

# Bryan McLaughlin

## *Sharon Dunwoody Early Career Award*



### About Bryan

- ◆ Associate Professor, Texas Tech University
- ◆ Studies problematic news consumption (news addiction) to identify and understand related personality traits, psychological motivations and news diets.

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#### ***What does this award mean to you?***

More than anything, receiving this award has prompted me to reflect on my time at the J-School and think about what I learned, the relationships I built, and the experiences that shaped me both personally and professionally.

#### ***Who is the SJMC professor who had the most profound impact on your career?***

Dhavan Shah, my advisor, had the strongest impact on my career, both directly and indirectly. Directly, Dhavan taught me how to be bold with my ideas and to establish a distinct research identity. Indirectly, I also benefited greatly from the collaborative research environment at the SJMC, which fostered peer learning and socialization—an environment that Dhavan played a pivotal role in creating.

#### ***Favorite memory from the SJMC?***

Having research group meetings Friday afternoon and then heading to the Terrace to continue the conversation with a beer.

#### ***Most valuable lesson learned in the SJMC?***

The importance of fostering a positive and supportive academic culture.

#### ***Favorite study spot on campus?***

Barriques on West [Washington Avenue].