

Pennsylvania School Press Association Student Journalism Competition Championship



March 29, 2017



AGENDA

- 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. Registration
(HUB-Robeson Center, Freeman Auditorium)
Light breakfast will be served
- 10:10 - 10:15 a.m. Welcome
Paul Fantaski – President,
Pennsylvania School Press Association
- 10:15 - 10:30 a.m. Dean Marie Hardin, College of Communications
- 10:40 - 11:20 a.m. Press Conference
THON Executive Committee
- 11:30 a.m - 12:20 p.m. Competition
- 12:20 - 2:00 p.m. Lunch Break/Explore Campus
On your own. There are numerous lunch options in the
HUB-Robeson Center and nearby on campus and downtown.
- 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Campus Tours (Optional)
- 2:15 - 2:45 p.m. Emily Kaplan, Sports Illustrated Staff Writer
- 2:45 - 3:15 p.m. Writing the Story: Covering the Press Conference
Russ Eshleman, Head of the Department of Journalism
- 3:15 - 3:45 p.m. Winners Announced and Wrap Up
- 4 p.m. Departure

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PRESENTERS



Russ Eshleman is the head of the Department of Journalism and a senior lecturer in the College of Communications. Eshleman teaches basic reporting methods, opinion writing, news media ethics and in-depth reporting. Prior to his arrival at Penn State, he spent 15 years with The Philadelphia Inquirer, where he was Harrisburg bureau chief and state political writer. In 1992, he won a distinguished writing award from the American Society of Newspaper Editors. Two articles honored by that award were reproduced in a 2006 book titled "America's Best Newspaper Writing: A Collection of ASNE Prize Winners." After leaving the Inquirer, Eshleman wrote a column on Pennsylvania government and politics that appeared in a handful of newspapers across the state. Eshleman is a graduate of West Virginia University, has worked as managing editor of capitolwire.com and as an editor and reporter at the Lancaster (Pa.) New Era and Gettysburg (Pa.) Times.



Paul Fantaski is mathematics teacher at Kiski Area High School in Vandergrift, Pennsylvania, and has advised 22 yearbooks throughout his career. His extra-curricular Campus books have won dozens of national awards, including two CSPA Silver Crowns and 10 PSPA All-State Keystone Championships. He won the 2012 PSPA Journalism Teacher of the Year Award and now serves as the PSPA President after serving as State Yearbook Chairman for five years. Paul has taught yearbook-related skills in various workshops held all around the country. He also has adjudicated yearbooks from across the nation.



Marie Hardin was named dean of the College of Communications in July 2014. She joined Penn State's faculty in 2003, and previously served as associate dean for undergraduate and graduate education, capping levels of responsibility that grew regularly during her tenure at the University. In 2009, Hardin was one of four Penn State faculty recipients of the University-wide George W. Atherton Award for Excellence in Teaching. She also was appointed the College of Communications' associate dean for administration. Hardin was promoted to associate dean for graduate studies and research in 2010, and that same year she was named a finalist for the Scripps Howard Foundation Journalism and Mass Communication Teacher of the Year. During the 2010-2011 academic year Hardin was appointed an academic leadership fellow with the Committee on Institutional Cooperation, the academic counterpart to the Big Ten. In 2011 she was elevated to associate dean for undergraduate and graduate education. Hardin joined Penn State's faculty in 2003 after teaching at Florida Southern College and the State University of West Georgia, respectively. She received her doctoral degree in 1998 from the University of Georgia and previously worked as a newspaper reporter and editor and as a freelance magazine writer. Hardin's research focuses on issues of diversity, ethics and professionalism in sports journalism.



Emily Kaplan is a staff writer for Sports Illustrated and The MMQB, its NFL-centric website. A 2013 journalism graduate of Penn State, she interned for the Associated Press, The Philadelphia Inquirer and The Boston Globe before being hired at SI.



Jamey Perry is the Assistant Dean of Academic Services. With consistent energy and enthusiasm, he leads the advising staff in the College of Communications, meets with students himself and works with partners across campus to help undergraduates thrive. Perry has been with Penn State for 28 years and has experience in residence life, student life, admissions and academic services. His undergraduate degree is from Penn State and his master's degree is from Kutztown University.



THON 2017 Executive Committee members: Austin Sommerer (Executive Director), Andrew Smith (Volunteer Safety Director), Will Koch (Merchandise Director), Kyle Azzara (Entertainment Director), Sydney Boutcher (Finance Director), Rick Melli (Alumni Engagement Director) and Sam Sherlock (Public Relations Director). THON is the largest student-run philanthropy in the world, engaging more than 16,500 student volunteers. These students work year-round to enhance the lives of children and families impacted by childhood cancer. The yearlong efforts culminate every February during THON Weekend, a 46 hour no-sitting, no-sleeping dance marathon. The Executive Committee is comprised of the Executive Director and 16 directors who all lead specific committees within the organization.