



Datebook

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of Native American Journalism.”

■ *For more information:* Telephone: 605.677.5282; Fax: 866.694.4264; E-mail: info@naja.com; Web site: <http://www.naja.com/programs/convention/>

NABJ CONVENTION

The National Association of Black Journalists will hold its 31st annual convention and career fair August 16-20, 2006 in Indianapolis, Ind.

■ *For more information:* Telephone: 301.445.7100; Fax: 301.445.7101; E-mail: nabj@nabj.org; Web site: <http://www.nabj.org/conventions/2006/index.html>

SPJ CONVENTION 2006

The Society of Professional Journalists will hold its annual convention and national journalism conference on August 24-27 in Chicago, Ill.

■ *For more information:* Telephone: 317.927.8000; Fax: 301.920.4789; E-mail: convention@spj.org; Web site: <http://www.spj.org/convention.asp>

COLLOQUIUM 2006

The seventh annual Media Ethics Colloquium will be held October 14-17, 2006, at the Univ. of St. Thomas in Minneapolis/St. Paul. See “Opportunity” on p. 31.

BOOK REVIEW

Louis Alvin Day. (2006). *Ethics in Media Communication: Cases and Controversies* (5th ed.). (Belmont CA: Wadsworth) xviii + 480 pp. ISBN 0-534-63714-0, \$69.95 (paper). 67 short case studies, chapter notes, appendices (SPJ, AAF, and PRSA codes), selected bibliography, index.

This is the third edition of this book to come out in the past six years. And while it's good to stay current in the field of media ethics, it's something of a Sisyphean task. Consider how quickly Judith Miller has moved from maestra to misled to martyr to Miss Run Amok. That said, while the book's promotional literature cites

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updated examples “pulled from today's headlines,” the book itself does a good job of steering clear of ongoing controversies where information could quickly become dated. The index does not list any mentions of Matt Cooper or Judith Miller. The 2003 Iraq invasion is touched upon, but the emphasis is on ethics of embedding reporters, not ongoing (as of this writing) questions of pre-war intelligence.

The book itself has two main sections. The first three chapters provide a broad overview of moral and ethical foundations and principles. This section moves swiftly: Kant gets less than one page, as does “The Rise of Relativism.”

The second part (10 chapters) provides an introduction, then a series of case studies grouped under headings such as “Conflicts of Interest” and “Morally Offensive Content: Freedom and Responsibility.”

The book revolves around the case studies. These offer 1-2 page descriptions of fictional situations that lead to an ethical dilemma. They are written to facilitate debate and allow for role-playing. Since they are open-ended and fictional, there is neither a “right” nor “real-world” answer to color your discussion.

Thirty percent of the cases in this edition are new, according to the publisher's Web site. The new edition also has updated examples and references, and offers a free four-month subscription to “InfoTrac,” an online resource for students and instructors offered by the publisher. While InfoTrac doesn't appear to have any glaring flaws, most of the information it offers can probably be found elsewhere, and the Web site seems to be part of modern publishers' insatiable need to include some kind of CD-ROM, DVD, or dot-com trinket with their ever-more-frequently-appearing textbook editions.

Aside from that, the book is an

Opportunities

engaging read, and the case studies are fairly well thought out.

Given its emphasis on examples over theory, the book may work better for graduate students, who (in an ideal world, at least) already have some background in ethics and philosophy from their undergraduate studies.

CRAIG NICKELS

OPPORTUNITIES

BLOGGING AND ONLINE JOURNALISM WORKSHOP

The Institute for Applied and Professional Ethics at Ohio University and the E. W. Scripps School of Journalism will host a workshop entitled “Blogging and Online Journalism: New Media, New Challenges, New Ethics” on April 7-8, 2006.

Presentations and workshop summaries will be published on the Institute website.

Participation is limited to 25. Students interested in participating should send contact information and a brief paper by January 20, 2006.

See the website below for further details and submission guidelines.

■ *For more information:* Kathleen Evans-Romaine, Assistant Director, Ohio U. Inst. for Applied and Professional Ethics; Telephone: 740.593.9802 (office) or 740.590.2410 (cell); Web site: <http://freud.citl.ohiou.edu/ethics/>

CLIFFORD CHRISTIANS ETHICS AWARD

The Carl Couch Center has issued an annual call for research papers and published works (i.e., books or articles) to be considered for Clifford G. Christians Ethics Research Award. To be considered for the Christians Award, submissions should interpret or address important theoretical issues in the areas of ethics, mass communication theory, and the relationship between media and technology

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