

Center for Community News at AEJMC

AEJMC Conference Schedule | August 5–8

CCN Lounge : Regents Room (4th Floor)

Open throughout the conference for meetings, refreshments, and informal conversation.

Wednesday, August 5

Time	Event	Location
8:30–9:45 a.m.	From Classroom to Community: News-Academic Partnerships Addressing Local News	W008 / Salon B (3rd Floor)
9:00–11:30 a.m.	Coffee, refreshments & conversation	CCN Lounge
9:30–11:00 a.m.	Welcome Breakfast (Open to everyone)	CCN Lounge
12:00–1:00 p.m.	Lunch for CCN Champions & Cohort Leader	CCN Lounge
1:00–3:00 p.m.	Half-hour one-on-one meetings	CCN Lounge
5:15 p.m.	AEJMC Keynote	W068 / Arcadia (3rd Floor)
7:00 p.m.	AEJMC Reception	W069 / Carondelet (3rd Floor)

Thursday, August 6

Time	Event	Location
10:00–11:30 a.m.	Coffee, refreshments & one-on-one meetings	CCN Lounge
11:30–12:45	Transforming Curriculum Through Collaboration	Th045 / Salon D (3rd Floor)
1:00–4:00 p.m.	Refreshments & informal meetings	CCN Lounge
1:15–2:30 p.m.	Growth and Impact of Community Reporting Programs at Colleges Across the Country	Th059 / Studio 9 (2nd Floor)

Friday, August 7

Time	Event	Location
9:45–11:00 a.m.	CCN & Knight Foundation Session: Why Student Reporting Matters	F026 / Bonaparte (4th Floor)
10:00–11:30 a.m.	Coffee & refreshments	CCN Lounge
12:00–1:00 p.m.	Lunch for CCN Champions & Cohort Leaders	CCN Lounge
1:00–3:00 p.m.	Half-hour one-on-one meetings	CCN Lounge
4:45–6:00 p.m.	Community Journalism Interest Group Research Session	F070 / Balcony J (4th Floor)
4:45–6:00 p.m.	Scholastic Journalism Division AI Research Session	F068 / Studio 10 (2nd Floor)

Saturday, August 8

Time	Event	Location
9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	Meetings, refreshments & drop-in conversations	CCN Lounge

CCN Featured Panels & Sessions

[From Classroom to Community: News-Academic Partnerships Addressing Local News](#)

Wednesday | 8:30–9:45 a.m. | W008 / Salon B (3rd Floor)

Explores how news-academic partnerships strengthen local journalism, connect teaching with community reporting, and build sustainable collaborations between universities and local news organizations.

Moderator: Sima Bhowmik

Panelists: Marquita Smith, Richard Watts, Benjamin Cooley

Transforming Curriculum Through Collaboration: Join the Howard Centers' Joint Investigation on Elections

Thursday | 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m. | Th045 / Salon D (3rd Floor)

Scripps Howard Foundation Teaching Panel Session

The Howard Centers and the Roy Howard Community Journalism Center have deep experience collaborating with schools and newsrooms. The Centers will share how they collaborate and an opportunity to work on a reporting project and earn a mini grant.

Moderator: Mike Canan, Senior Director of Journalism Strategies, Scripps Howard Fund

Panelists: Nichole Cyprian, Sean Mussenden, & Mark Greenblatt

Growth and Impact of Community Reporting Programs at Colleges Across the Country

Thursday | 1:15–2:30 p.m. | Th059 / Studio 9 (2nd Floor)

Presentation of CCN's latest national research, including participation from nearly 300 programs, more than 9,000 students, and over 32,000 published stories. Includes discussion of trends and opportunities for future research.

Moderator: Richard Watts

Panelists: Sima Bhowmik, Ben Cooley

Why Student Reporting Matters

Friday | 9:45–11:00 a.m. | F026 / Bonaparte (4th Floor)

Knight Foundation's Duc Luu and Richard Watts discuss why student reporting is essential to the future of local news, current funding opportunities, and CCN's goal of expanding the network to 500 schools by 2027.

Speakers: Richard Watts, Director, Center for Community News & Duc Luu, director of Sustainability Initiatives, Knight Journalism Program

AI and Journalism Education Research Session

Friday | 4:45–6:00 p.m. | F068 / Studio 10 (2nd Floor)

Research presentations examining AI in journalism education, including ethics, newsroom practice, writing instruction, and large language models.

Includes presentation by Sima Bhowmik & Gregory Gondwe.

Community Journalism Research Session

Friday | 4:45–6:00 p.m. | F070 / Balcony J (4th Floor)

Research on community journalism, curriculum, AI adoption, diaspora journalism, environmental reporting, and local news innovation.

Includes presentation by Sima Bhowmik & Andrea Lorenz.