



From the Head

Greetings,

I don't know about you, but this Midwesterner is looking forward to a return to the homeland this summer, and in particular the 100th Annual Conference of AEJMC in Chicago. Hopefully July's record heat and humidity will have diminished and we can sneak in some sightseeing in the Windy City!

Most importantly, I hope you make it a priority to involve yourself in our community of scholars and teachers that is the GLBT Interest Group. The hardworking officers have built a diverse and strong lineup of programming this year.

Our panels and research papers underscore the significant events in GLBT issues in the past year, from bullying to media representations to multiple facets of the right to marry. I'm certain you will

find our sessions and papers raise important and provocative questions.

For example, our kick-off session Thursday night, put together by **Dane Claussen**, aptly titled "The Tragedy of Today's GLBT Journalism," will assess the state of professional practice. Bright and early Friday, we'll jointly sponsor a session on diversity in the classroom, featuring our own **Joel Geske** and **Lori Blachford**. Friday will also feature joint sessions on GLBT and religious issues, as well as GLBT magazine journalism. I'm looking forward to hearing from the GLBT journalists we've booked, including the venerable **Tracy Baim** of the Windy City Media Group, and **Patrick Farabaugh**, publisher of the Our Lives Magazine based in Madison, Wis., which just celebrated its five-year anniversary.

From the Head (continued)

Saturday's sessions will focus on GLBT research, including our two research paper sessions and a session on GLBT research methodology, which includes several heavyweights in our field, including two past winners of the Aarons Award, **Edward Alwood** and **Rodger Streitmatter**. This year, we had a record number of paper submissions, thanks in part to the work of our research paper chair **Genelle Belmas**. Our submission rate for referred research papers has increased by 87.5% over four years, from 8 in 2009 to 15 in 2012. Our top student paper winner, **Shawn Harmsen** of the University of Iowa, will be presenting his research on the framing of the 2010 Iowa fight over gay marriage.

Our business meeting Saturday night will close out our conference, and I'll turn over the reigns of the Interest Group a new incoming head. We'll adjourn for dinner and drinks.

This year's conference programming would not have been possible without the hard work of **Tien-Tsung Lee**, the interest group's vice head and programming chair who ably managed deadlines and maneuvered the arcane "chip toss" with me in Louisville in December to program our sessions. Thanks also to the rest of the Interest Group's officers, **Tara Kachgal**, **Sue Novak** and **Sunny Tsai**.

As for other Interest Group news, I expect to be close to unveiling an Interest Group website, something we've prioritized in recent years. We will also be undergoing our four-year renewal petition at this year's conference, where we will make the case that the GLBT Interest Group continues to serve an important role in education and advocacy in the broader organization.

Chicago is a great city and I expect our annual convention will be especially festive as AEJMC celebrates its 100th birthday. I look forward to seeing you all!

Jason Shepard,
Head, GLBT Interest Group

GLBT Sessions at the 2012 AEJMC Conference

Thursday, 5 pm to 6:30 pm

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Community Journalism Interest Groups

Research Panel Session: **The Tragedy of Today's GLBT Journalism**

Moderating/Presiding: **Dane S. Claussen**, ACLU of Nevada

Panelists: **Tracy Baim**, editor, Windy City Media Group
Lori Blachford, Drake
Chris Burnett, California State – Long Beach
Nick Lasorsa, Texas at Austin
Dean Mundy, Appalachian State

Friday, 8:15 am to 9:45 am

AEJMC Council of Affiliates; Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Interest Group and Minorities and Communication Division

Teaching Panel Session: **Enhancing Diversity Teaching in the Classroom**

Moderating/Presiding: **Victoria Lim**, multi-platform journalist/newsroom trainer,
Society of Professional Journalists

Panelists: **Barbara Barnett**, Kansas
Lori A. Blachford, Drake
Joel Geske, Iowa State
Curtis Lawrence, Columbia College Chicago

GLBT Sessions at the 2012 AEJMC Conference (continued)

Friday, 11:45 am to 1:15 pm

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Religion and Media Interest Groups

PF&R Panel Session: **The State of the Community 2012**

Moderating/Presiding: **Tara Kachgal**, Wisconsin-Superior

Panelists: **Tracy Baim**, editor, Windy City Media Group
Kate Sosin, reporter, Windy City Media Group
Laura Castañeda, Southern California
Proposition 8: An Analysis of Latter-day Saint (Mormon) Culture & Media Strategies Used to Ban Same-sex Marriage
David Scott, Utah Valley
"Homosexuality is Bad for Me": An Analysis of Gay Christian Testimonies in Christianity Today Magazine
James Trammell, High Point

Friday, 3:15 pm to 4:45 pm

Magazine Division and Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Interest Group

PF&R Panel Session: **Minority Magazines: Keeping Relevance and Readers in Today's Marketplace**

Moderating/Presiding: **Elizabeth Hendrickson**, Tennessee

Panelists: **Patrick Farabaugh**, publisher, Our Lives Magazine
Kyra Kyles, senior editor, Jet Magazine
James M. Stephens, Tennessee State
Estelle Gonzales Walgreen, editor-in-chief, Hispanically Speaking News
Charles F. Whitaker, Northwestern

GLBT Sessions at the 2012 AEJMC Conference (continued)

Saturday, 12:15 pm to 1:30 pm

Refereed Paper Research Session: Scholar-to-Scholar
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Interest Group

Topic — **Media Representations of GLBT People and News**

I See Gay People: Exploration of Television Program Types, Acceptance of Homosexuals, and the Para-Social Contact Hypothesis

Dave Wilcox, Wisconsin – Madison

Stars, Stripes, and Gays: Coverage of the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” Repeal in Military News

Paige Madsen, Iowa

Aliens in the Closet: Representations of LGBT Characters in American Science Fiction Television Programs

Laura Osur, Syracuse

Discussant: **Jennifer Fleming**, California State – Long Beach

Saturday, 1:45 pm to 3:15 pm

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender and Entertainment Studies Interest Groups

Research Panel Session: **Theories and Methods in GLBT and Entertainment Studies**

Moderating/Presiding: **Gary Hicks**, Southern Illinois, Edwardsville

Panelists: **Edward Alwood**, Quinnipiac
Kevin G. Barnurst, Illinois - Chicago
Rhonda Gibson, North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Gary Hicks, Southern Illinois, Edwardsville
Leigh Moscovitz, College of Charleston
Rodger Streitmatter, American

GLBT Sessions at the 2012 AEJMC Conference (continued)

Saturday, 5:15 pm to 6:45 pm

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Interest Group

Refereed Paper Research Session: **The Past the future of the GLBT Community**

Moderating/Presiding: **Carolyn Byerly**, Howard

Clearing the Bench: Framing the 2010 Iowa Fight Over Gay Marriage*

Shawn Harmsen, Iowa

Covering the Other: A Historical Analysis of the Stonewall Uprising and GLBT Rights Movement

Chad Painter, Missouri

An Eminent Illustrator and the Man behind the Man: J. C. Leyendecker and Charles Beach

Rodger Streitmatter, American

Broadband Bugchasers: The Digital, Physical, and Social Habits of Those Who Purposely Give/Contract HIV

Cory Weaver, Syracuse

Discussant: **Rhonda Gibson**, North Carolina at Chapel Hill

*Top Student Paper

Saturday, 7 pm to 8:30 pm

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Interest Group

Business Session: **Members' Meeting**

Moderating/Presiding: **Jason Shepard**, California State, Fullerton

Conference Event

Visiting the Center on Halsted, the Midwest's Most Comprehensive LGBT Community Center

Take a break from conference programming and join your fellow interest group members for a private tour of The Center on Halsted at 6pm on Friday, August 10, 2012.

The Center is a comprehensive community center located in Chicago's Lakeview area. More than 1000 LGBT Chicagoans come through its doors every day. With a rich history, dating to the early 1970s when it began as Horizon Community Services, the Center opened in 2007. Its primary goal is to provide a welcoming and supportive community space for LGBT Chicagoans while also assisting smaller LGBT nonprofits in the area. The Center sponsors a wide range of events, programming, and services (e.g., cultural performances, job training, group therapy, HIV testing, and recreation), and provides resources and meeting space for LGBT nonprofits and community groups. It is a great resource for researchers working on LGBT issues throughout the United States.

The Center is housed in a historic and green three-story building that also includes a Whole Foods grocery store, a café, a theater, a public roof garden, and a number of other unique gathering spaces.

Please join us on Friday, August 10th, for a tour at The Center on Halsted. We will meet in the Marriott's lobby at 5pm and arrange transport, either using public transport or taxi. (The Center is approximately 5 miles from the conference hotel.) Or, travel separately and meet us in the Center's reception area a few minutes before the 6pm tour. The Center is located at 3656 N. Halsted Street, Chicago, IL 60613 (Tel: 773-472-6469). If you have any questions, please email **Tara Kachgal**, PF&R Chair, at tarakachgal@netscape.net

See you there!

GLBT Interest Group Research Paper Abstracts for 2012 AEJMC

Clearing the Bench: Framing the 2010 Iowa Fight Over Gay Marriage

Shawn Harmsen, University of Iowa

This framing analysis of newspaper coverage of the 2010 Iowa Supreme Court Justice Retention vote identifies dominant and subordinate frames in media coverage of the race, and considers the ways in which those frames may have helped shape the outcome of the election, which was itself largely seen as a referendum on gay marriage in the state. The research suggests reasons why the anti-court/anti-gay marriage campaign was apparently much more effective than the attempt to defend the three justices on the ballot in 2010, all of whom were voted off the bench. Specifically, the ways in which particular frames may be expected to resonate more or less with the audience were discussed. The research concludes that understanding the frames and the way they engage the audience might be of particular importance for future campaigns relating to gay rights issues. WINNER OF TOP STUDENT PAPER AWARD.

I See Gay People: Exploration of Television Program Types, Acceptance of Homosexuals, and the Para-Social Contact Hypothesis

Dave Wilcox, University of Wisconsin – Madison

An analysis of program types found preferences for television programming genres correlate with acceptance of homosexuals when measured against support for same-sex marriage. This research seeks to provide support for the para-social contact hypothesis, previously shown to be present at the individual program level, at the program genre level. Significant positive relationships were found in information and entertainment programming, indicating content need not center on same-sex characterizations to affect acceptance levels.

Broadband Bugchasers: The digital, physical, and social habits of those who purposely give/contract HIV

Cory Weaver, Syracuse University

This study digs deeper into the community of people who purposely contract and spread HIV and seeks to develop a greater understanding of these individuals using digital ethnography. Rather than focusing on the surface details of what bugchasers and giftgivers do, this study seeks to provide in-depth analysis of how this community functions online, how they negotiate their own social deviance, and offers a revised theory of why bugchasers and giftgivers engage in such risky behaviors.

Stars, Stripes, and Gays: Coverage of the ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ repeal in military news

Paige Madsen, University of Iowa

This study examined the framing of the repeal of the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy in the military paper, Stars and Stripes. Textual analysis of both original stories and reader comments reveal three main themes: one of challenges or obstacles, one of social experimentation, and one of homosexuality being wrong.

GLBT Interest Group Research Paper Abstracts for 2012 AEJMC (continued)

Covering the other: A historical analysis of the Stonewall Uprising and GLBT rights movement Chad Painter, University of Missouri

In the early morning hours of June 28, 1969, New York police officers raided the West Village bar the Stonewall Inn. Similar raids had happened before, but this time was different because those inside the Stonewall Inn fought back. This historical study focused on the New York media's coverage of the Stonewall Uprising, with an emphasis on two front-page articles in the July 3, 1969, edition of *The Village Voice*. The researcher sought to suggest the role of the alternative press in covering dissident groups. The methodology used was a historical textual analysis of *The Village Voice* and *The New York Times* from April 1-September 30, 1969. *The Village Voice* did a better job covering the "other" during the birth of the GLBT rights movement than its daily counterparts. However, its coverage was far from perfect and at times offensive.

Aliens in the Closet: Representations of LGBT Characters in American Science Fiction Television Programs

Laura Osur, Syracuse University

This paper problematizes the symbolic annihilation of LGBT characters in science fiction television programs. Through a textual analysis of American science fiction programs, I find that science fiction shows are willing to represent diverse, strong, and three-dimensional LGBT characters who are in intimate physical relationships with same-sex partners, although there are too few of these characters. Science fiction television is well suited to present LGBT issues in radical, progressive, and important ways.

An Eminent Illustrator and the Man Behind the Man: J. C. Leyendecker and Charles Beach Rodger Streitmatter, American University

This paper focuses on the relationship between J. C. Leyendecker, the most successful American magazine illustrator during the early 1900s, and his same-sex partner Charles Beach, who played critical roles in the artist's success. Hundreds of Leyendecker's hand-painted images appeared on the covers of such leading magazines as the *Saturday Evening Post* and *Vanity Fair*, and hundreds more images appeared in advertisements. Much of the artist's success was due to the behind-the-scene creative and business decisions that were made by Beach.

First Time Going to AEJMC?

AEJMC Mentorship Program

The 2012 AEJMC conference holds great promise as we celebrate the organization's centennial anniversary. The Chicago conference is expected to draw a large number of participants including many first time conference attendees.

For many first time conference participants, the experience may seem overwhelming at times. Some people may be unclear what a poster session is and how it may be different than a scholar to scholar session (it is not). Many are not sure about which social they may attend and what the best strategies are for meeting new people.

The idea behind the mentorship program is to match veteran conference goers with first time attendees. We hope that as a mentor, you will help introduce the newcomers to the conference, explain some of the key concepts and help them find their way around by introducing them to other members.

If you have any questions about the mentorship program or would like more information, please feel free to email **Guy Golan** at gjgolan@syr.edu, or **Jason Shepard** at jsheward@fullerton.edu. We are all very excited about the mentorship program and we hope that you will participate in it.

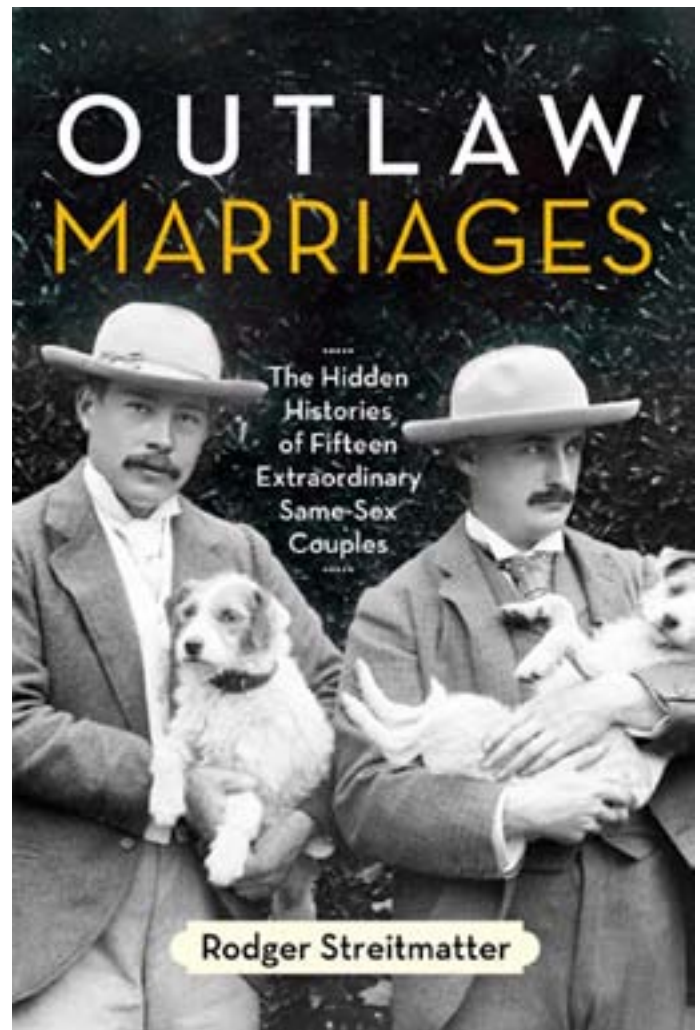


Member News

Rodger Streitmatter from American University has published a new book titled *Outlaw Marriages ~ The Hidden Histories of Fifteen Extraordinary Same-Sex Couples*. The book, which was released last month by Beacon Press, includes chapters on such notable couples as Walt Whitman and Peter Doyle, Jane Addams and Mary Rozet Smith, and James Baldwin and Lucien Happersberger. Rodger presented a modified version of the chapter on Tennessee Williams and Frank Merlo to the GLBT Interest Group at last year's convention and will present a paper on J. C. Leyendecker and Charles Beach at this year's convention. When Huffington Post ran a slide show about *Outlaw Marriages* late last month, it attracted more than 1,500 comments.

Tien-Tsung Lee presented a paper at the International Communication Association conference in Phoenix, AZ, on Sunday, May 27 2012. The title of the paper is: "The Effects of Religiosity, Egalitarianism, and Media Usage on Support for Gay Rights."

Jason M. Shepard is presenting a paper at the "Radically Gay: The Life & Visionary Legacy of Harry Hay" conference, sponsored by The Center for Lesbian & Gay Studies at the City University of New York, in September. The title of the paper is "The First Amendment and the Dissenter: Communism, Homosexuality and Expressive Freedom."



Member News (continued)

GLBT Interest Group past Head **Dane S. Claussen**, who is also Editor of Journalism & Mass Communication Educator, on August 19, 2012, will be inducted into the American Philatelic Society (APS) Writers Unit Hall of Fame for lifetime achievements in philatelic writing and research, and service to the Writers Unit. He is the former Executive Editor and columnist for Stamp Collector newspaper; former Executive Editor of The Stamp Wholesaler magazine; former Editor of The Heliograph, journal of the Postal History Foundation; former Contributing Editor to U.S. Stamps & Postal History magazine; and author of hundreds of articles, columns, letters to the editor, etc., in various philatelic publications. As an editor and writer, Claussen has won about 25 medals at national and international philatelic exhibitions; he also is a retired APS-accredited philatelic literature judge who judged national competitions around the United States. In the American Philatelic Society Writers Unit (of which he has been a member since 1979), he was Immediate Past President/Council Chair, 2003-2011; President, 1999-2003; Vice-President-West, 1995-1999; and Council member, 1991-1995 and since 2011. Claussen also is a former President of the International Philatelic Press Club, former President of the Junior Philatelists of America, a founding board Director of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, and a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

DIS[COURSE]IVE

GLBT Interest Group Officers



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Teaching Committee Chair
Sue Novak
University of Kansas

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About the group

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender interest group (GLBT) was established in 2003 with the desire and ability to create dialogue and support scholarship about GLBT concerns that should be discussed in classrooms nationwide. Our mission is to help journalism and mass communications professors integrate GLBT issues and perspectives into JMC education and to support research into these issues and perspectives. For information on academic resources on sexual orientation issues in the news media, visit the website of the NLGJA website. <http://wtgja.org/>