AJHA MEMBERS PRESENT RESEARCH AT JOINT HISTORY CONFERENCE

NEW YORK — American Journalism Historians Association members presented an eclectic selection of research at the 2014 Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference on March 8 in New York.

The annual spring meeting, sponsored by AJHA and the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication History Division, took place at New York University’s Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute.

AJHA President Amy Lauters said she enjoyed the gathering and hearing people share their published works and interests.

“The biggest problem I had throughout the day was choosing which panels to pass up, because the program itself hosted so many interesting and thought-provoking topics,” she said.

Scholars presented more than 50 research papers during 16 roundtables. Among them were ten AJHA members, who discussed research on the following topics:

- “Journalism and the Literary Field of ‘Engagement,’” Tom Mascaro, Bowling Green State University.
- “From bin Laden’s Bodyguard to the Champs-Élysées ‘café for quotes’: Developing, Verifying and Protecting Sources across Seven Decades of U.S. Foreign Correspondence,” Giovanna Dell’Orto, University of Minnesota.
- “‘A Grand Jollification’: Southern Editors and Professionalism, 1830-1860,” Frank Fee, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

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In addition, Jodi Rightler-McDaniels (University of Tennessee), Jinx Broussard (Louisiana State University), Kathy Roberts Forde (University of South Carolina) and Amber Roessner (University of Tennessee) participated in a panel entitled “Remembering Ida B. Wells-Barnett’s Quest for Social Justice.”

Forde, Fee, Lerner, Harvey Strum (Sages College), Christopher Daly (Boston University) and Carolyn Kitch (Temple University) moderated paper sessions.

Lauters said she was glad to see so many AJHA members on the program.

“AJHA members flourished in the environment, which was perfectly set up for mixing, meeting, connecting and refreshing ourselves,” she said.

The program also included a keynote presentation by Jennifer Burek Pierce, who spoke about “What Adolescents Ought to Know: A History of Publishing Sexual Health Information, 1897-1936.”

Founded in 1981, the American Journalism Historians Association seeks to advance education and research in mass communication history. Members work to raise historical standards and ensure that all scholars and students recognize the vast importance of media history and apply this knowledge to the advancement of society.

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