

Hidden Curriculum

AEJMC Commission on Graduate Education

Volume 2, Issue 1 January - February 2024

[@CSGEAEJMC](#)

New Year, Renewed Mission



CSGE board members at the 2023 AEJMC in Washington, D.C.: (left to right) Jodi McFarland Friedman, Nisha Sridharan with her dissertation chair, Dr. Dawn Gilpin, Briana Trifiro and Kimi Conro.

By Dr. Patrick R. Johnson, CSGE Chair

I'm not one to usually be brief, but it is a new year and a renewed effort to be a better version of myself, so this note will be short.

The Commission on Graduate Education (CSGE) is kicking off the 2024 year with this newsletter in a new format and announcements of new programs and opportunities for graduate students in AEJMC.

You'll learn about our Midwinter programming this year, specifically by finding out what to do in Norman if you're attending and how to get your presentation ready if you're presenting. From Midwinter to the annual conference, this newsletter will also share the panel programming we will offer in August. This also includes our newest initiative, the Graduate Student Teaching Showcase. (cont. page 3)

Media Literacy 101: Virtual Panel Recap

By Elizabeth Cox, CSGE Committee Member

On November 27, 2023, we held our first virtual panel of the 2023-2024 season focused on media literacy as an ethical strategy for consuming and creating content. Throughout the session, the panelists discussed several avenues of media literacy, including its role in the classroom and education. The panel was co-sponsored by the Media Ethics Division of AEJMC.

The panelists included the CSGE Chair Dr. Patrick Johnson, professor and director of student media at Marquette University; Dr. Belinha De Abreu, President of the International Council for Media Literacy; Dr. Alexis Romero Walker, professor at Manhattanville College and senior researcher at Geena Davis Institute of Gender in Media; Deni Elliott, project co-director of the National Ethics Project; and Alan Goldenbach, professor at Hood College and former Washington Post reporter. (cont. page 3)



Briana Trifiro presenting her research at 2023 AEJMC in Washington, D.C.

CSGE board member Kris Vera-Phillips serving on a 2023 AEJMC panel with Harrison Hove, Dr.Kathleen McElroy, and Jesús Ayala.

Graduate Student Teaching Showcase at AEJMC

By Briana Trifiro, CSGE Teaching Chair

NEW IN 2024!

Calling all graduate student instructors! Do you have a new and exciting approach to a subject area that may feel stale to others? Do you have a favorite lesson plan or in-class activity that resonates with your students? Looking for feedback on a lesson plan you have been dreaming up?

This year, The Commission on Graduate Education (CSGE) will debut a new form of conference programming to amplify - and celebrate! - graduate student approaches to pedagogy. This event aims to showcase examples of effective teaching to inspire and encourage instructors at all levels.

As we learn more about pedagogy and instruction, it is increasingly apparent that there is no “one size fits all” approach to teaching and learning. In this light, one goal of this showcase is to highlight new and innovative approaches to teaching that consider learners from diverse backgrounds and abilities.

Accepted applicants will be expected to attend the 2024 AEJMC conference in Philadelphia, PA to demo their proposed activity or lesson plan. All accepted participants will present an interactive session delivered in front of a live audience during the Teaching Showcase. Presentations should engage audience members and include time for Q&A with attendees.

Demo submissions can range from lab assignments, lectures, hands on experiential learning, and more – be creative! This is a great opportunity for both experienced and newer instructors to learn from one another and share their experiences.

We strongly encourage individuals who anticipate that they will be on the job market to submit proposals - this will be an excellent opportunity for search committees to see their future faculty members in action! Imagine this as a perfect opportunity to practice your teaching demo that you will be showcasing in future interviews – and get feedback from your peers before you hit the market! We are hopeful that accepted submissions will be compiled and published within the following calendar year (more details to come on this!).

The nuts and bolts of what we are looking for:

Proposal details (400 words maximum!). Your proposal should:

- Demonstrate the relevance to teaching and learning in higher education
- Identify clear learning outcomes and goals

- Appeal to an interdisciplinary audience (subject areas may include news writing, content production, digital journalism, media literacy, research methods, media ethics/law, artificial intelligence, big data, computational methods, and more).

Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated on the following criteria:

- Clarity of the proposal abstract, including key takeaways and audience interaction component
- Topic relevancy that can appeal to instructors of all experience levels
- Presents practical methods and techniques that others can use and apply
- Provides evidence of successful outcomes or lessons learned

Please submit proposals to CSGE teaching chair Briana Trifiro via email by **May 1, 2024**.

If you have questions or would like to discuss your ideas before submitting, please contact Briana Trifiro, Teaching Chair for the Graduate Education Commission (**btrifiro@bu.edu**)

Authors will be notified of their acceptance into the Graduate Teaching Showcase by May 20. Notification will come from the CSGE Teaching Chair.

About the Author

Briana Trifiro is a fifth-year doctoral candidate in the Division of Emerging Media Studies at Boston University's College of Communication. Situated at the intersection of media psychology and political communication, her research focuses on the individual and societal impacts of social media use.



Bring Your Classroom to the Conference:

How to Submit Pedagogy Research, Teaching Briefs, and GIFTs to #AEJMC24

Tuesday, February 6
12 –1 p.m. ET
Zoom

AEJMC Standing Committee on Teaching
History Division
Public Relations Division
Scholastic Journalism Division
Small Programs Interest Group
Commission on the Status of Graduate Education

New Year, Renewed Mission

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Teaching is one of our priorities in CSGE, so not only do we share about the new Showcase, but you'll also get a glimpse into a co-sponsored teaching program we hosted with the Media Ethics Division about media literacy and read about the new syllabus database we are creating. We've got a lot for you in this issue, the first of Hidden Curriculum volume 2. Get excited!

I also look forward to you getting to hear from the newest CSGE leadership team: Vice Head Kimi Conro (Colorado State), Teaching Chair Briana Trifiro (Boston University), Research Chair Nisha Sridharan (Arizona State), Professional Freedom and Responsibility Chair Gayoung Jeon (Texas-Austin), Communications Chairs Kris Vera Phillips (Arizona State) and Jodi McFarland Friedman (Maryland), and Assistant Chair Elizabeth Cox (Oklahoma).

I am so grateful for their leadership and their advocacy for graduate education. AEJMC is a much better place having these phenomenal folks in it.

And for me, this is the first newsletter of my last year with the Commission. I began my time as the Preconference Chair of the Graduate Student Interest Group when I was returning to high school from high school teaching.

Now, as I sit in my office at Marquette University, having recently become Dr. Johnson, and write the final lines of this note, I realize that my time with this incredible group has been what has shaped so much of my doctoral experience. And I am beyond grateful for the opportunities and connections I've had the privilege to have made and continue to make.

To those who came before more and those who will come after, this is and was a wild ride. I couldn't imagine a better place to start my academic journey and build my community. WHICH... is why you should join CSGE and get involved – reach out to the appropriate chair to join their committees.

About the Author

Dr. Patrick R. Johnson is an assistant professor of journalism and director of student media at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His work focuses on the intersection of news literacy, journalism practice and education, and ethics. Patrick also spends much of his time exploring the knowledge production and representation of LGBTQ people in journalism and mass communication.

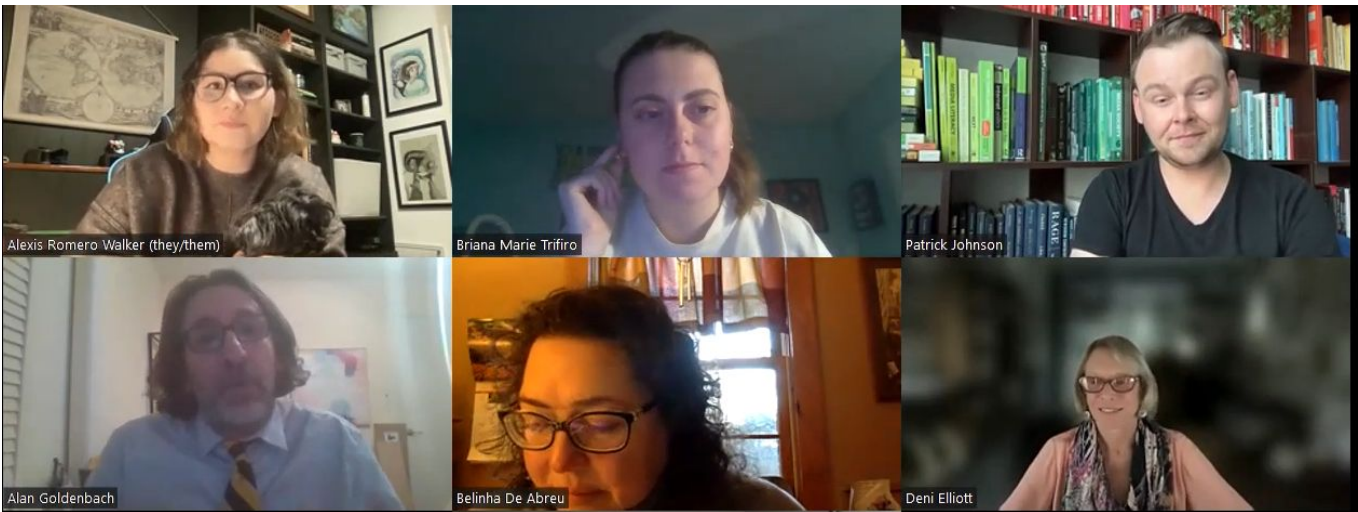
Media Literacy 101: Virtual Panel Recap

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The panel kicked off with a rich discussion on the definition of media literacy. Dr. Walker spoke on the responsibility of evaluating and critiquing the media. They explained that it is our role "to make sure that when we create media, because we are all creators, that we are thinking about what messages we are sending to those who consume the media that we create." Deni Elliott explained that she looked at media literacy as the learning outcomes for her students. These outcomes and skills include identifying sources of fact and the potential biases of those sources.

The panelists also touched on the intersection of media literacy and media ethics. Dr. Johnson views the two concepts as symbiotic, emphasizing that they should really be studied together to learn from each other.

Dr. De Abreu emphasized that a lack of ethics is the reason behind our current state of media literacy. She spoke on a lack of consciousness in our consumption of media and use of media tools which impacts our ability to think about our actions.



Media Literacy 101 on Nov. 27, 2023: (top row, left to right) Alex Romero, Briana, Trifiro, and Patrick Johnson. (bottom row, left to right) Alex Goldenbach, Belinha De Abreu and Deni Elliott

"We tend to run into walls right now with information and I feel like we're literally banging heads against each other because we're not seeing the ethical components of issues."

- Dr. Belinha De Abreu, President of the International Council for Media Literacy

The panel overall emphasized a mindfulness of ethics and literacy when not only consuming media but also creating it. If you'd like to listen to the panel, it is currently available on the [AEJMC YouTube page](#).

We want to thank the AEJMC Media Ethics Division and our incredible moderator, Briana Trifiro. Thank you to our panelists for a fascinating and thought-provoking panel.

About the Author

Elizabeth Cox is a third-year Ph.D. in Mass Communication at Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Oklahoma. Her research program focuses on sport and entertainment public relations, with a complementary emphasis on crisis communication.

How to Maximize Your Conference Experience

By Nisha Sridharan, CSGE Research Chair

As a graduate student, navigating a conference can be a challenging endeavor. To ensure a fruitful experience at AEJMC, consider the following refined tips and strategies:

Craft Your Personal Elevator Pitch

As a graduate student, you're likely to encounter a myriad of scholars at AEJMC who may not be familiar with your work. Prepare a personalized elevator pitch that encapsulates who you are, your core research focus, and highlights of your work. This will prove invaluable as you navigate through frequent introductions during the conference.

FOMO NO MO(re): Create a schedule

Recognize the simultaneous occurrence of multiple panels and presentations, and there is only one you. Look ahead at the conference schedule and create a plan to attend the presentations you are most interested in. Develop a structured plan to attend presentations of utmost interest and take note of sessions you wish to explore further post-conference. You can reach out to the authors of missed presentations after the conference.

Strategic Preparation for Presentations

Prioritize meticulous preparation for your presentation by noting the allocated time and adhering to it. Recognize the potential diversity in your audience's familiarity with your topic, emphasizing key research areas that inform your work. Allocate over 60% of your presentation time to elucidating your research and findings, focusing on the three most significant aspects of your paper.

About the Authors

Jodi McFarland Friedman is a practical/applied skills journalism educator and scholar of media, gender and race, focusing on gaze, voice, and power. She is a fourth-year doctoral candidate at the University of Maryland's Philip Merrill College of Journalism.

Kris Vera-Phillips is a Ph.D. candidate at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University, where she teaches news producing and multimedia skills classes. Her research agenda explores identity, representation, and power in news media and popular culture.

Bring snacks and water

Acknowledge the full-day nature of conferences, where the excitement may lead to neglecting basic needs. Ensure you have a convenient snack or granola bar in your bag, along with a water supply. Maintaining hydration and nourishment is essential to sustain both mental and physical well-being amid the conference activities.

Remember to follow-up

Recognize conferences as not only a platform for presenting your work but also for fostering valuable research partnerships and mentorships. As you network during the conference, take the initiative to send personalized notes of gratitude to individuals you meet. Express appreciation for their time and consider extending invitations for collaboration or mentorship. Remember, networking initiated at conferences should evolve beyond the event.

In conclusion, approach the conference experience with a mindset of enjoyment. Document intriguing research ideas, theories, and methods encountered, using them as inspiration for future research endeavors. Your engagement at AEJMC should be both professionally enriching and personally fulfilling.

About the Author

Nisha Sridharan is a Ph.D. candidate at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University. Her research focuses on the role of media and journalism in society, including areas of community journalism, diversity and inclusion of marginalized groups, and organizational communication.

New Initiative Supports Student Educators

By Kris Vera-Phillips and Jodi McFarland Friedman, CSGE Communications Co-Chairs

The CSGE Communications team wants to build stronger connections within the AEJMC community by raising awareness about our online programming and conference opportunities. From this Hidden Curriculum newsletter to our social media campaigns, we want to highlight our members' stories and accomplishments.

We have a new initiative to support the teaching efforts of CSGE members. Some graduate students are building up their CVs with teaching assignments, either as teaching assistants or instructors of record. Some departments offer past course management shells and syllabus documents to help new instructors get started. Others are starting from scratch. CSGE wants to support members by building a syllabus database. We invite all CSGE members to contribute their syllabus documents to this database, where we can learn more about how other people manage their courses and get inspiration for lesson plans, reading lists, and more. If you would like to contribute to the syllabus database, please share your documents with Kris Vera-Phillips (kvp@asu.edu), and we will share the link to the database over social media and through the AEJMC Community Site.

In order to support our CSGE community and develop resources and programming to meet your needs, we want to hear from you. We want to celebrate the work you do and brag about it on our social media platforms and in this newsletter. We are sharing a [survey](#) with members to find out more about who they are and what they are doing. We also want to know about the ways you do what you do - from your research process to your approach to self-care. And finally, this is an opportunity for you to offer feedback to your CSGE leadership. What should we keep doing, and how can we do better to serve you and our student community? Do you have suggestions for future CSGE programming? You are welcome to fill out the survey by scanning the QR code.

We can't wait to hear from you!



CSGE Survey

Midwinter Conf: A Guide to Norman, Oklahoma

By Elizabeth Cox, CSGE Committee Member

Heading to Norman, Oklahoma for the AEJMC Midwinter Conference and looking for some non-conference things to do? I've got you covered! I've compiled a list of some of my favorite places to eat, visit, and work (or waste a little time!).

Grab a Bite

[syrup.](#) - 123 E Main St. - This brunch boutique offers amazing coffees and plates. For those with a sweet tooth, I recommend the cinnamon roll pancakes!

[Neighborhood Jam](#) - 102 W Main St. - Located on Norman's main street, Neighborhood Jam is a town staple. They offer several tasty eggs benny dishes, but you can't go wrong with most of the menu.

[The Diner](#) - 213 E Main St Ste. B - For Food Network fans, The Diner has appeared on American Diner Revival and Diners, Dine-ins, and Dives. While they're famous for their chili, the breakfast menu is one of my favorites in town (see the famous "Eggaritto")!

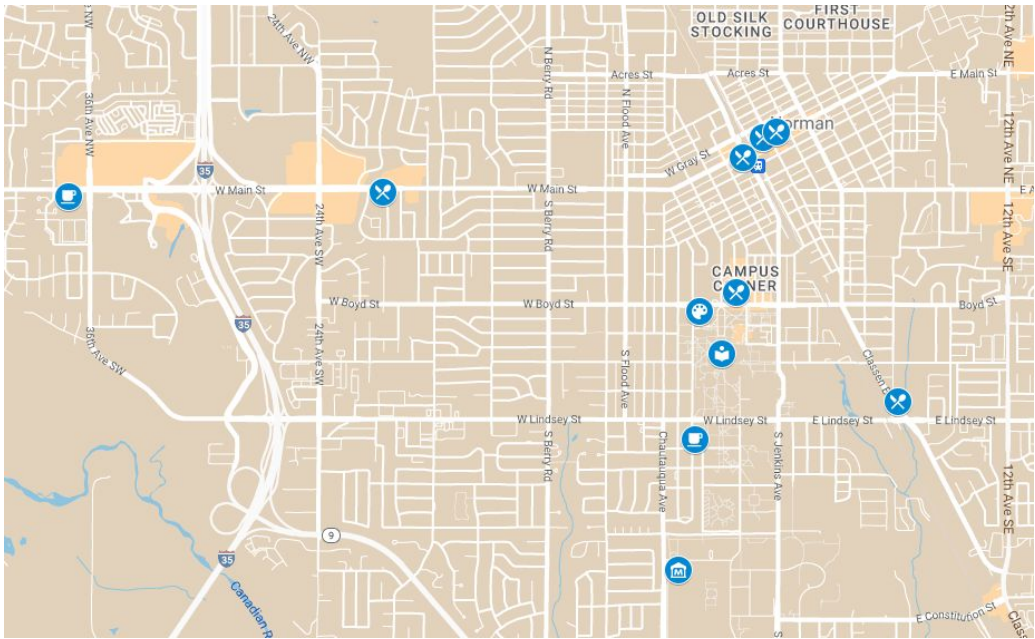
[La Baguette Bakery & Cafe](#) - 2100 W Main St. - You can't go wrong with going to this cafe for breakfast and/or lunch. Their bakery items (hint, hint... try the croissants) are always incredible.

[Hideaway Pizza](#) - 577 Buchanan Ave. - This is a local favorite situated in Campus Corner near OU. It has all of the classics - cheese and pepperoni - but you can also try something adventurous in their list of specialty pies.

[Magic Noodle](#) - 1915 Classen Blvd #119 - This spot is near campus and offers handmade noodles and dumplings. You'll be able to watch the noodles being pulled while you eat the incredible food.



CSGE Guide to Norman



Coffee Spots

[Not Your Average Joe](#) - 1001 Elm Ave. - This is the closest place to Gaylord College where you can grab a quick latte. It's right on campus and offers several food items. The shop has an incredible mission as it creates job opportunities for those with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities to learn about making and serving coffee.

[All About Cha](#) - 3750 W Main St. - This is my favorite place to grab a tea and study for a few hours. The menu includes a variety of teas and coffees, as well as some Korean specialty drinks.

Things to Do

[Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art](#) - 555 Elm Ave. - This is a beautiful (and free) art museum right on campus. It often has popular temporary exhibits open with its collection.

[Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History](#) - 2401 Chautauqua Ave. - This is another great museum right near OU. If you're interested in learning more about the Native American tribes of Oklahoma, the museum has a permanent exhibit dedicated to this.

[Bizzell Memorial Library](#) - 401 W Brooks St. - This is a perfect adventure that requires a very short walk from Gaylord College. The Helmerich Great Reading Room in the library is my favorite study spot on campus, and I recommend it for anyone looking for a quiet and beautiful place to spend some time.

We look forward to seeing you in Norman in March for the AEJMC Midwinter Conference!



you're invited: get involved with the

Commission on Graduate Education

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Make your CV look even better!

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Boost your savvy and gain inspo

RUB SHOULDERS AT CONFERENCES

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USE CONFERENCE AMENITIES

"Shop" the Traveling Closet, eat/hang in our grad lounge

WANT TO KNOW MORE? EMAIL [KIMI.CONRO@COLOSTATE.EDU](mailto:kimi.conro@colostate.edu)