

If you attended the 2009 Pennsylvania Press Conference May 29 and 30 in Gettysburg, you might have seen the six student reporters from the PSNE Online Reporter Project as they actively interviewed and photographed PSNE/PNA members, wrote daily blogs and shot video that captured the conference's daily events and sessions. The student reporters' coverage is showcased on the PSNE Press Conference Web site at <http://getty.psne.net>.

The student interns worked tirelessly for four days to cover the conference, the issues facing our industry, and stories on the host city of Gettysburg. With the assistance of their mentors, students stretched beyond their comfort zone as "just writers" and plunged into their internships by experiencing Web production, editing, photography and videography.

"The flow of the assignments and timing for production went perfectly," Kristy Allen, project mentor and Webmaster from *The Gettysburg Times*, said. Mentors and students met for daily meetings to assure project budgets were tight and that coverage was complete. The enthusiasm and energy that each student brought that impressed the mentors the most. The students gained invaluable experience through direction from volunteer mentors from PNA member newspapers. Their direction helped improve the students' journalism skills and made the entire internship project a relevant experience for all.

Many thanks to Sandra Long, VP of News Operations for *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and *Philadelphia Daily News* for spearheading this project through the PSNE and PNA Foundation. Sandra and fellow volunteer mentors, Kristy Allen, *Gettysburg Times*; Rob Kandel, *The Morning Call (Allentown)*; Harry Funk, *Observer-Reporter (Washington)*; Alyssa Young, *The Express-Times (Easton)*; and Melissa Hofmann, *Gettysburg Times* are to be commended for their time and dedication to the PSNE Online Reporter project.