

Lance Bennett received his Ph.D. in political science from Yale University in 1974, and has taught since then at the University of Washington, where he is Ruddick C. Lawrence Professor Communication and Professor of Political Science. He is also founder and director of the Center for Communication and Civic Engagement (www.engagedcitizen.org). The Center is dedicated to understanding how communication processes and technologies can enhance citizen engagement with social life, politics, and global affairs.

Bennett has lectured internationally on the importance of media and information systems in civic life. His current research interests include: press-government relations and the quality of public information; strategic communication campaigns; communication and the organization of social movements; transnational activism; and digital media and youth civic engagement. An ongoing area of research and public scholarship is Civic Learning Online, a project that can be viewed at www.engagedyouth.org.

He is author or editor of ten books, including: *News: The Politics of Illusion*, (Longman, 8th ed.); *Taken By Storm: The Media, Public Opinion, and U.S. Foreign Policy in the Gulf War* (Chicago, co-edited with David Paletz), *Mediated Politics: Communication in the Future of Democracy* (Cambridge, co-edited with Robert Entman with whom he also co-edits the Cambridge University Press series Communication, Society and Politics). His most recent book is *When the Press Fails: Political Power and the News Media from Iraq to Katrina* (Chicago, with Regina Lawrence and Steven Livingston).

He has served on the editorial boards of leading journals in political science and communication, including: *Journal of Communication*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Critical Studies in Media Communication*, *Press/Politics*, and *Political Communication*. He has served as chair of the Political Communication Section of the American Political Science Association. He was a founding member of the board of directors of TVW, the Washington State public affairs network. And he has served as the Laurence M. Lombard Visiting Professor of press/politics in the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

His awards include: the E. E. Schattschneider dissertation award, the Ithiel de Sola Pool Award and Lectureship, and the Murray Edelman Distinguished Career Award in Political Communication, all from the American Political Science Association. He also received the Donald McGannon Award for Social and Ethical Relevance in Communication Policy (with Jarol Manheim). Uppsala University has awarded him its Doctor of Philosophy, honoris causa. In 2010 the Swedish Research Council selected him to hold the Olof Palme Chair, hosted by the Political Science Department of Stockholm University. And he is a National Communication Association Distinguished Scholar.

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