

Note from Division Head

CCS goes digital

*Launch of new website,
digital journal mark new
presence for division*

Our division has undergone some big changes. First, thanks to Robby Byrd, we have a website, in which you'll find CFPs and other announcements, our division bylaws, CCS programs, and officer information (<http://aejmc.us/ccs/>).

The biggest news is that we have switched our subscription to the *Journal of Communication Inquiry* to digital. In February, CCS members were invited to participate in a survey about the journal subscription. 63 people participated, with 79.37% indicated a preference for the digital-only subscription. This change should take place with the next issue of the journal.

As you'll read in this newsletter, the Midwinter conference was once again a hit, with three CCS panels and 12 presenters. We also appreciate the behind-the-scenes work done by our reviewers.

April 1st is quickly approaching! I encourage you to submit to our division for the annual conference this year in my home state. I can tell you that Minneapolis is a great city. And in August, there will be no snow, I promise!

As you plan your Minneapolis trip, think about attending



Katie Foss
Middle Tennessee State Univ.

our pre-conference workshop on Wednesday, August 3rd. See Vice-Head Adina Schneeweis' article in this newsletter for more information.

If you are a faculty member of CCS, please review conference papers. It doesn't take much time and the more reviewers we have, the fewer papers each person has to review. You can review even if you cannot attend the conference this year. Also, you can submit to CCS and still review student papers. In addition to reviewing, consider serving as a moderator or discussant for the conference.

Always feel free to contact me with questions or announcements: Katie.Foss@mtsu.edu. I look forward to seeing you in Minneapolis!

The official newsletter of the Cultural and Critical Studies Division of AEJMC.

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2016 AEJMC Annual Conference

Time is running out

CCS seeking papers, reviewers, moderators & discussants for Minneapolis conference

Hi CCS friends. We are gearing up for the 2016 AEJMC conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota!

You must have seen our Call for Papers (CFP). We welcome faculty and student submissions of original research that contributes to the study of journalism and media communication from a cultural and critical perspective. The Division accepts submissions that include critical inquiry that cuts across theoretical and methodological boundaries. Please consider submitting your paper to CCS.

As you are ready to submit your paper, remember to maintain a paper length of 25-pages excluding tables, figures, and references. Abstracts must be no more than 75 words. Be sure that your submissions contain no identifying information, such as name, university affiliation, job title, etc. either in the text of the paper or in the document properties. Any identifying information found on the submission results in an immediate disqualification of the paper.

We are still looking for Reviewers, Moderators and Discussants. Some of you have replied to our call, if you haven't, please let us know if you are willing to serve. We are looking for faculty members from a variety of subject and theoretical backgrounds to help us with the process. The division



Suman Mishra
Southern Illinois Edwardsville

recognizes that reviewing can be a time consuming process, and we are grateful for your help. If you reviewed for us last year, we hope you'll be willing to do so again!

Please create an account so that you can access the papers for review. You can create an account by going to the AEJMC website: <http://convention2.allacademic.com/one/aejmc/aejmc16/>

Papers for review will be distributed in early April (typically 3-4 papers per reviewer) and reviews are due May 1.

If you're interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact research co-chairs Suman Mishra (smishra@siue.edu) and Peter Glocviczki (pglocviczki@coker.edu). We look forward to hearing from you.

Stay Connected

Web:

www.aejmc.us/ccs

Facebook:

Cultural and Critical Studies Division @ AEJMC

ListServ:

Join the listserv by contacting Katie Foss at Katie.Foss@mtsu.edu.

Send us your news

Your articles and news are welcomed for future editions of **CCSNOTES**.

Please send your news to Robby Byrd, Newsletter Editor, rdbyrd@memphis.edu, as attached Microsoft Word document. Photos should be sent as jpegs.



Robby Byrd
University of Memphis

2015-2016

CCS Officers**Head**

Katie Foss

*Middle Tennessee State University***Vice Head**

Adina Schneeweis

*Oakland University***Lead Research Chair**

Suman Mishra

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Robby Byrd

*University of Memphis***Midwinter Coordinator**

Madeleine Esch

Salve Regina University

2016 Midwinter Recap

CCS sponsors three research panels

Dozen papers presented at this year's Midwinter conference

The 2016 Midwinter Conference was a great success. Again this year, the conference was hosted at the Gaylord College of Communication at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, which was blessed with sunny spring weather for the weekend of the conference, Feb. 26-27.

The CCS division sponsored three panels comprised of 12 papers, many from first-time conference presenters.

The topics were timely, as exemplified by top abstract honoree George Daniels, University of Alabama, who presented his research on "Considering the Corrective Action of Universities In Diversity Crises: A Critical Comparative Approach." Daniels analyzed the statements issued by the University of Alabama, University of Missouri and University of Oklahoma in 2015 in response to racial tensions on each campus. His analysis used critical race theory to explore how the PR statements reveal "the social nature of "race" and how institutions preserve Whiteness."

The theme of university responses to racism was also the focus of a fascinating panel on how OU responded to a racist incident in 2015

**Madeleine Esch***Salve Regina University*

that drew national media attention. Sponsored by the Minorities and Communication division, the panel featured CCS members Dr. Ralph Believeau (OU) and Dr. Venice Berry (UIowa) alongside OU undergraduate students, an esteemed professor emeritus and the university's newly appointed Vice President for University Community.

The CCS-sponsored panels were "Diversity and accountability in news, public relations and rap music," "Embodiment, power and communication theory" and "Popular texts and critical media literacy." Paper topics ranged from Disney princes to NWA rap lyrics and from news reporting in India and Colombia to celebrity watching on the

Midwinter | from page 3

red carpet. In keeping with the division's mission, themes running throughout the papers were questions of identity, power and ideology.

Be on the lookout for revised and expanded versions of these promising papers at the annual convention in August.

The division received 18 submissions and accepted 13, with 12 papers actually presented. Thanks to everyone who submitted research and who volunteered to review abstracts and serve as moderators and discussants.

The full conference schedule along with more photos can be found at <https://aejmcidwinter.wordpress.com>.



Photo by Madeleine Esch

Back: Chris Etheridge (UNC-Chapel Hill). L-R: Emmanuel Nwachukwu, (Southern Mississippi), George Daniels (Alabama). Front: Paromita Pain (Texas-Austin) (not pictured: Rhonda Hester, UNC-Chapel Hill).



Photo by Madeleine Esch

Presenters for the panel "Popular Texts and Critical Media Literacy" L-R: Laura Hudgens (MTSU), Megan Mendiola (Texas Tech), Ralph Beliveau (OU), discussant Amit Baishya (OU), Tim Luisi (independent scholar) and Alejandro Botia (MTSU).



Photo by Madeleine Esch

Laura Hudgens and Alejandro Botia chat after their presentations on the panel titled "Popular Texts and Critical Media Literacy." Both students at Middle Tennessee State University, the presented on *The Walking Dead* and *American Sniper* respectively.

[More Midwinter photos | Page 5](#)

CCS to host diversity, storytelling workshop

Gear up for our very own, CCSD and ICIG co-sponsored pre-conference session, “Critical Reporting: Diversity and Storytelling,” coming up in Minneapolis, on Wednesday, August 3, 2016, from 8 a.m. (bright and early) to noon. \$15 Fee (participation limited).

This workshop is a response to the current climate of media coverage of race, to #blacklivesmatter, to the “post-racial” debate, and to journalists’ dilemma about how and when to include race and ethnicity in news. Media analysts at Poynter have said repeatedly that, “Greater diversity equals greater accuracy and fairness.” Panelists will provide instruction for journalism educators in secondary and post-secondary education

THE SPECIFICS

- *Critical Reporting: Diversity and Storytelling*
- *Wednesday, Aug. 3, 2016*
- *8 a.m. to noon*
- *Cost: \$15*
(participation is limited)

and professionals in the AEJMC conference host’s region.

The workshop is interactive and meant to offer points for reflection, tips to overcome challenges, and specific tools for critical reporting. For additional information, contact Adina Schneeweis (schneewe@oakland.edu).



Adina Schneeweis
Oakland University

Midwinter photos | from page 4



Photo by Madeleine Esch
Estella Porras (Cal State Monterey Bay) presents her paper, “News from and about situated living bodies: Community journalism as embodied practice.”



Photo by Madeleine Esch
Khadija Ejaz (South Carolina) presents her paper “Perception and use of Facebook amongst Muslim women.”