



February 2014

Hello FASPE friends!

This issue of the FASPE newsletter includes information about our January 2014 Reunion & Symposium, the Alumni Fellowship Fund appeal, applications for the 2014 trips, and much more.

I hope these updates will be of interest to our growing community of alumni, friends, and future applicants.

Bookmark the FASPE website (www.FASPE.info) and look for us on [Facebook](#) to see news updates on an ongoing basis.

To support FASPE, you can always [contribute online](#).

All the best,
Thorin Tritter

P.S. If you prefer not to receive these updates, please email ttritter@FASPE.info with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

JANUARY REUNION & SYMPOSIUM

FASPE held its fourth annual Reunion & Symposium over Martin Luther King Jr. weekend. More than 60 Fellows and faculty attended the two-day event, including representatives from the most recent trip, along with other alumni. An intrepid few started the weekend off with a walking tour of Lower Manhattan in sub-freezing temperatures, but the activities officially began with a luncheon on Sunday, January

19th, followed by formal presentations from several law and medical students. There were also discipline-focused break-out sessions, additional presentations from journalism and seminary students, and the distribution of the [2013 FASPE Journal](#).



One of the highlights of the weekend was the keynote talk by Paul Steiger, former managing editor of the *Wall Street Journal* and the founder of [ProPublica](#), entitled “Journalism, Ethics, and Courage in the Internet Era.” Mr. Steiger described four basic tenets of journalism that have remained constant despite technological developments: the search for truth, fairness, honesty in seeking a story, and the need to avoid conflicts of interest or even the appearance of such for any journalist. He also highlighted how much faster the news world operates today than even a decade ago, requiring editors and journalists to make decisions that previously could be deliberated about for days, in only hours or minutes.

Another highlight of the Reunion & Symposium was the chance for Fellows from different years and different disciplines to meet other Fellows. Whether in break-out



Sessions or during informal discussion, the Reunion offers a chance for alumni to make connections with other students or professionals in their field, as well as with those in other fields who are interested in ethics.

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA

We are working to make the FASPE website (www.FASPE.info) more useful and informative. Among other upcoming changes is the creation of tabs specifically for Fellows and Alumni. This will provide a place to post articles and essays that relate to our Fellows and our programming. Even as that change goes forward, I trust all our Alumni who use Facebook are familiar with our FB page and our discipline-based discussion groups. Please keep posting stories and links that resonate with the material covered during the FASPE trip.

If you haven't found us yet, [Friend" us on Facebook](#), and look for us on [Twitter](#) (@FASPEnews)! We encourage you to forward us any names and email addresses of friends, family, and colleagues who might be interested in receiving FASPE updates.

FASPE FUNDRAISING

We are proud to report on the support from FASPE alumni. In the weeks leading up to the January 2014 Reunion & Symposium, FASPE launched its second annual alumni development campaign to raise funds for the FASPE Alumni Fellowship Fund, which will be used to sponsor one of the 2014 Fellows. In 2012, the inaugural alumni campaign raised an impressive \$3,577.10, and demonstrated the commitment of our Fellows to strengthening FASPE. In 2013, we hoped to build on the success of 2012, and witnessed a similarly impressive display of generosity from our alumni. In all, 101 alumni contributed a total of \$5,344.10 to the Alumni Fellowship Fund and we look forward to reporting on the 2014 Alumni Fellow later in the year.

In other news, FASPE increased its staff by one in January, hiring Claire Hoffman as our new FASPE Development Officer. Claire fills a newly created position that will focus on fundraising for FASPE. Prior to taking this position, Claire was the Museum of Jewish Heritage's Manager of Donor Relations; and before that worked in fundraising at other cultural institutions including MoMA P.S.1 and the Museum for African Art. Describing her interest in FASPE, Claire commented "FASPE's impact on the professions, and its potential to improve society, is important to me and has made me eager to work with those who understand the power of this program and can help it grow."



2014 APPLICATIONS

Applications for our 2014 programs were due in late December for Seminary students, and in early January for students applying to FASPE Law, Medical, and Journalism. Thanks in part to the assistance of many of our alumni, we had a record number of applicants. A total of 879 students applied for the 2014 Fellowships, an increase of almost 10% over the 2013 figure. The challenge now is to choose the 2014 Fellows from the many excellent candidates. We only wish we were able to offer more Fellowships!

FASPE BUSINESS: A FIFTH COMPONENT



Over the past six months, FASPE has been exploring the development of a curriculum designed for MBA students and business executives in the first five years of their careers. While the idea for such a component has been considered ever since the initial piloting of the law and medicine programs in 2009, discussions over the past few months have pushed this effort forward. Most recently, in mid-January 2014, FASPE held a round-table discussion that brought together

historians, business school faculty who teach business ethics, and a range of other scholars interested in the way business executives learn ethics. This meeting provided a forum to discuss the present state of ethics education in business schools, the potential topics that FASPE Business could cover, and some of the logistical challenges involved in getting such a component of the ground.



Among the scholars attending the FASPE Business roundtable were: (from left to right) Mary Gentile, Peter Hayes, Nine-he Hsieh, Joshua Perry, and Christine Bader.

The underlying concept behind FASPE Business is that by looking into what some firms did during WWII, or how certain executives acted, we can extract lessons that are appropriate for students who will be future business leaders. We are thinking, for example, of the business men who ran Topf and Sons, which designed and built the ovens/crematoria at Auschwitz. These men knew what the ovens were used for, but agreed to build them regardless, even seeking to improve their efficiency in subsequent projects. There is also the example of IG Farben, which built a range of factories around Auschwitz where they could take advantage of the slave labor; or Deutsche Bank which provided crucial financial services in the confiscation of Jewish property. In all these cases, the men running these firms were aware that their business practices were part of a larger system of mass murder, but saw that it was in their own personal, professional, and corporate interests to acquiesce to that system instead of fighting it. We hope that by exploring cases like these, at the places where these events happened, students will think more carefully about what they will be willing to do when faced with ethically challenging decisions.

HAVE NEWS? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We would love to hear your news, share alumni accomplishments, and publicize FASPE-related events! Please send information to: ttritter@FASPE.info and include your FASPE year and discipline.

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FASPE operates under the auspices of the Museum of Jewish Heritage.