

Today, on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, our Center for Media at Risk monthly newsletter is especially urgent. The grave uncertainty we all face casts into sharp relief the vital duty of governments and other bodies to respect and uphold the integrity of an independent media environment. Free and critical media practice and scholarship are inseparable from that duty. With that in mind, we offer this COVID-19 Special Edition Newsletter from the Center for Media at Risk.

Barbie Zelizer, Director



Sign the Open Letter to news outlets from professors of communication, journalism and media studies to stop live coverage of Trump COVID-19 briefings.

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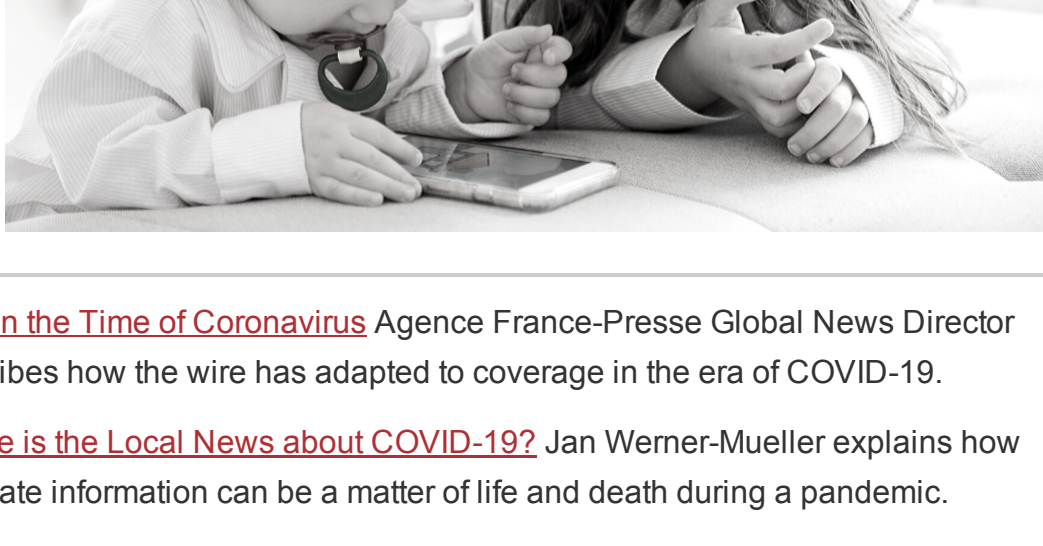
The Center Goes Virtual Visiting Scholar Silvio Waisbord and Postdoctoral Fellow LaCharles Ward presented their April colloquia virtually via BlueJeans. Read a review by The Daily Pennsylvanian on Professor Waisbord's event describing how journalists face online trolling and censorship.

Journalists Brave Danger to Report on Coronavirus Center Director Barbie Zelizer spoke with Penn Today about the health, political, technological and occupational dangers facing media practitioners who cover COVID-19.

Annenberg Researchers Shift Focus Annenberg faculty and students have responded to recent events by pivoting their work to address what may be the world's most urgent problem: coronavirus.

Facebook Bans Protest Events that Violate Social Distancing Rules "Events that defy governments' guidance on social distancing aren't allowed on Facebook," a spokesperson told The Verge.

YouTube Brings Fact-Check to U.S. in Midst of Covid-19 Infodemic YouTube will start showing links to fact-check articles to viewers in the U.S., part of its effort to tame the spread of misinformation on the world's largest video site.



News Organizations are Building New Ways to Inform - and Comfort- Kids About Coronavirus

AFP in the Time of Coronavirus Agence France-Presse Global News Director describes how the wire has adapted to coverage in the era of COVID-19.

Where is the Local News about COVID-19? Jan Werner-Mueller explains how accurate information can be a matter of life and death during a pandemic.

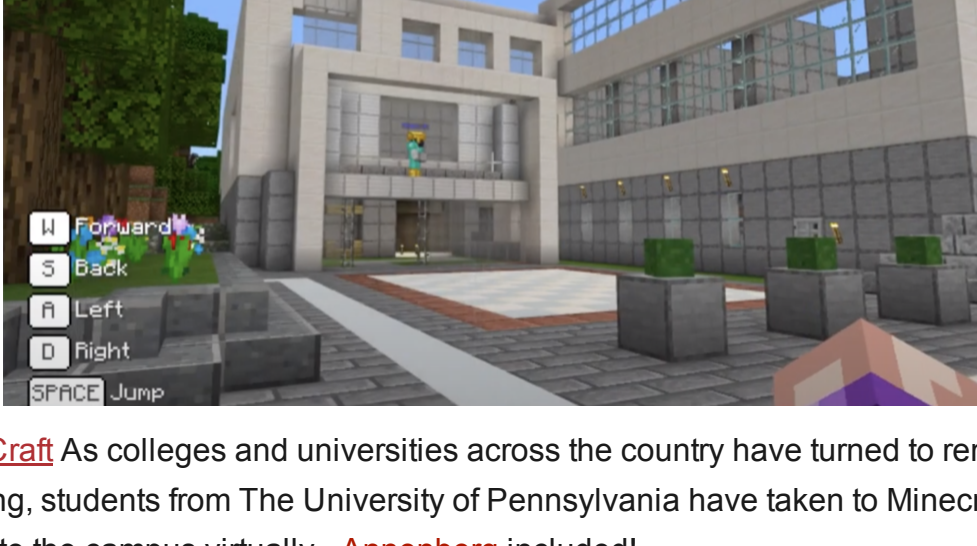
Fighting Misinformation During a Pandemic The novel coronavirus has made fact-checking and filtering skills even more important than ever.

Arts Resources During COVID-19 Outbreak

covid X climate A new project from PPEH asks the question, "What's this pandemic got to do with climate change?"

Misinformation During a Pandemic A working paper through the Becker Friedman Institute which studies the effects of the novel coronavirus on Fox News coverage.

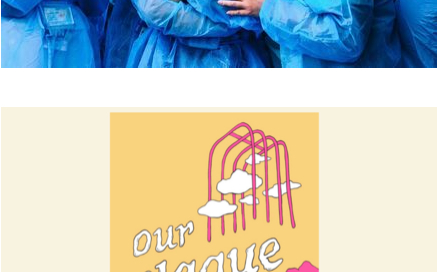
Coronavirus is Hammering the News Industry, Here's How to Save It Jacobin feature by Annenberg Associate Professor Victor Pickard on supporting the media we need.



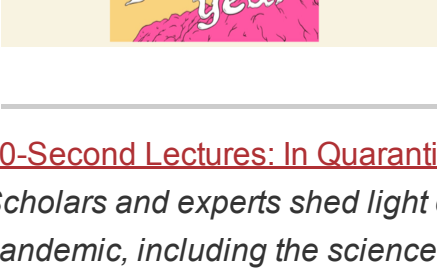
PennCraft As colleges and universities across the country have turned to remote learning, students from The University of Pennsylvania have taken to Minecraft to recreate the campus virtually - Annenberg included!



Coronavirus Cancellations: Every Film, TV Show and Event Affected by the Outbreak IndieWire offers a full rundown of all the ways the coronavirus is changing the entertainment landscape around the world.

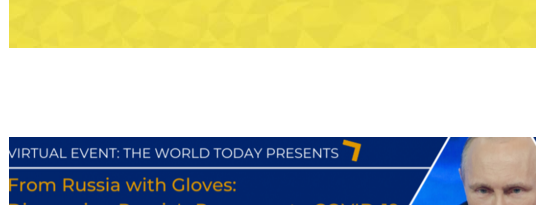


The Race to Make the First Coronavirus Documentary Has Begun Some argue there may be a less than robust market for coronavirus-related nonfiction features once quarantining measures lift.



Our Plague Year "It's a scary year, but it doesn't have to be scary alone," says Joseph Fink, host of Our Plague Year. The new podcast aims to document this uncertain time by acknowledging our collective fears and highlighting the importance of human connection.

60-Second Lectures: In Quarantine Scholars and experts shed light on the pandemic, including the science; the complex social, cultural, historical and economic issues; and campus response.

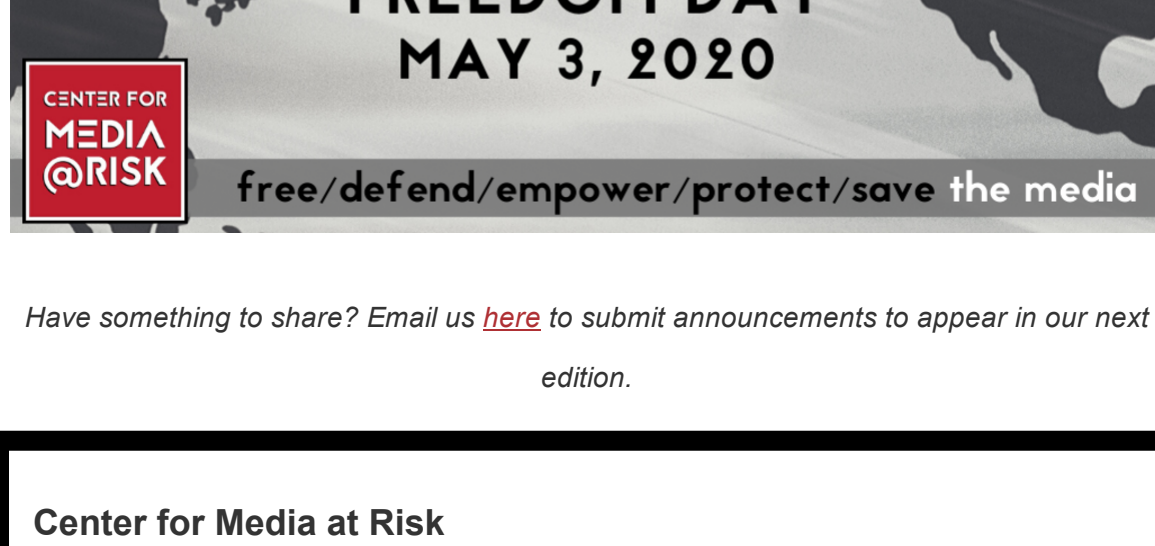


Penn World House Virtual Event From Russia with Gloves: Diagnosing Russia's Response to COVID-19 Tuesday, May 5 3:00 - 4:00pm (EDT) Virtual Event REGISTER NOW



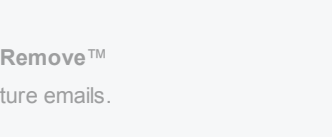
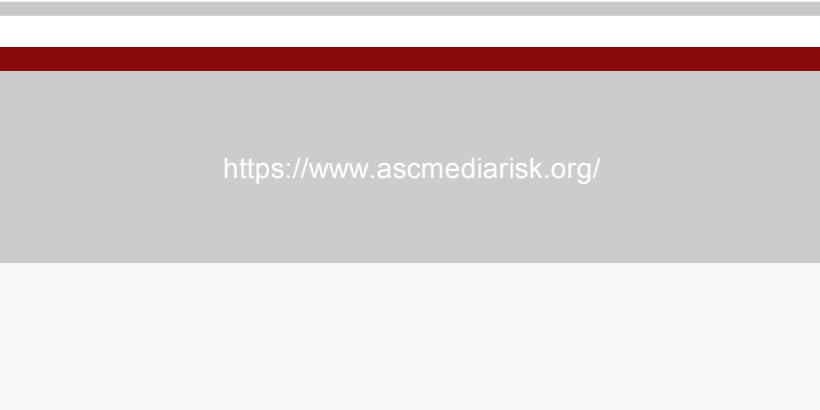
#ASCMEDIARISK HIGHLIGHTS

- Megan Genovese's research, which connects liberal morality to pop culture, is featured on the Annenberg website.
- Jenn Henrichsen wrote a Tow Center Report on The Rise of the Security Champion: Beta-testing Newsroom Security Cultures.
- Sophie Maddocks has been named a 2020-22 Provost's Graduate Academic Engagement Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania's Netter Center.
- Muira McCammon received the Penn Prize for Excellence in Teaching.
- Natacha Yazbeck successfully defended her dissertation What We Talk About When We Talk About Journalism.
- Barbie Zelizer was elected into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.



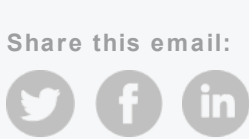
Have something to share? Email us here to submit announcements to appear in our next edition.

Center for Media at Risk We are in uncharted waters. Political intimidation threatens media practitioners worldwide, and disinformation campaigns destabilize public trust. The Center for Media at Risk offers the chance to strategize in response to threatening political conditions. Knowing how media practitioners work under authoritarian regimes and circumstances of creeping authoritarianism can help free/defend/empower/protect/save the media. Director: Barbie Zelizer Center Coordinator: Emily Plowman Administrative Assistant: Joanna Birkner Postdoctoral Fellows: LaCharles Ward and Zeyno Ustun Center Steering Committee: Kinjal Dave, Megan Genovese, Jennifer Henrichsen, Sophie Maddocks, Florence Madenga, Muira McCammon, Hanna Morris, Jeanna Sybert, Roopa Vasudevan and Natacha Yazbeck



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