S.S., Bulger , M., Cabello, P., Claro , M., Cabello-Hutt, T., Khalil, J., Kumpulainen, D.r., Nayar , U.S., Nayar , P., Park , J., Tan , M.M., **Prinsloo, J.** and Wei, B. (2017) Global Perspectives on Children's Digital Opportunities: An Emerging Research and Policy Agenda. *Pediatrics.* 140 (2). p.137-140.

Research Papers Presented at Academic/Scientific Conferences (Non-peer-reviewed Proceedings)

**Amner, R.**

**Sharma, S.**, **Amner, R.**, Nagaraju, K., Chhetri, P. and **Srinivas, S.C.** Concept Paper: Use of Media for Health Communication and Task Shifting to Address the Challenges of AMR in a Rural Health System Strengthening Project. *Highway Africa Annual Conference*. Rhodes University, Grahamstown. South Africa. August 2017.

**Boshoff, P.**

**Boshoff, P.** Teaching Media Studies: towards a "decoloniality of being". *Teaching & Learning Showcase: Responding to a Changing Higher Education Landscape*. Rhodes University, Grahamstown. South Africa. October 2017.

**Boshoff, P.** Cops behaving badly: Police in Daily Sun crime narratives. *SACOMM*. Rhodes University, Grahamstown. South Africa. August 2017.

**Buthelezi, M.T.**

**Dalvit, L.** and **Buthelezi, M.T.** Exploring how mobile phones mediate bonding, bridging and linking social capital in a South African rural area. *IAMCR*. Barahona, Cartagena de Indias. Colombia. July 2017.

**Garman, A.**

**Garman, A.** The #Feesmustfall challenge to journalism-as-usual and the demand for social justice via media. *International Association for Media and Communication Research*. Cartagena International Conference Centre, Cartagena. Colombia. July 2017.

**Garman, A.** #Guptaleaks, scorpions and dungbeetles: The resurgence of independent, outside, investigative journalism in South Africa. *Journalism Education and Research Association of Australia*. Newcastle University, Newcastle. Australia. December 2017.

**Garman, A.** Anne, Antjie, Anthea: Interlocutors, Intralocutors and Others. *Africa chapter of the Auto/Biography conference*. Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study in South Africa, Stellenbosch. South Africa. October 2017.

**Garman, B.D.**

**Garman, B.D.** Smashing the genre: can a new generation of African superheroes break out of their generic confines? *International Association of Media Communication Research* International Convention Centre, Cartagena. Colombia. July 2017.

**Rennie, G.**

**Rennie, G.** Signs of life in green bubbles: a researcher and her subject use WhatsApp to explore their story. *The Textualities of Auto/Biography: or, the Auto/biogrAfrical*. English Department at Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch. South Africa. October 2017.

**Schoon, A.**

**Schoon, A.** African personhood and digital media technology among hip-hop artists in a town in South Africa. *Strategic Narratives of Technology and Africa*. Museu da Electricidade, Funchal. Portugal. September 2017.

**Steenveld, L.**

**Steenveld, L.** Coloniality: the return of the oppressed in media studies. *SACOMM 2017*. Rhodes University, Grahamstown. South Africa. September 2017.