

Friday, August 7, 2026

7:30 to 9:30 a.m. / F001

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Membership Committee

Business Session
Committee Meeting

Moderating/Presiding
Jennifer Vardeman, Houston, Chair

8 to 9:15 a.m. / F002

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

[00-0800] — Scholar-to-Scholar (Poster) Refereed Research Paper Session

International Communication Division – [50]

Media Ethics Division – [25]

Discussant
name, affiliation

[RP] = Denotes a Research-in-Progress submission.

Research presentations should be placed on the board with the corresponding **numbers in red** in the conference program. This will help ensure a smooth flow and easy access to all presentations during the session. To facilitate this process, presentations may be put in place beginning **30-minutes** prior to your assigned presentation time. This will allow for ample time to set up and make any necessary adjustments before the session begins. We appreciate your cooperation in making sure that all presentations are displayed accurately and efficiently.

8 to 9:15 a.m. / F003

Communication Theory and Methodology and Public Relations Divisions

Teaching Panel Session
Seeing Patterns: Teaching Data Analytics and AI-Driven Visualization in Mass Communication

Moderating/Presiding
Judith E. Rosenbaum, Maine

Panelists
Amanda Weed, Kennesaw State
Joe Colacurcio, SVP Analytics & Intelligence, Weber Shandwick
Lee Ahern, Pennsylvania State
Hunter Overton, Pennsylvania State

This panel explores how communication educators can integrate data analytics and artificial intelligence into undergraduate curricula to cultivate critical, visual, and analytical thinking. Panelists will discuss strategies for teaching data storytelling through hands-on visualization projects, the use of AI as a collaborative tool, and the

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creation of synthetic datasets to simulate real-world insights. Emphasis will be placed on empowering students to use AI responsibly as an assistant—not a driver—of analysis, preparing them for data-rich communication environments. Attendees will gain practical frameworks for incorporating analytics, visualization, and AI into entry-level and advanced courses.

8 to 9:15 a.m. / F004

International Communication Division

Teaching Panel Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

Description

8 to 9:15 a.m. / F005

Law and Policy and Media Ethics Divisions

Research Panel Session

Content Moderation and Transparency: Democratic Accountability Meets Corporate Responsibility

Moderating/Presiding

Caitlin Ring Carlson, Seattle

Panelists

Amanda Reid, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Evan Ringel, Appalachian State

Jared Schroeder, Missouri

Social media platforms shape what we see, share, and believe, yet the rules and algorithms that govern our digital public square remain largely hidden. Their moderation practices spark criticism across the political spectrum: some argue platforms silence too much speech, while others say they fail to curb harmful content. In response, governments have experimented with transparency requirements, from California’s content moderation disclosure law to the European Union’s Digital Services Act. At the same time, platforms themselves increasingly release “transparency reports,” which critics caution may serve more as reputation management tactics than meaningful accountability. This panel will examine transparency as both promise and performance. Panelists will explore whether disclosure mandates can survive First Amendment scrutiny, how platforms frame transparency reports as legitimate corporate social responsibility tactics, and whether emerging norms across Big Tech mark real accountability or simply transparency theater. By combining perspectives from law, policy, ethics and strategic communication, this panel will assess the benefits and drawbacks of transparency regulations and reporting as effective tools for platform governance.

8 to 9:15 a.m. / F006

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Media Management, Economics and Entrepreneurship Division

Research Panel Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

Description

8 to 9:15 a.m. / F007

Minorities and Communication Division

High-Density Refereed Research Paper Session

Journalism and Racial Dissent

Moderating/Presiding

Vincent Peña, DePaul

[RP] Writing to ‘Rage War’: Abolition, Political Education, and Journalism in the Kansas City Defender

Cristina Mislán and **Joy Jenkins**, Missouri

In Solidarity with Communities: How Movement Journalism is Shifting Paradigms through Cross-Field Collaboration with Activists and Civil Society Organizations

Tianting Zhang, Angelo State

U.S. Government Suppression of Immigrants’ Dissent in Spanish-Language Oppositional Newspapers: The Case of Regeneración (1910-1918)

Iliá Rodríguez, New Mexico

Introducing Racialized Metajournalistic Discourse: American Journalism and Racialized Violence in Digitized Metajournalistic Discursive Sites

Dennis Okeke, Colorado, Boulder

Examination of Media Diversity in the Era of Potential Diversity Loss

Minhee Choi, Texas Tech, **Kevin Hull**, South Carolina, and **MinSun Kim**, Texas Tech

[RP] “It’s All about Corruption”: Patterns of News Avoidance among First-Generation Africans

Eric Agyekum, Wisconsin, Madison, and **Phylis Asilevi**, Marquette

Beyond the Headlines: Arab Students’ Perceived Social and Personal Effects of U.S. Press Coverage of Gaza

Mohammed Abu Alqas, Colorado, Boulder

“Are You an Intern?” Intersectional Microaggressions against Asian American Women Journalists

Indah Setiawati, Butler

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Political Communication Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

[RP] = Denotes a Research-in-Progress submission.

8 to 9:15 a.m. / F009

Commission on Graduate Education, Commission on the Status of Minorities, and Commission on LGBTQIA+ Communities

PFR Panel Session

On the Margins: Ethics, Safety, and Visibility in Contemporary Communication Research within Marginalized Communities

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

Gina Masullo, Texas at Austin

Patrick Johnson, Marquette

Chelsea J. Reynolds, Arizona State

Academia – and being an academic – is an increasingly contentious domain fraught with challenges that are often swept under the rug. Graduate students, early-career scholars, and marginalized communities face heightened concerns related to safety, visibility, and vulnerability in both academic and public spaces. At the same time, these issues resonate across rank and position, affecting faculty and researchers at every stage of their careers. Panelists will explore questions of ethics and responsibility when marginalized identities intersect with sensitive research topics, such as race, gender, sexuality, politics, and media representation. Potential discussion topics may engage with issues including online harassment, institutional protections, navigating “public” versus “private” selves, and the implications of First Amendment rights in both academic and digital contexts. By centering the lived experiences of researchers, this panel highlights not only the risks of visibility in public scholarship but also strategies for cultivating ethical, safe, and inclusive research environments.

8 to 9:15 a.m. / F010

Religion and Media Interest Group

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Refereed Research Paper Session

Mediating Religious Identity: Representation, Meaning, and Misbelief Across Media Contexts

Moderating/Presiding

Jordan Morehouse, Colorado Boulder

Faith in the Feed: Health Consciousness, Social Media Use, and Religiosity
in Human Gene Editing Misbelief

Yujin Kim, Seoul National University,
Heesoo Jang, Massachusetts-Amherst,
Chul-joo Lee, Seoul National University,
and **Suhwoo Ahn**, Kookmin University

Mormons Meming about Media: Mormonads' Representations
of Media and Pop Culture

David Scott, Utah Valley

Mediating an Endless Homesickness: The Infrastructure of Religious
Communication Across the Taiwan Strait During the Japanese
Colonial Period (1895–1945)

Yiran Liu and **Jiuhui Liu**, Peking University

What Must It Be Like to Grow Up That Beautiful?: A Critical Discourse
Analysis of Jewish Femininity in The Nanny

Kyle Stanley and **Lyric Mandell**, Nevada

Discussant

Kathryn Montalbano, Kentucky

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8 to 9:15 a.m. / F011

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Access, and Justice (DEIJA) Committee

Panel Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

Linda Aldorrry, American, Chair

Panelists

name, affiliation

description

8 to 9:15 a.m. / F012

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Elected Standing Committee on Publications

Business Session

JMCQ Editorial Meet Up

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Moderating/Presiding

Daniela Dimitrova, Iowa State, Editor-in-Chief

By invitation only.

8 to 9:15 a.m. / F013

Kappa Tau Alpha

Business Session

Advisor's Breakfast

Moderating/Presiding

Beverly Horvit, Missouri, executive director, KTA

Kappa Tau Alpha is an international society honoring scholarship in journalism and mass communication. It is organized for the recognition and encouragement of scholarship and good character among students of journalism in colleges and universities in which there are properly conducted schools and departments of journalism and mass communication. Pre-registration is required.

8 to 9:15 a.m. / F014

University of Kentucky

Teaching Panel Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Description

9:45 to 11a.m. / F015

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

[00-0945] — Scholar-to-Scholar (Poster) Refereed Research Paper Session

Communication Technology Division

Topic I — **AI in Society: Media Frames, Bias, and Human Connection**

Framing Artificial General Intelligence in Elite U.S. and UK Newspapers:

Risk, Opportunity, and Governance Narratives

Mohammad Al Masum Molla, Oklahoma

When We Talk About AI Boyfriends: The Affordances and User Narratives

of Human-AI Intimacy on Reddit

Hannah Kim, Texas at Austin

A Room Full of Elephants & Dragons: Political Bias in U.S. and Chinese LLMs

Tasnuva Alam Ahona, Texas at Austin

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Understanding Attachment to Digital Media Accounts: The Role of Extended Self in Attachment and Digital Hoarding

Zixuan (Melodie) Zhao, Illinois, Urbana Champaign

Practicing Love with Algorithms: An Exploratory Study of User Narratives and Emotional Patterns in Human–AI Intimacy

Fanjue Liu, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Discussant

Jae Park, North Florida

Topic II — **AI adoption and Cross-Cultural Perspectives**

AI-Powered Information Seeking on Social Media: A Computational Analysis and Cross-Cultural Comparison on Global Users' @Grok Behaviors

Anna Yan Liu, Illinois Urbana-Champaign

A Beyond-Technology Diffusion of Innovations Framework for Generative AI Use: Evidence from Two Western and Four Asian Societies

Muhammad Masood, City University of Hong Kong

From Technological Alienation to Strategic Economizing: Chinese College Students' Differentiated Trust and Cognitive Offloading Across Sino-US Generative AI

Zehao Yuan, Peking University

Users Preference for Tone and Response Format in AI Chatbots for Different Personality Traits: A Comparison Between Chinese and United States Users

Man Luo, Bowling Green State

Machine Authorship in the Out-Group? Investigating the Nationality Effect on the Perceived Credibility of (Un)politicized AI-Generated Science Messages

Junyi Chen, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Discussant

Cheng "Chris" Chen, Oregon State

Topic III — **AI, Emotion, and Empathy**

Is an Empathetic Chatbot Uncanny? An Experimental Examination of Artificial Empathy and User Perceptions

Haiyan Jia, Lehigh

C Communicating Through Creation: How Conversational Agents Reshape Relational Trust and Emotional Disclosure in Digital Art Therapy

Yuhua Zhang, Harbin Institute of Technology

Tinder Troubles: Testing the Motivation-Based Model of Online Disinhibition in a Mobile Dating App Context

Zachary Schleiter, Louisiana, Lafayette

Effective science communication on YouTube: Dialogic Communication, Topic-Framing and Audience Engagement

Anna Young, Central Connecticut State

AI Love You: A Compensatory Model of Need Satisfaction, Need Frustration, and Dependency Toward Romantic AI Chatbots

Yilan Guo, Pennsylvania State

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Discussant

Sang Jung Kim, Iowa

Topic IV — **Social Media, Identity, and Digital Culture**

TikTok Microtrends and the Reinvention of Feminine Identity
and Digital Self-Presentation

Janay Boyd, Baylor

Brand Engagement and Brand Equity in Profile Picture
NFT User Communities

Sanghee Kweon, Sungkyunkwan University

When Engagement Is Relational: Storytelling, Emotion,
and Networked Discourse in Social Media Campaigns

Hye Min Kim, Massachusetts-Boston

Dual Motivational Pathways of Instagram Story Engagement:
An Experience Sampling Study

Shaojung Sharon Wang, National Sun Yat-sen University
Identifying ‘Consistent Online Lurkers’: Assessing the Roles
of Trait-Based and State-Based Factors

Alexandra Stankus, SUNY Albany

Discussant

Klive Oh, Pepperdine

Communication Theory and Methodology Division

Topic — **From Constructs to Evidence: Measuring Communication Processes**

00 • [RP] Revisiting Selective Exposure: A Systematic Review
of Conceptualizations and Operationalizations in the Past Decade

Rui Ding, Miami

Let’s Take Another Look: An Exploration of Modified News Efficacy Scales

Ben Wasike, Texas, Rio Grande Valley

Transforming Trust: A New Tool for Measuring Media Trust

Jessica Sparks, Auburn

The Personal Curation Scale: Evidence of Reliability and Validity

Biying Wu-Ouyang, Education University of Hong Kong

Can AI Participants Generate Credible Qualitative Data? Considerations
for Using and Evaluating Synthetic Responses to Interviews

Keerthana Govindarazan, Hui Min Lee,

Temilade Adeeko, Hongyi Dong,

and **S. Shyam Sundar**, Pennsylvania State

Media Management, Economics and Entrepreneurship Division

Participatory Journalism Interest Group

[RP] Beyond Information Needs: Assessing and Engaging Local Storytelling Networks

Nina Kelly, Andrea Wenzel,

Sydney Boeger, and **Letrell Crittenden**, Temple

[RP] Simulating the “Three Kingdoms” in the Middle East: Bilibili’s
Danmu and the Participatory Deconstruction of the U.S.-Israel-Iran Escalation

Yi Wu and **Wenjun Zhang**, Peking University

[RP] The Reluctant Reporter: How Influencers Fall into Journalism
to Fill a Gap Left by News Media

Sarah Witmer, Iowa

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[RP] Playable Pasts: The Gamification of Institutional Memory in *The New Yorker's* Laugh Lines 100th-Anniversary Game

Alexis Haskell, Marist,
and **Nisha Sridharan**, Temple

Discussant

Damilola Oduolowu, South Carolina

Religion and Media Interest Group

00 • Reconciliation Through Care Ethics: The Role of Religious In-Group Identity in Organizational Culture Crises

Erika Schneider and **Victoria Kyriakopoulos**, Syracuse

[RP] Between Divination and Diagnosis: Health Consciousness and Healthcare Choices Among Nomadic Communities of the Ethnic Minority Inhabited Areas of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau

Yongjie Huang and **Kailuo Cao**, Minzu University of China

[RP] Eschatological Velocity: Religion and the Iran War

Ibrahim Abusharif, Northwestern University in Qatar

Discussant

Jordan Morehouse, Colorado Boulder

Small Programs Interest Group

00 • A Study on University Journalism Students' Perceptions of the Integration of Artificial Intelligence into Journalism Education:

An Induced Metaphor Analysis

Jingwan Peng, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

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9:45 to 11a.m. / F016

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division and Community Journalism Interest Group

PFR Panel Session

Broadcasting in the Public Interest: Examining FCC Leadership Shifts and Policy Upheaval

Moderating/Presiding

Bill Davie, Louisiana-Lafayette

Panelists

Laurie Thomas Lee, Nebraska

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Carey Higgins-Dobney, Kentucky

Denetra Walker, Georgia

Joe Chautin, General Council, Louisiana Association of Broadcasters

Since Brendan Carr became chair of the FCC, U.S. broadcasting has experienced sweeping regulatory and ownership changes, including mergers involving Paramount Global and Skydance Media, congressional defunding of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, investigations into NPR and PBS, and renewed scrutiny of broadcast ownership limits. This panel will explore creative solutions local communities are undertaking to fill unmet information needs by re-envisioning the role of public, community spaces in view of budget cuts and regulatory changes affecting broadcast rights and media ownership. It will also shed light on whether these developments serve the public interest.

9:45 to 11a.m. / F017

History and Magazine Media Division

Teaching Panel Session

Living History: Journalism Lessons of America 250 for the Future

Moderating/Presiding

Lisa Lenoir, Indiana

Panelists

Autumn Linford, Auburn

David Bulla, Augusta

Teri Finneman, Kansas

Will Mari, Texas A&M

Melissa Greene-Blye, Kansas

Keith Greenwood, Missouri

Tim Vos, Michigan State

David Mindich, Temple

Robin Sundaramoorthy, Lehigh

Antoine Haywood, Florida

As America marks its 250th anniversary, this is an ideal time to reflect on critical lessons from journalism history. This high-density, interactive session will bring teams of scholars together for discussions and teaching application ideas.

9:45 to 11a.m. / F018

Mass Communication and Society Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Misperceptions, Representation, and Trust Online: Global Evidence on Media's Social Consequences

Moderating/Presiding

Christina Najera, Tennessee, Knoxville

Feeling Informed Without Seeking: The News-Finds-Me Perception

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in Kuwait's Social Media Environment

Jae-Hwa Shin, Southern Mississippi

Representation Matters: Memorable Messages and the Lasting Influence of Exposure to First Valid Media Representation of Larger-Bodied Characters

Clay Williams, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

How Pluralistic Ignorance Shapes Reporting of Hostile Environment Harassment

Stella Chia, Concordia University

Transparency is a Double-Edged Sword: Stakeholders' Perception of Disclosure of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) Usage in Kenyan Newsrooms

Bingbing Zhang, Iowa

Beyond Homogeneous Targets: The Distinct Role of Pure Target Status in Digital Hate Victimization and Perceived Regulatory Effectiveness

Maryam Khaleghipour, University of Vienna

Discussant

Terri Hernandez, Mississippi State

[RP] = Denotes a Research-in-Progress submission.

9:45 to 11a.m. / F019

Newspaper and Online News Division

High-Density Refereed Research Paper Session

Journalists, Influencers & Audiences

Theme I – **Influencers, Audiences and Engagement**

Moderating/Presiding

Daniel Trielli, Maryland

Authentically Fake, Politically Real: Reasoning Pathways from Virtual Influencers to Social Media News Participation

Biyong Wu-Ouyang, The Education University of Hong Kong, and **Michael Chan**, Chinese University of Hong Kong

Evaluating Texting as a Strategy for Audience Engagement:

A Chicago Sun-Times Case Study

Meagan Doll and **Benjamin Toff**, Minnesota

Metajournalistic Discourse and the News Influencer: Fitfully

Negotiating a Public Interest for the Platform Era

Brian Creech, Lehigh

Users' Engagement with Online News: Analyzing Users' Comments

on YouTube Videos of Nigeria's #EndBadGovernance Protest

Maryam Lasisi Mustapha, Ohio University

Explaining the Use of Non-Mainstream News Sources: How

the Need-Performance Gap and Fake News Concern Shape News Choice

Yuhan Deng, University of Oxford

Discussant

Volha Kananovich, Appalachian State

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Theme II – Journalists Making Sense of Their Work

Moderating/Presiding
name, affiliation

Journalists With or Without a Journalism Degree: What Difference Does It Make?

Jung-Hsiang (Eric) Hsieh, Esther Thorson,
and **Tim Vos**, Michigan State

Telling The Story of a Newsroom: Organizational Narrative
and The Field of Journalism

Patrick Ferrucci, Colorado

Under The Cover of Moonlight: Defining Roles and Ethical Practices
of Moonlighting Media Workers in The Face of Industry Precarity

Grace Smith, Grace Glover,
and **Mildred Perreault**, South Florida

The Newsroom after the Newsroom: Persistence of Worker-Owned
Journalism in a Precarious Media Environment

Nisha Sridharan, Temple

Beyond the Algorithmic Riff: Existential Security and the “Jazz”
of Embodied Practice among Journalism Students

Author name, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunication

Discussant

Benjamin Toff, Minnesota

[RP] = Denotes a Research-in-Progress submission.

9:45 to 11a.m. / F020

Public Relations and Media Ethics Divisions

PFR Panel Session

Campus Reactions to Active School Shooter Situations

Moderating/Presiding
name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

Active shooter incidents present universities with urgent challenges that test crisis communication systems, leadership response, and ethical decision-making in real time. This proposed panel will bring together faculty researchers who have studied communication dynamics during and after school shootings to examine how institutions can better respond to these crises. Panelists will discuss findings from research on institutional messaging during active shooter situations, including the speed, tone, and clarity of alerts; how students, faculty, and staff interpret and react to those messages; and how communities perceive official communication compared to peer-to-peer social media exchanges. The panel will also address the longer-term implications of communication choices, including the impact on institutional image, reputation, and trust. By drawing on case studies, survey research, and theoretical frameworks in public relations and crisis communication, this session will provide PRD members with tools for teaching, research, and administrative consultation. With shootings remaining a tragic reality

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in educational settings, this panel will contribute timely knowledge to advance both scholarship and practice in communication during life-threatening crises.

9:45 to 11a.m. / F021

Scholastic Journalism Division

Research Panel Session

National Census Research on State-Level Scholastic Journalism Outreach and Engagement

Moderating/Presiding

Dorothy Bland, North Texas

Panelists

Peter Bobkowski, Kent State

Nina Brook, South Carolina

Monica Hill, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Jimmy McCollum, Lipscomb

R.J. Morgan, Mississippi

Melanie Wilderman, Oklahoma

Scholastic media associations serve as the backbone of journalism/media education in U.S. middle and high schools. Association leaders present recent census results from 50 state organizations that serve journalism students and teachers in 46 states.

9:45 to 11a.m. / F022

Commission on the Status of Women, Commission on the Status of Minorities, Commission on Graduate Education and Commission on LGBTQIA+ Communities

Teaching Panel Session

From Margins to Mainstream: Embracing Neurodiversity in Academic Spaces

Moderating/Presiding

Amal Bakry, affiliation

Panelists

Lara Lengel, Bowling Green State

Lauren A van Gerwen, Louisiana at Lafayette

Marianne Vanderbeke, Bowling Green State

Savannah Blanco-Trumps, Louisiana at Lafayette

In 1998, sociologist Judy Singer coined the term neurodiversity in her honors thesis *Odd People*, arguing that differences in neurological wiring are a natural part of human diversity—not a deficiency. In academia, neurodiversity refers to the recognition and inclusion of individuals with cognitive differences—such as autism, ADHD, dyslexia, dyspraxia, and other neurological variations—as valuable and integral aspects of human variation. This discussion panel draws on the neurodivergent and intersectional identities of its participants to explore how academic institutions have historically upheld rigid norms around behavior, communication, and performance—norms that often marginalize neurodivergent students and faculty. Neurodivergent women may face compounded misunderstandings and stigma, leading to isolation or under recognition of their intellectual contributions. As a

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result, many talented scholars and students remain underserved or excluded within traditional academic structures. This panel will examine how neurodivergent women can influence institutional culture to better value diverse cognitive styles and foster environments where all forms of intelligence and creativity are supported and celebrated.

9:45 to 11a.m. / F023

Internships and Careers Interest Group

Research Panel Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

Description

9:45 to 11a.m. / F024

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Council of Divisions

Research Panel Session

Leadership in Higher Education

Moderating/Presiding

Peter Joseph Gloviczki, Western Illinois

Panelists

Jan Lauren Boyles, Arizona

Katie Foss, Middle Tennessee State

Peter Joseph Gloviczki, Western Illinois

Jacqueline Jones, Morgan State

Marquita Smith, Mississippi

This panel will explore higher education leadership in journalism and mass communication. We will share about our experiences as leaders, reflect on lessons learned and challenges encountered. We will note the histories and traditions at our institutions in mass communication leadership, as well as working to make sense of present and potential future(s). Drawing on our lived experiences, we will also reflect on what can and cannot be measured in leadership contexts. We will finally invite dialogue and questions from the audience about paths forward in the future.

9:45 to 11a.m. / F025

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Elected Standing Committee on Research

Moderating/Presiding

Deborah S. Chung, Kentucky and **Amber Roessner**, Tennessee, Knoxville

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2026 Nafziger-White-Salwen Dissertation Award

The Politics of Social Media Narratives: Representation and Ideology in Brazil's Mediatized Politics

André K. Rodarte, University of Southern Denmark

2026 Nafziger-White-Salwen Dissertation Finalist

Misperceived Divides: How Communication Environments Contribute to or Remedy Misperceptions of Ideological and Affective Polarization

Jisoo Kim, University of Washington

The award is named for Ralph O. Nafziger and David Manning White, authors of Introduction to Mass Communication Research, and Michael Salwen, co-author of An Integrated Approach to Communication Theory and Research.

2026 Senior Scholar Projects

AI Disclosure in Journalism: How Disclosure Wording and Editorial Oversight Influence Trust and Engagement

Sungwon Chung, Ball State and **Sun Young Lee**, Maryland

Examining Online Discourse on Childhood Vaccination Amid Florida's Removal of Mandates

Queenie Li and **Nick Carcioppolo**, Miami

The AEJMC Senior Scholars Program is designed to support senior (typically tenured) scholars who aim to engage in substantial, extended research projects making significant contributions to the journalism and mass communication field.

2026 Emerging Scholar Projects

From Classroom to Newsroom: University of Memphis–Marion Dual Enrollment Bridge Program

Chalise Macklin, Memphis

Smarter or Just More Confident? Investigating Generative AI's Impact on Fact-Checking, the Illusion of Expertise, and Interventions for Digital Literacy

Won-Ki Moon, Florida

The AEJMC Emerging Scholars Program awards grants to early-career scholars to support research or teaching proposals encouraging innovative and timely projects in journalism and mass communication.

9:45 to 11a.m. / F026

Center for Community News and Knight Foundation

Panel Session

Why Student Reporting Matters

Moderating/Presiding

Richard Watts, director, Center for Community News, Vermont

Duc Luu, director of Sustainability Initiatives, Knight Journalism Program

In this session Duc Luu, Journalism Director at the Knight Foundation explains the importance of news/academic partnerships, how they are a key part of the Knight Foundation's commitment to ensuring communities have trusted sources of local information and plans to continue to grow the network of schools. Richard will discuss funding opportunities, resources and detailed plans to grow the network to 500 schools by the end of 2027.

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9:45 to 11a.m. / F027

South Asia Communication Association (SACA)

Research Panel Session II

Title

Moderating/Presiding
name, affiliation

This interactive peer-reviewed research paper session is organized by the South Asia Communication Association (SACA). With over one-fourth of the world's population, South Asia has emerged as an important region for politics, security, health, culture, media and other relevant issues across the repertoire of our field.

9:45 to 11a.m. / F028

Texas Tech University

Teaching Panel Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding
name, affiliation

Description

11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. / F029

Mass Communication and Society Division

Awards Luncheon

Moderating/Presiding
Terri N. Hernandez, Mississippi State

The MCSD Awards Luncheon celebrates the outstanding achievements of scholars, educators, and students within the division. This special invite-only luncheon honors the recipients of MCSD's prestigious awards presented throughout the year, as well as recognizes the Career Development Committee's Diversity and Inclusion Career Development Fellowship recipients. For more information, contact Terri Hernandez (thernandez@comm.msstate.edu).

11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. / F030

Kappa Tau Alpha and Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

Awards Luncheon

Moderating/Presiding

Friday, August 7, 2026

Beverly Horvit, Missouri, executive director, Kappa Tau Alpha
and **Bey-Ling Sha**, Texas Tech, President, AEJMC, 2025-26

The ceremony recognizes both associations' award winners and divisions' student paper winners. A Kappa Tau Alpha business meeting will follow the ceremony. Kappa Tau Alpha remains committed to its guiding principles of Knowledge, Truth and Accuracy. Pre-registration is required.

11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. / F031

Universidad Panamericana (UP) and Thomas Jay Harris Institute for Hispanic and International Communication (HIHIC)

LATAM Research Mixer

Hosting

Gabriel Dominguez Partida, Dean, School of Communication, Universidad Panamericana, Guadalajara
Mariano Navarro, Dean, School of Communication, Universidad Panamericana, Mexico City
Lucinda Holt, Assistant Director for External Engagement a

A networking event designed to connect scholars interested in communication research within and regarding Latin America. The event is an opportunity to exchange ideas, explore potential collaborations, and strengthen research networks.

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F032

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

[00-1315] — Scholar-to-Scholar (Poster) Refereed Research Paper Session

Communication Technology Division

Topic I — **Privacy, Surveillance, and Online Boundaries**

Intimacy Without Subjectivity: Mechanisms of Relational Construction
in Human–AI Romantic Chat Discourse: A Bilateral Discourse
Analysis Based on BERTopic Modeling

Zhinan Lin, Liaoning University China

Privacy in Bounded Social Media Places: How Group Characteristics
Shape Expectations of Privacy and Privacy Turbulence

Alexis Shore Ingber, Syracuse

“Someone’s Always Watching (for You)”: Location Sharing, Peer Networks
of Accountability, and College Safety Practices

Morgan Badurak, Louisiana State

The Walls Have Ears: Experimental Evidence of Cross-Platform Algorithmic
Enclosure in the Chinese Super-App Ecosystem

Sulin Ye, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics

Bots, Water Armies, and Evolutionary Arms Races: A Systematic Review
of Detection Methods on Social Media Platforms

Hong Li, Fudan University

Discussant

Othello Richards, Brigham Young

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Topic II — VR, Immersion, and Digital Experience

Navigating Human-AI Conflict: How Multidimensional Trust and Anthropomorphism Jointly Shape AI Usage Intention

Jianhong Wu, Hong Kong Baptist University

Does Transparency Always Pay Off? Exploring Factors Influencing Users' Continuance Watching Intention of AI-Generated Anthropomorphic Videos

TongTong Wang, China Agricultural University

Affordance Congruence and Plausibility of Virtual Experiences: The Mediating Roles of Consistency and Interactional Demands

Dai-Yun Wu, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University

From Handheld to Wearable: How Action Cameras Transform Mobile Visual Practice and Platform Narratives in China

Hongxi Ye, University College London

"Is It Live Streaming?": Examining the Streamer's Understanding of "Live" From a Semi-Experimental Conversation Analytic Approach

Le Song, Peking University

Discussant

Vincent Huang, Hong Kong Baptist University

Topic III — AI and Communication Theory

Chronometric Calibration of the 0.9-Second Threshold: Social Cues as Cognitive Heuristics in Sub-Second Incongruity Resolution

Ziying Chen, Boston University

Reconceptualizing Grounded Theory Method: A Multimodal Extension for Analyzing Layered Digital Artifacts in the Current Algorithmic Culture

Shahnaz Bashir, Massachusetts-Amherst

What Is AI Like? Everyday Metaphors, Selective Amplification, and the Limits of Platform Influence on Collective AI Discourse

Yanshu Sybil Wang, Wisconsin, Madison

Transmedia Storytelling in AI-Saturated Media Environments: A Conceptual Explication

Yuan Nan, Florida

For the Self and the Greater Good: The Re-Institutionalization of Expertise of China's Highly Educated LLM Crowd Workers

Chen Liang, Peking University

Discussant

Eliana DuBosar, Auburn

Topic IV — AI Error, Misinformation, and Correction

When Large Language Models Fail: Belief Revision after AI Hallucinations

Chuanyue Xu, Wisconsin, Madison

Not All Errors Are Corrected: Selective Participation in AI-Generated Error Correction

Hanbo He, Peking University

Intervention Effects of Different Fact-Checking Strategies in Social Media Misinformation Governance: An Agent-Based Modeling Study

Based on the Society Zero Universe Platform

Qian Lei, Shenzhen University

Not Gullibility but Strategy: Misinformation Sharing as a Life History Trade-Off

Yiting Miao, Tsinghua University

Going Beyond AI Bots Silencing the Harasser: Effects of Users

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and Countering Harassment on Building Prosocial Social Media
Inhwan Bae, Cornell

Discussant
Wonki Moon, Florida

Topic V — AI and Relationships

Extending Communication Accommodation to AI-Mediated Support:
The Power of Generative AI's Motivating Language
in First-time Motherhood

Geyi Wang, Rutgers

Customizing Communication Styles in Claude: Control Benefits,
Cognitive Cost, and Task-Dependent Effects

Qian Xu, Elon

Study on AI Adoption Willingness and Its Determinants in Phonetic
Teaching for Broadcasting and Hosting

Jingwang Zhang, Communication University of China

Interactional Affordances of AI Smart Speakers in Children's Domestic Lives:
An Ethnomethodological Conversation-Analytic Study
of Child-AI Interaction in Chinese Family Homes

Noah Namwamba, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Constructing the Utopian Domestic Space: Interaction Between Gen Z and AI Pets
Kun Peng, Macau University of Science and Technology

Discussant
Rachel Anna Son, East Carolina

Topic VI — Platforms, Infrastructure, and Governance

Competition or Coexistence? Audience Overlap and Competitive
Superiority in the Dyadic Relationship Between ChatGPT
and Digital Platforms

Xuzhen Yang, Michigan State

Manifestations of Platform Society: Framing of xAI's Controversial
Power Facility in Memphis on Bluesky and X

Catherine Luther, Tennessee, Knoxville

Digital Infrastructure as the E in E-Governance: A Scoping Review

Siru Chen, Michigan State

Government AI Chatbots as Public Communication Interfaces: Auditing
Performance and Responsiveness

Jing Jin, Shanghai University

Exploring AI-Generated Review Summaries (AIGS) in E-Commerce:
The Impact of AI Disclosure Language and Review Framing
on Consumer Perceptions

Daniella Greiffo, Georgia

Discussant
Austin Hubner, Florida

Topic VI — Communication Technologies and Work

From communication visibility to work engagement: Unpacking
the Boundary-spanning Mechanisms of Social Technology Platforms

Vincent Huang, Hong Kong Baptist University

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Overlapping Fields in the News Podcast Ecosystem: A Semantic Network Analysis

Trevor Diehl, Alabama

I Have an AI Team: Constructing AI Repertoires in Task-oriented Use

Man Mei, Hong Kong Baptist University

Friend or Foe: AI Agents as Catalysts for Ad Hoc Team Development

Sophie Kim, Georgia

Bidirectional Co-construction and Negotiated Symbiosis: A Study of Human-Machine

Relations between Chinese Mainstream Media Practitioners and Large Language Models

Peiyong Wu, Tsinghua University

Discussant

Daniel Trielli, Maryland

Topic VII — **Digital Inclusion & Social Inequality**

Becoming a Professional Through Pre-Enactment: Generative AI

and the Reconstruction of Professional Identity

in Youth Liminal Transitions

Dongni Lin, Shenzhen University

Algorithmic Literacy and Sense of Online Community among Rural

Americans in a US Midwest State

Ming Wang, Nebraska - Lincoln

Cultural Values and Digital Support: How Warm and Cold Experts

Shape Older Adults' Digital Engagement

Jennifer McDermitt, Michigan State

Explaining the AI Divide: A Construal Level Perspective of Psychological

Distance on UTAUT

Hanzi He, Florida

Assessing Relationships between Higher Education Institutions

and the Public on Social Media: A Quantitative Content Analysis

Bachchu Shekh, Colorado, Boulder

Discussant

Gregory Gondwe, California State, San Bernardino

Topic VIII — **AI & Information Seeking**

Is AI More Effective than Traditional Sources for Information

Seeking? A Meta-analysis

Xiaoxiao Wang, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Machine or Magic? How Perceptions of AI as Magical Shapes

Affective Trust and Engagement

Chenxu Liu, Tsinghua University

/University of Wisconsin-Madison

Social Media Attention, Risk Perception, and Generative AI-Based

Health Information Seeking: A Multigroup Comparison Across

Varying Levels of Machine Heuristics

Mengxue Ou, Nanjing University

Discussant

Vincent Huang, Hong Kong Baptist University

Communication Theory and Methodology Division

Topic I — **Public Discourse, Institutions, and Boundary Work**

Friday, August 7, 2026

00 • Measuring What Hallin Left Unmeasured: The Dynamic Spheres Model and the Sphere Placement Index for Computational Analysis of Historical Press Coverage of Racial

Mohamed Salama, Maryland

Manufactured Amplification of Risk in Transgender Healthcare News Coverage

Kristen Swain, Mississippi

Configuring Reflexivity Under Institutional Constraints: How Resource, Procedural, and Method-Oriented Constraints Shape the Structure of Academic Texts

Kexin Zhu, Yixin Zhou, Ke Zhang,
and **Shiqing Li**, Nanjing

Hierarchical-Relational Impression Management Theory: A Qualitatively Grounded Conceptualization of Impression Management

Huai-yu Chen, Kentucky and National Chengchi University,
Honoka Fukuda, National Chengchi University,
and **Yang Zhang**, Kentucky

[RP] Dangerous Solidarity: A Conceptual Framework for Understanding Paradoxical Dynamics of Resisting and Producing Harm

Anita Varma and **Rahoof Kaliyarakath**, Texas at Austin;
Munachim Amah, Iowa, **Omneya Ibrahim**, Texas at Austin;
Sara Shaban, Washington – Seattle; **Ahmer Arif**, Barnard College;
Azeta Hatef, Emerson College
and **Josephine Lukito**, Southern Denmark

Discussant

name, affiliation

Topic II — **Identity, Affect, and Meaning-Making in Mediated Publics**

Informational Belonging: An Identity-Based Framework for Understanding Access to Place-Based Storytelling Networks

Ava Francesca Battocchio, Northwestern

The Biggest Loser: Celebrity Weight Loss Culture's Impact on Emerging Adults' Body Image and Identity

DD Lewis, Tydechelle Lewis,
and **Nori Comello**, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

[RP] Are AI Decisions Driven by Emotions? Replicating Affect-Driven Bias in Large Language Models

Jiaqi (Agnes) Bao, South Dakota; **Yongnam Jung**, Soongsil;
Saraswathi Bellur, Connecticut,
and **S. Shyam Sundar**, Pennsylvania State

[RP] It Has a Brain, Sometimes: Imaginative Oscillation and Children's Folk Theories of Educational AI

Yufei Long, and **Xuanhao Guo**, Xi'an Jiaotong

[RP] Towards a Discourse-Centered Construal Levels Theory: A Computational Analysis of Fandom Politics in Chinese Online Publics

Yating Wang, Xiaomeng Lan, Dongchen Sun,
and **Mark Kazemzadeh**, Beijing Normal-Hong Kong Baptist

Discussant

name, affiliation

Media Ethics Division – [10]

Public Relations Division

Topic I — AI Transparency, Trust & Strategic Communication

00 • The Impact of an Organizational Chatbot’s Dialogic Communication on the Public’s Trust, Advocacy, and Volunteering Intention

Yuan Wang, The Education University of Hong Kong,
Yang Cheng, North Carolina State University,
Fangcao Lu, The Education University of Hong Kong,
and **Jerry Avornytse**, North Carolina State University

Value-Based Communication in the AI Industry: Public Evaluation of AI Companies’ Organization—Public Relationships and Governance Expectations

Hao Xu, The University of Melbourne,
Yijia Erika Zhu, University of Wisconsin–Madison,
Heesoo Jang, University of Massachusetts Amherst,
and **Clara Juarez Miro**, University of Barcelona

Effects of The Transparent Use of AI In Press Releases on Journalists’ Attitudes and Behavior: How Trust and Perceived Ethicality Mediate Journalists’ Intentions

Renita Beth Coleman, Texas at Austin,
and **Kami Vinton**, Sul Ross State University

[RP] AI “Tree Holes”: Emotional Disclosure and Trust Construction in Young People’s Everyday Interaction with Generative AI

Yangxiaoling Peng, Communication University of China

Legitimizing AI Through Environmental CSR: Effects on Public Attitudes and Intentions

Christen Buckley, Temple,
Cassandra L. C. Troy, Illinois Urbana-Champaign,
Katherine Ryan,
and **Loredonna Cardona Cardona**, Pennsylvania State

[RP] The Impact of Artificial Intelligence Disclosure and Image Type on Corporate Social Responsibility Communication

Yijing Liang, Alabama

Disclosing But Also Justifying It: A Multi-Study Investigation of Consumer Responses to AI-Generated Advocacy Advertising

Jack Lipei Tang, **Feiyun Deng**
and **Jiali Zhang**, Alabama

Discussant

Sun Young Lee, Maryland

Topic II — Workplace AI Adoption & Employee Relations

AI-Powered Synthetic Leadership Communication: Effects on CEO Authenticity and Credibility

Gwiwon Nam, **Rita Men** and **Francis Akanbi**, Florida,
and **Renee Mitson**, North Carolina

From “Cost of Asking” to “Fit of Asking”: How Seeking Help with AI Shapes Employees’ Indebtedness and Autonomy in Different Workplace Helping Contexts

Jiayu Gina Qu, Fudan University,
and **Jiajing Zhai**, Shanghai Normal University

Employee Engagement with Enterprise Conversational AI: Communication Drivers and Relational and Innovation Outcomes

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**Xinlei Wu, Francis Akanbi,
Linjuan Rita Men, Thu Dang,
Qiuyue Li, Hanzi He,
and Kelly Youngs, Florida**

Can AI Really Be My Teammate? Understanding The Underlying Role
of Psychological Reactance and Job Insecurity on Workplace AI-Adoption Policies

**Sushma Kumble, Towson, Pratiti Diddi, George Mason,
and Nandini Bhalla, Texas State**

Can I opt-out? Examining Psychological Reactance and Organizational Fit for AI Recruiting

**Ying Xiong, Joon Kim, Daniel Hunt
and Angie Chiang, Rhode Island**

[RP] Hired, Fired, or Left Behind: Discourses of Coercion in Corporate
Generative Artificial Intelligence Adoption

Joshua Foust, Syracuse

Discussant

Vincent Huang, Hong Kong Baptist University

Topic III — **Governance, Ethics, Crisis & Emerging Technology Publics**

The Relational Ecosystem for AI Governance in Public Relations

**Imran Mazid, Grand Valley State,
and Zulfia Zaher, Central Michigan**

[RP] PR Ethics in the Age of AI: The PRSA Code's Evolution
and Real-World Crisis Applications

**Myoung-Gi Chon, Brigitta Brunner,
and Haleigh Skelton, Auburn**

Beyond AI vs. Human: The Role of AI Involvement Levels
and Emotional Framing in Emergency Communication

**Anli Xiao, South Carolina,
James Ndone, Coastal Carolina,
and Tyler Page, Connecticut**

[RP] How AI-Involved Crises Reshape Comprehensive Organizational
Evaluations and Crisis Response Strategies

Sining Kong, Texas A&M at Corpus Christi

[RP] Talking Quantum, Missing the Audience: Visual-Verbal Misalignment
in University Science Communication

**Laura Marshall,
and Xueying Zhang, North Carolina A&T State**

From Broadcasting to Narrowcasting: How Social Media Influencers
Nudge Engagement and Sales through Influencer-Led Group Chatrooms

**Ruonan Zhang, Rollins College,
and Trinidee Mercado, Stetson University**

Benefit Seekers and Quiet Critics: A STOPS-based Typology
of Generative AI Publics

Jessica Shaw, Temple

Discussant

Alan Abitbol, Tampa

[RP] = Denotes a Research-in-Progress submission.

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Research presentations should be placed on the board with the corresponding **numbers in red** in the conference program. This will help ensure a smooth flow and easy access to all presentations during the session. To facilitate this process, presentations may be put in place beginning **30-minutes** prior to your assigned presentation time. This will allow for ample time to set up and make any necessary adjustments before the session begins. We appreciate your cooperation in making sure that all presentations are displayed accurately and efficiently.

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F033

Advertising Division and Commission on Graduate Education

PFR Panel Session

Fuel Your Academic Journey: Networking and Mentorship for Graduate Students and Early Career Scholars

Moderating/Presiding
name, affiliation

Panelists
name, affiliation

This panel session aims to connect graduate students and early-career researchers with experienced mentors, providing essential opportunities for professional development and networking throughout their academic careers. The session employs an engaging and interactive format featuring roundtable discussions designed for speed networking. Each panelist will lead a table, providing brief introductions and sharing expertise on topics ranging from advisor management, overcoming imposter syndrome, crafting research proposals, exam preparation, navigating the academic and industry job market, effective teaching strategies, student advising, to online presence development. Following the initial presentations, participants can choose a table presided over by a panelist who shares their interests and goals. This will encourage more in-depth discussions, Q&As, and the formation of meaningful connections. To ensure a dynamic networking experience, the moderator will prompt attendees to rotate to a new table every few minutes, allowing for diverse interactions with various scholars and peers. After the panel, a contact list will be distributed to allow for ongoing discussions and exchanges. Our goal is to create an engaged and supportive environment in which graduate students and early-career researchers can apply practical skills to advance their academic and professional careers.

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F034

Communicating Science, Health, Environment and Risk and Communication Theory and Methodology Divisions

Teaching Panel Session

From Classroom to Community: Teaching Science Communication for Practitioner Collaboration and Civic Impact

Moderating/Presiding
Kaiping Chen, Wisconsin-Madison

Panelists
Patrick R. Johnson, Marquette
Kelli S. Boling, Nebraska-Lincoln
Isabel Iruani Villanueva, Miami
Andrea Lopez, Wisconsin-Madison

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The panel introduces a range of pedagogical models that incorporate practitioner engagement in science communication education. Panelists will provide practical tools to help students pursue civic-minded, practice-oriented careers in the field.

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F035

Cultural and Critical Studies and Magazine Media Divisions

Research Panel Session

Taste Structures: Lifestyle, Promotion, and Practice

Moderating/Presiding

Rebecca Kern-Stone, Fashion Institute of Technology

Panelists

Larry Durst, Fashion Institute of Technology

Myles Ethan Lascity, Southern Methodist

Lisa D. Lenoir, Indiana University Bloomington

Suman Mishra, Southern Illinois, Edwardsville

The presentation of lifestyle and construction of lifestyles in the media takes many forms such as journalism, magazines, branding, television, and online influencers. Comparatively, advertising utilizes lifestyle and taste cultures to speak to audiences and to tell narratives. We will discuss journalism and mass communication scholars and put them in conversation with cultural/critical studies' voices to address not only aesthetic judgments but also the cultural meanings of advertisements and audience reception. Further, we will address lifestyle media pedagogy and practice and its value in the academy. The panel looks to explore both sides of these taste structures shaping lifestyle media today.

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F036

History and Communication Technology Division

Research Panel Session

Historical Perspectives on Environmental and Climate Communication: Lessons for the Present

Moderating/Presiding

Cristina Mislan, Missouri

Panelists

Kate Rose, Missouri

Suzannah Evans Comfort, Indiana

Phillip J. Hutchison, Kentucky

H. Bødker, Aarhus

Haiyan Jia, Lehigh

Discussant

Cristina Mislan, Missouri

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Since 2025, rollbacks of environmental policy have intensified debates over climate science. This panel examines historical patterns in science communication to illuminate climate discourse and the role of media in shaping public understanding.

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F037

Newspaper and Online News and International Communication Divisions

Teaching Panel Session

Teaching Multimedia Reporting in Age of AI

Moderating/Presiding

Xu “James” Zhang, Austin Peay

Panelists

Mirjana Pantic, Pace

Mike Martinez, Tennessee-Knoxville

Peter Baniak, Kentucky

Kirstie Hettinga, California Lutheran

This panel will address various topics on teaching multimedia news reporting for college students at the time when AI is advancing. Specifically, it will discuss how a reporting class should be structured to fit into different levels of students, what essential skills that should be taught, and how course instructors can enhance the practical learning of students.

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F038

Visual Communication Division

PFR Panel Session

Ethics of Care in the Aftermath of Covering Trauma - What Responsibility Do We Have?

Moderating/Presiding

Ross Taylor, Colorado, Boulder

Panelists

Lisa Krantz, Montana

Deb Pastner, Texas at Austin

Tara Pixley, Temple

Dinfin Mulupi, Colorado, Boulder

Visual journalists are often on the front lines of some of the most traumatic events in their communities. These traumatic events can often define key moments in a community. Additionally, they can be part of the framing in national debates around issues such as mental health, gun violence or even federal and local disaster response in events such as Hurricane Katrina, which decimated New Orleans (the site of this year’s AEJMC conference) twenty years ago. During these traumatic events, journalists are often called to visually document some of the most horrific moments in a person’s, or a community’s, life. As journalists routinely move onto the next news story, it’s worth considering – what about the aftermath and the ethics of care - not just for those who they cover, but for journalists themselves? Historically speaking there have been gap in resources and coverage for journalists who covered trauma and too often, it was just considered “part of the job.” And yet, covering trauma can have a significant impact on a

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journalist's well-being, which in turn may affect how journalists cover traumatic events. This panel will address this critical gap of ethics of care - not just for coverage of communities, but journalists themselves. The panelists will represent a diverse background, from academic to practice, ensuring a wider range of expertise. They would also include academic journalists who covered Hurricane Katrina, adding a local angle to this national conference while providing an emic perspective from visual journalists, along with ethic scholars.

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F039

Commission on the Status of Women

Refereed Research Paper Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

[RP] = Denotes a Research-in-Progress submission.

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F040

Participatory Journalism Interest Group

Research Panel Session

University-Newsroom-Community Collaborations and Open Educational Resources

Moderating/Presiding

Carrie Brown, Montclair State

Panelists

Mark Poepsel, Southern Illinois, Edwardsville

Andrea Wenzel, Temple

Panelists will discuss the pedagogical frameworks, open educational resources, and research emerging from collaborations between students, citizens, and journalists, including the concept of non-disposable assignments and what an open pedagogy approach looks like. Audience members will learn how these efforts are benefiting newsrooms, communities, and students, and how they can potentially develop or take on their own collaborative efforts.

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F041

Sports Communication Interest Group

Refereed Research Paper Session

Analyzing Crisis Communication, Hostility and Politics across Sport and Culture

Moderating/Presiding

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name, affiliation

Equal Fouls, Unequal Fallout: Gendered Organizational Spillover in Sport Crises

Victoria Kyriakopoulos, Syracuse

Stealing Thunder in Sports Crises: Effects of Disclosure Timing and Crisis

Type on Fan Evaluations of Athletes

James Ndone, Coastal Carolina

Spillover, Identity, and Complexity: Working Toward a Multi-Stakeholder

Framework for Crisis Communication in Sport

Elizabeth Cox, Kansas

Course Corrections at the U.S.A. Half Marathon Championships:

A Crisis-Communications Analysis

Welch Suggs, Georgia

Stick To Sports? Examining The Influence of Expressive Political Identification,

Perceived Content Frequency, And Audience Beliefs

on Sports Media Credibility Evaluations

Natalie Brown-Devlin, Texas at Austin

Discussant

Betsy Emmons, Nebraska-Lincoln

[RP] = Denotes a Research-in-Progress submission.

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F042

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Elected Standing Committee on Publications

Panel Session

Part One - Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

Description

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F043

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Elected Standing Committee on Teaching

Teaching Panel Session

Teaching Best Practices: Title

Moderating/Presiding

Amanda Weed, Kennesaw State and **Gabriel B. Tait**, Ball State

First Place

Building Purpose-Driven AI Chatbots for Inclusive Health Communication

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[Description]

Gyo Hyun Koo, Howard

Second Place

Accountability by Design: Strengthening Collaboration in an Asynchronous Graduate PR Campaign Course

[Description]

Tara Lynn Smith, Delaware

Third Place

Bits, Bytes, and Beads

[Description]

Ivy Ashe, Florida Atlantic

Discussant

name, affiliation

Panel Description

1:15 to 2:30 p.m. / F044

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication and World Journalism Education Congress

Panel Session

Journalism Education and Gender: Global Perspectives

Moderating/Presiding

Mia Moody, Baylor, AEJMC President-Elect, 2025-26

Panelists

Teaching Against the Tide: Gender Equity and Journalism Education in an Era of Disruption

Ingrid Bachman, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Whose Journalism? Decolonization, Gender, and Power in Journalism Education

Margaretha Geertsema-Sligh, Butler

From Newsroom to Classroom: Integrating the Gender Perspective into Journalism Education

Ayleen Cabas-Mijares, Miami

Teaching Journalism Under Occupation: Reimagining Media Education in Palestine

Rola Khalid Yousef, Catholic University, Portugal

Reporting Under Constraint: Journalism Education, Gender, and Risk in Iran

Dina Dorari, Colorado-Boulder

Discussant

Elanie Steyn, Oklahoma

Journalism education has traditionally not included gendered perspectives. However, scholars and teachers are working to incorporate these perspectives into curricula, with a focus on women and other marginalized groups. This panel will first present a summary of discussions and recommendations considered at the syndicate on gender and related inequality issues from the previous WJEC meeting. We will then explore how critical and feminist pedagogies can strengthen journalism education globally. In Latin America, feminist theory and politics have reshaped newsrooms through gendered perspectives, an approach that could be incorporated in foundational reporting and writing courses. In Palestine and the diaspora, women specialize in expressing people's suffering and struggle for liberation. However, in a politically unstable and oppressive environment, journalism curricula need to

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adapt to prepare women journalists for the realities of conflict. Similarly, in Iran, curricula need to expand to incorporate safety training, gender-sensitive approaches, and critical engagement with power and media structures to better prepare journalists to operate in complex and restrictive environments.

3 to 4:15 p.m. / F045

Communicating Science, Health, Environment and Risk Division

High-Density Refereed Research Paper Session

Navigating AI: Trust, Risk and Human Outcomes

Moderating/Presiding

Haoran Chu, affiliation

When Aristotle Meets AI: Personalized Rational and Emotional Human-AI Dialogues in Correcting Health Misbeliefs

Wenbo Li; Shan Xu; Obada Marei Kraishan

Segmenting Support for Artificial Intelligence: Exploring Socio-Epistemic Orientations

Dayeon Eom; Yijia Zhu; Cameron Mackey;

Todd Newman; Dietram Scheufele; Dominique Brossard

Media Amplification, Model Source Cues, and Expectancy Violation in Public Acceptance of Generative AI: Evidence from a Medical Consultation Experiment

Zhiyue Liu, affiliation

Talk like Human and Diagnosis like Machine: Examining the Role of Perceived Affordance, GenAI Diagnosis Trust, and AI-Doctor Substitutability

Ji Zhou Ye; Jizhou Ye; Piper Liping Liu;

Yueliang Wang; Shuo Shan

Using a Chatbot for Hurricane Preparedness Communication: The Interplay Between a Chatbot's Shared Identity Level and a User's Anthropomorphic Tendency on Eeriness

Ja Kyung Seo; Wenqing Zhao

Pragmatic Users, Abstract Guardians: Psychological Distance and Risk Perception of Generative Artificial Intelligence

Haoran Chu; Hanzi He; Shuo Yao

Unveiling AI's Environmental Costs to the Public: Psychological Distance, Source, and Usage Context in Norm Activation and Sustainable Intentions

Junyi Chen; Junyi Chen; Tai-Yee Wu

Environmental Risk Activation in Human-AI Communication: Moral Compensation and Pro-Environmental Behavior in AI Contexts

Chuanyue Xu; Chenxu Liu; Chuanyue Xu; Haoyu Wu

The Effect of Message Frame and Politeness of AI Agents on User Evaluations of AI-based Healthcare Services: From the Perspectives of Regulatory Focus Theory and Construal Level Theory

Jieun Lee, affiliation

Framing Autonomous Vehicles: A Content Analysis of Tone, Issue Attributes, Themes, and Ideological Divides in Newspaper Coverage

Yujin Heo; Sei-Hill Kim; Maryam Goli;

Shamira McCray; Jungmi Jun; Ali Zain

Discussant

Wenlin Liu, affiliation

[RP] = Denotes a Research-in-Progress submission.

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3 to 4:15 p.m. / F046

Communication Theory and Methodology Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Human-AI Communication: Agency, Relationships, Credibility, and Methods

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Customization of AI (CO-AI) Model: Make Humans Agentic Again*

Keerthana Govindarazan, Pennsylvania State

Mapping the Joint State Space of Human-Computer Dialogue: Attractor Dynamics and Basin Structure

Qien Ding, Naipeng Chao, Yinqi Wang,

Mingge Wang, Qian Yao,

and **Zhaohan You**, Shenzhen

The RELAX Model: A Theory of Relationship Formation with AI Companions

Aleksandra Lazić, Sofie Vranken,

and **Jörg Matthes**, Vienna

Co-Adaptive Affordance Learning Model (CAALM): A Dynamic Framework of Affordance Development Through User-System Interaction

Joshua Riesenberger and **Doyle Yoon**, Oklahoma

Can We Use AI to Create Stimuli for Experiments? A Comparison

of Human vs. LLM-Generated Message Frames**

Peixin Hua, Temilade Adeeko

and **Jack Weier**, Pennsylvania State,

Xueqing Li, Shanghai Jiao Tong

and **Rehab Alayoubi**, and **S. Shyam Sundar**, Pennsylvania State

Discussant

name, affiliation

* Third Place Student Paper Award

** Third Place Open Competition Paper Award

[RP] = Denotes a Research-in-Progress submission.

3 to 4:15 p.m. / F047

Newspaper and Online News and Scholastic Journalism Divisions

Teaching Panel Session

Champions of Editing: For Tomorrow's Online Newsrooms, Build on What Works, Experiment with AI and Leave the Rest Behind

Moderating/Presiding

Mitch McKenney, Kent State

Featured Speaker

Friday, August 7, 2026

Steve Beatty, Newspack

This annual gathering is open to anyone who teaches editing, appreciates editing or simply likes to hang around editing professors. This year's speaker, Steve Beatty, has been involved with online-only news outlets since they were new. A former editor and publisher of The Lens in New Orleans, Beatty now works for Newspack, a project of WordPress.com parent Automattic that makes a special build for online newsrooms. He previously was an editor at *The Times-Picayune* and *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

3 to 4:15 p.m. / F048

Political Communication Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

[RP] = Denotes a Research-in-Progress submission.

3 to 4:15 p.m. / F049

Commission on Graduate Education

Refereed Research Paper Session

Research-In-Progress

Moderating/Presiding

Deborah J. Danuser, Pittsburgh

Topic I – **Technology, Memory & Human Connection**

[RP] Same Frames, Different Voices: How Gendered Communities Construct Contraception on Chinese Social Media

Shiyuan Li, North Carolina at Charlotte

[RP] AI as Companion: How Conversational AI Fosters Connection in the Age of Loneliness

Jieun Lee, Texas at Austin

[RP] “The Demolished Digital Homelands”: A Study on the Disembedding of Digital Place Memory Amid Early Chinese Internet Platform Shutdowns

Jiadi Dong, Jinan University

Topic II – **Public Health & Environmental Communication**

[RP] Analysis of Influencing Factors of PCOS Patients’ Online Health Management Behaviors Based on the Health Belief Model

Ziqi Peng, Sichuan University

[RP] Between Fate and Facts: How Cultural Fatalism and Health Literacy Shape HIV Prevention Communication Intentions Among Rural Older Adults in China

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Yangyang Wu, Danyang Su, and Peitong Liu, Wuhan University

Zihan Zhou, Chongqing University

[RP] Ecological Silence in War Reporting: Environmental Omission
in the 2026 Iran Conflict

Mohammad Al Masum Molla, Oklahoma

Topic III – **Academic Culture and Professional Formation**

[RP] Realities, Challenges, and Hopes in Career Building Toward Academia, Communication,
and Journalism: Insights from Faculty and Graduate Student Perspectives

Mamunor Rashid, Colorado at Boulder

[RP] Self-Promotion for Women in Higher Education: A Cross-National Study
of Digital Visibility, Gendered Risk, and Academic Labor

Sarah Witmer, Erdo Ankwagh, Raleigh Darnell,

Nur Hossain, Alexander Tawiah, Sabena Abdulraheem,

Sophia Restiffe Favoretto, Rafaela Berger Pereira,

David Lomoywara, Wenxiang Zeng, Anjelica Ortiz,

Akachukwu Ikefuama, and Sazzad Hossain, Iowa

[RP] Gratitude, Formation, and the Hidden Curriculum: Dissertation
Acknowledgments in Journalism and Communication Doctoral Education in China

Shiyun Pan, Communication University of China

Discussants

name, affiliation

[RP] = Denotes a Research-in-Progress submission.

3 to 4:15 p.m. / F050

Commission on LGBTQIA+ Communities and Media Ethics Division

PFR Panel Session

Are We Still Welcome? The Shifting Politics of LGBTQ Inclusion in New Orleans and Louisiana

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

In 2023, New Orleans & Company and the New Orleans LGBTQ Hospitality Alliance relaunched the “Everyone’s Welcome Here” campaign, encouraging businesses across the city to display visible signs of inclusion and complete training designed to make LGBTQ friendliness part of everyday practice. The effort built on the city’s long-standing reputation for hospitality, positioning inclusivity as a civic and economic strength at a moment when much of the South retreated from it. Around the same time, Louisiana’s legislature considered laws restricting transgender youth participation in sports and enacted a ban on most gender-affirming medical care for minors. Public higher-education institutions in the state have faced growing pressure to scale back or eliminate DEI programs. This changing political environment has heightened the stakes for civic and business leaders who continue to promote inclusion as a defining part of the city’s brand. Two years after the campaign’s relaunch, this panel examines how those involved in New Orleans’ inclusivity marketing now view the effort. Have they faced resistance or backlash from customers, politicians, or community members? Have they maintained or even strengthened their commitment, or has the broader state climate made open advocacy harder to sustain? Panelists could include members of the New Orleans

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& Company and the New Orleans LGBTQ Hospitality Alliance, local business owners, and/or educators who study place branding, corporate advocacy, etc. When does inclusive branding cross into activism? How can educators prepare students to think about courage, risk, and authenticity in marketing decisions that play out against political headwinds?

3 to 4:15 p.m. / F051

Commission on the Status of Women, Media Management, Economics and Entrepreneurship and Visual Communication Divisions

[00-1500] — Scholar-to-Scholar (Poster) Refereed Research Paper Session

Commission on the Status of Women [20]

Media Management, Economics and Entrepreneurship Division [20]

Visual Communication Division

00 • Research on the Thematic Differences and Communication Effect Mechanism of Cultural and Tourism Promotion Short Videos from a Multimodal Perspective: A Computational Communication Analysis Based on the Douyin Platform

Yiyi Wang, Communication University of China

From Rhetoric to Evidence: Testing the Persuasive Effects of Visual and Verbal Arguments in Advertising

Nanxiao Zheng

and **Shuhua Zhou**, City University of Hong Kong

How Gendered Leadership Qualities Are Used to Win an Election: A Qualitative Analysis of AI-Generated Multimodal Disinformation Targeting Candidates in the 2024 Election

Zhiting Zhang, Texas at Austin

From Conceived to Lived Space: A Multimodal Computational Investigation into the Digital Co-production of City Image

Jianing Zhu, Qiaoge Xie,

and **Ruqin Ren**, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Exploring News Engagement in the Age of Short-Form Video: A Mixed Method Analysis of YouTube Shorts

Trenton Straight and Prakash Acharya, Ohio

Don't Be Too Calm: How Does the Combination of Visual and Textual Frames Influence Expressions of Anger in Short Video Comment Sections?

Zihao Li, Lanzhou University

Quantifying Digital Perfection: A Computational Analysis of Digital Beauty Standards and Female Appearance Anxiety Across Eastern and Western Social Media

Sulin Ye, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics,

and **Yunyi Hu**, Renmin university of China

When AI-Generated Images Inspire and Threaten: Dual Psychological and Motivational Pathways from Perceived Artistic Creativity of AI to Human Creativity

Chuanyue Xu, Wisconsin, Madison,

and **Chenxu Liu**, Tsinghua University and Wisconsin-Madison

From Imaging Tool to Media Object: Rednote Female Users' Use Practices and Meaning-Making around DJI Osmo Pocket 3

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Chaohong Yang, Yuan Zehao

and **Zhang Le**, Peking University

News Portrayals of Women in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Zinnia Sheikh, University of Memphis

Fast Frames: A Third Paradigm of Photojournalism Workflow

Michael Vosburg, Benedict College

Externalized and Internalized Feminism Visualization: A Comparative
Visual Rhetorical Analysis on Chinese Film Her Story and YOLO

Xintian Guo, Communication University of China

Generative AI vs. Social Media: Visual Emotions and Color Differences
in Depictions of Depression

Katharina Angermayr,

Nathalie Laura Neuendorf,

and **Sebastian Scherr**, University of Augsburg

War And Peace Journalism in Visual News: A Comparison Between the Associated
Press and Reuters Visual Coverage of The ICE Immigration Enforcement

Xu Zhang, Austin Peay State

How Multimodal Channels Interact: Cross-Modal Compensation
as a Driver of Cognitive Engagement in Science Videos

Linyu Huang, Wensen Huang,

and **Zikun He**, Shenzhen University

Representation of Ethnic Minorities: Visual Rhetoric on the Covers
of Nationality Pictorial (1955-2024)

Xinrui Li, and **Yuan Zhang**, Xi'an Jiaotong University

Under the Sea: Beyond the Empathy Machine & Exploring Emotional
Connections in Virtual Reality

Jason Webb, Syracuse

Women Imagined in Chinese Crime Dramas: Conceiving Heterosexual
Figures in Nostalgic and Bromantic Constructs

Chenchen Zou, Pennsylvania State

[RP] Does It Matter If It's a Machine? AI Disclosure and Consumer Responses
to Hyper-Realistic Digital Human Anchors in Livestream E-Commerce

Yulin Zhang, Li Lu,

and **Ying Zhu**, Communication University of China

[RP] Seeing the Sacred and the Suffering: A Philosophical Comparison
of Religious and Traumatic Images

Taylor Sheridan, Missouri

[RP] Visualizing Research: How R1 Universities Communicate Research
and Research Impact

Lorraine Scolaro, Kate Waller,

Vy Luong, Zivile Raskauskaite,

and **Susan Renoe**, Missouri

[RP] Visualizing Interaction Ritual Chains: Virtual Co-presence and Emotional
Engagement in Music Video Platforms

Yoongge Wu, Nanjing University

[RP] When Stories Have Faces: The Effects of Narrative Framing and Anthropomorphic
Cues on Purchase Intention toward Imperfect Produce

Rin Xu, Minrui Chen,

and **Leona Yi-Fan Su**, Illinois, Urbana Champaign

[RP] The Computability of Grotesque-Cuteness: Algorithmic Aesthetics
and Affective Virality in Platformized Media

Yuqi Yang, Hunan Normal University,

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Qiang Sun, Jiangxi University of Water Resources and Electric Power,
and **Yuhong Fan**, Jiangxi Normal University

[RP] Beyond Barbie Pink: How Brand Color Saturation Shapes
Cognitive, Emotional, and Behavioral Reactions to the Brand

Minji Kim and **Sarah Ellis**, Flagler College

[RP] Ethical Visibility and Structural Limits in Visual Journalism's
Coverage of Homelessness

Laura Moorhead

and **Joshua Davis**, San Francisco State

[RP] Real or Rendered: How Influencer Type Shapes Consumer Perceptions
of Health Advertising

Goodness Godwin-Usoro,

Annalise Minogue-Marcuson,

and **Simona Rivero**, Florida

[RP] From Aesthetic Autonomy to Algorithmic Discipline: The Algorithmic
Gaze and Visual Homogenization in Female-Oriented
Microdramas Generated by AIGC

Weili Liu, Hainan University

[RP] The Visual Construction of the Borderland: Harmony in Diversity
and Spatial Narrative in Cherished Land

Siyang Yan, China University of Geosciences

[RP] Do We Look Differently? Visual Attention to AI-Generated
vs. Real Social Media Ads

Juan Mundel, **Subhalakshmi Bezbaruah**,

Moldir Moldagaliyeva, **Zheran Liu**,

Hyuntaek Lee, **Heyang Zhang**,

Iddrisu Naadiyahtu, **Yerkebulan Almanov**,

Heijin Lee, **Madelyn Wilkins**,

Madeline Orlando, **Cade Lonnett**,

Ashley Powell, **Jake Anargyros**,

and **Patricia Huddleston**, Michigan State

[RP] Beyond Entertainment: Understanding Motivations and Co-Creative
Negotiation of Users Engaging in AI-Assisted Meme Creation

Huang Yuanjing, Peking University

[RP] Making Sense of Realistic Beauty Nudges: An Exploratory Study
of Beauty Ideals and Body Image Experiences on Instagram

Lesa Major and **Trizah Ombewa**, Indiana

[RP] From Cultural Practice to Visual Symbol: The Mediation and Ethical
Implications of Taijiquan in Digital Visual Culture

Jiaping Che

and **Ruiyi Sha**, Shandong Sport University, China

Discussants

Keith Greenwood, Missouri

Ross Taylor, Colorado

Michael Vosburg, Benedict College

Alex Scott, Iowa

Christopher Assaf, North Texas

[RP] = Denotes a Research-in-Progress submission.

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Research presentations should be placed on the board with the corresponding **numbers in red** in the conference program. This will help ensure a smooth flow and easy access to all presentations during the session. To facilitate this process, presentations may be put in place beginning **30-minutes** prior to your assigned presentation time. This will allow for ample time to set up and make any necessary adjustments before the session begins. We appreciate your cooperation in making sure that all presentations are displayed accurately and efficiently.

3 to 4:15 p.m. / F052

Internships and Careers Interest Group and Public Relations Division

Teaching Panel Session

Business Basics for Career Success

Moderating/Presiding

Jake Batsell, Southern Methodist

Panelists

Matt Ragas, DePaul

Debbie Davis, Texas Tech

Charles Lubbers, South Dakota

Melita Garza, Illinois

Adrienne Wallace, Grand Valley State

This session provides the rationale for increasing the business acumen of communication students and explores concrete ways communication educators can weave core business concepts—such as integrated marketing strategy, pricing, consumer decision-making, and promotional excellence—throughout syllabi, assignments, and course sequences. The panel will feature models, instructional practices, and reflective activities that help students speak the language of business, recognize gaps in their business acumen, and step more confidently into roles as strategic organizational partners.

3 to 4:15 p.m. / F053

Religion and Media Interest Group and Law and Policy Division

Research Panel Session

Compelling Faith: The Growing Tensions between the Free Speech, Free Exercise, and Establishment Clauses of the First Amendment

Moderating/Presiding

Kathryn Montalbano, Kentucky

Panelists

Israel Balderas, Elon

Susan Keith, Rutgers

Will Mari, Texas A&M

Rick Clifton Moore, Boise State

Recent Supreme Court decisions in the United States have highlighted growing tensions between the free speech, free exercise, and establishment clauses of the First Amendment. In addition, these clauses sometimes conflict with the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and public accommodation clause of the Civil Rights Act

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of 1964. Landmark rulings in *Masterpiece* and *303 Creative* demonstrate that SCOTUS is increasingly favoring the protection of religious expression over the expression and rights of those whose viewpoints or identities conflict with these ideologies. At the same time, the battle over what “compelled speech” should mean resides at the heart of this tension and at the heart of other tensions in educational spheres, such as whether K-12 public schools can allow prayer or whether DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) programs compel speech and engage in discrimination in public universities. Panelists will draw from legal, religious, and historical frameworks to grapple with these multiple tensions, while considering two sets of underpinning questions: how do recent SCOTUS and lower-court decisions dictate who gets to speak, on what terms, and in what spaces? Are individuals being compelled to speak in recent rulings, can they be forced to do so, and what, in fact, counts as speech?

3 to 4:15 p.m. / F054

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Elected Standing Committee on Professional Freedom and Responsibility

Award Panel Session

First Amendment Award

Moderating/Presiding

Meg Heckman, Northeastern

2026 First Amendment Award Recipients

USA TODAY Network’s Team of First Amendment Reporters

Panelists

BrieAnna Frank, *USA TODAY*

Angele Latham, *The Tennessean*

Taylor Seely, *Arizona Republic*

Stephany Matat, *USA TODAY* Network Florida

Cate Charron, *The Indianapolis Star*

The First Amendment Award, created in 2006, recognizes individuals or organizations who demonstrate strong commitment to freedom of the press and who practice or support courageous journalism. The 2026 First Amendment Award honors the *USA TODAY* Network’s team of First Amendment reporters for their coverage of press freedom issues across the country. Their collective work has spotlighted threats to journalism including government retaliation against news outlets, attacks on student press freedom, federal funding cuts to public media, and efforts to undermine open records laws. Join the recipients for a conversation about the challenges and rewards of covering the First Amendment beat at a time when press freedom is under increasing pressure. Light refreshments will be provided.

The First Amendment Award, created in 2006, recognizes individuals or organizations who demonstrate strong commitment to freedom of the press and who practice or support courageous journalism. Previous recipients include Errin Haines and the Staff of *The 19th* (2024); Margaret Sullivan, *The Guardian* (2023); Steven Waldman of *Report for America* (2022); Omar Jimenez of *CNN* (2021); Shane Bauer of *Mother Jones* (2020); Nikole Hannah-Jones of *The New York Times Magazine* (2019); Ronan Farrow of *The New Yorker* and Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey of *The New York Times* (2018); *The Pulitzer Prizes* (2017); *Reporters Without Borders* (2016); Floyd Abrams (2015); Joel Simon of the *Committee to Protect Journalists* (2014); the *First Amendment Center* (2013); Carole Simpson (2012); Michael Kirk of *Frontline* (2011); Nat Hentoff (2010); Seymour Hersh of *The New Yorker* (2009); Clarence Page of the *Chicago Tribune* (2008); Helen Thomas of *UPI* and *Hearst* (2007); and Molly Ivins (2006).

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3 to 4:15 p.m. / F055

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

AEJMC President Leadership Session

Future Forward: Strategic Planning for AEJMC's Next Chapter Insights from Task Force Leaders on Branding, Partnerships, Diversity, and Tech Innovation

Moderating/Presiding

Mia Moody, Baylor, AEJMC President-Elect, 2025-26

Panelists

Branding & Sustainability

Enhancing AEJMC's Visibility and Member Experience Through Social Media Strategies, Retention Efforts, And Sustainable Revenue Models

Prashanth Bhat, Houston

Industry & Academy

Building Stronger Connections Between Academia and Industry, Developing Micro-Credential Programs, And Exploring AI Integration

in Scholarly Publishing

Pallavi Guha, Towson

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Advancing Belonging and Inclusion Within AEJMC Through Surveys, Achievements Review,

and Collaborative Initiatives

Rey Rosales, MacEwan University

Technology & Innovation

Leading AEJMC's role in AI policy and Curriculum Development, Expanding Tech Initiatives, and Improving Hybrid Participation

Haiyan Jia, Lehigh

Discussant

Bey-Ling Sha, Texas Tech, AEJMC President, 2025-26

Join AEJMC's Strategic Planning Task Force for an overview of ideas to help shape the association's future. Subcommittee chairs will share progress and priorities in branding, industry partnerships, diversity, and technology innovation, offering opportunities for member engagement and feedback.

3 to 4:15 p.m. / F056

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Elected Standing Committee on Publications

Panel Session

Part Two - Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

Friday, August 7, 2026

Description

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F057

Advertising Division

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Moderating/Presiding

Eunjin Kim, Southern California

Is Your Teaching Keeping Pace With the Real World?: A Typology Framework to Strengthen Advertising Education Amid Transformations*

Sara Champlin, North Texas, Denton;

Kasey Windels, Florida;

Xiao Liang, Miami; **Sarah Karl**, Florida;

Summer Shelton, Cincinnati;

and **Mezabahnur Masum**, North Texas

Believing the Honest Brand: How Disclosing Scientific Uncertainty in Commercialized Emerging Technologies Influences Credibility, Sincerity, and Brand Attitude**

Yi Liao, Utah; **Jiaming Zhou**, Macau;

Baoying Fu, Utah; and **Wenyuan Li**, Miami

The Anthropocentrism Paradox: How Individual and Brand Frames Intervene with AI Disclosure in Inclusive Advertising***

Quan Xie, **Steven Edwards**,

Sidharth Muralidharan, **Carrie La Ferle**,

and **Rachel Rodgers**, Southern Methodist

Authentic Innovation or Corporate Shortcut? How Consumers Interpret AI-Generated Advertising****

Yuan Nan, **Xinyi Zuo**,

and **Huan Chen**, Florida

Strategies for Increasing Webtoon Awareness in the U.S.:

From Media Discovery to Cultural Signals*****

Jeongmin Ham, and **Won-Ki Moon**, Florida

Discussant

Esther Thorson, Colorado State

* Top Teaching & Pedagogy paper

** Top Graduate and Undergraduate Student Research paper (First place)

*** Top Open Research paper (First place)

**** Top Special Topics paper

***** Top Webtoon Research Paper

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F058

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Friday, August 7, 2026

Moderating/Presiding

Stan Jastrzebski, Missouri

Enhancing Broadcast News or Disrupting It?: Examining the Impact of AI News Anchors on Credibility, Likability, and Viewer Discomfort*

Soo Young Shin, Danford Zirugo and **Sean Sadri**, Alabama

“Slayyyy News Mommy”: Computational Topic Modeling of TikTok Comments About Women Broadcast Journalists**

Anjelica Ortiz and **Sarah Witmer**, Iowa

Reconstructing the Storm: A Comparative Critical Discourse Analysis of CNN’s Website Headlines and Social Media Captions***

Ryan Thomas and **Emmanuel Ejigboye**, Washington State

The Gen Z Paradox: Willingness to Speak Out About the Israel-Gaza Conflict in an Increasingly Unforgiving Online/Offline Space****

Zienab Shoieb, David Atkin, Lili Romann
and **John Christensen**, Connecticut

Discussant

name, affiliation

* First Place Faculty Paper Award

** First Place Student Paper Award

*** First Place Faculty Research-in-Progress

**** First Place Student Research-in-Progress

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F059

Communication Technology Division

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Moderating/Presiding

Anne Oeldorf-Hirsch, Connecticut

AI as a Source Cue in Fact-Checking: The Role of Process Explanation in Shaping Explainability, Credibility, and Belief

Bingbing Zhang, Iowa

When “Responsible AI” Falls Short: Reframing Trust as Integrity in AI-Mediated Media Systems,

Gregory Gondwe, California State, San Bernardino

Can AI Heuristics Lead to News Elaboration? A Serial Mediation Model from AI News Use to Perceived and Actual Political Knowledge

Yuxuan Jin, Pennsylvania State University

Intimate Strangers by Design: A Uses and Gratifications Analysis of AI Companionship

Dayeon Eom, Wisconsin Madison

How AI Addiction Exacerbates Fake News Risks: An Online Experimental Study Based on Cognitive Offloading

Hongcheng Lu, Tsinghua University

AI-Generated Art as Communication Technology: How Loneliness,

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Mind Perception, and Aesthetic Judgment Relate to State Anxiety
Wooseung Park, Sogang University

Discussant
name, affiliation

Paper Award Winners

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F060

Cultural and Critical Studies Division

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Moderating/Presiding
name, affiliation

You Love the Game: The Super Bowl Halftime Show and the Politics
of American Spectacle

Kyle Stanley, Louisiana State University & A&M College

Selling Africa, Selling the Self: Neoliberal Humanitarianism
in Chinese Voluntourism

Guan Wang, Alabama

Loving Yet Incapable: The Construction of Single Mothers' Role Identities
in Disney Animated Films

Jiale Xiong, Wuhan University;

and **Mao Wanyi**, Renmin University of China

From Voyeurism to Visual Historiography: Regenerative Decolonization
in Netflix's High on the Hog

Tewodros Workneh, Kent State

and **Nahla Bendefaa**, Oregon

"We're Journalists, Not Advocates" Advocacy and Strategic Ambiguity
in U.S. Metajournalistic Discourse

Perry Parks, and **Jessica Pettengill**, Michigan State

Discussant
name, affiliation

Paper Award Winners

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F061

International Communication Division

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Moderating/Presiding
name, affiliation

Discussant

Friday, August 7, 2026

name, affiliation

Paper Award Winners

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F062

Magazine Media Division

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

Paper Award Winners

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F063

Mass Communication and Society Division

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Best of the Best: New Directions in Media Effects and Public Opinion

Moderating/Presiding

Terri N. Hernandez, Mississippi State

Professional Medical Association-Deployed vs. Generic AI Chatbots
in Vaccine Misinformation Correction: The Mediating Roles
of Source Credibility and Human–AI Collaborative Engagement*

Jun Zhang, Middle Tennessee State

Greater Polarization, Less Expression? Examining The Relationship Between
Perceived Polarization and Political Expression in China
and The United States**

Macau K. F. Mak, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

More Than Numbers: How Social Media Metrics Shape Persuasive
Message Processing***

Esther Son, Maryland, College Park

Diverse Ties, Quieter Anxieties: Bridging Social Capital as Buffer Against
Achievement-Oriented Comparison in China's Involution Culture****

Yueming Luo, Hong Kong Baptist University

Networked News, Divided Publics: How Information Source Attributes
Structure Audience Attention on X*****

Sakshi Bhalla, Illinois, Urbana Champaign

Discussant

Michelle Amazeen, Boston

* First Place Faculty Paper Award

Friday, August 7, 2026

- ** Second Place Faculty Paper Award
 - *** Third Place Faculty Paper Award
 - **** First Place Student Paper Award
 - ***** Second Place Student Paper Award
-

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F064

Minorities and Communication Division

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Moderating/Presiding

Chelsea Peterson-Salahuddin, Michigan, Ann Arbor

From Scrolling to Solidarity: TikTok as a Platform for Racial Justice
Activism for Asians/Asian Americans and Its Persuasive Limits*

Zhiying Xu, Purdue University Northwest

Black Media Use: Towards a Taxonomy of Black Media
for First-Generation Africans**

Eric Agyekum, Wisconsin, Madison

You Won't Break My Soul: Resistance, Identity, and Navigating
White Technoculture***

Kyle Stanley, Nevada

"Liberation through the Pen": A Phenomenological Study Exploring
the Challenges and Experiences of Activism for Black Female Journalists****

Adanma Mbonu, Michigan State

Spatiotemporal Dimension of Health Information Seeking: Native
American Older Adults in Rural Communities *****

Belal Hossain and Hyunjin Seo, Kansas

"We Support Each Other on Social Media": Exploring Algorithmic Affordances
in Mental Health Information Exchange Among Racial Minority
Users in the United States*****

Hui Shi, Hongzhu Jin, Dongya Wang,
and **Zhengyan Li**, Miami

Discussant

name, affiliation

- * First Place Faculty Research Paper Award
 - ** First Place Graduate Student Paper Award
 - *** Second Place Faculty Research Paper Award
 - **** Second Place Graduate Student Research Paper Award
 - ***** Third Place Faculty Research Competition Paper Award
 - ***** Third Place Graduate Student Research Paper Award
-

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F065

Political Communication Division

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Friday, August 7, 2026

Moderating/Presiding
name, affiliation

Discussant
name, affiliation

Paper Award Winners

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F066

Public Relations Division

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Top Papers: Open Competition; DEI and Newsom in Public Relations Competition

Moderating/Presiding
Janice Lee, Louisiana State

Top Open Competition

“Bridgebuilding,” “Belonging,” “Common Ground”: A Case of Advocacy to Reduce Affective Polarization*

Abbey Warbington and **Oluseyi Adegbola**, Tennessee

Mapping AI and Public Relations Research: Trends, Theories, and Ethics**

Rebecca Damenorki Sewu and **Yeunjae Lee**, Colorado State

Owning the Story Within: The Effects of Stealing Thunder and Emotional

Framing on Employee–Organization Relationships and Resilience***

James Ndone, Coastal Carolina, **Alison Arnot**, Catalyst Communications, and **Margaret Duffy**, Missouri

DEI Award Competition

To DEI or Not To DEI: A Multi-Source Analysis of Corporate Social Advocacy****

Teresa Tackett, Arkansas, Fayetteville; **Andrea Lorenz**, Kent State, and **Bridget Barrett**, Colorado, Boulder

Newsom Award Competition

Strategic Silence in Crisis Communication: Defining, Assessing Effectiveness, and Exploring Cultural and Intersectional Influences Among Kenyan

Public Relations Practitioners*****

Teresia Nzau, Messiah University

Discussant
Arunima Krishna, Boston

- * First Place Paper, Open Research Competition
 - ** Second Place Paper, Open Research Competition
 - *** Third Place Paper, Open Research Competition
 - **** Special Award Winners
-

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F067

Friday, August 7, 2026

Scholastic Journalism Division

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

Paper Award Winners

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F068

Commission on LGBTQIA+ Communities

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Moderating/Presiding

Gina M. Masullo, Texas at Austin

Listening as Diversity Management: Understanding the Role of Internal Communication in Fostering LGBTQ+ Inclusion in a Polarized Context*

Dongya Wang and **Zhengyan Li**, Miami,

April Yue, Boston, and **Weiting Tao**, Miami

The Double Bind of Visibility: How News Frames Activate Bias in Coverage of Transgender Athletes**

Ashley Hopkins, California, Long Beach,

and **Jeremy Saks**, Old Dominion

Platformed Care Work: LGBTQ+-Focused Influencers, Digital Intimacy, and Well-being**

Sixiao Liu, Central Florida,

Jiaxi Wu, Virginia Commonwealth,

Chris McLain, **Elaine Hanby**,

Kate Okker-Edging, and **Andy Tan**, Pennsylvania

Bye, Bye, Bi: A Content Analysis of Same-Sex and Different-Sex Sexual Scripts of Bi+ Characters in Television***

Clay Williams, North Carolina at Chapel Hill,

Shannon Pappas and **Brandon Laurent**, Connecticut,

and **Yiran Gao**, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Discussant

Chelsea J. Reynolds, Arizona State

*First Place Faculty Paper Award

**Second Place Faculty Paper Award, (tie)

***First Place Student Paper Award,

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F069

Friday, August 7, 2026

Community Journalism Interest Group

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

Paper Award Winners

4:45 to 6 p.m. / F070

Entertainment Studies Interest Group

Top Refereed Research Paper Session

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

Paper Award Winners

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F071

Advertising Division

Business Session

Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding

Eunjin (Anna) Kim, Southern California

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F072

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division

Business Session

Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding

Heidi Makady, Texas State

Friday, August 7, 2026

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F073

Communication Technology Division

Business Session

Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F074

Cultural and Critical Studies Division

Business Session

Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F075

International Communication Division

Business Session

Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F076

Magazine Media Division

Business Session

Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F077

Mass Communication and Society Division

Business Session

Members' Meeting

Friday, August 7, 2026

Moderating/Presiding
Terri N. Hernandez, Mississippi State

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F078

Minorities and Communication Division

Business Session
Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding
Rafael O. Matos, Northwestern

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F079

Political Communication Division

Business Session
Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding
name, affiliation

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F080

Public Relations Division

Business Session
Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding
Ioana Coman, Texas Tech

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F081

Scholastic Journalism Division

Business Session
Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding
name, affiliation

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F082

Commission on LGBTQIA+ Communities

Friday, August 7, 2026

Business Session

Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding

Chelsea J. Reynolds, Arizona State

6:30 to 9:30 p.m. / F083

Commission on the Status of Women and Minorities and Communication Division

Offsite Social

Hosting

Roxane Coche, Florida and **Rafael O. Matos**, Northwestern

Meet at Creole Cuisine, 311 Decatur Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F084

Community Journalism Interest Group

Business Session

Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. / F085

Entertainment Studies Interest Group

Business Session

Members' Meeting

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

7:45 to 9:30 p.m. / F086

Advertising Division

Social

Hosting

Eunjin (Anna) Kim, Southern California

Friday, August 7, 2026

7:45 to 9:30 p.m. / F087

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division

Offsite-Social

Hosting
name, affiliation

7:45 to 9:30 p.m. / F088

Communication Technology Division

Offsite- Social

Hosting
name, affiliation

7:45 to 9:30 p.m. / F089

International Communication Division and Texas Tech University

Social

Hosting
name, affiliation

7:45 to 9:30 p.m. / F090

Mass Communication and Society Division and Commission on LGBTQIA+ Communities

Offsite- Joint Social

The Cornet, 700 Bourbon Street

Hosting
Terri N. Hernandez, Mississippi State
and **Chelsea J. Reynolds**, Arizona State

Affiliates of the Mass Communication and Society Division and the Commission on LGBTQIA+ Communities are warmly invited to this joint social, featuring an authentic Bourbon Street balcony experience! The Cornet features the largest balcony overlooking Bourbon. Enjoy entertainment from a live jazz trio band, light hors d'oeuvres and refreshments while mingling with colleagues, alums, and other scholars. Don't miss this opportunity to reconnect, network, and soak in the fun! For more information, contact Terri Hernandez (thernandez@comm.msstate.edu). Pre-registration is required.

7:45 to 9:30 p.m. / F091

Friday, August 7, 2026

Public Relations Division

Off-site Social

Hosting

Ioana Coman, Texas Tech and **Queenie Li**, Miami

The Public Relations Division welcomes all AEJMC members to attend the Annual Social on Friday, August 7 from 7:45 - 10p.m. at Napoleon House, conveniently located at 500 Chartres St. New Orleans, LA 70130. Join us to network with PRD members, connect with old friends, and meet new colleagues. The social includes cocktails, light appetizers, and prize drawings. Space is limited, and pre-registration is required.

7:45 to 9:30 p.m. / F092

University of Iowa, University of Minnesota and University of Wisconsin

Social

Hosting

name, affiliation
