INSIDE THE @IPADJOURNALOS NEWSROOM: MOBILE AND SOCIAL MEDIA REPORTING IN A CAPSTONE COURSE

MARCUS MESSNER, PH.D., @MARCUSMESSNER
JEANINE GUIDRY, M.A., @REDHEADACADEMIC

AEJMC CONFERENCE, AUGUST 2014
OVERVIEW

• “iPadJournos” Mobile and Social Media Reporting Project:
  • Special topics course in 2012-2013
  • Support from VCU Center for Teaching Excellence and AEJMC Knight Bridge Grant
  • Class moved out of PC lab and students equipped with iPad reporting kits
  • Capstone course in fall semester 2013 covered gubernatorial election in Virginia
Election Reporting 101 with @MSchmidtRTD

Markus Schmidt (@MSchmidtRTD), a political reporter for the Richmond Times-Dispatch, visited the iPadJournals class on Thursday. Schmidt, who is covering the Virginia elections this year for the Times-Dispatch, encouraged students to become involved in the state election and to be aware of the issues surrounding it. He stressed the importance of state elections, especially in Virginia. Virginia, he said, is an important state in national politics, so the issues surrounding the state election hold a lot of importance.

By Whitney Torres (@Whitney_Torres) and Jackson McMillin (@mc_millia)

Schmidt discussed the candidates who are running for governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general. Although many of the candidates have controversial views on certain issues, Schmidt said that most Virginians remain unaware of these views.
VCU iPadJournos

WTVR.com has partnered with the "iPadJournos" mobile and social media journalism project at VCU's School of Mass Communications. Students from the project reported the following stories. For questions about the stories, please contact the project's faculty advisor Dr. Marcus Messner at mmessner@vcu.edu.

Recent Articles

Gridlock inevitable for next governor, political experts say

Posted on: 4:06 pm, November 4, 2013, by VCU iPadJournos

This story was reported by the "iPadJournos" mobile and social media journalism project, a cooperation between WTVR.com and VCU's School of Mass Communications.

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WORK FLOW

• Students buy a basic set of multimedia production apps (iMovie for video editing)
• Students present and explore additional apps with their iPads as class assignment
• Story pitches with media partner in Facebook group
• Story writing and editing in Google Drive
• Students engage in Twitter discussions with hashtag #iPadJournos
• Videos on YouTube and Instagram
REPORTING KIT
STUDENT LEARNING

- Publication opportunity secures high motivation and engagement of student reporters
- Mobile technology improves communication in and outside the classroom
- Photo and video shoots, social media reporting in the field directly from the iPads
- Reporting in fast-pace news environment at all times of the day and week: Students report, professor edits, TV producer publishes
- Social media content curation
Cuccinelli optimistic: ‘I’m a very good closer’

EDITOR’S NOTE: This semester WTVR.com has partnered with VCU’s School of Mass Communications’ “iPadJournals” mobile and social media journalism project. Students from the project reported the following story.

RICHMOND, Va. — Despite polls continuously showing his opponent Terry McAuliffe leading the gubernatorial race, Republican candidate Ken Cuccinelli is confident that he will win on Election Day.

“Ken optimistic about the outcome on Tuesday. Momentum is the most valuable thing in politics and we have it,” Cuccinelli said in an interview with VCU’s “iPadJournals” project. He added that he is especially optimistic as one of the latest polls by Quinnipiac University showed that the gap between him and McAuliffe is narrowing.

“Ken optimistic about the outcome on Tuesday. Momentum is the most valuable thing in politics and we have it,” Cuccinelli said in an interview with VCU’s “iPadJournals” project. He added that he is especially optimistic as one of the latest polls by Quinnipiac University showed that the gap between him and McAuliffe is narrowing.

McAuliffe leads Cuccinelli by 6 percentage points in Quinnipiac University survey

In the latest survey by Quinnipiac University, Terry McAuliffe leads Ken Cuccinelli by a percentage point. Robert Farlie is now polling at 5 percent, with nearly three-quarters of his supporters stating their vote for him. However, they are divided between two major party candidates. McAuliffe’s lead comes from heavy support from female voters. The Democrat is favored among women by a margin of 20 percent to 30 percent.

Read more at rvnews.com.

About

This VCU project creates news on the 2013 gubernatorial race in Virginia. The goal of this project is to give a comprehensive overview on election-related news in a daily basis until Election Day on November. The page is maintained by an undergraduate journalism student at Virginia Commonwealth University’s School of Mass Communications. This “iPadJournals” project is an innovative course, in which undergraduate journalism students utilize social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, instagram and YouTube to report on important events and issues.

30 multimedia stories published in fall 2013

Published on Nov 6, 2013

This story was produced by Pasqualina, Mason Brown and Ame Yen.

CASA In Action Demonstration at Virginia GOP Election Party

Harwaz Wehbe

45 views

Published on Nov 6, 2013

This story was produced by Pasqualina, Mason Brown and Ame Yen.
NERD CONTENT

As Virginians head to polls, some vote for ‘lesser of two evils’

EDITOR’S NOTE: This semester WTVR.com has partnered with VCU’s School of Mass Communications’ “iPadJourno,” mobile and social media journalism project. Students from the project reported the following story.

RICHMOND, Va. – As voters in Central Virginia headed to the polls on Tuesday morning to cast their votes in the gubernatorial election, there was very little enthusiasm about the choices on the ballot.

In interviews with reporters from VCU’s “iPadJourno” project, many voters in Richmond and in the surrounding counties of Henrico, Chesterfield and Hanover said that they were dissatisfied with Democratic gubernatorial candidate Terry McAuliffe and his Republican opponent Ken Cuccinelli, but decided to choose the ‘lesser of two evils.’ While many voted along their usual party lines, several voters said that they chose Libertarian candidate Robert Sarvis instead.

Read in the following paras how voters in central Virginia cast their ballots and which candidates they chose.

Polling station at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Richmond

Several voters interviewed at the Richmond polling station at Tabernacle Baptist Church on Grove Avenue said that their vote was more “anti-Republican” than it was an endorsement for the Democratic candidates.

Election party cheers in Tysons Corner, somberness in Richmond

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RICHMOND, Va. – It took several hours until supporters of Gov.-elect Terry McAuliffe were able to cheer his election victory in an unexpectedly close race with his opponents, Republican Ken Cuccinelli and Libertarian Robert Sarvis. McAuliffe was able to edge out a narrow victory at the end of Tuesday night. While Cuccinelli had carried a lead most of the evening, it was McAuliffe who won with 48 percent as results from the metropolitan areas of the state were posted. Cuccinelli won 45 percent of the vote and Sarvis 7 percent.

Reporters from VCU’s “iPadJourno” project covered the election parties of all three candidates live on Twitter and interviewed their supporters. They talked to Democrats in Tysons Corner and Republicans and Libertarian in Richmond and reported on the victory and concession speeches of the candidates.
FUTURE OF THE PROJECT

• “iPadJournos” project will be taught for the fourth time in the fall semester 2014 as a capstone in the VCU print-online journalism program
• Students will cover local government and fall elections with original reporting and news curation
• New iPad reporting kits purchased (see equipment details at www.marcusmessner.com)
• Class will move into interactive learning space in fall semester 2014 (VCU Learning Studio)
VCU LEARNING STUDIO
QUESTIONS?