

## Experts Look Ahead as New UN Leader Takes Helm

By Chad Bouchard

Just as coverage of the US presidential election reaches fever pitch, the United Nations is bracing for its own transition as the General Assembly considers Portugal's former prime minister, António Guterres, to replace Ban Ki-moon as Secretary General.

On Oct. 4, on the eve of a key straw poll among Security Council members, the OPC hosted a discussion about the UN's current role in tempering global conflicts and crises.

Stephen Schlesinger, a historian and author, said the UN has to overcome public perception that the body is ineffective in its founding mission to end global conflicts.

"This casual dismissal of the UN's efforts to settle disputes," he said, "which we hear so often, particularly in the United States, is very short sighted."

Schlesinger acknowledged that the international body suffers shortcomings, but cautioned critics not to overlook successful UN-fostered settlements such as those in Cambodia, Guatemala, El Salvador, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Burundi,

Namibia and Liberia.

Abdelkader Abbadi, UN correspondent and former director of the UN's Department of Political Affairs, was less forgiving.

"[The UN's] structures are old, its finances inadequate. It needs dynamic and visionary leadership. Those means are necessary for the organization to be able to face the issues of our turbulent world," he said.

"We delay because of lack of consensus among negotiators, and also because of lack of readiness to compromise. It's easier to adopt declarations than plans of actions which require financial resources."

He added that the UN's budget for peacekeeping is around \$8 bil-



Clockwise from upper left: Stephen Schlesinger, Abdelkader Abbadi, Richard Roth, Linda Fasulo and Ian Williams.

lion, while only \$1 million is allocated for preventative diplomacy.

Ian Williams, UN correspondent for *The Nation*, agreed that the UN struggles to establish legitimacy, with most Americans "sneeringly dismissive" of its role in global developments.

"And part of that problem is the  
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## Panel to Discuss China's Tech Biz Prospects

### EVENT PREVIEW: Nov. 16

China is attempting to transform itself from a low- and middle-wage manufacturing powerhouse into an "innovation nation" by 2025. There are huge implications. If China's companies and enterprises can commercialize new technologies on a global basis, the world will feel the competitive impact. After all, China is the nation that invented gunpowder and paper. But if the Chinese get stuck in lower-level businesses and cannot create new high-tech jobs to replace disappearing manufacturing jobs, the social costs to Chinese sta-

bility could be enormous.

On Wednesday, Nov. 16, The OPC is hosting a forum, titled "Can China Truly Innovate," to discuss these implications. Panelists will include Yu Zhou, co-editor of *China As An Innovation Nation* and professor of geography and Asian studies at Vassar College. Two other panelists will be announced. The moderator will be William J. Holstein, business journalist and author of seven books, including *Has The American Media Misjudged China?*

A cash reception will begin at 6:00 p.m., followed by the program from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Follow on Twitter: #ChinaBizOPC

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# Report Tracks Growing Threats to Reporters in China

By Chad Bouchard

A new report from PEN America sheds light on China's campaign to silence critics and shut down free expression. The report, "Darkened Screen," collected input from authors, dissidents, lawyers and more than three dozen foreign journalists working in China.

On Sept. 22, the OPC, along with PEN and Freedom House, co-sponsored a forum to launch and discuss the report. PEN's executive director, Suzanne Nossel, said amid the country's ongoing crackdown on domestic media, foreign journalists are playing an increasingly critical role in providing perspective for readers abroad as well as in China.

But that has spurred the government to increase pressure on foreign media, including "more direct and menacing tactics, including harassment of journalists and their families, direct threats made to journalists sitting in rooms with Chinese officials and being told what to write about and what not to write about," Nossel said.

Some Western media companies have responded by restricting their scope of coverage, she said, and the government has been successfully discrediting foreign media among Chinese citizens.

The panel's moderator, OPC governor Minky Worden of Human Rights Watch, added that during a recent crackdown in the village of Wukan in Guangdong province, police even placed a "bounty" of \$3,000 on foreign journalists.

Barbara Demick, formerly of the *Los Angeles Times* in Beijing, now at the Council on Foreign Relations, said that despite these strong-arm tactics, she



Chad Bouchard

Left to right: Gady Epstein, Edward Wong, Barbara Demick and Minky Worden.

does not believe foreign journalists are softening their coverage.

"I can't think of a single case of a reporter who pulled their punches for fear of getting in trouble with the government," she said.

Gady Epstein, media editor of *The Economist* who was previously the Beijing bureau chief for the magazine, along with *Forbes* and the *Baltimore Sun*, said while China has always blocked foreign media websites in response to critical reporting, tactics are escalating as information becomes harder to control.

"The new twist is that this information spreads so easily within the Chinese public – there's social media, there's an ability for something to spread virally before it gets blocked instantaneously, so there's a lot more fear

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# Panelists Discuss the Future of International Sports

By Chad Bouchard

In the wake of last year's shakeup at the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, as well as more recent scandals following this summer's Olympics in Rio, sports observers are taking a hard look at the future of large international sporting events.

On Wednesday, Sept. 14, the OPC hosted a discussion with four reporters and experts who study sports. Panelists talked about a range of topics, including the future of women's soccer, FIFA's new leadership and criticisms of the International Olympic Committee.

Grant Wahl, a senior writer for *Sports Illustrated* and a correspondent for FOX Sports, said an ongoing legal dispute between the U.S. Soccer Federation and U.S. women players over pay inequality could reverberate to other federations and sports across the globe.

"I think it's going to set a standard for how women soccer players in other countries fight for their own recognition and investment by their own federations, which is pretty shamefully low in several other countries."

Male US soccer players received \$9 million for a poor performance in the most recent World Cup, Wahl said, while US women received around \$2 million for winning the World Cup last year with fan viewership at an all-time high for the team's games.

He said talks between players are likely to heat up in October and could result in a strike on Jan. 1 next year.

Sean Gregory, a senior writer at *TIME* magazine who



Chad Bouchard

**Clockwise from top left: Grant Wahl, Sean Gregory, Josh Fine, Jacqueline Albert-Simon and Lindsay Krasnoff.**

covered the Rio Olympics, said the number of bids from cities to host the Olympics is declining.

"We're seeing in the summer [games] world class cities saying 'we don't want this.' Where is this thing going in the next few decades as the costs of the Olympics are more transparent and apparent?"

Rio, which bid to host the summer games seven years ago, has since suffered a steep economic decline, and took an estimated loss of about \$50 million to host the games. Meanwhile construction to get ready for the games did little to benefit the country's poor and displaced 4,200 families, he said.

Josh Fine, a producer at Real Sports with Bryant

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# Women Photojournalists Showcase Craft and Career

By Chad Bouchard

On Sept. 7, the OPC and Columbia Journalism School hosted an evening with four accomplished female photojournalists to see examples of their in-depth documentary work and get behind-the-scenes insight about their career path, creative process, challenges in the field, and how they were able to gain close access to their subjects.

Kirsten Luce, who spent nearly a decade documenting immigration on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border, recalled covering the story for her experience from 2006 to 2008 working for a small newspaper, *The Monitor*, in McAllen, Texas, before the nearby border had become such a large news story. She said by the time she returned to report for *The New York Times* in 2013, it had become the busiest corridor for human

and drug trafficking in the U.S.

"I had full access to the border patrol, we had our own PR person, and we were allowed to ask questions and we got top level information. This was a real game changer for me."

Using this increased access, Luce was able to shoot many angles of the story, from life at border patrol recruitment centers to aerial photos of migrants on the run, taken from border patrol helicopters that were paid for with a huge infusion of federal funds.

Glenna Gordon, a documentary photographer who has worked



Chad Bouchard

**Clockwise from top left: Glenna Gordon, Adriana Zehbrauskas, Malin Fezehai, Kirsten Luce, Nina Berman and Alice Gabriner.**

for outlets including *The New York Times Magazine*, *TIME* magazine, *The Wall Street Journal*, and many other outlets, showed selections from her project, titled "Nigeria Ever After," which documented weddings in Nigeria.

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# Colleagues Remember OPC President Roy Rowan

By William J. Holstein

Roy Rowan, one of the most legendary foreign correspondents and authors of his era, succumbed to multiple physical conditions on Tuesday, Sept. 13, at the age of 96 at Greenwich Hospital in Greenwich, CT. He would have been 97 in February.

Rowan was president of the Overseas Press Club from 1998 to 2000 and was responsible for a large increase in the number of members because he wrote to every friend and acquaintance of his long career, imploring them to join. He also endowed the Rowan fellowship that year for the OPC Foundation and appeared at every subsequent foundation luncheon to welcome the recipient, no matter the physical challenges of making it to the Yale Club in midtown Manhattan.

Rowan started his career in the late 1940s after serving as a United Nations relief coordinator in China after World War II. His convoys were shot at so frequently that he decided to pack that career in and start another. He met the right Time-Life correspondent in a bar in Shanghai and got the job. The Columbia School of Journalism, however, rejected his application, as he was fond



Left to right: Bill Holstein, Roy Rowan, Larry Smith.

of remembering.

He covered the Chinese civil war and subsequently the Vietnam War, from his base in Hong Kong. His wife, Helen, whom he lured from her job in the Time-Life photographic department to marry him while he was posted in Germany, pre-deceased him. He leaves four sons. And he authored 10 books.

*The following is a letter from OPC member Roger Cohen to Rowan, his longtime friend, which was read to him on the morning of the day he died.*

Dear Roy,

I am writing to you from London, having just spoken to Marc. I want to tell you a few things. The first is that you have been the most wonderful friend to me over a quarter-century now. More than a friend, a role model and an inspiration. Your gesture in bringing me into the Century Club is a gift that keeps giving, just as you predicted it would. I have so many happy memories of meals there with you, of Block Island with the children, of you and Helen (and your always inspirational love for each other), of walking around New York with you, of parties and good times. Your zest for life always moved me, your ability to take the best out of everything and everyone, without compromise and with generosity; your love, simply, of beauty. I see you now casting a line into the morning surf at Block Island.

For me, and this is the second important thing I want to say, you also have represented everything a journalist and foreign correspondent should aspire to be. The word dispatch has become old-fashioned. But what you filed from China during the Civil War, from East Germany, from Hong Kong and from different datelines around the United States were dispatches – pieces of writing that

brought places to life, explained them, showed the dilemmas of people living there, and transported readers into far-flung cities, villages, trenches and rice paddies. Technology has made us lazy. Journalists go out less often to find truth on the ground. You are a reminder that for all the changes over the past decades there is still no substitute for being there, seeing, absorbing, understanding, and bearing witness. I've always felt uplifted by your example, pushed to do better.

You have wanted to understand life by writing about it in many different forms. In this way you have passed along your wisdom to countless readers. What a gift that has been!

You are a fighter, Roy, You have the most indomitable spirit I have ever encountered. You have laughed and loved better than anyone I know. You have enfolded friends and family in an enduring embrace that has enriched their lives more than my poor words can say. I feel so lucky that an assignment all those years ago led me to you – and that I got to plunge deeply at that moment not only into a question of journalistic ethics that had affected you but also into discussions about the world that constituted the beginning of our rich friendship.

I am thinking of you all the time and send much love to you and all your family.

- Roger

*Photos courtesy of Marcus Rowan. You can read many more remembrances of Rowan on the OPC website. Memorial donations may be made to the OPC Foundation's Roy Rowan Scholarship.*



“...Roy was special and, as we all know, he did things for people, and he worked at staying active. I still remember him jogging on Corn Neck Road in his eighties. And he liked to tell how, when he went to buy a new car later on, he said to the salesman, ‘How many new cars have you sold to a ninety-year-old?’ And the salesman replied, ‘You’re the first.’ Roy Rowan was first – in a great many ways. We will miss him a lot.” – Larry Smith

“Roy will live forever in spirit, and certainly as long as the OPC can float. He did so much, knew so much and wrote so well, and he had friends everywhere. But he was always thoroughly unassuming and accessible, as unpretentious as his ratty old dinner jacket. We will miss him a lot.” – Larry Martz

“...Roy’s greatest contribution to my career? He taught me how to write short. Think about that. Anybody can write long, grinding on, word after word, graph after graph. It takes both talent and courage to write short. By example, by editing, by encouragement, Roy made sure I told the story fully, interestingly, briefly. It may have been the most important thing I ever learned from an editorial colleague. But that’s enough. I must write short about the wonderful man who taught me to do so.” – Richard B. Stolley.

“Roy Rowan was the epitome of the perfect gentleman and the humble highly skilled storyteller. Knowing him was a privilege and a pleasure. What a lovely man! He was a pillar of the OPC and a beacon of integrity who was generous in every sense of the word. We shall all miss his warmth, grace, humor and guidance.” – Allan Dodds Frank

“What was amazing about Roy was that he never lost his interest in the world around him, or his capacity to write about it. His topics ranged from war and public policy to dogs in the White House, which I think he wrote a book about when he was around 90. He was an inspiration to everyone who ever parachuted into a foreign conflict, and will be honored by his hundreds of friends and former colleagues around the world.” – Michael Serrill

“Roy was — and is — a legend.” – Marcus Mabry



*In the White House Oval Office in 1975, Rowan tape-records President Ford’s account of the military action he took to secure release of the Mayaguez, the American cargo ship, in 1975. Rowan later wrote a book about the incident.*



*The Philippines, 1979: Rowan with First Lady Imelda Marcos (in her Girl Scout uniform) during a flight in the Philippines on her private plane.*



*Rowan virtually lived with Teamster president Jimmy Hoffa for three weeks while he and photographer Hank Walker gathered information for a Life Magazine series on the teamsters. At his Woodner Hotel apartment in Washington, Jimmy even cooked Rowan breakfast.*

# Former OPC President Remembers John McLaughlin

By John Corporon

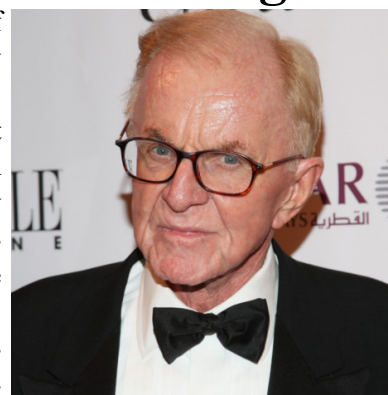
In 1969 or 1970, I hired John McLaughlin (a speech writer for President Nixon) to do commentary on WTOP's news programs. As general manager of WTOP, I employed commentators of liberal and conservative persuasion. McLaughlin has received great and deserved praise for his program "The McLaughlin Group." His stable of journalists debated issues of the day. Some of his admirers said his program was the first of its kind. As good as it was, it was not the first.

In 1969 or 1970, WTOP's executive producer John Baker and I developed a unique news program called "Argonsky and Company." Former network star Martin Argonsky hosted the Saturday evening program, which featured several top of the line journalists in Washington chewing over the national and international issues of the day. It was quite popular, and a few years later the program was syndicated to a large number of stations around the country.

Did I mention that one of Argonsky's regular guests, James J. Kilpatrick, went on to be a regular guest commentator on "60 Minutes"? Roone Arledge while head of ABC Sunday talk panel featuring David Brinkley, which also featured a top notch host and journalists of varying ideological persuasion.

Another unique news program was created in 1967

when I was head of Metromedia's (now Fox) news operation. I created a format featuring Evans and Novak. On a Sunday show they would interview a big name guest in Washington. Following the interview, Evans and Novak would add their own 2 cents worth – often disagreeing along ideological lines. *TIME* magazine cited "Evans and Novak" and a breakthrough program. TV news talkers are forgiven for thinking and saying that "The McLaughlin Group" was the first of its kind. They are too young (lucky for them) to remember.



Jason Kempin/Getty Images for Niche Media

**John McLaughlin poses on the red carpet during a White House Correspondents' dinner in Washington, DC in 2009.**

*John McLaughlin died on Aug. 16 at his home in Washington, DC after a battle with prostate cancer. He was 89.*

*(‘UN Experts’ Continued From Page 1)*

behavior of the ‘permanent five.’ The U.S. and Russia are both prone to invoke the UN when it suits them, and to ignore it when it doesn’t,” he said.

He added that journalists in both countries are too partisan, and fail to hold leaders accountable when they violate international treaties, such as recent movements in the U.S. and U.K. to increase nuclear arms.

Richard Roth, CNN's veteran UN Correspondent, agreed the UN needs to improve public relations and to make itself more relevant.

He said under Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, the UN has “disappeared in the public eye,” with too much focus on global symposiums, meetings and conventions.

“Ban Ki-moon in my opinion has to have been the most traveled

Secretary General – do you want someone like that to be like a town mayor, giving speeches, appearing in a panel, a conference? I would put that person in New York with a laser focus, walking around the building asking ‘what do you do?’”

The panel was moderated by OPC member Linda Fasulo, a veteran independent correspondent for NPR News at the UN.

*(‘Sports Panel’ Continued From Page 3)*

Gumbel at HBO, played an abbreviated version of a special that examined the IOC, its relationship to host countries, and a “seeming preference for working with authoritarian regimes who seem perhaps all too happy to get the international legitimacy that comes with hosting the games and don’t give the IOC a particularly hard time about any of their demands.”

Lindsay Krasnoff, historian, writer and author of *The Making of Les Bleus: Sport in France, 1958-2010*, said while recent doping scandals have marred the event’s reputation, use of forbidden substances to enhance performance is far from new.

“The first documented case of doping at the Olympics

was in 1904 with an American runner who was given a combination of egg whites, strychnine and brandy by his doctor in order to get him hopped up enough to finish the race.”

She said the Olympics have long been a way for developing countries to prove themselves on the world stage, and for geopolitical rivals to demonstrate prowess.

“Sports was an arena in which [countries] could win, could gain some degrees of influence and perhaps to influence how other countries adapted their sports programs or looked to them for cultural cues and innovations.”

Krasnoff and longtime OPC member and former governor, Jacqueline Albert-Simon, co-hosted the panel.

# PEOPLE... By Trish Anderton

## OPC SCHOLARS

After several years with Bloomberg in Japan, **Jacob Adelman**, 2005 HL Stevenson winner, has returned to his hometown of Philadelphia where he is now a staff writer for the *Inquirer* covering real estate, urbanism and commercial development. He also covered real estate and land-use issues for the Associated Press in its Los Angeles bureau.

1998 Reuters Scholarship winner **Kristina Shevory** published a long piece in *Playboy* in August about Afghanistan's commando units. These specially-trained fighters receive higher pay and are meant to be better-supplied than the regular Afghan National Army. After traveling with commandos in the field, however, Shevory reports that the elite units are stretched thin, especially for the job of facing enemies like Islamic State. A longtime freelancer, Shevory has written for *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Foreign Policy*, *Newsweek* and other outlets. She has previously worked for The Associated Press, the *Seattle Times* and TheStreet.com.



Erin Trieb

Shevory

**J.p. Lawrence**, who won the H.L. Stevenson Fellowship in 2015, is now a reporter for the premium team at the San Antonio Express News. He'll be covering military issues and writing explainer articles for the newspaper's site behind the paywall. He worked most recently for the *Albany Times Union*. J.p. had an OPC Foundation fellowship with the Associated Press in Uganda.

Joseph Kabila is stockpiling riot gear and water cannons in a sign that more unrest may be in store for the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

writes 2015 Stan Swinton Fellowship winner **Miriam Berger** in *Foreign Policy*. Kabila has shown no sign of preparing for elections amid fears that he will remain in power despite constitutional term limits that take effect at the end of the year. Berger is a freelance multimedia journalist. She recently reported from the DRC as a fellow with the International Women's Media Foundation.

**Max deHaldevang**, Reuters Fellowship winner in 2015, is now on a year-long Atlantic Fellowship with



deHaldevang



Thirani Bagri

Quartz. He's joined in New York by **Neha Thirani Bagri**, 2016 winner of the Jerry Flint Scholarship for International Business Reporting, who is also an editorial fellow. DeHaldevang was an OPC Foundation fellow in the Reuters bureau in Mexico City. Bagri traveled to Bangladesh on an OPC Fellowship with the GroundTruth Project.

**Jia Feng**, Theo Wilson Scholarship winner in 2012, is now a communication officer with the International Monetary Fund. She writes on economic issues, with a focus on Asia, Middle East and the Fund's policy. Feng had an OPC Foundation fellowship in the Reuters Beijing Bureau.

## WINNERS

The Online News Association's James Foley Award for Conflict Reporting went to freelance photographer and reporter Sima Diab. *The New York Times* won in the Breaking News category for its coverage

of the November 2015 terror attacks in Paris. **Pro Publica** and the *Virginian-Pilot* won in Topical Reporting for their coverage of the long-term effects of Agent Orange exposure on US Navy veterans. The massive Panama Papers project, led by the **Center for Public Integrity's International Consortium of Investigative Journalists** and *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, claimed an AI Neuharth Innovation in Investigative Journalism Award. **The Intercept's** reporting on Obama's drone warfare program in Afghanistan earned a University of Florida Award for Investigative Data Journalism.

## UPDATES

**NEW YORK:** CNN Digital has hired former OPC President **Marcus Mabry** as its next director. Mabry was previously at Twitter, where he oversaw its Moments platform; before that, he held several editorial roles at *The New York Times*. He led OPC's Board of Governors from 2014 to 2016.

Tweets will now be subject to the same review and correction standards as other published materials, The Associated Press announced in September after a tweet about Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton came under fire. OPC member **John Daniszewski**, the agency's vice president for standards, wrote that "whether to delete or update tweets" had previously been left to news managers to decide on a case-by-case basis. The new rules "require removal and correction of any AP tweets found not to meet AP standards."

When OPC member **Lucy Westcott** reached out online in search of stories of sexual harassment in journalism, she was soon "inundated with recollections of inappropriate jokes, comments on race and ap-

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pearance, and unwanted touching and worse.” Westcott wrote about these reports, and her own experience of harassment, for *Newsweek* in August – after Roger Ailes resigned from FOX News due to harassment allegations. Westcott noted that journalists face dangers both in the office and on the job. Many continue working with their harassers because, as one victim said, “It feels so dangerous to burn bridges in journalism.”

In his latest film for PBS FRONTLINE, OPC governor **Martin Smith** returns to his investigation of for-profit colleges. *A Subprime Education* examines the way Corinthian Colleges and other institutions persuade ill-informed people to borrow tens of thousands of dollars in pursuit of largely worthless degrees. The episode aired on Sept. 13. Smith first probed for-profit schools in a 2010 FRONTLINE episode, “College, Inc.” He is the founder of Rain Media, an independent documentary production company in New York City.



Smith

**The Guardian** U.S. announced major cuts in September in an effort to make up for a \$4.4 million revenue shortfall. The company is offering buyouts to its unionized editorial staff, which will be followed by layoffs if necessary; it is also laying off people on the business side. According to *Politico*, about 50 jobs will be cut across the 150-person organization. In an email to staff, the company said “seismic shifts in the business model are adversely impacting our revenues.”

Former OPC governor **Peter S. Goodman** landed a front-page story in *The New York Times* in late September. The piece examined the roiling anger over global trade

deals among American and European blue-collar workers, who have “borne the costs and suffered from joblessness and deepening economic anxiety.” Goodman announced his return to the *Times* as European economic correspondent in March, after a stint as global editor in chief of the *International Business Times*.

**Michael Slackman** has been named International Editor of *The New York Times*. Slackman replaces **Joseph Kahn**, who was given the newly reinstated role of *Times* managing editor. Slackman is a veteran foreign correspondent with postings including Berlin, Moscow and Cairo. The paper also announced that **Susan Chira** would leave her position deputy executive editor and write about gender issues for *The Times*.

**SAGAPONACK, NY:** OPC member **Yvonne Dunleavy**’s home in the Hamptons was the *Wall Street Journal*’s House of the Day in early October. Dunleavy used to rent the 1800-square-foot house to John F. Kennedy Jr. when she wasn’t using it. She and her husband are selling it now in order to travel more.

**BOSTON:** African dictators may soon be a thing of the past as the continent grows more prosperous and democratic, OPC governor **Scott Gilmore** recently wrote in the *Boston Globe*. “For most of the 20th century, Africa suffered approximately 20 successful coups per decade. This number has now dropped in half,” Gilmore explained. At the same time, “the GDP per capita in sub-Saharan Africa has more than tripled.” Gilmore is a social entrepreneur and an international columnist for *Maclean’s Magazine*.

**PITTSBURGH:** **Father James Colligan**, an OPC member, has published a book of his photos of Pope John Paul II’s 1981 visit to Tokyo, Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Colligan wrote about and photographed Ja-

pan for the Catholic News Service from the 1960s through the ‘90s. He now lives in Pittsburgh.

**COLUMBIA, MISSOURI:** OPC governor **Michael Oreskes** has been elected treasurer of the American Society of News Editors. Oreskes is senior vice president of news and editorial director at NPR. He previously worked at the Associated Press, the *International Herald Tribune* and *The New York Times*.

**MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA:** The weekly *Saturday Paper* published an extensive profile in September of OPC member Prue Clarke and her organization, New Narratives – Africans Reporting Africa. Clarke founded the organization as a model of independent journalism in Liberia; it now garners awards and regularly launches major stories in the national media. “A step back from the front line,” the paper writes, former war reporter Clarke “has found her space to make a difference.” In addition to her role as president of New Narratives, Clarke directs the International Reporting Program at the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism.

**HONG KONG:** **Tara Joseph**, Chief Correspondent for Reuters TV in Asia, was elected president of the Foreign Correspondents’ Club. She previously held the position in 2013-2014. **Keith Bradsher**, Hong Kong bureau chief for *The New York Times*, was elected First Vice-President. In a letter from the president in *The Correspondent* magazine, Joseph said the club planned to refurbish its headquarters and ramp up its social media efforts. Also on the to-do list: remaining vigilant about what she called the “worrying atmosphere for journalists working in the region.” Hong Kong, long a bastion of free speech, is now part of China and the Chinese government has been ratcheting up pressures on both foreign and domestic journalists.



**Keith Richburg**, 58, former globe-trotting correspondent for the *Washington Post* for 34 years, is the new director of the Journalism and Media Studies Centre at the University of Hong Kong. He succeeds Professor Yuen Ying Chan, the first director of the centre. Richburg says he intends to take journalism students on foreign reporting trips to show them the basics of foreign correspondence.

**TOKYO: The Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan** is changing locations at least partly because of a sharp decline in the number of Western correspondents stationed in the country. The move is controversial because the new location is owned by Mitsubishi Group, the huge industrial conglomerate. Club president **Peter Langan**, a freelancer, says the new club in the Naka-dori section of Marunouchi, just a few blocks from the current location, will have better facilities including an interview room, photo studio, broadcast center and offices for bureaus.

## PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Past OPC President **Roy Rowan**

died Sept. 13 in Greenwich, Connecticut at the age of 96. Please see pages 4 and 5 for a full-length remembrance.

South African journalist **Allister Sparks**, who covered apartheid for *The Washington Post* and *The Observer* (UK), died in Johannesburg on Sept. 19. He was 83. Sparks covered South Africa for opposition newspaper *The Rand Daily Mail* from the late 1950s until 1981, when he began writing for foreign publications. After Nelson Mandela became president, Sparks served as an editor at the South African Broadcasting Corporation.

**Barry Came**, who covered many of the world's major stories, from the Lebanese civil war to the Entebbe airport hijack drama, died on March 23 in Rome. No age was given. Came got his start as a freelance reporter in Beirut, covering the 1973 Arab-Israeli war for *Newsweek*. He joined the magazine's staff and won an OPC award in 1976 for his continued coverage of Lebanon's civil war. Came transferred to Hong Kong and then Rio de Janeiro. Eventually

he moved to Canada to work for *Maclean's Magazine*. He finished his career in Rome working for the UN.

**Ian Traynor**, Europe editor for *The Guardian*, died on August 27 in Brussels at age 60. Traynor became a stringer for the paper in 1988, covering central Europe. He moved from Vienna to Bonn to Berlin to Moscow to Zagreb, covering German reunification, the Balkan wars, and the rise of the EU. Traynor became Europe editor, based in Brussels, in 2007. "Ian was one of the finest reporters of his generation, who brought a rare level of knowledge and expertise to his work," said Katharine Viner, *The Guardian's* editor-in-chief.

**Takeji Muno**, a World War II correspondent turned antiwar activist, died on Aug. 21 in Saitama, just northwest of Tokyo. He was 101. Muno covered the war in China and Southeast Asia for *Asahi Shimbun*. He resigned on the day the conflict ended, expressing regret that he had parroted imperial propaganda rather than wrote the truth about Japan's flagging war effort. He spent the rest of his life advocating for pacifism.

(*'Photojournalists' Continued From Page 3*)

"It's amazing when you show up at someone's best day, when everybody looks their best, people really want to be photographed."

From there, she began to photograph a community of Muslim women who write popular romance novels in the West African language of Hausa. Some of the novels were pretty "subversive," Gordon said, touching on social subjects such as child marriage and human trafficking. That project became her book, *Diagram of the Heart*. It was chosen as one of *The New York Times Magazine's* best photo books of the year.

Malin Fezehai, a Swedish/Eritrean photographer whose ongoing work examines the plight of displaced people around the world, spoke about her project to document the lives of some 50,000 African refugees in Israel, mainly from Sudan and Eritrea.

Using a letter from an editor at *TIME* magazine, she was able to get access to an "open" detention center in the Nagev desert called Holot, where residents have to check in a few times each day, and the nearest town is an hour away by car.

"A lot of the refugees already put themselves in high debt, because a lot of them were captured before they entered Israel and had to pay ransoms of up to \$20,000."

Adriana Zehbrauskas, a Brazilian photojournalist based in Mexico, talked about her experience covering the 2014 disappearance of 43 students from the Ayotzinapa teacher's rural school, who are presumed to be kidnapped by police and sold to narco groups. She followed the story for *The New York Times*, BuzzFeed News and other media for a year.

While talking to family members of the missing, she discovered that most of the families' images were kept only in digital form on phones, and many had already been lost.

"So these people disappeared not once, but twice. They are disappearing from memories, too. In three or four years, there's not even going to be proof that these people existed."

With help from a Getty Images Instagram Grant, she began to take family portraits and print had copies on site for the subjects to keep.

The panel was moderated by Nina Berman, associate professor of Journalism, and Alice Gabriner, international photo editor for *TIME* magazine.

# PRESS FREEDOM UPDATE...

**Turkey** has ordered at least 20 broadcasters closed in its latest media crackdown. The Committee to Protect Journalists reports that the government used emergency powers to order the TV and radio stations closed in late September. Police raided and sealed at least two of the stations the next day. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan recently moved to extend the country's state of emergency, imposed after an attempted coup in July, by another 90 days. Erdogan's government has jailed tens of thousands of people and accused more than 100,000 of disloyalty, including journalists, doctors, teachers and members of the military.

Among those being held in Turkey is American freelancer **Lindsey Snell**, who was detained after crossing into the country from Syria. The CPJ says she has been accused of violating a military zone. Her husband, Mohammad Suliman Wardak, says he has been falsely accused of having ties to the coup attempt and has been barred from leaving the country. According to her Facebook page, Snell had escaped from the militant Nusra Front group in Syria just before crossing the border, after being held hostage for two weeks.

Former *Washington Post* Tehran bureau chief **Jason Rezaian** is suing Iran for his 544-day imprisonment there. The federal suit alleges the Iranian government held Rezaian as a bargaining chip in its nuclear negotiations with the U.S. It contends that he suffered so much "physical mistreatment and severe psychologi-

cal abuse ... that he will never be the same" and will require "specialized medical and other treatment for the rest of his life." The lawsuit does not specify an amount of damages sought. Rezaian was released in January. He is currently on leave from the *Post* while completing a Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University.

A Peruvian court has overturned the conviction of journalist **Rafael León Rodríguez**, who was found guilty of aggravated defamation in May. The court found Rodríguez did not intend to defame former newspaper editor Martha Meier Miró Quesada when he defended another public figure from Meier's criticisms. Rodríguez's original sentence included a one-year suspended prison term and a payment of 6,000 nuevo soles (about US \$1,800) in civil damages.

Authorities in **Azerbaijan** reportedly detained 40 bloggers, activists and opposition party members ahead of planned protests in Baku. According to Freedom House, the arrests began the day ahead of a Sept. 11 rally against a constitutional amendment that would lengthen the president's term in office and abolish the age limit for the presidency, among other things. The Justice Department's Office of the Inspector General has concluded the FBI did not violate any rules in 2007 when one of its agents posed as an AP editor in order to nab a high school student making bomb threats near **Seattle**. They sent email to the student that contained links. When the

student clicked the on links, a program was installed that revealed his location. The IG concluded there was no policy barring agents from impersonating journalists. The AP said it was "deeply disappointed" by the ruling, adding that "Such action compromises the ability of a free press to gather the news safely and effectively and raises serious constitutional concerns."

## MURDERS

- Prominent Jordanian writer **Nahed Hattar**, 56, was shot dead in Amman on Sept. 25 while arriving for a court hearing on charges of insulting Islam. Hattar was shot three times outside the courthouse where he was to be tried for posting a controversial cartoon on Facebook. He was a columnist for the Lebanon-based *al-Akhbar* newspaper.

- **Aurelio Cabrera Campos**, 56, the founder and editorial director of a weekly news magazine, was shot on Sept. 14 near Huauchinango city in Puebla, central Mexico. He had launched *El Gráfico de la Sierra* about a year ago, according to *The Guardian*. He had recently been reporting on a deadly turf war between organized crime groups.

- Lawyer, politician and community radio host **Agustín Pavia Pavia** was killed in Oaxaca on Sept. 12. According to UNESCO, Pavia was shot in Huajuapán de León, where he hosted a political show on community radio station Tu-un Nuu Savi.

(*'China Report' Continued From Page 2*)

of breaking news by Western organizations."

The crackdown in part is a response to more aggressive investigative reporting from Western journalists, he said.

Edward Wong, the Beijing bureau chief for *The New York Times*, said that starting in 2012, foreign media started increasing reports on elite politics, which filtered back to Chinese citizens and sparked unrest. He cited stories from Bloomberg and the *Times* about the wealth of Xi

Jinping's family. Meanwhile China also saw the effects of social media during the Green Revolution in Iran and the Arab Spring as well as turmoil in Ukraine and former Soviet Union states.

"They see an increasing amount of information that flows from the foreign media to people within China and they want to control that information, especially as new organizations open up more Chinese-language products or websites or apps." [Click here](#) to download the PEN America report.



# Meet the OPC Members: Q&A With Jim Laurie

By Trish Anderton

**Jim Laurie** has been a journalist and broadcaster for more than 40 years, much of that time in Asia. He currently heads Focus Asia Productions Hong Kong Ltd., which produces documentaries and provides consulting services to international broadcasters. From 2000 to 2005, he headed news development at Newscorp/STAR Television in Asia helping develop TV news channels in India. From 2005 through 2011, he served as director of broadcasting at the Journalism and Media Studies Center of the University of Hong Kong. Earlier, over a 28-year period, Laurie was a foreign correspondent for NBC News and ABC News. He launched his career in Vietnam and later opened the first television network news bureau in China.

**Hometown:** Born in Eustis, Florida. Raised in Worcester, Massachusetts.

**Education:** Graduate in History and Asia Studies, American University and Masters study at George Washington University, Washington, DC (incomplete).

**Languages:** English. Some Chinese.

**First job in international journalism:** Radio Reporter in Saigon, Vietnam and Phnom Penh, Cambodia, April 1970.

**Countries you've reported from:** China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Myanmar, Philippines, Indonesia, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, the Soviet Union (most of its republics as they gained independence: eg. Ukraine, Georgia, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia), United Kingdom, Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bosnia, Serbia, Croatia, Albania, Italy, Israel, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, South Africa, Somalia, Kenya, and Uganda.

**Year you joined the OPC:** 1996. I served on the board of the OPC from 2006 to 2010.

**What drew you to international journalism?** I worked part time in radio when I was in high school and college in Massachusetts and Washington, DC. My fascination with Asia took me out of America in January 1970. I stopped first in Japan, picking up freelance assignments as I went. Later I wrote on Asian affairs for the *Far Eastern Economic Review*. It was fascination with Asia that kept me going. I never looked back. I landed my first good job with NBC News in Saigon in early 1972.

**Best journalism advice received:** NBC's John Chancellor once said: "maintain your constant curiosity and when you're tired – learn how to take a quick nap. You'll need it!"

**Worst experiences as a journalist:** Two incidents when



Courtesy of Jim Laurie

**Jim Laurie disembarks from a helicopter after arriving from Cambodia in 1975.**

I was nearly killed and one when I inadvertently sent a man to jail:

1) Along the 'Street Without Joy' in Quang Tri province in Spring 1972. One colleague with ABC News was killed. Another with NBC News was wounded not far away.

2) Beirut, Lebanon, November 1975 when I was nearly shot by a Phalange sniper bullet.

On the other hand – one could argue – they were good experiences as a journalist – because I lived to tell the tale.

3) Beijing, June 5, 1989 when video of a man I interviewed was used by Chinese Security to hunt a man down, arrest him, and sentence him to five years in jail for "rumor mongering" to a foreign journalist.

**Hardest story:** Three stories: The Fall of Saigon (April 28 to May 25, 1975); The Tian An Men Massacre (Beijing, June 4-5, 1989); The Russian Coup (Moscow, August 1991).

**Journalism heroes:** Edward R Murrow.

**Advice for journalists who want to be foreign correspondents:** Just go do it. Don't wait. Go Freelance. In the multi-media, multi-skills, digital age – you must just be out there, do it and do it all.

**Most over-the-top assignment:** Rented a boat in Singapore in 1980 to go out to sea in search of refugees fleeing Vietnam. Silly idea which sounded smart at the time. The ocean is huge! My cameraman and sound tech got seasick.

**Twitter handle:** @focusasia and @jimlaurie2016

*Want to add to the OPC's collection of Q&As with members? Please contact [patricia@opcofamerica.org](mailto:patricia@opcofamerica.org).*

# New Books

## TERRORISM

**“AMERICA’S INVOLVEMENT** in the Middle East since 9/11 has been a long series of failures,” writes Lawrence Wright in his tenth book; “Our own actions have been responsible for much of the unfolding catastrophe.” Indeed, the *The Terror Years: From Al-Qaeda to the Islamic State* [Knopf, August 2016] goes on to chronicle a sad list of opportunities missed, warnings unheeded and massive mistakes made in the years since the twin towers fell.

Wright, who won the Ed Cunningham Award in 2003 and a citation in 2006, is a longtime *New Yorker* staff writer. The book pulls together several of his articles for the magazine – from a detailed profile of Osama bin Laden’s successor, Ayman al-Zawahiri, to a 2004 exploration of cultural oppression in Saudi Arabia, to deep dive into the mind of Mike McConnell, the first-ever U.S. Director of National Intelligence.

One story that hits close to home for foreign correspondents is “Five Hostages,” the story of how the families of five Americans kidnapped in Syria teamed up with David Bradley, the owner of Atlantic Media, in an effort to get their loved ones back. Bradley organized what he called a “private army of volunteers” to find and negotiate with the kidnappers. Ultimately, the mission failed. Four of the hostages – journalists Jim Foley and Steven Sotloff and aid

workers Kayla Mueller and Peter Kassig – were killed. Journalist Theo Curtis was released independently of the group’s efforts.

Asked why he invested his time and money in the search when none of the hostages was connected to *The Atlantic*, Bradley said: “When I wake in the morning, I could study online advertising patterns—or I could try in some way to save the lives of Americans who are held by fanatics. When I looked at the options in front of me, it was obvious what was the best use of my time.”

*Publishers Weekly* says Wright “writes with empathy for every side while clearly registering the moral catastrophes that darken this pitiless struggle.” *The South China Morning Post* writes that he “never loses sight of the human dimension of the stories he’s reporting, and how decisions made at the highest levels cascade onto those below.”

## TRAVEL

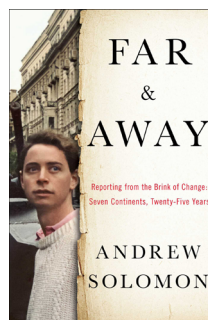
**ANDREW SOLOMON VOW-**ed to embark on a life of travel at around age seven, he recalls in the introduction to *Far and Away: Reporting from the Brink of Change* [Scribner, April 2016].

He had just learned about the Holocaust from his father.

“Why didn’t those Jews just leave?” a horrified Solomon asked. “They had nowhere to go,” came the answer.

“At that instant I resolved that I would always have somewhere to go,” Solomon writes. “I would never suppose that because things had always been fine, they would continue to be fine.”

Solomon’s restless lifestyle takes him to 83 countries in 25 years, often for magazines like *The New Yorker* and *Travel and Leisure*.

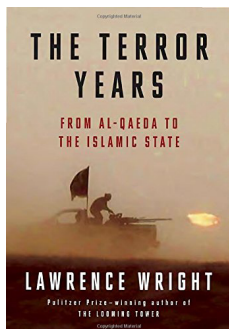


He has gathered many of those stories in this collection, ranging from a 1988 piece on Glasnost-era art in Moscow to a 2014 story about the scuba diving accident that nearly cost him his life. They are grouped loosely around the theme of national transitions, or

what Solomon calls “that little moment of romance when a society on the brink of change falls temporarily in love with itself.”

Kirkus Reviews calls *Far and Away* “Agile, informative, even revelatory pieces that, together, show us both the great variety of humanity and the interior of a gifted writer’s heart.” *The New York Times* says his prose “sparkles with insights and captivating description.”

—By Trish Anderton



## WELCOME TO NEW ACTIVE MEMBER...

Marjorie Miller  
Vice President Global News & Enterprise  
Associated Press  
New York  
Active Resident

## ...AND TO OUR NEW STUDENT MEMBERS FROM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Ajibola Amzat  
Sarah Bellingham  
Gabriela Bhaskar  
Yemile Bucai  
Madison Darbyshire  
Martin Echenique  
Mukhtar Ibrahim  
Tara Law  
Alena Maschke  
Yunita Ong  
Denna Taherzadeh  
Emilia Ulrich  
Rebecca Zissman

## Upcoming Events

Can China Truly Innovate?  
6:00 p.m. Nov. 16