

About the P4PS Research Advisory Council

As we enter 2022, public trust in government has continued to decline, aggravated by a recent election cycle that challenged democratic norms in unprecedented ways. Effective government depends on a shift in both how we think about government and how government understands its role, relationships and opportunities. With that in mind, our research agenda will work to shift popular narratives about government and create new frameworks it can use to measure success. Our priorities will include assessing key trends that will shape the future of how government operates; exploring the public’s changing views of government; rethinking how to measure key elements of an agency’s organizational health; and imagining and identifying new collaborative opportunities for federal agencies to solve major challenges. We see these topics as keys to a much-needed paradigm shift that will help government work better for everyone. Our Research Advisory Council will play a crucial role in shaping this work and identifying opportunities to elevate our findings. In all, the council will support our efforts to generate ideas that will lead to a more dynamic and innovative federal government that effectively serves our diverse nation.

The Partnership investigates several core research questions to yield new insights on government effectiveness and solve long-standing public sector management challenges, including:

- How can government leaders serve with integrity and champion innovation?
- How can agencies and leaders successfully leverage technology tools and talent to make government more effective?
- How can government recruit a new generation of public servants to fill critical talent gaps?
- How can government deliver easily accessible, consistent, purposeful and secure services to all possible customers?
- What investments are necessary for government to become more data-driven and evidence-based?
- What policies, processes and legislative reforms are necessary to ensure a smooth presidential transition and a successful start for a new administration?

Answering these questions is critical not only to our goal of building a better government, but also to our efforts to change the way people see their government.

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Research Advisory Council (RAC)

Stakeholder(s):

Partnership for Public Service (P4PS) :

At the Partnership, research is at the core of how we design our programming, engage with federal leaders, advocate for new policy solutions, and identify issues that will affect government's ability to solve problems and serve the public. To ensure that our research is relevant, accessible and effective, we have brought together a group of experts from the public, private and nonprofit sectors to form a Research Advisory Council. This remarkable group of practitioners, advocates and scholars will advise on the Partnership's research agenda and challenge us to explore new questions, partnerships and opportunities around rethinking the way government works. Here are the members of our new Research Advisory Council:

Angela Bednarek :

Director, Evidence Project, The Pew Charitable Trusts ~ Angela Bednarek directs the evidence project at Pew, which aims to promote and facilitate systemic change in the ways research is generated, mobilized, and used. She leads efforts to build collaborations among funders, researchers, decision-makers, and other stakeholders to identify and promote promising practices in actionable research and evidence-informed decision-making in a wide variety of sectors. Bednarek holds a bachelor's degree in biology and studio art from the University of Notre Dame and a doctorate in biology from the University of Pennsylvania.

Beth Simone Noveck :

*Professor, Northeastern University and Director, The Governance Lab ~ Beth Simone Noveck is a professor at Northeastern University, where she directs the Burnes Family Center for Social Change and Impact and its partner project, The Governance Lab (The GovLab) and its MacArthur Research Network on Opening Governance. The author most recently of *Solving Public Problems: How to Fix Our Government and Change Our World* (Yale Press 2021), she is also Core Faculty at the Institute for Experiential AI (IEAI) at Northeastern. New Jersey governor Phil Murphy appointed her as the state's first Chief Innovation Officer and Chancellor Angela Merkel named her to her Digital Council in 2018.*

Cori Zarek :

Executive Director, Beeck Center for Social Impact + Innovation, Georgetown University ~ Cori Zarek leads the Beeck Center for Social Impact + Innovation at Georgetown which brings together students, expert practitioners, and extended networks to conduct research and work on projects that solve societal challenges using data, design, and technology to lead to better and more equitable outcomes. She served as Deputy U.S. Chief Technology Officer in the Obama White House where she led work to build a more digital, open, and collaborative government including helping to stand up and support the U.S. Digital Service, 18F and the Presidential Innovation Fellows. Cori co-founded U.S. Digital Response in 2020 which matches pro-bono technologists to work with government and organizations responding to crisis, and she currently leads that organization's advisory council.

Dan Chenok :

Executive Director of the IBM Center for The Business of Government ~ Dan Chenok is Executive Director of the IBM

Center for The Business of Government. He oversees all of the Center's activities in connecting research to practice to benefit government, and has written and spoken extensively around government technology, cybersecurity, privacy, regulation, budget, acquisition, and Presidential transitions. Mr. Chenok previously led consulting services for Public Sector Technology Strategy, working with IBM government, healthcare, and education clients.

danah boyd :

Partner Researcher at Microsoft Research ~ danah boyd is a Partner Researcher at Microsoft Research, the founder and president of Data & Society, a Distinguished Visiting Professor at Georgetown University, and a Visiting Professor at New York University. Her research focuses on the intersection of technology and society, with an eye to how structural inequities shape and are shaped by technologies. She is currently conducting a multi-year ethnographic study of the US census to understand how data are made legitimate. For more: <http://www.danah.org>

Efraín Gutiérrez :

Senior Fellow, Center for Evaluation Innovation ~ Efraín Gutiérrez (he/his) is a Senior Fellow with the Center for Evaluation Innovation (CEI) where he focuses on re-imagining strategy, evaluation, and research practices so that philanthropy is in service of racial equity and justice. Before CEI he served as inaugural Head of Impact and Evaluation at the Obama Foundation. He earned a bachelor's degree from Universidad Panamericana in Guadalajara Mexico and a master's from the Evans School of Public Policy & Governance at the University of Washington. He is a proud queer immigrant from Capilla de Guadalupe, a small town in Jalisco Mexico, and currently lives in San Francisco CA.

Elizabeth Linos :

Assistant Professor of Public Policy, Co-Director of The People Lab, University of California, Berkeley ~ Dr. Elizabeth Linos is the Michelle J. Schwartz Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Co-Director of The People Lab at the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley. Her research focuses on the government workforce and service delivery specifically on how we can improve diversity in recruitment and selection, how to reduce burnout at work, and how different work environments affect performance and motivation in government. She also studies how to use low-cost interventions to reduce administrative burdens that low-income households face when interacting with their government. Dr. Linos was the former Vice President and Head of Research and Evaluation at the Behavioral Insights Team in North America working with government agencies in the U.S. and U.K. to improve programs using behavioral science and to build capacity around rigorous evaluation. She also worked directly in government as a policy advisor to the Greek Prime Minister, George Papandreou, focusing on social innovation and public sector reform.

Eric Giannella :

Data Science Director, Code for America ~ Eric is a social scientist turned data scientist. He's done research in a variety

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Stakeholders (continued)

of settings, spanning government, small and large tech companies, and nonprofits. Most recently, he was at the California Department of Justice working to make data more widely available for the public, journalists, and academics. He has published on social support, justice reform, and technology and society. Eric has a Ph.D. in Sociology from UC Berkeley, and an M.S. and B.A. from Stanford.

Ian Bassin :

Co-Founder and Executive Director, Protect Democracy ~ Ian Bassin is co-founder and Executive Director of Protect Democracy. He previously served as Associate White House Counsel, where in addition to counseling the President and senior White House staff on administrative and constitutional law, his responsibilities included ensuring that White House and executive branch officials complied with the laws, rules and norms that protect the fundamentally democratic nature of our government. His writing on democracy, authoritarianism, and American law and politics has appeared in The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Los Angeles Times, The Atlantic, Slate, Salon and other publications. He received his J. D. from Yale Law School, and a B.A. from Wesleyan University.

Jenna Ben Yehuda :

President and Chief Executive Officer of the Truman National Security Project and the Truman Center for National Policy ~ Jenna Ben-Yehuda is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Truman National Security Project and the Truman Center for National Policy. A former State Department official with private sector experience, Ben-Yehuda is a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Futures Council on U.S. national security, a life member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and the founder of Women's Foreign Policy Network, a global community of 6,500 women.

Jim Cook :

Vice President, Strategic Engagements and Partnerships, MITRE ~ James Cook is vice president for Strategic Engagement and Partnerships at MITRE. In this role, he leads strategic corporate partnership interactions with the executive agencies and Congress and promotes development of new strategic partnerships with the private sector, academia, and other non-profit, associations and foundations to address public interest challenges at the federal, state, and municipal levels.

John Kroger :

President and CEO, Rodel Leadership Institute ~ John has had a distinguished career in higher education and public service, including prior work as a United States Marine, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Attorney General of Oregon, President of Reed College, Vice President of the Aspen Institute, and Chief Learning Officer of the United States Navy and Marine Corps. He has taught throughout his career, with appointments as Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School, Hauser Leader in Residence at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Visiting Professor at Lewis and Clark Law School, and Visiting Lecturer in Political Science at Yale University. He currently serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Rodel Leadership Institute.

Laura Lucas Magnuson :

Executive Vice President, Global Programs, The Barack Obama Foundation ~ Laura Lucas Magnuson is the Executive Vice President for Global Programs at the Obama Foundation,

where she leads efforts to support and train young leaders around the world. She previously served as Vice President for Communications and Strategy at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Laura was a Foreign Service Officer for more than a decade, serving at the U.S. embassies in Nepal and the Czech Republic, as a Special Assistant to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and in the White House as a spokesperson and Director of Strategic Communications at the National Security Council, responsible for Europe and Russia, South and Central Asia, cybersecurity, and international economic policy.

Nick Hart :

President, Data Foundation ~ Nick Hart, Ph.D. is President of the Data Foundation, a national non-profit organization that works to improve government, business, and society through open data and evidence-informed public policy. He is a fellow at the Bipartisan Policy Center and with the National Academy of Public Administration. Dr. Hart previously served as the Policy and Research Director for the U.S. Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking and worked at the White House Office of Management and Budget.

Dr. RaJade M. Berry-James :

Professor & Chair of the Faculty, North Carolina State University ~ RaJade M. Berry-James. Ph.D. is chair of the faculty and professor of public administration in the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA) at NC State University. Jade is an elected fellow of the congressionally chartered National Academy of Public Administration and vice-chair of the Standing Panel on Social Equity in Governance. In her book Why Research Methods Matter: Essential Skills in Decision Making (2018 | Melvin & Leigh), Jade explains evidence-based decision making to evaluate public policies, programs, and practices. Jade is currently evaluating the North Carolina Farm to Early Care and Education initiative and working with the VCU Research Institute for Social Equity (RISE) as an equity consultant.

Russell Robinson :

Founder, Amplified Research and Consulting ~ Russell Robinson is the founder of Amplified Research + Consulting, LLC, where his work focuses on conducting research and providing solutions to employee engagement, employee voice and talent management challenges. As a passionate champion of employee engagement, Russell has spoken at several domestic and international conferences focusing on aspects that improve the workforce experience for civil servants. Russell holds a Doctor of Education degree in Higher Organizational Learning from George Washington University. He received his Master's in Public Administration degree from American University and his Bachelor of Science in Business degree from the University of Dayton.

Sadia Sindhu :

Executive Director, University of Chicago Center for Effective Government ~ Sadia Sindhu is the founding executive director of the University of Chicago Center for Effective Government (CEG), a premier research institute designed to study, debate, and advance reforms that strengthen democratic institutions and improve the capacity of government to solve public problems. Sadia holds an MS in higher education policy from Northwestern University and a BSFS in international politics

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Stakeholders (continued)

from Georgetown University. She is a Fellow of the second class of the Civil Society Fellowship, a Partnership of ADL and The Aspen Institute, and a member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network.

Sarah Treuhaft :

Vice President of Research, PolicyLink ~ Sarah Treuhaft, Vice President of Research at PolicyLink, develops the research agenda to support PolicyLink policy priorities, oversees research across the organization, and expands our research partnerships. Sarah oversees our National Equity Atlas partnership with USC Dornsife Equity Research Institute (ERI). She holds master's degrees in city planning and international and area studies from the University of California,

Berkeley, and is a part of the UCLA Housing Justice in Unequal Cities Network.

Suzanne Mettler :

*John L. Senior Professor of American Institutions in the Government Department at Cornell University ~ Suzanne Mettler is the John L. Senior Professor of American Institutions in the Government Department at Cornell University. She has written six books, including *The Government-Citizen Disconnect*, *The Submerged State: How Invisible Government Policies Undermine American Democracy*, and *Soldiers to Citizens: The GI Bill and the Making of the Greatest Generation*. She has been inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and awarded Guggenheim and Radcliffe Fellowships. She is currently researching the rural-urban political divide.*

Vision

A better government and a stronger democracy

Mission

To ensure that our research is relevant, accessible and effective

Values

Governance

Democracy

Research

Relevance

Insight

Accessibility

Effectiveness

Leadership

Accountability

Governance

Change the way government works

Research Advisory Council members bring expertise to our research portfolio of forward thinking thought leadership to change the way government works; capacity-building tools to enhance government effectiveness; and analysis and benchmarking to drive government performance insights for leaders and accountability to the American people.

1. Expertise

Bring expertise to our research portfolio

2. Capacity

Provide capacity-building tools to enhance government effectiveness

3. Analysis & Benchmarking

Provide analysis and benchmarking to drive government performance insights for leaders and accountability to the American people

Administrative Information

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