

**Communication Theory and Methodology Division, AEJMC
Members' Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2017**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jörg Matthes, head. Members reviewed and voted on the minutes.

2. Reports

a) Council of Division updates: Jörg reported that the current AEJMC membership is 3,412, which is down by only 4 from last year. There were 1,586 papers submitted, which was up by 26 from last year, and 720 papers were accepted, for an overall acceptance rate of 45.5%. Also, like last year, 52% of AEJMC members are not members of any divisions or interest groups.

b) Communication Theory and Methodology updates: Jörg reported that the current membership is 174, which is down by 16 from last year. For comparison: MC&S has 520 members, Newspaper has 374, PR has 430, PCIG has 186, and COMSHER has 241. Members discussed ideas for recruitment. Jörg suggested that one option would be to reduce membership fees for graduate students. Currently, they are \$16. He suggested that we look into this, including talking to Pamela Price to see how much of the fees remain after the portion of fees that go to the journal, and make a decision at next year's business meeting. Another option that was discussed would be to start a graduate student mentor program. Jörg also noted that the finances are in order, and that we are maintaining a cushion of about \$2,000. Melissa Gotlieb, program chair, also added that CT&M and PCIG had a successful pre-conference workshop this year focused on the theory and practice of meta-analysis, led by Mike Allen. Twenty-four registered and 13 attended.

c) *Communication Method & Measures* report: Jörg reported that journal submissions are up (there were more than 100 submissions this past year) and added that the submissions are fully international. He added that the "Teacher's Corner" section had its first piece come out. It was an invited piece by Andrew Hayes. He also added that a recent article by O'Keefe has already had 500 downloads. There was no update on the status for becoming ISI listed. The journal is still on the emerging social science index. He noted that he is staying positive, but the process has been difficult. Also, the current 5-year mock impact factor is around 1.00.

d) Conference program report: Melissa reported that this year's CT&M program included six research sessions, two teaching sessions, and two PF&R sessions. Specifically, we had three refereed paper sessions (13 papers) focused on the election, public opinion, and "best of." The election and "best of" panels were very well attended—39 people and 35 people, respectively. The public opinion panel will take place tomorrow (Saturday). We also had one refereed high-density session (8 papers) focused on the content and effects of the news, as well as one refereed scholar-to-scholar session (18 papers). Finally, CT&M and Comm Tech partnered up again to offer another research panel focused on social media and the election.

e) 2016 research competition report: Elizabeth Stoycheff, research chair, reported that we had 71 submissions this year. There were 49 open call submissions, and we accepted 25 (51.02%). Also, there were 22 student submissions, and we accepted 14 (63.63%). The overall acceptance rate was 54.93%.

f) Teaching report: Kristen Landreville, teaching chair, reported that we had two co-sponsored teaching panels. The first was “Active Learning Strategies for Teaching Media Literacy at the Intersection of Communication, Politics, and Technology,” co-sponsored with Comm Tech. Sixteen people attended the panel. The second is “Teaching Data Journalism: What to Do and How to Start,” co-sponsored with Vis Comm. This panel will take place tomorrow (Saturday).

g) PF&R report: Jennifer Hoewe, PF&R chair, reported that we had two co-sponsored PF&R panels. The first was “Bad Science, Good Science: Improving Research in Our Field,” co-sponsored with Mass Communication and Society. Forty-five people attended the panel. The second was “Issues and Best Practices for Conducting Online and Mobile Research,” co-sponsored with Media Management, Economics, and Entrepreneurship. Forty people attended the panel.

h) Communication report (newsletter, website, social media): Matt Barnidge, newsletter editor, suggested that we consider maybe updating the template for the newsletter.

3. Awards Ceremony

Elizabeth presented the awards for the paper competition, the *Communication Methods and Measures* article of the year, and the Barrow Minority Doctoral Scholarship.

- Research competition awards:
 - Third place student paper: “Effects of Weight Loss Reality TV Show Exposure on Adolescents’ Explicit and Implicit Weight Bias” by Kathrin Karsay and Desirée Schmuck (University of Vienna)
 - Second place student paper: “Mediated Vicarious Contact with Transgender People: How Do Narrative Perspective and Interaction Depiction Influence Intergroup Attitudes, Stereotyping, and Elevation?” by Minjie Li (Louisiana State University)
 - Chaffee-McLeod top student paper: “Bypassing vs. Complying” Predicting Circumvention of Online Censorship in Networked Authoritarian Regimes” by Aysenur Dal (Ohio State University)
 - Third place faculty paper: “Measurement Invariance and Validation of a New Scale of Reflective Thoughts about Media Violence across Countries and Media Genres” by Sebastian Scherr and Anne Bartsch (University of Munich), Marie-Louise Mares (University of Wisconsin-Madison), and Mary-Beth Oliver (Pennsylvania State University)
 - Second place faculty paper and top method paper: “Competitive Frames and the Moderating Effects of Partisanship on Real-Time Environmental Behavior: Using Ecological Momentary Assessment in Competitive Framing” by Porismita Borah (Washington State University)
 - Top faculty paper: “‘You Must Be This Anthropomorphic’ to Write the News: Machine Attribution Decreases News Credibility and Issue Importance” by Frank Waddell (University of Florida)
 - Top theory paper: “Picture Yourself Healthy—How Social Media Users Select Images to Shape Health Intentions and Behavior” by Brianna Wilson and Silvia-Knobloch-Westerwisck (Ohio State University)
- *Communication Methods and Measures* article of the year: “The Accuracy of Self-Reported Internet Use—A Validation Study Using Client Log Data” by Michael Scharknow (University of Hohenheim)

- Barrow Minority Scholarship Award: Osita Iroegbu (Virginia Commonwealth University)

5. Elections

- a) Research chair: The election for research chair is uncontested this year. Jennifer Hoewe will be the new research chair.
- b) Two-year term: Three individuals were nominated for the two open positions for the two-year elected term. The three candidates were Jason Peifer, Chance York, and Ming (Bryan) Wang. All three gave a statement. Members voted. Jason Peifer and Bryan Wang were elected for the two-year term.
- c) Also, Trevor Diehl will continue to serve as a graduate student liaison, and Aysenur Dal will join him as our second graduate student liaison.

6. New business

Melissa took over as the new head. She presented Jörg with a plaque and thanked him for his dedication to the division and the journal.

Melissa reminded members that next year's conference will be in D.C., and noted that the pre-conference will be on a Sunday, and the conference will run from Monday to Thursday. She also reminded members that the 2019 conference will be in Toronto and that the 2020 conference will be in San Francisco, which was a change from San Diego, where it was originally scheduled.

Members voted on the 2021 location. The options were New Orleans, St. Louis, Kansas City, and Austin. Melissa reminded members about California not allowing funds to be used for travel to Texas and that the NAACP had issued a travel ban to Missouri. Rather than ranking the four cities, members decided we should list New Orleans as the only option and add context for why we voted that way.

Members discussed ideas for increasing the number of conference paper submissions. Ideas included: reaching out to Ph.D. theory classes, increasing the page limit to allow for five more pages of text, organizing a graduate student panel, beginning a mentor program in which members follow up with the authors of accepted papers to offer additional feedback as they prepare for journal submission (we might conduct a survey to see if submitters would find this useful), following up with authors of accepted papers to publicize on social media when they are accepted for publication, taking out an ad, picking a concept and encouraging people to submit papers focused on that concept (e.g., computational method papers), inviting people to submit proposals with hypotheses in advance (i.e., like *Journal of Media Psychology's* pre-registered reports).

Members also discussed ideas for next year's co-sponsored methods pre-conference workshop and the teaching and PF&R panels. Several members suggested that it might be time for another workshop on big data. Ideas for teaching panels included: data analytics and how to be a good advisor. Ideas for PF&R panels included: election/polling and authors' experiences submitting pre-registered reports to journals (i.e., like *Journal of Media Psychology*).

7. Meeting adjourned