

The Journalist

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Award-winning alumnus to visit campus Oct. 3–5

By Danielle Scott

In Professor James Tidwell's eyes, phrases such as "most talented student journalist," "natural reporter" and "committed to getting the story" can only be used to describe one Eastern graduate—Cam Simpson.

Simpson, now on the Wall Street Journal's foreign desk and formerly a *Chicago Tribune* correspondent based in Washington, will be visiting EIU Oct. 3, 4, and 5 to talk about his experiences reporting from Iraq.

Even during college, Simpson strived to complete stories for the *Daily Eastern News* that many other students would not dare to report. According to Tidwell, "Cam broke several investigative stories involving the EIU administration."

After gaining experience writing for the DEN and completing his college education in journalism and political science, Simpson worked for

many different newspapers including *The News Gazette* in Champaign, Illinois, and the *Chicago Sun-Times*. For the *Chicago Sun-Times*, Simpson reported on stories about federal and organized crime, the FBI and U.S. courts.

In 2000, Simpson started at the *Chicago Tribune* as an investigative reporter on the metropolitan desk of the newspaper. He focused on federal and organized crime just as he had at the *Chicago Sun-Times*.

According to the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University, Simpson was transferred to Washington to cover the Department of Justice and terrorism.

Instead of working on the metropolitan desk, Simpson covered foreign policies and investigative projects in Washington and overseas, according to his Michael Kelly Award biography.

Recently, he returned from an assignment in Iraq in which he wrote a two-part series en-

titled "Pipeline to Peril." This article describes a tragedy involving 12 Nepalese men who were traveling in an unprotected convoy to an American military base in Iraq, according to an article written about Simpson for the Michael Kelly Award. The men were kidnapped and eventually killed.

During his extensive career as a journalist for several publications, Simpson also has received many journalism awards. The George Polk Award was presented to Simpson twice, once for his national reporting and a second time for his international reporting on the story "Pipeline to Peril."



Cam Simpson, an award-winning reporter, will share his experiences with students. He has recently returned from reporting in Iraq.

Simpson is also the recipient of state, regional, national and international journalism awards such as the Tribune's Edward Scott Beck Award for Foreign Reporting.

Journalism professor to speak at EVFF

By Cory Dimitrakopoulos

Journalism professor Doug Lawhead is among the many speakers presenting at this year's Embarras Valley Film Festival in Charleston, which is honoring the works of the late

author James Jones.

Lawhead, who is a member of the Board of Directors of the James Jones Literary Society, will be presenting "A Recipe for *Some Came Running*: 7

Parts Robinson, 3 parts Marshall. Shake Until Blended."

Lawhead explains that Jones' *Some Came Running* deals with "a WWII soldier's internal conflict and the dirty little affairs in a little town ev-

erybody ignores." Lawhead will be speaking at 11 a.m. Friday in the Tarble Arts Center.

See Page 4 for a partial listing of events at the festival or visit <http://evff.net>.

Students to share internship experiences

By Jennifer Gritti

An internship panel will be Sept. 20 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in Buzzard 2442. The Society of Collegiate Journalists and The Agency are sponsoring the panel.

Everyone is welcome. The panel was started three years ago and allows former interns to come to talk to students about their summer internships.

Five students will be speaking about their experiences working with a large newspaper, with a small newspaper, as a photojournalist, in broadcasting and in public relations. The former interns will be there to give advice to students about interning to ensure a positive summer experience.

Matt Kelly will be one on the panel discussing his time spent working in public rela-

tions at Sarah Bush Lincoln Hospital.

Traditionally in the spring, this event was moved to the fall this year. Students in attendance will become more informed and have a better idea of what they will need to do before May, according to Professor Sally Turner of the journalism department. This gives students the rest of the year to set goals and build a portfolio.

“People work hard on campus, and we genuinely want to see them succeed,” Turner said.

Ashley Rueff, President of SCJ, said, “In the past, when we have held this event, there has always been a good turn out.”

A résumé building and cover letter writing workshop is also planned later to help build skills necessary to obtain a summer internship.

New faculty member brings know-how, passion for new media to Eastern students

By Maggie Moseley

Bryan Murley of Beaumont, Texas, is the newest addition to Eastern’s journalism department.

Murley was added to the faculty for his expertise in emerging media.

“We started back in July of last year to find a new faculty member,” said James Tidwell, journalism department chair.

“Photography or new media is what we were looking for.”

Murley is diving into EIU by teaching Online Journalism Lab, Interactive Reporting and Design and Journalism and Democracy, as well as advising the Daily Eastern News online.

Murley’s concentration in emerging media gave him the winning edge over other applicants. He plans to bring his skill with emerging media to East-

ern’s journalism department.

“He is a great addition because he brings passion and experience for new media; he lives and breathes it,” Tidwell said.

Adding a faculty member with an emphasis in online media shows an increasing demand for emerging media focuses.

“Journalism majors may need to be introduced to online journalism classes earlier so they can have room

for upper level classes that may be added,” said Liz Viall, a fellow professor of online and visual journalism.

Murley has gained experience by advising and instructing student publications at North Greenville College for

five years and he taught at Emory and Henry College in Virginia before heading to the midwest.

“This will be my first midwestern winter,” Murley said.

Although he has had to adjust to his first job out of the South, the biggest difference

‘Den news.com was an early innovator in college media with podcasting and audio slide-shows.’

—Murley

between Eastern and other schools Murley has taught is the size, Murley said.

Murley is excited about working as a faculty member at Eastern.

“Dennews.com was an early innovator in college media with podcasting and audio slideshows,” Murley said. “That kind of willingness to try new things was attractive.”



Bryan Murley explains an idea to interested journalism students during his interview last year. Murley joined the journalism faculty this fall.

J department welcomes new students

By Scott Brady

The journalism department invited all of the journalism students to Buzzard Hall for a welcome party recently. The welcome gave students the opportunity to meet Dr. James Tidwell, the head of the department. It also introduced them to different student publications available at Eastern.

Dr. Tidwell spoke to the students about the importance of the news media and staying informed. He also mentioned the increase in academic standards for the department.

The minimum GPA for students is now 2.5 in the major, up from 2.0 last year. Also, students are now required to receive a C or above as a grade—D's will no longer make the cut.

Other speakers included Sally Turner, who stressed the importance of being inspired by the news and using that inspiration to shape the world around us through journalism.

Terri Lynn Johnson also spoke about the importance of

public relations in the journalism field.

Student Michelle Brueggeman talked about getting involved with WEIU-TV, WEIU-FM and other broadcasting opportunities on campus.

Both the students and faculty members believed the program was a hit. Courtney Bruner and her friends learned about the many internship opportunities through various student publications.

Kristin Menas said the welcome made her feel more relaxed about being a journalism major and that she did not feel as overwhelmed with everything going on in the world of journalism.

Bryan Murley, a new assistant professor, said the welcome was a good way to encourage involvement and lay the groundwork for students interested in the journalism field.

The journalism welcome also gave students a great opportunity to meet and greet a large number of staffers on student publications like The Dai-



Ashley Rueff, president of the Society of Collegiate Journalists, welcomes journalism students as she passes out information about SCJ at the journalism welcome in Buzzard Hall.

ly Eastern News, The Warbler, Pounce Online, The Agency and more.

Student organizations including the Society of Collegiate Journalists, the National Association of Black Journalists, the Public Relations Student Society of America and

the American Copy Editors Society also had displays at various tables.

Overall, the event helped prepare students for the semester ahead and reporting and learning opportunities on campus and helped them make new friends.

The Journalist

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Journalists' 'bible' gets revised for 2007

By Hannah Plevka

The 2007 edition of the Associated Press Stylebook was recently released and includes many additions, updates and deletions.

A few additions include BlackBerry (one word, both Bs capitalized), female (the preferred adjective, not woman) and Baghdad has been added to the list of datelines.

The hyphen between daylight and saving in daylight sav-

ing time has been eliminated. Internet Search Tips have been removed from the book.

The Stylebook is the "bible" for copy editors.

The American Copy Editors Society (A.C.E.S.) is an organization on campus that gets together to discuss copy editing. Eastern is one of six colleges with a chapter.

When the organization meets, they often do style exercises, find copy editing mistakes in different articles and

play word games. They take a few field trips throughout the year. Last semester they visited the copydesk at the Champaign News Gazette. This November they plan on going to the Mid-America Press Institute and also plan on having a guest speaker sometime during the semester.

Anyone can join the A.C.E.S. chapter by paying a \$35 membership fee. The first meeting was Friday, Sept. 7. A regular meeting time has not yet been set, but will probably

be on Friday afternoons every few weeks. Meetings are usually held in the student lounge, but members may also meet in classrooms or computer labs.

For more information about A.C.E.S., contact Lola McElwee by e-mail (lamcelwee@eiu.edu) or by stopping by her office in the journalism office. Membership forms are available on the bulletin board outside of her office. Copydesk.org is the official Web site for A.C.E.S.

Embarras Film Festival Listing of Events

Tuesday, September 18 **Coleman Hall– English Conference Room**

3 pm - "Race in Context"—"White and Black in World War II Film: Depictions of Race on the Home Front"—Debra Reid, professor of History, EIU & "The Melanesians in The Thin Red Line"—Michael Loudon, professor of English, EIU

Tarble Arts Center

7 pm - Inside the Handy Writers' Colony – Introduction by filmmaker, Dawn Shapiro

Wednesday, September 19 **Booth Library– Room 4440**

3 pm - Poetry Reading—John Guzowski, professor emeritus EIU

Tarble Arts Center

7 pm - Some Came Running—Introduction by Ann Boswell, professor of English

Thursday, September 20 **Booth Library– Room 3302**

3 pm - Writers' Workshop—Kaylie Jones, author

Tarble Arts Center

7 pm - A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries Introduction by Kaylie Jones

Friday, September 21

Tarble Arts Center:

9:30 am—"James Jones: The Evolution of a Soldier and a Writer" Ray Elliott, author

10:00 am - "Censors and Tempers"—Helen Howe, James Jones Literary Society

11:00 am - "A Recipe for Some Came Running: 7 Parts Robinson, 3 Parts Marshall. Shake Until Blended"—Doug Lawhead, James Jones Literary Society

Noon—Break for Lunch

1:00 pm - "Remembering the Music of World War II"—Dan Perrino, Medicare 7, 8 or 9

2:30 pm - Break

2:45 pm - "Airborne in WWII Europe"—Don Burgett, author

4:00 pm - "It's Been a Long, Long Time: The War's End and the G.I.'s Return as Heard on the Radio and in Popular Music."—Matthew Barton, Library of Congress

6:00—Break for Dinner

Miller's Banquet Facility

7:30 pm - Winston Groom, author of Forrest Gump (Keynote Presentation) **FREE**

8:30—Music by EIU Jazz Ensemble

Saturday, September 22

Tarble Arts Center

9:00 am - "Realist Fiction in the Post-Modern Era: James Jones' Document"—Joshua Bernstein, Program for Writers at UIC

10:00 am - "Jones, Patton, and the Question of Cowardice."—Christopher Walsh, Boston University

11:00 am—"From Here to Eternity: The Journey from the Page to the Screen"—Chuck Koplinski, film critic

Will Rogers Theatre

2 pm - The Thin Red Line—Intro and post-film discussion by Chuck Koplinski

7 pm - From Here to Eternity—Intro and post-film discussion by Dann Gire, film critic

Running concurrent with these events are three exhibits at Booth Library in the north library as well as programs at the Marshall Public Library, including a tour of James Jones's home.

Venue Locations:

Coleman Hall
Booth Library
The Tarble Arts Center Atrium
Miller's Banquet Facility,
307 6th Street, Charleston
Will Rogers Theatre,
705 Monroe Avenue, Charleston
Marshall Public Library
612 Archer Avenue, Marshall

Embarras Valley Film Festival is proudly hosted by Eastern Illinois University.

All events are FREE and open to the public. For more information visit: evff.net.