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Erica Austin

Erica Weintraub Austin is professor of communication and interim director of the Edward R. Murrow School of Communication at Washington State University. She has published dozens of peer-reviewed studies and a variety of book chapters focusing on children's and young adults' uses of the media in decision making. She also has served as a consultant to evaluate young peoples' responses to media and media literacy curricula nationwide, including as a panelist for the development of the National Youth Anti-Drug Campaign's statement advocating media literacy as a strategy for substance abuse prevention and suggesting best practices.

Lee B. Becker

Lee B. Becker is director of the James M. Cox Jr. Center for International Mass Communication Training and Research, and he is a professor in the Department of Journalism, Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Georgia.

Becker was a member of the faculty of the School of Journalism at the Ohio State University (1977-1997) and of S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University (1974-1977). Becker was interim director of the School of Journalism at the Ohio State University from 1994-1996.

Becker is the author of two books and co-editor of three and has written more than 25 book chapters and 70 articles. Becker has held two Fulbright research appointments in Germany and taught at the Catholic University of Nijmegen in The Netherlands. He has lectured in many countries.

Roderick Hart

Roderick P. Hart holds the Shivers Chair in Communication and Government at the University of Texas and serves as, both, Dean of the College of Communication and Director of the Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation. He has served as chair of the Research Board and the Finance Board of the National Communication Association and as Division Chair in Political Communication for both the International Communication Association and the American Political Science Association. He has lectured at more than seventy colleges and universities. Hart is an author and editor; his works include twelve books and over 200 articles and papers.

Barry Hollander

Barry Hollander is an associate professor of journalism at the Grady College at the University of Georgia. His current research focuses on the social and political effects of new media and the influence of religion on media habits and political beliefs. In 2006-2007 he is on sabbatical to

study with the Department of Religion faculty at the university. His research has appeared in a number of leading academic journals in political science, mass communication, and religion, including a recent study that examines the methodological and theoretical aspects of whether young people learn from such programs as Jon Stewart's *The Daily Show*. A former newspaper reporter at three daily newspapers, he received his Ph.D from the University of Florida in 1991.

Lynda Lee Kaid

Lynda Lee Kaid is Professor of Telecommunication in the College of Journalism and Communications at the University of Florida. She previously served as the Director of the Political Communication Center and supervised the Political Commercial Archive at the University of Oklahoma. She currently directs the UVote Research Team, a group of scholars from the U.S. and around the world devoted to the study of young voters. She is the author/editor of twenty books including "The Handbook of Political Advertising Research," and "Political Advertising in Western Democracies." Her articles have appeared in several journals.

Peter Levine

Peter Levine is Director of CIRCLE, The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement. CIRCLE conducts and funds research on young people's civic education and participation. Levine is also a Research Scholar at the Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy in the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy. He is chair of the executive committee of the Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools and a member of the steering committee of the Deliberative Democracy Consortium.

Levine is the author of *Nietzsche and the Modern Crisis of the Humanities* (SUNY Press, 1995); *Something to Hide*, a novel about politics (St. Martin's Press, 1996); *Living Without Philosophy: On Narrative, Rhetoric, and Morality* (SUNY Press, 1998); and *The New Progressive Era: Toward a Fair and Deliberative Democracy* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2000). He also co-organized the writing of *The Civic Mission of Schools*, a report released by Carnegie Corporation of New York and CIRCLE in 2003 (www.civicmissionofschools.org), and co-edited *The Deliberative Democracy Handbook: Strategies for Effective Civic Engagement in the Twenty-First Century* (Jossey-Bass, 2005), with John Gastil.

Jack M. McLeod

Jack M. McLeod is currently the Maier-Bascom Professor Emeritus in Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He was the Assistant Professor to the Maier-Bascom Professor from 1962 to 2001, and the Chair of the Mass Communications Research Center from 1967 to 2001. Also, he has served as Visiting Professor at several universities. McLeod has over 20 published works pertaining to research relevant to youth media use and civic socialization.

David Mindich

David Mindich is a professor of journalism and mass communication at St. Michael's College. He served as chair of the department for two, three-year terms from 2000 to 2006. He has written articles for many publications and is the author of two books, one praised by Walter Cronkite. Mindich has given talks about young people and news to media groups and at schools around the country. Before coming to St. Michael's College, Mindich worked as an assignment

editor for CNN. Mindich founded Jhistory, an Internet group for journalism historians, in 1994. In 1998-1999, he was head of the History Division of the AEJMC.

Richard G. Niemi

Richard Niemi is the Don Alonzo Watson Professor of Political Science at the University of Rochester, where he has taught for nearly 40 years. He has served as Department Chair, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, and Interim Dean. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1967. He is co-author or co-editor of *Institutional Change in American Politics: The Case of Term Limits* (University of Michigan Press, forthcoming), *Vital Statistics on American Politics, 2005-2006* (CQ Press, 2005), *Comparing Democracies 2* (Sage, 2002), *Controversies in Voting Behavior*, 4th ed. (CQ Press, 2001), and *Civic Education: What Makes Students Learn* (Yale University Press, 1998). His current research is on civic education, term limits, and voting technologies.

Lee Rainie

Lee Rainie is the Director of the Pew Internet & American Life Project. Since December 1999, the Washington D.C. research center has examined how people's internet use affects their families, communities, health care, education, civic and political life, and work places.

The Project has issued more than 120 reports based on its surveys that monitor people's online activities and the internet's role in their lives. All of its reports and datasets are available online for free at: <http://www.pewinternet.org>.

Prior to launching the Pew Internet Project, Lee was managing editor of U.S. News & World Report. He is a graduate of Harvard College and has a master's degree in political science from Long Island University.

Warren Watson

Warren Watson is director of the J-Ideas High School Institute at Ball State University which fosters and supports high school journalism and increases awareness of the First Amendment and media literacy education. He is also an associate at the American Press Institute where he has held several positions.

Watson, a more than 26-year veteran of U.S. newspapers has held reporting, editing, art and management positions at small and large newspapers. Watson has lectured in Spain, France, Canada and in the Mideast, and he writes frequently for industry periodicals. In 2001, in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks, Watson organized and edited the API publication "Crisis Journalism," a collection of writings directed toward newspapers on the handling of major breaking news stories.