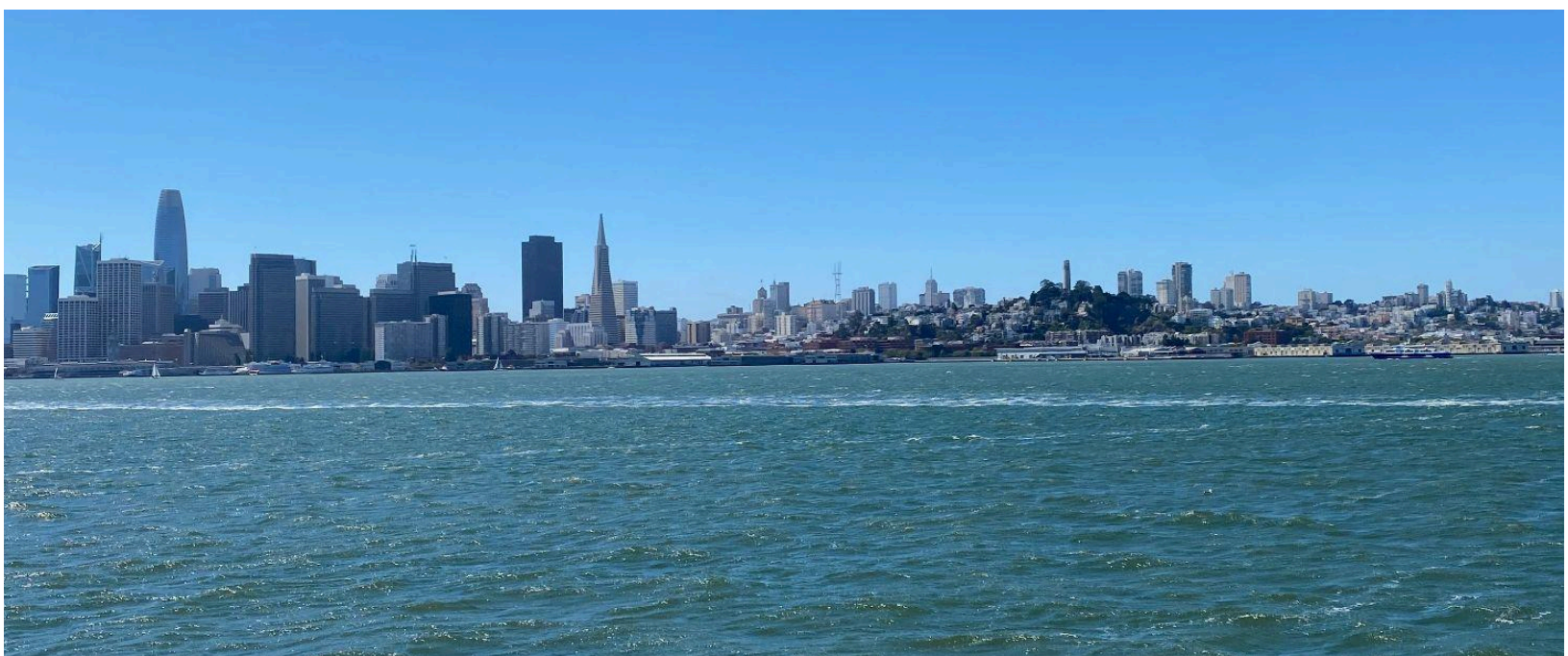


# AEJMC Commission on Graduate Education Hidden Curriculum Newsletter

July 17, 2025

   @CSGEAEJMC

## From Research to Resilience: CSGE at AEJMC25



### Leadership Update

**By Patrick Johnson, CSGE Chair. Marquette University**

As we head into AEJMC25, the Commission on Graduate Education (CSGE) is excited to share a slate of events designed to support graduate students, early career scholars, and the faculty who mentor them. Whether you're attending for the first time or returning as a longtime member, we hope you'll find space to connect, recharge, and celebrate the work we do across research, teaching, and professional development.

We're thrilled to host our Annual Luncheon and Business Meeting on the first day of the conference. This gathering is a chance to build community, recognize our award winners, and

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engage in conversation about the future of graduate education in our field. Pre-registration is required, so be sure to reserve your spot when you register for the conference.

Also on the first day, we'll feature our Graduate Student Research Showcase and Graduate Student Teaching Showcase. These events highlight innovative work from emerging scholars and offer an encouraging space for feedback and dialogue. We hope you'll join us in supporting the next generation of academic leaders.

Throughout the week, the Graduate Student Lounge will provide a quiet and welcoming place to rest, recharge, or meet with others. We'll also offer daily meals for graduate students and early-career scholars—an AEJMC tradition that ensures there's always a friendly table and warm meal waiting for you.

Ahead of the main conference, Bri and I are proud to lead the AEJMC Teaching Academy again during the morning of the Pre-Conference. This workshop offers practical guidance on pedagogy, course design, and navigating the teaching profession. Pre-registration is required, so make sure to secure your spot early if you plan to attend.

(Editor's Note: You can see the full list of [CSGE programming on page 9](#) of this newsletter)

And don't forget to stop by the Traveling Closet, our pop-up professional clothing exchange designed to help graduate students and early scholars access attire for presentations, interviews, or simply feeling confident. Donations are welcome, and everyone is encouraged to browse.

This year also marks the end of my third and final term as CSGE Head. It has been a privilege to serve and build alongside such a passionate, collaborative community. I'm thrilled to announce that Dr. Bri Trifiro will be stepping into the role of Head following AEJMC25. Bri brings deep expertise, care, and energy to this position, and I know CSGE will continue to thrive under her leadership. If you're interested in joining a committee or exploring leadership opportunities, I encourage you to reach out to Bri—we're always looking for engaged members who want to help shape the future of graduate education in AEJMC.

We can't wait to welcome you in San Francisco this August!

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## Help Shape the Future of Graduate Education

**By Briana Trifiro, Vice Head. Northeastern University**

Are you a graduate student or early career scholar eager to get more involved in the AEJMC community?

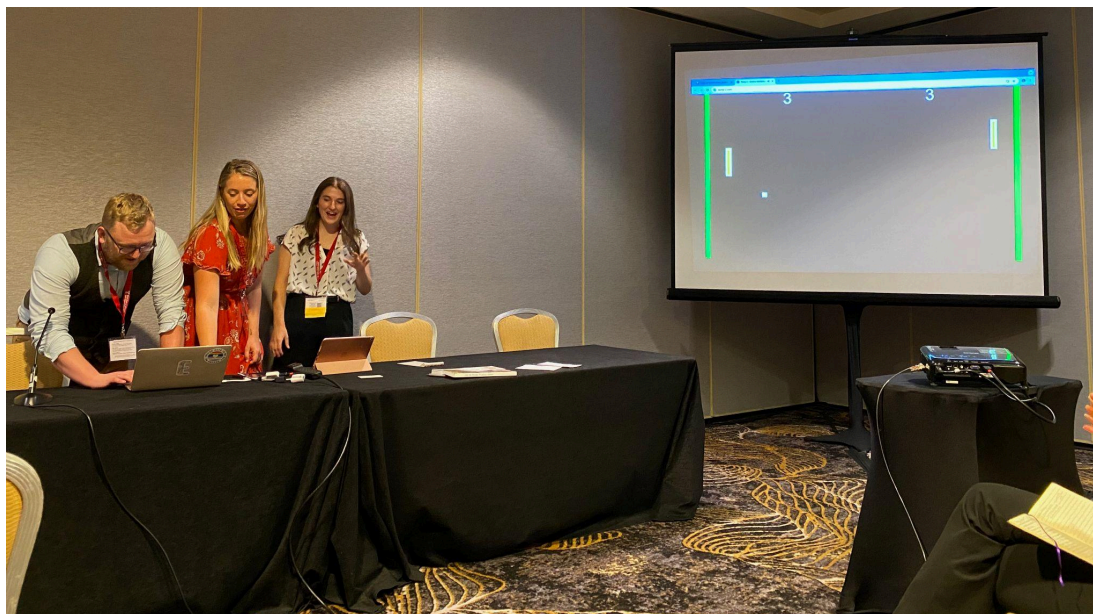
Do you care deeply about educating and supporting the next generation of researchers, academics, and professionals?

The Commission on Graduate Education is currently seeking enthusiastic volunteers to join its leadership board. Open positions include **Research Chair** and **Teaching Chair**—excellent opportunities to shape the future of graduate education while expanding your professional network.

While the commission supports graduate students, it also welcomes early-career faculty who are passionate about mentorship, pedagogy, and fostering inclusive spaces within academia.

Help us grow a vibrant and supportive AEJMC community.

Questions? Email incoming Chair Dr. Briana Trifiro at [b.trifiro@northeastern.edu](mailto:b.trifiro@northeastern.edu).



*Nothing Wrong with a Little (In-Class) Competition, Graduate Teaching Showcase in Philadelphia at AEJMC conference, August 8, 2024. Photo by Kris Vera-Phillips*

## **Graduate Teaching Showcase at #AEJMC25**

**By Elizabeth Cox, Teaching Chair. University of Kansas**

We're excited for our second annual Graduate Teaching Showcase at this year's AEJMC in San Francisco! This year brought an outstanding group of submissions, showcasing innovative teaching practices from graduate students. Our programming for the showcase is split into two sessions.

### ***Live Demonstrations - Thursday, August 7 from 1:45 to 3 pm***

This session will feature five condensed live demonstrations that stood out due to their interactive approach and audience engagement. Our goal with this session is to allow for feedback and dialogue following each presentation to discuss the idea and its application in the classroom.





*Using AI to Improve Campaigns in Advertising/Public Relations. Graduate Teaching Showcase in Philadelphia at AEJMC conference, August 8, 2024. Photo by Kris Vera-Phillips*

### **Poster Session - Thursday, August 7 from 3:30 to 4:45 pm**

Following the live demonstrations, we'll showcase additional accepted submissions at our scholar-to-scholar poster session alongside papers from our graduate research showcase. This format creates an extended space for deeper conversations about pedagogy while showcasing more teaching approaches from graduate students.

Both sessions will offer insightful discussion, networking, and teaching excellence. We look forward to seeing you there!

## **How to conference like a pro (even if you feel like a schmo)**

**By Jodi McFarland Friedman, Communications Co-Chair. University of Maryland**

You registered for the 108th AEJMC annual conference, landed lodgings, and booked travel, but your conference prep is just beginning.

Now is the perfect time to scan the preliminary schedules for each day and consider how you will navigate and network. CSGE hosted a webinar on May 8, 2025, titled “**Networking: How to turn conference awkwardness into research collaborations,**” chock-full of pointers from the pros.

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If you missed it, or you simply want a refresher, view the recording [here](#); use the passcode 6\*z#Pu#g

The panelists were Carolyn Bronstein, the Vincent de Paul Professor of Communication and Media Studies at DePaul University; Paul Mihailidis, professor, graduate program director and special advisor to the provost at Emerson College; Sue Robinson, the Helen Firstbrook Franklin Professor of Journalism at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; Emily Vraga, the Don and Carole Larson Professor of Health Communication at University of Minnesota; and Rachel Young, University of Iowa associate professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Robinson shared how forging connections before conferences convene has led her to research relationships.

“I would find panels where people were doing similar research to mine, where I thought maybe we had some alignments,” Robinson said, “and then I would email them before the conference and say, ‘This is what I’m doing, and this is what I see you doing. I would love to buy you a drink after the panel.’”

Click here to view the itineraries for [Thursday, Aug. 7](#); [Friday, Aug. 8](#); [Saturday, Aug. 9](#); and [Sunday, Aug. 10](#).

Each panelist recalled their own foibles and successes. Loosely planning out your conference time is one way to reduce the stress of feeling at loose ends. And another important tip is to go easy on yourself. Peopling can be intense.

“The overwhelm of a conference is real,” Bronstein said.

“It’s really important to give yourself grace at a conference and allow yourself to go outside and take a walk or go to a quieter area. You don’t have to be in the throng of the social scene the whole time.”

Young encouraged attendees to approach fellow conferencers with the confidence that graduate students belong.

“Think of yourself as a colleague now, because that’s what you are,” Young said.

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## Thinking About Professionalism in Today's World

By Bobbie Foster, PF&R Chair, University of Arkansas

If there is one common theme that arose from the programming the Commission on the Status of Graduate Education (CSGE) did this year, it is the acknowledgement of the difficult position many of our members are in when considering how professionalism with the political, social, technological and cultural changes converging at once in education and the fields of journalism and mass media.

The Commission hosted two virtual PF&R panels designed to help our members strike a balance between professional and personal needs in an environment where educators, particularly graduate students and new faculty, are being asked to do more and be more.

- [WATCH VIDEO: Should It Be This Hard? Survival Mechanisms, Productivity Hacks & Managing Mental Health in Academia](#)
- [WATCH VIDEO: Mentorship with Meaning](#)

During the 108th annual meeting of AEJMC in San Francisco, CSGE will feature two PF&R panels that explore how we perceive professionalism in today's world.

The first panel, titled "***Pro to Prof: Navigating Academia as a Second (or Third) Career***," will be offered on *Friday, August 8, at 1:15 pm*. CSGE acknowledges that not everyone moves from undergraduate to graduate school in one year or less. This panel offers academics who are not career academics the opportunity to reflect on the benefits and challenges that come with transitioning into academia, and also considers the challenges of changing professions.

The second panel, titled "***Making the Transition from Grad Student to Professor***," will be offered *Saturday, Aug. 9 at 1.15 pm*. This panel explores key issues in preparing for a new job, as well as the critical questions and challenges of the first few years on the tenure track and/or in teaching. In this case, professionalism can become an issue when individuals take on the dual role of both mentor and mentee, in addition to navigating new expectations.

(Editor's Note: You can see the full list of [CSGE programming on page 9](#) of this newsletter)

# CSGE Traveling Closet

**GRAB OR BRING GENTLY USED PROFESSIONAL CLOTHING ITEMS FOR CONFERENCE NEEDS**



**Courtesy of AEJMC's Commission on Graduate Education**

Student attendees are welcome to grab gently used professional-style clothing items for conference needs at no cost.





## **CSGE Program Schedule at AEJMC 2025**

### **Wednesday, August 6**

8 am - Noon: Remixing and Redesigning Curriculum: AEJMC Teaching Academy

### **Thursday, August 7**

Noon - 1:15 p.m. CSGE Luncheon and Members Meeting

1:45 - 3:00 p.m. Graduate Teaching Showcase

3:30 - 4:45 p.m. Scholar to Scholar Poster Session

### **Friday, August 8**

1:15 - 2:30 p.m. Pro to Prof: Navigating Academia as a Second (or Third) Career (PF&R session)

4:45 - 6:00 p.m. CSGE Top Research Paper Session

### **Saturday, August 9**

1:15 - 2:30 p.m. Making the Transition from Grad Student to Professor (PF&R session)

3:00 - 4:15 p.m. Addressing Invisible Barriers in Academia and Promoting Inclusivity (PF&R session)

**Thursday, August 7 - Saturday, August 9** - CSGE Traveling Closet in CSGE Student Lounge

**Friday, August 7 - Saturday, August 9** - Lunch and snack bags in CSGE Student Lounge

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## Research Update

**By Sohana Nasrin, Research Chair. University of Tampa**

As we look ahead to the AEJMC Annual Conference in San Francisco next month, I want to extend a warm welcome—especially to our graduate student community. Whether you're a first-time attendee or returning to reconnect and share your work, we're excited to support your journey and showcase your scholarship. Here are some key updates from the research front:

### **CSGE Top Papers Session – Friday, August 8 | 4:45–6:00 PM**

Join us as we celebrate the best research submitted to the Commission this year! The authors have received reviewer feedback via the AllAcademic platform, but if any presenters would like additional feedback, they are welcome to email their full and revised papers to me directly at [snasrin@ut.edu](mailto:snasrin@ut.edu). We're here to support your development as scholars.

### **CSGE Luncheon & Members Meeting – Thursday, August 7 | 12:00–1:15 PM**

Take a break and join us for our annual luncheon! This will also serve as our members meeting. We're honored to have Dr. Lindsay Palmer, Editor of Journalism & Mass Communication Monographs, join us to share a few insights about the journal and opportunities for graduate student engagement. It's a great moment to connect, reflect, and plan for the future together.

### **Graduate Student Research Showcase (Poster Session) – Thursday, August 7 | 3:30–4:45 PM**

This special poster session will highlight graduate student research from across 20 AEJMC Divisions, Interest Groups, and Commissions, including accepted CSGE submissions. It's a wonderful chance to engage with a wide range of research and network with peers.

Need poster design guidance? Visit the [official AEJMC poster resource page](#). (Editor's Note: you can also check out Jodi McFarland Friedman's [comprehensive guide](#) on producing conference posters on page 16 of this newsletter!)

### **Meet the Editors of AEJMC's Flagship Journals - Thursday, August 7 - Saturday, August 9**

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Don't miss this rare and valuable opportunity to hear directly from the editors of AEJMC's three flagship journals: Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly, Journalism & Mass Communication Monographs, and Journalism & Mass Communication Educator.

We are proud to be a space where graduate scholars can thrive, and we can't wait to see your work shine this August. Whether you're presenting, networking, or simply soaking in the conference experience, know that your voice and presence matter deeply to our community.

Looking forward to seeing you in San Francisco!



### **Meet the AEJMC Journal Editors**

*The editors of JMCQ, Monographs and Educator will be on hand to meet with you during the conference! If you're wondering if your work will fit, want to learn more about the journal, or are in search of tips on getting published, stop by for these informal chats.*

### **Sage Booth at the Expo/Book Fair**

#### **Thursday, Aug. 7**

9-11 a.m. Lindsay Palmer, Monographs  
1-3 p.m. Vince Filak, Educator

#### **Friday, Aug. 8**

9-11 a.m. Lindsay Palmer, Monographs  
11 a.m.-1 p.m. Daniela Dimitrova, JMCQ  
1-3 p.m. Vince Filak, Educator

### **Coffee with the Editors**

#### **Saturday, Aug. 9**

9:30-10:30 a.m. Meet in the hotel lobby.



## Budget Bites and Bay Views: A Local's Guide to San Francisco

By Kris Vera-Phillips, Communications Co-Chair. Southern Methodist University

San Francisco has inspired Hollywood to cast her in a variety of films, including Alfred Hitchcock's *Vertigo* (1958) to Michael Bay's *The Rock* (1996), and Destin Daniel Cretton's *Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings* (2021).

Here, Sam Spade walked the streets of Chinatown, hunting for a killer. Mrs. Doubtfire cleans a Pacific Heights home at 2640 Steiner and brings a family together. Also, Cmdrs. Chekov and Uhura ask pedestrians in North Beach (at the intersections of Columbus Ave. and Mason St.) for directions to a naval base on the other side of the Bay.

AEJMC members have a chance to walk in the footsteps of cinematic heroes and villains during this year's national conference. After checking in with Bay Area newsroom colleagues and friends, CSGE has compiled a list of ways members can experience the sights, sounds, and flavors of San Francisco on a budget.

### Getting Around Town

3-Day Visitor's Passport on MUNI: The transit system (bus, light rail, and the F-line streetcar) connects riders to several neighborhoods from the Castro to the Financial District.

Clipper Cards for BART: The subway system connects riders from SFO to several neighborhoods, including the Mission and the Financial District. BART also transports riders



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to the rest of the Bay Area, including Oakland in the East Bay and North San Jose in the South Bay.

## **What to Do**

Exploring [open spaces](#), like the Embarcadero Center, Crocker Galleria, and Transamerica Redwood Park

Check out the public art at [Yerba Buena Gardens](#)

Walk around the [urban garden](#) at Salesforce Park and check out some free events

Free music concerts at the [Golden Gate Bandshell](#) inside Golden Gate Park

Hang out at [Dolores Park](#) and [Baker Beach](#): According to one San Francisco resident on Baker Beach, “It’s a tad further from downtown, but you get the views of the Golden Gate Bridge and sea air.”

Shopping (and eating) at the [Ferry Plaza Farmers Market](#)

[Fiesta en el Parque](#): Celebration of Latin culture, music, and community in the Presidio on Sunday, August 10

[Stairway Hikes](#): Per one San Francisco reporter: “Gorgeous and free!” Near the conference hotels is route #6 Market to Ferry Building via Coit Tower. When I used to work in San Francisco, I enjoyed walking up the [Greenwich Steps](#) during my lunch break. They start at Greenwich and Sansome Streets.

## **Where to Eat**

[Lemonade](#) Yerba Buena (Try the mustard salmon and a side of soba noodles)

[The Grove](#): According to a San Francisco fan: “Amazing BLT. Get it with avocado and cayenne lemon aioli. And the lavender Arnold Palmer. If they have a chicken apple salad, and if you ask for strawberries, there's no upcharge.”

[Tacos](#) at Tropisueño

[Senor Sisig](#) at the Ferry Building

[Pizza by the Slice](#) at Grumpy’s

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[Pretzel and Brats](#) at Happy Hour at Schroeders

[\\$5 Pizza slices](#) at Outta Sight Pizza

[Sesame Noodle Salad and Mini Samosas](#) at Happy Hour at Burma Love

[Fried Chicken and Prime Rib Sliders](#) at Happy Hour at Epic Steak

[Fried yuka and tacos](#) at Happy Hour at Cha Cha Cha

[Breakfast](#) at Red Java's House

[Achar Gosh and Chana Masala](#) at Pakwan

[San Jalisco](#): Per one San Francisco resident: "For a good value for what you get, I always love San Jalisco. OMG - their refried beans and tortillas."

[Burritos](#) at Taquería El Farolito (Cash only)

[Burritos](#) at Taqueria Cancun

[Breakfast](#) at Orphan Andy's (open 24 hours)

[Dim Sum](#) at Hang Ah Tea House

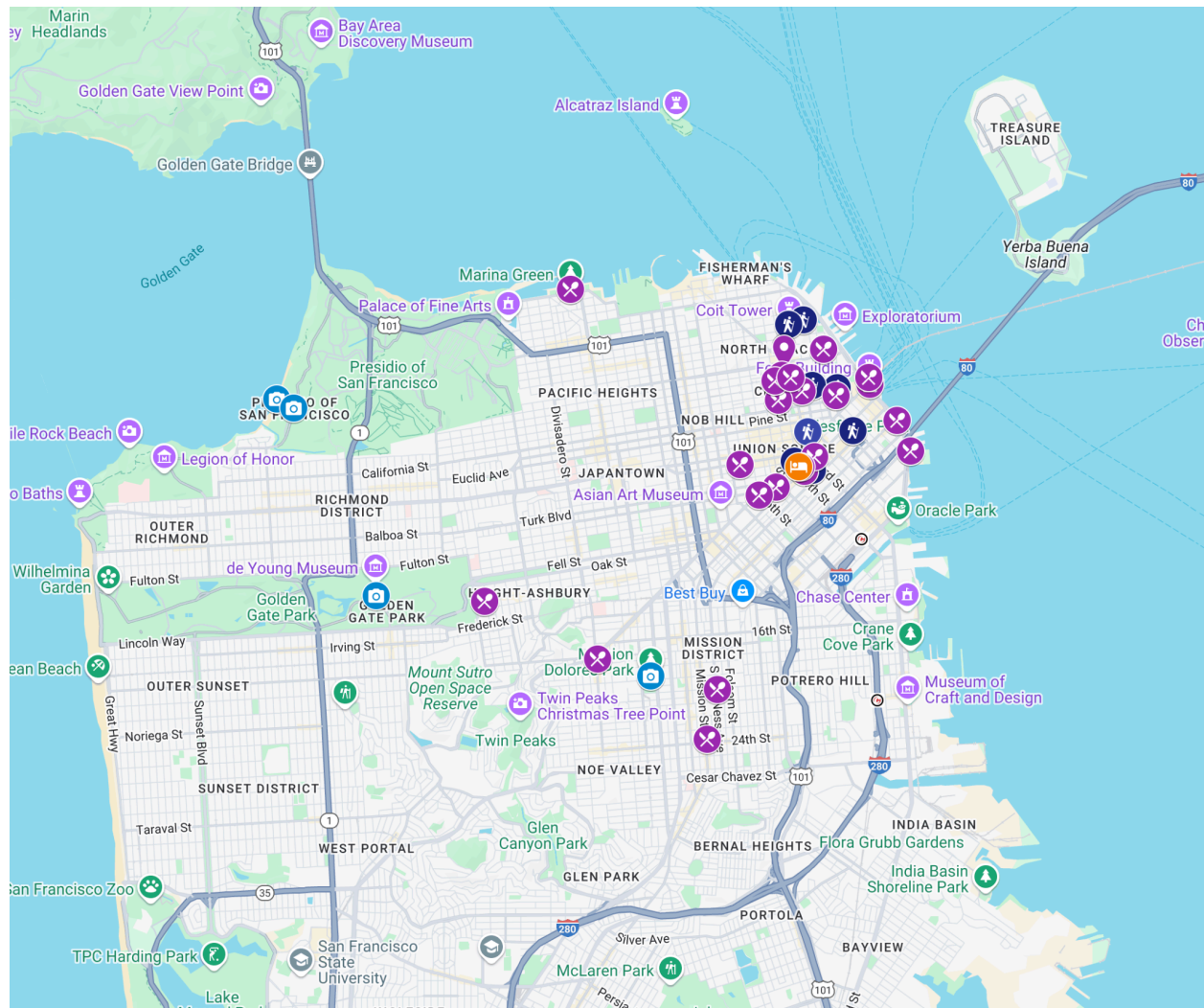
[Baked BBQ bao and fresh pineapple buns](#) at New Hollywood

[Dan Tat \(egg tarts\)](#) at Golden Gate Bakery

[Dan Tat](#) at AA Bakery

[Pandan chiffon cake](#) at Yummy Bakery

[Philz Coffee Truck](#) at Marina Green: You can find them there Tuesday through Sunday. According to one coffee aficionado, "Amazing coffee and a wonderful view."



[Google Map: CSGE Guide to San Francisco on a Budget](#)



*Scholar-to-Scholar Poster Sessions in Philadelphia at AEJMC conference, August 2024. Photo by Kris Vera-Phillips*

## **Bring the Poster, Skip the Panic: Printing Options for AEJMC25**

**By Jodi McFarland Friedman, Communications Co-Chair. University of Maryland**

First comes the excitement: An AEJMC division has chosen you to present your paper during a peer-to-peer poster session. Congratulations!

Then comes the realization: You actually need to design and print this thing. Guides for how to design your poster abound; here's one from [New York University Libraries](#) to scan and [another from a past CSGE newsletter](#).

Beyond making the poster, you'll want to consider printing and travel logistics.

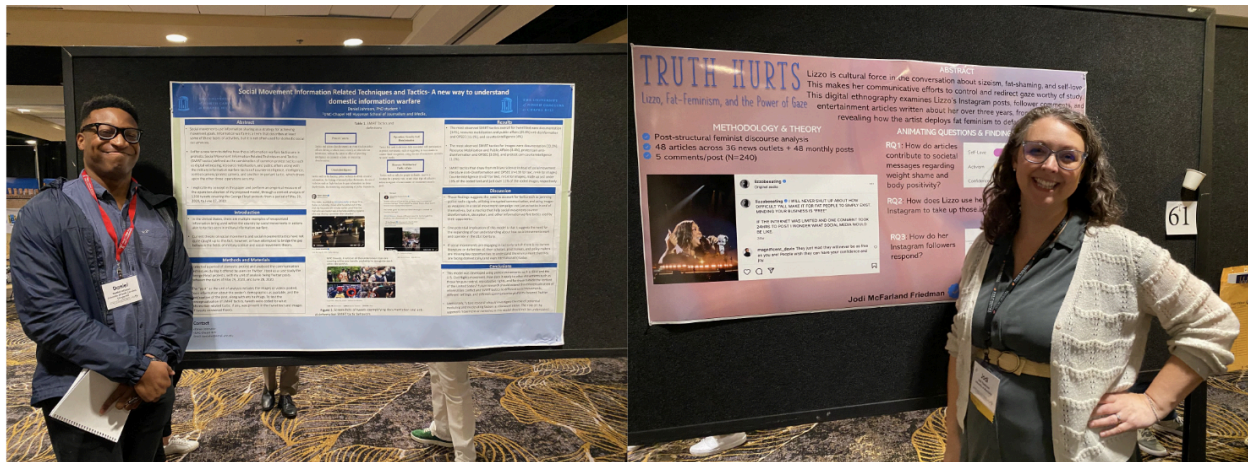
You can order a poster via your university print shop or online retailers (Spoonflower, PosterNerd, and others are in this business to help your research jump off the page.) Even so, traveling with a poster can be clunky. If you think you'll get repeated use from it (psst, you probably will be presenting more research in this format again one day), you could order a poster to transport in a long tube. PosterNerd, for example, sells an elastic band that serves as a carrying strap for the cardboard tube. You can stow a tube in the overhead bin or ask a flight attendant to keep it in a closet at the front of the plane (don't forget to retrieve it!).

Alternatively, skip the tube: Spoonflower and others sell posters printed on fabric, at a slight premium. Fold it like a flag and stow it in your carry-on.



And as an on-site option, you could dispense with traveling with the poster at all. There is a FedEx printing center in the basement of our very own conferencing hotel, the Marriott Marquis. Start your online order there; call 415-369-9928 if you need a human to help you along. Email the file with specifications on the size to get a price quote; most posters have a width of 42 inches and a height of your choice. That email is [USA5515@fedex.com](mailto:USA5515@fedex.com)

Order in advance and have it waiting; FedEx could turn your order around in a matter of hours. The location is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week.



*More Scholar-to-Scholar Poster Sessions in Philadelphia at AEJMC conference, August 2024.  
Photo by Kris Vera-Phillips*