



Table of Contents

Greetings from the head of the BAMJ Division.....	1
Sweet success for BAMJ panels.....	3
Take note of Midterm Election coverage.....	4
The social network.....	5
TV dreams and reality.....	7
SE Colloquium call.....	8
BAMJ Officers.....	8

Fall '22 Edition

Be a Part of AEJMC's Past, Present & Future By Dylan McLemore, BAMJ Division Head, University of Central Arkansas

BAMJ is here! The Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division made its conference debut in Detroit this August. Seeing so many of you in person for the first time in three years filled my tank for the fall semester. I hope it was an uplifting experience for you as well.

Our division made its mark with wide-ranging, well-attended panels, engaging research papers and, of course, a spirited Bliss/Burkum award reception. I was particularly encouraged by the research and teaching tips I heard about AI, mobile journalism, virtual reality and all of the other things we've known belong in our division, but perhaps haven't been submitted to us in the past.

There's no time like the present to be involved in BAMJ. I'm fortunate to be surrounded by an officer slate of inspiring,



News You Can Use



A BAMJ Panel success story - Page 3

Reinventing that “old” newsroom environment

- Page 7

Calling for AEJMC SE Colloquium submissions - Page 8

Never too soon to
mark your calendar
for the 2023 AEJMC
Conference:
August 7 - 10

Pre-conference
August 6

Washington, D.C.

diverse scholars – from our longest serving members at flagship universities, to fresh faces making a difference from liberal arts colleges to international postdoc programs. Be sure to check out the full slate inside this newsletter and please don’t hesitate to rely on their expertise to help you get the most out of your membership.

Presently we’re finalizing the schedule for the 2023 conference in Washington, D.C. Keep an eye out for the paper call soon and check back in our next edition for a preview of our panels.

Before the annual conference, the Southeast Colloquium offers an excellent opportunity to encourage the future of AEJMC.

Our division will once again be participating in what I believe is one of the best opportunities for graduate students and junior faculty to get feedback on their work and to plug into our association on a smaller, more accessible scale. The Colloquium is March 2-4 at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro. Paper, panel, and teaching idea proposals are



all due December 12. Our Southeast Colloquium Chair, Lindsey Maxwell, has more inside this newsletter.

Speaking of the future, graduate students can now join BAMJ at no charge. Members voted at our 2022 business meeting to eliminate the \$7 annual dues for students, with an eye toward emerging scholars finding a long-term home in our division. Please spread the good news to your programs!

Much as we've focused on the future in our rebrand, our division has always been home to broadcast historians who help us remember where we've been as a professional and academic field. BAMJ member and *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly* reviews editor Gregory Perreault has asked us help with a hugely significant milestone – the centennial edition of *JMCQ*.

“The goal of the centennial special issue is to provide a retrospective look at the evolution of journalism and mass communication as a field,” Perreault writes. “Hence, in the book review section, we would like to obtain reviews for books that reflect the legacy of the field.”

Specifically, we have been asked to provide key texts central to the scholarship of broadcast journalism. If you would like to nominate a book, and/or volunteer to review for the centennial edition, please email me – dmcclemore@uca.edu – by December 23.

Whether it's our past, present or future, there's plenty to be excited about in the Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division. Thanks for being a part of it with us. Here's to new heights in 2023.

Cheers to a Successful Season!

By Danielle Deavours, BAMJ Vice Chair, Samford University

This was a very successful panel season for the Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division. We received a total of 18 panels, a significant increase from previous years. The amount of diversity and international representation from the panel submissions was also improved this year. BAMJ leadership voted on which 10 panels to move forward to the bidding process. From there, we were able to secure co-sponsorships for seven panels originally submitted to BAMJ, and co-sponsored two additional panels proposed to other divisions that closely aligned with our division's goals; we have negotiated to have BAMJ member representation on those co-sponsored panels. Currently, the bidding process is complete, but formal communication will be made about panel acceptances in January as AEJMC leadership work to formalize the schedule. Once the official release is given, we will inform the division which panels were accepted and begin to fill open panel slots with our members. Be on the lookout for that information in the spring. We are excited to show you soon just what our division will be offering for programming this year.

Teaching Lessons from Coverage of the 2022 Midterms

By Gina Baleria, Assistant Professor, Sonoma State University

The 2022 Midterm election cycle brought us much news and information content. But as the cycle progressed, I found myself wondering how informative the content actually was. When election day finally came (and went), the actual events turned out to be a mismatch to much of the reporting leading up to them. In this mismatch comes much to be learned - and taught.

Some of the issues from this year's midterm coverage that we can bring to our classrooms involve framing, minimizing, and sourcing.

With regard to framing, the news (and other) media (as we know) rely too much on traditional frames of reference when covering election and political stories. Many of the news I saw clung to the binary Republican-Democrat frame, which is becoming less and less relevant to voters on the ground in the U.S. - of which a plurality now identify as independent (35-43%). For example, when voters in California's Orange County - a traditional Republican stronghold - vote for the Democratic candidate, much of the coverage is framed as this red region turning blue. In truth, traditional Republican voters in Orange County, CA are likely not suddenly Democrats. Many still hold fast to conservative policy positions, including fiscal conservatism. They just decided that the candidate carrying the R-label does not represent what they understand to be Republican values. Instead, this candidate may have ideas that are too far afield, perhaps too fascistic or authoritarian, or the candidate focuses more on ideological issues than policy. Thus, the only option these R-voters have is to vote for the Democrat, who at least acknowledges the legitimacy of the elections system, or discusses policy, or expresses a desire to preserve democracy.

Another frame that does us a disservice is framing elections as a sporting contest - a horse race of sorts with winners and losers moving up or down in the polls and then ahead or behind in the vote count. This frame makes the audience feel as if they are watching a game, thus minimizing the seriousness of the process and its outcome to our democracy and society. In this gaming context, people may miss important information that helps them navigate their worlds or head off crises. This can lead to lasting harm for communities and our ability to work together to solve problems.

Finally, the disconnect between the stories of a red wave leading up to election day and the actuality of a mixed result begs the question - what sources were news and other media outlets relying on in their reporting leading up to election day? Information that is neatly packaged is nice, and it's worth looking at. But reporters must interrogate that information and also seek out relevant sources who may not readily present themselves - this includes people, data, and other information sources. If we just use what shows up in front of us, we'll never get the full story.

For each of these issues, we can engage our students in discussing how we can do this better. Our students' interests often cross party manifestos. We can ask ourselves and our students - What shifts can we make in our newsgathering and reporting to better reflect the actuality of a story, rather than our preconceived notions or baked-in biases? We can also ask - how can we get outside our own

frames or biases to find sources that may add needed context and keep our audiences in mind? When the results don't match the hype, we can show our students how to debrief, learn from missteps, and implement strategies to better seek the truth.

It's easy to rely on existing frames. That is a major reason why we do it. It takes effort and work to push back on frames and chart new paths. We have to deal with resistance, denial, and lack of understanding or acknowledgement. But, the effort can be worth it if we provide more relevant, truthful, and contextual information to our audiences.

By improving our approaches, we can better contribute to the information landscape and thus better preserve democracy and a healthy society.



The BAMJ Social Network

By Jeremy Lipschultz, Peter Kiewit Distinguished Professor, University of Nebraska at Omaha

I've been a member of a half-dozen AEJMC divisions and held positions in a few, but what is now called the Broadcast and Mobile Journalism (BAMJ) division is by far the most social and rewarding. For example, I have fond memories of the division's rooftop event at the conference in Minneapolis. The emphasis on teaching and practice, as well as journalism industry connection, helps explain our value proposition.

My career-long network connections to academic superstars, such as Lee Hood, Hub Brown, Bill Davie and many others have been both socially enjoyable and professionally rewarding. I have frequently reached out to this division in search of *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator* book reviewers. This relational communication had an important impact upon development and

publication of the AEJMC journal's 75th anniversary issue. Similarly, we relied upon the network of scholars in publishing this year *The Emerald Handbook of Computer-Mediated Communication and Social Media*. Clearly, BAMJ is at the center of how we address important issues, such as misinformation and disinformation found within social media platforms.

In 1986, I became active in AEJMC through both the Southeast Colloquium and annual meetings each August. I began connecting faces to the scholars I knew from reading as a graduate student at Southern Illinois. The people I have met helped me to be hired at a tenure-track job, served as reviewers for two promotions and three competitive professorships, and mentored some of my most challenging decisions.

The networked connections became more continuous through Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. We kept up with each other's life moments, and we congratulated our friends for their awards and recognition. BAMJ has a particularly impressive record of lifting up the top professors and placing them in the spotlight. All of us are part of an important and larger mission to elevate the teaching, research and creative activities, and service within our campuses. While it remains true that some academic administrators do not understand what we do, we have been successful in bridging that knowledge gap.

We need the help of current members to reach out to colleagues within their social networks. Please spread the word about the benefits of AEJMC and BAMJ. Share your own memories with them. Build life-long relationships that remain important in a sometimes polarizing and isolating world. Thank you to the current BAMJ leadership and members who help make this division a model of community engagement, entrepreneurial best practices, and lifelong learning.



How to bring TV news dreams back to the communication classroom

By William Davie, Professor, University of Louisiana

“Those days are gone now” was said the best answer I could give a local TV news director who wondered, “Whatever happened to all your students who just want to be TV news anchors!” So, we’re doing well getting them to watch any TV news at all, I allowed. So, what are you saying? “Social media has killed the TV news star!” No no, I’m not asking for the 1980s Buggles to make a comeback with that number because you see I’ve found another way to get my students involved in our local TV newsrooms. Sure, we have our college-to-career conference and lots of classroom visits, but we have another solution to help students who have yet to embrace both legacy and social media.

I begin by recruiting a willing local TV news director to serve as our class client for the semester – a partner in research. Then I assign the class roles on teams competing with at least five students each. That’s when the research begins at all levels – library, online, focus group interviews, survey distribution, and expert speakers including veteran news directors and morning show producers.

This recipe will not work without solid notes on how to use both qualitative and quantitative data to produce a client-based booklet (not quite rising to the level of scientific validity, but a good primer).

When students finish the class, they should be ready to put into action what they recommended to the local TV newsroom management in colorful consultant booklets of student findings and analytics. Don’t worry about intimidating them with data since their research fueled by a competitive desire to win first place from the local TV managers on this consultant project.

This is one way for me to get my students to see the light beyond their social media influencer dreams. Because once I engage them in a class project appealing to local TV news directors with actionable data they are finally plugged into broadcast journalism – in some cases for life.



Calling for Submissions!

48th Annual AEJMC Southeast Colloquium

March 2-4, 2023

Middle Tennessee State University

Murfreesboro, TN

Submit your papers to the 48th annual AEJMC Southeast Colloquium regional conference, held March 2-4, 2023 in Murfreesboro, TN. Present and receive feedback on your research papers in time to revise and submit them for consideration in the annual AEJMC conference (yes, you can present the same work at this conference and at the August annual conference in D.C.). The conference will be fully in-person, providing great opportunities to formally and informally connect.

Conference registration includes a data analytics pre-conference in the School of Journalism & Strategic Media's Social Insights Lab (see below), the keynote address by Dr. Kathy Roberts Forde, co-editor of the award-winning book, *Journalism and Jim Crow: White Supremacy and the Black Struggle for a New America* (edited with Dr. Sid Bedingfield, Foreword by Alex Lichtenstein), a Friday night reception, optional activities in Murfreesboro, and, of course, multiple days filled with scholarship, advice, and networking!

We encourage undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and independent scholars to be part of the 2023 Southeast Colloquium.

This Year's BAMJ Officers

Division Head:

Dylan McLemore, Central Arkansas

Vice Head and Program Chair:

Danielle Deavours, Samford

Bylaws Chair:

Bill Davie, Louisiana

Research Chair:

Volha Kananovich, Appalachian State

PF&R Chair:

Rana Arafat, City University of London

Teaching Chair:

Gina Baleria, Sonoma State

Membership Chair:

Jeremy Lipschultz, Nebraska-Omaha

Southeast Colloquium Chair:

Lindsey Maxwell, Southern Mississippi

Bliss Award Chair:

Bill Silcock, Arizona State

Burkum Award Chair:

Laura Smith, South Carolina

Newsletter Editor:

Grace Provenzano, Arizona State

Web & Social Media Managers:

Stephanie Dean, Montevallo

Heidi Makady, Florida

Graduate Liaison:

Samantha Kocan, Alabama

RTDNA Liaison:

Tony DeMars, Lamar

**Please start thinking about your next BAMJ Newsletter submissions.
Thanks!**