

Comments from the Editor

Welcome to this issue of the *Journal of Magazine and New Media Research*. This is my inaugural issue as the journal's new editor and I am grateful for the quality of research being submitted by the members of our division as well as by other scholars interested in issues related to the magazine industry and new technologies.

Our lead article, "*Is Seeing Believing? A Survey of Magazine Professionals' Practices and Attitudes Toward Ethical Standards for Photographs*," explores how magazine professionals perceive the appropriateness or inappropriateness of enhancing or modifying photographs. In their article, which is based on a survey of 210 members of the American Society of Magazine Editors (ASME), Shahira Fahmy, Scott Fosdick, and Thomas Johnson assess current industry practices while raising a number of ethical issues and concerns.

"*No Business Like Show Business: Tracking Commodification Over a Century of Variety*," by Fosdick and Sooyoung Cho, content analyzes the leads of 480 articles published in *Variety* magazine from 1906 to 2001. Fosdick and Cho examine how *Variety* has balanced its coverage between performing arts and live arts as well as between the people-side and business-side of the industry. Ultimately, they argue that *Variety* has always reflected the commodified nature of the entertainment industry.

Finally, David Abrahamson offers his interesting and thought-provoking essay, "*The Press Celebrity, The Celebrity Press: Historical Antecedents, Future Prospects*." How has our culture's obsession with celebrity affected the nature of news? Has this created a crisis for serious journalism? Abrahamson shares his thoughts and, most importantly, makes us think.

I hope you enjoy this issue. In particular, I hope it inspires future research and provocative discussions around the office and in the classroom. I would like to express special thanks to David E. Sumner for his work as our webmaster and to the reviewers who shared their expertise and suggestions with our authors.

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