

‘Borderlands’ serves as theme for many CCS panels planned for St. Louis 2011

By Jacqueline Lambiase, CCS Programming Chair and Vice-Head

Are you ready for an encounter with “Mad Men” and women working behind the scenes of 1960s advertising? Do you wonder if you can cope any longer with texting students and decreasing curriculum support? Can you truly connect community and media?

Answers to these questions and more are embedded in panels already planned by CCS for AEJMC’s conference in St. Louis in August 2011. Using “borderlands” as a theme, many panels will address that in-between space between the binaries we encounter in everyday life. St. Louis seems to be an appropriate place for these discussions, since it has served as a mythical “gateway” to the West and as a symbolic space in the nation’s so-called Heartland.

All panels and refereed research for the CCS Division will be presented on Wednesday, Thursday,

and Friday for this year’s conference. Yes, that means no early morning Saturday sessions!

Please plan to join us for our PF&R Award Session and business meeting late on Friday, to be followed by our division social. Two panels to place on your calendar now include:

**Wednesday, August 10
 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.:**

The Borderlands of Scholarship, Media, and the Public: The Community Connect Project

–What part does communication play in the efficacy of citizens in their communities? This question was central to a group of faculty, students, and community members who in 2006 undertook a grassroots public communication project hosted by the University of North Dakota. Lana Rakow and this panel explore that project’s progress over five years. (CCS and MCS)

**Friday, August 1
 5:15 to 6:45 p.m.:**

Where Are We Now? Where Are We Going?

– CCS scholars, former editors of the *Journal of Communication Inquiry*, and the CCS division’s PF&R winners will discuss the present circumstances and future of cultural theory, critical inquiry, and qualitative research. (CCS)

The AEJMC 2011 Convention will be held in St. Louis on August 10-13.

Please turn to page 6 for a schedule of CCS-related events!

AEJMC’s conferences connect new and experienced scholars

By Jacqueline Lambiase, CCS Programming Chair and Vice-Head

A traffic jam on I-35 stood between me and my destination last year, when I was traveling to Norman, Okla., from the Dallas/Fort Worth area for AEJMC’s Midwinter Conference. One reason was to meet Gabino Iglesias, a doctoral student from UT Austin, who was presenting at the first set of panels.

As a CCS officer, I was interested in meeting many of the presenters. Gabino and I had previously exchanged messages when he submitted an abstract for the conference. From those messages, I recognized an “isolation” narrative. I think many in the CCS Division understand this “isolation” perspective, especially if we find ourselves writing articles and conducting “Conferences” continued on page 3

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Headnote:

PF&R Award Panel to Discuss Future of Critical-Cultural Studies

JANE MARCELLUS, MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



**“Where are we now?
Where are we going?”**

That’s the theme of this year’s Professional Freedom and Responsibility Award panel, scheduled for Friday, Aug. 12, from 5:15-6:45 p.m.

As we have for the past two years, CCS will combine the presentation of the annual PF&R Award with a relevant panel discussion. This year’s award is being shared by Charles and Rose Klotzer, founders of the *St. Louis Journalism Review* (SJR) and Robert McChesney, Gutgsell Endowed Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, who is well-known for his work on political economy of media communication.

Having the opportunity to present an award to the Klotzers is, indeed, an honor for CCS. They started *SJR* in 1970 after seeing a copy of the *Chicago Journalism Review*, which was itself founded in 1968 by a group of journalists who felt the Chicago media had misrepresented the Democratic National Convention that year. In the next few years, a number of local journalism reviews sprang up around the country, but most were short-lived. Now in its 41st year, *SJR* is a clear exception to the rule—thanks to the Klotzers.

Charles and Rose are being honored together because, as Charles said in an e-mail to me, “Yes, officially I am the founder and have kept it going for the past forty years. However, my wife, Rose, was also very much part of this venture although her name never appeared on the masthead. Nothing was ever published without her proofing and editing. No major decision was ever made without consulting Rose.” (For more, see <http://sjreview.org/about-2/>).

Although Robert McChesney will be “there in spirit” only due to a family event, he writes that the award “means a great deal” to him. “I cut

my teeth in the CCS division back when it was QS (Qualitative Studies) in the early 90s.”

He is, of course, co-founder of the media reform organization, Free Press, and author or editor of eight books, including *Rich Media, Poor Democracy: Communication Politics in Dubious Times* (New Press, 2000) and, with John Nichols, *Our Media, Not Theirs: The Democratic Struggle Against Corporate Media* (Seven Stories Press, 2002). See <http://www.robertmchesney.com/>.

Joining the Klotzers in the panel discussion will be Gigi Durham of the University of Iowa and Ralph Beliveau of the University of Oklahoma. As the title suggests, we will use the occasion to discuss the past, present, and future of critical studies.

This panel is based on the idea that cultural and critical studies is at an important juncture that we, as a division, need to examine. Perhaps because of the poor economy and instability in media industries, and the anxiety on the part of many professional programs

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that leads to putting more resources into teaching skills, cultural studies seems to be less visible than it was when the “cultural turn” led many to rethink how media should be examined. It seems we need to examine our traditions, our identity, and our vision in a changing media landscape.

The discussion is critical, so bring your ideas and join us to honor the Klotzers and Bob McChesney and to talk about the future of critical media studies.

Conferences crucial for building community of ideas

Continued from page 1

research on topics that no one else in our programs may understand well.

It's one reason I always recommend conferences for both new and experienced scholars because they bring us together into a community of exchange and support. Our April 1 deadline for papers is approaching quickly for the 2011 AEJMC Conference in St. Louis.

Here's the stream of emails Gabino and I exchanged just over a year ago:

Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2009 5:34 PM
SUBJECT: Submission question

Greetings. My name is Gabino Iglesias and I'm a 2nd year PhD student at UT Austin. I'm working on my abstracts for the Midwinter AEJMC Conference and, knowing fully well that submitting to the right division is more than important, I have a question about my research.

The paper I'm planning to submit is a highly theoretical/critical exploration of how, through computer mediation, Cultivation Theory is now the preceding step to computer-based hyperreality. Building on Baudrillard's work, I try to develop a model that shows how computers are the filter through which our reality gets transformed into hyperreality.

In any case, I was wondering if this is the type of work your division accepts. At first, I thought it belonged to the Communication Technology division, but I don't see how the critical thinking and theoretical approach might fit there.

Thank you in advance for your time and help. Have a great day.

Gabino

Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2009 8:30 AM
SUBJECT: re: Submission question

I think your research fits the CCS division's sensibility very well. You can check out some of the division's papers online at the AEJMC.org web site, I think, from past conferences. Or better yet, the Journal of Communication Inquiry publishes research that's been presented in our division's sessions. That might give you a sense of the scope of our division's interests. I guess I would say that

we are open to many ways of knowing, through the lens or cultural or critical studies, and Baudrillard certainly fits that. I've used his work, too, in several projects.

Let me know if you have other questions, and best,

Jacqueline Lambiase

Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2009 11:26 AM
SUBJECT: re: Submission question

Thank you very much for your quick response. I'm very, very happy to know that you have worked with Baudrillard before. For some reason, nobody works with him at UT Austin. I look forward to submitting now! Again, thank you very much for your time and help. Have a great day.

Gabino

Because of the traffic, I didn't get to that conference in time to hear Gabino's presentation, but I did get to meet him briefly in the hallway before the conference ended. He was surrounded by three or four other scholars, and he had clearly made connections at the conference.

Although we as scholars might be blocked or delayed in our work on the mainstream superhighway of social science, CCS gives us an alternative road to travel. For that, I'm grateful.

I hope to see you in St. Louis in August.

Member News

Christopher R. Martin, professor of communication studies, was appointed interim head of the Department of Communication Studies at the University of Northern Iowa, effective Jan. 1, 2011. Martin (Ph.D, University of Michigan) was first hired at UNI as an assistant professor in 1995, and was promoted to associate professor in 2000. From 2005-2007, he was an associate professor and later assistant director of the journalism program at Miami University (Ohio). Returning to UNI, he was promoted to professor in 2009. Martin's contact address:

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www.uni.edu/commstudies

CCS invites paper reviewers for St. Louis convention

By Tricia Farwell and Rebecca Kern, Research Co-Chairs

CCS has already begun to receive submissions for this year's conference. Thank you to the 34 people who have agreed to review papers.

We know how busy this time of year can be, and reviewing papers is one more task. We very much appreciate your help. If anyone would still like to help review submissions, please contact Tricia Farwell at tfarwell@mtsu.edu or Rebecca Kern at Rebecca.kern@manhattan.edu.

I would also like to remind division members that papers submitted with both faculty and student names are considered faculty papers. It is AEJMC policy that student submitted papers with any faculty names as authors, regardless of level of authorship, will be reviewed as faculty submissions.

Look forward to seeing everyone in St Louis!



AEJMC Convention Travel Information

The Renaissance Grand Hotel in St. Louis, MO features luxurious accommodations with panoramic views. On upscale Washington Avenue, this historic St. Louis luxury hotel boasts three distinct restaurants.

Discount hotel and airline rates will be available for conference attendees.

For more travel information, visit the AEJMC travel website for St. Louis at: <http://www.aejmcstlouis.org/home/travel/hotel>

CCS Members:

The Summer 2011 CCS Newsletter will be available online in July, before the annual convention. Please send member news, photos/visuals, paper calls, or other items of interest to the CCS newsletter editor by 5 p.m. on Friday, July 1. Include caption information with any photos or other visuals sent. Please send newsletter materials to Teresa Heinz Housel (Hope College) at housel@hope.edu

SCMS conference report:

Creating connections with other critical cultural venues

By Madeleine Esch, PF&R Chair

No doubt AEJMC is the main conference on your annual agenda, but have you found other rewarding conference venues for critical cultural research?

I just returned from the annual Society of Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS) conference, which is another receptive audience for critical cultural media research. I have no intention of wooing anyone away from AEJMC, but I would like to share a report to hopefully start an ongoing conversation about other venues, organizations, and publications with which CCS members are involved.

The SCMS conference, with its "Media Citizenship" theme this year, included panels on consumer citizenship, media activism, and apropos of this year's conference location in New Orleans, representations of post-Katrina New Orleans (The HBO series *Treme* was particularly well represented with at least twelve papers). Despite historically focusing on cinema exclusively, SCMS now includes television, Internet, and video game research, among other areas.

Given my research interests, I mainly attended panels on television-related topics: gender ideology, diversity in network hiring and representations, and discourses of branding in social networks.

At last year's SMCS conference, Foucauldian "governmentality" was a dominant analytical theme. This year, there seemed to be buzz around the concept of "affect" (more specifically, "affective labor").

Another source of buzz? Like AEJMC, SCMS is experimenting with new ways to use social media during the conference itself. This year, there was live-blogging and an active Twitter stream. As a non-Tweeter, I was surprised to see people thumbing away while listening to presentations and later referencing the Twitter "back channel" conversation during the question period. This expansion of social media into the panel sessions is not something I've noticed yet at AEJMC, but maybe I'm just attending the wrong panels.

For me, old-fashioned meet-ups are still best. At the conference, I had the chance to catch up with fellow CCS member Hye Jin Lee, *JCI* editor, and we both agreed that although we enjoy SCMS, AEJMC's CCS division is unmatched in its sense of inclusivity for new members and for forging connections between senior and junior scholars.

For more information about SCMS, visit cmstudies.org

CULTURAL AND CRITICAL STUDIES DIVISION Tentative Schedule for St. Louis 2011

We hope you will join us in St. Louis this August for the 2011 AEJMC Convention at the Renaissance Grand and Suites Hotel. Please look at the schedule below as you make plans to attend. To be sure that the CCS membership has a full opportunity to attend as many CCS events as possible, we will offer a special Summer 2011 issue of C&CS News with details about our plans in St. Louis. We look forward to seeing many of you in St. Louis!

Wednesday August 10

- 10-11:30 a.m. (CCS and CSW)
Mad Men, Working Women, and History
- 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. (CCS and MCS)
The Borderlands of Scholarship, Media, and the Public: The Community Connect Project
- 1:30-3 p.m. (CCS and GLBT)
Fringe and Fragments: Addressing Audiences and Identities Ethically through Old and New Media Forms
- 3:15-4:45 p.m. (CCS and Ad)
BULLS-EYE! Technology and Targeting, For Better or Worse
- 5-6:30 p.m. CCS High Density Research Session

Thursday August 11

- 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. (CCS and GEIG)
"Can U Teach Me Pleez?" Cultivating Learning in an Era of Diminished Resources and Expectations

Thursday, August 11 (continued)

- 1:30-3 p.m. (CCS + others)
Scholar-to-Scholar poster session for refereed research
- 3:15-4:45 p.m. (CCS)
Top papers, refereed research

Friday August 12

- 8:15-9:45 a.m. (CCS, PRD, Ad, ESIG)
Poster session for refereed research
- 12:15-1:30 p.m. (CCS)
Refereed research panel
- 3:30-5 p.m. (CCS and RTV)
The Future of Journalism Schools
- 5:15-6:45 p.m. (CCS)
Where are we now? Where are we going? CCS takes stock and honors PF&R winners
- 7-8:30 p.m. (CCS)
CCS Division Business Meeting (leading to off-site social)

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