Elia M. Powers, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

2014   Ph.D., Journalism Studies, University of Maryland, College Park

2010   M.A., American Culture Studies, Washington University in St. Louis

2003   B.S., Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University

TEACHING

Positions

2020-Present Associate Professor, Towson University, Dept. of Mass Communication

2015-2020   Assistant Professor, Towson University, Dept. of Mass Communication

2014-2015   Visiting Assistant Professor, Towson University, Dept. of Mass Communication

2011-2014   Instructor, University of Maryland, Philip Merrill College of Journalism

2010-2011   Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Philip Merrill College of Journalism

Courses Taught

MCOM651: Media & Politics (Towson University)

MCOM632: Qualitative Research Methods in Communication (Towson University)

MCOM 380: Podcasting (Towson University)

MCOM407: Multimedia Reporting Capstone (Towson University)

MCOM402: Sports Journalism (Towson University)

MCOM 390: Mass Communication Research (Towson University)

MCOM371: Media Audiences & Analytics (Towson University)

MCOM358: News Editing (Towson University)

TSEM102: Media Literacy: The Active Media Consumer (Towson University)

JOUR300: Journalism Ethics (University of Maryland)

JOUR200: Journalism History (University of Maryland)

JOUR201: News Writing & Reporting (University of Maryland)

JOUR175: Media Literacy (lead teaching assistant, University of Maryland)

RESEARCH

I study media and democracy from a variety of angles, including aesthetic labor and media diversity; journalism's impact and threats to local news; and political/civic engagement.

Book

Powers, E. (TBD). Performing the news: Identity, authority, & the myth of neutrality (Book under contract, *Rutgers University Press*)

Book Chapters

Powers, E. (2019). Selecting metrics, reflecting norms: How journalists in local newsrooms define, measure, and discuss impact. In M. Carlson (Ed.), *Measurable journalism*: *Digital platforms, news metrics and the quantified audience – 1st edition*. New York: Routledge.

Konieczna, M., & **Powers, E**. (2018). What can nonprofit journalists actually do for democracy? In S.A. Eldridge II & B. Franklin (Eds.), *The Routledge handbook of developments in digital journalism studies* (pp. 198-210) New York: Routledge.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Jenkins, J., & **Powers, E.** (2023). Listening, reflecting, & protecting: Empathy as a priority for local journalists covering marginalized communities. *Journalism Practice* (online first).

Powers, E. (2021). Seeking 'skilled, poised, fluent' verbal communicators: Aesthetic labor and signaling in journalism job advertisements. *Newspaper Research Journal*, 42(1), 12-28.

Powers, E. (2020). The journalist's speech: A phenomenological study of stuttering in the newsroom. *Journalism Studies*, 21(9), 1243-1260.

Powers, E., Koliska, M., & Guha, P. (2019). "Shouting matches and echo chambers": Perceived identity threats and political self-censorship on social media. *International Journal of Communication*, 13, 3630-3649.

Powers, E., & Curry, A. (2019). No quick fix: How journalists assess the impact and define the boundaries of solutions journalism. *Journalism Studies*, 20(15), 2237-2257.

Powers, E. (2019). How students access, filter, and evaluate digital news: Choices that shape what they consume and the implications for news literacy education. *Journal of Literacy and Technology*, 20(3), 2-44.

Powers, E. (2018). Selecting metrics, reflecting norms: How journalists in local newsrooms define, measure, and discuss impact. *Digital Journalism*, 6(4), 454-471.

Powers, E. (2017). My News Feed is filtered? Awareness of news personalization among college students. *Digital Journalism*, 5(10), 1315-1335.

Powers, E., & Haller, B. (2017). Journalism and mass communication textbook representations of verbal media skills: Implications for students with speech disabilities. *Journal of Media Literacy Education*, 9(2).

Konieczna, M., & **Powers, E.** (2016). What can nonprofit journalists actually do for democracy? *Journalism Studies*, 17(3), 1-17.

Powers, E. & Incollingo, J. (2016). Multimedia journalism professors on an island: Resources, support lacking at small programs. *Teaching Journalism & Mass Communication*, 6(1), 1-17.

Powers, E., & Koliska, M. (2016). Placing trust in others: How college students find news, determine credibility, and develop their views of journalism in the digital age. *Journalism Education*, 5(1), 105-122.

Powers, E., Moeller, S., & Yuan, Y. (2016). Political engagement during a presidential election year: A case study of media literacy students. *Journal of Media Literacy Education*, 8(1), 1-13.

Yaros, R., Roberts, J., **Powers, E**., & Steiner, L. (2015). Serving the needs of the Latina community for health information. *Health, Culture and Society,* 8(1), 20-33.

Powers, E., Moeller, S., & Yuan, Y. (2014). The push and pull of politics: How media literacy students sign up for, stumble upon, and seek out news at election time. *Journal of Digital and Media Literacy*, 2(2).

Powers, E. (2014). Building buzz and episodes with bite-sized content: Portlandia's formula for turning a video project into a television series. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media,* 58(3), 342-364.

Yaros, R., **Powers, E.**, & Oh, S. (2014). Incorrect terms used to portray possible cell phone risk. *Newspaper Research Journal*, 35(1), 96-107.

Powers, E., & Yaros, R. (2013). Cultivating support for nonprofit news organizations: Commitment, trust, and donating audiences. *Journal of Communication Management*, 17(2), 157-170.

Powers, E., & Yaros, R. (2012). Supporting online nonprofit news organizations: Do financial

contributions influence stakeholder expectations and engagement? *Journal of Media Business Studies*, 9(3), 41-62.

Moeller, S., **Powers, E**., & Roberts, J. (2012). "The world unplugged and 24 hours without media": Media literacy to develop self-awareness regarding media use. *Comunicar: Scientific Journal of Media Education*, 39, 45-52.

Peer-Reviewed Conference Papers

Powers, E. (2023). "Standard" appearance and "accentless" speech: How notions of neutrality limit diversity in broadcast news. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Washington, D.C.

Powers, E. (2023). Distracting to whom? White normativity & imagined news audiences. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Washington, D.C.

Kirkman, R., Culli, L., **& Powers, E.** (2023). Workplace flexibility for whom? How communications job advertisements signal commitments, perks, and values. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Washington, D.C.

Brooks, A., Shelford, T., **& Powers, E.** (2023). How public speaking anxiety influences young adults' career interests and plans. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Washington, D.C.

Jones, E., Haas, P., & **Powers, E.** (2023). Expressing identity through ink: Tattoo styles, self-expression, and personal branding. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Washington, D.C.

Powers, E., & Koliska, M. (2023). Influential voices outside the newsroom: How voice coaches maintain and challenge journalistic practices. Paper presented at the annual ICA conference, Toronto, Canada.

Koliska, M., & **Powers, E.** (2022). "Giving ourselves permission to be ourselves:" The struggle over the form of broadcast news presentation. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Detroit, MI.

Jenkins, J., & **Powers, E.** (2021). Engaging marginalized communities in the U.K.: A case study of Facebook's community news project. Paper presented at the annual ICA conference (virtual).

Sussman, A., & **Powers, E.** (2021). A systematic review of media literacy interventions and the case for a logic-based debunking approach. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference (virtual).

Powers, E. (2020). Seeking 'skilled, poised, fluent' verbal communicators: Aesthetic labor and signaling in journalism job advertisements. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference (virtual).

Powers, E., & Curry, A. (2018). No quick fix: How journalists assess the impact and define the boundaries of solutions journalism. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference,

Washington, D.C.

Powers, E. (2016). My News Feed is filtered? Awareness of news personalization among college students. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Minneapolis, MN.

Powers, E. (2016). Searching in a state of automaticity: How students access, filter, and evaluate digital news. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Minneapolis, MN.

Konieczna, M., & **Powers, E**. (2015). Conceptualizing the impact of investigative journalism: How a prominent journalistic nonprofit talks about its work. Paper presented at annual AEJMC conference, San Francisco, CA.

Powers, E., & Incollingo, J. (2013). Multimedia journalism professors on an island: Resources, support lacking at small programs. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Washington, D.C. — *Third Place, Small Programs Interest Group Division*

Yaros, R., Roberts, J., **Powers, E**., & Steiner, L. (2013). Serving the needs of the Latina community for health information. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Washington D.C.

Powers, E. (2012). From creative project to network series: Portlandia tracks the music industry into the age of digital media. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Chicago IL.

Powers, E., & Koliska, M. (2012). Seeing the world through a filter: How college students place trust in others to find news, determine credibility and shape their views of journalism in the digital age. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Chicago, IL.

Yaros, R., & **Powers, E**. (2012). Reporting a new cancer risk: Analyzing the online coverage of the World Health Organization's announcement about possible dangers of cell phone use. Paper presented at the annual AEJMC conference, Chicago, IL.

Book Review

Powers, E. (2011). The young & the digital: What the migration to social-network sites, games, and anytime, anywhere media means for our future. *Journal of Media Literacy Education*, 3(1), 63-65.

Conference Panels/Invited Speaking Engagements

2020   Organizer, "Listening before (and after) the story pitch: Teaching students about public-powered journalism." Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) annual conference, San Francisco, CA (virtual).

2019   Presenter, "Crowdsourcing and the journalistic engagement practices matrix." International Communication Association annual conference, Washington, D.C.

2019   Presenter, "Flipping the frame: Teaching students to produce solutions-oriented journalism." National Association of Media Literacy Education bi-annual conference, Washington, D.C.

2018   Organizer of panel, "How journalists define, measure, and discuss impact." Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) annual conference, Washington, D.C.

2017   Presenter, "How journalists define, measure, and discuss impact." Online News Association annual conference, Washington D.C.

2016   Organizer of pre-conference session, "Teaching algorithmic transparency." AEJMC annual conference, Minneapolis, MN.

2016   Panelist, "Preparing your students for a world of disability." AEJMC annual conference, Minneapolis, MN.

2013   Organizer of panel, "Assessing media literacy: What skills and knowledge do students already possess and what are they learning in class?" 11th Annual Northeast Media Literacy Conference, University of Connecticut.

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Podcast Reporter/Host/Producer

2019-Present PRX Exchange

Host and producer of *Areas of Agreement*, a podcast series about the urban-rural divide. Host and producer of individual podcasts that appear of PRX Exchange, the largest open audio distribution marketplace.

Contributing Writer

2015-2018   MediaShift, *Washington, D.C.*

Covered media industry and journalism education trends for national website. Topics included analytics, measuring impact, fake news, philanthropic giving to journalism, and journalism education.

2014-2017   Yahoo! Sports' ThePostGame, *Washington, D.C.*

Wrote lead articles on how former college basketball players adjust to their professional basketball careers overseas, and how the award-winning Big Ten Network documentary series 'The Journey' captures the spirit of March Madness.

2013-2014   Shirley Povich Center for Sports Journalism, *College Park, Md.*

Chapter, "Jim Murray," published in *Still No Cheering in the Press Box*, a series curated by the Povich Center that profiles prominent sports writers. Covered

fallout from the scandal involving disgraced former Clippers owner Donald Sterling.

2012-2013   American Journalism Review, *College Park, Md.*

Wrote about media trends for national website. Topics included coverage of third-party candidates, future of sports journalism, and journalism education.

Staff Writer/Reporter

2008-2010   St. Louis Beacon (Now St. Louis Public Radio), *St. Louis, Mo.*

Covered politics, education, health, technology and other topics for a nonprofit news website. Wrote a news blog, "The Feed," that targeted young readers, and produced podcasts and helped create videos that appeared on the website.

2006-2008   Inside Higher Ed, *Washington, D.C.*

Covered higher education issues for the national news website. Reported regularly on Congressional hearings and covered breaking news from campuses across the country. Developed, edited, and wrote the script for podcasts.

2005   The Daily Pilot, *Costa Mesa, Calif.*

Covered arts, education, politics, business, and health for a *Los Angeles Times* community newspaper covering Orange County.

2004   The Desert Sun, *Palm Springs, Calif.*

Wrote daily news and feature stories for regional newspaper. Topics included health, politics, and development and growth.

2003-2004   The Los Angeles Times, *Los Angeles, Calif.*

Covered high school sports and college events for the *Times*. Wrote feature stories for weekly newspaper insert*, Campus Times.*

Internships

2002   The Sporting News, *St. Louis, Mo.*

Wrote and edited articles that appeared in the national sports publication.

2002   Washingtonian Magazine, *Washington D.C.*

Wrote a feature story that appeared in the regional magazine; fact checked articles.

2001   WGN-TV, *Chicago, Ill.*

Logged and edited tape for the nightly sportscast.

MULTIMEDIA SKILLS

Data Journalism/Visualization: Certificate in Data-Driven Journalism from the Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas. Excel, SPSS, Tableau, Google Maps & Google Earth, Google Data Studio, DocumentCloud, Census Reporter

Graphics/Design: Adobe InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator; Canva

Video/Audio: Certificate in Multimedia Journalism Basics from the Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas as the University of Texas. Adobe Premiere, Adobe Audition, Hindenburg, Audacity.

Blogging Platforms: Blogger, WordPress, Medium, Weebly

Analytics: Google Analytics & Chartbeat

Programming: Basic HTML/CSS, JQuery

HONORS/AWARDS

2023	Towson University College of Fine Arts & Communication dean's research award – funded research project on generative AI in media fields.
2020	Selected participant, Transom Traveling Workshops on audio journalism and podcasting, Seattle, Washington
2018	Selected participant, Solutions Journalism Educators Academy, University of Oregon
2017	Innovative journalism educator, part of *MediaShift*'s EducationShift20 series on top faculty and practitioners
2014	Fellowship for top journalism studies Ph.D. student, Philip Merrill College of Journalism, University of Maryland, College Park
2013	Peer-reviewed conference paper, "Multimedia Journalism Professors on an Island: Resources, Support Lacking at Small Programs," earned third place in AEJMC's Small Program Interest Group Division
2012	Peer-reviewed conference paper, "Seeing the World Through a Filter: How College Students Place Trust in Others," earned third place in the top student paper competition in AEJMC's Mass Communication and Society division
2012	Distinguished teaching assistant, Center for Teaching Excellence, University of

Maryland, College Park

2012   Thomas J. Aylward Scholarship, a merit-based award given to one doctoral student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism

2011   Contributing writer to "The State of Hate," a series on hate crimes that won first place in the comprehensive coverage or investigative journalism category by the American Jewish Press Association

SERVICE

Community

2021-2022   Member, Uniting for Action America program. Involved in a program run by the organization Urban-Rural Action intended to build new connections and find commonalities across divides, increase understanding of different perspectives on issues, strengthen skills for collaborating, and implement projects to strengthen communities. Organizer of an online town hall event on local news deserts (communities without access to quality local news).

Professional

2021-Present   Reviewer, *Journalism Practice*

2020-Present   Reviewer, *International Journal of Communication*

2017-Present   Reviewer, *Journalism Studies*

2016-Present   Reviewer, *Digital Journalism*

2016-Present   Reviewer, *Journal of Media Literacy Education*

2015-Present   Reviewer, AEJMC & ICA conferences

2015-2017   Member, AEJMC Mass Communication & Society Midwinter Committee

2017   Mentor, AEJMC's Newspaper & Online News Division mentorship program

Department

2023   Chair, Towson University Communication Management Graduate Program master's thesis, Muhammad Waheed.

2023   Chair, Towson University Communication Management Graduate Program master's thesis, Darius Beckford.

2023   Member, Towson University Communication Management Graduate Program master's thesis, Aaliyah Brooks.

2023   Member, Towson University Communication Management Graduate Program master's thesis, Matt Mason: Stigma and MPOX: A content analysis of print news media surrounding the MPOX epidemic.

2022   Chair, Towson University Department of Mass Communication journalism lecturer search committee

2021-Present   Member, Promotion, Tenure, Reappointment and Merit document review committee

2020-Present   Member, Promotion, Tenure, & Reappointment committee

2019   Chair, Towson University Department of Mass Communication journalism/new media lecturer search committee

2019   Member, Towson University Department of Mass Communication lecturer review committee

2018-2019   Chair, Towson University Communication Management Graduate Program master's thesis, Matthew Scales: "Local Media Framing of Post-Freddie Gray Violence in Baltimore: A Content Analysis of *The Baltimore Sun*, *City Paper*, and *Afro* Newspapers"

2018-2019   Chair, Towson University Department of Mass Communication faculty training committee (brought speakers to campus to teach digital skills)

2018-Present   Member, Towson University Department of Mass Communication working group on curriculum change (new course creation: Media Audiences & Analytics)

2017-2019   Member, Towson University Department of Mass Communication journalism/new media subcommittee on curriculum change (revising journalism/new media sequence)

2015-Present   Journalism/new media liaison, Towson University Department of Mass Communication curriculum committee (reviewing new courses)

2015-2018   Editor, Towson University Mass Communication website

2016-2017   Member, Towson University Department of Mass Communication public relations lecturer search committee

College

2022-present   Mentor, College of Fine Arts & Communication mentoring initiative

2022-2023   College of Fine Arts & Communication Promotion, Tenure, & Reappointment committee

2012-2013   President, Merrill Graduate Students Association, Philip Merrill College of
             Journalism, University of Maryland, College Park

University

2023-present Member, Baltimore Student Media advisory board

2023-present Member, Towson University library advisory committee

2018-2021   Faculty adviser, Towson University Zeta Beta Tau fraternity