

**Pulitzer Prize Winner Michel du Cille to Speak at Fourth-Annual
Bellingham Visual Journalism Conference July 17-18**

Contacts: John Harris, Bellingham Visual Journalism Conference director, (360) 650-6140, john.harris@wwu.edu; Marissa Doiron, event coordinator, (360) 650-4436, marissa.doiron@wwu.edu; Carol Brach, journalism department manager, (360) 650-3252, cbrach@hope.journ.wwu.edu

April 8, 2009

BELLINGHAM, Wash. – Michel du Cille, three-time Pulitzer Prize winner and assistant managing editor for photography at The Washington Post, will speak at the Bellingham Visual Journalism Conference sponsored by Western Washington University's Department of Journalism.

The conference will take place at Western on Friday and Saturday, July 17-18.

Leaders in the field of visual journalism, including video and still photographers, multimedia producers, agents, and online editors, will share their expertise. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore new avenues for visual storytelling, upgrade their skills, and have their portfolios critiqued by professional visual journalists.

Among the presenters will be Seattle Times photojournalist Alan Berner, NPPA Region 11 2008 Photographer of the Year; Meredith Birkett, senior multimedia editor for special projects at MSNBC.com; and Scott Mc Kiernan, CEO/founder of ZUMA Press and publisher of DOUBLEtruck Magazine and zReportage.com.

Also, multimedia photojournalist Wes Pope, most recently at The Rocky Mountain News; Heidi de Laubenfels, deputy managing editor for strategy and product development at The Seattle Times; and Jim Seida, senior multimedia producer at msnbc.com.

Two concurrent and intensive multimedia workshops, one on producing audio slideshows and the other on shooting video, will be offered Friday, July 17. Cost of each workshop is \$100, and space is limited; registration is first-come, first-served.

The conference is offering free registration on Saturday for visual journalists who have been laid off from their jobs in the past year. Proceeds from a silent auction of photographic prints will help offset those costs.

Registration fees:

- Both days (workshop and presentations): \$150.
- Professionals for Saturday's presentations only (includes lunch): \$75.
- Students for Saturday's presentations only: \$50.

More information: <http://www.wwu.edu/visualjournalism/>