

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

7:30 to 8:30 a.m. / W001

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

Business Session

Council of Division Plaque/Certificate Pickup

Moderating/Presiding

Samantha Higgins, AEJMC Headquarters

Representative from all DIG groups will stop by and pick up any plaques, certificates, etc. This is a mandatory meeting.

7:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W002

Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication

Business Session

ASJMC Executive Committee Meeting

Moderating/Presiding

Hub Brown, Florida, President, ASJMC 2025-26

8:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W003

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division

Research Panel Session

The State of Weather Media Studies and Why It Matters

Moderating/Presiding

Susan Keith, Rutgers

Panelists

Marcus Funk, Sam Houston State

Dylan McLemore, Oklahoma State

Christoph Mergerson, Maryland

Sohana Nasrin, Tampa

Mimi Perreault, Alabama

Weathercasters play an important role in the United States beyond providing forecasts and severe weather coverage. They are trusted science communicators and fact checkers who push back on sensationalism, misinformation, and conspiracy theories relating to weather and climate, which have been extremely important issues in the history of New Orleans, site of the 2026 conference. In doing so, they can contribute to the political knowledge of their viewers on these issues—complicating the prevalent representation of weather segments as soft-news fluff in peer-reviewed literature. In the post-linear era, several factors are affecting the job satisfaction and security of broadcast meteorologists, with implications for local television stations and the viewers who rely on their favorite weathercasters for credible information. But despite its importance, the practice and profession of weathercasting has been understudied in peer-reviewed journalism research in the last two decades. This panel of journalism researchers will propose a definition and scope for weather media studies from a journalism studies

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perspective, summarize previous areas of study, highlight areas of ongoing research, and propose an agenda for additional research.

8:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W004

Communication Theory and Methodology Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Risk, Resilience, and Responsibility in Networked Environments

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Psychological Distance as a Driver of Risk Information Seeking and Processing:
A Construal-Integrated Risk Information Seeking and Processing Model (CIRISP)*

Penghui Tao, Temple

Crisis, Disaster, and Risk Communication Walk Into a Bar: Tracing the Social,
Conceptual, and Intellectual Boundaries of Three Related Fields

Luna Pittet Gonzalez, Florida

Bell-ringer Legitimacy and Crisis Responsibility Attribution: A Source-Based
Mechanism of Stakeholder Judgment

BaoBao Song, Virginia Commonwealth
and **Weiting Tao**, Miami

Fast & Furious vs. Calm & Collected? Toward a Dynamic Process Model
of Bystander Decision-Making Against Digital Hate

Rinat Meerson, **Kevin Koban**,
and **Jörg Matthes**, Vienna

Reframing Journalistic Resilience: The Necessity of Networked Ecologies**

Aly Hill and **Avery Holton**, Utah,
and **Valérie Bélair-Gagnon**, Minnesota

Discussant

name, affiliation

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

* Second Place Student Paper Award

** Second Place Open Competition Paper Award

8:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W005

International Communications and Newspaper and Online News Divisions

[01-0830] — Scholar-to-Scholar (Poster) Refereed Research Paper Session

International Communication Division [40]

Newspaper and Online News Division

Topic I — Trust, Typologies & Solutions Journalism

00 • Exploring Audience Perceptions of Relational Trust in Journalism

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Michael Koliska and **Erin Moroney**, Georgetown

Relationship Between News Media Trust and News Consumption of Mainstream and Non-Mainstream Sources,

Azade Asadi Damavandi

and **Louisa Ha**, Bowling Green State

How Does Solutions Training Work? An Applied-Research Approach

Stephanie Ziqi Yang and **Chun Hong Tse**, Wisconsin-Madison

Integrating the New into the Old: Traffic and Typological News Production in Chinese Media

Tengda Zhong, Renmin University of China,

Xue Zhang, Xiamen University,

and **Bin Wang**, Renmin University of China

[RP] Reconfiguring Journalistic Competencies in the GenAI Era: Element Assessment, Typology Construction, and Stratification Mechanisms

Fulin Bu and **Chenxi Qu**, Communication University of China

Discussant

Meagan Doll, Minnesota

Topic II – **AI Credibility in the News and Photos**

Detection, Believability and Credibility of AI-Generated Images versus Real News Photos: An Experiment on Images of Highly Publicized News Topics

Jueman (Mandy) Zhang and **Daniel Hunt**, Rhode Island

Uncovering Journalistic Perceptions of AI Credibility: A Study

of “Conditional Credibility,” its Influences and Impacts on AI Use

Shangyuan Wu, National University of Singapore,

and **Sina Thäsler-Kordonouri**, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich

Building the Oracle: Power, Culture, and the Organizational Domestication of In-House AI in Chinese Newsrooms

Zhouyi Yao, Fudan University

[RP] Examining the Roles of AI Credibility and Fact-checking Experience on Generative AI Chatbot Use for Online News Verification

Michael Chan, Chinese University of Hong Kong

[RP] “Lost in Summarization”: A Critical Discourse Analysis of AI-Generated Summaries of Immigration News

Sunah Lee and **Jennifer Proffitt**, Florida State

Discussant

Shuning Lu, Maryland

Topic III — **Politics, Protests, and Courts in the News**

Documented Reasoning: Evaluating Open Records and Political Information Credibility

Jessica Sparks, Auburn, and **Jay Wagner**, Marquette

Situational Comment Exposure in Mobile Political News: The Roles of News Content, Platforms, and Election Periods

Hsien Chen Chou, **Yu Syuan Guo**,

Jia Yun Lai, **WenLing Wang**,

Jui-Chun Liu, **Yung-Ju Chang**,

and **Rebecca Ping Yu**, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University

Revisiting the Protest Paradigm: Thematic Framing and Protest Legitimacy Across Liberal and Semi-Authoritarian Media Systems

Mamunor Rashid, Colorado

[RP] Court Reporting as Journalistic Witnessing Amidst Political and Legal Upheavals

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Dennis Ka Kuen Leung, Hong Kong Shue Yan University,
and **Gary Tang**, Hang Seng University of Hong Kong

[RP] Beyond the Protest Paradigm: Monitorial vs. Solidarity Reporting of Hate Protests
in Japanese National and Local Newspapers

Yumiko Ehara, Minnesota

Discussant

Brown James, Lyon

Topic IV – Framing the News

Framing The World’s Leading Meatpacker: National Symbol, Transnational Power,
and the Promise of Sustainability

Michelle Rossi and **Saima Kazmi**, Loyola New Orleans

From Picket Lines to Headlines: Moral Foundations Framing of Artificial Intelligence
in the 2023 WGA and SAG-AFTRA Strikes

Chris DeFelice, Florida

Journalistic Mediation and the Sociotechnical Construction of Artificial Intelligence:
A Longitudinal Analysis of People’s Daily (1956–2025)

Hanqin Li, Chenxu Liu

and **Xuetian Wang**, Tsinghua University

[RP] Scarlet Letter Journalism: How Collectivist Culture Shapes Sensational
News Coverage in South Korea

Myung ji Kim

and **Suman Lee**, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

[RP] Personal Liberty vs. Public Health: Social Media Discourse and News
Coverage of Florida’s Efforts to End School Vaccine Mandates

Kim Walsh-Childers, Gwiwon Nam,

Nathan Carpenter, Avery Closser,

Lori Dassa, and **Chris Thomas**, Florida

Discussant

Deb Aikat, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Topic V – Journalists’ Identities and Their Work

Visual Attention to Reporter Identity and Its Effects

Arthur Santana, Xiaohan Hu,

and **Jiyoan Han**, San Diego State

Parasocial Paradox: How Substack Journalists Negotiate Relational
Labor Under Creator Economy Demands

Roberta Fiorito and **Karin Assmann**, Georgia

[RP] The Burden of Solving: Emotional Labor, Role Conflict, and the Professional
Identity of “Interventionist” Journalists in Local China

Chengsi Zhou, Wuhan University

[RP] Bounded Negotiation: How Chinese Student Interns Navigate Platform
Logics in News Organizations

Yukuan Liu, Communication University of China

[RP] Chinese Journalist's Role Conceptions in the “Age of Official Announcement:”
Agency, Practice, and Relationship with Official Sources

Leon Zhenglang Wang, Michelle Le He,

Alex Zhi-Xiong Koo, and **Macau K. F. Mak**, Chinese University of Hong Kong

Discussant

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Amber Hinsley, Texas State

Topic VI — Video Platforms as News Disseminators

Raise, Call, or Fold: How Legacy-Media Professionals Play the Game of Vertical-Video Journalism

Betsy Broaddus, Washington

News-Ness and Short Form Video Platforms: How Young Adults Experience News on Tiktok & Instagram

Cydney Grannan, Michigan

From “Trash Media” to Trusted Voices: The Platformized Gratification Paradox in India’s Hyperlocal YouTube Journalism

Pranaav Jadhav, Missouri

When Traditional Media Meets Short Videos: The Transformation and Adaptation of News Value by Platform,

Zhouyue Feng, Yang Chen,

Zichun Leng, and Xing Lyu, Renmin University of China

TikTok in the Crosshairs: Assessing Conservative and Liberal News Framing of the U.S. TikTok Sell-or-Ban Controversy

Ashera Barron and Feras Jafar, Alabama

Discussant

Lei Guo, Nebraska Omaha

Topic VII – Environmental & Sports Journalism

Disseminator or Advocate? Role-Toggling in Professional Practices Among Environmental Journalists

Patrick Ferrucci and Hong Vu, Colorado

[RP] Warning Signals and Environmental Publics: Analyzing Mainstream News and Official Authority Within Severe Typhoon Communication in Hong Kong

Zeping Feng, Sihui Chen,

and **Wenting Yu**, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

[RP] Near-News Deserts and Environmental Reporting in Louisiana: Implications for Coverage in a Climate-Vulnerable Region

Michelle Rossi

and **Shauntale Wiltz**, Loyola New Orleans

[RP] Factors Influencing Perceived Climate-Related Action: The Roles of Personal Narratives and Mobilization Information in Solutions-Based Climate Local News

Bingbing Zhang, Iowa,

Juliet Pinto and Yanan Wu, Pennsylvania State,

and **Mercedes Vigon**, Florida International

Questioning the Pros?: Exploring the Dynamic Between Journalists and College Athletes

Vincent Peña, DePaul, and **Shannon Scovel**, Tennessee

Discussant

Cory Armstrong, Nebraska Lincoln

Topic VIII – Managing Newsrooms and News Workers

Active Vulture Investor Strategies: Tracing Hedge Fund Activity in the U.S. News Media Industry

Qian Yu, Eastern New Mexico,

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and **Peter Gade**, Oklahoma

[RP] Ritualizing Crisis: How Nieman Lab's Predictions Perform
Journalism's Impending Doom

Nisha Sridharan, Temple

[RP] The Public Editors: Metajournalistic Discourse at *The New York Times*
from 2003-2017

Frank Russell, California State Fullerton,
and **Arthur Bremer**, Stephen F. Austin State

[RP] Obits in Weekly Newspapers: The Tension Between Public Good
and Financial Necessity

Hannah Artman and **Nicholas Mathews**, Missouri

Discussant

Damon Kiesow, Missouri

[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.

8:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W006

Mass Communication and Society Division and Small Programs Interest Group

PFR Panel Session

Teaching from Small to Large Classes: Challenges, Strategies, and Opportunities

Moderating/Presiding

Biyng Wu-Ouyang, The Education University of Hong Kong

Panelists

Hao Xu, Melbourne

Jay Hmielowski, Florida

Yuan Wang, The Education University of Hong Kong

Yujie Dong, Nanyang Technological

Kobayashi Tesoro, Waseda

Liang Ge, Manchester

This panel addresses the complex pedagogical landscape of mass communication education across dramatically different class sizes. It will examine the distinct difficulties of teaching from 2 to 400+ student courses, including the near impossibility of providing individual attention, the overwhelming burden of assessing hundreds of assignments while maintaining consistency, and the struggle to foster meaningful participation in auditorium settings. The discussion also addresses how to adapt active learning strategies, essential for communication education, to massive classrooms where collaborative exercises become logistically complex. This session provides practical, evidence-based strategies for maintaining educational quality across different class sizes. Refreshments will be provided by the generous support of The Education University of Hong Kong.

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8:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W007

Media Ethics Division

High-Density Refereed Research Paper Session
Title

Moderating/Presiding
name, affiliation

Discussant
name, affiliation

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

8:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W008

Scholastic Journalism Division

PFR Panel Session
From Classroom to Community: News-Academic Partnerships Addressing Local News

Moderating/Presiding
Sima Bhowmik, Vermont

Panelists
Marquita Smith, Mississippi
Richard Watts, Vermont
Benjamin Cooley, Vermont

Panel underscores transformative potential of News-Academic-Partnerships in bridging research, pedagogy and practice while identifying systemic challenges and opportunities for sustainable collaboration between academia and the local news industry.

8:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W009

Visual Communication Division

Research Panel Session
AI in Visual Communication: Bridging Newsroom Innovation and Classroom Policy

Moderating/Presiding
Elio Leturia, Columbia College Chicago

Panelists
Tina Korani, San José State
Belén Moreno, San José State
Bella Palomo, Universidad de Málaga
Manel Palos Pons, San José State
John Delacruz, San José State

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The proposed panel offers important insights into how artificial intelligence is reshaping visual communication at both professional and educational levels. It draws on historical and contemporary research to compare current AI-driven collaborations between visual and textual journalists with previous periods of newsroom transformation. Panelists will share international best practices for AI-assisted content creation, image production, and news design, highlighting how leading organizations are developing guidelines and assessing their outcomes. This directly addresses a current issue for the Visual Communication Division: despite AI's widespread adoption, currently in over 75% of newsrooms, there is no clear consensus on ethical and effective integration, leaving significant uncertainty in both industry and teaching contexts. For educators, the panel is especially relevant as students increasingly report anxiety and confusion over inconsistent AI policies not only visual communication curricula. The panel responds to these challenges by offering evidence-based recommendations for frameworks and policies that clarify expectations and equip students for AI-augmented newsrooms. It also explores the ethical complexities that arise when AI-generated visuals blur the boundaries between editorial and branded content which is a central issue in current media practice. By collaboratively developing a practical, adaptable framework for information organizations and universities, the panel fills knowledge gaps around AI's role in newsroom and branded content workflow, production ethics, and pedagogy. This will enhance the study, practice, and teaching of visual communication by providing clear models for responsible, effective AI use, ensuring that innovation proceeds alongside ethical rigor and creativity.

8:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W010

Community Journalism Interest Group and History Division

PFR Panel Session

Remembering & Responsibility: Hurricane Katrina Coverage 20 Years Later

Moderating/Presiding

Mildred Perreault, South Florida

Panelists

Antoine Haywood, Florida

Jinx Broussard, Louisiana State

Judith Livingstone, Columbus State

Terry Baquet, Editor-in-Chief, *Verite News*

Jarvis DeBerry, former columnist, *Times-Picayune*

Drew Hawkins, Public Health Reporter, *Gulf States Newsroom*

This panel revisits Hurricane Katrina through the lens of community journalism, 20 years after the storm reshaped the Gulf Coast. Local journalists who covered the disaster will reflect on their experiences reporting from the ground, the challenges of telling community-centered stories amid chaos, and the long-term impact of their work. Historians and media scholars will contextualize how local media shaped public memory and policy. The panel will explore how community journalism has evolved in disaster coverage and what Katrina teaches us about equity, resilience, and local storytelling.

8:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W011

Internships and Careers Interest Group

Teaching Panel Session

Title

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

Description

8:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W012

Sports Communication Interest Group

Refereed Research Paper Session

Ethics and Critical Questions in Sports Journalism

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Analyzing Media Conversations Around Sports Gambling Within the Context of Vulnerable Audiences

Alexander Carter, Butler

Peripheral Mending at the Edges of Sports Journalism: Metajournalistic Discourse of the Terry Rozier Sports Gambling Scandal

Ever Figueroa, Colorado-Boulder

Narratives of Sportswashing in the Media Coverage of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022

George Anghelcev, Northwestern University in Qatar

"A Story About the Truth and Why it May or May Not Matter"; An Analysis of Reporting and Journalistic Ethics in Sports Podcast Narratives

Matthew Taylor, Middle Tennessee State

"The Easiest Thing to Cut": Routine Forces of Women's Sports Coverage In Local Media

Dunja Antunovic, Minnesota

Discussant

name, affiliation

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

8:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W013

The Plank Center

Panel Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

name, affiliation

Description

8:30 to 9:45 a.m. / W014

Scripps Howard Fund

Teaching Panel Session

Open-Source Investigative Programs

Moderating/Presiding

Mike Canan, Senior Director of Journalism Strategies, Scripps Howard Fund

Panelists

name, affiliation

Scripps Howard has funded Open-Source Investigative Programs at the University of Southern California and the University of Memphis. Tools for open-source investigations are available to schools for free or for a small investment. This session explores those tools as well as the types of reporting students can do with them. Using examples from USC and UofM from classes and teaches faculty how to teach open-source investigation tools.

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. / W015

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication and Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication

Workshop Session

Institute for Diverse Leadership in Journalism and Communication (IDL)

2026-27 IDL Jennifer H. McGill Fellows (Incoming)

name, affiliation

Session open only to IDL Jennifer H. McGill Fellows.

10:15 to 11:30 a.m. / W016

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

[02-1015] — Scholar-to-Scholar (Poster) Refereed Research Paper Session

Advertising Division

Topic — **AI Transformation: Perspectives from Classrooms to Creative Agencies to Media**

00 • “I Am Always Scared Professors Are Going to Think I Am Cheating”

Complex Trust and Unspoken Vulnerabilities in Advertising Education:

A Belief Elicitation Approach to Student AI (Dis)Engagement

Yerkebulan Almanov,

and **Chuqing Dong**, Michigan State

Navigating Generative AI in Advertising Education: Ethical Dilemmas

and Pedagogical Interventions

Sujin Kim, Rachel Lim,
and **Lori Christie**, Oklahoma State

Between the Mutable and the Immutable: How Generative AI
Reshapes Creativity Among Advertising Copywriters

Zhouying Jia,
and **Yong Hu**, Peking University

Hybrid Intelligence and the Fluid Mesh: Structural Reconfiguration
of Advertising Creative Agencies by Generative AI

Zhouying Jia, Peking University;
and **Chunyi Liu**, Beijing Foreign Studies University

How Generative AI Advertising Is Framed: Media Narratives and Framing Cues

Jeongmin Ham, Sieun Ha, Tennessee;
and **Xinyi Zuo**, Florida

Discussant

Anastasia Kononova, Michigan State

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division

00 • AI in Video Journalism: Educator Attitudes and Innovation Diffusion

Jason Cain and **Deb Wenger**, Mississippi

Bypassing the Gate: How Google's AI-Generated Summaries Reshape News Distribution
and Consumption

Taeyoung Lee, Junghyun Moon, Khamadi Shitemi
and **Umer Farooq**, Indiana

AI Labels as Heuristic Cues: How They Shape Audience Information Processing and Behavioral
Responses—An Experimental Study Integrating HSM and EPPM

Yujun Zeng, East China Normal

AI vs. Human News Anchor in Agenda Setting? The Mediating Role of Anthropomorphism
and Credibility on Perceived Issue Importance

Nalae Hong, Bixuan Ren and **Lars Willnat**, Syracuse

Storm Chasing and the Performative Thrill of Live Disaster Media

Kaitlyn Serafin, Brady Quinn, Grace Smith, Teodora Tavares,
Grace Ficara, Victoria Heath and **Ava Jochims**, South Florida,
and **Valerie Belair-Gagnon**, Minnesota,
and **Gregory Perrault**, South Florida

Communicating Science, Health, Environment and Risk Division

Topic I - **Science Under Pressure: Countering Misinformation & Strengthening Vaccine Communication**

00 • Using STOPS to Stop Misinformation: Situational Theory of Problem-Solving
as A Framework to Motivate Communicative Actions on Social Media

Rita Tang, Minnesota-Twin Cities, **Yan Jin**, Georgia
and **Enrich Sommerfeldt**, Minnesota-Twin Cities

When Narratives Encounter Refutation: Message and Comment Effects
on Counterarguing and Policy Support on Social Media

Youzhen Su, Yin Yang, Chenyang He

Vaccine Communication in High-Income Countries: A Benchmark Systematic
Review of Theoretical Frameworks, Strategic Communication
Strategies, and Health Impacts

Amanda Sams, Amanda Sams, Hayley Markovich,
Summer Shelton, Chelsea Hampton,
Easton Wollney, Virginia (Clare) Mansoor

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Testing the Downstream RISP Model: A Panel Study of Booster Uptake

**Timothy Fung; Ho Man Leung;
Po Yan Lai; Robert J. Griffin**

Prioritizing Utility over Accuracy: A Threat-Management Explanation
of Misinformation Sharing

Yiting Miao, affiliation

Contextual Talk: Situational Cues that Create Peer Norms for Vaccination

**YUELIANG WANG; Narae Kim; Jizhou Francis Ye;
Yueliang Wang; Laura Crosswell; Jeong-Nam Kim**

When Scientific Consensus Misleads: Testing the Effects of Inauthentic Consensus on Vaccine
Beliefs and Intentions

Carlina DiRusso, affiliation

Scroll, Laugh, Believe: Humor, Message Format, and Susceptibility Among Digital Natives

Vivian Kretzschmar; Saad Zuberi

Improving HPV Vaccine Uptake Among Young Adult Males: A Construal Level
Theory-Based Experiment

Li Chen; Ge Zhu; Li Chen

Information Sharing in Responsive and Non-Responsive Environments: The Effects
of Expression Affordances and Information Positions on Perceived Interactivity
and Flu Vaccination Intentions

Haijiao LUO; Hsuan-Ting CHEN

#Plandemic and #CovidHoax Misinformation and Counter Narratives: Examining
Social Media Posts Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Vaccine

Rollout Amplified Across Platforms

**Terri Hernandez; Megan Stubbs-Richardson;
Ben Porter; Sujan Anreddy; Georgiana Swan; Ed Swan**

Vaccine Politics: The Role of Doctor-Patient Relationship on HPV Misperceptions of Parents

Porishmita Borah; Xiaohui Cao

Understanding Effects of Narratives About Scientific Setbacks: Affective
and Cognitive Pathways to Public Support for Science

Annie Zhang; Hang Lu

Public Understanding of Science: How Identities and Media Attention
Shape Brand Perceptions of Science in a Polarized Landscape

Manzur Maswood; Todd Newman

Topic II — **Seeing, Feeling, Acting: Visual Attention, Emotional Appeals & Health Message Design**

Feeling over Facts: Experimental Evidence on How Emotional Valence

Shapes SSRI Perceptions in Health Influencer Communication

**Sebastian Scherr; Daniel Beck;
Nathalie L. Neuendorf; Sebastian Scherr**

The Effects of Artistic Expression in Health-Related Public Service Advertising
on Behavioral Intentions: Evidence from Narrative Framing and Color Presentation

Yue Huang; Xiaotong Lin; Xiaoyi Ding

Risk Perceptions of Visual and Text Cues in Opioid Medication Warning Labels

Sherri Jean Katz; Carolina Aguiar da Silva

The CSI effect vs. Serial effect: True crime as forensic science communication

Nicole Lee; Rachel Adair

The Interaction of Emotional Appeal and Gaze Direction on Behavioral Intentions in PSAs

Siyao Li, affiliation

Gaze Tracking and Calorie Labeling: Media Psychology Insights into Fast Food Decision Making

**Rachel Bailey; Sun Young Park;
Pooja Ichplani; Laura Suarez; Sofia Durand;**

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Sol Lee; Mia Sandoval; Camila Lago

Contending with Nutrition Quacks: Mapping Experts-Turned-Influencers and their Semiotic Resources on Instagram

Carlo Byrd, affiliation

To Be or Not to Be Warm, That Is the Question: Effects of Warmth on Clinical Trial Recruitment

Namyeon Lee; Yoorim Hong; Sisi Hu;

Ciera Kirkpatrick; Sungkyoung Lee; Amanda Hinnant

Pairing Fear-Appeal Messages with Different Meme Types: Examining the Effects of Memes and Emotions on the Persuasive Outcomes of Health Communication

Shu-Chu Sarrina Li; Shih-Yu Lo; Huai-Kuai Zeng; Tai-Yee Wu

The Effects of Microtargeting on Behavioral Intentions and Cognitive Evaluations Toward Cultivated Meat

yuheng wang; weiyu zhang

When Influencers Seem “More Expected”: Testing Language Expectancy Theory in Digital Mental Health Messaging

Simu Dey; Deborah Cai

Digital Health Literacy and Maternal Health Message Processing: How Ghanaian Women Evaluate and Use Social Media Information

Beryl Adom, affiliation

Communicating Healthcare in Nigeria: A Thematic Analysis of Journalistic and Multi-Stakeholder Perspectives on Challenges and Solutions

Ugochukwu Madu; Amayindi Yakubu

Topic III — **Mental Health, Media and Wellbeing**

When Stress Meets Media: Media Coping as a Pathway To Psychological Distress Among Hispanic College Students

Soo Yun Kim; Wan-Lin Chang

Resilience Under Pressure: Coping Strategies of Broadcast Journalists in Kuwait During COVID-19

Ahmad Almulla; Ahmad Alshehab;

Kim Walsh-Childers; Lindita Camaj; Huan Chen

Trade-Offs in Mental Health Support: Preferred Patient-Centered Communication Attributes Across AI Chatbots, Telemedicine, Online Health Communities, and In-Person Clinicians

Nathalie Laura Neuendorf;

Katharina Angermayr; Sebastian Scherr

Information Seeking and Communication Preferences Among Perinatal Women With Substance Use Disorders

Ashley Hedrick McKenzie; Rachel Mayo;

Jordyn Sutton; Madison Briley Edgar;

Geovana Leonetti Saraiva; Lori Dickes;

Windsor Sherrill; Katie Howle; Jessica Boyd; Jennifer Hudson

Getting A Truly Good Night: A Mediation Analysis Exploring the Effects of Health Information Seeking and Scanning on Sleep Quality

Jiazheng Wang; Jingting Lin; Guoyuan Wang

The Silenced Menopause: Limited Visibility Under Disease Narrative—A Content Analysis of People's Daily Online

Yiyang Yao, affiliation

Educated but Risky? Pornography, Sexual Knowledge, and Condomless Sex Among Chinese College Students

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Xinyue Zhang; Xinyue Zhang

"I feel like I have ADHD!": Health Anxiety, Digital Identity, and Uncertainty Management on Chinese Social Media

Shuyang Guo; XINRUI WU;

Shuyuan Guo; Jiani Liu

Social Media - A "Super Peer" for Women's Pre-Pregnancy Postpartum Body Image Expectations

Amelia Couture Bue; Halie Wenhold; Ciera Kirkpatrick

A New Profession? Discovering Public Perception of Outpatient Companions through Online Reviews: A Text Mining Approach

Yamingzi Deng; Bocun Tu

"Invisible Voices" in the Discourse of Mental Health News: A Critical Discourse Analysis

Anuja KC, affiliation

Communication Strategies for Promoting Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention Among Young Adults

Md. Sajedul Islam; William Howe

From Neuroscience Term to Internet Meme: The Discursive Transformation of "Prefrontal Cortex" in Chinese Digital Health Communication

Zongyu Tu; Lin Yang

Mass Communication and Society Division

Topic I — AI in Transition: From Education and Cognition to Social Normalization

Examining Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) in Journalism Education: Insights from Journalism Educators in Kenya

Shitemi Khamadi, Indiana

Thinking Deeply to Act Green: Examining Cognitive Elaboration and Environmental Risk Perception as Mediators of ChatGPT Use Intentions among University Students*

Hailong Peng, Kansas

Cognitive Mechanisms of GenAI Inquiry and the Consequences of Processing Pathways on Health-Related Misbeliefs

Jing Guo, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

The Symmetry of Knowing: A Theory of Epistemic Transformation in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

Christopher Royse, Kansas State

Recognizing AI, Fearing AI, Sharing AI: Investigating Discourses of Resistance and/or Normalization Among Audiences of AI-Generated Content and the Creation of a "New Normal"

Shangyuan Wu, Nanyang Technological University

* First Place Moeller Student Paper Award

Magazine Media Division

Newspaper and Online Division

Topic — AI for Audiences and Journalists

00 • Novel Hard News or Stilted Soft News? How AI Authorship Shapes News Avoidance and the "News-Finds-Me" Effect

Junyi Chen, Shanghai Jiao Tong University,

Lu Zhu, Tsinghua University,

and Xueqing Li, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Before the Click: Anticipated Affordances and AI Adoption Among Chinese Journalists

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Xuan Shen and **Zepeng Tong**, Indiana,
and **Shixin Hu**, Tsinghua University

But is it Human? Human Positioning within Newsmaking in the Age of AI

Cassandra Hayes, Texas Christian

Political Learning in Times of Artificial Intelligence: Effects of AI News
Use and AI Fact-Checking on Political Knowledge

Marta Seijas, University of Salamanca,

Manuel Goyanes, Carlos III University of Madrid,

and **Homero Gil de Zúñiga Navajas**, University of Salamanca,

Pennsylvania State University, Universidad Diego Portales

A Blackboxing Inquiry into Biometric Data: Paradoxical Negotiations
Between Human and AI News Presenters in Chinese Newsrooms

Liming Liu, Arizona State University,

and **Yiming Chen**, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University

Discussant

Nisha Sridharan, Temple

Commission on the Status of Women

Entertainment Studies Interest Group

Sports Communication Interest Group

00 • Athlete Mental Health Disclosures Predict Healthy Fan Attitudes
& Behavior: Evidence from Brazil, Germany, South Korea and the USA

Scott Parrott, South Carolina

Dynamics of Online Hostility: A Longitudinal Computational Simulation
and Semantic Networks Analysis on Weibo during the 2024 Paris Olympics

Ding Yu, Tsinghua University

How Virality Cues Affect the Workout Intention of Chinese Female College Students:
A Moderated Mediation Model

Xinchan Xiang, Wuhan University

Politics or Science? Spiral of Silence and Spiraling Rally Effect about
a 2024 Olympic Boxing Champion

Tien-Tsung Lee, University of Macau

AI Bylines in Sports: An Experiment on Audience Perceptions
of the Credibility and Comprehensibility of Sports Articles

Claudia Kozman, Northwestern University in Qatar

Discussant

name, affiliation

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

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10:15 to 11:30 a.m. / W017

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Communication Technology and Media Management, Economics and Entrepreneurship Divisions

PFR Panel Session

The Pervasiveness of Social Media Algorithms, Artificial Intelligence, Wearable Devices: Is it Our Freedom or Our Responsibility?

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

Social media platforms, with algorithms and machine learning, and technology giants such as OpenAI, Google, Meta, Apple, and Samsung are not public institutions, rather they operate as private commercial enterprises. They have become deeply embedded in our communication systems and every media practice, for work and entertainment purposes. Rather than being regulated, these companies profit from user engagement and data, turning personal information into a commodity, rather than a public resource essential to a democratic society. This panel explores a pressing question: How should these corporations be held accountable for the data and content they collect, or should responsibility rest with users for what they create, share, and post?

10:15 to 11:30 a.m. / W018

History Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Media Institutions and Infrastructures: From Colonial Press Systems to Digital Platforms

Moderating/Presiding

Jonathan Anderson, independent scholar

Revolution Now: A Metajournalistic Analysis of the US Revolution's
Influence on Australian Colonial Journalism

Josie Vine, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology

The Media History of FOIA and a Journalism of Transparency: Early
Reactions in the Trade Press to the Law's Adoption and Revision

Will Mari, Texas A&M

Algorithmic Annexation and the Sovereignty Gap in Canada's
Platform-Mediated Public Sphere

Rey Rosales and **Alvin Ntibinyane**, MacEwan

Beyond the Search Box: Digital Architecture, AI Ethics,
and a Next-Generation Research Environment for Journalism History

Julien Gorbach, Hawaii at Manoa

Discussant

Cayce Myers, Virginia Tech

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

10:15 to 11:30 a.m. / W019

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

International Communication Division and Commission on the Status of Women

PFR Panel Session

**Journalism and Gender in the Global South: Women Making News: Silenced but Not Silent:
Iranian Women Reporting Under Intersecting Oppressions**

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

Margaretha Geertsema-Sligh, Butler

Dina Dorari, Colorado at Boulder

Petra Hany Sobhy Zaky, American University in Cairo

Ingrid Bachmann, Universidad Catolica de Chile

Media scholars have called for the decentering of dominant Western perspectives and increased global inclusiveness in research. This panel will address gaps in research on the intersections of journalism and gender in the academic peripheries of the Global South. It seeks to advance the de-Westernization of scholarship on gender and journalism by foregrounding narratives that have historically been marginalized in dominant research discourses. Despite different geographic locations, women continue to face gendered challenges in journalism careers. This panel will present research on the participation of women in news-making on the continents of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Panelists will also consider the implications of their research for journalism educators.

10:15 to 11:30 a.m. / W020

Law and Policy Division

High-Density Refereed Research Paper Session

Wavering Lines of Defense: Protecting Creators, Data, and Free Speech in the Digital Age

Moderating/Presiding

Alan Goldenbach, Hood College

Data Entitlement: Bridging Policymaking and Communication Theory
by Addressing the Data Ownership Problem

Alexis Shore Ingber, Syracuse

Shield Laws in the Digital Age: Who Qualifies as a Journalist

Skylar Bandoly, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Faith, Fear, and Free Speech: The Weaponization of Blasphemy and Hate
Speech Laws Amid Postcolonial Legal Ambiguity in India and Pakistan

Vivian Kretzschmar and **Saad Zuberi**, Louisiana State

How Do Chinese Academic Publishing Institutions Narrate AIGC Policies?

A Narrative Analysis Based on 162 Policy Statements

Runzheng Zhen, Nanjing University

Fair Use or Theft? The Rising Debate over AI Scraping of News Media

Muhammad Saurav Rahman, Missouri

Discussant

Eric Robinson, South Carolina

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

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

10:15 to 11:30 a.m. / W021

Political Communication Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

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

10:15 to 11:30 a.m. / W022

Public Relations and Communication Theory and Methodology Divisions

PFR Panel Session

Research Methods for the Marginalized: Navigating the Challenges of Research Ethically and Effectively

Moderating/Presiding

Staci B. Smith, Virginia Commonwealth

Panelists

Arunima Krishna, Boston

Katie Place, Quinnipiac

Jennifer Vardeman, Houston

E. Cisek, Texas-Austin

Linda Aldoory, American

Brian Smith, Virginia Commonwealth

Research with minoritized and diverse publics is increasingly an imperative in public relations research, especially considering the position public relations scholars and practitioners maintain to advocate for publics who may be unrecognized. And yet, accurate and ethical representation of minoritized communities can be challenging, especially when these communities may fall outside of researchers' personal experiences and expertise. As noble a cause as representation may be, many find themselves unprepared for the challenges of studying these publics, raising critically important questions like: How do we reach these difficult to access publics? And once we do, how do we relate to them? This panel features public relations scholars from the recently published edited volume *Research Methods for the Marginalized* which features in-field experiences and imperatives for public relations and communication researchers. The book is sponsored by the Arthur W. Page Center and was published by Routledge.

10:15 to 11:30 a.m. / W023

Participatory Journalism Interest Group

PFR Panel Session

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Beyond Information Needs: Assessing and Supporting Informed, Connected, and Cohesive Communities

Moderating/Presiding

Letrell Crittenden, Director, Center for Community-Engaged Media, Temple

Panelists

Sarah Alvarez News Futures/Temple

Jesse Hardman Listening Post Collective/Internews

Andrea Wenzel, Temple

As Press Forward and others scramble to address the crisis in local news in the U.S., there has been increased attention to how we measure and assess the information needs of communities—and the gaps between the demand for coverage and its supply. Complementing this work, some scholars and practitioners have been rethinking whether focusing on information alone is enough, particularly given the current fragmented, high-choice, polarized media environment. In this panel, scholars and practitioners will discuss how they have been grappling with this in their work—from the Listening Post Collective’s civic information index, to News Future’s efforts to develop and expand on their “hierarchy of information needs” framework, to new engaged research adapting a communication infrastructure theory framework that integrates non-traditional information providers/influencers and opportunities for participatory connection.

10:15 to 11:30 a.m. / W024

Small Programs Interest Group and Magazine Media Division

Teaching Panel Session

One Course, Many Paths: Reimagining the Communications Capstone in an Age of Consolidation

Moderating/Presiding

Lisa Carponelli, Simpson College

Panelists

Mackenzie Cato, Kennesaw State

Reid Vance, Mississippi Christian

Tamara Welter, Baylor

Jennifer Wilson, Drake

As communications programs face budget pressures and shrinking course offerings, faculty are increasingly asked to do more with less — teaching consolidated capstones to students across PR, journalism, marketing, and beyond, while preserving the depth that each specialization demands. Magazine journalism is one area feeling this tension, as programs work to keep long-form storytelling central to the curriculum even as resources shrink. This panel brings together educators navigating these shifts to share what's working, what isn't, and how they're designing meaningful learning experiences despite the constraints. Whether you're already teaching a merged course or anticipating changes on your campus, this session offers practical strategies from colleagues in the same position.

10:15 to 11:30 a.m. / W025

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

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Teaching Panel Session

Teaching Experts Are In: Title

Moderating/Presiding

Harrison Hove, Florida and **Gabriel B. Tait**, Ball State

Teaching Experts

Theresa M. de los Santos, Pepperdine

Erika Schneider, Syracuse

Cara Hawkins-Jedlicka, Washington State

Working in Groups/Teamwork

Building classroom community, developing tangible community-building strategies, and designing collaborative group projects that help students avoid common teamwork pitfalls.

Teaching Experts

Harrison Hove, Florida

Nandini Bhalla, Texas State

Laura Smith, South Carolina

Fostering Empathy in the Classroom (Teacher to Student)

Exploring strategies for fostering empathy in the classroom through an understanding of student needs, generational dynamics, and teacher-to-student interactions that promote civil dialogue and equitable learning environments.

Teaching Experts

Masudul (Mas) Biswas, North Carolina A&T State

Adam Kuban, Ball State

Developing High Impact Practices (Students to Community)

Exploring high-impact practices that connect students with communities through experiential learning, empathy-driven engagement, and applied communication strategies.

10:15 to 11:30 a.m. / W026

The Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC)

Panel Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

Description

10:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. / W027

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication and American Experience Films

Documentary Film Viewing

Bombshell

Moderating/Presiding

Felecia Ross, Ohio State

Panelists

name, affiliation

Bombshell explores how the U.S. manipulated the narrative about the impact of the WWII bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Louisiana Weekly is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, and a reporter for that newspaper was among the first to identify health consequences related to the atomic bomb. A trailer to the documentary from PBS: <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/bombshell-trailer/>

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W028

Advertising Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Virtual Influencers and Influencer Advertising

Moderating/Presiding

Vaibhav Diwanji, Kansas

The Effects of Humor and Anthropomorphism on Virtual Influencer Perceptions and Consumer Behavior*

Peixin Hua, Temilade Adeeko, Yanan Wu,
and **Rehab Alayoubi**, Pennsylvania State

Fit, Value, and Character Integrity: How Audiences Evaluate Anime-Like Virtual Influencer Endorsements**

Yuan Nan, and **Huan Chen**, Florida

Anthropomorphism and Consumer Responses to Virtual Influencers: A Dual-Mediation Model

Zishan Ding, Sun Yat-sen University

Real or Cute? The Impact of AI Disclosure and Visual Realism on User Engagement with Virtual Animal Influencers

Fangyuan Wan, Boya Han,
and **Yijie Ye**, Hong Kong Baptist University

Integration Over Instagram: Value Co-Creation as a Primary Driver of Instagram Influencer Marketing Success

Nate Fisher and **Doyle Yoon**, Oklahoma

Discussant

Chen Lou, Nanyang Technological University

* Third Place Top Student Paper Award

** Second Place Open Research Paper Award

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

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W029

Communication Technology Division

High-Density Refereed Research Paper Session
Trust, Agency, and Ethics in AI technologies

Moderating/Presiding
Matthew Barnidge, Florida

Delegating to the Lobster: Self-extension, Agency Negotiation in Autonomous AI Agent Through New Gratifications

Jiayi Ge, Nanyang Technological University

Trust in AI Summary of User-Generated Content: The Case of AI-Generated Paraphrasing of Reviews on E-Commerce Sites

Yongnam Jung, Soongsil University

The Agency Trap: How Chatbot Interactivity and Imperfection Disclosure Shape Human-AI Agency and Visual Misinformation Discernment

Suhyun Kim, Sungkyunkwan University

When AI Violates Morality: How Individual and AI Characteristics Shape Moral Attribution

Xinle Jia, Southern Illinois

Evaluating AI Systems: How Perceptions Shape Trust, Engagement, and Behavioral Outcomes in AI-Mediated Communication

Yang Cheng, North Carolina State

Spontaneous Convergence or Repeated Quotation? Behavioral Pathways of High-Frequency Formation in Template-Based Expression on Social Media

Hongyue Xie, Central South University

Decoding the Immersive News Experience: A Serial Mediation Model of Continuance Intention in Virtual Reality Journalism

Víctor García Perdomo, Universidad de La Sabana

Fear Appeals and Public Support for AI Regulation: The Moderating Roles of Perceived Threat, Subjective Knowledge, and Confidence in AI Governance

Sang Jung Kim, Iowa

Negotiating Privacy Boundaries in Networked Environments: How Norms, Morals, and Affordances Shape Third-party Disclosure

Nazira Banu, Nanyang Technological University

Seeing Bias, Judging Fairness: AI Literacy and Social Justice Orientations in Evaluations of Gender-Discriminatory Algorithms

Soojong Kim, California, Davis

Discussant
Haiyan Jia, Lehigh

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W030

Cultural and Critical Studies Division

PFR Panel Session
The Spectacle of the “Crip” in Script: Dis/Ability Justice and Media Representation

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Moderating/Presiding

Hanne Murray, Texas Tech

Panelists

Hanne Murray, Texas Tech

Mary Ortega, Texas Tech

Brittany Potter, Texas Tech

Jessica McGaha, Texas Tech

The mediated re-presentation of dis/ability narratives persistently cloaks impairment, dis/ability, chronic illness, and neurodivergence within narrative spaces of inspiration (coined inspiration-porn), sexual sterilization, and cautionary tale. These narratives often attempt to destigmatize dis/ability while simultaneously essentializing able-bodied norms and daily realities. This panel examines how mediated re-presentation shapes racialized dis/ability and the lived experience of being positioned as the "other" within social and mediated spaces.

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W031

Mass Communication and Society and Communicating Science, Health, Environment and Risk Divisions

Research Panel Session

Winning the Grant, Managing the Work: Insights from NSF, NIJ, NIH & Other Government Program Awards in the Field of Media, Communication & Data Sciences

Moderating/Presiding

Terri N. Hernandez, Mississippi State

Panelists

Terri N. Hernandez, Mississippi State

Megan Stubbs-Richardson, Miami

Zhiqian Chen, Rochester Institute of Technology

Kasim Ortiz, Miami

This panel will provide communication and media scholars with both inspiration and practical guidance for engaging with government funding opportunities across agencies such as the National Science Foundation (NSF), National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute of Justice (NIJ), and other federal programs. By showcasing successful projects spanning digital media analysis platforms, large-scale data infrastructures, public communication initiatives, and interdisciplinary research collaborations, panelists will highlight how government grants can support ambitious research agendas while generating broader societal and scholarly impact. Attendees will gain a clearer understanding of how to position their ideas within federal funding priorities, craft competitive proposals, navigate interdisciplinary expectations, and effectively manage awarded projects by meeting reporting requirements, meeting deliverables, and leading collaborative projects.

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W032

Newspaper and Online News Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

AI in the Classroom, Newsroom, and News

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Moderating/Presiding

Jessica Sparks, Auburn

The Effects of Using AI to Tailor News for Gen Z Audiences

Natalie Stroud, Ava Motes,

and **Yuting He**, Texas,

Josephine Lukito, University of Southern Denmark,

and **Gina Masullo** and **Ashwin Rajadesingan**, Texas

Disrupting the Newsroom Pipeline: Generative AI and the Transformation of Journalism Education in the United States

Richard Mensah Adonu, Tennessee

Perceived Fairness, Accuracy, and Transparency: Understanding Trust in AI-Generated Journalism in Türkiye

Ahmed AlRawi, Virginia,

and **Mustafa Oz**, Tennessee

Who Uses AI for News? The Role of News Finds Me

Perception and AI Heuristics

Zicheng Cheng, Arizona,

Gillian Diebold, Pennsylvania State,

and **Homero Gil de Zúñiga Navajas**, University of Salamanca,
Pennsylvania State University, Universidad Diego Portales

Anthropomorphic Framing as a Form of Hype in GenAI Media Coverage

Theodore Petersen, Moti Mizrahi,

Heidi Hatfield Edwards,

and **Ava Auter**, Florida Institute of Technology

Discussant

Parick Ferrucci, Colorado

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

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W033

Political Communication and Public Relations Divisions

[03-1200] — Scholar-to-Scholar (Poster) Refereed Research Paper Session

Political Communication Division [40]

Public Relations Division [40]

Topic I — Corporate Social Advocacy, DEI & Legitimacy

00 • Speaking Up or Acting Together? Dual Pathways to Advocacy in Corporate Political Advocacy

Sun Young Lee, Maryland

and **Duli Shi**, New Mexico State

Leading on Contested Ground: A Conjoint Analysis of the Effects of Issue Contention, Engagement History, and CEO and Organizational Support on Stakeholder Preferences

Sifan Xu and **Yidan Zhang**, Tennessee, Knoxville

Active and Passive Inconsistency: How Authenticity and Hypocrisy Mediate the Effects of Organizational Advocacy on Trust and Distrust

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Ejae Lee, Boston University,
and **Katie Haejung Kim**, Tennessee

Perceived Legitimacy in Sports Corporate Social Advocacy: The Role
of Communication Strategies

Maria Grover, Rhode Island

How Employees Respond to Changes in CSA Stance Versus Consistency:
The Impact of Legitimacy Message Framing in Internal Communication

Yilin Huang, Yeonsoo Kim,
and **Yucong Ma**, Texas at Austin

Who Gets to Speak? Autistic Self-Advocates, Instagram, and Dissensus
in Activist Public Relations

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

Linking Dialogic Leadership Communication and Employee Engagement
Through Relational Mechanisms

Carla White, Tennessee, Knoxville

Discussant

Yan Qu, Maryland

Walking Back the Talk: How Legitimation and Transparency Strategies Shape
Authenticity and Legitimacy in Corporate Social Advocacy Rollbacks

Jack Lippei Tang and **Jiali Zhang**, Alabama

[RP] Shaping Meaning in Corporate Social Advocacy (CSA) Communication:
The Role of Employee Influencers' Opinion Leadership

Enzhu Dong, Alabama and **Jeongwon Yang**, Miami

Corporate DEI Under Fire: How Organizational Stances on DEI
Influence Employee Turnover Intentions

Juan Liu, Towson

Transparency, Hypocrisy, and Political Consumerism: How Publics
Respond to Corporate DEI Practices under Pressure

Hyejoon Rim, Sora Kim,
and **Chen Silvia Zhang**, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

[RP] The Newswork of Legitimacy: How Coverage Constructs Corporate DEI Rollbacks

Katharine Miller, Virginia Sanchez,
and **Patrick R. Johnson**, Marquette

[RP] The Middle Matters: Social Support and the Leadership Pipeline
for Women in Strategic Communication

Breann Murphy, Jacksonville State, **Katie Olsen**, Kansas State,
and **Angie Hendershot**, Kansas

The Dialectical Tensions of Neoliberal Narratives and Field Logic in Public Relations
AI Practices

Kyle Harris, Colorado, Boulder

Discussant

Katie Place, Quinnipiac

Topic II — **CSR, Purpose & Global Corporate Responsibility**

Social Media Influencer Type and Communication Style in CSR Communication:
Effects on Perceived Authenticity and Public Responses

Yeonsoo Kim and **Yilin Huang**, Texas at Austin,
Jingyue Tao, Arkansas,

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Soyon Michelle Choi, and **Hyunji Kim**, Texas at Austin

Communicating Human Rights Protection in Multinational Companies' Supply Chains:
Effects of CSR Claim Type, Emotional Visuals, and Corporate Nationality

Yoorim Hong, Eastern New Mexico,
and **Sungkyoung Lee**, Missouri

Internal Communication for Purpose-Driven Engagement: The Roles
of Shared Understanding and Person-Organization Fit
in Pursuing Organizational Purpose

Hyojung Park and **Tu Truong**, Louisiana State

Aligning National Promises with Corporate Image: Multimodal Interdiscursivity
in Chinese Carmakers' Strategic Public Relations

Wenxing Yu, **Chengzhang Zhu**, **Y Xiao**,
and **Jie Feng**, Central South University,
and **Yuchen Zhang**, Wuhan University

[RP] Beyond Top-Down Communication: How Employees' CSR Information
Networks Drive Collective CSR Engagement

Katie Kim, Tennessee, and **Yan Qu**, Maryland

[RP] Corporate Social Media Communication in the Fortune 100: Message Topics,
Engagement Outcomes, and B2B–B2C Distinctions

Sumin Shin, Oklahoma State,
Donghoon Shin, Wisconsin-Whitewater,
and **Anirudha Biswas**, Oklahoma State

From Analysis to Advocacy: Teaching Strategic CSR Decision-Making
Through Executive Recommendation Reports

Todd Henneman, California State, Long Beach

Discussant

Anli Xiao, South Carolina

Topic III — **Publics, Activism & Community Engagement**

Nostalgia as Strategy: Influencer Marketing, Public Memory,
and Parenting Discourse on TikTok

Alison Novak, Rowan

The Hurricane That Never Hit: Responding to Community Explanations
After Near Miss Events

Elizabeth Ray, **Anica Schramm**,
and **Patrick Merle**, Florida State

[RP] Generation Z's Communicative Behavior and Protest Participation
Intention in Georgia's Prolonged Protest Context: A Situational
Theory of Publics Approach

Lizi Lakia and **Soo-Yeon Kim**, Sogang University

Refining "The Public": A Typology for the Communicative Roles of Active
Publics In Emerging Technology Issues

Saymin Lee, University of Wisconsin, Whitewater

The People Behind the Tool: Rural Appalachian Healthcare Providers
and HPV Vaccination

Jenna Stewart, **Julia Daisy Fraustino**,
Pauline Alterio and **Lisa Costello**, West Virginia,
and **Daniel Totzkay**, Delaware

[RP] The Invisible Architects: A Constructivist Grounded of African American
Communication Practitioners' Professional Experiences

Kevin Hardges, Wayne State

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Advocating in China: Ownership Type and Advocacy Fit Effects on Public Trust
Boya Han, Hong Kong Baptist University

Discussant

Hao Xu, University of Melbourne

Topic IV — Crisis, Political Communication & Misinformation

Relational Norms and Crisis Responses: A Norm-Based Segmentation
Approach to Public Heterogeneity

Zhengyan Li, Miami, **Baobao Song**, Virginia Commonwealth,
and **Weiting Tao**, Miami

Negotiating Responsibility Through Systemic Framing: CEO vs. Influencer
Effects on the Attribution of Brand and Industry Responsibility

Jun Zhang, Middle Tennessee State,
Dongqing Xu, Minnesota,
Bugil Chang, Tennessee,
and **Jiacheng Huang**, Minnesota

The Sound of Silence: Exploring Cultural Dynamics and Strategic
Silence in Cross-Cultural Crisis Communication

Teresia Nzau, Messiah University

Political Paracrisis, Agenda-setting, and Unsupervised Machine-Learning:
Narrating Stalemates through eWOM in Electing Mr. Speaker on X

Nana Kwame Osei Fordjour, Maryland

Misinformation Susceptibility and Cultural Cognition: Understanding the Linkages
between Individuals' Cultural Worldviews and Climate-Related Perceptions

Arunima Krishna, **Michelle Amazeen**
and **Christopher Wells**, Boston

[RP] Contested Frames: A Quantitative Content Analysis of Twin Cities Nonprofit
Multi-Platform Communication During Immigration Enforcement

Endalkachew Chala (Independent researcher)

Discussant

Renita Coleman, Texas at Austin

[RP] When health claims come from the presidency: The Tylenol Case
and Corporate Denial Strategies

Queenie Li, Miami, **Brooke McKeever**,
and **Robert McKeever**, Alabama

[RP] 2025 NYC Mayoral Race Candidates' Agenda Dynamics
and the Alignment with Media Coverage

Ahmad Almulla, University of Florida / Kuwait University,
Anastasia Vishnevskaya, Texas Tech University,
Mohammed Alqabbaa, **Thu Dang**, **Chih-Jeng Huang**,
and **Spiro Kiouis**, University of Florida

Don't Dodge the Disruption: A Crisis-Responsive Approach to Health
Communication Pedagogy

Kristen Swain, Mississippi

Shortcuts to Virtue: Crisis Type and Response Strategy in AI-Related Sticky Crises

Victoria Kyriakopoulos, **Ana Burk**,
and **Danita Nyonyozi Barigye**, Syracuse

Crisis in University Communication: A Thematic Analysis of Crisis
Response Strategies in Higher Education and Exploration

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

of Best Practices in Crisis Communication

Livsey Kegler, Tampa

[RP] Perceptions and Outcomes of Corporate Diplomacy: A Comparison of German and U.S. Respondents

Alan Abitbol, Tampa, and **Kelly Vibber**, Dayton

Discussant

Tiffany Gallicano, North Carolina Charlotte

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Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W034

Scholastic Journalism Division

Teaching Panel Session

Teaching and Supporting International Students (in Uncertain Times)

Moderating/Presiding

Ivy Ashe, Florida Atlantic

Panelists

Tamara Buck, Southeast Missouri State

Lourdes Cueva Chacón, San Diego State

Silvia dal Ben Furtado, Texas at Austin

Taeyoung Lee, Indiana

Ana Ramirez, Laredo College

Melissa Santillana, Texas Tech

In today's climate, how can faculty members create classroom spaces that allow international students to thrive? Panelists will share 1-2 practices from courses they teach to help international students adapt and adjust to American higher education.

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W035

Visual Communication Division

PFR Panel Session

Picturing Homelessness: Developing New Approaches for Visual Reporting

Moderating/Presiding

Nicole Dahmen, Oregon

Panelists

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Deb Pastner, Texas at Austin
Kathleen Flynn, photojournalist, New Orleans
Tara Pixley, Temple

Can photojournalists and editors portray the brutal realities of homelessness, while doing a better job of honoring the dignity of those affected? This PF&R panel will examine the legacy of traditional visual coverage of homelessness while seeking new approaches that balance humanity; accountability; diversity/equity/inclusion; and public service. The panel content will draw from academic/professional research, journalistic reporting, and lived experiences. Panelists -- including visual scholars, working editors/photojournalists, a doctoral student, and an undergraduate student reporter -- will discuss how public-interest genres (such as solutions journalism and other ethical, professional, credible, and innovative reporting frameworks) can help to establish a new visual storytelling standard that honors the humanity of individuals who are unhoused, holds the powerful accountable, and facilitates lasting positive impact and meaningful change.

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W036

Commission on Graduate Education

Annual Luncheon

Moderating/Presiding
Briana M. Trifiro, Northeastern

This luncheon recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of AEJMC graduate students. The Commission on the Status of Graduate Education (CSGE) will host its annual meeting, share updates relevant to graduate students, provide opportunities for networking, and recognize award recipients and showcased participants. **Pre-registration is required. A meal ticket is required to attend the luncheon.**

Noon to 3 p.m. / W037

Participatory Journalism Interest Group

Offsite Session
Engaged Journalism Exchange- Supporting Communities

AEJMC's Participatory Journalism Interest Group will collaborate with the Engaged Journalism Exchange project and News Futures to host an offsite meet-up on the theme of "Supporting Communities." Participants will hear about ways people are supporting the information, connection, and organizing needs of their communities outside of traditional boundaries of journalism. We'll also discuss efforts to create infrastructure to support connections between community-led groups and civic media. This session will follow up on a zoom session connecting practitioners and researchers to explore ways to collaborate on research-based community building and civic media efforts. The meet up will include discussions of lessons learned, small group working sessions, and informal networking to connect and encourage collaboration between researchers and practitioners. To RSVP to the meet up and optional Zoom preparation sessions, please sign up: <https://bit.ly/EJE2026> Location TBD

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W038

Sports Communication Interest Group and Minorities and Communication Division

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

PFR Panel Session

Playing Defense: Conducting Sports Media Research Amid Anti-DEI Backlash

Moderating/Presiding

Vincent Peña, DePaul

Panelists

Ever Figueroa, Colorado, Boulder

Monica Crawford, Minnesota

Michael Mirer, Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Aman Misra, Tennessee-Knoxville

This panel would be for scholars and practitioners alike and directly addresses one of the most urgent issues facing both groups: the ability to conduct and teach DEI-focused work in a climate increasingly hostile to such efforts. Across the country, scholars are encountering legislative restrictions, institutional pressures, and cultural backlash that seek to limit academic freedom, undermine DEI initiatives, and silence critical inquiry. For scholars studying sports, it is becoming increasingly hard to “stick to sports” when sports have been a de facto battleground for many cultural and political issues (i.e., transgender rights, athlete activism, immigration enforcement, etc.).

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W039

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Elected Standing Committee on Publication and Council of Divisions

Business Session

AEJMC Journal Editors and DIG Journal Editor’s Meeting

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

This lunch session is intended for all AEJMC association journal editors, as well as editors from divisions and interest groups. This session is sponsored by Sage Publications.

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W040

AEJMC African Cohort

Panel Session I

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

Description

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W041

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

AEJMC Council of Affiliates, College Media Association

Refereed Research Paper Session
Issues Facing the Campus Press

Moderating/Presiding
Elizabeth Smith, Pepperdine

Read All About It: Comparing AI- and Student-Written Headlines
Kirstie Hettinger and **Dru Pagliassott**, California Lutheran
Pressure Mounting on Student Media: A Repeated Cross-Sectional Analysis
Lindsie Rank, Director of Campus Rights Advocacy;
Marie McMullan, Student Press Counsel;
and **Elliot Certain**, Graduate Student Press Research Associate,
Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE)

Noon to 1:15 p.m. / W042

Podium Education

PFR Panel Session
Title

Moderating/Presiding
Aled Owens, Vice President of New Partnerships, Podium Education

As student expectations evolve and pressure to demonstrate career outcomes and degree ROI increases, journalism and media programs are rethinking how to deliver meaningful, real-world learning across the undergraduate experience. High-Impact Practices (HIPs) and work-integrated learning have long been central to the field yet access often remains uneven and difficult to scale. This session explores how journalism and media education leaders are moving from traditional, limited access experiential models (i.e. internships) to more structured, scalable approaches embedded across the curriculum. Panelists will share how they are expanding access to career-connected learning within the curriculum, supporting exploration of career pathways, and integrating industry-informed experiences—drawing on partnerships with organizations such as L’Oreal, OpenAI, The Recording Academy, and other global brands—directly into the undergraduate experience. From faculty engagement to cross-campus partnerships, the discussion will focus on what it takes to deliver career-connected education at scale, strengthening student engagement, confidence, and readiness for an evolving workforce.

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W043

Communicating Science, Health, Environment and Risk and Mass Communication and Society Divisions

PFR Panel Session
Addressing the Societal, Health, and Ethical Implications of AI and Tech in Today’s Information Environment

Moderating/Presiding
Christopher (CJ) Calabrese, Clemson

Panelists

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Isabelle Freiling, Utah
Soojong Kim, California, Davis
Ashley Hedrick McKenzie, Clemson
Rita (Rongwei) Tang, Minnesota

This panel examines the ethical, health, and societal implications of AI and technology. Panelists will consider how journalists and scholars can address the challenges of a distorted information environment and propose strategies to foster a more accurately informed society.

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W044

Communication Theory and Methodology, Cultural and Critical Studies, History Divisions and Religion and Media Interest Group

[04-1200] — Scholar-to-Scholar (Poster) Refereed Research Paper Session

Communication Theory and Methodology Division

Topic I — **Visual Communication Across Digital Contexts**

00 • The Minimal Multivariate Model of Visual Attention: A Stimulus-Level Theory of Attentional Salience in Visual Communication

Michael Vosburg, Benedict College

[RP] Visual Metaphor Complexity: Structural, Semantic, and Cognitive Dimensions

Aiman Kazybayeva

and **Kevin Wise**, Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Visual Logic: An Integrated Framework for Understanding Visual Content on Social Media

Fatima Gaw, Yingdan Lu,

and **Erik Nisbet**, Northwestern

[RP] Measuring Mulodal Nutrition Communication on TikTok: A Computational Framework

Jiayi Liu and Leona Su, Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

[RP] Beyond the Human Touch: Exploring the Impact of Virtual Pet Influencers on Advertising Value Perception

Fangyuan Wan, Boya Han,

and **Yijie Ye**, Hong Kong Baptist

Discussant

name, affiliation

Topic II — **Digital Harms and Interventions**

Short-Term Digital Hate Annotation is Not Inherently Harmful to Psychological Well-Being: Evidence from Two Preregistered Studies

Thomas Kirchmair, Kevin Koban,

and **Jörg Matthes**, Vienna

Perceived Algorithmic Harms and Support for Regulations: Second- and Third-Person Effects in the Age of Algorithm-Driven Social Media

Ming Wang,

and **Heather Akin**, Nebraska–Lincoln

[RP] Scripted Rage as Commodity---A Computational Pipeline

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

for Detecting Modular Nationalist Discourse
on Chinese Digital Platforms

Junyu Jiang, California, Davis
and **Wenhan Xie**, Communication University of China

[RP] To Speak or Not to Speak? An Integrated SoS–STOPS Framework
for Understanding Bystander Opinion Expression
in Social Media Cyberbullying

Yani Zhao, Coastal Carolina

[RP] What Drives Corrective Action on Social Media? Examining
Low-, Medium-, and High-Level Responses

Liefu Jiang, Chicago State

Discussant

name, affiliation

Topic III — **Media Repertoires, Digital Connection, and Everyday Life**

[RP] Reconsidering Mobile App Repertoire as Micro-Environment
that Shapes Digital Health Literacy: A Latent Class Analysis
of Chinese Mobile App Users

Minghui Wang, California, Santa Barbara,
Zhengyi Liang, California, Davis;
and **Bolin Cao**, Shenzhen University

The Creator's Perspective: An Exploratory Dive into Trans-parasocial Relations

Nicole Travis and **Rebecca Ortiz**, Syracuse

[RP] How Does AI Companionship Shape Subjective Wellbeing?
A Scoping Review of Emerging Evidence

Jessy Wang and **Dennis H. Wu**, Boston University

[RP] Extending Hall's Low-/High-Context Model: A Relational Perspective
Based on Emoji and Sticker Use

Zhe Cui, Louisiana Tech

[RP] Enhancing Digital Well-being via Gamified Self-Regulation:
A Long-term Intervention Study on Gen Z Using the Forest App

Derya Sahin, Istanbul Aydin

Discussant

name, affiliation

Topic IV — **AI Sources, Credibility, and Health Persuasion**

Explaining the AI—Journalist Credibility Gap: Generalized
and Source-Specific Judgments of News Credibility

Matthew Barnidge and **Seungahn Nah**, Florida

[RP] Opposing Directions: How Stance and Linguistic Strategy
Independently Respond to User Identity in LLMs

Yuxin Gan, Beijing Jiaotong

[RP] Source Attribution and Emotional Valence In AI-Mediated
Health Persuasion: Effects on Perceived Threat, Reactance,
and Behavioral Intention

Yi Ji, New Mexico

[RP] Empathy vs. Reappraisal: The Impact of AI Communication
Strategies on Reducing Users' State Anxiety

Yujin Lee, Texas at Austin

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

[RP] Artificial Intelligence as a Reflective Mirror: How Conversational Response Style Shapes Early Awareness of Disordered Eating
Yuwen Wan, Florida State

Discussant
name, affiliation

Cultural and Critical Studies Division

Topic I – **Youth, Aging, and Life Stages**

00 • Negotiating Aging as Discourse: Symbolic Power, Identity, and Meaning-Making Among Chinese Older Adults

Jiaying Huang, and **Zichen Liu**, The Communication University of China
Not Young, Not Old, but “Spiritual Seniors”: Youth’s “Retroaging” as a Cultural Tool Kit in Contemporary China

Kunze Li, Shandong University
Writing in Later Life: Affective Materialization in the Chinese Older Adults’ Creation of Meipian Books

Manqi Zhang, **Jia Huang**,
and **Shuhan Lou**, Zhengzhou University
Scrolling Girlhood Scripture: Extending the Adolescent Media Practice Model for Gen-Z Young Women

KT Walsh, North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Framing Aging Populations: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Metaphors in News Reporting
Emmanuel Ejigboye, Washington State

Discussant
name, affiliation

Topic II – **Critical Discourse and Global Media Representations**

Racialized Stigma as Preoccupation or Site of Resistance: Comparative Critical Discourse Analysis of Mainstream and Chinese-Language News Media Coverage of The Atlanta Spa Shootings

Angie Chuang, **Wen Lei**, and **Shreyoshi Ghosh**, Colorado, Boulder
One-Sided Representation: A Multimodal Critical Discourse Analysis of Orientalist Representations of India on TikTok Following the 2020 Platform Ban

Akshaya Chandrasekaran, Syracuse
Suturing the “Silicon Curtain”: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Generative AI’s Ideological Framing of Semiconductor Export Controls

Yibo Wu, and **Mengyao Zhang**, Communication University of China
Selling the Korean Wave in the Age of AI: A Critical Discourse Analysis of the K-anything Dispositif

Siho Nam, North Florida
Critical Discourse Analysis on Representational Framing of the Singkawang Ethnic-Chinese Community

Rizqi Muhammad and **Ke Xue**, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Discussant
name, affiliation

Topic III – **Power Struggles in the Governance of Academic Institutions**

“Adding Instead of Abolishing”: DEI Offices at the Neoliberal University

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Shannon Burth, Syracuse

Speaking Carefully: Surveillance, Immigration Risk, and the Limits of Academic Freedom

David Wolfgang and **Manwar Hossain**, Colorado State

Navigating Hierarchies in Communication Journal Publishing: African Scholars' Experiences and Strategies

Success Osayi, Colorado, Boulder

When Classrooms Collapse: Zoombombing, Media Alienation, and the Reconfiguration of Power in Digital Education

Qianshan Weng, Communication University of China

No Place to Cry: Affective Governance, Spatial Regulation, and the Depoliticization of Student Emotions in Chinese Universities

Xin Shen, Huazhong University of Science and Technology

Discussant

name, affiliation

Topic IV – Mediated Nationhood, State Power, and Transnationalism

Folk Justice, Served: Online Memes as Low-Risk Vehicles for Elite

Delegitimization in Authoritarian Russia

Volha Kananovich, Appalachian State

Collective Memories, National Reckoning, & Global Concerns: Examining the US & UK News Coverage of I'm Still Here*

Raiana de Carvalho and **Jenna Mulhern**, Furman

"Drugs Are a Deep Scar on the Chinese Nation": Discursive Strategies of (De)legitimation Regarding the Sealing of Drug Use Records in the Digital Sphere

Qimeng Li, Beijing Normal University;

Jiebing Liang, East China University of Political Science and Law;

and **Fan Yang**, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics

The Public Investment Fund and Saudi Sports Investment: Western Media and the Struggle for Legitimacy

Mohammed Abu Alqas

and **Huda Asiri**, Colorado, Boulder

Risk Without Recognition: Power, Labor, and Safety in Global Conflict Reporting

Mushfique Wadud, Colorado, Boulder

Discussant

name, affiliation

* Third Place Faculty Paper Winner, Cultural and Critical Studies Division

History Division

Topic I — Media, Power, and Public Memory

[RP] Language Reform, Internationalism, and Media Debate:

The Esperanto Controversy in Chinese New Youth Magazine, 1916–1919

Yizhen Zhao, Communication University of China

[RP] Gestures of Friendship: The Visual Politics of Guided Seeing

in China's Foreign Propaganda Photography, 1963–1965

Yinna Ba, Fudan

[RP] The Vertical to Horizontal Shift and Changes of Korean Journalism:

Typographic Orientation at Chosun Ilbo and Dong-A Ilbo

Soobin Cho and **Soomin Seo**, Sogang

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

[RP] Community Media Archives as Public Interest Technology: Disrupting Platform Control Over Local Programming Preservation
Antoine Haywood and **Samuel Arowosafe**, Florida

Discussant

Keith Greenwood, Missouri

Topic II — **Contesting Narratives: Ideology and Representation in Media History**

[RP] Jump and Grab: Race, Policing and the Press in Memphis's Narcotics War, 1988-1990*

Claire Rounkles,
and **Sydney Davis**, Memphis

[RP] Political Influence on the Rewriting of History Textbooks in Bangladesh

Mohammad Hossain, Sharmin Akter,
and **Mohammad Molla**, Oklahoma

[RP] Southern Gay Men, Confession, and Visibility Across Print Counterpublics"

Drew Daws, Georgia College & State

[RP] From Votes to Voice: How Carter-Era Black Appointees Reshaped Media Ownership Policy

Robin Sundaramoorthy, Lehigh

Discussant

Cathy Jackson, Norfolk State

Topic III — **Contesting Narratives: Media, Power, and Historical Authority**

"The Real Negro News": Affirmative Action and the Local News in Post-Jim Crow Mississippi 1969-1980

Ian Collins and **Robin Sundaramoorthy**, Lehigh

[RP] Jump and Grab: Race, Policing and the Press in Memphis's Narcotics War, 1988-1990*

Claire Rounkles, Sydney Davis, Memphis

[RP] Political Influence on the Rewriting of History Textbooks in Bangladesh

Mohammad Hossain, Sharmin Akter
and **Mohammad Molla**, Oklahoma

[RP] Language Reform, Internationalism, and Media Debate: The Esperanto Controversy in Chinese New Youth Magazine, 1916–1919

Yizhen Zhao, Communication University of China

Discussant

Cathy Jackson, Norfolk State

Topic IV — **Media Histories and the Construction of Public Knowledge**

[RP] Natural but Not Neutral: Seventy Years of Breastfeeding Coverage in The New York Times*

Yelena Dzhanova, Temple

Memory Politics in China's Searchable Society: How Chinese Search Engines Shape Digital Memory

Shuzi Fu and **Jiale Wang**, Wuhan,
Sumeng Zhao, King's College London,
and **Shiwen Wu**, Wuhan

[RP] Beyond Print Capitalism: Xinhua Bookstore's Cross-Regional Cultural Communication in Wartime China (1937-1948)

Meiqi Song and **Huiyu Zhang**, Peking

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

[RP] The Medium is the Moon: Lunar Cycles of Epistemological Rupture as Captured in Media History

Amanda Kehrberg and **Eric Stribling**, Arizona State

Discussant

Bailey Dick, Bowling Green

* Top Research-In-Progress, History Division

Religion and Media Interest Group

[RP] Digital Hybridity: The Mediatization of the Vietnamese Hau Dong (Hầu Đổng) Ritual in Pop Music

Ha Ly Nguyen, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

[RP] The “Fortune Tellers” in Cyberspace: A Comparative Study of AI Divination Behavior and User Perception from a Cross-Cultural Perspective

Bingqi Zhu, Shanghai International Studies University

[RP] Awareness and Acceptance of HPV Vaccination Among Young Muslim Women in China: An Application of the Health Belief Model

Ruofei Gu, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunication

Discussant

Cylor Spaulding, California State Fullerton

Sports Communication Interest Group

[RP] Team Identification, Psychological Health, and Responsible Sport Gambling

Stephen Warren, Northeastern

[RP] Discursively Constructing Sports Journalism Norms from the Lynn Jones-Liam Coen Backlash

Jamie Johnson, Iowa State

When Ads Enter the Game: How Virtual Overlay Advertising, Ad Salience, and Gameplay Excitement Shape Viewer Attention

Zijian Gong, Texas Tech

Betting on Gains: Message Framing and Disclaimers in Sports Gambling Advertising

Chris Noland, South Florida

Muhammad Ali’s Rhetorical Fight: Ingroup/Outgroup Identity and his Battles with Patterson, Terrell and Frazier

Mark Mederson, Texas State, San Marcos

Discussant

Shannon Scovel, Tennessee-Knoxville

“When We Went Independent”: Women’s Sports Reporters Negotiate Their Place Within The Sports Media System

Monica Crawford, Minnesota

From Competitive Gaze to Affective Substitution: Consumption Dynamics and the Venue Island Effect in Chinese Swimming Events

Yong Guo, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences

This Is Me on Ro: Sports Influencers, Trust-Credibility, and Interest in GLP-1 Use Among Young Adults

Alec Tefertiller, Baylor

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Constructing Brand Identity Through Platform Affordances: A Content Analysis of Professional Football Clubs' Short-Form Video Content

Vivek Paudel, Southern Mississippi

Research In Progress: Fan Identification, Authenticity, and Parasocial Interaction

— A Mediation Model of Well-Being in College Athlete NIL Endorsements on Instagram

Jessica Nickerson, Pennsylvania State

Going Gold, Going Public: Front Stage and Backstage Performances of 2026 Winter Olympic Athletes Online

Kimberly Bissell, Louisiana State

The College Football X Factor: Predicting Recruiting Success via a Social Network Analysis of X Ties

Nate Fisher, Oklahoma

A Year of Change: College Sports Communicators Following a Historic Football Season

Steve Collins, Oklahoma State

Media Representations of Female Leadership in Brazilian Men's Soccer

Luana Peters Garcia Buriche Coutinho, Southern Mississippi

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.

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W045

Magazine Media and Media Ethics Divisions

PFR Panel Session

'Trolling' Media: Deconstructing Press Freedoms and Responsibilities in Trump 2.0

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

Vanity Fair and Time magazines as well as other outlets have been reporting on the tensions between mainstream journalism and the Trump Administration. Discussions around ethics, objectivity, and "stenographers" and "influencers" versus journalists dominate coverage, especially after more than 40 of the Pentagon press corps walked out for refusing to sign the administration's restrictive reporting rules for classified and unclassified information. This panel will invite participants to contextualize the current situation and its implications and strategize on a way forward in scholarship and education.

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W046

Minorities and Communication and Communication Technology Divisions

Teaching Panel Session

From Prompts to People: Teaching AI to Tell Stories that Reflect Culture and Community

Moderating/Presiding

Rafael Matos, Northwestern

Panelists

Lourdes Cueva Chacon, San Diego State

This session bridges technology, pedagogy, and culture to explore the next frontier of integrated marketing communication by moving from prompts to people. Exploring strategies for integrating AI tools such as ChatGPT, DALL-E, and audience analytics into classroom instruction and campaign design. Attendees will leave with practical examples, classroom approaches, and ethical frameworks for using AI to build inclusive narratives that reflect real communities.

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W047

Public Relations Division and Internships and Careers Interest Group

Research Panel Session

Strategic from Day One: Early PR Agency Careers in an AI-Accelerated Industry

Moderating/Presiding

Adrienne A. Wallace, Grand Valley State

Panelists

Julie O'Neil, Texas Christian

Emily Kinsky, West Texas A&M

Kim Sample, PR Council

Dave Maher, Zehnder

Allison Stiel, Zehnder

Rashaun Harris, NextGen PR Group

AI is automating many of the foundational tasks that once defined entry-level agency roles in public relations, such as drafting and posting content, media monitoring, and tracking coverage. As many of these tasks can now be accomplished by AI, junior employees are expected to contribute strategically much earlier in their careers. But how can emerging talent deliver high-level thinking without the experiential runway that traditionally builds those skills? Drawing upon five focus groups conducted with agency leaders from diverse roles, including CEOs, HR leaders, account managers, and digital specialists, this panel brings together leading agency leaders and educators to discuss: (1) which PR tasks are being automated and what's replacing them, (2) how agencies are redefining entry-level expectations, (3) what educators can do to prepare students for strategic thinking earlier, and (4) what career development looks like moving forward.

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W048

Commission on Graduate Education

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Teaching Panel Session

Teaching and Generative AI: Friend or Foe?

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

The focus of the panel is on how generative AI can be used as a teaching tool in lesson preparation and in the classroom. Topics discussed will be Gen AI as a tool that can be abused by students, how to teach students to use it responsibly, and how the instructor can use Gen AI to help with lesson planning. Attendees will learn how to approach Gen AI as a tool that can be responsibly used instead of as a tool for cheating.

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W049

Commission on LGBTQIA+ Communities

PFR Panel Session

Digital Injustice: Algorithmic Structures and LGBTQIA+/Minorities' Marginalization

Moderating/Presiding

Julio Martin Velasquez Berrios, Miami

Panelists

Minjie Li, Tennessee

Cody Hays, Arizona State

Caleb Okereke, Northeastern

Digital platforms are now central spaces for LGBTQIA+ visibility, community-building, and advocacy. Yet, these same environments often reproduce existing systems of inequality through algorithmic design, AI, and data-driven bias. This panel explores how social media algorithms, artificial intelligence, and content moderation systems perpetuate — and sometimes conceal — new forms of digital injustice that disproportionately impact LGBTQIA+ users. By bringing together scholars studying digital communication, media ethics, and queer representation, this session aims to unpack the mechanisms of algorithmic oppression and highlight strategies for resistance and accountability. Panelists will address how algorithmic infrastructures reinforce heteronormative, cisnormative, and racialized hierarchies through opaque forms of data sorting, visibility filtering, and content suppression. Empirical and critical perspectives will reveal how queer content creators and everyday users experience uneven exposure and erasure. Drawing from current research, the discussion will situate these phenomena within broader conversations about platform data surveillance for the commodification of identity, queering AI research methodologies and progressive research/ activist research as a solution to cope with these societal issues.

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W050

Commission on the Status of Minorities

Teaching Panel Session

Mentoring Minoritized Students and Fostering Resilient Young Professionals

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Moderating/Presiding

Maria De Moya, Tennessee-Knoxville

Panelists

Vanessa Bravo, Elon

Sydney Dillard, DePaul

Rafael Matos, Northwestern

Mia Moddy, Baylor

Carolyn Walcott, Clayton State

This panel will discuss how faculty members are mentoring and supporting students from historically underrepresented backgrounds as they prepare for careers in journalism, advertising, and public relations. This discussion considers how professional resilience not merely as individual perseverance, but as a developmental and relational process shaped by mentorship, institutional context, and access to opportunity. Panelists will explore how faculty mentors can help students develop self-efficacy, professional identity, adaptability and support networks that can contribute to their professional success. They will discuss how current social, economic, and industry uncertainty informs their mentoring approaches. The session will offer a scholarly and practice-informed conversation about mentoring strategies that foster belonging, persistence, and professional readiness among emerging communicators.

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W051

Commission on the Status of Women

High-Density Refereed Research Paper Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

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

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W052

Entertainment Studies Interest Group

Refereed Research Paper Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

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

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W053

Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication

Current Issues Research Roundtable Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

Kim Bissell, Louisiana State, President-Elect, ASJMC 2025-26

Panelists

name, affiliation

ASJMC's annual Current Issues panel explores trends related to the future of program administration. Topics will include changing instructional modes, diversity and inclusion, faculty/staff hiring and retention, remote work, and managing mental health, among others.

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W054

AEJMC African Cohort

Panel Session II

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

Description

1:45 to 3 p.m. / W055

JHistory Internet Group

Research Panel Session

If You Think Artificial Intelligence is Disruptive, Just Look Behind You: An Examination of Turbulent Times in Media History in which Everything was Overturned

Moderating/Presiding

David T. Z. Mindich, Temple

Panelists

Mitchell Stephens, New York

Brian Creech, Lehigh

Meta Carstarphen, Oklahoma

Soomin Seo, Sogang

Seunghoon Cha, Sogang

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W056

Advertising Division

Research Panel Session

Storytelling at Scale: How Platforms Shape Audience Experience and Strategic Communication

Moderating/Presiding

Eunjin (Anna) Kim, Southern California

Panelists

Louisa Frahm, SEO Director, **ESPN**

name, YouTube Ads Research Director, **Google/YouTube**

Yeomin Kim, US Platform Business Lead, **Webtoon**

Michelle Robbins, Director, Investment Strategy & Business Transformation

| Advancing Human-Centered Responsible AI, **Microsoft**

Melissa Robinson, Vice President, Marketing + Communications, **Boingo**

Alejandro Garcia Medina, Research Lead, the B2B Institute, **LinkedIn**

Suzanne Persechino, Senior Executive Leader, Data-driven Research

& Strategic Insights, **A+E Global Media**

This Advertising Division industry panel brings together leaders from Microsoft, YouTube Ads, ESPN, Webtoon, Boingo, and LinkedIn to examine how storytelling and strategic communication are evolving across today's interconnected media, technology, advertising, entertainment, and audience ecosystems. As audiences discover, navigate, and engage with content through search, social platforms, streaming and entertainment environments, mobile interfaces, connected experiences, and AI-enabled tools, communication strategy increasingly depends on understanding the relationship among audience behavior, content design, platform change, data, and emerging creative technologies. Panelists will discuss how stories travel across different media environments, how engagement is shaped by audience experience and technological infrastructure, and how AI-assisted personalization and creative tools are changing the way communication is created, delivered, and evaluated. The session invites scholars and educators to consider how advertising theory, research, and curriculum can better prepare students for communication careers shaped by discovery, interaction, audience intelligence, and AI-driven strategic communication.

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W057

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Broadcast News Identity in a Partisan Landscape

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

“We Earned It, We Earned Capital Through What We Do”: Black Broadcast Journalists’

Changing Online and Offline Norms

Denetra Walker, Georgia

Journalistic Authority as Epistemic Power: Framing and Ideology in Partisan News Talk

Manwar Hossain, Colorado State

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Air America Radio: A Proleptic Media Company

David Dowling, Iowa and **Daniel Max Barth**, Columbia

“CBS Is Dead to Me”: Ideological Conflict and Authority Collapse in CBS News’ Crisis

David Wolfgang, Colorado State

“You have to sell them as much as they’re trying to sell you”: US Local TV News Directors’ Perspectives on the Struggle to Hire Reporters and Producers

Nataliya Roman, **Berrin Beasley** and **John Parmelee**, North Florida
and **Kathryn Bonfield**, Southern California

Discussant

name, affiliation

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

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W058

Cultural and Critical Studies and Media Ethics Divisions

PFR Panel Session

“Journalism Schools: If Not Today, Then When?”

Moderating/Presiding

Maven Navarro, Alabama

Panelists

Nicole Kraft, Ohio State

Anita Varma, Texas at Austin

Anisha Dutta, *The Guardian*, Al-Jazeera, and Newsweek

Matthew Kendrick, former associate producer at Fareed Zakaria GPS

Kourosh Ziabari, *New Lines Magazine*

Journalism schools occupy a uniquely powerful position in the current media landscape. Unencumbered by bureaucratic constraints, they command academic independence, professional networks, and advocacy resources capable of shielding emerging journalists from escalating threats—curtailment of First Amendment protections, political violence, and shrinking public media funding. Yet their mandate is growing more complex, especially as the spectrum of challenges implicating professional journalists widens. Non-citizen journalists have been deported, and public broadcasters are threatened with the non-renewal of their license. These are issues that journalism schools are equipped to address. As of October 2025, at least 15 states have restricted DEI initiatives in higher education through laws banning “divisive concepts” and defunding related programs, pressures compounded by recent federal executive actions. These legal shifts create acute ethical dilemmas for journalism and mass communication educators tasked with teaching harm minimization and critical analysis of power structures. This panel convenes educators and practitioners from affected and unaffected states to share strategies for upholding core pedagogical principles and offer recommendations to journalism schools to safeguard their mission.

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W059

Law and Policy Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Regulating the Unregulatable: Approaches to Platform and AI Governance

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Moderating/Presiding

Nina Brown, Syracuse

Comparative National Regulatory Approaches to AI: The Cases of the USA, Australia, Germany, Nigeria, and India

Md Sazzad Hossain, Akachukwu Ikefuama,
and **Jamil Marques**, Iowa

From Content to Algorithm: Regulating Teenager Social Media Addiction Under the First Amendment

Yuanyang Qiu, China University of Political Science & Law,
and **Fangfang Ji**, Institute of Journalism and Communication,
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Does Transparency in Content Moderation Matter? Users' Cognitive and Behavioral Responses to Information Disclosure

Kaiyi Yu, Minnesota

Generating Meaning: How could the Supreme Court Conceptualize AI-generated propaganda?

Roman Kolgushev, Missouri

Discussant

Daxton "Chip" Stewart, Texas Christian

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

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W060

Media Management, Economics and Entrepreneurship Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Discussant

name, affiliation

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

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W061

Minorities and Communication Division and Religion and Media Interest Group

Research Panel Session

Beyond Roux and Voodoo: Race, Religion and Food in a Southern Context

Moderating/Presiding

Rafael O. Matos, Northwestern

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Panelists

From the Margins to the Center: Engaging in Decoloniality in *High on the Hog & No Passport Required*

Nahla Bendefaa, Oregon and **Tewodros Workneh**, Kent State

Reclaiming Edna Lewis

Teresa Moore, University of San Francisco

AI and Religion in the American South

Nihar Sreepada, Louisiana State

Voodoo and the American Press

Joseph B. Treaster, University of Miami

An examination of representation and misrepresentation of race, religion and culture, especially in the American South and other borders, real and imagined. The panel will consist of four researchers. Scholars will share research that explores the relationships between minority and majority cultures. Topics will include: a discussion of Debra Freeman's documentary about Edna Lewis's legacy among Black chefs and food writers; representations of the culinary histories of the African diaspora in global media; southern religion in an AI world; and how mainstream secular press portrays Voodoo within a secular and materialist culture.

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W062

Newspaper and Online News Division and Participatory Journalism Interest Group

PFR Panel Session

Can Journalists Still Be “Guardians of Democracy”? News Organizations’ Role in Promoting Literacies of Democratic Life

Moderating/Presiding

Kim Walsh-Childers, Florida

Panelists

Joshua Scacco, South Florida

Huma Rasheed, Pennsylvania

Angele Latham, *The Tennessean*

Antoine Haywood, Florida

This panel will discuss what role journalists should play in ensuring that democratic publics understand both the structures and functions of government at local, state and federal levels and, indeed, that the public understands critical elements of democracy itself, including the “what” and “why” of such concepts as governmental checks and balances, the peaceful transfer of power and the need for public and press oversight of government actions. It will address questions of what steps can news organizations take, beyond news coverage, to engage their communities to improve civic literacy and civic engagement, as well as whether journalists should change the way they cover government to promote better public understanding of its structures and functions.

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W063

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

[00-1530] — Scholar-to-Scholar (Poster) Refereed Research Paper Session

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Commission on Graduate Education Showcase (40 papers)

[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.

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W063

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Elected Standing Committee on Teaching G.I.F.T. Competition (40 entries)

[00-1530] — Poster Projects

00 • Comms Speed Round: Learning to Engaging with Strategic Communicators

Nicole Kraft, Ohio State

Teaching Transparency and Accountability Through a Syllabus Press Conference

Nicole Kraft, Ohio State

One Rule to Rule Them All: Designing a Student-Led AI Policy for an Introductory Journalism Class

Newly Paul, North Texas

Lessons from 12 Years Teaching a Team Project in Environmental & Health News Innovation: Scaffolding for Group Harmony

Emilia Askari, Michigan

The "Expert Interview" Assignment

Jamie Lee Steyer, Iowa State

The Power of Choice: Tiered Differentiated Learning Activities with Specifications Grading in Skills-Based Media Courses

Kathryn E. Cooper, Kent State

Food and Identity: A Family Heritage Storytelling Project

Tewodros Workneh, Kent State

The Smartphone as Compass: Nurturing Harmony through Travel Storytelling Portfolio

Tewodros Workneh, Kent State

Anti-Loneliness Project: A Gamified, Research-to-Action Approach to Fostering Student Well-Being and Campus Connection

Anna Young, Central Connecticut State

From Wonder to Wisdom: The Inklings Project as a Health and Harmony-Promoting PR Writing Experience

Christie M. Kleinmann, Belmont

Amplifying the Voices of the Muscogee Creek Nation

Hoda Emam, North Texas

COILing Toward Consensus: Empowering Students to Co-Create AI Social Contracts Across Cultures in Journalism and Mass Communication

Andrew M. Abernathy, Oklahoma State

Community Listening: Using Analytics to Serve Health and Safety Needs

Sezgi Başak Kavaklı, Louisiana State

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work: Using Group Contracts to Improve Group Work Experiences from the Start

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Sarah Smith-Frigerio, Tampa

Take a Walk with Your Mic: Capturing Natural Sound by Learning to Listen

Dylan McLemore, Oklahoma State

Douze Points for (Harmonious) Global Strategy: Using the Eurovision Song Contest to Teach International Event Marketing and Public Relations

Sarah Schiffecker, Texas Tech

Student-Created Games as a Route to Media Literacy's "Act" Core Competency

Bob Britten, West Virginia

Strategic Communication for Community Health: A Service-Learning Partnership to Sustain Rural Athletic Training Programs

Rebecca L. Cooney, Washington State

Promoting Recognition of Anti-Press Harassment and Development of Resilience

Erin Coyle, Arizona State

Nurturing Harmony and Health Through Assessed Self/Content-Reflection: A Human-Centered Best Practice in Collaborative Journalism Education

Janice Marie Collins, Ohio

Story as Pedagogy: Using StoryCorps to Teach Counter-Narratives and Nurture Relational Health in Large Lecture Courses

Kelli S. Boling, Nebraska-Lincoln

Transforming Journalism Education Through Interdisciplinary Teams, Large Language Models, and Social Media Analyses

Ronald A. Yaros, Maryland

The Fourteen: A Podcast Project Exploring Slavery and Freedom in a Small Liberal Arts College's Prehistory

Andrew J. Salvati, Drew University

Influencer Culture: Strategy, Social, and Self

DD Lewis, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Media, Culture, and Power: Visualizing International Perspectives of the U.S. and Critical Dialogue

Aarum Youn-Heil, Georgia

Scaffolded, AI-Enhanced Project-Based Learning in Communication Theory: Building Strategic Communication Plans with Real-World Clients

Rey Rosales, MacEwan University

Discussants

name, affiliation

This G.I.F.T. poster session will showcase peer-reviewed teaching ideas from across AEJMC's divisions, focusing on the uses of AI in mass communication education. Taking cues from some of the top journalism, public relations, and advertising educators, journalism presenters will be available to share the nuances of implementing their assignments. Come over and learn how generative AI is being used to enhance student learning, media literacy, and ethical decision-making

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3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W064

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Commission on the Status of Women, Small Programs Interest Group, Commission on the Status of Minorities and Commission on LGBTQIA+ Communities

Teaching Panel Session

Academic Freedom in the Age of Outrage: Strategies for Educators and Scholar-Activists

Moderating/Presiding

Laura Willis, Quinnipiac

Panelists

Gabriel B. Tait, Ball State

Ashley Kennard, Ohio Wesleyan

Gheni Platenburg, Houston

Senta Scarborough, East Tennessee State

Tamara Welter, Baylor

Christina Littlefield, Pepperdine

In an era of heightened pressure on higher education marked by political polarization, disinformation, and rising civic unrest, educators face growing challenges in teaching journalism, media literacy, and advocacy within media contexts. This panel brings together teacher-scholars who integrate media literacy, strategic communication, and social justice into their pedagogy while examining how contemporary platforms amplify divisive content and challenge traditional norms of journalistic engagement. Panelists will explore strategies for helping students uphold journalistic ethics while fostering open dialogue about media and information systems. Drawing on the long-standing experiences of faculty who have navigated contested discourse in academia for years, the discussion highlights how their insights can guide colleagues facing similar pressures today. Panelists will share approaches to addressing controversial topics, managing student bias, and designing responsive syllabi that support critical thinking and ethical participation in public discourse.

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W065

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

Award Panel Session

Paul J. Deutschmann Award

Moderating/Presiding

Patrick Ferrucci, Colorado-Boulder

2026 Deutschmann Award Recipient

Dhavan V. Shah, Wisconsin-Madison

Panelists

Porismita Borah, Washington State

Stephanie Lynn Edgerly, Northwestern

Homero Gil de Zuniga, University of Salamanca / Pennsylvania State

S. Shyam Sundar, Pennsylvania State / Sungkyunkwan University

Emily Vraga, Minnesota-Twin Cities

Michael Wagner, Wisconsin-Madison

Yini Zhang, Buffalo

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

The Paul J. Deutschmann Award for Excellence in Research honors exemplary scholarly contributions sustained over the course of an individual's career. As AEJMC's premier research distinction, it is awarded this year to Dhavan Shah for his unparalleled research on the influence of message framing and cueing, the communication dynamics that drive civic and political participation, and the role of digital therapeutics in chronic disease management.

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W066

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication News Engagement Day Committee

Research Panel Session

Finalists and Winner of Research Grant for Innovative News Audience and News Engagement Studies

Moderating/Presiding

Paula M. Poindexter, Texas at Austin, Chair, News Engagement Day Committee

Research Grant Finalists in Alphabetical Order

2026 AEJMC-NED Grant for Innovative Research on the News Audience and News Engagement
Tips for Success

2026 #NewsEngagement Day, Tuesday, October 5, 2026

Samantha Higgins, Communication Director, AEJMC/ASJMC

Acknowledgments and Closing Remarks

3:30 to 4:45 p.m. / W067

Museum of Public Relations

Panel Session

Title

Moderating/Presiding

name, affiliation

Panelists

name, affiliation

The Museum of Public Relations is a non-profit, permanent institution, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of the public relations practice for education and research that will help shape its future and inform the public of the practice's social value. Be the world's resource to better understand public relations and the role it plays in business, culture, politics, and social activism.

5:15 to 6:45 p.m. / W068

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

General Session and Keynote

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Moderating/Presiding

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

General Session

2025-26 In Memoriam: A Tribute to Those We've Lost

Installation of 2026-27 AEJMC President

Mia Moody, Baylor

Award Recognitions

Presentation of Scripps Howard Awards Introduction

Mike Cannon, Senior Director of Journalism Strategies, Scripps Howard Fund
2025 Scripps Howard Journalism Awards Journalism & Mass Communication
Teacher of the Year Award Recipient

Adam J. Kuban, Ball State

2025 Scripps Howard Journalism Awards Journalism & Mass Communication
Administrator of the Year Award Recipient

Hub Brown, Florida

AEJMC Award Recognitions

Dorothy Bowles Public Service Award Recipient

Erin Coyle, Arizona State

Excellence in Teaching Award Recipient

Amy Simons, Missouri

Gene Burd Urban Journalism Award Recipient

name, affiliation

Gene Burd Award for Research in Urban Journalism Studies Recipient

Sexual Politics, Urban Space, and the Midwestern Queer Press: A Multi-Site Case Study of Chicago and Detroit

Yidong (Steven) Wang, Lawrence Technological University

Paul J. Deutschmann Award for Excellence in JMC Research Recipient

Dhavan V. Shah, Wisconsin-Madison

Hillier Kriegbaum Mid-Career Award Recipient

name, affiliation

James A. Tankard Jr. Book Award Recipient

Title

[Press]

name, affiliation

Knudson Latin America Prize Recipients

The Patina of Distrust: What People Do with Misinformation

[The MIT Press, 2025]

Eugenia Mitchelstein, Universidad de San Andrés,

Pablo J. Boczkowski, Northwestern University,

María Celeste Wagner, Rutgers-New Brunswick,

and **Facundo Suenzo**, Universidad de San Andrés

Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver Outstanding Early-Career Woman Scholar Award

name, affiliation

Lionel C. Barrow, Jr. Award for Distinguished Achievement in Diversity

Research and Education Recipient

name, affiliation

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Nafziger-White-Salwen Dissertation Award Recipient

André K. Rodarte, University of Southern Denmark

Teaching Best Practices Competition Award

Building Purpose-Driven AI Chatbots for Inclusive Health Communication

Gyo Hyun Koo, Howard

Keynote Session Speaker

Title

Weijia Jiang, Senior White House Correspondent, CBS News

7 to 8:30 p.m. / W069

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

Opening Reception

Hosting

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