

## Center for Media and Democracy Selected for 2012 PF&R Award

By Madeleine Esch  
PF&R Chair

The votes are in! We are pleased to announce that the Center for Media and Democracy (CMD) will be presented with the C&CS Professional Freedom and Responsibility award at our August 2012 conference in Chicago.

For nearly two decades, the CMD, a media watchdog organization based in Madison, Wis., has been exposing the influence of PR spin in media and government. Most recently, the organization has its sights trained on the American Legislative Exchange Council in its "ALEC Exposed" series.

Stay tuned for more information about our PF&R award panel to be held 5 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 10. In the meantime, you can find out more about the CMD at <http://prwatch.org>.

Thanks to all the members

who voted this year and to those who submitted nominations.

About the PF&R award:

This award recognizes a media professional who exemplifies the concept of professional freedom and responsibility within the framework



of cultural and critical studies. Professional freedom and responsibility

encompasses (1) free expression, (2) ethics, (3) media criticism and accountability, (4) racial, gender, and cultural inclusiveness, and (5) public service.

In recent years, the C&CS division has focused on honoring professionals based in the location of each annual convention. Previous award winners include print and broadcast journalists, scholars and educators, and organizations such as Grade the News and the Media Education Foundation.

## Diverse C&CS Research at Mid-Winter Conference

By Rebecca Kern  
C&CS Secretary and Mid-Winter Program Chair

C&CS joined 11 other divisions, interest groups, and commissions for the AEJMC Mid-Winter Conference at the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Oklahoma in Norman on March 2-3. C&CS accepted 12 submissions, with quite a number from graduate students.

The presented research in-progress and finished papers reflected the diversity of critical and cultural studies research. The first of the three panels, "Framing Race and Sexuality" discussed impacts of race, sexuality, and other markers of identity in cultural arenas such as sports and journalism. The second panel, "(Re) Constructing Time, Space, and Body" examined intersections of the physical, temporal, and spatial in mediated narratives. The third panel, "Citizenship, Action, and the Future of Communication," co-sponsored with Religion and Media Interest Group, explored specialized communicative strategies and new directions in communication practice.

Thanks to the discussants and moderators (many from the University of Oklahoma), and very special thanks to Ralph Beliveau for his help each year!

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## Inside:

The AEJMC 2012 Convention will be held in Chicago on Aug. 9-12, 2012.

See page 5 for a preview of C&CS panels, posters, PF&R session, and business meeting dates/times.



## Headnote:

# **Revitalizing Our Membership: Calling All Graduate Students, and You, Too**

JACQUELINE LAMBIASE, TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



**W**ho belongs in the Cultural and Critical Studies Division?

I think that C&CS members might rightly claim our division has one of the biggest umbrellas of all, when compared to other divisions and interest groups that are part of AEJMC.

It's true that CCS certainly isn't as large as several other divisions that "stick to the silos" of our discipline, such as advertising, news, or public relations. But what CCS doesn't have in numbers it makes up for in breadth and depth of modes of inquiry. Here's an updated definition of our group, developed by an ad hoc working group of members last fall:

The division welcomes a variety of research topics and approaches that include, but are not limited to, historical studies, feminist scholarship, news analysis, political economy, literary analysis with a media foundation, philosophy of communication, ethics, and media criticism. C&CS also encourages work that challenges conventional approaches to media, examines paradigmatic assumptions, and explores innovative ways of theorizing.

Another working group, led by Robert Handley of the University of Denver, will carry this enlarged definition to graduate students. A few years ago, Bob helped the division as a graduate student himself, and now as a postdoctoral fellow and lecturer, he's mentoring C&CS

graduate students Liz Lance (Missouri), Loren Saxton (Georgia), and Nick Gilewicz (Penn) in outreach to other graduate students.

Bob is also lending a hand with AEJMC's mentoring program for new members, matching new members interested in C&CS with existing members.

C&CS officers seek your help in three ways:

**1. Mentoring.** Please let Bob know if you'd be willing to serve as a mentor for a new AEJMC member who is interested in our division (Robert.Handley@du.edu).

**2. Spreading the word to grad students about our programming.** Pass along information

website to include information for new members about our research formats.

**3. Renewing your membership.**

When the time comes later this year, please be sure to renew your membership in Cultural and Critical Studies.

Our dues support our participation in the Mid-Winter AEJMC conference, held this spring at the University of Oklahoma, where about a dozen researchers presented papers for C&CS panels. Thanks to Rebecca Kern, C&CS secretary, and Ralph Beliveau, the division's onsite coordinator for C&CS. Dues also support the C&CS-affiliated journal, *The Journal of Communi-*

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about C&CS, our division's call for papers, and its excellent programming for August 2012 to potential members and graduate students in your own program.

Erika Engstrom, C&CS vice head, has been working hard on excellent invited panels; the work begins in earnest soon for Kalen Churcher and Katie Foss, our research chairs. They will be issuing an invitation to membership to all the researchers who submit papers to our division. In addition, Susan Wiesinger will be updating our

*cation Inquiry.*

More information about the conference and sessions are included here, and will be shared again in our July newsletter. Our newsletter is designed and edited by Teresa Heinz Housel during a sabbatical, so we thank her for her service during that time!

I'll look forward to seeing many of you in Chicago in just a few months. Thanks for supporting the mission of C&CS at your own institutions and organizations.

## Refereed Paper Posters: How to Effectively Prepare Your Poster

By Erika Engstrom  
Vice-Head and Program Chair

Poster presentations give scholarship a creative visual element, but some scholars may not know how to effectively design and print posters.

### C&CS Members:

The Summer 2012 C&CS Newsletter will be available online in July, before the annual convention.

Please send member news, photos/visuals, paper calls, or other items of interest to the C&CS newsletter editor by 5 p.m. on Friday, June 29.

Include caption information with any photos or other visuals sent.

Please send newsletter materials to Teresa Heinz Housel (Hope College) at [housel@hope.edu](mailto:housel@hope.edu).

A few basic guidelines can help.

When refereed research papers are accepted, they may be scheduled for a poster session, where authors visually display their papers' content for attendees to peruse during the allotted time. Poster sessions allow for one-on-one discussions, an advantage over typical in-room sessions.

C&CS features a Best Poster award with a monetary prize, an incentive for authors to think creatively about the interrelationship between graphics and

*Below:* Example of a past Best Poster awardee; PowerPoint file printed as triptych.



text. Campus print shops typically can transform a PDF of your PowerPoint or Publisher files into large posters, or into triptychs of 24" X 32" panels, either on paper or vinyl. Details on poster sessions are provided to accepted authors scheduled for poster sessions.

### Member News



C&CS Program Chair Erika Engstrom is author of *The Bride Factory: Mass Media Portrayals of Women and Weddings*, just out from Peter Lang

New York. A cultural-critical look at the world of bridal media, including reality television programs, magazines, and newspaper wedding announcements, *The Bride Factory* is based on research that started as AEJMC conference papers.

## Cultural and Critical Studies Division 2011-2012 Officers

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Texas Christian University

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University of Nevada, Las Vegas

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JANE MARCELLUS  
Middle Tennessee State University

C&CS Division Web Site: <http://aejmc.net/ccs/>

### 2012 AEJMC Convention

The AEJMC 2012 Convention will be held at the Chicago Marriott Downtown on Aug. 9-12. Please note that the convention will occur on Thursday-Sunday rather than Wednesday-Saturday as usual. For more information and to view the 2012 paper call, visit: <http://www.aejmc.org/home/events/annual-convention/>





## **Join Us in Chicago!** **We're Looking for Submissions and Reviewers for the August Convention**

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

This year's convention will be held in Chicago, Ill., from August 9 through 12. The division welcomes a variety of research topics and approaches that include, but are not limited to, historical studies, feminist scholarship, news analysis, political economy, literary analysis with a media foundation, philosophy of

communication, ethics, and media criticism.

C&CS also encourages work that challenges conventional approaches to media, examines paradigmatic assumptions, and explores innovative ways of theorizing.

Faculty and students are invited to submit papers by the April 1 deadline. Papers must be uploaded to All-Academic via the AEJMC website. See the AEJMC Uniform Call for Papers for submission requirements.

The division presents awards to the authors of the top-ranking faculty and student submissions. Students especially are urged to submit papers and become involved with the division.

Anyone with questions regarding paper submissions may contact research co-chairs Kalen Churcher ([kchurcher@niagara.edu](mailto:kchurcher@niagara.edu)) or Katie Foss ([Katie.Foss@mtsu.edu](mailto:Katie.Foss@mtsu.edu)).

### **CALL FOR REVIEWERS**

We are looking for faculty members from a variety of subject and theoretical backgrounds to help us with the process.

The division recognizes that reviewing can be a time-consuming process, and we are grateful for your help. The more reviewers we have, the fewer papers each volunteer will be assigned, so encourage your colleagues to participate, too.

And yes, you can both review and submit a paper to the C&CS Division.

If you're interested in volunteering, please contact research co-chairs Kalen Churcher ([kchurcher@niagara.edu](mailto:kchurcher@niagara.edu)) and Katie Foss ([Katie.Foss@mtsu.edu](mailto:Katie.Foss@mtsu.edu)) with your name, full contact information, and at least three areas of research interest. Also, please let us know if you'd consider serving as a chair or discussant for the 2012 conference in Chicago.



## **CULTURAL AND CRITICAL STUDIES DIVISION**

### **Preview of Coming Attractions: Chicago 2012**

Here's a preview of the C&CS program for the 2012 convention in Chicago. The convention program is divided into (1) refereed research paper sessions and (2) panel sessions. Panel sessions, which were selected during the December planning meeting in Louisville, are further categorized as Teaching, Professional Freedom and Responsibility (PF&R), and Research. We thank everyone who submitted a panel proposal.

#### **Thursday, August 9**

**8:15-9:45 a.m.:** "PC or Not PC, That Is the Question: Navigating the Contentious Issue of Political Correctness in the Diversity Studies Classroom," co-sponsored with Commission on the Status of Women (Teaching)

**10-11:30 a.m.:** Refereed Research Papers Session (C&CS only)

**11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.:** "The Male Gaze Revisited," co-sponsored with Visual Communication (Teaching)

**3:15-4:45 p.m.:** "Critiquing the Critiquers: Ethics, Disclosure, and Turning Our Own Favorite Media Inside-Out," co-sponsored with Entertainment Studies (Research)

**5-6:30 p.m.:** Refereed Research Papers High-Density Session (C&CS only)

#### **Friday, August 10**

**8:15-9:45 a.m.:** Refereed Research Paper Poster Session (co-sponsored with Entertainment Studies, Advertising, and Public Relations)

**11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.:** "'Class Warfare' in the Mainstream Media," co-sponsored with Media Ethics (PF&R)

**1:30-3 p.m.:** "Not Just for Historians: Studying Journalism in Time," co-sponsored with History (Research)

**5-6:30 p.m.:** "In Honor of Hanno Hardt: Continuing the Critical Path between Europe and the U.S.," co-sponsored with Community College Journalism Association (PF&R)

**6:45-8:15 p.m.:** C&CS MEMBERS' MEETING

#### **Saturday, August 11**

**12:15-1:30 p.m.:** Refereed Research Papers Scholar-to-Scholar Poster Session (AEJMC-wide)

**1:45-3:15 p.m.:** Refereed Research Papers Session (C&CS only)

**5:15-6:45 p.m.:** "Whose Revolution? Gramsci, History, and the Power of Media in the 21st Century," co-sponsored by History (PF&R)

#### **Sunday, August 12**

**11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.:** "Internationalizing the Discipline: From Students to Service to Studies," co-sponsored by Communication Technology & Policy (Teaching)

**Below: The December Planning Meeting in Louisville.**

