UNH Faculty Research Excellence Seminar Series Continues on November 19: Research and the Media

Over the past several years, UNH researchers have been in the middle of major media events, including: the Gulf of Mexico Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, abuse in the Catholic Church, presidential and gubernatorial elections, and advocacy for funding higher education and research. Our distinguished panel of UNH scholars/researchers and experienced media professionals discussed the experience of translating research for consumption by a variety of audiences, the do's and don'ts, and how to be the most effective communicators.

Panelists

Dante Scala is an associate professor of political science, a faculty fellow in the UNH Carsey Institute, and a research fellow with the NH Institute of Politics. He has studied the changing political demographics of New Hampshire for more than a decade, and his expertise is recognized locally and nationally. Scala took part in a multi-state study of campaign communications in 2008, funded by the Pew Foundation and published by Temple University Press. His recently published work presented case studies of several recent New Hampshire elections. His current work includes a study of campaign finance in the era of super PACs.

Ken Johnson is a professor of sociology and senior demographer at the UNH Carsey Institute. He is a nationally-recognized expert on demographic trends in rural and urban America. His research at the Carsey Institute examines national and regional population redistribution trends, demographic trends in recreational areas, the impact of immigration, and the relationship between demographic and environmental change.

Andy Smith is the director of the UNH Survey Center, which is a nonpartisan, academic public opinion research center for governments, not-for-profits, and faculty researchers. Smith also is an associate professor of political science at UNH. His research focuses on survey methodology, elections, and public policy. The Survey Center is nationally-known for its election polling. In recent years, the Survey Center has conducted polls for CNN, Fox News, WCVB in Boston, WMUR in Manchester, KYW in Philadelphia, USA Today, the Boston Globe, and the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Gretyl Macalaster has been working as a general assignment newspaper reporter on the Seacoast for the last seven years. She is a 2005 graduate of the University of New Hampshire where she studied English Literature. For the last five years, she has served as a correspondent with the statewide newspaper, the New Hampshire Union Leader. Her focus is on business and feature reporting, with an emphasis on trying to highlight the unique and often hidden work of behind-the-scenes businesses and researchers. In 2007, Gretyl received a New England Press Association award in the area of government reporting.

Sam Evans-Brown studied politics and Spanish at Bates College, and has been working as a news correspondent specializing in environmental and education reporting for NHPR since 2010. When not working on his journalistic chops, Sam has been variously employed as a Spanish teacher, bicycle mechanic, ski coach, research assistant, wilderness trip leader, and technical supporter.