



ELMHURST COLLEGE PARTNERS WITH THE PULITZER CENTER ON CRISIS REPORTING

ELMHURST, Ill., September 22, 2011 – New media convergence and a model of international reporting that could revolutionize journalism in the 21st Century will be the focus of a new partnership announced today by Elmhurst College and the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting in Washington, D.C.

The award-winning non-profit Pulitzer Center has partnered with the College on a Campus Consortium to teach workshops during the Fall Term on new media and a new approach for international journalism. In the spring, a team of Pulitzer Center correspondents covering war and upheaval will host multi-day sessions on the issues and implications of the Arab Spring uprising in the Middle East.

Elmhurst College, the first Chicago-area college to join the Pulitzer Center's Campus Consortium program, is inviting its students and faculty as well as journalism professors and students from colleges across the state to join in the conversations and participate in these programs.

"The power and reach of new media has shaken, if not demolished, the traditional model of print journalism," said Elmhurst College President S. Alan Ray. "Elmhurst College is excited to partner with the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting to explore how new technologies of communication may be used to usher in a distinctive and effective model of international reporting. Working in partnership with the Pulitzer Center, Elmhurst College is poised to become a leader in journalism education in the Chicago area."

Pulitzer Center Executive Director Jon Sawyer agreed. "Our partnership with Elmhurst is critical to the Pulitzer Center's model of collaboration and our efforts to broaden the public's global horizons," Sawyer said. "We support the journalists whose in-depth reporting of systemic global issues fills in significant coverage gaps in mainstream U.S. media. At the same time, we endeavor to think outside the box when it comes to engaging the broadest audience possible on these issues that affect us all. Students who are only a few steps away from embarking on their own professional careers are particularly important to our mission. We're eager to build the way forward in journalism along with our colleagues at Elmhurst."

The programs kick off October 24 and 25 with workshops, seminars and lectures on new media technology, social networking and how journalism will survive a shattered economy, changing media landscape and shrinking news pages. Experts in the field of new media convergence will offer hands-on workshops and seminars on web content, reporting, design and production, and

on using social networks and new technology to maximize audience interest and reach for news websites.

A panel discussion on “Journalism in the 21st Century” will also take place on October 24 at the College, including James O’Shea, editor of the Chicago News Cooperative, former editor in chief of the *Los Angeles Times*, former managing editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, and author of “The Deal From Hell: How Moguls and Wall Street Plundered Great American Newspapers.” O’Shea will be joined on the panel by Pulitzer Center Senior Editor Tom Hundley, a former *Tribune* foreign correspondent, and Pulitzer Center New Media Strategist Maura Youngman. The panel discussion will be open to the public. It will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, October 24, in Founders Lounge, Frick Center, at Elmhurst College, 190 Prospect Avenue, Elmhurst.

The two-year partnership comes at a time when America is in crisis, both economically and politically, when traditional U.S. media outlets are drastically reducing their enterprise reporting from around the globe, and when journalists and the general public are examining more critically the impact of the Web, YouTube, social media and the blogosphere on the information landscape.

At Elmhurst, students, faculty and the wider community will get the opportunity to learn how the Pulitzer Center’s model of collaborative non-profit journalism fills in the information gaps and builds a deeper understanding of systemic global issues. The two-year series of seminars, lectures and workshops is designed to position Elmhurst College students and others from the Chicago area and around the state for the journalistic world they will face in the future—one that is highly digital, dynamic, competitive and global.

The Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting promotes in-depth engagement with global affairs through its sponsorship of quality international journalism across all media platforms and an innovative program of outreach and education. <http://pulitzercenter.org>

Elmhurst College is a leading liberal arts college located eight miles west of Chicago. The College’s mission is to prepare its students for meaningful and ethical work in a multicultural, global society. Approximately 3,400 full- and part-time students are enrolled in its 22 undergraduate academic departments and nine graduate degree programs. <http://public.elmhurst.edu/>

The Leader, Elmhurst’s award-winning student newspaper, is an additional sponsor of this program.

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