

KWF Pursues Adventure, At Home and Abroad

THE ACCIDENTAL ENTREPRENEUR

—By Christopher Carey '06

I view myself as an accidental entrepreneur. I wasn't born with whatever gene compels people like Steve Jobs, Bill Gates and Mark Cuban to create and build, to risk and conquer. In my 20-plus years as a business reporter, I was content to be a mere observer of that realm, coolly detached in my reporting and analysis, squarely in keeping with journalistic tradition.

But necessity, as they say, is the mother of invention.

By the midpoint of my '05-'06 Knight-Wallace Fellowship, it was clear that my employer — the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* —

couldn't support my ambition to become a full-time investigative business reporter when I returned.

It also became clear through my Fellowship research that the SEC and the FBI were hopelessly outmatched in their fight against securities fraud and other white-collar crime.

Because of dire

downsizing of investigative reporting at my newspaper and others around the country, it was clear that if I wanted a job that would let me follow my passion and expose the frauds and felons of the investment world, I'd have to create it myself.

I decided the Internet was the best home for that work, because of the unlimited real estate, the permanence of the postings, and the ability to link to documents and other supporting material.

I knew the Internet also could provide national and even international reach, and enable us to deliver stories through any number of channels, including email blasts, RSS feeds and, ultimately, Facebook and Twitter.

When I decided to set off on my own, my first instinct was

—continued on page 3



SOUTH AMERICA: A STUDY IN CONTRASTS

—By Craig Gilbert '10

The addition of Brazil to the itinerary gave the Fellows' annual South America trip a neat duality. Argentina: the continent's most European nation. Brazil: its biggest melting pot.

Argentina: mature but troubled economy. Brazil: rising powerhouse.

Argentina: governed by the polarizing Kirchners. Brazil: governed by the popular Lula.

The list goes on.

At a pre-trip briefing at Wallace House, two U-M professors used dance to contrast the two cultures. In the more European-influenced tango of Argentina, the tempo is deliberate, faces are largely impassive, footwork is highly synchronized, and the songs have a thematic tradition of deep, bitter melancholy.

In the more African-influenced samba of Brazil, the dance is more rhythmic and pelvic, the attitude more celebratory and flirtatious. The tango/samba divide is real, our briefers suggested, but a lot less simple than it sounds (as we'd come to appreciate in our travels).

Our days in Buenos Aires had a rhythm familiar to past Fellows: regular immersions in beef, wine and flan, punctuated by seminars and explorations.

There was a neat duality in that, too: glimpses of a brilliant and seductive culture on the one hand, and a famously stormy, adversarial and sometimes dysfunctional political economy on the other. The combination — good at living, worse at politics — may be as Argentine as the tango.

We heard from an analyst who mused about the Argentine "paradox": the unusual pairing in the same nation of high levels

—continued on page 5



Chris Carey '06 delivers the annual Graham Hovey Lecture at Wallace House.



KWF '10 cheers at a soccer game in Buenos Aires.

Steve Kuzma

Brad Tjer

From the Head Fellow

—By Charles R. Eisendrath '75

THE LUXURY TO EXPERIMENT

First, an in memorium for two of the most important people in the development of journalism fellowships at Michigan.

Margaret DeMuth served all three directors, during which time the program also changed its name from Journalists in Residence to Michigan Journalism Fellows. (Knight-Wallace came later.) The personalities and approaches were all different and the program itself morphed over time, although the basics and aims remained constant.

Preserving and enhancing the most important things was Margaret's stock in trade. A hassle with University regulations? Call Margaret. Make sure international Fellows felt at home right away? Margaret would be on the case before anyone asked. A difference of opinion, sometimes heated? Margaret's balm calmed the waters.

Forty-nine days after Margaret died January 2, we also lost Graham Hovey. I had served on the committee that selected him as director 1980. In 1985, we worked together to begin the fundraising drive that ultimately fully endowed the program.

The range, breadth and depth of Graham's professional career enriched the lives of the six classes he supervised. He covered local politics and the largest conflagration in world history, worked as a reporter and editorialist at a wire service, a national magazine and a succession of newspapers leading to the New York Times. Among his gifts was an easy ability to make that wealth of experience accessible and relevant.

Mary Jean, his partner for 68 years, has welcomed the calls and notes from all over the world. So has Dr. George DeMuth who shared a long life with Margaret. When considering new directions for the program, I often think of how Margaret and Graham would react.

Death, I find, is no impediment to this kind of communication. I consult their memories.

In a year of cutbacks in journalism, journalism education and journalism fellowships, it has been a singular pleasure to find ourselves in position to experiment and expand. For this we have to thank two groups of people. First, a roster of endowment donors who believe in the mission: of providing large resources to a small number of people to help them grow professionally and personally. Second, the University's financial team, who instituted a system for basing payout from endowment on a seven-year average of its market value. One result: as the actual value of our capital fell (although not nearly as far as that of many other universities), KWF's income increased.

We decided to use this relative advantage to further enrich the learning process and to tailor it more closely to the needs of the profession.

Last November 10–13, Regina McCombs and Kenny Irby of the Poynter Institute conducted a series of training sessions for '10 designed by Assistant Director Birgit Rieck and held in the Duderstadt Media Center. The idea wasn't to make everyone multi-platform performers, but to show all concerned that the gizmos were neither scary nor bedeviling.

Part of the message arrived in the form of gifts. For a surprisingly modest investment, KWF presented each member of '10 with a carry bag containing a video camera, audio recorder and the necessary

supplementary gear. Without the equipment they had trained with, we reasoned, neither hardware or instruction would maximize benefit. Judging from the experimentation already underway, the approach works.

Brazil was added to the South America itinerary through Helio Schwartzman '09 of *Folha de São Paulo*.



During the Moscow news tour last year, he asked why KWF never traveled to Brazil en route home from Argentina.

Was that an invitation?, I asked. The five-day stopover in São Paulo became the third international trip (in addition to

Istanbul and Moscow) negotiated by alumni. In that I take particular pride because it speaks most eloquently of how much international Fellows value the experience.

Soon after the holiday break, Lynette Clemetson '10 took me aside.

What about the entrepreneurship training we had discussed last fall? Good question. At a Wallace House lunch, Jim Price, a Business School professor whose class she had enjoyed, laid out how he might custom-tailor training for journalists to survive the ongoing revolution in our profession. At the next seminar, I asked for a show of hands from those who might be interested. Six, I thought, would justify the cost. Instead, nearly everyone wanted in.

—The Accidental Entrepreneur,
continued from page 1

to create a nonprofit investigative journalism organization. It seemed nobler than a for-profit enterprise that would rely on advertising and could raise questions about conflicts of interest.

But journalists I talked to convinced me that a for-profit model was equally valid, and perhaps preferable, given the limited funds available to nonprofits and the time needed to seek donations.

And so it was that one afternoon in February 2006, my research led me to Blogmaverick.com, the personal Website of billionaire Mark Cuban. I was already a fan of the site, and knew Cuban and I shared certain sentiments, including a healthy skepticism of Wall Street.

Cuban's an entrepreneur who made the bulk of his fortune as the co-founder of Broadcast.com, one of the pioneers of streaming audio and video. You may also have seen him yelling at refs as the Dallas Mavericks' owner, or as a contestant on TV's "Dancing With the Stars."

I took the kind of shot that the Fellowship year emboldens us to do: I emailed Cuban and told him I wanted to start an independent journalism organization and asked if he'd be willing to back me. He replied within an hour. The answer was yes.

We finalized the details over the next few months, almost entirely by email. In June '06, I made it official, resigning from the *Post-Dispatch* and signing on as editor, president and chief executive of Sharesleuth.com.

Then all hell broke loose. Overnight, I went from mild-mannered reporter to journalistic bad boy. Before Sharesleuth had published a single article, critics blasted the business model Cuban had chosen — and I had agreed to — calling it unethical and possibly illegal.

To recoup the money he puts into Sharesleuth, Cuban occasionally "shorts" the stock of publicly traded companies we have suspicions about. Shorting a stock means borrowing shares from a brokerage

and selling them on the open market, with the expectation of replacing them later at a lower price. It's a legitimate way to bet that a company's stock will go down rather than up, and it's an important component of a free and unfettered market.

Sharesleuth's critics contended our stories would drive down shares of companies we wrote about, and that by taking a position in advance of our postings, Cuban would profit at the expense of other investors. That might be true — if we hadn't built safeguards into the process.

First and foremost, Cuban has pledged all profits from shorting stocks will go back into Sharesleuth to fund more stories and hire more staff.

In addition, I pick our stories and make all editorial decisions. Cuban doesn't know precisely when or what we'll post, so he can't time his trading to our publication.

Cuban's agreed not to take profits in the immediate aftermath of our stories. He waits until the market fully absorbs the information and the companies we've written about either fix their problems or fade into oblivion.

To date, Cuban has shorted shares of only three companies we've written about — and has closed just one trade.

Although I admit that I had some initial concerns about this funding method, I still believed the potential for public benefit was paramount.

Critics have suggested that Sharesleuth's business model means I'm no longer a true journalist. I've decided I don't care how anyone labels me. I'm still reporting stories exactly as I did when I worked in the newspaper business, and I know that my work serves a vital need. For me, that has always been the guiding principle.

Over the past three years, we've exposed an alternative energy company that falsely claimed it had a viable formula for turning wood chips and grass clippings into ethanol; a technology company that booked tens of millions of dollars in profits on investments that turned out to be largely worthless; and an oil company that was selling partnership interests through a telemarketing office in Thailand run by banned American commodities brokers and at least one convicted felon.

In the past few years, thousands of experienced print journalists like me have been laid off or bought out by their employers — many of which have cut well beyond fat and deep into muscle. But I'd submit that, in at least some respects, the

KWF REUNION 2010

Friday afternoon, September 10 *through* Sunday afternoon, September 12, 2010

Saturday evening reunion dinner followed by dancing with
Big Foot Bob and the Toe Tappers!

Bring your old memories and leave with new ones.

For more information please email Candice Liepa at cliepa@umich.edu,
phone 734-998-7666, or visit www.kwffellows.org.

bad news is the good news.

Never before has there been so much talent in search of new opportunities. And never before has it been so easy and inexpensive to set up an online home for independently produced journalism.

We created Sharesleuth with free blogging software, and put it on the Internet with a \$20 a month Yahoo! small-business hosting plan. When we launched a second site, BailoutSleuth.com in October 2008, we repeated the process and were posting stories within 48 hours.

The catch — and it's a big one — is finding ways to generate revenue online, to cover salaries, travel and other expenses that go into producing unique, deeply reported stories.

The same problems undermining newspapers also hinder the development of online sites. The distribution of free content, whether by the original sources or aggregators like Google, has created the expectation of free content.

And the rates that advertisers are willing to pay for online spots are nowhere near the rates they've historically paid for print or broadcast spots. So most sites can't support themselves through advertising, either.

That's why many independent journalism sites — from the Michigan Messenger to ProPublica.org — are structured as nonprofits that rely on donations.

We chose a different model for Sharesleuth, one that allows us to generate money independently and thus control our destiny. It's conceivable that a single story could produce enough stock-trading profits to finance the site for years to come.

It's also conceivable that we'll find other sources of revenue to sustain and expand the operation. We're building a database of suspect companies and individuals we've identified in the course of our research. Eventually, we could sell access to that database, either through subscriptions or daily access fees.

The entire media industry is changing so rapidly that it's impossible to tell what the economic or technological landscape



*After the Hovey Lecture,
guest mingle in the garden.*

will look like even a few years from now. But it's clear to me that the old methods for funding journalism — especially investigative reporting — are no longer working. So why not experiment?

Newspapers, magazines and other established media outlets are still sticking with traditional economic models and trying to get readers to pay for online content. But much of the information that they gather has become a commodity. I have a hard time believing that readers will ever again be willing to pay for it — especially if it requires more than a single click on their computer.

The information that does have value is that which is scarce, either because it requires digging to unearth or a certain degree of expertise to analyze. That's where we've positioned Sharesleuth.

Calling out companies for questionable behavior — in the absence of any official confirmation — amounts to a journalistic high-wire act. One slip up can be fatal. Almost every time we contact a company with questions about our findings, we hear back from its attorney, warning of legal action if we publish anything false or misleading.

That's why, before we published our first investigation, we decided to send all of our major stories to an independent fact checker. So far, we haven't had to publish a single correction, and no one has sued us.

Sharesleuth now has two writers, and small team of part-timers working on the database. We started BailoutSleuth just after Congress approved the \$700 billion Troubled Asset Relief Program to follow the flow of money from the government to private enterprise, with our primary focus on transparency and accountability.

BailoutSleuth was structured as separate, nonprofit entity. Because the site deals primarily with government information that's available to all, there's less opportunity to generate a profit from its unique content.

BailoutSleuth instantly became a go-to source for factual information about the bailout. I should note here that for the first three months of BailoutSleuth's existence, I was its only reporter.

Interestingly, because of the difference in their business models, the stories I produce under the Sharesleuth banner are still viewed as suspect, while those I produce for BailoutSleuth are considered credible. Go figure.

BailoutSleuth now has three full-time writers, including a Pulitzer Prize winning refugee from the print world. He's doing in-depth investigations and enterprise stories. We've also got a reporter in Washington, and another in Ann Arbor who produces daily news items from SEC filings and other documents — with an emphasis on original thinking, context and perspective.

Since the rise of bloggers and independent news sites, many in the mainstream media have sniped that online work is unreliable, putting ideology before accuracy or sensationalism before truth. In short, those critics charge that independent voices can't be trusted if they don't follow the same rules and conventions.

But it was the *New York Times* — which I consider one of the finest news organizations on the planet — that gave us Jayson Blair and Judith Miller. That tells me that no one has a lock on accuracy or ethics. No one is immune from mistakes.

The great leveler, as I see it, is transparency. Full disclosure — of sources, re-

porting methods and potential conflicts of interest — is the key to credibility.

Readers are increasingly savvy about differentiating between various streams of information. I have ultimate faith in their ability to understand the information we present and to make their own decisions about its veracity and its value.

In this period of global economic up-

heaval and almost unprecedented government involvement in the financial sector, we need more investigative reporting, not less, regardless of the messenger or the messenger's motivation.

When so much is stake, what, really, is the risk of taking a new approach? If the story is accurate and

performs an important public service, how much does it matter how the reporting was funded?

In response to criticism of Sharesleuth, Mark Cuban summed up his position in five blunt words: "Right is its own defense." I concur. But I also need to be satisfied of one more thing: that the greater good is being served. ▶

—South America, continued from page 1

of education and corruption. We met with a founding member of Las Madres de Plaza de Mayo, the protest movement of mothers whose children "were disappeared" during The Dirty War of the 1970s and early '80s. We lunched with our hosts at the newspaper *Clarín* and discussed their bitter clash with the Kirchner government.

We met with a justice of the Supreme Court, Dr. Elena Highton de Nolasco, who has fought to put the issue of domestic violence on the national agenda.

We sat down with the smoothly charismatic head of the national bank — Martin Redrado, a kind of stylistic anti-Greenspan — for a long conversation about the Argentine economy, the global meltdown and managing his public's long-

standing nervousness about the peso and infatuation with the dollar.

The most remarkable thing about that meeting was what soon followed, when Redrado refused President Cristina Kirchner's demand to transfer billions in reserves to pay down government debt. She fired him. He appealed to the courts before tendering his resignation, which Kirchner refused. (*The Financial Times* called this "another bizarre twist" in the Kirchner-Redrado "soap opera.") Alas, Mr. Redrado was soon gone. He was a gracious host and a seemingly principled certain banker.

The trip to Brazil was a departure on many levels. Going to Brazil was a first for KWF. So was combining two countries in one trip.

What we found in Brazil was — care-free samba aside — a roaring engine of commerce and trade, a robust currency, a nation slated to host a World Cup and Summer Olympics, and in São Paulo, a city disorienting in its scale and sprawl.

Our guide was former Knight-Wallace Fellow Helio Schwartsman '09, a writer with our host newspaper *Folha de São Paulo*, who led us with imperturbable informality from one day to the next. We went to the symphony and to samba school — a combination of fejoada, musical performance and group dance. (The two most memorable sights on the dance floor: a certain samba queen in a certain body-skimming white dress, and a certain mature member of the KWF party in a certain white hat.)

We discussed Brazil's racial culture and social inequalities. For a nation that



Brazilian Fellow Claudia Collucci '10 teaches Charles a thing or two about samba.

prides itself on racial harmony, there is an almost limitless list of words and phrases for every variation in skin hue (blue, pink, white pink, even green). And racial identity is treated as an almost entirely subjective concept that has less to do with DNA or skin color than status or social context.

We visited a hospital for the well-to-do in an affluent neighborhood, and another staffed by some of the same doctors paid more for serving the poor at a nearby favela. We discussed the Brazilian style of politics (far less confrontational than in Argentina) and how President Lula's popularity has set the stage for the coming presidential election (he can't run again). We attended detailed economic briefings full of elaborate charts in which the trend lines unfailingly pointed upward.

Then we danced our last samba, and headed home, to a place where the trend lines have been pointing in a different direction. ▶



Wayne Drehs '10 caught in a tango-ed web in Argentina.

2010 Knight-Wallace Fellows



Philip Dattilo

Front Row, left to right:

Mariana Lajolo, reporter, *Folha de São Paulo*: The impact of major sports events.

Sabah Hamamou, deputy editor, Business, *Al-Ahram* (Cairo): Economic reform and stability in the Middle East.

Julio César Guzmán, editor, Entertainment and Culture, *El Tiempo* (Bogotá): Reality as it is seen through the Web.

Molly Ball, political reporter, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*: Economic policy, government spending and taxation in Nevada: The effects of rapid population growth.

Christina Samuels, staff writer, *Education Week*: Applying education research to the classroom.

Roger Sawyer, deputy editor, BBC Radio (London): Reporting science in an accurate, but inclusive and comprehensible, manner.

Claudia Collucci, health reporter, *Folha de São Paulo*: The impact of science and technology on health care in developing countries.

Middle Row, left to right:

Tom Clynes, contributing editor, *National Geographic Adventure*: Predicting and preventing global pandemics.

Susan Rucci, contract producer, “Good Morning America,” ABC News: Retirement prospects for Generation X.

Lily Raff, staff writer, *The Bulletin* (Bend, OR): The ethos of hunting.

Lynette Clemetson, managing editor, *The Washington Post/theroot.com*: Reporting on families during the financial crisis.

Charles R. Eisendrath, director, Knight-Wallace Fellows at Michigan.

Birgit Rieck, assistant director, Knight-Wallace Fellows at Michigan.

Brad Tyer, managing editor, *Texas Observer*: Environmental justice.

Elena Milashina, editor, Special Projects, *Novaya Gazeta* (Moscow): Local ethnic and religious conflicts in the North Caucasus.

Tom Parfitt, Moscow correspondent, *The Guardian* (UK): International diplomacy and Georgia’s breakaway regions.

Shin-Hong Park, political editor, *Joongang Ilbo* (Seoul): The changing diplomatic balance of the Korean Peninsula.

Top Row, left to right:

David Hawkins, Asia correspondent, *Al Jazeera* (Kuala Lumpur): The effects of technology on journalism.

Raviv Golan, deputy editor, “Seven Nights,” *Yedioth Ahronoth* (Tel Aviv): Applying script writing tools to storytelling.

Craig Gilbert, Washington bureau chief, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*: Shifts in rural voting patterns.

Wayne Drehs, senior writer, ESPN.com: Multimedia storytelling.

Franklyn Cater, senior producer, “All Things Considered,” NPR: The intersections of business, environment, urban planning and design.

Jill McGivering, radio and TV correspondent, BBC (London): The impact of militant radical Islamists on Pashtun women in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Kyle Poplin, executive editor, *Bluffton* (SC) *Today*: Social networks and online communities.

Carlos Sacchetto, deputy managing editor and chief of national correspondents, *Clarín* (Buenos Aires): The Battle for credibility between the Press and Political Power in Argentina.

Not pictured:

Valerie Samson, editor/reporter, *Le Figaro* (Paris): How Barack Obama’s web-based campaign changed American politics.

Our Great Geniuses

Peter Burdin '00 has been appointed BBC's Africa bureaux editor, overseeing all operations in Africa in Johannesburg.

Bruce DeSilva '81 retired from his position as Associated Press writing coach in July. He will continue to review crime novels for the AP.

Patrice Gaines '90 is the recipient of a 2009 Soros Justice Fellowship from the Open Society Institute. Gaines plans to write a series exploring the impact of mass incarceration on African American communities.

Kathleen Galligan '09, received numerous awards, including local and national Emmys, for her *Detroit Free Press* multimedia project about troubled foster children at Detroit's Christ Child House. Besides the Emmys, she garnered the 2008 Barry Edmonds Michigan Understanding Award from the Michigan Press Photographers and Best of Photojournalism award from the National Press Photographers. Add to those, the US Department of Health and Human Services' 2009 Adoption Excellence Award, Michigan Press Association first place picture category award, Michigan Associated Press first place writing award and the National Headliners third place for writing.

Kyoko Gasha '92, New York-based Reuters correspondent, directed the documentary "Mothers' Way, Daughters' Choice," which has been invited to film festivals in Tokyo, Miami and New York. The film explores how several Japanese women struggle to reconcile their traditional upbringing and their desire to create unique lives.

Miles Harvey '08 joined the full-time Creative Writing faculty at DePaul University in Chicago in fall 2009.

John Hill '09 left his post as investigative reporter at *The Sacramento Bee* to work for the California Senate, where Hill works for the Senate Office of Oversight and Outcomes, providing scrutiny of state operations.

Tom Hundley '84, formerly of the *Chicago Tribune*, now teaches journalism at the American University in Dubai. In addition, he is a regional correspondent for GlobalPost.com and curator of the *New York Times*' Times Topics online Dubai page.

Rachel Nixon '05S has been named director of Digital Media for CBC News, based in Toronto. She is overseeing the Canadian network's development of CBC News across digital platforms, including the leading Canadian news website, CBCNews.ca.

Colleen Kenney '08 of the *Lincoln Journal Star* won four awards in the 2009 American Association of Sunday and Features Editors 2009 Excellence-in-Feature-Writing Contest. She took first place in A&E Reporting, both first and second place for Short Feature and third place for Feature Specialty Reporting.

Min-Ah Kim '06 has been promoted to People & Opinion Editor at *The Kyunghyang Daily News*. Kim previously served as deputy editor at the paper's international news desk.

Jim MacMillan '07 joined the Missouri School of Journalism at the University of Missouri in Columbia in August. MacMillan is an assistant professor of convergence journalism.

Micki Maynard '00, a senior correspondent for *New York Times*' Business Day, won the 11th annual Nathaniel Nash Award. The

award is given to a *Times* correspondent or reporter "who excels in business or economic news, nationally or abroad."

Robert McClure '97 launched InvestigativeWest, a nonprofit journalism

Publisher: Charles R. Eisendrath '75
Editor: Julia Smillie '06S
Production and Design:
Kathleen Horn, Blue Skies Studio

Views expressed in the *Journal* are not necessarily those of the Fellowship Program or the University of Michigan.

Mike and Mary Wallace House
University of Michigan, 620 Oxford Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-2635
Telephone: 734-998-7666
FAX: 734-988-7979
www.kwfellows.org

The Regents of the University
Julia Donovan Darlow, Ann Arbor
Laurence B. Deitch, Bingham Farms
Olivia P. Maynard, Goodrich
Rebecca McGowan, Ann Arbor
Andrea Fischer Newman, Ann Arbor
Andrew C. Richner, Grosse Pointe Park
S. Martin Taylor, Grosse Pointe Farms
Katherine E. White, Ann Arbor
Mary Sue Coleman (*ex officio*)

University of Michigan
Nondiscrimination Policy Statement

The University of Michigan, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all persons regardless of race, sex*, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, or Vietnam-era veteran status in employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions. Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the Senior Director for Institutional Equity and Title IX/Section 504 Coordinator, Office of Institutional Equity, 2072 Administrative Services Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1432, 734-763-0235, TTY 734-647-1388. For other University of Michigan information call 734-764-1817.

*Includes gender identity and gender expression

Send your doings and a print-resolution photo to Birgit Rieck at brieck@umich.edu

venture to preserve and modernize investigative and narrative journalism on western North America. The effort focuses on the environment, public health and social justice issues.

Mark McDonald '97 received the Osborn Elliott Prize for Excellence in Journalism on Asia from The Asia Society. McDonald and three fellow correspondents were acknowledged for their coverage of Cyclone Nargis and its aftermath in Burma/Myanmar.

Maureen O'Hagan '00 won Ball State University's 2009 Eugene S. Pulliam National Journalism Writing Award in April 2009. O'Hagan received the honor for her *Seattle Times* article "Aging Father Agonizes Over Fate of His Son," part of a series entitled "A Lifetime of Care."

Ron Parsons '08 joined Buzz Media in December 2009 as senior director of product development. Parsons oversees many of Buzz Media's music sites, coordinates its advertising products, and manages other key areas of the Buzz Media network.

Previously, Ron senior director of product development for *Tribune*, where he oversaw the redesign of its newspaper sites.

Vince Patton '04 received a CINE Golden Eagle Award for producing the Oregon Field Guide "Celilo Revealed." The award distinguishes excellence in professional, independent and student works, are recognized internationally as symbols of the highest production standards in film and television production.

Maria Poveda '09 has been named foreign affairs reporter at *La Razón* in Madrid. Previously, she was the paper's health and science reporter.

Bill Rose '97 retired from his position as managing editor of *The Palm Beach Post* last August and moved to Oxford, Mississippi to teach journalism at his alma mater, the University of Mississippi.

Linda Robertson '07, of *The Miami Herald*, was selected as the 2009 Mary Garber Pioneer Award winner by the Association for Women in Sports Media. The award

recognizes those who have paved the way and served as role models for women in sports media.

Brad Schrade '08 has been promoted to senior reporter and investigative editor at *The Tennessean* in Nashville.

Yvonne Simons '03 has been named assistant news director at WBTV in Charlotte, North Carolina. Simons was previously news director for KBCI-TV in Boise.

Patricia Whitehorne '08 is on assignment to the BBC's World News America in Washington, D.C., where she is part of the production team. She also focuses on the program's Website and promoting audience interactivity. Whitehorne is assistant editor, interactivity, for BBC News.

Lance Williams '87 left the *San Francisco Chronicle* in August to join the Center for Investigative Reporting in Berkeley as a reporter.

Danny Zaken '09S has been named newsroom chief editor of the *Voice of Israel*.



Knight-Wallace Journalism Fellows
University of Michigan
Mike and Mary Wallace House
620 Oxford Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-2635

Non-profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Ann Arbor, MI
Permit #144