

Karin Assmann

AY 2017-18 All-S.T.A.R. Fellow

Philip Merrill College of Journalism

Department of Journalism

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Working for Dana Priest at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism was not only the assistantship that I had hoped for, it also turned out to be the right match for me and, I believe, the students. It has given me the opportunity to learn, to observe and to participate in teaching subjects that are familiar to me and that are close to my interests both as a journalist and as a future instructor of student journalists.

I am fortunate that I can learn how to become an educator while sharing the skills and know-how I already have, for example reporting and research strategies, and cyber-security practices specific to their needs. Seeing students progress and master what we are sharing with them, many producing outstanding articles, has been one of the most rewarding aspects of my work.

Helping to promote the students' appreciation of and engagement with issues of press freedom is a close second. I have been working on *Press Uncuffed*, the student-led awareness and fund raising campaign and have produced a video for the new website. I will be editing the stories that will go up on the site and continue to be involved in building the network of students involved in the web publication and the project. It has been, and continues to be, such a positive experience to be able to contribute and at the same time learn and gain the experience that I will need going forward.