

Trust in Science: Understanding Trends and Implications for Science Communication

Speaker Biosketches

Panelists:

Arthur Lupia is the Interim Vice President for Research and Innovation and the Gerald R. Ford Distinguished University Professor at the University of Michigan. His research clarifies how people make decisions and form or break coalitions in complex, political environments. He has held a wide range of leadership positions in science-focused institutions. From 2018-2022, Lupia served as Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation, leading its Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate. From 2019-2022, he co-chaired the government-wide Subcommittee on Open Science for the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy. Prior to working in government, his leadership positions included Chairperson of the Board of the Center for Open Science and Principal Investigator of the American National Election Studies. Lupia is a member of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's Strategic Council for Research Excellence, Integrity, and Trust and an Advisory Board member for NASEM's Division on Engineering and Physical Sciences. Lupia has won NASEM's William O. Baker Award for Initiatives in Research, is a recipient of Guggenheim and Carnegie Fellowships and is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He earned a Ph.D. in social science from the California Institute of Technology.

Katherine Ognyanova is an associate professor of communication at Rutgers University. She studies the effects of social influence on civic and political behavior, confidence in institutions, information exposure/evaluation, and public opinion formation. Her methodological expertise is in computational social science, network science, and survey research. Her recent work examines the links between misinformation exposure and political trust. Ognyanova is one of the founders and a principal investigator for The COVID States Project – a large multi-university initiative exploring the social and political implications of the COVID-19 pandemic. Ognyanova's research has been supported by the National Science Foundation and the Russell Sage Foundation. Her work has been covered in news outlets including New York Times, NPR, Politico, Washington Post, and WIRED, among others. She is a member of the National Academies Standing Committee on Advancing Science Communication. She earned her Ph.D. in communication from the University of Southern California.

Liz Hamel is vice president and director of public opinion and survey research at KFF. She oversees the team that is responsible for the KFF Health Tracking Poll, the COVID-19 Vaccine

Monitor, and ongoing survey partnerships with news organizations such as The Washington Post, Los Angeles Times and CNN. In more than 20 years of public opinion research, she has directed survey projects on a range of topics, including attitudes and experiences regarding COVID-19; views of the ACA, Medicare, Medicaid, and private health insurance; racial and ethnic disparities and discrimination; and health care as an issue in elections. Hamel serves on the executive council of the American Association for Public Opinion Research and the board of directors of the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research. She holds a bachelor's degree from Harvard College.

Moderator:

Mariette DiChristina is dean of Boston University's College of Communication and professor of the practice in journalism. Before arriving at BU in 2019, DiChristina was the first female editor-in-chief and executive vice president of Scientific American, as well as an executive vice president of its publisher, Springer Nature. In that capacity, she also oversaw the journalists for Nature's magazine, as well as the Nature Research custom content and publishing groups. She is a current member of the Standing Committee on Advancing Science Communication and the Climate Crossroads Advisory Committee, and past co-chair for the Climate Communications Initiative committee for the U.S. National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. She is also an elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She serves on the Practice and Science of Civic Science Advisory Committee for the Civic Science Fellows program; is on the board of Society for Science, publisher of Science News; and chairs the World Economic Forum's "Top 10 Emerging Technologies" Steering Group. Previously, DiChristina was president of the National Association of Science Writers and executive editor of Popular Science. She enjoyed working with students as an adjunct associate professor and visiting scholar in the graduate Science, Health, and Environmental Reporting Program at New York University and as a science writer in residence at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.