

ENTERTAINING IDEAS

The AEJMC Entertainment Studies Interest Group Newsletter ❖ Fall 2020

AEJMC 2020 CONFERENCE REPORT ESIG hosts successful sessions in first virtual meeting



LEFT: Scott Parrott with the Top Faculty Paper plaque; RIGHT: Brad Limov with the Top Student Paper plaque.

The AEJMC 2020 virtual conference took place in August, with ESIG representing via sessions, papers and an interest group membership meeting. The ESIG Sessions at AEJMC 2020 were "Using Narrative to Persuade" which was co-sponsored with Visual Communications Division, "Mobilizing Culture: Using Popular Media to Teach About Race, Class, and Gender in the Digital Sphere" which co-sponsored with Critical Studies Division and "Exploring Pop Culture Research." ESIG also presented two Top Paper honors. The Top Faculty Paper was "Gaming Disorder: News Framing of Video Game Addiction as a Mental Illness" by Scott Parrott, Alabama; Ryan Rogers, Butler;

Nathan Towery, Alabama; and Samuel Hakim, Alabama. The Top Student Paper and winner of the Anne Cooper-Chen Student Research Award was "Click It, Binge It, Get Hooked: Netflix and the Growing U.S. Audience for Foreign Content" by Brad Limov, Texas at Austin.

Highlights of ideas discussed at the ESIG Members Meeting included:

- Developing a stronger definition of "entertainment" to help clarify the core goals and disciplines of ESIG
- Promoting ESIG research submissions with faculty and

(continued on page 2)

students in film and cinema studies programs

- Promoting research about podcasting as an entertainment medium in the 2021 conference
- ESIG Secretary Kelsey Whipple will be conducting a mini content analysis of the past 10 years of research presented through ESIG (2011-2021), taking into consideration the papers' topics, theories, methodologies and disciplines. The goal of this content analysis is to be able to more clearly showcase how interdisciplinary ESIG is and to encourage increased future ESIG presentations by showing how inclusive

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and diverse the interest group's research can be.

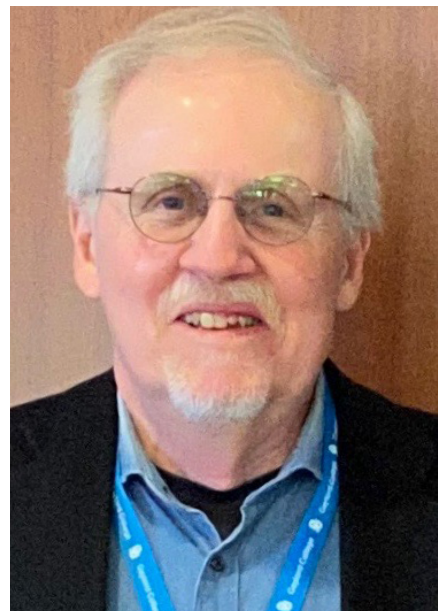
- Increasing graduate student involvement by promoting the Anne Cooper Chen Student Research Award and the fact that it is paid – an opportunity few other divisions offer to grad students
- ESIG needs to be more active on social media. Follows us on Twitter at @EntStudies. If there's ever anything you'd like us to RT or share on your behalf that is related to ESIG or would benefit ESIG's members, email kwhipple@umass.edu to make that happen. ❖

THANKS FROM OUTGOING ESIG HEAD GREGORY ADAMO

The last three years, as I've moved from ESIG Research

Chair, to Vice Head, to Head have been wonderful.

I am so glad I got more involved in ESIG. I've met some great people, heard about and learned from some fascinating research presentation, and best of all worked as a team with Stephanie Schartel Dunn and Gwen Nisbett. I find the word "team" thrown around too much by people who really don't understand the meaning of that word. Stephanie, Gwen, and I really were a team. Hearing the great ideas and conversation shared at our Members Meeting at AEJMC 2020 makes me excited for ESIG's future.



A final note: I would not be where I am if I hadn't had great mentors. I encourage you to reach out to me if you want to find out some things from a person who has now passed 40 years of working in higher education.

Gregory Adamo gregory.adamo@morgan.edu ❖

AEJMC 2021 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE GENERAL CALL FOR PAPER ABSTRACTS AND PANEL PROPOSALS

Hosted by the University of Oklahoma, March 5-6, 2021

The AEJMC Midwinter Conference is an annual forum for the presentation of research and debate in areas relevant to the AEJMC groups (divisions, interest groups and commissions) sponsoring the event. The conference provides a platform for presentations and extended discussions in a relaxed setting.

We are happy to host the upcoming conference again at the Gaylord College, University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma between March 5 and 6, 2021. Conference participants will be able to enjoy the College's state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities, as well as the city's and campus' world-class museums, art galleries and restaurants. We will also ensure a healthy and safe environment for participants in light of the current COVID-19 reality, with options to participate in the conference remotely (via Zoom or a similar platform).

** In the event that the midwinter conference has to move to a virtual/online conference because of COVID-19, we plan to communicate this to participants by early January 2021 (before participants start to register for the conference). At this point, we are planning for an in-person event, as described above.

Paper abstract submissions: Authors are invited to submit research paper abstracts of between 600 and 800 words (word count excludes author information and references) appropriate to one of the Divisions or Interest Groups represented at the conference. Abstracts should give a clear sense of relevant literature, research objectives, methodological approach, stage of research project (conceptual, data gathering, data interpreting), findings and conclusions.

Submissions should be done online and by the December 1, 2020 deadline at: <http://bit.ly/Midwinter2021> or the full link <https://cmt3.research.microsoft.com/AEJMCMW2021/> When submitting an abstract, please follow these steps:

1. Go to the conference website (<http://bit.ly/Midwinter2021> or the full link <https://cmt3.research.microsoft.com/AEJMCMW2021/>).
2. In the "AEJMC Midwinter 2021 Login" box, click on "Sign up here" as new user if you have not used this service before.

Otherwise, just log in using your existing login.

3. It will take you to a sign-up wizard, which is self-explanatory and guided. Finish signing up by confirming your email address.
4. Once the account is set up, sign in using your email address and password.
5. To submit the abstract, click on "Create a new Paper Submission", and select the division/interest group you want to submit your abstract to.
6. The next step will require you to provide the title of the paper, an abstract (9,000 characters maximum). If your abstract's character count exceeds 9,000 characters, you can also attach it as a Word doc or PDF file. However, you cannot leave the abstract box empty, write a brief abstract or keywords for your paper if you choose to upload it as an attachment.
7. Next you can add additional authors, if there are any. You can add as many authors as you need.
8. Finally, click the submit button to upload the abstract.
9. You will get a confirmation message once the submission is completed.
10. You can log in to the site at any time to check the status of your submission or if you need to edit something. You can only do this up to the submission deadline of December 1, 2020, 11:59 p.m. Central Time. You would not be able to make any changes to your submission after the deadline.

Note that authors can submit any specific paper abstract to only one participating group – submitting the same paper abstract to several groups will result in disqualification and withdrawal from the review process. Do not submit full papers but please ensure that abstracts are between 600 and 800 words; shorter abstracts (i.e., 75 words) don't allow for adequate consideration with longer abstracts. Authors must ensure that they remove any identifying information from their document.

Authors of accepted papers will be notified by mid-January 2021. Papers presented at the midwinter conference are also

(continued on page 4)

GOT A NEW BOOK? LET US KNOW ABOUT YOUR WORK!



ESIG Members: If you have a new book out, we would love to hear about it. We can publish information about your book on our website and in our newsletter. Please email ESIG Newsletter Editor Waleed Rashidi at wrashidi@fullerton.edu to be included in the next newsletter. ❖

DON'T FORGET: JEMS IS COMING BACK!

The Journal of Entertainment and Media Studies is returning in 2021. Gregory Adamo will be taking on the editor position. He will be formulating a board of editors and initiating a callout for submissions. If you are interested in being involved please email: gregory.adamo@morgan.edu. ❖

About the Entertainment Studies Interest Group

The Entertainment Studies Interest Group was established in 2000. ESIG represents a unique niche in AEJMC. It is the only interest group or division that specializes in entertainment studies, including narrative film, experimental cinema, fictional books, fictional television, game shows, new media, popular magazines, tabloid/celebrity journalism, and videogames. ESIG provides unique programming and serves as a research outlet in the areas of research, teaching and PF&R. ESIG is a frequent co-sponsor of mid-winter convention events geared toward graduate students. ❖

(continued from page 3)

eligible for presentation at the AEJMC national convention in August. Authors are encouraged to use the midwinter conference as an opportunity to get feedback on their research, to improve and finalize it for submission to the national conference.

Authors of accepted abstracts must submit complete papers (not exceeding 30 pages) to the discussant of their conference session at least two weeks before the midwinter conference. The midwinter chair for the relevant group will send authors the names and contact details of the discussant for their session.

At least one author of each accepted paper must register and attend the conference to present the paper. Failure to register by the deadline will result in authors' names and papers being removed from the program. NO onsite registration will be available.

Some groups participating in the midwinter conference have award opportunities (e.g. for travel). Authors are encouraged to contact the groups' individual midwinter chairs for details.

Panel submissions: In addition, the organizers are also inviting panel proposals. These panel proposals should NOT be done through the online abstract submission system. Instead, submissions for panels should be sent to the relevant midwinter chair directly via email (see list of participating AEJMC groups and the midwinter chair for each group below). The deadline for panel submissions is the same as for abstract submissions, December 1, 2020, 11:59 p.m. Central Time.

Panel submissions should include the panel title, a description of the session's focus, the issues to be discussed, and a list of panelists (potential and confirmed), including affiliation. Proposals should not exceed two double-spaced pages.

The University of Oklahoma is located in Norman, 20 miles south of Oklahoma City, with easy access to the Will Rogers World Airport. Details on conference registration, hotel accommodation and airport transportation will be available at <http://www.ou.edu/gaylord>.

For more information, please contact Elanie Steyn, Conference Site Host (elanie@ou.edu). ❖