# Electronic News Division, '16-'17

\* List of Current Officers,

Indira Somani (Howard) - Head
Tony DeMars (Texas A & M-Commerce)- Vice Head
Rebecca Nee (San Diego State)- Vice-Head Elect/Webmaster
Lindsey Maxwell (University of Southern Mississippi)- Research Chair
Victoria LaPoe (Western Kentucky)- PF & R Chair
Peter Morello (University of Missouri-Kansas City)- Teaching Chair
Kate Keib (University of Georgia)- Graduate Liaison
Dylan McLemore (Central Arkansas)- Secretary/Newsletter Editor
Bill Silcock (Arizona State)- Bliss Award Chair
Sonya Duhe (Loyola at New Orleans)- RTNDA Liaison
Tim Brown (Central Florida)- Burkum Award Chair

2.On the <u>Annual Demo Form</u> (for both annual and mid-year meetings where appropriate) please report number and ethnicity of:

\* panel presenters (but NOT for paper presenters), including the pre-conference

Females 61%
African-American 8
Latino o
International
Asian
White-24

<sup>\*</sup> moderators White Males, 4 moderators: White Females, 5

In a written report, provide the following GENERAL information using the section headings and the question numbers.

3. Please provide an overall statement weighting the division or interest group's activities for this year in the Research, Teaching and PF&R areas. The new assessment process recognizes that the relative weighting of these three activities will be different from year to year, but over the five-year reporting period, the three areas should receive generally balanced attention.

END will be a part of AEJMC for 51 years at AEJMC's 2017 Conference in Chicago. Reviewing the activities of this past year and focusing in this report on what will unfold during this conference it is clear that the Electronic News Division is full of dedicated members and officers with a clear commitment to the three key areas of Research, Teaching and PF&R.

Among the achievements the leadership team was able to accomplish – in addition to all of the "normal" division activities of paper competitions and panel sessions - were the planning for the annual Bliss/Burkum awards dinner, which will include a tribute and a moment of silence in honor of Gary Hanson of Kent

<sup>\*</sup> group officers 11 officers, (5 white men, 4 white women, 1 Asian-American woman, 1 Native American woman)

<sup>1</sup> Black female moderator

<sup>\* 4</sup> discussants for the 4 research panels.

State. Both Edward Bliss (most prestigious division award)- and the second award named for Larry Burkum will be presented at the annual awards/dinner.

## Edward R. Bliss Award 2017

Bill Silcock, EN division chair 2015-2016, took over as Chair of the Bliss committee in August 2016. A selection committee was created comprised of three past division heads of Electronic News - Jeanne Rollberg,, Laura Smith and Tim Bajkiewicz.

Nominations were announced on line, in our newsletter and on the AEJMC website. The deadline was Feb 1, 2017. A Dropbox account was created and the review criteria explained to the judges. Since Bill Silcock knew one of the nominees quite extensively he recused himself from having any vote. Since there were three judges it seemed logical there would not have to be tiebreaker judge.

The judges were unanimous in their first choice- Ken Fischer of the Gaylord College at the University of Oklahoma.

Here is the links created about the Bliss Winner on our Facebook page. <a href="http://aejmc.us/end/2017/04/18/kenneth-fischer-wins-2017-edward-bliss-award/">http://aejmc.us/end/2017/04/18/kenneth-fischer-wins-2017-edward-bliss-award/</a>

The Larry Burkum Service Award gives us a chance to celebrate those who have gone above and beyond to serve both journalism and journalism education. And this year we honor Dr. Joe Foote from the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Oklahoma. Foote is beloved for his years of leadership at AEJMC, and his work with journalism programs around the world including the remote locales of Nepal, Pakistan and Bangladesh. In the United States, Foote built programs at Southern Illinois-Carbondale, Arizona State University and, most recently, at the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Oklahoma. He is also the founding chair of the World Journalism Education Council.

In addition to expanding journalism education across the globe through the World Journalism Education Conference, Dr. Foote has been a part of 27 ACEJMC accreditation site visits, 17 of those as chair of those teams. He has served in numerous positions of leadership for AEJMC, including head of the (then) Radio-Television Journalism Division, the Long-range Funding Committee, Chair of the Internationalization Task Force, and President of AEJMC.

The Larry Burkum Service Award is presented by the Electronic News Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. This award recognizes an electronic journalist or journalism educator who has demonstrated extraordinary service to journalism education. Larry Burkum served the Electronic News Division as secretary, newsletter editor and webmaster from 1995 to 2005. He was presented the inaugural Burkum Award at the 2005 AEJMC convention in San Antonio.

4. Please write a bullet-point statement (500 word maximum), to be co-authored by the outgoing and incoming Heads, addressing:

\*What are your most important goals for the upcoming year?
For the 16/17 academic year, our goal was to increase diversity among the panel presentations at the conference, which we managed to do. For example, for the 2017 conference, END has partnered with MAC (Minorities and Communication), Sports Communication Interest Group, Media Ethnics, Magazine Newspaper and Online News, International, Internships and Careers Interest Groups, Commission on the Status of Women, and the Community College Journalism Assn.

For 2017-18, we will return to participation in the Southeast Colloquium and consider developing a creative works category for faculty and graduate students to have an outlet for presentation and recognition of any news content they are creating as part of the academic work. We will also continue our initiative to get more graduate students involved with the division.

\*What goals did your group set this year that you were unable to reach? Why? None. We reached all the goals we set out for.

\*How may any or all of the Standing Committees help you to achieve your goals in the coming year?

I think the biggest issue this year is that NABJ and AEJMC were scheduled at the same time, and as a result, it created difficulty in creating some diversity in the panels. There are 68 HBCUs that offer journalism program, and therefore journalism professors who teach at HBCUs and even African-American professors who teach at pre-dominantly white institutions need to be at both AEJMC and NABJ. Some emails were exchanged back and forth about this, but I'm hoping it gets more attention in the future.

With END, for too many years, this division has been represented by white men, and in order to really understand the complex issues of our society and beyond, we need to explore how electronic media fails to meet the needs of African-Americans and other people of color in this society.

#### **RESEARCH:**

Each Division/Interest Group is assessed based on diversity in participation and programming. A primary goal of the Research Committee is to enhance the scholarly activities of AEJMC.

Questions 5 through 8 apply ONLY to refereed research competitions.

5. Number of faculty research paper submissions32; number of
acceptances15;46%. (overall research activity; please note the
Research Committee guideline is a 50% acceptance rate).
6. Number of student research paper submissions _12 student papers were
submitted, of those o had faculty co-authors; number of acceptances7
of the 9;58_%. (research activity with students; please note the
Research Committee guideline is a 50% acceptance rate). this is actually 78%
7. Overview of judging process (forms used, please attach).
Judges were assigned by the Research Chair, using a blind review process, based
on the judges' stated expertise, qualifications and research interests. Judges were
recruited through personal emails from the Research Chair as well as
announcements on the Division's newsletter, listserv and Facebook group. The
review form was the standard form provided by AEJMC on the All Academic website. The form was not altered.
8. Total # of judges43; #3 papers per judge,3 maximum - in
some cases 2 if the decisions were unanimous
(please note the Research Committee guideline is no more than 4 papers per
judge).
juage).
9. Did your group conduct any other type of refereed competition? No.
(Could be creative projects, teaching papers or any other non-traditional method
of inquiry.)
<b>1</b> <i>y</i>
Number of submissions; Number of acceptances
Briefly explain the competition and the selection process.
10. Please list your in-convention activities related to research. We have 4
research panels scheduled with four papers being presented in each session. We
have three scholar-to-scholar slots with seven papers being presented.

Below are the other research panels at this year's conference:

# **Research Panel Session**

Breaking News Panel: Teaching about Trust in a Fake News World:

The Impact of the 2016 Election in Our Journalism Classrooms and Beyond Research Panel Session

Going "Instantly Live": Global and Domestic Impacts of Facebook Live, Broadband Access, and Digital Transformation

These particular sessions allow END to stay on the cutting edge of important current research topics. Selecting a most-timely topic can be difficult at the time of completion of panel submissions in the fall, so END submitted a Breaking News Panel and then spend the final weeks before the final copy deadline in the spring establishing the final topic and well-connected researchers. This leads to further research on an

important topic in our division and makes our topic as relevant as possible when presented in August. The Going "Instantly Live" session also allows END to be involved in a research topic area at the convention that is highly relevant to the research interests of many within our division.

11. Please list your out-of-convention activities related to research.

There were shared discussions via conference call among some active members and officers regarding improving research submissions to END. Research Chair Lindsey Maxwell reached out effectively for the 2017 conference and increased research submissions, including efforts at getting submissions from a diverse population. END was voted in for participation in the Southeast Colloquium several years ago but was not active in 2017. For 2018, END will participate in the conference, taking place March 8-10, 2018 at the University of Alabama.

12. Please describe briefly the research goals and activities of your division. Such description may include discussion of primary accomplishments, programming diversity, special competitions, faculty/student research awards, newsletter activities and other activities.

Here are the titles of our Refereed Paper Research Sessions. The themes speak for themselves:

2016 Election: Perspectives on Coverage

**Electronic News on Social Media** 

Politics, Protest, and Police

Local TV News and News Production

Scholar-to-Scholar Refereed Paper Research Session:

Topic — News and Social Media

Topic — Technology and Electronic News

## **TEACHING:**

It is in the interests of the students we are training to be taught by faculty and led by administrators who have given thoughtful consideration to excellence in curricular matters, course content and teaching methods, and teaching performance. To this end, the Teaching Standards Committee of AEJMC urges divisions and interest groups to include activities concerning curriculum, leadership, course content and teaching methods, and assessment. 13. Please list your **in-convention activities** related to teaching. Describe how these activities fulfill one or more of the Teaching Standards Committee's focus on curriculum, leadership, course content and teaching methods, or assessment.

The theme of the AEJMC's 2017 Conference: "Closing the Gap: Media, Research and the Profession" applies to the work of the officers and members of the Electronic News Division.

The **pre-conference workshop** offers innovative, cost-effective techniques, and intuitive teaching methods by both journalism educators who have a distinguished professional back ground:

# END's Pre-Conference Workshop: "Going Mobile: Tips for the Classroom"

Date: August 8, Time: 1-5 p.m.

Place: Marriott on N. Michigan Ave.

Description: Whether you teach a mobile-only class or just want to incorporate more mobile storytelling into current courses, this workshop is for you. This hands-on workshop will feature easy tools for the classroom, including an all-inclusive platform that incorporates text, audio and video. Also, hear how professional news organizations are using mobile to enhance their reach and coverage. No prior experience required!

Moderator/Organizer: Lee Hood, Loyola University Chicago

- Rick Brunson, University of Central Florida, teaches a mobile reporting class
- Tim Underhill, Ball State University, teaches and researches on mobile reporting and breaking news
- Kim Fox, American University in Cairo, specialty area audio production and podcasting
- Reggie Miles, Chicago State University, multi-platform production, using Facebook for teaching

# **Teaching Panel Session**

Dearth of Diversity: Concerns in U.S. Journalism & Mass Communication Programs and Effects on TV Newsrooms

**Teaching Panel Session** 

Going Mobile in the Classroom: How to Turn a Teaching Distraction into a Teaching Tool

**Teaching Panel Session** 

The Multimedia Portfolio: Making it Competitive

As Teaching Chair, Peter Morello published a feature article for the Electronic News Division's newsletter, "Static," covering President Trump's executive orders banning travel and what this means for student journalists. Most universities and colleges were affected. Although producing broadcast/digital reports that "visualize" the complexities of presidential executive orders and constitutional law may be challenging for electronic journalism students, it is essential for students to have a sound understanding of constitutional processes.

The teaching chair submitted three teaching panel proposals for END. One was approved. "Going Mobile in the Classroom: How to Turn a Teaching Distraction into a Teaching Tool" This session also complements the cutting edge Preconference Teaching Panel Session: Going Mobile for News: Tips for the Classroom. The panel will introduce participants to methodologies that enhance learning by utilizing mobile devices in the classroom. The panel fulfills several teaching standards including curriculum, course content, teaching methods, assessments and student learning outcomes, equity, access, technology and equipment.

The teaching chair focused out-of-convention activity on a new proposed journalism major for the University of Missouri system (UMKC, MU, UMSL and Missouri S&T.) The new journalism program, which has been approved by the teaching chair's home university and the UM System Curator's representative, would establish a new BA, Urban Journalism & Strategic Communication.

14. Please list your **out-of-convention activities** related to teaching. Describe how these activities fulfill one or more of the Teaching Standards Committee's focus on curriculum, leadership, course content and teaching methods, or assessment.

The teaching chair's out-of-convention activities fulfill Teaching Standards that include curriculum, course content, teaching methods, assessments and student learning outcomes, diversity, leadership, equity, access, technology and equipment. The teaching chair expects to propose one or two panel sessions for 2018 on curriculum and program development in times of financial constraint. This would be based on research activities for the new program. The teaching chair is also working on a doctorate, Leadership in Higher Education.

15. Please describe briefly the Teaching goals and activities of your division. Such description may include discussion of primary accomplishments, programming diversity, special competitions, faculty/student research awards, newsletter activities and other activities.

All Electronic Division News officers and members emphasize the importance of continually updating and improving course content, teaching methodology, curriculum development, assessment, student learning outcomes, diversity (ethnic, gender, orientation, class, racial, nationality, generational) and digital training for faculty and students. At a panel session, sponsored two years ago by the Electronic New Division's teaching chair, one speaker best described our division's goals as journalism educators when she stated, "It is crucial that we, as journalism educators, stay ahead of the curve, rather than follow, an industry that is either failing or unable to keep up with the societal and technological transformations underway both nationally and globally." This statement is even more critical today then it was two years ago. University journalism programs often adapt slowly... Educators need to be more innovative, more willing to experiment and to lead in finding new solutions, like medical schools do." The Electronic News Division focuses on trying various forms of methodologies to turn principles likes these into sustainable teaching applications, especially during times of budget constraints.

#### PF&R:

Each year the PF&R Committee expects some programming both during the convention and between conventions in at least three of the five PF&R areas to meet minimal expectation. Over a period of a few years, divisions and interest groups should have activities in all five areas. A few activities of high quality are preferred and evidence that helps assess quality is helpful.

It is important to fully explain the division or interest group's role in organizing a session or panel. Suggested notations: division planned, division was primary or secondary sponsor, division sent out a special paper call on the topic, division provided names for panelists, etc.

16. Please list your in-convention activities related to PF&R. Describe how these activities fulfill one or more of the PF&R Committee's focus on free expression, ethics, media criticism & accountability, racial, gender and cultural inclusiveness, or public service. Include a list of non-member invited convention speakers with names and affiliations.

END focused on diversity within its panels including participants and topics. For each panel and session, diversity was at the forefront of the division to be inclusive as well as to provide balanced information. Below are the 4 PF & R sessions at this year's conference:

#### PF&R Panel Session

#MoreThanMean: How Chicago Women in Sports and Media Fought Back Against Cyber Bullies!

#### PF&R Panel Session

Send in the Feds! Covering Gun Violence in Chicago and the Nation

#### PF&R Panel Session

Women's Experiences in Broadcasting: Unequal Workplace Conditions for Women in Television News and Sports

#### PF&R Session

Using Social Media to Fill the Gaps: What are the Risks?

The END PF&R panels represent some of important topics relevant to the division. Two deal with issues of gender equality within the industry—a topic of importance for decades, that in recent years has had situations occur showing much work is still to be done in this area. The media's coverage of and connection to gun violence is also timely, especially with continued problems in our host city, and the social media panel addresses an important concern with effectiveness and quality of news coverage when increasing amounts of the 'coverage' is being done through social media instead of engaged newsgathering efforts.

17. Please list your out-of-convention activities related to PF&R. Describe how these activities fulfill one or more of the PF&R Committee's focus on free expression, ethics, media criticism & accountability racial, gender and cultural inclusiveness, or public service.

Outside of END the PF &R chair worked with the Native American Journalists Association as a NAJA board member focused on education and ethics. Her contributions within and outside the division discussed surveys and initiatives, as topics such as Standing Rock and the Washington NFL name conflict were at the forefront of news headlines.

18. Please describe briefly PF&R goals and activities of your division. Such description may include discussion of primary accomplishments, programming diversity, special competitions, faculty/student research awards, newsletter activities and other activities.

Within our division, our focus is inclusivity within our sessions and division to discuss issues that are important to all people including, but not limited to, race gender, sexuality ethics and professionalism.

#### **General Information:**

Vice President Elect Rebecca Nee redesigned the END website in 2016 to make it more accessible and organized. She posted information about news and events throughout the year to the website and the END Facebook Group. The posts included communication about the 2017 conference, paper calls, calls for reviewers, and profiles of the Bliss and Burkum award winners. She also helped train the incoming research chair and provided her with a list of reviewers from the previous year. She is currently recruiting END members to serve as a communications team during the conference, providing photos and descriptions of panels and events to be posted on the website, Twitter, and Facebook Group accounts.

As the AEJMC Electronic News Representative to RTDNA, Sonya Duhe, serves as an ex-officio member of the RTDNA Board of Directors. I attended the EIJ National Conference held in New Orleans in September 2016 and represented AEJMC on its Board of Directors. I have participated in several board meetings representing journalism and mass communication educators. I have also served on an ethics subcommittee of the board. Also, a member of the AEJMC Presidential Task Force on "Bridging the Gap with Professionals," I am working with RTDNA and other professional organizations on a national survey to determine the state of academic partnerships with media professionals across the country--more on that at a panel at AEJMC. I'll be representing AEJMC again this fall at EIJ's national conference in Anaheim, California where RTDNA will host its next national conference. In addition to representing AEJMC at the conference and at board meetings, I'll serve on a panel with other AEJMC members on a panel about bridging the gap with professionals.

19. Please attach copies of the newsletters sent by your group this year, and any other material you wish us to note.