

## Electronic News Division Business Meeting

August 10, 2017, 7 a.m., Belmont Room, Chicago Marriott Magnificent Mile

### IN-SESSION

#### Opening Remarks – Indira Somani

- Thank you to Lee Hood for putting on the pre-conference workshop on mobile.
- Budget is currently \$8,544.37. We made a profit from the pre-conference workshop. Exact numbers for the full conference will be available from Tony later.
- The annual report will be made available on the END website.
- Thank you to the 2016-17 executive committee.

#### 2021 Conference Location – Tony DeMars

- Finalists: Kansas City, Austin, New Orleans, St. Louis
- Hotel rates roughly \$200/night in KC, Austin, NO. Slightly less (\$175-195) in St. Louis.
- Questions and comments from members addressed various boycotts and travel bans affecting potential locations (NAACP boycott of Missouri; states not funding travel to Texas over anti-LGBT legislation). DeMars says it's hard to know what environment will be like by 2021 to know if these things will still be a factor.
- NABJ overlap with conference dates continues to be a problem. Somani mentions trying to synchronize cities, but because AEJMC selects conference sites years earlier, it can't be done on our end.
- *Vote on 2021 conference location:* AUSTIN (22), New Orleans (6), Kansas City (0), St. Louis (0).

#### Conference Report – Tony DeMars

- Panel partnerships were a success. END was able to secure nine panels by co-sponsoring with other divisions and interest groups.
- Our division took the lead on 7 of 9 panels. Preferable to make sure we are well represented.
- Diversity: 61% of panelists were female, 39% male. Future panels should seek more Latino and international representation.
- Membership: We currently have 127 members, which is on the smaller end of AEJMC divisions.

#### Research Report and Awards – Lindsey Maxwell

- We received 44 paper submissions, accepting 21. Submissions were up from prior years.
- Our 48% acceptance rate was in line with AEJMC's target of around 50%.
- Because of increased submissions, we were able to obtain an additional research session.
- Award presentations
  - Top Student Papers (each receiving one free conference registration from AEJMC)
    - [First Place] In the name of the fact-check: Sponsoring organizations, analysis tools, transparency/objectivity of fact-check. Bumsoo Kim, Alabama.
    - [Second Place] Overrun by emotion: How emotional reactions predict news sharing to social media. Kelley Cotter, Chris Fennell, Zhao Peng, Michigan State.
    - [Third Place] Following the familiar: Effect of exposure and gender on credibility of journalists on Twitter. Trent Boutler, Texas.
  - Top Faculty Paper (receiving a plaque and cash award)
    - The local TV news digital footprint: Is local content vanishing amid climate of consolidation? Harrison Hove, Beverly Horvit, James Endersby, Missouri.

## 2017-2018 Officers – Indira Somani

- Slate of proposed new officers:
  - Tony DeMars, Texas A&M-Commerce – Head
  - Lindsey Maxwell, Southern Mississippi – Vice Head
  - Karen McIntyre, Virginia Commonwealth – Research Chair
  - Maria Fontenot, Tennessee-Knoxville – PF&R Chair
  - Peter Morello, Missouri-Kansas City – Teaching Chair
  - Ashley Gimbal, Arizona State – Membership Chair and Graduate Liaison
  - Dylan McLemore, Central Arkansas – Secretary, Newsletter and Web Editor
  - Bill Silcock, Arizona State – Bliss Award Chair
  - Tim Brown, Central Florida – Burkum Award Chair
  - Sonya Duhe, Loyola-New Orleans – RTDNA Liaison
  - Bill Davie, Louisiana-Lafayette – Electronic News Journal Task Force Chair
- *Vote on new officers:* Anthony Moretti makes motion to approve. Seconded. Motion to approve PASSES by acclamation.

## Electronic News Journal Report – Anthony Moretti

- Submissions increased from 31 in 2015 to 37 in 2016.
- Acceptance rate decreased dramatically, from 55% in 2015 to 28% in 2016 (including book reviews). Attributable mostly to a special call that resulted in many rejected manuscripts. Acceptance rate has returned to normal so far in 2017 (54%).
- The time frame between submission and first decision remains steady at about two months.
- Circulation remains at roughly 8,000, with no significant changes among subscriber groups.
- Full-text downloads have increased substantially so far in 2017 (on pace for 22,500, about 7,000 more than 2016). Journal is now online-first, meaning that articles are published online upon acceptance, rather than waiting until the article is printed.
- Member question: What is the time frame from acceptance to print? A: Usually 6 months.
- Member question: Are these submission numbers good, or do we want an increase? A: Given page limit, journal is at its saturation point. Even with online-first, we don't want it to take a year to publish in a journal issue.

## Electronic News Journal Task Force – Bill Silcock

- The goals of the task force are to increase clout and save money.
- Members: Tim Brown, Bill Davie, Sonya Duhe, Lee Hood, Lindsey Maxwell, Anthony Moretti, Jeanne Rollberg, Bill Silcock
- Task force will consider:
  - The financial status of the journal
  - Self-publication options
  - Relationship with Sage
  - Reader opinions
  - Editorial team qualifications
  - Comparison between other AEJMC division journals
  - If any bylaw changes regarding the journal are needed
- Task force will report back at the 2018 business meeting at the annual conference in Washington, DC.

Southeast Colloquium – Tony DeMars

- March 8-10, 2018, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- Submission deadline is Dec. 11.
- END will accept full papers and research-in-progress.

Gary Hanson Tribute – Thor Wasbotten

ADJOURNED