Part I: Gold for a New Century

Part I. Gold for a New Century: Book Group Questions

- 1. Why does the author equate the 1972–1973 period, when the New York Times Pentagon Papers stories and the Washington Post Watergate stories won, with the 2002–2003 period when the New York Times 9/11 coverage and the Boston Globe Church stories won? What do you think of that comparison?
- 2. How big a breakthrough was it for the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service to acknowledge the Guardian-US online site as a winner in 2014? What online sites do you think are likely to compete for Pulitzer Prizes in the future? On what basis?
- 3. Noting that for the first time U.S. magazines were allowed in 2015 to enter the Pulitzer Prize competition in two categories (investigative and feature writing), do you think further expansion of Pulitzer eligibility is likely? In what areas? Broadcast journalism? Publications outside the U.S.? Why or why not? And would expansion be good or bad for the public?
- 4. Think of the Pulitzer Prizes as a "brand." Are there other journalism and arts awards that compare with it? How effective was Joseph Pulitzer in "elevating journalism" by combining his newspaper awards with awards honoring the best of American arts and letters?
- 5. Critics of the Pulitzer Prizes have said that other award organizations—the Oscars, for example—are much better at promoting their winners. What could the Pulitzers do to improve the promotion of winners?