



# FORUM ON MEDIA DIVERSITY

*Many Voices, One Vision*

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## **For Immediate Release**

The [Forum on Media Diversity](#), a national website dedicated to providing research results and news about diversity in higher education and the professional media, has expanded its staff through appointment of eight national scholars on diversity.

The addition of eight assistant editors represents an effort by the [forum](#) to expand its content and news to more completely serve educators and professionals, Masudul Biswas of Shippensburg University, the site's editor and webmaster, said. Each assistant editor will provide new references about diversity research, analysis, activities and other information.

Ralph Izard of Louisiana State University and Ohio University, the forum's executive director, added that during the 10 years of its existence, the forum, a project of the Manship School of Mass Communication at Louisiana State University, has been aware of the need for growth.

"We look forward to working with these productive scholars, and we know their contributions will be important additions to the forum's service," he said.

Added to the staff, effective immediately, are:

**Federico Subervi**, professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Texas State University, San Marcos; director of the Center for the Study of Latino Media & Markets; editor/author of *The Mass Media and Latino Politics: Studies of U.S. Media Content, Campaign Strategies and Survey Research: 1984-2004* -- Assistant Editor, Latino/Hispanic.

**Tracy Everbach**, associate professor of journalism, University of North Texas, 2012-13 head of the AEJMC Commission on the Status of Women; teaches race, gender and media; research interests on

gender in media; worked 12 years at The Dallas Morning News and two years at the Boston Herald – Assistant Editor, Gender.

**Dane S. Claussen**, executive director, ACLU of Nevada; former professor and faculty chair in the School of Communication, Point Park University; author or editor of *Anti-intellectualism in American Media: Magazines and Higher Education*; *Sex, Religion, Media*; and two other books; former editor of *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator* -- Assistant Editor, LGBT.

**Victoria LaPoe**, adjunct instructor in broadcasting and Ph.D. candidate, Manship School of Mass Communication, Louisiana State University, former award-winning television journalist; her research interests include construction of reality within television news, how it affects groups such as American Indians -- Assistant Editor, American Indians.

**Natalie J. Tindall**, Department of Communication, Georgia State University, whose research includes identity, diversity and power in public relations; identity and health messages; fundraising and philanthropy; organizational culture and stereotypes within historically Black fraternities and sororities; and the intersection of public relations and marketing to minority health -- Assistant Editor, African Americans.

**Kent Alan Ono**, Department of Communication, University of Utah, co-author of *Asian Americans and the Media*; former director of the Asian American Studies Program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; co-editor of the book series *Critical Cultural Communication*; editor (with Ronald L. Jackson II, University of Cincinnati) of the journal *Critical Studies in Media Communication* - - Assistant Editor, Asian Americans.

**Vincent N. Pham**, Department of Communication, California State University, San Marcos, co-author of *Asian Americans and the Media*; conducts research on means used by Asian American media organizations to constitute and represent themselves within U.S. society and how they are constructed and represented by public discourse -- Assistant Editor, Asian Americans.

**Debra Mason**, professor and director of the Center on Religion and the Professions, University of Missouri School of Journalism, brings more than 25 years of professional reporting, research, and teaching experience; major research work includes a content audit of religion news spanning 50 years; she edited the recently published *Religion Reporting: A Guide to Journalism's Best Beat*, and co-edited *Readings in Religion as News* – Assistant Editor, Religion.

With the contributions of these scholars, Biswas said the forum plans to make a major leap well beyond its current 3,250 academic and professional journal articles, books and conference papers on diversity issues with focus on media, journalism and communication in both national and international contexts. The main purpose of this searchable database is to help media diversity researchers locate contemporary research and other sources of literature on media diversity.

In addition, the website provides news and analysis from scholarly publications, media and national diversity organizations; sample media diversity syllabi for college faculty members; original research sponsored by the forum; and a calendar of events and opportunities related to diversity.

The forum also serves as the host site for two units of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) – the [Minorities and Communication Division](#) and the [Commission on the Status of Minorities](#).

## **Contacts**

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