

# in[QUEER]ies

An AEJMC Newsletter Addressing LGBTQ Issues and Interests

Volume 13, Issue 2

## ABOUT THE LGBTQ INTEREST GROUP

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer interest group (LGBTQ) was established in 2003 with the desire and ability to create dialogue and support scholarship about LGBTQ concerns that should be discussed in classrooms nationwide.

Our mission is to help journalism and mass communications professors integrate LGBTQ issues and perspectives into JMC education and to support research into these issues and perspectives.



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## If we don't count... we don't count

A few months ago, I was reading my campus newspaper, and the cover story was about the annual diversity and inclusion report.

The summary was that the school could do better when it came to diversity on campus, be it in regards to faculty or students. This is a common story for many of our institutions.

But, what was missing from the report was any sense about the realities of LGBTQ students or faculty. The reason was simple: no metrics are used that actually count LGBTQ identities.

Many universities have LGBTQ individuals included in diversity statements, but few have successful metrics that help us assess the inclusion of these diverse identifies. The same occurs within AEJMC, as well as other academic and professional organizations.

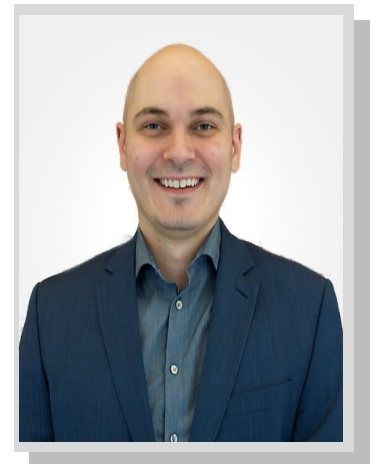
For example, AEJMC has all divisions and interest groups fill out diversity assessments every year, but the data are rather limited in their classifications. Gender representation only includes binary categorizations, and any assessment of sexual orientation or related considerations of LGBTQ diversity are nowhere to be found.

As far as we've come over the years, the way we measure diverse realities tends to represent a dated past.

There are certainly many challenges when trying to progress in this area, from topics of privacy to issues of how to measure. Nonetheless, I hope this is something we can take the lead on in the coming years, be it within AEJMC, at our home universities, or by including these measures in our own research.

It's been a pleasure serving as your Chair. I am happy to report our paper submissions increased this year — in fact, it was one of our highest numbers in years. This of course means many papers were unfortunately not able to be accepted, but the growing interest in scholarly research about LGBTQ topics is a great sign for our future.

I wish you the best in the coming academic year.



JOSEPH CABOSKY  
Interest Group Head

Joseph Cabosky, J.D., Ph.D.

# Put these amazing panels on your schedule now

**I**n the last issue of InQUEERies, I gave you a rundown of all the panels we've scheduled for this year's AEJMC national conference.

I wanted to give you a little of an update with times and locations now. I know the conference planner app helps to make a schedule for your day, but for me, having a list of dates, times and places, helps a little bit in planning out my conference plans.

This year, we've partnered with four other divisions and interest groups for five panels — three PF&R panels, one teaching panel, and one research panel.

Here's our schedule for next week:

**Monday, Aug. 6 — 3:15 to 4:45 p.m., Room M025**  
**TEACHING PANEL: *Taming the Trolls: Preparing Students to Deal with Harassment & Abuse Online.***

The panel will look at how we address trolling and hateful language in the classroom—how we prepare our students to both deal with the abuse and harassment as future communication professionals, and to combat online hatred and cruelty more fundamentally as an engaged citizen. Speakers will look at how to teach these issues from a variety of perspectives, offering practical advice and research-based context. *Co-sponsored by Participatory Journalism Interest Group.*

**Monday, Aug. 6 — 3:15 to 4:45 p.m., Room M068**  
**PF&R PANEL: *Mansplainers, Misogynists and Trolls in the Workplace and Classroom.***

How to handle “that guy”. This panel of experts will give insight into best practices for women in

academia when confronted with mansplaining and other forms of patronizing, sexist behavior. *Co-sponsored with Commission on the Status of Women.*

**Monday, Aug. 6 —**  
**5 to 6:30 p.m. —**  
**Room M085**

**PF&R PANEL: *Out of the Intersectional Ghetto: Publishing Inclusive Research in Mainstream Mass Comm and Journalism Journals.***

Has your research ever been rejected because it was just “too reliant on LGBTQ issues”? Maybe this panel is for you. The purpose of the panel is to discuss personal experiences and research regarding the research process for intersectional researchers as well as insights in moving forward. *Co-sponsored by Commission on the Status of Women.*

**Tuesday, Aug. 7 — 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. —**  
**Room T049**

**RESEARCH PANEL: *Interrogating Objectivity in the Trump Era: Feminist Ethics as Media Ethics.***

The panel will take the form of a semi-structured discussion, in which panelists will talk to one another and the audience to tackle issues of objectivity and truth, social media usage, and possibilities for the future of media. *Co-sponsored by Magazine Media Division.*



**ROBBY BYRD**  
 Interest Group Vice Chair

**Continued on page 3.**

## Conference panels

Continued from page 2.

Wednesday, Aug. 8 — 1:45 to 3:15 p.m. —  
Congress B

**PF&R PANEL: *True Threats, Hate Speech and the Rise of Trump in America: Does the First Amendment Protect Too Much “Offensive” Speech?***

This panel is a continuation of a bit of a theme that emerged in this round of panel proposals: Trump. The panel is intended to provoke robust debate about the bounds of freedom of speech in light of recent conflicts between groups espousing views of white supremacy and those spreading anti-Trump/ anti-fascist/anti-KKK messages.  
*Co-sponsored by the Law and Policy Division.*

Wednesday, Aug. 8 — 5:15 to 6:45 p.m. —  
ROOM MR-04  
TOP PAPER PANEL

Wednesday, Aug. 8 — 7 p.m. — ROOM MR-04  
LGBT INTEREST GROUP MEMBERS’ MEETING

Our slate of panels is an interesting mix of perspectives. We hope to see you all there!

## Early Career Coffee Klatch Returns

**T**he popular Early Career Coffee Klatch returns to AEJMC this year.

Co-sponsored with the Cultural and Critical Studies and Magazine divisions, we welcome early-career scholars and graduate students to meet at our annual Coffee Klatch at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 7.

The Coffee Klatch will be held at A Baked Joint, 440 K St. NW (a quick seven-minute walk from the Renaissance Hotel).

In Germany, the “kaffeeklatsch” is an informal social event centered around coffee. Following the German tradition, our only goal for this event is to benefit graduate students and early career faculty.

This is a chance for all to mingle, socialize, catch-up and share advice. Come for five minutes or for the full 1.5 hours before a day of engaging panels.

By the way, coffee, tea and snacks are on us!

For questions about the Coffee Klatch, contact **Jess Maddox** at [jlmaddox@ua.edu](mailto:jlmaddox@ua.edu) or **Ever Figueroa** at [ever.j.figueroa@utexas.edu](mailto:ever.j.figueroa@utexas.edu)



**CHELSEA REYNOLDS**  
PF&R Chair

# LET'S GET SOCIAL!



## Come join the fun!

**LGBTQ Interest Group  
Social and Happy Hour**

Wednesday, Aug. 8 — 8:30 to 10 p.m.  
City Tap House  
901 9th St., NW  
Washington, D.C.

## Queer Time and Information Consumption: Applying Queer Temporalities

**I**n 2010, my wife and I acquired a copy of **J. Halberstam's** *In a Queer Times and Place*. Halberstam's introduction describes two concepts: "family time" and "queer time." The concept of "family time" is a "normative scheduling of day life (early to bed, early to rise) that accompanies the practice of child rearing" (p. 5).

Halberstam explains that family time is institutionalized by systems of patriarchy and capitalism, guiding not only daily life and labor but also defines the appropriateness of time in which life events should occur.

Essentially, there are culturally accepted times when people should marry, have children, buy a home, ask for raises, invest, retire, remit their wealth to their children, and die after having lived a full long life.

When people find themselves outside of these heteronormative "family-centered" times, we might say that are living atypical to social expectations.

In this conceptual space, Halberstam offers "queer time" as a term to explain "those specific models of temporality that emerge within post-modernism once one leaves the temporal frames of reproduction and family, longevity, risk/safety, and inheritance" (p. 6).

Queer folks, historically, live in these liminal spaces. Until recently, the near universal denial to recognize queer couplings meant queer folks were ostracized as "spinsters" or "confirmed bachelors" at best, or, at worst, could face legal and mortal consequences.

The difficulty of either legal adoption or biological conception results in fewer queer folks experiencing parenthood. Ravaged by HIV and

AIDS, queer folks in the 1980s and '90s could not imagine a long life in which they would amass wealth they could leave to children.

Thus, queer time is colored by the proclivity for immediacy and near instant gratification because survival beyond tomorrow should never be guaranteed.

Perhaps, as funny as it may seem, queer folks were the originators

of the YOLO (or "you only live once") mentality.

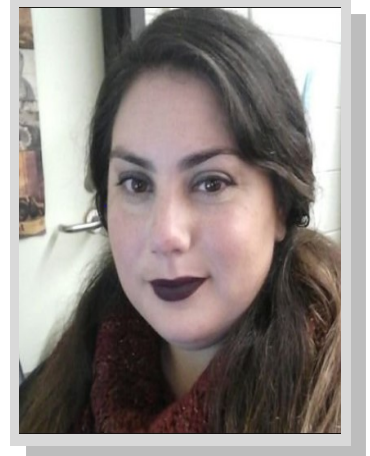
Reading Halberstam was eye-opening as a scholar focusing on queer people. My queer kinship network of soft butch dykes, gender non-conforming faeries, high femme asexuals, and tired femme bisexuals were all existing outside of socially acceptable time.

For those of us who passed for heterosexual, we seemed eternally "child-like" to our families who kept wondering when we'd settle down.

For those who could not pass, they found themselves sutured from the support networks of their biological families.

However, as the economic recession of 2008 crashed through my generation, people outside of queer circles were beginning to experience a kind of queer time as well.

Saddled with debt and unable to acquire fruitful employment, millennials began indefinitely postponing buying their first homes and deferring parenthood or rejecting it entirely. The millennial generation, it seems, entered en masse into a kind of queer time.



**JADE METZGER-RIFTKIN**  
Graduate Student Liaison

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## 2017-18 AEJMC LGBTQ Interest Group Officers

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## 2018 — Washington, D.C.

- ☐ Aug. 6-9, 2018
- ☐ Aug. 5, 2018—pre-conference day
- ☐ Renaissance Hotel Downtown

999 Ninth St., N.W.  
 Washington, D.C.



## 5 Questions for: Joseph Cabosky

**A** returning feature— “5 Questions for...” where we will highlight LGBTQ Interest Group members in each issue of our *inQUEERies* newsletter.

This time we asked Interest Group Head **Joseph Cabosky** to share with us information about his recent scholarly activities. Joe is an assistant professor at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. His work focuses on the intersection of diversity, data and measurement and creative strategy in public relations and advertising:

### (1) What class has been your favorite to teach?

We have a course at the University of North Carolina about international media markets that takes students from all disciplines in our school — from journalism to PR/Ad to everything in between — to Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong for a few weeks. Getting to take UNC students from all of our sequences to the world’s most populous nation was simply fantastic.

### (2) What do you think the biggest benefit is of teaching internationally?

It’s a big world out there. While many students of mine have traveled abroad, many others have not. And none of my students this last year had ever been to China before. It is so important for students to think globally and experience different cultures. I think this is especially true for Asia, as students are better able to see the diversity of cultures and people on the world’s largest continent.

### (3) What do you think the biggest challenges are in your field?

Understanding diversity. The United States is huge, let alone the scope of the world. And yet, I think our work often lumps tens or even hundreds of millions of people into big broad categories. Add in the fragmentation of modern media, and we’re clearly missing out on entire populations with many of our communication efforts.



### (4) How have your experiences as a gay person shaped your experiences in PR and Advertising?

I have to say, while there are certainly many challenges, I love how my experiences have shaped how I view my industry. I think minorities often understand what it is like to live in a majority world — for LGBTQ people, that means we all have learned to navigate a rather hetero-driven world. But majority populations don’t know what’s like to be a minority. So, I think this actually creates exciting opportunities for minorities to queer or disrupt our areas, as we often have perspectives that I think are quite unique.

### (5) Fun question — What’s your favorite movie?

*Contact* (1997: Warner Brothers), with **Jodie Foster**. I connect with everything in that movie. She’s a scientist who sees science and the universe so differently from her peers. And it’s a challenge for her to be different and respected at the same time, but she has this drive to find new answers and new ways of thinking, no matter what anyone else thinks. Underneath it all, there is also a sense of humanity, love and decency. If I could be half as badass as her character, I will have lived a wonderful life.

Would you like to be our next “5 Questions for...” subject? Please contact me at [Andrew.Stoner@csus.edu](mailto:Andrew.Stoner@csus.edu)

We would be glad to customize five questions just for you to allow you to introduce yourself, and for LGBTQ Interest Group members to know you better.

## ‘Queer time’

Continued from page 4.

At the same time as the publication of *In a Queer Time and Place*, a new social phenomenon was just beginning to impact global communities.

While social networking sites like MySpace and Friendster existed prior to 2004, Facebook has outlasted its predecessors to become one of the most enduring and widely used platforms online. In 2012, Facebook boasted more than one billion active users, and in 2015, the Pew Research Center found the social networking site was ranked as the top source for political news for millennials.

This year, Facebook has found itself in the news for its dubious application of the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation. The regulations were developed in direct response to the scraping of 50 million Facebook user profiles by data firm Cambridge Analytica, which likely influenced the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

Facebook and other social media allow users the ability to connect, endlessly, to their social networks. Posting is instant. Receiving feedback via “liking” or “reacting” to status and stories provides instant gratification. Taking and posting selfies seems to capture a frozen youth in an endless moment.

Social media archives our lives for an unknowable amount of time while also allowing users to mold a digital face for a globally public life. News no longer seems punctuated or routine, as it was with the Sunday newspaper or the nightly news hour. Instead, it lives in the 24-hour news cycles and within the constant resharing/retweeting on social media.

Enough similarities exist between queer time and current information consumption practices that further examination might yield fruitful insights for journalism and mass communication scholars. Social media users seem to combine temporalities into a kind of relentless time, changing the routine rhythms of information consumption.

## ‘Table Talk’ sessions

Once again this year, AEJMC will be offering the popular “Table Talk” format sessions — this year focused on “Career Advancement: Engaging with Leaders.”

The “Table Talk” sessions all occur between 11:15 a.m. and Noon on Wednesday, Aug. 8 in Renaissance East. **Marie Hardin** of Pennsylvania State University, and the 2018-19 AEJMC President, will serve as the presiding moderator. She will be joined by **Jennifer Greer** of the University of Alabama, the 2017-18 AEJMC President.

### TABLE 1 — GETTING TENURE

Facilitator: **Kevin Williams**, Mississippi State University

### TABLE 2 — DEVELOPING A RESEARCH AGENDA

Facilitator: **Esther Thorson**, Michigan State University

### TABLE 3 — CONSIDERING LEADERSHIP

Facilitator: **Paul Parsons**, Elon University

### TABLE 4 — HOW TO STAND OUT IN A JOB SEARCH

Facilitator: **David Perlmutter**, Texas Tech University

### TABLE 5 — ENHANCING MY TEACHING

Facilitator: **Mary Rogus**, Ohio University

### TABLE 6 — GETTING PUBLISHED IN *JC MONOGRAPHS*

Facilitator: **Linda Steiner**, University of Maryland

### TABLE 7 — SCHOLARSOURCING

Facilitators: **Jane Singer**, City University of London and **Carolyn Bronstein**, DePaul University

### TABLE 8 — MOVING UP TO FULL

Facilitator: **Scott Reinardy**, University of Kansas

### TABLE 9 — STAYING CONNECTED TO THE INDUSTRY

Facilitator: **Paul Voakes**, University of Colorado

Each “table talk” session lasts 20 minutes and attendees can select to attend any two of the sessions they wish.

## Research submissions increase for 2018

**T**he 2018 AEJMC National Conference is fast approaching and that can only mean one thing — summer is over!

And, if you're anything like me, it also means that you are regretting the missed opportunities to research and write in your "free" time.

Not to fret, the LGBTQ Interest Group has a nice lineup of research presentations to reignite your research fire and inspire a fall semester full of academic rigor.

This year, as in years past, we saw an increase in submissions to the interest group.

There were 18 submissions with varying degrees of topics and methods. With an acceptance rate of exactly 50 percent, the interest group will have five papers presented in the AEJMC scholar-to-scholar (referred poster) session, and four papers presented in the traditional research paper session.

The scholar-to-scholar (referred poster) session will be held Tuesday, Aug. 7 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Three of the five papers have an international focus, examining LGBTQ issues in Taiwan and India. The other two papers investigate mediated LGBTQ representation in television characters and news coverage.

The traditional research paper session, which the interest group has labeled the top paper session, will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 8 from 5:15 to 6:45 p.m.

Three of the four papers focus on transgender issues in today's socio-political landscape, specifically transgender representation in the media and "bathroom" bills. The fourth paper highlights the use of gay dating apps by individuals living with HIV.

The traditional research paper session will also include our top faculty paper, as well as our top student paper.

This year, the top faculty paper is awarded to **Robyn King, Richard MocarSKI** and **Heather Meyer** of the University of Nebraska at Kearney, **Natalie Holt** and **Debra Hope** of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, **William Butler** of the University of Alabama, and **Nathan Woodruff** of Trans Collaborations.

Their paper, *The Rise of Transgender and Non-Conforming Representation in Media: Impacts on the*

*Population*, used interviews with individuals identifying as transgender and gender non-conforming to investigate representations in popular culture media.

The top student paper is awarded to **Minjie Li** of Louisiana State University. His paper, *Media Representation of Transgender Civil Rights Issues: A*

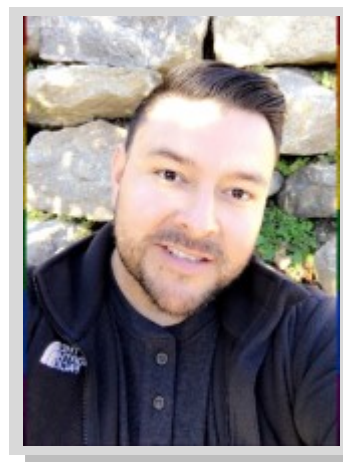
*Quantitative Content Analysis on Media Coverage of the 'Bathroom Bill' Controversy*, examines how national mainstream news outlets and LGBTQ news outlets represent a transgender civil rights issue, the "bathroom bill" controversy.

The interest group would like to thank everyone who submitted this year and hope that regardless of the outcome, you continue to submit to the interest group in the years to come. We also would like to extend our thanks to those individuals who volunteered to review. This year we had 25 reviewers, which assured a more fair and balanced review process.

Finally, the interest group would like to invite everyone to attend the research presentations this year in Washington, D.C. It is important to support LGBTQ research and researchers.

As we continue to fight for LGBTQ civil rights, visibility, and in some instances our lives, it is imperative that we take every opportunity to encourage and champion one another. Should you have any questions on research submissions, please email me at [nsrodriguez@sdsu.edu](mailto:nsrodriguez@sdsu.edu)

See you in D.C.!



**NATHIAN SHAE RODRIGUEZ**  
Research Chair



## Washington, D.C. conference highlights

**T**he 2018 AEJMC national conference coming up next week has a large selection of general interest sessions open to all registered attendees:

### Sunday, Aug. 5

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### Religion in the Capital Tour

A tour of important religion-based sites in Washington, D.C., including conversations with communication professionals who work at those sites and interact with the media. Lunch will be provided. Contact: **Rick Moore** at moore@boisestate.edu

1 to 5 p.m.

#### Google News Lab Workshop

This four-hour “deep dive” training workshop will equip media researchers and educators with innovative applications of Google News Lab tools for trust and verification, immersive storytelling, data journalism and visualization. Contact: **Deb Aikat** at da@unc.edu

5:30 to 10 p.m.

#### Internships & Careers

#### Interest Group

#### Bootcamp: The Nuts and Bolts of Creating a Successful Internship Program.

This workshop is geared toward those who are new to supervising student internship programs and, also those who are looking to revamp their existing programs based on the changing climate of U.S.-based internships. Contact: **Erica Clarke** at eec16@psu.edu

6:30 p.m.

#### AEJMC Night at the Movies: “The Post”

Join for colleagues for popcorn and lemonade in the city where it all happened. “The Post” is a 2017 Twentieth Century Fox major motion picture starring **Meryl Streep, Tom Hanks, Sarah Paulson, and Bradley Whitford.**

### Monday, Aug. 6

11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

#### Whistleblowers, Encryption & Mass Surveillance: Protecting Sources and Press Freedom in a Digital Age

Educators and scholars know how the Internet is disrupting news production and delivery, but they’ve been slow to examine how electronic communication is changing newsgathering itself. Session will be moderated by **Vanessa Gregory** of the University of Mississippi, joined by panelists **Nikki Usher**, George Washington University; **Stephenson Waters**, University of Florida; **Patrick Lee Plaisance**, Pennsylvania State University; and **Andy Kroll**, senior reporter for *Mother Jones*.

3:15 to 4:45 p.m.

#### Breaking into Academic Book Publishing: Tips from Publishers and Tankard Book Award-Winning Authors —

Help celebrate the best books of the year when the Tankard Book Award is revealed.

Panelists will also share book writing, publishing and marketing tips, moderated by **Nikki Usher**, George Washington University, and **Richard Waters**, University of San Francisco.

5 to 6:30 p.m.

#### Tweet This: Two Weeks on the Social Media Frontlines

Join members of the 2017-18 Scripps Howard Foundation Visiting Professors in Social Media as they share their practical takeaways for teaching social media. Moderated by **Tracy Simmons**, Gonzaga University, with Visiting Professors **Joe Glennon**, Temple University; **Elizabeth Stoycheff**, Wayne State University; and **Howard Mortman**, C-Span Director of Communications.



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# Washington, D.C. conference highlights

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6:45 p.m.

**Keynote Session and Reception — “Covering the White House from Eisenhower to Trump.”**

Speakers will include **John Cochran**, former ABC and NBC White House correspondent; **Christi Parsons**, former *Tribune* White House correspondent and senior editor at *The Atlantic*; and **Kristin Welker**, NBC News White House correspondent.

**Tuesday, Aug. 7**

10 to 11:30 a.m. — Cornerstone Session

**Manuscript Reviews: Is This the Best We Can Do?**

Manuscript reviews and reviewing can be fraught with problems. Yet, well done, reviewing makes an important contribution to quality scholarship. Moderated by **Serena Carpenter**, Michigan State University, panelists will include **Pat Curtin**, University of Oregon; **Louisa Ha**, Bowling Green State University and editor of *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*; **Stephen Lacy**, Michigan State University and former editor of *Journal of Media Economics*; **Karen Miller Russell**, University of Georgia and former editor of *Journal of Public Relations Research*; and **Silvio R.**

**Waisbord**, George Washington University and editor of *Journal of Communication*.

1:30 to 3 p.m.

**First Amendment Award Presentation and Panel**

This session honors journalists **Ronan Farrow**, **Jodi Kantor** and **Megan Twohey** of *The New York Times* for their work uncovering the **Harvey Weinstein** story of alleged sexual abuse in Hollywood and elsewhere. **Wendy Wyatt** of the University of St. Thomas will moderate the session.

**Wednesday, Aug. 8**

8:15 to 9:45 a.m. — 2018 AEJMC Senior & Emerging Scholars: **Creating a Winning Research Grant Application**

Share coffee and conversation with the 2018 Senior and Emerging Scholars discussing successful grant applications, overcoming research challenges, and updating progress with research sponsors. Session will be moderated by **Kim Bissell**, University of Alabama.

3:30 to 5 p.m.

**PF&R Panel Session**

Helping future media professionals develop sophisticated skills in recognizing ethical issues, reasoning through those issues, and then deciding on justifiable actions is a progress that begins in the classroom. This panel will feature leading media ethics educators and representatives of major media organiza-

tions. Moderated by **Dean Kruckeberg** of the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, panelists will include **Kevin Cirilli**, chief Washington correspondent for Bloomberg Television; **John Paluszek**, executive editor for Business in Society; **Wendy Wyatt**,



University of St. Thomas; and **Patrick Lee Plaisance**, Pennsylvania State University.

**Thursday, Aug. 9**

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**The University Student-Run PR Agency: Opportunities and Challenges for Academic Programs Large and Small**

A panel moderated by **Doug Swanson**, California State University-Fullerton, will focus on opportunities and challenges presented by the student-run agency, and how agencies offer outstanding teaching and learning opportunities for both large and small programs.