

GEIG Update

Graduate Education Interest Group, AEJMC

www.geig.wordpress.com

Fall 2009

www.aejmc.org

Midwinter AEJMC conference near

While the AEJMC Midwinter Conference is in March, right now is the time to put your plans together, both to submit your research and think about travel arrangements. **See GEIG Research Co-Chair Erica Salkin's interview on Page 2.**

What you need to know:

- 1) The deadline is December 1, 2009, for abstracts of 300 to 500 words to be e-mailed to division chairs. If accepted, the full paper (not to exceed 30 pages) must be sent to your assigned discussant. To submit to the GEIG Division, send your abstracts to Erica Salkin, salkin@wisc.edu.
- 2) The Midwinter Convention is March 5-7, 2010, at the University of Oklahoma.
- 3) Papers accepted at Midwinter also can be offered to the AEJMC National Conference.
- 4) Go to www.geig.wordpress.com for complete details.

Tell us your story

The Graduate Student Interest Group wants to hear from you. How you can take part:

- Visit www.geig.wordpress.com and take part in the conversation by leaving a comment.
- Submit a guest column to the GEIG Update by e-mailing Ed Simpson, es603708@ohio.edu. We will entertain any subject, as long as the length is reasonable (500 words or less) and it pertains to the graduate student experience.

Interest group needs your help

The Graduate Student Interest Group is, well, regrouping, and we need your input.

The group is part of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, the largest organization in the nation for scholastic advisers, community college and university professors, and graduate students studying journalism and mass communications.

AEJMC holds an annual convention featuring the best research in the country, panels to discuss special topics, university press representatives, and speakers renowned in their fields. During the annual convention



Jennette Lovejoy, a third-year doctoral candidate at Ohio University, is the 2009/2010 president of the Graduate Student Interest Group.

in Boston last year, 47 percent of the research presented (more than 600 papers) was authored or co-authored by graduate students.

Jennette Lovejoy, president of GEIG for 2009/2010, said her goals are to

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Why you should submit your research

Editor's Note: Erica Salkin is research co-chair of GEIG. She is a second-year Ph.D. candidate at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She responded to questions from GEIG Update.

What is GEIG?

The Graduate Education Interest Group is unique to AEJMC in that we embrace all topic areas - our focus is on the graduate students who pursue them. The group was founded to provide more discussion of graduate student issues

within communication programs, and as a way for graduate students to support each other through their studies.

Why should I submit my research to AEJMC conferences?

For a graduate student, submitting your research to GEIG gives you the opportunity to get professional, constructive feedback within a supportive environment of your peers. Most of our reviewers



Erica Salkin

and discussants are faculty members, who share their expertise for the benefit of our members.

Why should I submit to the Midwinter Conference?

The Midwinter meeting does not include all divisions of AEJMC, and while the research is no less impressive, there are fewer presentations and panels than you would see at the national conference. For many, this is an opportunity to get valuable feedback on a paper that is nearly complete. Papers submitted to the Midwinter conference may also be submitted to the national conference.

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raise awareness of the group and to increase service to her fellow graduate students.

"GEIG is a great opportunity to network and to get to know not just your colleagues in graduate school, but professors from around the country who can help spark new ideas for research and offer rich feedback," she said.

Kathleen Stansberry, a second-year doctoral student at the University of Oregon and co-research chair for GEIG, said the interest group was founded in 1991 for the express purpose of supporting students as they begin their research careers.



Kathleen Stansberry, GEIG research co-chair, University of Oregon.

"By providing a space where graduate students are judged only with their peers, GEIG can be a great place for young academics to be publicizing their original research," she said.

GEIG, however, is only as good as its members, Lovejoy said.

She encourages everyone to take part, whether at the master's or doctoral levels, by checking the GEIG Website often and leaving comments and questions, submitting letters, comments and guest columns to the newsletter and, most of all, sending in research to the Midwinter and annual conferences.

Lovejoy said the faculty role in GEIG cannot be overstated. "Faculty can encourage us to get involved, and offer a great resource for understanding the peer-review process and can help guide us through the experience of attending conferences, which from the outside can seem intimidating," she said.