About the Reilly Center

The Reilly Center for Media & Public Affairs, an integral part of the Manship School of Mass Communication, uses the intellectual muscle of the school’s faculty to help solve practical problems and advance good government initiatives. The Reilly Center’s mission is to generate thoughtful programs, dialogue and research about mass communication and its many faceted relationships with social, economic and political issues. Evident in everything the center does is its commitment to strengthen and advance the Manship School's national leadership in media and politics.

About the John Breaux Symposium

The John Breaux Symposium pushes the boundaries of debate around an aspect of media, politics and public policy. Past Symposia have hosted scholars, journalists, corporate executives, and political and civic leaders. Through keynote speakers, panels and presentations, the intent is to discuss the public’s knowledge about some aspect of our democracy and identify possible actions to increase public awareness and constructive debate.

2017 Symposium

This year’s symposium will focus on race through the lens of public policy and social science, with the aim of connecting the institutional nature of racism to continuing and sometimes explosive unrest.

April 20, 2017
Milton Womack Park - Ballroom
6201 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806
5:00 – 5:30 p.m.
**Viewing of BetteR: The Newsroom**
*Creator: Marcus Brown*
This short documentary chronicles the experience of a local news station as they cover the shooting of Alton Sterling and the protests that followed.

5:45 – 7:15 p.m.
**Media Access Roundtable**
*Organizer: Steve Bien-Aime*
In light of recent racial tensions, local journalists and civic leaders examine how media cover various communities and discuss the best ways to connect community members to the news media.

*Moderator: Ed Pratt*

**Media representatives:**
- Kiran Chawla, lead investigative reporter, WAFB
- Fred Kalmbach, managing editor, The Advocate
- Tim Morris, opinion columnist, The Times-Picayune
- Stephanie Riegel, editor, Baton Rouge Business Report
- Cheryl Stroy, president, Baton Rouge Area Association of Black Journalists

**Community organizers:**
- Maxine Crump, president and CEO, Dialogue on Race
- Juan Cruz, MPH, public health planner and equity advocate
- A.V. Mitchell, artist, speaker, community activist
- Myra Richardson, youth organizer, high school student
- Shamaka Shumake, community activist, organizer

7:15 – 7:45 p.m.
**Networking Reception**
April 19, 2017

LSU Manship School Of Mass Communication - Holliday Forum, Journalism Building, LSU

9:00 – 9:45 a.m.

Manship School Community Resilience Study

Presenters: Shaniece Bickham, Diane Francis, Michael Henderson, Martin Johnson, Nathan Kalmoe

Following the tumultuous summer of 2016, professors in the Manship School examined race relations across Louisiana, which included a statewide survey. Panelists will present findings from these research projects.

10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

Create Lab Final Project Presentation: Dialogue on Race Louisiana

Organizer: Lance Porter

As part of a capstone class experience, Create Lab students will present a social media campaign plan for Dialogue on Race Louisiana (DORLA). DORLA is a nonprofit dedicated to dismantling institutional racism through education and dialogue.

11:00 – 11:45 a.m.

Cold Case Project: Successes and Future

Organizer: Erin Coyle. Panelists: Andrea Gallo, Minjie Li, Wilborn P. Nobles III, Jay Shelledy

Professor Jay Shelledy, a professional-in-residence at the Manship School of Mass Communication, and several students who worked with him on the Cold Case Project will discuss their experience reporting on unsolved Civil Rights era murders.

12:00 – 12:45 p.m.

Lunch - Provided in Holliday Forum

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Race and Public Policy

Organizer: Josh Grimm

Race permeates every aspect of our lives – a social construction that carries significant, real-world consequences. Racial issues in the United States are formed and molded through an amalgamation of public policy decisions at multiple levels. The inherent conflict between policy enactment, perceptions, and enforcement, all through the lens of racial ideology, will be explored.

Moderator: Mary Campbell, Associate Professor of Sociology, Texas A&M University

Education: Kenneth Fasching-Varner, Associate Professor, Louisiana State University

Criminal Justice: Shaun L. Gabbidon, Distinguished Professor, Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg

Segregation: Jackelyn Hwang, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Stanford University

Wealth: Lori Latrice Martin, Associate Professor of Sociology, Louisiana State University

Media: Srividya Ramasubramanian, Associate Dean for Climate & Inclusion of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University

Health: Holley Wilkin, Associate Professor of Communication, Georgia State University

Politics: Ismail White, Associate Professor of Political Science, George Washington University

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Sharon Weston Broome - East Baton Rouge Mayor-President

Sharon Weston Broome’s journey as a public servant has spanned more than two decades. Prior to her current post as Mayor-President of Baton Rouge, Broome served as a Louisiana State Representative (District 29) and a Louisiana State Senator (District 15). While in the legislature, she became the first woman to hold the leadership position of Pro Tempore in the House and Senate. She left the legislature with a legacy of empowering children, families and communities through the legislation she authored. Broome continues to lead through encouraging everyone to join her in building a “new Baton Rouge,” a place where people from all walks of life can see and seize positive opportunities.

4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Reception