

DEB AIKAT

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PERSONAL

A former journalist, Deb Aikat (*pronounced EYE-cut*) has served since 1995 as a faculty member in UNC-Chapel Hill's Hussman School of Journalism and Media.

Aikat's peers elected him to lead as the 2023 President of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), the premier 112-year-old scholarly organization with members in 43 countries across six continents. As AEJMC President, Aikat led the 2023 AEJMC Washington, D.C. conference themed: *Fostering Freedom & Defending Democracy*.

An award-winning scholar, Aikat theorizes the role of media platforms in two democratic societies, India, *the largest democracy of 1.4 billion people*, and the United States, *one of the oldest modern democracies*. By integrating news agenda-setting and agendamelding concepts, Aikat has theorized how media platforms in India and the U. S. are empowering people to protest, to publish, and to provoke ideas through media platforms devoid of government control.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the seminal 1968 agenda-setting study in UNC-Chapel Hill, Aikat co-authored the 2019 book, *Agendamelding: News, social media, audiences, and civic community*, with Dr. Don Shaw, Dr. Milad Minoovie, and Dr. Chris Vargo. *Agendamelding* theorizes how audiences meld news messages. *Agendamelding* was recognized as a winning title in the 2016 AEJMC-Peter Lang Scholarsourcing competition. Aikat's research has also been published in book chapters and refereed journals.

The Scripps Howard recognized Aikat as the inaugural winner of the "National Journalism Teacher of the Year award" (2003) for "distinguished service to journalism education." He won the International Radio and Television Society's Coltrin Communications Professor of the Year (1997) award.

As a UNC faculty member, Aikat has won research and teaching excellence awards such as the UNC Students' Undergraduate Teaching Award (2023 & 1998), *UNC's campuswide teaching award by undergraduate students*; the Ed Vick Prize for Innovation in Teaching (2022); Emerald Literati Award (2020); UNC's Diversity Award for Faculty (2019) "*for exemplary scholarship in promoting diversity, equity, social justice, community engagement, and/or cultural awareness*;" AEJMC Senior Scholar Grant Award (2017-18); the AEJMC-Scripps Howard Researcher of the Year (2014-15); AEJMC top research paper awards; UNC's Distinguished Teaching Award for Post-Baccalaureate Instruction (2003), *UNC's highest honor for excellence in teaching and mentoring graduate students*; the David Brinkley Teaching Excellence Award (2000); AEJMC's Baskett Mosse Award (1999); the Tanner Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (1999). UNC senior classes (1997 through 2005) recognized Aikat with the Edward Kidder Graham Favorite Faculty Awards for nine years (*see CV for more details*).

Funded by a U.S. Department of Education grant to Indiana University, Aikat visited Russia in May 2015 to research press freedom. Aikat's research has been funded by government agencies (e.g., *the North Carolina Policy Collaboratory, the US Department of State, US Department of Education's Title VI grants*), media foundations (e.g., *the Freedom Forum, the Scripps Howard*) and the industry (e.g., *IBM, Knight Ridder*).

In his commitment to international scholarship, Aikat founded and instituted in 2015 the South Asia Communication Association (SACA), which has grown to an organization for 2,534 scholars and professionals examining media and communication in South Asia and its diaspora worldwide.

Born in India, Aikat became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 2003. He earned in 1995 a Ph.D. in Media and Journalism from Ohio University's Scripps School of Journalism. He completed in 1990 a Certificate in American Political Culture from New York University. As a journalist in India for *The Telegraph* newspaper from 1984 through 1992, he analyzed the impact of politics, education, and culture. He also reported for the BBC World Service.

EDUCATION

OHIO UNIVERSITY, 1992 - 1995

Ph.D. in media and journalism (August 1995)

- Emphasis: **Communication technology, mass communication research**
Minor areas: **Digital journalism, advertising, public relations**
- Chair of dissertation committee: **Dr. Guido H. Stempel, III**, Distinguished Professor, E. W. Scripps School of Journalism, Ohio University.
- **Dissertation topic:** *Adventure in Cyberspace: Exploring the Information Content of World Wide Web Pages on the Internet.*

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, 1990

Certificate Program in American Political Culture

- United States Information Agency fellowship. Lecture and research program in American political culture with various institutions in the US, UK, France, and Germany.

UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA, India, 1988 - 1990

M.A. in journalism (August 1990)

University Valedictorian: Ranked First in Order of Merit

- Emphasis: **Broadcast Journalism, International Communication, Public Relations.**
- **Thesis:** *“Campaign Trends: A Critical Study of Media Campaigns in the 1989 Indian General Elections.”*

UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA, India, 1981 - 1985

B.A. honors in English literature (July 1985)

- **Major:** English literature; **Minor:** Economics and political science

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL, July 1995 to Present

Associate Professor (*July 2000 to the present*)

- Awarded tenure on July 1, 2000, and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.

Assistant Professor and Media Futurist (*July 1995 to 2000*)

- Teaching and research in communication technology, digital media, and the Internet.

Associated Faculty, Carolina Asia Center, UNC-Chapel Hill, (*from 2002 to the present*)

Faculty Affiliate, UNC-Chapel Hill Program for Public Discourse, (*from 2021 to the present*)

PHILADELPHIA ONLINE, Philadelphia. <<http://www.phillynews.com/>>, Summer 1997

Editor-in-Residence

- Editing, layout and design at Philadelphia Online, Internet edition of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, a Knight-Ridder publication.

BBC WORLD SERVICE, England, 1990-1992

Stringer in Eastern India

- Covered eight states of eastern and north-eastern India for the BBC World Service.
- Coordinated news coverage of the Bengali service with BBC's London bureau.
- Reported transborder crime along India's border with Bangladesh and Burma (Myanmar).

THE TELEGRAPH, India, 1984 - 1992

Copy Editor and Senior Reporter

- Reported major political events, public affairs, race riots, AIDS in India, education, drug abuse, and covered politics, government, and the environment.
- Covered a number of well-known public figures including Nobel laureate **Mother Teresa**, South African President **Nelson Mandela**, Indian Prime Ministers **Indira Gandhi**, **Rajiv Gandhi** and **Chandra Shekhar**, French President **Francois Mitterrand**, and **Pope John Paul II**.
- Worked on layout and design of newspaper pages as a sub-editor from 1984 to 1987.

THE NEW REPUBLIC, India, 1979 - 1981

News Reporter

- Feature writer on political, social, and economic issues in the local community.

HONORS AND AWARDS

AEJMC Leadership Award, 2023

- Recognized for “outstanding service as 2022-23 AEJMC President” at the AEJMC 2023 General Session Business Meeting in Washington, D.C. (Aug. 9, 2023).

Students’ Undergraduate Teaching Award, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2023

- Recognized for “consistent teaching excellence, success in positively affecting a broad spectrum of students both in and outside the classroom, and creation of a dynamic learning environment.” Awarded a plaque and \$5,000 at the Chancellor’s Awards Ceremony in the Great Hall (April 25, 2023).

Edward Vick Prize for Innovation in Teaching, 2022

- Awarded UNC Hussman School of Journalism and Media’s \$12,000 award “for creativity and innovation in teaching that most meaningfully enhanced students’ learning experience.”

Institute of African American Research’s SLATE Teaching Fellowship, 2021-24

- Selected as Institute of African American Research’s initiative for Student Learning to Advance Truth and Equity (IAAR-SLATE) Teaching fellow for three years, Fall 2021 through Fall 2024. Fellowship funded research into the role of media in the current racial reckoning.

Vibrant India Series DME Media School (India), 2022

- Featured as one of 75 “distinguished personality” selected “for accomplishments in helping create a better society” by the DME Media School (India)’s Vibrant India series celebrating 75 years of India’s Independence.

Institute of African American Research’s SLATE Research Fellowship, 2022

- Awarded Institute of African American Research’s initiative for Student Learning to Advance Truth and Equity (IAAR-SLATE) Research Fellowship to supporting and expanding undergraduate students’ capacities to engage in meaningful research related to race, racism, and racial equity.

Anderson-Ashby Lecture: Media Platforms for Pride and Prejudice, 2021

- Featured as keynote speaker for the 2021 Anderson-Ashby Lectureship on Journalism & Public Affairs Lecture (February 4, 2021) titled, “Media Platforms for Pride and Prejudice: Triumphs, Trials and Tribulations for Journalism and Public Affairs in South Asia and Beyond” at the 7th South Asian Media & Cultural Studies (SAMCS) virtual conference, Feb. 4-6, 2021. The Anderson-Ashby Lectureship on Journalism & Public Affairs is an honor bestowed by Florida State University College of Social Sciences & Public Policy to distinguished public leaders.

Investigative Reporters & Editors (IRE) Educator of Color scholarship, 2020-21

- IRE scholarship offers funds to participate in 2021 IRE’s Educator Bootcamp, which offers data journalism training on spreadsheet and database skills.

Emerald Literati Award for high quality scholarly research, 2020

- Recognized with the 2020 Emerald Literati Award for high quality scholarly research. Award recognized “Outstanding Author Contribution” to the body of knowledge for research article, “Millennials Usher a Post-Digital Era: Theorizing how Generation Y Engages with Digital Media.”

UNC-Chapel Hill's University Diversity Award for Faculty, 2019

- Considered the University's highest recognition for diversity efforts, the 2019 UNC-Chapel Hill's University Diversity Award for Faculty recognized Aikat "for exemplary scholarship in promoting diversity, equity, social justice, community engagement, and/or cultural awareness" and a champion of diversity, inclusion, and the disadvantaged. As in previous years, "the Diversity Awards Committee employed a blind procedure (that is, all the nominees' names were removed) in the process of evaluating and selecting nominations," according to the award letter. The award citation stated: "*Throughout his time here at UNC, Deb Aikat has demonstrated his commitment to diversity by serving as a facilitator for important conversations surrounding Silent Sam, he has won various research and teaching awards for his excellence in diversity and intercultural communication and is a graduate of the AEJMC-ASJMC Journalism Leadership Institute in Diversity.*"

Faculty Research Paper Award, World Journalism Education Congress, Paris, France, 2019

- Recognized with a Third-place faculty research award (with a cash prize of \$250) for refereed research paper: Aikat, D. (2019, July). "*Technology transforms India in a disruptive age: Key Trends in information and communication technology growth in the world's largest democracy, 2001-2016,*" special AEJMC-sponsored research session at the 5th World Journalism Education Congress July 8-11, Paris, France.

AEJMC Senior Scholar Award, 2017-19

- Named recipient for one of two nationally selected AEJMC senior scholar grant for 2017 and recognized at a special session of the 2017 AEJMC conference in Chicago. The AEJMC senior scholar grant funded research into "Friending Facebook and Trusting Twitter: News Agendamelding in India's Networked Public Sphere," for the 2019 book, *Agendamelding: News, social media, audiences, and civic community*.

AEJMC Certificate for Excellence for contributions to Presidential Task Force on Careers, 2019

- Awarded "certificate of excellence" 2019 for contributions as a member of the Careers Task Force, which recommended strategies for AEJMC to serve as a nexus for career advice for doctoral students and faculty.

AEJMC Certificate for Excellence for building "Bridges to the Professions," 2017 & 2018

- Awarded "certificate of excellence" in 2017 and 2018 for contributions to building "Bridges to the Professions" as co-chair of the 2016-2018 AEJMC Task Force on Bridges to the Professions, which developed ideas to bridge the gap between the media industry and academia.

AEJMC-Scripps Howard Foundation Award for Researcher of the Year, 2014-15

- Recognized as the AEJMC-Scripps Howard Foundation Researcher of the Year (2014-15), with related research leadership from 2014 through 2015 and presented with a plaque at the keynote session of the 2015 AEJMC conference in San Francisco.

AEJMC Certificates for Excellence in fostering equity and diversity, 2013 & 2014

- Awarded in 2013 and 2014 "certificate of excellence" for fostering equity and diversity as chair of the AEJMC Equity & Diversity Award committee, which recognizes journalism and mass communication academic units for measurable success, in increasing equity and diversity among their students, staff and faculty.

AEJMC Award for Outstanding Service, 2011

- Awarded a commemorative plaque at the AEJMC's St. Louis conference in Aug. 2011 for pioneering the AEJMC Teaching Workshop. The award also recognized Aikat for conceptualizing the AEJMC's "Magnanimous Mentor" (MM) program in 2010 and 2011.

Scripps Howard's "2003 National Journalism Teacher of the Year" Award, 2004

- Honored for "distinguished service to journalism education" and "demonstrated journalism teaching excellence on his campus and beyond." The award recognizes "teaching excellence and leadership in the core areas of print, broadcast and online journalism instruction at bachelor's degree-granting colleges and universities." The award was instituted in conjunction with four major journalism institutions, the Freedom Forum, the Knight Foundation, the Scripps Howard Foundation, and AEJMC.

AEJMC Journalism Leadership Institute in Diversity Fellowship, 2004-5

- Awarded Journalism Leadership Institute in Diversity (JLID) Fellowship by the AEJMC and the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication (ASJMC). The JLID fellowship was a year-long program to identify, recruit, mentor, and train future leaders and administrators. The fellowship program increased gender, racial and ethnic diversity in administrative and other senior-level positions in journalism and media education.

Outstanding Favorite Faculty Teaching Awards, UNC-Chapel Hill, 1997-2005

- Awarded UNC-Chapel Hill's Outstanding Favorite Faculty Teaching Awards for nine consecutive years (1997 through 2005). Recognized for "superlative contributions" as a faculty member whose "leadership, dedication, and innovation" was particularly noteworthy in advancing undergraduate education. Every UNC-Chapel Hill senior was invited to nominate faculty. The Senior Class, the General Alumni Association, and the Division of Student Affairs sponsored the awards.

Faculty Research Paper Award, Communication Technology and Policy Division, 2003

- Recognized with a Top Research Paper Award for refereed research paper: Frith, Cary Roberts & Debashis 'Deb' Aikat. "*The Interplay of Old and New Media: How the Traditional News Agenda Affected Web Searches Before and After September 11, 2001*" presented to the Communication Technology and Policy Division, 86th annual convention of the AEJMC, Kansas City, MO, July 30-Aug. 2, 2003.

Distinguished Teaching Award for Post-Baccalaureate Instruction, 2003

- Named winner of a 2003 Distinguished Teaching Award for Post-Baccalaureate Instruction, the university's highest honor for excellence in graduate education. UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor, Dr. James Moeser, recognized award winners at half time of the UNC-Virginia men's basketball game Feb. 12, 2003, at the Dean E. Smith Center. Each winner received \$5,000 and a framed citation. (Feb. 12, 2003).

Honorable Mention, AEJMC Web Site Design Competition, 2002

- "Honorable Mention" for "Teaching web sites" category of the AEJMC Web Site Design Competition, an annual peer reviewed competition to recognize and reward the creative intellectual work in the design and development of web sites. 2002 AEJMC annual convention, Miami Beach, Florida. (Aug. 8, 2002).

Institute for the Arts and Humanities Ethics Fellowship, 2002-2003

- Ethics fellows were selected for their expertise and scholarship. Fellows participated in research seminars and analyzed ethical decision-making.

Faculty Research Paper Award, MC&S Division, AEJMC's Phoenix Convention, 2000

- "Top Paper" award for refereed research paper "*An e-community of ideas and information: Media content characteristics of children's web sites*," in the "Media and the Family" research competition of the Mass Communication & Society Division at the 83rd convention of the AEJMC, Phoenix, Arizona, Aug. 9-12, 2000.

David Brinkley Teaching Excellence Award, 2000

- Awarded the UNC Hussman School of Journalism and Media's highest honor for teaching in recognition of "excellence in teaching graduate and undergraduate students." Each winner received a \$2,500 stipend. (April 10, 2000).

Charter Member, UNC-Chapel Hill Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars, 2000 - present

- Inducted in 2000 as charter member of the UNC-Chapel Hill Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars. The academy aims to recognize outstanding teaching and improve Carolina's intellectual climate. The members of the academy are faculty and graduate teaching associates who have received campus-wide awards for excellence in teaching and mentoring during their tenure. The late Michael Hooker's Chancellor's Task Force on Intellectual Climate recommended the academy.

[This list of awards and honors is partial, from 2000 (*when Aikat was granted tenure*) to 2024]

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND PRODUCTS OF SCHOLARSHIP

[This list of publications is partial, from 2000 (*when Aikat was granted tenure*) to 2024]

❖ Book

Shaw, Don, Minoorie, Milad, **Aikat, Deb**, & Vargo, Chris. (2019). *Agendamelding: News, social media, audiences, and civic community*. New York, NY: Peter Lang

❖ Refereed Book Chapters (*published after double-blind peer review*)

- **Aikat, Deb** (2025). India: Print media thrives in the world's largest democracy. In Aljoshia Karim Schapals and Christian Pentzold (Eds.), *Media compass: A companion to international media landscapes* (pp. 312-325). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2021). Of insurrection, injustice, and a racial reckoning. In G. Daniels and R. Blom (Eds.), *Struggles, strategies and scholarship of teaching race in mass communication* (pp. 175-184). Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2019). An inexorable watchdog of democracy: Theorizing press censorship in India's 1975-7 as a watershed media moment in India. In S. Rao (Ed.), *Indian journalism in a new era: Changes, challenges, and perspectives* (pp. 35-54). New Delhi, India: Oxford University Press.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2017). Race matters: Verbal and visual news narratives of the exploited and the oppressed. In R. Williams-Davis & A. Patterson-Masuka (Eds.), *Intercultural communication for global engagement* (pp. 154-177). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2017). India's digital media engage, entertain and empower: Theorizing the networked public sphere in the world's largest democracy. In R. Williams-Davis & A. Patterson-Masuka (Eds.), *Intercultural communication for global engagement* (pp. 189-213). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2017). Post-digital dimensions: Theorizing science fiction prototypes to foster intercultural communication. In R. Williams-Davis & A. Patterson-Masuka (Eds.), *Intercultural communication for global engagement* (pp. 139-152). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2016). Curbing corruption and cronyism: Social media transform free speech and journalism in India. In M. Bhattacharyya (Ed.) *Crony journalism: An overview* (pp. 1-34). Kolkata, India: Visva-Bharati University Press.
- Mazumdar, Abhijit & **Aikat, Debashis "Deb"** (2016). Media cronies for sale: Paid news in India has disrupted press freedom and violated ethical conduct. In M. Bhattacharyya (Ed.) *Crony journalism: An overview* (pp. 40-61). Kolkata, India: Visva-Bharati University Press.
- **Aikat, Debashis "Deb"** (2016). Empowering "pub-going, loose and forward women" to rebel: India's social media foster activism and exchange of ideas. In W. Jia (Ed.) *Intercultural communication: Adapting to emerging global realities* (pp. 157-178). San Diego, CA: Cognella.
- **Aikat, Debashis "Deb"** (2015). Friending Facebook, embracing YouTube and trusting Twitter: The intercultural influence of social media in India's networked public sphere. In D. Broudy, J. Klaehn, & J. Winter (Eds.) *News from somewhere: A reader in communication and challenges to globalization* (pp. 107-124). Eugene, OR: Wayzgoose Press.
- **Aikat, Debashis "Deb."** (2015). Big data dilemmas: The theory and practice of ethical big data mining for socio-economic development. In M. Khosrow-Pour (Ed.), *Human rights and ethics: Concepts, methodologies, tools, and applications* (pp. 10-34). Hershey, PA: Information Resources Management Association. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4018/978-1-4666-6433-3.ch002/>

[An editorial board of the Information Resources Management Association reprinted this chapter in its premier four-volume scholarly compendium on ethics. This chapter was reprinted from the study published in the book, *Ethical data mining applications for socio-economic development*]

- **Aikat, Debashis “Deb.”** (2014). When freedom tweets: Social media invigorate India’s psyche of free speech. In C. Litang & M. H. Prosser (Eds.) *Social media in Asia* (pp. 433-497). Lake Oswego, OR: World Dignity University Press.
 ☉ The book, *Social media in Asia*, won the Outstanding Edited or Coedited Book Award from the International and Intercultural Communication Division (IICD) of the National Communication Association (NCA) at the NCA 101st Annual Convention, Las Vegas, Nevada, Nov. 19-22, 2015
- **Aikat, Debashis “Deb.”** (2013). Big data dilemmas: The theory and practice of ethical big data mining for socio-economic development. In H. Rahman & I. Ramos (Eds.), *Ethical data mining applications for socio-economic development* (pp. 106-130). Hershey, PA: IGI Global. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4018/978-1-4666-4078-8.ch006>
 📖 Access online: <http://www.igi-global.com/chapter/big-data-dilemmas/76259>
- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** & Remund, David (2012). Of *Time Magazine*, 24/7 media, and data deluge: The evolution of information overload theories and concepts.” In J. B. Strother, J. M. Ulijn, & Z. Fazal (Eds.), *Information overload: An international challenge to professional engineers and technical communicators* (pp. 15-38). IEEE Professional Communication Society, Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons and IEEE Press.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/9781118360491.ch2>
- Remund, David & **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2012). Drowning in data: A review of information overload within organizations and the viability of strategic communication principles. In J. B. Strother, J. M. Ulijn, & Z. Fazal (Eds.), *Information overload: An international challenge to professional engineers and technical communicators* (pp. 231-246). IEEE Professional Communication Society, Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons and IEEE Press.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/9781118360491.ch11>

❖ **Book Chapters** (published after editorial review)

- **Aikat, Deb** (2022). Social media’s empowering transformation of India’s journalism and democracy. Foreword in *Indian Journalism and the Impact of Social Media* by Dhiman Chattopadhyay. (pp. vii-viii). London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2021). Mitigating misogyny in India: Theorizing digital-age feminist activism in the world’s largest democracy. In M. B. Marron (Ed.), *Misogyny across global media* (pp. 153-172). Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2021). Key terms, trends, theories, and themes. In M. B. Marron (Ed.), *Misogyny across global media* (pp. 301-313). Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.
- **Aikat, Debashis “Deb.”** (2015). Theorizing India’s networked public sphere: The role of digital media and intercultural communication in the world’s largest democracy. In R. Williams-Davis & A. Patterson-Masuka (Eds.), *Intercultural communication for global engagement* (pp. 168-191). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing.
- **Aikat, Debashis “Deb.”** (2015). Post-racial pride and prejudice: Media depictions of racial conflict in the networked public sphere. In R. Williams-Davis & A. Patterson-Masuka (Eds.), *Intercultural communication for global engagement* (pp. 137-159). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt Publishing.
- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2000). Cyberspace of the people, by the people, for the people: Predominant use of the web in the public sector. In A. B. Albarran & D. H. Goff (Eds.) *Understanding the web: Social, political, and economic dimensions of the Internet* (pp. 23-48). Ames, IA: Iowa State Press.
- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2000). Of online news and “rogue” web sites: Impact of the web on the private sector. In A. B. Albarran & D. H. Goff (Eds.) *Understanding the web: Social, political, and economic dimensions of the Internet* (pp. 49-71). Ames, IA: Iowa State Press.

❖ **Refereed Articles in Peer-Reviewed Publications** (published after double-blind peer review)

- **Aikat, Deb**, Alkazemi, Mariam F., Alamri, Faten, Zimmer, Catherine & Al-Kandari, Ali. (2025, *in press*). The influence of personality on motivations: Comparing uses and gratifications of social media users in the United States and Kuwait. *International Journal of Communication*, (pp. *in press*).
- **Aikat, Deb** (2024). India's COVID-19 pandemic aggravates media vs. government tensions: Theorizing media agendamelding in the world's largest democracy. *Communication and Information Technologies Annual Studies in Media and Communications*, 25. (Technology vs. government: The irresistible force meets the immovable object), pp. 145-180. <https://doi.org/10.1108/S2050-206020240000025006>
[Refereed research monograph sponsored by the Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association].
- Arif, Delaware, **Aikat, Deb**, & Mushtarini, Nabila (2023). Caring for community in COVID-19: An examination of social media use among US-based South Asian diaspora. *International Communication Research Journal*, 58(2), pp. 30-53. https://bit.ly/ICRJ_58_2_Arif
- **Aikat, Deb** (2023). The inaugural Deutschmann essays: Successful senior scholars share ideas about journalism and media research. *Journalism & Communication Monographs*, 25(2), pp. 84-89
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/epub/10.1177/15226379231167112>,
<https://doi.org/10.1177/15226379231167112>
- Robinson, Laura, Schulz, Jeremy, Khilnani, Aneka, Ono, Hiroshi, Cotten, Shelia R., McClain, Noah, Levine, Lloyd, Chen, Wenhong, Huang, Gejun, Casilli, Antonio A., Tubaro, Paola, Dodel, Matías, Quan-Haase, Anabel Maria, Rui, Laura, Ragnedda, Massimo, **Aikat, Deb**, Tolentino, Natalia. (2020). Digital inequalities in time of pandemic: COVID-19 exposure risk profiles and new forms of vulnerability. *First Monday*, 25(7).
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☉ This article was recognized with the 2020 Emerald Literati Award for high quality scholarly research. Award recognized “Outstanding Author Contribution” to the body of knowledge.]
- Gentilviso, Chris & **Aikat, Deb** (2020). Embracing the visual, verbal and viral media: How post-millennial consumption habits are reshaping the news. *Communication and Information Technologies Annual Studies in Media and Communications*, 19. (Mediated millennials), pp. 147-171. <https://doi.org/10.1108/S2050-206020190000019009>
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- **Aikat, Deb** (2018). Theorizing India's anomalous tech trajectory: Key trends in information and communication technology growth in the world's largest democracy, 2001-2016. *Global Media Journal* [India Edition], 10(2), (November 2018), pp. 486-504. <http://gmj.manipal.edu/issues/november2018/theorizing-indias-anomalous-tech-trajectory.pdf>

- Ha, Jin Hong, **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** & Jung, Eun Hwa (2015). Theories and messages in South Korean antismoking advertising. *Health Communication*, 30(10), pp. 1022-1031. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10410236.2014.915075>.

- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2014). Hey kids, this is advertising: Metaphors and promotional appeals in online advertisements for children. *Communication and Information Technologies Annual Studies in Media and Communications*, 8, (Doing and being digital: Mediated childhoods), pp. 159-194. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/S2050-206020140000008022>
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- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2014). Imagine an app for that: Using science fiction prototypes to conceptualize media tools that empower people. “New media - a critical introspection” special issue of the *Global Media Journal* [India Edition], 5(1), (Summer, Jun. 2014), pp. 1-24. http://www.caluniv.ac.in/global-media-journal/ARTICLE-JUNE-2014/A_1_new.pdf

- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2014). The rise of a networked public sphere: The role of social media in India’s media landscape. “Social Media in Asia” special issue of the *International Journal of Interactive Communication Systems and Technologies*, 4(1), (Jan.-Jun. 2014). pp. 61-73. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4018/ijicst.2014010105>

- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2013). Content cornucopia: The genesis and growth of information overload theories. “Culture, technology and globalization in the information age” special issue of *Electronic Journal of Communication/La Revue Electronique de Communication*, 23(4) <http://www.cios.org/EJCPUBLIC/023/4/023043.html>
Also published in French: • Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’ (2013). Le contenu de corne d’abondance: la genèse et la croissance des informations théoriques surchargées. Special issue on “La culture, la technologie, et la globalisation dans l’âge de l’information” of *La Revue Electronique de Communication*, 23(4), 2013 <http://www.cios.org/www/ejc/v23n4toc.htm#aikatfr>
 The International Communication Association (ICA) supported the Communication Institute for Online Scholarship (CIOS) with discounted membership and access. Founded in 1986, the CIOS has published since 1990 the peer-reviewed research journals, the *Electronic Journal of Communication* (in English) and the *La Revue Electronique de Communication* (in French).

- Moro, Nikhil & **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2013). Liberty v. libel: Disparity and reconciliation in freedom of expression theory. *First Amendment Studies*, 47(1), pp. 58-83. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/08997225.2012.732763>

- Moro, Nikhil & **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2010) Chindia’s newspaper boom: Identifying sustainable business models. *Global Media and Communication*, 6(3), pp. 357-367. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/1742766510384976>

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- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2004) Streaming violent genres online: Visual images in music videos on BET.com, Country.com, MTV.com, and VH1.com,” special theme issue “Digital music delivery: Its past, present, and future.” *Popular Music and Society*, 27(2), pp. 221-240. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03007760410001685840>

- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2001) Pioneers of the early digital era: Innovative ideas that shaped computing in 1833-1945,” in special theme issue on the history of new media “Historical approach to understanding the future adoption and diffusion of new media technologies,” *Convergence: The Journal of Research into New Media Technologies*, 7(4), pp. 52–81. <https://doi.org/10.1177/135485650100700404>
- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2000) A new medium for organizational communication: Analyzing web content characteristics of Fortune 500 companies, in special issue on “Communication as a constitutive process in organizing and organizations” of *Electronic Journal of Communication/La Revue Electronique de Communication*, 10(1 & 2). <http://www.cios.org/EJCPUBLIC/010/1/010111.html>
Also published in French: • Aikat, Debashis “Deb.” “Un nouveau support pour la communication organisationnelle: Analyse des proprietes du contenu du Web3 de 500 societes qui figurent sur la liste de la revue Fortune,” in special issue on “La communication en tant que processus constitutif des diverses methodes d’organisation au sein meme des organisations” of *La Revue Electronique de Communication* Vol. 10 (1 and 2), 2000 <http://www.cios.org/www/ejc/v10n1200.htm#nouveau>

❖ Engaged Scholarship including Encyclopedia Articles

☉ Encyclopedia Articles

- Alkazemi, Mariam, & **Aikat, Deb** (2025, *in press*), Third-level agenda setting. In Alessandro Nai, Max Grömping, & Dominique Wirz (Eds.), *Elgar encyclopedia of political communication*, (pp. 00-00, *in press*). Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing.
- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2009), Traditional and modern media. In R. Luthra (Ed.), *Journalism and mass communication: Encyclopedia of life support systems, Volume I* (pp. 211-227). Oxford, UK: EOLSS in partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization <<http://www.eolss.net>>.
- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2009). Interactive multimedia and digital technologies. In R. Luthra (Ed.), *Journalism and mass communication: Encyclopedia of life support systems, Volume II* (pp. 123-142). Oxford, UK: EOLSS in partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. <<http://www.eolss.net>>.
- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2009) India. In C. H. Sterling & C. Whitney (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of journalism*, volume 2, (pp. 748-754). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9781412972048.n195>
- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2007) Violence, extent of and responses to. In J. J. Arnett (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Children, Adolescents, and the Media* (pp. 852-854). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9781412952606.n458>
- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2007) Virtual reality. In J. J. Arnett (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of children, adolescents, and the media* (pp. 868-870). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9781412952606.n466>
- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2007) Patterns of reading. In J. J. Arnett (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of children, adolescents, and the media* (pp. 699-702). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9781412952606.n368>
- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2003) E-commerce. In J. McDonough, & K. Egolf (Eds.) *The Advertising Age encyclopedia of advertising* (pp. 513-517). New York, NY, & London, UK, Fitzroy Dearborn & Museum of Broadcast Communications. <https://www.routledge.com/The-Advertising-Age-Encyclopedia-of-Advertising/McDonough-Egolf/p/book/9781315062754>

◎ Products of Engaged Scholarship

- Aikat, Deb**, Salahi, Lara, & Gentilviso, Chris (Eds.) (2024). *RTNDA-Google News Initiative-AEJMC Digital Tools for Election Coverage*. Published Aug. 8, 2024, at the AEJMC conference, August 8-11, 2024, Philadelphia, PA. Read this Google News Initiative training tip sheet at https://bit.ly/aej_google
- Aikat, Deb** (2023, October 3). Attacks on diversity chill free speech: We celebrated the power of AEJMC in Washington, D.C. *AEJMC News*, 57(1), 4-5. <https://bit.ly/Oct23AEJNews>
- Aikat, Deb**, & Salahi, Lara (2023). *SPJ-AEJMC Google media storytelling workshop*. Aug. 7 workshop at the AEJMC conference, August 6-10, 2023, Washington, D.C. Read this Google News Initiative training tip sheet at <https://bit.ly/SPJGoogle>
- Aikat, Deb et al**, (2023, August 5). *AEJMC: Fostering freedom and defending democracy: AEJMC's impact over 110 years and beyond*. Program book of the 106th Annual Conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), August 7-10, 2023. Columbia, SC: Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. <https://bit.ly/aejDC2023>
- Aikat, Deb** (2023, July 5). Join us in Washington, D.C. to foster freedom & defend democracy *AEJMC News*, 56(4), 2-3. <https://bit.ly/Jul23AEJNews>
- Aikat, Deb** (2023, March 2). Top 10 ways to increase your paper submission's chance of acceptance. *AEJMC News*, 56(3), 2-3. <https://bit.ly/March23AEJNews>
- Aikat, Deb** (2023, January 2). A new year's resolution: Let us reinvigorate AEJMC in 2023. *AEJMC News*, 56(2), 4-5. <https://bit.ly/Jan23AEJNews>
- Aikat, Deb** (2022, October 1). Let us strengthen the continued success of AEJMC. *AEJMC News*, 56(1), 1-2. <https://bit.ly/Oct22AEJNews>
- **Aikat, Deb** (Ed.) (2022). *Curated compendium of American Psychological Association (APA) Citation Style & tips on clear and concise writing*. Published June 21, 2022, 34 pages. Read this resource online at <https://bit.ly/DebAPA>
 - **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (Ed.) (2017). *South Asia research microtalks*. South Asia Initiative of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC). Columbia, SC: Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. Published July 5, 2017, 129 pages. This edited conference proceeding is available online at: <http://www.aejmc.org/home/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/South-Asia-Research-Mircotalks-2017.pdf>
 - **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (Ed.) (2011). *Effective strategies for teaching in the digital age*. Columbia, SC: AEJMC. Published Aug. 9, 2011. 71 pages. This publication is also available online at: http://www.aejmc.org/home/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/teach_digital_aej11St_louis.pdf
 - **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (Ed.) (2010). *Effective teaching strategies for junior faculty*. Columbia, SC: AEJMC. Published August 3, 2010. 34 pages. This publication is also available online at: http://www.aejmc.org/home/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/effective_teaching_denver.pdf
 - **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (Ed.) (2010). *Doctors are in: Speed dating meets group therapy for effective teaching*. Columbia, SC: AEJMC. Published August 5, 2010). 37 pages. This publication is also available online at: http://www.aejmc.com/home/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/DrsAreIn_2010.pdf
 - **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (Ed.) (2010). *Exploring the delay in promotion to full professor: Petty politics, mid-career crises or post-tenure inertia?* Columbia, SC: AEJMC. Published August 5, 2010). 23 pages. This publication is also available online at: http://www.aejmc.com/home/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/post_tenure_inertia.pdf
 - **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (Ed.) (2010). *Best practices in teaching critical thinking*. Columbia, SC: AEJMC. Published August 4, 2010. 20 pages. This publication is also available online at: <http://www.aejmc.com/home/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/criticalthink10.pdf>

- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (Ed.) (2009) *Best practices in teaching diversity*. Columbia, SC: AEJMC. Published August 5, 2009. 28 pages. This publication is also available online at: <http://www.aejmc.org/home/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Best-Practices-in-Teaching-Diversity-in-JMC.pdf>
- **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (Ed.) (2008) *Best practices in teaching of information gathering*. Columbia, SC: AEJMC. Published August 6, 2008. 24 pages. This publication is also available online at: http://www.aejmc.com/home/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/infogath_08.pdf

☉ Op-ed articles

- Op-ed: An open letter from faculty to the UNC community (2020, December 2). *The Daily Tar Heel*. <https://www.dailytarheel.com/article/2020/12/opinion-faculty-reopening-oped-1202>
Aikat and 67 UNC-CH faculty called on the university to move to remote instruction this spring and open the campus to only those students who need it most.
- Op-ed: Secretary of the Faculty holds too much power. (2020, November 16). *The Daily Tar Heel*. <https://www.dailytarheel.com/article/2020/11/opinion-faculty-secretary-oped-1116>
Aikat and 11 UNC-Chapel Hill faculty signed onto a letter expressing concern that “every person to fill the office of Secretary of the Faculty since its genesis in 1823 has been a white man.” The op-ed called for revising the Faculty Code to align the role of the Secretary of the Faculty with the needs of faculty governance in the diverse and democratic world of today.
- Gentilviso, Chris & **Aikat, Deb** (2019, August 17) Gen Z’s embrace of visual, verbal and viral media. *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. https://richmond.com/opinion/columnists/chris-gentilviso-and-deb-aikat-column-gen-z-s-embrace-of-visual-verbal-and-viral/article_c1b17802-7e23-5168-9b77-458b57396773.html

[This list of publications is partial, from 2000 (*when Aikat was granted tenure*) to 2024]

❖ Peer Reviewed Research Papers Presented at Conferences

[This list of refereed research papers is partial, from 2000 (*when Aikat was granted tenure*) to 2024]

- #73: **Aikat, D.** (2024, June). *In media we trust, or do we?: Theorizing the rise and fall in media trust in the U.S.* Paper presented to the Information Systems Division of the 74th annual conference (hybrid) of the International Communication Association (ICA), June 20-24, 2024, Gold Coast, Australia.
- #72: Du, Xiayi, & **Aikat, D.** (2023, August). *Becoming a training ground for AI: How China, India, and the U.S. compete in the convergence of AI and journalism.* Refereed research abstract presented to the South Asia Communication Association (SACA) research session, AEJMC annual conference, August 6-10, 2023, Washington, D.C.
- #71: **Aikat, D.** (2022, August). *Theorizing threats to journalism: Restoring trust in news media.* Paper presented to the Journalism & Communication Theory Colloquium of the 105th annual conference of AEJMC, Aug. 3-6, 2022, Detroit, MI.
- #70: Gentilviso, C. & **Aikat, D.** (2022, May). *One world, one network: Theorizing how Generation Z is altering the definition of news.* Paper presented to the theme session of the 72nd annual conference of the ICA, hybrid conference (COVID-19), May 26-30, 2022, Paris, France.
- #69: **Aikat, D.** (2022, August). *Work twice as hard and be twice as good: Distinct disparities in rewards and recognition for international faculty.* Paper presented at the research session, “International Faculty in Journalism and Mass Communication: Teaching, Research, and Administration” of the 105th annual conference of AEJMC, Aug. 2-6, 2022, Detroit, MI.
- #68: **Aikat, D.** (2022, May). *One World, One Network?: Media Research on South Asia and its Diaspora Worldwide.* Paper presented at the research session of the 72nd annual conference of ICA, hybrid conference (COVID-19), May 26-30, 2022, Paris, France.
- #67: **Aikat, D.** (2021, October). *We can do better: Lessons learned in transparency, accountability and honesty from University of North Carolina’s failed hiring of Nikole Hannah-Jones.* Paper presented at the President’s panel session on “The price and consequences of telling our stories: Nikole Hannah-Jones, the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill Hussman School, and Critical Race Theory” at the 40th Annual Convention of the American Journalism Historians Association, virtual conference (COVID-19), Oct. 9, 2021.
- #66: **Aikat, D.** (2021, August). *The power of India’s television platforms.* Paper presented at the 2021 Journalism Education in India: Issues and Challenges” roundtable hosted by the World Journalism Education Council-Indian Institute of Mass Communication-UNESCO Roundtable, virtual conference (COVID-19), August 10, 2021.
- #65: **Aikat, D.**, Alkazemi, M. F., Alamri, F. & Zimmer, C. (2021, August). *The influence of personality on motivations: comparing uses and gratifications of social media users in the US and Kuwait.* Paper presented to the International Communication Division, AEJMC, virtual conference (COVID-19), August 4-7, 2021.
- #64: **Aikat, D.** (2021, May). *Theorizing media platforms for pride and prejudice: Triumphs, trials and tribulations for journalism and public affairs in South Asia and beyond.* Paper presented to the SACA research session, ICA Conference, virtual conference (COVID-19). May 27-31, 2021.
- #63: **Aikat, D.** (2021, May). *Confronting misogyny on India’s streets and screens: Theorizing digitally empowered protests and feminist activism in the world’s largest democracy.* Paper presented to the Feminist Scholarship Division, 71st annual conference of ICA, 27-31 May 2021 virtual conference (COVID-19), May 27-31, 2021.
- #62: **Aikat, D.** & Shaw, D. L. (2020, August). *Theorizing media agenda setting and agendamelding in the COVID-19 pandemic and the June 2020 protests for racial justice.* Paper presented to the inaugural Journalism & Communication Theory Colloquium of the 103rd annual conference of AEJMC, virtual conference (COVID-19), Aug. 6-9, 2020.
- #61: Hossain, D., Mushtarin, N., & **Aikat, D.** (2020, August). *“We are in this together!” Use of social media for relationship maintenance among South Asian Diaspora in the U.S. during the COVID-19 pandemic.* Paper presented to SACA’s refereed-research session of the 103rd annual conference of AEJMC, virtual conference (COVID-19), Aug. 6-9, 2020.
- #60: Gentilviso, C. & **Aikat, D.** (2019, August). *Embracing the visual, verbal and viral media: How post-millennial consumption habits are reshaping the news.* Paper presented to the Newspaper and Online News Division of the 102nd annual conference of AEJMC, Aug. 7-10, 2019, Toronto, Canada.

- #59: **Aikat, Deb** (2019, July). *Technology transforms India in a disruptive age: Key Trends in information and communication technology growth in the world's largest democracy, 2001-2016*. Paper presented to the special AEJMC-sponsored research session at the 5th World Journalism Education Congress July 8-11, Paris, France.
⊙ This paper also was selected as third place faculty paper, with a cash prize of \$250.
- #58: **Aikat, Deb** (2019, July). *Censorship as a catalyst to media growth in a disruptive age: Theorizing 1975-1977 press censorship as an accelerant to rise in India's media industry*. Paper presented to the special AEJMC-sponsored research session at the 5th World Journalism Education Congress July 8-11, Paris, France.
- #57: Al-Kandari, A. J., Alkazemi, M. F. & **Aikat, D.** (2018, August). *Political and cultural forces on the uses and gratifications: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat in the U.S and Kuwait*. Paper presented to the International Communication Division of AEJMC annual conference, Aug. 6-9, 2018, Washington D.C.
- #56: **Aikat, Deb** (2018, May). *Friending Facebook and trusting Twitter: News agendamelding in India's networked society*. Paper presented at the Interactive Power Talks on Media and Communication in South Asia, South Asia Communication Association (SACA), ICA annual conference, May 24-28, 2018, Prague, Czech Republic.
- #55: **Aikat, D.** (2017, August). *Archiving India's thriving news media: A case study of digitized historical and current news from India*. Paper presented to the History Division of AEJMC annual conference, August 9-12, 2017, Chicago, IL.
- #54: **Aikat, Deb** (2014, January). *Freedom from corruption, cronyism and meritocracy: Social media transform free speech and journalism in India*. Paper presented at the International Conference on "Crony journalism: Redefining journalistic practices", Jan. 18-19, 2014, at the Centre for Journalism & Mass Communication, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, India.
- #53: Mazumdar, Abhijit & **Aikat, Deb** (2014, January). *Media cronies for sale: Paid news in India has disrupted press freedom and violated ethical conduct*. Paper presented at the International Conference on "Crony journalism: Redefining journalistic practices", Jan. 18-19, 2014, at the Centre for Journalism & Mass Communication, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, India.
- #52: **Aikat, Deb** (2013, August). *The pursuit of privacy and common good: The theory and practice of ethical big data mining for socio-economic development*. Paper presented to Media Ethics Division of the 96th annual conference of AEJMC, Aug. 8-11, 2013, Washington, D.C.
- #51: Moro, Nikhil, & **Aikat, Deb** (2012, July). *Digital rights management and corporate hegemony: A legal analysis*. Paper presented to the Law Section of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR), July 15-20, 2012, Durban, South Africa.
- #50: Moro, Nikhil & **Aikat, Deb** (2012, August). *Protecting citizen journalists with actual malice*. Paper presented to the Law and Policy Division of the 95th annual conference of AEJMC, Aug. 10-13, 2012, Chicago, IL.
- #49: Naser, Md. Abu & **Aikat, Deb** (2011, August). *Media of the people, by the people, for the people: Redefining public service broadcasting in emerging democracies*. Paper presented to the Mass Communication and Society Division of the 94th annual conference of AEJMC, Aug. 10-13, 2011, St. Louis, MO.
- #48: Naser, Md. Abu & **Aikat, Deb** (2011, August). *A watchdog of democracy: State of media ethics in Bangladesh*. Paper presented to the Media Ethics Division of the 94th annual conference of AEJMC, Aug. 10-13, 2011, St. Louis, MO.
- #47: Moro, Nikhil & **Aikat, Deb** (2011, August). *The newspaper boom in India and China: Exploring media models in the world's largest newspaper markets*. Paper presented to the Media Management and Economics Division of the 94th annual conference of AEJMC, Aug. 10-13, 2011, St. Louis, MO.

- #46: Moro, Nikhil & **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2011, May). *National security vs. freedom of expression: WikiLeaks and the rule of law*, Refereed research abstract resulting in presentation to the 17th International Conference of the Society for Philosophy and Technology, 26-29 May 2011, Denton, Texas.
- #45: Aikat, Subhashis, Lewak, Susan E., & **Aikat, Deb** (2011, May). *The cultural impact of Wikipedia: How wiki-based collaboration is redefining Bollywood and regional Indian cinema*. Paper presented to the 61st annual conference "Communication @ the Center" of ICA, May 22-26, 2011, Boston, MA.
- #44: Moro, Nikhil & **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2011, May). *Journalism @ a Crossroads: The role of hyperlocal news in mobile communication*. Refereed research abstract resulting in presentation to the pre-conference "Seamlessly Mobile? Mobile Communication @ A Crossroads" at the 61st annual conference of ICA, May 22-26, 2011, Boston, MA.
- #43: Moro, Nikhil & **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2011, May). *WikiLeaks' disclosures as strategic communication: Rule of law in a digital democracy*. Refereed research abstract resulting in presentation to the pre-conference "Strategic Communication – A Concept at the Center of Applied Communications" at the 61st annual conference of ICA, May 22-26, 2011, Boston, MA.
- #42: Aikat, Subhashis & **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2011, May). *Just what the chef tweeted: Mobile communications, the rise of food trucks, and the democratization of gourmet food*. Refereed research abstract resulting in presentation to the pre-conference "Seamlessly Mobile? Mobile Communication @ A Crossroads" at the 61st annual conference of ICA, May 22-26, 2011, Boston, MA.
- #41: Naser, Md. Abu & **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2011, May). *Can the mobile communication transform a society? Mobile phone use as an agent of social change in Bangladesh*. Refereed research abstract resulting in presentation to the pre-conference "Seamlessly Mobile? Mobile Communication @ A Crossroads" at the 61st annual conference of ICA, May 22-26, 2011, Boston, MA.
- #40: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2010, June). *India's media revolution: Meaning and materiality of politics, culture and technology in the world's largest democracy*. Paper presented to the 60th annual ICA conference "Matters of Communication: Political, Cultural & Technological Challenges," June 22-25, 2010, Singapore.
- #39: Moro, Nikhil & **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2010, June). *Newspaper business models in India and China: A comparative analysis*. Paper presented to the preconference, "Chindia challenge to global communication" of the 60th annual conference of ICA, June 22-25, 2010, Singapore.
- #38: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2010, June). *Redefining mobile society: Emerging concepts and theories of wireless communication*. Paper presented to the preconference, "Innovations in Mobile Use" of the 60th annual conference of ICA, June 22-25, 2010, Singapore.
- #37: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2010, June). *Conceptualizing convergence: The transformation of social media convergence theories and concepts*. Refereed research abstract resulting in presentation to the preconference, "Researching (Popular). Media in the Age of Convergence: Methodological Innovations in the Study of Contemporary Media Industries, Texts, Technologies, and Audiences" of the 60th annual conference of ICA, June 22-25, 2010, Singapore.
- #36: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2010, June). *"You are who you know": The origins and evolution of online social capital theories and concepts*. Refereed research abstract resulting in presentation to the preconference, "Online Social Capital: An Agenda for Future Research" of the 60th annual conference of ICA, June 22-25, 2010, Singapore.
- #35: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2009, May). *Digitally inspired: Classic concepts, texts and the pioneers who shaped the evolution of computing in 1833-1945*. Paper presented at the "The Future is Prologue: New Media, New Histories?" session of the 59th annual conference of ICA, May 21-25, 2009, Chicago, IL.

- #34: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2009, May). *Of Wikis, blogs and social networks: The role of online communities in disseminating news, entertainment and information*. Paper presented to the Information Systems Division of the 59th annual conference of ICA, May 21-25, 2009, Chicago, IL.
- #33: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2007, June). *Born to be wired: Information, entertainment, education, commerce, and interactivity in children’s web sites*. Paper presented at the first World Journalism Education Congress in conjunction with the 16th annual conference of the Asian Media Information and Communication Centre, June 25-28, 2007, Singapore.
- #32: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2007, May). *Communications within developing societies: The role of internet communication in India*. Paper presented to the “Methodologies of Comparative Media Research in a Global Sphere: Paradigms – Critique – Method” session of the 57th annual conference of ICA, May 22-24, 2007, San Francisco, CA.
- #31: **Aikat, Subhashis & Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2007, May). *Online Content creation and control: A study of collaborative roles in a Wiki meta-community*. Paper presented to the “Creating Communication: Content, Control, and Critique” session of the 57th annual conference of ICA, May 22-24, 2007, San Francisco, CA.
- #30: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2006, August). *Images of bigotry and violence: analyses of extremist iconography and visuals in hate group web sites*. Paper presented to the Ethnicity and Race in Communication Interest Group of the 56th annual conference of ICA, “Networking Communication Research,” June 19-23, 2006, Dresden, Germany.
- #29: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2006, August). *Online protests and consumer scorn: Analyzing “rogue web sites” from a communication perspective*. Paper presented to the Networking Communication Research Theme Session of the 56th annual conference of ICA, “Networking Communication Research,” June 19-23, 2006, Dresden, Germany.
- #28: **Yu, Jason J. and Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2005, May). *News on the Web: Agenda setting of online news in web sites of major newspaper, television and online news services*. Paper presented to the Journalism Studies interest group of the 55th annual conference of ICA, “Communication: Questioning the Dialogue,” May 26–30, 2005, New York City, NY.
- #27: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2004, May). *Of Nostradamus and anthrax: Web search trends related to September 11 terrorist attacks*, Paper presented to the “Communication in the Public Interest” Theme Session of the 54th annual conference of ICA, “Communication in the Public Interest,” May 27–31, 2004, New Orleans, LA.
- #26: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2004, August). *Violent content in online music videos: Characteristics of violence in online videos on BET.com, Country.com, MTV.com, and VH1.com*. Paper presented to the Communication & Technology Division of the 54th annual conference of ICA, “Communication in the Public Interest,” May 27–31, 2004, New Orleans, LA.
- #25: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2004, May). *Truth never damages a cause that is just: The roots and success of Mahatma Gandhi’s political communication*. Paper presented to the Political Communication Division of the 54th annual conference of ICA, “Communication in the Public Interest,” May 27–31, 2004, New Orleans, LA.
- #24: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2004, May). *An imprisoned champion of the press: James Augustus Hickey’s journey into journalism as India’s press pioneer in 1780*. Paper presented to the Mass Communication Division of the 54th annual conference of ICA, “Communication in the Public Interest,” May 27–31, 2004, New Orleans, LA.
- #23: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2004, May). *Acerbic, opinionated and witty: Analyses of feminist identity in mainstream web sites for women*. Paper presented to the Feminist Scholarship Division of the 54th annual conference of ICA, “Communication in the Public Interest,” May 27–31, 2004, New Orleans, LA.
- #22: **Frith, Cary Roberts and Debashis ‘Deb’ Aikat**. (2003, July). *The interplay of old and new media: How the traditional news agenda affected web searches before and after September 11, 2001*. Paper presented to the Communication Technology and Policy Division, 86th annual convention of AEJMC, Jul. 30-Aug. 2, 2003, Kansas City, MO. .
 ◎ Awarded top research paper prize.

- #21: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** and Cary Roberts Frith. (2003, July). *Rise and fall of news and entertainment: The impact of 9/11 terrorist attacks on uses and gratifications of web searchers*. Paper presented to the Entertainment Studies Interest Group, 86th annual convention of AEJMC, Jul. 30-Aug. 2, 2003, Kansas City, MO.
- #20: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2002, August). *Many will play, few will win: Global strategies and content characteristics of web portals of transnational internet media corporations*. Paper presented to the Media Management and Economics Division, 85th annual convention of AEJMC, "Ways of Knowing: Inside and Outside the Classroom," August 7-10, 2002, Miami Beach, FL.
- #19: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2002, August). *Violent music genres on the net: Analysis of music videos on BET.com, Country.com, MTV.com, and VH1.com*. Paper presented to the Entertainment Studies Interest Group, 85th annual convention of AEJMC, "Ways of Knowing: Inside and Outside the Classroom," August 7-10, 2002, Miami Beach, FL.
- #18: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2002, July). *A press pioneer in prison: The life and times of James Augustus Hickey and India's first newspaper in 1780*. Paper presented to the Political Communication Division of the 52nd annual conference of ICA, "Reconciliation Through Communication," July 15–19, 2002, Seoul, South Korea..
- #17: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2002, July). *From the "Analytical Engine" to "Memex": Pioneering ideas that shaped the evolution of computing, 1833-1945*. Paper presented to the Communication and Technology Division of the 52nd annual conference of ICA, "Reconciliation Through Communication," July 15–19, 2002, Seoul, South Korea..
- #16: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2002, July). *Surf globally, search locally: Global strategies and content characteristics of web portals of transnational Internet media corporations*. Paper presented to the Mass Communication Division of the 52nd annual conference of ICA, "Reconciliation Through Communication," July 15–19, 2002, Seoul, South Korea. .
- #15: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2001, August). <http://feminist.identity/in/Web.sites.for.women/> Or, *Analyses of Feminist Identity in Web sites of ChickClick <chickclick.com>, Cybergrrl <cybergrrl.com>, iVillage <ivillage.com>, and Women.com Networks <women.com>*. Paper presented at the Cultural and Critical Studies Division of the 84th annual convention of AEJMC, "Bringing in the Outs: Toward Inclusivity in Democracy," August 5-8, 2001, Washington, D.C.
- #14: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2001, August). *Click here to personalize a friend of Barbie Doll: Metaphors and promotional appeals in online advertisements for children*. Paper presented to the Advertising Division, 84th annual convention of AEJMC, "Bringing in the Outs: Toward Inclusivity in Democracy," August 5-8, 2001, Washington, D.C.
- #13: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2001, August). *The "Coolie" barrister: Mahatma Gandhi as a leader of racially and socially marginalized groups in South Africa (1888-1914)*. Paper presented at the Mass Communication & Society special session "Marginalized Groups in Society," the 84th annual convention of AEJMC, "Bringing in the Outs: Toward Inclusivity in Democracy," August 5-8, 2001, Washington, D.C.
- #12: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2001, August). http://the.verbal.and.the.visual/analyses_of_kid's_Web_sites/ Or, *Analyses of Media Content in Web Sites of Children's Television Workshop <ctw.org>, Disney Online <disney.com>, Nickelodeon Online <nick.com>, and PBS Online <pbs.org>*. Paper presented to the Communication Technology and Policy Division, 84th annual convention of AEJMC, "Bringing in the Outs: Toward Inclusivity in Democracy," August 5-8, 2001, Washington, D.C.
- #11: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2000, August). *The dead tree edition: Teaching information literacy to students who think they know it all...or nothing*. Paper presented at the 84th annual convention of AEJMC, "Bringing in the Outs: Toward Inclusivity in Democracy," August 5-8, 2001, Washington, D.C.
- #10: **Aikat, Debashis 'Deb'** (2001, May). *Hi-tech hate online: Analyses of language and social interaction in hate group web sites*. Paper presented to the Language and Social Interaction Division of the 51st annual conference of ICA, "Communication Research Matters," May 24-28, 2001, Washington, D.C.

- #09: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2001, May). *A safe place to play and grow: Analyzing the media content in web sites for children.* Paper presented to the Popular Communication Division of the 51st annual conference of ICA, “Communication Research Matters,” May 24-28, 2001, Washington, D.C.
- #08: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2001, May). *The online feminine mystique: The depiction of feminist identity in women’s web sites.* Paper presented to the Feminist Scholarship Division of the 51st annual conference of ICA, “Communication Research Matters,” May 24-28, 2001, Washington, D.C.
- #07: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2001, May). *Vibrant visuals and animated content: Online advertising to children in web sites for kids.* Paper presented to the Mass Communication Division of the 51st annual conference of ICA, “Communication Research Matters,” May 24-28, 2001, Washington, D.C.
- #06: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2000, August). *An e-community of ideas and information: Media content characteristics of children’s web sites.* Paper presented to the “Media and the Family” special session of the Mass Communication & Society Division, 83rd annual convention of AEJMC, August 9-12, 2000, Phoenix, AZ.
☉ *Awarded top research paper prize.*
- #05: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2000, August). *A futurist theoretical perspective on the melding of humans and machines.* Paper presented to the “Theorizing about Communication Technology” session of the Communication Technology & Policy Division, 83rd annual convention of AEJMC, August 9-12, 2000, Phoenix, AZ.
- #04: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2000, August). Check out our web site at ...: *The Public Relations Content characteristics of Fortune 500 companies.* Paper presented to the “Media and the Family” special session of the Public Relation Division, 83rd annual convention of AEJMC, August 9-12, 2000, Phoenix, AZ.
- #03: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2000, August). *Fresh, youthful, and female-positive: Analyses of feminist identity in web sites for women.* Paper presented to the Commission on the Status of Women, 83rd annual convention of AEJMC, , August 9-12, 2000, Phoenix, AZ.
- #02: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2000, June). *The economics of online news: Revenue-earning strategies for news web sites.* Paper presented to the Information Systems Division of the 50th annual conference of ICA, “ICA: 50 Years of Research in Communication, Culture, and Cognition,” June 1-5, 2000, Acapulco, Mexico.
- #01: **Aikat, Debashis ‘Deb’** (2000, June). *Little interactivity, sparse multimedia: Examining web content characteristics of Fortune 500 companies.* Paper presented to the Communication and Technology Division of the 50th annual conference of ICA, “ICA: 50 Years of Research in Communication, Culture, and Cognition,” June 1-5, 2000, Acapulco, Mexico.

[This list of refereed research papers is partial, from 2000 (*when Aikat was granted tenure*) to 2024]

INVITED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- **Aikat, Deb** (2023, August). *In media we trust. Or do we?: Truth and bias in the news media* [Conference session] AEJMC President's Address at the 106th annual conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), Washington, D. C., Aug. 9, 2023.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2023, August). *Fostering freedom & defending democracy: AEJMC's impact over 110 years and beyond* [Conference session] AEJMC Presidential Panel presentation at the 106th annual conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), Washington, D. C., Aug. 8, 2023. See C-SPAN coverage "Media Literacy and Public Trust," <https://www.c-span.org/video/?529821-1/media-literacy-public-trust>
- **Aikat, Deb & Salahi, Lara** (2023). *SPJ-AEJMC Google Media Storytelling Workshop*. [Conference session] Aug. 7 workshop at the AEJMC conference, August 6-10, 2023, Washington, D.C. See workshop document at <https://bit.ly/SPJGoogle>
- **Aikat, Deb** (2023, August). *Oh, the places you'll go: Key tips for scholars from underrepresented communities on how to get a job and thrive in the academy* [Conference session] International Communication Division pre-conference panel presentation at the 106th annual conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), Washington, D. C., Aug. 8, 2023.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2022, August). *Work twice as hard and be twice as good: Distinct disparities in rewards and recognition for international faculty* [Conference session] at the pre-conference panel, "International faculty in journalism and mass communication: teaching, research, and administration" of the 105th annual conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), Detroit, Aug. 2-6, 2022.
- **Aikat, Deb, & Salahi, Lara** (2022). *SPJ-AEJMC Google Media Storytelling Workshop*. [Conference session] Aug. 3 workshop at the AEJMC conference, August 3-6, 2022, Detroit, Michigan. See workshop document at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dPbw0rpI2LoZwMu3nOhWloGcpBDugjc-1sH7AIIn2IUU/edit?usp=sharing>
- **Aikat, Deb** (2021) *Accomplishing research productivity in the pandemic* [Conference session] at the panel, "Supporting Research Writing and Scholarship during the Pandemic: The Center for Faculty Excellence Summer Writing Group Program" for University Research Week, Nov. 12, 2021.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2021) *We ignite the public conversation: Curriculum for journalists and current academic trends and issues*. Research session with journalists from Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, as part of U.S. Department of State's Central and Eastern Europe Journalist Fellowship Program, Oct. 27, 2021.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2021) *Three great things about academe: May, June and July* [Conference session] at the 2021 Summer Writing Group Orientation Session. Center for Faculty Excellence, UNC-Chapel Hill, May 7, 2021.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2021) *Mitigating misogyny: Theorizing digital age feminist activism*. DOCSpeaks lecture series scholars Program featuring TEDTalk length cogent talks that intersect with cultural competence and healthcare. UNC-Chapel Hill Adams School of Dentistry, March 15, 2021.
- **Aikat, Deb, & Aguilar, Amara** (2021). *SPJ-AEJMC Google Media Storytelling Workshop*. [Conference session] Aug. 4 workshop at the AEJMC virtual conference, August 4-7, 2021. See workshop document at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1AM1XLAEGtSziNoNmsqCb6fzCBhrx3R2i98unqDFjxdk/edit?usp=sharing>
- **Aikat, Deb** (2021) *Media platforms for pride and prejudice: Triumphs, trials and tribulations for journalism and public affairs in South Asia and beyond* [Conference session] Featured as the keynote speaker selected to deliver the 2021 Anderson-Ashby Lectureship on Journalism & Public Affairs (February 4, 2021) at the 7th South Asian Media & Cultural Studies (SAMCS) conference, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, Feb. 4-6, 2021. The Anderson-Ashby Lectureship on Journalism & Public Affairs is an honor bestowed by Florida State University College of Social Sciences & Public Policy to distinguished public leaders.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2021) *The promises, perils and pitfalls of media research, journalistic insights and theoretical applications* [Conference session] at the 2021 International Workshop on Research Methods - Insights and Applications Lecture Series of the Institute for International Journalism, Ohio University, & University of Calcutta, India, Lecture Series, Feb. 6-7, 2021.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2020) *The early evolution of journalism in South Asia* [Conference session] at the plenary session "100 Years of Media Education in South Asia: A Flashback" in the web convention "100 Years of Media Education in South Asia: Decoding the South Asian Mystique," virtual conference, Dec. 19-20, 2020.

- **Aikat, Deb** (2020) *The COVID-19 pandemic and protests for racial justice redefines media ethics education* [Conference session] at the AEJMC Media Ethics/International Communication Divisions Panel Session on “Running blindfolded? Challenges and opportunities for media ethics education in the Global South” at the 2020 AEJMC virtual conference, Aug. 6-9, 2020.
- **Aikat, Deb & Aguilar, Amara** (2020). *SPJ-AEJMC Google Media Storytelling Workshop*. [Conference session] Aug. 8 workshop at the AEJMC virtual conference, August 6-9, 2020. See workshop document at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/15Ro1aHfHN0tT0jViMGif5nb9ca2F8pXkP1FM54tj-vk/edit?usp=sharing>
- **Aikat, Deb** (2019) *Social media or anti-social media: An exploration of civility, culture and trust* [Conference session] at the DOCSpeaks lecture series scholars Program featuring TEDTalk length cogent talks that intersect with cultural competence and healthcare. UNC-Chapel Hill Adams School of Dentistry, Dec. 9, 2019.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2019) *Lessons learned from true stories about mitigating unconscious bias* [Conference session] at the AEJMC Magazine Media and Media Ethics Divisions Panel Session on “Mitigating Unconscious Bias in the Classroom” at the 2019 AEJMC annual conference, Toronto, Canada, Aug. 7-10, 2019.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2019) *Reimagining ways to restore media trust: Bridging the gap between professors and professionals* [Conference session] at the AEJMC Council of Affiliates and AEJMC Presidential Task Force on Bridges to the Profession Panel Session on “Rebuilding Trust in the News Media to Invest in Our Futures: Bridging the Gap between Professors and Professionals” at the 2019 AEJMC annual conference, Toronto, Canada, Aug. 7-10, 2019.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2019) *The visual, verbal and viral media: Things I used to teach that I no longer believe* [Conference session] at the AEJMC J-History Internet Group Panel Session on “Things I used to teach that I no longer believe” at the 2019 AEJMC annual conference, Toronto, Canada, Aug. 7-10, 2019.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2017) *All the President’s media: Who’s a journalist in the digital age?* [Conference session] at the “President Trump and the State of the World” seminar, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE, Nov. 10, 2017.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2017) *Closing the gap: A candid conversation with journalism professors and professionals* [Conference session] at the Excellence in Journalism conference of the Society of Professional Journalists, the Radio Television Digital News Association, and the National Association of Hispanic Journalists (NAHJ), Sept. 7-9, 2017, in Anaheim, CA.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2017) *Reimagining interactive digital works to publish new modes of inquiry and establish a major publishing presence in our field* [Conference session] at the AEJMC Presidential Task Force Panel on “Closing the gap: Media, research and the profession” at the 2017 AEJMC annual conference, Chicago, IL, Aug. 9-12, 2017.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2016) *Innovate. Integrate. Engage: State of the media in our digital age* [Conference session] AEJMC Plenary Session, 99th annual conference of the AEJMC in Minneapolis, MN, Aug. 5, 2016.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2016) *Safe places for new faces: Attracting and retaining a diverse faculty and graduate students* [Conference session] AEJMC Commission on the Status of Minorities panel, 99th annual conference of the AEJMC in Minneapolis, MN, Aug. 6, 2016.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2016). *Theorizing media and communication in South Asia* [Conference session] AEJMC South Asia Initiative, 99th annual conference of the AEJMC in Minneapolis, MN, Aug. 6, 2016.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2015) *Freedom tweets: Social media crackdown in India*. Colloquium for International Scholars, Feb. 15, 2013, and Apr. 10, 2015.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2015) *Are we all journalists, now? News in the digital age*. UNC Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs Project Uplift program, June 12, 2015.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2014) *Who is a journalist? Post-industrial journalism redefines the role, ethos, and identity of journalists worldwide*. Colloquium for International Scholars, Apr. 4, 2014.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2012). *We the people: Digital media and participatory culture transform news* [Conference session] at the special colloquium on “Evolution of the news media: Creating a sustainable international dialogue” on Feb. 15, 2012. The University of Leeds in England and the Hussman School of Journalism and Media at the UNC-Chapel Hill.
- **Aikat, Deb** (2011) *Top 10 teaching errors (I’ve made them all!)* [Conference session] Scripps Howard Foundation and AEJMC Council of Affiliates session “How our teachers of the year make journalism education riveting and relevant” at the 94th annual convention of the AEJMC conference, Denver, Colorado, Aug. 12, 2011. E-version of tips available at http://www.aejmc.org/home/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Aikat_Top10_TeachErrors.pdf
- **Aikat, Deb** (2011). *The 24-7 news cycle: Information overload theories and concepts*. Colloquium for International Scholars, Jan. 28, 2011, and Sept. 16, 2011, Nov. 9, 2012.

RESEARCH GRANTS & INITIATIVES

[This list of grants is partial, from 2000 (*when Aikat was granted tenure*) to 2024]

Competitive grants funding original programmatic research

© 2023 Research grant from the North Carolina Collaboratory

• Aikat, Deb 2023. (Principal Investigator (PI), with 100% effort). “*Elevating our stories: Using media concepts and team science to assess the visibility of the North Carolina Collaboratory*,” research project analyzed media depictions of the North Carolina Collaboratory to develop strategic steps to enhance its image and reputation. • *Details of grant funding*: \$37,000.

© 2023 Moore Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (MURAP)

• Aikat, Deb 2023. (Principal Investigator (PI), with 100% effort). “*Media Agendamelding: Digital Media Audiences Meld News Messages*”. • *Details of grant funding*: \$5,000, which is the maximum award amount for this grant.

© 2022-23 Seed grant from the UNC Hussman School of Journalism and Media

• Aikat, Deb 2022-23. (Principal Investigator (PI), with 100% effort). “*Trusting Twitter and Friending Facebook: How We Use Digital Media to Create Personal Communities*.” Research project to theorize how audiences meld messages of news platforms including television, and social media in our 21st century digital age. • *Details of grant funding*: \$5,000, which is the maximum award amount for this grant.

© 2022 Research Faculty Fellowship, Institute of African American Research

• Aikat, Deb 2022. (Principal Investigator (PI), with 100% effort). Summer research support for racial connotations of media agendamelding and interdisciplinary research to support and expand undergraduate student research related to race, racism, and racial equity. • *Details of grant funding*: \$4,000 + \$1,000 in Fall 2022 © *Grant details*: The fellowship enabled Aikat to test media agenda melding theories by engaging people of diverse viewpoints.

© April 2020 to July 2021: AEJMC Journalism & Communication Theory Colloquium

• Aikat, Deb (Lead and moderator, with 100% effort) Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC). Inaugural Journalism & Communication Theory Colloquium “From Media Agenda Setting to Agendamelding Theory: How We Use Digital Media to Create Personal Communities.” April 2020 to July 2021. • *Details of funding*: \$2,000 to convene AEJMC 2020 Media Agenda Setting Theory Colloquium. © *Grant details*: The AEJMC Standing Committee on Research selected the *agendamelding* and media agenda setting research project for its inaugural Journalism & Communication Theory Colloquium. The interactive colloquium titled “From Media Agenda Setting to Agendamelding Theory: How We Use Digital Media to Create Personal Communities” was accepted in the keenly competitive peer-review process for the AEJMC Theory Colloquium.

© May 2020 to January 2021: I⁴ Boundary Spanners COVID-19 concerns in North Carolina

• Aikat, Deb (co-PI, with 30% effort, to UNC Graduate School Dean Suzanne E. Barbour, PI) North Carolina Policy Collaboratory. I⁴ Boundary Spanner Scholars project COVID-19-related concerns. May 2020 to January 2021. • *Details of grant funding*: \$120,000. © *Grant details*: Collaborated with colleagues in the UNC Graduate School and the Southern Futures Initiative to work on the I⁴ Boundary Spanner Scholars project to engage the tools of humanistic and data analysis to support teams addressing COVID-19-related concerns in North Carolina communities.

© November 2018 to August 2020: AEJMC Senior Scholar Grant Award

• Aikat, Deb (PI, with 100% effort) Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC). “*Friending Facebook and Trusting Twitter: News Agendamelding in India’s Networked Public Sphere*.” November 2018 to August 2021. • *Details of grant funding*: \$5,750, which is the maximum award amount for this grant. © *Grant details*: AEJMC awarded a competitive grant that funded the research project titled “*Friending Facebook and Trusting Twitter: News Agendamelding in India’s Networked Public Sphere*” for the *Agendamelding* book.

© Dec. 2016 to Nov. 2018: UNC Research Council Publication Grant Award

• Aikat, Deb (PI, with 100% effort). UNC Research Council Publication Grant Award. “*Agendamelding: How We Use Digital Media to Create Personal Community*.” Dec. 2016 to Nov. 2018. • *Details of grant funding*: \$5,000, which is the maximum award amount for University Research Council Publication Grants. © *Grant details*: Led The UNC-Chapel Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research’s University Research Council Publication Grant award for book project titled “*Agendamelding: How We Use Digital Media to Create Personal Community*.”

© Dec. 2015 to Nov. 2018: UNC Research Council Publication Grant Award

• Aikat, Deb (PI, with 100% effort). The UNC-Chapel Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research’s University Research Council (URC) Publication Grant award for project titled “*News in the Digital Age*.” • *Details of grant funding*: \$5,000, which is the maximum award amount for URC Publication Grants.

☉ **2014 to 2018: “AEJMC Research Works” Initiative**

• Aikat, Deb (PI, with 100% effort). “AEJMC Research Works” initiative research project funded by the 2014-15 Scripps Howard Foundation Research Grant with support from the AEJMC. • *Details of grant funding*: This project comprised a \$3000 research stipend and in-kind data support from AEJMC.

☉ **2015-2017: FIU Benchmark study on “The Status of Women in Communication”**

• Aikat, Deb (co-PI, with 75% effort, to Dr. Judy VanSlyke Turk, PI). Research study funded by the Florida International University’s Kopenhaver Center for the Advancement of Women in Communication.
• *Details of grant funding*: Dollar amount not specified.

☉ **2015: Press freedom in Russia (US-Russia journalism teachers’ exchange)**

• Aikat, Deb (Participant, with 25% effort, as summer work) in US-Russia Journalism Teacher Exchange, with Mark Trotter, Indiana University, Bloomington). Program funded by the US Department of State and a Title VI National Resource Center grant from the US Department of Education. • *Details of grant funding*: This program was funded by a \$2 million (estimated) U.S. Department of Education grant to Indiana University. ☉ *Grant details*: Invited to Russia in May 2015 to research press freedom for a program funded by the US Department of State and a Title VI National Resource Center grant from the US Department of Education. During his visit to Russia, Aikat studied the intriguing contrasts in press freedom that distinguishes Russia and the US.

Competitive grants funding Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL)

☉ **Fall 2021-24: Institute of African American Research’s Teaching Fellowship**

• Aikat, Deb (Faculty fellow, with 100% effort). The influential role of media in the current racial reckoning • *Details of grant funding*: \$4,500 (\$1,500 over three years) ☉ *Grant details*: Selected as Institute of African American Research’s initiative for Student Learning to Advance Truth and Equity (IAAR-SLATE) Fellowship funded research into the role of media in the current racial reckoning.

☉ **March 2020 to July 2022: UNC Center for Faculty Excellence Large Course Redesign Grant**

• Aikat, Deb (PI, with 100% effort). UNC Center for Faculty Excellence. 2020-21 Large Course Redesign Grant. March 2020 to July 2022 • *Details of funding*: \$5,000, which is the maximum award amount for this grant.

☉ *Grant details*: The UNC Center for Faculty Excellence (CFE) peer selected *MEJO 101: The Media Revolution: From Gutenberg to Zuckerberg and Beyond* for a competitive 2020-21 Large Course Redesign Grant.

☉ **2018 to 2024: SPJ-Google News Lab Workshop on Media Storytelling**

• Aikat, Deb (Coordinator, with 100% effort) Society of Professional Journalists and the Google News Initiative. SPJ/Google News Media Storytelling workshop for media researchers and educators. • *Details of research initiative*: Worked with Society of Professional Journalists trainers on innovative newsgathering strategies for news storytelling. ☉ *Grant details*: “Grant-in aid” support to lead AEJMC collaboration with the Society of Professional Journalists and the Google News Initiative to host SPJ/Google News Storytelling workshop for media researchers and educators. The workshop covered tools for trust and verification, immersive storytelling, data journalism and data visualization.

Competitive grants to foster free speech, research, and related activities

☉ **July 2019 to December 2022: Problem-based Carolina Seminar on Free Speech**

• Aikat, Deb (Seminar Leader and PI, with 100% effort). UNC-Chapel Hill’s Carolina Seminars Program. Campus conversation on free speech. July 2019 to July 2022. • *Details of grant funding*: \$9,750 over three academic years (2019-2022). ☉ *Grant details*: Awarded campus-wide grant from the UNC-Chapel Hill’s Carolina Seminars Program to lead a theoretical introspection on free speech for three academic years (2019-2022). The Carolina Seminars on free speech has been an ideal space for UNC-Chapel Hill faculty and others to collaborate and engage in scholarly discussions of free speech ideas and insights in our polarized society.

☉ **Spring 2022: ABIDE Courage in Conversation Grant**

• Aikat, Deb (Faculty coordinator, with 100% effort) UNC Hussman School of Journalism and Media committee for Access, Belonging, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity (ABIDE) funding support for “Courage in Conversation” event to theorize media developments relating to the UNC-Chapel Hill’s failed hiring of Nikole Hannah-Jones, the Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter covering racial injustice for *The New York Times Magazine* and creator of the landmark 1619 Project. • *Details of grant funding*: The \$500 ABIDE grant was not expended by the deadline. With generous funding support from Interim Dean Heidi Hennink-Kaminski, we hosted an event in our MEJO-101 class to engage people of diverse viewpoints, in a public forum to discuss issues of disparity or a space to confront society’s need.

Grants funding for leadership activities

© October 2020 to September 2024: AEJMC Funding Support for Presidential Leadership

• Aikat, Deb (Elected leader, with 100% effort). Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) funding support for Presidential Leadership Ladder. October 2020 to September 2024. • *Details of grant funding:* \$27,000, over five years, 2020 through 2024. © *Grant details:* Discretionary fund allocation from the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) to lead, serve and establish AEJMC's role as one of the premier scholarly organizations in our field.

Grants funding research with international students and scholars

© 2017 to 2018: Pakistan's Higher Education Commission

• Aikat, Deb (International faculty adviser, with 30% effort) Pakistan's Higher Education Commission (HEC). "*The Impact of International Media Coverage on Palestine-Israel Conflict.*" was conducted under Aikat's guidance and supervision. The Higher Education Commission of Pakistan. • *Details of grant funding:* \$17,456 funding support with travel funds for Pakistani journalist Mr. Musharaf Zahoor for 2017 research residency at the Hussman School of Journalism and Media. © *Grant details:* Pakistan's Higher Education Commission (HEC) selected Aikat as a doctoral research adviser (2017-2018) for Mr. Musharaf Zahoor, PhD student at the Center for International Peace and Stability, National University of Science and Technology, Islamabad, Pakistan. Zahoor's doctoral research project, *The Impact of International Media Coverage on Palestine-Israel Conflict*, was conducted under Aikat's guidance and supervision. The Higher Education Commission of Pakistan granted funds to the Ph. D. student to complete research at UNC-Chapel Hill for six months. Zahoor is a working journalist with PTV-World, the only English language news channel in Pakistan.

© 2017 to 2019: Egyptian Cultural & Educational Bureau

• Aikat, Deb (International faculty adviser, with 40% effort). Arab Republic of Egypt's Cultural & Educational Bureau. "*The effect of tactile components of Braille magazines on their readability and usability.*" 2017 to 2019. • *Details of grant funding:* \$74,172 (\$37,086 for two years) funding support with travel funds for Egyptian scholar Ibrahim Helmy Mahmoud Emara for 2016-2018 research residency at the Hussman School of Journalism and Media. © *Grant details:* The Arab Republic of Egypt's Cultural & Educational Bureau selected Aikat as a doctoral research adviser for Egyptian scholar Ibrahim Helmy Mahmoud Emara, faculty member in the mass communication department in Egypt's Tanta University Faculty of Arts. The Egyptian government also approved research funds for the doctoral research project, *The effect of tactile components of Braille magazines on their readability and usability*, conducted by Emara and Aikat. The study measured the difficulties blind people face with digital media.

[This list of grants is partial, from 2000 (*when Aikat was granted tenure*) to 2024]

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Since 1989, Aikat has taught 32 different courses at UNC-Chapel Hill, Ohio University, and the Institute of Modern Management, India. The courses comprise both undergraduate and graduate (master's and doctoral), large on-campus (up to 310 students) and a range of online courses.

In over three decades, Aikat's courses include research literacy, media research, journalism theories and practices, visual design, media history, media ethics, media theory, news writing and integrated media communication, strategic communication practices, emerging issues in political communication, digital media innovations, international communication, and digital entrepreneurship.

Recent Courses Taught at UNC-Chapel Hill (2015-2024)

- ▶ **MEJO 101: The Media Revolution: From Gutenberg to Zuckerberg and Beyond**
 - ⊙ *Number of enrolled students:* 125 (Fall 2022), 98 (Spring 2022), 150 (Fall 2021), 133 (Spring 2021), 182 (Fall 2020), 139 (Spring 2020), 287 (Fall 2019), 150 (Spring 2019), 259 (Fall 2018), 299 (Fall 2017), 279 (Fall 2016), 263 (Fall 2015)
 - ⊙ **Course details:** *MEJO 101: The Media Revolution: From Gutenberg to Zuckerberg and Beyond* is a three-credit conceptual course on the ongoing media revolution. *MEJO 101* covers various facets of communication, from the objective world of news media to the persuasive realms of advertising, public relations, and social media. Students in this class develop research skills, gain theoretical perspectives, and strengthen knowledge about media industries, media content, media effects on society and on us as individuals.
 - Aikat has taught *MEJO 101* with individual responsibility in Fall 2021, Spring 2022 and Fall 2022. [Aikat also co-taught *MEJO-101* from Fall 2015 through Spring 2021 as the faculty lead with Dean Susan King (Fall 2015 to Fall 2019), Prof. Lee Meredith (Spring 2020 and Fall 2020), and Dr. Tom Linden in Spring 2021]

- ▶ **MEJO 141: Media Ethics**
 - ⊙ *Number of enrolled students:* 31 students (141.1 in Fall 2024), 29 (141.2 in Fall 2024), 16 (141.1 in Summer Session I, 2024), 28 (141.1 in Spring 2024), 26 (141.5 in Spring 2024), 27 (141.3 in Fall 2023), 30 (141.3 in Fall 2023), 40 (Spring 2023), 43 (Fall 2022), 38 (Spring 2022), 45 (Fall 2021), 45 (Spring 2021), 40 (Spring 2021), 45 (Fall 2020), 25 (Fall 2019).
 - ⊙ **Course details:** *MEJO 141: Media Ethics* (three course credits) explores what constitutes ethical practices, what interferes with ethical practices, and what emerging ethical issues may challenge the newest generation of professional communicators. Cases involve print, broadcast, and Internet news media; photojournalism; graphic design; public relations; and advertising.

- ▶ **MEJO 715 New Media and Society**
 - ⊙ *Number of enrolled students:* 19 (Spring 2020), 15 (Spring 2019).
 - ⊙ **Course details:** *MEJO 715 New Media and Society* (three graduate course credits) theorizes latest advancements in the information technology landscape. *MEJO 715* focus on theoretical models and conceptual frameworks that are relevant in digital environments as well as practical applications of those models and frameworks.

- ▶ **MEJO 240: Current Issues in Media**
 - ⊙ *Number of enrolled students:* 30 (Spring 2018), 28 (Spring 2017), 25 (Spring 2016), 25 (Spring 2015).
 - ⊙ **Course details:** *MEJO 240: Current Issues in Media* is a three-credit conceptual course on the interrelationships between United States mass media and the society that they serve.

- ▶ **MEJO 349: Internet Issues and Concepts: Power Tools of the Mind**
 - ⊙ Number of enrolled students: 29 (Spring 2018), 23 (Spring 2017), 12 (Spring 2016), 25 (Spring 2015).
 - ⊙ **Course details:** MEJO 349: *Internet Issues and Concepts: Power Tools of the Mind* is a three-credit conceptual course on social, legal, political, and other issues related to the use of the Internet. This online was developed in 1997 and has evolved over the years.

- ▶ **MEJO 446: Global Communication and Comparative Journalism:**
 - ⊙ Number of enrolled students: 25 (Fall 2018), 21 (Fall 2017), 24 (Fall 2016), 26 (Fall 2015).
 - ⊙ **Course details:** MEJO 446: *Global Communication and Comparative Journalism* is a three-credit conceptual course on theories explicating the workings of global and local communication systems, the transnational flow of news, and the opportunities and challenges that social media and other new platforms have posed to the production and distribution of news. MEJO 446 also covers media communication systems of key countries.

Academic Advising and Research Thesis/Dissertation Work (2011-2020)

Doctoral Students

Chair & Adviser of Ph.D. dissertation committee

- Academic adviser and chair of **Dr. Sarah Whitmarsh's** 2025 Ph.D. dissertation, *Anti-oppression and decolonization in transnational advocacy*.
- Academic adviser and chair of **Dr. April Raphiou's** 2015 Ph.D. dissertation, *The eagle vs. the dragon in Africa: A content analysis of economic news frames in Nigeria and Kenya on the U.S. and China's economic pursuits*.
 - ▲ Dr. Raphiou, 2015 Ph.D. graduate, is Communications Director, Duke Center for International Development, Duke University. She served as a Consultant in the United Nations Headquarters Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA), New York City, NY.
- Academic adviser and chair of **Dr. Kelly K. Davis's** 2012 Ph.D. dissertation, *public faces: A content analysis of gender, ethnic, and racial diversity on PBS*.
 - ▲ Dr. Davis, a 2013 Ph.D. graduate, is an Associate Professor of Electronic Media Broadcasting in the College of Fine and Applied Arts, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC.

Member of Ph.D. dissertation committee

- Served as member of **Dr. Erik Brooks's** 2023 Ph.D. committee for dissertation, *A house divided cannot stand: American affective polarization, fundamental worldview, and the power of story in American politics*.
 - ▲ Dr. Brooks, 2023 Ph.D. graduate, is a professor at Chapman University in Orange, California.
- Served as member of **Dr. Jinhong Ha's** 2013 Ph.D. committee for dissertation, *The role of relationships in crisis communication: The impact of agency-client relationships and perception of crisis strategies on crisis-related task conflict, performance, and satisfaction*.
 - ▲ Dr. Ha, 2013 Ph.D. graduate, is a professor at Daegu University, Gyeongsan City, South Korea.

External doctoral research adviser for international Ph.D. students

- Pakistan's Higher Education Commission (HEC) selected Aikat as a doctoral research adviser (2017-2022) for **Musharaf Zahoor**, Ph.D. student at the Center for International Peace and Stability, National University of Science and Technology, Islamabad, Pakistan. Zahoor's doctoral research project, *The Impact of international media coverage on Palestine-Israel conflict*, was conducted under Aikat's guidance. Zahoor is a working journalist with PTV-World, the only English language news channel in Pakistan.

- The Arab Republic of Egypt’s Cultural & Educational Bureau selected Aikat as a doctoral research adviser (2015-2012) for Egyptian student, **Dr. Ibrahim Helmy Mahmoud Emara**, who also served as a faculty member in the mass communication department in Egypt’s Tanta University Faculty of Arts. The Egyptian government also approved research funds for the research project, *The effect of tactile components of Braille magazines on their readability and usability*, conducted by Emara and Aikat. The study measured the difficulties blind people face with digital media.



Honors Thesis for Bachelor of Arts Degree

Chair & Adviser of B. A. honors thesis committee

- Honors thesis adviser for **Emma F. Denman**, 2025 Bachelor of Arts graduate and her 2025 Honors thesis, *Assessing the ethical implications of comedy satire media: A content analysis approach*.
- Honors thesis adviser for **Maydha Devarajan**, 2022 Bachelor of Arts graduate and her 2022 Honors thesis, *Claiming Carolina: Southern identity and South Asians in North Carolina*.
View Devarajan’s thesis website here: <https://www.claimingcarolina.com/>
 - ▲ Maydha served as the Editor of *The Daily Tar Heel’s* Elevate initiative that highlights stories of underrepresented communities on and off campus.
- Honors thesis adviser for **Yueqin “Eugenie” Chen**, 2013 Bachelor of Arts graduate and her 2013 Honors thesis, *Walking across the wall of censorship: Changes in communicative behaviors of Chinese students in the United States*.
 - ▲ Chen lives and works in New York City as an Analytics Associate of W2O Group, a global marketing communications firm headquartered in San Francisco.

Member of B. A. honors thesis committee

- Honors thesis committee member for Isha Padhye, B.A Public Policy Honors thesis: *Misinformation Policies in the COVID-19 Pandemic* | ID: k3569d714 | Carolina Digital Repository https://cdr.lib.unc.edu/concern/honors_theses/k3569d714



Master of Arts in Digital Communication (MADC) students

- MADC adviser for **Kiecha L. Berzins**, 2025 MADC candidate, and committee chair of 2025 MADC thesis project, *A food podcasting best practices guide: How America’s modern culinary community is teaching the art of cooking and food appreciation*.
 - ▲ Berzins is Senior Account Executive, LHW Advertising & PR, Greater Myrtle Beach Area, SC.
- MADC adviser for **Meghan Rushing**, 2024 MADC candidate, and committee chair of 2024 MADC thesis project, *Behind the filter: Instagram’s influence among Generation Z first-generation college-bound students in their college choice*.
 - ▲ Rushing is Senior Assistant Director of Admissions and Digital Communications, Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Duke University, Durham, NC.
- MADC adviser for **Audrey Gurkin**, 2023 MADC candidate, and committee chair of 2023 MADC thesis project, *Why a communications plan is critical in a healthcare crisis*.
 - ▲ Gurkin is Director of Marketing and Development, UNC Health Appalachian, Boone, NC.
- MADC adviser for **Jen Jurczewsky**, 2022 MADC candidate, and committee chair of 2021 MADC thesis project, *How diverse marketing and advertisements on social media influence our purchasing decisions*.
 - ▲ Jurczewsky leads global communications initiatives for the Alcon Laboratories, Fort Worth, Texas.
- MADC adviser for **Megan Robb**, 2021 MADC candidate, and committee chair of 2021 MADC thesis project, *The effectiveness of a persuasive game in a social media campaign for commuter rail transit*.
 - ▲ Robb leads social media for the Charlotte Area Transit System in Charlotte, North Carolina.
- MADC adviser for **Laura Fernanda Morales**, 2021 MADC graduate, and committee chair of 2021 MADC thesis, *Digital marketing communication plan for the eradication of disinformation disease in social media*.
 - ▲ Morales is a faculty member at Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico City, Mexico.

- MADC adviser for **Gillian Speace**, 2018 MADC graduate, and committee chair of 2018 MADC thesis, *Over the transom: Identifying challenges and solutions in trade book publishing's author-agent query process through novel systems analysis*.
▲ Speace is NoveList Readers' Advisory Librarian for EBSCO Information Services
- MADC adviser for **Kimberly Workman**, 2017 MADC graduate, and committee chair of 2016 MADC thesis, *It's our content now: Fan vidders' identification with entertainment media in visual storytelling*.
▲ Workman is a Digital Content Designer for Clinical Tools, Inc.
- MADC adviser for **T. Quantá Holden**, 2016 MADC graduate, and committee chair of 2015 MADC thesis, *"And my father smiled" social media campaign*.
▲ Holden works in the English department of the Trinity College of Arts & Sciences, Duke University.
- MADC adviser for **Ben Donnelly**, 2016 MADC graduate, and committee chair of 2015 MADC thesis, *Does choice matter? Survey-based comparison of user experience between Blackboard and Sakai online learning environments*.
▲ Donnelly is operations manager at the 90.5 WSNC-FM Station, an NPR affiliated public radio station broadcasting news and jazz from Winston-Salem State University in Winston-Salem, NC.
- MADC adviser for **Michelle Clark**, 2015 MADC graduate and committee chair of 2014 MADC thesis, *All about me: Creating a content strategy for a personal brand*.
▲ Clark leads initiatives in education technology and digital solutions for academic publishers, educators, and school administrators to develop brilliant learners.

🔍 Research Evaluation of International Students and Scholars

- Served as external evaluator for doctoral dissertations and Ph.D. research resulting in thesis for international students and scholars from Bangladesh, Cuba, Egypt, Finland, India, Pakistan, and the UK.
- Served as Carnegie Fellowship mentor (2017) for Virginia Commonwealth University's Robertson School of Media and Culture faculty, **Dr. Mariam F. Alkazemi**, for Carnegie Fellowship in Support of Arab-Region Social Science at Carolina, UNC-Chapel Hill. Dr. Alkazemi served as a faculty member in Kuwait's Gulf University for Science and Technology in the fellowship period.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE

AEJMC, 1992-present

• AEJMC President (2022-23)

Peers elected Aikat to lead as the 2023 AEJMC president culminating in 2023 AEJMC Washington, D.C. conference, Aug. 7-10, 2023, themed: *Fostering Freedom & Defending Democracy*.

- Member, AEJMC Board of Directors (2020 to 2024), served as AEJMC Vice-President (2020-21), President-elect (2021-22), President (2022-23), and President-elect (2023-24).
- Instituted and served as chair (2020 to 2021), AEJMC-ASJMC Human Resources Committee
- Co-chair (2016-2018) of the AEJMC Presidential Task Force on Bridges to the Professions, which developed ideas to bridge the gap between the media industry and academia.
- Member (2018 to 2019), AEJMC Presidential Task Force on Career Development
- Served as member of AEJMC Centennial Fund-Raising Committee (2011 to 2013).
- AEJMC Nominations Committee (2011 to 2014)

AEJMC Publications Committee, 2017-2020

- Served as elected member (2017-2020) of the AEJMC Publications Committee responsible for the oversight of the three association-wide journals, *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Journalism and Mass Communication Educator* and *Journalism and Communication Monographs*.

AEJMC Elected Committee on Professional Freedom and Responsibility, 2011-2017

- Served as chair (2015-2016) and vice-chair (2014-2015) of the AEJMC Elected Committee on Professional Freedom and Responsibility.
- Chaired in 2013 and 2014 the AEJMC Equity & Diversity Award (EDA), which recognizes journalism and mass communication academic units that are working toward, and have attained measurable success, in increasing equity and diversity among their faculty. Served as EDA member (2011 to 2014).

AEJMC Elected Committee on Teaching, 2004-2011

- Served as chair (2009-2010) and vice-chair (2008-2009) of the AEJMC Elected Committee on Teaching.
- Chaired Best Practices Competition in Teaching for three years, *information gathering* (2008), *diversity* (2009), and *critical thinking* (2010).
- Founder, "Magnanimous Mentor" initiative (2009-2012).

World Journalism Education Council (WJEC)

- Served on the executive board (2022-2023) and AEJMC representative (2022-2023).

Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC), 2007-2017

- Member, ACEJMC site visit team to Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, Feb. 2010, and Kent State University, 2008.
- Elected member from AEJMC to the ACEJMC Accrediting Council, 2007-2013. The ACEJMC Accrediting council which evaluates professional journalism and mass communications programs in colleges and universities.
- Served as accreditation consultant and reviewer for accrediting processes in media programs.
- Member (2015 to 2018), ACEJMC Accrediting Council's Appeals Board for evaluating accreditation complaints.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)

- Aikat frequently collaborates as adviser and pro bono (*for public good*) academic consultant for faculty and students at North Carolina's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) including NC Central University, Winston-Salem State University, and NC A&T State University.

News Engagement Day

- Member (2016 to the present), News Engagement Day Committee, which has hosted since 2014, the News Engagement Day initiative that has contributed to an informed society by encouraging people of all ages to explore news and raise awareness about the importance of being informed.

Editorial Board Membership (current)

Journalism & Mass Communication Educator, 2004 – present

Web Journal of Mass Communication Research, 1997 – present

International Journal of Politics and Media, 2022 – present

Advisory Board of the *Global Media Journal, Indian Edition*, 2010 – present

Advisory Board of the *SVU Journal for Media and Communication Research*, South Valley University, Qena, Egypt, 2020 – present

Editorial Board Membership (previous)

Journalism & Communication Monographs, 2004 – 2008

Research reviewer, 2009 to the present

- Reviewer for research paper submissions to ICA and AEJMC from 1996 through 2004.
- AEJMC Emerging Scholars Program, from 2017 to the present.
- AEJMC Institute for Diverse Leadership in Journalism and Communication Program, from 2010 to the present.

Manuscript reviewer and software evaluator, 1997-present

Evaluated scholarly papers, book proposals, journals, software, and journal submissions for:

- Journals: *Journal of Magazine and New Media Research*, *Journalism and Communication Monographs*, *Journalism and Communication Quarterly*, *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator*, *Visual Communication Quarterly* and various research publications of ICA, NCA and AEJMC and other research journals
- Publishers: Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, and big five academic publishers (Reed-Elsevier, Springer, Wiley-Blackwell, Taylor & Francis, Routledge, and Sage Publications), Peter Lang, SciELO, Rowman & Littlefield, Bloomsbury Publishing, and other publishers
- Computer companies: Adobe, Microsoft, SPSS, Google, and other computer companies.

Judge for media contests in journalism and mass communication, 1996-present

- Judge (1996 to 2022) for the "Cooperative Information Fair," National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, Washington D. C.
- Judge (2015 to 2024) for South Asia news media competitions.

Senior Journalism Editor, 2019-present, *Communication and Information Technologies Annual*

- Evaluated and reviewed scholarly submissions for the American Sociological Association's Communication and Information Technologies Section publishes the *Communication and Information Technologies Annual*, a peer-reviewed research monograph published by the Emerald, the academic publisher based in Bingley, UK and the American Sociological Association, the 119-year-old national professional membership association for sociologists and others who are interested in sociology.

External Examiner for tenure and promotion, 2011-present

- Served as confidential evaluator for tenure and promotion dossiers of faculty members in American University, Washington, D.C.; Clemson University, Clemson, SC; Northwestern University, Evanston, IL; Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX; University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS; University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM; University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK; Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA; Washington State University, Pullman, WA; and other institutions.

Other Professional Service Initiatives for the Discipline

- Advised and assisted Indiana University's Russian and East European Institute (REEI)/Regional Press Institute with US-Russia Journalism Teacher Exchange: Cross-Cultural Enhancements to Journalism Programs at Regional Institutions of Higher Education.

Public Insight Network, American Public Media, 2008-present

- As a “public source” for American Public Media’s Public Insight Network, Aikat advised journalists and news organizations on what stories are important to our communities and helped them set coverage priorities. Aikat is often called on to help with national stories through American Public Media programs and partner newsrooms around the country.

ULC’s Study Committee on State Governance During Public Health Emergencies, 2020 - 2003

- Appointed to the Uniform Law Commission (ULC)’s Study Committee on State Governance During Public Health Emergencies. The ULC study committee was formed in response to the COVID19 pandemic crisis that closed the United States economy and the need for clear and consistent guidance in key areas of large-scale crisis management.

International Examiner of Mass Communication Research, 1996-present

- External examiner for Ph.D. Dissertation, Cultural Anthropology at Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, India (2006-18)
- External examiner for Ph.D. Dissertation, Department of Journalism, University of Calcutta, India (1996-2019)
- External examiner for Ph.D. Dissertation, in universities in India, Pakistan and Egypt (2015-present)

International Activities, (1996 to the present):

- **Adviser and consultant for the future of journalism** for the World Editors Forum, WAN-IFRA, the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers. As the global organization of the world’s press, WAN-IFRA derives its authority from its global network of 3,000 news publishing companies and technology entrepreneurs, and its legitimacy from its 80-member publisher associations representing 18,000 publications in 120 countries.

South Asia Communication Association (SACA)

- In our commitment to fostering global communication, Aikat founded and instituted in 2015 the South Asia Media Initiative that was later instituted as SACA, which has grown to unite more than 2,534 scholars and professionals in examining media and communication in South Asia and its diaspora worldwide. SACA constitutes member scholars worldwide and represents a joint effort of media and communication scholars, practitioners and brings together people with interest and expertise in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, and the South Asian diaspora worldwide. SACA hosts research sessions at annual conferences of the International Communication Association (ICA) and the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), and the *World Journalism Education Council (WJEC)*, which are among the leading research organizations in our field. These three organizations have also recognized SACA as their “member association.”

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE WITHIN UNC-CHAPEL HILL

Leadership in UNC Honor Court

- Faculty Liaison for the Hussman School of Journalism and Media (*from 2014 to the present*) to the UNC Office of Student Conduct Honor Court.
- Member (*from 2014 to the present*), UNC Office of Student Conduct Honor Court's Faculty Hearings Boards Panel. Selected by peers to serve on the UNC Honor Court's Faculty Hearings Board Panel, which evaluates violations of academic honesty, personal integrity, and responsible citizenship.

Leadership in Faculty Governance

- Elected member, (*2020 to 2026*), UNC-Chapel Hill's Honorary Degrees and Special Awards Committee, which considers nominations from the faculty for Distinguished Alumnus and Alumna Awards, the Thomas Jefferson Award, and the O. Max Gardner Award.
- Elected member, (*2016 to 2022*), UNC-Chapel Hill's Faculty Executive Committee, which represents the Faculty Council and General Faculty in advising the University administration on issues that are important to the University's mission.
- Elected member, (*2015 to 2021*), UNC-Chapel Hill's Faculty Hearings Committee, constituting nine faculty members with permanent tenure, which conducts hearings on the request of faculty members denied tenure, discharged from duty, and not reappointed.
- Served as Tenured Faculty Delegate (*from 2014 to 2016*) and represented the UNC Hussman School of Journalism and Media in the UNC-Chapel Hill's Faculty Council, which is UNC-Chapel Hill's significant faculty governance body advising the Chancellor and other administrators on the academic matters at the heart of the university's mission.
- Served (*from 2014 to 2015*) on the UNC-Chapel Hill's Fixed-Term Faculty Committee, which monitors implementation of policies and recommendations concerning fixed-term faculty; reviews school, college, and departmental policies governing fixed-term faculty members; and formulates and proposes new policies and procedures for consideration by the Faculty Council.
- Elected member, (*2005 to 2007*), UNC-Chapel Hill's Education Policy Committee, constituting nine faculty members, sets general policy and covers matters of educational policy.

Professional Service Initiatives within UNC-Chapel Hill

- Zietlow Fellow Faculty Mentor (*2024 to the present*), UNC-Chapel Hill's Institute for the Arts and Humanities (IAH) and Carolina Public Humanities (CPH) selected Aikat as a faculty mentor to work with a Zietlow Civic Engagement Fellow.
- Faculty Affiliate (*2021 to the present*), UNC-Chapel Hill's Program for Public Discourse, Faculty Affiliates "enable our students to be better stewards of democracy through robust public discourse."
- Member (*2022 to the present*), Faculty of Color and Indigenous Faculty (FOCIF) Steering Committee, UNC-Chapel Hill's Institute for the Arts and Humanities.
- Member of leadership team (*2020 to 2022*) of "Build Our Community Together," the first initiative of the *Carolina Next: Innovations for Public Good*, UNC-Chapel Hill's strategic plan for 2021 through 2026.
- Member (*2020 to 2023*), Advisory Board of the UNC Center for Faculty Excellence, which fosters three primary initiatives: Excellence in Faculty Development and Mentoring, Excellence in Faculty Diversity and Inclusion, and Excellence in Instructional Innovation, are aligned with the Chancellor's Strategic Framework to enable faculty to thrive at every stage of their careers, and to help all learners reach their potential.
- Member (*from 1998 to the present*), UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Academics and Student Activities and Leadership, the campus-wide student recognition program that honors student accomplishments at UNC-Chapel Hill. Coordinated selection of Ernest H. Abernethy Prize in Student Publication Work for the most distinctive work in student publications.

- Member, UNC-Chapel Hill Asian American Center (*from 2020 to the present*), which cultivates a critical understanding of Asian American peoples, cultures, and histories. Through education, organizing, and advocacy, the Asian American Center engages Asian American students, faculty, and staff and the greater UNC-Chapel Hill community. It enhances UNC's commitment to excellence by expanding access to interdisciplinary learning and preparing the next generation of leaders for an increasingly multicultural society.
- Faculty Research Member (*from 2020 to 2024*), UNC-Chapel Hill Modern Indian Studies Initiative to recognize and bring together a wide range of research initiatives focused on present-day India. Modern Indian Studies Initiative facilitates new partnerships, projects and opportunities focused on India for the UNC-Chapel Hill community. It also highlights the work of faculty members and students.
- Member, Faculty of Color and Indigenous Faculty Group (*from 2019 to the present*), at the Institute of the Arts and Humanities provides support, community, and professional and leadership development for faculty of color and indigenous faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences and professional schools at UNC-Chapel Hill.
- Member, South Asia Faculty Working Group (*from 2000 to the present*), UNC-Chapel Hill. See South Asia faculty website at <https://carolinaasiacenter.unc.edu/faculty/faculty-working-groups/south-asia-faculty-working-group/>
- Associated Faculty (*from 2002 to the present*), Carolina Asia Center, UNC-Chapel Hill. See Associated Faculty list at <https://carolinaasiacenter.unc.edu/about/people/associated-faculty/>
- Member, UNC-Chapel Hill Scholarly Communication Working Group (*from 2000 to the present*).
- Member (*2000-present*), Games4Learning at UNC-Chapel Hill.
- Member (*from 2013 to the present*), Chancellor's Faculty Entrepreneurship Boot Camp Alumni Group.
- Member (*2000-present*), UNC-Chapel Hill Institute for the Arts and Humanities Faculty Fellows Group.

Professional Service in the UNC Hussman School of Journalism and Media

- Member (*2021-22 to present*), Hussman School's Graduate Admissions Committee.
- Member (*2020-21*), Hussman School's Scholarship Selection Committee.
- Hussman School's Academic Deans have assigned (*from 2015 to the present*) Aikat to conduct teaching observation of instructors in the Hussman School of Journalism and Media.
- Member (*from 2014 to the present*), Dean's Diverse Faculty Roundtable, first held on Feb. 7, 2014, to discuss diversity issues in the Hussman School of Journalism and Media.
- Developed in 2019 a comprehensive resource for students to replicate the exam experience for the Usage and Grammar (U&G) exam and an assessment exercise for students of MEJO-153 Newswriting.
- Coordinated (*from 2009 to 2018*) poster project on freedom quotations for UNC First Amendment Day. Aikat worked with the Park Library team and law students.

RESEARCH ENRICHMENT

UNC's Heterodox Heels, 2024 to the present

UNC's Heterodox Academy Campus Community, Heterodox Heels, aims to build a community of faculty, staff and students that actively works to improve the quality of research and education by promoting the values of open inquiry, viewpoint diversity, and constructive disagreement throughout the UNC-Chapel Hill campus and community. See more details at <https://heterodoxacademy.org/campuses/university-of-north-carolina-chapel-hill/>

UNC's Tar Heel Bus Tour, 2019

Selected to participate with 90 UNC-Chapel Hill faculty members and senior administrators on a listening and learning tour to connect with the communities we serve. The 2019 UNC's Tar Heel Bus Tour fostered trust and accountability with the people of North Carolina and demonstrated how and why UNC-Chapel Hill is passionately public. Oct. 16-18, 2019. See more details at <https://tarheelbustour.unc.edu/>

Mental Health First Aid Training, 2019

Completed training course to acquire key skills to help students and colleagues with developing mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. Mental Health First Aid covered the potential risk factors and warning signs for a range of mental

health problems, including: depression, anxiety/trauma, psychosis and psychotic disorders, substance use disorders, and self-injury. See more details at www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org

Envisioning the Digital University, 2014

Participated in “Envisioning the Digital University” an open dialogue event to discuss, brainstorm and envision the role of technology in research, administration, teaching and learning at Carolina, Nov. 21, 2014. See more details at <http://its.unc.edu/envisioning-digital-university/>

Center for Faculty Excellence — Summer Writing Group, 2014 through 2024

Worked with faculty members in small interdisciplinary groups to support scholarly productivity in this successful three-month program of writing and research. Participants reported measurably greater productivity in their writing projects as well as a deepened sense of connection to the wonderful and vibrant scholarly community. Aikat was quoted in a *University Gazette* news feature about this program. See more details at <https://web.archive.org/web/20150801033526/http://gazette.unc.edu/2014/07/15/faculty-flock-to-summer-writing-groups-for-feedback-and-support/>

The Entrepreneurial Mindset—Maximizing Faculty Impact, 2013

Nominated by Dean Susan King and later invited by Chancellor Holden Thorp to participate in “The Entrepreneurial Mindset—Maximizing Faculty Impact,” a workshop on entrepreneurship for faculty members of UNC System Schools, May 13-16, 2013. See more details at http://innovate.unc.edu/ic_resource/faculty-bootcamp/

MEMBERSHIP IN ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), 1992-Present

International Communication Association (ICA), 1994-present