

on the **record**

**“Journalists, by their very nature,
represent the ultimate strength
of an open society as well as
its ultimate vulnerability.”**

Judea Pearl, father of slain journalist
Daniel Pearl



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Women's
Media
Foundation**

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IWMF's Upcoming Programs

Elizabeth Neuffer Forum

The 2007 *Elizabeth Neuffer Forum on Human Rights and Journalism* will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 29 at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston. The theme is "Women and Islam: Understanding and Reporting." For more information visit: www.iwmf.org/programs/neuffer/forum.php.

2007 Leadership Institute

The fourth annual *Leadership Institute for Women Journalists* will be held in July. For more information or for an application, visit www.iwmf.org/programs/leadership.

Courage in Journalism Awards

The 2007 *Courage in Journalism Awards* will be held Oct. 23 in New York and Oct. 30 in Los Angeles. A discussion with the *Courage* recipients will be held Oct. 25 in Washington, DC. To learn more about the *Courage Awards*, visit www.iwmf.org/courage.

A Close-up Shot of the War in Iraq

IWMF's Elizabeth Neuffer Fellow has personal insight from working as a reporter in Iraq

By Peggy Simpson

When Huda Ahmed was named the IWMF's 2006-07 Elizabeth Neuffer Fellow, her mother told her to "keep this happiness in your heart" in order to "keep your head on your shoulder."

Ahmed, an Iraqi reporter, accepts this reality. Many of her cousins have been kidnapped or shot to death, targeted because they worked for foreign companies. She knows at least five translators or drivers who have been killed for the same reason.

"The cards are shuffled here," she said. "You don't know who's your enemy, who's your friend. And it's hard to know how to solve this."

So Ahmed especially looked forward to her fellowship, which allows her to study at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and other Boston-area universities, and possibly spend time at the *Boston Globe* or *New York Times*.

Ahmed is learning more about U.S. goals for Iraq and the Middle East. From the Arab street, she heard only the negatives of

U.S. policies, of mistakes made over and over again, not just in Iraq, but also in Palestine and Lebanon. She wants to "understand the point of view of the American government, with Iraq and the whole Middle East," she said, beyond promises about democracy and human rights.

Ahmed worked as a translator for more than a decade before becoming a reporter in 2004. During the job transition, the dangers facing both reporters and translators and the turmoil confronting ordinary Iraqis also shifted.

In the early days of the Iraq war, it was easy to get interviews with insurgents, even to go to their homes for the interviews. "They wanted the media to convey their point of view," Ahmed said.

Today, she said, insurgents look at translators and reporters as prey. "They want to just kill you."

"If I say I work for an international agency, they say 'they'll pay thousands and thousands of dollars for you... You're a good catch.' I say, 'No, I'm worth nothing because I'm a local. They won't pay you anything.'"

continued on page 2

Life on the street has become extraordinarily dangerous, prompting a backlash from Iraqis who say “they don’t want democracy and freedom anymore. They long for security... They want to have a life like people in other countries, to take their children to school and protect them.... There is huge frustration. They can’t trust the police or the Parliament or their own neighbors.”

Ahmed is one of seven children from a Shi’a family. Her father encouraged her to read widely in literature, politics and history. Ahmed got a degree in languages from Baghdad University in 1992, but because of the harsh sanctions following the 1991 Gulf war, left Iraq and worked as a translator in the United Arab Emirates, Tunisia and Libya. With her father ailing, she and a brother took charge of supporting the family, and she sent much of her income back home.

When Ahmed visited Iraq in 2002, she was trapped by the start of the current war. She began translating for *The Washington Post* and then *Knight Ridder*.

She got a sense of what journalists considered a good story idea and saw how their stories changed as they made it into print. “I watched, through our interviews, what they do and how they asked questions, how they phrased them and what they focused on,” she said.

“I had an eagerness inside me that I want to write,” she said. Under Saddam Hussein, writing was too perilous for her family. She had written overseas for some Arab publications. But, with Hussein and his police state gone, she wanted to

report on the people she knew best, “their desires, their fears,” to tell “what horrible times they’ve been through. And their hope.”

Ahmed said her bosses welcomed her ideas and her initiative. She began to write about Iraqi women seeking their rights and interviewed women’s rights activists from other countries. She wrote about widows and children stranded with no economic base after their husbands died in the conflict or were gunned down by insurgents. She wrote about Iraqi policemen and their isolation. “Because the insurgents are tracking them, they can’t go to restaurants and eat like everyone else. Their presence is a danger for others.”

Ahmed also began to cover the militias and their role in society and to write about the sectarian standoffs that began to be a dominant factor in Iraq.

“Before, we used to have no problem between the sects; the Shi’as and the Sunni lived together... And now, in three or four years, this hostility has come from nowhere and nailed us down,” she said.

Ahmed said Iraqis have a horrible life and called Baghdad “a dead city.” She does not see the current situation as an opportunity to rebuild Iraq. Instead, she said, “I think we are losers today.”

Ahmed has developed techniques to survive the danger she faces each day. She shows up early or late but never at the appointed time for an interview with a militia leader. She keeps her job secret from most people. And she never speaks

English on the street or on her home telephone.

Still, she holds out hope. After her fellowship, Ahmed hopes to return to Iraq and eventually cover other Middle Eastern countries. She also vows to keep tracking the region’s women’s rights activists.

Eventually, Ahmed said, she wants to publish “an Iraqi newspaper in English and Arabic and Kurdish. And I hope it will be an international paper.”

When Ahmed received the call telling her that she had won the Elizabeth Neuffer Fellowship, it was midnight in Iraq. She started shouting, waking up her entire family. Then, her mother hushed her. “Don’t be stupid,” she said. “Don’t speak English on the phone.”

This brought Ahmed back to her day-to-day reality. It also saddened her. But it failed to undermine her enthusiasm. She is eagerly interacting with people from all over the world and working on reporting and writing. But simply winning the fellowship fulfilled an ambition of Ahmed’s.

“This is my life’s dream,” she said. ■

Peggy Simpson is a freelance writer based in Washington, DC.

Elizabeth Neuffer Forum

Huda Ahmed will be one of the panelists at the Elizabeth Neuffer Forum on Human Rights and Journalism, which will be held March 29 in Boston. For more information about the Elizabeth Neuffer Forum or fellowship, visit <http://www.iwmf.org/programs/neuffer>

Courage Award Winner Killed; IWMF Calls for Justice

Anna Politkovskaya, who won an IWMF *Courage in Journalism Award* in 2002 for her unrelenting reporting on Russian society – particularly the war in Chechnya – was shot dead in the elevator of her apartment Oct. 7, 2006.

Outraged at her murder and the threat to press freedom in Russia, the IWMF sent a letter to Vladimir Putin, president of Russia, and encouraged those in its network to do the same. Politkovskaya was also recognized during the IWMF's *Courage in Journalism Award* ceremonies in October and November.

The IWMF co-sponsored a candlelight vigil in her memory on Oct. 16 outside the Russian Federation's Embassy to the United States. During the vigil, Politkovskaya's personal and professional contacts spoke about her work as a journalist and her commitment to



Read a bio of Politkovskaya when she won the Courage Award: <http://www.iwmf.org/courage/02award.php#politkovskaya>

See Politkovskaya's *Courage* acceptance speech: <http://www.iwmf.org/press/9498>

Help support journalists like Politkovskaya: <http://www.iwmf.org/network/support>

protecting human rights in Russia. Participants included Amnesty International USA, Freedom House, the International Center for Journalists and the Open Society Institute.

“The need to risk is part of the profession here,” Politkovskaya said in her *Courage Award* acceptance speech. “If you are tired and cannot take the risk any more, you have to leave. As for me, I am not tired yet.” ■



A vigil for Anna Politkovskaya was held in Washington, DC, in October.



News & Notes

Updates on IWMF Network

IWMF Board of Directors

Eleanor Clift, Co-Chair
Newsweek

Liza Gross, Co-Chair
The Miami Herald

Christiane Amanpour
CNN

Akwe Amosu
Open Society Institute

Theodore J. Boutros, Jr.
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Campbell Brown
NBC News

Merrill Brown
MMB Media LLC

Maureen Bunyan
WJLA-TV, Washington, DC

Kathy Bushkin Calvin
United Nations Foundation

Raghida Dergham
Al Hayat/LBC

Ysabel Duron
KRON4-TV, San Francisco

Ferial Haffajee
Mail & Guardian, Johannesburg

Deborah Howell
The Washington Post

Marjorie Miller
Los Angeles Times

Emily Nwankwo
World Agroforestry Centre, Nairobi

Larry Olmstead
Leading Edge Associates

Lynn Povich

Linda Peek Schacht
Emerson College

Margaret Scott Schiff
The Washington Post

Carole Simpson
Emerson College/NPR

Kerry Smith
ABC News

Judy Woodruff
The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer

Peggy White
Yahoo! Finance

Jane B. Ransom
Executive Director

Advisory Council

Barbara Cochran

Susan King

Marcy McGinnis

Bailey Morris-Eck

Cynthia Tucker

Narda Zacchino

Leadership Institute Participants Move Ahead in their Careers

Participants in the IWMF's third annual *Leadership Institute for Women Journalists* are continuing to lead for change in newsrooms. Here is an update on some of their achievements since the July 2006 event.

Marcela Toledo, a reporter and assistant editor at *El Tiempo* in Santa Maria, Calif., was one of the recipients of the Second



Marcela Toledo [photo courtesy Comisión de Derechos Humanos del Distrito Federal]

Faces of Discrimination Journalism Prize in September. The award, which is organized by the Federal District Commission of Human Rights, the Manuel Buendia Foundation and the National Council to Prevent Discrimination, emphasizes the values of democracy. Toledo, who covers culture, crime, city hall and social issues in addition to editing and translating articles,

won first place in the print media category for a story entitled "Un día en el destierro" ("A day in exile").

Susanna Schrobsdorff won a Front Page Award from the Newswomen's Club of New York. Schrobsdorff, a business and technology editor at *Newsweek.com*, was recognized in the Internet commentary category for her article about the Dove "natural woman" ads. Click here to read her article: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/8813128/site/newsweek/>

Teri Arvesu, a producer for Univision in Miami, Fla., was selected as one of four broadcast recipients for a McCormick Tribune Fellowship. The fellowship, sponsored by the National Association of Minority Media Executives, is an executive development program for high-performing senior managers and executives of color in the news media.

IWMF's Maisha Yetu Journalists Win UNESCO Awards

Pamela Asigi, a participant in the IWMF's *Maisha Yetu* project, received a 2006 UNESCO HIV/AIDS Red Ribbon Award for Excellence in Journalism. Asigi, a reporter for *The Nation Group* in Kenya, was recognized as the top journalist in the television category for her coverage of World AIDS Day (Dec. 1). The topic of her coverage was discordant couples. (One person is HIV positive; the other is HIV negative.)



Pamela Asigi



Tuduetsa Setsiba

Another *Maisha Yetu* participant, **Tuduetsa Setsiba** of *Mmegi* and *Monitor* newspapers in Botswana, received a third place Red Ribbon Award for her article in *Mmegi* on fashion and HIV/AIDS.

The goal of the awards is to recognize exceptional reporting while raising awareness of issues related to HIV/AIDS.

To learn about the IWMF's *Maisha Yetu* project, visit <http://www.iwmf.org/africa/programs.php#maishayetu>.

IWMF Board Members Receive Awards, Assume New Positions

Judy Woodruff, a founding member of the IWMF's board of directors and the chair of the *Courage in Journalism Awards*, became a senior correspondent for *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer* Feb. 5.



Judy Woodruff

Woodruff leads in-studio discussions, reports from the field and conducts interviews. She'll also serve as editor of *The NewsHour's* 2008 political coverage and be a back-up anchor to Jim Lehrer.

Woodruff served as anchor and senior correspondent for CNN from 1993 to 2005. Before moving to CNN, she spent ten years at *The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour* as the chief Washington correspondent.

* * *

Carole Simpson, a veteran journalist and member of the IWMF's board of directors, recently became leader-in-residence at Emerson College.



Carole Simpson

Simpson, an ABC World News Tonight anchor from 1988-2003, will teach, mentor and lead community conversations at Emerson. In February, she will launch "Conversations with Carole Simpson" for students, faculty and the public.

A three-time Emmy award winner, Simpson is a longtime supporter of the IWMF's *Carole Simpson Leadership Institute*, which has offered African women journalists the opportunity to build media leadership skills since its inception in 1998.

* * *

Lynn Povich received the Exceptional Woman in Periodical Publishing Award Oct. 24 from Women in Periodical Publishing. Qualities of awardees include the creation of wonderful products, interest in improving the lives of other women and strong qualities of mentorship. Previous award recipients include Gloria Steinem, Bonnie Krueger and IWMF co-chair Eleanor Clift.



Lynn Povich

Update on Former *Courage* Awardees

Kim Bolan, a 1999 recipient of a *Courage in Journalism Award*, received the PEN Canada/Paul Kidd Courage Prize in October. Bolan, a journalist for *The*



Kim Bolan

Vancouver Sun, was recognized for exceptional courage and integrity in the interest of freedom of expression. In particular, Bolan has extensively covered the Air India affair and has written a book about it, *Loss of Faith: How the Air-India Bombers Got Away with Murder*.

The award is named for Paul Kidd, who died in 2002 after a career as one of Canada's first globe-trotting foreign correspondents. PEN Canada is a centre of International PEN that campaigns on behalf of writers around the world persecuted for the expression of their thoughts.

Gordana Knezevic, a 1992 recipient of the IWMF's *Courage in Journalism Award*, is moving to Prague to join the South Slavic Service of Radio Free Europe as a multi-media producer. Knezevic, who had previously spent seven years at Reuters Canada Online, will be focusing on Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia at RFE.

Anja Niedringhaus, a 2005 recipient of an IWMF *Courage in Journalism Award*, served as a panelist in Boston in October.



Anja Niedringhaus

Niedringhaus, a photographer for the Associated Press who is currently a Nieman fellow at Harvard University, spoke about her experience in journalism following a screening of the PBS program *Democracy on Deadline*. The documentary about press freedom featured journalists including former *Courage* awardees Anna Politkovskaya (Russia, 2002) and Chris Anyanwu (Nigeria, 1995).

IWMF Honors 2006 *Courage Award* Winners

The International Women's Media Foundation honored the recipients of its

Courage in Journalism and *Lifetime Achievement Awards* last fall. Jill Carroll, May Chidiac, Gao Yu and Elena Poniatowska were recognized at ceremonies Oct. 24 in New York and Nov. 2 in Los Angeles. They also participated in a panel discussion Oct. 25 at the National Geographic Society in Washington, DC.

- Read more about the *Courage Awards*:

www.iwmf.org/courage/index.php

- See an article about the panel discussion in Washington, DC:

www.iwmf.org/features/9529

- See photo galleries from the panel discussion and the awards ceremonies:

www.iwmf.org/gallery/

Courage in Journalism
AWARDS



Judy Woodruff, chair of the *Courage in Journalism Awards*, pays tribute to former *Courage* awardee Anna Politkovskaya, who was killed in October.

The 2006 *Courage* awardees at a reception preceding the award ceremony in New York. From left: May Chidiac, Jill Carroll, Elena Poniatowska and Gao Yu.

READ PROFILES OF THE 2006 *COURAGE IN JOURNALISM AWARD* RECIPIENTS:

Jill Carroll - www.iwmf.org/features/9516

May Chidiac - www.iwmf.org/features/9519

Gao Yu - www.iwmf.org/features/9518

Elena Poniatowska - www.iwmf.org/features/9515

READ THE AWARDEES' ACCEPTANCE SPEECHES:

May Chidiac - www.iwmf.org/press/9531

Gao Yu - www.iwmf.org/press/9532

Elena Poniatowska - www.iwmf.org/press/9533

Jill Carroll's mother, Mary Beth Carroll, on her daughter's behalf - www.iwmf.org/press/9592

IWMF Co-Sponsors Discussion on Peace, Stability

By Lindsey Wray

Hubbe Hussein Al-Haji said she's lived in conflict since the day she was born.

She has seen women displaced and children exposed to danger.

But as the founder and program director for Womankind Kenya, she helps to empower communities and create change in the lives of people affected by conflict.

Al-Haji was one of four panelists in a discussion about peace and stability, held Nov. 15 at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, DC. Sponsored by the International Women's Media Foundation, the Centre for Development and Population Activities and the Center for Women Policy Studies, the event featured women leaders in conflict-affected countries.

"The challenges we have are many," said Al-Haji, who attributes her desire to make an impact in her country to the strength of her mother.

"I know in my heart that we have a common interest," said Catherine Adifaka, a



The panel was held Nov. 15 in Washington, DC.

panelist who is a commissioner for the public service commission of the prime minister's office in the Solomon Islands. Adifaka said her faith is what drives her to work to ease conflict. She has helped to build women's presence in politics in the Solomon Islands.

Women and young people are the most vulnerable groups in a conflict, said Leslie Wolfe, president of the Center for Women Policy Studies, in the introduction to the discussion. Being forced to leave their homes compounds their risk by making them more susceptible to physical or sexual assault.

But Al-Haji, Adifaka and many other women are making their voices heard, said Yolanda Richardson, president and CEO of CEDPA and the discussion moderator.

"In conflict is opportunity," said Srijana Adhikari. She works for the Nepal Student Union and recognizes the importance of harnessing young people's energy and turning it into a peaceful, meaningful presence within her country.

"Democracy isn't sustainable without peace," she said.

Rasha Almahdi of the Sudan National Population Council is also looking for a peaceful solution to the conflict in Darfur. She hopes to bring development issues to the attention of policy makers and "come up with a brighter future."

Because the power for change resides in the leadership of these and other women, it's important for stories such as theirs to be told, said Jane Ransom, executive director of the IWMF, at the close of the event.

For Al-Haji, staying motivated to initiate change and ease conflict comes down to this:

"I can do it and I will do it," she said. ■

Lindsey Wray is the IWMF's communications assistant.

Web Watch: Sites of Interest

Media Helping Media

Media Helping Media is a discussion forum for those involved in establishing independent media in transition, post-conflict countries and areas where press freedom of expression is under threat.

<http://www.mediahelpingmedia.org/>

Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression

The U.N. Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression acts as an independent watchdog of governments, calling attention to free expression violations around the world and lobbying states to improve the protection of free speech rights. Complaints can be filed to the Rapporteur, which, upon verification, can pursue cases with governments.

<http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/opinion/index.htm>

IWMF Names New Board Members

The IWMF recently announced five new members of its board of directors:

- **Christiane**

Amanpour, CNN's chief international correspondent.

Amanpour, who is based in London, is a 1994 recipient of the IWMF's *Courage in Journalism Award*. The Emmy-award winning journalist has reported on crises from places such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Iran, Israel, Pakistan, Somalia and Rwanda.



Christiane Amanpour

- **Theodore J.**

Boutrous Jr., a partner in the Los Angeles and Washington, DC, offices of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher.

Boutrous, co-chair of the law firm's Media and Entertainment Group and its Appellate and Constitutional Law Group and vice-chair of the Crisis Management Group, has represented top media



Theodore J. Boutrous, Jr.

organizations and reporters in a wide array of matters.

- **Campbell Brown**, co-anchor of NBC's Today Weekend Edition.

Brown is also a primary correspondent for NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams and the weekday Today show. Prior to joining Weekend Today, Brown served as NBC News White House correspondent, where she reported for Nightly News with Tom Brokaw, Today and MSNBC.



Cambell Brown

- **Ferial Haffajee**,

editor of the Johannesburg, South Africa *Mail & Guardian*. Haffajee, who also chairs the South African National Editors' Forum, specializes in current affairs, media freedom and women's empowerment. She was previously a senior editor at the South African weekly *Financial Mail* and a radio and television producer at



Ferial Haffajee

Board Bios

For full bios of members of the IWMF's 2007 board of directors, visit <http://www.iwmf.org/about/board.php>.

the South African Broadcasting Corporation.

- **Peggy White**, general manager of Yahoo! Finance. White oversees all areas of operations for the financial website. She previously served as vice president and general manager of BusinessWeek online and senior vice president of sales and business development for MSNBC.com.



Peggy White

Leading the IWMF's board of directors are **Eleanor Clift**, a contributing editor at *Newsweek*, and **Liza Gross**, managing editor for presentation and operations at *The Miami Herald*. Gross replaces **Larry Olmstead**, president and executive consultant of Leading Edge Associates, who will remain on the IWMF board. ■

Advisory Council

Outgoing board members will serve on an advisory council for the IWMF. They are:

- **Barbara Cochran**, Radio-Television News Directors Association
- **Susan King**, Carnegie Corporation of New York
- **Marcy McGinnis**, Stony Brook University
- **Bailey Morris-Eck**, (London) *Financial News*
- **Cynthia Tucker**, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*
- **Narda Zacchino**, *The San Francisco Chronicle*

IWMF Changes Face of Health Reporting in Africa

Effect of *Maisha Yetu* Project is Documented in *Writing for Our Lives*

The International Women's Media Foundation has encouraged networking, increased depth of reporting and expanded mentoring in African media outlets. The organization's recent publication, *Writing for Our Lives: How the Maisha Yetu Project Changed Health Coverage in Africa*, documents how the IWMF's innovative *Maisha Yetu* project has improved health reporting in Botswana, Kenya and Senegal.

Launched in 2002 with a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the *Maisha Yetu* ("Our Lives" in Swahili) project brought practical journalism

training into newsrooms. The journalists – more than half of whom were women – continue to benefit from skills they acquired through the program, and health reporting continues to be a focus in newsrooms.

By creating practical, sustainable measures to help African media improve their coverage of HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria, the IWMF's *Maisha Yetu* project affected not only journalists but the larger population in Botswana, Kenya and Senegal.

The IWMF obtained buy-in from six media houses in these countries to make them "Centers of Excellence." The partners were:

Botswana – government-owned Botswana Broadcasting Services and privately owned *Mmegi* newspaper.

Kenya – privately owned Nation and Standard media groups (both of which include print and electronic media).

Senegal – government owned *Le Soleil* newspaper and privately owned Sud FM radio. ■

For more information on the IWMF's *Maisha Yetu* project, visit www.iwmf.org/africa/programs.php#maishayetu. For an electronic version of *Writing for Our Lives*, go to www.iwmf.org/pdfs/WFOLforweb2.pdf.

IWMF Staff Members Participate in Vital Voices Conference in South Africa

With the goal of helping to enact social, political and economic change, Vital Voices of Africa held a Leadership Summit for Women and Girls in Capetown, South Africa in January.

The conference focused on subjects such as human rights and social development, leading change in public life and media as a tool for women's empowerment. It brought together women and girls who are emerging and established leaders to grapple with some of the most pressing challenges facing Africa – economic development, trade, violence against women, HIV/AIDS and effective governance.

In an effort to help support women in leadership, Gifti Nadi and Aulora Stally of the IWMF attended the summit.

At the conference, Nadi, senior program officer for Africa, and Stally, the IWMF's *Maisha Yetu* project manager, shared information about the IWMF's work in Africa, specifically the *Maisha Yetu* project, which aims to improve the quality of health reporting in African media outlets, and the *Carole Simpson Leadership Institute*. They also served as media mentors to young women and girls for the duration of the summit, partnered with media

outlets and shared media research on Africa. Nadi and Stally represented the IWMF as panelists and media experts at various discussions and facilitated a half-day training session on working with the media and developing partnerships with journalists.

As a panelist, Stally discussed the IWMF's role in empowering women in the media through leadership training and the development of critical resources and networks. She also talked about empowering women in the media using the *Maisha Yetu* model, which involves buy-in from management and working closely with editors.

On the last day of the summit, Vital Voices launched its Pan-African Leadership Initiative for Women and Girls to support the leadership efforts of women and girls in their communities and countries to make positive change in Africa.

Vital Voices Global Partnership grew out of the United States government's Vital Voices Democracy Initiative, which was established after the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women to promote the advancement of women as a U.S. foreign policy goal. ■

CPJ, WAN Release Reports on Press Freedom

The Committee to Protect Journalists has released a new report that documents hundreds of cases of media repression in dozens of countries. *Attacks on the Press* examines the growing number of journalists who were killed and jailed for their work in 2006. The last six months of 2006 were the most lethal period for journalists in a decade, according to a report the World Association of Newspapers.

<http://www.cpj.org/attacks06/pages06/aop06index.html>
<http://www.wan-press.org/article12552.html> ■

Following Outcry, Putin Vows to Protect Press in Russia

Russian president Vladimir Putin vowed Feb. 1 to protect the press. Responding to an international outcry over the murder of Russian journalist and former *Courage in Journalism Award* recipient Anna Politkovskaya, Putin for the first time acknowledged the importance of Politkovskaya's work. He had previously said Politkovskaya's "influence on political life in Russia was minimal." According to a recent CPJ study, Russia is the third deadliest country in the world for journalists over the past 15 years.

<http://www.cpj.org/news/2007/europe/russia01feb07na.html> ■

Dozier Visits CBS News For First Time After Attack

Kimberly Dozier, the CBS journalist who was wounded in a car bombing in Iraq in May, visited CBS News'

headquarters Jan. 30 for the first time since the attack. Dozier is still undergoing therapy to repair her legs from shrapnel from the bombing, which killed her British camera crewmen Paul Douglas and James Brolan, as well as a U.S. soldier and an Iraqi translator. ■

Knight Center Offers Online Course in Spanish

The Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas will offer a new online Spanish-language course called "Tools for Investigative Journalism." The free course was created by Argentine journalist Sandra Crucianelli.

http://www.knightcenter.utexas.edu/distancelearning_article.php?page=7230 ■

Freedom House Launches 2007 Report

Freedom House, which supports the

expansion of freedom in the world, has issued a new report, *Freedom in the World 2007*, which surveys political rights and civil liberties worldwide. The report indicates that democratic development appears to be stagnating.

http://www.freedomhouse.org/uploads/press_release/fiw07_charts.pdf ■

Jill Carroll Report Calls for Foreign Reporting Presence

Jill Carroll, a 2006 recipient of the IWMF's *Courage in Journalism Award*, criticizes cutbacks in foreign news coverage in a report she wrote as a fellow at Harvard University's Shorenstein Center. Carroll, who spent 82 days in captivity in Iraq in 2006, researched the drop in numbers of foreign bureaus and correspondents as media companies face financial pressures.

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opportunities

MEDIA LAW ADVOCATES TRAINING PROGRAM

Description: A two-week training program in human rights and media law will be held July 1-14 in Oxford, England. The program is run by the Program in Comparative Media Law and Policy at the Center for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford, in collaboration with the Open Society Justice Initiative and other organizations.

Requirements: The course is designed for lawyers or media advocates from any country who are interested in deepening their understanding of regional and international human rights systems, with a particular focus on freedom of expression. Applicants should have a strong commitment to human rights, especially to media freedom, a law degree, and eligibility for legal practice in his/her country.

Deadline: April 20, 2007

For more information: E-mail louise.scott@csls.ox.ac.uk.

Website: <http://pcmlp.socleg.ox.ac.uk/>

SCRIPPS HOWARD LATIN AMERICAN MEDIA ETHICS SEMINAR

Description: The Scripps Howard Latin American Media Ethics Seminar is scheduled for July 28-Aug. 1. Organized by the International Center for Journalists with the support of the Scripps Howard Foundation, the seminar will be held in Washington, DC.

Requirements: Candidates must be mid-career journalists or journalism professors who work in the independent news media in Latin America. The seminar will cover expenses for airfares, meals, lodging, transportation and health insurance during the program. Fluency in English is not required.

Deadline: April 26, 2007

For more information: Tel: (202) 349-7615; E-mail: scripps@icjf.org.

Website: <http://www.icjf.org/shethics.html>

KNIGHT-BATTEN AWARDS FOR INNOVATIONS IN JOURNALISM

Description: The awards spotlight news and information that is more than multimedia journalism. They reward novel efforts to involve citizens actively in public issues, to invite their participation and create entry points that stir their imagination and engagement. Grand prize is \$10,000, and up to \$5,000 in "Special Distinction Awards" and a \$1,000 "Wild Card Award" will be presented.

Requirements: Contest is open to all news efforts originating between May 1, 2006 and June 12, 2007. Entries must consist of journalism content created by a news-producing initiative, and individuals must have been affiliated with such initiatives at the time of publication to enter.

Deadline: June 13, 2007

For more information: Contact the Knight-Batten Innovations Awards, J-Lab:

The Institute for Interactive Journalism, 7100 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 101, College Park, MD 20740-3637. Tel: (301) 985-4020; e-mail: news@j-lab.org.

Website: <http://www.j-lab.org>

FRONT PAGE AWARDS

Description: The awards for excellence in journalism spotlight outstanding work by women in the media. Entries may be submitted in six divisions and numerous categories.

Requirements: The contest is open to New York area based reporters, editors, contributing editors, stringers or freelance women journalists and women whose publications have their main circulation in the within a 75-mile radius of New York City, including Long Island and legislative correspondents based in Albany.

Deadline: August 1, 2007

For more information: Contact Front Page Awards, Newswomen's Club of New York, 15 Gramercy Park South, New York, New York, 10003. Tel: (212) 777-1610; E-mail: fpa@newswomensclubnewyork.com.

Website: <http://www.newswomensclubnewyork.com/index.php?p=frontpage>

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http://www.ksg.harvard.edu/presspol/research_publications/papers/Discussion_Papers/D39.pdf ■

Report Addresses Lack of Female, Minority Media Ownership

Out of the Picture, a study released by Free Press in the fall of 2006, focuses on the lack of female and minority-owned television stations in the U.S. The Federal Communications Commission has the responsibility to “monitor and foster female and minority broadcast ownership,” said Derek Turner, co-author of the study.

<http://www.freepress.net/press/release.php?id=168> ■

Yemen Editor Wins WAN Award

Nadia Al-Saqqaf, editor-in-chief of the *Yemen Times*, received the

World Association of Newspapers’ 2006 Gebran Tueni Award, a new prize that recognizes an editor or publisher from the Arab region. Al-Saqqaf is the first woman ever to be appointed an editor in Yemen. Visit WAN’s website to read more.

<http://www.wan-press.org/article12649.html> ■

Iranian Publisher Recognized by International Publishers’ Association

Shahla Lahiji, a publisher in Iran, has been awarded the inaugural Publishers’ Freedom Prize by the International Publishers’ Association. The award honors individuals or organizations worldwide that have made a notable contribution to the defense or promotion of the right to freedom of expression. According to IPA, Lahiji became

the first female publisher in Iran when she founded her publishing house, Roshangaran, in 1983. She is also a writer and a translator.

<http://www.ipa-uie.org/PR%2021Sept06%20FTP%20Prize.pdf> ■

Media Center Focuses on Women’s Issues

A Netherlands-based media center is organizing a program to encourage women’s participation in Iraqi news media. *Sawtuha* (Her Voice) launched a website, virtual bulletin board and daily radio program in August. *Sawtuha*, which is supported by local and international organizations, aims to increase news media coverage of women’s issues and encourage an active exchange between women journalists and activists.

www.niqash.org/sawtuha (in Arabic) ■

Middle East Bloggers Start Conversations Amidst Violence

For Lebanese and Israelis surrounded by violence, blogging provides an outlet, especially among non-journalists who want to voice opinions. Starting individual conversations can help combat stereotypes and ease the tension, bloggers said.

www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/08/27/AR2006082700710.html ■

UN-Instraw Seeks to Update Directory

The United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women is updating its UN global media directory. Journalists may visit the website listed below to add their information.

www.un-instraw.org/en/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=1045 ■

GENDER EQUALITY COURSE

Description: Journalists interested in human rights can apply to attend a course on gender equality Sept. 3-7 in South Africa. Organized by the Center for Human Rights at the University of Pretoria, the course will cover the latest gender developments and their implications for African women. It aims to generate informed debate and hone advocacy and research skills in order to enhance the promotion of gender equality at all levels.

Requirements: Applications must be submitted at least one month prior to the course. Admission is based on work experience, academic qualifications and level of commitment and professionalism displayed through past experience.

Deadline: August 3, 2007

For more information: Contact the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, Pretoria 0002, South Africa. Tel: +27 12 420 4525; Fax: +27 12 362 5125; E-mail: ggp@postino.up.ac.za.

Website: <http://www.comminit.com/africa/training2007/2007-events/events-4624.html>

POPULATION INSTITUTE GLOBAL MEDIA AWARDS

Description: The awards are designed to encourage greater media coverage of population and development issues. They honor those who have contributed to creating awareness of population problems through outstanding journalistic endeavors. Winners receive an expense paid study tour of the hosting country.

Requirements: Entries may be submitted by any individual or organization from material appearing in the print and electronic media between Sept. 1, 2006 and Sept. 1, 2007. Participants may enter submissions in multiple categories.

Deadline: September 1, 2007

For more information: Contact the Global Media Awards Program, the Population Institute, 107 Second Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002. Tel: (202) 544-3300; Fax (202) 544-0068; E-mail: Sujata@populationinstitute.org.

Website: <http://www.populationinstitute.org/awards-grants/global-media-awards/index.php>

PULITZER CENTER ON CRISIS REPORTING TRAVEL GRANTS

Description: The center funds international travel costs associated with reporting projects on topics and regions of global importance, with an emphasis on issues that have gone unreported or under-reported in the mainstream American media. Individual travel grants will depend on the project; awards generally range from \$3,000 to \$10,000.

Requirements: Grants are open to all journalists, writers, or filmmakers. Staff journalists as well as freelance reporters of any nationality are eligible to apply.

Deadline: Ongoing

For more information: Contact the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting, 1779 Massachusetts Ave., Suite 615, Washington, DC, 20036. E-mail: info@pulitzercenter.org.

Website: <http://www.pulitzercenter.org/openmenu.cfm?id=7>