ABSTRACT

CREATIVE PROJECT: Journalists on the move: How professional transitions impact a sense of identity, community and family.

STUDENT: Gregory J. Lucid

DEGREE: Master of Arts

COLLEGE: Communication, Information and Media

DATE: *December, 2013

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This paper studies the lives of three current and/or former newspaper journalists who agreed to participate in a literary journalism-style project addressing social and psychological issues involving transitioning into and/or out of journalism jobs and/or journalism careers. The paper draws on oral history reporting conducted from a series of in-depth interviews (phone, email and/or in-person) between January 2013 and October 2013 individually with current and/or former journalist participants. Using primary and secondary research, findings suggest common factors contributing to journalists who make professional transitions include economics; newsroom burnout; stress; salary and impact to personal and family lives. The objective of the project was to learn about whether or not professional transitions involving newspaper journalists’ careers have impacted a current and/or former journalist’s sense of identity, community and/or family.