

Carbonundrums: Making sense of climate change reporting around the world

Seminar/workshop organised by the Environmental Change Institute (ECI) and the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (RISJ), Oxford University

2.00pm – 6.30 pm ~ Wednesday 27 June 2007
at the Osler-McGovern Centre, 13 Norham Gardens, Oxford OX2 6PS

This is a seminar-workshop that brings together journalists, students, academics and NGOs working on climate change to analyse and discuss how the issue is reported around the world. It will focus on the changing trends in reporting the issues, how and why climate change is covered (or not) in different countries, and the practical and theoretical obstacles to getting accurate stories printed or on air. It will conclude with a session on identifying practical ways of improving both the quality and quantity of coverage both in the UK and around the world.

The seminar is free of charge, but it is advisable to book early as numbers will be limited. The organisers reserve the right to restrict entry. The programme is subject to change.

1400 - 1410 pm: Introduction by John Boardman, Deputy Director of Environmental Change Institute (ECI), and Paddy Coulter, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (RISJ)

Session 1:

1410 - 1515 pm: Climate change reporting around the world

CHAIR: Paddy Coulter, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

1410-1430: Andy Revkin¹, New York Times environment correspondent:
Trends in climate change reporting in the USA: obstacles and successes

1430-1445: Max Boykoff, James Martin Research Fellow, ECI:
Changing patterns in climate change reporting in US and UK media

1445-1500: James Painter, Visiting Fellow, RISJ:
International television reporting of the 2007 IPCC reports

1500-1515: discussion

Session 2:

1515 – 1630 pm: Country case studies: what gets reported and why?

CHAIR: Dr. Paul Jepson, School of Geography, University of Oxford

China: Paul Brown, former Guardian environment correspondent

Brazil: Carlos Fioravanti, Reuters Institute fellow

Mexico: Caridad Canales, MSC student, Environmental Change Institute

African countries: Vera Kwakofi, Africa and Middle East Editorial Coordinator, BBC World Service

Australia: Peter McEvoy, ABC Australia, Reuters Institute fellow

1630 – 1700 pm: Tea Break

Session 3:

1700 – 1730 pm: Getting climate change stories on air in the UK

David Shukman*, BBC Environment Correspondent

Session 4:

1730 - 1830 pm: Identifying Training Needs in the UK and abroad

Breakout sessions followed by discussion

CHAIR: Dr Joe Smith, Open University

Amongst the participants will be:

Kevin Burden, Head of Training, BBC World Service Trust: India project 'Focus on the Environment'

Rod Harbinson, Panos, editor of Whatever the Weather – media attitudes to reporting climate change (Sri Lanka, Honduras, Zambia and Jamaica)

Paul Brown, former Guardian correspondent, on training journalists in China

1830 pm onwards: Drinks at 13, Norham Gardens

¹ by video linkup (to save on carbon emissions)

* subject to BBC news requirements

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