

MIDWINTER 2024 NEWSLETTER

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (AEJMC)

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State of the Commission on the Status of Women in Journalism, Media, and Communication Education

CSW Head, Dr. Carolyn Nielsen, Western Washington University

After several years of CSW advocacy work, AEJMC's executive board has approved a new [Caregiver and Child Friendly Culture policy](#) that seeks to make AEJMC a more inclusive and welcoming place.

Former CSW Head Mimi Perreault, CSW Research Co-Chair Cara Hawkins-Jedlicka, CSW members Kelsey Mesmer and Anastasia Kononova, and AEJMC members Devin Knighton and Guy Harrison worked together to draft the policy. It builds on the previous leadership of former CSW heads and members including Candi Carter-Olson, Kim Fox, and Meg Heckman. CSW is grateful to all who contributed their time and tenacity to bring this policy to fruition.

Some of the highlights of the new policy include recognizing that parents and caregivers "should be able to participate fully in AEJMC and its conferences," that childcare is expensive and difficult to find, and as a result, children may be in the room with their parents during sessions. The policy also recognizes that this is an equity issue because lack of caregiver support often results in scholars being unable to attend conferences.

As a former pre-tenure, single mom who juggled two kids at one conference before giving up, I am over here applauding. This policy makes me feel seen.

CSW should be proud of leading this charge that will benefit all AEJMC members. Cultural change takes time. It is important that we stand as allies to people facing backlash from those resistant to the acknowledge caregiver labor. If you experience this, please reach out me as leader of the newly reconstituted Rapid Response Team.

AEJMC and CSW leadership are continuing to work on putting resources in place. This year, AEJMC will again attempt to provide subsidized childcare for the conference in Philadelphia. The primary obstacle is expense.

AEJMC is asking Divisions and Interest Groups to make a three-year pledge to contribute to childcare funding. This would allow AEJMC to sign a financially beneficial multi-year contract. The CSW Executive Board will be taking up this discussion at our April 24 meeting. We welcome your questions, concerns, and input.

It would also be helpful if our members could please communicate support for subsidized childcare to the leadership of other DIGs of which you are a member.

As always, thanks to all you who so generously give your time to serve CSW. If you would like to become more involved, there are several avenues. Please be sure you are following CSW in the [AEJMC Community](#). Feel free to share your questions, interest, or concerns with me: cenielse@wwu.edu.



CSW AEJMC 2024 Paper Call

Philadelphia, PA (August 8-11)

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) invites students and faculty to submit original research for competitive paper sessions that discuss gender representation, identity, or performativity in the context of journalism, media, and communication. The Commission invites projects that use a variety of methodological approaches, including but not limited to critical, empirical, ethnographic, historical, legal, and semiotic analyses. It is expected that papers will employ feminist theoretical frameworks or will be grounded in the extant literature on issues of gender equality and intersectionality. The Commission encourages research that shows awareness of how gender intersects with class, race, disability, sexual orientation, and other sociocultural markers.

Past papers presented to the CSW have explored topics such as representations of girls and women in the news; the role of gender in newsrooms or classrooms; effects of media on women and girls; feminist approaches to teaching and communication; girls' and women's use of/production of media; gender equality in the profession or the academy; how gender influences or matters in health, risk, and crisis public relations campaigns, etc. However, the CSW is open to papers that address issues beyond the scope of these traditional topics and are grounded in recent developments in feminist and gender-related scholarship.

The suggested paper length is 25 pages (double-spaced, 12-point type), excluding tables, references, figures, or illustrations. We especially encourage submissions by graduate students. Awards will be given to the top faculty-student paper, the top student paper, the top faculty paper, and the top paper submitted by an undergraduate student (with or without their advisor). The authors of the top papers will be recognized in the conference program and at the CSW business meeting at the conference. This paper call is part of the overall AEJMC call for research papers; all submissions must adhere to the general guidelines put forth by AEJMC. Please consult the AEJMC 2024 Paper Competition Uniform Call for information about paper formatting, submission deadline, and other requirements.

CSWM will be accepting extended abstracts according to the uniform call. The extended abstract format is suitable for authors who are sufficiently along in the research process to address the content elements described below but have not had sufficient time to prepare a full paper. Extended abstracts must be uploaded as a single file to the AEJMC All-Academic site no later than 11:59 P.M. (Central Daylight Time) Monday, April 1, 2024. Authors whose extended abstracts are selected for presentation at the conference should still submit their full paper, with all identifying author information, to the All-Academic site by 11:59 p.m. CDT, July 15, 2024. Extended abstracts may be submitted to only one division or interest group. To preserve the value of fully developed research papers, extended abstracts will not be eligible for division or AEJMC conferencewide awards. Notes: The length of extended abstracts must be at least 750 words but no more than 1,500 words. A 75word (max.) summary of the abstract should precede the abstract itself. References and summary are excluded from the word count. Extended abstracts should contain all the same content sections/elements that would normally be used in a paper submission.

The main difference, however, is the length of the submission format. For authors considering the extended abstract option, data collection and analysis must be at least 75% complete in order to meaningfully report tentative findings and conclusions. Authors should clearly report how far along the data collection and analysis phases are, respectively, and explain what steps remain and the anticipated value/contribution of these steps, so that reviewers can assess the foundations on which conclusions are based. Extended abstracts will be reviewed and scored using evaluation criteria specific to the abstracts and not the same as those used for full papers. When submitting in this format, authors must select the "Extended Abstract" option in AllAcademic AND include the words "Extended Abstract" at the start of their paper title (e.g., "Extended Abstract: [Your paper title]"). Authors should clearly indicate the same on the title page of their submission. Submissions that are not appropriately labeled may be rejected. When creating the file for upload, please insert the 75-word summary of the abstract at the beginning of the extended abstract, so that this is what readers and reviewers see first. Please ensure all identifying author information has been removed for extended abstract submissions and that title pages do not contain author information. Please reference the AEJMC Uniform Paper Call for information about how to ensure this information is removed in order to ensure a blind review. Other than the extended abstract format (including length differences) and ineligibility for award competitions, all other 2024 AEJMC Uniform Paper Guidelines apply.

Please note that papers containing any identifying author information will be disqualified. Authors are encouraged to take every precaution to ensure that their self-citations (if any) do not reveal their identity. Please forward any questions or queries to the CSWM Research Co-chairs: Nagwan Zahry (nagwan-zahry@utc.edu) or Cara Hawkins-Jedlicka (c.hawkins-jedlicka@wsu.edu).

Uniform Paper Call AEJMC 2024

The programming groups within the Council of Divisions of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication invite submission of original, nonpublished, research papers to be considered for presentation at the AEJMC Conference, August 7 to 11, 2024, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Specific requirements for each competition — including limits on paper length — are spelled out in the listing of groups and research chairs that appear below. Submissions are to be in English only.

1. All research submissions must be uploaded through an online server to the group appropriate to the submission's topic via a link on the AEJMC website: www.AEJMC.org. The following uniform call will apply to ALL AEJMC group competitions. Additional information specific to an individual group's call is available at the end of the uniform call information.
2. Submit via the AEJMC website link (<https://community.aejmc.org/conference/papercompetition/papercall>) to the AEJMC group appropriate to the submission's topic. Format should be Word, WordPerfect, or a PDF. **PDF format is strongly encouraged.** To submit an extended abstract, see <https://community.aejmc.org/conference/papercompetition/papercall>.
3. The submission must be uploaded to the server no later than 11:59 P.M. (Central Daylight Time) **Monday, April 1, 2024.**
4. Also upload an abstract of no more than 75 words.
5. Completely fill out the online submission form with author(s) name, affiliation, mailing address, telephone number, and email address. The title should be printed on the first page of the text and on running heads on each page of text, as well as on the title page. **Do NOT include author's name on running heads or title page.**
6. **Papers should adhere to the best practices of diversity and inclusion in scholarly research.**
7. Submissions uploaded with author's identifying information WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR REVIEW AND WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE COMPETITION. ALL AEJMC DIVISIONS, INTEREST GROUPS AND COMMISSION SUBMISSIONS WILL ABIDE BY THIS RULE WITHOUT EXCEPTION. Reviewers and research chairs are not to search document properties or anywhere else beyond the text of the paper for identifying information.
8. **Submissions are accepted for peer review on the understanding that they are not already under review for other conferences and that they have been submitted to only ONE AEJMC group for evaluation.** Submissions accepted for the AEJMC Conference should not have been presented to other conferences, with the exception of AEJMC regional conferences, and cannot be published or appear online prior to the paper and abstract competition deadline.
9. Student submissions compete on an equal footing in open paper competitions unless otherwise specified by the individual division or interest group. Individual group specifications are appended to this uniform call.
10. Research submitted with both faculty and student authors will be considered faculty submissions and are not eligible for student competitions.
11. If a submission is accepted, and the author does not present at the conference, or plan for the submission to be presented by another, then the acceptance status is revoked. It may not be included on a vita.
12. Authors will be advised whether their submission has been accepted by **May 20** and may access a copy of reviewers' comments from the online server. Contact the research chair if you are not notified or have questions about submission acceptance.

Special note: Authors who have submitted research and have not been notified by **May 20** MUST contact the division or interest group research chair for acceptance information. The AEJMC Central Office may not have this information available.

13. Authors of accepted submissions retain copyright of their papers and are free to submit them for publication after receiving paper reviewers' comments.

Important Submission Information

- Upload submissions for the AEJMC 2024 Philadelphia, PA conference beginning **January 15, 2024**. Submitters should follow instructions on the front page of the submission site to create your account and complete the information required.
- Deadline for submissions is **April 1, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. CDT**. Any submissions after this time will not be accepted.
- **Before submitting your research, please make certain that all author identifying information has been removed** and that all instructions have been followed per the AEJMC uniform call. **Take every precaution to ensure that your self-citations do not in any way reveal your identity.** There are three solutions to issues of self-

- citation:
 - Remove language that signals the author of the published work is also the author of the current paper. For example, the author may simply use “in a previous study, researchers...” rather than “in a previously published pilot study, I...” or “As I argued in...” This is not always possible since authors may desire to build on their previous works, but wording can be rewritten to avoid obvious self-citation in many cases.
 - Eliminating the citations altogether is another option and helps remove the awkward inclusion of “Author, Date” self-citations in the reference list. This may risk having the authors seem unknowledgeable by failing to refer to work that reviewers may commonly know. But often there is no problem by using another citation in its place.
 - Ultimately, combining the two strategies described above may be the best solution. Authors are encouraged to remove personal pronouns and other descriptive language surrounding their work that might reveal a redacted name or pinpoint the source of an existing work. It may be best to cite your work sparingly without any signal of authorship. By carefully considering the wording surrounding citing your own work, it is often possible to eliminate issues that have caused conference submission disqualifications in the past simply by revising wording around the self-cited works. Simply put, cite your own work as if it were being cited by another author—not yourself.
- **A COVER SHEET or a sheet with the 75word required ABSTRACT that is included with a paper upload should be EXCLUDED from the page number limits set by all AEJMC Groups.**

Submissions uploaded with author’s identifying information displayed **WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR REVIEW AND WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE COMPETITION.** All AEJMC Divisions, Interest Groups and Commission will abide by the rules below **WITHOUT EXCEPTION.**

NOTE: Contact Felicia Greenlee Brown with comments, concerns and other Conference Paper Call inquiries at Felicia@aejmc.org.



CALL FOR PAPER REVIEWERS

We are looking for reviewers for 107th Annual AEJMC Conference paper competition for the Commission of the Status of Women (CSW). We know that this is a major undertaking, and we appreciate your willingness to review or judge papers this year. Please sign-up here: <https://forms.gle/nG6UwnPAumN6MbZ88>.

Once you fill out the google form, please go now to the All-Academic site through the AEJMC website or to this address <https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/aejmc/aejmc24/> and create an account (username and password) in the All-Academic System. Go to the right side of the page and scroll down until you come to “Click here to create new username and password.” This will allow for assignments of papers to proceed quickly, and you will have immediate access to your assigned papers to review soon after the All-Academic system closes for paper uploading.

Creating your username and password now will also allow you to submit, review and download papers all from the same created account. You will not be able to view anything yet with All-Academic, but creating your username and password will allow us to complete the process of updating the site for the Philadelphia Paper Competition. **Each year is unique, and if you created an account last year, you will need to do so again this year.**

Thank you for assisting the Commission of the Status of Women of AEJMC. Your input is invaluable. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nagwan Zahry (nagwan-zahry@utc.edu) or Cara Hawkins-Jedlicka (c.hawkins-jedlicka@wsu.edu).

Highlights from AEJMC 2024 Midwinter Conference at the University of Oklahoma

The AEJMC Midwinter Conference was a success, and the Commission on the Status of Women is grateful for all the meaningful submissions as well as the presenters who made the trip to Norman, Oklahoma! – Dr. Katie Olsen, Midwinter Co-chair

- Statistics:
 - 13 total paper submissions
 - 10 accepted
- Paper Sessions:
 - *International Portrayal of Women in the Media*
 - *Rethinking Gender Roles: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives*
 - *Feminism in Digital Spaces*



Featured in picture, presenters from the *International Portrayal of Women in the Media* session:

- Francesco Somaini, Central Washington University, & Jenny Dean, Texas Wesleyan University
- Lamya Achelha & Katie Olsen, Kansas State University
- Aman Misra & Erin Whiteside, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Mackenzie Michavicz, Texas Tech University

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Midwinter Conference Top Abstract Winner Interview

Breann Murphy, Jacksonville State University
*The Impact of the Employee: How Downward
Social Comparisons Influence the Leadership of
Female CCOs*



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Q1: What was the inspiration behind your paper?

With my research, I am interested in learning more about the challenges and practices of women in top executive leadership positions, particularly in the public relations industry. While the majority of entry-level or mid-level positions in public relations are filled by women, it is not necessarily the case among the c-suite, and I am inspired to learn why. So, with this project, I wanted to explore how female CCOs look to their employees for leadership assessment and how it influences their leadership practice. From this research, I learned these women are not necessarily comparing themselves to their employees but rather leaning into them for self-observation and reassurance on their effectiveness as leaders.

Q2: How does your project fit with CSW's mission to highlight the status of women in journalism and mass communication?

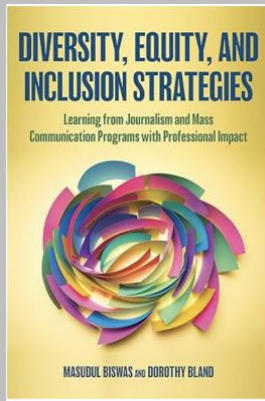
This project provides a platform or voice for these women to share their lived experiences and knowledge about serving in the c-suite. The CSW has always supported gender equity and empowerment, which I believe relates to this project. It gives insight into how these women are learning from and supporting their employees in an ever-changing landscape. It also highlights how these women are seeking out sources of information to be effective leaders, while many of them serve as the sole female voice at their affiliated executive table, which is important in determining how current and future female leaders can work towards and manage similar career paths.

Q3: What is next for you?

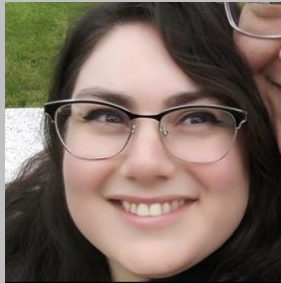
I plan to continue exploring the leadership challenges and practices of women in top executive positions. Some of my recent projects have explored how interactions with other executive leaders influences the leadership of these women, but I am also interested in exploring informal ways these women seek out mentorship, since mentorship can be difficult to find at the top executive level. I am also interested in continuing to explore the reasons why there seems to be a difference in representation or presence of women from entry to upper-level positions. I also recently earned tenure and promotion to associate professor at Jacksonville State University!

PROMOTIONS & PUBLICATIONS

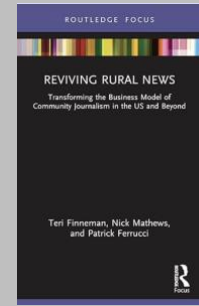
Masudul Biswas, Loyola University, & **Dr. Dorothy Bland**, University of North Texas
Publication: *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategies: Learning from Journalism and Mass Communication Programs with Professional Impact* (2023)



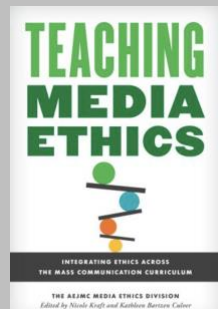
Jade Metzger-Riftkin, Northern Arizona University
Promoted: to interim Mt. Hub Regional Leader for The Alliance of Students with Disabilities for Inclusion, Engineering, and Mathematics (TAPDINTO-STEM), an NSF Eddie Bernice Johnson INCLUDES Initiative. She was also promoted to Research Associate at the Institute for Human Development at Northern Arizona University.



Teri Finneman, University of Kansas, **Nick Matthews**, & **Pat Ferrucci**
Publication: *Reviving Rural News (Disruptions)* (2024)



Nicole Kraft, Ohio State University, & **Katy Culver**, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Publication: *Teaching Media Ethics* (Editors)



Teri Finneman, University of Kansas
Podcast: *The First Ladies* (Quinnipiac Podcast Studio, available on Apple Podcasts and Spotify)

Mimi Wiggins Perreault, University of South Florida
Publication: *Crisis Communication Case Studies on COVID-19: Multidimensional Perspectives and Applications* (2024)



Janice M. Collins, Ohio University
Promotion: Associate Professor at E. W. Scripps School of Journalism
Publication: *Academic woundedness and healing: Welcome to the Queendom! (Agenda, 2023)*
Publication: *Riding the Rainbow Through the Storms: A Colorful, Humorous Story of Recovery* (2023)
Publication: contributed a chapter to *Salt and Light: Inspiring Stories of Love, Hope, Faith, and Transformation* (2023)

PROMOTIONS & PUBLICATIONS

Sahar Khamis, University of Maryland

New Position: President of the Arab-US Association for Communication Educators (AUSACE)

New Position: Chair of the Spiritual Communication Division at the National Communication Association (NCA)

New Position: member of the University of Maryland's Joint Presidential/ Senate Antisemitism and Islamophobia Task Force

Publication: *Effective Countering Islamophobia Strategies in the Digital Age: Three Approaches* (Islamophobia Studies Journal, 2023)

Publication: *The Paradoxes of Modern Islamic Discourses and Socio-Religious Transformation in the Digital Age* (Religions, 2024)



Michelle Ferrier, Ohio University

Publication: *A Hybrid Model of Media Entrepreneurship Using Open Pedagogy Principles*, contributing chapter in *Pedagogy Opened: Innovative Theory & Practice* (2024)

