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# GLOBAL CENTER FOR JOURNALISM AND DEMOCRACY

## Fall 2014 Newsletter



Dear Friends,

We continue to fight the good fight.

The work we are doing is unique, because we are not only building coalitions within the journalism world, but we are helping to create new links between independent journalism and civil society.

GCJD was awarded its first grant, and our partnerships have helped us keep costs low and productivity high. We continue to form new alliances with organizations that share our values.

We are so thankful for the continued support we receive from SHSU and our donors. We have a busy schedule this fall, and continue to look for new opportunities to make an impact in Texas, the United States, and the world.

Spread the word!

--Kelli Arena, GCJD Executive Director

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## Enhancing Industry and Press Relations

### Training Political Parties in Tunisia

In late May, GCJD returned to Tunis, the capital of Tunisia, to meet with six leading political parties from across the spectrum as part of an on-going project to help them develop their communication strategies and political platforms.

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### Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Trainings

GCJD continues to provide crisis communications and other trainings to law enforcement officials for the Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas (LEMIT). Additionally, GCJD has now teamed up with the Correctional Management Institute of Texas (CMIT) to develop a unique leadership training program for senior criminal justice officials. These trainings will continue through the 2014/2015 academic year.

## Support Our Work

GCJD depends on contributions from donors like you who understand the crucial role journalism plays in free and open societies. Your donations can go towards general operations, or you can specify the areas you'd like to support, such as student travel, journalism workshops, activist/political party trainings, guest speakers, or journalism education programs.

[DONATE NOW>>](#)

### Arts & Culture Reporting in the Middle East

Journalists, artists and other professionals from Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Palestine, the UK, the Netherlands, France, Spain and the US attended a training workshop on cultural journalism hosted by GCJD and SKF.

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### Poland Workshop

Professional journalists, representatives from a non-government organization, along with students and faculty from the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce participated in a 3-day workshop to focus on taking a more active role in tracking European Union funds in local communities.

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[WATCH THE VIDEO>>](#)

### GCJD Returns to Lebanon for Oil and Gas Follow-Up Trainings

GCJD and SKF continue to work together to help journalists in the Levant accurately and effectively cover the oil and gas sector. In August, GCJD's team of experts met with various media outlets, economists, and NGO's.

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## Professional Journalist Trainings

## Guest Speaker Series

### **ATF Whistle-blower Says Media an Ally in His Fight**

He says his government betrayed him. The same government he risked his life for working as an undercover agent for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. After infiltrating the notorious Hells Angels, the mission and his identity were exposed, but Dobyns says the ATF ignored his pleas for protection. His only hope? To turn whistle-blower. His only ally?

The press. He says the media played a big role in helping to push policy changes in the agency. Dobyns shared his riveting story as part of the GCJD Guest Speaker series.

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[WATCH VIDEO>>](#)



## **Up Next: Shyima Hall Talks About Modern-Day Slavery**

When Shyima Hall was eight years old, her poverty-stricken Egyptian parents, overwhelmed with close to a dozen children, sold her into slavery. The price? Less than \$30 a month. Join GCJD on **October 14, at 5pm in the GPAC Concert Hall** to hear Shyima Hall tell her story.

[MORE EVENT DETAILS>>](#)

### **World Press Freedom Day Demonstration**

“No Press, No Freedom” was just one of the messages boldly written on signs held high by SHSU Mass Communication students, their mouths taped shut, during a dramatic World Press Freedom Day demonstration.

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[WATCH VIDEO>>](#)

### **Wrongful Conviction Panel Discussion**

The room was completely silent as Anthony Graves described his time in prison for a crime he did not commit. “People often say to me they can’t imagine what I went through in prison, and I tell them please don’t try.”

[READ MORE>>](#)

[WATCH VIDEO>>](#)

### **GCJD Received First Grant from Headliners Foundation**

GCJD is the first recipient of the Headliners Foundation Special Project Fund. GCJD was awarded \$5000 to work with journalists in Poland to assist them in covering the influx of European Union funds to local communities.

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**GCJD at Home**

## Students: Campus Today, World Tomorrow

### Connor Hyde in Lebanon

*"As we exited the plane in Beirut, I was unexpectedly at ease walking through an airport 7,000 miles from home. If only my parents could see Beirut."*

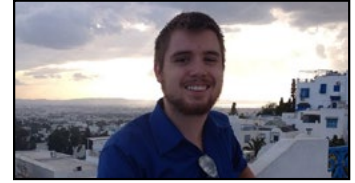
[READ MORE>>](#)



### Cody Lewis in Tunisia

*"It was interesting to see political parties figure out their role in society. They are trying to define their platforms, and how they can define themselves."*

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### Steven Snook and Kizzie Frank in Poland

Two recent SHSU grads joined GCJD in Poland for a workshop on covering EU funds as they flow into local communities. GCJD continually strives to give students opportunities to help them succeed in the workplace.

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## GCJD in the News

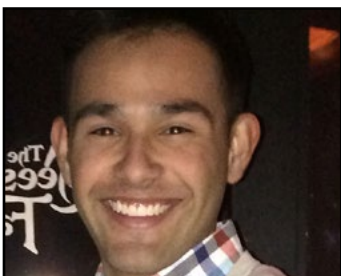
GCJD made headlines in locations around the world over the past few months. From radio interviews in Poland to press conferences in Beirut, news organizations are telling their audiences about the important work GCJD is doing.

[Read or listen to the individual reports here>>](#)



### Jordan Levasseur: Spring 2014 Intern

*"Through my internship, I learned quite a few lessons: Always be ready for any assignment, research thoroughly, watch the news, and edit, edit, edit! I hope any future workplace will feel as much like home as GCJD did."*



### Christian Bermea: Volunteer Spotlight

*"As a GCJD volunteer, I learned about journalism and democracy around the world through research projects. It was a great experience and I can't wait to take the GCJD class in the Fall and continue working on such important projects."*

## GCJD Intern and Volunteer Spotlight

## Director's Diary

### Arena To Participate in World Affairs Council

Executive Director Kelli Arena has been asked to join the steering committee to launch a Woodlands Chapter of the World Affairs Council (WAC). The World Affairs Council promotes understanding of world politics, economies and cultures to enable U.S. citizens to participate more effectively in the global community. The Council's goals are in line with the Global Center's mission to raise awareness of important global issues and to broaden the horizons of SHSU students. Additionally, GCJD students will now be eligible to attend WAC events.



## Global Partners



### Have You Used it Yet? GCJD Resource Page

GCJD continues to build the content in our "Resources and Tools" section. Browse the curated compilation of news stories, landmark studies, and other links, arranged in easy-to-navigate topic tabs.

[CHECK IT OUT NOW>>](#)

### GFMD Partnership

GCJD has been accepted into an international network dedicated to supporting and creating a free and independent media. Global Forum for Media Development (GFMD) has more than 100 global members.

[READ MORE>>](#)

### GPI Resources Now Available

Visitors to the GCJD webpage can now access the Global Press Institute newswire, and receive in-depth stories from around the world. This resource provides stories and inspiration off the beaten path.

[READ MORE>>](#)

## Resources & Tools for Journalists