

KEVIN Z. SMITH HIRED AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR



Kevin Z. Smith brings more than 20 years of newsroom and journalism teaching experience to his new role as deputy director of the Kiplinger Program in Public Affairs Journalism at The Ohio State University.

In addition, he has been a longtime leader in the Society of Professional Journalists, serving as national president in 2009-10. He has served as chairman of the national group's Ethics Committee since 2010 and as a board member of the Sigma Delta Chi Foundation since 2008. He writes an ethics column for *Quill*

magazine, published by SPJ, as well as regular blog posts. The organization has more than 8,000 members and a \$1.7 million operating budget.

In the 2012-13 academic year, he has worked as a journalism lecturer at the University of Dayton. Previously, he was a visiting journalism instructor at James Madison University in Virginia. He also served as journalism program director at Fairmont State University in West Virginia and at Miami University in Ohio.

As a freelance writer and editor, he produced a 10-story series on the economic impact of natural gas exploration and the drilling of the Marcellus Shale, along with stories on biometrics and national security initiatives. His news jobs have included: managing editor and assistant sports editor of the *Times West Virginian* (Fairmont, W.Va.); staff writer for a Bloomberg Financial News bureau (Washington, D.C.); assistant city editor and business editor of the *Dominion Post* (Morgantown, W.Va.); and freelance writer for the Associated Press (Charleston, W.Va.).

In 2010, he was honored with the West Virginia Distinguished Mountaineer Award – the highest honor bestowed by the governor for outstanding contributions to the state's overall welfare.