

AEJMC Commission on the Status of Women

Bylaws

Voted upon and approved March 12, 2013

**Article I – Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Commission on the Status of Women

**Article II – Purpose**

The purpose of the Commission is to advocate for the improvement of the status of women in journalism and mass communication as well as in the journalism and mass communication workforce. The Commission shall promote feminist scholarship in journalism and mass communication, and shall plan and present programs.

**Article III – Membership**

Membership in the Commission shall be open to members who are in good standing of AEJMC (who are dues-paying members of the Commission.)

**Article IV – Officers**

**Section 1.** The officers of the Commission shall be a Chair, a Vice/Program Chair, a Research Chair, a Midwinter Conference Chair, a Newsletter Editor, and a Secretary/Recorder. These officers shall perform duties prescribed by these Bylaws and Constitution and Bylaws of AEJMC.

**Section 2.** Except for the Chair position, the election of the officers shall be held at the annual meeting. Unless otherwise specified at the time of the election, the term of office for each position will be one year. The Chair position will be filled by the person holding the Vice Chair position the previous year.

**Article V – Executive Committee**

**Section 1.** The Executive Committee of the Commission shall consist of the elected officers.

**Section 2.** The Executive Committee shall have general responsibility for the conduct of affairs of the Commission between its annual business meetings, fix the time and place of meetings, make recommendations to the Commission, and perform other studies as may be prescribed by the Bylaws.

**Article VI – Duties of the Officers**

**Section 1.** The Chair shall oversee the activities of the commission and shall appoint any committees and task forces deemed necessary. The Chair shall be the person who coordinates liaisons between the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on the Status of Minorities and other groups within AEJMC actively engaged in supporting the nondiscrimination and multicultural inclusiveness clause in the AEJMC Constitution. (These groups include those designated to lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender issues and interests of persons with disabilities.) This person also shall coordinate liaisons between the Commission on the Status of Women and Divisions within AEJMC. This duty shall include the appointment of a graduate student liaison at the annual business meeting. The Chair shall have signing authority for the budget and shall report on the budget at the annual meeting. The Chair also shall represent the Commission at meetings of the AEJMC Executive Committee and assist other officers as necessary. The Chair shall oversee and coordinate the process for the Commission's annual awards, aside from research paper awards. The Chair also will advocate for women within AEJMC.

**Section 2.** The Vice/Program Chair shall be responsible for the preparation of the program for the annual meeting, including attendance at the AEJMC midwinter meeting and chip auction, or procedures implemented in the chip auction's place. The Vice/Program Chair shall assist the Chair as necessary. The Vice/Program Chair will become the Chair in the succeeding year, as noted in Article IV, Section 2.

**Section 3.** The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible for publication of a newsletter at least three times per year.

**Section 4.** The Secretary/Recorder will be responsible for taking minutes at the annual meeting. The Secretary/Recorder also shall be responsible for coordinating membership drives.

**Section 5.** The Research Chair shall be responsible for conducting competitions for research papers to be presented at the annual meeting in compliance with the AEJMC Standing Committee on Research.

**Section 6.** The Midwinter Conference Chair shall be responsible for conducting competitions for research papers and preparing the programming for the Commission's participation in AEJMC's Midwinter Conference. This officer shall attend that conference and serve as the Commission's representative for that conference, unless otherwise designated.

#### **Article VII. The Resource Committee**

**Section 1.** A Resource Committee, made up of full professors who are members of the Commission on the Status of Women, shall be appointed by the Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women as necessary, and shall serve the following functions.

- A. Collate information and provide information to members who experience sexual, gender and other harassment and/or discrimination situations.
- B. Keep informed about reported instances of discrimination, in the spirit of the non-discrimination and multicultural inclusiveness clause in the AEJMC Constitution. The committee shall not duplicate the monitoring functions of the Standing Committees of AEJMC.
- C. Provide contact information about members of the Commission who are willing to provide a support network for members who experience discrimination and/or harassment as well as persons who are supporting those who have experienced discrimination and/or harassment.

#### **Article VIII. Meetings**

**Section 1.** The annual business meeting of the Commission shall be conducted during the annual meeting of AEJMC for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees, and any other business that may arise.

**Section 2.** Special meetings of the Commission may be called by the Chair of the Executive Committee.

#### **Article IX. Amendments**

These bylaws can be amended at any regular meeting of the Commission by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, provided that the proposed amendment has been distributed to members of the Commission 30 days before the meeting.

**These bylaws were last amended on March 12, 2013 by a vote of 54-0.**