



REUTERS INSTITUTE for the STUDY of JOURNALISM

Annual Report 2007 – 2008





Introduction

The focus of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (RIS) is the global comparative study of journalism. The Institute brings together academics and practising journalists to share their perspectives on the critical issues facing journalism across the world. It is based on the principle that the understanding of modern politics and international relations, of business and of cultures, requires an appreciation of the role and impact of the media on decision-making and public perception.

The Institute explores and debates the practice and principles of journalism in an online age where the economic models of news-gathering have fundamentally altered, and where the role of journalists, their relationship with their public and with governmental authority, have become increasingly unclear. Though a proportion of the work of the Institute deals with matters of immediate concern in the United Kingdom, most projects include a comparative aspect in order to bring an added perspective to the subject.

The Institute's objectives are: to publish authoritative, timely research; to develop the Thomson Reuters Foundation Fellowship Programme of Journalist Fellows from across the world; to be a centre for public discussion; and to combine the knowledge of professional journalists with the more critically distanced judgements of academics.

Part of the University of Oxford, with its core funding from the Thomson Reuters Foundation, the Institute has a particular role in connecting studies in journalism to the authority and expertise of world-class academics in the sciences, humanities and social sciences. The perspective of philosophers, of scientists in the medical and physical and life sciences, of geographers, economists, lawyers and historians are brought to bear on issues of journalist ethics, media business models, public trust and the interrelationship of media, government and society. Reciprocally, academics can benefit from a greater understanding of how their discoveries and ideas are mediated into the wider public conversation.

Many of the Institute's individual projects return to a central agenda: what will be the basis on which citizens can make informed choices in the online age and what are the implications of digital communications for institutional authority and democratic engagement? What is the definition of worthwhile journalism in a world where global communications and global markets are forcing new questions of political and cultural identity?

At the heart of the Institute is the long-standing Thomson Reuters Foundation Fellowship Programme of visiting journalists now in its 25th year, based at Green College. Generous benefactors, old and new, ensure that there is a wide range of funding for our fellows. Last year, 18 fellows came to Oxford. Next year, thanks to new benefactors, there will be more.

We now have two weekly seminar series in Oxford. Thirty-nine journalists, policy-makers and academics were invited in the course of 2007/8. In partnership with other public policy think tanks, Reuters Institute Research Fellows have organised and contributed to conferences and symposia in the UK, Europe and the United States.



The Institute has established a programme of branded research studies, 'Challenges', which will be published from September 2008 onwards. It is undertaking, with the support of The Ax:son Johnson Foundation, a long-term comparative study of European journalism. Commissioned by Ofcom, the Institute published a collection of essays on plurality in public service broadcasting in the UK, the USA and Europe and led a series of debates on its future in the United Kingdom and in Europe.

In the course of the year, Dr Sarmila Bose, Director of the Institute for the past two years, was appointed to the post of Senior Research Fellow in the Politics of South Asia in the Department of Politics and International Relations and so stepped down at the end of April.

The year ahead

In the coming year:

- Dr David Levy, former BBC journalist, programme editor and Head of Public Policy at the BBC, will take over as Director in September 2008.
- The Institute will launch the publication of its 'Challenges' series. Eleven titles have been commissioned, and a further series is being planned.
- Out of the 'Challenges', we aim to construct more ambitious longer term research projects, in areas in which we are building a presence, as in regulation and issues of public service broadcasting – and those where we still have to make a mark, such as photo journalism. We aim to increase the number of Research Fellows and funding for our substantive projects.
- The 25th anniversary of the Thomson Reuters Foundation Fellowship Programme will be celebrated at a reunion conference of over 100 former fellows from 35 countries. We aim to promote the Fellowship Programme as an ongoing, active network for use by fellows worldwide. All Institute publications will be available in PDF on our website. Through the website, past fellows will be able to keep in touch and compare issues that they confront professionally.
- The Institute will seek an association with identified American and European partners. It will also seek to build on its range of contacts among former fellows. One idea under consideration is to build a network to support journalism in Africa.
- In the UK, the Institute will seek to develop partnerships with other public policy institutions, in particular the Royal Society of Arts and the Media Standards Trust. Abroad, we have a close working relationship with the Ax:son Johnson Foundation in Stockholm.
- After nearly doubling its core funding in its first two years, the Institute should aim for a minimum income of £1 million after its first five years if it is to realise its ambitions.

Tim Gardam, Chair of the Steering Committee



The Year in Brief

This past year has seen the Reuters Institute begin to establish itself as a centre for research and discussion on some of the most salient media issues, internationally and domestically. We have succeeded in creating an institute which is now fulfilling the aims shared by myself and the others who were part of its foundation: to make a difference to the quality of journalism by studying it, discussing it and illuminating it, and thereby enriching its practice.

The Institute stands on two main pillars: first, the Thomson Reuters Foundation Fellowship Programme, whose 25th anniversary we celebrate this year; second, its research and public engagement, which, mainly through publications, public events and seminars, seek to advance public understanding of and engagement with the world of journalism.

The Fellowship Programme is described elsewhere, but one of its many benefits is the experience, ideas and stimulation the journalist fellows bring to our seminar and research programmes. One of the aims of the Institute was that there should be no wall between the Fellowship Programme and the Institute's other activities – and that is now increasingly the case.

One of the main ways in which such engagement takes place is through the seminars we run in Oxford – two every week during term time. The Wednesday seminar, held at midday in Green College, was created soon after the Institute was established; it was designed largely for the fellows – though many others come as well – and aimed at opening up areas of journalism, internationally and domestically, to question and debate. The Politics and Media seminar is an Oxford institution, in which we have been glad to take a part. Conceived, run and chaired by David Butler at Nuffield College, it has brought politicians and journalists to debate in Nuffield at 5.00 pm every Friday in term time for over thirty years.

We have put on a number of seminars and debates in London, in association with Thomson Reuters at its headquarters in Docklands (where Tony Blair, then still Prime Minister, gave his now-famous 'feral beasts' speech under our auspices in June 2007); with the Foreign Press Association; with the Ax:son Johnson Foundation; and with the Royal Society of Arts, where our last joint project was a debate on 'the end of privacy' in June 2008. In many of these projects we have worked with the Media Standards Trust, also a new body in the widening field of journalism institutes.

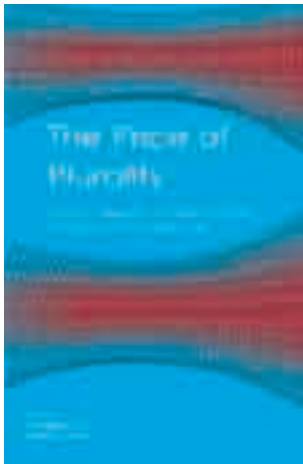


John Lloyd, Director of Journalism

Research at RISJ: Challenges in Modern Journalism

In 2007–8, the Institute hosted a number of innovative research projects which will be published in our new series, ‘Challenges’. We want this series to give us a central role in the growing debate on the media, its place and its future, now underway round the globe.

Already Published



ISBN 978-0-95-588890-8

The Price of Plurality: Choice, Diversity and Broadcasting Institutions in the Digital Age (sponsor: Ofcom), editors Tim Gardam and David A. L. Levy

The future of public service broadcasting, in Britain as elsewhere, is the subject of wide-ranging debate – as public taste, market changes, technological innovations and much greater choice render the former certainties of what constitutes public service in broadcasting less solid. Ofcom is now undertaking its Review of Public Service Broadcasting, while a further Communications Act is mooted: policy-makers must decide how to recast and update the UK’s broadcasting system and how much priority to give to sustaining plurality of public service provision. The book engages with this critical issue in a series of essays, bringing together a wide variety of perspectives from producers and broadcasters, academic experts, politician, in the UK and internationally.

The Power of the Commentariat (with Editorial Intelligence), researchers/authors Julia Hobsbawm and John Lloyd

British newspaper commentators are more numerous, more combative and more widely read than in most democratic states, This essay assesses how powerful the British commentariat is seen to be by its subjects, and how seriously it takes itself.

Forthcoming

Counter-Hegemonic News: A Case Study of Al Jazeera English and Telesur (sponsor: Reuters Institute), researcher/author James Painter

This is a study of two of the prominent new 24-hour news channels which have set out to challenge what they see as the hegemony of the BBC/CNN coverage of news from a Western perspective. In a detailed study of Al Jazeera English and – for the first time – of President Hugo Chavez’s creation, Telesur, James Painter probes the operation, scope and success of a style of news which makes high claims for its ability to change the way in which the world sees events.

The Web that Failed: How opposition politics and independent initiatives are failing on the internet in Russia (sponsor: Open Society Institute and Soros Foundation Network), researchers/authors Floriana Fossato and John Lloyd, with Alexander Verkhovsky

The Web that Failed is an important study, researched and written at a time of concern over the suppression of dissident and oppositionist voices in Russia. It shows that the net in Russia has, at best, a limited role in enlarging the civic space in which political and social issues can be debated. Technology does not trump politics and society; it is the level of development of civil society, and citizens' confidence in themselves, which produces a lively and innovative Internet culture, not the reverse.

News Media and Public Trust (sponsor: The Scott Trust), researcher/author Professor Stephen Coleman, Professor of Political Communication and Director of Research, University of Leeds

Levels in trust in politicians and journalists are famously low. Yet what people who express distrust mean by it is little examined. Using focus groups and interviews, this research project examines and explains current developments in public trust towards politics and politicians and, in particular, examines how these are shaped by the relationship between politics and journalism. It will also present proposals for change and improvement. The project is designed as a qualitative study exploring public trust in the news media including the press (tabloids and quality), national and local broadcasters, and the web.

Money and News (sponsors: Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust and David Ure), researchers/authors David Ure, former Director of Strategy, Reuters, and Dr Andrew Currah, Career Development Fellow, University of Oxford, with Harriet Cullinan and Kirsten Westlake, London Business School

Money and News is a path-breaking study of how the resources for news-gathering are being reshaped under the pressure of technological and market changes. It defines and maps the changing contours of news production—from a UK perspective—amidst the turbulence of the digital storm and against the backdrop of an increasingly globalised and electronically networked media landscape. The analysis distils the digital storm into its constituent technological and market elements, and examines how these forces are affecting the allocation of resources within UK news production (with a focus on print and broadcast). It then critically assesses the current and likely long-term impacts of these resource shifts on the scope, utility and reliability of news information available to citizens of the UK.

Investigation vs Intrusion (sponsor: Ofcom), researchers/authors Stephen Whittle, former Controller of Editorial Policy, BBC, and Glenda Cooper, journalist and former Guardian Fellow, Nuffield College, Oxford

This most topical of studies seeks to tease out the current state of practice and theory in the British news media over issues of privacy and the public interest. A series of high-profile cases, most recently and particularly that of Max Mosley, has focused attention on the highly contested area of how far intrusion into private lives is justified in the interest of revelation necessary to a liberal democracy. The research will both describe the present situation and seek to define the increasingly uncertain boundary between privacy and the public interest.

The Shifting Power of Information (sponsor: Reuters Institute),
researcher/author Nik Gowing, Presenter, BBC World

New communications technology now commonly available—in particular texts and photos from mobile phones, and blogs – means that images and accounts of wars, coups, crises and disasters, provided by citizens or the military, are made public very rapidly. These new developments are now overturning assumptions and practices made for war and crisis control by governments, military and other institutions—exposing a new vulnerability in tactical reaction and strategic policy-making. This timely study explores the development of the new information paradigm, and argues for a fundamental rethinking of military and government response.

The Axess Programme in Comparative European Journalism (sponsor:
Ax:son Johnson Foundation), researcher/author Dr Henrik Örnebring,
Reuters Institute

This three-year piece of research seeks to explain the traditions of the news media in selected European countries – the appearance and growth of newspapers, their main political, ideological and literary influences, their histories of freedom from or subservience to parties and the state—up to the present day; to trace the pattern of ownership of the news media in the different states selected for case studies; show how it has changed and is changing; and assess the nature of the influence ownership has on the news media output; illuminate the particular forms of the relationship between the news media and the politics of the different countries; show what the balance is between differing sectors of the news media market; and trace what effect the means of funding the media—as circulation, advertising, public ownership, private or state subsidy (where relevant)—has on the output of the news media. The first phase of the programme has been devoted to the review of research, and preparing for the data-gathering phase of the project, which will consist of a survey and a set of qualitative interviews with journalists in six European countries (Sweden, UK, Germany, Poland, Italy and Estonia). Thanks to strategic links with Tartu University, Estonia, the sample of countries is likely to be expanded to include three or four more European nations. The empirical research will meet the stated aims of the Axess Programme through a study of journalistic work practices and journalistic professionalism in a comparative European perspective. This project has been complemented by the development of a conference on Nordic media in theory and practice, to be held in London jointly with the Scandinavian Studies department at University College London in November 2008.

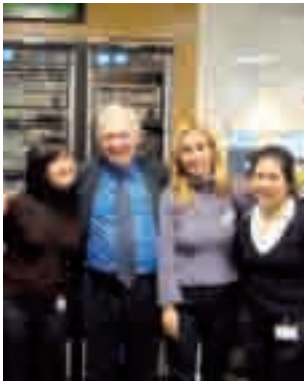
Playing the Nationalist Card (sponsor: Reuters Institute),
researcher/author Dr Antonis Ellinas, Reuters Research Fellow

Playing the Nationalist Card accounts for the divergent electoral fortunes of far right parties in Western Europe by focusing on how mainstream parties compete over national identity issues and on how the media treat the far right. Tracing party and media behaviour across time, the book shows that in those settings where the media were willing to grant far right parties excessive exposure, they were able to capitalise on these opportunities to achieve electoral breakthroughs. Analysing the subsequent development of far right parties, the book also demonstrates why some parties were able to sustain their initial gains while others collapsed; and why the co-optation strategies of their mainstream competitors proved to be effective in some instances but not others. The book develops this theory using evidence from across Western Europe.

The empirical chapters examine the early and subsequent trajectories of far right parties in the 'most similar' cases of Austria and Germany, and in the 'most different' case of Greece. The book then illustrates how the findings could be generalised by tracing the growth and persistence of the French far right. To document party positioning on national identity issues, the book uses evidence from dozens of interviews with mainstream politicians and far rightists as well as from archival material, legislative records and newspaper reports. To assess media behaviour, it relies on the analysis of newspaper and television content and on interviews with top journalists in each of the three primary country cases.

Dr Ellinas's book manuscript, which is currently under peer review, will be published in due course.

Events



Trevor Mostyn with Fellows at the Reuters Headquarters, London



Fellows at Green College



Mohamed H. Heikal giving the Reuters Memorial Lecture

The Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism has hosted a number of lectures, talks and seminars. It continued with its weekly seminar series, inviting academics, experts in politics, science, business, as well as leading actors from the world of journalism to discuss historical questions and contemporary issues impacting on the media. The Institute's seminar series are open to the public. The Institute also organised a number of special events, welcoming to Oxford leading figures in British and international journalism. The Institute's members have also had a voice as public speakers and participants in debates and conferences in Britain and abroad.

Founding Seminars

To identify specific research questions for enquiry within a broad area the Institute held a number of 'founding seminars'. To this end, the Institute invited academics, journalists and policy analysts from the relevant fields to brainstorm and question existing assumptions on these issues to give shape to potential new research projects.

12 Oct. 'Science and Media in the Global Information Age' (sponsor: *The Lancet*): convenors Sarmila Bose and Georgina Ferry

This seminar considered the media's role in communicating scientific and medical information. A distinguished group of scientists, doctors, journalists, and social scientists met to discuss the media's role in communicating scientific and medical information. The seminar was chaired by Lord Krebs, Principal of Jesus College and former chairman of the Food Standards Agency. The group examined different stages in the translation of information from the scientific community to the reading, viewing, listening or web-surfing public and discussed the importance of different national contexts and their respective journalistic cultures.

17 Oct. 'A Fearful Asymmetry: The Tyranny of Real Time': convenors John Lloyd and Nik Gowing

This founding seminar addressed the policy implications for government and military decision-making in the 'real time' news environment of the internet era, with special reference to Iraq. This asymmetric power created by the proliferation of new, cheap information technologies is forcing a new capacity for democratic scrutiny and accountability. Low-cost information technology is empowering a new breed of information doers and ad hoc groupings to challenge those in power, especially the credibility of what they say and claim in a time of crisis. Unless these new dynamics are embraced with a new approach, this credibility crunch will become sharper, thereby undermining the government and corporate reputations in times of acute operational pressure, especially when there are vivid images of casualties and bloodshed. The seminar brought together scholars, senior politicians and journalists.

Wednesday Seminar Series

Michaelmas term 2007

10 Oct. ‘The Self-Censored Watch Dog: The Israeli Media and the Palestine Conflict’: Professor Ilan Pappé, Exeter University, author, *The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine* (chair: Professor Avi Shlaim, Department of Politics and International Relations)

17 Oct. ‘What is Journalism in an Age of Innovation?’: David Schlesinger, Editor-in-Chief, Reuters News

24 Oct. ‘What Future for Israel/Palestine – Publish it Not’: Ghada Karmi, author, *Married to Another Man* (2007)

31 Oct. ‘White Mercenaries in Africa and Iraq – the Media Pendulum Swings’: Tony Mockler, author, *Hired Guns and Coups d’Etat* (2007)

7 Nov. ‘Can a Free Media Exist in Afghanistan?’: Baqer Moin, former Head of the BBC Persian Service, Director of Jadid Media, author, *Khomeini: Life of the Ayatollah* (1989)

14 Nov. ‘Media Systems, Public Knowledge, and Democracy’: Professor James Curran, Professor of Communications, Director of Goldsmiths Media Research Programme, University of London

21 Nov. ‘Latin America and the British Media – an Unnecessary Disaster’: Malcolm Deas, Fellow of St Antony’s College, Director of Graduate Studies, Latin American Centre, University of Oxford

28 Nov. ‘Burma, the Curse of Independence: A Media Black Hole’: Shelby Tucker, author of *Among Insurgents and Burma: The Curse of Independence*

5 Dec. RISJ Visiting Journalist Fellows’ Final Presentations

Hilary term 2008

16 Jan. ‘Back to the USSR? Evolving International Relations in the Former

Soviet Region’: Professor Neil MacFarlane, Head of Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford

23 Jan. ‘Popular Journalism – Peter Mackay’s Walk Down the “Street of Shame”’: Peter Mackay, *Daily Mail*

30 Jan. ‘News and the Imagining of National Space: Canada, 1890–1930’: Dr Gene Allen, Associate Professor, School of Journalism and Director, Master of Journalism Programme, Joint Graduate Programme in Communication and Culture, Ryerson University, Toronto

6 Feb. ‘An Editor’s Tightrope’: John Wilkins, former Editor of *The Tablet* weekly newspaper

13 Feb. ‘Health, Risk and News: The MMR Vaccine and the Media’: Dr Tammy Boyce, Research Fellow in Risk, Health and Science Communication, Deputy Director of the Risk, Science and Health Group, Cardiff School of Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies

20 Feb. ‘Anyone for a Contract? Writing a Weekly Newspaper Column in Britain’: Terence Blacker, columnist, the *Independent*; author of *Fixx* and *Kill your Darlings*

27 Feb. ‘Islamophobia and the Media’: Chris Doyle, Director, the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding (CAABU)

4 Mar. Heikal Fellows of the Reuters Institute Final Presentations in cooperation with the Middle East Centre, St Antony’s College

5 Mar. ‘Just How Powerful is the British Press?’: Dominic Lawson, Visiting Fellow, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, columnist for the *Independent*, former Editor of *The Spectator* and the *Sunday Telegraph*

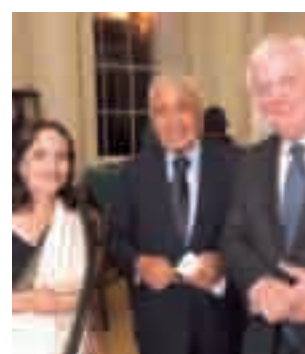
12 Mar. RISJ Journalist Fellows’ Final Presentations



Fellows’ tour of the Cotswolds



Fellows’ final presentations



Lord Patten of Barnes, Chancellor of the University of Oxford, Mohammed Heikal, Sarmila Bose at the Reuters Memorial Lecture

Trinity term 2008



Fellows' trip to the House of Commons



Fellows' field trips and presentations



Terence Blacker from the *Independent* at a Green College Wednesday seminar

23 Apr. 'State Censorship in Britain, Japan and America': Dr Henry Lawrence, Visiting Fellow, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

30 Apr. 'American Broadcast News: Dead or Alive?': Jennifer Siebens, London Bureau Chief, CBS News

7 May. 'Censorship in Islamic Societies': Trevor Mostyn, Senior Adviser, Journalism Fellowship Programme, RISJ, and author of *Censorship in Islamic Societies*

14 May. 'Not Dead Yet: Don't Write off the Press': Roger Alton, former Editor, *Observer* (discussant: Dominic Lawson, Visiting Fellow, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, columnist for the *Independent*)

21 May. 'The Rhetoric of Popular Proletarianism: Commercial Populism and the *Daily Mirror* 1934–1945':

Martin Conboy, Department of Journalism Studies, University of Sheffield

28 May. 'Poacher Turned Gamekeeper? A Journalist's Experience as Director of Communications for the UN Secretary-General': Edward Mortimer, Fellow, All Souls College, University of Oxford

4 June. 'Crime News in National Newspapers and Television Broadcasts in England and America': Dr Cory Way, Research Associate, Reuters Institute

11 June. 'News as Entertainment: The Rise of Global Infotainment' (book launch): Professor Daya Thussu, Professor of International Communication, University of Westminster, School of Media, Arts and Design, Communication and Media Research Institute

'Media and Politics' Seminar at Nuffield College

Michaelmas term 2007

12 Oct. 'Media and Democracy': Jürgen Kroenig, *Die Zeit*

19 Oct. 'The End of Serious Journalism?': John Lloyd, Director of Journalism, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

26 Oct. 'The Future of TV Current Affairs': Dorothy Byrne, Head of News and Current Affairs, Channel 4

2 Nov. 'Running the BBC': Caroline Thomson, Chief Operating Officer, BBC

9 Nov. 'The BBC and the Public': David Levy, Associate Fellow in Media and Communications, Saïd Business School

16 Nov. 'The New Journalism: Paperless, Global and Free?': Georgina Henry, Comment Editor, *Guardian*

23 Nov. 'The Media as Seen by an Academic, a Journalist and a Minister': Lord Adonis, Minister for Schools

Hilary term 2008

18 Jan. 'The BBC and the Public': Michael Crick, Political Editor, BBC *Newsnight*

25 Jan. 'Being a Columnist': Janet Daley, columnist, *Daily Telegraph*

1 Feb. 'Running a World-Wide Weekly': Emma Duncan, Deputy Editor, *The Economist*

8 Feb. 'Foreign Coverage': Gideon Rachman, *Financial Times*

15 Feb. 'Broadcasting Diversity': Aaqil Ahmed, Head of Religious Broadcasting, Channel 4

22 Feb. 'The Transmutation of News by Print and by Broadcasting': James Naughtie, Presenter BBC *Today*

29 Feb. 'Not the End of Serious News?': Adam Boulton, Political Editor, *Sky News*

Trinity term 2008

25 Apr. 'What is Wrong with the Reporting of Politics in the Westminster World?': Jackie Ashley, *Guardian*

2 May. 'Threats to the Freedom of Journalism in Europe': William Horsley, Chairman of the Association of European Journalists and former Foreign Correspondent, BBC

9 May. 'The End of Fleet Street': Nick Davies

16 May. 'The Media as Friend and as Enemy': Rt Hon. Tony Benn (MP 1950–2001)

23 May. 'Putting Recent History on Television': Norma Percy, Brian Lapping Associates



Fellows' reception

Other Events in Oxford

15 Sept. 2007. Oxford Alumni Weekend: British journalists discuss 'Who Governs Us? Are Media the Masters, Politicians their Servant?'

The Institute's panel discussion at the University of Oxford's first ever alumni reunion weekend brought together senior British journalists in a stimulating – and often humorous – discussion among themselves and with Oxford alumni from around the world. Chaired by Professor Vernon Bogdanor, the panel featured Michael Crick, of BBC's *Newsnight* and well-known author of political biographies; Dominic Lawson, columnist of the *Independent* and former editor of *The Spectator* and the *Sunday Telegraph*; Edward Lucas, deputy editor of the international section of *The Economist* and specialist on Central and Eastern Europe; and Samir Shah, member of the executive board of the BBC and CEO of Juniper TV.

17 Oct. 2007. Oxford Union Debate 'Why Democracy?' (an event in association with the BBC): chair John Lloyd; participants Professor Adam Roberts, Professor Stein Ringen, Nick Fraser (the series executive producer)

29 Oct. 2007. Reuters Memorial Lecture, St Anne's College, 'Bridges

and Barriers': Mohamed H. Heikal, Egyptian elder statesman and former Editor of *Al Ahrām*

5 Nov. 2007. Nuffield College, "Anyone Here Survived a Wave, Speak English, and Got a Mobile?": The Media, Aid Agencies and reporting disasters since the Tsunami': lecture by Glenda Cooper, Guardian Research Fellow

9 Nov. 2007. St Antony's College, Panel on Russian elections, the presidency and media: speakers included Floriana Fossato and John Lloyd

20 Nov. 2007. Principal's Seminars, St Anne's College, 'The Future of Serious News on Television': Jim Gray, Editor, *Channel 4 News*, and Peter Barron, Editor, *Newsnight*, in conversation (chair Tim Gardam)

1 Feb. 2008. Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism: A Conversation with Jeremy Paxman

12 May 2008. Green College: 'Is the British Press Part of the British Constitution?': Simon Jenkins, *Guardian* columnist and former editor of *The Times*



Jeremy Paxman in conversation at RISJ

Events Outside of Oxford



Fellows' tour in Oxford



Fellows at Stratford upon Avon



Fellows at the House of Commons

30 Aug.– 2 Sept. 2007. 'Political Science and Beyond', American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, USA: Antonis Ellinas on 'Chaotic But Popular? Far Right Party Organisation and Performance in France'

25 Oct. 2007. 'The Future of Public Service Broadcasting', Ax:son Johnson Foundation Conference, Sweden. International seminar jointly organised by the Reuters Institute, involving speakers from across Europe and the United States; panel discussions including John Lloyd, Tim Gardam, David Levy

25 Oct. 2007. 'Science and the Media', co-hosted with the Royal Society of Arts, London; speaker Craig Venter, introduced by Stephen Whittle on behalf of the RISJ

19 Nov. 2007. 'The Future of Serious Journalism', Alastair Hetherington Memorial Lecture, Stirling University; speaker John Lloyd

20 Nov. 2007. 'News and the Public', Press Fellowship Lecture, Wolfson College, University of Cambridge; speaker John Lloyd

21 Nov. 2007. 'The Encounter of Islam with Europe', co-hosted with the Royal Society of Arts, London; speakers Ayaan Hirsi Ali and Timothy Garton Ash (chair John Lloyd)

23 Nov. 2007. 'New News, Future News: The Future of News and the Role of Public Service Broadcast News in the Online Age', jointly organised by The Reuters Institute and Ofcom at Reuters HQ in Canary Wharf (chairs John Lloyd and Tim Gardam)

28 Nov. 2007. 'Is the Media Having a 'Seriously Adverse' Impact on Public Life?', Foreign Press Association, London: panel discussion including Lord Michael Jay, former Permanent Secretary, Foreign and Commonwealth Office; General Sir Rupert Smith, former Deputy Supreme Allied Commander,

Europe (NATO) Tim Livesey, Head of Public Affairs, Lambeth Palace

3 Dec. 2007. Seminar on 'Media and Democracy', Ministry of Justice, Finland: keynote speech John Lloyd

18–19 Dec. 2007. 'International Broadcasting, Public Diplomacy and Cultural Exchange: A Conference to Evaluate 75 Years of BBC Overseas Broadcasting', School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London: panel discussion including Sarmila Bose

26–29 Mar. 2008. 'The US–India Nuclear Agreement: Press and Politics of a "Historic" Strategic Re-alignment', International Studies Association annual conference, San Francisco; speaker Sarmila Bose

11 Apr. 2008. Helsinki Media Conference: keynote speech Sarmila Bose

6 May 2008. 'Plurality and the Future of Public Service Broadcasting', Ofcom-sponsored symposium and book launch at the Institute of Directors (chairs Tim Gardam and David Levy)

22–26 May 2008. 'Communicating for Social Impact', International Communication Association Conference, Montreal, Canada; speaker Henrik Örnebring on 'The Two Professionalisms of Journalism: Updating Journalism Research for the 21st Century'

29 May–2 June 2008. 'Mercato e Democrazia: Festival dell'Economia di Trento', Conference, Trento, Italy; speaker John Lloyd

15 July 2008. 'This House Believes that the Media are Out of Touch with Reality', Kings Fund debate. Proposed John Lloyd (with Fiona Fox, Science and Media Centre); opposed Kevin Marsh, Chief Editor, BBC College of Journalism (with Malcolm Dean, Guardian Nuffield Fellow), The King's Fund, Cavendish Square, London



The Journalism Fellowship Programme

The Fellowship Programme is at the core of the Institute, drawing together journalists from all over the world and assisting high-calibre, mid-career journalists in their careers. For 25 years, the Thomson Reuters Foundation Fellowship Programme has continued to attract heavyweight fellows internationally, giving them the opportunity to research subjects in greater depth than is possible under regular career deadline pressure. Many Fellowships in the coming year, as in previous years, have been funded thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Thomson Reuters Foundation, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, the BBC, the British Council, the German Gerda Henkel Foundation, the Egyptian Heikal Foundation and the Wincott Foundation.

During 2007–8, the Fellowship Programme has created an international network of high-powered journalists and television presenters. Trevor Mostyn joined the Institute from October 2007 to June 2008, to take pastoral charge of the Fellowship Programme and co-organise the Wednesday seminar lecture series at Green College with the Institute's Director, Dr Sarmila Bose. The Director of the Fellowship Programme and Institute Administrator, Dr Rima Dapous, is responsible for the daily management of the Fellowship programme.

In 2007–8, the Institute welcomed 18 fellows for between one and three terms. Fellows came from Argentina, Australia, Bulgaria, China, Egypt, Georgia, Germany, India, Japan, Russia, UK and the USA.

The Institute hosts two seminars, partly for the benefit of the fellows, partly for all interested in issues of journalism. In its Wednesday seminar series at Green College, we aim to maintain a balance between geographical regions and between the media and academia. High-profile speakers from academia and media including David Schlesinger, Reuters News Editor-in-Chief; Sir Simon Jenkins, commentator for the *Guardian* and *The Sunday Times*; and Roger Alton, then editor of the *Observer*, now of the *Independent*. The Friday evening seminars at Nuffield College, created by Dr David Butler and now co-convened by John Lloyd and the Institute, has remained a long-standing attraction of the Fellowship Programme.

The Fellowship Programme also features internal seminars for the fellows. These in-house presentations at Green College were held on a weekly basis during term time in 2007–8 and offered the Institute and the fellows an opportunity to present a topical issue from their part of the world in relation to their research project. As every year, a range of visits, special seminars and lectures and tours relevant to journalism were organised.

A full summary of the research projects undertaken by the Journalist Fellows can be found in Appendix 1 on pages 23–32. The projects in full can be read on the Reuters Institute website: http://reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/projects/overview/journalist_fellows_research_projects.html/.



The Reuters Institute, 13 Norham Gardens, and Green College: homes of the Fellowship Programme

Research Fellows



Dr Henrik Örnebring has a fil kand (BA) in Media and Communication Studies with minors in Literature and Philosophy from Karlstad University and Göteborg University, Sweden. He got his PhD from the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at Göteborg University in 2001. He has lectured at several Swedish universities (including Göteborg University, Södertörn University College and Halmstad University). He moved to the UK in 2002 to be a Visiting Scholar at the London School of Economics and Political Science, and worked as a Lecturer/Senior Lecturer at the University of Leicester and at Roehampton University prior to his appointment as the Axxess Research Fellow at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism.



Dr Antonis Ellinas received a BA at Hamilton College (Valedictorian) and an MA and PhD from Princeton University. His doctoral dissertation, 'Playing the Nationalist Card', examines how party competition over national identity and how media exposure affects the electoral fortunes of far right parties in Western Europe. He has received fellowships from the French, and the Hellenic Studies Programs, the Graduate School, and the Contemporary European Politics and Society Program at Princeton. He was a Fulbright scholar for four years. He has instructed courses in International Relations and Comparative Politics. His work has appeared in *Comparative Politics* and *German Politics and Society*.

Dr Ellinas has been appointed Assistant Professor at College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Mass., United States, from September 2008.



Visiting Fellows 2007–8

The Institute was delighted to welcome a number of distinguished senior journalists and academics from Britain and abroad who came to the Institute to contribute their expertise and knowledge to the Institute's portfolio of activities.

Professor Stephen Coleman is Professor of Political Communication and Director of Research, University of Leeds, Currently Director of Research at the Institute of Communication Studies and Co-Director, Centre for Digital Citizenship. His main research interests are: e-democracy, democratic theory and political representation, political efficacy, forms of deliberation and decision-making, reality TV formats and popular representation, modes of media interactivity and legislative institutions. Stephen co-directs (with Professor Ann Macintosh) the Centre for Digital Citizenship, an interdisciplinary research centre which conducts research into the changing nature of citizenship and governance in a networked society; questions the broad range of theoretical and rhetorical claims made by proponents of e-governance and e-citizenship; contributes to the design and development of social technologies that have the potential to support public communication; engages with policy-makers in the UK, Europe and globally to understand and respond to the challenges and opportunities of citizenship in the digital era; and works with communities and social movements to explore the democratic potential of digital media.



Glenda Cooper is a freelance journalist. As a RISJ Visiting Fellow, Glenda has continued the research she began as the 2006–7 Guardian Research Fellow at Nuffield College. In December 2007, she chaired a panel at the second Dispatches from Disaster Zones conference held in London, which debated the changing relationships between aid agencies and the media. She also gave the seminar 'We Save The Children—Can You(Tube)?' at the Save the Children UK headquarters in London in January 2008, and was a speaker in a debate organised by the British Red Cross entitled, 'The Dawn of the Celebrity Aid Worker?' Following Cyclone Nargis and Sichuan earthquake, she wrote a piece for the *Guardian* Unlimited Comment is Free section entitled 'Disaster cap-it-all-ism?' analysing media coverage of the two disasters (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/may/20/disastercapitalism>).



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In June, she was a keynote speaker at the 23rd Biannual Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) conference in Madrid, giving a speech entitled, 'After the Wave: Reporting Disasters since the Tsunami'. With Stephen Whittle, she is also about to start work on the Ofcom/RISJ report, 'Investigation, Intrusion, Privacy, Public Interest'.



Nik Gowing, since February 1996, has been the main presenter on BBC World, the BBC's 24-hour international television news and information channel. He was previously principal anchor for weekday news programme *The World Today*, and its predecessor, *NewsDesk*. He was a founding presenter of *Europe Direct* and has been a guest anchor on both *HARDtalk* and *Simpson's World*. He is also a regular moderator of the Sunday news analysis programme *Dateline London*. He has been a main anchor for much of BBC World's coverage of major international crises including Kosovo in 1999, and the Iraq war in 2003. Nik was on air for six hours shortly after the Twin Towers were hit in New York City on 11 September 2001, the coverage winning the 2002 Hotbird Award. He fronted coverage of the unfolding drama of Diana, Princess of Wales' accident and made the announcement of her death to a global audience estimated at half a billion. Before joining the BBC, Nik was a foreign affairs specialist and presenter at ITN for 18 years. From 1989 to 1996 he was diplomatic editor *Channel Four News*, from ITN in London. In 1981 he won a BAFTA for his exclusive coverage of the imposition of martial law in Poland, and won a medal at the New York Television Festival for his nightly coverage of the 1991 Gulf war. His reporting from Bosnia was part of the *Channel Four News* portfolio which won the BAFTA 'Best News Coverage' award in 1996.



Dr Holly Hong is an associate professor at International Communications College in Beijing. She has also acted as a consultant on the making of several programmes such as *Radio Beijing English Programming* and *Global Views* at China Central Television's (CCTV) Channel 4. During her time at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, Holly researched the licence fee policy of public service broadcasting (PSB) in UK in the digital age and its possible impact on the finance model of digital TV in China. Looking at the history of public service broadcasting, the study takes as its starting point the premise that, more than ever, financial pressures prevail – due to the changing nature of the electronic media, broadcasting structures, technologies, markets, channels of distribution and the fast-changing relationship of providers to audiences. As a significant part of the digitalisation process, the provision of PSB finance is again in flux, and under hot debate in societies around the globe. Dr Hong's study concludes that the licence fee should not be abolished, even after the switchover from analogue to digital signals is complete. As for the potential impact on the finance model of digital TV in China, the study seeks to give a framework for possible policy choices—acknowledging the complexity of China's media policy, the big gap between British media ecology and China's and the difficulty of establishing the concept of PSB in China, because of the confusion between the demands of 'the State', 'the Party' and 'the Public'.



John Kelly is a daily columnist on life in Washington for *The Washington Post*. He has also been the editor of *The Post's* Friday leisure section, the founder of a page explaining the news to young readers, and a reporter in the Metro section. John's research was on 'citizen journalism'. Proponents see in citizen journalism the possibility of demystifying the news, energising the electorate and increasing civic participation. Critics worry that citizen journalism casts aside traditional notions of objectivity and erodes the mainstream media's legitimacy at a time when news organisations are fighting for economic survival. His work examines the rise of citizen journalism, identifying its roots in the civic journalism movement of the 1990s, when readers were invited to help choose stories worthy of coverage. The evolution to citizen journalism was made possible chiefly by

technology. The internet replaced the expensive printing and distribution systems that press barons of old controlled. Easy-to-use blogging software, search software and inexpensive digital cameras and camcorders put tools into the hands of relatively unskilled amateurs. Early fears over user-generated content were overstated. There is not an army of citizens out there ready to storm our newsrooms. Only a fraction—around 1 per cent—of people actively contribute to most news websites. Still, journalists must accept that the equation has changed and that nothing can take back the potential power that our audiences now possess. We must be mindful of them – work with them – in a way we never have before. Early claims for citizen journalism were probably overstated as well. The explosive growth of the internet makes it harder and harder for any one voice to rise above the din. Established news brands – with their history of quality and legitimacy – will appeal to those who witness events. Working together we can forge a journalism for the future. On completion, John's research is scheduled to be published in the Challenges series.

Dominic Lawson, columnist for the *Independent* and former Editor of *The Spectator* magazine and the *Sunday Telegraph*, is an adviser to the Institute's Fellowship Programme. He took part in Institute events and chaired seminars. He is sponsored by Arcadia Fund.

Kenneth Payne started at the BBC as a defence and security analyst before joining the current affairs and news departments, working with *Panorama* and Radio 4's *World at One* and *PM* programmes. He now teaches mid-ranking officers at the UK staff college at Shrivenham, Wiltshire. His last TV programme, a factual dramatisation of events leading up to the Iraq war, aired on BBC 2 in March 2008. Since January 2008, Kenneth Payne has been conducting research at the Institute on the broad area of communications, war, terrorism and Islamism. His goal is to produce a series of articles in refereed journals and to prepare a Challenge paper for publication by the Institute.

The first longer piece, to be published shortly in the journal *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, is entitled, 'Propaganda: Winning the Battle of Ideas'. In it, he argues that conflict between Al Qaeda and associated militants on one hand and Western governments on the other is largely an ideological struggle, in which communication and propaganda is playing a central role—on both sides. The second article, 'Waging Communication War', will be published shortly in *PARAMETERS*, the journal of the US Army War College. This article is more narrowly focused on the place of communication and information operations in contemporary counterinsurgency campaigns. Classical counterinsurgency theory of the 1950s and 1960s, latterly rediscovered and popularised in the Iraq campaign during 2006–7, places great emphasis on the population as key to the struggle. The perceptions of that population become critical in determining the balance between the insurgent and the authorities, and considerable effort is expended by both sides to shape those perceptions. He is now working on a third article, again related to the military and communication. This paper considers the effect of modern communications, particularly via the media, on the established British Army principle of mission command.

Ece Temelkuran is senior political columnist for Turkey's leading quality daily, *Milliyet*, and regular contributor to *Le Monde Diplomatique*. She studied at the University of Ankara in the Faculty of Law, and started her career as a reporter on *Cumhuriyet*, Turkey's oldest and one-time most reputable centre-left newspaper. She has published widely and won



numerous awards for her work, including the Pen for Peace Award, and Turkish Journalist of the Year. She is the author of several books, including, *What is There for Me to Say!* on the hunger strikes by political prisoners in Turkey, and *We are Making a Revolution Here Senorita!* on the politics and everyday life in Chavez's Venezuela.



Staff

A small team of dedicated individuals is at the centre of the Institute's research projects and activities.

Sarmila Bose: Director (to Apr. 2008)

The academic year 2007–8 saw the departure of Dr Sarmila Bose, founding Director of the Institute. Dr Bose, in the course of two years substantially increased the size of the Fellowship Programme and introduced a new seminar series. She was appointed Senior Research Fellow in the Politics of South Asia in the Department of Politics and International Relations in April 2008.



Dr David A. L. Levy: Director (from Sept. 2008)

Until taking up the post of Director, David was an Associate Fellow in Media and Communications at Oxford University's Saïd Business School and a consultant on media policy and strategy and public service reform. He previously worked at the BBC, as a radio and TV reporter on *File on 4* and *Newsnight* and as editor of *Analysis* on Radio 4, and then until 2007 as Controller, Public Policy, where he was in charge of UK and EU policy and led the BBC's policy for Charter Review. He was the sole foreign member of the French cross-party Commission Pour Une Nouvelle Télévision Publique established by President Sarkozy to look at the future funding and organisation of the French public broadcaster France Télévisions. His publications include *The Price of Plurality: Choice Diversity and Broadcasting Institutions in the Digital Age* (jointly edited with Tim Gardam); *Europe's Digital Revolution; Broadcasting Policy, the EU and the Nation State*; and *An Independent NHS: What's in it for Patients and Citizens?*



John Lloyd: Director of Journalism

John is a contributing editor at the *Financial Times (FT)*, where he writes a weekly column on television, and is a feature writer for the *Financial Times Magazine*, of which he was founding editor. He has been a reporter and producer for London Weekend Television's *London Programme* and *Weekend World*, and editor of *Time Out* and *New Statesman* magazines. At the *FT*, he has been Labour Editor, Industrial Editor, East Europe Editor and Moscow Bureau Chief. He has written several books, including *Loss Without Limit: The British Miners' Strike* (1986: with Martin Adeney); *Rebirth of a Nation: An Anatomy of Russia* (1998) and *What the Media are Doing to our Politics* (2004). He co-edited (with Jean Seaton) a special issue of the *Political Quarterly* titled *What Can Be Done? Making the Media and Politics Better*. He has received a number of press awards, including Granada's Journalist of the Year, the British Press award's Specialist Writer of the Year and the David Watt Prize.





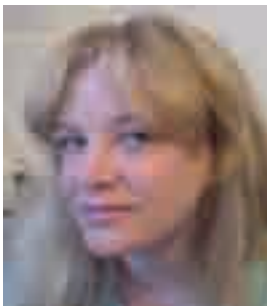
Dr Rima Dapous: Director of the Journalism Fellowship Programme and Institute Administrator

Rima holds an M.Phil. in European Literature and D.Phil. in French Literature from the University of Oxford. She has worked in Higher Education Management for many years, both in her native Germany and now in the UK. She held senior managerial positions at the University of Frankfurt prior to her appointment as Administrator of the RISJ.



Kate Hanneford-Smith: Administrative Officer

Kate has a BA (Hons) in Modern Languages from the University of Leeds. She has studied and worked in both Italy and Germany. Until recently she worked as a manager of a language agency in Italy.



Elaine Hernen: Web Editor

Elaine is a producer and editor of cross-platform arts and media projects, and has held production and editorial positions at several media organisations, including the BBC and ITV. She holds a BA (Hons) and an MA, and is currently taking a break from her doctoral studies.



Trevor Mostyn: Senior Adviser to the Fellowship Programme (Oct. 2007–June 2008)

Trevor Mostyn is a writer on Middle Eastern Affairs, vice chair of the Writers in Prison Committee of English PEN and is completing a historical novel on the Middle East.



Alex Reid: Administrative Assistant

Alex has a BA (Hons) in Religion and Literature from Bristol University and a postgraduate Diploma in Museum and Gallery Studies from St Andrews University. On leaving her career in museums, Alex became a fund-raiser for Macmillan Cancer Relief and then worked in the local radio station, FOX FM in Sponsorship and Promotions.

Staff Departures: The Institute's Administrative Assistant, Tori McKee, left to take up a position at Wadham College.



Governance

The Steering Committee

The Institute's Steering Committee provides strategic oversight to the Institute's activities and is made up of a number of experts in the field from around Oxford.

¹Chair: **Tim Gardam**, Principal of St Anne's College

²**Dr Colin Bundy**, Warden of Green College

³**Professor Timothy Garton Ash**, Professor of European Studies

⁴**Geert Linnebank**, Trustee of the Thomson Reuters Foundation

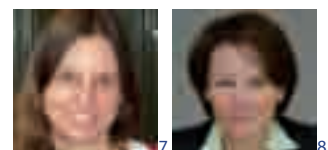
⁵**John Lloyd**, Director of Journalism, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

⁶**Professor Neil MacFarlane**, Lester B Pearson Professor of International Relations and Head of Department of Politics and International Relations

⁷**Dr Bridget Taylor**, Academic Administrator, Department of Politics and International Relations

⁸**Monique Villa**, CEO of the Thomson Reuters Foundation

⁹**Professor Jan Zielonka**, Professor of European Politics in the Department of Politics and International Relations and Ralf Dahrendorf Fellow at St Antony's College



The Advisory Board

The Institute has an Advisory Board. This consists of individuals chosen for their expertise or experience relevant to the work of the Institute to give advice and guidance on general research directions. The Advisory Board of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism convened for the first time on 29 October 2007.

Chair: **Lord Patten of Barnes**, Chancellor of the University of Oxford

Kurt Almqvist, President, Axel and Margaret Ax:son Johnson Foundation

Professor Stephen Ansolabehere, Professor of Political Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA

Dr Sarmila Bose, Senior Research Fellow in the Politics of South Asia, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford

David Goodhart, Editor, *Prospect* magazine

Helena Luczywo, Editor, *Gazeta Wybrocza*, Poland

Geoffrey Nyarota, Editor and Founder of *The Zimbabwe Times*

Christine Ockrent, Producer and Anchor, France 3 Television

Michael Parks, the Director of Journalism, Annenberg Institute, University of Southern California, USA

Alan Rusbridger, Editor, the *Guardian*

Professor Jean Seaton, Professor of Communications and Media History, University of Westminster

Charles Sinclair, Chief Executive *Daily Mail* and General Trust

Mark Thompson, Director-General, BBC

Patience Wheatcroft, former Editor of the *Sunday Telegraph*

Benefactors

The Institute was established with the benefaction of £1.75 million over five years from the Thomson Reuters Foundation. The long-standing Fellowship Programme is supported by the Thomson Reuters Foundation and several other sponsors, listed below. During its first year, the Institute also received additional sponsorships and awards to support its research projects, seminars and conferences.

The Institute is grateful for the generous support of its benefactors in 2007/8:

Arcadia Fund
Mr Edward and Mrs Celia Atkin
Australian Broadcasting Corporation
Ax:son Johnson Foundation, Sweden
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British Council
Heikal Foundation, Egypt
Gerda Henkel Foundation, Germany
Joseph Rowntree Trust
Ofcom
Open Society Institute and Soros Foundation Network
Scott Trust
Thomson Reuters Foundation
David Ure
Wincott Foundation.

Appendix 1: Journalist Fellows 2007–8

The Institute's Journalist Fellows must each undertake a research project – some of which are completed in their stay at the Institute, some of which are still works in progress.

Pallavi Aiyar, China Bureau Chief, The Hindu Group of Publications, China (sponsor: Thomson Reuters Foundation). *Research Project*. India's Untouchables and China's Internal Migrants: Social Stratification and Mobility as Factors in Explaining Differential Outcomes in Governance across the Himalayas.

Pallavi writes:

This paper suggests that some answers to the differential nature of the relationship between the state and the people in India and China can be found in a study of social stratification and mobility, and thence in the differential nature of the challenges of governance in the two nations. More specifically, it is in the existence of caste in India and in the absence of caste as a system of social stratification in China that a crucial element of any explanation of the divergent realities of the two countries lies. Yet, this divergence is never articulated in the journalistic discourse of either country – a lacuna that is all the more egregious given that journalists and pundits of every stripe, on both sides of the border and elsewhere in the world, are constantly exhorting the neighbouring nations to look to each other, alternatively as models of success or warnings of disaster. My research seeks to add depth to the India–China comparison by using caste as a crucial factor in explaining the substantively different nature of the governance challenge in the two countries.



Pallavi Aiyar's research project has since been published by Harper Collins/Fourth Estate India, entitled *Smoke and Mirrors: An Experience of China*.

Katrin Binbashieva, Executive Producer, TV 7, Bulgaria (sponsor: Thomson Reuters Foundation). *Research Project*. Media Financing and Ownership in Post-Communist Countries: The Case of Bulgaria.

Katrin writes:

In my research project I have focused on the problem of media financing and ownership in a post-Communist country. The political, social and economic situation in the country is heavily influenced by the media. The discredited political actors of the previous Communist regime not only survived the collapse of the old order, but also succeeded in the new one as businessmen and media owners. The political players in the country control the media, but at the same time the media manipulates the political players. Bulgaria's media is very largely owned and controlled by wealthy and powerful individuals, who use media power to achieve their political and economic goals and who severely limit the media's independence. Media ownership in Bulgaria has a direct influence on pluralism, on freedom of speech and on the application of censorship. Media owners have strong connections with the former Communist regime. My research analyses the nature, extent and influence of the power of the media in Bulgarian politics.





Emery Dalesio, Business writer, The Associated Press, USA (sponsor: Thomson Reuters Foundation). *Research Project*. A Business Press with the Common Touch.

Emery writes:

My research explores the economic rationalism behind business news publications in Eastern Europe. How does this sector follow the money? More specifically, why do a relative few try to target a broad, middle audience? I asked journalism professionals in my focus country, Romania, how the country's business press developed its current contours, and how it is likely to change if affluence increases. While television is the dominant news source and the advertising medium in Eastern Europe, newspaper readership is expanding. Economic growth means many of the world's fastest-growing advertising markets are in Eastern Europe. The region's income distribution is on par with Scandinavia or France, so the middle class's portion of Eastern Europe's economic pie is growing along with total national wealth. Advertisers are eager to reach consumers' deeper pockets. All of this suggests that demand for business news—and the publications that provide it—may increase in the future.



Richard Danbury, Senior Broadcast Journalist, BBC TV *Newsnight*, UK (sponsor: BBC). *Research Project*. Why Can't I Report That? The Current Law on Reporting Court Proceedings in the UK.

Richard writes:

For the short time I had at Oxford, I looked at the conflict between freedom of the press and the processes of the court; the conflict between the right of free expression and the right to a fair trial. One limit to free speech is in relation to the courts. Freedom of speech by journalists and freedom of the press can conflict with court processes. This is particularly evident when considering criminal trials. The court may carefully preserve the presumption of innocence in dealing with an accused, but journalists don't: one commentator has pointed out that 'the golden thread', by which she means the presumption of innocence, 'does not show up on the printed page'. It often doesn't show up much on television either. After all, journalists aren't in the business of trying people fairly. We may do something similar, but it's not our job. Rather, journalism is, in the words of the 1947 Royal Commission on the Press, 'a profession grafted on to a highly competitive industry', and even those that operate in good faith are attempting 'to reconcile the claims of society and the claims of commerce'. This is a structural problem, found in journalism everywhere on the globe. Journalists everywhere risk stepping on the toes of trial judges. And judges try to keep the streams of justice pure, and are fearful of journalists befouling them. How does one resolve this tension? Where is the balance point? When ought the journalists be allowed to report, and when compelled to shut up? The balance point changes in different countries and at different times. This changing balance point in England and Wales is what I studied.

The Institute is delighted that Richard Danbury has continued his affiliation with the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism as a Visiting Fellow.

Abel Escudero Zadrayec, Editor-in-Chief, online edition, La Nueva Provincia, Argentina (sponsor: Thomson Reuters Foundation). *Research Project*. Fight for your Life: Newspapers and Digital Storytelling. *Abel writes*:



My research work consisted of three parts. First, ‘*The Artillery of Multimedia*’ explored the online storytelling phenomenon through various documents and the voices of several experts, both academics and journalists. The focus was on *multimedia packages as digital features*—a new form of journalism that could be considered one of the ‘weapons’ newspapers have to ‘fight for their lives.’ Second, ‘The Skills to Use the *Weapon*’ offered an overview on how the web has modified the profession in terms of new aptitudes and production routines: what kind of education is needed, what kind of work is expected, what kind of elements should find a place in journalists’ toolbox. And third, ‘Examples from the *Battlefield*’ aimed to show what is behind the scenes of multimedia packages recently launched by two national newspapers, one British and one Argentine, both related to the 25th anniversary of the Malvinas/Falklands war. Finally, there was an appendix with a curious story: a look into the corner of a past that once was the future, and the future just ‘past’ or around the corner.

Annabel Gillings, Producer/Director in BBC Vision (Science and History), UK (sponsor: Thomson Reuters Foundation). *Research Project*. Images of Innocence and Experience: Television Representations of Climate Change. *Annabel writes*:



Most studies on representations of climate change in the media have concentrated primarily on newspapers or TV news. I decided to make a primordial study of television images (including documentary and news from the UK and US) as a proof of principle for the study of television images alone. I hypothesised that, first, there will be a shared meaning consistently encoded by repeated use of certain images as signifiers of climate change across all programmes; second, if any visual discourse is identified, it will serve to maintain ‘ecological innocence’—that is, in visual terms, images would represent climate change as psychologically or geographically remote; and third, there will be no discernible differences in the visual discourses used by US and UK television. Hypotheses one and two were correct but not hypothesis three – which surprised me. In the course of my research, I identified four different visual discourses: an *International Political Discourse*, representing climate change on a global level, concentrating on the respective activities (consumer, business) that have contributed to climate change, and subsequently on available strategies to mitigate it; a *Financial (Money-Saving) Discourse*, representing pragmatic strategies for saving energy and thereby saving money, by business and/or by the consumer; a *Scientific (Technical) Discourse*, that is, representations of climate change in the scientific and technical realm, employing scientific evidence (data, graphs, graphics) and interviews (focusing on the veracity of research ‘for’ or ‘against’ climate change); and an *Engagement/Mitigation Discourse*, with representations of practical solutions, some of which may be put into practice by the individual viewer (consumer), others may apply to business and policy, but embodied by the phrase ‘what you can do to help’. US coverage differed from that in the UK because it featured a financial and engagement discourse more strongly. UK coverage tended to be focused on international politics (BBC news) and scientific understanding (documentary).



Ehab Hamdi Gomaa, Journalist and Lecturer in Journalism and Mass Communication at the Alexandria University and the American University in Cairo, Egypt (sponsor: Heikal Foundation). *Research Project*. The Tales of Two Cities: Blogging and Ethics in Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

Ehab writes:

Journalists and academics in the Arab region differ on how to regulate the spreading blogosphere. Some academics believe that codes of conduct and professional code of ethics are the best way to control the practice: bloggers think that any kind of attempt to organise this public sphere is a form of censorship which is completely unacceptable. Some think that this debate between academics and officials from one side and professional journalists and bloggers on the other side owes more to the nature of Arab culture than the issue itself. So in this research I wanted to approach the British mindset, formed in one of the oldest democracies in the world, and understand, first, how British media academics evaluate the two points of view; second, do they consider blogging a new type of online journalism; third, do journalism departments include curriculum courses for blogging and/or internet ethics; fourth, how do British bloggers and online journalists feel about this debate; fifth, how does British society preserve a peaceful coexistence between online journalists and bloggers from one side and the officials from the other side; and finally, can this experience be replicated in the Arab region? The study is based on a descriptive analysis of data collected via questionnaires. The researcher addressed a questionnaire to journalists working with online journalism technology and to academics and journalism educators in UK universities. The sample of the study included the best known British political bloggers and the professors of journalism in UK universities. Time and money constraints determined sample size and selection criteria.



Elizabeth Jackson, Producer and Presenter, Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Australia (sponsor: Australian Broadcasting Corporation). *Research Project*. The Right to Know: A Comparative Analysis of European Models of Freedom of Information (FoI).

Elizabeth writes:

In the context of a pledge by Australia's newly elected Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, to completely restructure Australia's Freedom of Information legislation, this project explores the success or otherwise of FoI legislation in the UK. There are two simple and fundamental questions which must be answered: are the laws working and if not, why not? Thus much of the research undertaken for this paper was done by talking to those who oversee and those who use Freedom of Information law in the United Kingdom. I analyse some of the current issues facing those charged with upholding FoI, and identify the types of stories which FoI has uncovered. It became apparent that the legislation has been effective at producing lots of local and regional stories involving statistics, but the closer you get to the centre of power, the less effective the legislation appears to be. A second component to this research work is on implementation. This chapter attempts to answer the question of how the media have adapted to the new laws. There are important lessons which Australian journalists can learn from the experiences of their British counterparts. Once the strengths and weaknesses of the UK FoI legislation have been identified, this document will hopefully be of some practical use to Australian legislators who face the challenge of drafting our new laws.

Dina Kabil, Journalist at the *Al-Ahram Hebdo* newspaper, Egypt (sponsor: Heikal Foundation). *Research Project*. Weblogs and Journalism: Can they Complement Each Other?

Dina writes:

My research project focuses on the relation between journalism and weblogs in Egypt, and tries to find an answer to the question: can the two complement each other? I try to assess the puzzling relationship between journalism in its traditional form, and the idea of blogs as a new form of expression, imposing itself world-wide and creating a wider space of freedom—as well as to determine the interaction between the mainstream media and citizen journalism. A survey of 60 Egyptian journalists from state-owned, opposition and independent newspapers was conducted as part of my project. It tries to provide answers to the following questions. How frequently do Egyptian journalists visit blogs? Which are the best-known ones? Do they consider them reliable sources of information? Survey results indicate that the majority reject the idea of blogs as a source of reliable information. But on the other hand, they are keen to follow them, as they provide new ideas, scoops and angles—as well as interactive elements and feedback. In Egypt, blogs are pushing conventional journalism to dare, to interact, to express freely, to benefit from new models and to infinitely multiply the sources used. The blogosphere and media sphere will have to coexist in a world that needs both for the sake of a transparent public opinion and freedom of expression.



Joyce Hor-Chung Lau, editor/writer, *International Herald Tribune*, Hong Kong (sponsor: Chevening Scholarship by British Council, Hong Kong). *Research Project*. Can Post-Handover Hong Kong Maintain a ‘One Country Two Systems’ of Journalism? The Narrowing Gap: How Hong Kong media is Inching Towards the China Model.

Joyce writes:

My paper demonstrates how the wide gap between the two systems of journalism in Hong Kong and mainland China has begun to narrow in the last decade, with an emphasis on the Hong Kong side of that equation. The reality revealed is a complicated one of two journalistic cultures exploring, clashing and interacting. It has as much to do with business interests and technological development as it does with political ideology. I found that, before the handover, there was a clearer line between mainland China’s overt state censorship and Hong Kong’s boisterous free press—the first disseminated government information and promoted patriotism; in the second, media had a different goal: to make money. The public decided with their pocketbooks, and only media that provided probing, critical, dynamic and interesting coverage could achieve the circulation and readership numbers needed to turn a profit and survive. After the handover, this division became blurred. Mainland China’s economic boom brought about a generation of business-minded media owners eager to please potential customers, not just government officials. Meanwhile, Hong Kong, now a Chinese ‘Special Administrative Region’ (SAR), became more attuned to both the punishments Beijing meted out to journalists and the possible business opportunities with which the state could ‘reward’ favoured media companies. In short, the mainland’s Communists became more capitalist, and Hong Kong’s capitalists became more involved in the Communist regime. The global significance of Hong Kong’s media and the problems it faces in a larger Chinese context belies the city’s relatively small size. Hong Kong may act not only as an indicator, but also a catalyst, for media development in the world’s next rising superpower.





Revaz Sakevarishvili, author and anchor of *Business Class TV Magazine*, Imedi; News and Main Topics Editor, *Business Monthly Magazine*; Economics Analyst/Columnist, *24 Hours Newspaper*, Georgia (sponsor: Wincott Foundation). *Research Project*. The Application and Activation of Cluster Economic Principles in Georgia.

Revaz writes:

Competitive strength in a changeable world undergoing an irreversible process of globalisation is one of the sharpest problems in the current agenda of both national governments and corporations. This is a universal problem, but it is especially difficult for countries with insufficient experience of how to compete and survive in the free markets. My research concentrates on how competitiveness might be strengthened in Georgia. One of the most effective tools for heightening Georgia's competitiveness may be a 'cluster development' strategy for the country's economy. The main author of cluster development strategy, Michael Porter, believes that the cluster principle—that is, a group of geographically localised interrelated companies that supplement each other, and increase the competitive advantages of both a separate business object and entire cluster—heightens both competitiveness of the majority of companies in the cluster and the entire economy. The success of this practice has been proved by specific examples. Porter's most important conclusion is that the more clusters are developed in a country, the higher the living standards in that country and the competitiveness of companies and entire economy. This could be one of the effective tools for an accelerated development of Georgia's economy. Moreover a number of sectors in Georgia are trying to produce competitive products today and it is crucial that, at the initial stage, the priorities selected and the principles of activity meet the requirements of the modern competitive marketplace. My research concentrated on illuminating the principles of this idea.



Rania Saleh, writer, *Al Wafd* daily newspaper, Egypt; senior graphic designer (sponsor: Heikal Foundation). *Research Project*. What Inflamed the Iraq War? The Perspective of American Cartoonists.

Rania writes:

Caricature, expressed in cartoons, goes back to the days of the ancient Egyptians who left behind drawings depicting the foibles and weaknesses of their masters. For example, one cartoon dating back more than 3,000 years shows a group of servants carrying their drunken master home from a banquet. The faults of the pharaohs were depicted on tombs at Thebes, and even Cleopatra was portrayed in various stages of intoxication. Political cartoons have played an active role in developing public awareness, and sometimes have been used as a tool for gathering information and for understanding current conditions. Among many readers, a single cartoon can sometimes be more effective than the most sophisticated article. That is why it attracts many readers, no matter what their political, cultural and educational backgrounds. Moreover, political cartoons as an art form have been drawn from cultural perspectives that provide a good example of how people from different cultures might say the same thing but in different ways. The role played by political cartoons within American society in shaping political awareness and defining the political situation of the time has not been explored in-depth before. This study examines the role of political cartoons in depicting US policy in Iraq in the years 2003 and 2007. The content of the cartoons of *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times* and *Newsweek* in these years were analysed to gain a better understanding of the role of the cartoons before, during and

after the US invasion of Iraq, and to explore the causes and impact of this war with more emphasis on the artistic and linguistic features, symbols, and historical references used in such cartoons.

Constantin Schreiber, TV correspondent, Deutsche Welle, DW-TV Arabia (self-funded). *Research Project*. Dubai – a ‘Paradise’ in Construction.

Constantin writes:

Dubai, city of the future—21st-century Arabia—the new world centre for innovation and invention: Dubai acquires a lot of media attention these days, whether because of another spectacular construction project, or because its rulers have just donated another 10 billion dollars or so to a new Middle East fund. At the same time, Dubai is becoming the regional hub for many international broadcasting companies. But how free are journalists working in the Emirates to report on sensitive issues, to cover stories the ruling sheikhs may find insulting or dishonouring? Hardly any bad news from the Emirates makes it on air or into newspapers or magazines. Is that because the UAE is the land of milk and honey where bad news simply does not exist? To anyone living in the UAE it is obvious that, for the majority of people, life in Dubai is all but a milk and honey experience. Most of the labourers in Dubai come from South Asia. They work as cheap labourers on construction sites or as housemaids for the rich and well-off. Most live on 200 US dollars per month in one of the most expensive cities in the world. They truly struggle to survive in the self-proclaimed city of the future. I take a look at a side of Dubai rarely seen, uncensored and unplugged. I investigate the life of Dubai’s suppressed underclass, thereby showing the gap between the city’s glamorous image abroad and its harsh reality – and at the same time describe the difficulties journalists have in gathering information about and reporting on the country’s sensitive issues in a climate of censorship and repression.



Meera Selva, Africa correspondent, the *Independent*, UK (sponsor: Thomson Reuters Foundation). *Research Project*. Comparative Study of British and American Coverage of Darfur and How Media Coverage of Darfur Affects Foreign Policy and Aid.

Meera writes:

The thesis looks at media coverage of the Darfur crisis and how this has affected international policy towards the region. It looks at why Darfur is seen as an international problem, and the ways it is being dealt with. It focuses on the phase of the Darfur conflict that began in early 2003 when fighting broke out between government forces and rebels from the Sudan Liberation Army and the Justice and Equality Movement. A month later, refugees began arriving in eastern Chad, fleeing the violence. Reports began emerging that the militias which attacked civilians and drove them from their homes were being supported by the Sudanese airforce. The conflict in Darfur is especially interesting because it evolved alongside the concept of a ‘responsibility to protect’; a concept that tries to provide a legal and ethical basis for humanitarian intervention. The first calls for action over Darfur were couched in terms of finding a political solution, and to tie the solution for Darfur into the Comprehensive Peace Agreement that was being signed between the South and the government in Khartoum. This was ignored. However, as the tragedy became more widely recognised, a new tone was set—both in the description of the atrocities and in the demand that something ‘must be done’.



Meera Selva has continued her affiliation with the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism as a Visiting Fellow.

At the same time, a focus on humanitarian assistance sidestepped the issue of politics and intervention, and glossed over the fact that humanitarian intervention can be highly selective. By 2003, after the Iraq war, the international community had little appetite to intervene militarily in other conflicts. The UN certainly felt overstretched and under-resourced, and the US still remembered the horrors of its Somalia intervention too vividly to want to intervene in another messy East African conflict, especially in a Muslim country. This thesis looks at how this debate has evolved.



Maria Semenova, editor, the *RBCB Bulletin*, Russia (sponsor: Wincott Foundation). *Research Project*. The Integration of the Russian Economy into the World Trade System: How to Build International Competitiveness? *Maria writes:*

The Russian state, since the fall of communism, has increasingly become part of the global economy and the globalising process. Over this period of time, the extent and scope of the government's role in this process has constantly changed. It is now widely accepted that economic freedom is a prerequisite for survival in the current global economy; however, the challenge for Russia is to balance that requirement with the political direction that the current government is following. My paper examines the role of the state in the development of the Russian economy since the fall of communism, and discusses to what extent globalisation is affecting the Russian economy, and to what extent the Russian economy is dictating its own progress through state-managed policies. I compared two periods—the era of President Boris Yeltsin and that of President Vladimir Putin. The first of these, 1991–9, is characterised by the fragmentation of a central state unable to exercise its influence over the regulatory decisions of central and regional public authorities. In the second, 2000 to the present day, the presidential reforms, especially following Putin's re-election in 2004, have broadly aimed to reinforce the 'apex of power', control over natural resources and other strategic industries. My main conclusion is that joining the World Trade Organisation and opening the economy to global, competitive forces may promise new wealth while ending state subsidies and protective measures, enhance competition in the market and help the middle class and private business to become a counterbalance to bureaucratic domination.



Kayo Tomono, Staff writer of *Asahi Shimbun*, Japan (sponsor: *Asahi Shimbun*). *Research Project*. Political Analysis of Health Care Reform in the UK: What Comes Next? *Kayo writes:*

The title of my research project in Oxford is 'What money can't buy: healthcare reform in the UK since 2000'. I am a political and health correspondent of a national daily newspaper in Japan. Healthcare reform is always highly political in Japan as well as in the UK, and, indeed, it was healthcare reform which made me change from being merely a 'health correspondent' to becoming a 'political and health correspondent'. I became interested in the UK reforms because the UK, which had shared the position of 'low-spending countries on health' with Japan until 2000, changed its policy and increased health spending dramatically. I wanted to know why the UK had changed its policy and to know what has happened since then. In Japan, a serious discussion about whether health spending should be increased or not is now underway. The experience of the UK will surely provide thought-provoking lessons to

Japanese policy-making in the very near future. I was lucky to be a member of Green College, a college which specialises in medicine, and to meet many people who work in and around the NHS, and were willing to discuss healthcare issues with me. Above all, I would like to send a special thanks to my wonderful adviser, Dr Elisabeth Peretz, who made my Oxford stay in the year of the 60th anniversary of NHS really meaningful.

Wang Yao, Senior Reporter and Central Bureau Chief, *China Youth Daily*, China (sponsor: Thomson Reuters Foundation). *Research Project*. The Dilemma for the Chinese Media: How to Manage Chinese Newspapers' Independence from Commercial Pressures and Establish High Ethical Standards? Don't Lose Face.

Wang Yao writes:

My research focuses on journalistic ethics and media management in developing and developed countries. I hoped to find some solutions on how to manage Chinese newspapers' independence from commercial pressures and to establish high ethical standards. It is the present dilemma facing the Chinese media. Journalists in China are called 'migrant workers in the media industry assembly line' – paid like workers in a shoe production line, with payment calculated on how many words they have written. There is no system to reward good writing, and journalists do not win respect. It is a loss for the healthy development of the media industry in China: a tragic fact about the media industry which needs attention and action. Newspapers in today's China are squeezed from three sides: pressures from the government, from commercial imperatives and from the internet. As part of my research, I wanted to discover how far media in the UK were undergoing the same problems as those in China—and to find out what power the British media really has. Further, I wanted to test if it is possible for a media organisation with a sense of social responsibility to be a commercial success too. What kind of institutional safeguards are needed for professional ethics? How would they coordinate interest between the investors in a media company and the public interests to be served by the media itself? How can they give readers what they want and need to read, while preserving an ethical practice? Should a newspaper lower its quality standards for advertising profit and commercial gain? Should a newspaper abuse the intellectual contribution of its journalists and pay them poorly to reduce costs? My answer is definitely 'No'. But the question—how can the Chinese print media survive with dignity and ethically?—remains an open one.

Suzanne Yeo, producer, ABC News, USA (sponsor: Thomson Reuters Foundation). *Research Project*. Is British Coverage of the News Superior to our own? If so, Why?

Suzanne writes:

In hard times for television journalism, I endeavoured to conduct a content analysis (both quantitative and qualitative) of US television foreign news coverage (CBS and NBC) and compare it to that provided in the UK (BBC and ITV), a nation that has many things in common with the US—language, ideals, values and a free press. I concentrated on the flagship half-hour evening bulletins for the respective channels over the course of 14 randomly chosen dates. During this time period, there were several significant international stories which emerged – the Zimbabwe elections, protests marring the Olympic torch relay, Fidel Castro stepping down from power, as well as developments in ongoing global issues such as rising food prices, economic meltdowns and climate change. In my data, I



found a sharp divide between the coverage in America and that of the UK in terms of the number of foreign stories, length of those stories, range of countries and issues covered, and types of stories (analysis, event and policy driven, human interest, etc.). In addition, I looked at the points of views provided, the tone of the stories, and which stories were being ignored and by whom. Again, my findings revealed disparities between the two countries with respect to those matters but I also found differences between the two British broadcasters. The dissimilarities between the two American broadcasts were less pronounced. I also tried to draw some conclusions about what, if any, relationship exists between the news provided in the two countries and audience attitudes toward certain international issues.



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Cover: Reuters photographer Reinhard Krause takes pictures in a street in the earthquake stricken town of Hongbai, Sichuan province May 18, 2008. © Thomson Reuters