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## Summer 2022 Newsletter

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## From the Officers

### Officer List & Job Descriptions



#### **Division Chair**

Tara Mortensen

University of South Carolina

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We are actively seeking a number of new officers for the Visual Communication Division of AEJMC. Please consider serving! None of the positions require any particular expertise, other than organization and a commitment.

Below, you will find the officerships and a rough description of duties. If you are interested, please contact me!

Thanks,

Tara

[taram@sc.edu](mailto:taram@sc.edu)

### **Head: Michael Fagans**

The role of the Head of the Division is to write the annual review, define goals, manage the budget, lead meetings, connect officers, and be in touch with AEJMC Headquarters. The Chair manages the primary business meeting and any other meetings that might occur. As a new initiative, the Head will organize the social at the National Conference. This new delegation serves to ease the workload of the Vice-Head and can be viewed as an end-of-the-year party and the last "big hurrah" for the current Head.

### **Vice-Head: Shannon Zenner**

The role of the Vice-Head is to work with the Head of the Division, the Program Coordinator, and Research Chair to oversee and guide the programming and organization of the regional and national conference panels and sessions.

### **Second-Vice Head: Needed**

The Second-Vice Head is in charge of organizing the Visual Communication Division's participation in the Southeast Colloquium. This involves soliciting and selecting panels and research submissions and selecting paper reviewers, moderators, and discussants.

### **Program Coordinator: Needed**

This is a temporary position designed to help us ease out of the two-year commitment. This one requires killer organization skills. The role of the Program Coordinator is to work with the Vice-Head and lead the call-for-panels, the voting for and selection of panels, and the scheduling of panels.

### **Research Chair: Needed**

The research chair manages the paper submission, reviewing and acceptance process for the annual convention. The responsibilities of the position are to update the annual paper call, recruit reviewers, assign submissions to reviewers, accept and reject submissions based on scores and the number of slots available and schedule the accepted papers for presentation.

### **Communication Coordinator: Needed**

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who can distribute news about the division to these three communication channels using one platform.

### **Teaching Chair: Tentatively filled**

The teaching chair's main responsibility is to facilitate two competitions in the spring, Innovations in Teaching and Excellence in Teaching. The former is co-sponsored with the Magazine Division and solicits entries with teaching tips and creative teaching approaches. The teaching chair's job is to work with the social media chair of the VISC Division to publicize the competition, judge all VisComm entries, and collaborate with the Magazine Division's counterpart on the winner list and the teaching panel at the annual AEJMC conference that features winners of both competitions. The Excellence in Teaching contest is a VISC Division-only competition designed to pick one winning visual communication teacher in the tenured and non-tenured categories. The teaching chair works with the division chair and vice-chair(s) to evaluate all qualified entries and select the two winners. The teaching chair also contributes to the quarterly division newsletter and regularly communicates with the division webmaster to post relevant information on the division's website.

### **PF&R Chair: Needed**

The Professional Freedom and Responsibility Chair represents the division's interests in ethics, professional responsibility, and media freedom. The chair writes a quarterly column and attends occasional meetings called by the larger organization for PF&R activities, such as inviting a speaker for the annual convention to address issues pertaining to professional freedom and responsibility. The PF&R chair might also work in coordination with other divisions to propose panels and sessions for the annual conference pertaining to ethics, professional responsibility, and the First Amendment.

Because this is generally a light role, as a new duty, the PF&R chair will coordinate the guest speaker(s) for the annual Visual Communication luncheon at the national conference. This new duty also serves to ease the burden of the Vice-Head.

### **Contest Chair\*: Needed**

This position will oversee our creative contests. They will handle and promote the call for the contest(s), arrange and oversee judges, and manage awards.

\*Please note that a separate call for Chairs for contests will be made.

### **Creative Contest:**

The Creative Research Chair oversees the division's annual Creative Research Competition. This duty includes sending out the call for entries, recruiting judges, organizing the contest entries for evaluation, tallying the judges' scores, relaying results to entrants, writing updates for the division's communications, and moderating the session at the conference.

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## AEJMC 2022 Creative Contest Results



### **Creative Chair**

Jennifer Midberry

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Please come and see the Visual Communication **Creative Research** winners present their work at the annual AEJMC conference in Detroit on Thursday, August 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

#### 1st Place

**Ross Taylor**, University of Colorado Boulder

Mango House

#### 2nd Place

**Brian Graves**, Florida State University, and **Pablo Correa**, University of Saint Joseph

An Army Rising Up

#### 3rd Place (tie)

**Thorne Anderson**, University of North Texas

Beyond Conviction

**Howard Goldbaum**, University of Nevada Reno

The Battle of Gettysburg Cyclorama

Please come and see the winners present their work at the annual conference in Detroit on Thursday, August 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

## AEJMC 2022 Teaching Award Winners

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nmiel@vt.edu

This year's winners of the **Innovation in Teaching** competition, sponsored by the Visual Communication and Magazine divisions of AEJMC:

Engaging Virtual Discussion Groups with Snapchat; Podcasting with Virtual Guests

**Jason Porter**, University of South Carolina\*

Creating Collaborative, Crowd-sourced and Interactive Documentary Projects for Students to Collaborate Around the World

**Susan Cardillo**, University of Hartford\*

The Simple Self Evaluation: An Ungrading Technique to Increase Risk Taking and Creativity

**Shannon Zenner**, Elon University\*

PJ & Jam: Jamboard as a Medium for Peer Critique Sessions

**Tara Mesyn**, Michigan State University\*

Social Network Webbing

**Rebecca Cooney**, Washington State University\*

Survival Entrepreneurship

**Sarah Fisher**, University of Florida\*

Using "This is America" to teach visual analysis

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Teaming up in Zoom – Visual Communication in Synchronous Online Classes

**Sameera Durrani**, University of Technology Sydney\*

PhotoVoice for Social Change

**Sumitra Srinivasan**, University of Toledo\*

Empathy in the newsroom

**Carol B. Schwalbe**, University of Arizona

Video pitch calls and responses: Workshopping story proposals with editors

**Jacqueline Marino**, Kent State University

An affirmative ending

**Sharon Bloyd-Peshkin**, Columbia College Chicago

Writing for the ear by reading out loud

**Kelsey Whipple**, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Interactive transmedia storytelling: You decide your learning route

**Arly Faundes**, Pontificia Universidad

\*Members of the Visual Communication division of AEJMC

The Visual Communication division's winners in the **Excellence in Teaching 2022** competition are:

**Elio Leturia**, Columbia College-Chicago (tenured category)

**Robin Hoecker**, DePaul University (non-tenured category)

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Winners in both competitions will present their teaching tips and showcase visual projects they teach in a special teaching session at AEJMC in Detroit, scheduled for 2 p.m. on Friday, August 5. See you there!

Natalia Mielczarek  
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## VCQ Notes



Editor-in-Chief  
Lawrence Mullen  
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*Visual Communication Quarterly*

I hope everyone is enjoying the new, expanded version of *Visual Communication Quarterly*. I, personally, was happily stunned at the excellent look of the in-color version of the hard copy of 29(1).

I want to share the most recent metrics for the journal as provided by Taylor & Francis.

- Usage to date is at 27,000 annual downloads/views
- Citation Metrics
  - 0.9 CiteScore (Scopus): the average number of citations received by articles in the journal over a four-year period.
  - 0.440 (2020) SNIP (Source Normalized Impact per Paper): the number of citations per paper in the journal, divided by citation potential in the field.
  - 0.201 (2020) SJR (Scimago Journal Rank): Average number of (weighted) citations in one year, divided by the number of articles published in the journal in the previous three years.
- Speed/Acceptance
  - 46 days avg. from submission to first decision
  - 73 days avg. from submission to first post-review decision
  - 89 days avg. from acceptance to online publication
  - 29% acceptance rate

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## Southeast Colloquium Recap by Matt Haught

The **47th annual AEJMC Southeast Colloquium** convened March 17-19 at the University of Memphis. The Visual Communication Division hosted a research session and a professional freedom and responsibility panel.

Christopher T. Assaf, University of Texas-Austin, won the top paper award for "Diminishing the Decisive Moment: Digital Camera Technology's Influence on Photojournalistic Identity." Sheila B. Lalwani, also of UT-Austin, presented "Opportunities for Multidisciplinary Interactions: Photographs as Example." These full papers were discussed by Kyser Lough of the University of Georgia.

Five research in progress papers were also presented. "Influences of Video-Mediated Communication on Learning Performance," by Yuanyi Chen, of the University of Missouri; "Cultural Projection via #IAmaBlackMan Challenge on Instagram," by Candice L. Edrington and Tara Mortensen of the University of South Carolina; "Assessing Diversity in Visual Journalism Through Photographer, Subject and Community Demographics," by Kyser Lough, Cassidy Moore, and Anna Chapman of the University of Georgia; "Mining and Photography: Two Histories Intertwined," by Anthony Cepak of the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga; and "Media Representations of Women in Popular Nigerian YouTube Skits," by Victor Kalalanda of

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The Division had 10 papers submitted and accepted seven for an acceptance rate of 70 percent.

The PF&R panel, Really Sociological Photojournalism: Using Visual Ethnographic Techniques to Learn from Participants, featured Thorne Anderson (University of North Texas), Gina Gayle (Emerson College), Gabriel B. Tait, Emmanuel Flores-Cruz, Rhoni Paige, and Shannon McCloskey (Ball State). Lanele Mathis of Ball State presided. Panelists discussed the anthropological and sociological techniques of working alongside community members, including emphasizing their voices in visual depictions.

Matt Haught (University of Memphis) organized the event and served as research chair.

The conference also included a plenary session, AEJMC from A to Z, hosted by AEJMC leadership, a panel commemorating the legacy of Don Shaw, a founder of the Southeast Colloquium and agenda-setting theory, and a keynote from Margie Mason, a Pulitzer-Prize winning foreign correspondent with the Associated Press.

The Southeast Colloquium is a regional AEJMC conference; papers presented there are eligible to be submitted to the national conference, as well. Middle Tennessee State University will host the 2023 colloquium.

## 2021-2022 Division Officers

### **Head**

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### **Vice-Head/Program Chair**

Mike Fagans  
University of Mississippi

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