

International Communication Division, AEJMC
Minutes of Business Meeting
Chicago, USA, August 10, 2017
8:30–10:15 PM

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Outgoing Division Head, Ammina Kothari, Rochester Institute of Technology, calls meeting to order

1.2 Acknowledgements

1.3 Kothari introduces incoming Head, Mohammed Al-Azdee, University of Bridgeport, and all outgoing division leadership. Passes the Chair to Al-Azdee

1.3.1 Incoming Division Head Mohammed Al-Azdee presents a plaque to Outgoing Division Head, Ammina Kothari, in recognition to her hard work and the example she set to follow.

1.3.2 Al-Azdee invites everyone to the division dinner gathering

2. ATTENDANCE

2.1 At 8:39, Division Head Al-Azdee calls for the approval of the minutes from past year's (2016) business meeting, located at ICD's website. The motion is moved, seconded and approved.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

3.1 Acknowledgement of previous heads of division. Al-Azdee states that they are important part of membership and we rely on their wise judgement and support, and that junior members need their support to move forward. Upon request to stand up to be recognized, six of previous heads stood up at the meeting.

3.1.1 Acknowledgement of *International Communication Research Journal* Editor, Yusuf Kalyango Jr., for the support to the division

3.1.2 Acknowledgement of Nanyang Technical University for sponsoring of business meeting wine

3.1.3 Research award sponsorship, Latino/Latin American Research Award, African Journalism Studies, and Asian Journal of Communication

3.1.4 Teaching award competition sponsorship by the International Communication Research Journal and African Journalism Studies.

4. NEW AND CURRENT BUSINESS

4.1 Report on conference activities by outgoing Head, Ammina Kothari, talks about updates on the website, increased posts on social media, also twitter feed on website, and also more updates are available on the website. There are 228 paid members. For the Annual Research Competition, we had 81 reviewers, with 74 submitted papers (49 faculty, 25 student). Programming: for pre-conference programming, we had 1 workshop, 5 peer refereed research sessions, 2 invited research sessions, 1 invited teaching session and 3 invited PF&R sessions. Mentions the diversity and different topics presented. Events: Off-site tour visit that morning, *India Tribune* on Thursday August 10. Invites for the annual off-site dinner on Friday, August 11. Invites to the business meeting of AEJMC, all division heads have been given instructions to invite everyone to that meeting, held on Friday morning.

4.2 Report from the membership chair, Kevin Grieves, At 8:45. 228 paid members. Gain a few members over the past couple of years, goal is to maintain current levels. Main actions are getting former members, laxed members to re-engage with the division, trying to attract from

- outside of the US, encourage grad students. Encouraging mentoring program. Brief survey earlier in Spring, research liaisons connecting with resources and connections outside the US.
- 4.3 Report from the Teaching Standards Chair, Anna Popkova: Encourages everyone to upload and use the growing Syllabus Bank, which is an ongoing ICD effort. The Teaching panel on teaching media in the Middle East and negotiating gender. Third update is on the teaching contest, second year, very successful, thanked the reviewers who helped make it possible, and thanked the sponsors.
 - 4.4 Building Global Connections: Focus on Refugee and Migrant Crisis for AEJMC 2018, Incoming Head, Mohammed Al-Azdee, Branding Chair Betty Tsakarestou. Betty explains the history of this initiative to engage European scholars and media professionals on this timely issue, thinking that the refugee crisis was a topic of wide interest. Proposals: A plenary session with two divisions interested in co-sponsoring it (newspaper and online news division and communication and technology division). Even if plenary session does not happen, committed to be part of programming next year. A panel-proposal, special call for papers. Plan on stronger focus in panels, also call for teaching sessions, please propose a session.
 - 4.5 Research in Progress, James W. Markham Competition Chair, Jatin Srivasta, Incoming Head, Mohammed Al-Azdee (at 8:58). Jatin started initiative to engage and mentor graduate students: it's a research in progress section to focus on AEJMC's review process, with some of the students whose papers were rejected, to present, trying to give them the opportunity to receive greater feedback. We are bridging with graduate students interest group on this. It fulfills education mission, brings people to conference otherwise might not come, and loyalty from those entering academia. This proposal is being submitted to the President of AEJMC on Saturday. There would be a process in how this would work. At 9:00 pm, Ammina Kothari asks those in meeting if there is support from membership, and yes, there is support to the initiative and want to see it happen next year.
 - 4.6 Best Poster Award: Incoming Head Al-Azdee says that, in an effort to improve scholar to scholar sessions, he's proposing a best poster award, one for faculty and one for students. This would encourage more submission and participation, as well as the presentations. Next year would be a pilot application, evaluate and consider if the award should continue. There will be certificates and money for winners. Membership supported the initiative and wanted to see it happen next year.
 - 4.7 Reports from Regional Liaisons. Fatma Elsayed was grateful for the support for participation. She constructed a database of 50 different scholars and universities in North Africa and Arab Gulf countries from different disciplines, also included Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Libya, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates, and plan for next year to include other countries also, and thinks these scholars are willing to participate in all activities, and her intention is to increase this list. Ammina Kothari said that we have a database for scholars and practitioners who are willing to help you, if you are doing research or want to distribute survey or need guest speaker. Sally Ann Cruikshank said for Sub-Saharan Africa, she also added several scholars from Ethiopia, Rwanda and several other countries, and really trying to reach out not just scholars but journalists and students as well. Also, recruiting other liaisons. Betty Tsakarestou said for Europe, working with Lea Hellmueller, they've done extensive work to promote ICD, and started adding some names, and most of them are on *LinkedIn* group, and asked people to join the group because this is where connections will take place. They called for ideas to get more scholars connected. Betty says Europeans want access to our resources, want to know what benefit to them would be, so this resource is important. Leo Ferreira said that they had about 30 contacts from Latin American Universities, with only a few country exceptions, encouraging

participation. Al-Azdee makes the point about improving messages to be sent to social and digital chairs, make their life a bit easier when sharing.

- 4.8 Next conferences are in DC in 2018, Toronto in 2019, and San Francisco in 2020. For 2021, we have four options. Ammina Kothari says that every four years the conference goes to middle states, with four options here: Kansas, New Orleans, Austin and Saint Louis. At 9:17, motion proposed, seconded and passed (at 9:22) that, since three of these cities are involved in travel bans, so we will vote for New Orleans, provided that New Orleans will not be included in any ban.

5 NEW OFFICERS SELECTED

5.1 Incoming-Chair, Al-Azdee, presides over the selection and voting of the new officers for ICD:

- 5.1.1 At 9:25: vice-head candidate Lindita Camaj, University of Houston, served as research chair, hardworking and motivating, only candidate. Motion made for Camaj as vice-head, motion passed. Other positions are appointed:
- 5.1.2 **Research Chair**, Jatin Srivasta, Ohio University
- 5.1.3 **James W. Markham Competition Chair**, Sally Ann Cruikshank, Auburn University
- 5.1.4 **PF&R Chair**: Anna Popkova, Western Michigan University
- 5.1.5 **Teaching Standards Chair**: Summer Harlow, Florida State University
- 5.1.6 **Membership Chair**: Kevin Grieves. Whitworth University
- 5.1.7 **Secretary**: Vanessa de Macedo Higgins Joyce, Texas State University
- 5.1.8 **Newsletter Editor**: Joseph Weber, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- 5.1.9 **Newsletter Coeditor**: Lea Hellmueller, University of Houston
- 5.1.10 **Digital Chair**: Meghan Sobel, Regis College
- 5.1.11 **Social Media Chair**: Srishti Puri, University of Bridgeport
- 5.1.12 **Research Reviewer Recruitment Officer**: Mariana de Maio, Lehigh University
- 5.1.13 **Branding Chair**: Betty Tsakarestou, Panteion University (Athens, Greece)
- 5.1.14 **Multimedia Competition Chair**: Delwar Hossain, University of South Alabama
- 5.1.15 **ICRJ Editor**: Yusuf Kalyango Jr., Ohio University
- 5.1.16 **ICRJ Editor Selection Chair**: Robyn Goodman, Alfred University
- 5.1.17 **CSW Liaison**: Shaheen Pasha, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 5.1.18 **Research Liaisons for Middle East and North Africa**: Shaheen Pasha, University of Massachusetts Amherst; Fatma Elzahraa M Elsayed, Cairo University; Mohammed Abduljadail, Bowling Green State University
- 5.1.19 **Research Liaison for Asia**: Parul Jain, Ohio University; Yunjuan "Lily" Luo, South China University of Technology; Rauf Arif, Texas Tech University; Jae Sik Ha, University of Illinois, Springfield; Imran Hasnat, University of Oklahoma; Srishti Puri, University of Bridgeport
- 5.1.20 **Research Liaisons for Sub-Saharan Africa**: Sally Ann Cruikshank, Auburn University; Uche Onyebadi, Texas Christian University
- 5.1.21 **Research Liaisons for Latin America and the Caribbean**: Leonardo Ferreira, Florida International University; Victor Garcia, The University of Texas at Austin; Mariana de Maio, Lehigh University
- 5.1.22 **Research Liaisons for Europe**: Betty Tsakarestou, Panteion University (Athens, Greece); Joanna Spiteri, University of Malta; Lea Hellmueller, University of Houston.

6 RESEARCH

6.1 Reviewers Recognition: Incoming head Mohammed Al-Azdee announces a recognition for reviewers. For reviewers of three papers, with proper feedback, will get a Starbucks gift card. For reviewers of four papers, you will get a Starbucks gift card, enter into a pool to be considered as a

moderator/ discussant. For reviewers of five papers, you will get a Starbucks, gift card, enter the pool of moderator/discussant and get a certificate of excellence of scholarly service.

- 6.2 Report from Kalyango, Editor of *International Communication Research Journal*, the journal of International Communication Division. Introduces his assistant Dr. Jeremy Sax. States that one of the challenges is to speed up reviewing, it can take six to eight months so we are struggling with getting reviews.
- 6.3 Announcement about WJEC Conference in 2019 in Paris, ICRJ Editor Selection Chair, Robyn Goodman: This is the 5th conference, July 9-12. We have met in Singapore, Auckland, South Africa and Belgium and next in 2019 we will meet in Paris. You can get involved reviewing papers, also cash prizes. They have also edited a book published by the Knight Center for Journalism.

7 AWARDS

- 7.1 Al-Azdee initiates the award distribution process.
- 7.2 At 9:40 Camaj presents the awards to the winners of Robert L. Stevenson Competition.
- 7.2.1 **First Place:** *The Influence of Journalistic Role Performance on Objective Reporting in Chilean, Mexican and Spanish News*. Claudia Mellado, Polticia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, Chile, Maria Luisa Hummanes, University Rey Juan Carlos, Mireya Márquez, Universidad Iberoamericana Ciudad de México.
- 7.2.2 **Second Place:** *Testing Stereotypes about the Online Arab Public Sphere. Predictors of Concerns about Internet Surveillance in Five Arab Countries*, Justin Martin, Klaus Schoenback, Shageea Naqvi, Northwestern University in Qatar.
- 7.2.3 **Third Place:** *Transnational News Media Coverage of Distant Suffering in the Syrian-Civil War. An Analysis of CNN, Al-Jazeera-English and Sputnik*, Xu Zhang, Catherine Luther, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
- 7.3 At 9:44 p.m. Presentation of James W. Markham Student Paper Competition by Jatin Srivastava
- 7.3.1 **First Place:** *Unique Storytellers – Freelancers in International News Production*, Xu Zhang, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 7.3.2 **Second Place:** *Covering up or Telling your own Bad news? The effects of “stealing thunder” strategy on Journalists’ Reactions in Different Cultural Settings*, Lijie Zhou, Carrie Reif-Stice, The University of Southern Mississippi.
- 7.3.3 **Third Place:** *Choosing the Best Name: The Effectiveness of Brand Name Localization on Consumers’ Attitude Toward a New Foreign Product*, Xuan Liang, Huan Chen, University of Florida.
- 7.4 At 9:47 p.m. African Journalism Studies Tosp Paper Award, presentation by Camaj
- 7.4.1 *Human Rights Reporting in Rwanda: Opportunities and Challenges*, Meghan Sobel, Regus College, Karen McIntyre, Virginia Commonwealth University.
- 7.5 Asian Journal of communication
- 7.5.1 *Individualizing Depression Responsibilities on Chinese Social Media: Analyzing the Weibo Framing of Three Key Players*, Yuan Zhang, Westfield State University, Yifeng Lu, Chinese University of Petroleum, Yan Jin, University of Georgia, Yubin Wang, Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics
- 7.6 Latino/Latin American Research Award: presented by Professor Leonardo Ferreira of Florida International University
- 7.6.1 **1st Place** Rachel Murão
- 7.6.2 **2nd Place** Claudia Mellado

- 7.7 At 9:56: Teaching Competition Awards presented by Anna Popkova
- 7.7.1 **1st place:** Corporate Profile: A Case Study Analysis of Multinational Communication/ Media Companies, Tokunbo Ojo, York University, Toronto, Canada
 - 7.7.2 **2nd place:** 100 Questions and Answers About Immigrants in the U.S., Dawn Pysarchik, Joe Grimm, School of Journalism, Michigan State University
 - 7.7.3 **3rd Place:** Adopt-a-Country News Articles and international Journalists Projects, Bonnye Stuart, Winthrop University
- 7.8 News Story Competition Awards presented by Multimedia Contest Chair, Delaware Hossain.
Called for more participation
- 7.8.1 **1st place:** Separated by the War, Bailey Netsch, Arizona State University
 - 7.8.2 **2nd place:** Women and Children in Kutina, Ivana Atanackovic, Arizona State University

8 REPORTS

- 8.1 Call on announcements:
- 8.1.1 Conference bag lost with important contents, researcher asks if anyone saw it.
 - 8.1.2 Mohammed Al-Azdee said *International Communication Research Journal* will have a special issue next year about coverage of refugee crisis. He will be guest editor and call for papers will be out soon, we will consider all theories, methods, research designs.
 - 8.1.3 Rosental Alves promotes ISOJ and invites everyone to submit and attend. States that ISOJ's journal will have a guest editor with a specific theme.

9 ADJOURNAMENT

- 9.1 At 10:07, meeting is adjourned. Incoming Division Head, Mohammed Al-Azdee, University of Bridgeport, thanks all in attendance. Al-Azdee thanks everyone and adjourns meeting.
- 9.2 Minutes prepared by ICD secretary, Vanessa de Macedo Higgins Joyce