

VIEWPOINTS

The official newsletter of the Visual Communication Division of AEJMC

Visit the website at aejmc.net/viscom



FROM THE VISCOM DIVISION HEAD

Denver 2010

Welcome to Denver! Your officers have planned an exciting lineup of activities for the convention August 3 through 7 that includes a per-convention workshop, a mini-plenary, the usual research, creative activity, teaching and PF&R panels, and a special treat—a hike into Colorado's Chautauqua Meadow and Ranger Cottage. Be sure to check the convention program grid located at: http://www.aejmcdenver.org/?page_id=2215 or, if you want to see ONLY the VisCom sessions, go to our Web site and click on "VisCom at a Glance." Go to: <http://aejmc.net/viscom/>

We look forward to seeing you, hearing about your scholarly activity and exploring the Denver area together. If you are

new to the division, please attend the Members Meeting on Thursday, 6:45 pm to 8:15 pm in room 186 of the Sheraton. If you would like to be a little more involved with the division by serving as an officer in the coming year, please let the incoming Head, Jennifer George-Palilonis (JAGEORGE2@bsu.edu) know and I'm confident she can find a place for you. The division is as strong as its members and officers and for Denver, we are strong indeed!

Jim Kelly is the Visual Communication Division Head and an associate professor in the School of Journalism at Indiana University, Bloomington. kellyjd@indiana.edu



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2009–10 VisCom officers appointed

Head: James D. Kelly, Indiana University

Vice-Head & Program Chair:

Jennifer George-Palilonis, Ball State Univ.

Second Vice-Head:

Jeremy Gilbert, Northwestern University

PF&R Chair:

John B. (Jack) Zibluk, Ph.D., Arkansas State University

Research Chair:

Shahira Fahmy, The University of Arizona

Teaching Chair:

Larry Dailey, University of Nevada

Best of the Web Chair:

Phil Loubere, Middle Tennessee State

Creative Projects Chair:

Michael Cheers, San Jose State University

Logo Chair:

John Freeman, University of Florida

Membership Chair:

Lynette Holman, The University of North Carolina and Chapel Hill

Newsletter Editor:

Ellen Mahaffy, University of Wisconsin

Visual Communication

Quarterly Editor:

Paul Martin Lester, California State University, Fullerton

Webmaster:

Keith Greenwood, University of Missouri

Join the VisCom listserv

by sending a message with **SUBSCRIBE** in the message line to AEJMC-VISCOM@LISTSERV.MIAMI.EDU



FROM A VISCOM MEMBER

BagNewsNotes: A website resource for a visual age

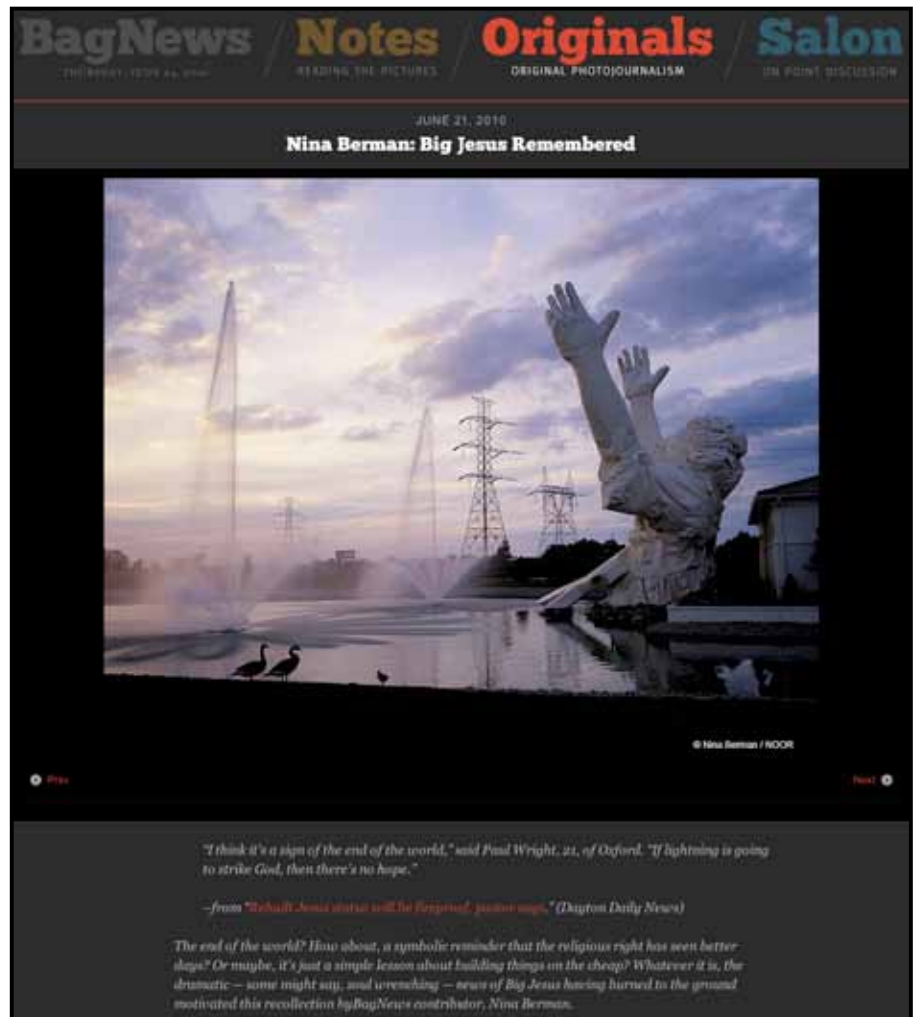
This is a visual generation, right? We only have to look at Facebook to see how everyone communicates with pictures. Whether it's in a cathedral in Lisbon, on a street corner in Manhattan or at a Little League game in Boise, people are making photographs. All the time.

Even before cell phone cameras, we were being bombarded by photographs with little time to look, to do much more than identify the objects in the frame. How often do we notice the ideas that pop into our heads as we look, let alone consider how the picture makes sense, makes us feel something, or leads us to different decisions, personal or political?

For the past few years I've been following—and becoming increasingly involved with—a resource for visual educators that helps me understand these issues, teach in new ways, stay on top of a wide range of images with impact, and engage in a dialogue that doesn't take place anywhere else.

The forum and the place is BagNews Notes.com. From its own description, "In an ever more visual society, BagNews seeks to better understand the levels of meaning, the underlying story lines and the various agendas reflected in the more prominent news pictures of the day. Because socially critical pictures have a near-impossible time breaking through the news filter, we also publish, and provide a careful look at original photojournalism and concerned photography."

Michael Shaw, BagNews publisher, is a clinical psychologist. In 2001 he started drawing political cartoons on lunch bags with the intention of engaging high school kids in the news. In 2004 he developed a website with in-depth discussions of news photographs. BagNews has become part of the visual studies and photojournalism curriculum at many



universities and colleges and this summer launched a new website and format with new features and opportunities for engagement. Here are some of them:

Notes: reading the pictures is the original BagNews feature. Every day there's commentary on a photograph or two. Shaw most often begins the discussion but additional editors are now adding their thoughts. Depending on the image or Shaw's comments, the discussion can turn thoughtful or funny. Frequently critical of media, Notes helps connect the dots, linking images to larger social/political/human issues.

BagNews is a daily feature that links to other areas of the site. In the June 27th entry, for example, photographer Alan Chin wrote about on Peter Van Agtmael's Afghanistan photographs found in a new section, Originals. These commentaries offer a chance to "listen in" on one professional's thoughts about other work and photographic practice.

Originals: original photojournalism offers generous edits of images by some of the most interesting photojournalists working today. With a good mix of very well known, emerging, and sometimes-overlooked photojournalists telling

some of the most compelling stories of our time, the Originals archive is an incredible resource for teaching and student exploration. It introduces us to work that often doesn't make it to print. Importantly, Originals reassures us that there are meaningful stories that we can understand only by seeing.

Visual Week in Review is a video gallery with sound narration, Shaw's often witty and always perceptive commentary on a week of significant images. By playing these images in sequence, BagNewsNotes helps us see and understand how images build on each other in experience and memory.

BagNewsSalon is an occasional but valuable feature, ninety minutes of live text discussion among a small group of image-makers, editors and scholars with moderated comments from audience members around the world. It offers a rare opportunity to watch and participate in a lively critique of the ways media presents and re-presents, the ways photographers work, and how one image affects our reading of others.

It's a real plus that Michael Shaw is, at the same time, a psychologist and a critical viewer of photographs. Conversations with him sometimes remind me of the time I showed my work to a psychologist. She cautioned me, "well, I don't know a lot about photography, but..." and then described exactly what I had been trying to show and evoke with the images. She might not have known much about making photographs, but the psychologist knew how to see and to respond. Shaw's critique of photographs begins much in the same territory, as he offers a searching perspective and asks important questions

Photographers, educators, critics, and viewers all understand photographs in different ways and there aren't enough opportunities for all of them to get together and learn from each other. That's the value of the BagNews Salon, which has become something truly synergistic. Salon questions are often the ones you'd wished you could have asked but might never have thought of asking. Chris Hondros, for example, just back from Haiti, was able to talk firsthand about his

photographs, how they were made, and whether or not the mainstream media edit of his work reflected what he had seen. When non-photographers deconstruct the message in an image, photographers can speak to the restrictions of working, how seeing and thinking on the spot results in an image that defines events and moments.

Live salon discussions continue to evolve. All of them are available in the archive and they're worth study. A selection of salons in the past:

- *Haiti Aftermath: A look back at the first week*
- *Looking Since the Storm: BAGnewsSALON With Mario Tama*
- *Obama: The First 100 Days*
- *Special BAGnewsSALON Inauguration Edition: Looking at Michelle O*
- *9/11: Looking Back From Now*
- *Visual Week in Review – late April/early May edition, 2008* (a live salon discussion & precursor to the now weekly visual review)
- *Campaign 04 vs 08: Are We Seeing The End Of Identity Politics?*

Upcoming: The next live salon takes place on Sunday July 18th at 2pm eastern time. BagNewsNotes will be collaborating with OPEN-I, the Open Photojournalism Education Network (<http://open-ining.com/>) in its first ever international salon. The topic: The Gulf Oil Disaster. The questions will relate to defining or iconographic images, the range and depth of visual coverage, problems of access and depiction of the unseen and, finally, the problem of aesthetic beauty in light of environmental catastrophe.

A video edit will be available at both BagNewsNotes and OPEN-I for later viewing.

Watch for upcoming student salon discussions – live – beginning this fall: Students have expressed their appreciation for the kinds of discussions that take place in the live salon environment, so plans are beginning for student-only events (teachers and others can participate as viewers). The format is still being constructed, but if you're interested in

your students or school participation, let me know.

Highlights and awards: The site has received important recognition over the years, including:

- ★ Webby Awards finalist for Best Political Blog (along with Huffington Post and Columbia Journalism Review) — 2006.
- ★ Winner — 2006 Koufax Award — Best Post.
- ★ Winner — First Gilliard Grant of Merit for Excellence in Journalism and News Blogging — Netroots Nation 2008.
- ★ Credentialed blogger — 2008 Democratic National Convention.

Loret Gnivecki Steinberg is a VisCom member and associate professor at Rochester Institute of Technology



For papers submitted to the Visual Communication Division to its annual conference in Denver, the papers judged to be the top three will be accepted for publication for the Visual Communication Quarterly without additional review. However, authors will need to make any changes suggested by the reviewers or explain why they think such changes are not necessary. A paper should be sent to the editor as per the instructions at <http://vcquarterly.org/submit.html> with a note identifying it as an award winner. Any questions or concerns should be sent to Dr. Paul Martin Lester at lester@fullerton.edu.



FROM THE VISCOM DIVISION CREATIVE PROJECTS CHAIR, MICHAEL CHEERS

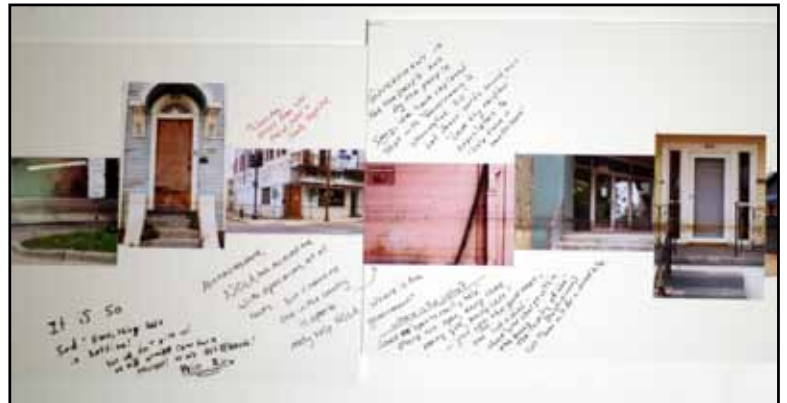
2010 Creative Projects

Thursday, 8/5 @ 5 pm



2010 First Place Creative Project

Top Secret Rosies: Female Computers of WWII
by LeAnn Erickson, Temple University



Third Place

Waterline: An Interactive Installation
by Bette J. Kauffman, The University
of Louisiana at Monroe



Second Place

*Picture Parings: the Subconscious
Influence of Robert Frank (and Others)*
by John Freeman, University of Florida

4th: John Hyde and Kimberly Sultze, Saint Michael's College, *Where the Road Ends and The Wilds Still Remain: Photography and Wildlife in the Rainforests of the Darien, Panama.*

5th: Dennis Chamberlin, Iowa State University, *Voices.*

6th: Jennifer George-Palilonis, Ball State University, *Extreme Bunker Hill: How Seven Days in the Cold, Rain and Mud Changed a Community.*



FROM THE VISCOM BEST OF WEB 2010 CO-CHAIR, PHIL LOUBERE

2010 Best of Web Winners

Wednesday, 8/4 @ 8:15 am

Individual Innovation

First Place:

Media Law Class — Ben Wasike, U of Texas Brownsville



Second Place:

Automatic ActionScript Production — Byung Lee, Elon U.

Team Innovation

First Place (tie):

Streets of Dreams — Leslie-Jean Thornton, Bill Silcock, Steve Doig and students from the Cronkite School of Journalism & Mass Communication, Arizona State University



The ASU News 21 Project: Latino America — Jason Manning, Rick Rodriguez, Andrew Long and Caige Nichols, the Cronkite School of Journalism & Mass Communication, Arizona State University



Third Place (tie):

May Day Show — Amanda Martinez and Alba Mora-Roca, UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism

Media, Power, & Culture — Gary Hanson and Ben Hollis, Kent State University

Individual Journalism

First Place:

Honduras and the Hidden Hunger — Tracy Boyer, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Team Journalism

First Place:

Living Galapagos — Patrick Davison and Carolina Photojournalism and Multimedia students from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Second Place:

The Young and the Wireless — Steve Davis, Bruce Strong, Ken Harper, Brian Dawson and students from S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University

Third Place (tie):

Powering a Nation — Laura Ruel and journalism students from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

The New Voters — Leslie Walker and 12 Carnegie-Knight journalism fellows at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism, The University of Maryland

Honorable Mention:

Five Teenagers — Mario Furloni, Kate McLean, Richard Parks and Tasneem Raja, UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism

BARTHood — Jeremy Rue, Andrea Brambila, Rhyen Coombs, Marnette Federis, Kiran Goldman and Elizabeth Shemaria, UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism



FROM THE AEJMC 2011 LOGO CHAIR

AEJMC 2011 Student Logo Contest Winner!

A logo designed by Christine Cirillo, a student at Cal-State Fullerton, has been chosen as the winner of the 2011 AEJMC Student Logo Competition. Cirillo's entry depicts a silhouetted St. Louis Arch and skyline and was submitted by faculty adviser Xtine Burrough, an assistant professor in communications. Cirillo will receive a \$100 prize and see her logo used on promotional materials for the 2011 convention.

Second place went to Jamie Daez, from Hawaii Pacific University, where the faculty sponsor and instructor was Brian Cannon, chair of Multimedia.



Rachel Senn, from Butler University, was awarded third place. Advertising instructor Donna Gray coordinated entries.



A total of 49 entries were submitted by seven schools. The 10-person judging panel viewed the entries online as a slideshow.

Those casting votes represented a cross-section of academia and the professional world: Rob Heller, Tennessee; Jerry Swope, St. Michael's College, Ray Wong, Middle Tennessee State; Elaine Wagner, Florida;

Ted Spiker, Florida; Les Anderson, Wichita State; Jim Kelley, Indiana; Amy Zerba, cnn.com; Steve Nelson, Florida Times-Union; Denise Reagan, Florida Times-Union.

John Freeman is the AEJMC 2011 Logo Chair and an associate professor in the Department of Journalism at the University of Florida. jfreeman@jou.ufl.edu

AEJMC VisCom Sessions, Denver 2010

TUESDAY

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Off-site Workshop Session:
Visual Storytelling &
Information Graphics: Using
Flash to Create Rich Data
Visualizations

Cost: \$75
(Pay with conference
registration)

Moderating/Presiding:
Larry Dailey, University
of Nevada-Reno

Panelists:

Larry Dailey, University
of Nevada-Reno;
Jennifer George-Palilonis,
Ball State University; Ryan
Sparrow, Ball State University

WEDNESDAY

8:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
PF&R Panel Session:
Navigating the new world of
copyright
Moderating/Presiding: Jack
Zibluk, Arkansas State
University

10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.
Refereed Paper Research
Session: Top Research Paper
Panel
Moderating/Presiding:
Shahita Fahmy, University
of Arizona

11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
Teaching Panel Session:
Breaking the mold:
Innovative ideas for the
future of journalism
Moderating/Presiding:
Larry Dailey, University
of Nevada-Reno

3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.
Mini-plenary Teaching
Panel Session: The new
convergence: Innovations
in industry and academic
collaborations
Moderating/Presiding:
Kathleen M. Ryan,
Miami University

THURSDAY

8:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
PF&R Panel Session: Visual
ethics across and within
platforms: convergence or
chaos?
Moderating/Presiding:
Jack Zibluk, Arkansas State
University

11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
Teaching Panel Session:
Strategies for capstone
success

3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.
PF&R Panel Session: Does
the Communications
Decency Act foster
indecentcy? Free expression
in the Twitter Age

5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Refereed Paper Research
Session: Creative Projects
Moderating/Presiding:
Michael Cheers, San Jose
State University

8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Business Session: Members'
meeting
Moderating/Presiding:
James Kelly, Indiana University

FRIDAY

8:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
Teaching Panel Session: Best
of the Web
Moderating/Presiding:
Phil Loubere, Middle Tennessee
State University

12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Refereed Paper Research
Session: Scholar to Scholar
session
Moderating/Presiding:
Shahita Fahmy, University
of Arizona

2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Outing: Chautauqua
Meadow and Ranger
Cottage Hike
Organizer: Jeremy Gilbert,
Northwestern University

Cost: \$35 (covers snacks
& transportation to and
from trailhead; pay with
conference registration)

Note: Space is limited to 24
hikers; place your reservation
by emailing Jeremy Gilbert at
jgilbert@northwestern.edu

SATURDAY

8:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
PF&R Panel Session: Visual
ethics in public relations
Moderating/Presiding: Melissa
Johnson, North Carolina State
University

10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Refereed Paper Research
Session: Top Research Paper
Panel
Moderating/Presiding: Shahita
Fahmy, University of Arizona

11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
Refereed Paper Research
Session: Top Research Paper
Panel
Moderating/Presiding: Shahita
Fahmy, University of Arizona

1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Teaching Panel Session:
Thinking outside the silos:
Teaching creativity and
innovation for strategic
communication
Moderating/Presiding: Margo
Berman, Florida International
University



Photography by Keith Graham

VisCom member, an associate professor in Photojournalism, Design and Multimedia Director, Photojournalism/Multimedia Program School of Journalism at The University of Montana

