

# AEJMC NEWS

The Newsletter of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

Volume 45 No. 2 | January 2012



## Back to the Beginning: 100 Years of AEJMC

By Chris Neiger, AEJMC Public Relations/Marketing Specialist

Rarely does a more talented group of journalism and mass communication educators meet together than at the annual AEJMC Conference. Even more rare is when that conference is celebrating AEJMC's Centennial!

To celebrate 100 years of advancing the field of journalism and mass communication education, AEJMC will host its annual conference in the city of its founding: Chicago. In November of 1912, AEJMC began as the American Association of Teachers of Journalism. What started as a group of 18 educators is now an international association with almost 4,000 members.

This year's conference will be at the Chicago Marriott Downtown hotel, August 9-12. Last year's conference had more than 2,000 attendees and over 300 sessions and this year's conference promises to be even more successful. Conference sessions will feature a variety of topics from communication research, emerging trends, social media, best practices, teaching strategies and more. Well-known authors and publishers of communication texts, as well as companies and organizations focused on journalism and mass communication will be in attendance.

Submit a paper for the conference or discover the research of others. Nearly 900 papers were presented at last year's conference and AEJMC is expecting the same high-quality and relevant research at the 2012 Conference.

Aside from the great research, sessions, speakers, exhibitors and networking opportunities, the city of Chicago has much to offer our attendees as well. Go up 103 stories on the Chicago Skydeck and take in 360-degree views of the city, or go down to the depths to observe ocean life at the John G. Shedd Aquarium. With free access to the Lincoln Park Zoo and free, guided tours around the city you won't have to spend lots of money to see some of the best parts of Chicago.

Make plans now to celebrate the AEJMC Centennial, further your professional career, find out about new research and network with colleagues at the 2012 AEJMC Conference!

## *100 Years*

### A Look Back ... It Began in 1912

By Jennifer McGill,  
AEJMC Executive Director

The year 1912 was almost over when a small group of men interested in journalism education gathered for a conference at the Hotel Sherman in Chicago. It had been an event-filled year.

In January British Explorer Robert F. Scott and his team become the second group to reach the South Pole, but his entire group died on the return trip. In April the unsinkable Titanic sank on its first voyage after hitting an iceberg and more than 1,500 people died. In May more than 10,000 women marched in New York City seeking voting rights for women. The early November Presidential election found former President Teddy Roosevelt running from the new Bull Moose Party, but Woodrow Wilson won the election.

The talk in Chicago on November 30, in the midst of these world events, was about creating a permanent organization that, according to the Constitution approved that day, would "hold an



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# FROM THE PRESIDENT



By Linda Steiner  
2011-12 AEJMC President  
University of Maryland  
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## Why Was The Penn State Scandal Ignored For So Long?

A Penn State assistant football coach has been charged with sexually assaulting boys over many years. The failure of multiple systems that resulted in his alleged continuing access to boys raises questions important across AEJMC divisions and interest groups, including my focus here, the culpability of the news media. This is not a zero-sum calculation. Journalists undoubtedly deserve far less blame than people like Coach Joe Paterno and PSU's President, as well as a PSU Vice-President and athletic director. And after one week of breaking news, analysis is premature and risky. Still, how could a long-running scandal garner so little public attention until now?

Appearing on "Meet the Press" Nov. 13 Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett asked: "Is this just a culture of people not questioning what is going on, not passing information along as they should?" Corbett, who as Attorney General began the investigation into allegations of child sexual abuse and a PSU cover-up, was referring to the university's lack of openness and transparency. But could this equally refer to journalism?

Journalists are not the police. Nonetheless, reporters want to tell truth to power, to expose wrong-doing; and claim to be able to. Contemporary buzz credits tech-savvy citizen journalists—who are not nearly as afraid of libel suits as professional journalists—with instantly disseminating stories through social media. So how did this scandal fly under the radar for so long?

Already last March, a Harrisburg newspaper published in print and online, a crime reporter's story that Sandusky was being investigated for child sex abuse going back to 1998. Accompanying Sara Ganim's story was *Patriot-News* editor David Newhouse's explanation: Ganim heard about these allegations in March 2009. She began working on the story in August 2010. She interviewed at least 26 people, often three or four times, also confirming their statements in other ways. Ganim and Newhouse both said five people with knowledge of the grand jury confirmed the investigation. The paper followed up with two more stories.

The *Patriot-News* reporting is commendable and courageous, even heroic. The Harrisburg paper—which began in 1854 and has won many state awards—deserves enormous credit. Nonetheless, did the paper hold itself to a reasonable standard

of truth and fairness, or did it increase standards specifically to avoid legal risk? After all, once the grand jury report was issued, now creating a fire-storm, Newhouse said the story did not appear earlier because we "demand at least two or even three independent and highly credible sources to print any anonymous allegation of criminal behavior." Not five. The question isn't merely academic: The emergence of new victims now suggests that had the story been publicized years ago, some victims would have come forward earlier. Ultimately, perhaps, this could have lessened the number of children who suffered.

State College is a small town. While it is not directly on the outskirts of a metropolis, it's not so remote that other journalists heard no rumors. Indeed, Neil Rudel, managing editor of *The Altoona Mirror*, which immediately reported the *Patriot-News*' March 31 scoop about the grand jury, said on April 1: "Many in the media have heard rumblings about the allegation for more than a year, and there have been numerous Internet references." Yet, Rudel said he hoped the allegations were unfounded—not that the *Mirror* was going to follow up. Meanwhile, although Internet references typically spread like wild-fire, citizens failed

to penetrate this complex, even Gothic, story. Citizen journalists won't pursue stories they have dis-

counted or that they don't take seriously, and can't crowd-source stories not on the table.

More importantly, why did national media ignore the story? Resources. Having already cut back on staff and closed bureaus, even large papers in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia (and, for that matter, New York, and Washington) can't invest staff and money in long investigations. They won't risk libel suits. Moreover, although this story is about power, stories about sports remain largely monopolized by sports-enthusiastic reporters who love to report on games and scores but who lack experience in or commitment to piercing the PR armor of a beloved coach, especially when backed by a University administration trying to please alumni.

It's also possible that reporters, especially at the regional level, lack experience or language skills in interviewing adults and children from the "underprivileged" backgrounds Sandusky was targeting. It's not entirely known yet whether race and ethnicity were at issue here and whether these dimensions, as some critics suggest, confirmed Penn State officials' tendency to ignore the tragedy. In any case, especially given the standards for evidence demanded for this kind of story, interviewing mothers and children about things mothers and children hate to discuss required extraordinary deftness. Unfortunately, journalists are highly reluctant to collaborate across news organizations. They neither ask for nor provide help from one another with

**“More importantly, why did national media ignore the story?”**

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## Call for Nominations Krieghbaum Under-40 Award

Nominations for AEJMC's annual Krieghbaum Under-40 Award are now being accepted. The award honors AEJMC members under 40 years of age who have shown outstanding achievement and effort in all three AEJMC areas: teaching, research and public service.

The late Hillier Krieghbaum, former New York University professor emeritus and 1972 AEJMC president, created and funded the award in 1980. Nominees must be under 40 at the time of the **April 1 deadline**. They must also be AEJMC members in good standing at the time of the nomination and during the preceding year.

AEJMC's three elected standing committee chairs, or other designees, and AEJMC's executive director (non-voting) serve as the award's selection committee. Selection of the nominee is based on the content of his/her packet of materials. This award does not require the nominee to duplicate his/her tenure and promotion packet.

The committee reserves the right not to present the award.

### NOMINATIONS SHOULD CONTAIN:

- a letter from an AEJMC member (other than the nominee) describing in detail the candidate's professional record in teaching, research and service;
- one additional letter of support from a colleague (on or off campus) who is also an AEJMC member;
- a full vita.

### ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:

- no more than five total of any combination of the following: abstracts of research findings, professional papers or published articles;
- no more than five course outlines or innovative teaching tools;
- no more than five teaching evaluations, citations or other recognitions pertaining to the nominee.

**All entries should be submitted by email in several files (PDF or Word formats) by 5 p.m. (Eastern time) on April 1 to [aejmchq@aol.com](mailto:aejmchq@aol.com). Type "Under 40 Award" in the e-mail subject line. Questions? Contact Jennifer McGill at above email or 803-798-0271.**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

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complex investigations. And if they can't get the scoop, they will pass altogether—and especially when the story seems only to cause outrage from both sources and readers. The most vociferous press criticism that emerged in the immediate aftermath was some hysterical posturing that attacked reporters for demeaning Joe Pa.

Cognitive dissonance is and has been much in evidence. Disbelief that people associated with a hyper-masculine sport at a legendary program would do what Sandusky is charged with (or would fail to stop it) led to disbelief about the facts as they now appear. Regarding Paterno, psychiatrists told a *Men's Health* editor that people, and men in particular, avoid interpersonal conflicts and potentially difficult situations; they dislike embarrassing their organizations or questioning authority figures, especially mentors.

Whether or not this is generally true, journalists thrive on conflict. They claim their ongoing skepticism protects them from cognitive dissonance. They pride themselves on being oppositional and anti-authoritarian. They question authority. They track down whistle blowers. This is their job, their special responsibility.

## AEJMC NEWS

Newsletter for the Association for Education  
in Journalism and Mass Communication

[www.aejmc.org](http://www.aejmc.org)

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*AEJMC News*, a publication of AEJMC,  
is published five times a year.

**Mailing address: 234 Outlet Pointe Blvd., Ste. A,  
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*AEJMC News* E-mail address: [aejmcnews@aol.com](mailto:aejmcnews@aol.com).

*AEJMC* Web Site: [www.aejmc.org](http://www.aejmc.org).

Membership in AEJMC includes a subscription  
to *AEJMC News*. **Annual subscription for nonmembers: U.S.**

**\$40; International via Airmail \$60.**

ISSN# 0747-8909.

The contents of this newsletter may not reflect  
the editor's views or the association's policies.



## International Communication Division Student International Multimedia 2012 News Story Contest

**Postmark Deadline April 6, 2012**

**[aejmc.net/icd/contest.html](http://aejmc.net/icd/contest.html)**

The International Communication Division of AEJMC, announces its student contest in multimedia news story writing for the year 2011-2012. The contest is open to all undergraduate students.

Entries must be nonfiction, journalistic stories with multimedia support on a topic related to an international issue. The news story should have an international angle on a local story or it may be an international story with a local angle. It should be a story submitted as a class assignment and/or published on the university Web site or on a news media Web site (stories published between April 2, 2011 and April 6, 2012 will be considered).

Stories will be judged based on criteria such as originality, relevance of the story idea, journalistic merit and multimedia support.

### RULES

(Students may enter one multimedia news story; All elements of the multimedia news story (defined as a journalistic, written, online story supported by multimedia elements such as Flash, photography, audio and/or video) should be authored/executed by the same student; The completed entry form (one per entry) must be signed by a faculty member attesting to the originality of the multimedia news story and the accuracy of the information provided. The faculty member will have to attest that the story is posted or had earlier been posted on a Web site and provide the URL; Submit a copy of the story and mention the URL or send a disk with the multimedia elements and send this along with the completed entry form via regular mail.

### AWARDS

Cash awards of \$100, \$75 and \$50 will be given to the top three entries. In addition, the winners will receive certificates. **Download the official entry form at: [http://aejmc.net/icd/files/aejmc\\_icd\\_newscontest\\_2012.doc](http://aejmc.net/icd/files/aejmc_icd_newscontest_2012.doc).** Send entry and completed form to: ICD-Student Multimedia News Story Contest, Sandy Rao, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, 102, Old Main, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX 78666; Tel: 512-245-2656/3790; Email: [sr02@txstate.edu](mailto:sr02@txstate.edu).

## The AJHA Book of the Year Award

### American Journalism History Association

Recognizes the best in journalism history or mass media history published during calendar year. The book must have been granted a first-time copyright in 2011. Entrants should submit four copies of their books to the book award coordinator by **March 31, 2012**.

Send materials to: Aimee Edmondson, Ohio University, E.W. Scripps School of Journalism, 204 Scripps Hall, Athens, Ohio 45701; [edmondso@ohio.edu](mailto:edmondso@ohio.edu); 740.597.3336.



## Visiting Professor Program

**Applications due by January 31, 2012**

The Advertising Educational Foundation invites professors to apply to the Visiting Professor Program. The VPP's goal is to expose professors to the day-to-day operations of an advertising agency, marketing or media company; and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas between academia and industry. The program gives professors a greater understanding of and appreciation for the industry while host companies have an opportunity to develop closer ties to academia. The VPP is a two-week fellowship for professors of advertising, marketing, communications and the liberal arts. The program will be held June 18-29, 2012.

Whether a professor is placed with an agency, a marketing or media company depends upon his/her area of expertise. The number of placements in the VPP is contingent upon the number of companies willing to host a professor. Preference is given to professors with little or no industry experience and to those who have not already participated in the program. The program is only offered to professors teaching in the United States. Host companies pay housing and per diem. Professors pay travel and out-of-pocket expenses.

Professors chosen by the Selection Committee will be placed with host companies in Chicago, New York City and other major cities. Apply only if your academic and personal responsibilities allow you to participate for the full two weeks. Complete online application at: [www.aef.com/on\\_campus/professor/vpp/application/index.html](http://www.aef.com/on_campus/professor/vpp/application/index.html). Completed application, CV and statement **must be uploaded online** by deadline and letter of recommendation (on school letterhead) **must be mailed and postmarked** by deadline. **Deadline for all materials is January 31, 2012. Letter of recommendation is not accepted via fax or email.**

Please contact Sharon Hudson, Vice President, Program Manager, at [sh@aef.com](mailto:sh@aef.com) or (212) 986-8060 x15 with comments and questions.

# TEACHING TIPS CORNER

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By Linda Aldoory  
AEJMC Standing Committee on Teaching  
University of Maryland  
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## Incorporating “Diversity” into Course Curricula and Class Discussions

A study at the University of Maryland found that multicultural classroom contexts offered a broader range of ideas and perspectives that generated more complex thinking among students. Students and faculty involved in the multicultural classrooms believed that the experience made a positive impact on students’ cognitive and personal development because it challenged stereotypes and developed critical thinking skills. But what if there is no multicultural classroom available? What about the majority of higher education environments that are predominantly homogenous in their student populations and in instructor demographics? What can instructors do to perhaps gain some of the same learning benefits but in a classroom that has little diversity among its students?

A classroom that incorporates diversity is one that represents the diverse voices that inform a professional or scholarly field for student consideration and critique. There are various ways, both subtle and obvious, that allow instructors to represent this diversity in curriculum design, in selection of texts, and in decisions regarding guest speakers, assignments and lectures. I offer a few suggestions below.

First, there are various forms and types of diversity that can be embraced within a course’s curriculum and in class discussions. For example, if in one class, diversity is discussed mainly as different national perspectives, consider emphasizing for next class gender and religion and how these identities are represented in the day’s topic. If diversity is reflected as racial and ethnic difference in one discussion, for another discussion think about how to represent diverse political ideology and international perspectives. Stay open to the various ways of thinking differently and the ways that being different can assist students in feeling comfortable to talk about their differing perspectives on readings and lectures.

Second, there are complexities that should be recognized within groups of people that are typically considered “diverse.” For example, African Americans are sometimes discussed as a monolithic category that includes individuals with similar charac-

teristics. However, the various backgrounds and cultures that comprise “African American” can be part of the classroom discussion. Being careful to illustrate the diverse voices and identities within any cultural group discussed encourages students to see others in the same light as they see themselves.

Third, consider implementing a self-governing set of rules on establishing diversity in each of the following: readings; guest speakers; assignments; lectures and presentations; and in-class activities and discussion. Instructors frequently set up rubrics and guidelines for students when considering how to evaluate and grade student work; instructors can initiate rubrics for their own selection of readings and designing of assignments, etc., based on criteria measuring diversity. One system that can be implemented and measured might be based on percentage of voices represented. For readings, for example, many popular textbooks and journal articles are authored by white Americans and Europeans. When selecting readings, instructors may decide that only 40% of readings for a course will derive from white American authors; 30% will be international; 30% will be female, etc. Of course, the percentages may be limited by access and by language, but the strategy offers a way to purposively attend to diversifying the perspectives that can be introduced to students.

Fourth, a somewhat hidden opportunity for change is in considering the terminology and language used in course materials and in lectures. Instructors may not be aware of the subtle ways that word use can reinforce norms of exclusion or of legitimacy. Mainstream norms for research and for professional practices play out through terminology, such as a legitimacy of quantitative methodology over other methodologies, acceptance of masculine pronouns, and socioeconomic markers in case studies and visual presentations. Consider the assumptions that might be reflected in these and other examples of visuals and readings used in a course.

Finally, diversity can also be incorporated into a classroom spontaneously during class time through discussions and exercises. Instructors may encourage students to consider other alternative explanations and perspectives. Probes might be one way to do this: “What is another way to interpret [the reading]?” “How do you think others might interpret what you said?”

There are several other ways to strategically and sensitively incorporate diverse perspectives into journalism and mass communication curriculum, and many universities offer their own committees or guidelines on multicultural instruction. Just a few examples of web resources include: 1) the “Diversity Web” site of the Association of American Colleges and Universities (<http://www.diversityweb.org/index.cfm>); 2) the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association has an “Educators Toolbox” to offer resources for faculty (<http://www.nlgja.org/education/toolbox.htm>); and 3) AEJMC’s own Teaching Resources page that offers materials and strategies to improve teaching and address classroom challenges (<http://www.aejmc.org/home/resources/teaching-resources/>).

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 [aejmc.com/home/resources/teaching-resources](http://aejmc.com/home/resources/teaching-resources)



## The Gene Burd Urban Journalism Award The Urban Communication Foundation

The Gene Burd Urban Journalism Award is given to reward and thereby improve the practice and study of journalism in the urban environment by recognizing high quality urban media reporting, critical analysis, and research relevant to that content and its communication about city problems, programs, policies, and public priorities in urban life and culture. Award amounts are up to \$5,000, and are for individuals with a distinguished record of accomplished works in urban journalism. The award will be presented at the AEJMC 2012 Conference in Chicago and the winner's presence at the conference is strongly encouraged.

**Deadline for nominations is April 1, 2012.** Nominations must include: (1) a letter of nomination for the individual, (2) two letters of support, (3) a copy of the nominee's current vita/resume, and (4) additional supporting materials (e.g., reprints of articles or other media productions and additional letters of endorsement, or other appropriate information).

**E-mail electronic submissions to:** Peter Haratonik at [haratonik@urbancomm.org](mailto:haratonik@urbancomm.org). **Mail hard copy submissions to:** Peter Haratonik, Executive Coordinator, The Urban Communication Foundation, 340 East Randolph St., Apt 1404, Chicago, Illinois 60601.

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### Call For Award Applications

#### James W. Carey Media Research Award 2012

Sponsored by the Carl Couch Center for Social and Internet Research

The Carl Couch Center invites nominations or self-nominations for works to be considered for its annual James W. Carey Media Research Award. Submissions might focus on technology, time, space and communication, the nature of public life, the relation between journalism and popular culture — among others — taking these themes in new or different directions. Applications will be evaluated based on engagement with Carey's approaches and concepts, originality, and advancement of knowledge.

Both single and multiple authored works will be accepted. All submissions must be works that have been published or have been accepted for publication in a book or journal. To be considered for the 2012 award, works should have been published or accepted in 2011.

Submitted works should be sent to Mark D. Johns, executive director of CCCSIR at the address below, according to the following directions:

- If the work submitted is a paper, submit electronically in plain text, Microsoft Word, Corel WordPerfect, or Adobe Acrobat format.
- If a book is submitted, please send a copy of the table of contents and front matter electronically. Then ask your publisher to furnish seven (7) review copies for consideration by the committee.

**The application deadline is April 1, 2012.** Notification of award application will be sent out by June 15.

The Award winner will receive the Carey Award plaque to be presented at the winner's choice of the 2012 annual convention of the International Communication Association (ICA), Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), or National Communication Association (NCA).

Questions and comments about the Carey Award, please contact: Mark D. Johns, Dept. of Communication Studies, Luther College, Decorah, IA 52101; Tel: (563) 387-1347; E-mail: [mjohns@luther.edu](mailto:mjohns@luther.edu).

## It Began in 1912

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annual conference of those interested in the teaching of journalism, where opportunity shall be offered for hearing papers on that subject and for discussing them; and to collect statistics relating to schools, courses and teachings in journalism."

The meeting was convened by Willard G. Bleyer of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. There were 23 men present, five of whom were professionals (including *Chicago Tribune* managing editor James Keeley). Bleyer was elected its first President. Plans were made for a second meeting in 1913 in Madison. And so AEJMC began.

Today our association has grown to some 3,600 members from around the world. Our Twitter feed goes to 3,800 people a day, and two websites keep members informed.

Yet the mission from AEJMC's Constitution in 2012 still echoes the one crafted in 1912:

"The purpose of the corporation [AEJMC] shall be the improvement of education in journalism and mass communication to the end of achieving better professional practice, a better informed public, and wider human understanding. The corporation seeks to achieve this purpose through the functions of (a) encouraging high academic and professional standards for education in mass communication; (b) fostering scholarly research and inquiry in mass communication and facilitating the publication and distribution to the public of reports based on such activity; and (c) supporting freedom of communication consonant with the ideal expressed in the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution."

Throughout the year AEJMC will celebrate our 100-year journey. Look for facts and trivia on our Facebook page and Twitter feed. We will also have a new Centennial website that launches this spring.

Thank you for being part of our past, and our future.

*Information compiled from "AEJMC: 75 Years in the Making," Journalism Monographs, Number 104, November 1987.*

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**2012 Call for GIFT**  
*Great Ideas For Teachers*  
**[aejmccgift.wordpress.com](http://aejmccgift.wordpress.com)**

## Comparison of AEJMC Paper Submissions and Acceptances, 2010-2011

DIVISIONS	2010			2011		
	Submitted	Accepted	%Accepted	Submitted	Accepted	%Accepted
Advertising	130	60	46.1	120	56	46.7
Communicating Science, Health and Risk	(see interest group stats)			119	58	48.7
Communication Technology (CTEC)	157	58	36.9	122	80	65.6
Communication Theory & Methodology	114	53	46.4	80	45	56.2
Cultural & Critical Studies	83	41	49.3	89	45	50.1
History	80	39	48.7	64	38	59.4
International Communication	126	50	39.6	126	64	50.8
Law and Policy	83	32	38.5	71	30	42.2
Magazine	31	12	38.7	24	11	45.8
Mass Communication & Society	184	105	57	141	90	63.8
Media Ethics	36	24	66.6	49	26	53.1
Media Management & Economics	59	29	49.1	38	20	52.6
Minorities & Communication	66	27	40.9	46	22	47.8
Newspaper	96	47	48.9	85	50	58.8
Public Relations	153	58	37.9	104	54	51.9
Radio-TV Journalism	28	15	53.5	32	18	56.2
Scholastic Journalism	20	15	75	14	9	64.2
Visual Communication	32	18	56.2	30	15	50
<b>TOTALS FOR DIVISIONS</b>	1478	683	46.2	1354	731	53.9
Averages	86.9	40.1	46.1	75.2	40.6	53.9
Minimum	20	12	37.9	14	9	63.8
Maximum	184	105	75	141	90	65.6
INTEREST GROUPS/ COMMISSIONS	Submitted	Accepted	%Accepted	Submitted	Accepted	%Accepted
Civic and Citizen Journalism	27	14	51.8	17	9	52.9
Communicating Science, Health and Risk	107	41	38.3	(see division stats)		
Community Journalism	12	6	50	8	6	75
Entertainment Studies	75	41	54.6	52	25	48
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender	10	5	50	12	7	58.3
Graduate Education	42	20	47.6	40	19	47.5
Internships and Careers	4	3	75	5	3	60
Political Communication	n/a	n/a	n/a	74	39	52.7
Religion and Media	27	13	48.1	36	13	36.1
Small Programs	9	8	88	8	5	62.5
Sports Communication	n/a	n/a	n/a	40	19	47.5
Commission/Status of Women	39	19	48.7	40	20	50
<b>TOTALS FOR INTEREST GROUPS/COMMISSIONS</b>	352	170	48.2	332	165	49.7
Averages	35.2	17	48.2	30.2	17	49.7
Minimum	4	3	38.3	5	3	52.7
Maximum	107	41	88	74	39	75

## AEJMC Mentors

The 2012 AEJMC conference holds great promise as we celebrate the organization's centennial anniversary. The Chicago conference is expected to draw a large number of participants including many first time conference attendees.

For many first time conference participants, the experience may seem overwhelming at times. Some people may be unclear what a poster session is and how it may be different than a scholar-to-scholar session (it is not). Many are not sure about which social they may attend and what the best strategies are for meeting new people.

During the 2011 conference in Saint Louis, the membership committee of AEJMC decided to establish an exciting new mentorship program that aims to welcome and acclimate first time conference attendees.

The idea behind the mentorship program is to match veteran conference goers with first time attendees. We hope that as a mentor, you will help introduce the newcomers to the conference, explain some of the key concepts and help them find their way around by introducing them to other members.

If you would like to serve as a mentor, please email the membership chair of the division or interest group that you are most active in. We will ask the membership chairs to help us with the matching process.

If you have questions about the mentorship program or would like more information, please email Guy J. Golan at [gj-golan@syr.edu](mailto:gj-golan@syr.edu).

The AEJMC Membership Committee is very excited about the mentorship program and we hope that you will participate.



# AEJMC CONFERENCE PAPER CALL

## 2012 Uniform Paper Call

[aejmcchicago.org/papers](http://aejmcchicago.org/papers)

The programming groups within the Council of Divisions of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication invite submission of original, non-published research papers to be considered for presentation at the AEJMC Conference, August 9 to 12, 2012, in Chicago, IL. Specific requirements for each competition — including limits on paper length — are spelled out in the listing of groups and research chairs that appear below.

All research papers must be uploaded through an online server to the group appropriate to the paper's topic via a link on the AEJMC website: [aejmcchicago.org/papers](http://aejmcchicago.org/papers). The following uniform call will apply to ALL AEJMC paper competitions. Additional information specific to an individual group's call is available at the end of the uniform call information.

1. Submit the paper via the AEJMC website link ([aejmcchicago.org/papers](http://aejmcchicago.org/papers)) to the AEJMC group appropriate to the paper's topic. Format should be Word, WordPerfect, or a PDF. PDF format is strongly encouraged.
2. **The paper must be uploaded to the server no later than 11:59 P.M. (Central Daylight Time) Sunday, April 1, 2012.**
3. Also upload a paper abstract of no more than 75 words.
4. Completely fill out the online submission form with author(s) name, affiliation, mailing address, telephone number, and email address. The title should be printed on the first page of the text and on running heads on each page of text, as well as on the title page. **Do NOT include author's name on running heads or title page.**
5. Papers uploaded with author's identifying information displayed **WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR REVIEW AND WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE COMPETITION. ALL AEJMC DIVISIONS, INTEREST GROUPS AND COMMISSION PAPER SUBMISSIONS WILL ABIDE BY THIS RULE WITHOUT EXCEPTION.** NOTE: Follow instructions on how to submit a clean paper for blind reviewing.
6. **Papers are accepted for peer review on the understanding**

**that they are not already under review for other conferences and that they have been submitted to only ONE AEJMC group for evaluation.** Papers accepted for the AEJMC Conference should not have been presented to other conferences or published in scholarly or trade journals prior to presentation at the conference.

7. Student papers compete on an equal footing in open paper competitions unless otherwise specified by the individual division or interest group. Individual group specifications are appended to this uniform call.

8. Papers submitted with both faculty and student authors will be considered faculty papers and are not eligible for student competitions.

9. At least one author of an accepted faculty paper must attend the conference to present the paper. If student authors cannot be present, they must make arrangements for the paper to be presented.

10. If a paper is accepted, and the faculty author does not present the paper at the conference, and if a student author does not make arrangements for his/her paper to be presented by another, then that paper's acceptance status is revoked. It may not be included on a vita.

11. **Authors will be advised whether their paper has been accepted By May 21 and may access a copy of reviewers' comments from the online server.** Contact the paper chair if you are not notified or have questions about paper acceptance.

Special note: Authors who have submitted papers and have not been notified by May 21, **MUST** contact the division or interest group paper chair for acceptance information. The AEJMC Central Office may not have this information available.

12. Authors of accepted papers retain copyright of their papers and are free to submit them for publication after presentation at the conference.

### IMPORTANT PAPER SUBMISSIONS INFORMATION

• **UPLOAD PAPERS FOR THE AEJMC 2012 CHICAGO CONFERENCE BEGINNING JANUARY 16, 2012.** Paper submitters should follow instructions on the front page of the submission site to create your account and complete the information required.

• **Deadline for paper submissions is April 1, 2012, at 11:59 p.m. CDT. Any submissions after this time will not be accepted.**

• Before submitting your paper, please make certain that all author-identifying information has been removed and that all instructions have been followed per the AEJMC uniform paper call. Papers uploaded with author's identifying information displayed **WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR REVIEW AND WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE COMPETITION. ALL AEJMC DIVISIONS, INTEREST GROUPS AND COMMISSION PAPER SUBMISSIONS WILL ABIDE BY THIS RULE WITHOUT EXCEPTION.**

**NOTE:** Follow online instructions on how to submit a clean paper for blind review at [aejmcchicago.org/papers](http://aejmcchicago.org/papers). Contact Felicia Greenlee-Brown with comments, concerns and other Conference Paper Call inquiries at [Felicia@aejmc.org](mailto:Felicia@aejmc.org).



## DIVISIONS

### Advertising Division

The AEJMC Advertising Division invites submissions of original papers that clearly focus on some aspect of advertising or advertising education. Various theoretical orientations and methodological approaches are welcome. Individual paper submissions should not exceed 30 pages (including all notes, references, tables, and figures) and should be submitted to only one competitive paper category in the Advertising Division: 1) Advertising Research, 2) Advertising Teaching, 3) Professional Freedom & Responsibility, 4) Special Topics, or 5) Student Papers. Papers exceeding 30 pages, or papers submitted to more than one paper competition within the division, will not be reviewed for consideration.

**Research Papers:** Submissions should be consistent with the style and format of *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly* or the *Journal of Advertising*. For questions, please contact Troy Elias, Research Paper Chair, University of Florida. E-mail: telias@jou.ufl.edu. Tel: (352) 392-5059.

**Teaching Papers:** Teaching papers are invited on any research that addresses teaching: innovations, effective approaches, pedagogy, survey of the field, adoption of new technologies in the classroom, etc. However, keep in mind this competition is for research papers on teaching, rather than teaching tips or personal reflections. The style and format of the paper should conform to those in the *Journal of Advertising Education* or *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator*. Papers submitted to the teaching competition will be considered for review by the *Journal of Advertising Education*. For questions, please contact Courtney Bosworth, Teaching Paper Chair, Radford University. E-mail: cbosworth@radford.edu. Tel: (540) 831-5593.

**Professional Freedom & Responsibility (PF&R) Papers:** Often referred to as the conscience of AEJMC, the goal of PF&R papers is to extend knowledge about and understanding of gender, race, ethics, social, and cultural influences; values; and free expression. Submissions may take the form of traditional research

papers, but essays or critical analyses are also welcome. Historical as well as contemporary topics are appropriate. For questions, please contact Karen Mallia, PF&R Paper Chair, University of South Carolina. E-mail: kmallia@sc.edu. Tel: (803) 777-1154.

**Special Topics Papers:** The special topics paper competition is the place for pioneering subjects, methods, and presentations. New approaches, innovation, and creativity are encouraged. A variety of advertising and advertising education topics and approaches (such as case histories, ethnographies, critical studies, visual essays, and methods as yet unknown) are welcome. For questions, please contact Sela Sar, Special Topics Paper Chair, Iowa State University. E-mail: selasar@iastate.edu. Tel: (515) 294-0503.

**Student Papers:** Graduate and undergraduate students are invited to submit original research dealing with any advertising-related topic. All sole- or co-authors of these papers must be students; papers co-authored by students and faculty should be submitted to the Research Paper competition. The style and format of the paper should conform to those in *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly* or the *Journal of Advertising*. A cash award from the division and ANOTHER award (\$200) sponsored by the U.K.-based *International Journal of Advertising* will be given during the Denver conference to the top student paper. For questions, please contact Heidi Hennink-Kaminski, Student Paper Chair, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. E-mail: h2kamins@email.unc.edu. Tel: (919) 962-2555.

### The Communicating Science, Health, Environment, and Risk Division

The Communicating Science, Health, Environment, and Risk Division invites paper submissions that represent original research related to science, health, environment, risk, technology, and other topics relevant to the communication of scientific information to the general public or specific populations.

ComSHER welcomes papers that follow any disciplinary approaches and all methodological orientations, both quantitative and qualitative.

To acknowledge research excellence, ComSHER offers the \$1,000 Eason Prize for the top student paper, which the largest paper award is given to graduate students at AEJMC. Students competing for top student paper and the accompanying \$1,000 Eason Prize will be judged together with other ComSHER faculty submissions. The Eason Prize is awarded in memory of former University of Texas doctoral candidate Lori Eason (1957-2002). Papers competing for the Eason Prize *cannot* be co-authored with faculty, and authors must identify their submission as an Eason Prize entry on the cover page.

Paper submission should follow AEJMC Uniform Paper Call Guidelines (no more than 25 pages of double-spaced text, plus references, tables, figures, and appendices). Before uploading your paper, remove all author identification from the document including any file properties. Direct questions to Research Chair Amanda Hinnant hinnanta@missouri.edu or 573.882.7980).

### Communication Technology Division

The Communication Technology Division encourages research submissions where the central focus is technology and changes in the communication process resulting from technology. The division welcomes theoretical and conceptual papers as well as a diversity of methodological approaches.

**Student Papers:** Papers solely authored by students are especially encouraged and are eligible to be entered for the Jung-Sook Lee Student Paper competition. The Jung-Sook Lee Award recognizes the best student paper, which makes “a substantial contribution to the substance or method on a topic related to communication technology and policy.” The award honors the division’s 1997-1998 research chair, Jung-Sook Lee of the University of Southwestern Louisiana, who died soon after the Baltimore conference in 1998. Authors of the top three student papers will receive a cash award. In addition, the author of the best student paper will have his or her conference registration fee paid by the division. For a paper to be considered for this award, all of the authors must be students. Authors must type

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"Jung-Sook Lee Competition" in the upper-right corner of the first page of text to be considered for the award.

**Faculty Papers:** The division is happy to present the inaugural Gene Burd Top Faculty Research Paper Award, made possible by the generosity of Prof. Burd from the University of Texas - Austin. The \$1,000 award recognizes the best faculty paper submitted to the division. For a paper to be considered for this award, at least one of the authors must be faculty. Authors must type "Gene Burd Competition" in the upper-right corner of the first page of text to be considered for the award.

Winners of both awards will receive their prize and be recognized at the Chicago Conference. Submissions that do not win recognition in the Jung-Sook Lee Award or the Gene Burd Award are still considered for acceptance along with open competition submissions.

**Open Competition:** All other papers submitted to the division will be reviewed in an open competition. Please limit papers to no more than 25 pages (double-spaced) in length, excluding tables and references. If you have any questions or require more information about the submission process, please contact Carmen Stavrositu, CTEC research chair at [ctec.research@gmail.com](mailto:ctec.research@gmail.com).

## Communication Theory and Methodology Division

The CT&M Division accepts original research papers that advance the literature in mass communication theory, research methods, or both. CT&M welcomes both conceptual and data-based papers and is open to all methodological approaches. Please refer to the Summer 2011 *CTM Concepts* Division newsletter for a complete list of topics and papers presented last year to get a better idea of the potential "fit" of your paper (<http://aejmc.net/ctm/newsletter/>). Recent CT&M papers include research in political communication, health communication, computer-mediated communication, international communication, and broader media effects.

CT&M sponsors three paper competitions: faculty or faculty/student top three-paper competition, the top-three student paper competition, and the top theory

paper competition. Winners of all awards will be recognized in the conference program and/or at the CT&M members' meeting in Chicago.

We strongly encourage submissions by students. Winners of the Chaffee-McLeod Award for Top Student Paper will be awarded \$250; two additional top student papers will also receive cash prizes. To be considered for the student paper competition, all authors must be students, and the author(s) must indicate on the title page and in the abstract "student paper competition."

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of AEJMC, and CT&M's history of promoting theory, this year CT&M will also recognize the best theory paper. A theory paper may extend what is known about the current workings of a theory by including a data analysis section, or strictly extend the current theory literature without including data. In order to be considered for best theory paper award, authors (who may be students, faculty, or a combination) must indicate on the title page and in the abstract "theory paper competition."

Please limit papers to no more than 25 pages (double-spaced) in length, excluding tables and references. Please limit papers to a total of 35 pages total (including text, tables, and references). Please make sure there is no identifying information in the body of the paper or in the document properties. Co-authors cannot be added after a paper has been reviewed.

At least one author of an accepted faculty paper must attend the conference to present the paper. If student authors cannot be present, they must make arrangements for the paper to be presented by someone else. Failure to be present or provide a presenter for any paper will result in a one-year ban on the review of papers for all of the authors involved. Authors of accepted papers are required to forward papers to discussants and moderators prior to the conference. If you have questions, please contact Rosanne Scholl, CT&M research chair, at [rscholl@lsu.edu](mailto:rscholl@lsu.edu).

## Cultural and Critical Studies Division

The Cultural and Critical Studies Division welcomes faculty and student submission of original research that is

interdisciplinary in focus and are theoretically grounded in the study of journalism and media communication.

The division invites research from a variety of research topics and approaches that include, but are not limited to, historical studies, feminist scholarship, news analysis, political economy, literary analysis with a media foundation, philosophy of communication, ethics, and media criticism. CCS also encourages work that challenges conventional approaches to media, examines paradigmatic assumptions, and explores innovative ways of theorizing.

The division presents awards to the authors of the top-ranking faculty and student submissions. Only one paper per author will be accepted for review and submissions must not be under consideration elsewhere for presentation or publication. See the AEJMC Uniform Call for Papers for submission requirements. Preferred paper length is 7,500 words (approx. 25-pages, excluding tables, figures and references). Abstracts must be no more than 75 words. Papers that do not meet the AEJMC Uniform Call for Papers requirements will not be accepted.

Faculty and student submissions will undergo separate blind review processes by faculty-only judges. Student authors – undergraduate and graduate students enrolled during the 2010-2011 school year – should include a cover sheet that clearly states that the paper is a student submission. Papers with faculty co-authors will be reviewed in the faculty competition and should not be designated as student-authored papers.

Please be sure that submissions contain no identifying information, such as name, university affiliation, job title, etc. Any identifying information found on the submission results in an immediate disqualification of the paper.

**Questions** concerning submissions should be directed to research co-chairs Kalen Churcher ([kchurcher@niagara.edu](mailto:kchurcher@niagara.edu)) or Katie Foss ([Katie.Foss@mtsu.edu](mailto:Katie.Foss@mtsu.edu)).

## Electronic News Division (formerly Radio Television Journalism Division)

As part of AEJMC's centennial celebration, the Electronic News Division especially invites submissions illustrating our theme: "Content in a New Media

World.” But we also invite you to submit original research on any aspect of broadcast journalism or electronic communication with a journalism emphasis. The division welcomes a variety of subjects and methodological approaches.

Papers submitted to the 2012 Electronic News Division competition should be no longer than 25-pages of manuscript, excluding references and appendices, and should be submitted in one of the generally approved academic bibliographic styles.

The Electronic News Division accepts only one paper per author. This is true even if you are primary author on one paper and co-author on another. In that case, please submit one of the papers to another division.

The division offers cash prizes for top student and top faculty paper submissions. Authors of all selected papers are expected to present their work in Chicago. Cash awards for winning papers will only be awarded if the authors present their work at the conference. Please note that if your paper is presented in Chicago it will automatically be forwarded to the editors of **Electronic News** unless you choose to opt out of submitting it to that journal.

**Questions** concerning submissions should be directed to Dale Edwards, University of Northern Colorado. Phone: 970-351-2471. Fax 9970-351-2336. Email: dale.edwards@unco.edu.

## History Division

The History Division invites submissions of original research papers and historiographical essays on all aspects of media history for the AEJMC 2012 conference in Chicago. All research methodologies are welcome. Papers will be evaluated on originality and importance of topic; literature review; clarity of research purpose; focus; use of evidence to support the paper’s purpose and conclusions; and the degree to which the paper contributes to the field of journalism and mass communication history. The Division presents awards for the top three faculty papers. Papers should be no more than 25 double-spaced pages, not including notes or appendices. Multiple submissions to the Division are not allowed and only one paper per author will be accepted for presentation in the History Division’s re-

search sessions. Authors should also submit a 75-word abstract. The author’s name and all other identifying information must be removed from submissions.

**Student Papers:** Undergraduate and graduate students enrolled during the 2011-12 academic year may enter the Warren Price Student Paper Competition. The Price Award recognizes the History Division’s best student paper and is named for Warren Price, who was the Division’s first chair. Student papers should include a separate cover sheet that indicates their student status but omits the author’s name or other identifying information. Students who submit top papers are eligible for small travel grants from the Edwin Emery Fund. Only full-time students not receiving departmental travel grants are eligible for these grants.

**Call for Reviewers:** If you are willing to review papers for the History Division research competition, please contact Lisa Burns at Lisa.Burns@quinnipiac.edu and indicate your areas of expertise and/or interest. We will need approximately 75 reviewers for the competition. Graduate students are not eligible to serve as reviewers and, in general, reviewers should not have submitted their own research into the competition.

**Contact information:** For more information, contact History Division Research Chair Lisa Burns (Quinnipiac University) at Lisa.Burns@quinnipiac.edu or 203-582-8548.

## International Communication Division

### Bob Stevenson Open Paper Competition & Markham Student Paper Competition:

The International Communication Division welcomes original, non-published research papers that clearly deal with international aspects of mass communication. Any theoretical and methodological approaches appropriate to communication research are acceptable and encouraged. Papers are submitted either to the Bob Stevenson open paper competition (faculty and student-faculty) or the Markham student competition (strictly student-authored papers). All research papers must be uploaded through an online server to the group appropriate to the paper’s topic and author (faculty or student) via a link on the AEJMC website. Detailed informa-

tion will be sent to authors when notified that their papers have been accepted. In addition to guidelines that apply to all AEJMC paper competitions, please follow ICD’s specific guidelines listed below.

**Guidelines:** Format should be Word, WordPerfect, or a PDF. Researchers also must upload a paper abstract of no more than 75 words. ICD suggests a paper length of 25-pages, 12-point, double-spaced type (count and format does not include notes, references, figures and/or illustrations).

Completely fill out the online submission form with author(s) name, affiliation, mailing address, telephone number and email address. The title should be on the first page of the text and on running heads on each page of text, as well as on the title page. **Do not include author’s name on running heads, title page or hidden popup options (specifically on material submitted as PDF).**

Authors are responsible for following the guidelines for paper submissions outlined in the AEJMC uniform paper call and additional ICD guidelines listed in this call. Papers that do not meet guidelines will not be reviewed (Note: those papers submitted to the wrong competition, those who have any identification on papers or those who upload abstracts but no papers by the time of the deadline, will be disqualified immediately). Submissions will be blind-reviewed by a panel; selections strictly based on merit.

**Awards:** ICD awards cash prizes for top three faculty papers and top three student papers. Student winners will also receive free conference registration. Both *The Asian Journal of Communication* and *Ecquid Novi: African Journalism Studies* also sponsor a “Best Paper Award” with cash prizes (Cash prizes are forfeited, if an author fails to present her or his work).

**Asian Journal of Communication Best Paper Award:** The AJC Best Paper Award is presented annually by the *Asian Journal of Communication* (AJC), a refereed international publication of the Asian Media Information and Communication Centre (AMIC) and the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information at Nanyang Technological University (SCI-NTU) in Singapore, to an outstanding paper selected from the AEJMC Interna-

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tional Communication Division's Open Paper Competition. Established in 2003, the award is aimed at promoting mass communication research concerning the Asia-Pacific region. All papers (with a focus on or relevance to mass communication in the Asia-Pacific region or an Asia-Pacific country) submitted to the annual ICD Open Paper Competition are eligible for the *AJC* Best Paper Award contest and will be reviewed automatically for the award. All research methodologies are welcome.

***Ecquid Novi: African Journalism Studies* Best Paper Award for Journalism Research:** The ICD's "Best Paper Award for Journalism Research" is sponsored annually by *Ecquid Novi: African Journalism Studies* for the most outstanding paper selected from the submissions to the AEJMC International Communication Division's Open Paper Competition. Established in 2003, the award is aimed at promoting research in global journalism which will enhance and enrich our understanding of issues such as international news flow, news theory, media ethics, media education, gender, and race, as well as specific topics, such as the media and Aids. In line with the Division's international character, the award is also aimed at promoting research that addresses North-South and South-South journalism issues.

If you have questions about the call or the 2012 ICD research competition at any time contact: **Bob Stevenson Open Paper Competition Chair** - Celeste Gonzalez de Bustamante, University of Arizona, celesteg@email.arizona.edu **Markham Student Paper Competition Chair**, Emily Metzgar, Indiana University, emetzgar@indiana.edu.

## Law and Policy Division

The Law and Policy Division invites submission of original research papers on communications law and policy for the 2012 AEJMC Conference in Chicago. Papers may focus on any topic related to communications law and/or policy, including defamation, privacy, FCC issues, intellectual property, obscenity, freedom of information, and a myriad of other media law and policy topics. Papers outside the scope of communications law and policy will be rejected.

The Division welcomes a variety of theoretical orientations and any method appropriate to the research question. A panel of judges will blind-referee all submissions, and selection will be based strictly on merit. Authors need not be AEJMC or Law and Policy Division members, but they must attend the conference to present accepted papers.

Paper authors should submit via the online submission process as described in the Uniform Paper Call.

Law and Policy Division papers must be no longer than 50-**double-spaced** pages with one-inch margins and 12-point font, including cover page, appendices, tables, footnotes and/or endnotes, and end-of-paper reference list, if applicable. (Footnotes and/or endnotes and reference list may be single-spaced.) Papers that exceed 50 total pages or are not double-spaced will be automatically rejected without review. Although Bluebook citation format is preferred, authors may employ any recognized and uniform format for referencing authorities, including APA, Chicago, or MLA styles. Papers that include author-identifying information within the text, in headers, or within the embedded electronic file properties will be **automatically rejected** (review the instructions on the AEJMC Web site for stripping identifying information from the electronic file properties). There is no limit on the number of submissions authors may make to the Division.

**Student authors of single-authored papers should clearly indicate their student status on the cover page.** Student submissions will be considered for the \$100 Whitney and Shirley Mundt Award, given to the top student paper. The Law and Policy Division will also cover conference registration fees for the top three student paper presenters.

### Special call for legal history papers.

As part of AEJMC's 100th Anniversary celebration in Chicago, the Law and Policy Division will be hosting a special call for papers dedicated to **legal history**. Research papers for the special call should focus on the study of the history of law in the field of communication, broadly defined. Legal history is closely connected to the development of society and papers should be set in the wider context of social, cultural, and political history. Papers

should be uploaded via the special call link on the All-Academic submission site, and should conform to all requirements of the Law and Policy Division Paper Call and the AEJMC Uniform Paper Call. Papers will be judged together with papers from the Law and Policy Division Paper Call. Submitters who qualify for presentation at the AEJMC 2012 conference will present their research at a special research panel dedicated to legal history.

If you have questions, please contact: Derigan Silver, Law and Policy Division Research Chair, Department of Media, Film and Journalism Studies, University of Denver, 2490 S. Gaylord St., Denver, CO 80208-5000, Phone: (303) 871-2657; e-mail: derigan.silver@du.edu

## Magazine Division

The AEJMC Magazine Division invites submissions of original research papers on any topic related to print and online magazines to the AEJMC 2012 conference.

Three prizes of \$200 will be awarded at the conference in Chicago. They will be for best faculty paper, best student paper, and best paper related to online or digital magazines. You do not need to specify if you would like to be considered for one of these top paper awards. You will be automatically entered based on your status and the nature of your paper.

All papers must be no more than 7,500 words (about 25-double-spaced pages) plus notes. Papers longer than 7,500 words will not be sent out for review. Only one paper per author will be accepted for presentation in the Magazine Division research sessions. Multiple submissions of the same paper to other divisions are not allowed. All research methodologies and theoretical frameworks are welcome, as is any research related to print or online magazines. Papers presented in this division at earlier conferences included but were not limited to content analyses of topics or advertisements using magazines as the source of data; qualitative investigations of business and editing practices at an online magazine; historical analyses of specific magazines, genres, or topics; experimental work on page layout and magazine design; new business models for the industry; and rhetorical analyses of literary journalism.



Papers will be evaluated on originality and importance of topic; quality of literature review; clarity of research purpose; focus; use of original and primary sources and how they support the paper's purpose and conclusions; quality of writing and organization; and extent of contribution to the field of magazine research.

Follow submission requirements in the AEJMC Uniform Paper Call. Pay particular attention to the details of removing any identifying information, which means not only excluding your name and institution throughout the document but also deleting identifying information in file properties. Find specific instructions for submitting a clean paper at [aejmcchicago.org/papers](http://aejmcchicago.org/papers).

Specific questions should be directed to the division's research chair, Elizabeth Fakazis, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, [liz.fakazis@uwsp.edu](mailto:liz.fakazis@uwsp.edu) or by phone at 865-974-4452.

## Mass Communication and Society Division

The Mass Communication and Society Division seeks research paper submissions from both faculty and students for the 2012 AEJMC national conference in Chicago, IL. Papers may be on any topic related to the general field of mass communication and society.

### Moeller Student Paper Competition:

Students who submit a paper written for a class during the previous year are eligible for the Mass Communication and Society Moeller paper competition. Moeller-competition papers must be nominated by the faculty member who taught the class, who must send a letter or e-mail verifying that the paper was completed for a class. Papers submitted for the special call or the Moeller competition must clearly note the competition on the title page. Please remember that the Moeller competition is separate from our student top paper competition.

**Top Paper Recognition:** The division provides cash awards for both student and faculty top papers. AEJMC waives one conference registration for each of the four top student papers. For a paper to be considered for a student paper award, all of the authors must be students. Also, the student authors must indicate on the title page that they want the paper to be considered for a student award. A faculty member as co-author moves the paper to

faculty competition.

All papers, including student and special-call papers, are judged together as general papers, but the top papers for each competition are recognized separately. Papers submitted for the special-call panel may also be considered for presentation at other Mass Communication and Society research-paper sessions. Any recognized research method and citation style may be used, and all text and supporting materials should not exceed 30 double-spaced pages. Papers that have been previously presented or published, that are currently being considered for publication, or that have been submitted to another AEJMC division are not eligible. Authors may submit no more than two papers to the Mass Communication and Society competition. If a submitter's name appears on more than two papers, including as co-author, only the first two submitted will be reviewed.

**Submission Procedures:** All papers must be submitted through the AEJMC on-line process by deadline. Please see the 2012 AEJMC Uniform Call for Papers for submission instructions and all MC&S submissions must also adhere to the AEJMC submission guidelines to receive full consideration. Hard copy papers or papers submitted electronically to the research co-chairs will not be accepted. For questions, contact one of the Mass Communication and Society research co-chairs: Sei-Hill Kim at the University of South Carolina ([seihillkim@gmail.com](mailto:seihillkim@gmail.com), 803-777-7037) or Lucy Atkinson at the University of Texas at Austin ([lucyatkinson@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:lucyatkinson@mail.utexas.edu), 512-471-6665).

## Media Ethics Division

The Media Ethics Division welcomes faculty and graduate student paper submissions on all topics related to media ethics. The Division's work cuts across many professional and scholarly boundaries, and the papers it selects reflect that diversity. The Division encourages submission of all media ethics-related research, regardless of its overall orientation (theoretical, philosophical, pedagogical, methodological, practical), its professional context (journalism, advertising, public relations), or its methodological approach. Those authors who use interdisciplinary methods are strongly encouraged to sub-

mit their work. All papers must be no more than 25-pages long (excluding bibliography and appendices) and must otherwise conform to the rules outlined in the AEJMC Uniform Call for Papers. Submitting a paper to the MED implies that the author (or one of the authors) intends to present the paper in person or will make arrangements for the paper to be presented by a colleague familiar with the work.

The Division offers recognition in a number of areas. Except for the Burnett award, all competitions are open to both faculty and students. All submissions will be evaluated in the general paper competition. Authors wishing to be considered for the special competitions described below need not submit their papers more than once.

**Carol Burnett Award:** The Media Ethics Division teams with the University of Hawaii and the Carol Burnett Fund for Responsible Journalism to sponsor a special paper competition for graduate students. Graduate students are invited to submit papers on any topic related to media ethics.

The winning paper will receive the Carol Burnett/University of Hawaii/AEJMC Prize, which includes a \$350 cash award. The runner-up will receive a \$150 cash award. Authors for the top two submissions will receive a small travel assistance stipend and will be invited to present their papers at the 2012 conference in Chicago. The winner will be invited to accept his or her prize at the KTA Awards Luncheon at the conference.

Burnett competition papers must be marked "Burnett Competition" on the title page (and ONLY the title page).

**Professional Relevance Award:** Special recognition will be given to the paper that is judged to be the most relevant to working professionals. The recipient will be selected from the general paper competition.

**Top Faculty Paper:** In addition to the special call, special recognition will be given to the faculty paper judged to be the best paper submitted among faculty authors. The recipient will be selected from the general paper competition.

**All questions** should be directed to the research chair Kevin Stoker, Texas Tech University. Email: [kevin.stoker@ttu.edu](mailto:kevin.stoker@ttu.edu). Phone: 801-472-0131

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## Media Management and Economics Division

The Media Management & Economics Division invites original research paper submissions to be considered for presentation at the 2012 AEJMC conference in Chicago, IL in August 9-12, 2012. Researchers interested in any aspect of media management or media economics are encouraged to submit papers. The division welcomes the use of diverse theoretical and methodological approaches to relevant topics. Papers presented at the Midwinter Conference and then revised also are welcome for submission.

Faculty and student papers compete on an equal footing. The division gives named awards to recognize the top three submissions from faculty, and the top three from graduate students (*faculty members cannot be included on student competition papers*). **Top graduate papers also receive monetary awards to help offset the cost of attending the conference.**

Some examples of relevant topics in media management and economics are: analysis of economic or management questions affecting media firms; media ownership, management and economic issues from the public-interest perspective (e.g., effects on reporting or content); historical discussions of interesting and important developments in the field; policy issues from a legal, regulatory or economic perspective; technology and its effects on management or economics; political economy; effects of changes in the environment where media firms operate; international and cross-cultural studies; the sociology and culture of media organizations; teaching media management and economics; and other related topics. Advertising and/or public relations companies are not considered 'media firms' by MME Division; therefore, papers on the management of advertising agencies and/or public relations agencies should be submitted to the Advertising Division or Public Relations Division. Papers not appropriate for the MME Division will be disqualified before judging.

Paper submissions should be a maximum of 25-pages, excluding references and tables. All papers must be submitted electronically at the AEJMC Web site to access the All Academic Web site available via the AEJMC Web site link. Papers must

be uploaded to the All Academic Web server no later than 11:59 P.M. (Central Daylight Time), April 1, 2012. All submissions must follow the guidelines for the uniform call for all paper competitions.

For questions about submissions, contact Research Chair Bozena I. Mierzejewska, Jönköping International Business School, Sweden, via e-mail at [bozena.mierzejewska@jibs.hj.se](mailto:bozena.mierzejewska@jibs.hj.se) or by Skype at [b\\_mierzejewska](mailto:b_mierzejewska).

## Minorities and Communication Division

The Minorities and Communication Division invites submissions of original research on any topic related to minorities in communications. Submissions employing all scholarly methods of inquiry are invited. Papers should include appropriate literature reviews, methodology, findings, and discussion. Only one paper per primary author will be accepted. The term "minorities" has been defined to include Latinos, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Native Americans. Thus, papers examining how these groups present images, news, and information about themselves, as well as those examining how issues related to race and diversity are featured in the media, would generally fall into this division's area of interest. Papers should not be more than 25 pages, excluding references, tables, figures, and other graphics.

The MAC Division is sponsoring two "Award Winning Paper" competitions at this year's conference: Top faculty and the Alan Bussel Award for Top Student Paper. The "Top" three faculty papers and the "top" student paper will be selected from among the refereed papers submitted to the MAC Divisions competitions. Students must identify their papers as such ("Student Paper") on the title page of their submission. All sole- or co-authors of these papers must be students; papers co-authored by students and faculty should be submitted to the Faculty Research Paper competition. If these rules are not followed, papers are subject to disqualification. A first-place winner in the "Top" faculty paper competition will receive \$200. The second-place winner will receive \$100 and the third-place winner will receive \$75. The student winner will receive a complimentary ticket for the MAC

luncheon during this year's conference and \$100.

Certificates will be awarded to each of the winners, whose prizes are furnished by a grant from Indiana Wesleyan University. In addition, the other outstanding student papers will have the opportunity to participate in a scholar-to-scholar session.

Faculty Competition Contact: Frances Ward-Johnson, Faculty Research Chair, Elon University. Phone: 336-278-5738. Email: [fward2@elon.edu](mailto:fward2@elon.edu). Student Competition Contact: Kyle Huckins, Student Research Chair, Indiana Wesleyan University. Phone: 866-468-4498. Email: [kyle.huckins@indwes.edu](mailto:kyle.huckins@indwes.edu).

## Newspaper and Online News Division

The Newspaper and Online News Division invites faculty and students to submit research papers regarding newspaper and online news topics for presentation at the AEJMC 2012 annual conference. Sessions will be devoted to theoretically based studies of newspapers, online news or issues concerning the newspaper industry and online news companies. Both qualitative and quantitative research in newspaper history, law, policy, effects, processes, use, ethics, and new technologies are welcome. Papers may not be longer than 25-pages, excluding tables, figures and references.

The Newspaper and Online News Division offers two competitions: an open competition and the MacDougall Student Paper Award competition.

All papers submitted to the division are automatically considered for the open competition. Awards are given for the top three Newspaper Division papers in the open competition. Winners receive a \$100 prize and a certificate.

The MacDougall Student Paper Award competition is for students. All authors of the paper must be students. A \$200 prize and a certificate will be given to the author of the top student paper. Papers to be considered for the award should be noted as such in the accompanying cover note.

**Submission of papers:** All submissions will be blind refereed by a panel of independent readers. All entries should follow the AEJMC Uniform Call for Papers.

Questions may be directed to the Research Co-Chairs, Claire Serant at [cserant@york.cuny.edu](mailto:cserant@york.cuny.edu) and Ronald Rodgers at [rroddgers@jou.ufl.edu](mailto:rroddgers@jou.ufl.edu)

## Public Relations Division

Submitters should carefully review the specific details and directions for the Public Relations Division as well as the general requirements contained in the AEJMC Uniform Paper Call.

**Categories/Limitations:** Theses, dissertations and works previously presented, published or under consideration for publication or presentation, or papers submitted to another AEJMC division, are not eligible. A paper may be submitted for one of the three **PRD categories:** (1) open, (2) student or (3) teaching. The Wilcox Awards of \$500, \$300, and \$200 will be go to the authors of the first, second and third-place teaching papers and to the authors of the top papers in the PRD open category. The PRD Student Paper Competition is sponsored by the Plank Center for Leadership in Public Relations, and provides cash awards to the top three student papers (\$300 for the first place paper, \$200 for the second, \$100 for the third). Any recognized research method and citation style may be used. Papers should include appropriate literature reviews, methodology, findings and discussion. Papers should test, refine or expand public relations theory or practice; critically review issues relevant to public relations theory and research; or explore methods of effective public relations practice. Teaching papers should test, refine or expand principles or practices associated with public relations pedagogy. All submissions should represent research completed by the conference submission deadline, not research proposals or reports on research in progress. **No more than two papers may be submitted by any one author or co-author** across the three PRD categories. If it is found that one person is author and/or co-author of more than two submissions, all of the submissions will be disqualified. It should also be noted again that a paper may not be submitted to more than one division.

**Submissions Deadline/Procedures:** A paper cannot exceed 30-pages inclusive of appendices and references/citations; no exceptions. All authors and co-authors,

their institutional affiliations and contact information must be included **WHEN REGISTERING** on the online system. If there are three co-authors, for example, information about all three must be included in the registration. Co-authors cannot be added after a paper has been reviewed; no exceptions. Student papers must be authored or co-authored by students **ONLY** (no faculty co-authors), and all student papers must have the word “STUDENT” on the title page and in the running head. Identifying information must not appear anywhere in the attached paper file. Inclusion of identifying information will result in automatic disqualification of the paper.

### IMPORTANT Formatting Information:

All papers must be submitted in PDF format. For those using the newest version of Microsoft Word, you can save your paper as a PDF file using the “Save As” function. For those not using this version, you may use a free web service, such as [www.freepdfconvert.com](http://www.freepdfconvert.com).

**Presentation Requirements:** At least one author of an accepted faculty paper must attend the conference to present the paper. If student authors cannot be present, they must make arrangements for the paper to be presented by someone else. Failure to be present or provide a presenter for any paper will result in a one-year ban on the review of papers for all of the authors involved. Authors of accepted papers are required to forward papers to discussants and moderators prior to the conference.

Questions may be directed to the Research Co-Chairs, Richard D. Waters, University of San Francisco, [rdwaters@usfca.edu](mailto:rdwaters@usfca.edu), and Bey-Ling Sha, San Diego State University, [bsha@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:bsha@mail.sdsu.edu).

## Scholastic Journalism Division

The Scholastic Journalism Division of AEJMC is accepting submissions of research papers for the 2012 conference in Chicago.

Submission deadline is April 1, 2012. Those papers selected by peer review will be presented during the annual AEJMC conference in August. Faculty and student papers should involve an area of mass communication research applied to student journalism and expression, both

scholastic and collegiate, as well as journalism education in order to be considered for presentation in this Division.

Both faculty and student papers accepted will be eligible for top paper awards to be presented at the AEJMC Conference in August. Faculty papers with a student co-author or student papers with a faculty co-author will be judged in the faculty competition. Some possible paper topics include:

- legal issues of student journalism
  - ethical issues of student journalism
  - administrative relationships: journalism education school and community support for high school journalism education
  - journalism and mass communication in language arts
  - preparation, certification and credentialing of publication advisers and journalism educators in secondary school
  - multicultural and diversity issues in secondary school journalism
  - content or production of high school publications
  - the role of college journalism education in secondary education
  - historical perspectives of secondary school/high school journalism education
  - the role of high school press associations and other media organizations
  - recruiting and retaining journalism students
  - educational and pedagogical issues applicable to scholastic journalism
- (NOTE: General papers on pedagogy or teaching methods NOT related to scholastic journalism are NOT appropriate for this division)*
- youth readership

Papers should be in Microsoft Word, 12-point type, Times New Roman, and double-spaced. Papers should not exceed 25-pages in length, not counting references, tables, and appendices.

Style should follow either the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association or the Chicago Manual of Style. Include an abstract of no more than 75 words. At least one author will be expected to attend the meeting to present the paper.

All research papers must be submitted online via a link on the AEJMC Web

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site. Do not put the author's name on the title page of the document you upload to the submission site. Reviews are blind. The site will also ask for author's name, affiliation, and e-mail address separately. You will be asked for your abstract, too. The principal author should e-mail the SJD research chair (see below) with the title of your paper and contact information once he/she has uploaded his/her paper to the AEJMC site. For more information for submissions to the Scholastic Journalism Division, contact George L. Daniels of the Department of Journalism at The University of Alabama at (205) 348-8618 or [gdaniels@ua.edu](mailto:gdaniels@ua.edu).

## Visual Communication Division

The Visual Communication Division of AEJMC invites faculty and students to submit competitive papers devoted to theoretically based studies of visual communications and to issues concerning the professional practice of visual media production for presentation at the association's annual conference. Visual is broadly defined and includes photography, film, television, web design, graphic design, illustration, and digital imaging, as well as other visual phenomena.

The division encourages submission of papers that address a broad spectrum of methodology and application, both qualitative and quantitative, on all types of visual media—advertising, broadcast, digital imaging, film, graphic design, multimedia and web design, photojournalism, propaganda images, visual images and culture, visual literacy, and visual aspects of political campaigns, etc. Research in media history, law, policy, effects, processes, uses and ethics regarding visuals are also welcome. All submissions will be blind refereed by a panel of independent readers. Student papers compete on equal footing with faculty papers. A \$100 award will be given to the top student contribution. The top three faculty papers will be recognized in the AEJMC annual conference program.

Papers are accepted for peer review on the understanding that they are not already under review for other conferences and that they have been submitted to only one AEJMC group for evaluation. Papers accepted for the AEJMC Conference should not have been presented to an-

other conference or published in scholarly or trade journals prior to presentation at the conference. Authors may submit more than one paper to the Visual Communication Division.

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:** All research papers must be uploaded through AEJMC's ALL ACADEMIC website (paper upload link available January 2012). Make sure to upload through the link marked Visual Communication Division.

All papers must be type-written and double-spaced with one-inch margins. Format should be Microsoft Word or a PDF. The page limit is 30 pages, inclusive of all references, notes, tables, illustrations, and appendices. Manuscripts must conform to the APA reference style.

Upload an abstract separately of no more than 75 words. Completely fill out the online submission form with author(s) name, affiliation, mailing address, telephone number, and email address. The title should be printed on the first page of the text and on running heads on each subsequent page of text. Please make sure not to include author name(s) on title page or running heads and confirm that no identifying information is in the File Properties area of the MS Word file.

All authors will be advised whether their paper has been accepted and will receive a copy of the reviewers' comments by May 15, 2012. At least one author of an accepted paper must attend the conference to present the paper. For more information on submissions to the Visual Communication Division, please contact Robert Moses Peaslee, Texas Tech University at 806-742-6500, x 283 or e-mail: [robert.peaslee@ttu.edu](mailto:robert.peaslee@ttu.edu).

## INTEREST GROUPS

### Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group

**Research Paper Call:** The Civic and Citizen Journalism Interest Group (CCJIG) invites research paper submissions for the 2012 AEJMC Conference, August 9-12.

Papers must be submitted in accordance with all requirements of AEJMC and its uniform paper call and electronic submission process. Authors should ensure that their papers do not contain identifying references. For a detailed explanation, please see "submitting a clean paper"

under the uniform paper call on the AEJMC website.

Papers submitted will be eligible for separate faculty and student top paper awards of \$151. Because of the separate competition for students, graduate students should be careful to identify themselves as such in the submission process. Papers co-authored with faculty members do not qualify for the student competition.

CCJIG is interested in research that examines the emergence, practice, sustenance and/or teaching of civic/citizen journalism. Authors are urged to submit papers that generally conform to this group's interests. Papers should make sure to include discussions of news within the context of civic/citizen journalism. For example, papers that examine the use of blogs without touching upon news do not automatically meet the group's interests.

Suggested paper topics include: Citizen/civic journalism in political campaigns, citizen media (including news consumers as news producers), civic mapping, community conversations, newsroom projects, legal and ethical issues in civic/citizen journalism, crowdsourcing versus traditional "gatekeeper" journalism, civic/citizen journalism in a multicultural environment, civic/citizen journalism and new technologies, history/philosophy of civic/citizen journalism, the changing newspaper industry economy and its effect on the development of civic/citizen journalism movements, media convergence and civic/citizen journalism, the missions and meanings of "civic journalism" and/or "citizen journalism," teaching civic/citizen journalism, and use of polls, focus groups and other methods in civic reporting.

Please direct questions to CCJIG Research Chair Burton St. John III ([bsaintjo@odu.edu](mailto:bsaintjo@odu.edu)).

### Community Journalism Interest Group

The Community Journalism Interest Group (COMJIG) is interested in research focused on any and all aspects of community journalism. We emphasize that community need not just be defined as within traditional geographical or social boundaries, but that given technological advances it may also be applied to



journalism and its relationship to communities of interest online.

Our goal is to identify and present original, meaningful research that advances the understanding of the role of journalists and news organizations as members of communities, geographic or digital. We have particular interest in issues unique to those situations where as a function of geography or technology the community and news organization tend to be or have the potential to become highly engaged. Quantitative and qualitative methods are equally welcomed, as are attempts at mixed methodology. Theoretical groundings are appreciated. Only serious and complete research-based studies will be considered. Do not submit opinion essays, incomplete pilot studies, literature reviews, or other incomplete or unscholarly works.

Papers should be a maximum of 7,500 words long (about 25-pages, double-spaced) and adhere to APA or Chicago citation style. Please provide a running title on each page and include an abstract of no more than 75 words.

In evaluating papers for research presentations, COMJIG makes no distinction between faculty and graduate student work.

COMJIG encourages graduate student submissions in its Top Student Paper competition. To be considered for the competition, papers must be wholly the work of students. The author(s) of the top student paper will receive a \$100 award and a certificate.

Likewise, COMJIG encourages faculty submissions in its Top Faculty Paper competition. To be considered for the competition, papers must be wholly the work of faculty. The author(s) of the top faculty paper also receives a \$100 award and a certificate.

**For more information**, contact COMJIG Research Chair John Hatcher by e-mail (jhatcher@d.umn.edu) or telephone (218-726-7325).

## Entertainment Studies Interest Group

The Entertainment Studies Interest Group invites faculty and graduate students to electronically submit papers for the 2012 AEJMC conference. Papers that deal with any aspect of mediated enter-

tainment, including (but not limited to) narrative film, experimental cinema, fictional books, fictional television, game shows, new media, popular magazines, sports, and tabloid/celebrity journalism may be submitted. All methods (qualitative, quantitative, historical, critical) of inquiry are encouraged. **Papers may not exceed 25 pages**, excluding tables, figures, and references. All entries should follow the AEJMC uniform paper competition. All submissions will undergo a blind review process by a panel of independent readers.

Although all papers compete on an equal footing, the top-ranked student paper(s) sent to ESIG will receive special recognition and **first author(s)** will be awarded free conference registration. Students who wish to be eligible for this award must indicate when submitting electronically that the paper was written exclusively by one or more students. Only students are eligible for this prize; **papers with any faculty co-author(s) are not eligible**. The top-ranked faculty paper will be recognized. Authors are not required to be a member of ESIG to submit a paper. The same author(s) can submit more than one paper to ESIG.

**Specific Guidelines:** Papers may not exceed 25 pages, excluding tables, figures, and references. APA or MLA are acceptable styles for references. At least one author of an accepted faculty paper must attend the conference to present the paper. If student authors cannot be present, they must make arrangements for the paper to be presented.

**Questions** regarding submissions should be directed to the research chair, Mark Callister, e-mail: mark\_callister@byu.edu.

## Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Interest Group

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Interest Group of AEJMC seeks submissions of original research on any topic specifically related to sexual orientation and mass communication for the 2012 AEJMC conference. Both faculty and students are invited to submit their work. Papers employing all methods of inquiry and research methods are invited. In previous conferences, paper topics have ranged from a quantitative content analysis of newspaper coverage of same-sex marriage to a critical/cultural analysis of

the use of gay-vague images in advertising. We especially welcome papers dealing with current topics such as social media, Prop. 8 in California and other same-sex marriage initiatives, Don't Ask Don't Tell, hate speech legislation, and gay youth suicides. Paper submissions must comply with the AEJMC uniform paper call. In addition, papers may not be longer than 25 pages, excluding tables, figures and references.

**Top Student Paper Award:** The GLBT IG encourages graduate student submissions in its Top Student Paper competition. To be considered for the competition, papers must be wholly the work of students. The author(s) of the top student paper will receive a \$200 award and a certificate.

Questions regarding submissions should be sent to the GLBT IG research chair, Genelle Belmas, at gbelmas@fullerton.edu.

## Graduate Student Interest Group

The Graduate Student Interest Group (GSIG) invites graduate students to submit research papers for the 2012 AEJMC Conference. Because the interest group's focus is on its student constituency and not a topic area, the group accepts research by graduate students addressing any topic in journalism, media, or mass communication. We are dedicated to providing opportunities for graduate students to present research in the conference setting.

The top-ranked student submission will receive the annual Guido Stempel Award and will receive an award check, a commemorative plaque, and conference registration reimbursement. Authors of the top four papers will have the opportunity to present at a special GSIG-sponsored research panel highlighting graduate student research. Authors are not required to be a member of GSIG to submit a paper, but those whose papers are accepted are obligated to join the interest group (annual membership fee: \$7) before presenting their research at the conference in August. Papers with any faculty co-author(s) are not eligible.

All entries should follow the guidelines of the AEJMC uniform paper competition. Papers should be no more than 25

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pages, not counting references, tables or appendices. All submissions will undergo a blind review process by a panel of independent readers. Papers are accepted on the understanding that they have not been previously published or presented elsewhere (with the exception of the AEJMC Midwinter Conference) and are not under consideration by any scholarly journal or trade organization.

Questions regarding submission should be directed to Ashley Carnifax, Research Chair, at [ACarnifax@ufl.edu](mailto:ACarnifax@ufl.edu).

## Internships and Careers Interest Group

The Internships and Careers Interest Group (ICIG) of AEJMC is accepting submissions of research papers from both faculty and students for the 2012 conference in Chicago. Papers may be on any topic related to internships and careers in communications. All entries should follow the AEJMC Uniform Call for Papers.

Questions should be directed to research chair, Mary Blue, Tulane University at 504-862-3039 or [mblue@tulane.edu](mailto:mblue@tulane.edu).

## Political Communication Interest Group

The political communication interest group invites submission of original, non-published research papers to be considered for presentation at the AEJMC conference, August 9 to 12, 2012, in Chicago, IL. We welcome both faculty and graduate student papers of all methodological approaches and levels of analysis. Research papers should be directly related to mediated political communication, broadly defined. Possible relevant topics include processes and effects of mediated political communication in relation to political news, political journalism, public policy, political figures and candidates, citizen engagement and mobilization, public opinion, campaigns and political advertising, advocacy, and political economy of the media. All submitted research papers should be clearly grounded in theory and methodology.

The political communication interest group has established the McCombs Shaw Award for Best Student Paper in Political Communication with a \$100 prize to be given annually to the best student paper submission. In addition, the interest group

also annually honors the Best Faculty Paper in Political Communication with a \$50 cash prize. All entries should follow the guidelines of the AEJMC uniform paper competition. Papers length is limited to 25-pages not including references, tables or appendices.

All submissions will undergo a blind review process by a panel of independent reviewers. Papers are accepted on the understanding that they have not been previously published or presented elsewhere (with the exception of the AEJMC Midwinter Conference). Paper authors must remove identifying information from paper. Failure to do so will lead to an automatic disqualification. If you have any questions, please contact research co-chairs Erik Nisbet ([nisbet5@osu.edu](mailto:nisbet5@osu.edu)) or Lauren Feldman ([feldman@american.edu](mailto:feldman@american.edu)).

## Religion and Media Interest Group

The Religion and Media Interest Group (RMIG) invites submission of research on any topic related to religion and media. RMIG is interested in papers using quantitative, qualitative or historical research methods and any recognized citation style (although APA is preferred). Please note that RMIG is interested in research papers, and essays, commentaries, or simple literature reviews will not be considered. Possible areas of focus for the research include, but are not limited to, studies of religious group members and uses of secular media, exploration of media coverage of religious issues and groups, studies of the audiences for religious news, media strategies of religious organizations, religious advertising, religious and spiritual content in popular culture, etc. *Papers focusing on historically underrepresented religions, denominations and/or groups as well as religious contexts outside the U.S. are strongly encouraged.* For more about RMIG and its mission, please see <http://www.religionandmedia.org/our-mission-and-goals/>.

Papers will be considered for presentation as traditional research panels and poster sessions. The maximum length of research papers is 25 pages, excluding endnotes and tables. The Religion and Media Interest Group also sponsors a Top Paper competition for both student and faculty papers. (Note: student papers may not have a faculty co-author.) The top stu-

dent and faculty papers will be awarded \$100 each, with the second-place student and faculty papers receiving \$50 each. The awards will not be given if the selected papers are not presented at the conference. In order to be considered for the Top Paper competition, please specify either a student submission or a faculty submission on the cover page of the paper. All paper submissions must follow the 2012 AEJMC Uniform Paper Call.

Questions should be submitted to the RMIG Research Chair John G. Wirtz (email: [john.wirtz@ttu.edu](mailto:john.wirtz@ttu.edu)). Type "RMIG Research Paper" in the subject line when communicating via e-mail.

## Small Programs Interest Group

The Small Programs Interest Group invites submission of original, non-published research papers that focuses on the relationship between teaching and research, particularly at smaller, teaching-oriented programs to be considered for presentation at the AEJMC Conference, August 9 to 12, 2012, in Chicago, IL.

We invite members of all divisions and interest groups to contribute research papers – using any methodology, whether quantitative or qualitative—that focus on research about teaching. We're especially interested in research on the curricular and pedagogical challenges of new, multimedia platforms.

Some examples of successful papers from the 2011 conference include: "Assessing the Teaching of Media Ethics in Small Programs," "Twitter's effects on student learning and social presence perceptions," and "Blogs as learning tools in journalism education." Top papers will be considered for publication in *Teaching Journalism and Mass Communication (TJMC)*.

**GUIDELINES:** See the AEJMC General Paper Call for instructions to upload to All-Academic Site. The competition is open to faculty and to graduate students; no separate student competition is held. Format must be WORD or PDF. Researchers also must upload an ABSTRACT of no more than 75 words. Authors must completely fill out the online submission form, including author's name, affiliation, mailing address, phone numbers (academic, home and cell), and preferred email address. The title must be on the first page of the manuscript and on the running heads on

every page. However DO NOT INCLUDE author's name or affiliation within the running heads or any pop-up options that may be contained in PDF submissions. Papers are accepted for peer review with the understanding that they are NOT under review (or being submitted during the AEJMC review period) to a second division or interest group OR to a journal or other publication. Papers submitted to the 2012 conference should NOT have been presented to another conference and neither should they have been published or be in the publication process BEFORE the date of the 2012 Conference in August.

SPIG requests a paper length of NO MORE than 25-pages (excluding references) and the document must be double-spaced and typed in 11-point Arial font or Times Roman font – and follow APA style guidelines. Authors also must heed the AEJMC general paper call regulations. For example, papers submitted to the wrong division or that do not meet ALL the above guidelines will not be reviewed (for example, submission of an abstract by the deadline but a paper AFTER the deadline, will result in the paper NOT being accepted). However, SPIG research co-chairs will make every effort to contact authors who do not meet guidelines so that they will be aware as early as possible that their paper has not been accepted and the reasons why. *For more information*, contact the SPIG Research Co-Chairs: Gail Henson, Bellarmine University, (ghenson@bellarmine.edu or 502.272.8223, or Michael Smith, Campbell University (smithm@campbell.edu or 910.893-1528

### **Sports Communication Interest Group**

The Sports Communication Interest Group invites faculty and student submission of original research papers that focus on sports. Submissions must contain a

clear media dimension such as traditional media (newspapers, TV, radio) or strategic communication (PR, advertising, or sports marketing). Submissions should be theoretically grounded and offer tangible evidence of scholarly rigor. We welcome qualitative and quantitative methodologies, and encourage a broad spectrum of approaches, including sociological, historical, critical, pedagogical, and cultural research. Only one paper per author will be accepted for review and submissions must not be under consideration elsewhere for presentation or publication.

Please see the AEJMC Uniform Call for Papers for applicable submission requirements and instructions to upload to the All-Academic site. Recommended paper length is approximately 7,500 words (25-30 pages, including tables, figures and references). Papers that do not meet the AEJMC Uniform Call for Papers requirements will not be accepted.

Faculty and student submissions will undergo separate blind review processes by faculty-only judges. Any student paper co-authored by faculty will be inserted into the faculty pool, regardless of lead author status. Student authors – undergraduate and graduate students enrolled during the 2011-2012 school year – should include a cover sheet that clearly states the paper is a student submission. Submissions should contain no identifying information, such as name, university affiliation, or job title. Please be certain that any identification that may occur via electronic means is fully removed, as the presence of any identifying information, whether intended or unintended, will result in removal from consideration.

Please direct questions about faculty paper submissions to Mary Lou Sheffer, University of Southern Mississippi, at mary.sheffer@usm.edu, and questions about student paper submissions to Paul Husselbee, Ph.D. Southern Utah University at husselbee@suu.edu.

## **COMMISSION**

### **Commission on the Status of Women**

The Commission on the Status of Women invites submissions of research for competitive paper sessions that are based on issues of gender and communication. We welcome papers in which gender is a main focus, that use a variety of approaches and research methods, including but not limited to critical, empirical, ethnographic, historical, legal and semiotic. It is expected that the research will demonstrate a familiarity with feminist communication theory. Examples of relevant topics include: representations of women in the news; the role of gender in newsrooms or classrooms; effects of mass media on women and girls; feminist approaches to teaching and communication; women's use of/production of media; gender equality in the profession or the academy; etc.

Suggested paper length is 25 pages (double-spaced, 12-point type), excluding tables, references, figures or illustrations. We especially encourage submissions by graduate students; the winner of the top student paper will be awarded \$100 and the winner of the second place student paper will receive \$50. Authors of the top papers will be recognized in the conference program and at the CSW business meeting at the conference.

This paper call is part of the overall AEJMC call for research papers; all submissions must adhere to the general guidelines put forth by AEJMC. Please consult the AEJMC 2012 Paper Competition Uniform Call for information about paper formatting, submission deadline, creating a "clean" paper, and other guidelines. Questions should be sent to Spring-Serenity Duvall, CSW Research Chair, at springd@usca.edu.

## **AEJMC Best of the Web Contest 2012**

AEJMC'S annual Web design competition is ready to accept submissions. Categories this year are individual and team journalism and individual and team innovation. See complete details and submission information at: [www.aejmc.net/bestofweb](http://www.aejmc.net/bestofweb). Submissions are due by April 1, 2012, and winners will be announced by May 15, 2012. Participation is limited to faculty and students who work for or attend an ACEJMC-accredited institution or are current members of AEJMC.

## **AEJMC News**

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### **AEJMC Centennial Conference**

*Chicago, Illinois*

**August 9-12, 2012**

**Chicago Marriott Downtown**

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**In 2012, we're going back to our roots.  
Meet us in Chicago August 9-12.**

**[www.aejmcchicago.org](http://www.aejmcchicago.org)**

