

THE STANDARD

Pluralizing Media Education

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AEJMC | Commission on the Status of Minorities

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

By Curtis Lawrence

What great timing. In my first conference as the chair of the Commission on the Status of Minorities, we're meeting in my hometown.

I hope most of you will be able to join us in Chicago this August for this historic meeting as AEJMC celebrates 100 years. In addition, CSM will be making sure it's part of the AEJMC story – sharing its role in the struggle for inclusion and equality in academia and in the journalism profession.

Honoring one of our own
One of the highlights of this year was participating in the panel to choose the recipient of the 2012 Lionel C. Barrow Jr. Award for Distinguished

Achievement in Diversity Research and Education. I was honored to serve on the selection committee with Immediate Past CSM Chair Linda Florence Callahan, CSM Vice-Chair Sharon Stringer, Minorities and Communications Chair Petra Guerra and CSM members Sharon Bramlett-Solomon and Calvin Hall.

Our 2011 recipient, Felix Gutierrez, professor of Journalism, Communication and American Studies & Ethnicity at the University of Southern California, had set the bar high. After careful review, our committee selected Federico Subervi, full professor and director of the Center for the Study of Latino Media & Markets at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication,



Photo: CSM, AEJMC;

Curtis Lawrence

Texas State University, San Marcos. We were beyond impressed with his scholarly work on Latinos and media as well as with his continued efforts to grow, develop and sustain CSM and MAC. The fact that both groups are well-represented within AEJMC is testament to Subervi's

Contents

A Note From the Chair—1

Documentary Tells the Story of College Desegregation—1

Alabama Executes Diversity Mission As Elementary School Journalism Takes Off—2

Accomplishments—3

Documentary Tells the Story of College Desegregation

By Felicia McGhee Hilt

When Horace Traylor tried to register at what was then the University of Chattanooga, he was told by the registrar, “You know we don’t admit black people.” That all changed in 1963, when the university officially desegregated.

On February 28, 2012, the documentary, “Reaching the Light: The Story of the Desegregation of the University of Chattanooga,” premiered to a capacity crowd on campus. The documentary co-produced by Assistant Professor Dr. Felicia McGhee, along with Communication Department

Head Dr. Betsy Alderman, and colleague Professor Michael Andrews, examines the desegregation efforts at the university. The yearlong project involved interviews with dozens of people, which resulted with more than 30 hours of tape.

Dr. McGhee-Hilt called the project a labor of love. “This is a story that has never been told and it desperately needs to be,” Dr. McGhee-Hilt said. “My father marched in many civil rights demonstrations and suffered through police beatings; however, after listening to these first black



Photo: CSM, AEJMC

Tuscaloosais Oakdale Elementary students show The Oakdale Eagle

Alabama Executes Diversity Mission As Elementary School Journalism Takes Off

By George L. Daniels
CSM Secretary

Faculty and students at The University of Alabama are writing a new story these days—one that involves second graders producing a newsletter thanks to a unusual partnership between a college journalism program and elementary school.

The partnership of the University of Alabama and Tuscaloosais Oakdale Elementary School are each celebrating the benefits of working together. In April, the University recognized the two elementary school teachers who initiated the community-based partnership with an award.

One of the teachers, Miss Latrina Spencer, approached in July 2011 UA Journalism Professor George Daniels about the possibility of making a

student publication the central element of an unconventional summer enrichment program for students going to the second grade and needed to review reading, writing and math.

A year later, the fifth edition of the Oakdale Eagle, its largest yet, was published in June.

Immersed in computers and technology, rising second graders wrote stories, typed them into the computer and took photos for the first edition last year. During the regular school year, some of those second graders and other students continued to publish 4-page issues of the Eagle as primarily an after-school project. University journalism and public relations students assisted students with editing and

design of their pages.

Then, this summer, many of the same elementary school students who started the Eagle, now getting ready for third grade, produced an issue with even more content. Their four-page edition doubled to eight pages this year.

Meanwhile this summer high school students participating in the Multicultural Journalism Workshop, a Dow Jones sponsored event now in its 29th year, took a break from their own sessions at the University to make the 20-minute drive across town to put on a reporting workshop for all elementary school students in Oakdale's summer program this year. The Oakdale Eagle has now become

Marian Meyers

Accomplishments



Photo: CSM, AEJMC

Marian Meyers

Marian Meyers is the editor of a new book, *Women in higher education: The fight for equity* (Hampton Press, 2012).

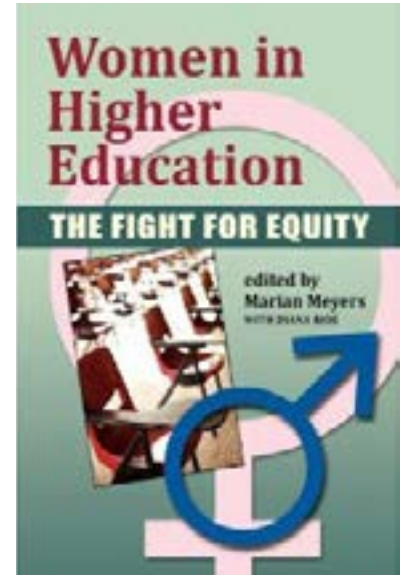
While women in the academy have been working to achieve equality with their male colleagues in the areas of hiring, salary, promotion, tenure and allotted resources for the past 40 years, research indicates that in many ways, academia has been resistant to change, instead maintaining policies, practices and procedures that preserve the privileges of White, male faculty while undermining those aimed at fostering equity. This book draws on theory, research and personal narrative to illustrate, theorize and explore the “chilly climate” that academic women

face, as well as to offer alternatives for creating a more inclusive, fair and just academy for everyone.

book pays particular attention to the ways that gender intersects with ethnicity, race, class, sexuality and other aspects of self – including whether academic women are mothers and/or feminists – and the effects of this intersectionality on their experiences and careers in higher education. In identifying the institutional policies, practices and procedures that lead to bias and discrimination against academic women, the book calls for a radical rethinking and restructuring of higher education.

Almost all of the book’s contributors are in the field of communication, and most draw on their experiences within communication departments to illustrate and theorize how gender, often combined with other signifiers of marginalized identity, has affected their lives and professional opportunities. The voices of African American, Latina, Asian American,

lesbian, and working-class faculty and graduate students are included, and various communication and other



theories are utilized by the authors to explore their social locations within the academic hierarchy as a way not simply to explicate the problems they face but – more importantly – to facilitate action.

Marian Meyers is an associate professor in the Department of



Photo: CSM, AEJMC

Meta G. Carstarphen

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Meta G. Carstarphen, Graduate Director and Associate Professor, Gaylord College of Journalism at the University of Oklahoma, was the sole campus recipient of the 2012 Regents Award for Professional and University Service. Regents Awards, also given for Research and Teaching, are among the highest recognitions given by the university. Carstarphen also published two books: *Race, Gender, Class and Media : Studying Mass Communication and Multiculturalism* (co-authored with Sharon Bramlett-Solomon), Kendall-Hunt publishers [<http://www.kendallhunt.com/store-product.aspx?id=25392>] and *American Indians and the Mass Media* (co-edited with John Sanchez) University of Oklahoma Press [<http://www.oupres.com/ECommerce/Book/Detail/1622/american%20indians%20and%20the%20mass%20media>]