



LETTER FROM THE DIVISION HEAD

Reflect, Recharge, and Reconnect: Introducing BAMJ's Spring Newsletter

By Volha Kananovich, BAMJ Division Head, Appalachian State Univ.

As we bid farewell to another academic year and embrace the warmer days ahead, I hope this message finds you all well and ready to enjoy a well-deserved break. The transition from spring to summer brings opportunities to recharge and reflect, and this newsletter is intended to celebrate our accomplishments and set the stage for the exciting opportunities coming our way.

This newsletter is particularly special to me because it's the first in which I address you in my capacity as chair. Dr. Danielle Deavours had to step down in April, and in accordance with the bylaws, I, as the then-vice head and program chair, assumed the title and duties of the head until a new head is chosen at the next election. On behalf of the BAMJ community, I'd like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Dr. Deavours for her service to the division. I'm also deeply grateful to the BAMJ members — both current officers and those who are no longer in formal positions but serve as chronicles of our institutional memory — who have offered their support with the transition process.

While the academic year has come to a close, the work of our officers has not slowed down. We have been excitedly preparing for the upcoming 2024 AEJMC conference in Philly to bring you a memorable experience full of insightful, meaningful moments.

Please mark your calendars and prepare for a program filled with panels on various aspects of scholarship, teaching, and professional freedom and responsibility in broadcast and mobile journalism. We will co-sponsor nine panels, including five that have been pitched by our members and are hosted by BAMJ as the leading co-sponsor. These will be complemented by three refereed research panels and a poster session shaped by the results of a paper competition.

The review of conference submissions has now been completed, led by Dr. Heidi Makady and assisted by Dr. Kelly Kaufhold, our research co-chairs. Once again, the

division has seen an increase in the number of submissions, and we'd like to thank everyone who helped us as reviewers!

Each AEJMC conference also honors the winner of the Edward L. Bliss Award for Distinguished Broadcast Journalism Education, and this year is no exception. Read more below about the winner and plan to attend the award ceremony on Friday, Aug. 9. On behalf of the division, I would like to thank the committee chair, Dr. Lee Hood, and the committee members, Dr. Bill Davie, Prof. Mary Rogus, Prof. Ken Fischer and Dr. Lindsey Conlin Maxwell, for upholding the standards of excellence that have come to define the Bliss Award.

As if we needed another reminder of the wealth of talent and expertise within our division, please join me in congratulating two of our members, Dr. Laura Smith and Dr. Keren Henderson, on their election to AEJMC committees. Dr. Smith, who is also our most recent recipient of the Bliss Award, was reelected to the AEJMC Committee on Teaching. Dr. Henderson was elected to the Publications Committee. Congratulations!

As you renew your membership for the coming year, please remember that BAMJ membership is free for students. If you are a student, we hope you will renew your membership or consider joining. If you are no longer a student, we hope you continue being a member and will spread the word to those who might benefit from this opportunity. A significant number of our current officers joined the division as students, and we're looking forward to keeping BAMJ the nurturing, welcoming community that it is.

Finally, even if you can't join us in Philly, we'll have another opportunity to reconnect. Our virtual membership meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 23, 5–6:30 p.m. EST. We'll be in touch with the Zoom link and meeting agenda in July.

In the meantime, please feel free to reach out with your thoughts on how we can better serve you. And enjoy your summer!

CONFERENCE SUBMISSIONS AND EVENTS

By Heidi Makady, BAMJ Research Co-Chair, Univ. of Florida

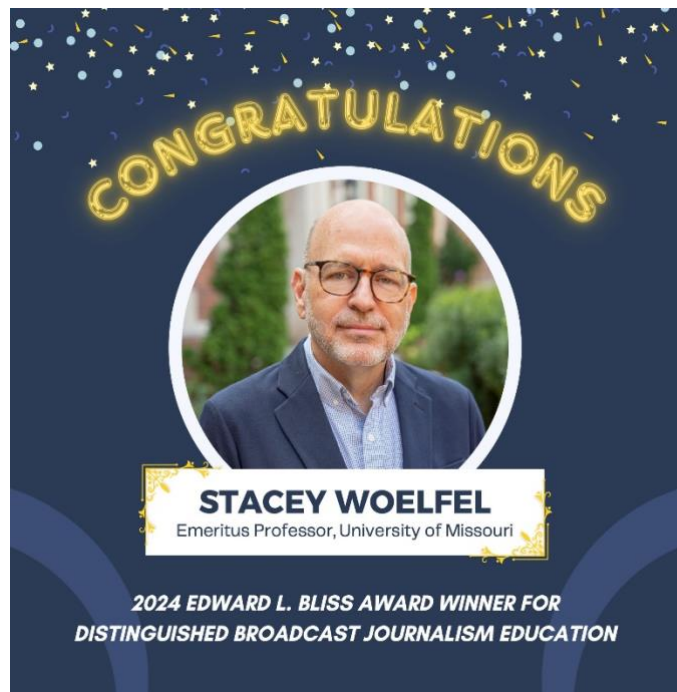
This year, the Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division received a record number of submissions – 40 -- a 5% increase over last year. We accepted 20 submissions, for a 50% acceptance rate. A huge thank you to our reviewers who diligently reviewed a higher number of paper submissions this year and helped the division accept many excellent manuscripts. At our convention in Philadelphia this August, we will have three referred paper sessions and one scholar-to-scholar poster session. This year we have a diverse number of topics set for scholar discussions, ranging from trends, traditions, and challenges in journalism practice to technology, media narratives, and politics. A full schedule of BAMJ-sponsored (or co-sponsored) events is at the end of this newsletter.

ED BLISS AWARD WINNER ANNOUNCED

By Lee Hood, Chair, AEJMC Edward L. Bliss Award committee, Loyola Univ.

I was privileged to serve as chair of the Bliss Award committee this year, and I am happy to announce that Stacey Woelfel, professor emeritus at Missouri, is the 2024 winner.

Stacey has had a long career in education and service to broadcast journalism, including his many years leading the newsroom at KOMU-TV, his work with the Reynolds Journalism Institute and the Murray Center for Documentary Journalism at Missouri; his time as president of RTDNA and as a national trustee for the TV Academy (NATAS). He has stayed active in "retirement," teaching documentary journalism to students in Croatia.



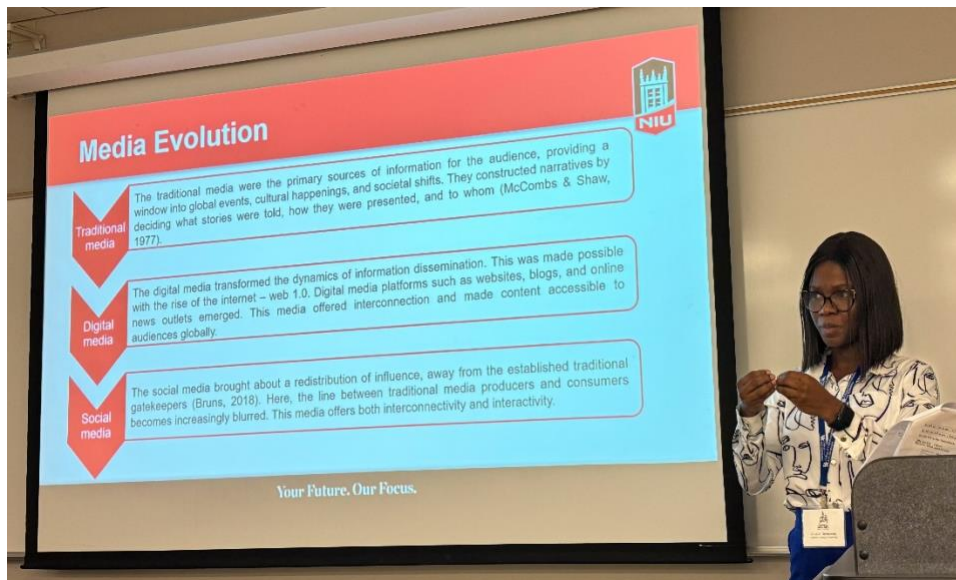
The news release is attached, with quotes from the members of this year's selection committee: Bill Davie, Mary Rogus, Ken Fischer, and Lindsey Conlin Maxwell. I am grateful to all of them for their service on the committee.

Please join me in congratulating Stacey as the newest Bliss winner! We will celebrate with the ceremony at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 9, during the conference in Philadelphia. We hope to see you there!

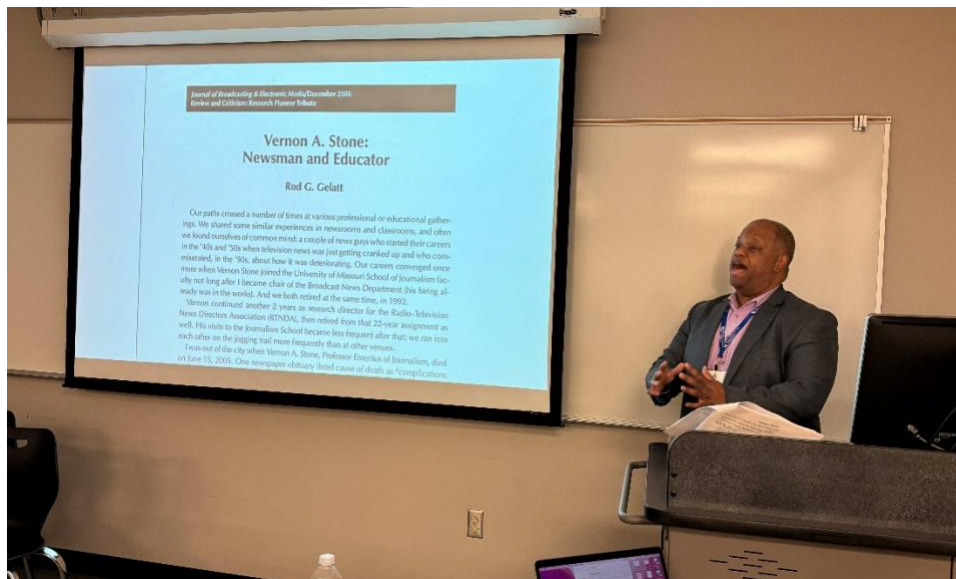
SOUTHEAST COLLOQUIUM 2024

By Kelly Kaufhold, BAMJ Research Co-Chair, Texas State Univ.

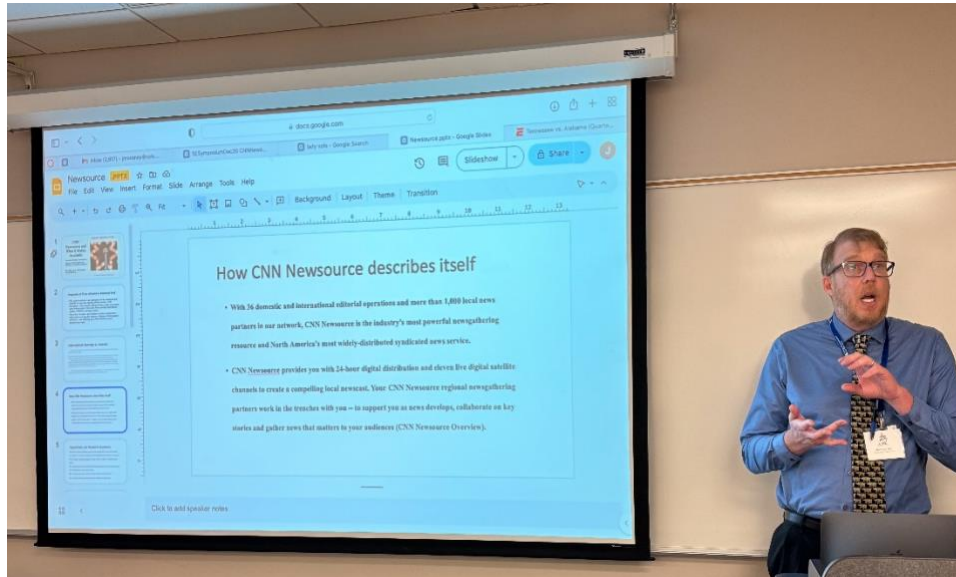
The Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division tied last year's record for BAMJ at SE Colloquium with six submissions: four full papers and two research in progress. Four were accepted, for a 67% acceptance rate, and one BAMJ panel was held at the Colloquium: "Expanding Horizons: Diversifying Electronic Media by Geography and Inclusiveness." Five authors attended the conference to present: three graduate students and two faculty, including a master's student presenting her first research study with her faculty advisor. There were 17 people in the audience. Special thanks to Jennifer Greer, Dean of the College of Communication and Information at the University of Kentucky and her faculty and staff, for creating such a welcoming and successful Southeast Colloquium.



Amaka Peace Onebunne (Northern Illinois University) presents “Algorithmic Gaze and the Feedback Loop of Othering: The Case for Africa,” a study on how algorithms confirm biases in social media - especially Western-centric biases. Amaka describes this as a digital version of the legacy of colonization. She gathered her data by asking a diverse audience to share with her search data around key words about visiting Africa.



George Daniels (Alabama) presents his cleverly titled "Set in Stone" study on the groundbreaking work Vernon Stone did for three decades on the representation of women in U.S. broadcast newsrooms, and how that positioned him as an industry leader.



Joel Maroney (Tennessee) presents work he coauthored with Mark Harmon on a resource many of us have used: CNN's NewSource feed. It turns out NewSource has a strong bias toward domestic news over international stories - especially stories about crime and economics.



Master's student Martha Darkwa Seffah (Georgia) presents the study she co-authored with Dr. Karin Assmann – Decolonizing Political Reporting in Ghana: A Comparative Analysis of English and Indigenous Radio Stations. They're looking at the role of indigenous-language community radio stations and how they may have influenced the most recent presidential election in Ghana.

ELSEWHERE ON THE DIAL

BAMJ Members have sent the following job announcements...

From Marcus Funk at Sam Houston State:

Sam Houston State is looking for innovative faculty to teach sports broadcasting and multi-camera field production, as well as direct student broadcasts of live events and games, including football, basketball and our highly competitive bowling teams. The ideal candidate will play a major role in our upcoming sports media major and in leading our broadcast production program. We're open to either an [assistant professor](#) or [assistant/associate professor of practice](#), depending on qualifications and interests. If you have any questions or recommendations, please let me know at mfunk@shsu.edu or marcusjfunk@gmail.com.

From Harrison Hove at Florida:

We have two jobs we are currently searching on at the University of Florida:

Assistant/Associate Instructor, TV News Production (Faculty position, 12 months)

<https://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/en-us/job/531344/assistant-in-associate-in-television-news-production>

Chief Meteorologist, FPREN and UF Weather (Staff position, \$90-110k)

<https://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/en-us/job/531257/chief-meteorologist>

FULL LIST OF BAMJ-SPONSORED EVENTS AT AEJMC '24

Thursday, August 8, 2024

8:30 to 10 a.m. / Th00

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism and Cultural and Critical Studies Divisions

Research Panel Session

On Air, Online, and Over the Top: Impacts of Technology on Labor in U.S. Local TV Newsrooms

Moderating/Presiding

Carey L. Higgins-Dobney, Kentucky

Panelists

Karin Assmann, University of Georgia

Keonte Coleman, Syracuse University

Errol Salamon, University of Stirling

Amanda Siew, University of Oklahoma
Carey L. Higgins-Dobney, University of Kentucky

Labor and technology often go hand-in-hand in U.S. local television newsrooms. As technology evolves, many tv station owners rely on job convergence, precarious just-in-time scheduling practices and multiplatform content utilization to improve bottom lines while keeping staffing numbers in check. While unionization is on the rise, many local tv employees are not members, making it harder to collectively improve labor outcomes. As news staffs take on heavier workloads exacerbated by the 24/7 nature of digital platforms run by local television stations, burnout, job abandonment and the effect on community reporting have become major concerns in the industry. Additionally, newsrooms often lack workers that reflect the diversity of the populations they report on, further impacting news coverage. This panel includes experts on unionization, burnout, precarity, tech change and diversity in local U.S. television newsrooms and hopes to add to the discussion on what these conditions mean for workers and the community.

10:30 a.m. to Noon

Sports Communication Interest Group and Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division

Teaching Panel Session

Using Pro Partnerships to Teach Future Sports Journalists

This panel will explore how classes can build relationships with sports franchises and collegiate teams to help teach sports journalism class friends the skills they need to become professionals. We will explore how to take learning out of classroom to make the sports world our educational space. Diversity will come by including a variety of professionals and former/current student-journalists.

12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Journalism in Diverse Contexts: From AI to Podcasts to Rural Journalism

More Than A Numbers Cruncher: Vernon Stone's Legacy in Electronic Media

George Daniels, Alabama

Transparent or Opaque? A Study of the Mechanisms of Media Contact Behavior on AI News Credibility,

Ding Yu

Huiling Li

Yunhao Yu

Zero human emotion': AI anchors and the normative repercussions,

Muhammad Ali Muhammad, Colorado-Boulder;

Patrick Ferrucci, Colorado-Boulder

Developing Legitimacy in the Esports Podcast Ecosystem

Lindsey Sherrill, North Alabama

Ryan Broussard, Sam Houston State

Richard Johnson, Arizona State
Marcus Funk, Sam Houston State

“That s**t is hard to get away from”: The Labor of Working Alone in Rural Journalism

Gregory Perreault, South Florida
Louisa Lincoln, Pennsylvania
Mildred "Mimi" Perreault, South Florida
and **Jessica Fargen Walsh**, Nebraska

Moderating/Presiding

Volha Kananovich, Appalachian State

Discussant

Carey L. Higgins-Dobney, University of Kentucky

[EA] = This submission was accepted as an extended abstract.

2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Political Communication and Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Divisions

PFR Panel Session

“Horse Race” Coverage of Elections and “False Equivalency”: What to Avoid and how to Get it Right

In the age of misinformation, a new debate has taken center stage about objectivity in election reporting and the harmful consequences of “false equivalency” – news coverage that gives both sides of an argument equal merit when one side relies on factual evidence and the other does not – for democracy. This panel brings together experts and journalists to discuss how news media can avoid the pitfalls of the previous election coverage and get it right! They will address questions such as “Why does election coverage look the way it does?”, “Should horse race coverage be avoided?” “How can it be improved?” “Can we be fair to both sides and still avoid false equivalency?”

Friday, August 9, 2024

8:30 to 10 a.m.

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division and Political Communication Division

Teaching Panel Session

Election 2024: Student Media Coverage, Special Projects and Innovative Storytelling Tools

Moderating/Presiding

Harrison Hove, Florida

Panelists

Alix Bryan-Campos, Virginia Commonwealth University
Amber Hinsley, Texas State
Joe Treaster, Miami
Lei Guo, Nebraska Omaha

Nicole Clarity, Hofstra
Sherice Gearhart, Texas Tech

Elections will dominate the news cycle this fall. The purpose of this panel is to highlight student media coverage, special projects, innovative storytelling tools and best practices for teaching communication and journalism centered around elections.

10:30 to Noon

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division and Entertainment Interest Group

Research Panel Session

Cold Cases and Hardcore Histories: Studying the Past through Modern Podcasting

Moderating/Presiding

Marcus Funk, Sam Houston State

Panelists

Lindsey Sherrill, North Alabama

David Dowling, Iowa

Kelsey Whipple, Massachusetts Amherst

Christopher Toula, Sam Houston State

While most news media prioritize breaking news and current events, podcasting provides a vibrant platform for journalists to reopen old news and ancient history. Disconnection from the present day is a feature – not a bug – of prominent and amateur true crime, history and investigative journalism podcasts. Do modern podcasts blend past events and modern context fairly, or unfairly? Is nostalgia, or timelessness, central to podcasting? How can academics best study and answer those questions?

2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Media Ethics and Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Divisions

PFR Panel Session

Ethical Responses to Hostility Toward Journalists

Hostility toward journalists is a growing issue across the world, which poses challenges to journalism ethics, tendency to imagine journalists as playing a welcome and crucial civic role in society. What happens when vocal members of society reject journalists and, in some cases, become violent toward them? This panel brings together scholars focused on hostility, mental health, and criminalization of journalists in the US, Brazil, and Iran.

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division

Top Paper Refereed Research Paper Session

Tradition and Technology in Electronic Journalism

Moderating/Presiding
Heidi Makady

Scrolling for the Truth (or Not): Perceptions of Misinformation on TikTok and Potential Interventions *
Brittany Shivers, Georgia
Bartosz Wojdynski, Georgia

Social Media Semantics: Enhancing Manipulated Media Detection Through An AI Weakness**
Regina Luttrell, Syracuse
Jason Davis, Syracuse
Carrie Welch, Syracuse

Traditional or Trendy: News Presentations in Short Form Video
and its Audiences***
Sophie Theiss, South Florida
Monica Ancu, South Florida
Miyoung Chong, South Florida
Stephen Song, South Florida

"I remember... I saw... I knew": Journalists' use of first-person storytelling in award-winning podcasts****
Jessica Pettengill, Michigan State

Discussant
Marcus Funk, Sam Houston State

* First Place, Faculty Paper Competition
** Second Place, Faculty Paper Competition
*** Third Place, Faculty Paper Competition
**** First Place, Student Paper Competition

8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division

Edward L. Bliss Award Ceremony

Hosting
Lee Hood, Loyola-Chicago

Join us as we honor this year's Bliss Award winner, Stacey Woelfel, emeritus professor at the University of Missouri. Ceremony and award presentation will kick off the Missouri social.

Saturday, August 10, 2024

10:30 a.m. to Noon

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

Scholar-to-Scholar (Poster) Paper Refereed Research Paper Session

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism (BAMJ)

In The (News) Making: Navigating Challenges and Trends in Journalism Practice.

[EA] Examining Gen Z Journalists' Perceptions of their Professional Identities and Roles

Ahmed Shatil Alam, Oklahoma

Amanda Siew, Oklahoma

[EA] Towards a cross-media transparency typology

Nicky Redl, Colorado at Boulder

Where Are They Now: Long-Term Mental Health Implications of Journalists Who Covered Natural Disasters***

Indri Maulidar, Wisconsin-Madison

(Co)-production of Humanitarian News. Case Study on CNN and INGOs Reporting on Starvation as a War Tool in the Inaccessible War Zone of Gaza

Rania Al Namara, Colorado at Boulder

Hearing Constructive News: Feedback, Sensation and Intervention in Beijing News Radio Constructive Journalism Practice

Guangbin Lyu, Communication University of China

Discussant

Beth Concepción, Linfield

*** Third Place, Student Paper Competition

[EA] = This submission was accepted as an extended abstract.

10:30 a.m. to Noon

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism and Scholastic Journalism Divisions

Teaching Panel Session

Defining the Future of Journalism Education: Academia and Industry Working Together

Moderating/Presiding

Tony DeMars, Lamar

Panelists

Janet Kolodzy, Emerson

Tony DeMars, Lamar

Mia Moody-Ramirez, Baylor

Denise James, Temple

Ric Harris, NBC-10 Philadelphia

We started evolving years ago into new directions for how news is created and distributed. Some fads came and went, but the evolution continues, and we need to be as forward-thinking as possible about how to

properly prepare students for media careers. This panel provides insight from academic programs and their recent-years curriculum challenges but also from a seasoned TV news professional who has seen industry changes first-hand. What are the foundational elements of journalism that must be retained, but at the same time what are the changes that must be made in training the next generation of journalists?

2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Communication Theory and Methodology and Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Divisions

PFR Panel Session

Digital Public Scholarship in a Post-Twitter World

Microblogging service Twitter became especially valuable for researchers and instructors who used the platform to share findings, discuss topics and methods, engage at conferences, and build a sense of scholarly belonging. It provided academics with enhanced and novel opportunities to engage in public scholarship. Academic Twitter, like many other virtual communities, has been shaken by a billionaire's acquisition of the service in 2022, subsequent disruptions to its usability, and reimagining as a paid service. Many scholars have migrated to a variety of other nascent or revisited platforms such as Mastodon, BlueSky, Threads, and LinkedIn. Our panel examines how communication scholars in particular have been affected by these disruptions and migrations over the last two years, and what the future might hold for digital public scholarship.

4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism and Minorities and Communication Divisions

Teaching Panel Session

Expanding Journalism Education: Balancing Hard, Soft and Intangible Skills to Effectively Train Student Journalists

Moderating/Presiding

Gina Baleria, Sonoma State

Panelists

Jennifer Thomas, Howard

Maggie Messitt, Pennsylvania State

Ty Lawson, Columbia

Justin C. Blankenship, Auburn

Mary Angela Bock, Texas at Austin

A. Kix Patterson, Florida

Journalism educators increasingly recognize the need to teach not only the basic, foundational journalism skills of interviewing, writing, and researching, but also more intangible skills that were once taken for granted or seen as inherent. These skills include curiosity, empathy, framing, identity vs. bias, and engaging meaningfully with communities. This panel will bring together educators on the forefront of teaching intangible skills in their classrooms to discuss how best to incorporate these lessons into curricula.

Sunday, August 11, 2024

9:30 to 11 a.m.

Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division

Refereed Research Paper Session

Media, Politics, and Narratives

Producing Inclusive Narratives: Strength of Weak Ties Framework to Empower Marginalized Voices in Broadcast News**

Kristina Vera-Phillips, Arizona State

Parsing Perspectives: An Analysis of Guilty and Innocent Language in Trump's Indictments Across Television Networks

Andrew Daws, Alabama

Kaitlyn Johns, Alabama

Narratives from the war zone: Trauma experiences among Central-Eastern European correspondents covering the war in Ukraine,

Teodora Trfionova, Tennessee

Joy Jenkins, Missouri

Framing Egypt's 2012 Election: Case Study of 'Misr Tantakhib Elraees',

Nihal Alaqabawy, Colorado Boulder

[EA] Decolonizing political reporting in Ghana: A comparative analysis of journalistic norms and practices among English and Indigenous language political broadcasters

Martha Darkwa Seffah, Georgia

Karin Assmann, Georgia

Watching A Show Versus Being There: Embodied Gatekeeping and Visual Perspective in Congress,

Mary Bock, Texas at Austin

Renita Coleman, Texas at Austin

Moderating/Presiding

David Dowling, Iowa

Discussant

Lee Hood, Loyola

** Second Place, Student Paper Competition

[EA] = This submission was accepted as an extended abstract.