

# LEADS

Newsletter of the School of Journalism  
and Mass Communication  
Texas State University-San Marcos

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Chuck Kaufman, Editor

## 2 Lone Star Awards

HOUSTON— Adam Swank and Lauren Corbut won Lone Star Awards in the Student Broadcast TV and Radio category during a Houston Press Club awards dinner June 6. Swank won a first place award for his report “Texas State and the Paranormal.” Corbut took third for “The Dream of Black History Month.”

## Circle Your Calendars

Circle the Dates: Oct. 15, Oct. 20, Oct. 21-24. The 2nd Annual School of Journalism and Mass Communication Career Day will be held Monday, Oct. 20 in the LBJ Ballroom. It kicks off another phenomenal week of speakers and discussions during Mass Comm Week. A week earlier, on Wednesday, Oct. 15, alumni from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication will be part of a careers panel discussion at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15, in Old Main 320. The event is organized through Career Services. Refreshments will be served.

## Six weeks in Japan

Texas State journalism faculty and alumni are invited to apply for a six-week fellowship organized through the Social Science Research Council and the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. The Abe Fellowship for Journalists makes available a maximum stipend of \$23,500. Candidates must have at least five years of professional journalistic experience.

For more information contact Nicole Restruck, program coordinator, at [restruck@ssrc.org](mailto:restruck@ssrc.org).

## Fox wins President's Award

Kym Fox, head of the print journalism sequence, received President's Award recognition for her superior service to Texas State, the profession and the community.

Among Fox's long list of service activities are her leadership role in bringing more than 500 students from Laredo, Houston and San Antonio school districts to campus for a journalism conference. She's also led the Dow Jones Urban Journalism Workshop, one of only three in Texas and 25 in the country, at San Antonio College.

Fox has served as coordinator of the print journalism sequence since 2003.

“Many of these students will be first-generation college students and would have no means of making a college visit without this event,” Fox said. “This is

partially grant-funded and partially university supported. We have expanded to new schools each year. The focus is on students from under-served populations.”



Kym Fox

She continues to serve as co-editor with Sue Weill of Mass Commentary, the SJMC alumni magazine; and advises the student chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. She also is as treasurer

of the SPJ chapter in San Antonio and as a member of the organizing committee for the Poynter Institute National Writers Workshop.

## TRINITY SPACE: NEW FRONTIER IN MEDIA



Bob Bajackson, faculty adviser at The University Star, explains to Michael Pearson, assistant director at News 8 Austin of Austin and a Texas State alum, how the new studio in the Trinity building will be used to implement convergence as part of the operations of The Star. Reporters will incorporate broadcast versions of stories in The Star. The space adjacent to The Star's editorial offices is being built out to include a teaching lab as well.

## Adam Epperson Southwest Journal & Downtown Journal

“The best part of my internship wasn't really the internship in itself. My internship gave me an experience of leaving Texas and getting around Minneapolis, a city that I'm not familiar with anymore, as well as learning about living costs that I wasn't expecting, and wouldn't have been expecting wherever I get a job after college. Those experiences weren't necessarily all positive, but they were good to learn and experience.

## Tiffany Pelt WOAI-TV

I absolutely enjoyed every bit of my internship at WOAI News 4 in San Antonio. It has truly been a GREAT experience and it's hard to pick and choose what has been the best memory. The reporters and photogs have been extremely helpful in giving constructive criticism to make me a better reporter. My writing and on-camera standups have improved tremendously ... as well as my confidence in actually excelling in this field. As for my favorite stories, I have two. One story they had me go “undercover”. People had written concerned e-mails about convenient stores selling pipes associated with smoking weed. So, the reporter put a microphone on me and had me go in and ask about them and buy one. I was actually on the news that night!

The other one wasn't really a story but more of a live shot. After hurricane Dolly hit land San Antonio received some bad weather. A tornado had hit a neighborhood and I went out with a floater (photog that just goes to shoot B-roll and doesn't have a reporter). The tornado knocked a tree into a family's home and caused other damage to surrounding homes. The

# QUICK QUESTIONS

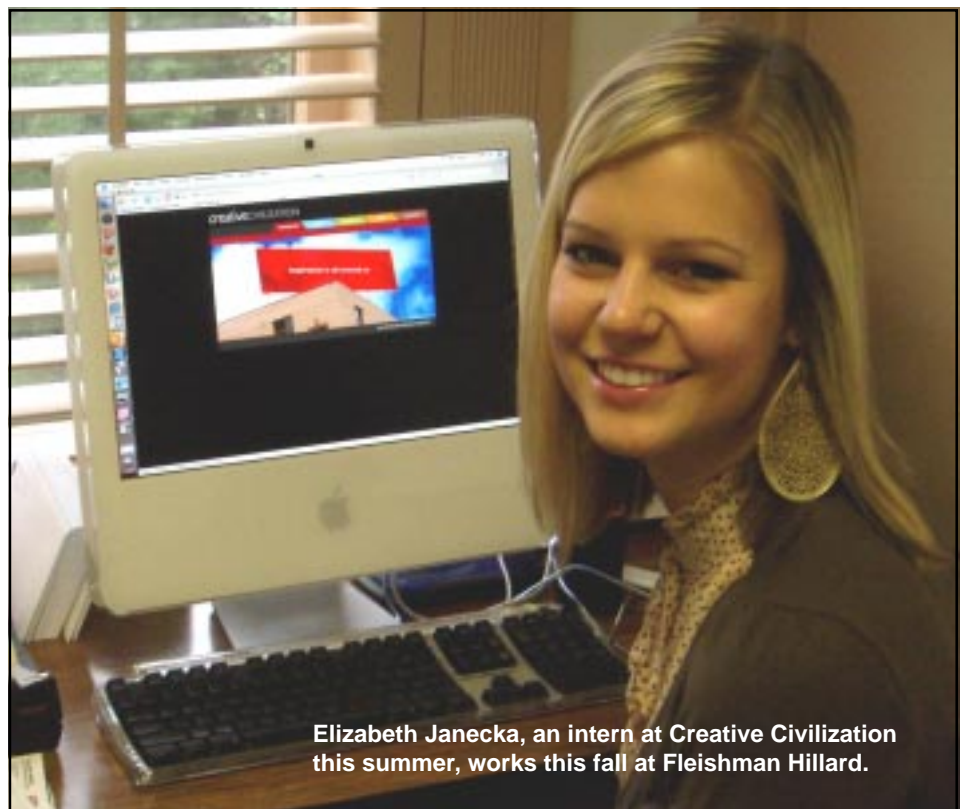
• **How was your internship?** • **What was the best part about it?** • **How was your internship as a learning experience?** • **How did your internship contribute to your career goals?**

photog I was with let me do a stand up in the POURING rain in front of all the damage to go on my resume tape. It was probably the best standup I've done yet, and I felt completely confident in front of all the people standing around watching me do it ... which is big for me because every single time before that, I would have been too nervous to do it. For the first time, I

felt like a real reporter. I commute back and forth from San Marcos to downtown San Antonio, Monday through Friday, 9:30 to 6:30 every day ... I don't get paid ... and gas is expensive ... It's making me broke. Yet I love every bit of it and don't want it to end. If I could keep going I would all next semester, too!

## Elizabeth Janecka Creative Civilization

“In addition to planning, executing and evaluating a plan, my practical experience has taught me to go out of my boundaries to make sure things get done. I built on my Bateman experience last spring by working this summer at Creative Civilization, an advertising/PR firm in San Antonio, got positive feedback and enjoyed some success. I became more confident in what I was capable of doing. I am so grateful for that opportunity because I was lacking a lot of confidence in my skills. Now I know what I am capable of doing and what I need to work on. I'm working this fall at Fleishman Hillard in Austin.”



Elizabeth Janecka, an intern at Creative Civilization this summer, works this fall at Fleishman Hillard.