



LETTER FROM THE DIVISION HEAD

An Exciting Year for BAMJ Division

By Danielle Deavours, BAMJ Division Head, Samford Univ.

Welcome to our first Static newsletter of 2024! I am honored to serve as your division head this year. It feels like yesterday when I presented my first paper at AEJMC 2019 and was welcomed so warmly by our BAMJ family. It is my privilege to work alongside this wonderful team of division leaders who are preparing a great conference for you this year.

We are almost six months away from AEJMC 2024! The conference is already shaping up to be a fantastic one for the division. Your BAMJ team has been working incredibly hard already to bring you fantastic programming and support this year. Our vice head Volha has given so much thought and care to programming this year, and we're really looking forward to the special ideas and topics that our members are going to present, not only for BAMJ but with our co-sponsoring divisions. You can see our currently slated schedule below.

The division is also gearing up for our paper review season. Make sure that you turn in your research and research-in-progress to BAMJ this year. Our paper call is included in the newsletter. Also please contact me or our research chairs, Dr. Kelly Kaufhold or Dr. Heidi Makady, if you're interested in serving as a paper reviewer this year. It's a wonderful opportunity to read cutting-edge research, be inspired, and get some service for that CV!

We also have our Bliss and Burkham Awards calls out. Two amazing members of our division, Lee Hood and Laura Smith, are leading this effort. Make sure you nominate all the phenomenal people who deserve recognition for their service to this field and our division. You can see the award calls later in this newsletter.

You should also submit your publications to *Electronic News*, our division's journal. The *Electronic News* team has done a wonderful job of growing their impact factor, and important for us scholars - doing so while having a quick turnaround time

and clear review process. Editor Debora Wenger and Associate Editor Keren Henderson are happy to answer any questions you may have about publication.

I again want to thank you, the amazing people involved in this division, who are giving your time, energy, and resources to guiding the next generation of storytellers in classrooms across the world. At a time when storytelling is under scrutiny and our industries are changing at rapid paces, I'm so thankful that we have educators like you protecting the future of our field. We here at BAMJ are here to support you as you do this challenging yet meaningful work.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions about our division or the upcoming conference. I look forward to serving you in this role for the upcoming year, and I'm so excited for what's to come!

2024 AEJMC PANELS

BAMJ to Co-sponsor 9 Panels at 2024 AEJMC Conference in Philly

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

The Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division will co-sponsor nine panels at the 2024 AEJMC annual conference, forging new collaborations and strengthening existing partnerships across multiple divisions and interest groups.

Five of the nine panels will have BAMJ as the lead co-sponsor, and the other four will be co-sponsored by us in a supporting role.

Our panel lineup will feature a variety of topics that reflect the breadth and depth of ongoing conversations about research, teaching and professional responsibility in broadcast and mobile journalism. Each of the co-sponsored panels already has BAMJ representation, but if you could envision yourself joining any of them as a panelist, please email BAMJ Vice Head Volha Kananovich at kananovichv@appstate.edu by March 1 to discuss this possibility.

We received 12 panel proposals in our panel competition, and I'd like to thank all of the proposers for ensuring our visible presence within the AEJMC community.

Please mark your calendars and consider joining us in Philly!

Thursday, Aug. 8

8:30 to 10 a.m.

BAMJ & Cultural and Critical Studies Division
Research panel

"On Air, Online, and Over the Top: Impacts of Technology on Labor in U.S. Local TV Newsrooms," led by Carey L. Higgins-Dobney, Kentucky

Political Communication Division & BAMJ

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

Professional Freedom & Responsibility (PFR) panel

“‘Horse Race’ Coverage of Elections and ‘False Equivalency’: What to Avoid and How to Get It Right,” led by Lindita Camaj, Houston

Friday, Aug. 9

BAMJ & Political Communication Division

8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Teaching panel

“Election 2024: Student Media Coverage, Special Projects and Innovative Storytelling Tools,” led by Harrison Hove, Florida

BAMJ & Entertainment Studies Interest Group

10:30 a.m. to noon.

Research panel

“Cold Cases and Hardcore Histories: Studying the Past through Modern Podcasting,” led by Marcus Funk, Sam Houston State

Media Ethics Division & BAMJ

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

Professional Freedom & Responsibility (PFR) panel

“Ethical Responses to Hostility Toward Journalists,” led by Anita Varma, Texas at Austin

Saturday, Aug. 10

Sports Communication Interest Group & BAMJ

10:30 a.m. to noon

Teaching panel

“Using Pro Partnerships to Teach Future Journalists in Sports and Beyond,” led by Nicole Kraft, Ohio State

BAMJ & Scholastic Journalism Division

10:30 a.m. to noon

Teaching panel

“Defining the Future of Journalism Education: Academia and Industry Working Together,” led by Tony DeMars, Lamar

Communication Theory and Methodology Division & BAMJ

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

Professional Freedom & Responsibility (PFR) panel

“Digital Public Scholarship in a Post-Twitter World,” led by Benjamin K. Johnson, Florida

BAMJ & Minorities and Communication Division

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

Teaching panel

“Expanding Journalism Education: Balancing Hard, Soft & Intangible Skills to Effectively Train Student Journalists,” led by Gina Baleria, Sonoma State

2023 AEJMC STATISTICS

How BAMJ Stacked Up in D.C.

By Stan Jastrzebski, BAMJ Secretary, Syracuse Univ.

In 2023, the AEJMC Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division received a total of 38 submissions – 14 extended abstracts and 24 full papers. Of these, 5/14 extended abstracts were accepted (36%) and 14/24 papers were accepted (58%) for a total acceptance rate of 50% (19/38 submissions).

To put these numbers in some more context, the number of submissions was a high-water mark for BAMJ, and hopefully represents an upward trend. Further, BAMJ still sought to retain the prestige of a paper being accepted, with its acceptance rates very similar to the conference average, which saw 49.3% of all submissions accepted. However, BAMJ was more selective than ten other divisions, where acceptance rates exceeded BAMJ's 50% figure.

When we look at BAMJ membership, we see that our division is almost exactly in the middle of the pack in terms of members, based on January 2024 figures provided by AEJMC. As you'll see in the table below, eight divisions have larger memberships and nine are smaller. Giving free memberships to graduate students has been a boon for membership, boosting BAMJ's total to 143 current members.

There is reason for optimism, then, that the greater membership total leads to more paper submissions in this and subsequent years. Last year, the average AEJMC division received almost 90 submissions (to BAMJ's 38). This number is skewed somewhat due to the very large numbers of submissions in divisions such as Political Communication, Communicating Science, Health and Risk, and Communication Technology (each of which received more than 100 full paper submissions), but it's worth noting that only three divisions received fewer total submissions than BAMJ.

AEJMC Division Member Totals (as of January 2024) and Number of 2023 submissions

<u>Division</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>2023 Submissions</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
Mass Communication & Society	356	156	44%
Science, Health, Environment & Risk	271	261	96%
Public Relations	251	97	39%
Political Communication	218	153	70%
Newspaper & Online News	212	126	59%
History	182	40	22%
Media Ethics	147	43	29%
Minorities & Communication	145	51	35%
Broadcast & Mobile Journalism	143	38	27%
Communication Technology	138	181	131%
Advertising	137	87	64%
Cultural & Critical Studies	127	108	85%
International Communication	121	117	97%
Communication Theory & Methodology	114	58	51%
Law & Policy	113	56	50%
Visual Communication	110	58	53%
Media Management, Economics & Entrepreneurship	87	35	40%
Scholastic Journalism	52	26	50%
Magazine Media	37	12	32%
TOTALS	2961	1703	58%

With that, a reminder that the paper and extended abstract submission deadline for this year's conference in Philadelphia is, as usual, April 1 (with full papers to be submitted online by July 15). More FAQ about this year's conference may be found here:

<https://community.aejmc.org/conference/faq>.

Regardless of the number of papers submitted to BAMJ this year, we will be in need of reviewers, and we thank in advance those dedicated people who answer the call every year to judge the best of the BAMJ submissions.

SPEAKING OF PAPERS...

From Danielle Deavours, BAMJ Division Head, Samford University

Join this team of *Electronic News* scholars! The latest issue of AEJMC's Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division journal looks at "hero shots" in video storytelling, the social

media resistance movement in the midterm elections, and how some media outlets are using Instagram.

Our impact factor keeps growing thanks to research like this – we hope to see your work submitted soon: <https://journals.sagepub.com/home/ENX>.

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN – BUT TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

Just days remain to submit nominations for this year's Bliss and Burkum Awards. Here is information about how to suggest honorees:

2024 Bliss Award

By Lee Hood, Associate Professor, Loyola Univ. Chicago

Nominations are being accepted through **March 15th** for the Edward L. Bliss Award for Distinguished Broadcast Journalism Education. The award is presented annually by AEJMC's Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division and recognizes an electronic journalism educator who has made significant and lasting contributions to the field.

Criteria for nomination and selection:

- **Teaching:** Evidence of long-standing excellent and innovative teaching and student engagement.
- **Service:** Evidence of leadership in professional or educational organizations such as AEJMC, RTDNA, SPJ, BEA, state broadcast news organizations and at the candidate's college or university.
- **Research:** Evidence of enhanced teaching and service through professional and/or academic writing and research including journal articles, articles in professional trade publications and creative work for broadcast.

Nominations are solicited from the broadcast media, professional organizations and associations, and broadcast educators or students. Letters of nomination should contain specific examples of each of the categories listed above. The successful Bliss nomination packet will include:

- a detailed, thorough letter of nomination no longer than three pages;
- a complete curriculum vitae of the nominee;
- supporting letters from students/former students. These letters should be concise and **limited to no more than five.**
- supporting letters from colleagues, collaborators or co-authors. These should also be concise and **limited to no more than five.**
- supporting materials including news coverage of awards and activities. These materials should be VERY limited in number.

Examples of writing or other work by the nominee **should not be included.** Do not include a statement by the nominee in support of your nomination.

Nominations will remain active with the Bliss selection committee for three years. Nominations will be reviewed by a committee selected by the Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division officers led by past division head and 2018 Bliss winner Lee Hood of the School of Communication at Loyola University Chicago. The award will be presented at a special ceremony held by the division at AEJMC's August 2024 conference in Philadelphia. The recipient will receive a recognition plaque and a waiver of conference registration fees. In addition, the recipient's name will be added to the permanent plaque housed at American University in Washington, D.C, Ed Bliss's university during his teaching career.

Nominations should be sent to (electronic submissions preferred) by March 15th, 2024 at midnight CST to: Lee Hood, Associate Professor, Loyola University Chicago, lhood1@luc.edu, 312-915-8538 (office) or 630-235-4141 (cell). Street address: 820 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611. Please contact Professor Hood for any questions or for more information.

2024 Burkum Award

Laura K. Smith, Ph.D., Chair, BAMJ Burkum Committee, Univ. of South Carolina

"It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference." – Tom Brokaw

For those of us who've chosen the life of an academic – or for those who help our students and working journalists succeed in their careers – we know what it means to be of service.

Do you know a proven "helper"? If so, consider nominating them for this year's Larry Burkum Award.

Burkum served our division as secretary, newsletter editor and webmaster from 1995 to 2005. He received the inaugural Burkum Award at the 2005 AEJMC convention in San Antonio.

We don't give this award every year. The Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division only selects honorees when the right opportunity presents itself – people who've gone to extraordinary lengths or

dedicated swaths of time and energy to the betterment of our students, colleagues, journalism organizations and/or profession. Recent recipients include:

- Heather Birks, Broadcast Education Association (2023)
- Jill Geisler, Loyola Chicago (2022)
- Nancy Dupont, Ole Miss (2021)
- Bill Silcock, Arizona State (2019)

- Joe Foote, Oklahoma (2017)
- Hub Brown, Syracuse, now Florida (2016)

If we *do* have a recipient this year, the Burkum Award will be presented at AEJMC's annual conference in Philadelphia. But we can't honor these folks if you don't submit a nomination! You can find details about the submission process (and what we need in your packet) at: <https://aejmc.us/end/larry-burkum-award/>

As this year's Chair, please email me) your nomination packet (with all the elements combined into a single, .pdf attachment) by 5 p.m., Friday, March 1st. Meantime, if you have questions, feel free to reach out!

Laura Smith
BAMJ Burkum Chair
SJMC, Univ. of South Carolina
lksmith@sc.edu

ELSEWHERE ON THE DIAL

Don Heider, Exec. Director, Markkula Center for Applied Ethics, Santa Clara Univ.

The Markkula Center for Applied Ethics has a new source diversity tracking tool for news articles in WordPress newsrooms. It has been tested with multiple US newsrooms. If you are involved with a campus newsroom running on WordPress and would like your student reporters and editors to review their source diversity quantitatively in draft and published articles, you are welcome to try this tool! *Wisconsin Watch*, *Seattle Times*, and *The Ithacan* are current users. Get in touch with svincent@scu.edu for more. This link has the latest features and screenshots:

<https://www.scu.edu/ethics/focus-areas/journalism-and-media-ethics/resources/scu-releases-v3-of-journalism-source-diversity-audit-toolkit-for-wordpress-newsrooms/>