



Overseas Press Club
of America

Weekly Bulletin: July 22, 2020

Greetings!

This week's digital newsletter includes a link to your online ballot for the OPC's Board of Governors election. As an Active member of the OPC, you can vote for Active candidates only (not Associate). You can scroll down to read candidate profiles and an introduction from nominating committee chair William J. Holstein. Please click the blue button below to begin voting via the secure Balloteer website. Each ballot requires a log-in. The e-mail address where we sent the Bulletin you are reading now is your voter ID.

[Ballot for Active OPC Members](#)

This issue of the Weekly Bulletin also includes:

- OPC [remembrances of Christopher Dickey](#).
- [Resources](#) and webinars for journalists covering COVID-19 and protests in the U.S.
- [People Column](#).
- [Press Freedom Update](#).

Scroll down for more content, summaries and links to items online.



OPC Presents New Slate of Officers and Governors

by William J. Holstein

As chair of this year's nominating committee, I am delighted to introduce what I modestly think is one of the strongest slates we have had in recent years despite the tragic loss of Chris Dickey, who had agreed to run for vice president again. Women are in leadership positions and new women are joining as governors. The number and prestige of news organizations represented is perhaps the most impressive ever. Freelancers are also represented. We have an excellent balance between youth on the one hand and experience on the other, hopefully ensuring a leadership transition into the hands of the next generation. And we continue to draw in diverse skills sets, ethnicities, geographies and nationalities. It all adds up to a major injection of new blood.

The nominating committee consisted of David Ake, Deidre Depke, Linda Fasulo, Farnaz Fassihi and Hendrik Hinzl.

This year, the OPC is electing six (6) officers, eleven (11) governors who are Active members and three (3) who are Associate members. The club is continuing to use the online voting website Balloteer to host its secure election.

The deadline for voting is Monday, Sept. 7 at noon, and the results will be announced at the Annual Meeting on Sept. 8. Each ballot requires a login, which is your e-mail address where you received the ballot link. The system allows one voting ballot and delineates between Active and Associate members. There will be no paper ballots this year.

2020 Election Slate

President

Paula Dwyer

I am pleased and honored to be nominated for the position of OPC President. In the coming years, it will be crucial for journalism organizations to stand up for our profession in the face of financial hardships and attacks on our integrity. I intend to do that as OPC President. It will also be important to help guide the next generation of journalists as they take the baton and carry on the free-press mission worldwide. With help from many talented and more veteran OPC members, I look forward to doing that as well. I draw on 40 years of experience as a reporter and editor, including 20 at BusinessWeek magazine, five at The New York Times, and the last 11 at Bloomberg, where I'm now a senior



editor for news articles covering politics and policy. As London bureau chief for BusinessWeek in the 1990s, I shared an OPC award for coverage of globalization. As an opinion writer for Bloomberg, I was a 2012 Pulitzer finalist for editorials on Europe's debt crisis. As a business and economics writer, I co-wrote the NYT bestseller, *Take On the Street*, with former SEC Chairman Arthur Levitt. It has been an honor to serve as OPC Secretary the past two years and to work with many distinguished OPC Governors. I'm excited and optimistic about the next two years and I greatly appreciate your support.

Vice Presidents

Douglas Jehl

I'm foreign editor of The Washington Post and – one way or another – have spent three decades covering international stories. I treasure the OPC's role in honoring the very best in international journalism and in helping to mentor new talent. After two terms as a Governor, I welcome a chance to help the OPC elevate further its role in championing courageous on-the-ground reporting. My experience in 11 years in this job at the Post – through the detention of Jason Rezaian and Austin Tice, the death of Michel duCille, and the expulsion of Gerry Shih from China – has left me deeply aware of just how perilous our work can be.



Azmat Khan

I am a contributing writer at The New York Times Magazine and have served four terms on the OPC board. As an OPC Vice President, I intend to continue working to expand the support the club offers to some of its most vulnerable members: freelancers, fixers and aspiring reporters. I've witnessed these needs in the field myself. I'm an award-winning investigative journalist who's spent the last decade reporting from places like Pakistan, Afghanistan, Egypt, Syria and Iraq, both as a staff reporter and a freelancer. I won the OPC's 2017 Ed Cunningham Award for "The Uncounted," a story in the NYT Magazine about civilians killed by drones in Iraq. I know how to work with others to get things done. It would be my honor to continue to help make the OPC more accessible to new, diverse members and more responsive to the challenges of our changing industry.



Scott Kraft

I've been so proud of my 7-year association with the OPC, from early days as a jury chair for the annual awards and, for the past four years, as

chair of the awards section process and member of the board. The OPC has long been a champion of international reporting and the many brave and resourceful people involved in that important work. The coming year will be especially challenging for them, and the OPC is committed to building on some of the initiatives it already has launched to address those challenges. I know from my own decade as a Los Angeles Times correspondent and bureau chief in Africa and Europe, and several decades now as an editor, that an organization like ours can make a critical difference in the lives of working journalists.



Secretary

Josh Fine

I'm a senior segment producer at HBO's "Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel" and a past winner of the OPC's David A. Andelman and Pamela Title Award for best international reporting in the broadcast media showing a concern for the human condition. I have served two terms on the board and am now running for Secretary. I'd like to see us have more events and serve a more central role in helping US-based journalists stay up-to-date on what's going on in hotspots overseas. I think we can do this effectively in the era of COVID-19, given the increased opportunity for online events.



Treasurer

Deborah Amos

I have been an international correspondent for three decades, covering the Middle East for NPR, PBS and ABC-TV and have served as a Vice President of the Overseas Press Club for the last four years. The OPC has an important role to play during a COVID pandemic, looming economic collapse and social upheaval. Journalism has never been more crucial for navigating this era. We have a duty to support journalism and journalists as media outlets are contracting along with the economy. The OPC freelance fund is a model as is the



on-line safety training for journalists on the front lines covering nation-wide protest. These initiatives define the OPC and its work. I continue to support these projects and will push for more.

Active Members

John Avlon

I've been on the OPC Board for one term and I feel our work has never been more vital. I'm speaking, of course, about the need to support foreign correspondents in an era of resurgent autocracies, attacks against journalists and withering financial support for foreign coverage. The needs and the risks are greater, the resources more scarce - and that's where OPC can help. From our press passes to the power of our experienced network, we can help support journalists working alone in some of the world's most dangerous places - and then help their journalism get the recognition it deserves. I'm a CNN senior political analyst and fill-in anchor, columnist and author of 5 books, and the former editor-in-chief of The Daily Beast from 2013-2018. RIP our friend and colleague Chris Dickey.



Albert Goldson

I'm a NYC-based freelance journalist and a long-time member of the OPC. I specialize in geopolitical and urban security. Furthermore I'm a guest on podcast and cable TV programs. My perspectives are contrarian and often prescient in which I link disparate underlying dynamics of an emerging issue and explain how they might play out. Recent examples have been the oil price plunge, risks to the global food supply chain, violent social unrest in the U.S. and the rapid demise of Hong Kong. My contribution to the OPC includes a wealth of perspectives in geopolitics and from my earlier positions as a public policy maker. My goal as an OPC board member is to bring a robust awareness to the upcoming young generation of aspiring and working journalists of the mindset and inner dynamics of corporate and governmental leadership in order for them to ask the right questions.



Marjorie Miller

At The Associated Press, we have been the fortunate recipients of many Overseas Press Club Awards for investigative and enterprise stories and photography, and I have enjoyed many OPC events. I feel it's time for me to give something



back to the OPC and would welcome the opportunity to join the board to support the mission of international reporting. Before becoming Global Enterprise Editor in New York, I ran the AP's Latin America and Caribbean coverage from Mexico City for five years. Prior to that, I was at the Los Angeles Times as: foreign editor, foreign affairs editorial writer and abroad as bureau chief in El Salvador, Mexico, Germany, Israel and the United Kingdom. I am a member of the board of the Craig Newmark-CUNY Graduate School of Journalism Foundation, and previously served on the board of the International Women's Media Foundation. I am a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Adriane Quinlan

I am the supervising writer for VICE News Tonight where I oversee a team of talented writers who edit documentary packages, copy-edit subtitles, and concoct creative news scripts. I have 15 years of experience as a reporter and television news writer. After graduating from Yale, I worked as an intern at TIME magazine's Hong Kong bureau, then moved to Beijing where I freelanced ahead of the 2008 Olympics. I won the OPC Foundation's Flora Lewis award in 2013. I later wrote for The Times Picayune in New Orleans, and started working in television at CNN International in 2016. I would love to help coordinate events at the OPC for the next generation of correspondents and speak with reporters interested in transitioning to a career in video production.



Peter Spiegel

I am U.S. managing editor for the Financial Times. I became head of editorial operations in the U.S. for the FT last year, after nearly a decade overseas as a foreign correspondent and editor. Prior to that, I spent eight years covering the U.S. military for the FT, Los Angeles Times and Wall Street Journal, including multiple reporting stints in Iraq and Afghanistan during the height of the conflicts. That overseas experience has made me acutely aware of the dwindling resources being devoted to foreign reporting and the dire need for organizations like the OPC to train, support and advocate for journalists in the field. I hope to



bring my experience collaborating with a wide range of foreign correspondents, from both foreign-language and Anglo-American news organizations, to help build the kind of support structures the overseas press so urgently needs in the current environment.

Liam Stack

I am a religion correspondent for The New York Times. Before that, I was a politics reporter, a foreign correspondent and general assignment reporter covering national and international issues for the Times. I covered the Egyptian Revolution and the Arab Spring for the Times and from 2005 to 2012 was a freelance correspondent for the Christian Science Monitor based in Cairo, where I began my career at The Daily News Egypt, an Egyptian English-language newspaper. I have been on the OPC board since 2014, becoming Secretary in 2016 and Treasurer in 2018.



Sandra Stevenson

I am assistant editor in the photography department at The New York Times. I oversee digital photo editors on the news desk, and work on visual content for Race/Related and Gender, in addition to special projects such as "Overlooked." I was a contributing writer in the book *Unseen*. Most recently, I was the picture editor and co-curator on the project and book *This Is 18*. In the past, I was program coordinator for the Black Filmmaker Foundation, where I had a deep commitment to helping people of color enter the film industry, and spent 8 years at AP, moving up from photo assistant to overseeing photo news coverage for Latin America and the Caribbean. As a new governor, I will bring fresh eyes to tackling challenges the organization may face in the new financial landscape and global pandemic. Additionally, I hope to be an active member on the program and press freedom committees.



Marina Guevera Walker

I recently became executive editor at the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting. I spent the past 15 years at the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ), where I managed the two largest collaborations of reporters in journalism history: The Panama Papers and the Paradise Papers. If I am accepted as a board member of the Overseas Press Club, I will focus on helping members become better reporting collaborators across newsrooms, borders and



areas of expertise. COVID-19 has taught us that we need one another more than ever. A "network mentality" can help us leverage resources and amplify our reach and impact. It is also one of the best ways to fight censorship and other attacks on press freedom.

Vivienne Walt

The OPC seems more crucial than ever. The media business is being pummeled at the very moment when journalists are covering the first truly global story perhaps in decades. The OPC could play an important role, and after a hiatus from the board, I would like to rejoin. Here are three ideas about how I could contribute: broaden our membership and sponsorships by tapping into my wide network of colleagues and companies across the world; help build out OPC video meetings and make the OPC a live, ongoing hub for discussion on foreign stories and the business of foreign reporting, long after the pandemic ends - this might also generate new partnerships and members; and finally, working on some specific-issue projects, with advice on safety, ethics and specialist coverage like health and the economy.



Michael Williams

I'm the global enterprise editor at Reuters, which I joined in 2011 to establish the news agency's international investigative, explanatory and data journalism team. Before Reuters, I was at The Wall Street Journal for 19 years, where my last job was Page One editor. Before that, I spent much of my career outside the U.S. - as Japan politics & economics correspondent, Tokyo bureau chief, Southern Europe bureau chief, and editor of The Wall Street Journal Europe. I'm interested in pursuing two themes at the OPC: helping journalists do their jobs safely in lands hostile to independent reporting; and promoting data journalism and business-investigative journalism globally.



Associate Members

Emma Daly

The pandemic has exposed the deep inequality between communities and countries and highlighted our life-or-death need for reliable, accurate information. State censorship in China helped spread COVID-19, as did presidential prevarication in the US. The violent police response to the #BlackLivesMatter protests in the US, with hundreds of attacks on journalists, shows how we need to defend press freedom even in the



land of the First Amendment. Our lives, our health, our dignity depend on journalists doing their jobs well and holding those in power to account, at home and abroad. My background in journalism and human rights gives me the experience to help support the OPC when this community is more important than ever.

Pete Engardio

I am a senior writer for the Boston Consulting Group, where I specialize in global business topics. Previously, I was with BusinessWeek for 24 years, where in addition to five OPC awards and citations, I received George Polk, Loeb, Sigma Delta Chi, and other awards for my coverage of Asia and the global economy. In addition to the OPC, I have served on the board of the Hong Kong Foreign Correspondents Club and have contributed to successful OPC events on China and Hong Kong. I believe I can be an asset to this vital organization at a time when journalists on the front lines face extraordinary challenges.



Laurie Hays

I spent almost 35 years in journalism, starting out in New Orleans for a little afternoon newspaper called the States-Item, covering politics and crime in two southern-most parishes. In 1986 I joined The Wall Street Journal and before I knew it, I was headed to Moscow with my husband, Fen Montaigne, who was the Moscow bureau chief for the Philadelphia Inquirer. We were there almost four years covering the final years of Gorbachev which ended with a break-up of the Soviet Union and stories that you could not have made up. I never thought I would do anything so interesting again, but then came 9/11 and the 2008 financial meltdown. By then I was at Bloomberg overseeing global financial coverage of all the beat areas. Today I am at Edelman doing crisis communications strategy for companies that find themselves in the kinds of situations I used to write about and oversee. The OPC is an invaluable resource and more important than ever these days.



OPC Hosts Remembrance for Christopher Cickey

The OPC hosted an online gathering of more than 70 people on Sunday, July 19 to honor the memory of legendary foreign correspondent, former OPC Governor and longtime

member Christopher Dickey, who died in Paris last week at the age of 68.

Friends, family members and colleagues shared stories and emotional remembrances during the 2-hour gathering.

The OPC has also collected many written remembrances in a memorial page on the club's website. If you have any anecdotes or thoughts about Chris to share, please send them to info@opcofamerica.org and we will add them to the growing tribute.



[Read More](#)

New Resources for Covering COVID-19 and Protests

TRAINING AND GUIDELINES

The **National Association of Hispanic Journalists Los Angeles Chapter** is hosting a Zoom panel discussion on Thursday, July 23, at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time on mental health for journalists during the coronavirus pandemic. The discussion will also cover how journalists are handling the pandemic's devastating impact on the Latino community; the economic recession and financial crisis in many newsrooms; and the fight against racism. [Register here](#) .

The **National Press Club's Journalism Institute** will hold a program on July 25 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. Eastern Time on how to recruit, develop and advance diverse investigative journalism teams. The News Leaders Association is co-hosting the event. [Register here](#) .

The **National Press Club** is hosting an online panel with documentarian Ken Burns on July 27 at 1:00 p.m. He will discuss "context and perspective on the pandemic, protests and politics in America." The moderator will be Marvin Kalb. [Read more and find a link to the livestream here](#) .

The **Knight Foundation** is hosting a live weekly program called Discovery, a series of webinars that looks at “how the arts and artists build informed and engaged communities.” The next episode, titled “Meeting People Where They Are,” will be held on July 24 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time, and will feature Joy Bailey Bryant, vice president and managing director of Lord Cultural Resources. [Register here](#) .

GRANTS

The **Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Center for Business Journalism** is accepting applications for its Summer 2020 Fellowships through July 31. The Fellowship provides a grant of up to \$15,000 for each project. The exact amount will depend on the time it takes to complete the project and the expenses needed; freelance journalists may also use some of the funding as a stipend for living expenses during the Fellowship. [Apply here](#).

More Resources

- The **OPC** has invited freelance members to send a short pitch document, detailing their locations, specialty areas, and contact information. They have been collected in a Dropbox folder. We hope that editors will find this a useful tool when they need to find a journalist quickly in an overseas or U.S. locale. If you would like to gain access to this folder, please email patricia@opcofamerica.org. Read more about this networking tool on the [OPC website here](#).
- The **Columbia University’s Brown Institute for Media Innovation** has compiled a large repository of documents on COVID-19 via FOIA requests. [Explore the database here](#).
- **ACOS assembled** a substantial list of COVID-19 resources for journalists, including links to practical safety advice, funding opportunities, hardship and emergency funds, and reporting resources such as guides for fact checking.
- **ICFJ launched** a page for COVID-19 resources for journalists.
- **Rory Peck Trust** has a [resource page](#) for pandemic coverage. It includes safety guidelines, funding sources, job opportunities and online training

The OPC has added these links to a special COVID-19 section on the member-only [Resources](#) page available to members who have logged in. Watch that page as we share more. Click the button below to go directly, or find it in your Member Dashboard under "Resources."

If you have any issues accessing the resources page, please contact Chad Bouchard at chad@opcofamerica.org for credentials.

[OPC Resources Page](#)

People by Chad Bouchard

SCHOLARS

JoeBill Muñoz, Walter and Betsy Cronkite winner in 2018, was named a 2020 Sundance Ignite x Adobe Fellow. As part of the year-long program, his film, *Follow the Sun*, about migrant journeys across Mexico, will be shown at the Sundance Film Festival: London, which runs Aug. 7 to 9. Muñoz is currently an associate producer on a feature about global food, water, and land issues at The Center for Investigative Reporting, and the producer-writer on an independent feature about the California prison hunger strikes against indefinite solitary confinement. He has worked for FROMTLINE, the Investigative Reporting Program, and The Associated Press. Muñoz has an OPC Foundation fellowship with AP in Mexico City.

Annie Rosenthal, Sally Jacobsen Fellowship winner in 2020, has won the Wallace Prize for Non-Fiction writing at Yale University for her story, "The Squirrel Whisperer," about a New Haven resident who lives with and rescues squirrels. Rosenthal has an OPC Foundation fellowship with The Associated Press in Bogotá.

Jake Kincaid, 2020 Reuters Fellowship winner, landed his first byline as an intern at [the Miami Herald](#) this summer. Kincaid has an OPC Foundation fellowship with Reuters in Mexico City.

Genevieve Finn, 2020 Richard Pyle Scholarship winner, graduated from UCLA and is now a staff writer at The Malibu Times. She's been covering such stories as Robert De Niro's luxury sushi restaurant Nobu receiving millions of PPP funds and a nineteen-year-old catching a big shark off the pier. When countries open up again, Finn intends to do her OPC Foundation fellowship in The Associated Press bureau in Mexico City.

UPDATES

On July 23, OPC member **Christiane Amanpour**, CNN's chief international correspondent and a CPJ senior adviser, will testify before the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, better known as the Helsinki Commission, on threats to press freedom in the United States. She will join Courtney Radsch, advocacy director for the Committee to Protect Journalists. The hearing at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time [will be streamed via YouTube here](#).

OPC Governor **Josh Fine** produced a segment for HBO's Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel that aired on the cable network on Tuesday, July 21. In the piece, correspondent David Scott reports on health risks facing student-athletes and the NCAA's decision to not require universities provide any protections for the players. The series is available to stream on [HBO Max](#).

Masha Gessen, winner of the OPC's 2016 Best Commentary Award, wrote in [The New Yorker](#) about the specter of President Donald Trump rejecting the results of the 2020 election they are not in his favor. She reviews scenarios proposed by Lawrence Douglas in *Will He Go? Trump and the Looming Election Meltdown in 2020*. Gessen's new book, [Surviving Autocracy](#), was published in June and compares current events with that of her childhood in the Soviet Union,

as well as two decades covering the resurgence of totalitarianism in Russia.

MEDIA NEWS

Report for America, an initiative of The GroundTruth Project, [is a finalist](#) in a competition for a \$100 million grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation “to fund a bold solution to critical social challenges.” Report for America aims to eliminate American “news deserts” amid newsroom collapse and an industry hit hard by the pandemic. An article about the announcement, says that “before the COVID-19 outbreak, the number of journalists had fallen by 60 percent since 2000,” adding that “since COVID-19, over 50 local newsrooms across the country have closed, and 33,000 reporters have been laid off, furloughed or had their pay cut.

Press Freedom Update

Venezuelan police [charged](#) two journalists on July 13 under an “anti-hate” law that watchdogs say is being used as a tool to attack press freedom. **Otilio Rodríguez** of privately the owned radio station Pura Candela and **Nicmer Evans** of the news website Punto de Corte face up to 20 years in prison if convicted.

Belarusian police [detained](#) at least **17 journalists** covering protests in support of opposition candidates on July 14 and 15. On July 16, a court charged and convicted Danil Palyanski, a correspondent with the independent news website Pershiy Region, of “violation of procedure on mass gatherings,” and fined him about \$330 before his release. In June, Belarus police detained at least 14 journalists for allegedly participating in unsanctioned protests, and in May police detained five journalists covering opposition candidates

Press freedom advocates are calling for support for investigative journalists at the Polish weekly **Wprost** magazine, who were sentenced in a criminal trial in June 2014 for resisting prosecutors while they [searched](#) the magazine’s offices for tapes of conversations said to be embarrassing to politicians. An appeal of the court’s decision against Michał Lisiecki and Michał Majewski was filed in February this year and is currently underway.

