“There is only a trickle of coverage on important issues these days,” Robinson said, confronting the necessity of investigative reporting in order to uncover corruption and keep government and other powerful institutions in check. However, with the diminishment of newspapers and reporters, journalists can no longer fulfill the “watchdog role” that the public expects. “Editors today seem to think investigative reporting is a luxury their newspapers cannot afford, when in fact it is a necessity we cannot afford to live without,” Robinson said.

Nonetheless, Robinson is hopeful for a bright future for journalists. He believes the fix is in good, solid information, which is more important now than ever because of the surplus of information on the internet. Good information is power because people will pay for it, which is exactly what the journalism field is lacking: revenue.

He believes that “good journalists” and partnerships with new non-profit investigative reporting organizations, like ProPublica which focuses on important stories with ‘moral force,’ are the future of news reporting and democracy. Without them, government and other iconic institutions, for example the Roman Catholic Church, could not be held accountable for their actions.

Robinson was the editor for the Spotlight Team of the Boston Globe for seven years, and led the Roman Catholic Church investigation that is depicted in the movie ‘Spotlight’ in 2015.

The movie was about the systematic cover-up of child-molestation within the Catholic Archdiocese and how the Spotlight Team uncovered this potentially world-wide scandal. Robinson, who was played by actor Michael Keaton, said the movie was faithful to the true events of the investigation. He presumes that ‘Spotlight’ will be a motivating movie for young journalists that it depicts the career as rewarding and essential to our society.

“We do no favors to the iconic and beloved institutions in our communities by not putting them under the same scrutiny as we do to political institutions,” Robinson said, who’s team received much backlash for challenging the Catholic Church. Robinson also commented on the presidential election and its controversial media coverage, highlighting the fact that public mistrust of news is at an all-time high. He blames this on the fact that most Americans get all or most of their news from television, which he believes does not cover real news at all.

“They argue about it, talk about it, share their opinions about it, but they don’t actually cover important news,” Robinson said.

He talked about the importance of finding a way to differentiate between reliable and unreliable news sources as a way of portraying the image of the media as a useful tool for citizens. Robinson has been a reporter and editor for 34 years and received the Pulitzer Prize in Public Service for the Spotlight Team’s Catholic Church investigation. He previously worked as a political reporter, covering two presidential administrations and four presidential elections, along with being the Middle East Bureau Chief during the Persian Gulf War.

He taught journalism courses part-time at Boston College High School and Northeastern University for two years before returning to local journalism, which he says is where the most important work is done. He continues to encourage journalism students to be better journalists and provide the investigative stories that our society needs in order to flourish.