

# **Societal Experts Action Network (SEAN): Facilitating Rapid and Actionable Responses to Social, Behavioral, and Economic-Related Questions**

## **Committee**

### **Michael Hout**

#### **Co-Chair**

Mike Hout (NAS) is professor of sociology at New York University. In his research, he uses demographic methods to study social change in inequality, religion, and politics. In 2006, Dr. Hout and Claude Fischer published *Century of Difference*, a book on twentieth-century social and cultural trends in the United States, that exemplifies this approach. A few recent publications include “Part of the gender gap in voting for Democrats arises because a higher proportion of women than men voters are Black,” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (2022) and “Social mobility in the Tang Dynasty as the imperial examination rose and aristocratic family pedigree declined, 618-907 CE,” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (2024). Dr. Hout's honors include election to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society. He taught at the University of Arizona from 1976 to 1984 and at the University of California, Berkeley from 1985 to 2013. While at Berkeley, Dr. Hout chaired the Sociology Department from 1988 to 1991 and the Demography Department from 2008 to 2013. He also directed the Survey Research Center from 1992 to 1998 and the Berkeley Population Center from 2007 to 2013. He has chaired the National Academies Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education Advisory Committee since 2018. Dr. Hout received a Ph.D. in sociology from Indiana University.

## **Maria C. Lemos**

### **Co-Chair**

Maria Carmen Lemos is Professor of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and Senior Policy Scholar at the Udall Center for the Study of Public Policy at the University of Arizona. She has MSc and PhD degrees in Political Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MIT. During 2006-2007 she was a James Martin 21st Century School Fellow at the Environmental Change Institute at Oxford University. Her research focuses on environmental public policymaking in Latin America and the U.S., especially related to the human dimensions of climate change, the co-production of science and policy, and the role of technoscientific knowledge and environmental governance in building adaptive capacity to climate variability and change response. She is a co-founder of Icarus (Initiative on Climate Adaptation Research and Understanding through the Social Sciences), which seeks foster collaboration and exchange between scholars focusing on vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. She is a lead author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and a contributor to the US Climate Change Science Program Synthesis Reports. She has served in number of NRC/NAS committees including Restructuring Federal Climate Research to Meet the Challenges of Climate Change, America Climate Choice Science Panel and the Human Dimensions of Environmental Change Committee.

## **Dolores Albarracín**

### **Member**

Dolores Albarracín, the Alexandra Heyman Nash University Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, is a social psychologist who studies social cognition, attitudes, and behavioral change. She is a fellow of American Psychological Association (Divisions 8, 9, and 38), the Association for Psychological Science, and the Society for Experimental Social Psychology, as well as the American Academy of Political and Social Science. Her research (~200 publications) has been recognized with an award for Outstanding Mid-Career Contributions to the Psychology of Attitudes and Social Influence from the Society of Social and Personality Psychology in 2018 and the Diener Award to Outstanding Mid-Career Contributions to Social Psychology from the same society in 2020. She was the editor of *Psychological Bulletin* (2014-2020), is currently the editor of the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology: Attitudes and Social Cognition* (2023-2029), and is Past President of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.

# **Sonia Y. Angell**

## **Member**

Sonia Angell is a Bloomberg Distinguished Professor of the Practice at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology and an Assistant Clinical Professor at Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons. She is a practicing physician and an expert in public health, policy and systems change. Her research aims to build out public health department capacity in climate and health surveillance, policy, and communications. Additional areas of Dr. Angell's research focus on health care delivery resilience, including related to the impact of COVID-19. Previously, she served as Director of the California Department of Public Health and State Public Health Officer, as Deputy Commissioner at the NYC Health Department, as senior advisor on Global Noncommunicable Diseases at the CDC. She received the American Heart Association's Chairman's Award in 2020. She is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine. She is board certified in internal medicine. She received her medical degree from the University of California San Francisco and completed an Internal Medicine residency at Brigham Women's Hospital. She has a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Michigan.

## **Dominique Brossard**

### **Member**

Dominique Brossard is a professor and chair in the Department of Life Sciences Communication at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and an affiliate of the UW-Madison Robert & Jean Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies, the UW-Madison Energy Institute, the UW-Madison Global Health Institute, and the UW-Madison Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies. She is also a principal investigator at the Morgridge Institute for Research. Brossard's research agenda focuses on the intersection between science, media and policy with the Science, Media and the Public (SCIMEP) research group, which she co-directs. A fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the International Communication Association, Brossard is an internationally known expert in public opinion dynamics related to controversial scientific issues. She is particularly interested in understanding the role of values in shaping public attitudes and using cross-cultural analysis to understand these processes. She has published more than 150 research articles in outlets such as *Science*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Science Communication*, *Public Understanding of Science*, the *International Journal of Public Opinion*, and *Communication Research* and has been an expert panelist for the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) on various occasions. Brossard is a member of the Board on Life Sciences of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. She is also on the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences and she is the Chair of the Advisory Committee for the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences at the National Science Foundation.

Brossard has a varied professional background that includes experience in the lab and the corporate world. Notably, she spent five years at Accenture in its Change Management Services Division. She was also the communication coordinator for the Agricultural Biotechnology Support Project II (ABSPII), a position that combined public relations with marketing communication and strategic communication. Her family worked dairy farms for many generations. Brossard earned her M.S. in plant biotechnology from the Ecole Nationale d'Agronomie de Toulouse and her M.P.S and Ph.D. in communication from Cornell University.

## **Emily K. Brunson**

### **Member**

Emily K. Brunson is a Professor of Anthropology at Brigham Young University. She has an MPH in Epidemiology and a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Washington. Dr. Brunson's research addresses issues of health care access and decision-making, particularly how political, economic, and social structures, including class and racial/ethnic inequalities, social networks, and personal experience intersect to produce health outcomes for individuals and communities. In collaboration with diverse stakeholders, she has translated her scholarly research into actionable recommendations for both practitioners and policy makers. From 2020-2023 she co-led CommuniVax—a national coalition of social scientists, public health experts, and community advocates who sought to strengthen local and national COVID-19 vaccination efforts in the United States, and to develop long-standing, local governance systems that enable underserved groups to exercise collective agency over their own health during the pandemic and moving forward. Her research has been recognized through funding from the National Science Foundation, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, and the Rockefeller Foundation.

## **Jevay Grooms**

### **Member**

Dr. Jevay Grooms is an Assistant Professor of Economics and Co-Director of the Center for an Equitable Economy and Sustainable Society at Howard University as well as a Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Dr. Grooms is an applied microeconomist with research areas of interests that lie at the intersection of health economics, and studies of poverty and inequality. Her overall research agenda is to study the impediments to adequate health care delivery and health outcomes of underserved and vulnerable populations with the keen intent to understand how poverty and the legacy of wealth inequality have contributed to health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities. Dr. Grooms is a current Board Member of the National Economic Association. She received her doctorate in Economics from the University of Florida and did her undergraduate studies in Economics and Political Science at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California.

## **Linda Langston**

### **Member**

Linda Langston is the President of Langston Strategies Group serving as a consultant to those interested in resilience planning. Langston served on the Linn County, IA Board of Supervisors for 14 years and also served as the President of the National Association of Counties (NACo). She served 2 terms on FEMA's National Advisory Council, multiple terms on the NAS Resilient America Roundtable and 2 terms as chair. She presently serves on the Division of Earth and Life Sciences Committee. She has served on a variety of local, state and federal committees and commissions, including 2 terms as the chair of her local board of health. She continues to serve as an adjunct instructor for Emergency Management Institute and FEMA.

## **Brooke Liu**

### **Member**

Brooke Liu is a Professor of Communication at the University of Maryland. Dr. Liu's research investigates how government strategic communication, media, and interpersonal communication can motivate people to successfully respond to and recover from crises and disasters. She has served on the Food and Drug Administration's Risk Communication Advisory Board and on the Science Advisory Board for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Previously, Dr. Liu also served on the National Academy of Sciences Committee studying the future of emergency alert and warning systems. Dr. Liu earned a Ph.D. in mass communication from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master's degree in journalism from the Missouri School of Journalism.

# Arthur Lupia

## Member

Arthur Lupia is the Gerald R Ford Distinguished University Professor and Associate Vice President for Research at the University of Michigan. He was previously Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation. In that role, and with Daniel Goroff, developed the SEAN concept and arranged for its funding. His research improves communication, coalition-building, and quality of life in a wide range of social and scientific contexts. His career awards include a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Carnegie Fellowship, and the 1998 National Academy of Sciences Award for Initiatives in Research. He previously served on the Advisory Board for the NASEM Division on Behavioral and Social Science and Education and currently serves on the NASEM's Strategic Council for Excellence, Integrity, and Trust and on Advisory Board for the Division of Engineering and Physical Sciences.