



K A P P A T A U A L P H A NEWSLETTER

National Society Honoring Scholarship in Journalism and Mass Communication

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Convention Issue

No Caption Needed wins Mott

Robert Hariman and John Louis Lucaites are the winners of the Frank Luther Mott / Kappa Tau Alpha Research Award for the best book on journalism/mass communication published in 2007.

The award is in honor of Mott, Pulitzer Prize winner, educator and long-time leader of Kappa Tau Alpha. The competition has been held annually since 1944. The \$1000 prize will be presented August 7 at the KTA/AEJMC Awards Luncheon in Chicago.

In No Caption Needed: Iconic Photographs, Public Culture, and Liberal Democracy. (The University of Chicago Press, 419 pp), the authors use a handful of familiar photographs to provide an interpretation of the evolution and future of our political society and our individual and collective roles within it. Thoughtfully and exhaustively researched, the book traces the juxtapositions between liberalism and democracy, the individual and the aggre-

gate, citizens and consumers as a result of public discussion of photojournalists' lasting images.

The book nicely integrates the authors' backgrounds as rhetoricians with the photojournalism/visual communication research tradition.

"These iconic photographs do to me again here what the authors so eloquently argue they do for public art. While I admire the creativity of those who have exploited each of these images to their own ends, it's the originals that really haunt and resonate. What a treasure to have them all in one book, accompanied by such thoughtful commentary and insight" (Tony Rimmer, California State University-Fullerton, a finalist judge and KTA president).

The authors are communication professors, Hariman at Northwestern University and Lucaites at Indiana University. For regular updates of their work,

visit their blog: www.nocaptionneeded.com/

Earning Top Three recognition, in addition to the winning entry, were Marcus Prior for *Post-Broadcast Democracy: How Media Choice Increases Inequality in Political Involvement and Polarizes Elections* and Harry Haskell for *Boss-Busters & Sin Hounds: Kansas City and Its Star*. Other finalists were: Neil Henry for *American Carnival: Journalism Under Siege in an Age of New Media*, Karen M. Kedrowski and Marilyn Stine Sarow for *Cancer Activism: Gender, Media and Public Policy* and Joyce Kumar for *Managing the President's Message: The White House Communications Operation*.

Preliminary judges included 12 KTA chapter advisers and other journalism/mass professors. The finalists were judged by KTA national officers.

For information about the contest, including a list of previous winners, see www.KappaTauAlpha.org/mott-kta-html.

Patterson is top chapter adviser

Margaret Patterson (Duquesne University) has been named this year's William H. Taft Chapter Adviser of the Year.

The award, named after the executive director who served the Society for 30 years until retiring in 1991, will be presented at the Kappa Tau Alpha/AEJMC Awards luncheon Aug. 7 in Chicago.

"I don't know how you could find a better candidate for the 'best' Kappa Tau Alpha chapter adviser, given her record of service to the Society, the profession, the university and the department," explains John Shepherd, chair of Duquesne's Journalism and Multimedia Arts Department. Patterson, chapter adviser since 1990, is nationally known for her research on journalism/mass communication ethics and is a former chair and newsletter editor of the AEJMC Media Ethics Division. She currently is spearheading an initiative for a university convergent newsroom. "She continues to reinvent the profession as the industry moves to an interactive business model," notes Shepherd.

Patterson has degrees from the the University of Pittsburgh and Ohio University.

She is the 24th recipient of the award. Previous winners include: Al Stavitsky (Oregon), Mark Popovich (Ball State), Jane B. Singer (Iowa), J. William Click (Winthrop), Karen List (U-Mass.), James Whitfield (Louisiana-Monroe), Tony Rimmer (Cal State-Fullerton), Sam Riley (Virginia Tech), Thomas Schwartz (Ohio State), Emmanuel Onyedike (Hampton), Gil Fowler (Arkansas State), Milt Holstein (Utah), Luther Sanders (Arkansas at Little Rock), George Abney (Georgia), Marion Marzolf (Michigan), Whitney Mundt (Louisiana State), Daniel Pfaff (Penn State), David Sloan (Alabama), Earl Conn (Ball State), Jack Sissors (Northwestern), Taft (Missouri), Lucas Staudacher (Marquette) and Quintus Wilson (Northern Illinois).

Honor societies promote excellence

An honor society is defined by the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) as an association of primarily collegiate members and chapters whose purposes are to encourage and recognize superior scholarship or leadership achievement either in broad fields of education or in departmental fields at either undergraduate or graduate levels.

Honor Societies have existed in the United States since the founding of Phi Beta Kappa in 1776. To meet their objectives, honor societies must define and maintain high standards of eligibility for membership and achieve sufficient status by so doing that membership becomes something to be valued highly.

ACHS membership is a certification that

an honor society has met high standards and is legitimate. On its web site ACHS (www.achsnatl.org) has a list of criteria on "How to Judge the Credibility of an Honor Society." ACHS was founded in 1925 and has 67 member honor societies.

KTA is the only journalism/mass communication organization recognized by ACHS.

Membership requirements

Kappa Tau Alpha is a college honor society that recognizes academic excellence and promotes scholarship. Membership is a mark of high distinction and honor.

Membership is by invitation only by one of the Society's 91 campus chapters and is based solely on scholarship and character.

Only students majoring in journalism or mass communication are eligible. Juniors, seniors and graduate students must rank in the upper 10 percent of their class (based on overall GPA). Doctoral students may also be eligible. Chapters may set higher standards for membership.

Chapters are located at four-year degree-granting institutions accredited by the appropriate regional agency (*e.g.*, New England Association of Colleges) that offer a major in journalism or mass communication.

For more information about KTA, including how to apply for a chapter, see www.KappaTauAlpha.org

Our 98th anniversary

The Society was founded by Dean Walter Williams at the University of Missouri March 10, 1910, and initiated its first members later that spring.

KTA is the seventh oldest national honor society and has the highest standards for membership (upper 10 percent) of the 67 member groups of the Association of College Honor Societies.

Lawrence Murphy, University of Illinois, was the first president of the national organization. Tony Rimmer, California State University-Fullerton, is the current president.



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Executive Director:

Keith P. Sanders

KTA presidents

Lawrence Murphy (Illinois)	1927-1934
J.L. O'Sullivan (Marquette)	1935
Frank L. Martin (Missouri)	1936
Frank Luther Mott (Iowa)	1937-1939
James Pollard (Ohio St.)	1939-1942
Max Grossman (Boston)	1942-1944
Perley I. Reed (West Vir.)	1944-1946
Ralph L. Crossman (Colo.)	1946-1948
George Simmons (Tulane)	1948-1950
William Swindler (Neb.)	1950-1952
Frederic Merwin (Rutgers)	1952-1954
Wesley Maurer (Michigan)	1954-1956
Quintus C. Wilson (Utah)	1956-1958
John E. Drewry (Georgia)	1958-1960
L.J. Hortin (Ohio)	1960-1962
A.L. Higginbotham (Nev.)	1962-1964
E.L. Callihan (SMU)	1964-1966
Warren C. Price (Oregon)	1966-1967
John Paul Jones (Florida)	1967-1969
Nathan Blumberg (Mont.)	1969-1970
C.S. McCarthy (Duquesne)	1970-1972
Al Scroggins, Jr. (S Car.)	1972-1974
Oliver Smith (Brig. Young)	1974-1976
Norris G. Davis (Texas)	1976-1978
Paul Peterson (Ohio State)	1978-1980
Guy Stewart (West Vir.)	1980-1982
Earl L. Conn (Ball State)	1982-1984
Bill Ross (Texas Tech)	1984-1986
George Crutchfield (VCU)	1986-1988
Milton Holstein (Utah)	1988-1990
George Everett (Tenn.)	1990-1992
George Abney (Georgia)	1992-1994
William Ryan (Syracuse)	1994-1996
Karen K. List (UMass)	1996-1998
David Sloan (Alabama)	1998-2000
Gilbert Fowler (Ark. St)	2000-2002
William Click (Winthrop)	2002-2004
Thomas Schwartz (Ohio S)	2004-2006
Tony Rimmer (CS Fuller.)	2006-2008