



“MEDIA VALUES”

Shortly before his death in April 2009, ICF’s Founder, Bill Porter, conceived a plan for a book on media values, with contributions from many of his friends who had been instrumental in developing the ICF since its foundation in 1991.

Professor Keeble of Lincoln University is editing this work. Twenty-eight important contributions have been received, from fifteen countries. The book will be published by Troubadour Press in October this year, as a tribute to Bill Porter.

BILL PORTER’S ARCHIVE

The ICF has inherited Bill Porter’s papers dealing with his work for the ICF. Some 250 box files and folders are now stored in the ICF’s office in London. A top level catalogue of the contents of this archive has been completed and will shortly be published on our web site. In some cases facsimiles of important papers will also be made available on the web site. We believe this to be a major resource in the field of media ethics, and are seeking funds to make more papers available for research. If you would like to support this work details of how to do so are over the page.

MEMORIAL FUND

Following Bill Porter’s death we established a Memorial Fund to support work on “Media Values”, his papers, and the development of our web site. We are grateful to the generous response to this appeal.

NEXT CENTURY FOUNDATION

Over the past two years the ICF has partnered with the Next Century Foundation in mounting conferences drawing attention to the media’s role in conflict areas. Themes have dealt with Islamophobia, conditions in Iran, ‘Lifting the Carpet’ in Africa, and in May this year, Broadcasting in the Middle East. In Caux last summer, an effective conference was held bringing together around 100 leaders of civil society from the Middle East for discussions on the Middle East Peace Process, many with a media background.

INDIA

ICF President Bernard Margueritte visited India from 28 November to 6 December 2009. He attended the World Association of Newspapers Congress in Hyderabad. He also visited the Indian Journalists Union, met the Secretary General of the IJU for all India and the Secretary General of the Union of Working Journalists for the state of Andhra Pradesh and a group of their colleagues, and gave an address which was met with great appreciation and expressions of support for the formation of an ICF Chapter in India. Bernard Margueritte then went to Delhi, where he met a group of ICF supporters, who, under the leadership of Sabina Inderjit agreed to work towards the foundation of our India Chapter.



Bernard Margueritte addresses journalists in Hyderabad, November 2009

USA

Bob Webb, Chairman of the ICF’s USA Chapter, reports that the USA Chapter together with the National Press Club is sponsoring an event where Sonali Samarasinghe Wickramatunga, the widow of the 2009 recipient of the NPC Freedom of the Press Award for an international journalist will receive the honour on behalf of her late husband Lasantha Wickramatunga, a Sri Lankan journalist who was murdered in January 2009.

Wickramatunga was the editor in chief of *The Sunday Leader* in Colombo, Sri Lanka, when assailants blocked his car and struck him repeatedly with metal bars, killing him. In the next issue of *The Sunday Leader*, an editorial was published telling who was responsible for his death. Wickramatunga had written it in anticipation that the Sri Lankan government would kill him.

MEDIA ETHICS WORKSHOP

Four British journalists spoke about media ethics when they were invited to address students at the Lincoln School of Journalism at the University of Lincoln, UK, on 1 March.

Magnus Linklater, editor of the Scottish edition of *The Times*, the former BBC and Independent Television News anchorman Martyn Lewis, Pam Jenner, for many years a columnist on the *Cambridge Evening News*, and Michael Smith, freelance journalist and obituarist, were invited to the university by the Head of the School, Professor John Tulloch, and by Professor of Journalism Richard Lance Keeble. The journalists, representing the ICF, were accompanied by ICF's Executive Director Robin Williamson.

The journalists spoke to 100 students in three one-hour sessions with second and third-year journalism students and to a public audience in the evening. They were also interviewed for 15 minutes on Siren FM, the university's community radio station which broadcasts to the Lincoln area and on the web.



Magnus Linklater, editor of the Scottish edition of The Times, responds to a question on Siren FM radio station. With him are (clockwise) former TV news anchorman Martyn Lewis, Pam Jenner of the Cambridge Evening News, and freelance journalist aMichael Smith.

Ethical dilemmas in the media, the balance between bad and good news, the impact of online media on journalism, and the personal integrity of journalists were amongst the issues raised.

This was the second visit of the ICF to Lincoln University following Professor Keeble's meeting with ICF President Bernard Margueritte several years ago. ICF's visit is expected to be repeated as an annual event.

CAUX, SWITZERLAND

The ICF will be an active participant in three of this year's Caux Conferences. Bernard Margueritte and Professor Richard Keeble, professor of journalism at Lincoln University, England will be keynote speakers at the conference on "Learning to Live in a Multicultural World", from 2 to 7 July. Bernard Margueritte is also an invited contributor to the third annual Caux Forum for Human Security, from 9 to 16 July. Finally, the ICF will be taking part in the conference on Trust and Integrity in the Global Economy (TIGE), from 12 to 17 August. We will celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Sarajevo Commitment by describing the origin and importance of this great document. At TIGE we will also hold our Annual Assembly, receive a report from our President on the work of the ICF in the past year, and look forward to our future.

MEDIA ETHICS SOCIAL NETWORK

We are collaborating with *global tolerance*, a public relations company focused on ethics, to develop a social network system for those interested in the field of media ethics. We will be inviting ICF's supporters to join this network later this year.

THE ICF NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

We depend upon the generosity of our friends to continue our work. This includes running conferences and workshops, managing our contact database, and supporting the expenses of our President.

Please send your cheque in £ or euros made out to ICF Limited, to the address below.

Donors in the USA should send checks in \$US payable to ICF-America Inc to

Mr Robert Webb, 5850 Cameron Run, Apt 1511, Alexandria, VA 22303, USA.

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