# RHODES JOURNALISM REVIEW

### RJR 29 September 2009 www.rjr.ru.ac.za

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Annual subscription for 2010 R150 International R100 Southern Africa R50 Students

### Special thanks to:

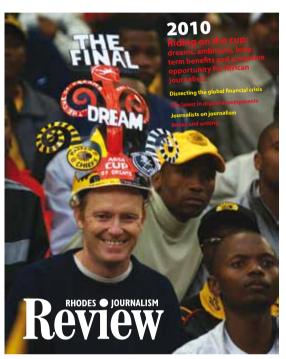
The Open Society Foundation for financial assistance

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## **THE BOTH-AND EDITION**

was driving down the N2 from Cape Town towards the airport recently and scanning the turn-offs for Vanguard Drive, when suddenly I noticed among the shacks that line the road some really interesting buildings. These were not the pale pink matchboxes that periodically spring up in rows alongside the derelict housing that millions of South Africans call home. They were multi-levelled, had large windows and looked like an architect might have had something to do with them. I was heartened at the sight of housing – at last – with humanity in mind. But as I reread the 2010 pieces in this edition, I'm reminded by Jane Duncan in particular ("Whose World Cup?" page 23) that prettifying the ghastly spaces in our world cup cities that will be visible to those international tourists is high on the agenda for our government. But then, I reason, at least someone will benefit from living along the noisy and congested airport route!



Africa Media Online's ambitious 2010 training programme will involve 100 journalists from all over the continent and a smaller team of 18 who will actually cover the cup.

Cover photo by Rajesh Jantilal/Africa Media Online.

other is the rapidly unfolding global financial crisis and yet another the dramatic shifts in digital and mobile technologies which are making audiences into producers and changing the boundaries of journalism and its long-accepted usefulness in the world.

Recently the journal *Journalism* (2009 10(3)) hosted a debate about the future of the profession. Adrienne Russell from the University of Denver, contributed this thought: "The future of journalism is here. It is characterised by increasingly distributed profits and distributed reporting. It is more opinionated and more fair, more varied in form and content, more local and more national, more global and more personal. It is more horizontal and collaborative and open ended. The future of journalism, like news, is being forged by the boom in innovation and expansion we are living through today" (367).

I find her "both-and" mindset very interesting. We are often tempted to conclude some development (the cup, the economic crunch, the digital upset for institutional media power) is all bad and therefore to be contained. But we've found contributors for this edition of *Review* who see through the anxiety of just what the future will bring and who are cleverly crafting the spaces in which opportunities grow. There are a host of watchful and hopeful voices in this edition – see pages 29 to 50 for a bumper batch of stories on how digital is reshaping journalism and how journalists are responding; and see pages 7 to 22 for some very sharp analysis of the financial crisis and the role journalists played and should be playing.

And in this edition we also focus on investigative journalism (56-57), science journalism (58-59), war journalism (66-67) and ask just what China is doing in Africa (52-53).

Finally we wrap it up with books you really should know about, and some thoughts from journalists who've become authors and how they made the transition.

Anthea Garman, Editor

South Africans have been furiously debating what we will get out of this relationship with Fifa: "Should the money spent on stadiums and roads (in the billions) not be put to better use – housing, employment creation?" we've asked (see page 26 for the HSRC book that airs these issues).

The questions are important, rooting out the facts and figures is very important and raising our voices about how taxpayer money is spent, crucial. But then the cup goes ahead anyway. So how to make that into a very good opportunity for journalism on this continent? See the piece by David Larsen on how to piggyback innovative journalism on a mega-event to "Amplify Africa's Voice" (page 27).

The world cup is not the only issue facing us as media workers which demands a nimble-footed response, and by nimble-footed I mean simultaneously alert to the dangers but also to the opportunities. The





