



Overseas Press Club
of America

Bulletin Feb. 11, 2022

Greetings!

This week's Bulletin features a [Save the Date reminder](#) for the April 21 Annual Awards Dinner, and:

- Remembrances of [OPC Past President John Corporon](#).
- A recap of our Feb. 3 [“How I did It” program with Nadja Drost](#).
- The OPC’s call for the release of [journalist Fahad Shah](#).
- The Foreign Correspondents' Club of China (FCCC) [report on working conditions for journalists in China](#).
- RSVP for upcoming programs, including a book night [on Feb. 16 with OPC member Mark Clifford](#) to discuss *Today Hong Kong, Tomorrow The World*, and a book night [on March 3 with OPC member Peter S. Goodman](#) to discuss *Davos Man: How the Billionaires Devoured the World*.

Plus, member news and journalist resources to check out below.





DATE: April 21, 2022

LOCATION: Cipriani, 25 Broadway, New York City

Please join the OPC on April 21 for the 83rd Annual Awards Dinner to celebrate international journalism.

The keynote speaker will be Lulu Garcia-Navarro, Host, NYT Opinion.

A cocktail reception, sponsored by Reuters, will begin at 6:00 p.m. The dinner and program will start at 7:00 p.m., featuring acceptance videos from this year's winners in 22 award categories.

You can pay by credit card after clicking on the image or RSVP button below, or send checks to the OPC at 40 West 45th Street, New York, NY 10036.

Please follow us on Twitter [@opcofamerica](https://twitter.com/opcofamerica) and tweet using #OPCAwards83.

[RSVP Now](#)

People Remembered: OPC Past President John Corporon

The OPC is saddened by the passing of OPC Past President President John Corporon on Friday, Feb. 4 at the age of 92. "Jack," as he was called, had been suffering a variety of health ailments for months, in particular arthritis. He was predeceased by his wife, Harriet. Both from Kansas, they were married for 63 years. There will be no memorial service or wake, his son, David, told former OPC Executive Director Sonya Fry, who like the



Corporons lives on Tenth Street in Park Slope, Brooklyn.

[A full obituary can be found here.](#)

Click the button below to read reflections on his life and career from OPC Past President Bill Holstein and former OPC Executive Director Sonya Fry.

[Read More](#)

Nadja Drost Discusses Reporting On Migrants Crossing The Darien Gap With Editor Kit Rachlis

by Chad Bouchard

While living in Colombia for about a decade, award-winning journalist and documentary filmmaker Nadja Drost heard many accounts of a treacherous route that migrants from all around the world used to cross over the mountains into Panama en route to the U.S. For about two years she heard that traffic on this route was increasing. Drost started to gather string for a story. Unbeknownst to her, thousands of miles away California Sunday Magazine editor Kit Rachlis had been looking for someone to cover the same story. Drost pitched a longform story to Rachlis, who quickly accepted, and the two began to plan and shape a piece that would go on to win many awards.

For an OPC program on Feb. 3, Drost and Rachlis discussed the process of reporting, strategy, ethics, and building trust with sources to cover the journey of migrants from around the world who traverse the Darien Gap, a swathe of mountainous jungle straddling the Colombia-Panama border. The story, titled [“When Can We Really Rest?”](#) went on to win the Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing, as well as first place for Magazine Feature Writing from the National Headliner Awards, the One World Media Refugee Reporting Award, and Honorable Mention from the James Foley Medill Medal for Courage in Journalism.

The program marked the launch of the OPC’s new series “How I Did It,” which pairs freelance journalists with their editors or producers.

[Read the Full Recap on the OPC Website](#)



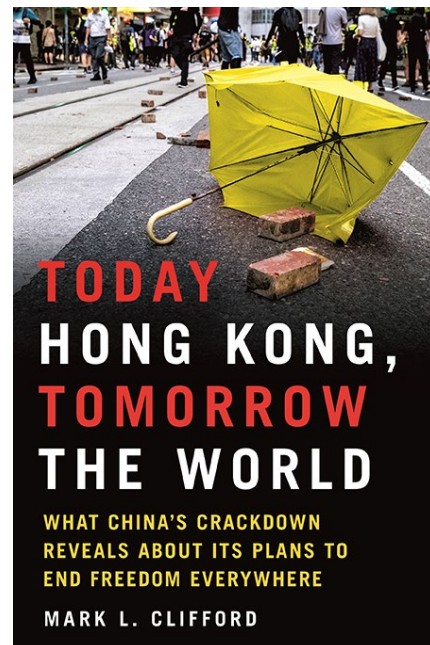
UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 16: Book Night With Mark Clifford To Discuss 'Today Hong Kong, Tomorrow The World'

Time: 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Place: Online via Zoom

OPC member **Mark Clifford** argues in his new book that China's repressive tactics in Hong Kong are a playbook for other repressive regimes, serving as what he called a "blueprint for the sorts of tactics that China is increasingly wielding against democratic societies around the globe."



Join the OPC for a Book Night on Feb. 16 to discuss *Today Hong Kong, Tomorrow the World: What China's Crackdown Reveals About Its Plans to End Freedom Everywhere*.

The moderator will be OPC Governor **Jodi Schneider**, political news director at Bloomberg News.

[The book is available for purchase here.](#)

Registrants will receive a link to join the Zoom call about an hour before the program.

Clifford is currently the director of the Committee for Freedom in Hong Kong. He holds a PhD in history from the University of Hong Kong. An honors history graduate of the University of California Berkeley and a Walter Bagehot Fellow at Columbia University, he lived in Asia from 1987 until 2021. Previously, Clifford was executive director of the Hong Kong-based Asia Business Council, the editor-in-chief of the South China Morning Post (Hong Kong), and publisher and editor-in-chief of The Standard (Hong Kong). He held senior editorial positions at BusinessWeek and the Far Eastern Economic Review in Hong Kong and Seoul and has received numerous prizes and awards for his books and journalism.

RSVP Now



March 3: Book Night With Peter S. Goodman To Discuss 'Davos Man'

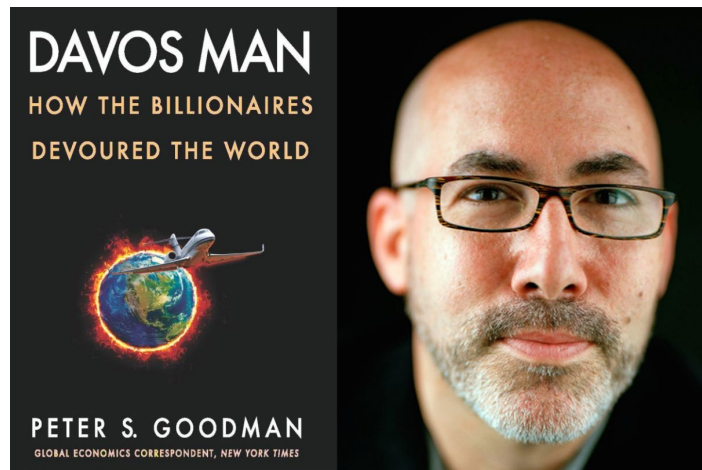
Time: 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Place: Online via Zoom

Join the OPC for a Book Night

with **Peter S. Goodman**, former OPC governor and longtime business reporter at the New York Times, to discuss his new book, *Davos Man: How the Billionaires Devoured the World*. The

book, published by Custom House on Jan. 18, profiles five representative "Davos Men," members of the billionaire class, chronicling how their exploitation of the global pandemic has hastened a fifty-year trend of wealth centralization.



OPC President **Paula Dwyer** will moderate.

[The book is available for purchase here >>](#)

RSVP Now

Non-OPC Events

Feb. 15: A Master Class in Investigative Reporting from the AP's 'Fruits of Labor' Team

Time: 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Place: Online via Zoom

After two years of relentless reporting, the AP's Margie Mason and Robin McDowell delivered a powerful three-part series, [Fruits of Labor](#), on the abusive practices of the international palm oil industry. The series was a Pulitzer finalist and won nearly a dozen major awards, including the OPC's Joe and Laurie Dine Award in 2020. Mason and McDowell showed how the everyday products we use, from soaps and lipstick to peanut butter and Girl Scout cookies, are produced at the expense of enslaved and abused workers, including children who are forced into labor and women facing violence.



Join the Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism at CUNY to learn from these two reporters how they found sources and chased leads to get to the truth. Ron Nixon, the AP's global investigations editor, will open with a brief discussion of the challenges of investigative reporting in the current media environment. The panel will be moderated by Jane Sasseen, executive director of the [McGraw Center for Business Journalism](#), which supported the AP project.

[RSVP Now](#)

OPC Calls for Release of Kashmir Journalist Fahad Shah

The OPC stands with other organizations in calling for the immediate release of journalist Fahad Shah, who according to news reports was arrested in the southern Kashmiri city of Pulwama last week. Shah is editor of the news portal The Kashmir Walla.

Shah, according to news reports and the Committee to Protect Journalists, which is also calling for his unconditional release, is being investigated for alleged sedition and making statements causing public mischief, which are crimes under Indian law. He is also charged with unlawful activities under the anti-terror Unlawful Activities Protection Act.

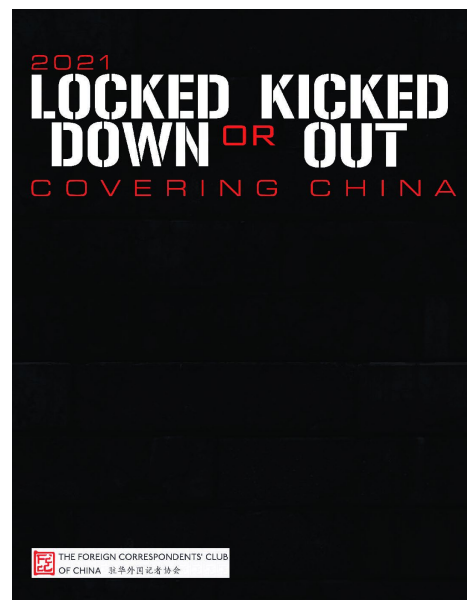
[Read More](#)

Foreign Correspondents in China Face Unprecedented Hurdles

The Foreign Correspondents' Club of China's (FCCC) latest working conditions report finds the foreign press corps is facing unprecedented hurdles covering China as a result of the government's efforts to block and discredit independent reporting.

[Read the full report here >>](#)

As the number of journalists forced out by the Chinese state grows, covering China is increasingly becoming an exercise in remote reporting. With China pulling out all the stops



for the Olympic Games, the FCCC is troubled by the breakneck speed by which media freedom is declining in China.

[Read More](#)

Welcome New Member

Kalpana Jain

Freelance

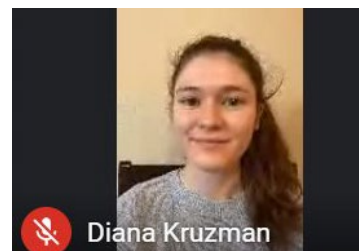
Cambridge, MA

Active Non-Resident

People by Chad Bouchard

SCHOLARS

Diana Kruzman, the recipient of the 2021 Harper's Magazine Award in memory of I.F. Stone, was named Midwest Fellow at Grist, a nonprofit independent media organization dedicated to telling stories of climate solution and justice. She will spend the next six months based in Columbus OH focusing on environmental stories of all kinds in the region. She was most recently a fellow with Religion News Service and the Religion and Environmental Story Project.



Meena Venkataramanan, winner of the Emanuel R. Freedman Scholarship in 2021, wrote a [book review](#) for the Los Angeles Times about *Fiona and Jane* by Jean Chen Ho. The debut novel is a collection of linked short stories, spans 30 years of friendship between two Taiwanese American women from L.A.



“Story by story, the book captures the way friendships negotiate their own boundaries, at times dissolving unexpectedly and at others flourishing into something more, even if just fleetingly,” Venkataramanan wrote.

Leticia Duarte, the Harper's Magazine Scholarship winner in 2019, is joining Report for the World as a country manager for Brazil. In this role, she'll be working with partner newsrooms InfoAmazonia and Marco Zero to support and bring their reporting to a larger audience. Duarte had an OPC Foundation fellowship with the GroundTruth Project and was subsequently named a GroundTruth Global Fellow for Democracy Undone, a reporting initiative covering the rise of authoritarianism around the globe. She is the author of *Vaza Jato* (2020), in partnership with The Intercept Brazil, about the investigation by The Intercept that exposed wrongdoings inside the so-called anti-corruption Operation Car Wash. The book was a finalist for the acclaimed 2021 Jabuti Prize, the highest literary award in Brazil. She has contributed to multiple media outlets, including The Atlantic, The New Yorker, and Revista Piauí. For 13 years, she worked as an investigative reporter for Zero Hora, the leading newspaper in Southern Brazil. She received major national journalism awards, including the Esso Prize for best reporting and the Vladimir Herzog Human Rights Award, for her feature *A Son of the Streets*, a 3-year-investigation on a Brazilian homeless child trajectory.



Elizabeth Barchas Prelogar, the 2006 Flora Lewis Fellowship winner, was recently confirmed as the 48th Solicitor General of the United States and serves as the fourth-ranking individual at the Department of Justice. As Solicitor General, she is responsible for conducting and supervising all Supreme Court litigation on behalf of the United States. After graduating from Harvard Law School, she clerked for several Supreme Court justices and served on the special counsel investigation with Robert Mueller in 2016-2018.

UPDATES

OPC member **Minky Worden** has appeared on several news programs to discuss human rights concerns surrounding the Winter Olympics in Beijing. Worden, director of global initiatives at Human Rights Watch, appeared on C-SPAN's Washington Journal [on Feb. 5](#) and discussed human right abuses that she said have been “masked” by China's Olympic efforts since the Beijing Summer Olympics in 2008 that have included arrests of journalists and activists, worker rights violations, surveillance and abuses of Uyghur groups, among others. On ESPN's Outside the Lines [on Feb. 8](#), she said that by approving China's hosting of the games, International Olympic Committee was sending a message that it is



possible to hold a successful Olympics without protections for human rights for athletes or journalists, “and against a backdrop of crimes against humanity and Xinjiang, repression in Hong Kong and Tibet, and the silencing of Chinese athletes like Peng Shuai,” the Chinese tennis player who [disappeared](#) from public view in early November after a public allegation of sexual assault against a retired top official in China’s Communist Party. Worden also appeared on PBS Newshour [on Feb. 8](#), with comments about how China has used the games to “[sportswash](#),” covering abuses and projecting a positive image to the rest of the world. Worden is author of *China’s Great Leap: The Beijing Games and Olympian Human Rights* about the 2008 summer games.

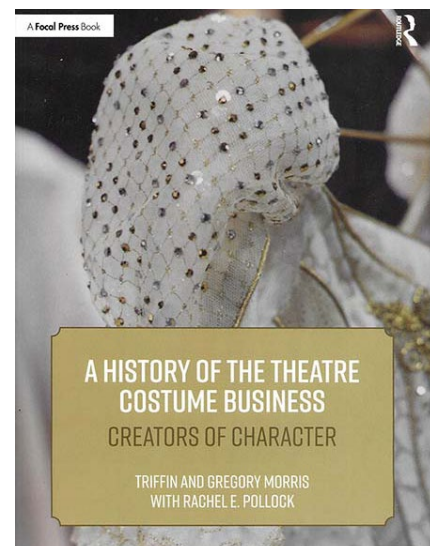
OPC Governor **Beth Knobel** wrote a piece for the Columbia Journalism Review [on Jan. 31](#) about Russian spies tailing and monitoring foreign journalists long after the fall of the Soviet Union, including during own stint as Moscow bureau chief for CBS News from 1999 to 2006. She wrote that an article in January by Russian journalist and author Andrei Soldatov indicated that according to secret documents, someone inside the CBS Moscow bureau was reporting on their activities.



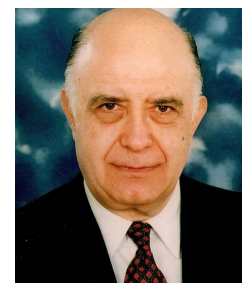
Russian counter-intelligence operatives presented a letter to Vladimir Putin about one of the news agency’s investigations into aftermath from a terrorist attack at Moscow’s Dubrovka Theater, Knobel wrote.

One of the recipients of the OPC’s grants for Afghan journalists in the U.S., **Khushnood Nabizada**, shared [a Jan. 29 piece](#) in the Richmond Times-Dispatch with the OPC recounting his family’s flight from the Taliban last summer and their efforts to rebuild a life in Virginia. “As the plane carried us away from Afghanistan last August, the feelings washed over me: Relief, dread, déjà vu,” Nabizada wrote. “My family was safe. My country was not.” The Taliban had previously forced him to flee his home 23 years ago. Nabizada, who formerly worked for the Khaama Press, was one of 15 Afghan journalists now in the U.S. who each received \$2,000 grants from the OPC to help them adapt to new lives in America.

Second-generation OPC member **Gregory DL Morris**, along with his wife and a colleague, have written a book on the history of the theater-costume business. [A History of the Theatre Costume Business: Creators of Character](#) distills more than a decade of reporting and follows the growth and evolution of the industry in the U.S. and Europe, with dozens of first-hand interviews and extensive archival research. Morris is an independent business journalist who has reported from around the world. His wife Triffin made Tony-Award winning costumes on Broadway over a 20-year career, and is now head of the graduate costume technology program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Co-author Rachel E. Pollock has been a craftsperson on Broadway and regional theater around the country. The Taylor & Francis Group has released it under the Routledge imprint.



Past OPC member **Elias P. Demetracopoulos**, who was a correspondent for papers including Kathimerini, Makedonia, The Athens Daily Post and the International Herald Tribune, died in 2016 and is now the subject of a new biography by James H. Barron. [*The Greek Connection: The Life of Elias Demetracopoulos and the Untold Story of Watergate*](#) follows Demetracopoulos' storied life and career, including his childhood in Athens and resistance efforts against Nazis, covering Greek domestic politics as investigative journalist, his flight to Washington, DC during the 1967 takeover by the authoritarian Greek junta, and discovery of an illegal money transfer from the Greek CIA to the 1968 Nixon campaign.



PEOPLE REMEMBERED

John Vinocur, a former foreign correspondent for The New York Times and The Associated Press who later became executive editor of The International Herald Tribune, died [on Feb. 6](#) in Amsterdam at the age of 81. Vinocur's career spanned some of the biggest stories of the 20th century, including the war in Cambodia, the hostage crisis at the 1972 Munich Olympics, the civil war in Nigeria, and the championship fight between Muhammad Ali and George Foreman in Zaire in 1974. Vinocur won the George Polk Award for Magazine Reporting for a story titled "A Republic of Fear: 30 Years of General Stroessner's Paraguay," which appeared in The Times's Sunday magazine in 1984. In 2008, he was named a chevalier of the French Legion of Honor by President Nicolas Sarkozy.

People Column Feb. 11

New Resources

TRAINING AND PROGRAMS

VICE Media is offering free spots for freelance journalists to attend their upcoming Media Safety Training in Los Angeles from MARCH 15 to 17. The course includes: situational awareness, first aid techniques and kit, identity and gender dynamics, safety awareness, stress recognition and resiliency tactics, risk assessment & operational planning for high risk activities, infosec planning & awareness, authority management & de-escalation, protests/riots/hostile crowds, reaction to an incident, field & protective kit training, and natural disaster reporting (including wildfire). The deadline to apply is Feb. 24. [Read more and apply here.](#)

Registration is open for the **Investigative Reporters and Editors (IRE)** annual data journalism conference from March 3 to 6. The conference, from an IRE program known as the National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting (NICAR), will be held as a hybrid of online and in-person events in Atlanta, Georgia. It will include classes, lectures and workshops to sharpen computer-

assisted reporting skills and keep current with developments in digital journalism. [Read more and register here.](#)

The International Journalists' Network (IJNet) has posted a recording of its webinar from Feb. 3 on vaccine equity and implications for global health. Panelists were four science journalists: Madhukar Pai, professor and Canada Research Chair in epidemiology and global health at McGill University who also serves as editor-in-chief of PLOS Global Public Health; Priti Krishtel, a health justice lawyer and co-founder of I-MAK; Ifeanyi Nsofor, senior vice president for Africa at the Human Health Education and Research Foundation; and Bassey Ebenso, a researcher and lecturer in international public health at the School of Medicine, University of Leeds. [Watch the video here.](#)

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Applications are open for the **Public Voices Fellowship on the Climate Crisis**, a year-long initiative to “accelerate the ideas and impact of 20 new and necessary thought leaders working at the intersection of climate change, environmental communication, and social justice.” The deadline to apply is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Feb. 14. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The **Ida B. Wells Society for Investigative Reporting** has announced an expansion of its investigative internship program this summer, “offering watchdog journalism skills-building with some of the country’s top newsrooms.” The deadline to apply is March 4. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The **BBC** is offering a program titled **Journalism Apprenticeship Advanced**, two years of expert training for people “already demonstrating journalistic potential and looking to develop advanced journalism skills.” Apply by Feb 14. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) is calling for applicants for the Edward R. Murrow Press Fellowship. The recipient will spend ten months full time in residence at CFR’s headquarters in New York. The deadline to apply is March 1. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting is seeking applications for “innovative data-driven journalism projects that spotlight underreported issues.” The center states that the most important part of the submission is a 250-word summary and the methodology. The deadline is rolling. [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

