

## 2018 ComSHER Business Meeting Minutes

ComSHER Head Sol Hart called the meeting to order.

### 1. Approval of 2017 Minutes

Motion to approve made, seconded, and approved unanimously

### 2. Awards

#### Top Student Paper (Eason Prize)

**FIRST (\$500 award):** Jeremy Shermak (University of Texas at Austin): *Parachuting into a hurricane – Twitter interactions between government entities and the public during hurricane Irma.*

**SECOND (\$300 award):** Sara Smith-Frigerio (University of Missouri): *“You can’t drink oil” – How the Water is Life movement employed risk communication techniques to garner popular support for their cause.*

**THIRD (\$200 award):** Perry Parks (Michigan State University): *From sensation to stigma: Changing standards for suicide coverage in journalism textbooks, 1894-2016.*

#### Top Faculty Paper

**FIRST:** Eric Freedman (Michigan State): *In the Crosshairs: The Perils of Environmental Journalism*

Mira Mayrhofer and Jörg Matthes (University of Vienna): *We Drink So We Are: Effects of Perceived Similarity with a Drinker on Observational Learning*

Timothy Fung (Hong Kong Baptist University): *The Role of Counterfactual Thinking in Narrative Persuasion: Its Impact on Patients’ Adherence to Treatment Regimen*

Trevor Diehl, Brigitte Huber, and Homero Gil de Zúñiga (University of Vienna), James H. Liu (Massey University): *Social Media and Concerns about Global Climate Change: News Use and Political Ideology in 20 Countries*

Nanlan Zhang and Taylor Jing Wen (University of South Carolina): *Exploring Public Perception of Depression: The Interplay Between Attribution of Cause and Narrative Persuasion*

#### Article of the Year Award

This award is given to the most outstanding published SHER article that came out in print in 2017. This year, there were 11 submissions and 7 judges.

**FIRST:** Liang Chen, Shirley S. Ho, and May O. Lwin. Meta-analysis of factors predicting cyberbullying perpetration and victimization: From the social cognitive and media effects approach. *New Media and Society.*

**SECOND:** Lauren Feldman, Sol Hart, Anthony Leiserowitz, Edward Maibach, and Connie Roser-Renouf. Do Hostile Media Perceptions Lead to Action? The Role of Hostile Media Perceptions, Political Efficacy, and Ideology in Predicting Climate Change Activism. *Communication Research*.

**THIRD PLACE (TIE):** John C. Besley, Aaron M. McCright, Nagwan R. Zahry, Keven C. Elliott, Norbert E. Kaminski, Joseph D. Martin. Perceived conflict of interest in health science partnerships. *PLOS One*

**THIRD PLACE (TIE):** Jessica Gall Myrick and Rachelle L. Pavelko. Examining Differences in Audience Recall and Reaction Between Mediated Portrayals of Mental Illness as Trivializing Versus Stigmatizing. *Journal of Health Communication*.

### **Top Paper Poster**

This year, we used a new judging approach, with only the 7 ComSHER Officers (rather than all poster session attendees) serving as judges. This approach was much simpler in terms of the number of ballots submitted. The judges were: Head, Vice Head, Vice Head Elect, Research Chair, PF&R Chair, Teaching Chair, and Secretary. Nanyang University has once again generously provided a \$100 prize to the winner.

**WINNER:** Katie Abrams (Colorado State): Encouraging safe wildlife viewing in national parks: Effects of a risk communication campaign on visitors' behavior.

**HONORABLE MENTION:** Shupey Yuan (Northern Illinois University), Anthony Dudo (University of Texas-Austin), & John Besley (Michigan State University): Scientific societies' support for public engagement – An interview study.

**HONORABLE MENTION:** Susan Dun and Amal Ali (Northwestern University in Qatar): Discovering and targeting the attitudes of young Arab drivers.

### **3. Reports**

ComSHER's 5-year Review with AEJMC – all is well / no problems

### **Financials**

Annual ComSHER Expenses = ~\$2,000

Eason Prize (\$1000 in total prize money - \$660 comes from ComSHER funds, the balance from interest earned on the award endowment)

2018 ComSHER Social (\$1,097)

Field Trip (\$0)

Top Poster Award (\$100, sponsored by Nanyang University)

Miscellaneous expenses (\$200-300)

Annual Income (from dues) = ~\$2,000-3,000

Balance Oct 2016: \$5,850

Balance Oct 2017: \$6,965

Predicted Balance Oct 2018: \$7,000-8,000

### **Membership Tracker**

ComSHER has seen a steady rise in membership over the last few years, from 165 members in 2011 to 267 in 2018. We are in the top-5 in AEJMC in terms of membership numbers.

Interesting factoid – about half of all AEJMC conference attendees do NOT affiliate with a Division or Interest Group.

### **Research Competition**

\*\* Total submissions 145 (#1 in all of AEJMC) / Total acceptances: 76 / 52% overall acceptance rate. (We average about 50%, although some years have higher or lower rates).

Faculty only submissions 46 / Faculty only acceptances 26 / 57% acceptance rate

Student only submissions: 27 / Student only acceptances: 13 / 48% acceptance rate

Faculty/Student submissions: 72 / Faculty/Student acceptances: 37 / 51% acceptance rate

\*\* Distribution of Topics/Methods of Accepted Papers: 22% environment / 39% health / 28% risk / 11% science

\*\* 29% qualitative / 71% quantitative

\*\* Reviewers this past year: 125 (average of 3.48 papers per reviewer)

\*\* ComSHER session layout at AEJ 2018

2 poster sessions (1 ComSHER only, 1 shared with other Divisions)

4 research sessions (including 1 special research session)

2 teaching sessions (separate report given – good attendance)

3 PF&R sessions (separate report given – good attendance)

Field Trip (separate report given – good attendance; learned a lot about science communication policy and practice on Capitol Hill).

Social (Wednesday evening, 9-11 PM, Tap House)

\*\* Good attendance at the sessions overall this year. We had to have more posters than oral presentations this year.

## **4. Science Communication**

### **General journal information**

Impact Factor: 2.03 (19/84 for all communication journals)

219 submissions in 2017 - a large increase

Acceptance Rate for full submissions: 14%

Acceptance Rate for all submissions (including research notes): 18%

All decisions typically given in 3-4 months

Thank you to the Reviewers!

### **Journal-related announcements**

We are looking for new associate editor. If you are interested, contact Susanna at [editorscicom@gmail.com](mailto:editorscicom@gmail.com)

Susanna will also invite new editorial board members soon.

Interested in proposing a special issue? Contact Susanna!

## **5. Future Conference Sites**

**2019:** Toronto, Canada (August 7-10)

**2020:** San Francisco, CA (August 6-9)

**2021:** New Orleans, LA (August 4-7)

**2022:** Need to decide between Chicago, Indianapolis, and Detroit (all 3 cities are comparably priced). After several rounds of voting between different pairs of cities, Detroit was selected as ComSHER's preferred venue. The recommendation will be passed up the AEJ chain, with a final decision made by next year's meeting in Toronto.

## **6. Dues**

Currently \$20 for faculty. Free for students

A motion to approve this current fee structure was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

## **7. Bylaws**

Bylaws Proposals – to take effect starting at the 2019 conference in Toronto and thereafter

All proposed changes are listed below. For each one, a motion to approve as made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

## **1. Move Field Trip and Social responsibilities from Secretary to membership chairs**

**Secretary:** Remove the following language:

The Secretary is also in charge of planning and executing the annual ComSHER field trip and ComSHER social at the convention.

**Secretary:** Add the following language:

The Secretary will observe and assist the PF&R chair and the Teaching chair in order to learn and understand those leadership functions and responsibilities. The precise nature of these duties will be worked out by the respective officers based on their personal strengths and preferences.

**Membership Chair(s): Modify language to:**

Will handle the sustainability and growth of ComSHER membership through coordinated efforts with other chairs. Will coordinate ComSHER's annual off-site field trip and celebratory gathering at AEJMC. Will work with the Media Chair, Student Liaison Chair, and other chairs to promote innovative pathways to sustained membership.

## **2. Add new language for Media and Student Liaison Chairs**

**Media Chair(s)**

Will handle the media promotion of ComSHER, its members, and related activities. This will be accomplished through monthly solicitation from members for publications and achievements related to ComSHER interests that will be shared via ComSHER email newsletters and social media. The media chair(s) will also write short faculty profiles and feature article posts for distribution. The media chair(s) will coordinate with other chairs for announcements and will help promote ComSHER by tweeting and engaging through social media during ComSHER-related events (such as AEJMC).

**Student Liaison Chair(s)**

Will work to recruit new student members and otherwise offer support to the student members of ComSHER. Will coordinate efforts for a student-faculty meeting/mentorship to take place at each AEMJC and to be sustained over the course of the year. The student liaison chair(s) will also write short graduate student profiles and feature article posts for distribution.

## **3. New Research Chair Language**

The Research Chair shall oversee the annual call for research papers, the online submission of research papers, the recruitment of paper reviewers, the assignment of reviewers to papers received, the acceptance and rejection of papers and all communication with authors and reviewers regarding this process. For conference papers submissions, faculty submissions will be evaluated against other faculty submissions, and student only papers will be evaluated against other student only papers, to help ensure a roughly equal acceptance rate for faculty submissions and student only submissions. The research chair shall also oversee the student paper competition and work with the head and vice head in selecting the winner of the annual Eason award. To ensure that this process goes smoothly, the research chair must be in contact with the AEJMC central office to ensure he/she is properly trained on the electronic submission and review system and that he/she meets all related deadlines.

We would still maintain the current language for the election to become Research Chair. While the Teaching Chair would typically become Research Chair, anyone who meets the requirements of running for Research Chair (1 year of service, 2 years of reviewing) would be eligible to run for Research Chair.

**4. Make the student competition separate from the general competition (student-only papers would only compete with other student-only papers to maintain ~ 50% acceptance rates for students)**

**5. Have elections for the Secretary position; e.g. at the 2019 conference, the next secretary (for 2019-2020) would be elected.**

**6. Labeling the Secretary position as an elected Officer**

Add new article (and adjust corresponding articles):

Article V: Secretary Election:

Nominations (including self-nominations) to stand for election to Secretary must be received by the Executive Committee no later than two days (48 hours) prior the annual meeting. This position will be elected at the annual meeting by a majority of those in attendance. The term shall be from October 1 through September 30. To maintain consistency the following succession should be typical: Secretary should become PF&R Chair, the PF&R chair should become Teaching Chair. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, this succession may be modified, including the ability to the Executive Committee to appoint a ComSHER member in good standing to PF&R Chair or Teaching Chair who has not previously served as Secretary. In addition, the Head will retain the right to appoint a new Secretary, who must be a ComSHER member in good standing, should the elected Secretary be unable to complete his/her duties.

Remove language about secretary from appointed leadership position section

## **8. New Leadership**

### New Elected Officers (2018-2019)

<b>Head</b>	Avery Holton
<b>Vice-Head</b>	Rachel Young
<b>Vice-Head Elect</b>	Kajsa Dalrymple
<b>Research Chair</b>	Sara Yeo
<b>Teaching Chair</b>	Timothy Fung
<b>PF&amp;R Chair</b>	Leona Yi-Fan Su
<b>Secretary</b>	Sojung Kim

**New Appointed/Non-Officer Positions (2018-2019)**

<b>Newsletter Chair</b>	Ashley Anderson
<b>Newsletter Chair</b>	Matthew VanDyke
<b>Website Chair</b>	Mo Jang
<b>Website Chair</b>	Kang Namkoong
<b>Social Media Chair #1</b>	Roma Subramanian
<b>Social Media Chair #2</b>	Susha Kumble
<b>Social Media Chair #3</b>	Jessica Willoughby
<b>Social Media Chair #4</b>	Neil Stenhouse
<b>Membership Chair #1</b>	Tsung-Jen Shih
<b>Membership Chair #2</b>	Jiyong Lee
<b>Grad Student Amb. #1</b>	<b>Jacob Copple</b>
<b>Grad Student Amb. #2</b>	<b>Christopher Wirz</b>

**9. New Business**

AEJMC may not offer childcare next year in Toronto. Despite spending \$8,000 on it this year as well as widespread initial interest in using it, only 7 kids were enrolled.

Make sure we have Canadian-themed programming (i.e., for PF&R and Teaching Panels) **next** year in Toronto.

Have the newsletter be twice a year (versus 4 times/year)?