

## **Dolores Albarracin Statement**

During the last year, Black Lives Matter achieved unprecedented prominence and might have produced a stronger global commitment to diversity and anti-racism. The COVID-19 pandemic has claimed the lives of 121,000,000 people, many from vulnerable populations all over the world. In this historic juncture, the Society of Personality and Social Psychology should continue its efforts to understand human relationships, societal mobilization, social transmission of infectious disease, and ways of intervening for the benefit of society and all its members.

I feel honored and humbled to have been asked to stand for election for president. As an Argentine-American social psychologist, I would not have predicted the dramatic changes our discipline has experienced and look forward to serving SPSP by advancing four important objectives.

**Continuing to contribute to diversity and anti-racism while deepening the improvement of our science.** SPSP should continue to promote the development and retention of students and scholars of all colors, sexual orientations, religions, political interests, methodological traditions, and research agendas. If I were elected, I would continue to promote representation and growth of underrepresented groups through year-round activities and annual meeting programming. At the same time, I would support further improvement of our science and transparency in publication practices, following my work as editor in chief of *Psychological Bulletin*.

**Both nationally and internationally, expanding opportunities for professional productivity and growth through the creation of new journals.** Despite the great success of the society's three journals, there is an insufficient number of pages to accommodate a global, prolific, and vibrant social and personality psychology. If I were elected president, I would promote new journals sponsored by SPSP, both within the United States and in collaboration with international societies. I would draw on my service on the publication committee that led to the creation of *Social Psychology and Personality Science*.

**Promoting recognition of social and personality psychologists through awards.** SPSP needs new awards and opportunities to celebrate its outstanding members and increase the visibility of our discipline within society, academic circles, and universities. Creating new ways of recognizing our impact would be part of my agenda, drawing on my experience doing the same for the Society of Experimental Social Psychology.

**Increasing involvement of social and personality psychologists in interdisciplinary initiatives to promote growth, impact, and job opportunities.** More academic and nonacademic jobs will be available if our discipline is placed at the center of key social problems. Broadening our methods and research questions, as well as training new members in grant writing, will make social and personality psychologists more relevant to academic and other sector efforts to enhance social justice, the environment, health, public policy, and organizations. Our increased centrality in those initiatives should lead to the creation of more positions for social and personality psychologists and a public psychology that cuts across all

sectors of society. My own success with interdisciplinary and grant-funded research makes me an ideal candidate to lead these efforts.