



SCHOLARS
STRATEGY NETWORK

Meet the SSN Graduate Fellows for 2015-16

MARCH 13, 2016

Regional and working groups in the Scholars Strategy Network choose a graduate student fellow each year. Our fourth class includes twenty young women and men studying at universities from the North to the South and from the Atlantic to the mid-Pacific. Each is doing cutting-edge research that speaks to critical public challenges.

To learn more about each of the 2015-16 Fellows, click on a name to see the person's full profile with research interests and civic involvements. Click on a title to read the full brief. View the full list of Fellows [here](#).



[Marija Bingulac](#), Boston SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Public Policy, University of Massachusetts Boston

SSN Key Findings: "[Responses to Rising Family Homelessness in Massachusetts](#)"



[T. Jameson Brewer](#), Working Group on K-12 Education SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Student in Educational Policy Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

SSN Basic Facts: "[How 'Teach For America' Affects the Training and Effectiveness of Classroom Instructors](#)"



[Esther Yoona Cho](#), Bay Area SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Student in Sociology, University of California, Berkeley

SSN Basic Facts: "[How Ethnic Realities Structure the Labor Market Experiences of Undocumented Young Adults](#)"



[Patrick Denice](#), Northwest SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Sociology, University of Washington

SSN Key Findings: "[When They Choose Public Schools, What Do Parents Want?](#)"



[Allison Dwyer Emory](#), Finger Lakes SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Sociology, Cornell University

SSN Basic Facts: "[What Children Experience when Mothers, Fathers, or Both Parents are Sent to Jail or Prison](#)"



[Eric Hansen](#), National SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Political Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

SSN Key Findings: "[Why Paying Legislators Higher Salaries Will Not Draw More Blue-Collar Workers into Office](#)"



[Harper Haynes](#), Iowa SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Sociology, University of Iowa

SSN Basic Facts: "[Effective Ways to Reduce Disparities in School Discipline](#)"



[Isaac Jabola-Carolus](#), New York City SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Student in Sociology, City University of New York

SSN Basic Facts: "[How Participatory Budgeting Strengthens Communities and Improves Local Governance](#)"



[Jane Lily López](#), San Diego SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Sociology, University of California, San Diego

SSN Key Findings: "[Why Laws Targeting Non-Citizen Immigrants Affect Citizen Family Members and Associates, Too](#)"



[Alexander Lovell](#), Utah SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Student in Political Science, University of Utah

SSN Basic Facts: "[How Rights Movements Can Deal with Backlashes against Supreme Court Decisions](#)"



[Markie McBrayer](#), Texas SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Political Science, University of Houston

SSN Basic Facts: "[While California Expands Insurance Coverage, Texas Blocks Health Reform - Despite Greater Needs](#)"



[Michael Nau](#), Ohio SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Sociology, Ohio State University

SSN Key Findings: "[Reforming Tax Policy for the Wealthiest One Percent](#)"



[Giovanni Pleites-Hernandez](#), Tennessee SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Student in Political Science, University of Tennessee

SSN Key Findings: "[Financial Deregulation, U.S. Party Politics, and Rising Income Inequality](#)"



[Celene Reynolds](#), New Haven SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Sociology, Yale University

SSN Basic Facts: "[What We Know - and Need to Learn - about Progress against Sex Discrimination in Higher Education](#)"



[Eric Royer](#), Confluence SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Political Science, University of Missouri-St. Louis

SSN Basic Facts: "[How the Ferguson Commission Can Promote Healing and Reconciliation in Metropolitan Saint Louis](#)"



[Rachel Schwartz](#), Madison SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison

SSN Basic Facts: "[Confronting Government Corruption in Guatemala and Honduras](#)"



[Sierra Smucker](#), Research Triangle SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Public Policy, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University

SSN Basic Facts: "[Why the United States Remains Hobbled in Protecting Women from Gun Violence](#)"



[Elise Trott](#), Southwest SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Anthropology, University of New Mexico

SSN Basic Facts: "[How New Mexico Policymakers Have Learned from Community Perspectives on Water Management](#)"



[Rasheda L. Weaver](#), New Jersey SSN Graduate Fellow

PhD Candidate in Public Affairs, Rutgers University

SSN Basic Facts: "[How to Help Profit-Making Social Enterprises Combat Pressing Social Problems](#)"



[Sandy Zook](#), Atlanta SSN Graduate Fellow

Graduate Research Assistant of Public Management and Policy, Georgia State University

SSN Basic Facts: "[Does Starting New Football Programs Help Universities?](#)"