

2025 Burkum Service Award: Call for Nominations

Deb Wenger, Ph.D.

Chair, BAMJ Burkum Committee

The Larry Burkum Service Award recognizes a broadcast or mobile journalist or journalism educator who has demonstrated extraordinary service to both journalism and to journalism education. The honor is conferred by AEJMC's Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division.

The Division reserves the right to withhold the award if, in our judgment, the criteria for selection are not sufficiently met. This ensures that the integrity and standards of the award remain consistent with our values and expectations.

Recent recipients include:

- Heather Birks, Broadcast Education Association (2023)
- Jill Geisler, Loyola Chicago (2022)
- Nancy Dupont, Ole Miss (2021)
- Bill Silcock, Arizona State (2019)
- Deborah Potter, Journalist and Debora Wenger, Ole Miss (2018)
- Joe Foote, Oklahoma (2017)
- Hub Brown, Syracuse, now Florida (2016)

If a recipient is selected this year, the Burkum Award will be presented at AEJMC's annual conference in San Francisco.

Please review the submission guidelines below and email your nomination packet—combining all required elements into a single PDF attachment—by **5 p.m., Friday, March 1st**.

If you have questions, feel free to reach out.

Contact Information

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Larry Burkum Service Award Guidelines

The Larry Burkum Service Award is presented by the Electronic News Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. This award recognizes an electronic journalist or journalism educator who has demonstrated extraordinary service to journalism and to journalism education.

Honorees may be selected in one of two ways – either through nomination presented to the selection committee (comprised of past EN Division Heads and Burkum Award Winners), or directly by the committee itself. Both paths must follow the procedure outlined below. The EN Division is not obligated to name an honoree annually; the award may be conferred when an appropriate honoree is found, and if the committee finds none of the nominees is worthy of the award, the committee can elect not to confer the honor, however, as a general guideline, it is expected that an honoree would be named at least once every three years.

Criteria for nomination and selection include strong evidence of significant service contributions to journalism education and to the electronic news industry. Examples of service may include – but are not limited to – the following exemplars:

- Heading a national organization dedicated to advancing journalism and journalism education.
- Publishing journalism focused work (e.g., articles for news industry related websites, textbooks, videos)
- Developing and administering foundations that assist journalism students and educators in their growth and development (e.g., scholarship, foundations, etc.)
- Leading educational initiatives within the nominee's industry (e.g., head of internship development for station group; running a student focused apprenticeship program, etc.).
- Research designed to help students and young journalists advance their career performance in journalism, and extraordinary service to the mission of our division.

The successful Burkum nomination packet will include a detailed, thorough letter of nomination; a complete resume/cv of the nominee; up to three supporting letters from educators/and/or colleagues, however, a statement by the nominee in support of his or her nomination should not be included. Nominations will remain active for three years.

The Burkum award selection committee shall be appointed by the Division Head, and committee members shall serve 2-3 year terms. Nominations should be submitted to and compiled by the selection committee no later than March 1st. The committee shall review the nominations and announce the name of an award recipient (or that there is none) by May 1st before the annual convention in August.