

AEJMC Election Profiles

2024

Vice President

Shahira S. Fahmy American University in Cairo



Shahira S. Fahmy is a professor in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at the American University in Cairo. She holds a PhD from the Missouri School of Journalism and has taught at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale (2003-2008) and the University of Arizona (2008-2019). Since attending her first conference in 2002 as a PhD student, she has actively engaged with AEJMC.

Fahmy served on the AEJMC board as chair of the Elected Standing Committee on

Publications in 2022-2023. Under her leadership, the publications committee launched the Translation Fellows Program and the Global South Mentorship initiative. Fahmy has also made significant contributions to the Mass Communication and Visual Communication Divisions.

Fahmy's research focuses on the intersection of peace journalism and visual communication. She explores how emerging technologies are transforming the relationship between media and conflict. With over 90 journal articles, book chapters, and four books, she has an extensive publication record. She has also delivered keynote speeches and professional engagements in 34 countries.

In addition to her research, Fahmy has edited journal special issues and served as an associate editor for *Mass Communication & Society* and the *Journal of Communication*. Currently, she holds the position of Vice-Chair for the Visual Communication Studies Division of ICA and serves on the editorial boards of several journals.

Fahmy has taught courses in communication theory, visual communication, and research methods. She received the visual communication book award from the National Communication Association and has been awarded two Fulbright grants, collaborating with the NATO Strategic Communication Center of Excellence and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

Beyond academia, Fahmy has served as a senior consultant and head of UNECA Journal Publications, where she established four academic journals in multiple languages. Prior to her academic career, Fahmy worked as a news correspondent and photographer.

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Mia Moody-Ramirez Baylor University



Mia Moody-Ramirez is professor and chair of journalism, public relations and new media in the Baylor University College of Arts & Sciences. She joined the faculty of Baylor University in 2001 and has maintained an active research portfolio in addition to her teaching and leadership roles. Her research emphasizes intersectionality, critical race theory and media framing of women and people of color.

The author or co-author of four books, Moody-Ramirez has also been widely published in a variety of academic and industry journals, including *Journalism Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Howard Journal of Communication*, *Journalism Educator*, *Journal of Black Studies* and *Public Relations Review*.

Moody-Ramirez has served as a mentor, reviewer and in various capacities while a member of Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) for more than 20 years. She was Head of the Minorities and Communication Division for two years, and secretary for the AEJMC Commission on the Status of Women for three years. She served on the 2018 AEJMC strategic planning committee, various fund-raising committees, ad-hoc committees and in numerous other roles. She was an elected member on the PF&R Committee and is currently serving on the Teaching Committee and is the Vice Head of the Commission on the Status of Minorities.

She is the recipient of various honors given by AEJMC—beginning in 2002 when she received the Barrow Minority Doctoral Student Scholarship. She is the recipient of the Outstanding Woman in Journalism award and the Lionel C. Barrow Jr. Award for Distinguished Achievement in Diversity Research and Education and a 2019 Fellow in the AEJMC Institute for Diverse Leadership.

Moody-Ramirez is Baylor's 2020 Cornelia Marschall Smith Professor of the Year and the honoree of the Moody-Ramirez Belden Endowed Scholarship for Diversity in Journalism given to students who are members of the Baylor National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ).

Her journalism experience includes working as a staff writer for the *Waco Tribune-Herald*, editor and publisher of *Elegant Woman* magazine and managing editor for Stevens Publishing.

She received her B.A. in journalism from Texas A&M University, M.A. in journalism from Baylor University, M.S. in Educational Psychology, and her Ph.D. in journalism from the University of Texas at Austin. She is the proud mother of Heidi, Tim and Bill and wife of Augie.

Vice President Platforms

Fahmy's Platform

I am deeply honored to be nominated for the position of vice president of AEJMC alongside my esteemed colleague, Mia Moody-Ramirez. As I reflect on our vibrant community of journalism and mass communication scholars and the exciting opportunities that lie ahead, my enthusiasm and passion for AEJMC continues to grow. AEJMC is not just an association; it is a haven of intellectual exchange where ideas flourish, connections are forged, and the collective power of communication scholarship is harnessed to make a meaningful impact on society. If elected as vice president, I am committed to infusing our community with even more emotion, enthusiasm, and energy, propelling AEJMC to become an unstoppable force.

In this era of information abundance, we find ourselves at a pivotal moment in history. It is crucial that we harness the power of artificial intelligence (AI) to assist our research, teaching, and practice. AI technologies have the potential to revolutionize the way we study and understand communication processes, analyze vast amounts of data, and create innovative solutions to societal challenges. By embracing AI, we can unlock new avenues of research, expand the boundaries of our field, and amplify the impact of our scholarship.

Imagine the possibilities of using AI to analyze massive datasets, uncover patterns, and gain insights into complex communication phenomena. With AI-driven tools, we can conduct sentiment analysis, explore network dynamics, and delve into the intricacies of online interactions on an unprecedented scale. By integrating AI into our research methods, we can accelerate the pace of discovery, uncover hidden patterns, and generate knowledge that informs policy, shapes industry practices, and enhances societal well-being.

Moreover, AI can play a crucial role in transforming our teaching practices and preparing students for the digital age. By incorporating AI tools into our classrooms, we can create immersive and personalized learning experiences that cater to the diverse needs and learning styles of our students. AI-powered chatbots, virtual reality simulations, and adaptive learning platforms can provide students with real-time feedback, individualized instruction, and opportunities for experiential learning. Let us embrace AI as a powerful ally in nurturing the next generation of scholars and practitioners.

However, the integration of AI into our field is not without its challenges. Ethical considerations, biases, and the impact of AI on journalism and media industries require thorough examination and open discussions. It is of utmost importance that we actively engage in crucial conversations about the responsible and ethical use of AI in communication research and practice. If elected, I would be honored to champion the development of guidelines and best practices that promote transparency, accountability, and fairness in the deployment of AI technologies. Recognizing the potential for AI to perpetuate biases and hinder diversity, **I propose the establishment of multiple task forces representing AEJMC constituencies in research, teaching, and service. These task forces will closely monitor the impact of AI on our field and work towards creating a brand-new AEJMC Code of Ethics in AI that can serve as a global standard.**

We must also prioritize internationalization, increase membership, and expand our global reach. The power of communication lies in its ability to connect people, bridge cultural divides, and foster understanding. **We need to work tirelessly to promote global collaborations, expand international membership, and create platforms for scholars from diverse backgrounds to share their research, perspectives, and experiences.** By embracing the richness of global

Moody-Ramirez's Platform

I am honored to be nominated to serve as vice president of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), an organization that has helped me grow as a scholar, leader and educator.

While a graduate student at Baylor University in 1999, I attended my first AEJMC Midwinter Conference to present a co-authored research paper with another graduate student and our graduate program director. In 2002, while a doctoral student at the University of Texas at Austin, I attended my first AEJMC Conference to accept the Barrow Minority Doctoral Student Scholarship. These two events introduced me to the AEJMC conference culture. Membership in various divisions, interest groups and commissions offered training opportunities in teaching, research and service. Each summer, I looked forward to networking, submitting articles, presenting, and learning about research presented by colleagues from other universities—many of whom have become friends, mentors, coauthors and—even colleagues.

In 2017, I was elected Head of the Minorities and Communications Division (MACD) and then served a second term in 2018. During this two-term tenure, with the help of a talented team, goals achieved included launching the Paula M. Poindexter Faculty Research Grant to fund faculty and student research, which awards a \$1,000 for faculty members and a \$500 for students. The same year, we launched the Historically Black Colleges Universities (HBCU) Roundtable, which focused on ways AEJMC can provide added support for HBCU and Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs).

In addition, I served as the MACD membership chair for five years. During this period, I helped with fundraisers and monitored membership numbers—often reaching out to members to help them feel connected to AEJMC. More recently, I worked with long-time mentor Paula Poindexter and Laura Castaneda to raise funds for the Félix F. Gutiérrez and Clint C. Wilson II Minorities and Communication Award for Teaching Excellence and Innovation—raising more than \$15,100.

If elected vice president of AEJMC, I will address the following issues: 1) Strengthening the AEJMC brand, 2) Publication mentorship for early career faculty, 3) Mid-career burnout, 3) Membership retention, 4) Strengthening the profession to academy pipeline, 6) Diversity equity and inclusion and hiring concerns.

Strengthening the AEJMC Brand: Connected to Direction 3 of AEJMC's strategic plan, it is important for the organization to continue to strengthen its "identity, image and influence." J-school department budgets are shrinking, and AEJMC must show its benefits and highlight what sets it apart from other academic organizations. With my background in image restoration and maintenance, along with the skills of many other members in the organization, we can help the organization raise its profile. One of the first things I would set as a priority is the formation of a task force to work on a public relations campaign to highlight the organization's many unique benefits and services.

Publication Mentorship for Early-Career Faculty Members: Research assistance for early career faculty is another critical area for AEJMC to address. One way the organization can do this is by helping provide resources for early career faculty members who need guidance with their research endeavors. Help traditionally consists of funding; however, right out of college, many early career faculty members need assistance with writing first papers, rewriting and resubmitting articles, editing, and finding the best journals. I would solicit feedback from members on how AEJMC can play an

Vice President Platforms con't.

Fahmy's platform continued from previous page

voices, we can foster a truly inclusive and representative community that reflects the diverse nature of our field and the world we live in.

AEJMC should be an intellectual force that tackles issues of broad social significance. We are united by our commitment to scholarly excellence and our belief in the power of research to make a difference. **To further the excellence and relevance of our scholarship, we need to implement specific measures that promote inclusion, diversity, equity, and access.** I have already taken steps in this direction as the chair of the publications committee, launching the translation fellows program to ensure that our research reaches a wider global audience. But there is much more we can do, and I am eager to work with you all to make it happen.

Mentorship remains a cornerstone of our association, and we must continue to prioritize the growth and development of emerging scholars and graduate students. Mentorship programs that connect experienced scholars with early-career researchers can provide guidance, support, and opportunities for networking and collaboration. **By fostering a culture of mentorship, we can empower the next generation of communication scholars, nurture their talents, and ensure a sustainable future for AEJMC.**

Furthermore, we must continue to bridge the divide between academia and the media industry, forging closer partnerships that benefit both groups. **By developing and maintaining strong relationships with communication companies and professionals, we can provide valuable curriculum advice, secure guest speakers, and create opportunities for internships and jobs for our students and alumni.** This collaboration will not only ensure that our curricula align with industry needs but also enable us to conduct research that directly addresses the challenges faced by the media industry. Together, we can prepare future journalists for the ever-evolving media landscape and ensure that our research remains relevant and impactful.

In conclusion, the AEJMC vice presidency is not just a position; it is an opportunity to ignite a fire of enthusiasm and energy within our community. **Together, let us embrace the power of AI to drive our research, teaching, and practice. Let us prioritize internationalization, diversity, inclusivity, and global reach as we shape the future of our association. Let us bridge the divide between academia and the media industry, fostering collaborations and knowledge-sharing. Let us prioritize mentorship, empowering emerging scholars and graduate students. Above all, let us nurture a community where passion and enthusiasm fuel our collective pursuit of knowledge, where ideas are celebrated, and where the power of communication is harnessed to shape a better world.** I am deeply grateful for the nomination and am fully committed to working tirelessly to bring this vision to life. Thank you for your support.

Moody-Ramirez's platform continued from previous page

active role in mentoring its members with the publication process.

Mid-Career Burnout: Higher education, in general, has been affected by a growing number of educators leaving academia due to mid-career burnout. To find out what members think is causing the exodus, and how it can be addressed, I would commission a questionnaire. AEJMC members are the best source to address the issues of causing mid-career burnout.

Strengthening the Profession to Academy Pipeline: In support of Direction 6 of the AEJMC strategic plan, which advocates for developing teaching/training programs, I would solicit help from AEJMC members to develop a collaborative training program between AEJMC groups and professional industry organizations, such as the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ), and Native American Journalists Association (NAJA). Industry professionals often make the best academics; however, it is often difficult for them to make the transition to academia. AEJMC can help make the training easier with a certificate-granting academy to strengthen the profession to academy pipeline.

AEJMC Membership Retention: In line with Direction 6 of AEJMC's strategic plan to "Promote and Retain Membership," retention is an important focus in my platform. The pandemic has changed the mindset of individuals when it comes to attendance and organization memberships. In addition, many departments are experiencing travel budget cuts. Membership retention has always been a priority for AEJMC. We must continue to highlight the rewards and benefits of the organization. I would emphasize the benefits of meeting in person. Human connections cannot be replaced. I have met research partners, friends, and colleagues at AEJMC.

DEI and Hiring: Finally, AEJMC members must continue to address the backlash that has occurred in recent years with the passing of legislation that threatens academic freedom and impacts DEI in university hiring practices. AEJMC has always taken a bold stance in addressing DEI issues. The organization has numerous awards to recognize its members for their diversity efforts and training programs to help train its members. AEJMC is tasked with helping members continue to address issues, such as accreditation in the face of DEI backlash. Much of my research is in this area, and I look forward to working with members to seek solutions to remain at the forefront in this area.

In closing, the initiatives outlined in this platform would not only benefit each member of AEJMC but also the journalism and communication discipline. I am excited about the possibilities of holding office in AEJMC, I am ready for the many new challenges that might present themselves. I hope that you are as excited as I am and will vote for me when you cast your ballot for the next slate of AEJMC officers. Thank you for your time.

A note about the 2024 AEJMC Election...

AEJMC will use an online voting system this year. Eligible members will receive an email with a built-in link to the AEJMC ballot. Response deadline is **March 29, 2024**. After that the online system will be closed and votes tallied.

Brief biographies of each candidate appear in this flyer.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this information and participate in the election process. As always, AEJMC appreciates the willingness of all candidates to run for office. The association cannot function effectively without such gracious volunteers.

Accrediting Council Representative Profiles

Dorothy M. Bland
University of North Texas



Dorothy M. Bland is a higher education leader, journalism professor at the University of North Texas Mayborn School of Journalism and former dean. She is passionate about connecting students, faculty, and staff with audiences in the continuously evolving journalism and mass communication world. Prior to joining UNT, she was a professor and journalism director at Florida A&M University. She has more than 15 years of experience in higher education. Bland has served on 18 Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications site teams as well as on the council.

In 2022, she was named SPJ's national Distinguished Teaching in Journalism Award recipient. In 2019, she was honored as one of the top 35 women in higher education by *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* magazine. Under her leadership, the MSOJ launched the 100% online master's degree in digital communication analytics, grew enrollment, faculty, staff, and revenues. Her long-term commitment to inclusion, diversity, equity, and access is evident in her teaching, research, and service. In 2016, the MSOJ earned the AEJMC's Equity and Diversity Award. Her research interests include diversity in media, digital/social media, and management/leadership. As a scholar, she often collaborates with others and has more than 70 conference presentations, at least 10 peer-reviewed journal articles and three book chapters. She is the co-author with Dr. Masudul Biswas of the book titled, *Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategies: Learning from Journalism and Mass Communication Programs with Professional Impact*.

She is active in AEJMC's MACD, the CSWM, and the CSMN. In addition to her AEJMC and ACEJMC service, she maintains industry connections with a variety of organizations. As a journalist, she has produced hundreds of news articles. Bland's industry experience includes working for *USA Today* as well as news organizations ranging from the *Commercial Appeal* in Memphis to the *Fort Collins Coloradoan*. She earned her PhD from Florida State University, MBA from George Washington University, and bachelor's degree from Arkansas State University.

Christopher J. McCollough
Jacksonville State University



Christopher J. McCollough (PhD Louisiana State, MA Virginia Tech) is passionate about life-long learning, learner accessibility, equity in quality of learning for large and small programs alike, and the essential value of advancing high quality pedagogy in journalism and mass communication through research. McCollough is a Professor of Public Relations and Advertising, Department Head, and the inaugural Ayers Family Endowed Chair of Journalism and Mass Communication at Jacksonville State University.

In 2023, McCollough led JSU's program through a successful revitalization to full reaffirmation. Under his leadership since 2021, the unit completed industry-current facility and curriculum updates, made a rigorous curriculum more flexible and accessible for students, and re-engaged alumni and industry to support program development and to bring industry into the classroom. Site visitors described the program's changes as a difference of, "Night and Day," and one alumna and advisory board member's description of the program was, "the best it has ever been." McCollough previously served on the faculty at Columbus State University's Department of Communication, where he supported the modernization and development of integrated media production, public relations, and film programs, and led assessment for his department on its general education course, majors, and served as comprehensive program reporter for its Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges accreditation reporting. He has been an active member of AEJMC since 2006 and serves as the Vice Head of the PRDV (2023-2024), previously as the Research Chair (2022-2023), Research Vice Chair (2021-2022), Special Competitions Chair (2020-2021), Teaching Competition Chair (2019-2020), and Teaching Competition Vice Chair (2018-2019). McCollough is in his second term of service as Senior Associate Editor for AEJMC's *Journal of Public Relations Education (JPRE)*, where he has served since 2021, and invited to serve on the inaugural Editorial Board for *JPRE* in 2019.

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Committee on Professional Freedom and Responsibility Profiles

Amy Jo Coffey
University of Florida



Amy Jo Coffey, Ph.D., is an associate professor in the College of Journalism and Communications at the University of Florida, where she has also served as program manager for the online Audience Analytics master's program and as graduate coordinator for one of the residential master's degrees in mass communication. In July, she will begin serving as director of the School of Journalism & Media at the University of Tennessee.

The candidate's research interests in media management, economics, and audiences stem in part from her professional news background, which included positions with CNN in Atlanta, as well as reporting, assignment editing, and production positions in television and radio in Ohio, Tennessee, and Georgia. She has developed and taught courses in media management and strategy, media innovation and entrepreneurship, media analytics, audience analysis, and audience research methods. She launched, with a group of students in 2010, Noticias WUFT, a public media-based Spanish language news operation to serve North Central Florida. This initiative led to the development of a bilingual student newsroom and professional preparation that led many students into major media markets upon graduation.

Coffey is co-author of the recently published *Media Analytics: Understanding Media, Audiences, and Consumers in the 21st Century* (Routledge, 2023). Her work has been published in such journals as *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Journal of Advertising Research*, *Communication Law & Policy*, *International Journal on Media Management*, and *Journal of Media Business Studies*. She serves on the editorial boards of the *International Journal on Media Management* and the *Journal of Media Business Studies*.

Coffey has held multiple leadership roles within the MMEE division, including division head. She was elected to the Standing Committee on Research, where she also served as chair and as a member of the AEJMC Board of Directors.

Erika Engstrom
University of Kentucky



Erika Engstrom (PhD, University of Florida) is director and professor in the School of Journalism and Media at the University of Kentucky. Her professional media experience includes radio station manager, radio news anchor and producer, and television news writer. Her research on gender portrayals, feminist studies, hegemony, broadcast journalism, and religion appears in *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Journal of Broadcasting and Electronic Media*, *Communication Inquiry*, *Journal of Media and Religion*, *Journal of Media Education*, *Journalism and Mass Communication Educator*, and *Journal of Radio and Audio Media*. Her books include *Gramsci and Media Literacy*; *The Bride Factory*; *Mad Men and Working Women*; *Feminism, Gender and Politics in NBC's Parks and Recreation*; and *Religion Across Television Genres*. More recently, she contributed entries to the *Encyclopedia of Journalism* (2022) and a chapter in the textbook *Convergent Journalism* (2024). Engstrom's participation in AEJMC began in the late 1980s as a graduate student at the University of Florida.

She has served as head of the Commission on the Status of Women (2003-2004), head of the Cultural and Critical Studies Division (2012-2013), and teaching chair of the Religion and Media Interest Group (2009-2010). She served as panelist at the Women Faculty Moving Forward Workshop for Lillian Kopenhaver Fellows (2022) and member of the News Engagement Day Committee (2021) and AEJMC Elections and Nominations Committee (2017-2019). Her papers have won top faculty paper awards from the Religion and Media Interest Group and the Entertainment Studies Division. She is an editorial board member of *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly* and has reviewed manuscripts for *Visual Communication Quarterly*, *Feminist Media Studies*, *Critical Studies in Mass Communication*, *Television and New Media*, and *Journalism History*, among others. Prior to joining the University of Kentucky, she was a professor and served as associate dean at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Celeste González de Bustamante
University of Texas at Austin



Celeste González de Bustamante, Mary Gibbs Jones Centennial Chair, is Professor in the School of Journalism and Media at the University of Texas at Austin in the Moody College of Communication, where she also serves as Associate Dean for Global Initiatives. Her most recent research focuses on journalists who work in peripheral zones in the U.S.-Mexico borderlands, Mexico, Costa Rica, and other parts of Latin America. She is the co-editor of *Violence against Women in the Global South: Reporting in the #MeToo Era* (Palgrave, 2023). Her book, *Surviving Mexico: Resistance and Resilience Among Journalists in the Twenty-first Century* (Austin: The University of Texas Press, 2021) (with Jeannine E. Rely) received the James W. Tankard Book Award, the Knudson Latin America Prize, and the Frank Luther Mott – KTA Journalism & Mass Communication Research Award.

For 14 years, González de Bustamante has been a continuous and active member of the AEJMC and has served in various leadership roles. In 2021-2022, she served on the AEJMC board as Chair of the Elected Standing Committee on Research. She helped to establish the Latino/Latin American Research Award given by the International Communication Division when she was the ICD head in 2013-2014. As a member of the Minorities and Communication Division, she serves a mentor in the division's year-long mentoring program.

González de Bustamante is excited about the potential opportunity to lead as a member of the Standing Committee on Professional Freedom and Responsibility. She believes that this is an unprecedented time for journalists, media producers, and communication and journalism scholars, and if elected, she would aim to bring energy and action to address the most pressing issues that relate to the PF & R committee to promote positive social change within the organization and beyond.

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Holly Overton
Pennsylvania State University



Holly Overton, Ph.D., is an associate professor in the department of advertising/public relations and the director of research for the Arthur W. Page Center for Integrity in Public Communication in the Bellisario College of Communications at The Pennsylvania State University. She is also an affiliate with the Center for Socially Responsible Artificial Intelligence at Penn State. Overton previously held a tenured position as an associate professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of South Carolina and a tenure-track position at Shippensburg University. She has held industry positions in corporate marketing and in the nonprofit sector.

Overton conducts public relations research in the areas of corporate social responsibility and corporate social advocacy communication. Her research has been published in several peer-reviewed journals such as *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Mass Communication and Society*, *Public Relations Review*, *Computers in Human Behavior*, *Journal of Advertising Research*, *International Journal of Advertising*, and *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, among others.

Overton is passionate about service within mass communication. She has been an active member of AEJMC since 2014. Overton also has served in various capacities for the Public Relations Division, including as Immediate Past Head (2023-2024), Head (2022-2023), Vice-Head (2021-2022), Vice-Head Elect (2020-2021), Research Committee Chair/Vice Chair (2018-2020), Social Event Committee Chair/Vice Chair (2016-2018), and Graduate Student Liaison Committee Chair (2014-2016). She also serves on various editorial boards such as the *Journal of Public Relations Research*, *Journal of Communication Management*, and *Case Studies in Strategic Communication*, as well as the Advisory Committee of the International Public Relations Research Conference (IPRRC). She is a member of the Arthur W. Page Society (Page), a prestigious association of leaders and experts in corporate communications. Overton is a 2022-2023 Fellow of the AEJMC/ASJMC Institute for Diverse Leadership in Journalism and Communication program.

PF&R Committee Profiles con't.

Mildred F. "Mimi" Perreault
University of South Florida



Mildred F. "Mimi" Perreault (PhD University of Missouri, MA Georgetown) is an advocate for professionals, educators, and students in mass communications, specifically for women academics, graduate students, and academic parents. She was integral in creating the Caregiver and Child Friendly Policy for AEJMC and is a member of the Covid-19 Narratives Project, which seeks to continue conversations around the gaps and challenges COVID-19 created and continues to present. Perreault teaches Public Relations and Journalism courses. Perreault has been an AEJMC member for more than 12 years and served as the Head of the AEJMC Commission on Women (2023-2024), AEJMC Board of Directors (2023-2024), teaching chair for the Community Journalism Interest Group (2021-2023) and on various committees for the Public Relations Division, Community Journalism Interest Group and Commission on the Status of Women. Perreault also serves on the AEJMC Presidential Task Force on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (2023-current).

Perreault is an Assistant Professor of Public Relations and Mass Communications at the Zimmerman School of Advertising and Mass Communications at the University of South Florida. Perreault researches public relations practitioners, local journalists, and citizen scientists as both stakeholders and disaster communicators.

She also has looked at identity as a key indicator of audience perception and interpretation. Perreault has been published in *Mass Communication and Society*, *American Behavioral Scientist*, *Journalism Practice*, *Games and Culture*, *Disasters*, *Communication Studies*, and *Journalism Education*. She is the co-editor of the forthcoming AEJMC Peter Lang Scholar Sourcing book, *Crisis Communication Case Studies on COVID-19: Multidimensional perspectives and applications* with Sarah Smith-Frigerio. Perreault was a journalist and public relations professional in Washington, D.C., and South Florida before entering academia. She previously worked as an Assistant Professor at East Tennessee State University and as a lecturer at Appalachian State University.

Jared Schroder
University of Missouri



Jared Schroeder is an associate professor at the Missouri School of Journalism. His research focuses on freedom of expression and emerging technologies with particular interest in press rights and the flow of information in the networked, AI eras. He is the author of three books, including *The Structure of Ideas: Mapping a New Theory of Free Expression in the AI Era*, published by Stanford University Press.

Schroeder (Ph.D., University of Oklahoma) served in leadership roles in AEJMC's Law & Policy Division for eight years. He was division head in 2023. His service to the division included two years working as PF&R chair, providing valuable experience for this role. During his time in division leadership, he worked with AEJMC leaders on statements about journalism, diversity, press rights, and other important issues. He also served as a Provost Faculty Fellow while at SMU, working on faculty community and awards. The administrative experience helped prepare him for the PF&R committee's responsibilities.

In addition to academic research, Schroeder emphasizes the importance of public service through scholarship. He has published works in *Nieman Reports* and *Columbia Journalism Review*, as well as in outlets such as *Slate*, *USA Today*, and regional newspapers. Most of the pieces advocate for or explain pressing issues facing journalism or democracy or include criticism or accountability of lawmakers or media organizations. A sought-after contributor to industry discussions, he has spoken to organizations such as the *Society of Professional Journalists* and *League of Women Voters*, all in efforts to support journalism and democracy.

Schroeder's research has been published in a broad spectrum of academic journals, including *Journalism Studies*, *Public Relations Review*, *Communication Law & Policy*, *The Review of Higher Education*, and numerous law reviews. He won the Harry W. Stonecipher Award for Distinguished Research in Media Law and Policy in 2022.

Neelam Sharma
Idaho State University



Neelam Sharma is a tenure track Assistant Professor of Journalism and Media Studies and the Director of Graduate Program in the Department of Communication, Media and Persuasion at Idaho State University, USA.

Sharma earned her Ph.D. in Public Communication and Technology from Colorado State University, Fort Collins. Her research interests include digital media, journalism, and the South Asian news and entertainment media. Her research appears in journals including the *International Journal of Communication*, *Psychology of Popular Media*, *Journal of Communication Inquiry*, *Global Media and Communication*, and *Atlantic Journal of Communication*, among others. She is currently working on her sole-author book project, *Online Abuse, hatred and women journalists in India* (The book contract was awarded by the AEJMC-PeterLang Scholarsourcing series 2021-2022).

Sharma serves as the PF&R chair for 2022-2023 for the International Communication Division (ICD), AEJMC. Before starting her doctoral studies, Sharma worked as a journalist with *The Times of India* and *The Indian Express* in India.

Ingrid Sturgis
Howard University



Ingrid Sturgis is chair and an associate professor specializing in new media in the Department of Media, Journalism and Film in the Cathy Hughes School of Communications at Howard University. She has worked as a reporter and editor for newspapers such as the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the *Times-Herald Record* and the *Poughkeepsie Journal*, and as managing editor for two magazine start-ups. In addition, she has worked online as editor-in-chief for Essence.com and as an editor for AOL's Black Voices.

Consequently, digital media has become the focus of Sturgis's research, which addresses the digital divide and how under-represented groups may use digital media to empower communities, which is critical for a healthy democratic society. She has extensive knowledge and expertise in social media, digital media literacy, media misinformation, and online education.

She is a certified Workplace Integrity Trainer through the Freedom Forum's Power Shift project, an initiative to improve diversity, equity and culture at news organizations. Sturgis has been a recipient of a Fulbright-Hays fellowship and received an NSF subgrant for the CPATH Distributed Expertise project. As member of AEJMC, she has been awarded fellowships from the Institute for Diverse Leadership and the Copenhagen Center.

She has edited and authored several books, including *Are Traditional Media Dead: Can Journalism Survive in the Digital World*, and *Social Media: Pedagogy and Practice*.

Sturgis has a master's in journalism from N.Y.U. and a B.A. in art from City College of N.Y. She is currently a doctoral student in Higher Education Leadership and Policy Studies program at Howard University.

If elected, Sturgis would use her position to further efforts to dispel misinformation in media, support diversity efforts in academia and examine the impact of artificial intelligence on coverage of diverse communities. Reach her on Instagram/Threads and X (Twitter) @isturgis and LinkedIn @ingridsturgis.

Committee on Research Profiles

Lucinda Austin

University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill



Lucinda Austin (PhD, University of Maryland College Park) serves as Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Hussman School of Journalism and Media. Prior to her current appointment she served as PhD Program Director and Master's in Theory and Research Program Director. She researches pressing problems in strategic communication, primarily addressing social media and crisis communication, and publics' perspectives in corporate social responsibility and advocacy. Austin has actively served AEJMC for over 15 years, mostly in the Public Relations Division (PRD). She has served as PRD Head (2021-2022), Vice Head/Elect (2019-2021), Research Chair/Vice Chair (2017-2019), Teaching and Student Research Competition Chair/Vice Chair (2015-2017), Professional Freedom and Responsibility Chair/Co-Chair (2013-2015), and more. She has also been involved in multiple other divisions and interest groups, including Mass Communication and Society, ComSHER, and the Religion Media and Interest Group.

She has authored close to 70 journal articles and book chapters including top journals such as *Communication Research*, *New Media and Society*, *Health Communication*, *Journal of Applied Communication Research*, *Journal of Public Relations Research*, *Public Relations Review*, and many more. She serves on multiple editorial boards, including the *Journal of Public Relations Research*, *Contingencies and Crisis Management*, and more. She sits on the Advisory Committee for the International Public Relations Research Conference, has reviewed for a wide variety of journals/conferences, as well as for NSF grant funding and top scholarly book publishers. Her past professional experience includes research for clients such as CDC, HHS, FEMA, and Red Cross. She has won multiple top paper awards and been awarded the AEJMC Mass Communication and Society Research and Promising Professor Awards, the Arthur W. Page Center's Scholar Awards, and NCA's PRIDE Award. Austin is co-editor of two Routledge books on *Social Media and Crisis Communication* (2017/2022).

Valérie Bélair-Gagnon
University of Minnesota



Valérie Bélair-Gagnon (PhD, City, University of London) is associate professor and Cowles fellow in media management at the Hubbard School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities where she also serves as the director of undergraduate studies.

Bélair-Gagnon has been actively mentoring graduate students attending AEJMC, reviewing papers, and has made multiple presentations at AEJMC about research. She also has served on many service and research panels as a member of the association.

She is currently engaged with research around mental health, well-being, innovation and identity of journalists and media professionals. She is co-author of *The Paradox of Connection* (Illinois, 2024, with Diana Bossio, Avery E. Holton and Logan Molyneux), *Happiness in Journalism* (Routledge, 2023, with Avery E. Holton, Mark Deuze and Claudia Mellado), and *Journalism Research that Matters* (Oxford University Press, 2021, with Nikki Usher).

She also is the author of *Social Media at BBC News* (Routledge, 2015). She has edited 3 special issues. Her other 50+ publications have appeared in more than peer-reviewed journals, white papers and book chapters.

She is also a mental health advocate at the University of Minnesota where she received the training. She is also affiliated with the University of Minnesota Department of Sociology, Yale Law School Information Society Project, and Department of Journalism and Media Studies, Oslo Metropolitan University. Prior to that, she was executive director of the Yale Law School Information Society Project and a fellow at Tow Center for Digital Journalism, Columbia University.

Patrick Ferrucci
University of Colorado
Boulder



Pat Ferrucci (PhD University of Missouri) is an associate professor and the chair in the Department of Journalism in the College of Media, Communication, and Information at the University of Colorado Boulder. His research is situated in media sociology, primarily concerning itself with how shifting notions of 'organization' in journalism lead to influence on journalism practice. Specifically, his work examines organization-level variables' impact on message construction.

He has been an active member of AEJMC since 2011, attending every conference since then. Ferrucci served in leadership for the Newspaper and Online News Division for six years, ending his time in Newspaper and Online News Division (NOND) as chair of the division after the 2023 conference in Washington DC. At AEJ, he's presented more than 60 papers across 15 DIGs and lucked into 15 top paper awards.

He's the author of *Making Nonprofit News* (Routledge), *Reviving Rural News* (Routledge, with Teri Finneman and Nick Mathews) and the co-editor of *The Institutions Changing Journalism* (Routledge, with Scott A. Eldridge III). His most recent book, *The Organization of Journalism* (Illinois), will be out in the fall. Ferrucci's work also appears in dozens of journal articles and book chapters.

He earned a BA in sociology from Providence College and an MA in journalism from Emerson College. Prior to attending the Missouri School of Journalism for his PhD, he spent nine years as a professional journalist, primarily covering music and other forms of arts and entertainment, for a variety of news outlets.

Logan Molyneux
Temple University



Logan Molyneux (Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin) is Associate Professor of journalism at Temple University's Klein College of Communication. He currently serves as chair of the journalism department. He previously directed Klein College's Master of Journalism program.

Molyneux is a regular contributor to AEJMC's research culture. He's been a member since 2012 and his work has been recognized with eight of the conference's top paper awards. He serves as a volunteer reviewer for the conference each year and as chair or discussant for sessions in NOND. He served as presidential intern under AEJMC past president Paula Poindexter.

Molyneux's research tracks the adoption, normalization, and impact of social media in journalism. His surveys of journalists and analysis of their work have illuminated journalism's relationship to new technologies, especially mobile and social media. His work appears in more than a dozen peer-reviewed journals, including *Digital Journalism* (where he serves as an editorial board member), *Journalism Practice*, *Journalism Studies*, *Journalism: Theory, Practice, and Criticism*, and more.

As a member of the Research Committee, Molyneux hopes to strengthen and sustain the rising generation of journalism and mass communication scholars by leading in mentoring, training, and modeling an exemplary research culture. He seeks to build on AEJMC's legacy as a valuable network of scholars that lift up those behind them, developing capable leadership for AEJMC, its members, and the schools, students, and professionals they serve. Molyneux values a strong relationship between research and teaching and sees AEJMC as the best place to cultivate this relationship in service of journalism education.

Research Profiles con't.

Newly Paul
University of North Texas



Newly Paul is an associate professor in the Mayborn School of Journalism at the University of North Texas. She has been a member of AEJMC for more than a decade and has served as reviewer, discussant, moderator, and member of various AEJMC groups. In 2023, she was Chair of the Entertainment Studies Interest Group (ESIG). Previously, she was vice chair and research chair of ESIG and social media liaison at CSW.

Her research uses race and gender as a lens to address issues related to intercultural communication, media coverage of politics, and entertainment. Her media diversity research seeks to understand how diversity in the newsroom impacts media content and how audience demographics and economic factors play a role. Most recently, she published about the effects of identity on social media messaging in elections, and how news coverage of Asian Americans was affected by racial stereotypes propagated during the pandemic. Her research has won grants and awards such as the AEJMC Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver Outstanding Early-Career Woman Scholar Award. She has published her work in top journals such as *Political Research Quarterly*, *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Journal of Computer Mediated Communication*, and *Atlantic Journal of Communication*.

Paul has taught a variety of classes such as introduction to mass communication, news reporting and writing, copyediting, political reporting, qualitative research methods, and minorities in media. She has won teaching awards such as the Linda Shockley Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the Promising Professor award, both from various divisions in AEJMC. Before joining academia, she worked as a professional journalist covering entertainment, youth, culture and environment issues. Her journalistic works appeared in various publications in India and Los Angeles.

Paul received her Ph.D. in media and public affairs from Louisiana State University and her master's in journalism from University of Southern California.

Cylor Spaulding
California State University,
Fullerton



Cylor Spaulding, Ph.D., is the interim associate dean in the College of Communications and an associate professor in the Department of Communications at California State University, Fullerton where he teaches courses in the undergraduate public relations concentration and in the department's graduate program. His research focuses on public relations and its intersections with history, religion, and the LGBTQ+ community, and he has published in a variety of well-respected academic journals and co-edited a textbook on public relations case studies.

Prior to joining California State University, Fullerton, Spaulding was the faculty director for Georgetown University's graduate public relations program, where he taught various courses and oversaw faculty and curriculum development, and an assistant professor at Towson University. He also spent a decade in the public relations industry, working for several firms, including Rogers & Cowan and Weber Shandwick. In his role with these agencies, Spaulding has managed analyst relations, media relations and consumer relations campaigns both on a local/regional and a national and international scale for clients as diverse as Activision, The Hazelden Foundation, Razer, Gallagher & Kennedy, and Microsoft.

Spaulding holds a Ph.D. in Communication from the University of Miami, a M.A. degree in Strategic Public Relations from the University of Southern California, and a B.A. degree in Journalism from Arizona State University. Additionally, he is currently the senior associate editor of *Public Relations Journal*, and he has held leadership positions in PRSA's Educators Academy and AEJMC's Religion and Media Interest Group.

Jessica Willoughby
Washington State University



Jessica Willoughby (PhD, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), is a Lester M. Smith distinguished associate professor in the Edward R. Murrow College of Communication at Washington State University. Her research focuses on the development of theoretically grounded risk reduction health communication interventions for adolescents and young adults and media effects related to health attitudes and behaviors. Her work has resulted in more than 70 publications and a co-edited book under contract with Routledge. She has received 19 grants and contracts. Willoughby previously served on the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine committee on the prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections, serving as a communication expert. She works to advance public health through the application of her research findings, having presented to approximately 1000 health educators over the last two years on strategies for using social media for health promotion and results with practice implications. She serves on the *Health Communication*, *Journal of Health Communication*, *Science Communication* and *Journal of Sex Research* editorial boards and annually reviews approximately 30 manuscripts across more than a dozen journals.

She is currently the Vice-Head for AEJMC's ComSHER (Communicating Science, Health, Environment and Risk) Division, having served as social media chair and teaching chair. As the ComSHER research chair for two years, she oversaw the research competition amid record-high submissions. Since becoming an AEJMC member more than a decade ago, Willoughby has presented more than 20 studies at AEJMC conferences across multiple divisions. She consistently reviews for multiple AEJMC divisions.

Willoughby has received awards related to her research from AEJMC, including the Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver Outstanding Junior Scholar Award from the Commission on the Status of Women, a Mass Communication and Society Division Professional Freedom and Responsibility Award, and multiple top paper awards from the Communication Theory and Methodology and ComSHER divisions.

[Bluesky](#) [Twitter/X](#) [LinkedIn](#)

Fan Yang
University of South Florida



Fan Yang is an assistant professor in the Zimmerman School of Advertising & Mass Communications. Since joining the Zimmerman School in 2023, she founded the Human and AI Research Lab and is currently serving as the Director of the Media Research Center at the University of South Florida.

During her time in graduate school, Fan served the largest division of AEJMC – Mass Communication & Society Division (MCSD) – for 10 years and was the Head of the division in 2023. Passionate about engaged scholarship, Fan has also served as a member of the Social Science Curriculum Committee at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Berkshire Community College, where she taught a “Digital Literacy for Seniors” course for individuals aged 50+.

Fan's research interests center around emerging AI-powered communication technology, with a special focus on Human-AI interaction, digital justice, misinformation, and information literacy. She employs a wide range of research methods, including interviews, surveys, experiments, meta-analytics, social network analysis, and text mining.

Her scholarly work has been funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Insight Development Grant and the Arthur W. Page Center for Integrity in Public Communications. She has published in various peer-reviewed journals, such as *American Behavioral Scientist*, *Communication Research*, *Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking*, *Information, Communication & Society*, *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Journal of Broadcasting and Electronic Media*, and *New Media & Society*. She serves on the editorial boards for *Mass Communication and Society* and the *Review of Communication Research*. Additionally, she has reviewed over 40 manuscripts for interdisciplinary peer-reviewed journals, professional organizations, and federal agencies, such as the National Science Foundation.

Fan earned her doctoral degree in communication from Pennsylvania State University in 2017, with a graduate minor in statistics. She enjoys teaching audience analysis, media analytics, storytelling with data, and discussing data and new communication technology in general.

Committee on Teaching Profiles

Masudul (Mas) Biswas
Loyola University Maryland



Masudul (Mas) Biswas (PhD, Louisiana State University) is a professor and chair of the Communication Department at Loyola University Maryland. Biswas teaches a wide range of courses in communication, especially in digital and emerging media. The courses he has taught include user experience, web development, mobile media, data visualization and storytelling, promotional publication design, digital content creation, and senior capstone in digital media. He regularly teaches a course on diversity and representation in the context of U.S. media.

Diversity in journalism and communication education is Biswas's one of the major research interests. He has recently co-authored a book on *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategies: Learning from Journalism and Mass Communication Programs with Professional Impact* (published by Rowman & Littlefield). Additionally, he authored and co-authored eight peer-reviewed journal articles and three book chapters on multiple aspects of diversity in journalism and communication education. His media education articles were published in *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator* and *Teaching Journalism & Mass Communication*. Biswas's other research interests are journalism and diversity, ethnic news media, and media and development. Some of his peer-reviewed journal articles in these areas were published in *Newspaper Research Journal*, *Social Development Issues*, *Arab Media & Society*, and *Journal of Development Communication*.

As an evidence of his program development, Biswas is in the process of co-creating a new interdisciplinary minor program in business journalism in collaboration with the Economics Department and Business School at Loyola University Maryland. He also participated in a UNICEF-Ohio University project in 2017-2018 to develop a curriculum on Communication for Development in Bangladesh universities.

Biswas is currently a fellow of the AEJMC's Institute of Diverse Leadership (IDL) class of 2023-24.

He will campaign via email, Twitter (@MasBiswas) and LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/masudul-mas-biswas-4438a347/>).

Bob Britten
University of West Virginia



Bob Britten is an associate professor at the WVU Reed College of Media. Britten has been working in journalism and news design since his junior year of college, when he was "promoted" from movie reviewer to managing editor of his campus newspaper.

In the subsequent decade he has worked as a reporter, graphics reporter, designer, art director, graphics editor and editorial director, in addition to picking up freelance writing and designing jobs. Britten has worked for newspapers of various sizes (*the Greenville Record-Argus*, *the Meadville Tribune*, *the Columbia Missourian*, *the Seattle Times*), as well as publications such as *Vox* (an alternative newsweekly in Missouri), *Allegheny* magazine, and a national agriculture magazine, *Farm Journal*, and its subsidiary, *Beef Today*. He also designed and art-directed *Crescendo!*, a fashion magazine in Columbia, Missouri.

Britten earned his B.A. in English (2000) from Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa., and earned his master's (2004) and doctorate (2008) in journalism from the University of Missouri. He was also a 2003 Visual Journalism Fellow at the Poynter Institute.

Britten's areas of interest are visual communication, rhetoric and culture, especially the role of these in building and maintaining social memory. These were the focus of his dissertation, titled, "The Face of What Came After: Memorialization of September 11 in News Images and the Shanksville Site."

Britten has taught courses in magazine design, information graphics, interactive design, photography in society and qualitative research methods. He teaches visual communication and news design courses at WVU.

Hazel J. Cole
University of West Georgia



Hazel J. Cole is an Associate Professor and Public Relations Concentration Head in the Department of Mass Communications at the University of West Georgia. Cole has had many achievements throughout her career in Public Relations both within the university and within her independent career.

She has co-developed the Public Relations curriculum as well as the experiential learning lab Bluestone at UWG. In addition to these accomplishments she has received various awards which include the Visionary Leadership Award for Curriculum Development, UWG Best of the West Values Recognition Award and was a nominee for the Outstanding Mentor Award.

Cole also acts as a mentor for students and is able to offer insight for students pursuing mass communications. She encourages students to begin their professional development as early as possible in order to become a successful, respected member of the communications community.

"Students must focus and imagine themselves in decision-making positions," said Cole. "Then they should begin to build and cultivate relationships with professors and business leaders; gain experience through volunteering and internships; and sharpen soft and hard skills."

"In addition, students should develop a success plan by finding a mentor, working at a high level in and outside the classroom, engage in properly developing networks and develop the art of networking, be willing to step outside a comfort zone to learn something new or experience a new approach to problem solving," continued Cole. "Finally, students should become business, media, and social media savvy, practice professionalism daily, in their appearance and in all forms of their written and spoken communication, as well as images posted online. There's a lot of work involved, but it begins with respect for self and others."

Cole's contributions to mass communications and public relations have made great impacts on students and faculty at both the university and professional level. She has been granted many awards and academic achievements and will continue to do so as she pursues future endeavors.

Harrison Hove
University of Florida



Harrison Hove (MA, University of Missouri) is an associate chair and associate instructional professor in Journalism at the University of Florida, where he teaches courses focused on broadcast writing, television news reporting, in-depth reporting and pedagogy. He also serves as interim director of the Innovation News Center, a converged professional newsroom and immersive learning hub that serves more than 400 students per semester. Harrison received the University of Florida's highest teaching honor in 2021, when he was named UF Teacher of the Year out of more than 4,000 faculty members.

As an active member of AEJMC, he served as head of the LGBTQ Interest Group and the Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division. Hove has been honored for his teaching by MCS's Promising Professor competition (2021) and the Teaching Committee's Best Practices in DEI competition (2022).

Harrison has worked to enhance active and experiential learning opportunities in his classes to help his students achieve at the highest levels. At AEJMC conferences, he has shared his experience in curriculum internationalization, project-based learning, enhancing student cultural competencies and overcoming challenges in online learning. He regularly facilitates university-wide teaching workshops for UF faculty and currently serves as a UF Teaching Excellence Faculty Fellow tasked with ensuring online course quality. Harrison's students have earned more than 100 regional and national awards during the last five years. This includes Edward R. Murrow Award winners, Hearst Journalism Award national champions, and BEA Best of Festival winners.

Harrison also directs the UF Summer Media Institute. This hands-on summer learning program for high schoolers incorporates experiential learning designed to unlock a passion for communication disciplines and enhance college readiness. He has also launched a companion program called CJC On the Go that brings immersive learning directly to various Florida Title 1 public high schools. Twitter: @HarrisonHove Email: hchove@ufl.edu community.aejmc.org

Teaching Profiles con't.

Jeremy Littau
Lehigh University



Jeremy Littau is a former journalist who specializes in teaching and researching digital media as an associate professor of journalism and communication at Lehigh. He worked in newsrooms for 10 years as both a reporter and editor, most recently with the Los Angeles Daily News until 2004. He did his graduate work at the Missouri School of Journalism (PhD '09, MA '07) and undergraduate study at Biola University (BA '97).

Littau specializes in digital media. He teaches courses in multimedia that include components on audio and video production, web building, social media, and interactive media. Engagement via social media and interactive digital products is a common thread in all his classes, helping students understand the possibilities that come with the social web in terms of story generation, research, production, and dissemination. He also teaches seminars at the intersection of media and society, including seminars on digital culture and the role of science fiction in society.

As a researcher, Littau applies his interest in social forms of digital media. His work centers at the intersection of social media, community, social action, and political engagement. He has published work on Twitter, mobile video, participatory journalism, and digital communities in journals such as *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Electronic News*, *Community Journalism* and *Newspaper Research Journal*. He was awarded the Frank Hook fellowship for 2015-17 for his research, teaching, and mentoring work at Lehigh, and his dissertation about digital communities and virtual "civic" life won the 2010 Nafziger-White-Salwen award for top dissertation from the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

As an active scholar, Littau is known for his creative work in the digital journalism community. His Twitter account and professional blog have significant following and his thoughts on digital and social media have led to him being quoted by several media outlets producing stories on the latest in technology, society, and social media. He also is the co-host for the weekly Interchange Project podcast, which features weekly news and commentary on technology and the liberal arts.

Kim Marks Malone
University of Memphis



Kim Marks Malone, APR, Fellow PRSA, is an Associate Professor of Practice in the Department of Journalism and Strategic Media at the University of Memphis where she teaches a diverse undergraduate and graduate student community in PR and digital/social media. Before becoming a full-time, non-tenure track educator, Marks Malone was an adjunct instructor and a visiting professor, giving her a unique perspective and understanding of the different teaching needs within AEJMC's membership. With an ever-increasing number of faculty at U.S. universities and colleges on contingent or non-tenure appointments (AAUP, 2022), her professional-track faculty member's point of view on the Committee is increasingly important.

A retired U.S. Navy public affairs officer and award-winning PR practitioner, a broad global perspective and diverse cultural experiences inform Marks Malone's teaching. She is active in PRSA, holding local, district, and national leadership positions, and she leverages her professional network to enhance industry and academic partnerships and expand students' experiential learning.

Marks Malone placed second in the 2022 PRD Teaching Paper Competition and has published research about teaching PR ethics in ACEJMC-accredited and PRSA-certified programs, professional accreditation of PR faculty, and a teaching brief offering lessons for authentic activist messages through PR, all in the *Journal of Public Relations Education*. She has presented on panels about experiential learning, online education, PRSSA, and the promotion and development of non-tenure track faculty at AEJMC, PRSA, SSCA. This year, she serves as the Vice Chair for PRD's Teaching Committee. The faculty adviser for the award-winning Memphis Public Relations Student Society of America and the student-run agency Meeman 901 Strategies, Marks Malone also coordinates the Department's nationally ranked online programs. She was named a Kopenhaver Center Fellow in 2021 and is a three-time recipient of the Dean's Academic Advising Award.

For more information about her qualifications and experience, visit <https://express.adobe.com/page/NGUtsYEFgGa1>

@ksmarks (X | Threads | Instagram)
@kimmarksmalone (LinkedIn)

Laura K. Smith
University of South Carolina



My name is Laura K. Smith and I'm a Senior Instructor in the University of South Carolina's School of Journalism and Mass Communications. This year, I am finishing a three-year term on AEJMC's Elected Standing Committee on Teaching and would like to continue my service for another term.

In 2021-2022, I volunteered as Vice Head of the committee – running the Great Ideas for Teacher (GIFT) competition. In that role, I coordinated the submission and evaluation of entries focusing on DEI in the classroom. As the committee's Head in 2022-2023, I worked alongside my colleagues to plan a wide range of conference programming including our quadrennial Cornerstone panel, "Navigating Solutions for Teaching Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in a Democratic Society," and an exciting round table session on "Learning in the Age of AI." The standing-room-only event featured teaching experts on eight topics – ranging from "Journalism Information, Misinformation and Authenticity" to "Using AI Responsibly in the Workplace" and "Using AI/ML in Audience Analysis & Media Competition." It was a combination of controlled chaos and speed learning – and great fun!

As a former broadcast journalist, I've also served in every leadership position in the Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division (including division head) and maintain ties with MAC.

I have nearly 35 years of industry and university-level teaching experience, including writing, reporting, visual storytelling, news producing, podcasting, and media management. I'm proud to have won 2023 Edward L. Bliss Award for Distinguished Broadcast Journalism Education and USC's Garnet Apple Award for Innovative Teaching.

In my scholarly life, I'm dedicated to academic assessment and regularly publish on the topic in the *Journal of Media Education*. I hold a doctoral degree in Journalism from UT Austin (2004), as well as a bachelor's in Telecommunications (1987) and master's in mass communication (1994) from the University of Florida.

Patrick Walters
Washington and Lee University



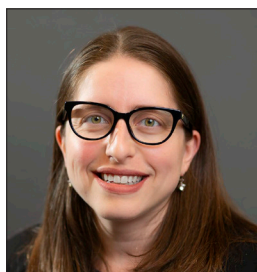
Patrick Walters is an assistant professor in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia. He teaches courses on the fundamentals of reporting and digital journalism, as well as an introductory course in mass communication. Prior to starting at W&L in July 2022, Walters taught journalism, literary journalism and composition courses for eight years at Kutztown University, a public university in eastern Pennsylvania; at Kutztown, he also advised the student newspaper, *The Keystone*. Before entering academia, he worked for 15 years in daily journalism, including 12 years as a reporter and editor at the Associated Press in Philadelphia.

Walters has served as chair of the Teaching Standards Committee for AEJMC's Newspaper and Online News Division since Fall 2017. In that role, he has coordinated the division's annual Teaching News Terrifically in the 21st Century competition, which seeks innovative, classroom-tested ideas for teaching journalism. As part of managing the contest, he also coordinates a panel of the winners for AEJMC's annual conference. Prior to serving as the teaching chair, he edited *LeadTime*, the division's newsletter, for two years. He also serves on the editorial board of the division's journal, *Newspaper Research Journal*.

Walters holds a B.A. in English from the University of Virginia, an M.F.A. in creative nonfiction from Goucher College, and a Ph.D. in Media and Communication from Temple University. His research interests focus on the changing nature of the journalistic field and the evolution of media gatekeeping in today's highly networked news ecosystem. His work has appeared in *Journalism*, *Journalism Studies*, *Digital Journalism*, *Journalism Practice*, *American Journalism*, and other peer-reviewed journals.

Publications Committee Profiles

Alyssa Appelman
University of Kansas



Alyssa Appelman is an associate professor in the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Kansas. Alyssa specializes in news accuracy and credibility. She tests the effects of journalistic norms and practices on readers. She has conducted projects on the effects of grammatical errors, stylistic errors and factual errors in news articles. More broadly, she's interested in the effects of message characteristics in digital and social media.

Alyssa's research has been published in *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Journalism Practice*, *Newspaper Research Journal*, *Mass Communication and Society*, *Electronic News*, *Computers in Human Behavior*, *Journal of Media Ethics*, *Corporate Reputation Review*, *College Media Review*, *Communication Research Reports*, *Convergence*, and *American Behavioral Scientist*.

From 2015-2023, Alyssa was a faculty member in the School of Media and Communication in the College of Informatics at Northern Kentucky University. She received NKU's *Excellence in Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Award* in 2019 for her body of work. She also served on several campus research initiatives, including the University Research Council and the NKU Research Foundation.

Before entering the academy, Alyssa worked for Freedom Communications as a copy editor and page designer for multiple publications, including the *Northwest Florida Daily News* and the *Panama City News Herald*. Alyssa interned at *The Washington Times* and *The Washington Post*, and she freelanced for *Voices of Central Pennsylvania*, the Atlantic Publishing Group, Inc., and Samsung Research America.

Alyssa earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in journalism from the University of Missouri-Columbia and her doctorate in mass communications from The Pennsylvania State University. She also earned two certificates through Poynter and ACES: The Society for Editing. Alyssa has been an active member of AEJMC since 2012.

She will campaign via X (<https://twitter.com/AAppelman>) and LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/alyssa-a-29644a13/>).

Maha Bashri
United Arab Emirates
University



Maha Bashri holds a PhD from the University of South Carolina's School of Journalism and Mass Communications. She is currently an Associate Professor of Communication at the United Arab Emirates University, following her previous role at Bradley University in Illinois, USA.

Her research interests include political communication, technology's role in politics, digital literacy and citizenship. Notably, her work examines the convergence of mobilization, new media and gender dynamics.

Presently, she is investigating the influence of media and information literacy on democratic transitions, focusing on networked movements in Africa, particularly in Sudan and their communication dynamics.

Stephanie Craft
University of Illinois



Stephanie Craft (PhD, Stanford University) is a Professor of Journalism and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Media at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She currently serves on the editorial boards of two AEJMC-affiliated journals, *Journalism & Communication Monographs* and *Journal of Media Ethics*, and the non-AEJMC journal *Journalism Studies*. She was a guest co-editor for a special issue of *Mass Communication & Society* addressing "Media and the Future of Democracy" and previously served as the book review editor for the *International Journal of Press/Politics*. She is an active reviewer for a wide range of journals, including *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly* and *Mass Communication & Society*, as well as for conference submissions. Her prior service to AEJMC includes chairing the Media Ethics Division (2006-2007) and membership on the Emerging Scholars Award Steering Committee.

Craft's research addresses journalism norms, ethics and practices and how news literacy is defined and measured. Her work has appeared in refereed journals and edited volumes across the journalism studies, communication and media literacy fields. More than a decade ago, she headed a research team that received McCormick Foundation funding to develop a scale to measure news literacy. That collaboration has since expanded to include researchers at five universities. With funding support from the Mass Communication and Society Division of AEJMC, that team re-theorized "news literacy" to distinguish the knowledge and skills comprising it from the behaviors associated with it and developed a news literacy measure that is adaptable to diverse national contexts. Craft is co-author of the textbook *Principles of American Journalism* (Routledge), now in its third edition. She was a senior editor of the *Oxford Encyclopedia of Journalism Studies*. Prior to becoming a professor, she worked as a newspaper journalist in California, Arkansas and Washington.

Robert "Ted" Gutsche
Florida Atlantic University



Ted Gutsche is Associate Professor in the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies at Florida Atlantic University and Visiting Professor in the Faculty of Informatics at Vytautas Magnus University, in Lithuania. Gutsche serves as Associate Editor of *Journalism Practice* and hosts its podcast, "The J Word" (currently on hiatus). His work with the journal and its podcast aims to diversify the editorial board, article submissions and special issues, and to highlight and uplift voices of Early Career Researchers, especially women scholars. "The J Word" makes guests' articles free access for a temporary period to spread their work.

Since 2013, Gutsche has served as an editorial board member of the AEJMC journal *Journalism and Mass Communication Educator* and served as Reviews Editor of the AEJMC CCSD-affiliated *Journal of Communication Inquiry* during his Ph.D. studies at the University of Iowa while he was also Associate Editor of the *Iowa Journal of Cultural Studies*. Gutsche currently contributes as an editorial board member for *World of Media*, *Journal of Environmental Media*, *Journalism and Media*, and *Media and Communication*. He also served on the Executive Committee for several years of AEJMC's CCSD.

Gutsche's research surrounds interrogating issues of power and ideology in journalism and media, most recently in environmental and political communication. He is the author of more than 60 scholarly articles and book chapters, as well as author/co-author and/or editor/co-editor of 10 books, many which apply critical/cultural approaches to interpretations of media content and practice.

In 2023, Gutsche participated in the Scripps Howard Leadership Academy in the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University. He is currently leading on strategy for the FAU Political Communication and Public Opinion Research Lab and reported for several news outlets before his Ph.D., including *The Washington Post*, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, and *Chicago Tribune*.

Publications Profiles con't.

Keren Henderson
Syracuse University



Keren Henderson (PhD, Louisiana State University) is an associate professor of broadcast and digital journalism at Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. She teaches undergraduate courses in broadcast and digital journalism and graduate courses in communication.

Henderson first learned to tell audio-visual stories as a production assistant for a television show called *Zoo Diaries* in Toronto and as a celebrity wedding videographer and editor in Santa Barbara (two remarkably similar jobs). Using her master's degree in mass communication from Louisiana State University, Henderson translated her storytelling skills into a journalism career as a local TV news producer and video editor. She returned to LSU in 2010 to earn a doctoral degree in mass communication.

Henderson's research interests include the sociology of American newsrooms and the relationship between the business and the craft of making news. Her peer-reviewed publications have appeared in *Electronic News* and *Journalism*. Henderson is a co-PI on a team of National Science Foundation (NSF) funded researchers studying the future of news work, focused on artificial intelligence. One NSF study already received much positive attention at the Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) in 2023 and the preprint of a newer NSF study has already been cited more than a dozen times.

Henderson is the research papers vice-chair for Broadcast Education Association (BEA) News Division. She is associate editor of the *Electronic News Journal* (Sage) – flagship journal of AEJMC's Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division. She is also co-director of the nationally recognized Radio Television Digital News Association (RTDNA)/Syracuse University's annual broadcast newsroom employment survey.

Vanessa Higgins Joyce
Texas State University



Vanessa de Macedo Higgins Joyce is an Associate Professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Texas State University and a Senior Faculty Research Associate with the Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas. She received her Ph.D. in journalism from the University of Texas at Austin and her BS from the Pontificia Universidade Católica – SP, Brazil. In Brazil, she worked for the public opinion research companies Ipsos Opinion and Vox Populi, and emerging digital-native news. Her research focuses on the evolution of journalism in an interconnected world, focusing on transnational and Latin American media and the relationship between journalism and democracy. Her most recent book *Digital-Native News in South America Building Bridges with Diverse Audiences in Argentina, Brazil and Colombia* is in press by Palgrave MacMillan (April estimate). She is also a co-author of the book *From Telenovelas to Netflix: Transnational, Transverse Television in Latin America* (2021).

Higgins Joyce has served Aeajmc and the International Communication Division in several roles, including Teaching Standard Chair, Secretary, PF&R (twice), Student competition chair, Research Chair, Midwinter Chair and currently Vice Chair of ICD. She has served as reviewer for several of Aeajmc's publications and divisions for the annual conference. She serves as an Editorial Review Board Member, Miguel Hernández Communication Journal, Spain. At ICD, she is working to promote participation and further exchange with international scholars, specially with those from the Global South.