### Agenda

**9:30–9:35  Welcome and Opening Remarks**
- Diana Epstein, Evidence Team Lead, White House Office of Management and Budget
- Erica Goldman, Director of Science Policy, Federation of American Scientists

**Part 1: Living Approaches to Federal Agency Learning Agendas**

**9:35–9:40  Keynote: “The Power of Institutions to Push the Knowledge Frontier”**
- Sir Jeremy Farrar, Director, Wellcome

- Arlene Bierman, Chief Strategy Officer, Office of the Director, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- Julian Elliott, Co-Founder and CEO, Covidence
- Moderator: Hannah Safford, Associate Director of Science Policy, Federation of American Scientists

**9:55–10:10  Audience Q&A**

**Part 2: Novel Approaches to Evidence-Based Policy**

**10:10–10:15  The Evidence for Action Challenge**
- Angela Bednarek, Director, Evidence Project, The Pew Charitable Trusts

**10:15–10:35  Lightning Talks**
- “Public opinion as a source of evidence”: Nicholas Weller, Postdoctoral Research Associate, School for the Future of Innovation in Society, Arizona State University
- “Matchmaking between subject-matter experts and policymakers”: Adam Levine, Associate Professor, Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins University
- “Sharing data and analytical capabilities between federal and state governments”: Kathy Stack, Senior Fellow, Tobin Center for Economic Policy, Yale University

**10:35–10:50  Audience Q&A**

**10:50–10:55  Closing Remarks**
- Diana Epstein, Evidence Team Lead, White House Office of Management and Budget
Speaker Bios

**Angela Bednarek** directs the evidence project at the Pew Charitable Trusts, which aims to promote and facilitate new ways that research is generated, valued, and used to address pressing challenges across a wide variety of disciplines. As director, she leads the effort to increase collaboration among funders, researchers, decision-makers, and other stakeholders to identify and advance practices that connect evidence with decision-making. For more than a decade at Pew, Bednarek developed, supported, and communicated scientific research and technical analyses to identify emerging issues, inform policy, and advance solutions to environmental problems. Before joining Pew, Angela was a foreign affairs officer and American Association for the Advancement of Science diplomacy fellow in the U.S. State Department’s Office of Environmental Policy, a fellow at the Earth Institute at Columbia University, and a scientist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Angela holds a bachelor’s degree in biology and studio art from the University of Notre Dame, a master’s in biology from the University of Louisville, and a doctorate in biology from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Arlene Bierman** is Chief Strategy Officer in the Office of the Director at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. She was the principal investigator for the POWER study (Project for an Ontario Women’s Health Evidence-Based Report Card) which, through the collaboration of an interdisciplinary group of investigators, is providing actionable data to help policymakers and health care providers to improve health and reduce health inequities in Ontario. Dr. Bierman served on the board of the Health Quality Ontario and chaired its Performance Measurement Advisory Board. She is a member of the Cancer Quality Council of Ontario and also serves on the board of the National Centre of Excellence program—the National Initiative to Improve Care for the Elderly (NICE). Previously, she was a Senior Research Physician in the Center for Outcomes and Effectiveness Research at the US Agency for Health Care Research and Quality. Her research is directed at examining the impact of models service delivery and finance on access, quality, and health outcomes among older adults, with a special focus on low literacy and low income populations, and the unique needs of older women. Her work addresses the interface between health policy, access to care, primary care practice and health outcomes.

**Julian Elliott** is Associate Professor (Research), Cochrane Australia, in the Monash University School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine. Julian’s ongoing focus is the development and use of “living evidence” to inform high quality, responsive, and up-to-date health guidelines, policies and care around the world. He is the Executive Director of the National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce, lead for evidence systems at Cochrane, Senior Research Fellow at Cochrane Australia, and head of Clinical Research in the Department of Infectious Diseases, Alfred Hospital and Monash University. He is also the co-founder and CEO of Covidence, a nonprofit online platform enabling efficient systematic review production. Julian has served as a consultant to the World Health Organization (WHO), UNAIDS, and the World Bank.
Diana Epstein is the Evidence Team Lead at the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The Evidence Team collaborates with other OMB offices to set evidence-building priorities and select appropriate evaluation methodologies, use findings from evaluations and other studies in program design, and develop agency capacity to build and use evidence. The team helps lead Evidence Act implementation, chairs the Evaluation Officer Council, and provides expert advice and technical assistance on evidence-related activities and initiatives for a broad range of Federal agencies and functions. Diana was previously a research and evaluation manager at the Corporation for National and Community Service, and before that she worked as a program evaluator and policy analyst at Abt Associates, the American Institutes for Research, and the RAND Corporation. She has a B.S. from Brown University in applied math-biology, an MPP from the Goldman School at UC Berkeley, and a Ph.D. in policy analysis from the Pardee RAND Graduate School.

Sir Jeremy Farrar is the Director of Wellcome, a global charitable foundation which supports science to solve urgent health challenges. Jeremy’s career has been dedicated to protecting and improving global health. Jeremy spent 18 years leading the Clinical Research Unit at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases in Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam, where he made many pivotal advances in the understanding of diseases like tuberculosis (TB), malaria, typhoid, dengue and influenza, as well as helping to train scientists from across South-east Asia and beyond. He has held a number of other advisory roles for governments and international bodies such as the WHO and UK government’s Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE). He is a Fellow of the Royal Society, the European Molecular Biology Organization, the U.S. National Academies and the UK Academy of Medical Sciences. In 2018, he received the President Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian of the Year Award and in 2019 was knighted for services to global health. As a researcher, he specialized in infectious diseases, and he has published more than 600 papers. Jeremy holds degrees in immunology and medicine from University College London and a doctorate in neuroimmunology from the University of Oxford. He trained as a doctor in London, Edinburgh, Melbourne, San Francisco and Oxford.

Erica Goldman is Director of Science Policy at the Federation of American Scientists. She has a diverse background that includes science writing, science policy, and academic research and her passions lie in making connections between these domains. Most recently, Erica served as the Deputy Director of the Global Council for Science and the Environment, where she worked across a network of institutions and diverse groups of scientists to improve the scientific basis of environmental decision-making. Previously, she served as the Director of Policy Engagement for COMPASS, a nonprofit organization that helps environmental scientists effectively share their knowledge in the public discourse and decision-making. She also served a six-month term in the White House Council on Environmental Quality on the Land & Water Ecosystems Team during the Obama Administration. She has worked as a science writer for the Maryland Sea Grant College Program; served as a Knauss marine policy fellow in the Natural Resources Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives; and worked as a news intern at Science Magazine. Erica received her Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Washington and her Bachelor’s of Science degree from Yale University.
Adam Levine is the SNF Agora Institute Associate Professor of Health Policy and Management in the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. Many questions pique his interest and excitement. The top ones are: “When do ordinary citizens become engaged in civic life, and with what impact?” and “How do people with diverse forms of expertise, such as researchers, practitioners, and policymakers, collaborate to address problems?” He has published research addressing these questions in a variety of political science, public health, transportation planning, climate change, communication, law, and economics journals, as well as in the book *American Insecurity*. Adam’s second book, tentatively entitled *Collaborate Now! How Expertise Becomes Useful in Civic Life*, is forthcoming. Adam is also the president and co-founder of research4impact, a nonprofit that creates powerful new collaborative relationships between researchers, practitioners, and policymakers. Since 2018 he has helped create over 300 new collaborations.

Hannah Safford is Associate Director of Science Policy at the Federation of American Scientists. Hannah has deep experience working on both sides of the science-policy nexus, including as a policy advisor for the 2020 Biden-Harris presidential campaign, a fellow at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; a researcher with the UC Davis Institute for Energy, Environment, and the Economy; and as Chair of the City of Davis Natural Resources Commission. Hannah’s work and commentary has been featured on MSNBC and Al Jazeera, as well as in *Nature*, *PNAS*, and others. Hannah holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from the University of California, Davis, as well as an MPA in Public and International Affairs, an M.Eng in Environmental Engineering and Water Resources, and a B.S.E. in Chemical and Biological Engineering, all from Princeton University.

Kathy Stack is an independent consultant helping government and non-profit organizations develop creative strategies for using data, evidence, and innovation to improve the impact of government social programs. Previously she spent over three decades in the federal government, including 27 years at the White House Office of Management and Budget. As OMB’s Deputy Associate Director for Education, Income Maintenance and Labor from 2007 to 2013, she oversaw budget, policy, legislation, regulations, and management issues for the Departments of Education and Labor and major human services programs. From 2013 to 2015, she launched and led OMB’s Evidence Team to strengthen federal agency capacity to use evidence, evaluation, data, and outcome-focused program designs to improve program effectiveness. After retiring from the federal government in 2015, Kathy served for several years as Vice President at the Laura and John Arnold Foundation where she helped federal, state, and local governments build capacity to use data and evidence to improve decision-making.

Nicholas Weller is a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the School for the Future of Innovation in Society at Arizona State University. He promotes engagement among scientists, public audiences, policy makers, and cultural organizations in service of creating a just, free, and sustainable future. He studies the use of deliberative public forums to shape science and policy on uncertain, contested, and technical topics. Currently, he works with ASU’s Center for Innovation in Informal STEM Learning to help professionals at museums and other cultural organizations develop sustainability-related programs. He also works with ASU’s Consortium for Science, Policy and Outcomes to better link science with public values.