JOUR 311 Karadjov

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LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT

1. A major wildfire just broke out in the Angeles National Forest. Write out a list of questions that you would need to get answered to have sufficient background information to report on this fire and to write the story.

* Were there any victims and if so, what were their names and ages?
* What was the extent of injuries or causes of death, if any?
* Which hospital(s) were the injured taken to?
* Were any buildings burned and if so, what type?
* If a commercial building was burned, what do they make or do there?
* Where was the location in the forest that was burned?
* What time did the fire start and how long have firefighters fought the blaze?
* How was the fire discovered?
* What was the cause of the fire, according to informed authorities?
* How many firefighters were required to put out the fire?
* What is the estimated cost of damage?
* What is the extent of insurance coverage?
* Were there any acts of heroism or dramatic rescues? Who? By whom?
* What kind of weather occurred during the fire?
* Did the fire affect any evacuees-those driven from their homes or forced out of work?
* Are there any plans to relocate victims or rebuild structures?
* Are there any arrests or citations made by police? Is arson suspected?
* Are there any anecdotes and descriptions from firefighters, eyewitnesses, victims, building owners or neighbors?
* Are there any other unusual aspects of the fire? Did it shut down traffic? Create power outages? Have there been previous fires at this site, or other similar fires lately that reflect a pattern worth investigating?

2. The U.S. Forest Service will be answering many of the reporters’ questions related to the so-called Station Fire. Who was the U.S. Forest Service spokesperson quoted in the Los Angeles Times fire story on Aug. 29?

Bruce Quintelier

(<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2009/08/evacutations-extended-into-altadena-as-station-fire-grows.html>)

3. Locate one expert on wildfires, other than a fire official, whom you would want to interview for a broader perspective on the follow-up story? *Give his/her name, title and contact information. If you found the person on the Web, also copy the URL(s) of the source(s) into your cover memo.*

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4. California voters recently passed an amendment to the state Constitution banning same-sex marriage. The constitutionality of the amendment has been challenged in court. Find **two** credible advocacy organizations--one on each side of the issue--and find a person in the organization whom you want to interview for a story about the case. *Give the names of the two organizations, the names of the person at each organization whom you would want to interview and their titles. If you found the advocates on the Web, also copy the URLs of the source(s) into your cover memo.*

For Same-Sex Marriage:

Human Rights Campaign (HRC)

Joe Solmonese, President

(http://www.hrc.org/about\_us/solmonese.asp)

Against Same-Sex Marriage:

The National Organization for Marriage (NOM)

Maggie Gallagher, President

President for the Institute of Marriage and Public Policy

(http://www.nationformarriage.org/site/c.omL2KeN0LzH/b.3479573/k.E2D0/About\_NOM.htm) ([www.iMAPP.org](http://www.imapp.org/))

5. You are researching and writing a story for *LBReport.com* on a proposed homeless shelter. What is the percentage of Long Beach households with incomes are below the poverty line? The information must come from a government agency and it must be within the last three years. Provide the percentage and the name of the government agency where you found the information. *If you found the information on the Web, copy the URLs of the source(s) into your cover memo. Also photocopy or print out the specific information and include it as an attachment.*

19.8% (2008)

Press-Telegram

(<http://www.presstelegram.com/search/ci_13440884?IADID=Search-www.presstelegram.com-www.presstelegram.com>)

16% (2006-2008)

U.S. Census Bureau

(<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/NPTable?_bm=y&-geo_id=16000US0643000&-qr_name=ACS_2008_3YR_G00_NP01&-ds_name=&-redoLog=false>)

15.3% (2006-2008)

U.S. Census Bureau

(<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/ACSSAFFFacts?_event=Search&geo_id=01000US&_geoContext=01000US&_street=&_county=long+beach&_cityTown=long+beach&_state=04000US06&_zip=&_lang=en&_sse=on&ActiveGeoDiv=geoSelect&_useEV=&pctxt=fph&pgsl=010&_submenuId=factsheet_1&ds_name=ACS_2008_3YR_SAFF&_ci_nbr=null&qr_name=null&reg=null%3Anull&_keyword=&_industry>=)

6. While researching a story on college enrollment, a source tells you that during the years 2000-2007 that enrollment of African American students grew “significantly” at both CSULB and at the CSU overall. *Write a sentence or two evaluating these claims, backing up the claims or refuting them with specific data. Also photocopy or print out the specific information and include it as an attachment.*

During the years 2000-2007, enrollment of African American students grew slightly from over 15,000 in 2000 to over 20,000 in 2007 at the CSU, according to the CSU website. African American enrollment declined slightly at CSULB from 6% in 2002 to 5.6% in 2006, according to CSULB’s website.

(<http://www.calstate.edu/AS/stat_abstract/stat0708/pdf/z2a08.pdf>)

Fig. 6 – Non-White Undergraduates by Ethnicity

(http://campus-sas.csulb.edu/IRpdfreports/ethfallcomb.pdf)

First Table - Total University

(<http://www.cnsm.csulb.edu/faculty/externalsupport/institutionaldata-university.shtml#demo_ethnic>)

Table 1: Total University Student Body at Fall Terms