

Miya Williams Fayne, Ph.D.

University of Wisconsin-Madison
School of Journalism and Mass Communication
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EDUCATION:

- 2019 **Northwestern University**
Doctorate of Philosophy Media, Technology and Society
Dissertation Title: Transitioning Mediums and Understandings: An Examination of Entertainment in the 21st-Century Black Press
African American and Diaspora Studies Certificate
Teaching Certificate
- 2012 **Emerson College**
Master of Arts Publishing & Writing
Concentration: Magazines
- 2008 **University of Southern California**
Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism
Bachelor of Arts Print Journalism
Minors: Sociology; Communication and the Entertainment Industry

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE:

- 2024-present **University of Wisconsin-Madison**, Assistant Professor, School of Journalism and Mass Communication
African American Studies Affiliate
SJMC Courses: 562: Mass Media and Racial Diversity; 669 Literary Aspects of Journalism; 824 Race, Ethnicity and Media
- 2023-2024 **University of Wisconsin-Madison**, Anna Julia Cooper Fellow
- 2019-2023 **California State University, Fullerton**, Assistant Professor, Department of Communications
Courses: 315 Mass Media and Diversity, 334 Feature Article Writing, 449 Entertainment and Tourism Communications Capstone, 465 Entertainment Public Relations
- 2017 **Northwestern University**, Instructor, Communication Studies
Course: 394 Rewinding the Future: What's New About New Media?
- 2016-2017 **Northwestern University**, Research Assistant, Media, Technology and Society
- 2015-2016 **Northwestern University**, Teaching Assistant, Master of Science Leadership for the Creative Enterprises
Courses: 460 Organizational Processes in the Creative Industries; 464 Understanding the Creative Industries; 529 Understanding Media Markets: Users, Makers and Metrics; 529 Finance for the Creative Sector; 529 Marketing Strategies in Creative Enterprises; 529 NUvention: Entrepreneurship in the Arts
- 2015-2016 **Northwestern University**, Research Assistant, Integrated Marketing Communications

BOOK:

Williams Fayne, M. (2026). *The Blackish Press: Content, Ownership, and Audience of Digital Black News Outlets*. Oxford University Press.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:

Brown, D. K., **Williams Fayne, M.**, & Hsieh, E. (2026). #JournalismStudiesSoWhite: Evidence of Epistemological Bias and Gatekeeping of Scholars of Color in Journalism Studies. *Journalism*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14648849261467071>

Williams Fayne, M. & Agyekum, E. (2026). Black Press #HashtagActivism: Examining Digital Black News Outlets' Social Media Coverage of Black Lives Matter. *Journalism Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1461670X.2026.2695137>

Williams Fayne, M. & Edgerly, S. (2025). Unique Practices of the Underserved: Exploring Repertoire, Self-Identified and Topical News Avoidance Among Black Adults. *Mass Communication and Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15205436.2025.2578807>

Williams Fayne, M. (2025). Intended and Unintended Visitors: Evidencing the Audience for Digital Black Press Outlets. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10776990251328583>

Richardson, A.V. & **Williams Fayne, M.** (2024). Conquering the COVID-19 Infodemic: How the Digital Black Press Battled Racialized Misinformation in 2020. *Digital Journalism*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21670811.2024.2338374>

Williams Fayne, M. (2023). News Coping and Resistance: An Examination of Entertainment as Self-Care in the Digital Black Press. *Journalism Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1461670X.2023.2295541>

Williams Fayne, M. & Richardson, A.V. (2023). Reporting on Black Lives Matter in 2020: How Digital Black Press Outlets Covered the Racial Uprisings. *International Journal of Press/Politics*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/19401612231187562>

Williams Fayne, M. (2021). Advocacy Journalism in the 21st Century: Rethinking Entertainment in Digital Black Press Outlets. *Journalism* 24(2), 328-345. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14648849211023166>

Williams Fayne, M. (2020). The Great Digital Migration: Exploring What Constitutes the Black Press Online. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*. 97(3), 704-720. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1077699020906492>
JMCQ 2020 Outstanding Article of the Year Runner-Up

NON-PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:

Williams Fayne, M. (2026). The History of Johnson Publishing Company. In J. Cubbage, L. Saxton Coleman, & C. D. Jenkins (Eds), *Media, Industries, Society: Diverse Perspectives in Mass Communication*. Routledge.

- Williams Fayne, M. & Brown, D. K. (2024). Kamala Harris's Representation in Mainstream and Black Media. U.S. Election Analysis 2024: Media, Voters and the Campaign. <https://www.electionanalysis.ws/us/>
- Richardson, A.V. & **Williams Fayne, M.** (2024). The digital Black press strategically combated COVID-19 misinformation. *Columbia Journalism Review*. https://www.cjr.org/tow_center/the-digital-black-press-strategically-combated-covid-19-misinformation.php
- Brown, D. K., **Williams Fayne, M.**, Henderson, J., Snow, J. D., Harisiadas, C., Gunapalan, T. & DeFoster, C. (2023). Lifted Voices: Local News Coverage After a Reckoning. www.liftproj.com
- Brown, D. K.; Snow, J. C.; Walker, D.; Henderson, J.; **Williams Fayne, M.**; Myers, C. L.; & Smith, M. A. (2023) Lifted Voices: Perspectives of Residents and Leaders. www.liftproj.com
- Williams Fayne, M. (2020). CBQ Critical Reviews Long Essays: Centering Blackness and Foregrounding Black Joy in Conceptualizations of Internet Culture. *Communication Booknotes Quarterly*. 51(3-4), 110-113. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10948007.2020.1780893>

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS:

- Williams Fayne, M. (2026). Shifting Mediums: The Affordances and Limitations of a Digital Black Press. In K. Gallon & E.J. West (Eds), *A Full Measure of Freedom: The Black Press at 200 Collection*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press. (Accepted)
- Williams Fayne, M. & Edgerly, S. (2026). Black Adults' News Repertoires and Political Participation. *New Media and Society*. (In progress)

REFEREED PRESENTATIONS:

- Williams Fayne, M. (2025, October 15-18). "Meet the People Where They Are": An Examination of Digital Black Press Outlets' Audience Engagement. Association of Internet Researchers Conference. Universidade Federal Fluminense: Niteroi, Brazil.
- Williams Fayne, M. & Edgerly, S. (2025, August 7-10). Black Adults' News Repertoires and Political Participation. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. San Francisco, CA.
- Brown, D. K., **Williams Fayne, M.**, & Snow, J. (2025, August 7-10). #JStudiesSoWhite? Analyzing Journalism Studies Publications, Published Researchers and the Inclusion of Historically Marginalized Identities Over Time. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. San Francisco, CA.
- Williams Fayne, M. & Edgerly, S. (2024, August 8-11). Unique Practices of the Overrepresented: Exploring Self-Identified, Repertoire and Topical News Avoidance Among Black Adults. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Philadelphia, PA.

- Williams Fayne, M. (2023, May 25-29). Organizational Codeswitching: How Digital Black News Outlets Communicate with Their Audiences. International Communication Association Conference. Toronto, Canada.
- Williams Fayne, M. & Richardson, A.V. (2022, May 26-30). Reporting on Black Lives Matter's Second Wave: How the Digital Black Press Used Social Media to Cover the Racial Uprisings of 2020. International Communication Association Conference. Paris, France.
- Richardson, A.V. & **Williams Fayne, M.** (2022, May 26-30). Conquering the COVID-19 Infodemic: How the Digital Black Press Battled Racialized Misinformation in 2020. International Communication Association Conference. Paris, France.
- Williams Fayne, M. (2021, May 27-31). An Examination of Entertainment as Self-Care in the Digital Black Press. International Communication Association Conference. Virtual.
- Williams Fayne, M. (2020, May 20-26). The Blackish Press: Examining the White Gaze on Entertainment in Digital Black Press Outlets. International Communication Association Conference. Virtual.
- Williams Fayne, M. (2020, May 20-26). Expanding the Necessary Means: An Examination of Advocacy Conceptions in the 21st-Century Black Press. International Communication Association Conference. Virtual.
- Williams Fayne, M. (2019, August 7-10). Adapting to Change: Rethinking Advocacy in the 21st-Century Black Press. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Toronto, ON.
- Williams Fayne, M. (2019, May 24-28). New Medium, New Criteria: An Examination of How Digital Media is Redefining the Black Press. International Communication Association Conference. Washington, DC.
- Williams Fayne, M. (2018, October 18-20). Keeping it Real: Exploring Legitimacy and Authenticity in the 21st-Century Black Press. African American History, Culture and Digital Humanities Conference. College Park, MD.
- Williams Fayne, M. (2018, October 10-13). Renaming and Reframing: Exploring the Shift from "Black Press" to "Black Media" in the Digital Age. Association of Internet Researchers Conference. Montreal, Quebec.
- Williams, M. (2017, November 16-19). Seen and Heard: Examining the Leadership of Black Women Journalists in the Black Press. National Communication Association Conference. Dallas, TX.
- Williams, M. (2017, November 16-19). The Digital Great Migration: Exploring What Constitutes the Black Press Online. National Communication Association Conference. Dallas, TX.
- Williams, M. (2017, August 9-12). An Examination of How African-American Targeted Websites are Redefining the Black Press. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Chicago, IL.

Williams, M. (2017, March 11). Examining the Limitations and Affordances of a Digital Black Press. Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference. New York University, New York, NY.

Williams, M. (2016, October 5-8). A Digital Black Press?: Exploring What Constitutes the Black Press Online. Association of Internet Researchers Conference. Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany.

Williams, M. (2016, March 12). The Leadership of Black Women Journalists in the Black Press. Joint Journalism and Communication History Conference. New York University, New York, NY.

INVITED PANELS:

Williams Fayne, M. (2025, August 7-10). The New Press: Exploring the Role of Digital Minority Media. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. San Francisco, CA.

Williams Fayne, M. (2025, August 7-10). Joy as Resistance: Finding Happiness and Purpose in Academia When DEI is Under Fire. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. San Francisco, CA.

Williams Fayne, M. (2025, June 12-16). 5 Years of Shaping the Field: Critical Reflections on the Anniversaries of *Journalism* and *Journalism Studies*. International Communication Association Conference. Denver, CO.

Williams Fayne, M. (2022, August 3-6). The Pros & Cons of Bias in Newsgathering & Media Content Creation. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Detroit, MI.

Williams Fayne, M. (2022, August 3-6). From MOVE to George Floyd: Covering Communities of Color in Times of Crisis. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Detroit, MI.

Williams Fayne, M. (2022, August 3-6). To Plead Their Own Cause: A Conversation about Black Journalism Scholarship and Building Bridges with the National Association of Black Journalists. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Detroit, MI.

Williams Fayne, M. (2022, August 3-6). Serving Diverse Student Populations: Faculty Driven Approaches. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Detroit, MI

Williams Fayne, M. (2022, February 10). Black Media: Keeping & Making History. Center for Community Media at CUNY 's Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism's Black Media Initiative. Virtual.

Williams Fayne, M. (2021, August 4-7). Surviving and/or Thriving? The State of Black-Owned News Operations in the Age of Protest & Pandemic. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Virtual.

Williams Fayne, M. (2021, August 4-7). For vs. About: Challenging Journalists' Perceptions of Audiences and Communities. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Virtual.

Williams Fayne, M. (2021, April 24). Within the Veil: Roundtable of Black Perspectives. National Association of Black Journalists Education and Health Media Summit. Virtual.

Williams Fayne, M. (2020, August 6-9). A Lasting Impact: The End of *Ebony* and *Jet* Magazines and Implications for the Media Industry and Media Scholarship. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Virtual.

Williams Fayne, M. (2020, August 6-9). We too are Women: Deconstructing the Marginalization of Women of Color in Research and Practice. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Virtual.

Williams Fayne, M. (2019, August 7-10). Committing Acts of Journalism: The Role of Regular Actors and Strangers in (Community) Journalism Practice. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Toronto, ON.

Williams, M. (2018, August 6-9). The History of Black Media. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference. Washington, DC.

INVITED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Williams Fayne, M. (2025, September 25-28). New Frontiers in African American Studies. African American Studies Alumni Symposium. Madison, WI.

Williams Fayne, M. (2024, October 3-4). The Blackish Press: Content, Audience, and Ownership of Digital Black News Outlets. MAC x Midwest Conference. Lansing, MI.

Williams Fayne, M. (2024, March 27). Shifting Mediums: The Affordances and Limitations of a Digital Black Press. The Black Press Research Collective Works in Progress Series. Virtual.

Williams Fayne, M. (2023, May 1). Misinformation in BIPOC Communities. University of Wisconsin, Madison SJMC Emerging Scholars Series. Madison, WI.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS:

2022 Digital Ethnic Futures Consortium Course Collaboration Fellowship

2021 California State University, Fullerton Faculty Development Center Recognition of Scholarly and Creative Activity Award

2021 California State University, Fullerton Junior/Senior Faculty Research Grant

2020 Columbia University Tow Center for Digital Journalism Knight News Innovation Fellowship

2019 Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications First Place Student Paper Award from the Minorities and Communication Division

- 2018 Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications Student Research Grant from the Newspaper and Online News Division
- 2018 Northwestern University School of Communication Graduate Research Ignition Grant
- 2017 Northwestern University Graduate Research Grant
- 2017 National Communication Association Top Student Paper Award from the African American Communication & Culture Division

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

- 2025 The Discussion Project
University of Wisconsin-Madison; Madison, WI
- 2019 Annenberg Summer Doctoral Institute for Difference in Media and Culture
University of Southern California; Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 Summer Institute in Survey Research Techniques: Introduction to Focus Groups Interviewing Research Methods
University of Michigan; Ann Arbor, MI

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- 2016-2019 **Northwestern University**, Graduate Assistant
- 2014 ***EBONY* magazine**, Editorial Assistant
- 2012-2014 ***JET* magazine**, Editorial Assistant
- 2010-2012 ***Blast Magazine***, Senior Editor
- 2010 **Bender/Helper Impact PR**, Associate Account Executive
- 2009-2010 **Bender/Helper Impact PR**, Account Coordinator
- 2008-2009 **Disney Consumer Products**, Communications Undergraduate Associate

SERVICE:

University/College

- 2024-present **SJMC Inclusive Excellence**, Faculty Committee Member
- Coordinate speaker nominations, solicitations, and campus visits for the Emerging Scholars series twice each academic year
 - Participate in bi-weekly meetings to address issues of inclusion in the department
 - Help to conceive and execute initiatives to increase undergraduate, graduate, staff, and faculty feelings of inclusion

2024- present ***The Black Voice***, Advisor

- Support editors with the preparing the publication and event planning
- Assist with obtaining funding for the publication website and printing
- Copyedit all of the stories in the student publication

2024- 2026 **SJMC Timetable Committee**, Faculty Committee Member

- Represented the interests of assistant professors in the department's course assignments
- Assisted with troubleshooting student, faculty, and department teaching needs and preferences

2022-2023 **CSUF Academic Senate**, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Member

- Attended bi-weekly meetings to discuss and address issues of diversity occurring across campus
- Assisted with reviewing and updating University Policy Statement documents to be more inclusive

2022-2023 **Black CommUnity Program**, Co-Founder and Faculty Mentor

- Co-created and acquired funding for a new program for undergraduate students in the Department of Communications
- Helped conceive and execute monthly programming for students' academic success and job preparation
- Assisted with budget recording and submissions
- Organized and chaperoned student travel to the International Communication Association conference

2022-2023 **Department of Communications Awards Ceremony**, Faculty Committee Member

- Helped to organize and plan the annual awards ceremony for undergraduates, faculty, and alumni
- Edited bios of award recipients for publication on the department website and social media accounts

2022-2023 **National Association of Black Journalists-CSUF**, Advisor

- Regularly met with student leaders to conceptualize and coordinate events for membership retention and recruitment
- Invited journalists and media professionals as guest speakers for events
- Arranged student board members' attendance at the NABJ national conference and the NABJ-Los Angeles Media Summit
- Organized NABJ participation in CSUF's Titans Day of Giving

2020-2022 **National Association of Black Journalists-CSUF**, Co-Advisor

- Guided students in establishing an official chapter on campus
- Coordinated meetings with the chapter president and co-advisor to discuss and plan events
- Established a website presence for the chapter on the department's page
- Oversaw students' use of Hollywood Foreign Press Association grant funding

2020-2021 **Black Faculty and Staff Association**, Elevation Committee Member

- Contributed to the design, distribution, and analysis of a university-wide staff satisfaction survey
- Met with university leadership to obtain data on faculty hiring, tenure status, and retention for different minority groups

- 2019-2020 **Department of Communications Awards Ceremony, Faculty Committee Member**
- Helped to organize and plan the annual awards ceremony for undergraduates, faculty, and alumni
 - Oversaw the design and creation of save the dates and invitations

Professional

- 2024-present **AEJMC - Minorities and Communication Division, Second Vice Head**
- Support the division head and vice head as needed
 - Assist with planning the annual business meeting
 - Recruit to fill positions on the executive board
 - Attend executive board meetings and assist on committees
- 2023-2024 **AEJMC - Minorities and Communication Division, Membership Chair**
- Responsible for recruiting and retaining members
 - Updated the membership listserv
- 2022-2024 **AEJMC - Minorities and Communication Division Mentoring Program, Mentor**
- Met with a Ph.D. candidate mentee once a month
 - Advised student regarding dissertation writing, journal publishing, and the academic job market
- 2022-2023 **AEJMC - Minorities and Communication Division, Grants Chair**
- Updated grant applications for faculty and students
 - Publicized grants via the listserv, newsletter, and social media
 - Solicited and coordinated reviewers for grant submissions
 - Reviewed submissions, averaged reviewer scores, and notified applicants
- 2020-2022 **AEJMC - Minorities and Communication Division, Mentorship Co-Chair**
- Recruited mentors and mentees via the listserv and social media
 - Matched graduate students with faculty and matched junior faculty with senior faculty
 - Sent monthly meeting reminders to participants with suggested topics for discussion
 - Organized bi-monthly Zoom socials with faculty speakers on themes of interest to participants
 - Contributed articles on the program's events to the MAC newsletter
- 2019-2020 **AEJMC - Minorities and Communication Division, Secretary**
- Scheduled meetings for the executive board
 - Took notes at executive board meetings and the division's business meeting
 - Submitted notes to division head after meetings for distribution
- 2017-2019 **AEJMC - Minorities and Communication Division, Social Media Coordinator**
- Posted notifications from the listserv to the division's social media accounts (Facebook and Twitter)
 - Reposted members' posts tagging the division
 - Published information about MAC panels and events during the conference
 - Shared trending articles related to diversity and academia

Community

- 2023 **Community Media Networking Summit**, Co-Organizer, Workshop Leader
- Co-created and planned a day-long event for community media practitioners in Southern California at University of California, San Diego
 - Led a workshop session on racialized misinformation and disinformation
 - Created an outreach list and recruited local journalists to attend and speak at the summit
- 2019-2022 **USC Black Alumni Association Legacy Through Leadership Mentoring Program**, Mentor
- Met with an undergraduate student to advise on academics and job preparation
 - Shared information on college best practices and networking
- 2018-2019 **USC Annenberg**, Alumni Ambassador
- Attended recruitment events to interact with potential applicants
 - Shared information about the university's offerings
 - Conveyed my experience and provided recommendations to students and parents