In a democracy, the relationship between those who occupy the halls of power and the free press is both fundamentally symbiotic and deeply antagonistic. Neither can operate without the cooperation of the other, yet their aims and purposes often collide. Currently, new technologies and an explosion of ideologically biased media outlets are revolutionizing how citizens come to view the political situation and how politicians can run afoul of or manipulate the press, as well as side-step traditional media outlets entirely via their own social media channels. Additionally, recent events have called much-needed attention to the delicate balance of national security versus the ideal of an open society. One of CEPL's ongoing missions is to engender a well-functioning political process by fostering open and productive dialogues on important and often overlooked issues that affect how democracy works in Missouri. Therefore this conference is designed as an interdisciplinary event to bring together politicians and political actors from both sides of the aisle (staff, consultants, administrators, lobbyists), the media (print, broadcast and new media), academics, lawyers, and the public to foster a broad and inclusive discussion on media and politics.
8:30-9:00 a.m.
Registration

9:00-9:20 a.m.
Introductory Remarks

9:20-10:15 a.m.
Dr. Natalie Jomini Stroud will anchor our extended session on the subject of MEDIA BIASES. Dr. Stroud is an associate professor of communication studies and assistant director of the Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation at the University of Texas at Austin. Her recent book *Niche News: The Politics of News Choice* (Oxford University Press, 2011) explores the causes, consequences, and prevalence of partisan selective exposure, the preference for like-minded political information. *Niche News* received the International Communication Association’s 2012 Outstanding Book Award. Dr. Stroud’s work on selective exposure has received a number of additional awards. Dr. Stroud will be speaking on the most recent research into the nature, prevalence, and effect of a variety of media biases.

10:15-11:25 a.m.
A distinguished panel of Missourians from the political sphere and media personalities will dissect and debate the question of MEDIA BIASES in relation to their own experiences with Missouri politics.

11:25-11:40 a.m.  Break

11:40 a.m.-12:40 p.m.
William Freivogel, JD, along with Joe Martineau, JD and Dr. Christina Wells will discuss the current debate surrounding a NATIONAL REPORTER’S SHIELD LAW. It is a common, yet false, belief that reporters are federally, or even constitutionally, shielded from having to reveal their sources. The truth about the reporter’s privilege is much more complicated. Currently the director of the Southern Illinois University Carbondale School of Journalism, Mr. Freivogel spent 34 award-winning years reporting and editing for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. He is a graduate of Washington University Law School and a member of the Missouri Bar. Mr. Martineau is a nationally recognized media lawyer and partner at Lewis, Rice & Fingersh. Dr. Wells is the Enoch H. Crowder Professor of Law at the University of Missouri Law School.

12:40-1:35 p.m.
Lunch

1:35-2:40 p.m.
Keynote Speaker Jeremy Scahill will be speaking on THE ROLE OF THE PRESS IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR. Mr. Scahill is a nationally renowned journalist whose reporting on global U.S. military activities, both overt and covert, has earned him two George Polk awards, and a national reputation as a speaker of truth to power, no matter which party is currently in office. His most recent book *Dirty Wars* (and the accompanying movie which premiered at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival) uncovers the global reach and consequences of clandestine anti-terrorist military activities that began under President Bush and have been expanded under President Obama. This reporting has earned him both admiration and ire from every end of the political spectrum.

2:40-2:55 p.m.  Break

2:55-3:50 p.m.
Dr. Lance Bennett will anchor our extended session on the subject of NEW MEDIA AND POLITICS. Dr. Bennett is currently a Ruddick C. Lawrence Professor of Communication and professor of political science at University of Washington. He is also founder and director of the Center for Communication and Civic Engagement and author of numerous books, the most recent of which is *When the Press Fails: Political Power and the News Media from Iraq to Katrina* (Chicago, with Regina Lawrence and Steven Livingston). Dr. Bennett will be discussing how new electronic media are transforming the landscape of political reporting, information dissemination and organizing.

3:50-5:00 p.m.
A distinguished panel of Missourians from the political sphere and media personalities will dissect and debate the question of NEW MEDIA AND POLITICS in relation to their own experiences with Missouri politics.

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