Investigating Power

Florence Graves, founding director of the Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism, is featured in the newly released project Investigating Power.

Investigating Power’s executive producer Charles Lewis documents the “great moments in journalism, when the perfect kind of journalism occurred... to find great extraordinary things out about those in power that they did not want to be known.” The only way to do that, Lewis decided, “was to talk to the most important journalists of roughly the last half century.”

Florence Graves and 25 other “esteemed journalists”—including Christiane Amanpour, Seymour Hersh, and Bob Woodward—describe their investigations into corporate and government uses and abuses of power.

Before founding the Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism, Graves founded and edited Common Cause Magazine, which had the largest circulation of any American magazine regularly publishing investigative journalism, and which broke articles that led to congressional hearings and changes in government policies and laws. She subsequently broke numerous investigative articles, including the story of sexual misconduct by Senator Bob Packwood, which resulted in his censure by the U.S. Senate and his resignation.

She has also reported groundbreaking investigations into Boeing and the Federal Aviation Administration safety practices, the Clarence Thomas-Anita Hill hearings, and Kenneth Starr’s undermining of the First Amendment in subpoenaing journalists.

“Investigating Power” documents ‘truth to power’ moments in contemporary U.S. history and some of the distinguished journalists behind them. And it illuminates the inherent, incalculable value of original, independent reporting in our nation and in the world.”
Other News

Awards

Schuster Fellows Madeline Drexler and Rebekah Cowell win Sigma Delta Chi Awards from the Society of Professional Journalists. Press release>

Profiles

“Schuster Fellow Erin Siegal exposes international adoption flaws,” April 5, 2012, BrandeisNOW

Schuster Assistant Director Lindsay Markel's "Quest for Justice" is a profile of Markel's work at the Justice Brandeis Innocence Project, by Theresa Pease, Brandeis Magazine, Spring 2012.

Reporting


"The Fishing Industry's Cruelest Catch," Schuster Senior Fellow E. Benjamin Skinner, February 20, 2012, Bloomberg Businessweek. For some Indonesian workers, commercial fishing in the seas off New Zealand became a nightmare of modern-day slavery aboard foreign-chartered vessels. Learn more about slavery in your seafood>

Commentary

"Commentary: Did slaves catch your seafood?" Sophie Elsner, April 12, 2012, GlobalPost.

Who we are:

The Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism at Brandeis University, founded in 2004, is the nation’s first nonprofit investigative reporting center based at a university, and the only one with a central focus on social justice and human rights.
Watch Brandeis University's video about the Schuster Institute.

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