# VITAE LAURA A. RUEL

January 2017

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#### Education

# University of Missouri, Master of Arts, Journalism, May 1993.

Thesis: Ruel, Laura. *The Effect of Information Graphics on Reading Comprehension in Newspapers*. University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo. 1993.

# Colgate University, Bachelor of Arts, June 1985.

Major: Sociology

# **Professional Experience: Academic**

**Hugh Morton Distinguished Associate Term Professor**, School of Media and Journalism, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, July 2012-June 2017.

# Academic Director, Master of Arts in Technology and Communication,

School of Media and Journalism, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, July 2014-present.

**Associate Professor,** School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, July 2010-July 2012.

**Associate Professor,** Master of Arts in Technology and Communication program, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, August 2011-August 2013.

**Curriculum Coordinator**, Visual communication and Multimedia, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, July 2008-June 2014.

**Assistant Professor**, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, July 2004-July 2010.

**Executive Director**, Estlow International Center for Journalism and New Media, School of Communication, University of Denver, October 2000-July 2004.

**Instructor**, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Denver, August 2000-July 2004.

Adjunct Faculty, Department of Communication, Creighton University, 1997.

Adjunct Faculty, Department of Communication, University of Maine at Presque Isle, 1992-1993.

# **Professional Experience: Media Leadership**

**Design Desk Supervisor, Rocky Mountain News**, Denver, Co., Circulation: 500,000, June 2000-September 2000.

**Presentation Editor** (supervisor of design desk and graphics department), **Omaha World-Herald**, Omaha, Neb., Circulation: 270,000, October 1997-December 1998.

**Graphics Editor, Sun-Sentinel**, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Circulation: 330,000, September 1990-March 1991.

#### **Professional Experience: Newspapers and Magazines**

**Page Designer, Rocky Mountain News**, Denver, Co., Circulation: 500,000, December 1998-September 2000.

**Graphic Artist, Omaha World-Herald**, Omaha, Neb., Circulation: 290,000, May-October 1997.

**Copy Editor / Page Designer, Omaha World-Herald**, Omaha, Neb., Circulation: 290,000, November 1995-May 1997.

Copy Editor, Echoes Magazine, Caribou, Maine, January–May 1994.

Reporter, the Aroostook Republican, Caribou, Maine, September 1992–May 1993.

**Features Page Designer/Copy Editor, Sun-Sentinel**, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Circulation: 330,000, November 1988–September 1990.

Layout Editor, Sun-Sentinel, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Circulation: 330,000, May- November 1988.

Copy Desk Media Assistant, Columbia Missourian, Columbia, Mo., Circulation: 6,000, Winter 1988.

**Reporter/Editorial Assistant, the Tab**, Newton, Mass., Circulation: 146,000, Summers 1981–1984.

# **Awards and Honors**

Individual recognition

**Edward Vick Prize for Innovation in Teaching, a**ward recipient, School of Media and Journalism, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, April 2015.

**Selected participant, UNC Faculty Bootcamp**, Workshop encourages an entrepreneurial mindset and helps maximize faculty impact, May 2011.

**Winning presentation** – Business/Sustainability Plan for Powering a Nation, by Laura Ruel.

**President's Award for Excellence in Volunteerism**, Society for News Design, September 2008.

**College Educator Fellowship recipient**, Convergence Journalism for College Educators seminar, The Poynter Institute, February 2004.

President's Award for Excellence in Volunteerism, Society for News Design, November 2002.

First Place - Front-Page Design, Nebraska Press Association Annual Competition, 1998.

First Place - Newswriting Category, Maine Press Association Annual Competition, June 1993.

**Designer of the Month, Sun-Sentinel**, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Circulation: 330,000; May 1989, June 1989, September 1989, March 1990, and April 1990.

Olive Coates Memorial Scholarship, for journalistic excellence, University of Missouri, Winter 1988.

Recognition for creative leadership and administration of student projects

**2016 Winner,** Online News Association, Online Journalism Awards (*These national awards honor data journalism, visual digital storytelling, investigative journalism, public service, technical innovation and general excellence.*) Category: Excellence and Innovation in Visual Digital Storytelling – Small, Laura Ruel, design and usability coach.

**National Winner**, SPJ Mark of Excellence Awards (*national competition honoring the best in student journalism; started in 1972), Category:* Best Use of Multimedia, Whole Hog by the 2014 Powering a Nation Team, Laura Ruel, co-executive producer.

**Champion,** Pictures of the Year International (POYI) (international competition for photojournalism started in 1944; the oldest photojournalism program in the world), Category: Online News & Issue Story Editing - Magazine, Whole Hog by the 2014 Powering a Nation Team, Laura Ruel, co-executive producer.

**Honoree,** 31st Annual International Environmental Film Festival (Fife). (The festival takes place in France and attracts large audiences – more than 14,000 in 2014.) Over Water Under Fire by the 2013 Powering a Nation Team, Laura Ruel, co-executive producer.

**2014 Nominee,** Student Category, SXSW interactive Festival *(national interactive media festival started in 1987)*, Over Water Under Fire by the 2013 Powering a Nation Team, Laura Ruel, co-executive producer.

**Gold Award**, College Photographer of the Year competition (international photojournalism competition started in 1945; receives entries from more than 600 student photographers/year), Over Water Under Fire Over Water Under Fire by the 2013 Powering a Nation Team, Laura Ruel, co-executive producer.

**Honorable Mention**, Pictures of the Year International, <u>Over Water Under Fire</u> by the 2013 Powering a Nation Team, **Laura Ruel**, **co-executive producer**.

**National Emmy Award**, 2013 Finalist nominee for News and Documentary: New Approaches, <u>100</u> Gallons by the 2012 Powering a Nation team, **Laura Ruel**, **executive producer**.

**Best Documentary**, 2013 Ivy Film Festival (the largest student-run film festivals in the world hosted annually at Brown University.) A Beautiful Waste by Jon Kasbe, part of the site 100 Gallons by the 2012 Powering a Nation team, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

Champion (Student), 2012 South by Southwest (SXSW) Interactive Awards (national interactive media festival started in 1987), Coal: A Love Story, <a href="http://sxsw.com/interactive/awards/winners">http://sxsw.com/interactive/awards/winners</a>. Laura Ruel, executive producer.

Award of Special Merit, 2012 Grantham Prize for Environmental Journalism (prize awarded annually to nonfiction work produced in the U.S. or Canada; started in 2005), <a href="http://www.granthamprize.org/awards-of-special-merit/2012aosm">http://www.granthamprize.org/awards-of-special-merit/2012aosm</a>. Coal: A Love Story by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Shortlisted (Documentary),** 2012 Vimeo Awards (celebrates the best original videos online), "Born Into Coal," <a href="http://vimeo.com/awards/shortlist/documentary">http://vimeo.com/awards/shortlist/documentary</a>. <a href="https://coal: A Love Story">Coal: A Love Story</a> by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, <a href="https://coal: A Love Story">Laura Ruel</a>, <a href="https://coal: A Love Story">executive producer</a>.

**Staff Pick**, 2012 Vimeo Awards *(celebrates the best original videos online)*, "Born Into Coal," <a href="http://vimeo.com/awards/shortlist/documentary">http://vimeo.com/awards/shortlist/documentary</a>. <a href="Coal: A Love Story">Coal: A Love Story</a> by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, <a href="Laura Ruel">Laura Ruel</a>, executive producer.

Best in Category (School/University Website), 2011 Horizon Interactive Awards (international professional competition started in 2002; receives about 1,000 entries/year; recognizes excellence in interactive media production), <a href="https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/coal-a-love-story">https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/coal-a-love-story</a>. Coal: A Love Story by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Gold (Short Film/Entertainment),** 2011 Horizon Interactive Awards, (international professional competition started in 2002; receives about 1,000 entries/year; recognizes excellence in interactive media production), "Born Into Coal," <a href="https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/born-into-coal">https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/born-into-coal</a>. <a href="Coal">Coal</a>: A Love Story</a> by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Silver (Student Work),** 2011 Society for News Design (SND)'s Best Digital News Design, (international competition honoring projects in overall design, data, breaking news, mobile and tablet; receives about 500 entries), <a href="http://ssnd.wordpress.com/2012/04/23/award-winners/">http://ssnd.wordpress.com/2012/04/23/award-winners/</a>. <a href="https://ssnd.wordpress.com/2012/04/23/award-winners/">Coal: A Love Story</a> by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, <a href="https://ssnd.wordpress.com/2012/04/23/award-winners/">Laura Ruel</a>, <a href="https://ssnd.wordpress.com/2012/04/23/award-winners/">executive producer</a>.

**Third Place (Issue Reporting Multimedia Story)**, 2011 Pictures of the Year International (POYi), (international competition for photojournalism started in 1944; the oldest photojournalism program in the world), "Born Into Coal," <a href="http://www.poyi.org/69/21/03.php">http://www.poyi.org/69/21/03.php</a>. <a href="Coal: A Love Story">Coal: A Love Story</a> by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, <a href="Laura Ruel">Laura Ruel</a>, executive producer.

**Gold (Large Group Media Project),** College Photographer of the Year 2011 (CPOY), *(international photojournalism competition started in 1945; receives entries from more than 600 student photographers/year)*, <a href="http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?s=WinningImages&yr=66&c=240#1.0">http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?s=WinningImages&yr=66&c=240#1.0</a>. <a href="https://coal: A LoveStory">Coal: A LoveStory</a> by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, **Laura Ruel, executive producer**.

**Award of Excellence (Individual Multimedia Story or Essay),** College Photographer of the Year 2011 (CPOY), (international photojournalism competition started in 1945; receives entries from over 600 student

photographers/year), "Born Into Coal" from Coal: A Love Story by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Gold (Multimedia Project),** College Photographer of the Year 2011 (CPOY), (international photojournalism competition started in 1945; receives entries from over 600 student photographers/year), "Born Into Coal," <a href="http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?c=242&s=WinningImages&yr=66">http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?c=242&s=WinningImages&yr=66</a>. Part of <a href="Coal: A Love Story">Coal: A Love Story</a> by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, <a href="Laura Ruel">Laura Ruel</a>, <a href="executive producer">executive producer</a>.

**Best of the Web,** LA Times Photography Blog, (a roundup of photography, video and multimedia from around the world wide web), <a href="http://framework.latimes.com/2011/07/29/best-of-the-web-48/">http://framework.latimes.com/2011/07/29/best-of-the-web-48/</a>. <a href="https://coal: A Love Story">Coal: A Love Story</a> by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, <a href="https://coal: A Love Story">Laura Ruel</a>, <a href="https://coal: A Love Story">executive producer</a>.

**First Place (Digital Storytelling),** Society for News Design (SND) "Make an Impression" Design Awards, (international competition honoring projects in overall design, data, breaking news, mobile and tablet; receives about 500 entries), from the site <u>Powering a Nation</u>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer**.

**First Place (Standalone Multimedia),** Society for News Design (SND) "Make an Impression" Design Awards, (international competition honoring projects in overall design, data, breaking news, mobile and tablet; receives about 500 entries), "Coal & You." from <u>Coal: A Love Story</u> by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, **Laura Ruel, executive producer**.

**Second Place (Standalone Multimedia),** Society for News Design (SND) "Make an Impression" Design Awards, (international competition honoring projects in overall design, data, breaking news, mobile and tablet; receives about 500 entries), "Coal: A Love Story (Introduction." from Coal: A Love Story by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Third Place (Standalone Multimedia),** Society for News Design (SND) "Make an Impression" Design Awards, (international competition honoring projects in overall design, data, breaking news, mobile and tablet; receives about 500 entries), "From Coal Towns to Ghost Towns." from <u>Coal: A Love Story</u> by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, **Laura Ruel, executive producer**.

**Third Place (Standalone Multimedia),** Society for News Design (SND) "Make an Impression" Design Awards, (international competition honoring projects in overall design, data, breaking news, mobile and tablet; receives about 500 entries), "World of Coal." from Coal: A Love Story by the 2011 Powering a Nation team, **Laura Ruel, executive producer**.

**Silver (Student Film/Video),** 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Telly Awards, (international competition honoring videos and films, web commercials, and TV commercials and programs; receives over 10,000 entries/year), "Spilling Over," <a href="https://www.tellyawards.com/winners/list">https://www.tellyawards.com/winners/list</a>. From the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Second Place (Interactive Multimedia Production),** World Press Photo 2011, (international photography competition started in 1955; prizewinning photographs are assembled into a global traveling exhibition), "Powering a Nation," <a href="http://www.worldpressphoto.org/multimediacontest">http://www.worldpressphoto.org/multimediacontest</a>. Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Gold (School/University Website),** 2010 Horizon Interactive Awards, (international professional competition started in 2002; receives about 1,000 entries/year; recognizes excellence in interactive media production), <a href="https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/powering-a-nation">https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/powering-a-nation</a>. <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, <a href="Laura Ruel">Laura Ruel</a>, <a href="executive producer">executive producer</a>.

**Best in Category (Short Film/Entertainment),** 2010 Horizon Interactive Awards, (international professional competition started in 2002; receives about 1,000 entries/year; recognizes excellence in interactive media production), <a href="https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/spilling-over">https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/spilling-over</a>. "Spilling Over," from the site <a href="https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/spilling-over">Powering a Nation</a>, <a href="https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/spilling-over">https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/spilling-over</a>. "Spilling Over," from the site <a href="https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/spilling-over">Powering a Nation</a>, <a href="https://www.horizoninteractiveawards.com/winners/details/spilling-over">Powering

**Gold (Large Group Multimedia Project),** College Photographer of the Year 2010 (CPOY), (international photojournalism competition started in 1945; receives entries from over 600 student photographers/year), <a href="http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?s=WinningImages&yr=65&c=224">http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?s=WinningImages&yr=65&c=224</a>. From the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Gold (Multimedia Project),** College Photographer of the Year 2010 (CPOY), (international photojournalism competition started in 1945; receives entries from over 600 student photographers/year), <a href="http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?s=WinnersList&yr=65">http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?s=WinnersList&yr=65</a>. "Spilling Over," from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, <a href="Laura Ruel">Laura Ruel</a>, executive producer.

**Silver (Multimedia Project),** College Photographer of the Year 2010 (CPOY), (international photojournalism competition started in 1945; receives entries from over 600 student photographers/year), <a href="http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?s=WinnersList&yr=65">http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?s=WinnersList&yr=65</a>. "Power Play," from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer.** 

**Award of Excellence (Multimedia Project),** College Photographer of the Year 2010 (CPOY), (international photojournalism competition started in 1945; receives entries from over 600 student photographers/year), <a href="http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?s=WinnersList&yr=65">http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?s=WinnersList&yr=65</a>. "Splitting Main Street," from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, **Laura Ruel**, **executive producer**.

**Most Innovative Alternative News Stories of 2010,** Business Insider – The Wire, (*Business Insider selected 18 stories this year*),

http://www.businessinsider.com/alternative-storytelling-of-2010-2010-12#news-21-powering-a-nation-16. From the site Powering a Nation, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**First Place (Video),** 2010 National Press Photographers Association, *(competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing)*, "Spilling Over" part of the site <u>Powering a Nation</u>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer.** 

**First Place (Outstanding Student Reporting),** Society of Environmental Journalists 2010 Awards for Reporting on the Environment, (international competition honoring environmental journalism started in 2002), <a href="http://www.sej.org/initiatives/winners-sej-9th-annual-awards#Student">http://www.sej.org/initiatives/winners-sej-9th-annual-awards#Student</a>. "Mining the Mountains" and "Debating Coal's Future," from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, <a href="Laura Ruel">Laura Ruel</a>, <a href="https://executive.producer">executive</a> <a href="producer">producer</a>.

Overall Best Use of the Web Award, NPPA's Best of Photojournalism 2010, (competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing), from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**First Place (News or Feature Multimedia Package),** NPPA's Best of Photojournalism 2010, (competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing), from the site <u>Powering a Nation</u>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer.** 

**Second Place (Documentary Video),** NPPA's Best of Photojournalism 2010, (competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing), "Mining the Mountains," from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Second Place (Feature Video),** NPPA's Best of Photojournalism 2010, (competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing), "Roping the Wind," from the site <u>Powering a Nation</u>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer.** 

**Award of Excellence (Documentary Project of the Year),** 67<sup>th</sup> Pictures of the year International (POYi), (international competition for photojournalism started in 1944; the oldest photojournalism program in the world), <a href="http://www.poyi.org/67/67winnerslist.html">http://www.poyi.org/67/67winnerslist.html</a>, from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, <a href="Laura Ruel">Laura Ruel</a>, <a href="executive producer">executive producer</a>.

**Award of Excellence (Issue Reporting – Multimedia),** 67<sup>th</sup> Pictures of the year International (POYi), (international competition for photojournalism started in 1944; the oldest photojournalism program in the world), <a href="http://www.poyi.org/67/67winnerslist.html">http://www.poyi.org/67/67winnerslist.html</a>. "Mining the Mountains," from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, <a href="Laura Ruel">Laura Ruel</a>, <a href="https://executive.producer">executive</a> <a href="producer">producer</a>.

**Gold (Large Group Multimedia Project),** College Photographer of the Year 2009 (CPOY), (international photojournalism competition started in 1945; receives entries from over 600 student photographers/year), from the site Powering a Nation, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Gold (Individual Multimedia Story or Essay),** College Photographer of the Year 2009 (CPOY), (international photojournalism competition started in 1945; receives entries from over 600 student

photographers/year), <a href="http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?c=195&s=WinningImages&yr=64">http://www.cpoy.org/index.php?c=195&s=WinningImages&yr=64</a>. "Roping the Wind," from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, <a href="Laura Ruel">Laura Ruel</a>, executive producer.

**Bronze (Multimedia Project),** College Photographer of the Year 2009 (CPOY), (international photojournalism competition started in 1945; receives entries from over 600 student photographers/year), "Battle for the Mountains" and "Debating Coal's Future," from the site <u>Powering a Nation</u>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer.** 

**First Place (Team Video),** NPPA's 2009 Multimedia Contest, (competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing), <a href="https://www.nppa.org/gallery/24314">https://www.nppa.org/gallery/24314</a>. "Debating Coal's Future," from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, <a href="Laura Ruel">Laura Ruel</a>, <a href="executive producer">executive producer</a>.

**Second Place (Team Video),** NPPA's August 2009 Multimedia Contest, *(competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing)*, "Battle for the Mountains," from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Second Place (Multimedia Project),** NPPA's 2009 Multimedia Contest, *(competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing)*, "Battle for the Mountains," from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**First Place (Individual Video),** NPPA's September 2009 Multimedia Contest, *(competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing)*, "Roping the Wind," from the site <u>Powering a Nation</u>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer.** 

**First Place (Team Video),** NPPA's September 2009 Multimedia Contest, (competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing), "Down the Lines," from the site <u>Powering a Nation</u>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer.** 

**Second Place (Team Video),** NPPA's September 2009 Multimedia Contest, *(competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing)*, "Moving to Higher Ground," from the site <u>Powering a Nation</u>, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Third Place (Team Video),** NPPA's September 2009 Multimedia Contest, *(competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing)*, "Voices of Roscoe," from the site <u>Powering a Nation</u>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer.** 

**First Place (Team Video),** NPPA's September 2009 Multimedia Contest, (competition honoring still and TV photojournalism, picture editing, and web editing), "Religion Rejuvenates Environmentalism," from the site Powering a Nation, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Quarterly Winners,** Society for News Design Best of Multimedia Quarterly, *(international competition honoring projects in high-quality visual journalism)*, "Powering a Nation," "Roping the Wind," "Climate Refugees," "Down the Lines," "Energy Portraits," "The High-Energy Diet," and "Reclaiming Creation." from the site <u>Powering a Nation</u>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer.** 

**Best Independent Online Student Publication,** Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence Awards (SPJ), *(national competition honoring the best in student journalism, started in 1972),* from the site <u>Powering a Nation,</u> Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**Mark of Excellence Awards,** Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence Awards (SPJ), (national competition honoring the best in student journalism, started in 1972), "Debating Coal's Power," "Down the Lines," "Reclaiming Creation," "Roping the Wind." from the site <u>Powering a Nation</u>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer.** 

First Place (Best Overall College News Web Site), Student Society for News Design (SSND), (student affiliate of the Society for News Design, recognizing the best design work done by students at campus publications or during internships), from the site Powering a Nation, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

First Place (Best Display for Multimedia), Student Society for News Design (SSND), (student affiliate of the Society for News Design, recognizing the best design work done by students at campus publications or during internships), from the site Powering a Nation, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

First Place (Best Interactive or Animated Graphic), Student Society for News Design (SSND), (student affiliate of the Society for News Design, recognizing the best design work done by students at campus publications or during internships), from the site Powering a Nation, Laura Ruel, executive producer.

**First Place (Best One-subject Standalone Mini-site),** Student Society for News Design (SSND), (student affiliate of the Society for News Design, recognizing the best design work done by students at campus publications or during internships), "Debating Coal's Future." from the site <a href="Powering a Nation">Powering a Nation</a>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer.** 

**Honorable Mention (Best One-subject Standalone Mini-site),** Student Society for News Design (SSND), (student affiliate of the Society for News Design, recognizing the best design work done by students at campus publications or during internships), "Roping the Wind," "Climate Refugees," "Down the Lines," "Energy Portraits," "The High-Energy Diet," "Reclaiming Creation," "Battle for the Mountains," and "The Power in Plants." from the site <u>Powering a Nation</u>, **Laura Ruel, executive producer.** 

**Silver Award,** 2009 Horizon Interactive Awards (international professional competition started in 2002; receives about 1,000 entries/year; recognizes excellence in interactive media production), "Nuevas Fronteras: Stories of the Latino Experience in North Carolina," Laura Ruel, design consultant.

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**Quarterly Winner**, 2009 Society for News Design Best of Multimedia Design Competition (international professional competition started in 2002; receives about 400 entries/year; recognizes excellent multimedia journalism), "Nuevas Fronteras: Stories of the Latino Experience in North Carolina," Laura Ruel, design consultant.

Finalist, 2006 Journalism Awards (national professional competition started in 2000), "The Ancient Way," <a href="http://www.theancientway.org">http://www.theancientway.org</a>. Laura Ruel, story and design coach.

**Bronze Award**, 2006 Society for News Design's Best of Multimedia Design Competition (SND.ies), "The Ancient Way," <a href="http://www.theancientway.org">http://www.theancientway.org</a>. **Laura Ruel, story and design coach.** 

**First Place,** Journalism Category, 2006 Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication's "Best of the Web" competition, "The Ancient Way," <a href="http://www.theancientway.org">http://www.theancientway.org</a>. **Laura Ruel, story and design coach.** 

#### **Professional Publications**

**Ruel, Laura.** "Going Whole Hog on Innovative Student Project," for Society of Environmental Journalists Journal, Spring 2015 Edition.

http://www.sej.org/publications/sejournal/overview.

**Ruel, Laura.** "Engaging audiences in stories about climate change and the environment," *Periodismo, medios de comunicación y cambio climático,* ed. Leon, Bienvindeio (Salamanca, España: Comunicación Social, 2014).

**Ruel, Laura.** "Case study: Knowledge-based journalism and the UNC News21 experience," <u>Journalist's Resource</u>. (August 14, 2011) <a href="https://journalistsresource.org/tip-sheets/reporting/unc-news21-case-study">https://journalistsresource.org/tip-sheets/reporting/unc-news21-case-study</a>.

**Ruel, Laura**, executive producer. "Powering a nation: The quest for energy in a changing USA," the Carnegie Knight Initiative on the Future of Journalism Education and UNC-Chapel Hill, July 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. <a href="http://poweringanation.org">http://poweringanation.org</a>.

Ruel, Laura, Ignacia Errazuriz, Maria and Besprosvan, Karina. "Eyetracking and Usability of Chilean Websites," Published by DiSEL: Digital Storytelling Effects Lab. (March 2009) <a href="http://disel-project.org/falabella">http://disel-project.org/mega</a>, <a href="http://disel-project.org/mega">http://disel-project.org/falabella</a>, <a href="http://disel-project.org/mega">http://disel-project.org/mega</a>, <a href="http://disel-project.org/terra">http://disel-project.org/terra</a>, <a href="http://disel-project.org/tvn">http://disel-project.org/tvn</a>, <a href="http://disel-p

Ruel, Laura. "What Makes a Winner?" Design Journal 107 (Summer 2008): 11-15.

**Ruel, Laura**. "The Online Journalism Skills that Get Jobs" <u>Poynter Online</u>. (March 4, 2008) <a href="http://www.poynter.org/content/content\_view.asp?id=137903h">http://www.poynter.org/content/content\_view.asp?id=137903h</a>.

**Ruel, Laura**. "Teaching Tomorrow's Journalists: Today's Best Tools" <u>Poynter Online</u>. (March 4, 2008) <a href="http://www.poynter.org/column.asp?id=101&aid=138410">http://www.poynter.org/column.asp?id=101&aid=138410</a>.

**Ruel, Laura**. "Digital Still Photography," *Encyclopedia of American Journalism*, ed. Stephen Vaughn (New York: Routledge. (2007)

**Ruel**, **Laura**. "Integrated Multimedia Storytelling: Teaching Students to Shape the Future," <u>The</u> Convergence Newsletter. 5:4 (October 2007) http://www.jour.sc.edu/news/convergence/v5no.4.html#Ruel.

Paul, Nora, and **Ruel, Laura**. <u>HTML vs. Flash: What Works Better and When?</u> Minneapolis, Minn. and Chapel Hill, N.C. University of Minnesota and University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. (2006)

Ruel, Laura. "Who Does the Web Right?" Design Journal 93 (Fall 2005): 18-19.

**Ruel**, **Laura**. "The Art of Progress" <u>Institute for New Media Studies and the American Press Institute</u>. University of Minnesota. (February 2005) <a href="http://www.inms.umn.edu/digitalthink/">http://www.inms.umn.edu/digitalthink/</a>.

Outing, Steve and **Ruel**, **Laura**. "The Lessons of the Eyes," <u>Editor and Publisher</u>. (October 20, 2004) <a href="http://209.11.49.220/eandp/columns/stopthepresses">http://209.11.49.220/eandp/columns/stopthepresses</a> display.jsp?vnu content id=1000681629.

Outing, Steve and **Ruel, Laura**. "Eyetrack III: News Consumer Behavior in the Age of Multimedia," Poynter Institute for Media Studies. (September 2004) <a href="http://poynter.org/eyetrack">http://poynter.org/eyetrack</a>

• 240-page website documenting the results of a 2-year research study.

**Ruel**, **Laura**. "E-media Tidbits" Poynter Institute for Media Studies. (2002-2008) Poynter Institute for Media Studies. http://poynter.org/tidbits

• Served as an invited, regular contributor to this international, edited weblog.

Paul, Nora, and **Ruel**, **Laura**. New Media Matter(s): Journalism Education and the Future of News. Minneapolis, Minn. and Denver, Colo.: University of Minnesota and University of Denver. (2001)

Ruel, Laura. "Newsprint to New Media: The Road Less Traveled," <u>Design Journal</u> 83 (Spring 2002): 60-63.

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# **Professional Publications: Columns**

Regular columnist for the <u>Online Journalism Review</u> (<u>www.ojr.org</u>) from 2007 through 2009. This column is a widely circulated publication of the Knight Digital Media Center, a partnership between the USC Annenberg School of Communication and the UC-Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism. Columns include:

**Ruel, Laura** and Paul, Nora. "Taking a ride with carousels," <u>Online Journalism Review</u>. (February 4, 2009) <a href="http://www.ojr.org/ojr/people/paulruel/200902/1639/">http://www.ojr.org/ojr/people/paulruel/200902/1639/</a>.

Paul, Nora and **Ruel, Laura**. "Eyetracking research shows how younger readers view news websites," Online Journalism Review. (December 10, 2008) <a href="http://www.ojr.org/ojr/people/paulruel/200812/1593/">http://www.ojr.org/ojr/people/paulruel/200812/1593/</a>.

Paul, Nora and **Ruel**, **Laura**. "Continuous Updates: Design decisions when designating breaking news," Online Journalism Review. (September 24, 2008) http://www.ojr.org/ojr/people/paulruel/200809/1533/.

**Ruel, Laura** and Paul, Nora. "Online usability questions that need answers," <u>Online Journalism Review</u>. (March 13, 2008) <a href="http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/080313ruel/">http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/080313ruel/</a>.

Paul, Nora and **Ruel, Laura**. "The Best of the SND.ies," <u>Online Journalism Review</u>. (September 17, 2007) <a href="http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070917paul/">http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070917paul/</a>.

**Ruel, Laura** and Paul, Nora. "OJR's 'five guide' to do-it-yourself website usability testing," <u>Online Journalism Review</u>. (August 2, 2007) <a href="http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070802ruel/">http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070802ruel/</a>.

Paul, Nora and **Ruel, Laura**. "Navigating slide shows: What do people choose when every choice is possible?" Online Journalism Review. (June 14, 2007) <a href="http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070614paul/">http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070614paul/</a>.

**Ruel, Laura** and Paul, Nora. "Animated infographics and online storytelling: Words from the wise," <u>Online Journalism Review</u>. (May 23, 2007) <a href="http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070523ruel/">http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070523ruel/</a>.

Paul, Nora and **Ruel, Laura**. "Early lessons from Poynter's Eyetrack07," <u>Online Journalism Review</u>. (April 14, 2007) <a href="http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070414paul/">http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070414paul/</a>.

**Ruel, Laura** and Paul, Nora. "Eyetracking points the way to effective news article design," <u>Online Journalism Review</u>. (March 13, 2007) <a href="http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070312ruel/">http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070312ruel/</a>.

**Ruel, Laura** and Paul, Nora. "Multimedia storytelling: when is it worth it?" <u>Online Journalism Review</u>. (February 12, 2007) <a href="http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070210ruel/">http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070210ruel/</a>.

Paul, Nora and **Ruel, Laura**. "News site Web design: What works? What doesn't?" <u>Online Journalism Review</u>. (Januaryuary 10, 2007) <a href="http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070110paul/">http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/070110paul/</a>.

#### **Refereed Journal Publications**

(under review) Leah M. Ranney, PhD, Kristen L. Jarman, MSPH2, Clare Meernik, MPH1, Laura Ruel, MA, Liling Huang, PhD, MPH, Spencer Barnes, EdD, Jeanette Porter, MA, Seth Noar, PhD, Adam O. Goldstein, MD, MPH (2016) Eye Tracking The Real Cost Campaign: Are Susceptible Youth Seeing What We Want Them To See? Manuscript submitted for submission in Tobacco Regulatory Science Special Issue on Behavioral Lab Methods.

McIntyre, K., Barnes, S., & **Ruel, L**. (2014). "The effects of online news package structure on attitude, attention, and comprehension," <a href="http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/1931243116656718">http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/1931243116656718</a>. Electronic News, 10:3 (2016) 178-193.

(under review) Barnes, S., & **Ruel, L.** (2014). Examining the processes involved in the design of information graphics: An exploratory study. Manuscript submitted for publication in <u>Visual Communication</u> Quarterly.

(under review) Ruel, Laura, Holman, Lynette and Wojdynsk, Bartosz W. "Photo fixation: Evaluating Web Site Conventions in Online News Slideshows," Submitted to <u>Electronic News</u>.

Chu,S., Paul, N. and **Ruel, L.** "Using Eye Tracking Technology to Examine the Effectiveness of Design Elements on News Websites," <u>Information Design Journal</u> 17:1 (2009): 31-43.

# **Refereed Conference Papers**

McIntyre, K., Barnes, S., & Ruel, L. (2014). "The effects of online news package structure on attitude, attention, and comprehension." AEJMC National Convention Viscom Division; Boston, August 2009.

**Laura Ruel** & Bart Wojdynski (2009) "Effects of Hyperlink Density on News Web Page Reading: An Eyetracking Study," AEJMC National Convention Viscom Division; Montréal, Canada, August 2014.

Lynette Holman & Laura Ruel, "Photo Fixation: Evaluating Web Site Conventions in Online News Slideshows," AEJMC National Convention Viscom Division; Boston, Mass., August 2009.

**Laura Ruel** & Lynette Holman, "Photo Fixation: Evaluating Web Site Conventions in Online News Slideshows," AEJMC Southeast Colloquium Open Division; Oxford, Miss., March 2009.

#### **Book Review**

Barnes, S., & **Ruel, L.** (2012). A review of Alberto Cairo's "The Functional Art: An Introduction to Information Graphics and Visualization." *Visual Communication Quarterly*, *19*(4), 257-259.

#### **Presentations**

- "Usability Challenges for Campus Websites," presentation for the UNC Campus Webmasters group, November 3, 2016.
- "5 Ways to Design Collaborative Courses for Digital Publications and Interactive Media," Invited panelist at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Annual Conference, August 8, 2015, San Francisco, Calif.
- "Discussing UX," Invited panelist at Google I/O Extended, May 28, 2015, Chapel Hill, N.C.
- **"Eyetracking and Multimedia Design,"** JOMC Interactive (graphics/programming) Bootcamp, May 2013, UNC-Chapel Hill.
- **"Eyetracking and Multimedia Design,"** JOMC Multimedia (video) Bootcamp, May 2013, UNC-Chapel Hill.
- **"Web Usability and Eyetracking Studies."** Invited speaker at Multimedia Bootcamp, May 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C.
- **"Making the stories of climate change personal."** Invited speaker for conference on Communication and Climate Change, November 2013, at University of Navarra, Pamplona, Spain.
- **"Multimedia Trends in Western Media."** Invited speaker for Zhengzhou Chinese Media Workshop, February 20, 2013, at Duke University, Durham, N.C.
- "Creativity and Innovation in Web Site Design." Invited speaker for the staff of <a href="http://china.org.cn">http://china.org.cn</a>, October 12-15, 2009, Beijing, China. Other presentations included:
  - "Case Studies: Critiques of News Web Sites."
  - "Website usability."
  - "Multimedia presentations: How to Select the Best Presentation Method for a Specific Story Idea."

"Usability and Eyetracking Research for Multimedia Design." Invited speaker at Swedish Journalism Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C.

- **"Teaching Multimedia Design."** Invited speaker/instructor at the Beyond Bootcamp Workshops, Knight Center for International Media, University of Miami School of Communication, Januaryuary 3-6, 2009, Miami, Fla. Other presentations included:
  - "Teaching Multimedia Within Your Means."
  - "Designing a Beginning Multimedia Class."
  - "Hardware, Software, Tools and Resources for Teaching Multimedia."
  - "Evaluating Multimedia."
- **"When, How and Why to Use Multimedia to Tell Your Health Story."** Invited speaker at the California Endowment Health Journalism Fellowships Conference, October 23-26, 2008, Los Angeles, Calif.
- **"Seminar: Designing a Usability Study with Eyetracking."** Invited speaker at USID08: Usability in Information Systems Conference, November 13, 2008, Barcelona, Spain. Additional presentation:
  - "Eyes on the News: Understanding User Behavior Using Eyetracking."
- "Research that's Relevant: What DiSEL Studies Advise about Everyday Usability and Design Decisions." Invited speaker at the Online News Association Conference, September 13, 2008, Washington, D.C.
- "Understanding User Behavior with Eyetracking." Invited speaker at the Society for News Design Annual Workshop and Exhibition, September 7-9, 2008, Las Vegas, Nev.
- **"Multimedia Design."** Invited speaker at the International Design Conference, May 27-28, 2008, Paris, France.
- **"Using Multimedia to Tell Your Health-Related Stories."** Invited speaker at the California Endowment Health Journalism Fellowships Conference, April 13-18, 2008, Los Angeles, Calif.
- "Multimedia Meets Narrative." Invited speaker at the Harvard University Nieman Foundation Conference on Narrative Journalism, March 14-16, 2008, Boston, Mass.
- **"What Makes Web Sites Work? Analysis and Design Decisions."** Invited speaker at the Online News Association Conference, October 17, 2007, Toronto, Canada.
- "Applying Research Findings to Improve Multimedia Design." Invited speaker at the Multimedia Intensive Course sponsored by www.elmundo.es, October 18, 2006, Madrid, Spain.
- **"Multimedia Design Basics."** Invited speaker at Multimedia Bootcamp, August 17, 2006, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C. Other presentations included:
  - "Multimedia Research and Design."

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# • "Beginning Flash."

- **"Why Multimedia?"** Invited speaker at the Multimedia News Production Workshop, August 11-12, 2006, University of Minnesota School of Journalism, Minneapolis, Minn.
- **"Editing in a Multimedia Environment."** Invited speaker at the Knight Foundation National Copy Editing Fellows program, July 2006, 2007 and 2008, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- "Newspaper Design." Invited speaker at the North Carolina Press Association Newspaper Academy, May 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- **"Applying Research Findings to Your Design,"** Invited speaker at the EPA Web Workgroup (WWG) National Conference, March 15, 2006, US-EPA, Raleigh, N.C.
- "New Media Journalism." Invited speaker for a weeklong in-house staff training for the staff of the Guangzhou Daily News group, <a href="http://dayoo.com">http://dayoo.com</a>, August 2005, Guangzhou, China.
- "Careers in Multimedia Journalism." Invited panelist at Journalism Career Day, April 23, 2005, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- "Creating an Effective Website." Invited speaker at WRAL.com in-house staff training, April 8, 2005, WRAL-TV, Raleigh, N.C.
- **"Effective Website Design,"** Invited speaker at NewsObserver.com in-house staff training, December 3, 2004, The (Raleigh, N.C.) *News & Observer*.
- **"Extreme Makeover,"** Invited panelist at the Online News Association's Annual Convention, November 12, 2004, Hollywood, Calif.
- "Moving into Multimedia," Invited participant at the Tribune Company Interactive Editors' Weekly conference call, October 12, 2004, Chicago, III.
- "Eyetrack III," Invited speaker at the Society for News Design's Annual Workshop and Exhibition, October 2, 2004, San Jose, Calif.
- **"Eyetracking and Web Design,"** Invited speaker at International Digital Media Week, September 22, 2004, Vilanova i la Geltru, Spain.
- "Seeing the News," Invited panelist at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, August 7, 2004, Toronto, Canada.

# **Teaching (since at UNC-CH, Fall 2004)**

**Multimedia Design**, Visiting faculty for a weeklong intensive course in the international undergraduate program in journalism at Universidad de Navarra, Spain, March 2013.

**Multimedia Design and Usability,** Visiting faculty for a weeklong intensive course in the master's program in journalism and mass communication, Universidad de los Andes, Santiago, Chile, September 2010.

**Multimedia Design and Eyetracking,** Visiting faculty for weeklong intensive course in the master's program in Web communication, marketing and business, Autonomous University of Barcelona, March 2010.

**JOMC 782: Multimedia Storytelling,** Spring 2010, 2011, 2012, Fall 2013, 2014, 2015

JOMC 721: Usability and Multimedia Design, Fall 2012, 2016

**JOMC 491: U.S. Demographics and Energy Use**, News 21 seminar, Spring 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013.

**JOMC 192: Special Projects in Multimedia Storytelling**, Writing and Design Coach, Galicia, Spain, July 2005

**JOMC 187**: **Introduction to Multimedia**, two sections per semester 2004-2010 (including one section each in Summer 2005, Summer 2006, Maymester 2007), one section per semester in 2009-2010.

**JOMC 581: Theory and Practice of Multimedia Design**, one section per semester. 2004-present.

**Guest lecturer** for the following courses:

MEJO 101: The Media Revolution: From Gutenberg to Zuckerberg

JOMC 716: Research Methods

MEJO Graduate Seminar in Specialized Reporting, Beginning Photojournalism, The World of Visual Communication, Usability and Multimedia Design (semester when not teaching class), Multimedia Storytelling (semester when not teaching class)

#### **Dissertation and Thesis committees:**

Dissertation committee member, Lynette Holman (2010)

Dissertation committee member, Nicole Smith (2006)

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Master's thesis committee chair, Paula Brown Williams (2017, anticipated)

Master's thesis committee chair, Samantha Carpenter (2017, anticipated)

Master's thesis committee chair, Scott Geier (2016)

Master's thesis committee chair, Casey Hart (2016)

Master's thesis committee chair, Amy Brock (2016)

Master's thesis committee chair, Lexi Namer (2016)

Master's thesis committee chair, Indaia Whitcombe (2016)

Master's thesis committee chair, Candace Doby (2015).

Master's thesis committee chair, Tessa McSwain (2014)

Master's thesis committee chair, Cat Angst (2014)

Master's thesis committee chair, Caitlin Kleiboer (2014)

Master's thesis committee chair, Natalie Taylor (2014)

Master's thesis committee chair, Kathryn Kennedy (2014)

Master's thesis committee chair, Darin Dillehunt (2013)

Master's thesis committee chair, Melissa Umbarger (2013)

Master's thesis committee chair, Jillian Powell (2013)

Master's thesis committee chair, Hadley Gustafson (2012)

Master's thesis committee chair, Catherine Orr (2011)

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Master's thesis committee chair, Carol Perry (2011)

Master's thesis committee chair, Erin Petty (2010)

Master's thesis committee chair, Monica Ulmanu (2010)

Master's thesis committee chair, Lauren Frohne (2010)

Master's thesis committee chair, Todd Brantley (2009)

Master's thesis committee chair, Phil Daguila (2010)

Master's thesis committee chair, Melissa Moser (2009)

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Master's thesis committee member, Gabriel Maisonnave (2017, anticipated)

Master's thesis committee member, Anna Spelman (2017, anticipated)

Master's thesis committee member, Michelle Lotker (2017, anticipated)

Master's thesis committee member, Andrea Patiño Contreras (2016)

Master's thesis committee member, Ran Li (2016)

Master's thesis committee member, Mengqi (Stella) Jiang (2016)

Master's thesis committee member, Ben Donnelly (2015)

Master's thesis committee member, Kelly Creedon (2014)

Master's thesis committee member, Evey Wilson (2014)

Master's thesis committee member, Gareth Gwen (2014)

Master's thesis committee member, Priscilla Tsai (2014)

Master's thesis committee member, Teresa Kriegsman (2013)

Master's thesis committee member, Patrick Mustain (2013)

Master's thesis committee member, Elena Rue (2011)

Master's thesis committee member, Vanessa McVay (2011)

Master's thesis committee member, Andrew Gaerig (2010)

Master's thesis committee member, Sabrina Lopez (2010)

Master's thesis committee member, Eileen Mignoni (2009)

Master's thesis committee member, Bart Wojdynski (2008)

Master's thesis committee member, Gabriel Dance (2005)

Master's thesis committee member, Carrie Leonard (2005)

Master's thesis committee member, Rob Roberts (2004)

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Senior honors thesis committee chair, Sarah Riaziatti (2011)

Senior honors thesis committee member, Meg Wright (2007)

#### Grants

**UNC Communication TCORS Rapid Response Funding Mechanism Award.** Leah Ramney, principal investigator (Laura Ruel, co-investigator)

Award: \$33,474.

TCORS Project 3: How to optimally communicate FDA authority over tobacco products (Kurt Ribisl, principal investigator, Adam Goldstein, principal investigator (Laura Ruel, co-investigator for eyetracking research)

**Award:** \$19.4 million, 2013-2018

Source: U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) via UNC

Center for Regulatory Research on Tobacco Communication (CRRTC)

# News 21: A national initiative to advance the U.S. news business by helping revitalize schools of journalism (UNC principal investigator)

**Award:** \$232,000/year for three years; Total award: \$696,000 ( 2008–2011)

Source: School of Journalism and Mass Communication, UNC-CH via the Carnegie Knight Initiative on the

Future of Journalism Education

# Eyetracking and Usability Study of Chilean News Web Sites

Award: \$15,000 (2008)

**Source:** OMD.cl, Mega.cl and Universidad de Los Andes, Santiago, Chile

# Eyetracking Research: Online photo slide shows • Home page images and link density • Online news page carousels

**Award:** \$10,000 (2008)

Source: School of Journalism and Mass Communication, UNC-CH

# Digital Story Effects Lab: Research into the Effects of Alternative Digital Story Designs on News Audiences

**Award:** \$31,457 (2006–2007)

Source: Digital Technology Initiative Program, University of Minnesota

#### Flash vs. HTML: What Works Better and When?

**Award:** \$3,111 (2005)

**Source:** Summer Grants for Research and Graduate Program-Related Activities, School of Journalism and

Mass Communication, UNC-CH

#### Eyetrack III: Online News Consumer Behavior in the Age of Multimedia

**Award:** \$30,000 (2002-2004)

**Source:** Poynter Institute for Media Studies

#### Service

#### To the School

Laura A. Ruel/VITAE

**Academic Director**, Master of Arts in Technology and Communication, School of Media and Journalism (2014–present)

**Chair**, MATC Admissions Committee (2014-present)

**Chair**, Rich Beckman Award for Documentary Storytelling Committee (2008–present)

**Member**, Master's Admissions Committee (2007–present)

Course Development Co-Coordinator, MEJO 221 (Spring 2015–present)

**Moderator**, Q&A Session with HBO's VICE correspondent Isobel Yeung at the School of Media and Journalism (March 2, 2016)

**Organizer,** Eyeguide Mobile Tracker Training with Dr. Hessam Ghamari at the School of Media and Journalism at UNC-Chapel Hill *Approximately 25 faculty attended 1-hour information session, 9 attended full-day training* (Friday, Dec. 11, 2015)

**Curriculum Coordinato**r, Visual Communication and Multimedia, School of Journalism and Mass Communication (2008-2014)

Member, JOMC Curriculum Committee (2012-2014)

**Member**, Reese News Steering Committee (2012-2013)

**Coordinator/organizer**, Washington Women in Photojournalism exhibit in JOMC (Spring 2013)

**Presenter**, Eyetracking and Multimedia Design for JOMC's Visiting International Scholars (2013)

**Panelist**, JOMC faculty mentoring session (2012)

**Independent study supervisor,** Lauren Tarpley (Fall 2016)

**Independent study supervisor**, Gabriel Maisonnave (Spring 2016)

**Independent study supervisor**, Anna Spelman (Fall 2015)

**Independent study supervisor**, Brittany Mayes (Spring 2015)

**Independent study supervisor**, Kelly Creedon (Fall 2014)

**Independent study supervisor**, Ligaiya Romero (Fall 2013)

**Independent study supervisor**, Katheryn McKee (Spring 2013)

**Independent study supervisor**, John Kasbe (Fall 2012)

**Presenter**, JOMC alumni event in New York City (spoke to alumni about News 21 project and newly created MATC program) (Spring 2010)

**Guest instructor**, Serena Fenton online class in the certificate in Technology for JOMC (Spring 2010)

**Chair**, search committee for Assistant Professor in Graphic Design (Spring 2010)

**Chair**, search committee for Assistant Professor in Graphic Design (Fall 2008)

**Member**, search committee for Assistant Professor r in Photojournalism (Fall 2008)

**Member**, search committee for Assistant Professor in Graphic Design (Fall 2005)

Scholarship committee member (2005, 2006)

Faculty adviser, Student Society for News Design (2004-2010)

# To the University

**Invited speaker,** Usability Challenges for Campus Websites, presentation for the UNC Campus Webmasters group (November 3, 2016)

**Consultant**, eyetracking and usability testing for the Daily Tar Heel's website redesign (Spring 2014)

**Invited speaker**, UNC Royster Society of Fellows panel event. "Why Water?" (February 2013)

**Conducted** usability and eyetracking research for NCTraCS Institute (The North Carolina Translational and Clinical Sciences Institute) at UNC (2013–2014)

Web advisory committee member, UNC.edu redesign, (2008–2009)

**Adviser/consultant**, Students of the World Summer Documentary Team (Spring 2007)

#### To the Community

Keynote speaker, N.C. Scholastic Media Association High School Journalism Workshops (2015)

**Speaker/instructor in Web design**, N.C. Scholastic Media Association High School Journalism Workshops, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009.

**Guest speaker** at St. Thomas More Middle School, Chapel Hill, "What is Journalism?" (2004, 2005)

# To the Industry

**Coordinated and conducted** usability tests with local media organizations on their websites and apps. Organizations include <u>WRAL.com</u>, <u>Whiteville.com</u>, and the <u>NC Justice Center</u>. (2004–present)

**Interviewed** for news story: "Make a Scene: Lessons From South By Southwest: Four SXSW success stories share their advice for an effective festival showing." http://getinmedia.com/articles/film-tv-careers/make-scene-lessons-south-southwest (2013)

**Member**, Board of Directors, Society for News Design (January 2003–2010)

**Judge**, New Frontier Digital Journalism Awards (2009)

**Judge**, Best Law Firm Web Sites & Technology competition (March 2008)

**Research adviser,** Eyetracking the News: A Study of Print and Online Reading, <a href="http://poynter.org/eyetrack">http://poynter.org/eyetrack</a> (March 2007)

**Judge**, Best of Cox competition (March 2005)

**Coordinator and Site Chair**, Society for News Design Multimedia Workshops, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, UNC-Chapel Hill (January 28-29, 2005 and January 27-28, 2006)

**Judge**, Student Society for News Design Web design competition, University of Missouri (2002)

**Founder and Coordinator**, SND.ies: Society for News Design Best of Multimedia Design Competition (May 2001–present)

 Created and continue to administer these international awards that recognize excellence in multimedia journalism design.

#### Memberships

Member, Triangle UXPA (Triangle User Experience Professional Association), Summer 2015-present

**Member**, Ladies that UX, Triangle-Area branch, Summer 2015-present

Member, TCORS Eye TrackingWorkgroup, with all TCORS projects in US, Spring 2015-present

Member, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

• Visual Communication Division, 2004-present

Member, Society for News Design, 1986-present

Member, Online News Association, 1999-present

# **Educational Events**

EyeTrackBehavior - Tobii Eye Tracking Conference, Washington DC, Sept 11-12, 2014 (http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/)

Online webinar: Remotely Possible! With Steve Krug and and Tomer Sharon, March-May 2015.

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