

NEWSLETTER

Call for content: Please share your accomplishments, news, and resources with MAC members for the next issue of the newsletter by emailing Solyee Kim at solyee.kim@howard.edu

THE 2024 LIONEL C. BARROW JR. AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT IN DIVERSITY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

NOMINATIONS ARE DUE APRIL 15, 2024

The Lionel C. Barrow Jr. Award for Distinguished Achievement in Diversity Research and Education recognizes outstanding individual accomplishment and leadership in diversity efforts for underrepresented groups by race and ethnicity in Journalism and Mass Communication.

One of the prestigious honors within the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), the Barrow Award for Distinguished Achievement is jointly supported by the Commission on the Status of Minorities (CSMN) and the Minorities and Communication (MAC) Division.

The late Dr. Lionel (Lee) C. Barrow Jr. was a longtime AEJMC member who provided leadership and guidance during his many years of service. In 1968, Dr. Barrow founded the Ad Hoc Committee on Minority Education to recruit, train and place minorities in communications. In 1970, he founded and became the acting head of the Minorities and Communication Division.

Continues on page 4

In This Issue

**Call: The
2024 Barrow
Jr. Award**

More on page 4.

**Statement in
Support of
Kathleen
McEloy**

More on page 5.

**Call: The 2024
Gutiérrez-
Wilson
Teaching
Award**

More on page 7.

**Fundraising:
Gutiérrez-
Wilson
Endowment**

More on page 8.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1

Call: THE 2024 Barrow JR. Award

3

A Note from MAC Head, Maria de Moya

4

**Call: The 2024 Barrow JR. Award and The
Journal of Communication's Special Issue**

5

**Support Statement: In Light of the Texas
A&M Hiring Fiasco**

7

**Call for Nominations: The 2024 Gutiérrez-
Wilson Teaching Award**

8

**Call for Donations: The 2024 Gutiérrez-
Wilson Teaching Award Endowment**

9

MAC Leadership

A NOTE FROM MAC HEAD



Dr. Maria De Moya

Dear MAC,

I trust by now your semesters and quarters are off to a good start! I know it's a busy time—so much so that you are likely too busy to finish this note... So, I will get to the point right away: The goal of this note is to ask you to invite your students, colleagues, mentees, and friends to join MAC. You know you'll be doing them a favor.

Soon, if not already, your inboxes will be flooded with calls for papers, virtual panels, awards deadlines, grant opportunities, job openings, new publications, and more. Many of these messages could be from MAC and our members. I invite you to see in each message an opportunity to reach out to introduce, or remind, others about our division. Forward those emails, mention their content in your one-on-ones and encourage others to engage with us. I hope none of us are willing to wait for friends and colleagues to "discover" MAC when submitting to the conference or renewing their membership. Rather, we can extend the invitation and usher them in.

MAC has always been the professional community where I feel most at home. I joined as a graduate student, looking for a place for my research. Through the work of my MAC peers, I discovered literature that informed my work and offered new research venues. I took advantage of service and professional development opportunities and gladly stepped into a leadership role when asked. Now, I speak to my colleagues and students about my experience, because I think they can benefit from their membership as much as I have.

I want everyone to consider MAC an open community eager to embrace and support new members. We have a robust mentorship program, grants for junior and senior scholars, dedicated awards, interesting programming, and networking opportunities for scholars at any stage of their careers. And of course, we are staying the course. This year, our leadership is working towards the following goals:

1. *Better and more communication with the members.* Sharing news and opportunities via the hub, website, and social media, while encouraging more member participation across the different channels.
2. *Encouraging greater shared governance.* Increasing opportunities to engage the membership, establishing and addressing short-term goals, and developing a stronger pipeline for leadership.
3. *Planning for, and responding, to emerging issues.* Determining best practices and policies for MAC to respond to new issues affecting our members.

In undertaking these goals, the division leadership acknowledges the challenges faced by scholars from marginalized groups, those who study these groups, and everyone whose work touches on diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice.

For example, in this newsletter, you will find a statement of support for Dr. Kathleen McElroy drafted by MAC members and shared widely within AEJMC. We understand Dr. McElroy's experience is not unique, but rather, one of the most recent and public examples of the attacks minoritized faculty members—whether by our identity or research foci—encounter. Whether it is loss of leadership support, reduced employment opportunities, or new restrictive institutional policies or state laws, we can see more obstacles on the horizon. This makes the work of MAC, and our closer collaborator, the Commission on the Status of Minorities, even more important. We are committed to being a division that can face these challenges head-on while encouraging, supporting, and providing a space for the scholars who do this important work.

So as you finalize your syllabi, teach your first classes, meet advisees, and begin new research collaborations, remember to talk to them about MAC, encourage members to be more involved, and invite those who are not, to join. As we strengthen our division, membership will become more rewarding and MAC will be in a better place to promote and celebrate the work of, and about, minoritized groups.

CALL: THE 2024 BARROW JR. AWARD, CONT' FROM PAGE 1

The Communication Theory and Methodology Division renamed its diversity scholarship for him in 1997, the same year he received the AEJMC Presidential Award for his contributions. In 2005, he was recognized with one of AEJMC's highest honors, the Distinguished Service Award, for his outstanding service in promoting diversity within the association and the discipline.

This award honors Dr. Barrow's lasting impact and recognizes others who are making their mark in diversifying Journalism and Mass Communication education. The Lionel C. Barrow Jr. Award will be presented during the 2024 AEJMC annual conference in Philadelphia.

Judging Criteria

Barrow finalists are judged by their outstanding contributions in two of the three following areas: (1) a sustained record over time of publication on racial and ethnic minorities in journalism and mass communication; and/or (2) a sustained record over time of contribution to teaching and service of racial and ethnic minorities in journalism and mass communication; and/or (3) the publication of an impactful book on racial and ethnic minorities in journalism and mass communication.

Applicants do NOT have to wait to be nominated by an AEJMC member to apply but must include two letters of support from AEJMC members in their packets.

Application Process

Application packets should contain the following:

1. Applicant's personal statement of no more than 350 words describing the "big picture" of their research or of their teaching/service, including personal philosophies and/or outcomes. A nomination based on an impactful book should briefly share the story behind the book and how it came to be.
2. A three-page CV outlining specific information pertinent to the application.
3. Two letters of support from AEJMC members, with at least one explicitly naming the applicant's specific area of contributions.
3. Additional materials, which might include (but are not limited to) abstracts of research findings; professional papers and published articles (no more than five total); text of a speech delivered or prepared for delivery; course outlines, innovative teaching tools or teaching evaluations; or other recognition pertaining to the applicant.

The entire application packet should be combined into one .pdf file and be **no longer than 15 .pdf pages** (including additional materials). Applications exceeding this length will be disqualified.

Entries should be emailed to Dr. Maria De Moya, Head of the Minorities in Communication Division, at mdemoyat@utk.edu by 11:59 p.m. EDT by April 15. Please make sure to reference the Barrow Award in your subject line. Any questions about the awards can be directed to Dr. De Moya.

CALL FOR PAPER: JOURNAL OF COMMUNICATION SPECIAL ISSUE ON TIME IN COMMUNICATION RESEARCH AND THEORIES

Dear colleagues,

We are co-editing a special issue at the *Journal of Communication* on "Time in Communication Research and Theories." We appreciate it if you can help disseminate the Call for Papers within your social networks and your groups. Of course, we hope you and your teams would be interested in this Call.

We welcome contributions from all areas of communication research and encourage interdisciplinary collaborations. The deadline for submitting extended abstracts is **March 15, 2024**.

Sincerely,

Winson Peng, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Communication,
Michigan State University
Joyce Wang, Ph.D., Professor, School of Communication, Ohio
State University

SUPPORT STATEMENT: IN LIGHT OF THE TEXAS A&M HIRING FIASCO, AEJMC MEMBERS PROPOSE NEW SOLUTIONS AND BEST PRACTICES

We are members of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), an organization of more than 2,500 educators, professionals and graduate students. Founded in 1912, we prepare future journalists and communication professionals who are essential to our democracy. We are concerned with the rise of anti-diversity activism and its undue influence on public universities' merit-based hiring and promotion procedures.

The association's mission, according to its website, is "to promote the highest possible standards for journalism and mass communication education, to cultivate the widest possible range of communication research, to encourage the implementation of a multi-cultural society in the classroom and curriculum, and to defend and maintain freedom of communication in an effort to achieve better professional practice and a better-informed public."

We are also members of the Commission on the Status of Minorities (CSMN), Minorities and Communication Division (MACD), Commission on the Status of Women (CSWM), Small Programs Interest Group (SPIG), and Professional Freedom and Responsibility Committee (PF&R). CSMN serves as an advocate for multiculturalism. The MACD Division supports the promotion of research, teaching, and service among US-based racial/ethnic minoritized groups. CSWM encourages diverse research and conference programming on the status of women in journalism and mass communication education.

Small Programs Interest Group (SPIG) provides a forum for those faculty in small programs

whose primary emphasis is teaching, advising and mentoring undergraduate students. PF&R focuses on five core areas: Free Expression; Ethics; Media Criticism and Accountability; Diversity and Inclusion; and Public Service. The mission of the LGBTQ Interest Group is to help journalism and mass communication educators understand the importance of integrating LGBTQ issues and perspectives in journalism and mass comm. education.

As members, we are committed to promoting the highest possible standards for core values freedom of the press, diversity, ethics, academic freedom, accountability and the tenets of social responsibility. Newly passed state laws against diversity, the Supreme Court's ruling rejecting affirmative action in college admissions, and the rise of groups opposing diversity have had a chilling effect on public discourse, teaching, research, and service.

DEI and Failed Hirings

We are writing specifically in response to the failed hiring involving Dr. Kathleen McElroy where Texas A&M administrators considered factors that are not normally considered in the hiring process and according to news reports yielded to pressure from outside entities, including donors, alumni and other stakeholders.

McElroy is a professor and former director of the School of Journalism and Media at the University of Texas at Austin. Aside from her impressive reputation as a journalist and educator, she is a noted former editor for esteemed publications such as *The New York Times*, *Austin American Statesman* and *Bryan College Station Eagle* for more than 20 years.

Continues on page 5

SUPPORT STATEMENT: IN LIGHT OF THE TEXAS A&M HIRING FIASCO, AEJMC MEMBERS PROPOSE NEW SOLUTIONS AND BEST PRACTICES, CONT.

McElroy and Texas A&M resolved the hiring disagreement amicably; however, her case brings attention to other failed hirings, including the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's treatment of Nikole Hannah-Jones. The rise of discrimination, violation of hiring policies and the resulting influence on faculty in journalism and mass communication programs should be of concern to every member of AEJMC. As an academic organization that supports scholarship, education, and professional practice we promote the importance of diversity and equality for those who work in academia.

While AEJMC has practices, divisions and commissions in place to foster diversity in academia, now is the time to reconsider the effectiveness of these initiatives.

Solutions and Best Practices

We encourage AEJMC leadership to develop processes to help expand support for AEJMC members of color and other marginalized groups. Of utmost importance is the development of a system to document, map and monitor incidents and systemic practices that negatively impact AEJMC members of color and other marginalized groups.

This system must help identify and respond appropriately when members are negatively impacted by laws targeting vulnerable populations.

Members should expect AEJMC to become an intentionally safe space for members to speak up when they experience discrimination, and/or policies are violated without fear of repercussions. Members need to also advocate on behalf of members who experience discrimination or witness it.

We also strongly recommend the organization develop a rapid response team to mobilize when systemic practices occur that threaten DEI, access to resources and academic freedom. This system should serve as a resource for individuals who need support when facing challenges related to discrimination based on race and ethnicity (as well as other intersectional factors, such as gender, age, sexuality and disability).

Finally, we recommend AEJMC have a keynote speaker address the current DEI climate at an upcoming conference.

Signed AEJMC Members:

Mia Moody-Ramirez, *MAC Division Past Head & CSM incoming Vice Head*

Paula M. Poindexter, *AEJMC 2014 President*

Maria De Moya, *MAC Division Head*

Sydney Dillard, *Former MAC Division Head*

Nathanial Frederick II, *CSMN Head*

Carolyn Nielsen, *CSWN Head*

Cathy Jackson, *Past CSMN Head*

Kay Colley, *LGBTQ Interest Group Head*

Gabe B. Tait, *Former AEJMC PF&R Chair*

George Daniels, *Past MAC Division Head and incoming AEJMC PF&R Vice Chair*

Jerry Crawford, *Past AEJMC PF&R Chair*

Ken Campbell, *Past MAC Division Head*

Kim Fox, *2020-21 CSWM Head*

Sharon Bramlett-Solomon, *MAC Division Past Head and Past CSM Head*

Shirley Staples Carter, *Past ASJMC President*

Federico Subervi, *Past CSMN Head*

Melody Fisher, *Past MACD Head*

Mimi Perreault, *Former CSWM Head*

Gheni Platenburg

Dorothy Bland

Miya Williams Fayne

Nathian Rodriguez

Robert Richardson

Meta Carstarphen

MAC Division of AEJMC Invites Nominations for the 2024 Gutiérrez-Wilson Teaching Award

Nomination Deadline: March 1, 2024

The MAC Division is accepting self-nominations for the 2024 “Félix F. Gutiérrez and Clint C. Wilson II MAC Award for Teaching Excellence and Innovation.” The teaching award recipient will receive a \$500 cash prize and an engraved award that will be presented at the 2024 AEJMC Annual Conference. Nominees for the Gutiérrez-Wilson MAC Award for Teaching Excellence and Innovation must teach full-time and have been a MAC Division member for a minimum of two years.

To nominate yourself, please submit your nomination materials by the March 1, 2024 deadline. Nomination materials include:

- Cover Page
- Self-Nomination Letter
- Course Syllabus

Cover Page

Please include the following information on the Cover Page: Your name, title, department/unit, university, city and state, email address, and mobile phone number.

Self-Nomination Letter

The self-nomination letter should be doubled spaced with 12-point type and not exceed 1,000 words which is equivalent to four double-spaced pages. The letter should speak to your teaching excellence and innovation in a new course or a course that you have been teaching. There is no subject or level requirement for the course that you describe in your self-nomination letter. Additionally, in your self-nomination letter, please include your teaching experience and perspective as well as how the excellence and innovation that you describe have had a positive impact on your students.

Also, please include the names and email addresses of up to three students whom the review committee may contact for student feedback on the class that is the focus of your self-nomination letter.

Course Syllabus

The syllabus should be for the course referenced in the self-nomination letter.

Order of Nomination Materials

The three components of the Nomination Materials should be saved as a PDF file in the following order: Cover Page, Self-Nomination Letter, Syllabus. Please label the file “MAC 2024 Teaching Award Nomination for [insert nominee’s name]” with the nominee’s name filled in, and email to paula.poindexter@austin.utexas.edu by the **March 1, 2024** deadline. In the email subject line, please include “Nomination for 2024 Gutiérrez-Wilson MAC Teaching Award.”

For More Information & Award Background

To learn more about the teaching award, please email MAC Teaching Award Committee Chair Paula Poindexter at paula.poindexter@austin.utexas.edu. The award, which was established in 2022, is named in honor of long-time MAC members Dr. Félix F. Gutiérrez, University of Southern California Professor of Journalism Emeritus, and Dr. Clint C. Wilson II, Howard University Graduate Professor Emeritus. The first Gutiérrez-Wilson Teaching Award was presented in Detroit during the 2022 AEJMC Annual Conference to Dr. Meta Carstarphen, Professor of Strategic Communication in the Gaylord College of Journalism and Communication at the University of Oklahoma.



Join 37 MAC members who have already donated to the Gutiérrez-Wilson Teaching Award Endowment that supports MAC's newest award that recognizes exceptional teaching and honors two trailblazing journalism educators.

You can write a check or contribute online through AEJMC's website. Checks should be made out to AEJMC with "Gutiérrez-Wilson Teaching Award (MACD)" in the memo line, and mailed to: AEJMC; 234 Outlet Pointe Blvd., Suite A; Columbia, SC 29210-5667. To contribute online, click the link <https://aejmc2.wufoo.com/forms/aejmc-donations> and complete the "AEJMC Donations" form. Under "Donations Options," scroll down to "Divisions, Interest Groups, and Commissions," and select "Minorities and Communications (MACD). In the space, "Write-in Donation Choice, write "Gutiérrez-Wilson Teaching Award."

While all contributions will help reach our \$25,000 Gutiérrez-Wilson Teaching Award Endowment goal, please consider giving at one of the following donor levels: Platinum \$5,000+; Gold \$1,000 to \$4,999; Silver \$500 to \$999; Bronze \$101 to \$499; Patron \$100.

For questions about becoming a Gutiérrez-Wilson Teaching Award Endowment Donor or nominating yourself for the 2024 teaching award, please email the chair of the Gutiérrez-Wilson Teaching Award Committee at paula.poindexter@austin.utexas.edu.



**\$15,100 Raised;
\$9,900 to Go to
Reach \$25,000,
the Minimum
Required for a
Permanent
Endowment
to Support the
"Félix F.
Gutiérrez and
Clint C. Wilson II
MAC Award for
Teaching
Excellence and
Innovation"**



AEJMC MAC LEADERSHIP 2023-2024



Head
Maria De Moya
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
mdemoyat@utk.edu



Vice-Head
Vanessa Bravo
Elon University
vbravo@elon.edu



Second Vice-Head
Danielle Brown
Michigan State University
dkbrown@msu.edu



Secretary
Denetra Walker
University of Georgia
DenetraWalker@uga.edu



Faculty Research Chair
Rafael Matos
Northwestern University
r.o.matos@live.iup.edu



Student Research Chair
Christina Najera
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
leticia.williams12@howard.edu



Midwinter Research Chair
Lourdes Cueva Chacon
San Diego State University
lcuevachacon@sdsu.edu



PF&R Chair
Keonte Coleman
Syracuse University
kecolema@syr.edu



Teaching Chair
Nathian Rodriguez
San Diego State University
nsrodriguez@sdsu.edu



Mentoring Co-Chair
Chelsea Peterson-Salahuddin
University of Michigan
caaps@umich.edu



Mentoring Co-Chair
Ajia Meux
University of Oklahoma
ajameux@ou.edu



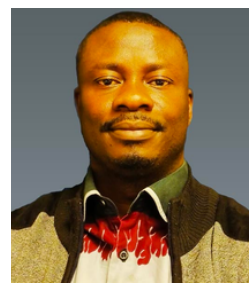
Membership Chair
Miya Williams Fayne
California State University, Fullerton
mwilliamsfayne@fullerton.edu



Grants Chair
Ghenni Platenburg
University of Houston
gnplatenburg@uh.edu



Social Media Coordinator &
Webmaster
Tawfiq Abdullah
University of Southern Mississippi
tawfiq.abdullah@gmail.com



Graduate Student Liaison
Benjamin Tetteh
Syracuse University
bptetteh@syr.edu



Newsletter Editor
Solyee Kim
Howard University
solyee.kim@howard.edu