

Public Abstract

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Title:Exploring Connectivity At The College Newspaper:
Can It Help Explain The Success Of The Collegiate Press?

This qualitative study explored the idea of connectivity -- the level of intimacy journalists have with their communities and how it influences their jobs -- at college newspapers in the state of Florida. The researcher interviewed editors to better understand the close-knit relationships they have with members of the college community and whether these journalists take advantage of these connections as newsgatherers.

The study found that editors' strong personal relationships with fellow students and members of the college community do often help them find and develop stories that are newsworthy and relevant to their readership. In addition, editors interviewed recognize this advantage and use naturally strong community connections as an insider advantage as they go about their work.