SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS

Chapter Annual Report

May 13, 2022- May 13, 2023

SPJ professional and student chapters must report on their activities each year to satisfy SPJ bylaws and to be considered for chapter awards.

SPJ's 12 regional directors use these answers to select <u>Chapters of the Year</u>, as well as <u>Circle of Excellence</u> winners. Campus chapter reports should be filled out by a chapter member, not the adviser.

Each answer under **CHAPTER ACTIVITIES** should be no more than 200 words. Programs should not be listed in multiple sections. Please include links or media coverage to elaborate on activities.

REQUIRED CHAPTER INFORMATION

Chapter name: William Paterson Society of Professional Journalists

Region: SPJ Region 1

Submitter's name: Andrew Herbst, Secretary

Submitter's email and phone number: Herbsta@student.wpunj.edu, 908-

<u>548-3027</u>

When did you conduct officer elections?: April 28, 2023

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Chapter Leadership

Current Incoming

2022-2023 Academic Year: 2023-2024 Academic Year: President: Angelica Amegashie President: Rochelle Estrada

Vice President: Rochelle Estrada
Treasurer: Angela Amegashie

Vice President: Treasurer:

Secretary: Andrew Herbst
Publicity Chair: Rayah Hammad

Secretary: Andrew Herbst
Publicity Chair: Kacey Cuevas

Faculty Adviser: Dr. Nicholas Hirshon | Faculty Adviser: Dr. Nicholas Hirshon

Social Media:

Twitter: @WPSPJ Instagram: @WPSPJ

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/WPSPJ

Chapter Leadership

Chapter President: Angelica Amegashie

Address: William Paterson University Society of Professional Journalists, 300 Pompton Road,

Hamilton Hall, Wayne, NJ 07470

Phone: 201-932-3415

How many programs/projects did you complete this year (May 13, 2022-

May 13, 2023)? Do not include business meetings of officers.

- Our chapter completed 45 programs and projects during the 2022-2023 academic year.

Was your chapter represented at EIJ22? If so, who was there?

- Our chapter was not represented at the Excellence in Journalism conference that took place in September 2022 as the conference occurred during the start of the semester for our university and none of the student members were available.

Was your chapter represented at your regional conference? If so, who was there?

 William Paterson University was represented at the WPSPJ regional conference in Rhode Island on April 21-22, 2023 by members Beatrice Amune and Mia Alfred alongside the chapter advisor, Dr. Nicholas Hirshon.

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What is the name of your financial institution?

- Our chapter maintains its financial records internally, under the direction of our treasurer.

What is the balance of your account(s) at May 13, 2023?

 Our account balance can be found in a Venmo account created in representation of the university chapter. Our current balance is \$124.45.

Did your chapter file a 990? No

Are you submitting a copy with this report? No

Are you submitting copies of bank statements with this report? No

Are you submitting copies of your bylaws with this report? Yes

Are you attaching a report that details your chapter's income/expenses? No

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Other programs

List all other programs your chapter held during the time period of this report. Add a short phrase, if needed, to explain what the program was. Do not repeat programs listed elsewhere.

Thursday, Sept. 15, 2:15 p.m., Business Insider reporter Yelena Dzhanova https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Dzhanova: https://www.linkedin.com/in/yelena-dzhanova/

Thursday, Sept. 15, 6:15 p.m., Factal senior editor Rebecca Bratek https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Bratek: https://www.linkedin.com/in/rebeccabratek/

Monday, Sept. 19, 2:15 p.m., 1010 WINS sports director Marc Ernay https://wpuni.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Ernay: https://www.linkedin.com/in/marcernay/

Tuesday, Sept. 27, 6:15 p.m., former Newsday reporter Sarah Armaghan Ghaderi https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Armaghan Ghaderi: https://www.linkedin.com/in/sarah-armaghan/

Tuesday, Oct. 4, 6:15 p.m., former New York Daily News reporter Terence Cullen https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Cullen: https://www.linkedin.com/in/terence-cullen-2255481b/

Monday, Oct. 10, 2:15 p.m., amNewYork sports reporter Christian Arnold https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Arnold: https://twitter.com/C Arnold01

October 20, 2022- Anti-Asian Bias Panel Discussion: WPSPJ organized and sponsored an event to discuss Asian-American bias. Co-sponsored by the New Jersey Chapter of Society of Professional Journalists. Hazel Sanchez and Ti-Hua Chang hosted a "Meet and Greet" buffet reception at 5:00 p.m. in Student Center 168. Ti-Hua Chang moderated an "Invisible Asian Americans" Panel Discussion with reporters Taylor Jung and Riley Yates, and Assemblywoman Ellen Park as well as law enforcement officers, community group leaders and professors of anthropology and social justice. Here are pictures from the event.

https://twitter.com/WPSPJ/header photo

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https://twitter.com/nickhirshon/status/1583509621310128128/photo/4

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Monday, Oct. 24, 2:15 p.m., Yahoo social media editor Lissel-Thalia Devetori https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Devetori: https://www.linkedin.com/in/lisselthaliadevetori/

Thursday, Oct. 27, 2:15 p.m., Herald Community Newspapers executive editor Michael Hinman

https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Hinman: https://www.linkedin.com/in/michaelhinman/

Thursday, Oct. 27, 6:15 p.m., freelance journalist Matt Villano

https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Villano: http://www.whalehead.com/about/

https://twitter.com/mattvillano

Monday, Nov. 7, 2:15 p.m., New York Times freelancer Caitlin Kelly

https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Kelly: https://www.linkedin.com/in/caitlin-kelly-5b0570/

Thursday, Nov. 10, 2:15 p.m., Capital B national criminal justice reporter Christina Carrega https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Carrega: https://www.linkedin.com/in/christina-carrega/

Thursday, Nov. 10, 6:15 p.m., New York Post associate digital editor David Russell https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Russell: https://www.linkedin.com/in/david-russell-b74b4b200/ https://www.linkedin.com/in/david-russel

Tuesday, Nov. 15, 6:15 p.m., Western Illinois University professor Peter Gloviczki https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Gloviczki: https://www.linkedin.com/in/peter-joseph-gloviczki.php-d-13489b3b/

November 18, 2022-10-10 Wins Tour: WPSPJ members went on a tour of the studio for the radio station 10-10 Wins in New York. Met with Marc Ernay and Budd Minskin. Budd talked to members about his career in radio. He said if you want to get a friend in journalism get a dog. Also went on a tour of the sports radio station WFAN across the hall. Met anchor Maggie Gray. Here are pictures from the event.

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https://twitter.com/nickhirshon/status/1593713435522617346/photo/4

Monday, Nov. 21, 2:15 p.m., podcaster and former ESPN researcher Mark Simon https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Simon: https://www.linkedin.com/in/mark-simon-92355124/

Tuesday, Nov. 22, 6:15 p.m., documentary filmmaker Lisa Hurwitz

https://wpunj.zoom.us/my/nickhirshon

Background on Hurwitz: https://www.linkedin.com/in/lhurwitzt

February 1, 2023- Reality Check with Prison Journalism Project Editor Wyatt Stayner: WPSPJ organized a discussion on Zoom with Wyatt Stayner, an associate editor for the Prison Journalism Project. Stayner shared his experiences of initially working at the Prison Journalism

Project in an internship, which led him to obtaining a full time editorial position where he manages the website platform and assists reporters on revising profile pieces prior to publication. Stayner responded to questions from students in Dr. Hirshon's News Editing course about the challenges of having to interview prisoners, and he emphasized the importance of empathy toward all interview subjects and demonstrating journalism ethics with sensitive topics when reporting a news story.

February 7, 2023- Reality Check with NY Times Social Strategy Editor Jason Silverstein: WPSPJ organized a discussion on Zoom with Jason Silverstein, a social strategy editor for the New York Times. Silverstein responded to questions from students in Dr. Hirshon's Reporting Through Social Media course about the best practices of social media as a reporter and what skills are required to work in a social media job position. He emphasized the importance of understanding the fundamentals of reporting in utilizing social media to generate news by referring to the skills of reporting as "what's going to matter and stick with you through your entire career no matter where social media and the digital aspects of it go." Silverstein also advises students and WPSPJ members to provide coverage on exclusive stories that they have access to, such as campus events and community outreaches, in order to do well as a journalist on social media.

February 8, 2023- Meet and Greet with Former American Domani Editorial Director Matt Caputo: WPSPJ organized a discussion on campus with Matt Caputo, a freelance journalist for Connecticut Magazine and the Hockey news as well as former editorial director of American Domani. Caputo provided advice to students on the different avenues that writers can pursue in the journalism field such as food, entertainment, and real estate based on his career experiences. Students learned about the benefits of having a versatile background in different subject areas as a reporter and editor of a news organization. Photographs of this event were shared by Caputo on his twitter account, which can be viewed here.

February 14, 2023- Reality Check with Yahoo Social Media Editor Lissel-Thalia Devetori: WPSPJ organized a discussion on Zoom with Lissel-Thalia Devetori, a social media editor for Yahoo. Devetori shared her experiences of working in a career dedicated to social media and expressed her enjoyment in working in a constantly changing news environment. Devetori responded to questions from students in Dr. Hirshon's Reporting Through Social Media course that entailed pursuing a masters degree immediately after receiving your bachelor's and the strategies behind publishing content on different social media platforms such as instagram, twitter, and tik tok. Students learned about post guidelines within each digital platform and the strategies Yahoo applies to create posts to effectively reach their audience based on the type of news coverage.

February 15, 2023- Reality Check with NJ Spotlight News Reporter Taylor Jung: WPSPJ organized a discussion on Zoom with Taylor Jung, a multimedia social justice reporter from NJ Spotlight News. Jung spoke with students in Dr. Hirshon's Journalism course about the importance of networking in college and the benefits of joining journalism associations to expand connections. Jung also responded to questions presented by students about the challenges she has faced in her career as a minority journalist and how it has helped motivate her to report on social justice within the community.

February 15, 2023- Meet and Greet with New Jersey's Society of Professional Journalists President P. Kenneth Burns: WPSPJ organized a discussion on campus with P. Kenneth Burns, President of New Jersey's Society of Professional Journalists (NJSPJ) and South Jersey

Reporter for WHYY Radio. Burns discussed his experiences in the radio industry as well as the benefits of joining NJSPJ. Students and WPSPJ members were given the opportunity to ask Burns questions about the radio industry and were given a visual demonstration of a script for a radio news segment, the same segment edited on an Adobe Audion file, and the finalized version published on WHYY Radio's website. Students learned about the process of creating a broadcast package to have published on radio stations and additional ways to network through SPJ.

February 21, 2023 – Bergen Record Tour: WPSPJ members attended the afternoon news meeting where Bergen Record executive editor Dan Sforza led a discussion about the stories under consideration for the homepage and the newspaper. Assignment editor Alex Nussbaum showed students the Record's Facebook Live studio. Another assignment editor, Albina Sportelli, a graduate of William Paterson's journalism program, asked WPSPJ members about their news consumption and social media habits. WPSPJ secretary Andrew Herbst interviewed Sforza for an episode of the WPSPJ Podcast. Photographs from the tour can be viewed here.

February 22, 2023- Meet and Greet with Fran Lebowitz: WPSPJ members met with Fran Lebowitz, a famous journalist and humorist who starred on Netflix's Pretend It's a City, on campus before she spoke at the Shea Center as part of the Distinguished Guest Lecturer Series. Lebowitz responded to questions asked by students regarding her writing style and how she has navigated through the world with the perspectives she has on society. Students learned about her career as a columnist, her views on social media, and why writing is so challenging. A photograph of WPSPJ students with Fran Lebowitz, a video of Lebowitz responding to a question asked by WPSPJ member Isabel Birritiri were shared by Dr. Hirshon on his twitter account.

February 28, 2023- Reality Check with Philadelphia Inquirer Reporter Beatrice Forman: WPSPJ members organized a discussion on Zoom with Beatrice Forman, a General Assignments reporter for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Forman spoke with students in Dr. Hirshon's Reporting Through Social Media course about how the locations reporters work at can influence the type of articles that are created as well as the significance of maintaining a work and life balance. Students learned to set boundaries when working in the field and to be prepared with sources before working in a journalism job.

March 1, 2023- Meet and Greet with Golf Channel Associate Desk Editor Max Schreiber: WPSPJ hosted a discussion on campus with Max Schreiber, an Associate Desk Editor for the Golf Channel. Schreiber shared his internship experiences at Mad Dog Sirius XM Radio and USA Today with students in Dr. Hirshon's News Editing course and answered questions that entailed the types of articles that are covered about the professional golf league. Students and WPSPJ members engaged in a news exercise where they copy edited articles previously published by Schreiber for the Golf Channel and received a visual demonstration of how Screiber edits the website platform for the organization. Students learned about the significance of having knowledge in the sport when reporting and how to organize content on a website platform. A photograph from the event was posted by Dr. Hirshon on twitter, which can be viewed here.

March 8, 2023- Reality Check with Realtor.com Executive News Editor Clare Trapasso: WPSPJ members organized a discussion on Zoom with Clare Trapasso, Executive news editor at Realtor.com. Trapasso shared her experiences of covering real estate to students in Dr. Hirshon's News Editing course and responded to questions that entailed the benefits and drawbacks of reporting real estate. Students and WPSPJ members were presented a

powerpoint that contained tips to turn any topic into powerful journalism. Students learned about an additional avenue of journalism that was never considered previously and what strategies to consider when generating topics for news coverage as well as how to expand coverage.

March 18, 2023- Newsday Tour and Shadowing Lacrosse Announcer at Nassau Coliseum: WPSPJ members toured the New York headquarters of Newsday Media Group, an American daily newspaper that serves Nassau and Suffolk counties on Long Island in a tour guided by Robert Shields, an Associate Managing Editor for Newsday. WPSPJ members were also able to visit Nassau Coliseum and shadow WFAN radio announcer Peter Schwartz during a New York Riptide lacrosse game. WPSPJ member Beatrice Amune interviewed Robert Shields and Peter Schwartz for the WPSPJ podcast. Photographs from the event can be found here.

March 21, 2023- Reality Check with Axios Reporter Isaac Avilucea: WPSPJ members hosted a discussion on Zoom with Isaac Avilucea, a local reporter for Axios in Philadelphia. Avilucea delivered insights to students in Dr. Hirshon's Reporting Through Social Media course about the importance of being a strong writer in the journalism field and the foundations of Axios' Smart Brevity writing style based on his career experiences. Students learned how to leave readers wanting more by writing articles concisely and the benefits of being a versatile reporter when being assigned articles that vary in topics in organizations such as Axios.

March 22, 2023- Meet and Greet with TAPinto Fair Lawn Editor in Chief Rebecca Greene: WPSPJ members organized a discussion on campus with Rebecca Greene, the Editor in Chief for TAPinto Fair Lawn and Glen Rock. Greene spoke with students in Dr. Hirshon's News Editing course about reporting objectively to provide fair coverage for politics articles and how to create news headlines as well as leads that will keep readers engaged and eager to read more. Students were also informed about how articles are written and published for TAPinto and were encouraged to consider receiving experience in local journalism by interning for the organization. Students learned how to be impartial and strategic in writing news stories that generates conflict of opinion as well as what makes local journalism stand out from national reporting.

March 23, 2023 – Reality Check Discussion with MMA Journalist Eric Jackman: WPSPJ organized a discussion on campus with Eric Jackman, the social media director for the mixed martial arts news website MMA Fighting. Jackman shared his experiences in the online video department at Gawker and as a co-host for Vox's "The MMA Hour with Ariel Helwani." He also discussed the media's role in the evolution of the perception of mixed martial arts in the quarter century since Senator John McCain called it "human cockfighting" in 1996. Afterward, students had dinner with Jackman and asked for advice starting their own sports journalism careers. Photographs from the event can be viewed here.

March 28, 2023- Reality Check with DAZN Wrestling Reporter Steven Muelhasen: WPSPJ organized a discussion on Zoom with Steven Muelhasen, a wrestling reporter at DAZN Group. Muelhasen discussed with WPSPJ members and students in Dr. Hirshon's Reporting Through Social Media course about the politics and ethics of sports reporting when it comes to forming connections with athletes and how to respond to the criticisms of the media. Muelhasen opened up to students about his preferences to avoid forming friendships with wrestlers to effectively create unbiased articles and maintain the ethics of seeking truth and reporting the story in the midst of public hatred. Students learned about how to respond to public controversies that could

arise on social media platforms as reporters and how the wrestling industry has become a successful avenue for sports reporting.

March 29, 2023- Reality Check with Freelance Journalist Pooja Shah: WPSPJ members organized a discussion on Zoom with Pooja Shah, a freelance journalist with bylines at the Huffington Post, Teen Vogue, Glamour, Thrillist, and Popsugar. Shah spoke with WPSPJ members and students in Dr. Hirshon's Journalism course about how expansive the opportunities are for freelance journalists to cover different topics by referring to her experiences of working with Public Relations practitioners as well as her experiences of doing travel journalism. Shah advised students to develop the habit of knowing how to pitch relevant story topics by constantly observing the current news cycle and using SEO keywords that reveal the news consumption habits of the audience. Students learned that one approach to writing a news story can be writing with an outline on a piece of paper, figuring out what the readers need to know, and working backwards to generate content that can be published on multiple sources.

March 29, 2023- Reality Check with Capital B Criminal Justice Reporter Christina Carrega: WPSPJ organized a discussion on Zoom with Christina Carrega, a Criminal Justice Report for Capital B News. Carrega shared her experiences of covering the court system for the New York Post and what factors made her switch from journalism to public relations, which resulted in her switching back to journalism. Carrega emphasized that it is important to have an expanded knowledge on what you are covering, especially as stories that may be written for the local community can become national stories with trends and rising numbers. WPSPJ members and students in Dr. Hirshon's News Editing course engaged in a copy editing exercise where they provided feedback on how criminal justice articles were presented in different news outlets. The discussion concluded with students discussing the writing styles within newsrooms and their differences.

April 4, 2023- Reality Check with Executive Director of the National Center on Disability and Journalism at Arizona State University Kristin Gilger: WPSPJ hosted a discussion on Zoom with Kristin Gilger, the head of National Center of Disability and Journalism at Cronkite School of Journalism at Arizona State University and Co-Author of the book "There's No Crying in Newsrooms: What Women Have Learned about What It Takes to Lead". Gilger discussed the appropriate approaches to working with and reporting on people with disabilities by displaying a powerpoint that contained the right words to use in articles and to demonstrate inclusive language. Gilger encouraged students to respect the preferences of people with disabilities and to avoid using offensive language in interviewing and reporting them. Gilger also discussed the need of having journalists with disabilities work in the newsroom in order to expand inclusion opportunities in the profession and provide enhanced educational opportunities for people with disabilities who aspire to be reporters. Students learned about the importance of being open minded to working with people with disabilities and how reporters can enhance their interviewing and networking skills when interacting with this select group.

April 5, 2023- Reality Check with California-Based Freelance Journalist Matt Villano: WPSPJ organized a discussion on Zoom with Matt Villano, a freelance journalist based in Northern California. Villano spoke with WPSPJ members and students in Dr. Hirshon's News Editing course about the fundamentals of being an editor for a news story in three steps: reading the story to get a sense of what the story is about, ensuring that the story is following the style and accuracy guidelines of the news outlet it is being written for, and establishing the voice of the writer in order for writers to tell stories in their own voice and have readers engaged

in the article. Villano responded to questions asked by students about significant details to consider in editing stories by emphasizing that the ultimate goal when editing is to shape the story while maintaining the voice of the writer. Villano also advised students to deliver constructive criticism in a way that will be appreciated by the writers. Students learned about editorial values and being self-sufficient in creating news stories as a freelance writer.

April 11, 2023- Reality Check with Former Muscle & Fitness Editor Anthony O'Reilly: WPSPJ hosted a discussion on Zoom with Anthony O'Reilly, a former editor for Muscle & Fitness. O'Reilly spoke with WPSPJ members and students in Dr. Hirshon's Reporting Through Social Media course about effective ways to use LinkedIn and social media platforms to brand yourself as a reporter to employers and your targeted audience. O'Reilly responded to questions about how to combat writer's block when writing only about select topics such as muscle and fitness as well as how to reach audiences when you showcase your work by advising students to use social media and join journalism groups. Students learned how social media can be used as a resource and news distribution tool as well as how it can assist students to build toward their career jobs.

April 12, 2023- Reality Check with New York Post Editor David Russell: WPSPJ organized a discussion on Zoom with David Russell, an Associate Digital Editor for the New York Post. Russell shared his experiences of being able to interview Aaron Judge in his rookie year as a reporter and the benefits of covering players that aren't as well-renown in the sports field as well as how he received awards for his coverage on the suicides in the NYPD to demonstrate how being a reporter prepares you to be an editor. Russell also informed WPSPJ members and students in Dr. Hirshon's Journalism course about journalism ethics and principles that are applied in his work as an editor as he decides what stories go on the page, how many are applied on each page, and what pictures are appropriate to use for news stories in the website. Students learned about what details to consider when managing a news website and how to write stories as a reporter instead of a sports fan or subject enthusiast.

April 12, 2023- Reality Check with Journalism Author Peter Gloviczki: WPSPJ hosted a discussion on Zoom with Peter Gloviczki, a professor and chairperson for the Department of Broadcasting and Journalism at Western Illinois University and author of "Mediated Narration in the Digital Age: Storying the Media World". Gloviczki spoke about the importance of maintaining ethics in the work that you produce and in the way that you carry yourself as a human being. Gloviczki discussed the importance of being your own editor when working toward your career goals and emphasized the significance of using failure as your motivation for success. Gloviczki responded to questions from WPSPJ members and students in Dr. Hirshon's News Editing course about the messages in his books about technology and its influence in the media world by emphasizing open communication in order to have a message reach an audience and influence the ethics of society. The discussion concluded with Gloviczki giving career advice on how to prepare to work in the journalism field as students in college.

April 26, 2023- Reality Check with Herald Community Newspapers Executive Editor Michael Hinman: WPSPJ organized a discussion on Zoom with Michael Hinman, the executive editor of the Herald Community Newspaper chain on Long Island. Hinman spoke about his occupation as an editor and how editors appreciate when journalists proofread their articles prior to submission in consideration of the editor's time. Hinman demonstrated to WPSPJ members and students in Dr. Hirshon's News Editing course paragraph and sentence structures to consider when editing articles by showing an article that he edited in his newspaper about

signage, litter and graffiti in the Long Island Community. Students were able to see examples of a police story, an article about taking a stand against fraud, and how to follow AP style in maintaining the voice that is found in a news story. Students learned about the importance of building readership and informing communities by striving to have articles report on information that is fair and accurate