



Overseas Press Club
of America

Bulletin Aug. 5, 2021

Greetings!

As the fourth wave of COVID-19 unfolds around us, I'm getting inquiries about our Annual Awards Dinner. As of now, we still intend to hold an in-person dinner on Oct. 22 at Cipriani's on 25 Broadway. But we will follow New York City's indoor-dining rules, which now require every attendee to show proof of vaccination. We will also ask everyone to wear masks while not eating. Cipriani also has agreed to require its employees to wear masks as well as show proof of vaccination. We are excited about holding a live event once again but safety is paramount. Please spread the word.



The club is about to hold its annual election to fill open board seats. Scott Kraft, the OPC Vice President who ran the nominating committee this year along with Josh Fine, Azmat Khan, Marjorie Miller and Sandra Stevenson, explains the process in a note below. This year's election slate consists of 11 active members and 2 associate members. Voting is done online only; please be sure to cast your ballot by the noon Sept. 8 deadline.

In case you missed it, [on July 29](#) the U.S. State Department publicly criticized China's treatment of journalists. The statement expressed concern about the ongoing surveillance, harassment and intimidation of reporters and what this portends for coverage of the Beijing Winter Olympics in February 2022. As the State Department spokesman wrote, "Foreign

journalists are increasingly refused visas to enter or remain in the PRC, severely limiting the quantity and quality of independent reporting on important issues.”

This is a matter near and dear to our hearts at the OPC. [Back in May](#), we began a campaign to convince the International Olympic Committee to secure press freedom commitments from the Chinese government. More than two dozen journalism organizations have joined our effort, coming at a time when press freedoms are under growing pressure globally. See more on this important development below. In this issue of the Bulletin, you'll also find some entertaining and informative book reviews, news about your colleagues at home and abroad, and links to many valuable resources. Happy reading!

Paula Dwyer
OPC President

OPC Presents New Slate of Governors

by Scott Kraft

The OPC is delighted to introduce an exceptionally strong slate of new board members who will bring a wealth of experience, diversity and fresh skills to our talented and dedicated OPC leadership group.



The slate reflects the OPC's commitment to freelancers as well as to all forms of international storytelling – broadcast, photojournalism, online news and investigative, among others. They are future-thinking, passionate and accomplished professionals. And they represent a powerful mix of youth and experience that will enhance and complement the current board.

The nominating committee, which I was honored to chair, included Josh Fine, Azmat Khan, Marjorie Miller and Sandra Stevenson.

This year, the OPC is electing eleven (11) governors who are Active members and two (2) 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 Wednesday, Sept. 8 at noon, and the results will be announced at the online Annual Meeting on Sept. 9. 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.

Members who are eligible to vote, please watch for an email with your first ballot link tomorrow, Aug. 6. We will also send email reminders throughout the month.

2021 Election Slate

Active Members

J. David Ake

I'm asking for your vote for the Overseas Press Club (OPC) Board of Governors.

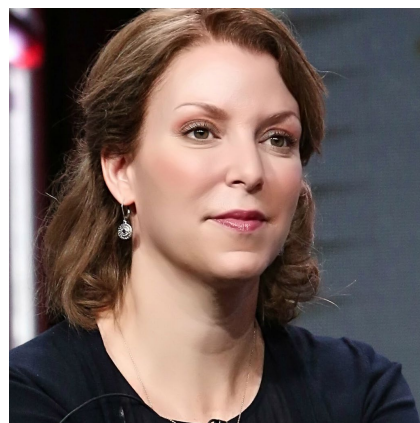
Freelance journalist support, training, and safety remain a top priority for me, and I am pleased that the OPC has been able to do so much, but there is more to do. I have been an OPC Governor for two years, and would like another turn on the board to continue those efforts.

I'm still the director of photography at The Associated Press and have recently added assistant managing editor to my title. Before joining the management ranks at AP, I spent many decades traveling the globe with my cameras for AP, Agence France-Presse, Reuters, and UPI. I'm still trying to snag an assignment to Antarctica, but that's another story.



Raney Aronson-Rath

International reporting holds a special, essential place in FRONTLINE's long history and its ongoing mission. As executive producer of the series, I believe it is more important than ever to be using our skills as investigative journalists and filmmakers to find and tell stories from abroad. At FRONTLINE, we have been doing this with increasingly diverse voices – in front of the cameras and behind them.



Under my leadership, FRONTLINE has been recognized with every major award in broadcast journalism, as well as two Oscar nominations. But among the most rewarding are the OPC awards because they continue to represent our shared commitment to overseas reporting and the range of journalists who do this hard work.

I look forward to helping the OPC support and expand diversity in international reporting, as well as continue emphasizing investigative, accountability journalism – especially needed now in the face of global threats and challenges to the free press.

Farnaz Fassihi

I am a reporter for The New York Times writing about Iran. Previously I was a senior writer and a war correspondent for 17 years at The Wall Street Journal based in the Middle East covering wars in

Afghanistan, Iraq, Israel, Gaza and Syria and uprisings from Iran to Turkey and the Arab Spring. From 2016 to 2019 I was part of the WSJ's national security team covering foreign policy and diplomacy based at the United Nations.



I have won more than a dozen journalism awards and was a recipient of an Ellis Island Award and a Nieman fellowship at Harvard. I am the author of a book on the Iraq war, *Waiting for An Ordinary Day*. I serve as a mentor to young female journalists through the Iranian American Women Foundation and volunteer at the Pardis Center for Children teaching Iranian-American kids about Iran's society and culture.

Charles Graeber

I'm an independent features writer for numerous magazines and newspapers, an executive producer for a Netflix documentary series, the author of two non-fiction books (The Breakthrough and The Good Nurse), and a former OPC prize winner (the Ed Cunningham Prize for International Journalism).



I'd be honored to serve another term as an OPC Governor, addressing the unique needs of independent journalists. Previously, I spearheaded the creation of the enhanced OPC Press ID's, knowing firsthand how valuable it was for freelancers like myself to have the benefit of official, bells-and-whistles press identification. I believe the OPC can still do more to help all journalists, staffers and otherwise, do their job safely and well.

Hendrik Hinzel

I am a senior field producer at VICE News, where over the past few years I have worked on documentaries about Iran's influence in Iraq, the resurgence of far-right movements in Europe, and the cyber security industry in Israel, among others. I grew up in Germany and prior to my time in the United States I lived in Egypt and Saudi Arabia, freelancing for German media outlets from the region.



I've been a member of the OPC since 2013 and served on the Board of

Governors for the past two years. During another term on the OPC Board of Governors, I hope to collaborate with newsrooms and outside organizations to bring more security trainings to freelancers and to create more opportunities for mentorships among OPC members.

Anup Kaphle

As the executive editor of Rest of World, I run a global newsroom that brings stories about technology and its consequences from the non-Western world. I've spent the past decade reporting and editing coverage from Asia, Africa and Europe. Since 2015, I've worked directly with freelancers and fixers in countries like Syria, Egypt, Myanmar and Mexico, and as a result, I'm intimately familiar with the lack of training many foreign freelancers face.



In the next year, I'd like to see the OPC extend its training initiatives to help local freelancers make effective connections between the country, the story and the readers. I'd also love to see a robust mentorship program for journalists of color, guiding them to become foreign correspondents and editors leading global coverage.

Derek Kravitz

I work on grant-funded initiatives through the Brown Institute for Media Innovation, a collaboration between Columbia and Stanford. I am also an instructor at the Columbia Journalism School's Stabile Center for Investigative Journalism, where I teach research and reporting skills. From 2016 to 2019, I was the research director at ProPublica, and, for the past decade, have worked as a reporter and editor at The Wall Street Journal, The Associated Press and The Washington Post. I have been a governor of the OPC for the past two years.



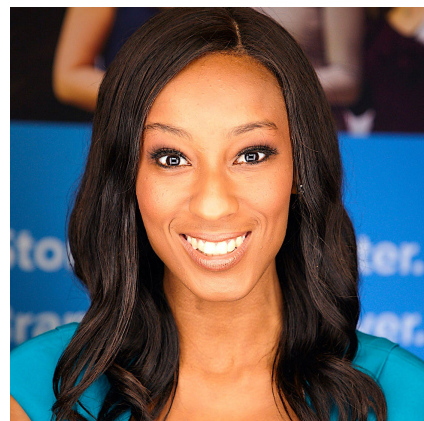
I am a two-time Livingston Award finalist — for work with The New Yorker and ProPublica — and projects I edited or reported have won prizes from the George Polk Awards, the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Awards, the Online News Association, Investigative Reporters and Editors and the Deadline Club. I have been a member of three teams that have been finalists for the Pulitzer Prize.

Melissa Noel

I am an award-winning journalist and content creator. I cover race, culture and travel for television and digital media. I am founder of a media consulting company, Mel & N Media and a

news and politics contributor to Essence.com.

Previously, I worked as television correspondent for One Caribbean Television/CBS News USVI, where I reported stories across the Caribbean, the U.S. and Canada.



My desire to see more consistent and equitable mainstream coverage of the Caribbean region and African diaspora is what inspired my work as an international correspondent.

Exploring more ways to expand diverse coverage and make integral contributions toward educating a new generation of journalists is why the opportunity to be a part of the Overseas Press Club is important to me.

Jodi Schneider

I'm political news director at Bloomberg News, based in New York. I returned to the U.S. in January from Hong Kong, and from January to June helped lead Bloomberg's coverage of the COVID-19 outbreak and the vaccination campaign.



From 2016-2020 I was based in Bloomberg's Hong Kong bureau, most recently as senior international editor, and regularly appeared on Bloomberg TV and radio discussing U.S. and international politics. In 2015-2016 I was based in Tokyo as an economics editor.

In 2019 and 2020, I had the honor of serving as president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club in Hong Kong. I was especially proud to be president of the FCC at a time when press freedom was under assault and worked with international media and press-freedom groups to help tell our story as it became more difficult to do so from Hong Kong.

On the OPC board I would focus on finding ways to help journalists in their struggle against threats to press freedom. I would also work to diversify our membership and especially speakers, and to seek a broad array of topics for speakers and discussions.

Ginger Thompson

I have spent much of my career reporting from Latin America. The daughter of an Army couple, I

am currently the chief of correspondents and a deputy managing editor at ProPublica. Previously, I reported for The New York Times and The Baltimore Sun.



I have won numerous awards, including the Chancellor Award, a Maria Moors Cabot Medal, and Polk and Peabody awards. I was part of a Pulitzer Prize-winning team at the Times for a series of stories about race in America and have twice been a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service, including for a ProPublica series of stories that forced the Trump administration to end its policy of separating undocumented immigrant children from their parents at the southern border. I am a member of the National Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Daniella Zalcman

I'm a Vietnamese-American documentary photographer based in New Orleans. My work focuses on the modern legacies of western colonization, from the rise of homophobia in East Africa to the coercive assimilation of Indigenous youth in North America. I'm also the founder and executive director of Women Photograph, a nonprofit working to elevate the voices of women and nonbinary visual journalists worldwide.



I'm thrilled to be joining the OPC board — after three years of serving as the lead juror for the OPC's photography awards and assisting this year in running the club's emergency grant program funded by the Ford Foundation, I've become deeply invested in the organization's reach and ability to both assist and highlight the work of a diverse range of international journalists.

Associate Members

Bill Collins

I am running for the OPC Board of Governors to support the club's mission as a center for all international journalists, past and present, and other professionals working in foreign affairs. The OPC is a home, whether virtual or in-person, where members working in international journalism can exchange thoughts, ideas and experiences.

I've been a board member several times and have



worked on committees for publicity, press freedom and membership. Looking forward to serving the OPC for another term.

Beth Knobel

I am an associate professor at Fordham University in New York City, teaching multi-platform journalism. Before joining the Fordham faculty, I spent 14 years working as a journalist based in Russia—most of it as Moscow Bureau Chief for CBS News, where I received Emmy, Murrow, and Sigma Delta Chi Awards for my work. I still freelance for CBS News and assist with its Russia coverage. I've also reported for the Los Angeles Times, The New York Times, and APTN, amongst others.



I serve as a trustee of the Columbia Daily Spectator and faculty advisor to Fordham's student newspaper, The Ram. I hope that my experience mentoring young reporters and my personal dedication to promoting an anti-racist agenda will be of service to the OPC.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept 9: OPC Annual Meeting

The OPC Annual Meeting, open to all members in good standing, will be held online on Thursday, Sept. 9 at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time via Zoom.

RSVPs are mandatory, as only members in good standing (who are up to date with dues payments) are eligible to be at the annual meeting.

Election for the 2021-2022 Board of Governors results will be announced at the meeting.

[RSVP Now](#)





Date and Time: October 22, 2021 | 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Place: Cipriani, 25 Broadway, New York City.

The OPC is moving forward on plans for the 2021 awards dinner on Friday, Oct. 22 at Cipriani 25 Broadway in lower Manhattan. It will be so wonderful to honor the winners and see our friends and colleagues in person once again. Mark your calendars now!

Click the button below to read more information and RSVP via the OPC website.

[RSVP Now](#)

U.S. State Department Expresses Concern over China's Treatment of Foreign Journalists

The deterioration in the treatment of foreign journalists in China has reached the point that it has triggered a statement of concern from the U.S. Department of State.

The United States is deeply concerned with the increasingly harsh surveillance, harassment and intimidation of U.S. and other foreign journalists in China, State Department spokesperson Ned Price said in a statement.

"The PRC (People's Republic of China) government claims to welcome foreign media and support their work, but its actions tell a different story," Mr. Price said. "Its harsh rhetoric, promoted through official state media, toward any news it perceives to be critical of PRC policies, has provoked negative public sentiment leading to tense, in-person confrontations and harassment, including online verbal abuse and death threats of journalists simply doing their jobs."

[Read More](#)

The OPC's Lowell Thomas Played an Early Role in Explaining Tibet to the World



Flanked by chrysanthemums and other flowers, the Dalai Lama poses for us on an outdoor throne. He is worshipped as the reincarnation of Chenrezi, God of Mercy. On the right stands Regent Tokra, who rules until His Holiness comes of age.

The following is another installment in a series of reviews by William J. Holstein of a collection of books that were donated anonymously to the OPC in April. Click the button below to read the full piece.

- *Out of This World: Across the Himalayas to Forbidden Tibet*, by Lowell Thomas Jr. Greystone Press, 1950.
- *Seven Years in Tibet*, by Heinrich Harrer, E.P. Dutton, 1954.
- *The Silent War in Tibet: The Unknown Story of the Most Remote and Romantic Nation in its Struggle Against the Modern Might of China*, by Lowell Thomas, Jr. Doubleday & Company, 1959.

These three books, which have recently come into the OPC's possession, demonstrate just how long the Chinese Communist Party has been trying to eliminate the culture, language and religion of Tibet.

Chronologically, the first of these authors to enter Tibet was Heinrich Harrer an Austrian mountaineer and a member of Germany's Nazi Party. As he and a team prepared to climb a mountain in Kashmir, World War II broke out and the British, then in control of India, captured him. He ended up in a British internment camp in India for five years before escaping and ending up penniless and in rags in Tibet

in 1944. Even though they barred most foreigners, the Tibetans received him and a fellow prisoner warmly.

[Read More](#)

War Stories From a Pro, with Lessons for Today's Journalists Covering Conflict

[Wait For Me: True Stories of War, Love and Rock & Roll](#) by Bill Gentile, June 2021.

by Peter Copeland

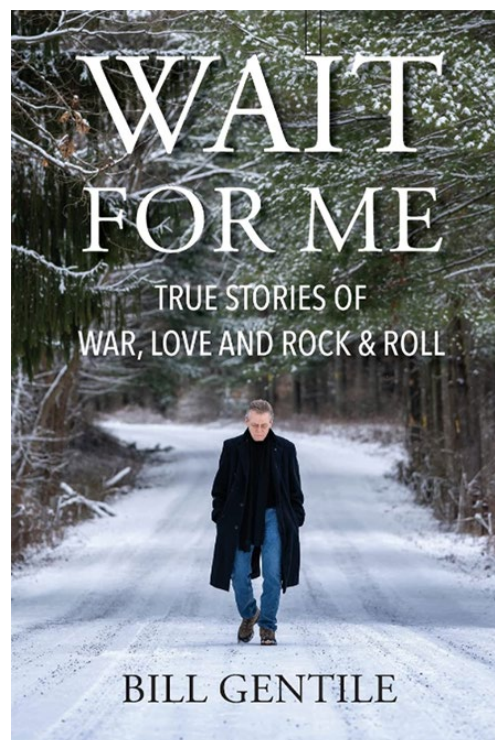
In his memoir about covering the wars in Central America during the 1980s, reporter and photographer Bill Gentile describes how journalists teamed up on dangerous stories.

"Especially when covering conflict, part of a journalist's job is to figure out who to work with," Gentile writes. "Who can I trust? Who can I depend on? If I get into a really hairy situation, who do I want at my side? Is it him? Or her? We make these decisions on the spur of the moment. At breakfast while listening to the latest radio report. In the afternoon on the side of a road while deciphering information from refugees fleeing combat in a nearby town."

One of his partners in Central America during the violent and bloody 1980s was John Hoagland. Perhaps surprisingly to an outsider, Gentile worked for the wire service UPI and Hoagland worked for the fiercely competing agency, The Associated Press. It was their shared values that brought them together as friends, despite their professional rivalry.

Gentile says that he and Hoagland joined forces against the better-paid "big dogs" in the journalism pack, and "because we were hungrier than wild animals and would do anything to get a picture..."

[Read More](#)



The IAPC Calls for More Decisive Steps

to Defend Journalists in Belarus

The International Association of Press Clubs (IAPC) is alarmed by yet another wave of repression directed at Belarusian independent media and appeals to those in power in Belarus to stop the purge and the attack on the freedom of speech. Journalism as a profession is being eliminated in Belarus. "Purging the media" is no longer merely a metaphor.

The Belarusian KGB, acting on the orders of the Lukashenka regime, has openly stated that "A large-scale operation is being carried out to purge radicals." Under the guise of this "purge", security forces attacked at least 12 media organisations all over Belarus on July 8-9th and continued on July 12th and 13th.

In this third wave of repression against independent media since August 2020, virtually all non-state journalists working in Belarus are designated as "radicals."

[Read More](#)

Welcome New Members

Daniela Rivera Antara

Columbia University
New York
Student

William Campbell

Photojournalist
Getty Images
Livingston, MT
Active Non-Resident

Nico Hines

World Editor
The Daily Beast
London
Active Overseas

Alex Spiess

Freelance
Filmmaker
New York
Active Resident, Young (29 or under)

Rebecca Wright

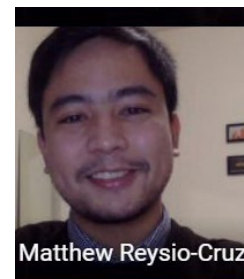
Sunday Correspondent
Television New Zealand
Auckland
Active Overseas

People by Chad Bouchard

SCHOLARS

Matthew Reysio-Cruz, the winner of the S&P Global Award for Economic and Business Reporting in 2021, has been named to the Pulitzer Center's Class of 2021 Post-Graduate Reporting Fellowship Program. He will report on the present-

day consequences of the U.S. "Secret War" on Laos and will investigate failures to assist the survivors of accidents involving leftover U.S. bombs.



Rose Gilbert, the 2021 Stan Swinton Scholarship winner, has a reporting internship with Tennessean covering Nashville and Middle Tennessee news. She [recently wrote](#) about how Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam and his wife are trying to ensure a future for the Tennessee Tutoring Corps, which they founded in the spring of 2020 to address summertime learning losses exacerbated by classroom closures during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Annie Todd, the winner of the 2020 S&P Global Award for Economic and Business Reporting, is now a breaking news and community reporter for Argus Leader Media in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She has been [covering the story](#) of Rosebud Sioux funeral ceremonies for the remains of Indigenous children whose bodies were uncovered at the Carlisle Indian Reform School in Carlisle, PA, and returned to their native tribal lands in South Dakota. In her winning essay for her OPC Foundation award, Annie wrote about a memorial in Sarajevo for victims of the 1995 massacre whose bodies were identified and moved to the Srebrenica-Potocari Memorial.



Dake Kang, the Fritz Beebe Fellowship winner in 2016, was the first Western reporter to get inside one of the largest detention centers in China, perhaps the world, in Xinjiang, home to the Uyghurs. He [recently wrote](#) for The Associated Press about the facility, which is twice the size of Vatican City and can hold at least 10,000 inmates, the AP estimates. Kang, an OPC Award winner this year, had an OPC Foundation fellowship with AP in Bangkok.



Valerie Hopkins, winner of the Jerry Flint Internship for International Business in 2013, [had her first page-one story](#) in The New York Times. She wrote about Svetlana Tikhanovskaya, who she described as an "unlikely pro-democracy leader from Belarus" now building what she called a "phalanx of Western opposition" from exile. Before recently joining the Times, Hopkins spent several years with the Financial Times in Budapest. She had an OPC Foundation fellowship in the Reuters bureau in Belgrade. Hopkins also recently co-wrote a piece for the Times [on Aug. 3](#) about an international scandal centering on Belarusian Olympic sprinter Kristina Timanovskaya, whose delegation forcibly tried to send her home after she criticized coaching staff on social media.



Simon Akam, the Emmanuel R. Freedman Scholarship winner in 2009, was recently [interviewed by the Guardian](#) regarding the problems he encountered when Penguin Random House (PHR) won the rights to publish his book, *The Changing of the Guard*. Later published by Scribe, the book is a critical study of the British army's time in Iraq and Afghanistan, and details the army's extensive efforts to shut down criticism directed at it. Akam recalled how PHR made unreasonable demands.



Calling it "a terrifying precedent," he described a situation in which a publisher could make exceptional demands of investigative journalists, including making writers submit their books to their sources for approval, effectively allowing them to edit themselves – and claim the writer has broken their contract if they refuse to do so. Akam had an OPC Foundation fellowship in the Reuters bureau in Istanbul.

Maria Repnikova, the Alexander Kendrick Scholarship winner in 2009, was [interviewed by The Washington Post](#) on ways China is trying to influence other countries' governing models. A political scientist and communication scholar at Georgia State University, Repnikova has written a new book on Chinese soft power that will be published soon, and she is completing a longer manuscript on Chinese soft power in Africa, with a focus on Ethiopia.



Ben Hubbard, the Stan Swinton Scholarship winner in 2007, was one of two New York Times reporters [targeted for hacking](#) by Pegasus, the Israeli spyware maker. Now the Times bureau chief in Beirut, Hubbard was also a target of attempted hacking in 2018 by an operator linked to Saudi Arabia after he investigated rights abuses and corruption in that country. He also wrote a recent [biography](#) of the Saudi crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman. Hubbard had an OPC Foundation fellowship in the Associated Press bureau in Jerusalem.



UPDATES

Leslie Topping, daughter of **Seymour Topping**, a longtime OPC member who died last November at age 98, shared [an archival film](#) of her father that she recently discovered on Archive.org. In the 1970 video, University of Southern California, Berkeley professor Andrew Stern interviews Topping about his work for The New York Times as part of a series for the university's journalism school. He talks about the paper's national influence and editorial decisions about domestic and international coverage. The video has been added to the OPC's [remembrance page for Topping here](#).

A VICE News story by OPC member **Amanda Sperber** surrounding the toll on survivors of civilian victims from U.S. airstrikes in Somalia [sent ripples](#) to Washington last month. For her piece on July 22, she spoke with three of the four families of casualties that the U.S. has taken responsibility for

during 14 years of airstrikes that started in 2007. The day after it was published, Minnesota Congresswoman Ilhan Omar [cited the story](#) in a letter to U.S. President Joseph Biden. The letter, as reported by The Intercept, said the administration had failed to make reparations promised to the families, and challenged the administration's justification for its airstrike on Somalia in July, the first since Biden took office. The Pentagon claimed that attack targeted suspected members of al-Shabab.



OPC Governor **Vivienne Walt** wrote about the ups and downs of the International Olympic Committee's Refugee Olympic Team for TIME magazine [on July 8](#). The first IOC refugee team competed in the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. This year the team had 29 members, nearly three times as many as in 2016. But Walt wrote that some athletes struggled with expectations, tensions over their training, and "dissatisfaction with a system that, to them, appeared to deny them opportunities to create lives outside the program." Six of the refugee team's strongest athletes quit the program from 2017 to 2019.



OPC member **Abigail Pesta** [wrote a tribute](#) for Olympic gymnast Simone Biles for TIME magazine's commemorative issue on the games, chronicling how Biles survived trauma of abuse by Olympic doctor Larry Nassar, and highlighting the "profound disappointment in the organizations that failed to protect her, all while training in the isolation and uncertainty of a pandemic." Pesta is author of [The Girls: An All-American Town, a Predatory Doctor, and the Untold Story of the Gymnasts Who Brought Him Down](#).



OPC member **John Daniszewski**, the vice president and editor-at-large for standards for The Associated Press, was [elected co-chair](#) of the Pulitzer Prize board. He will serve with Katherine Boo, a Washington, D.C.-based author and journalist, and Gail Collins, opinion columnist for The New York Times.

In [a July 5 piece](#) for The New York Times, OPC Governor **Farnaz Fassihi** wrote about a brutal murder case that has gripped Iran, in which an Iranian couple confessed to killing their son, daughter and son-in-law over the course of a decade. She wrote that the parents, 81-year-old retired army colonel Akbar Khorramdin, and his wife, 74-year-old Iran Mousavi, do not appear remorseful. Khorramdin stated in a television interview from jail that he "killed people who were very morally corrupt." Fassihi wrote about the case's wider context as the country grapples with generational conflict over traditional values, so-called honor killings and calls to reform the country's penal code, which exempts fathers and grandfathers from the death penalty in murder charges against their own children or wards, with a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

The online news magazine Discourse has gained a footing during the last half year under the editorial leadership of OPC member **John Koppisch**. Stories published over the last month have covered [healthcare and COVID-19](#), [the legacy of James Balwin](#), news media's [relationship with advertisers and consumers](#), [Critical Race Theory](#) and [mainland Chinese identity in Hong Kong](#). Discourse launched late last year and focuses on economics, politics and society. It is published by the Mercatus Center at George Mason University. Koppisch, a longtime business journalist, was named assistant managing editor of Discourse in December 2020. Previously, he was a senior editor at the Asia edition of Forbes magazine for 13 years after stints at BusinessWeek magazine, the Asian edition of The Wall Street Journal and the Financial Mail in South Africa. He spent 12 years abroad, in Johannesburg and Hong Kong.



Freelance photographer **Adriana Zehbrauskas**, who spoke on an OPC panel in September 2016, was named a recipient of a 2021 Maria Moors Cabot Prize for outstanding reporting on the Americas [on July 21](#). This year for the first time all of the Cabot Prize winners are women. Zehbrauskas, a U.S.-based Brazilian photojournalist and documentary photographer, was honored for “illuminating portraits of people in desperate circumstances” showing intimacy and empathy and greatly contributing “to our understanding of the Americas.” She participated in an OPC panel with three other accomplished female photojournalists at the Columbia Journalism School in 2016. Read a recap and [watch an archive video of that program here](#). She also wrote an article for the OPC's [Dateline magazine in 2019](#) about her project to photograph family members of missing students in the Mexican state of Guerrero. Other Cabot Prize winners this year are Adela Navarro Bello, director of ZETA in Mexico; Mary Beth Sheridan, correspondent at The Washington Post; and Eliane Brum, an independent journalist in Brazil.

The International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) [on Aug. 4](#) named **Sharon Moshavi** as the organization's next president. Effective Sept. 7, Moshavi will replace Joyce Barnathan, who is retiring after more than 15 years in that post. She is currently serving as ICFJ's senior vice president of new initiatives, and according to a release she has “played a pivotal role in the organization's tremendous growth and impact during a time of both massive upheaval and new opportunities for news media across the globe.” Barnathan announced her retirement in early 2020 but remained to help the organization during the COVID-19 pandemic.

PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Danish Siddiqui, a Reuters photojournalist who won a Pulitzer Prize in 2018 and a 2017 OPC Citation for Excellence, was killed in Afghanistan in mid-July while covering clashes between Afghan forces and the Taliban. He was 38. Siddiqui was an Indian national and Reuters staff journalist. He was embedded with members of Afghanistan's elite special forces in the former Taliban command center of Kandahar. Siddiqui was killed when the soldiers came under Taliban fire during a mission retake a border district near Pakistan. He had been a Reuters journalist



since 2010 and covered events across Europe, Asia and the Middle East, including wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. He shared his 2017 OPC citation with a Reuters team for their coverage of the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar.

People Column Aug. 5

New Resources

RESOURCES

The **A Culture of Safety (ACOS) Alliance** has posted a list of [legal assistance resources](#) with links to organizations that provide advice, support and legal assistance to freelance journalists globally.

The **Journalist's Resource** website has posted a primer covering five of the most common research designs for journalists who read and cover academic research. [Read the article here](#). The site has also posted a tipsheet on how to cover COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy, [which you can read here](#).

The **Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma** has published a style guide for trauma-informed journalism. The article, by Dart Center executive director Bruce Shapiro, is “designed as a quick, authoritative reference for reporters, editors and producers working on tight deadlines.” [Read the piece here](#).

TRAINING AND PROGRAMS

The **International Center for Journalists (ICFJ)** will hold its 2021 Tribute to Journalists to celebrate the [2021 award winners](#) on Nov. 9. The program will honor Bill Whitaker of CBS News “60 Minutes” and Anne Applebaum of The Atlantic. This year’s [ICFJ Knight International Journalism Award winners](#) are Brazilian fact-checker Natália Leal of Agência Lupa and Czech investigative journalist Pavla Holcová. [Read more](#).

On Aug. 2, the **Foreign Press Association (FPA)** hosted an online discussion about protests against the Tokyo Olympics and a documentary covering calls for the end of nuclear power and weapons. The panel included Vanda Proskova, leader of Youth Fusion and a graduate student in international law who is active on nuclear issues, and Alyn Ware, an activist and coordinator of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament and co-founder of the Global Campaign for Peace Education. [Watch the discussion here](#).

On July 13, the **FPA** hosted a discussion with OPC Past President Bill Holstein and American space policy expert Greg Autry about the implications of the new space race with China. Holstein argued that China’s successes reveal gains in core technologies such as long-distance communications. Autry is author of the book *Death by China*. [Watch the discussion here](#).

On July 16, the **International Journalists' Network (IJNet)** hosted a webinar on reporting on the Delta variant of COVID-19, with three world experts who discuss a variety of issues surrounding the coronavirus, its spread, and the efficacy of safety measures. [Watch the video here](#). IJNet also hosted a webinar about science reporting [on July 22](#) and a webinar on malnutrition and public policy [on July 21](#).

On June 16, Silicon Dragon Ventures hosted an online Q&A with Paul Holland and Nicolas Sauvage of the company TDK Ventures, a venture capital operation. The interviewer was Silicon Dragon founder and OPC member **Rebecca Fannin**. The video is part of a series of interviews about venture capital. [Watch the video here](#). Silicon Dragon will host an online event centered on Hong Kong on Nov. 3 at 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time and another event on Jan. 6 at the same time. [Subscribe to a newsletter to read more here](#).

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Investigative Reporters and Editors (IRE) is offering an IRE Journalist of Color Investigative Reporting Fellowship for U.S. journalists of color who want to improve their investigative skills. The year-long program provides assistance to attend a Data Journalism Bootcamp, the NICAR Conference, the IRE Conference and more. The deadline to apply is Oct. 11. [Read more and apply here](#).

More Resources

- **First Draft** has been hosting a series of presentations on COVID-19 for journalists, and you can browse the archives [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](#)

