



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

College of Media & Communication™

“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, HIIHC

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, JCMI

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, Saleha 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

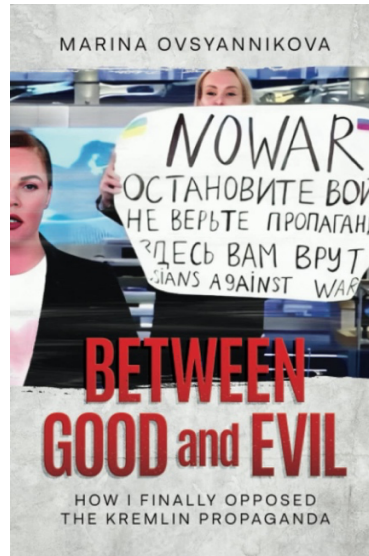
Question and Answer session with Marina Ovsyannikova and Saleha
Photographs

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



Marina's recently published book

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

03:00 – 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, & JCMi 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

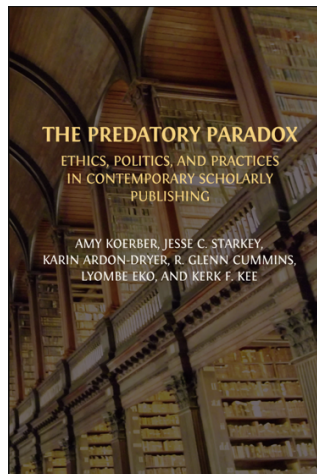
07:20 - 07:30 -Recitation of the Poetry of Rumi (Zainab Pirzad, Afghan Journalist)

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



Saleha and Abbas being welcomed to Texas Tech, 2022

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 Sodat, 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.



The Bamyan Mountains of Afghanistan

*MCOM Graduate Student Research Poster Competition Participants 2023 & 2024

2023 (MCOM 6315)

Adu, Jeffrey

Akdilek, Sumeyya

Cordoba, Giovanni (Second place winner Social Sciences)

Afrin, Sadia

Carrion 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

Managor, Rich

Mir, Hasib

Sodat, Saleha

**CoMC Co-principal investigators and & Co-authors of "Predatory Paradox: Ethics, Politics, and Practices in Contemporary Scholarly Publishing" (Open Book Publishers, 2023).

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.

