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Untold stories, from the palm of your hand

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Abstract: AJE Summer Conference Paris 2019

Researcher: James Mahon

Research focus: Mobile Journalism in developing and developed world newsrooms

School: University of the West of Scotland

Level: Lecturer + Doctoral Student

Presentation Type: Oral with slides and video embed links

Abstract: Untold stories, In The Palm Of Your Hand

The broad remit of my current doctoral research which began in 2018 isolates best practice of mobile journalism in newsrooms around the world, from Scotland to the US, Switzerland, and India.

This research paper will isolate how technology is driving change in 2nd and third world newsrooms and present this through discussion and video form. Having spent time with KNN in Iraq and reported from Mosul during the ISIS occupation as a practice-based researcher and TV war reporter prior to my doctoral studies, I first hand experienced the power of mobile phones giving untold stories a window to the wider world in times of conflict.

This research will also bring to the fore the ever expanding role of mobile phone technology in providing a useful tool to both the content creator and content consumer.

This is a view echoed by Romanian academic Drula when discussing content consumption and creation in relation to convergence theory.

In conclusion I hope that through the case studies in Iraq and India as well as my research will demonstrate the key role mobile journalism plays in helping untold stories get heard especially in societies and cultures where the voiceless can get left behind.

Biog:

James Mahon is an Irish TV/Radio Anchor and Reporter, Author and University Lecturer based at the University of the West of Scotland since 2016.

He moved to America from the North of England in 2012 after undertaking journalism masters studies at Sheffield University and prior to that a BA at the University of Ireland Galway. He has reported on a range of topics from triple homicides to meth

busts, the ISIS occupation of Mosul and tornadoes as well as gang activity as a CBS and PBS TV affiliate reporter/anchor.

While in the U.S he was an international radio reporter, covering gun legislation and domestic terrorist attacks for Irish national broadcaster RTE.

His monthly lifestyle TV series, “Through Irish Eyes”, has received awards from the Associated Press, The Society of Professional Journalists and The Daughters Of The American Revolution.

He is currently a journalism lecturer at the University of West Scotland joining the journalism team in January 2016, teaching on both the masters in broadcast journalism and bachelors in journalism.

Mahon is also a third year doctoral researcher at UWS in the area of mobile journalism and has travelled to Iraq, Switzerland, USA and India creating a documentary shot entirely on iPod and iPhone. His practice-based research investigates whether smartphone technology or newsrooms are driving the change to mobile journalism implementation.

His book “Through Irish Eyes” is available in all good bookstores since 2016 and Amazon Kindle.