



Terry Michael

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Executive Director

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The Politics & Journalism Semester

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Biographical Information

Terry Michael is founder and executive director of the Washington Center for Politics and Journalism, which sponsors *The Politics & Journalism Semester* to teach future political reporters about politics. Since 1989, the program has served about a dozen students each semester from over 50 affiliated universities.

Michael was a reporter and political press secretary from 1969-88. He is a former press secretary for the Democratic National Committee (1983-87), and a former press aide for Congressman (and later Senator) Paul Simon (D-IL), Congressman Robert Matsui (D-CA), and the Democratic Leader of the Illinois House of Representatives. He has been a presidential primary campaign spokesman, including service as director of communication for the Paul Simon for President committee, 1987-88. Michael began his career in 1969 as a reporter for the *Mt. Vernon (IL) Register-News* and then wrote for the *Champaign (IL) News-Gazette* before beginning work in politics in 1972.

Michael is the recipient of the “Distinguished Service Award” for 2001 of the Washington, DC Professional Chapter, Society of Professional Journalists, and the “Presidential Award” for 2002 of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. He was named a “Rising Star in Democratic Politics” by *Campaigns & Elections* magazine in 1988. He was founder and first president, in 1977, of the Assn. of House Democratic Press Assistants, and is a member of the board of directors of the Center for Competitive Politics, which promotes political speech free of excessive regulation.

Michael has served as a guest lecturer on media and politics, in both the U.S. and other countries, for the U.S. Dept. of State. He is a former adjunct professorial lecturer at The George Washington Univ., where he taught (1998 to 2002) “Journalism 100: Theory and Practice.”

Born in Mt. Vernon, Illinois on June 9, 1947, he has a B.S. in journalism from the University of Illinois (1969.) He lives on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC.

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