

## Hey CTEC, How Are You Going?

**Jacob Groshek**  
*Division Head*

Looking back and ahead from down under, I know this title might be a bit unusual, but it is the standard greeting here in Australia, and it seemed to appropriately situate the answer that CTEC is going “wonderfully.”

Of course, as you know, the next AEJMC meeting will be held in Washington, DC and will be the 101st meeting of our cherished professional association. This achievement marks just over one hundred years of putting forth quality research, teaching, and professional practices for journalism and mass communication. I personally hope all our members and friends—old, new, and yet to be met—will take the opportunity to participate and help us at CTEC make this conference the best it can be.

Over the years, the CTEC division has attempted to launch its very own scholarly journal. Thus

far, those efforts have been stifled by the lack of a clear editor willing to take on the responsibility and a funding for an editorial assistant.

While I am working on acquiring grant-based funding for the editorial assistant, these applications are still pending, and we are still in need of an editor. If you would like to nominate someone (self-nominations accepted), please do get in contact with me.

Former division Heads Marcus Messner, Homero Gil de Zúñiga and I have drafted a working journal prospectus with a list of agreed editorial board members, and this document is available here and on our recently re-developed CTEC website (<http://aejmcctec.com>).

Hopefully, our efforts thus far will come to fruition and situate CTEC alongside the existing body of AEJMC journals such as *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly* and *Mass Communication & Society*, among many others.

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## Mid-Winter: Just Around the Corner

**Bart Wojdyski**  
*Mid-Winter Conference Coordinator*

Greetings, CTECers! We are just a few days away from the abstract submission deadline for this year’s Midwinter Conference. For those of you that have never been, Mid-winter is a very collegial, graduate-student-friendly conference put on by ten AEJMC divisions and interest groups, including our own.

As has become a recent tradition, the 2013 Mid-winter Conference will be held at the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Oklahoma. Please join us, and encourage your colleagues and graduate students to submit. The full call is listed below.

### *Overview*

The AEJMC Mid-winter Conference is an annual forum for the presentation of research and debate in areas relevant to the 12 AEJMC groups (divisions, interest groups and commissions) sponsoring the event. The conference provides a platform for presentations and extended discussions in a relaxed setting.

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# Best of the Web, 2012 Winners

## Diego Mazorra

*Best of the Web Competition Chair*

At the last annual meeting of AEJMC in Chicago, we had the opportunity of meeting the winners of The Best of the Web Contest, which is organized by the C-Tec Division along with the VisCom Division. Participation by the contestants was, as usual, outstanding. The products that were exhibited in the contest not only integrated the best of journalism with web innovation, but also found new digital tools or, in other cases, articulated artistic and literary contents, like novels, with digital website design.

Under the leadership of the Co-Chair of the contest, Kim Komenich, this year we had an international panel of judges who understood the challenges involved in reviewing the selected categories not only with regards to their content but also considering their developments in each area and their innovating and effective design.

Entries were awarded in three categories of the contest: Team Journalism, Individual Innovation and Team Innovation. Here is the complete list of winners, by category.

## TEAM JOURNALISM

*First Place:* El Nuevo Normal

Seth Gitner, Syracuse

<http://syracuse.news21.com/2011/>

*Second Place:* Changing America

Ken Harper, Syracuse

<http://2011.newhousemilitary.org/>

*Third Place:* Boruca: Behind the Mask

Amanda Sturgill, Elon

<http://www.boruca.org>

*Honorable Mention:* Together Liberia

Ken Harper, Syracuse

<http://togetherliberia.org/>

The winning project is yet another example of a trend seen in the contest in previous years: the joint effort of several teams of students from different universities in one single project in the field of journalism and web innovation. In this particular area the winner was a team integrated by a group of current and former students of the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications and the University of Texas at Austin, which is part of the Carnegie-Knight Initiative on the Future of Journalism Education.

The undertaking of this project integrated different media languages such as photography, written text, and video, in order to tell stories about the growth of the Hispanic community in Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania. Each of those stories is impregnated with cultural diversity and is an example of transmedia storytelling.

## INDIVIDUAL INNOVATION

*First Place:* Overtown: Inside/Out

Charles "Stretch" Ledford, Illinois/Miami

<http://overtowner.com>

*Second Place:* On the Web

Xtine Burrough, California State Fullerton

<http://www.missconceptions.net/on-the-web/>

*Third Place:* What's on Your Plate at the Dining Hall?

Kelley Wollman, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://reesenews.org/2011/06/16/interactive-whats-on-your-plate-at-the-dining-hall/16563/>

The winner was Charles "Stretch" Ledford from Miami, who through his project was able to integrate visual stories about the community of Overtown, Miami, with interviews recorded by the residents through an innovative kiosk, in which they voluntarily offered their insights on said visual material. The project reflects innovation in the use of technologies in storytelling.

## TEAM INNOVATION

*First Place:* The Struggle for a Neighborhood

Sarah Riazati, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

<http://reesenews.org/2011/04/14/the-struggle-for-a-neighborhood/13888/>

*Second Place:* We the People: Bringing the Census to Life in Arizona

Leslie-Jean Thornton, Arizona State

<http://wethepeople.asu.edu/>

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# Student Participation: Can Online Discussion Help?

**Porismita Borah**  
*Teaching Chair*

We all struggle with the common issue of getting our students to participate meaningfully in the classroom. Lately I've begun using social media to bolster student participation and it has been a success so far!

I use Facebook groups for online participation and every week I pose a question related to the reading materials on the course group page. I would like to share some aspects of the social media experience that have worked well and the lessons I've learnt.

- Having an online discussion forum provided an excellent platform to those students reluctant to speak up in class.
- A lot of times students might not be able to articulate their answers very well in the classroom. In

an online forum, their contributions are meaningful and well thought-out where they provide examples from the text, articles, and the media.

Even without my prompting, several times students would "tag" people while responding to someone else's previous comment. That initiates productive discussions. I often refer to some of the online discussions and relevant examples during my conversations in class.

- After the first 2-3 weeks, students often start sharing their own posts in the group page. I encourage them to post relevant news articles, case studies, or YouTube videos and I also post examples from various media sources during the week. The online forum helps keep the conversation about the course material active and current outside of the class.

- Although everyone is on Facebook, I give students an option to open a course related account to

join the group, in case they do not want to use their personal accounts. I also keep the groups closed so that the posts do not become public and show up on our friends' news feeds.

- I do set some ground rules similar to discussions in the classroom. For example: students can disagree with others but they will need to be respectful to everyone.

So far I am pleased with students' responses to online discussions in both the graduate and undergraduate classes. I think online discussions add a great component to overall conversations in the class, and a social media such as Facebook can be quite helpful in carrying on these conversations.

*Porismita Borah is an Assistant Professor at Washington State University and can be reached at [porismita@gmail.com](mailto:porismita@gmail.com)*

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## Best of the Web

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*Third Place:* Interactive Basketball Scoreboard  
Kelley Wollman, North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
<http://www.reeseneews.org/interactives/scoreboard/uncmsu.html>

The winning website in this category is also a good example of putting together the work in journalism with innovation website design. The project is that of Reese News Lab, based at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In his work, we also encounter a novel bringing together of languages such as text, video, and

graphics on historical gentrification in a neighborhood located in a north side community of Chapel Hill, NC.

Each one of these links will certainly serve as an example and revision of the innovative work that is currently being carried out in different converging languages on the Internet. In addition to this, the winners surprisingly shared a perspective that showed the public the hidden faces of different neighborhoods across the United States o America. We had a great time at the AEJMC annual convention in Chicago, getting to know these projects and we are surely going to have a great time learning about the projects to come.

*Diego Mazorra is Coordinador Académico and a Journalism and Mass Communication Faculty Member at the Universidad Externado de Colombia. He can be reached at [diego.mazorra@uexternado.edu.co](mailto:diego.mazorra@uexternado.edu.co)*

# CTEC Panel Proposals, AEJMC '13

**Carmen Stavrositu**

*Division Vice-Head*

Every year in the fall, CTEC considers proposals of panels that the division may wish to co-sponsor with other AEJMC divisions and interest groups. As you probably know, the number of interest groups and divisions has shown a steady increase over the past few years. At the same time, the number of slots available for panel and research sessions has remained about the same.

What this means is that CTEC faces tougher challenges in programming such panels. This year's chip auction will take place on December 1 in Dallas, TX, and Amanda Sturgill and I will represent CTEC. At that meeting, we will determine which panels CTEC will program for AEJMC 2013, in partnership with other divisions and interest groups.

Though the turnout of research, teaching and PF&R panel proposals coming from CTEC members has been rather scant this year, we do have a good number of interesting proposals to consider. In addition, we have been contacted by a number of other divisions and interest groups with proposals to co-sponsor panels that deal with various questions related to communication technology. Topics addressed in panels including CTEC as either a primary or secondary co-sponsor range from

the use of technology in the classroom, multimedia storytelling, and the use of social media during corporate, nonprofit and political crises, among others.

While the chip auction meeting is just around the corner, we would like to ask for your input regarding which panels you would like CTEC to pursue most aggressively for programming at the annual conference in Washington, D.C. 2013. Toward this end, I have compiled a list of proposed panels, and you can review it at [https://www.dropbox.com/s/kb4zeluuatb3hij/CTEC Panels.pdf](https://www.dropbox.com/s/kb4zeluuatb3hij/CTEC%20Panels.pdf).

Please read them and email me with any thoughts or suggestions you might have regarding programming of specific panels. That said, do keep in mind that only relatively few proposals can make it to the conference. Your input does matter and we will do our best to heed all of members' suggestions when taking programming decisions next week, but we simply cannot schedule all proposed panels.

Thank you in advance for your continued involvement! I will be following up with an update on the panels programmed by CTEC in the Spring newsletter.

*Carmen Stavrositu is an assistant professor at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs. She can be reached at [estavros@uccs.edu](mailto:estavros@uccs.edu)*

## Reviewers Urgently Needed for 2013 DC Paper Competition

**Amanda Sturgill**

*Research Chair*

Two things that make CTEC great are the number of papers we attract and the way members pitch in to help get those papers reviewed. CTEC historically gets a very large number of papers, and to offer each author three reviews, we need your help. Would you please do the following?

1. Volunteer to help yourself. The AEJMC timing is challenging, with

papers due April 1 and reviews starting right after. But it is an important contribution that you make to the success of your colleagues and your division to pitch in and help.

2. Recommend a colleague who might be interested in reviewing as well.

Sold? In order to be a CTEC reviewer (and add a line to your CV and a nice thank you letter to your dossier) E-mail me at: [asturgill@elon.edu](mailto:asturgill@elon.edu)

with the following:

- 1) Your name and current email;
- 2) Your current affiliation;
- 3) Your area of specialization and preferred methodologies;
- 4) Your willingness to be a moderator and/or discussant for a CTEC panel.

CTEC doesn't use students as reviewers, but if you are student, please consider participating in the Jung-Sook Lee student paper

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# How Are You Going, CTEC?

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Considering the large volume of submissions that CTEC receives each year relative to the other divisions that publish journals, I believe a CTEC journal should be one of our highest priorities. With the involvement of many key and committed stakeholders and officers, including Vice Head Carmen Stavrositu and Research Chair Amanda Sturgill, I anticipate this journal will be a vital outlet and an ongoing success story once it is off and running.

In addition, it is worth reporting CTEC is now home to the Gene Burd Top Faculty Research Paper Award, which offers the largest cash award of any AEJMC division. This faculty award was first presented at our most recent meeting in Chicago (with congratulations to Shaojung Sharon Wang from the National Sun Yat-sen University in Taiwan).

As a division our deep thanks go out to Prof. Burd from the University of Texas – Austin, who has donated funds to secure the award through 2021, with the potential to continue this tradition indefinitely. Of course, we also maintain our popular Jung-Sook Lee Student Paper Competition, and have a record of high volumes of submission—often breaking records from one year to the next, and review more papers than all other divisions excepting Mass Communication & Society, which has a much larger membership.

In short, how CTEC is going is, indeed, wonderfully.

We have an active and involved set of officers, key sponsorships in areas such as Best of the Web, and a growing body of members and participants. The future of CTEC is certainly bright and in good hands for the coming years. As one of the more interdisciplinary divisions of any scholarly organization, I have always found the hospitality and generousness of CTEC a true home for fostering the growth of the field.

Kudos to us all, but before we get complacent, please do engage yourself on our listserv ([ctp-aejmc@listserv.unc.edu](mailto:ctp-aejmc@listserv.unc.edu)), our website (<http://aejmcctec.com>), and our social media channels ([facebook.com/aejmcctec](https://www.facebook.com/aejmcctec) and [twitter.com/AEJMCCTEC](https://twitter.com/AEJMCCTEC)). As well all know from our studies, these spaces are what we make them, so let's make them as rich and useful resources as possible.

Want to know more or get involved with CTEC in any way, shape, or form? Have an idea for the journal? Thinking of a new panel? Some other innovation that would make the division better? You know you are in the right place for these type of discussions and if you do have anything to share, please don't hesitate to contact me or any of CTEC's officers in any channel—email, DM, #, FB, voice—we would love to hear from you!

*Jacob Groshek is an assistant (visiting) professor at the University of Melbourne. He can be reached at [jgroshek@gmail.com](mailto:jgroshek@gmail.com)*

## Reviewers Needed

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competition. This award honors the division 1997-1998 research chair, Jung-Sook Lee of the University of

Southwest Louisiana, who died in 1998.

The top three student-only papers earn both a cash award and recognition at the division's business meeting. In addition, the division pays the conference registration for

# Mid-Winter

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The upcoming conference is scheduled for March 1-2, 2013 at the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication (University of Oklahoma) in Norman, Oklahoma. For the fourth year in a row, conference participants will be able to enjoy the College's state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities, as well as many winter diversions outside the conference activities, including world-class museums and art galleries.

Paper abstract submissions  
Authors are invited to submit research paper abstracts of between 600 and 800 words (word count excludes author information and references). Abstracts should give a clear sense of relevant literature, research objectives, methodological approach, stage of research project (conceptual, data gathering, data interpreting), findings and conclusions.

Submissions should be made by e-mail to the midwinter chair (see the list on the next page) of the group authors wish to submit to. Note that authors can submit any specific paper abstract to only one participating group – submitting the same

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the author of the top paper in this competition. The full call for the Washington paper competition will be out soon.

*Amanda Sturgill is an associate professor at Elon University. She can be reached at [asturgill@elon.edu](mailto:asturgill@elon.edu)*

# More About Mid-Winter

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paper abstract to several groups will result in disqualification and withdrawal from the review process. Do not submit full papers.

Authors of accepted papers will be notified by mid-January 2013. Papers presented at the midwinter conference are also eligible for presentation at the AEJMC national convention in August. Authors are encouraged to use the midwinter conference as an opportunity to get feedback on their research to improve and finalize it for submission to the national conference.

Authors of accepted abstracts must submit complete papers (not exceeding 30 pages) to the discussant of their conference session at least two weeks before the midwinter conference.

At least one author of each accepted paper must register and attend the conference to present the paper. Failure to register by the deadline will result in authors' names and papers being removed from the program. No onsite registration will be available.

### Panel submissions

In addition, the organizers are also inviting panel proposals. These proposals should be sent to the midwinter chair of the particular division or group they wish to present the panel to. Panel submissions should include the panel title, a description of the session's focus, the issues to be discussed, and a list of panelists (potential and confirmed), including affiliation. Panel proposals should not exceed two double-spaced pages.

### Format

All submissions (for paper abstracts and panels) should include the name(s) of the author(s) or panel organizer(s) on the title page only. The title page should also include the author or lead author's (or organizer's) mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address. The title should be on the first page of the text and on running heads on each page of text. Authors should e-mail their abstracts or proposals as attachments (saved with the author's last name as file name) in a standard word-processing format (preferably Word or RTF) to the relevant midwinter chair. Authors must ensure that they remove any identifying information from their document (with the exception of the title page).

### Deadline

All submissions should reach the appropriate group's midwinter chair by noon, November 30, 2012.

The University of Oklahoma is located in Norman, 20 miles south of Oklahoma City, with easy access to the Will Rogers World Airport. Details on conference registration, hotel accommodation and airport transportation will be available soon.

### Division and Interest Group Chairs:

#### *Communication Technology Division*

Bart Wojdyski, Virginia Tech University  
(wojdyski@vt.edu)

#### *Commission on the Status of Women*

Jennifer Vardeman-Winter, University of Houston  
(jvardeman@uh.edu)

#### *Cultural and Critical Studies Division*

Rebecca Kern, Manhattan College  
(rebecca.kern@manhattan.edu)  
Adina Schneeweis, Oakland University  
(schneewe@oakland.edu)

#### *Entertainment Studies Interest Group*

Cynthia Nichols, Oklahoma State University  
(cynthia.nichols@okstate.edu)

#### *International Communication Division*

Emily Metzgar, Indiana University  
(emetzgar@indiana.edu)

#### *Mass Communication & Society Division*

Temple Northup, University of Houston  
(temple@uh.edu)

#### *Media Management and Economics Division*

Kenneth Killebrew, University of South Florida,  
(kkillebr@usf.edu)

#### *Minorities and Communication Division*

Josh Grimm, Louisiana State University  
(jgrimm@lsu.edu)

#### *Religion and Media Interest Group*

Michael Ray Smith, Campbell University  
(smithm@campbell.edu)

#### *Visual Communication Division*

Seth Gitner, Syracuse University  
(smgitner@syr.edu/sgitner@gmail.com)

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