About Us
The UNC Center for Media Law and Policy is an interdisciplinary research center run jointly out of the UNC School of Law and UNC School of Journalism and Mass Communication. The center serves as a forum for study and debate about the broad array of media law and policy issues facing North Carolina, the nation, and the world. The center’s work ranges from the legal and policy issues affecting traditional media organizations to the challenges posed by new communication technologies, including social media, the Internet, and mobile technology, and the impact they are having on governments, on the economy, and on cultural and social values throughout the world.

www.medialaw.unc.edu

Contact Us
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Spring 2013

News from the Center

The Center has worked with many smart and energetic partners during this academic year. We are proud of these collaborations and of our growing reputation as a hard-working and creative partner. Collaboration, after all, is in our DNA. From the start, the Center has been a collaborative effort between the UNC schools of journalism and law.

Our partners this year have included the Student Press Law Center, Common Cause, Online News Association, UNC School of Information and Library Science, and two UNC School of Law journals – the First Amendment Law Review and the Journal of Law and Technology.

By collaborating, we increase our brainpower, creativity, work capacity, and financial resources. And we have fun. We meet great people – professionals, academics, and students – who share our passion for learning about media law and policy.

This year provided good examples of how we’ve worked with multiple partners to do something we could not have done alone. For example, one of the year’s major events began two years ago when Student Press Law Center Executive Director Frank LoMonte called the Center to say he wanted the Center to help him hold a national conference to mark the 25th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier, a landmark case on student free speech rights. We agreed and recruited the N.C. Scholastic Media Association and the First Amendment Law Review to organize what grew into a two-day conference. Education Week, a national newspaper that covers education issues, made a generous financial contribution, and the other partners split the rest of the costs.

So, if you have a great idea for a media law and policy event or initiative, don’t hesitate to contact us!

Upcoming Events

EU Privacy Law and Regulation of the Internet
On April 9, the Center for Media Law and Policy and UNC School of Law’s International Programs are hosting Oreste Calliano, a Law Professor from the University of Turin and director of the European Center for Internet and Consumer Law (CEDIC Centre Eur.de
l’Informatique et de la Consommation). Professor Calliano holds the
Jean Monnet Associate Chair of Private Law of the EU and has
written extensively on privacy law, innovation law, consumer law
and cyberlaw. Professor Calliano’s presentation will focus on
privacy law and regulation of the Internet in Europe. More
information on the event is available here.

**Interdisciplinary Lunch: Privacy by Design**

On April 12, the Center will host an interdisciplinary lunch open to
faculty and graduate students from across the UNC system. The
topic will be “Privacy by Design.” Privacy by Design is viewed by
some scholars as a potential information-age remedy to increasingly
complex technological privacy threats. By designing for privacy, it is
argued, organizations are able to maintain regulatory compliance,
provide a positive experience for users, and advance competitively
in a marketplace that values privacy. This lunch discussion will be
led by Dr. Fred Stutzman, a visiting professor in the UNC School of
Information and Library Science (SILS), software developer, and
entrepreneur. April’s lunch discussion will be held from noon to
1:15 p.m. on Friday, April 12, 2013, in the Halls of Fame room on the
first floor of Carroll Hall. Please RSVP to Liz
Woolery at ewoolery@email.unc.edu by April 10, as space will be
limited. The Center will provide box lunches and drinks. More
information about the lunch, including background readings, is
available here.

**Recent Events**

*The FCC, Media Ownership and the Tar Heel State*

The Center hosted a public discussion on *The FCC, Media
Ownership and the Tar Heel State* in late February. The event
included a panel featuring former FCC Chair Michael Copps, as well
as national experts on media ownership regulations and the impact
of those regulations on the media’s ability to meet the information
needs of North Carolina communities. The February event
continued a discussion begun a year ago when the Center convened 50 media scholars, professionals, attorneys, and
community leaders to discuss how Internet, cable television, satellite
television, and mobile broadband service providers could help
promote local accountability journalism in North Carolina and the
nation. A report on that first meeting is here. A video of the February
panel discussion is available here.

*Larry Lessig on Rooting out Corruption in Politics: Complicity and
Complacency by the Media*

Also this semester, the Center hosted Lawrence Lessig for a public
address on *Rooting out Corruption in Politics: Complicity and
Complacency by the Media.* Lessig, the Roy L. Furman Professor of
Law and Leadership at Harvard Law School, and director of the
Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University, delivered
the address to the campus and community on March 4. Lessig
discussed one of the most challenging problems we face right now:
corruption in politics. Lessig’s address included election funding
reform proposals and a discussion of the Fourth Estate’s role as a
watchdog of government. Video of the event is available here.

**From our Blog**

*Lessig v. Corruption (2013)*

In advance of Larry Lessig’s lecture on political corruption and
media accountability, School of Journalism and Mass
Communication Assistant Professor Victoria “Tori” Ekstrand
explored Lessig’s growing appeal to hacktivists, academics, and
political activists. Ekstrand highlighted Lessig as an engaging and
engaged Constitutionalist and scholar-activist deeply committed to
tech culture. The full post is available here.
UNC Students Present Research at AEJMC Southeast Colloquium
The media law program at UNC was well represented at the annual Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Southeast Colloquium. Graduate students from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication presented 13 research papers at the Southeast Colloquium in Tampa. Ten of those papers were on media law and policy issues. Ph.D. student Liz Woolery, who works in the Center for Media Law and Policy, presented two papers, one of which won third place in the Law and Policy Division. More information about the papers and the Colloquium is available here.

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Recent Media Law News

Aereo Wins a Battle, and Broadcasters Are Distressed
The New York Times - April 1, 2013

Reselling of Digital Goods is Copyright Infringement Judge Rules
Wired - April 1, 2013

CBS halts replays of basketball player's injury
Sports Illustrated - March 31, 2013

Judge Orders Reporter to Appear for James Holmes Case
CBSDenver - March 30, 2013

Why is that 17-year-old’s $30 million news app even legal?
Time - March 27, 2013

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Spotlight: Media Law and Policy Resource

Investigative News Network’s Legal Guide
The Investigative News Network is an excellent resource for non-profit news organizations. The network’s recent legal guide for non-profit news websites describes how those sites can limit their legal liability. The guide includes sample terms of use, privacy policies, and conflict-of-interest policies. The guide also addresses contracts related to journalism including freelancer agreements and publication agreements. INN’s site is well laid-out and allows news organizations access to an uncomplicated list of the necessities for a news website.

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And make sure you check us out on Facebook and Twitter!