Societal Experts Action Network
Fall 2022 Symposium

Social Science for Decision Making

Symposium Event Page:
https://www.nationalacademies.org/event/
10-05-2022/societal-experts-action-
network-sean-fall-2022-symposium

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2022

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES BUILDING – LECTURE ROOM (2101 CONSTITUTION AVE NW, WASHINGTON, DC)

Purpose

- Provide an opportunity for direct interaction among SBE science researchers, state and local decision makers, and the organizations that support them.
- Illustrate how social science research has been interpreted and applied in useful ways by decision makers during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Explore how applied SBE researchers and state and local decision makers can better respond to and inform each other's work.
- Elicit feedback and suggestions from SEAN stakeholders to inform future initiatives.

10:00am   *Registration Opens and Breakfast Available*

10:30am –10:45am   **Welcome**
Mary T. Bassett, Co-chair SEAN Executive Committee

10:45am –11:45am   **The COVID-19 Pandemic: Lessons for the Use of SBE Science**
Moderator: Wendy Wood, SEAN Executive Committee Member

Erica Pan, California State Epidemiologist
LaQuandra Nesbitt, Washington, DC Department of Health (formerly)
Elizabeth Kellar, International City/County Management Association
Katherine Milkman, University of Pennsylvania

11:45am –12:15pm   **Table Top Discussions: What has the pandemic taught us about decision making and SBE science?**

Guiding Questions:
- What did the COVID-19 pandemic teach us about how the social sciences can be useful?
- Were there any missed opportunities where SBE research could have been applied to challenges you faced during the COVID-19 pandemic?
- What are impediments to use of SBE evidence for decision making?
- How can social scientists better meet the needs of decision makers (i.e. types of advice/guidance, areas of need)?

12:15pm –1:15pm   **Lunch/Networking**

1:15pm –2:15pm   **Looking Ahead: What is on the horizon for decision makers and how can the SBE community help?**
Moderator: Michael Hout, SEAN Executive Committee Member

Kellina Craig-Henderson, SBE Directorate, National Science Foundation
Max Crowley, Evidence-to-Impact Collaborative, Pennsylvania State University
Deana Holiday-Ingraham, Mayor of East Point, GA, National League of Cities Board Member
Kristine Goodwin, Director of the Center for Results Driven Governing, National Conference of State Legislatures

2:15pm – 2:45pm   **Table Top Discussions: Bridging SBE Research and Decision Making to Inform Future SEAN Work**

Guiding Questions:
- What pressing issues are decision makers likely to confront in the next year? How can the SBE sciences be prepared to meet these needs?
- What kind of relationships or mechanisms between decision makers and social scientists need to be in place to create evidence-informed decision making, and how can those relationships be sustained?
- What are best practices for sharing knowledge and ensuring that SBE research informs decision making?
- In what ways can SBE researchers be incentivized to prioritize needed research on current societal issues?

2:45pm – 3:00pm   **Closing Reflections**
Robert Groves, Co-chair SEAN Executive Committee

3:00pm   **ADJOURN**