



Journal of the Knight-Wallace Fellows

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Gifts of \$6 Million Advance Excellence

We Step in Where the Industry Does a Lousy Job — By Hodding Carter III

The formal way to put it is to say that the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation's gift of \$5 million to the University of Michigan Journalism Fellows program—now the Knight-Wallace program—is meant to advance journalism excellence through increased training and educational opportunities for a small cadre of journalists each year.

That's about what we said in the press release, and it is absolutely dead-on.

But the Michigan grant is also intended to be an emphatic reminder to everyone in the business that quality journalism is the bedrock of democracy, and that quality journalism depends on the continuing education and training of everyone responsible for the news product.

Unfortunately, the news industry is doing a lousy job of providing it. The figures are as startling as they are clear.

Research the foundation underwrote earlier this year shows that although nine in ten journalists want ongoing professional development, no more than three in ten get it. The result: Most of today's journalists feel ill-equipped to cover the complexities of modern society.

In Knight's survey project, "Journalism Training: Where's the Investment?", U.S. journalists say a lack of training is their No. 1 source of job dissatisfaction, ahead of pay and benefits. But at the same time, the survey shows, the news industry spends only between .5 percent and 1 percent of its annual payroll on professional development, less than the national average of 2 percent of payroll per year.

The survey was undertaken at the request of the Council of Presidents of Journalism Organizations, which represents more than 40 professional groups ranging from the American Society of Newspaper Editors to the Radio and Television News Directors Association. More than 2,000 journalists and news managers were interviewed for the study, and the results are posted at www.poynter.org.



Trumpet fanfare heralds name-changing gifts from Knight Foundation's Hodding Carter and Mike Wallace at the 30th Reunion dinner

Since the release of the survey results in April, a coalition of professional groups has formed to find a way to make a unified push for a major increase in mid-career training and education for journalists. The Knight Foundation, which this year is supporting nearly 50 grantees involved in journalism training and education, and directors of mid-career programs like Charles Eisendrath here at Michigan, are both involved in these efforts.

Of course, the Michigan program has helped to confront this problem for a long time and has provided fellowships to more than 400 journalists. Significantly, eight of ten of the Michigan Fellows are still in the news business. One of the reasons was well summarized in a

— Continued on page 4

How Self-Discovery Cost Me a Million Bucks — By Mike Wallace

I've no idea what Hodding Carter is telling you in this issue about why he launched that magnificent \$5 million challenge at us. Perhaps Charles Eisendrath knows something of a scatological nature about Hodding which he

threatened to reveal unless. . .

As for my own motive in coming up with one fifth of what we have to raise to match the Knight Foundation's generosity, a little personal history may be in order.

I spent four glorious years of self-discovery in Ann Arbor back in the late 1930s, after which I went about the business of trying to figure out what it was that I really wanted to do when I grew up. It took longer than it should have, with radio stops in Grand Rapids, Detroit, Chicago, the Navy, back in Chicago, and finally in New York and television in 1951.

After a decade of varying jobs in news and less satisfying undertakings, I finally settled in at *CBS News* in 1963, where it's been mostly bliss ever since.

Along the way I had lost touch with the University, except for an occasional ball game, of course, and shared nostalgia with old friends there. I was too self-absorbed to think about giving something back to Michigan, which—I was finally beginning to understand—had given me so much a quarter century before.

But then I was introduced to Charlie Eisendrath by a mutual friend, Richard Clurman, who'd held down various jobs at *Time, Inc.* over the years, one of them as Chief of Correspondents for *TIME*. Among his former correspondents was Eisendrath,

— Continued on page 4

From the Head Fellow

By Charles R. Eisendrath '75

Sacred Fire and the "Holy Spit, Hot Damn!" Experience

The 30th anniversary of journalism fellowships at the University of Michigan is a good time to talk about stress, if only because it is so misunderstood in journalism in general, and this journalism fellowship in particular. Everyone knows that a year of sabbatical study is the opposite of stress, right?

Depends on what kind. Many journalists apply for a year off because they are "stressed out" by their jobs. This absolutely never means they love their work so much that they literally cannot do enough of it. Usually, there's just too much ugh-work. People under enormous stress doing what they love don't call it that. They call their work "excitement" and say it's too addictive to leave.

In the words of that great psalmist, Irving Berlin, the Knight-Wallace Fellowships at Michigan endeavor to "accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative, and (not) mess with Mr. In-Between." A year away from familiar settings—read editors, deadlines, competitors—eliminates a lot of negative. For some, however, there remains a bubbling, troubling goo labeled "Whither me?" and an ocean of time for wallowing. Useful counseling involves turning up the steam in order to convert angst into action. It IS nervous-making. Who wouldn't develop a little FOF (fear of failure) after telling everyone about taking a year for self-improvement? The challenges begin before anyone sets foot in Wallace House as a Fellow, and they eliminate the Mr. In-Between called Wallow.

My first question to applicants at their interviews is "Tell us about your professional dreams because at the level of this program, dreams come true. Wrong dream, wrong candidate." The question hasn't varied in a decade and it is utterly astonishing how few journalists know it's coming—which is part of what Knight-Wallace Fellowships address. Most journalists neither research nor plan their own careers with anything like the care they lavish on stories. That this is insane becomes clear

with that first question, and the creative anxiety it produces seems utterly appropriate. What we are up to, after all, is selecting people who will captain their professional lives from among others content with a life of taking orders.

Even for people who know where they



To the letter—Eisendrath makes it official

want to go and have come to Michigan to help get there, a little FOF is a wondrous instrument. I learned this from a former boss. At the time (1968), Richard M. Clurman ran the Time-Life News Service, which aside from the wires and anomalies like the BBC, fielded the largest corps of correspondents in the world. "Congratulations," he would say in his hiring spiel. "As long as you work for me, you will have anything you need to get the most complete story available. If you want a plane or a boat, charter it. If you should go somewhere, go. If training would help, get it." Then he would pause. "So if you come up short, the problem will be you."

Minus chartered planes, that's how I greet new Fellows. I can make good on an extraordinary brag because the program is backed by a receptive community and remarkable commitments. Alone among 38,000

students, for example, Fellows are permitted by the University to take any course, in any academic unit, without prerequisites. A political cartoonist needed a cadaver to study human anatomy and a lithography studio to apply what he learned. A features man was convinced that in addition to writing courses, an ice rink would help improve the flow of his narrative prose. A science editor wanted a professor to help build a mechanical fish. Several found horses essential to getting their thinking going. None of this was problematic. Wallace House is available at any hour, for purposes that include just staring into the fireplace on a winter evening, or pondering a muse. The aim: creating at the University of Michigan what a first-rate outfit imparts with the assignment of a "Holy spit, hot damn!" story along with the support to bring it off.

Unlike any other long-term fellowships, ours are part of a public institution located between the coasts. More than any other, ours represent financial commitment by most of the leading news organizations of the country. The change of the program's name announced at the reunion celebrates new gifts from donors already our largest, but the opportunity to bestow a new logo on an enterprise already strong would not have been possible without grants from the others. I feel responsible to an entire profession every time I approve an applicant. It is an important responsibility for the Fellows, too. Each is accepting an invitation to lead.

Sometimes that means climbing an organizational ladder, but not always. What we look for are big people without regard for the size or fame of their organizations. Some from the journalistic outback move on to Gotham. Others stay right—often gloriously—where they came from.

That's why we expect a great deal of serious work. Since Fellows neither pay tuition (the program pays it for them) nor teach, the per-capita costs are disproportionately large, as is the endowment necessary to cover them. The program's most important assets by far, however, are the people who support it. Four of them joined the reunion panel on "The

—Continued on page 4

Facing AIDS in Africa, India, and Thailand

Excerpts from the 2002 Hovey Lecture

— By Frederick de Sam Lazaro '89

A couple of years ago, I was returning from reporting on AIDS in South Africa and decided that we'd make a side trip to Rwanda. I had learned early the lesson that there are no "side trips" to neighboring countries in Africa. Fortunately in this case we found a connection that would have us spend just one night in Nairobi. Flying up on Kenya Airways, I noticed in the airline magazine that you didn't need a visa to be in Kenya for fewer than 30 days.

Well, we got to the Nairobi airport and, sure enough, the immigration officer said to me, "You need a visa, go to the visa counter." So I walked over to the visa counter and there, bold-faced, was a sign that indicated I didn't need a visa. So I said to the gentleman at the counter, "What's the deal? The airline magazine says that I don't need a visa, and the sign here says I don't need a visa. Why are you charging us for visas?" He said to me the words that have stuck with me ever since. "Oh, that sign," he said, "that has been a very troubling sign. It has been giving us all kinds of trouble for many, many, many days!" He said, "It is a very shallow sign. It is an extremely shallow sign."

You really live for moments like that on the road. I've often reflected on that phrase, "the shallow sign," and I wonder if my Kenyan friend might not think that some of the stories that we do on television are the shallow signs of what's going on. When talking about AIDS in Africa, India, and Thailand, there's just such an enormous amount of information. So I want to suggest just three "deeper" signs that might inform the trajectory of infection rates and indicate how the AIDS epidemic is going to progress.

First of all, it boils down to what the political or societal leadership is doing or saying about AIDS. And by societal leadership I mean people who have clout: movie stars in countries like India—what are they saying or doing about AIDS, do they think it's a priority? Second, what are the conditions in which women live in that country: their health status, their economic status, their "human-rights status?" And a somewhat distant third: What is the attitude of the religious leadership in this country? There may even be a fourth, and that's plain luck. There's no really good reason why Thailand has a raging epidemic, for example, and the Philippines doesn't. Why India has so many cases and Bangladesh doesn't.

Let's begin with South Africa. For someone like me, sitting in Minneapolis and trying to cover international stories, I need a certain amount of a "buzz" to get the assignment. Is Mike Wallace doing this story? Is *The New*



de Sam Lazaro: Indian roots and world sensitivities

York Times writing about it? And there was precious little buzz about AIDS in Africa for much of the '90s until it started to be an epidemic in South Africa, a nation that we as Americans have for various reasons followed much more closely, with its fabled transformation to democracy under Mandela. Yet throughout his presidency, Nelson Mandela never uttered a word in public about HIV or AIDS, even as his country was developing what by the end of his tenure was the largest epidemic in the world, close to four million infections in a country of 40 million. This, despite having the most sophisticated media as well as health-surveillance system on the continent.

Now, off to the east in Africa there was a warlord named Yoweri Museveni who took power in Uganda in the mid '80s with little to distinguish himself from Milton Obote and Idi Amin, the despots who preceded him. Yet Museveni did one thing that was unheard of until then in newly-independent Africa: He declared that Uganda had a problem and that anybody in the world who had ideas was welcome to come and help. In sharp contrast, Uganda's neighbor, Kenya, deathly afraid that safari tourists would stay away, denied that it

had any problems with AIDS.

Museveni's exhortation sparked some of the most creative and imaginative public-health initiatives until then and perhaps since. There were AIDS service organizations that provided support for people who were HIV positive. There were dance groups tailored to send the message of prevention to the 31 different tribes and cultures in Uganda. Music stars helped to further de-stigmatize the disease, and the Islamic Association sent out middle-aged women to teach young women how to use condoms. I remember vividly something that a woman who started the AIDS service organization of Uganda said, "If I can live until my daughter is 16 instead of eight, then I will have raised a much more viable orphan." Today, Uganda's infection rate has dropped from 14 percent of the adult population to eight percent. Kenya, meanwhile, has seen its infection rate climb to 15 percent of the adult population. And in South Africa, one out of five adults today is HIV positive.

Then you go west to Senegal, where the rate has consistently stayed below 2 percent. This is a country that has many of the same raw ingredients for an epidemic: a maritime-based regional economic hub, a thriving commercial-sex industry, a tolerant society by the standards of Islam. What Senegal had, since the late '60s, was a system of surveillance initially targeting sexually-transmitted diseases. Prostitution is legal in Senegal. Sex workers need to register themselves and are required to be tested monthly. There's reasonable condom availability and usage. A lot of things are credited for Senegal's success, including the surveillance system that now watches for this virus. But, importantly, they afford a certain measure of protection to the women in Senegal. It is one of the happiest stories on the continent.

It's a very different story in India, where four million people are infected, second only to South Africa. You talk to any number of people, and they tell you the actual infection rate is two to two-and-a-half times that number conservatively. No one disagrees that India will probably overtake sub-Saharan Africa in the next decade or so, which will mean more than 35 million infections. The Victorian sexual mores that prevent public discussion of sex or sexuality, insipid public-health campaigns, bureaucracy, and a deep-rooted caste system

— Continued on page 12

— Wallace continued

who, by the time I met him, was already doing what he does now: inspiring mid-career journalists to take a year off to join a dozen of their contemporaries in taking a gander back at what they'd been up to, plus a look ahead at what they'd like to do when they go back to supporting their families.

Charles, I found, was a fascinating companion, full of energy, enthusiasms, and notions for the future of the Michigan Journalism Fellows, and eventually we arranged to purchase and renovate, under the direction of his wife, Julia, and my wife, Mary, what is now called Wallace House.

In the years since, I've spent time with many of the Fellows, in Ann Arbor and elsewhere, and have come to admire what they did here and the effect that a year at the University had on them and their subsequent endeavors. A while back, Charles, that indefatigably persuasive fundraiser, allowed as how the Knight Foundation, which has generously funded all manner of journalistic enterprises across the country, might be persuaded to help us with our endowment, to the tune of \$5 million, if we'd promise to come up with an equal amount. Since I was about to turn 84 and doddering toward the end of my career and beyond, I persuaded Mary that, what the hell, why not do it now instead of saving it for my will. And when the news got out, I began to get letters from some of the Fellows I'd met down the years:

From **Michael Vitez** of the '95 class: "I've said it before and I'll say it again: I wouldn't have won my Pulitzer Prize in 1997 had I not spent a year as a Michigan Journalism Fellow," and "I took astrophysics for simpletons and learned to play the Michigan Fight Song on my trombone. I made friendships that will stay with me for the rest of my life."

From **Ben Davis**, class of '92: "It was revealing for me as an African-American man to be part of the Fellows program. Charles did not study some nine-point plan on 'how to deal with the African-American journalist.' He dealt with me based on my aspirations and talent and to hell with Rodney King and any other 'black male' stereotypes. That was sanctuary for me."

From **Henry Allen** of *The Washington Post*: "I had a Michigan Journalism Fellowship in 1975-1976. I won a Pulitzer Prize in Criticism in 2000. There is a straight line of descent between the two." He elaborates and winds up with, "Thank you, Michigan."

From my friend **Charlie Gibson** at *ABC News*: "I was in the original class in 1974, and we 12 had no idea what we had gotten ourselves into and couldn't really believe that the year would

be as valuable as it was. I know the history of the program. I know how much it can mean to an individual. It meant everything to me."

It has meant a great deal to me too, and to the University, I think. And now, of course, we've still got to raise the other \$4 million. □

Mike Wallace is co-editor of "60 Minutes" and CBS News Senior Correspondent.

— Carter continued

recent letter, from *Good Morning America* co-host Charles Gibson, a 1974 Fellow. "In a profession where burnout is commonplace, the Fellowship is a perfect antidote," he wrote. "It certainly worked for me. Indeed, it may be the best year I ever spent."

What Knight has done at Michigan—to the tune of some \$11 million over the years—is only a fraction of our total investment in the training field during our 52-year history. Among a long list of initiatives, there is the Knight Professional Journalism program at Stanford University, the Knight science writing year-long program at MIT, its legal writers program at Yale University, and the Knight-Bagheot Fellowships in economics at Columbia University. There is now a Knight professional journalism center on the East Coast at the University of Maryland and two on the West Coast, at the University of Southern California and at the University of California at Berkeley, both designed to provide short-course training in specific topic areas.

We have also spent almost \$20 million training journalists overseas through the

— Holy Spirt continued

Future of the News." Introducing them, I made a point of presenting the personal achievements behind the well-known names. I wanted to emphasize to an audience of 200 Fellows, alumni, friends, family, editors, faculty, as well as Graduate Dean Earl Lewis and University President Mary Sue Coleman, that the panelists are among the program's primary role models. They represent big dreams and the risks without which such careers do not happen.

Hodding Carter, president and CEO of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, was on hand to personally deliver a \$5 million challenge grant, the largest gift in our history. True, his family owned a newspaper, one that established a distinguished record in the civil-rights era. But *The Delta Democrat* in Greenville, Mississippi, was not exactly *The New York Times*, and it in no way pointed toward Hodding's subsequent record in public

Knight International Press Fellows program, run by the Center for International Journalists in Washington, D.C. And Knight has endowed chairs at 16 universities and colleges to bring professional journalists into the academy and direct contact with young would-be reporters, editors, and news directors.

As an example of a promising new approach, the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association (SNAP), funded by a Knight grant, is providing a "traveling campus" training program that has brought training teams to sites across the South, reaching thousands of newspaper employees. We've said this approach could well be the future of journalism training on the mega-scale, and we believe it.

But even with all of this, and the three dozen other programs Knight is helping support, most journalists are simply going unserved. No foundation or group of foundations has the financial ability to fill the void. At the end of the day, the documented needs of the news business should and must be met by the business itself.

Mike Wallace stepped up and made a \$1 million statement for the Michigan program, yet another indication of his long-time interest both in the Fellows and the health of the profession he has graced for so long. SNPA is in the middle of a promising multi-million dollar endowment drive to underwrite the operating costs of its new training program. Their leadership points the way, but also illustrates how far the business still needs to go. □

Hodding Carter III is president and chief executive officer of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

broadcasting and government service, not to mention philanthropy. Under Hodding's guidance, the Knight Foundation has more tightly focused its mission and established itself as the most important underwriter of efforts to maintain what is best described as the "sacred fire" of journalism in difficult times. The term includes "values," to be sure, but involves much, much more, beginning with the courage to put reporting the news above all else.

The other panelists, all members of our board, made a difference the same way Hodding has—with a willingness to challenge themselves.

Behind the icon named Mike Wallace is the inventor of brand-name television interviewing, a co-founder of the most successful news program in broadcast history, and the winner of most major prizes the business offers, several of them multiple awards. Yes, he has made lots of money in a 63-year career in broadcasting. But so have dozens of others, and I know of no record of giving back to the

profession from any journalist (I'm excepting publishers here) on his scale of generosity. All this from having come to the University of Michigan in 1935 as a kid from Brookline, Mass., and leaving with a dream.

Peter Osnos arrived with the first fellowship class in 1973, which says something about his eye for opportunity. He was already at *The Washington Post*, but so were hundreds of other people who have not contributed what he has. After taking charge of the paper's coverage of some of the most demanding stories of his time—including Indochina and the Soviet Union—he became foreign editor. When that wasn't enough, he joined Random House, publishing a *Who's Who* of celebrity authors, with his share of best sellers. And when that still didn't quite give him enough latitude, Osnos founded Public Affairs, which specializes in books by journalists, concerning journalistic topics.

Unlike the others, Paul Tash contributed mightily while staying right where he landed after college—*The St. Petersburg Times*—as reporter, metro editor, managing editor, executive editor, and president.

Tash is now president-designate of Times Publishing Company, the umbrella organization for *The Times*, *Congressional Quarterly*, several regional publications, and the Poynter Institute. It is a remarkable outfit by any measure. *The Times* ranks in the top echelon of the nation's regional newspapers and has surpassed the circulation of *The Miami Herald*, which has a far larger metropolitan area. Poynter, meanwhile, has emerged as the profession's leading think-tank, with a high-quality journalism school of its own.

With help from them, their colleagues on the board, our alumni, and the University, we plan several initiatives.

The \$5 million Knight challenge designates \$1 million for administration, \$2 million for environmental journalism, and \$2 million to sponsor Fellows each year from opposite sides of a world problem—this year's pilot program includes an Israeli and an Indonesian.

Mike directed his gift, accounting for 20 percent of the required matching money, to endow Wallace House, so that its expenses will no longer draw resources from the Fellowships themselves. Finding the remaining 80 percent

(\$4 million) will be our first priority. Raising endowment is never easy, and the coming period is likely to make the pre-9/11, pre-Enron era seem like winning praise from your mother. That said, experience tells me there's always support if the project is good enough, which means coming up with ideas well enough matched to the interests of a donor to become part of those interests. It isn't a complicated business—just entirely unpredictable.

We have a strong selling point. There simply isn't a field as important as journalism to the functioning of a democratic society, and



"Whither the News?" panelists (from left) Tash, Carter, Wallace, and Osnos field audience questions

there have been few times when journalism needed more help. I'm not talking about the business of journalism, which is doing just fine, although you wouldn't know it from the complaints and cutbacks. The undisputed fact is that even newspapers, traditionally the profit plodders of the field, are making more than double their historical profits in the middle of the most dismal advertising dry-up in decades. Returns average more than 20 percent; 30 to 40 percent is not unusual. In local television, making 50 cents on the dollar has been utterly routine.

What's wrong with that as a business proposition? Nothing, so long as you serve the customers and/or fool them. This is a moment full of irony. Journalists themselves have never been as well prepared. The best in journalism has never been better. Yet the norm has rarely been lower. Readers and viewers, who are neither well served nor fooled, are deserting. Metro newspaper readership hasn't moved much above the numbers of the 1960s although the nation's population has doubled. The audience for broadcast television news has fallen drastically in the years since network policy shifted it from public service to profit cen-

ter. Competition (suburban weeklies, specialty magazines, cable television, public radio, the Internet) underlies some of this, but not all.

The last time the business of journalism was this fat and its practice this thin, a repentant yellow journalist named Joseph Pulitzer drafted a will providing for a prize to encourage better coverage than his papers had supplied (it improved dramatically in his old age), and journalism schools at Missouri and Columbia universities to instruct the young in what *not* to learn from their elders.

All nourished the idea that journalism could be a high calling.

It is. The worst contemporary problem is that the Joseph Pulitzers of our era are sending a dispiriting message. Incoming Fellows paint newsroom morale in tones of dark blah. They feel orphaned by companies that no longer urge them to scale the journalistic heights. Instead, with every diminished beat and the replacement of fresh news with canned goods, they signal "It's the bottom line, stupid."

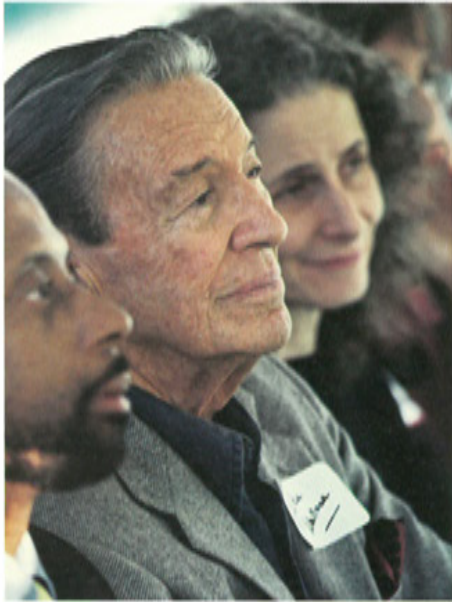
But it isn't the bottom line. It's the tomatoes and the soccer moms.

You have to take a lot of tomatoes out of the soup to produce profit several times higher than the Standard & Poor industrial average. In banner years, for example, automobile companies make a five-percent return. That's about one fifth and one tenth of what newspapers and television make, respectively. If car manufacturers removed enough substance from their products to match media profits, chances are soccer moms could not depend on their reliability to bring the kids safely home from the game. Lack of trust is precisely what shows up in poll after poll about journalism.

One of these days, more media companies will return to concentrating on their products as much as their profits. Meantime, a critical function is being supplied at places where those who will lead a rebound come to sharpen their skills. That their re-tooling requires a full academic year is no mystery. It takes time for someone to enter the cave, get used to the quiet, realize that the holy flame is kept burning just for them—and then prepare to take it home, ready to ignite a few fires when the time comes. As it definitely will. □

Reunion

Dean Earl Lewis shares an inspiring moment with Mike and his daughter, Pauline Dora.



Board member Paul Tash, up from St. Petersburg



Margaret DeMuth, spirit leader 1974-1980



Travel champ Eun-Ryung Chong came from Seoul and explained why the reunion was too important to miss



Mike with Mike Wallace Fellows David Farrell '93, Ford Fessenden '90, David Ashenfelter '92, Eve Byron '99 and Ron French '03

Len Niehoff, media attorney, and Lisa Rudgers, UM Vice President for Communications, share a laugh



Mike reacts with alumni and guests—Diane Rado '00, Micki Maynard '00, Sally Spaniolo, MSU Academic Advisor, and Pauline Dora



Hovey speaker de Sam Lazaro '89 relaxes after Hovey Lecture No. 17



Mary Lockhart '98 cracks up



Maria Gil '00, KWF's hope for Havana



Board member Prof. Nancy Reame thinks it's funnier than does husband Ron.

Detroit Free Press publisher Heath Meriwether and Hodding Carter ponder the future of journalism



Provost Paul Courant contemplates those who write the first draft of history





Revelers, revelers, revelers (and one caterer) all—
Michael Knisley '98, Elaine Widner '98, Milena Kaneva,
Jack Kresnak '90, Mary Lockhart '98, Emilia Askari '97,
Barbara Koster '98, Karen Hosler '98



An aspirant from Bulgaria checks things out with
Mike and current Fellows Einat Fishbain and Kemp Powers



Jiri Nadoba '03 and fiancé Eliska Karhanova of Prague
ponder weird American objects in a showcase at the
reunion dinner at Schembechler Athletic Hall



Two presidents—Mary Sue Coleman of UM compares
notes with Knight's Hodding Carter



Fellows and guests at table No. 26—
Malcolm Campbell, Eduardo Junqueira '01, Cindy Suter, Jay Park '03, Peter Elstrom '03,
Deanna Elstrom, and Kemp Powers '03 hope to hear more from
Professor Ralph Williams on "Shakespeare and the Equivocal"



A KWF Mount Rushmore



'82 Fellows Diane Brozak Fancher, Chris Cook,
and Charles Fancher

Elizabeth Stawicki and Kate Vodjik, both '00



de Sam Lazaro accepts the
Hovey Lecture's silver bowl



President Coleman liked it



Eisendrath and Tash loved it



Byron '90, McKenna '99, and Ferguson '99 believed it



Happy table No. 1—
Tom Stanton '96, Tim Wendel '96, Michelle Quinn '03, Merilee Enge '96, Monica Pons '96



Happy table No. 2—
Linda Twedt, Merle Bachman, Steve Twedt '99, Eve Byron '90, Hayes Ferguson '99, Maryn McKenna '99, Nancy Cooney '99



Happy table No. 3—
Lisa Lednicer '03, Susan Hall, Jon Hall '89, Steve Litt '89, Fred de Sam Lazaro '89, Gail Beaver

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Class of 2002–2003



The class that became Knight-Wallace Fellows at Michigan

From left, front row:

Scott Huler, 42, reporter/producer, *Nashville Public Radio*. History and impact of the Beaufort Scale.

Andrew Finkel, 48, contract correspondent (Istanbul), *Time* magazine and *The Times* (London). Corruption and strategies of reform in the developing world.

Kemp Powers, 28, Chicago bureau reporter, *Forbes*. Global business.

Lisa Lednicer, 35, state government reporter, *The Oregonian* (Portland). Rise of anti-government movements.

Jung-woo Park, 31, reporter, *The Kookje Daily News* (Pusan, South Korea). International politics and economy, and the American local newspaper business.

Charles Eisendrath '75

Sue Nelson, 42, science and environment correspondent, *BBC* (London). Astronomy and space science.

Robert Daniel Huntley, 48, columnist, *The Charlotte Observer*. Economic history of the American South: 1865-1965.

Yvonne Simons, 44, education reporter, *WRAL-TV* (Raleigh-Durham). Education reform.

Seth Sutel, 36, media business writer, *Associated Press* (New York). Economics of the media revolution.

From left, back row:

Jiri Nadoba, 26, news reporter, *Mlada Fronta Dnes* (Prague). The transformation from a centrally planned economy to the free market, and the European Union.

Einat Fishbain, 32, free-lance journalist (Tel Aviv). Film and video studies and Arabic.

Ron French, 41, enterprise reporter, *The Detroit News*. Applying screenwriting techniques to narrative journalism.

Michelle York, 35, city editor, *The Daily Messenger* (Canandaigua, NY). Deaf culture.

Sandy Heng, 36, reporter, *WXYZ-TV* (Detroit). Psychology of motorsports.

Michelle Quinn, 38, business reporter, *San Jose Mercury News*. The business of medicine.

Peter Elstrom, 35, senior writer, *Business Week*. American history with emphasis on business and politics.

Muchlis Ainur Rofik, 34, assignment editor, *Metro-TV* (Jakarta). The myth of contemporary Islamic radicalism in Indonesia.

Not pictured (arriving January '03):

Joanne Episcopo, 34, arts producer, *BBC* (London). Spanish history and Basque culture.

Miguel Winazki, 46, editor in chief, *Viva Magazine*, *Clarín* (Buenos Aires). Contemporary journalism in Argentina, 1973–1999.

Our Great Geniuses



Allegra Bennett

Allegra Bennett '85 has published three books under her "Renovating Woman Books" imprint and has launched her own Web site (www.renovatingwoman.com). "Renovating Woman was an epiphany born out of a necessary,

though unexpected, divorce and the resulting wonderful life-changing reinvention I underwent, courtesy of a house with a thousand issues and a piggy bank a few dimes short of a dollar," Bennett writes on her Web site. In October 2000 Renovating Woman made its debut as a book publisher with the title *How to Hire a Contractor. When a Woman Takes an Ax to a Wall* is her latest title.



"The Message," by Kitty Caparella

The Library of Congress has acquired a book created by **Kitty Caparella '83**, a reporter for *The Philadelphia Daily News* and a student at the Pennsylvania

Academy of Fine Arts, for its rare book collection. "The Message," a book containing photocopied portraits of the hijackers and Osama Bin Laden, commemorates the victims of the September 11 attacks and was featured in the library's fall exhibition devoted to 9/11. Caparella hopes to graduate from the academy in June.

In June "The Sprawling of America," a two-hour documentary which aired last year on PBS stations in the Midwest, won two regional Emmys (out of six nominations). **Christopher Cook '82** served as producer, director, and writer, while **Donovan Reynolds '95**, director of broadcasting and station manager of Michigan Radio, was executive producer. Reynolds reports that he is working on a TV documentary on the art, music, and architecture of St. Petersburg.

Nadine Epstein '90 is writing a book on spiritual healing around the world for Ten Speed

Press. A documentary that she co-wrote, "Sastun: My Apprenticeship With a Maya Healer," was selected by the Academy Award's Documentary Committee as an outstanding documentary of 2001. She also reports that she has founded a non-profit group called the Center for Creative Change and is a frequent essay and art contributor to the *Christian Science Monitor*. Her art Web site is nadineepstein.com.



Nadine Epstein



Doug Johnson

Doug Johnson '01 is an anchor at *Voice of America World Service*, hosting programs, doing newscasts, and conducting interviews. "VOA Worldwide reaches an audience roughly equivalent to the *BBC World Service*—but good luck hearing it in the United States!" Johnson writes. "We're prohibited by law from intentional broadcast within U.S. borders, meaning that the only option is via the Internet (www.voanews.com) or shortwave radio."



Peggy Kuhr

Peggy Kuhr '82, formerly managing editor for content at the *The Spokesman-Review*, has been named the Knight Chair in Journalism at the William White School of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Kansas. The Knight chair at Kansas focuses on community journalism. As a Knight chair, Kuhr is a tenured faculty member and teaches classes, conducts research, and performs service especially as it relates to press leadership in communities.

Phillip Langdon '80 is associate editor of *New Urban News*, a national newsletter on design and development of human-scale communities. *New Urban News*, Langdon reports, is the only newsletter covering new urbanism—"places where you can walk and where there are actually things worth walking to, attractive public spaces that encourage interaction and accessibility to transit."

Micheline Maynard '00 has been named a reporter in the Detroit bureau of *The New York Times*. She is assigned to the business desk and divides her time between the automotive beat and the airline industry.

Yumi Wilson '01 has been named the deputy readers' representative at *The San Francisco Chronicle*. "That means I help the readers' rep (often called the ombudsman) and share valid complaints about our coverage with our staff," Wilson writes.



Todd Duncan '97 biked nine hours in the rain from St. Louis last spring to help interview candidates.

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www.kwfellows.org

— *Aids continued*

that writes off AIDS as a disease of people on the margins of society—these all lead to staggering numbers.

It's an irony that this is a country with one of the most productive pharmaceutical industries in the world. Until now there hasn't been a peep from top government officials on the issue of AIDS. And in the even more influential Bollywood movie industry, there has not been a Rock Hudson or Freddy Mercury figure who's come out, even though several stars have been afflicted.

Perhaps most telling about India's epidemic is the status of women. The most compelling measure may be that there are about five million sex-selective abortions in India each year. These are abortions by parents who have used ultrasonic scans to determine the sex of their fetus and aborted after discovering it was female.

Finally, to a more encouraging story—the poster-child country in the developing world—and that's Thailand. This is a country that had one of the first epidemics in the developing world, centered around the thriving commercial-sex industry in Bangkok, which draws its workers from all parts of Thailand and from neighboring countries. Thailand had in place a condom campaign that is nothing short of breathtaking, and it began as a family-planning campaign in which they managed to de-stigmatize contraception, condoms in particular. It's the only country I know in the world that has a condom-blowing contest on television. Now Thailand has seen the infec-



Mary Jean and Graham Hovey greeted well-wishers all weekend

tion rate rise, especially among the young, because there were cutbacks in AIDS support after the Asian financial crisis. There's a renewed effort to come up with a message that clicks with the emerging younger generation, not unlike what we're seeing in the gay, white male population in the United States, which has also seen an increase in infection rates.

Thailand's challenge now is to care for one million people who are HIV positive, many of whom are now converting to AIDS. What is astonishing is that despite its reputation for tolerance, this is a nation where people don't want to touch those with AIDS, and they are being cast out of family and village, with few places to go. The Buddhist monks have opened monasteries to accommodate people with AIDS in reasonable comfort. There are a very limited number of painkillers administered to people, but they at least can die in a bed. Most will not be visited by any family members. They die and are taken straight to a crematory, which is right on the premises, and

the ashes of thousands are piled high. Every single day they have three to four deaths; one monastery has a waiting list of 10,000 people. All of a sudden you discover that a country that knows so much about AIDS has compassion in short supply.

A very personal note: I get uneasy talking to people who can't tell me not to take their pictures or who can't protest. At one AIDS hospice I visited, in a Buddhist monastery, thousands of tourists come through; it's completely open. People are there in various stages of death, and one can just go in and take pictures. I found it just completely unnerving. But the thing that really

astonished me is how receptive the AIDS patients were to visitors. How can somebody whose small private space is being violated be so receptive to tourists and school kids asking silly questions? It struck me at that point that this may be where the compassion gap manifests itself, because these are people who have not had warm human contact ever since they became visibly symptomatic.

Thailand plans to make available the dollar-a-day antiretroviral cocktail drugs, which are going to greatly help reduce demand for facilities like these. The thing that boggles the mind as you look at that pile of ashes is how much life has been lost. Had these folks won the lottery and lived in the United States, they would be thriving human beings for several more years.

Frederick de Sam Lazaro is a correspondent for PBS's NewsHour with Jim Lehrer and an executive producer at Twin Cities Public Television, in St. Paul.

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