

*The National Academies of*  
**SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE**

**Next Steps in Advancing the Communication and Use of the Social and Behavioral Sciences: Identifying Needs and Opportunities**

*Roundtable on the Communication and Use of the Social and Behavioral Sciences*

500 Fifth Street NW, Washington, DC  
Room 208  
February 13, 2019

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The goal of the meeting is to:

*Identify current needs and opportunities related to the communication and use of social and behavioral sciences; and develop ideas for future work by the National Academies and others in this space.*

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9:15 am	<b>Welcome and Goals for the Meeting</b> <i>Howard Kurtzman, Roundtable chair</i>
9:25 am	<b>Reflecting on the Roundtable</b> This panel provides an overview of the goals, audiences, and activities of the Roundtable. Roundtable members describe lessons learned that suggest promising directions for the future.  <b>History and Aims of the Roundtable</b> <i>Mary Ellen O'Connell</i>
	<b>Lessons Learned from Policy-Focused Activities of the Roundtable</b> <i>Karen Bogenschneider</i>
	<b>Lessons Learned from Media-Focused Activities of the Roundtable</b> <i>Camille Gamboa</i>
9:45 am	<b>Exploring the Specific Needs of the Social and Behavioral Sciences</b> This session will feature presentations and discussion that address the question: As compared with other sciences, are there challenges or opportunities that are specific to, or especially important for, communicating and enhancing the use of the social and behavioral sciences?  <b>Unique Challenges of the Social and Behavioral Sciences</b> <i>Duncan Watts, Microsoft Research</i>

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**Connecting Scholars and Communities**

*Laurie Van Egeren, Michigan State University*

**The Science Counts Survey of Professional Association Members'**

**Views on Science Communication and Engagement**

*Chris Volpe, Science Counts*

**Discussion**

11:00 am **Break**

**Understanding the Needs of Communicators and Users of Social and Behavioral Science**

Panelists will consider: Where should the social and behavioral sciences concentrate their efforts to improve communication and use? Are there particular topics where more or more useful information from the social and behavioral sciences would be helpful? Are there opportunities unique to meeting the needs of a particular audience?

**Understanding the Needs of Policymakers: Lessons from the Evidence-Based Policymaking Commission**

*Ron Haskins, Brookings Institution*

**Understanding the Needs of the Media**

*Rick Weiss, Sci Line, American Association for the Advancement of Science*

**Understanding the Role of Boundary Organizations in Connecting Science with Practice and Policy**

*Angela Bednarek, Pew Charitable Trusts*

**Discussion**

12:30 pm **Lunch**

**The Landscape of Current Efforts to Improve the Communication and Use of Science**

Panelists will describe a range of broad initiatives directed toward understanding and improving science communication and engagement. They will consider to what extent these efforts include social and behavioral sciences.

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**Science Communication, Engagement, and Impacts at the National Science Foundation**

*Arthur Lupia, National Science Foundation, Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic (SBE) Sciences*

**Kavli Foundation Efforts to Understand and Build Networks in Science Communication and Engagement**

*Brooke Smith, The Kavli Foundation*

**Science Communication at the National Academies: The Standing Committee on Advancing Science Communication Research and Practice**

*William Hallman, Rutgers University*

**Discussion**

2:30 pm **Summary Discussion of Gaps and Opportunities**

*Howard Kurtzman, Facilitator*

Participants will address the following questions:

1. Are the goals and challenges for communication and use of social and behavioral sciences different from those for other sciences?
2. To what extent do existing broad efforts to advance science communications address the social and behavioral sciences in particular?
3. Do communication challenges for the social and behavioral sciences differ based on the type of research (e.g., basic research, applied research, intervention research)?
4. To what degree should communications about social and behavioral sciences be focused on their relevance to societal issues or problems?
5. What further research or programs are needed to strengthen the communication and use of social and behavioral sciences? How can these activities be implemented, and who should implement them?
6. Are there particular communicators or users of social and behavioral science that should be addressed or included in future activities?
7. What roles and types of activities in this space should the National Academies pursue or avoid?

3:30 pm **Adjourn**