

2017-18 ASJMC Officer Candidates

Vice President

The ASJMC Vice President selected for 2017-18 will automatically move through the leadership ladder to become the President in 2019-20.

Mark Nelson
University of Alabama

James Stewart
Nicholls State University



Since becoming Dean in 2014, the college has created comprehensive strategic, diversity and assessment plans, increased undergraduate enrollment, implemented major curricular changes, merged two departments and initiated two on-line MA specializations (one in journalism and the other in leadership and organizational communication). Nelson has helped to grow the resources of the college by increasing the number of faculty and professional staff, annual giving and undergraduate scholarships. He

has also garnered substantial financial support for major renovations and acquisitions for the college and The Plank Center for Public Relations Leadership. In 2015, the college was awarded the AEJMC Equity and Diversity Award, and in 2016 the college was found in compliance on all nine standards in its ACEJMC accreditation review. The college is currently under review for the reaccreditation of its School of Library and Information Studies.

A 28-year veteran of higher education, Nelson has served in a variety of academic posts. Prior to joining Alabama, Nelson served as a faculty member and Director of Forensics at Murray State. After joining the UA as a faculty member in Communication Studies (1991), Nelson served as Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies (1996-2006), Assistant Provost for Academic Affairs (2006-2008), and in a dual appointment as Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Vice President for Student Affairs (2008-2014).

Nelson provides communication consulting for numerous organizations and governmental agencies throughout the United States. His training repertoire includes topics such as Strategic Planning, Public Speaking, Listening, Conflict Resolution, Group Dynamics, Leadership, Teambuilding, and Organizational Change/Development. He is coauthor of the book, *Applied Organizational Communication: Theory and Practice in a Global Environment*. He serves on numerous national and local advisory boards and has served as the State Standards Keeper for Alabama and The National Communication Association. He has been a member of AEJMC and ASJMC since 2014. He was a participant in the ACEJMC Site Team Training Workshop in 2016.

He received numerous awards for teaching, advising and professional service including, The University of Alabama's Outstanding Commitment to Teaching Award (the highest honor for teaching at UA), The Lambda Pi Eta National Advisor of the Year, and The Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award in recognition of excellence of character and service to humanity. Nelson earned his BS from Alabama at Birmingham, where he was a forensic national champion. He earned his MA and PhD from the University of Alabama.

An accomplished journalist, professor and national journalism-education leader, Stewart currently serves as head of the Department of Mass Communication at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, La., a position he has held since 1997. During that time, he shepherded the program through three successful ACEJMC accreditation cycles and is currently directing preparation of a fourth self-study.

He led the unit through several curriculum changes, most recently shifting the program to a convergence-media model. The robust program is recognized both on campus and in the surrounding communities for its student-driven service-learning initiatives.

Stewart has been recognized by students and peers alike for his consensus-driven, participative leadership style. In 2010, Nicholls named him as recipient of the Presidential Award for Academic Administrative Excellence, and in 1998 he received the University's Apple Award as Adviser of the Year for his work with the campus radio station. He has brought that same leadership style to journalism-education organizations at the regional and national levels since 1997 when he was selected as vice chair of AEJMC Small Programs Interest Group. Stewart served two full terms as editor of ASJMC's publication *Insights*. From 2004 to 2007 Stewart served on ASJMC's Executive Committee.

He has held eight leadership positions with AEJMC, including chair of the Membership Committee in 2000-2001 and the Small Programs Interest Group in 1997-1998. In 1998, he received a Presidential Citation for his work with the organization.

In 2006-07 he served as president of the Southwest Education Council for Journalism and Mass Communication. He was a member of its Board of Directors from 2000 to 2002. Stewart served as chair of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Contest Rules and Membership for the Southeast Journalism Conference in 2004. Stewart has taught 14 courses at Nicholls. He has published or presented 15 refereed papers, journal articles or book chapters on issues ranging from journalism ethics to newsroom decision making, and has been an invited speaker or presenter at the national level 15 times.

Stewart began his journalism career at *The Nicholls Worth*, the student newspaper he now advises. He went on to positions at newspapers in Louisiana and Mississippi, and his work as a journalist continues. He has received several professional awards, including sharing in the New York Times Company's Punch Sulzberger Award and a First Place Louisiana-Mississippi Associated Press award for team coverage of the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Stewart earned his MS and PhD degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi.



Deadline for voting is May 14, 2017.

Representative to ACEJMC

Dorothy Bland University of North Texas



Dorothy M. Bland is the Dean of the Frank W. and Sue Mayborn School of Journalism at the University of North Texas. She joined the faculty in 2013, and brings to the school more than 25 years of media experience including being a reporter, editor, media/marketing consultant and publisher. She has a Bachelor of Science in Journalism, Arkansas State University and a Master of Business Administration in Marketing, George Washington University.

Prior to becoming the Dean, she served for five years as the journalism division director at Florida A&M University and as a professor. She has managed multi-million dollar companies and online startups. From 1983-1990, she worked at USA Today. Prior to joining Gannett in 1980, she worked for daily newspapers in Arkansas and Tennessee. She has completed additional graduate work in mass communication at Florida State University. Her research interests include media management, marketing, digital/social media and diversity. Under her leadership, the Mayborn School was named the 2016 AEJMC Equity & Diversity Award winner.

In 2014 she was elected by her peers in the ASJMC to serve on the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications.

David Ryfe University of Iowa



David Ryfe is Director and Professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Iowa. He was appointed to this position in 2014. Before then, from 2006-2014 he was an associate professor and eventually department chair of the Reynolds School of Journalism at the University of Nevada, Reno. He began his career as an assistant professor in the School of Journalism at Middle Tennessee State University.

Ryfe holds a BA, MA, and PhD from the University of California, San Diego.

He has published 30+ journal articles and book chapters as well as three books. His areas of interest include presidential communication, political communication, and the history and sociology of journalism. His 2012 book, *Can Journalism Survive?* (Polity Press) was a finalist for the 2013 AEJMC Tankard Book Award. His most recent book, *Journalism and the Public* (Polity, 2017), is a comparative study of the way in which journalism is shaped by the forms of public life in which it is embedded.

He has been a member of AEJMC for many years, and as Director of the SJMC, has become more active in service to the profession. He currently serves on the AEJMC budget committee and has recently been trained to serve as an ACEJMC site team member.

Lorraine Branham Syracuse University



Lorraine Branham is the Dean of the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, a position she assumed in July 2008. Before coming to Newhouse, Branham was director of the School of Journalism and G.B. Dealey Regents Professor at the University of Texas at Austin (UT). Branham joined the UT faculty in 2002 after a 25-year career as a newspaper editor, editorial writer and reporter. She was previously the assistant to the publisher of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and senior vice president and executive editor of the Tallahassee Democrat, and held several positions at the Philadelphia Inquirer, including associate managing editor for features. She also worked as a reporter at the Philadelphia Tribune; Courier-Post in Cherry Hill, NJ; Philadelphia Bulletin; and the Baltimore Sun. While at the Baltimore Sun she was awarded a nine-month John S. Knight Fellowship at Stanford University. She was an adjunct professor at Temple University, where she taught reporting and writing for three years. She also taught in the summer program for minority journalists at California, Berkeley. She is a member of ASNE, AEJMC, ASJMC and NABJ. Branham holds a bachelor's degree in television, radio and film from Temple University.

Andrea Tanner University of South Carolina



Andrea Tanner is director and professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of South Carolina. She also serves as associate dean in the College of Information and Communications.

Serving as director of the school since 2015, Tanner has led the school during a time of significant change, including a move to a new, state-of-the-art building, implementation of a new undergraduate major, curriculum revisions in the school's professional master's program and the hiring of multiple new faculty and staff members. This year, the school went through accreditation, with the ACEJMC site team finding the school in compliance on all nine standards.

Prior to assuming the position of SJMC director, Tanner was a faculty member in the school, serving in leadership roles including associate director for graduate studies and research, journalism sequence head and director of the science and health communication research group, a campus-wide initiative to develop interdisciplinary research and extramural funding. Tanner's research expertise is in media communication of health information, specifically focusing on how media practitioners identify, select and develop health stories, and how this information contributes to the public's health beliefs, attitudes and perceptions. Tanner earned a BA from University of Georgia and a MA and PhD in journalism and mass communications from the University of South Carolina. A former broadcast journalist, she maintains close ties to the professional journalism and mass media community within South Carolina and nationally.