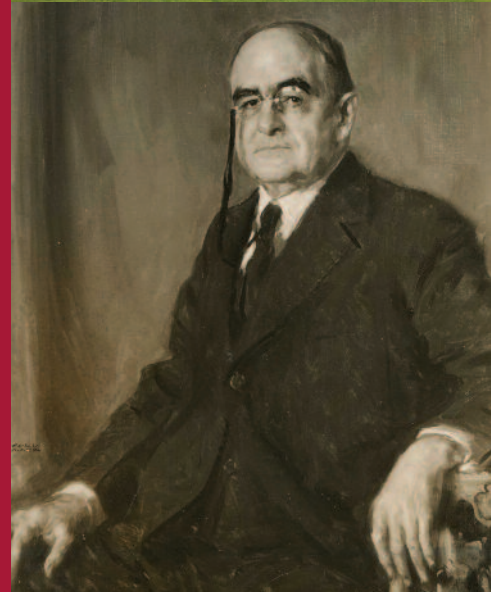
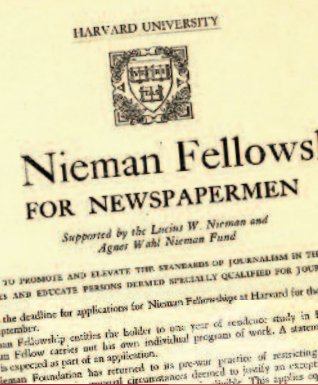


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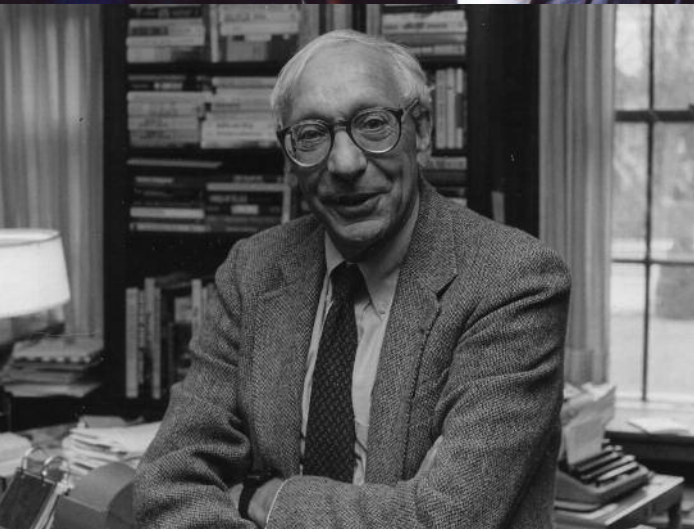
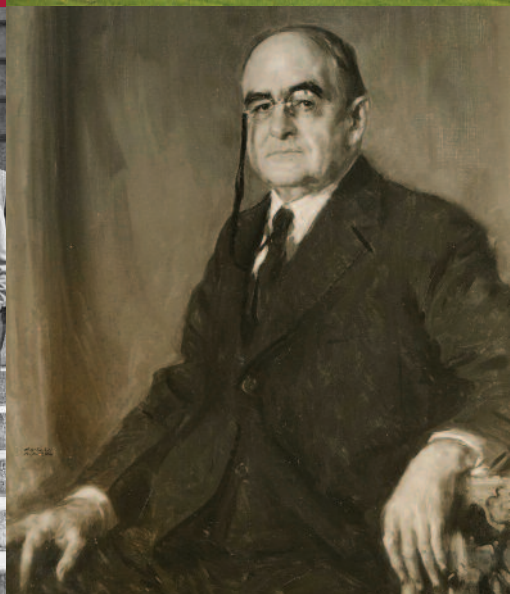
70
years of

Nieman Fellowships





*"...to promote and elevate the standards of
journalism and educate persons
deemed specially qualified for journalism"*



Nieman Foundation
for Journalism at Harvard

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NIEMAN FOUNDATION FOR JOURNALISM AT HARVARD

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Cover – Top row, from left: Class of 1981; 1997 Nieman Fellows Marjorie Valbrun and Mathatha Tsedu; Class of 1939. **Second row:** Class of 2008. **Third row:** Class of 2001 at commencement; Class of 1948; Louis Lyons portrait by Carl Von Marr. **Fourth row:** Curator Howard Simons; Curators Bill Kovach and Bob Giles. **Bottom row:** 2001 Nieman Fellow Sayuri Daimon with John Kenneth Galbraith and his wife Kitty (left); Nieman Seminar at the Harvard Faculty Club with Lawrence Weiss, Robert DeRoos, Robert Brunn, Peter Lisagor, David Dreiman and Grady Clay, members of the Class of 1949

WELCOME



The Nieman Foundation staff and I extend the warmest of welcomes to all Nieman Fellows and their affiliates who have traveled to Cambridge to help us celebrate 70 years of Nieman Fellowships.

Looking back over seven decades of a program that began with the cautious endorsement of a university president who thought the idea “frankly experimental,” it is remarkable that the mission set forth by Agnes Wahl Nieman was more visionary than anyone could have imagined at the time.

The program’s core purpose of providing a year of study at Harvard for working journalists has not changed. But Mrs. Nieman’s mandate “to promote and elevate the standards of journalism” has enabled a succession of curators to enlarge the work of the foundation: engaging in creative ways with the changing methods of news gathering; helping international fellows find an independent voice and, on occasion, refuge; growing a network of Nieman Fellows worldwide; finding new ways to help fellows perfect their craft.

Even in this time of shrinking news staffs and the unsettling challenge of change, Nieman Fellows continue to arrive at Harvard with an untarnished commitment to the guiding principles of journalism. They understand what sets journalism apart. They recognize that the privilege of being a fellow also carries the expectation to be a guardian of journalism’s core values.

From the beginning, the Nieman year has been a gift of time: time to read, to reflect, to savor the discovery of yet another unexpected surprise at Harvard and time to establish and nurture friendships within the class that often endure for a lifetime. Curator Howard Simons caught the spirit of this when he famously urged one of his early classes to “scratch where it doesn’t itch.”

Any measure of the Nieman program begins with the fellows. In great stories reported, in moments of courage, in leading innovation, in taking charge, in prizes won, Nieman Fellows have established the relevance of the program and reaffirmed it over and over through the excellence of their work. Their example has inspired other journalists of an independent frame of mind to apply for Nieman Fellowships.

Harvard’s remarkable stewardship of our endowment has enabled the Nieman program to grow both in its service to the fellows and its outreach to other journalists. Among the things we celebrate over these 70 years is an extraordinary relationship with a university that has so generously welcomed journalists to its classrooms and lecture halls and provided an oasis for learning in the midst of one’s career. Our special place in this world-class university has helped guarantee that a Nieman Fellowship is a prize beyond measure.

We look forward to the challenge of helping to educate new generations of Nieman Fellows for a dynamic, if uncertain, future in the firm belief that journalism matters.

Bob Giles
Nieman Foundation Curator, 1966 Nieman Fellow

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Giles". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.



MILLER, MACK & FAIRCHILD

GEORGE W. MILLER
JAMES W. MACK
JAMES W. FAIRCHILD
JAMES W. MILLER
JAMES W. MACK
JAMES W. FAIRCHILD
JAMES W. MILLER
JAMES W. MACK
JAMES W. FAIRCHILD

FIRST WISCONSIN NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
MILWAUKEE

February 8th,
1936

Mr. James Bryant Conant,
President, Harvard University,
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

My dear Sir:

Agnes Wahl Nieman, widow of Lucius W. Nieman,
died February 5th testate, and by her will left the residue
of her estate, probably over a million dollars, to the
President and Fellows of Harvard College for specified pur-
poses.



NIEMAN HISTORY – THE EARLY YEARS

The Nieman idea first came to Harvard in a letter written shortly after Agnes Wahl Nieman's death in February 1936. The letter laid out the purpose of a gift from her estate that was to "be used to constitute a fund to be known as the 'Lucius W. Nieman and Agnes Wahl Nieman Fund,' which shall be invested and the income thereof be used to promote and elevate the standards of journalism in the United States and educate persons deemed specially qualified for journalism, in such manner as the governing authorities of Harvard College from time to time shall deem wise..."

The President's Dilemma

Harvard President James Bryant Conant, in his annual report for the 1937-1938 school year, wrote that although the Nieman gift "places an additional problem at our door, (it) can only be regarded as a great challenge to this particular academic community...The presence of a small group of practical and experienced newspapermen in residence is sure to enrich the Harvard community." Still, he acknowledged, "the plan is frankly experimental" and, if found impractical, would be abandoned in favor of some other project which might seem more promising.

In reflecting on the challenge Mrs. Nieman had given Harvard, Conant wrote, "When I first heard the news, I must admit I was disappointed... The Depression was still very much of a reality; every private college and university was hard pressed for funds. The last thing I should have thought asking Santa Claus to bring was an endowment to 'promote and elevate the standards of journalism.' Here was a very large sum of money which was tied up in perpetuity by what looked like an impossible directive. How did one go about promoting and elevating the standards of journalism?"

The Harvard Corporation instructed Conant to consult widely in search of suggestions for spending the income of the Nieman fund. He found that no one favored establishing a school of journalism. The best ideas from the Harvard faculty, he thought, were to establish writing courses in the English department that would be of special value to journalists and a collection of microfilms from newspapers around the nation.

Ultimately, Conant settled on an idea patterned after a mid-career fellowship program in public administration that was funded by an

From top: Nieman Class of 1942; letter from Agnes Wahl Nieman's attorney notifying Harvard of her bequest; Harvard President James Bryant Conant



endowment given a few years earlier by Lucius Littauer, a glove maker and New York congressman.

Conant discussed his proposal with Harvard's Board of Overseers, a group that included journalist Walter Lippmann, as well as a few deans and faculty members.

Lippmann helped persuade the university's governing boards to allow journalists to come to Harvard for a year of study. He thought the world needed better-educated journalists; the Nieman year would provide the time and Harvard would provide the setting to make that possible.

He later wrote that "It is altogether unthinkable that a society like ours should remain forever dependent on untrained accidental witnesses — the better course is to send out into reporting a generation of (journalists) who will, by sheer superiority, drive the incompetents out of the business."

Conant also talked with a number of newspaper editors and publishers. Some liked the idea of mid-career fellowships, he recalled, "but no one reacted with enthusiasm." He described a meeting with representatives of Boston newspapers who concluded, "We have no better suggestion; you might as well try what you have in mind, though it will probably fail."

In announcing the fellowship program in early 1938, President Conant said it was "a dubious experiment."

Much later, in his 1970 autobiography, "My Several Lives: Memoirs of a Social Inventor," Conant described Mrs. Nieman as his ideal benefactor. "The widow of the founder of *The Milwaukee Journal* led me, by the terms of her will, to recommend the creation of the Nieman Fellowships in Journalism — an invention of which I am very proud."

The Experiment Begins

Contrary to Conant's gloomy expectations, 309 journalists applied in the first year. In announcing the inaugural class, the university said it could only award nine fellowships because the income from the Nieman fund was less than expected. Harvard said it anticipated that in future years, the class size would be 12 to 15. The applications fell to 250 the second year, then to 150 and stabilized in the early years of the program at about 100. The class size grew to 12 for the 1939-40 academic year and increased to 16 in the class of 1943.

*A small group of
practical and experienced
newspapermen in
residence is sure to enrich
the Harvard community.*

The president considered himself fortunate to persuade *Fortune* magazine editor Archibald MacLeish to head the project. They agreed that since MacLeish would be responsible for the microfilm collection as well as guiding the fellows, he should carry the title of curator.

Reflecting on it later, MacLeish said he realized he was going to be given the title "because I was going to be the curator of the microfilm. Well, there was no microfilm, but the name stuck and it amused everybody ever since. It was a good name for that reason."

Jerome Aumente, Nieman Class of 1968, interviewing MacLeish for *Nieman Reports* in the summer of 1989, described him as a "wonderful amalgam of writer and scholar, teacher of poetry and poet, magazine journalist and law teacher...Conant's insight in recruiting him, assiduously wooing him really, turned out to be a brilliant survival stroke for the program. MacLeish had graduated from Yale and Harvard Law. He was comfortable in the worlds of journalism and the university."

Soon after the school year began in 1938, Conant met with the class and is famously said to have told them, "Here is the university. Take it." Not all the faculty shared the president's enthusiasm; some were apprehensive about the idea of having reporters in their classrooms.



Nieman Class of 1947

To help open doors at Harvard, MacLeish recruited respected members of the faculty as friends of the Nieman program, among them the historian, Arthur Schlesinger, Sr. and Felix Frankfurter, then at the Law School.

Traditions Take Hold

Conant and MacLeish agreed that, in addition to the fellows' individual studies, there should be a thread of professional development offered throughout the year. MacLeish organized weekly dinners and was able to draw on his extensive network of friends and acquaintances to bring leading journalists to Cambridge for an evening's discussion with the fellows.

Louis M. Lyons, a reporter for *The Boston Globe* who was a member of the first class and later would serve 25 years as curator, wrote that MacLeish "was deft in directing the discussion and bringing everyone into it. There was just one rule: everything was off the record. So the talk was full, free and candid." For many years, the Signet Society in Harvard Square was home to Nieman dinners.

After an evening with the Niemans, columnist Heywood Broun wrote that a majority of the professors had earned a passing grade from the fellows. "A few have been set down as phonies and stuffed shirts, but, for the most part, it is admitted that most of the

instructors know their stuff and actually have something to offer." In the spring of 1939, Conant suggested that the fellows also should hear from faculty members, a suggestion that led to the Nieman seminars, which met in afternoon sessions over beer and cheese at the Faculty Club.

The fellow who made the largest impact in the first class of four newspaper reporters and five editorial writers was Edwin A. Lahey, labor reporter from the *Chicago Daily News*. He had not been to college but had what Lyons described as "a larger experience in life than any of us." Lahey also had a gift for pungent expression that "had Harvard students collecting 'Laheyisms.'"

Lyons said that "It was great good luck for the Nieman program that its first group brought to Harvard a newspaperman of such pronounced characteristics as to make an indelible impression. Lahey to the Harvard mind was the prototype of Nieman Fellows."

Nieman archives reveal extensive national coverage of the first Nieman class, including an item in the *Newspaper Guild Reporter* noting that the group had donated \$45 to support journalists on strike against Hearst's *Herald & Examiner* in Chicago.

After just one year, President Roosevelt appointed MacLeish as Librarian of Congress and Conant asked Lyons to take on the task of running the Nieman program.

The Lyons Years

In a memoir he wrote in the mid-1960s, Lyons recalled that the president wanted to reappraise the Nieman program after five years and asked Lyons to carry on without change since, "In an experiment you don't want to have any variables."

"It was quite clear that the only role he had in mind for me," Lyons wrote, "was to preside over the Nieman dinners and seminars. With that in mind, he had offered me what he had the grace to call 'an honorarium' of \$1,000."

In 1946, after seven years of running the program from his office at the *Globe* and dividing his time between the paper and Harvard, Lyons accepted a full-time appointment as curator.

Over the next several years, Lyons revolutionized the Nieman program, expanding its scope dramatically. He acted on a Conant suggestion to organize a reunion of Nieman Fellows, launched *Nieman Reports*, persuaded the president that women should be admitted to the program, selected the first African-American fellows, secured funding to support fellowships for international journalists, initiated the foundation's long relationship with journalists from South Africa, established reciprocal arrangements for fellows at MIT, formalized the selection process around a committee of faculty and Nieman Fellows and established the Nieman Advisory Board.

In 1948, as the Nieman Foundation approached its 10th year, a committee composed of publishers, editors and leading columnists was appointed to review the Nieman program. Lyons thought the group produced "a friendly, constructive report." In his notes on the committee's report, however, he wrote, "a few points disturb me more than others. One is the commentary that 'liberals' have an advantage in selection. I have been aware of the fact that the balance of most groups ran that way, and have been conscious of the need to seek balance. My view is that in the nature of the opportunity, those who seek it are apt to be the questioning rather than the stolid status quo men."

The report also expressed concern about "cynicism" some of the committee members observed among the fellows. Lyons wrote that he was "surprised that publishers are unaware of its existence in their offices. Sometimes cynicism is not the apt word

for it. It is as often idealism, a questing mind, or just a sharp conscience. It finds a chance for expression in such a year as a fellowship provides."

Publishers on the committee also complained that some fellows were coming to Harvard to "escape their jobs or seek better ones." Lyons' notes indicated that he had been "sharply aware" of this since the beginning of the program and had "tried to avoid such fellows but not always successfully. We have for several years emphasized that the leave of absence was not to be thought of as a one-way ticket." He said he thought the question of the commitment to return was "an unenforceable obligation."

During his 25 years as curator, Louis Lyons stabilized the program and created the enduring relationship with Harvard that generations of Nieman Fellows since have experienced. Looking back on the first year of the program, when he was a fellow, Lyons said, "A Nieman year is just what you can make of it."

The Fellowship Program Expands

Lyons was succeeded in 1964 by Dwight Sargent, Class of 1951, a former editorial page editor of *The New York Herald Tribune*, who was known for funny but sometimes unprintable shaggy-dog stories. He cared deeply for the language, to the extent that he would occasionally refer to a list of 11 words he said journalists typically misspelled.

Sargent's arrival as curator coincided with an imperative to find additional funding; income from the original Nieman grant was sufficient to provide stipends for only nine

U.S. fellows in 1964 and eight in 1965. Sargent persuaded *Boston Globe* publisher Davis Taylor to join him in a national campaign to match a \$1.2 million grant from the Ford Foundation. The two men visited newspaper publishers across the country and raised \$1.3 million to match the Ford gift, which put the Nieman Foundation on sound financial footing.

Sargent stepped down in 1973 and Harvard appointed as curator Jim Thomson, an Asia expert noted for his early opposition to U.S. policies in Vietnam and China in the 1960s. Thomson once told a group of Nieman alumni to "Think of me not as a journalist but as a journalizer: one who has hovered and nibbled at the fringes of journalism for most of my life. My academic friends think of me as a journalist; my journalist friends think of me as an academic."

Thomson's imprint on the program was large. Women and journalists of color were more broadly represented in his classes. Nieman spouses were welcomed into the program as affiliates. Jim's wife, Diana, a critic and poet, established creative writing classes for fellows. Perhaps Thomson's most lasting contribution to the program was in enabling the foundation to acquire in 1978 the stately Greek revival home we now know as Walter Lippmann House. To a considerable extent, the foundation's arrival at One Francis Avenue marked the end of the early years and the beginning of a new era for the Nieman Fellowship program.

Bob Giles
Nieman Foundation Curator, 1966 Nieman Fellow



SHARING NIEMAN VALUES AT HOME AND ABROAD

Looking back on it now, it is clear to me that two events at the very beginning of my Nieman experience shaped my entire decade as Nieman curator.

The first event was a private conversation I had with Curator Howard Simons in February 1989, shortly after I had joined the foundation as a fellow in a mid-year emergency appointment. Howard swore me to secrecy before he told me that he wanted to share with me both good news and some bad news he had just received.

“What’s the bad news?” I asked. Like the hard-evidence science writer he once was, Howard answered, “I’ve just been diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer. I’ll be dead within nine months.”

It took me a minute to digest this and blurt out, “My God, Howard, what can be the good news after that?” In a heartbeat, with a calm grin, he answered: “I don’t have to floss my teeth anymore and we’re going to go have a big cheeseburger for lunch in a few minutes.”

The meal turned into a plotting session in which he enlisted me to help keep his condition secret. He had begun the year making elaborate plans for the 50th anniversary of the Nieman program and he didn’t want it to “become a memorial for Howie Simons” rather than a celebration of Nieman. He thought the others in the class would accept me, as a senior journalist, sitting in for him while he took a number of “unexpected trips.” As Howie and I talked, we found ourselves discussing Nieman not as a personal ‘best year of your life’ experience, but a journalism experience that needed to be shared with the larger world of journalists. Before he left the foundation, Howie helped

me hatch a plan to expand the reach of the Nieman mission, which took root later that year in Germany at a conference sponsored by the Aspen Institute in Berlin. The event was designed to bring a group of American journalists and political leaders together with journalists in West Germany to discuss political coverage in advance of upcoming elections. But shortly before the conference convened, weeks of civil unrest turned into a mass movement of Germans determined to bring down the Berlin Wall.

Rather than talk about politics, we serendipitously became observers at the first meeting of journalists from East and West Germany as they tried to understand the new world that they themselves were creating.

The following summer, the Nieman Foundation sponsored the first conference between journalists of the newly freed nations of Eastern and Central Europe and journalists from the United States in Prague. The journalists discussed the principles and values of an independent press in a democratic society, helping fulfill the plan that I had made with Howie shortly before he died.

That event was the beginning of a decade-long effort to create outreach programs that would help translate the experience each Nieman class had during a year of directed academic study into concrete issues and ideas. It was a process that every class contributed to in the notes they left to incoming fellows and the guidance they offered me about improving the Nieman program. It also built on the work Jim Thomson and Howard Simons began when they increased the number of international Nieman Fellows, all of whom bring new ideas to each incoming class.

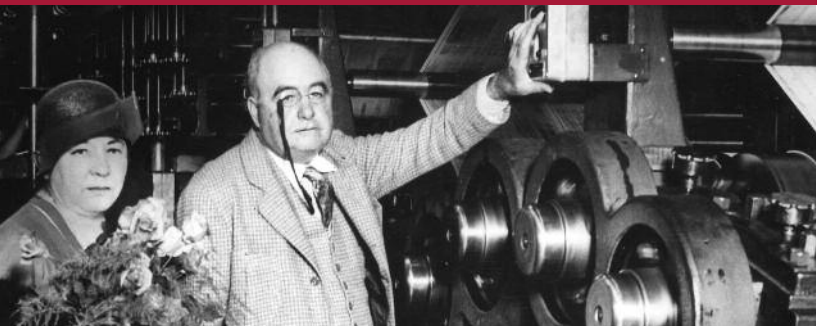
Among the different ways we found to share the Nieman experience beyond Harvard were the annual South Africa Day Conferences we were able to run with the help of Frank Ferrari, then senior vice president of the Africa-America Institute. And with the help of the growing cadre of international Niemans, we conducted journalism conferences and training programs in Poland, Hungary, Croatia, Korea, Japan, Colombia, Argentina, Zimbabwe and Kenya.

Others brought outreach ideas to us. The V. Kann Rasmussen Fund made it possible to add a group of environmental journalists to the Nieman program. Linda Healey, J. Anthony Lukas’s widow, brought us the idea of the Lukas Prize Project in 1998 to honor the best in American nonfiction writing, now co-administered by the Nieman Foundation and the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. The early steps toward establishing the Taylor Family Award for Fairness in Newspapers and the Christopher J. Georges Fellowship Fund were taken in 1999.

But maybe the most effective Nieman outreach began in 1990 when Bob Phelps, who had just recently retired after a career as Washington news editor of *The New York Times* and managing editor of *The Boston Globe*, agreed to revitalize *Nieman Reports*. The improvements Bob initiated have continued and even accelerated under the editorship of Melissa Ludtke and Lois Fiore. With its online version, the magazine is, I am convinced, the most useful publication available to journalists in the world.

Bill Kovach
Founding Chairman and Acting Director
Committee of Concerned Journalists
Nieman Foundation Curator 1989-2000
1989 Nieman Fellow





Lucius and Agnes Nieman

A devoted couple, Agnes and Lucius Nieman shared many common interests despite sharply different backgrounds. Schooled in Chicago and Europe, Agnes Wahl and her sisters were at home in Milwaukee's high society where cotillions were the norm, famous musicians performed at private parties and the finer things in life were appreciated. Newspaperman Lucius Nieman was a welcome addition to that world, becoming Agnes' life's partner and ultimately the inspiration for her \$1 million bequest to Harvard.

Unlike his wife, Lucius had a hardscrabble youth. He lost both parents as a boy and was raised by his grandparents. Attracted to journalism at an early age, he started work as a printer's devil when he was just 12 and rose quickly through the ranks to become managing editor of The Milwaukee Sentinel only six years later. By 25, he owned his own paper, The Milwaukee Journal, which he ran for half a century.

Lucius's lifelong commitment to telling the news fully and truthfully won the respect and loyalty of his readership and eventually, the Pulitzer Prize for the Journal in 1919.

*To learn more about the Niemans, visit
<http://www.nieman.harvard.edu/lucius-nieman/>*

LOUIS LYONS DISCOVERS THE NIEMAN PROGRAM

Louis M. Lyons' acquaintance with the Nieman program began with an assignment from his editors at *The Boston Globe* to do a story on "this interesting announcement" that Harvard was establishing a fellowship program for journalists. He expected it to end there. "I did not think of it at all as affecting me," he wrote in his memoirs. "I was 40 years old and had been 20 years out of college.

"But once the story was printed, with all the details spelled out, it started conversations, both in the office and at home. And this kept up. 'Why don't you apply for one of those fellowships?' 'Oh, they'll be looking for people younger than I am.'

"One day in 1938, I went over to Harvard to inquire about applying. I found that the next day was the deadline for applications and the application was quite an elaborate process. I needed clippings of my work, supporting letters from editor and publisher, three other letters, a statement of what I proposed to do on fellowship and a biographical statement.

"But, scouring around, I got it in the next day. I told everyone concerned not to expect anything to come of it, and I didn't. In ensuing weeks, we had almost forgotten about it at home, when one day a letter came informing me I had been selected for a Nieman Fellowship...

"So that was set. I tried to get my mind around the idea of spending a year in a university. The children thought it was funny. Dad was going to college."



Above: Agnes Wahl Nieman and Lucius William Nieman starting new presses at The Milwaukee Journal in 1924. **Right:** Nieman Curator Louis Lyons with 1942 Nieman Fellows Sanford Cooper and Don Burke



CELEBRATING THE LEGACY

As the Nieman Foundation celebrates its 70th anniversary, let us each pause for a moment to take some justifiable pride in the enduring contribution of the Nieman Fellowships to the practice of journalism and, by extension, to all who benefit from news reported with intelligence, perspective and high standards.

For more than three generations, Nieman Fellowships have provided an opportunity for talented journalists to expand their knowledge and understanding of important topics, test their ideas and then go on to share what they have learned with the people of our nation and our world. It is no exaggeration to say that Nieman journalists have helped millions to be better informed and, in so doing, have made a significant contribution to the public good.

Now, as the Nieman Foundation begins its next 70 years, the need for Nieman-type journalism — the straight-forward presentation of carefully gathered facts and rigorous, unalloyed analysis — only grows. As the world becomes ever-more complicated, its citizens increasingly need information they can trust, provided by the sort of outstanding journalists Nieman fellows have come to personify.



First Women

Ten years after Nieman Fellowships were created

for “newspapermen,” the foundation accepted its first women fellows in the Class of 1946. Trailblazers in their own right, Charlotte FitzHenry Robling and Mary Ellen Leary Sherry arrived at a time when Radcliffe women were still segregated from Harvard males in Widener Library. As Harvard students, they fought for their rightful place in the stacks, and indeed, in their own profession.

After long and productive lives, the two women died within just two days of each other this past February. To learn more about them, visit <http://www.nieman.harvard.edu/firstwomen/>

For journalism, of course, it is a time of promise and peril. New technology has vastly expanded potential audiences while undermining the ability of traditional outlets to dominate the flow of news and information. Every person has become a potential publisher; many have jumped at the opportunity, creating a much broader information landscape, but one in which news is increasingly conflated with opinion. It is no wonder that news consumers, while applauding the availability of many new voices, have come to worry about the reliability of what they read and hear. And this as the financially beleaguered “old media” cut back on the quality reporting the public has long come to take for granted.

For the Nieman Foundation, as for all of journalism, the question of how the new information order will sort itself out remains a critical, unanswered one. Despite the current uncertainties, you don’t have to be a cockeyed optimist to believe that there will always be a demand for reliable news and information. But when it comes to predicting who will supply it and who will pay for it, the crystal ball gets a little cloudy.

What is clear, however, is that, whatever the future holds, the Nieman Foundation will continue to play an important role in ensuring that journalism has a steady supply of practitioners dedicated to the highest standards. Your curator and staff, your advisory board, and legions of Nieman alumni are all committed to this. When Mrs. Nieman left money to Harvard for the purpose of doing something “to promote and elevate the standards of journalism,” it was a long-term proposition.

William O. Wheatley Jr.
Nieman Advisory Board President
1977 Nieman Fellow



Sidebar: 1946 Nieman Fellows Charlotte FitzHenry Robling, Leon Svirsky and Mary Ellen Leary Sherry. **Above:** Nieman Class of 1977

It is no exaggeration to say that Nieman journalists have helped millions to be better informed and, in so doing, have made a significant contribution to the public good.



THE VIEW INSIDE HARVARD'S IVY WALLS

I first became acquainted with the Nieman Foundation in the early 1970s when Harvard President Derek Bok asked me, along with history professors Jim Thomson, Doris Kearns and Kevin Starr, to take a close look at the direction of the Nieman program.

Some months later, Jim was asked to be Nieman curator and it was he who first asked me to help the fellows understand what a poor job the media was doing covering the business and economic scene. Later, Howard Simons, Bill Kovach and Bob Giles asked me to do the same and help the fellows understand the workings of our economic system. In the process, I have come to know an astonishing group of wonderful journalists.

The Nieman Fellows bring their energy, talent and concern for current issues to a university where change comes very slowly — especially in the classroom. Their attempts to understand contemporary problems is a very positive force in an academic setting where big issues are sometimes discussed more than a decade after they have played out.

Through their work, these men and women and their editors have communicated knowledge and understanding that have helped people in all roles sort out what needs to be done and how to do it. This task is fundamental to progress everywhere.

In a cynical age, the values of the foundation are remarkable. Its mission is more important than ever now that technological and economic changes have transformed the way media institutions function.

On this wonderful birthday occasion, it is appropriate to recognize the need to preserve journalistic principles as well as the enduring value that the dissemination of quality news and information adds to our society.

Joseph L. Bower
Baker Foundation Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School
Secretary, Nieman Advisory Board

NIEMAN FOUNDATION PROGRAMS

During the past 70 years, the Nieman Foundation has fulfilled its mission to promote and elevate the standards of journalism through a variety of projects, seminars and events. Four core programs now help journalists navigate the challenges of reporting in an era far different than the print-dominated world of 1938.

NIEMAN REPORTS WWW.NIEMAN.HARVARD.EDU/REPORTS

In its 62nd year as a magazine about journalism, *Nieman Reports* provides a unique forum for voices and images from the field. Insights shared by journalists engage readers in a global conversation about opportunities to be embraced and challenges that are being confronted by reporters, editors and producers, by photojournalists, documentary filmmakers and editorial cartoonists, and by bloggers and those who teach emerging journalists.

As it has through its first six decades, *Nieman Reports* continues to address issues of importance to journalists and do so in ways that stimulate, provoke and enliven conversations taking place in newsrooms and classrooms, as well as through online forums and at conferences.

During the past year, *Nieman Reports* has invited journalists to share their experiences and perspectives on a variety of contemporary topics, including an in-depth look at what is happening with investigative/watchdog reporting. In our Spring 2008 issue, which launched this year-long project, we featured a collection of stories entitled, "21st Century Muckrakers: Who are they? How do they do their work?"

A number of articles from this issue, and from subsequent ones highlighting investigative journalism, have appeared on the Nieman Watchdog Web site, as well as in *Nieman Reports'* online edition, which includes links to related topics on the Web.

In our Summer 2008 issue, our stories about investigative reporting revolved around Iraq and Afghanistan war coverage. Journalists, photojournalists and documentary filmmakers wrote about their efforts to reveal important information related to the health and well-being of those who fought in these wars and civilians whose lives have been affected by the violence. In the same issue, a second collection of articles examined the intersection of political coverage and digital media.

Our Fall 2008 issue, the 21st Century Muckrakers project continued with a series of stories entitled, "Staying Local, Digging Deep," in which editors and reporters at mid-sized newspapers wrote about the challenges involved with maintaining their watchdog role and doing investigative work during a time of staff cutbacks and financial constraints.

Before launching the Muckrakers project, *Nieman Reports* used its Winter 2007 issue to gather insights from journalists in response to the issue's guiding question "Is Local News the Answer?" And in our upcoming Winter 2008 issue, our investigative reporting section will delve into efforts that reporters are making to cover issues related to health and safety, as we also continue to examine and measure the impact that the accelerating shift to digital media has on journalism.

Melissa Ludtke
Editor, *Nieman Reports*
1992 Nieman Fellow

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NIEMAN PROGRAM ON NARRATIVE JOURNALISM

NIEMAN.HARVARD.EDU/NARRATIVEJOURNALISM/

Established in 1999, the Nieman Program on Narrative Journalism focuses on teaching journalists how to tell powerful stories with both depth and nuance by applying the techniques of fiction to nonfiction.

The core of the narrative program is the yearlong seminar in narrative journalism for Nieman Fellows. Participants in the class read and discuss exceptional narratives, build new muscles through writing exercises and compose narrative articles. In-class reviews and private coaching sessions with the instructor offer each fellow an opportunity to receive more feedback than is often available in the pressured environment of the newsroom.

The annual Nieman Conference on Narrative Journalism brings together dozens of gifted teachers and practitioners with hundreds of attendees, including journalists working in every genre and medium. The conference is the premier annual event for narrative journalists eager to enhance their powers of observation and inquiry, sharpen their reporting and analytical skills and write with literary flair. Held in March in Boston, it features three days of talks, panels and workshops ranging from ethical dilemmas in reporting to multimedia workshops to the nuts and bolts of the craft.

The Nieman Seminar for Narrative Editors is more intimate. Held in September at Lippmann House, it invites 60 narrative editors to work closely with 10 instructors from news organizations, magazines, book



Keynote speaker John Hockenberry

publishing and the Web. Session topics range from how to nurture writers to ways to assemble creative multimedia packages.

The online Nieman Narrative Digest offers journalists an opportunity to read new work, study the form, and avail themselves of helpful resources. “Notable Narratives” are paired with commentaries on what works and what doesn’t. “The Editor’s Corner” looks more broadly at narrative issues, links to related works of merit and invites discussion from readers. In “Essays on Craft,” veteran narrative journalists share insights on what makes for great storytelling. Other features include interviews with writers, an archive of previously featured work, a narrative lexicon and a list of recommended books, Web sites and other resources for journalists struggling to better ways of telling meaningful stories.

Constance Hale
Program Director



From left: Narrative conference attendees; Marcus Mabry, international business editor, The New York Times; conference participants take a break; Roy Peter Clark, Poynter Institute instructor, author and editor



From left: Robert Plumb, New York Times science reporter, NF '60, (right) in Bio 161 observing the dissection of a bee's thorax; Howard Sochurek, Life photographer, NF '60, reads in Harvard Yard.

NIEMAN JOURNALISM LAB NIEMANLAB.ORG

American journalism is weaving its way through the most jarring transition in its history. Revenues are plunging; good journalists are losing their jobs; both readers and advertisers seem newly averse to well-established institutions. The daily rhythm of bad news has many wondering what future there is for tough, rigorous reporting in such a climate of decline.

The Nieman Journalism Lab, a new project launching in late 2008, is the foundation's attempt to help the profession navigate these difficult yet thrilling times. It will use the power of reporting to ask basic questions about the future of our business: What's working? What still needs to be tried? What needs to stop? What do audiences want, and what do they need? And how will it all be paid for?

The Lab is staking out partnerships around Harvard for help with these questions. It will tap the financial skills of the Harvard Business School, the resources and expertise of the Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations, and the sharp minds of the Berkman Center for Internet and Society. But just as importantly, the program will seek the wisdom of those outside the University who might offer vital pieces of the puzzle: Internet theorists, veteran business people, social media visionaries, fresh-faced entrepreneurs and, of course, the journalists who struggle with these questions each day.

The goal of the endeavor is to present an ever-evolving set of best practices that can be of use to journalists — both to established news organizations and to the new generation of startups, bloggers and entrepreneurs. Along the way, the Lab will be home to incisive commentary and discussion of how quality journalism can survive and thrive amid layoffs, buyouts and cutbacks. It is a direct response — decades later and in a transformed atmosphere — to Agnes Wahl Nieman's request that her foundation “promote and elevate the standards of journalism.”

Joshua Benton
Director
 2008 Nieman Fellow

NIEMAN WATCHDOG PROJECT

ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS NIEMANWATCHDOG.ORG

Now in its fifth year, niemanwatchdog.org continues to build its reputation as an authoritative, independent online voice calling for more aggressive accountability in journalism.

From the outset, the main Watchdog goal has been to have experts suggest “questions the press should ask.” These leading authorities are sometimes so knowledgeable that their Watchdog articles are steps ahead of work done at other news organizations. The site is a particularly valuable resource for topics including the war in Iraq, the Bush administration, the high cost of gas, Medicare and voting.

A recent addition to the site has been the introduction of “Elsewhere on the Internet,” a section that draws attention to important news accounts and research from around the world that watchdog reporters may find useful.

A number of well-known journalists submitted pieces to the site during the past year. Among them were David Cay Johnston and Stephen Kinzer, both former *New York Times* reporters; George Lardner Jr. and Myra McPherson, both formerly of *The Washington Post*; energy/environment reporter Joseph A. Davis; Carolyn Lewis, with experience

in print, radio, TV and as a journalism professor; Sig Christenson of the *San Antonio Express*, one of the few reporters from a regional newspaper to spend an extended period of time in Iraq; and Ken Ward Jr., a West Virginia reporter who is a leading expert on coal mine safety. Lardner, McPherson and Lewis also have been added to the site’s list of bloggers. All journalists who monitor public activities are invited to contribute to the site.



Because of its hard-hitting articles, the site is drawing attention: Posted items are cited frequently by journalism publications and blogs ranging from *Editor & Publisher* and *Romenesko* to *mediamatters.org* and *The Huffington Post* site. Academic researchers also are taking notice and more than 4,100 people now receive the Watchdog e-newsletter.

Barry Sussman, *Editor*
Dan Froomkin, *Deputy Editor*



Circa 1920

Walter Lippmann House

The graceful white house that is home to the Nieman Foundation was built in 1836 by Ebenezer Francis Jr., superintendent of Harvard's buildings, grounds and real estate. Originally designed as two buildings, the structures were later joined as one.

Through the years, the house has served as a private dwelling, a kindergarten, a secretarial school, a residence for foreign dignitaries and the parsonage for Harvard-Epworth Methodist Church.

In 1974, the church sold the house to Harvard College. The property was offered to the Nieman Foundation along with a \$100,000 challenge grant for upkeep from the estate of journalist Walter Lippmann, whose advice had contributed to the creation of the Nieman Fellowship program. The foundation's new home was dedicated to him on Sept. 23, 1979, the 90th anniversary of his birth.

SOUTH AFRICAN FELLOWSHIPS: A HISTORY OF HOPE AND PAIN

Nieman Curator Louis Lyons recalled that the Nieman Foundation's acceptance of foreign journalists began at the end of World War II with a few South Americans "under some arrangement that Nelson Rockefeller talked us into." Word of the opportunity spread and soon the dozen American fellows were joined by journalists from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and, in 1960, South Africa.

The foreign journalists, originally called associate fellows, were supported by various foundations. For South Africans, the sponsor was the United States-South Africa Leader Exchange Program (USSALEP).

The Nieman Foundation's first brush with the harsh reality of apartheid came in the first year of the South African relationship. In 1960, USSALEP selected Aubrey Sussens, a white editor at *The Rand Daily Mail*, for the fellowship. At the same time Lewis Nkosi, a black South African, heard of the program and wrote for information. Lyons put him in touch with the Farfield Foundation, which sponsored U.S.-South African cultural exchanges. Farfield agreed to underwrite a fellowship for the 23-year-old Nkosi, a writer for *Drum*, a magazine for black South Africans.

Nkosi's problems then began. A forceful critic of his nation's racial policies, he wrote in one article that South Africa was "terribly sick" and its citizens were "terrorized" by security police. He applied for a passport on July 1 and waited. He learned in November that his request has been denied. Angry and bitter, he applied for an exit visa. He obtained it and left — forbidden by law to return. The South African government banned his writings. After his Nieman year, he went to England and continued his career.

White South Africans came to Harvard in subsequent years. However, the next black South African to apply suffered the same experience as Nkosi.

Nathaniel Nakasa, editor of a Johannesburg literary magazine, applied in 1964 with support from the eminent writer Nadine Gordimer and Helen Suzman, a liberal

member of his nation's parliament. When the white journalist selected by USSALEP was unable to leave his newspaper, the organization agreed to sponsor Nakasa.

Nakasa, too, had strongly criticized apartheid and was refused a passport. The South African Society of Journalists objected. The government would not relent. Because USSALEP funding was available only to recipients who would return to South Africa, Nakasa, too, secured support from Farfield and took an exit visa — a one-way pass.

At Harvard, Nakasa retreated into drinking and melancholy. He explained some of his problems in a year-end report to the Nieman curator. "I may never fit comfortably into the world of scholars," he wrote, because "the racial problem in the world is one that has emotional and personal rather than intellectual implications... Rather than be calm and objective, I was apt to respond with a scream to disagreeable views, a disastrous tendency in any scholarly pursuit..."

Beset by emotional and financial problems, he visited the New York home of John Thompson, executive director of the Farfield Foundation. Thompson assured him that the foundation would provide financial help. But Nakasa was despondent over his exile. That evening, he leaped to his death from Thompson's seventh-floor apartment. At his burial in Westchester County, N.Y., another South African exile, Miriam Makeba, sang a sad farewell song.

Over time, Nieman alumni and others worked to remove the racial barrier. For years the fellowships have alternated between blacks and whites and the Nieman Society of South Africa has taken responsibility for vetting applicants. South Africa has sent 53 journalists to Harvard, the largest contingent of Nieman Fellows from a single country outside the United States.

Ed Williams
Editorial page editor, The Charlotte Observer
Nieman Fellow 1973

Williams originally wrote much of this report for a class he took while a fellow at Harvard.

A WORLD OF FELLOWSHIP

Since international fellows were first admitted to the Nieman program in 1951, they have traveled to Harvard from 88 countries and territories around the world. Some have escaped harsh regimes where censorship, threats of torture and imprisonment, physical violence or worse is too often the fate of practicing journalists. The Nieman Foundation has provided a safe haven to some of these imperiled journalists, providing a nurturing environment of support and encouragement. International journalists now comprise half of all Nieman classes.

Albania ■ Argentina ■ Australia ■ Bangladesh ■ Belgium ■ Bolivia
Bosnia and Herzegovina ■ Brazil ■ Bulgaria ■ Burma ■ Burundi ■ Cameroon
Canada ■ Chile ■ China ■ Colombia ■ Costa Rica ■ Czech Republic
Denmark ■ Ecuador ■ Egypt ■ Finland ■ France ■ Gambia ■ Germany
Ghana ■ Greece ■ Guatemala ■ Hong Kong ■ Hungary ■ Iceland ■ India
Indonesia ■ Iran ■ Iraq ■ Ireland ■ Israel ■ Italy ■ Japan ■ Jordan
Kenya ■ Lebanon ■ Liberia ■ Malawi ■ Malaysia ■ Mexico ■ Morocco
Mozambique ■ Namibia ■ Nepal ■ Netherlands ■ New Zealand ■ Nigeria
Northern Ireland ■ Norway ■ Pakistan ■ Palestine ■ Panama ■ Paraguay
Peru ■ Philippines ■ Poland ■ Portugal ■ Republic of Georgia ■ Romania
Russia ■ Rwanda ■ Saudi Arabia ■ Serbia ■ Sierra Leone ■ Singapore
Slovakia ■ South Africa ■ South Korea ■ Spain ■ Sri Lanka ■ Sweden
Taiwan ■ Thailand ■ Tonga ■ Turkey ■ Uganda ■ United Kingdom
Uruguay ■ United States of America ■ Vietnam ■ Yugoslavia ■ Zimbabwe



A Circle of Friends

When U.S. News and World Report correspondent Nick Daniloff, NF '74, was arrested and charged with spying in Moscow in 1986, his outraged Nieman classmates held a press conference to protest his detention and protect his reputation, explaining that he had been framed and taken to be used in exchange for a Russian prisoner being held in New York. Joining Curator Howard Simons at the conference (above) were Ellen Goodman, Ned Cline, Morton Kondracke and Patricia O'Brien.

Although Daniloff was released after 13 days, the incident drew attention to the precarious plight of reporters overseas and the need for support and protection from their peers.

Such was the case for journalist Zwelakhe Sisulu, NF '85, (left, speaking at Nieman's 50th anniversary in 1989) who was jailed for two years without charges by the South African government. Six of his Nieman colleagues held a press conference to pressure the Botha government for his release. Sisulu received the 1987 Louis Lyons Award for Conscience and Integrity in Journalism in absentia for giving black South Africans a voice during apartheid.

Learn more: www.nieman.harvard.edu/sisulu/

NIEMAN TIMELINE

1937

Agnes Wahl Nieman bequeaths \$1 million to Harvard "to promote and elevate the standards of journalism and educate persons deemed specially qualified for journalism."



1938



Harvard President James Bryant Conant announces the Nieman Fellowship Program, referring to it as "a very dubious experiment."

Archibald MacLeish (left) named first Nieman curator. The Foundation finds its first home at Harvard's Holyoke House.

1939



Louis M. Lyons, Nieman Class of 1939, takes the reins as curator.

1942

May: Newspaper editors from across the nation convene at Harvard for the Nieman Foundation's "Institute on War Problems."

1945

1945-1946: The first female Nieman Fellows, Mary Ellen Leary Sherry and Charlotte FitzHenry Robling, come to study at Harvard.

1946



1946-1947: Fletcher Martin becomes the first African-American Nieman Fellow.

1947

The first issue of Nieman Reports is published. The quarterly is the nation's first magazine devoted exclusively to a critical examination of the practice of journalism.

1951

First international Nieman Fellowships awarded.

1963

Nieman Foundation moves to 77 Dunster Street.

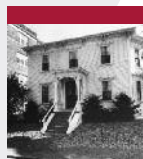
1964



Louis Lyons retires; Dwight Sargent, (left) a 1951 Nieman Fellow, is appointed curator.

May: The Class of 1964 establishes the Louis M. Lyons Award to honor displays of conscience and integrity by individuals, groups or institutions in communications. The first award is given to correspondents in Vietnam.

1970



September: Nieman Foundation moves to a new home at 48 Trowbridge St.

1972

1977

October: The Nieman Foundation's 40th anniversary convocation draws a crowd of 350 past and present fellows.



Summer: History Lecturer James Thomson Jr. becomes curator.

1978



January: The Nieman Foundation moves to One Francis Ave.

1979

September: Harvard dedicates Walter Lippmann House as the home of the Nieman Foundation. Hundreds of guests gather to celebrate on what would have been the late journalist's 90th birthday.

1982



May: New York Times foreign-affairs columnist Flora Lewis delivers the Nieman Foundation's first annual Joe Alex Morris Jr. Memorial Lecture. Morris, a Los Angeles Times correspondent and Harvard grad, was killed on assignment in Iran in 1979.

1984



July: Howard Simons, a 1959 Nieman Fellow, becomes curator.

1989



May: The Nieman Foundation for Journalism celebrates its golden anniversary.

Howard Simons steps down due to illness; Bill Kovach, a 1989 fellow, becomes curator.

1996

The Nieman Watchdog Project is created to encourage journalists to monitor and hold accountable those who exert power in all aspects of public life.

1998



The J. Anthony Lukas Prize Project is created to honor the best in American nonfiction writing. Co-administered by the Nieman Foundation and the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, it presents three annual awards in memory of author and journalist Lukas, a 1969 Nieman Fellow.

1998

May: First Nieman Watchdog Conference "How to Keep the Watchdogs Watching" takes place at Harvard.

2000



June: Bill Kovach steps down as curator. In July, Bob Giles, Nieman Class of 1966, is appointed to succeed him.

2001

Fall: The Nieman Program on Narrative Journalism is created. The first Nieman Conference on Narrative Journalism draws more than 800 journalists, editors and publishers to Cambridge.

2002

April: The Nieman Foundation's Taylor Family Award for Fairness in Newspapers is presented for the first time to Les Gura of *The Hartford Courant*.

2004



May: The Nieman Foundation dedicates the new wing at Walter Lippmann House in honor of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

2004



Nieman Foundation and The Harvard Crimson sponsor the first annual Georges Conference on College Journalism. The event honors *Wall Street Journal* reporter and Harvard graduate Christopher J. Georges.

2006



June: Dedication of the Robert C. Maynard Suite at Lippmann House, honoring the 1966 Nieman Fellow who co-founded the Institute for Journalism Education, which was later renamed in his memory.

2008

The Nieman Journalism Lab is launched to help journalists excel in the digital media age.

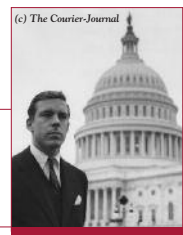
2008



The I.F. Stone Medal for Journalistic Independence is created.

2008

The Nieman Foundation becomes the new administrator of the Worth Bingham Prize for Investigative Reporting.



A RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

For many, the Pulitzer Prize is the jewel in the crown of all journalism awards. Through the years, Nieman Fellows have won dozens of Pulitzers for their work, either individually or as part of a team.

JOURNALISM

BREAKING NEWS REPORTING

2008 Michael Ruane, Class of 1992 *The Washington Post*

COMMENTARY

2007 Cynthia Tucker, Class of 1989 *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*
1997 Eileen McNamara, Class of 1988 *The Boston Globe*
1980 Ellen Goodman, Class of 1974 *The Boston Globe*

CRITICISM

1981 Jonathan Yardley, Class of 1969 *The Washington Star*

EDITORIAL CARTOONING

1988 Doug Marlette, Class of 1981 *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*
and *The Charlotte Observer*

EDITORIAL WRITING

2007 Heidi Evans, Class of 1993 *New York Daily News*
1992 Maria Henson, Class of 1994 *Lexington Herald-Leader*
1972 John Strohmeier, Class of 1953 *The Bethlehem Globe-Times*
1966 Robert Lasch, Class of 1942 *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*
1958 Harry Ashmore, Class of 1942 *Arkansas Gazette*

EXPLANATORY REPORTING

2001 Louise Kiernan, Class of 2005 *Chicago Tribune*
1999 Richard Read, Class of 1997 *The Oregonian*

FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

1990 David Turnley, Class of 1998 *Detroit Free Press*
1985 Stan Grossfeld, Class of 1992 *The Boston Globe*
1976 Pamela Spaulding, Class of 1985 *The Courier-Journal*

FEATURE WRITING

2008 Gene Weingarten, Class of 1988 *The Washington Post*
2005 Julia Keller, Class of 1998 *Chicago Tribune*
2000 J.R. Moehring, Class of 2001 *Los Angeles Times*
1996 Rick Bragg, Class of 1993 *The New York Times*
1980 Madeleine Blais, Class of 1986 *The Miami Herald*

GENERAL NEWS REPORTING

1989 Pamela Spaulding, Class of 1985 *The Courier-Journal*
1988 Jim Tharpe, Class of 1989 *The Alabama Journal*

INTERNATIONAL REPORTING

2003 Mary Jordan, Class of 1990 *The Washington Post*
2001 Ian Johnson, Class of 2007 *The Wall Street Journal*
1999 Carla Robbins, Class of 1990 *The Wall Street Journal*
1994 David Marcus, Class of 1996 *The Dallas Morning News*
1981 Shirley Christian, Class of 1974 *The Miami Herald*
1974 Hedrick Smith, Class of 1970 *The New York Times*
1967 John Hughes, Class of 1962 *The Christian Science Monitor*
1951 Keyes Beech, Class of 1953 *The Chicago Daily News*

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

1991 Joseph Hallinan, Class of 1998 *The Indianapolis Star*
1988 Ann Marie Lipinski, Class of 1990 *Chicago Tribune*
1987 Daniel Biddle, Class of 1990 *The Philadelphia Inquirer*
H.G. Bissinger, Class of 1986
Fredric Tulsky, Class of 1989
1985 William Marimow, Class of 1983 *The Philadelphia Inquirer*

LOCAL GENERAL OR SPOT NEWS REPORTING

1982 Chris Waddle, Class of 2005 *The Kansas City Times*
1980 Rodney Nordland, Class of 1989 *The Philadelphia Inquirer*
1976 Gene Miller, Class of 1968 *The Miami Herald*
1971 Robert Giles, Class of 1966 *Akron Beacon Journal*

LOCAL INVESTIGATIVE SPECIALIZED REPORTING

1980 Robert Porterfield, Class of 1979 *The Boston Globe*
1979 Gilbert Gaul, Class of 1983 *Pottsville Republican*
1977 Acel Moore, Class of 1980 *The Philadelphia Inquirer*
1968 J. Anthony Lukas, Class of 1969 *The New York Times*
1967 Gene Miller, Class of 1968 *The Miami Herald*
1965 Gene Goltz, Class of 1970 *The Houston Post*

LOCAL REPORTING

1960 Jack Nelson, Class of 1962 *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*
1957 William Lambert, Class of 1960 *The Oregonian*
Wallace Turner, Class of 1959

NATIONAL REPORTING

2006 Jerry Kammer, Class of 1994 *Copley News Service*
2001 Gerald Boyd, Class of 1981 *The New York Times*
2000 Carla Robbins, Class of 1990 *The Wall Street Journal*
1990 William Dietrich, Class of 1988 *The Seattle Times*
1987 Nancy Lee, Class of 1987 *The New York Times*
1986 George Rodrigue, Class of 1990 *The Dallas Morning News*
1970 William Eaton, Class of 1963 *The Chicago Daily News*
1963 Anthony Lewis, Class of 1957 *The New York Times*
1962 Nathan Caldwell, Class of 1941 *The Tennessean*
1958 Clark Mollenhoff, Class of 1950 *The Des Moines Register and Tribune*
1955 Anthony Lewis, Class of 1957 *Washington Daily News*
1950 Edwin Guthman, Class of 1951 *The Seattle Times*

PUBLIC SERVICE

2008 Anne Hull, Class of 1995 *The Washington Post*
2003 Kevin Cullen, Class of 2003 *The Boston Globe*
2001 Brent Walth, Class of 2006 *The Oregonian*
Richard Read, Class of 1997
1999 David Jackson, Class of 2009 *The Washington Post*
1998 Bryan Monroe, Class of 2003 *Grand Forks (ND) Herald*
1996 Melanie Sill, Class of 1994 *The Raleigh News & Observer*
1991 Geneva Overholser, Class of 1986 *The Des Moines Register*
1990 Gilbert Gaul, Class of 1983 *The Philadelphia Inquirer*
1989 W. Patrick Dougherty, Class of 1989 *Anchorage Daily News*
1988 Charles Shepard, Class of 1991 *The Charlotte Observer*
1987 Matthew Brelis, Class of 2002 *The Pittsburgh Press*
1984 Frank Del Olmo, Class of 1988 *Los Angeles Times*
1978 William Marimow, Class of 1983 *The Philadelphia Inquirer*
1976 Robert Porterfield, Class of 1979 *Anchorage Daily News*
1972 Hedrick Smith, Class of 1970 *The New York Times*
1967 E. Hugh Morris, Class of 1951 *The Courier-Journal*
John Edward Pearce, Class of 1958
1957 Edmund Rooney, Class of 1960 *Chicago Daily News*

REPORTING

1943 George Weller, Class of 1948 *Chicago Daily News*

SPECIALIZED REPORTING

1987 Alex Jones, Class of 1982 *The New York Times*

SPOT NEWS REPORTING

1994 Gerald Boyd, Class of 1981 *The New York Times*

SPOT NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY

1984 Stan Grossfeld, Class of 1992 *The Boston Globe*
1977 Stanley Forman, Class of 1980 *The Boston Herald-American*
1976 Stanley Forman, Class of 1980 *The Boston Herald-American*

LETTERS, DRAMA AND MUSIC

BIOGRAPHY AND AUTOBIOGRAPHY

2003 Robert A. Caro, Class of 1966 "Master of the Senate"
1975 Robert A. Caro, Class of 1966 "The Power Broker: Robert Moses and the Fall of New York"

FICTION

1950 A.B. Guthrie Jr., Class of 1945 "The Way West"

GENERAL NONFICTION

1990 Dale Maharidge, Class of 1988 "And Their Children After Them"
1986 J. Anthony Lukas, Class of 1969 "Common Ground: A Turbulent Decade in the Lives of Three American Families"

HISTORY

2007 Gene Roberts, Class of 1962 "The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation"
1990 Stanley Karnow, Class of 1958 "In Our Image: America's Empire in the Philippines"



Annual Report 2008





You are running around this campus asking rude questions. Many members of the faculty haven't had a rude question asked in 25 years, and I think it is very good for Harvard University.

Harvard President
James Bryant Conant
- 1940

NIEMAN FELLOWS PAST AND PRESENT

On the surface, the Class of 2008 looks strikingly different from the first group of newspapermen who came to Harvard in 1938. The diversity that is a hallmark of current classes was clearly missing in the early days, yet the Nieman experience across the years has been remarkably similar: access to Harvard's many resources, libraries, scholars and schools; bonding over meals and through endless social activities, learning from world-famous experts and building friendships and professional bonds that, for many, would — and will — last a lifetime.

The need for a year of in-depth study, personal and professional reflection and time to recharge is driven by a common desire to learn and grow, perfect skills and gain fresh perspectives outside daily routines and deadlines.

Insert: Nieman Class of 1939. **Large photo:** The Class of 2008. **First row (from left):** Siew Ying Leu, Jenifer McKim, Gaiutra Bahadar, Mary Newsom, James Causey, Bob Giles (Curator), Christine Gorman, Fernando Rodrigues, Olivera Perkins, Abdul Razzaq al-Saiedi. **Second row:** James Baxter, Joan Martelli, Simon Wilson, Holly Williams, Dean Miller, Ayelet Bechar, Andrew Meldrum, Dan Vergano, Alicia Anstead, Andres Cavalier. **Third row:** Ran An, Kate Galbraith, Stuart Watson, Andrew Quinn, Melanie Gosling, Joshua Benton, Michael Anti, Raul Penaranda, Walter Ray Watson. Not pictured: Aboubakr Jamaï

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

When the Class of 2008 arrived in Cambridge, journalism in general and newspapers in particular continued to suffer from the pressures of the marketplace and the challenges presented by new media. Some fellows had lost jobs before they set foot in Cambridge. Others weighed buyout offers or transitioned to new positions before the year had ended. Regardless of personal circumstance, all were hungry to learn new ways to do their jobs well and to gain skills to help them excel in the digital age. Several workshops were offered to help them do just that:

- In September, washingtonpost.com editors Jim Brady, Tom Kennedy and Chet Rhodes presented a daylong seminar on multimedia reporting.
- At the end of January, Brant Houston and David Donald from IRE (Investigative Reporters and Editors) taught a comprehensive three-day course on computer-assisted reporting.
- Flash guru Mindy McAdams offered a one-day introduction to the popular multimedia software in February.

The year was enhanced by seminars, shop talks and dinners that informed, provoked and entertained. From Marcus Mabry, Margaret Geller and David Gergen to filmmaker Sam Pollard and *Wall Street Journal* managing editor Marcus Brauchli, NF '92, speakers gave the fellows a heady dose of ideas and analysis. Fellows also organized casual gatherings to share their work and strategies with each other, ranging from movie screenings to blog talks and productivity sessions.

Socially, the class enjoyed traditional Nieman outings including the opening-night Charles River cruise and apple picking in October as well as treks to popular local restaurants by the Foodies Group and excursions around New England. The class soccer team, the Steamin' Niemans, played hard while the politically curious

traveled to New Hampshire during primary season to hear candidates Hillary Clinton and Bill Richardson speak and to witness American democracy in action.

Fellows and affiliates braved a New England snowstorm for a memorable holiday party in December that warmed hearts while the rest of the region was paralyzed on the roads. Some members of the class traveled to visit the newly opened Newseum in Washington in May and met with Seymour Hersh for an intimate dinner at the National Press Club. Late that month, the international fellows visited Rockport, Maine, for the annual Mid-Coast Forum on Foreign Relations. The year-end adventures continued with a weekend on Martha's Vineyard and a working trip to New Orleans, to learn about progress toward recovery from Katrina and to sample the food and music of Bayou Country.

In the end, the group declared themselves the best Nieman class ever, a claim sure to be challenged by every preceding class.

Global Health, Global Research, Global Support

While their classmates returned home in the spring, the 2008 Global Health Fellows continued their Nieman research projects with four months of field work. Christine Gorman, An Ran and Andrew Quinn spent time, respectively, tracking the brain drain of nurses in Malawi, occupational health issues in China and clinical trials for HIV and malaria vaccines in Africa. Along the way, they benefited from the support, guidance and resources provided by their newfound network of Harvard and Nieman connections.

Read more about Global Health Fellowships on page 24.



From left: 2008 Fellows on the bayou during the class trip to Louisiana; Global Health Fellow Christine Gorman (in pink) interviews a group about a new hospital in Neno, Malawi

Global Health Fellowships

Now in its third year, the Nieman Global Health Fellowship Program has proven the importance and value of enhanced global health coverage, as evidenced by the accomplishments of the first group of Global Health Fellows from the Class of 2007.

After returning from field work in Uganda, Rwanda and India, Harro Albrecht, a medical writer and editor at the German weekly *Die Zeit*, published a 10-part series on the growing international health aid industry. He demonstrated how the well-intentioned work of various agencies repeatedly creates problems in poor nations. Albrecht has won two prestigious journalism prizes for his work and has become an authority on global health issues in Europe.

Kondwani Munthali used his Nieman year and field work to produce a series of programs on HIV-AIDS treatment programs, maternal mortality and the importance of transparency in the discourse on global health. His reporting led to a change in which all grants and research programs in his native Malawi are now openly accessible; it also brought about the opening of a new health clinic in a rural area.

David Kohn, a reporter with *The (Baltimore) Sun*, narrated the struggle to treat mental disease in India for the front page of the *New York Times* Science Times, gaining national recognition for one of the most underreported issues in global health. He also published in the medical journal *The Lancet* and has produced a "Health in India" series for PRI's show "The World."

While the second group of Global Health Fellows is busy with their field reporting, the 2009 fellows are now being welcomed by Harvard's Global Health leaders thanks to the hard work and reputation of the fellows that came before them.

Stefanie Friedhoff

Special Projects Manager, 2001 Nieman Fellow

NIEMAN CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Making the Most of Your Local Advantage

A one-day seminar for Boston's neighborhood and community reporters, *Making the Most of Your Local Advantage*, was designed to aid neighborhood, ethnic and cultural newspapers seeking to excel in local news coverage. The event was hosted by the Nieman Foundation in conjunction with Alliance for Community Journalism in October 2007.

Speakers were Ben Montgomery and Lane DeGregory of the *St. Petersburg Times*; Constance Hale, director of the Nieman Program on Narrative Journalism; Nieman Fellows Mary Newsom, Dean Miller, Kate Galbraith, James Baxter, Joshua Benton and Olivera Perkins; and Leith Sharp, director of the Harvard Green Campus Initiative.

The Nieman Conference on Narrative Journalism

The 2008 Nieman Conference on Narrative Journalism, *Storytelling in Many Voices, Many Media* drew more than 850 writers, broadcasters, editors and producers to the Sheraton Boston to learn from 60 leading narrative instructors. The three-day event in March offered intimate master classes for mid-career professionals, new sessions on multimedia reporting and practical workshops including round robin sessions on everything from creating audio slideshows to perfecting the craft.

Keynote speakers included Emmy and Peabody Award-winning journalist and commentator John Hockenberry; Sam Pollard, film director, producer and editor; Sherry Turkle, a professor at MIT and a clinical psychologist who writes about people's relationship with technology; and Anne Hull and Dana Priest, investigative journalists for *The Washington Post* who exposed the mistreatment of Iraq War veterans at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Breakout sessions were led by returning favorites Jacqui Banaszynski, Roy Peter Clark, Tom French and Adam Hochschild as well as an all-star lineup of new speakers including, among others, Elizabeth Farnsworth, Alessandra Stanley, Marcus Mabry, Khoi Vinh and Travis Fox.

From left: Georges Conference panelists Mark Halperin, Jackie Calmes and John Harris; a conference participant takes notes; Georges family members with staff of the Yale Herald: Jerry Georges, Gigi Georges, Andrew Kaufman, Cassie Crockett, Alex Hemmer, Laura Yao, Nieman Curator Bob Giles, Mary Georges and Laura Bennett

Christopher J. Georges Conference on College Journalism

More than 80 students from a dozen schools participated in the fifth annual Christopher J. Georges Conference on College Journalism in April. Sponsored by the Christopher J. Georges Fund and co-hosted by the Nieman Foundation and *The Harvard Crimson*, the event offered talks by leading journalists, training sessions and networking opportunities.

Paul Steiger, former managing editor of *The Wall Street Journal* and current editor-in-chief of ProPublica, delivered the keynote speech. Charles Sennott NF '06, executive editor/vice president of Global News Enterprises, also spoke about the importance of international news coverage. 2008 Nieman Fellows Simon Wilson, Alicia Anstead and Joshua Benton along with Nieman Narrative Journalism Program Director Constance Hale presented several workshops on topics ranging from "Reporting from the Field" to "Google, Web Tools and Blogging." A panel discussion on political reporting and the 2008 elections rounded out the day with John Harris from Politico, Mark Halperin of *Time*/ABC News and Jackie Calmes, political reporter for *The Wall Street Journal*.

At the end of the conference, the Christopher J. Georges Award for Excellence in Student Journalism was presented to Yale Herald reporter Alex Hemmer and his editor, Laura Yao, for their story "National immigration politics take a local toll." The Georges Award recognizes in-depth reporting on issues of enduring social value and demonstrates the human impact of public policy. For the first time, the competition was open not just to *Harvard Crimson* reporters, but to all student newspapers participating in the conference.

Christopher J. Georges, an honors graduate of Harvard, editor at The Harvard Crimson and a Wall Street Journal reporter, died in 1998 at the age of 33. His family, friends and colleagues established the Christopher J. Georges Fund in his name.

Reporting Global Conflict: Uncovering the Link Between Religion and Human Rights

In May 2008, the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard and the Harvard Divinity School co-hosted a conference investigating the links and tension between religion and human rights in global conflict and in global conflict reporting.

The participating scholars, leaders, advocates and journalists welcomed the opportunity to engage in a frank, constructive discussion of the roles religion, human rights legislation and the media each play in securing, protecting or violating human rights. The conference offered a rare chance to discuss the complexities of the issues involved, an opportunity deeply appreciated by those attending:



Sheikh Reda Shata and Reverend Richard Cizik

"What was most useful to me was to understand the journalist's struggle to identify Muslim identity."

- Imam Dr. Muhammad Nayuran Ashafa, Nigeria

"Truly very inspiring and intellectually captivating."

- Noreen Ahmed-Ullah, Chicago Tribune reporter

"All these rich and stimulating exchanges at the conference! The extraordinary composition of such a diverse group of professionals – journalists, academics, as well as human rights folk, from liberals to evangelical activists, made for an improbable formula for success. But the Nieman Foundation did it, and I believe that we are all grateful for it."

- Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban, Professor of Anthropology, Rhode Island College





Lester Sloan



Nari Vallbona © The Miami Herald, 1999



Santiago Lyon, Associated Press

ARTS AND CULTURE FELLOWSHIP TAKES ROOT



During a lecture last year at Harvard, the playwright Tony Kushner called his approach to public speaking unconventional. “I digress,” he said. “Often.”

As the inaugural 2008 Arts and Culture Fellow at the Nieman Foundation, I felt a kinship with Kushner because I, too, digressed this past year. I stepped away from my formal responsibilities as an arts and culture reporter at

The Bangor Daily News and as editor of *Inside Arts* magazine to engage my curiosity and creativity in planned study and rich encounters with extraordinary thinkers.

At every turn, I found a new prism through which to examine my profession. Also, I embraced my role as missionary for the arts with my colleagues, who eagerly joined me in theaters, museums, galleries and symphony halls. Weeks after my Nieman year ended, I heard from a Fellow in my class reporting about health care in Africa. “Keeping my eye open for arts/cultural events,” she assured. Her commitment underscores the additional potential of an arts and culture presence in the Nieman family: to inspire other reporters to think more openly and deeply about the arts and to encourage them to integrate the arts more fully into their own lives. As national arts reporting is compromised by industry cuts, this unique fellowship persists in awarding its practitioners a place of honor among highly respected journalists from other fields. The arts have a strong home at Lippmann House.

Tony Kushner’s words continue to resonate for me. The Arts and Culture Fellowship permitted me to re-assess my skills and flourish in new expressions for my work, to *digress* in productive and promising ways.

Alicia Anstead
Nieman Fellow 2008

NIEMAN NEWS

Nieman Welcomes New Staff

2008 Nieman Fellow **Joshua Benton** is now director of the new Nieman Journalism Lab. Formerly a staff writer and columnist for *The Dallas Morning News*, Benton lectures often about online journalism at conferences and events. He is joined by assistant editors **Edward J. Delaney** and **Zach Seward**. Delaney is a professor of journalism at Roger Williams University, a documentary filmmaker and a fiction writer. Seward is a former reporter for *The Wall Street Journal* and *Forbes.com*.

In May, **Eliza Brown** joined the foundation as financial administrator, having served a similar role for Harvard Law School's Financial Services.

Hana Hsu is the new editorial assistant for *Nieman Reports*. She previously worked at *Harvard Review* and is a graduate of the University of California, San Diego.

House Improvements

Home and garden improvements in Lippmann House during the past year included the addition of a new entry path for bikers; repairs for both the geothermal climate control system and the wooden

floors in the front hall; restructured leisure space for fellows in the library; a new pavement for the driveway; a re-pointed brick wall; and new office space for the Nieman Journalism Lab. Regular remodeling and updates are carried out to maintain a comfortable environment for staff and fellows and preserve the historical integrity of Lippmann House.

In addition to structural improvements, a new photo gallery graces the walls of Lippmann House with contributions from Nieman photojournalists. See photos opposite.

Maynard Media Academy

The Nieman Foundation once again welcomed the Maynard Media Academy during two separate workshops in January and March. Each weeklong session was designed to teach effective leadership skills to entry-level minority newspaper managers. The Media Academy is operated by the Robert C. Maynard Institute for Journalism Education in Oakland, California.

Alumni Reunions

The Nieman Classes of 1982 and 1989 visited Lippmann House for mini-reunions during the past year to reminisce with old friends, explore Harvard and catch up on news.



Improved Web Design Offers New Features

The Nieman Foundation's Web site has a brand new look and now offers many features designed to enhance visitors' online experience. More informative, colorful and user friendly than before, the site offers easy-to-use navigation bars, new online applications for fellowships and awards, more background information on Nieman programs and enhanced photo galleries.

Visit the site often for updates on all the Nieman news and events:

www.nieman.harvard.edu

Also be sure to check the quarterly edition of *Nieman Reports* for the latest Nieman

class news, awards and transitions, available both in print and online at www.nieman.harvard.edu/reports



Opposite page from left (a selection of Lippmann House photo gallery shots): A child with cerebral palsy working with his therapist at the Crippled Children's Society in Inglewood, Calif. Photo by Lester Sloan, NF '76; Surfside police officers try to prevent Cuban rafter Carlos Hernandez Cordova from running away as he comes ashore on Florida's coast in 1999. Police wanted to make sure they processed him before releasing him to relatives. Photo by Nuri Vallbona, NF '01; A young girl peers out from a group of Afghan women at a Red Cross distribution center in Kabul following the Taliban takeover some weeks before, 1996. Photo by Santiago Lyon, NF '04

Joe Alex Morris Jr. Memorial Lecture



Tim Golden, a Pulitzer Prize-winning senior writer for *The New York Times*, presented the 2008 Joe Alex Morris Jr. Memorial Lecture at

Lippmann House in February. Golden has written extensively on the treatment of prisoners at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba and at other U.S.-run prisons abroad including those in Afghanistan. He was a Nieman Fellow in the Class of 1996 and currently serves as a member of the Nieman Advisory Board.

Created in 1981, the Morris Lectureship recognizes exceptional coverage of foreign affairs and was established in memory Joe Alex Morris Jr., a foreign correspondent for the *Los Angeles Times* who was killed in February 1979 while covering the Iranian Revolution in Tehran. Morris was a member of the Harvard Class of 1949.

2008 NIEMAN FOUNDATION AWARDS

J. Anthony Lukas Prize Project Awards for Exceptional Works of Nonfiction

The Nieman Foundation and the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism presented the 2008 the Lukas Prize Project Awards at Lippmann House in May. Established in 1998, the awards recognize excellence in nonfiction books that exemplify the literary grace and commitment to serious research and social concern that characterized the distinguished work of the award's Pulitzer Prize-winning namesake J. Anthony Lukas, a 1969 Nieman Fellow who died in 1997.

Colin and Joan Diver, one of the three families profiled in Lukas' Pulitzer Prize-winning work, "Common Ground," spoke about the experience of having a writer tell their story. Historian and author Patricia Limerick moderated a panel discussion with the winners.

J. ANTHONY LUKAS WORK-IN-PROGRESS AWARD (\$30,000)
Michelle Goldberg for "The Means of Reproduction," to be published by The Penguin Press in 2009.

The Lukas Work-in-Progress Award is given each year to assist in the completion of a significant work of narrative nonfiction on an American topic of political or social concern.

J. ANTHONY LUKAS BOOK PRIZE (\$10,000)
Jeffrey Toobin for "The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court" (Doubleday).

MARK LYNTON HISTORY PRIZE (\$10,000)
Peter Silver for "Our Savage Neighbors: How Indian War Transformed Early America" (W.W. Norton & Company).



J. Anthony Lukas Prize Project
Award winners Jeffrey Toobin (left),
Peter Silver and Michelle Goldberg

Louis M. Lyons Award for Conscience and Integrity in Journalism

The Nieman Foundation presented two Lyons Awards in 2008. The first, in February, went to William Worthy, NF '57, for a lifetime of journalistic achievement. Throughout his career, Worthy traveled extensively to report on global events for news outlets that included the *Baltimore Afro-American* and CBS News.

The second Lyons Award of the year was presented posthumously in May to Chauncey Bailey. Editor of the *Oakland Post*, Bailey was murdered in August 2007 while investigating a local bakery suspected of being a front for a criminal organization. The Nieman Class of 2008 chose Bailey for the award, recognizing his fearless pursuit of the truth and his work as a vocal advocate for the black community.

The Nieman Class of 1964 established the Louis M. Lyons Award in honor of the Nieman Foundation curator who served from 1939-1964. The award honors displays of conscience and integrity by individuals, groups or institutions in communications and includes a \$1,000 prize.

Taylor Family Award for Fairness in Newspapers

Chicago Tribune Southwest Bureau Chief Howard Witt received the 2008 Taylor Family Award for Fairness in Newspapers for his coverage of racial issues in America. Award judges commended Witt's exemplary evenhandedness in covering the complex, often thorny issues surrounding

race relations in the United States. The judges also recognized two finalists: *The Palm Beach Post* and staff writer Christine Evans for the five-part series "America's New Main Street: The Many Faces of Immigration" and the *Rocky Mountain News* for its four-day series "Beyond the Boom," which examined both the positive and negative impact of oil drilling in Colorado.

The 2008 Taylor Awards, which recognize fairness in news coverage by America's daily newspapers, were presented at Lippmann House in April. The honor includes a \$10,000 prize for the winner and \$1,000 each for the two top finalists.

Two Awards Find a New Home at Nieman

Continuing its long tradition of honoring journalistic excellence, the Nieman Foundation has taken on the administration of two journalism awards:

THE WORTH BINGHAM PRIZE FOR INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

Presented annually since 1967, the annual Worth Bingham Prize for Investigative Journalism honors outstanding newspaper or magazine investigative reporting of stories of national significance where the public interest is being ill-served. The prize was established for journalist and Harvard graduate, Worth Bingham, who died at the age of 34. The Nieman Foundation will present the award for the first time on March 5, 2009. The prize money for the winner will be \$20,000.



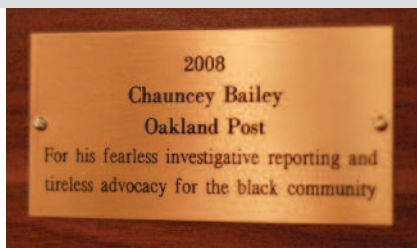
John Walcott

THE I.F. STONE MEDAL FOR JOURNALISTIC INDEPENDENCE

The first I.F. Stone Medal for Journalistic Independence was presented to John Walcott, Washington bureau chief of the McClatchy Co. (formerly Knight Ridder) at the Newseum in October 2008. Walcott was chosen for leading his team of reporters in their coverage of events during the run-up to the Iraq war at a time when most U.S. news organizations failed to question the motives for the invasion of Iraq.

Honoring the life of journalist I.F. Stone, the I.F. Stone Medal will be presented annually to a journalist whose work captures the spirit of independence, integrity and courage that characterized I.F. Stone's *Weekly*, published from 1953-1971. Each year, the winner of the award will deliver a speech about journalistic independence, to be followed by a workshop on the same topic.

The award was established this year by gifts from I.F. Stone's relatives, friends and supporters including generous gifts from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.



From left: William Worthy with Nieman Curator Bob Giles; Chauncey Bailey's Louis M. Lyons Award plaque; Taylor Award winner Howard Witt with finalists Christine Evans and Rocky Mountain News reporter Todd Hartman

THE CLASS OF 2009

Kael Alford, freelance photojournalist based in Atlanta.

Hannah Allam, Cairo bureau chief, *McClatchy Newspapers*.

Mónica Almeida (Ecuador), Quito bureau chief, *El Universo*. Almeida is a John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Latin American Nieman Fellow.

Rosita Boland (Ireland), reporter, *The Irish Times*.

Carla Broyles, Deputy news editor/Metro, *The Washington Post*.

Haili Cao (China), foreign editor, *Caijing* magazine. Cao is the Atsuko Chiba Nieman Fellow. Her fellowship honors the memory of Atsuko Chiba, a 1968 Nieman Fellow.

Jae Hyun Choi (Korea), reporter, Korean Broadcasting System. Choi's fellowship is supported by The Asia Foundation.

Alfredo Corchado, Mexico bureau, *The Dallas Morning News*.

Sapiet Dakhshukaeva (Russia), producer, BBC Russian Service, Moscow. Dakhshukaeva is the Barry Bingham Jr. Nieman Fellow.

Scheherezade Faramarzi (Iran/Canada), reporter, *The Associated Press*, Lebanon. Faramarzi is the Ruth Cowan Nash Nieman Fellow.

David Jackson, reporter, *Chicago Tribune*.

Kalpana Jain (India), health journalist and former health editor, *The Times of India*. Jain is a Nieman Fellow in Global Health Reporting.

Thabo Jerry Leshilo (South Africa), editor in chief, *Sowetan*. Leshilo's fellowship is supported by the Nieman Society of Southern Africa.

Margarita Martinez (Colombia), freelance filmmaker. Martinez is a John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Latin American Nieman Fellow.

Margie Mason, Asia-Pacific medical writer, *The Associated Press*. Mason is a Nieman Fellow in Global Health Reporting.

Graciela Mochkofsky (Argentina), reporter and writer. Mochkofsky is a John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Latin American Nieman Fellow.

Ching-Ching Ni, Beijing correspondent, *Los Angeles Times*.

Ronke Olawale (Nigeria), senior features correspondent, Guardian Newspapers Limited. Olawale is a Nieman Fellow in Global Health Reporting.

Dorothy Parvaz, columnist and editorial writer, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*. Parvaz is the Louis Stark Nieman Fellow.

Guy Raz, defense correspondent, National Public Radio.

Julia Reynolds, staff writer, *The Monterey County (Calif.) Herald*. Reynolds is the Donald W. Reynolds Nieman Fellow in Community Journalism.

Andrea Simakis, reporter, *The Plain Dealer*, Cleveland.

Ernie Suggs, enterprise reporter, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

Fatima Tlisova (Russia), freelance correspondent in the Northwest Caucasus.

Tommy Tomlinson, columnist, *The Charlotte Observer*.

Nathalie Villard (France), business reporter, *Capital* magazine. Villard's fellowship is supported by the Arthur Sachs Scholarship Fund, the Robert Waldo Ruhl Fund, and the Fulbright Foreign Student Program.

Chris Vognar, movie critic, *The Dallas Morning News*. Vognar is the 2009 Arts and Culture Nieman Fellow.

Peter Wolodarski (Sweden), editorial writer, Dagens Nyheter.

Andrei Zolotov Jr. (Russia), editor and publisher, russiaprofile.org. Zolotov is the William Montalbano Nieman Fellow.

*You have no bosses,
no deadlines, no
pressures. The
country's greatest
university says
come for an
academic year, we
like you, and study
whatever you want.
Broaden your
horizons, stretch
your mind.*

Nieman Curator
Howard Simons
- 1989



2009 Nieman Fellows and
affiliates during orientation,
September 2008



Top photo: Nieman board members at Lippmann House in November 2007. **Front row, from left:** Mark Carter (Stepped down in 2008. He will be succeeded by Sam Fulwood, NF '94, a reporter with The Cleveland Plain Dealer.), Roberta Baskin, Joseph Bower (Secretary), Bill Wheatley (President), Bob Giles, (Curator), Rosental Alves, Cecilia Alvear, Lorie Conway (Vice President), John Carroll. **Back row, from left:** Charles Shepard, Michael Skoler, Lindsay Miller, Rami Khouri, Murrey Marder, Sharon King Hoge, Charles Ferguson, Gregory Brock, Alex Jones, Katie King, Tim Golden, John Harwood.

Photos of board members below, clockwise from left: Greg Brock chats with Sharon King Hoge; Michael Skoler; Alex Jones (left) and John Carroll; Katie King



NIEMAN ADVISORY BOARD

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President: William O. Wheatley Jr., NF '77

Retired Executive Vice President, NBC News

Vice President: Lorie Conway, NF '94

Documentary Filmmaker and Producer

Secretary: Joseph L. Bower

Baker Foundation Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School

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Independent Multimedia Producer. Former President, National Association of Hispanic Journalists and retired NBC Network News Producer

Rosental Alves, NF '88

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Institute for African and African American Research, Harvard University

Gigi Georges

Partner, The Glover Park Group

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Curator, Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard

Tim Golden, NF '96

Senior Writer, The New York Times

John Harwood, NF '90

Chief Washington Correspondent, CNBC and political writer
for The New York Times

Sharon King Hoge

Media Consultant

George Irish

President, Hearst Newspapers and Senior Vice President of Hearst Corporation

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Laurence M. Lombard Lecturer in the Press and Public Policy,
Harvard Kennedy School

Rami Khouri, NF '02

Editor at Large, The Daily Star, Beirut, Lebanon; Director, Issam
Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American
University of Beirut

Katie King, NF '94

Editor, MSN UK

Murrey Marder, NF '50

Retired chief diplomatic correspondent of The Washington Post and
sponsor of the Nieman Watchdog Project, niemanwatchdog.org

Nancy Hicks Maynard (deceased)

Media Consultant

Lindsay M. Miller, NF '88, Executive Committee Member

Independent Producer of print and broadcast

Gregory Moore

Editor, The Denver Post

John Seigenthaler, NF '59

Founder, The First Amendment Center

Charles Shepard, NF '91, Executive Committee Member

Chairman, Smith Family Council (Menasha Corporation)

Michael Skoler, NF '93

Executive Director, Center for Innovation in Journalism and the founder,
Public Insight Journalism:Minnesota Public Radio/American Public Media

*In Harvard's galactic multiverse, there is no program that has given me a greater feeling
of personal and intellectual satisfaction than my association with the Nieman Foundation.*

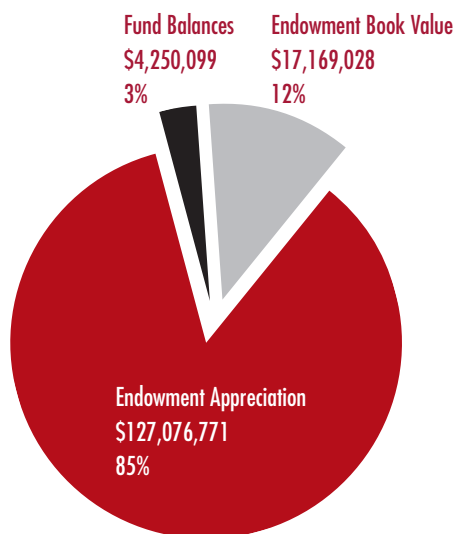
Harvard President Neil Rudenstine, 2000

FOUNDATION FINANCIALS

The Nieman Foundation's FY08 financial results were once again strong. As part of the overall Harvard University endowment, the Nieman endowment rose 5 percent in value to \$144 million. Endowment funds provided \$4.8 million or 76 percent of the Nieman operating budget. Additional revenues from fundraising, sponsored projects, current use gifts, conferences and subscriptions, plus careful financial management, produced an operating surplus for the third year in a row. The surplus consisted primarily of sponsored and restricted funds, with 40 percent in unrestricted funds.

Spending on the Nieman Fellowship program constituted roughly 86 percent of all Nieman Foundation expenses, including stipends, allowances and program and administrative costs. The remaining 14 percent were outreach costs, including *Nieman Reports*, the Nieman Program on Narrative Journalism, the Nieman Watchdog Project and the new Nieman Journalism Lab.

COMPOSITION OF NET ASSETS



FY08 BALANCE SHEET as of June 30, 2008

	2008	2007
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$500	\$500
Receivables, Net	5,129,549	4,918,394
Pledges Receivable, Net	821,794	1,018,977
Equipment, Net	85,285	114,923
Long-Term Investments, at Market	144,245,799	137,343,310
TOTAL ASSETS	150,282,927	143,396,104
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	5,128	5,010
Deposits and Other Liabilities	0	96,279
Pooled Loans, Construction	1,781,901	1,850,102
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,787,029	1,951,391
NET ASSETS	\$148,495,898	\$141,444,713

REVENUE AND EXPENSES July 2007 – June 2008

	June 30, 2008	June 30, 2007
REVENUE		
Sponsored Revenue, Nonfederal	\$702,441	\$676,290
Current Use Gifts	412,835	178,280
Endowment Income, Operating Distribution	4,820,067	4,312,521
Interest Income	67,481	45,948
Service, Publication, Other Income and Transfers	345,905	203,636
TOTAL REVENUE	6,348,729	5,416,675
EXPENSES		
General Administration	2,120,288	1,962,598
Fellowships and Awards	2,119,239	1,974,264
Outreach	1,034,721	1,029,137
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,274,248	4,965,999
NET REVENUE	\$1,074,481	\$450,676

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Understanding the Endowment

Although the Nieman Foundation's endowment comprises a very small portion of Harvard University's entire endowment, it represents more than two dozen funds given by individual donors and foundations since 1937. Each fund has its own terms, determining exactly how income from the fund maybe spent.

In most cases, Harvard is required to maintain the principal of endowment gifts forever. Accordingly, a portion of the return is given back to the fund each year to offset inflation. The actual distribution is based on a rate that is approved annually by the Harvard Corporation, generally between 4.5 and 5 percent of the market value of the endowment.

In FY08, the Nieman Foundation received \$4.8 million in endowment income. Total budgeted expenses were \$5.9 million. The additional \$1.1 million needed to fund operations came from grants and gifts.

These grants and gifts are vital to the financial health of the Nieman Foundation, allowing for the creation and management of our world-class programs for Nieman Fellows and other journalists around the globe. All donors who contribute to the Nieman Foundation help sustain international fellowships, the Nieman Journalism Lab, Nieman Reports, the Nieman Program on Narrative Journalism, the Nieman Watchdog Project and special journalism projects and conferences.

Planned Giving

Planned gifts to the Nieman Foundation not only support our important work, they provide donors with a number of desirable benefits:

- Income for life or a term of years for you and/or your beneficiaries
- Expert management of your gift by the Harvard Management Company
- Income and capital gains tax savings
- Savings on gift and estate taxes

Planned giving options include:

Charitable Remainder Trusts: A charitable remainder trust established at Harvard provides payments to you or other named beneficiaries for a lifetime or a term of years. At the end of the trust term, the principal is transferred to the area of the university you have chosen to support, namely the Nieman Foundation.

Gift Annuities: A Harvard charitable gift annuity provides a fixed dollar amount annually for life in exchange for a gift. In the future, Harvard will use the principal in accordance with the terms of your donation. A portion of the income paid to you and your beneficiaries may be tax-free or taxed at the more favorable capital gains tax rate, depending on the asset used to fund the annuity.

Bequests: Bequests at Harvard can be made through gifts of cash, securities, real estate, and tangible personal property. You may make a bequest in your will by including a specific contribution to the Nieman Foundation.

To learn more about the giving strategies that are best for you, contact the Harvard University Planned Giving Office at 800-446-1277 or pgo@harvard.edu. Please mention that your gift should be marked for use by the Nieman Foundation. For more information about how to make a contribution, contact niemandevelopment@harvard.edu.



From left: A formal Nieman dinner; 2008 Nieman Fellows Holly Williams and Ran An; 2008 Nieman Fellow Abdul Razzaq al-Saiedi, talks with Susan Chira, foreign editor of The New York Times, and Curator Bob Giles

NIEMAN DONORS

The Nieman Foundation is grateful to the many generous donors who supported its programs and fellowships during the past year.

Margot Adler, NF '82
Cecilia Alvear, NF '89
Andrews McMeel Universal
Donald Aucoin (NF '01) and Carol Iacofano
H. Brandt Ayers, NF '68
Piero Benetazzo (NF '82) and Sylvia Poggioli
Worth Bingham Memorial Fund
Christopher Bogan (NF '82) and Mary Barnett
Daniel (NF '83) and Nancy Brewster Jr.
Gregory Brock, NF '94
Peter Brown, NF '82
Carnegie Corporation of New York
John Carroll, NF '72
Richard Chacon, NF '05
The Christian Science Monitor
Ned (NF '74) and Linda Cline
Stephanie Georges Comfort
Barbara Corey
Douglas Cumming, NF '87
Mary C. Curtis, NF '06
Nicholas (NF '74) and Ruth Daniloff
Dart Foundation
Susan Ehringhaus
Peter Eng, NF '95
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The New York Times
Amy Nutt, NF '05
Steve Oney, NF '82
The Oregonian
Sophia Shih-Hsing Pao
Mark Posner
Poynter
C. Mike (NF '85) and Monique Pride
Donald W. Reynolds Foundation
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Judy Rosenfield, NF '82
Jerrold Schecter, NF '64
Jennifer Sharp, NF '06
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Jeremy J. Stone
William O. Taylor
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