

Summer 2014, An electronic publication of the AEJMC Commission on the Status of Minorities

## Broussard and Foxworth net awards for their work



Marilyn Kern-Foxworth



Jinx Broussard

# Not too late to have yourself a successful summer

by Sharon Stringer

It's countdown to summer's end, but there's still time to get some important work done this summer. Maybe it's a research project that has gotten pushed to the bottom of your to-do list, or maybe there's a mountain of data that needs to be analyzed. Either way, why not take a little time to identify a few summer activities that will be most beneficial and rewarding? Take a few minutes to think about what you still have time to complete this summer that will pay dividends when you return to the classroom.

10. Make a plan that it manageable. Don't make a list that is unrealistic or that is impossible to complete.

continue on page 2

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Jinx Coleman Broussard and Marilyn Kern-Foxworth, two mass media scholars known for their work in the field are in the spotlight for winning accolades.

During the AEJMC business meeting, August 8, 10 a.m. to noon, Kern-Foxworth will receive the 2014 Lionel C. Barrow Jr. Award for Distinguished Achievement in Diversity Research and Education. Kern-Foxworth, president of Kern-Foxworth International and a former AEJMC president, is being honored by the Commission on the Status of Minorities for her outstanding individual accomplishment and leadership in diversity efforts within the journalism and mass communication discipline.

According to the AEJMC News, "the award honors Barrow's lasting impact and recognizes others who are making their mark in diversifying JMC education. Foxworth's nomination packet cited her sustained record over time of publication on racial and ethnic multicultural groups in journalism and mass communication and for the publication of her books on multiracial and multiethnic groups in journalism and mass communication, including Aunt Jemima, Uncle Ben and Rastus: Blacks in Advertising, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow and Facing Difference: Race, Gender and the Mass Media.

Broussard won AEJMC's History Division Book Award for the best journalism and mass communications book published in 2013. Jinx's *African American Foreign Correspondents: A History* (Louisiana State University Press) was praised for highlighting the 150-year history of African American journalists who covered war from trenches worldwide.

Broussard, who is a professor at the Manship School of Mass Communication at Louisiana State University, also wrote *Giving a Voice to the Voiceless: Four Pioneering Black Women Journalists* (Routledge). A three-member panel of historians perused 36 books before selecting Broussard's work.

The History Division will present the book award to Broussard and the Covert Award in Mass Communication History to Patrick S. Washburn and Michael S. Sweeney at its annual business meeting August 7, at 6:45 p.m.

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

Broussard and Kern-Foxworth win major awards	I
Tips for a successful summer	I
Chair's Notes	2
CSM panel highlights media diversity in Canada	3
Vice-Chair Notes	
PollWatch: Racism rises overseas and in United States	4
Minutes	5

### **AEJMC 2014**

- CSM events
- CSM minutes, 2013
   AEJMC convention

## Chair's note



AEJMC President Paula Poindexter was busy this past academic year and accomplished much for the organization. To encourage increased engagement in national news, she proposed a

National News Engagement Day, scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2014. The goal is to have individuals from all 50 states participate in an engagement activity on that day. All AEJMC members are encouraged to develop activities that will ignite interest and engagement in the news. Poindexter hopes to give a press conference on the project some time in September.

In addition, Poindexter plans to convene an AEJMC regional international meeting in Santiago, Chile on Thursday, Oct. 15-17, 2015. Members who want to attend will not need a visa, but must pay \$160 to get into Chile. The meeting is a collaborative effort with the Universidad Católica, where most of the conference sessions will be held. The wine tasting and investigative journalism sessions will be held at other locations in Santiago. Papers for the session can be submitted in English, Spanish, or Portuguese. Papers presented during the panel sessions will be in Spanish or English. The paper submission deadline is April 22, 2015, with acceptance notification scheduled for June 1, 2015.

Another important initiative that saw fruition was a book deal with Peter Lang Publishing. The proposal encouraged AEJMC members to submit book proposals that would then be reviewed the membership. Proposals with the greatest number of endorsements would go through the normal consideration process and could be published by Lang.

## **CSM Officers**

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## Tips for a successful summer

(continued from page 1)

You'll only be frustrated when months have passed and you've only accomplished one of the 10 things you planned for that time period.

- 9. **Do some reading that is not academic.** Summer is a great time to catch up on reading books that you had little time to complete during the academic year. If you're like me, you have a list of *New York Times* bestsellers calling your name.
- 8. Allow time for professional development. Summer is always a good time to learn a new skill. With the rapid changes in communication technology, there is always something new to learn. Why not check the website of your state's media association, register for a NewsU webinar, or identify a workshop or seminar focused on the latest in professional practices?
- 7. **Make time for social media.** Update your social media sites so they are timely, linked, and easily accessible.
- 6. While you're at it, update your website. Simply updating your picture on the site will give it a fresher look.
- 5. Attend the AEJMC Annual Conference. You'll want to make sure your passport is current to come to this year's conference in Montreal. The conference begins Wednesday, Aug. 6 and runs through Saturday, Aug. 9. Don't forget to check whether your smartphone service provides for an international plan. International calls can be costly.
- 4. **Update your vita**. For those who plan to participate in AEJMC's Job Hub during the conference, now is the time to update your vita and upload your materials at <a href="https://aejmc2.wufoo.com/forms/2014-job-seekers-form/">https://aejmc2.wufoo.com/forms/2014-job-seekers-form/</a> or contact Felicia Greenlee Brown at <a href="felicia@aejmc.org">Felicia@aejmc.org</a> for assistance.
- 3. See at least one important task to completion. Whether it's finishing that book, or writing that journal article, promise yourself that something important gets completed this summer.
- 2. Write the syllabi for next year. Get this task completed soon so you'll have plenty of time to enjoy yourself and the remaining warm weather.
- 1. Go to the beach. A must-do for every summer vacation. You deserve it.

## CSM Events at AEJMC 2014 in Montreal, Canada

Aug. 8, 2014

"Sharing Canada's Diversity of Voices: Who Are They?" (Research panel session) 5:15-6:45 p.m.

Moderator: Sharon Stringer, Lock Haven

Panelists:

Marquita Smith, John Brown

Wanda Brockington, Norfolk State

August 8, 2014

CSM Business meeting

7-8:30 p.m.

Presiding: Sharon Stringer, Lock Haven

## Vice Chair's Corner: Doing diversity – not easy, but attainable

by the Rev. Kyle Huckins

Look around at private, Christian colleges and universities, and you generally don't find many people of color. However, it doesn't have to be that way, and my school, Azusa Pacific University, proves it.

There are several reasons most onlookers cite for failing to have diverse ranks of students. There's the cost of tuition, often significantly higher than public schools. Historical patterns of attendance also tend to flow away from private, Christian ranks. Then there's the conundrum of having to get a minimum nucleus of minority students to attract more pupils of color – folks don't tend to go where they are the very clear exception rather than the rule. Finally, recruiters, looking at the above, just figure it's not worth the effort to even try to go the extra mile for what likely will be little reward.

Not having diversity in employment often is a function of three factors. The first factor relates to student recruitment; a lack of a multiethnic workforce does not to present a welcoming institution for either students or faculty. The second truism is that schools don't have enough connections to get announcements and invitations to the diverse populations they need to reach. The third is that faith traditions often are not very diverse; the old saw about "Sunday morning is the most segregated time of the week" really does have some truth to it.

Azusa Pacific, located in Greater Los Angeles, successfully confronted these problems. It wasn't easy: Administrators carved out money for minority-oriented scholarships, recruiters began to seek places where people of color congregate at opportune times, faculty members were trained to be sensitive to the changing ethnicities of their classes and campus, and everyone pooled their resources to reach out to prospective professors.

But once the difficult choices about money and time were made, the plan began to come together. That APU was and is interdenominational and independent turned out to be a plus, in that it could easily welcome people from congregations as different as Roman Catholic and fundamentalist Bible churches. The strong academic quality of the institution was already known in the LA area, and once students of color found out they now could afford it, getting them to come was much easier.

# CSM's research panel focuses on Canada's non-majority media

The Commission on the Status of Minorities will present "Sharing Canada's Diversity of Voices: Who Are They Friday, August 8, 5:15 p.m. at the 2014 annual AEJMC conference in Montreal. Panelists include Cathy M. Jackson and Wanda G. Brockington from Virginia's Norfolk State University, Marquita Smith, John Brown University (Arkansas), and moderator Sharon Stringer, Lock Haven University (Pennsylvania).

Jackson's presentation, "An Historical Overview of the Development of the Ethnic Press in Canada," focuses on the historical growth of Canada's non-White newspapers, especially the establishment of Mary Ann Shadd Cary's newspaper The Provincial Voice (1853-1857, which gave a voice to slaves escaping to Canada and those still in the United States, both free and enslaved. Cary, who was the first female African-American newspaper editor in North America and the first female editor in Canada, left the U.S. in 1852 and began to encourage other Blacks to move north beyond the border.

Brockington will discuss the digital divide and the usage of the Internet by indigenous Canadians. Her research, "Fact or Fiction: The Digital Divide and Indigenous Canadians," divulges that many of the problems faced by Native Americans are echoed across Canada's broad geography. Those problems include lack of access, few financial resources to obtain Internet connections, the need for education and training in that area, and computer software and hardware.

In her research for "Celebrating the Contributions of the Ethnic Press," Smith discovered that the National



Cathy M. Jackson



Wanda Brockington



Marquita Smith

Ethnic Press and Media Council of Canada's role is to represent the members of the ethnic press and media in Canada and to take stand on fundamental questions such as the national unity, equality among Canadians, the respect of human rights, social justice and social acceptability for every citizen or Canadian resident, as well as the preservation and respect of the cultural values and the heritage of all Canadians and finally to have an input in the development of the Canadian foreign policy. She plans to highlight some of the best or interesting practices from newspapers, radio, television, electronic media and magazines that support the Media Council's

### Doing Diversity at Azusa

(continued from page 3)

Bringing in more faculty members from minority groups opened up new vistas for employee and student ranks.

Fall 2013 marked the first time in Azusa Pacific's 115-year history that more than half the incoming freshman class was nonwhite. More than a quarter of faculty members were from an ethnic minority. Everybody was going through diversity training, too.

APU's initial goal was to reflect the diversity of its home, Greater LA. But in the process of becoming multicultural, it became a testimony that the Kingdom of God is for everyone. At a time when polls show racism on the increase in the United States and elsewhere, the school is a quiet but important reminder that varying races, genders and faith traditions can get along – they just have to be willing to sacrifice and work, as with any endeavor that's worthwhile.

## PollWatch: Racism rises overseas and in United States

by the Rev. Kyle Huckins

The United Kingdom is becoming more prejudiced against racial minorities, according to the recently released 2013 British Social Attitudes Survey. That follows an Associated Press poll in the U.S. indicating increased racism against African-Americans and Hispanics.

The overseas survey showed 30 percent of respondents described themselves as either "very" or "a little" negative toward those of other ethnicities. That is a substantial increase from the turn of the millennium, when but 25 percent fit those categories.

The British upswing in racism may be linked to prejudice against immigrants. More than 90 percent of those in the negative column toward other ethnicities also wanted to more greatly restrict immigration.

In the United States, the fall 2012 AP survey showed more than half of Americans had explicit racist attitudes toward blacks, up 6 percent over the four-year span of President Barack Obama's historic tenure as the first person of color in the White House. Implicit prejudice toward the race increased by 14 percent in the same time frame.

Hispanics also were the victims of explicit and implicit racism by more than 50 percent of respondents. Having no previous data on the ethnicity prevented comparisons over time.

I bear witness to these findings anecdotally. I've become an aficionado of social media and commenting over the last few years, and over that period, I have seen a steady increase in the number of blatantly racist comments by users.

One person posting on an online news story I read said that blacks were incapable of running a country or even a city. The post had a 3-I favorable rating. My response – that such a comment is igno-

rant and incredibly racist – had a 2-1 negative judgment from voters, even after I backed it up with examples of black leadership from history and contemporary society.

I tend to swim against the proverbial tide when it comes to race; I'm one of a handful of Caucasian clergy in the Church of God in Christ, which is overwhelmingly black, and my tastes and associations in several arenas more closely resemble those of African-Americans than whites. I have found a great deal of acceptance among blacks, likely much more than if I were paddling in the opposite direction, blacks moving toward whites.

The increase of racism in media is disturbing but an outgrowth of what the polls have found. We who educate journalists, PR practitioners and others in media-related fields must inculcate in our charges the values of equality, proportional representation and resistance of stereotyping. Those of us who, like me, still function as media professionals need to do all we can to make editors, reporters and other strategically placed personnel aware of the problematic direction of the press and in our reports engage our audiences by exhibiting understanding of different races, cultures and ways of life.

A multiethnic, diverse, integrated world is a healthy globe. One that has peoples separated and segregated is at best diseased. If you'll allow me a little preaching, Revelation 7:9 says heaven is going to have every tribe, tongue and nation represented there. If we can't get along down below, we won't be ready for our destiny above. Let's get it together while we still have time.

#### Minutes

#### Commission on the Status of Minorities

Annual Members' Meeting, Washington, DC August 10, 2013

Submitted by George L. Daniels, secretary

The meeting was called to order at 4:20 p.m. by Chair Curtis Lawrence.

Minutes from the Commission on the Status of Minorities 2012 Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL were presented for approval. Federico Subervi moved that they be approved. Sharon Stringer seconded. Minutes were approved.

<u>Chair's Report</u> Curtis Lawrence presented the Chair's Report

Special thanks to Kyle Huckins for his hard work in organizing the CSM panel "It's a Journey, Not a Destination: Sourcing in Diverse Communities and Politics" It turned out to be a great discussion.

Activity has increased on the CSM listserv

Special thanks to Masudul Biswas for doing a great job with the CSM newsletters, editions published in Spring 2013 and Summer 2013

CSM was represented well on the Tankard Award Committee and the Barrow Award Committee.

We were not successful on a tip Sheet project that was proposed. The necessary amount of follow-up was not done to execute this at the AEJMC Winter Meeting (Chip Auction).

CSM members will need to decide whether to reinvigorate that effort again.

CSM needs to do more to increase its visibility

We are a volunteer organization, but we can push when needed

Centennial Donor Campaign- All AEJMC Divisions and Interest Groups are asked to make a contribution to the AEJMC Centennial Campaign. For example, the Minorities and Communication (MAC) Division voted to make a \$300 donation. The other option is for the unit to provide a donation that equals about 10% of its treasury. Federico Subervi moved that the Commission on the Status of Minorities give a donation of \$150 to the Centennial Donor Campaign. Clint Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Remarks from President-Elect Paula Poindexter (University of Texas) - Poindexter says she's excited about being president of AEJMC and about three new initiatives:

- Increasing AEJMC's International Presence with an upcoming conference in Santiago, Chile in 2014
- Launching a Graduate Student Information Expo, the first one planned for Sunday, August 8 from 8:30 a.m. to Noon.
- A Future of News Audience Initiative.

"I think we all should be worried that fewer and fewer young people are consuming news," Poindexter said... "We have to look beyond just our journalism students. We have to meet them where they are."

A National News Engagement Day is set for **October 7, 2014.** The first committee meeting for this initiative was held earlier today. Poindexter encouraged CSM members to "get involved."

Regarding CSM, Poindexter sees ways for CSM to take leadership role in advocacy. CSM should consider the possibility of doing a project in conjunction with the October 2014 event, especially one that targets those from under-represented communities.

CSM Officer Elections- The following slate of officers was presented for consideration

Chair- Sharon Stringer (Lock Haven)

Vice Chair- Kyle Huckins (Azusa Pacific)

Secretary- Masudul Biswas (Shippensburg)

Newsletter Editors- Cathy Jackson (Norfolk State) and Alice Stephens (Clark Atlanta)

The the slate officers for 2013--2015 was approved

#### Other Committee Volunteers

Barrow Award: Calvin Hall, Federico Subervi, the Past and Current Head of MAC Division

A brief discussion took place about several concerns of CSM members have about the Barrow Award. One, the names of the previous winners (Paula Poindexter, Robert Ruggles, Felix Guttierrez) were not listed in the AEJMC Conference Program. It was noted that the conference program is an historical document. The amount of the award is \$2,000.

Tankard Book Award Reviewer- Cathy Jackson

CSM Panel Committee for 2014: Marquita Smith, Cathy Jackson, Meta Carstarphen, Alice Stephens