

Note from the Division Head

Looking Forward to DC

When friends and family ask about my summer travel plans, I tell them “DC in August!” They ruefully comment on the heat and humidity.

“True,” I say, “but I’m looking forward to the air-conditioned conference rooms of the Renaissance Hotel,” where I expect five days of energizing AEJMC programming. (Admittedly, friends and family outside of academia are still baffled by my enthusiasm.)

CCSD has a great lineup of refereed research, planned panels and other opportunities slated for Aug. 5-9, 2018, which you can read all about in this newsletter.

I’m particularly excited about our Professional Freedom and Responsibility Award Winner, Miami Herald columnist Leonard Pitts! Pitts will speak Wednesday as part of a panel titled “Reading Between the Lies: Addressing a Lack of Truth in Today’s Political Discourse.” That comes on the heels of a Tuesday panel titled “Making Sense of Media in the Trump Era.” Notice a theme?

We’re rounding out those panels with other research panel sessions on politics, comedy and outrage; “Online Antagonisms”; and “The Politics of Voice, Visibility and Transparency.” Given all the political news breaking this summer (family separations at the U.S. border, the off-again-on-again North Korea summit, ongoing twists in the Mueller probe and, of course, tweetstorms) these sessions feel all-too prescient and ripped from the headlines.

At the 2017 Chicago conference, we launched our CCSD tote bags with the slogan “Critically Resist, Creatively Engage.” (I’ve got just a few more to pass out in DC).



CCSD members have spent the past year figuring out how to do that and applying their considerable research skills to making sense of media, identity and social change in the Trump era. Where better to do that but in hot and humid Washington, DC?

I need to hear their voices and their insights right about now. We also have great research and teaching sessions on media and celebrity, feminist theory and media and more.

And to blow off some steam, we have a Member Social planned for Wednesday night at Busboys and Poets’ 5th & K location, just a short walk from the conference hotel. According to the café’s mission statement, Busboys and Poets is “a community where racial and cultural connections are consciously uplifted...a place to take a deliberate pause and feed your mind, body and soul...a space for art, culture and politics to intentionally collide.” That sounds about right for us. Hope to see you there after our Membership Meeting.

The Official Newsletter of the Cultural and Critical Studies Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2018 PF&R Award	2
Mentor Program, Coffee Klatch	3
At-a-Glance	
Schedule for DC	4
Member Profile	6
Top Paper Awards	7
Editor’s Note	8
Member News	8

AEJMC **cultural & critical** STUDIES DIVISION



Syndicated Columnist Leonard Pitts, Jr. Wins 2018 PF&R Award

The Cultural and Critical Studies Division is proud to announce that Leonard Pitts Jr.—commentator, journalist, and novelist—has won the division’s 2018 Professional Freedom and Responsibility Award.

The award will be presented at the AEJMC annual conference in Washington, DC, during the PF&R panel session “Reading Between the Lies: Addressing a Lack of Truth in Today’s Political Discourse,” where Pitts will also present. The award and panel session will begin at **1:45 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 8**, at The Renaissance Hotel Downtown.

This award from division members recognizes Pitts’ work in numerous areas, including as a widely syndicated newspaper columnist who frequently addresses issues related to race, class and gender in popular culture. He’s also a novelist and has been a college professor and radio producer.

Pitts’ many awards include the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for commentary and the 2001 ASNE award for commentary writing. He’s a three-time recipient of the National Association of Black Journalists’ Award of Excellence and was chosen NABJ’s 2008 Journalist of the Year. In 2002, the National Society of Newspaper Columnists awarded Pitts with its inaugural Columnist of the Year award. In 2002 and in 2009, GLAAD Media awarded Pitts the Outstanding Newspaper Columnist award.

Pitts maintains a rigorous speaking schedule that has taken him to colleges,

The award will be presented at the AEJMC annual conference in Washington, DC, during the PF&R panel session “Reading Between the Lies: Addressing a Lack of Truth in Today’s Political Discourse,” where Pitts will also present.



Jeanne Criswell
PF&R Chair
University of Indianapolis

civic groups and professional associations all over the US. He has taught at Hampton University, Ohio University, the University of Maryland, Princeton, George Washington and Virginia Commonwealth.

Twice each week, millions of newspaper



Pitts, Jr. | Continued on page 3

Stay Connected

Web:

www.aejmc.us/ccs

Facebook:

Cultural and Critical
Studies Division @ AEJMC

ListServ:

Join our email list by
contacting Madeleine Esch:
madeleine.esch@salve.edu

Send us your news!

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

Please submit your updates to
Errol Salamon: errol.salamon@asc.upenn.edu. Attach text in
MS Word doc or docx format.
Send photos in jpeg format.

Member opportunity:

CCSD is searching for members
to profile.

**Want to suggest a colleague
we should profile in an up-
coming newsletter?**

**Send names to Madeleine
Esch or feel free to nominate
yourself by submitting your
own answers to these two
questions:**

1. **What’s your CCSD story?**
2. **What are you working on now?**

**We love getting to know
more about all our members!**

2017-2018

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AEJMC
cultural & critical
STUDIES DIVISION

Pitts, Jr. | Continued from page 2

readers around the country seek out his rich and uncommonly resonant voice.

Pitts was born and raised in Southern California. He was awarded a degree in English from the University of Southern California at the age of 19, having entered school at 15 on a special honors program. Since 1995, he has lived in Bowie, Maryland, a suburb of Washington, DC.

Pitts joins some 41 past recipients of the annual PF&R Award, which CCS has presented for nearly four decades to individuals and organizations demonstrating dedication, courage, leadership

or achievement in one or more of the following areas: (1) free expression, (2) ethics, (3) media criticism and accountability, (4) racial, gender and cultural inclusiveness, (5) public service and (6) equal opportunities for students.

More information on these areas is available on the AEJMC Web site at <http://www.aejmc.org/home/2011/03/ethics-prf/>.) Past winners of the award include Ben Bagdikian, Molly Ivins, Noam Chomsky, Nina Totenberg, Studs Terkel, James Carey, Bill Moyers and many others.

Read Recent Columns by Pitts at MiamiHerald.com

- "Overwhelmed by the thought of 8,124 gun deaths? Consider only one. Then you'll get it." ([27 July](#))
- "'Thoughts and prayers' aren't all there are to religious faith" ([24 July](#))
- "Democrats don't need a new slogan, they need a pair of brass, er, knuckles" ([20 July](#))
- "In Helsinki, Trump was everything he professes to despise. Weak. Feeble. Impotent." ([17 July](#))

Revisit the columns that won Pitts the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for Commentary.

As the Pulitzer website explains, Pitts gained recognition "For his fresh, vibrant columns that spoke, with both passion and compassion, to ordinary people on often divisive issues." A few to check out...

- "Open casket opened eyes" ([10 Jan](#))
- "Logic tells us: No death penalty" ([17 Jan](#))
- "Gays may be hope for marriage" ([4 Aug](#))
- "To irate readers: Race has always benefited whites" ([23 Oct](#))

CCSD Mentor Program and Early Career Coffee Klatch to Re-Launch

This summer we will reinstate the popular Cultural and Critical Studies Division mentoring program as well as our longstanding Early Career Coffee Klatch with the LGBTQ Interest Group and Magazine Division.

CCSD's mentoring program will foster relationships that increase confidence

and productivity among graduate students. Mentoring relationships will focus on research, teaching, and service. Graduate students will be matched with division faculty members prior to the Washington, DC convention in August.

If you'd like to participate in the CCSD mentoring program, email Teaching Chair Chelsea Reynolds at

Mentorship | Continued on page 6



Aug. 5-9, 2018

AEJMC cultural & critical STUDIES DIVISION

**PLAN
YOUR
SCHEDULE**

Sun.

1-5:00 P.M. MEETING ROOM 4

Preconference: Getting Started with Drones

Led by Matt Waite, Nebraska-Lincoln Drone Lab, with Jayne Orenstein, Washington Post; Dale Blasingame, Texas State; and Katy Culver, Wisconsin



Mon.

11:45 A.M.-1:15 P.M. MEETING ROOM 5

Research Panel: Voices of Late Night

Spring-Serenity Duvall, Rosemary Pennington, Jessica Birthisel, Stacie Meihaus Jankowski, Lori Henson

3:15-4:45 P.M. MEETING ROOM 5

Teaching Panel: Culture in the Classroom

Kelly Chernin, Jiangxue Han, Kurt Braddock, Linda Hon, discussant Johanna Cleary

1:30-3:00 P.M. MEETING ROOM 5

Research Panel: Internet Behaving Badly

Sarah Grizzle, Guy Harrison, Jessica Maddox

5-6:30 P.M. MEETING ROOM 5

Research Panel: The Politics of Voice, Visibility, and Transparency

xtine burrough, Julian Kilker, Jenny Ungbha Korn, Mei-Ling McNamara

Tue.

8:15-9:45 A.M. MEETING ROOM 16

Research Panel: Has Feminist Comm Theory Changed JOMC Research?

Amanda Kennedy, Diana Nastasia, Radhika Parameswaran, Lana Rakow, Linda Steiner, Angharad Valdivia

11:45 A.M. -1:15 P.M. MOUNT VERNON SQ. A

Teaching Panel: Taking a Knee for Social Justice

Stephanie Mahin, Nathian Rodriguez, Melissa Janoske, Meredith Clark, Kathleen McElroy

10-11:30 A.M. A BAKED JOINT (440 K ST.)

Off-Site Social: Grad Student Coffee Klatch



Tue.

1:30-3:00 P.M. GRAND BALLROOM SOUTH

S2S Refereed Research: Globalization and Representation

Emeka Umejei and Carolyn Walcott, Sue Robinson, Yidong Wang, Taryn Myers, Limin Liang

3:15-4:45 P.M. MEETING ROOM 3

Refereed Research: Making Sense of Media in the Trump Era

Ana Garner and Christina Mazzeo; Carolyn Nielsen; Christa Reynolds and Celeste Gonzalez de Bustamante; Melissa Janoske, Robert Byrd and Dana Cooper; Michael Koliska, Alison Burns and Kalyani Chadha



Wed.

8:15-9:45 A.M. GRAND BALLROOM SOUTH

S2S Refereed Research: (1) Bringing the Lessons of History to the Present; (2) Television, Celebrity & Media Culture

Sara Shaban, Christian Vukasovich, Nandini Bhalla and David Moscowitz, Khadija Ejaz, Miki Tanikawa, Li Chen, John Sewell, Tewodros Workneh, Sean Leavey, Kelsey Whipple

3:30-5:00 P.M. MEETING ROOM 4

Teaching Panel: Remembering, Forgetting and Nostalgizing 1968

Jill Edy, Carolyn Kitch, Abe Peck, Amber Roessner

5:15-6:45 P.M. MEETING ROOM 5

Refereed Research: Gender and Sexuality in a Changing Media Environment

Jordon Brown, Shehram Mokhtar, Ayleen Cabas, Gooyong Kim

1:45-3:15 P.M. MEETING ROOM 2

PF&R Panel: Reading Between the Lies

Maria Fontenot, Karen Kline, Jacqueline Lambiase, Leonard Pitts, Jr., Bob Trumbour

7-8:30 P.M. MEETING ROOM 5

Business Session: Members' Meeting

Including top research awards presentations

8:45-10:15 P.M. BUSBOYS AND POETS, (5TH & K)

Off-Site Social: Party at Busboys and Poets

Appetizers on us! Cash bar.



PF&R Award Winner

LEONARD PITTS, JR.

Miami Herald columnist
Award presentation after the panel



Thu.

12:45-2:15 P.M. MOUNT VERNON SQ. A

Refereed Research: The Future of Journalism in a Shifting Global Era

Patrick Ferrucci, Krishnan Vasudevan, Errol Salamon, Perry Parks

DC Conference Promotes Mentorship

chreynolds@fullerton.edu by ASAP. Please indicate your research area(s) and whether you hope to serve as a mentor or a mentee. We'll do our best to match faculty with students who share methodological or topical interests.

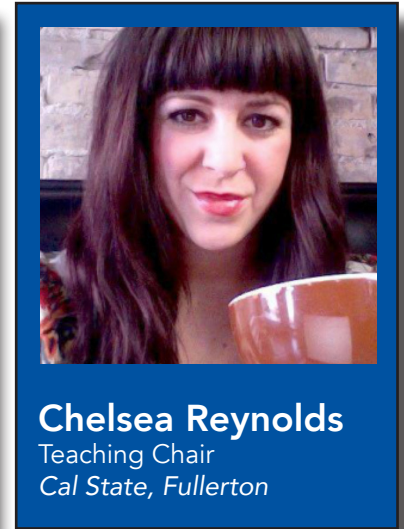
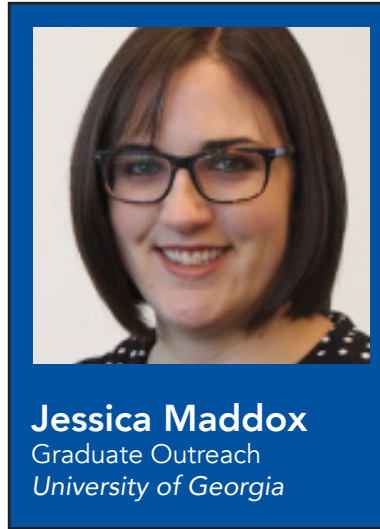
Mentors and mentees will have the option to meet at our annual AEJMC **Coffee Klatch, scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 7, at 10 a.m.** The Coffee Klatch will be held at A Baked Joint, located at 440 K St NW (a quick seven-minute walk from the Renaissance Hotel!).

In Germany, a kaffeeklatsch is an informal social event centered around coffee. Following the German tradition, our only goal for this event is to benefit graduate students and early career

faculty. This is a chance for all to mingle, socialize, catch up and share advice.

Come for 5 minutes or the full 1.5 hours before a day of engaging panels. Coffee, tea and snacks are on us.

To sign up for the mentor program, contact Chelsea Reynolds at chreynolds@fullerton.edu. For questions about the Coffee



Klatch, contact Jess Maddox at jlmaddox@ua.edu or Ever Figueroa at ever.j.figueroa@utexas.edu.

Member Spotlight: Lindsay Palmer

Lindsay Palmer, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
School of Journalism and Mass Communication
University of Wisconsin–Madison

Palmer is co-recipient of this year's AEJMC Lillian Lodge Kopenhagen award sponsored by the Lillian Lodge Kopenhagen Center for the Advancement of Women in Communication at Florida International University and the AEJMC Commission on the Status of Women. The award recognizes outstanding women junior faculty members.

What's your CCSD story?

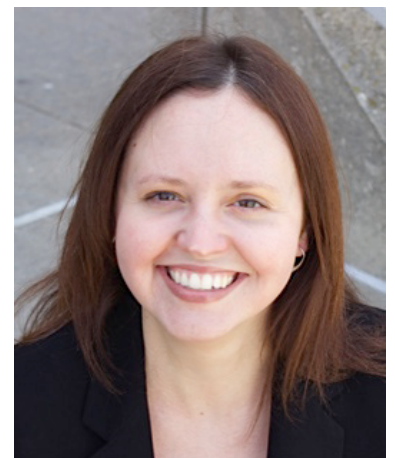
I was trained as a critical film and media scholar at UC-Santa Barbara, but before going into academia, I worked as a television news producer. Though in grad school I was inspired

by cultural studies and critical theory, I found myself wanting to talk about journalism, rather than cinema or entertainment television. I ended up getting a job in a journalism and mass communication department at UW-Madison, and there, I was happy to learn that AEJMC has a critical-cultural division. It has been amazing to share my work and learn from other scholars who think culturally and critically about journalism in both domestic and international contexts.

What are you working on now?

My first book just came out in February, and it's called *Becoming the Story: War Correspondents since 9/11*. The book conducts a cultural analysis of the labor of war reporting in the 21st century, especially critiquing the US war reporting industry for its sometimes reductive representations of the "Other" in the context of the "war on terror." In the process of working on that book, I learned that locally-based

stringers and news "fixers" who work with Western news outlets are often treated pretty badly--they don't get paid as much, they don't usually get insurance or safety equipment, and they are sometimes not even credited for their work. I'm now finishing up a second book on these news "fixers," in which I've conducted interviews with 75 fixers from 38 different countries, to learn more about their perspectives on their labor. That book is due out in 2019 with Oxford University Press.



Top Papers Previewed

James Murphy Award for Top Faculty Paper

Limin Liang

City University of Hong Kong

Between Emotion, Politics and the Law: Narrative Transformation and Authoritarian Deliberation in a Mediated Social Drama

Through studying media discourses surrounding a land-disputes-triggered vengeful murder in China and its subsequent trial (the "Jia Jinglong Case"), the article examines "narrative transformation" in a contentious social drama and similar events' deliberative potential for an authoritarian society. Previous studies adopting the social drama paradigm usually follow how events move from an instrumentality-driven "crisis" phase to a value-driven "ritual" phase. However, in this case, crisis was preceded by a verdict sentencing the accused to death that failed to be seen as fair, after scholars made concerted calls for leniency via social media. Henceforth, what ought to be a ritualized trial regressed into a political contest, as "a victim's story" turned into "a revenge story" symbolizing larger social injustice. But "a strategic contest" does not exhaust the meaning of the case, which also produced a liminal moment inviting reflexivity on the norms governing social life. The paper proposes a model for authoritarian deliberation in which "events crystalize into issues". It argues that while the alliance between state and media/intellectual elites in a Chinese society with declining ideological hegemony is sustained by instrumental interest, contentious events provide opportunities to bring elite dissent into sharp relief. In this case, media engaged other social institutions in a contentious public performance that ultimately affirmed the perpetuation of schism than consensus, but in its process also encouraged deliberation.

James W. Carey Award for Top Student Paper

Shehram Mokhtar

Oregon

Imagining the Other: Transnational Documentaries & the Politics of Sexuality

This paper focuses on recent transnational documentary films that address the question of non-normative sexuality in the non-Western world. These documentaries include festival-centered films produced independently and features commissioned by broadcasting organizations such as the UK's BBC Three and U.S. based youth driven VICE Media. These films, directed towards and available online for transnational audiences, produce a popular discourse of universal sexuality. This discourse reifies Euro-American center and its teleological temporal schema imagines the sexuality of the other as lagging behind the center requiring the labor of catching up to its ideals. While these films make visible the center, they deploy tropes that devoid others of epistemological agency, historical specificity, and contextual complexity. In this paper, I closely read documentary films and features such as *Oriented* (2015), *How Gay is Pakistan* (2015), *Dream Boat* (2017), and *Being LGBT in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan* (2017) and demonstrate how they function individually as well as in cohesion with one another to produce a discourse of sexuality within the frameworks of freedom and unfreedom, abundance and lack, and timeliness and belatedness.

Congratulations to all the authors of accepted papers scheduled for presentation at the convention in Washington, DC. In particular, we congratulate the authors of those papers singled out as especially exceptional by our volunteer manuscript reviewers. Join us to celebrate these scholars as we present awards at our **Members' Meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 8, at 7 p.m.**

Second Place Faculty Paper Christian Vukasovich

Oregon Institute of Technology

Anti-Establishment Voices: Tensions of Fascism and Postmodernity in Balkan Rock Music

Third Place Faculty Paper Gooyong Kim

Cheyney University of Pennsylvania

Resilience, Positive Psychology, and Subjectivity in K-pop Female Idols: Evolution of Girls' Generation from "Into the New World" (2007) to "All Night" (2017)

Second Place Student Paper Jordan Brown

Texas State

The Symbolic Annihilation of Wendy Davis in the 2014 Texas Gubernatorial Election

Third Place Student Paper Yidong Wang

Wisconsin-Madison

Local Identity in a Global City: Social Media Discourse of Hong Kong Localist Movement

Thanks to everyone who volunteered to review manuscripts for CCSD this year. Your thoughtful feedback is so important to the success of our convention.

Carol Atkinson, Dan Berkowitz, Katie Blevins, Robert Brown, Neal Burns, Robert Byrd, Chris Campbell, Li Chen, John Cordes, Jeanne Criswell, Trevor Diehl, Huanjiao Dong, Ryan Dunham, Frank Durham, Erika Engstrom, Mary Erickson, Tracy Everbach, Jennifer Fogel, Katie Foss, Thomas Gallagher, Ana Garner, Theodore Glasser, David Henry, Gail Henson, Pinar Istek, Joy Jenkins, Jin Kim, Karen Kline, Farooq Kperogi, Sonali Kudva, Jacqueline Lambiase, Elizabeth Lance, Ben LaPoe, Victoria LaPoe, Kimberly Lauffer, Heather McIntosh, Gigi McNamara, Jade Metzger, Siho Nam, Soren Nastasia, Julianne Newton, Emmanuel Nwachukwu, Toluwani Oloke, Ahmed Orabi, Paromita Pain, Lindsay Palmer, Sheila Peuchaud, Katrina Quinn, Jeannine Rely, Errol Salamon, Adina Schneeweis, Richard Schutta, Daniel Sipocz, Miki Tanikawa, Ryan Thomas, Juliana Maria Trammel, Fred Vultee, Jason Zenor.

Editor's Note

Washington, DC has long history of critical news media

As the nation's capital, Washington, DC has long been a key hub for critical news media on local, national and international issues. As a critical journalism scholar, then, it's probably not surprising that I'm really looking forward to AEJMC 2018! With the conference just days away, here's a very brief historical survey of news media in DC.

The Washington Post is the oldest local daily newspaper in DC. The Post was founded by Democrat Stilson Hutchins, and began publishing on Dec. 6, 1877. The first issue was four pages, cost three cents and had a circulation of 10,000 copies.

The Post famously exposed the Watergate scandal in the early 1970s. The Post's critical role in investigating Watergate has been the subject of numerous books, articles and films, including Steven Spielberg's 2017 Academy Award-nominated film *The Post*.

Today, The Post is owned by Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, which he bought in 2013. It's one of the top 10 highest-circulation dailies in the US, with a total av-

erage circulation of over 400,000 copies.

The National Public Radio (NPR) headquarters is also located in Washington, DC. NPR was incorporated on Feb. 26, 1970 with a mandate to provide national news programming. NPR hit the airwaves in April 1971 with live coverage of the Senate hearings on the Vietnam War.

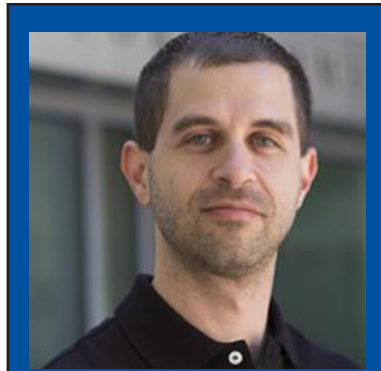
Today, NPR has a news staff of over 300 reporters, correspondents, news-

casters, editors, producers, hosts and bloggers working within a network of local bureaus across the country.

Beyond professional news outlets, student journalists at DC's historically-black Howard University have long used media as a tool for activism. In the spring of 1968, for example, Howard's school newspaper *The Hilltop* supported protests against racial inequality after student demonstrators occupied the university's administration building.

Earlier this year, the Howard University student group HU Resist used social media as a critical media tool to support their occupation of the administration building. HU Resist launched the Twitter account @HUResist and corresponding hashtag #StudentPowerHU to put pressure on university trustees to resolve longstanding grievances, including policies regarding sexual assault, mental health issues and student decision-making power in university affairs.

While DC's history of critical news media is, of course, much longer, I'll save the rest of it for this year's conference--and perhaps for a future project!



Errol Salamon
Newsletter Editor
University of Pennsylvania

CCSD Member News

Recently Published

Errol Salamon (University of Pennsylvania) had a news article published: "March for Our Lives Awakens the Spirit of Student and Media Activism of the 1960s." *The Conversation*, March 23. <https://theconversation.com/march-for-our-lives-awakens-the-spirit-of-student-and-media-activism-of-the-1960s-93713>

AEJMC Election Results

Tim Vos (University of Missouri) was elected incoming AEJMC president.

Ralph Believeau (University of Oklahoma) was elected to the Teaching Committee and **Linda Aldoor** (University of Maryland) was elected to the Research Committee.

Honors

Michael Clay Carey (Samford University), whose book was featured in *CCS Notes* (Fall 2017), is a finalist for AEJMC's Tankard Book Prize.

Errol Salamon (University of Pennsylvania) was awarded the 2018 McGill Institute for the Study of Canada's Joseph and Sandra Rotman Prize for Student Excellence in Public Policy Innovation for his doctoral dissertation, which he defended in 2017.

Fellows

Margaretha Geertsema-Sligh (Butler University) and **Jeannine Relly** (Uni-

versity of Arizona) were named AEJMC Institute for Diverse Leadership (IDL) fellows.

On the Move

Jess Maddox will be an assistant professor in the Department of Journalism and Creative Media, College of Communication and Information Sciences at the University of Alabama.

Errol Salamon will be a postdoctoral associate in media, popular culture, diversity, and inclusivity in the Hubbard School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Minnesota.