

Strategic Council October 2024 Meeting Open Session Speaker Bios

October 9, 2024

Jane Alfred is a professional editor, who has worked in STEM publishing since 1999. She is the Director and Co-founder of Catalyst Editorial, an independent editorial consultancy company that provides training on research integrity, publication ethics and peer review to the biological research community, as well as editorial services to STEM publishers and academic authors.

Before founding Catalyst Editorial in 2015, Jane was Deputy Editor of PLOS Biology and previous to that was the Executive Editor of the journal Development for several years. Prior to Development, Jane was Editor of Nature Reviews Genetics, which she launched with editorial colleagues in 2000.

As a Managing Journal Editor, Jane has overseen publishing ethics issues, allegations of research misconduct, editorial policy breaches, authorship disputes and author complaints, and has developed editorial policies and standards, including on publishing ethics, research reporting standards and practices, and peer review.

As a research integrity trainer, Jane provides discussion-based training workshops to research institute leaders and early career researchers on research integrity, research culture and research practice; on publication ethics; and on the ethics and performance of peer review.

For much of her editorial career, Jane has been a member of COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics) and since 2015, she has been an external adviser to UKRIO.

Jane's research background is in developmental genetics, and she obtained her PhD at the MRC Human Genetics Unit, Edinburgh, UK.

Ralitsa Madsen is a UKRI Future Leaders Fellow and Principal Investigator at the MRC-Protein Phosphorylation and Ubiquitylation Unit, University of Dundee. Ralitsa's research is focused on understanding how quantitative phosphoinositide 3-kinase (PI3K) signalling underpins context-dependent information transmission in mammalian cells. She wants to use this knowledge to identify novel therapeutic options for diseases of aberrant PI3K signalling. Alongside her research, Ralitsa is an advocate for open research and takes part in various grassroots activities aimed at promoting research integrity and reproducibility nationally as well as internationally.

Ralitsa obtained her undergraduate degree (BSc) in Molecular Biomedicine from the University of Copenhagen (2010-2013), after which she moved to Cambridge, UK to complete an MPhil in Medical Science, under the supervision of Prof Susan Ozanne and Prof Kenneth Siddle at the Metabolic Research Laboratories - Institute of Metabolic Science (Wellcome Trust-MRC). Her MPhil research focused on the contribution of

microRNAs to the development of insulin resistance as a result of a suboptimal nutritional environment in utero.

Carlo D'Ippoliti is Associate professor of political economy at the Department of Statistical Sciences of Sapienza University of Rome. He holds a joint Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Rome “La Sapienza” and “W.F. Goethe” of Frankfurt am Main. He has coordinated or taken part in a number of research projects on gender inequality, discrimination and social inclusion for the European Commission (DG Justice, and DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities), the Fundamental Rights Agency of the EU (FRA), and the Italian Government, National Antidiscrimination Office (UNAR). He is chief editor of the open access economics journals PSL Quarterly Review (www.pslquarterlyreview.info, in English) and Moneta e Credito (www.monetaacredito.info, in Italian)

Mushtaq Gunja serves as executive director of the Carnegie Classification systems and senior vice president at ACE, where he is in charge of running and reimagining the Carnegie framework.

Prior to joining ACE, Gunja served as assistant dean in academic affairs at Georgetown University Law Center (DC), where he was in charge of academic policies for the law school, including accreditation, teaching methods, and new programs related to increased educational outcomes. He also serves as an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown Law and previously taught at the University of Maryland School of Law and Washington Adventist University.

Gunja served as the chief of staff to the under secretary at the U.S. Department of Education under President Obama. In this position, he provided strategic advice to the under secretary in the development and implementation of policies across higher education, including improving access and affordability, highlighting promising practices to foster completion, encouraging increased innovation, improving the borrower experience for students with federal loans, and ensuring fair treatment for all students of higher education. He also served in the Obama administration as deputy associate White House counsel with responsibilities for vetting and confirming the president's political appointees. Before moving to Washington, he served as an assistant U.S. attorney in Baltimore, where he prosecuted a variety of cases, including violent crime, racketeering offenses, drug conspiracies, and financial fraud. His work on the opioid crisis, prescription overdose deaths, and doctors' prescribing habits earned him three Drug Enforcement Administration awards.

Gunja graduated cum laude from Harvard Law School (MA) and magna cum laude and with honors from Brown University (RI) with a B.A. in political science and diplomatic history.

Eric Brooks is the principal analyst for U.S. News's education rankings. He currently oversees data review and computations across all the company's school guides; including helping refine methodologies for the annual Best Colleges and Best Grad

Schools editions. Upon joining the company in 2010, he led in formulating U.S. News's inaugural rankings of online degree programs and later K-12 public schools.

Brooks is a longstanding member of the Association for Institutional Research and has presented at numerous higher education forums. He lives in Fairfax County of Virginia and has a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics and politics, with a minor in journalism from Brandeis University; and also a Master of Arts degree in political science from American University.

Benedetto Lepori holds a PhD in Communication Sciences with a thesis on the Swiss research and higher education policy at the University of Lugano in 2004. At the Università della Svizzera Italiana (USI), he is currently titular professor at the faculty of communication science and rector's delegate per research analysis. He is senior researcher at the University of Paris Est and invited researcher at the Department of Management of the University of Bath.

He is also head of the Research and Transfer Service of USI.

His research interests cover a broad range of topics in research and higher education studies. He is a recognized specialist in the analysis of research policies and, especially, public research funding. In this area, he coordinated the PRIME project on public project funding and he was co-coordinator of the European Contract on Joint and Open Programs (JOEP). He also worked extensively in the domain of higher education indicators and governance; he participated to PRIME-AQUAMETH and the European MicroData study, while he is currently coordinator of the European Tertiary Education Register (ETER). and scientific coordinator of the H2020 project KNOWMAK, on developing a European Map of Science and Technology.

His research deals with on issues of higher education governance, university management and theory of S&T indicators. He published extensively on these topics in journals like Organization Studies, Research Policy, Science and Public Policy, Research Evaluation, Evaluation, Journal of Informetrics, Scientometrics, Higher Education and Studies in Higher Education.

Alexandr Hobza is an Economist in the Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs of the European Commission. Prior to joining the European Commission, he worked as a Research Fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies in Brussels. He received his PhD from the University of Economics in Prague and he has a Master degree in quantitative economics from the Université libre de Bruxelles. His research interests are focusing on issues of macroeconomic imbalances, international financial flows, impact and political economy of structural reforms, and coordination of economic policies in the EU.

Athina Karvounaraki is a statistician with studies in Greece and the UK. She has worked for the European Commission for over 20 years, holding various positions focused on statistics, indicators, and data analysis. Since 2019, she has led the Statistics and Indicators Team in the Chief Economist Unit of DG Research and Innovation. Her

team delivers quantitative evidence and statistical analysis across a wide range of research and innovation-related fields. Athina leads the preparation of the European Innovation Scoreboard and Regional Innovation Scoreboard publications, guiding the accompanying analytical and methodological work. She was among the authors of the Science, Research, and Innovation Performance of the EU report in both 2022 and 2024.