“Profiles in Journalistic Courage”
Graduate Student Research Symposium Spring 2024
&
Excellence in International Journalism Awards

Hall of the Nations, Texas Tech International Cultural Center

Tuesday March 19, 2024 | 17:00 GMT/UTC | 10:30 PM, Kabul, Afghanistan | 11:00 AM, Lubbock, Texas | 8:00 PM, Moscow, Russia

Co-sponsors: The College of Media and Communication, the TTU Office of International Affairs, the Harris Institute for Hispanic and International Communication, the Department of Journalism and Creative Media Industries, the CoMC Graduate Program, the CoMC Center for Communication Research, and the William S. Morris Endowed Professorship.

Awards Ceremony:
11:00 - 11:10 – Welcome Statement
   Professor Robert Stewart, Interim Dean, CoMC
11:10 - 11:20 – Welcome to International Cultural Center
   Elizabeth Trejos-Castillo, C.R. Hutcheson Professor in Human Development & Family Sciences, Vice Provost for International Affairs
11:20- 11:25 –Statement by Prof. Lawrence Schovanec,
   President of Texas Tech University
11:25- 11:30 –The 2024 CoMC Graduate Student Symposium & Excellence in Journalism and International Journalism Awards
   Lyombe Eko, Endowed Professor in Innovation, Journalism & Info.
11:30 - 11:35 –Statement by Robin Lerner, President and CEO
   Texas International Education Consortium (TIEC)
11:35 - 12:00 –Introduction of Afghan Journalists
   Abbas Changezi, Co-founder of Daily Outlook Afghanistan

Presentation of Excellence in International Journalism Award
12:00 - 12:10 –Introduction of award winner, Marina Ovsyannikova journalist & political asylee from Russia
Professor Kent Wilkinson, Director, HIHIC

**Award Presentation by Lawrence Schovanec, President of TTU**

12:10 - 12:20 –Address by Marina Ovsyannikova
12:20 - 12:25 –Introduction of award winner, Saleha Soadat, Journalist from Afghanistan
Professor Glenn Cummins, Interim Chair, JCMII

**Award Presentation by Lawrence Schovanec, President of TTU**

12:40 - 12:50 –Address by Saleha Soadat, Journalist from Afghanistan

**Presentation of gifts to Marina Ovsyannikova, Ssleha Soadat, and Afghan journalists**
**Lawrence Schovanec, President of TTU**

12:50 - 01:00 –A Visual Journey of Hope and Resilience in the Midst of Crisis
The Photojournalism of Mariam Alimi
01:00 - 01:20 –Group activity by Afghan journalists

**Question and Answer session with Marina Ovsyannikova and Saleha**

**Photographs**

**Book Signing: Marina Ovsyannikova**

Marina Ovsyannikova being interrogated in Moscow, Russia (March 2022)
01:20 - 01:50 – **Lunch Break:** Buffet Catered by Top Tier Catering

01:50 - 02:05 – **Afghan Journalists Presentations**
(Introduction: Abbas Changezi, Co-founder of Daily Outlook Afghanistan and Saleha Soadat, Journalist)

Saleha and other Afghans being evacuated from Kabul by the U.S. Military (2021)
Presentation Sessions: Concurrent

Session 01: Hall of Nations

02:05 - 02:25 – Suppressing Women's Voices: Media Repression under Taliban Rule
(Speaker: Anisa Shaheed, Journalist from Afghanistan)

02:25 - 02:40 – Gender-Based Violence Against Female Journalists in Afghanistan
(Speaker: Wazhma Fazli, Journalist from Afghanistan)

Session 02: Room 105

02:05 - 02:40 – The Roll Call of Murdered Female Journalists in Afghanistan
(Khojasta Sameyee, Journalist from Afghanistan)

02:40 Reassemble in Hall of the Nations for Q & A with presenters

0:300 – 03:05 – Concluding Comments:
Prof. Coy Callison, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, MCOM.

Texas Tech University
College of Media & Communication

“Profiles in Journalistic Courage”
Graduate Student Research Symposium
CoMC, HIHIC, & JCI Morris Professorship International
Journalists’ Reception (March 19, 2024, 6 PM)
Hall of the Nations, Texas Tech International Cultural Center

Buffet Dinner Catered by Top Tier Catering

06:00 - 06:10 – Welcome and General Introduction:
Lyombe Eko, Endowed Professor in Innovation, Journalism & Info.

06:10 - 06:20 – Welcome Statement
Professor Robert Stewart, Interim Dean

06:20 - 06:40 – Introduction of Afghan Journalists
Saleha Soadat & Abbas Changezi, Co-founder of Daily Outlook Afghanistan

06:40 - 06:50 – Introduction of Excellence in International Journalism Awardees
Prof. Kent Wilkinson
Presentations:
07:00 - 07:10 – Afghanistan, the Taliban, and the Bamiyan Buddha (Video)
07:10 - 07:20 – The Hazards of Being a Female Journalist in Afghanistan (Najia Safi)

Performance by the Arab Students Association

07:20 - 07:30 – Recitation of the Poetry of Rumi (Zainab Pirzad, Afghan Journalist)
07:30 - 07:40 – Surviving the Taliban: Women Journalists in Afghanistan Today (Nabila Seraaj, Journalist from Afghanistan)
07:40 - 07:50 – Research at MCOM: Presentation of souvenirs to guest journalists
Professor Justin Keene, Associate Dean for Research
07:50 - 08:00 – Recognition of CoMC Graduate Student Participants*
TTU Graduate School’s
(2023 & 2024) Prof. Lyombe Eko
08:00 - 08:10 – The CoMC/NSF STEPP grant: “Predatory Paradox” Book Signing**
Prof. Amy Koerber, Associate Dean for Administration and Finance

08:10 - 08:20 – Closing Remarks: Prof. Glenn Cummins & Prof Coy Callison

End of Symposium

2nd Day

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

11:00 - 12:30 – Travel by van to Palo Duro State Park
03:00 - 03:30 – Courtesy call on Mayor Cole Stanley, City of Amarillo
The Logistical Team

International & Local Communication and Logistics
Lyombe Eko, Professor, Journalism & Creative Media Industries, Coordinator.
Kent Wilkinson, Director - Harris Institute for Hispanic and International Communication (HIHIC)
Saleha Soadat, TIEC Fellow & Harris Institute for Hispanic and International Studies Research Assistant
Tamara Ginter, Director of Finance, College of Media and Communication (CoMC)
Ashlynn Brosh, Executive Associate Dean’s Office & CoMC, SECC Coordinator, College of Media and Communication.
Elizabeth Young, Administrative Assistant, Journalism and Creative Media Industries
Laura Webb: Webmaster
Abbas Changezi, Co-founder of the Daily Outlook Afghanistan, Coordinator.

*A MCOM Graduate Student Research Poster Competition Participants 2023 & 2024
2023 (MCOM 6315)
Adu, Jeffrey
Akdilek, Sumeyyya
Cordoba, Giovanny (Second place winner Social Sciences)
Afrin, Sadia
Carrión Anampa, Fabiola
Conway, Mekala
Kim, Jimwan
Goni, Ashraf
Hassan, Mahedi (First place winner, Social Science, 2022)

Fall 2023 (MCOM 5366)
Castillo, Jehiel
Hasib, Mir
McKeever, Kenzie

2024 (MCOM 6310)
Daniels, Zach
Koert, Anthony
Kondam, Sachit
Manager, Rich
Mir, Hasib
Soadat, Saleha

Amy Koerber, Ph.D.
Jesse Starkey, Ph.D.
Karin Ardon-Dryer, Ph.D.
Glenn Cummins, Ph.D.
Lyombe Eko, Ph.D.
Kerk F. Kee, Ph.D.

The Bamyan Mountains of Afghanistan