



Gender and Political Psychology Network 2020 Excellence in Mentoring Award

[Amanda Bittner](#), Professor, Memorial University

We are delighted to award Professor Amanda Bittner from the Political Science Department at Memorial University with the Excellence in Mentoring Award. Professor Bittner is deeply committed to mentoring, building community, and lifting up junior scholars. Her mentorship is intentional and aimed at increasing access to academia for groups traditionally excluded from our ranks. From working to help graduate students and junior faculty around the globe to creating a Gender and Politics lab at Memorial University to hosting workshops for women in the discipline, Professor's Bittner's mentoring work aims at establishing institutional mechanisms that amplify her efforts and are transformative for the discipline. Her work has extended its reach during the pandemic, where Professor Bittner hosts an "explicitly feminist" virtual writing group. The committee is thrilled to give her the Excellence in Mentoring award.

[Nadia Brown](#), Associate Professor, Perdue (soon to be Georgetown University)

The Excellence in Mentoring committee is beyond excited to grant our award to Professor Nadia Brown from the Political Science and African American studies at Purdue University (and soon to be affiliated with the Department of Government and director of the Women's and Gender Studies at Georgetown). It is not hyperbole to call Professor Brown's mentoring work transformative. This intentional, inclusive work is aimed at reforming what academia looks like, who can belong in our disciplines, and creating deep paths for success for generations of scholars to come. The committee was particularly impressed with how Professor Brown's mentoring is innovative while also aimed at large-scale changes; for example, her work through PSSistahScholar, #MeTooPoliSci, and Women Also Know Stuff. We were also so impressed with how Professor Brown's mentoring work is also transparent, organized, and high quality; in mentoring, she is also teaching her mentees how to do the hard work of mentoring. Nadia's work as the lead editor of Politics, Groups and Identities further cements her excellence as a mentor. We are delighted to give her the Excellence in Mentoring award.

Gender and Political Psychology Network 2020 Early Career Research Award

[Rebecca Kreitzer](#), Assistant Professor, University of North Carolina

Rebecca Kreitzer is this year's winner of the Early Career Research Award from the Gender & Political Psychology Network. Kreitzer is an Assistant Professor of Public Policy and adjunct professor in the political science department at the University of North Carolina and earned a PhD in 2015 from the University of Iowa. Her research is on women's representation in state legislatures and how these dynamics intersect with political polarization and the formation of public policy. Kreitzer's public policy work, in particular, highlights the impact of state laws that restrict women's access to reproductive health care creating what she and her co-authors term "abortion deserts." Kreitzer has a strong publication record with fifteen articles appearing peer-reviewed outlets including *Political Research Quarterly*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, and *Public Opinion Quarterly*. Kreitzer's research has important implications for scholars in gender and political psychology but also for those doing work on representation, polarization, and public policy.

And, as honorable mention:

[Jenn M. Jackson](#), Assistant Professor, Syracuse University

Jenn Jackson receives an Honorable Mention for the Early Career Research Award from the Gender & Political Psychology Network. Jackson is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Syracuse University, and earned a PhD in 2019 from the University of Chicago. Jackson already has an impressive record that warrants recognition. Jackson's research centers on Black politics and focuses on themes of group threat, gender and sexuality, political behavior and social movement. Jackson is working on three book projects that each look at different aspects of race, social movements, and political activism. Jackson is already amassing an impressive public record with research published or forthcoming in *Politics, Groups, and Identities*, *Journal of Women, Politics, and Policy*, and Jackson's first book, *Black Women Taught Us*, is forthcoming at Penguin Random House in 2022. Jackson's research has important implications for scholars in gender and political psychology but also for those doing work on race, social movements, and group threat.

Gender and Political Psychology Network 2020 Teaching Innovation Award

[Rosalyn Cooperman](#), Professor, University of Mary Washington
and

[Jennie Sweet-Cushman](#), Associate Professor, Chatham University

The committee has selected two winners for the Gender and Political Psychology Teaching Innovation Award: Rosalyn Cooperman of the University of Mary Washington and Jennie Sweet-Cushman of Chatham University. Professor Cooperman's women and politics course takes an evidence-based approach to combating public speaking anxiety – a problem more likely to affect female students relative to male students. Her course provides a model for speaking-intensive interventions aimed at female undergraduates in political science. Professor Sweet-Cushman's innovative policy analysis course incorporates research on gender and politics and political psychology to create a unique field experience for undergraduate students. Students build on this scholarship to develop policy recommendations for municipal governments in the city of Pittsburgh. Student recommendations on recreational use policy, a social media policy, and an updated sexual harassment and discrimination policy have been successfully adopted by several municipalities as a result of this course, which provides an excellent model for translating academic research findings into real-world policy outcomes.