

Carolyn Carlson, Ph.D.

Assistant Director of Journalism & Communication at Kennesaw State University

Kennesaw, GA, US

Carolyn Carlson, associate professor of Communication and Emerging Media, studies the relationship between reporters and government PR pros.

Biography

Carolyn S. Carlson is an associate professor of Communication and director of the Journalism and Emerging Media program at Kennesaw State. Carlson researches the relationship between reporters and government public relations professionals. Reports on her research have received widespread attention during national Sunshine Week in March of 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. The latest involved national surveys of police public information officers and crime reporters. Carlson teaches the reporting and writing classes, advanced media writing, the capstone course and media law.

Before entering academia, Carlson worked as a political press secretary and as a longtime reporter and editor for The Associated Press. Carlson was also a reporter for five years on The Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle and the Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel. While at the AP, she served as national president of the Society of Professional Journalists, which is the oldest and largest professional organization serving the news media. She is a former chair of the SPJ Ethics Committee and is currently a member of the SPJ Freedom of Information Committee.

Carlson is the recipient of many awards, including SPJ's highest honor for a member, the Wells Key, which she received in 1993, and the SPJ First Amendment Award, which she received in 1998 for founding the multi-organizational Campus Courts Task Force, which has had success in changing federal law to increase public access to college disciplinary records involving serious crime.

Industry Expertise

Education/Learning, Media - Print, Media - Online, Media - Broadcast, Writing and Editing

Areas of Expertise

Journalism, News Writing, Copy Editing, Social Media, Press Releases, Blogging, Journalism Ethics, Media Law, Freedom of Information Act, News Media

Affiliations

Society of Professional Journalists Freedom of Information Committee : Member

Education

Georgia State University

Ph.D. Political Communication

Accomplishments

Society of Professional Journalists' Wells Key
1993

Society of Professional Journalists First Amendment Award
1998

For founding the multi-organizational Campus Courts Task Force for its success in changing federal law to increase public access to college disciplinary records involving serious crime

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