



## 2019 Provost Award for Excellence in Research and Scholarship

**Dr. Sharon Mazzarella**  
*School of Communication Studies*

Sharon R. Mazzarella (Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) joined JMU as Professor of Communication Studies in 2009 where she also served as the academic unit of head of the school until 2014. She teaches primarily in the areas of cultural communication and research methods at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Her research takes a critical/cultural approach to interrogating mediated representations of youth, particularly girls and girlhoods. Her forthcoming book, *Girls, Moral Panic, and the News Media: Troublesome Bodies* (Routledge) takes a critical look at U.S. print media constructions of girls and girls' bodies/sexualities through a series of in-depth case studies of contemporary events. Taken as a whole, these case studies document an ongoing moral panic that constructs girls' bodies as troublesome and in need of adult policing.

Dr. Mazzarella is editor or co-editor of eight academic collections including *Girl Wide Web 2.0: Revisiting Girls, the Internet, and the Negotiation of Identity* (2010, Peter Lang). In addition, she is editor of the book series "Mediated Youth" (Peter Lang)—a series dedicated to publishing trailblazing academic books on cultural studies of youth, primarily girls. She served for five years as founding and lead co-editor of the journal *Popular Communication* (Taylor and Francis), and her published articles appear in such journals as *Popular Music and Society*, *Women's Studies in Communication*, the *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, *Communication Research*, the *Journal of Children and Media*, the *Journal of Communication Inquiry*, *Communication Quarterly*, the *Journal of Radio and Audio Media*, and *Girlhood Studies*.