

# Kate Ratliff

## Candidate Statement

When I was offered my first editorial role just a few years into being an Assistant Professor, a senior member of my department cautioned against it. They raised (entirely valid) concerns about protecting my time for running my lab and producing my own scholarship. However, with all due respect to my colleague, who certainly had my best interests at heart, serving as an editor has been one of the most central and valued roles in my career. It is such a privilege to be reminded daily of the big, exciting, important work that social and personality psychologists are doing around the world and to play a part in shaping how that work is carried out and disseminated. In addition to that first Associate Editor position at *British Journal of Social Psychology*, I have also served as an AE at *Social Psychological and Personality Science* and *Psychological Science* and I am currently a senior editor at *Psychological Science*.

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Member-at-Large for Science Publishing. The policies and practices we set at our journals play an enormous role in shaping our science and I welcome the opportunity to contribute positively to this process on behalf of SPSP's journals. As Member-at-Large for Science Publishing, I would bring the same goals to the SPSP Board that I do to my own teaching, research, and editorial work—co-creating a comprehensive, rigorous, societally relevant science of human behavior, promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in every aspect of my work, and committing to openness and transparency in scientific practices.

As the flagship organization for social and personality psychology, SPSP holds a special responsibility for ensuring that its journals and publications amplify the contributions of all members rather than highlighting the perspectives of a privileged few. I served on the SPSP Equity and Anti-Racism (EAR) Task Force which was convened in 2020 to address equity and justice issues in SPSP, including to our editorial practices. As Member-at-Large for Science Publishing, I would strongly advocate for implementation of the EAR Task Force recommendation that we actively resist the tendency to think of our science as identity-neutral, and to explicitly create practices that recognize and disrupt the influence of structural inequality on our scholarship. For the past decade, I have been a vocal proponent of scientific reform. And while I unequivocally support SPSP continuing to take a leadership role in ensuring that we are producing a transparent, valid, reproducible science, I see it as essential that these goals be aligned with equity and inclusion goals to ensure that open science is a fruitful way forward for all social and personality psychologists, including those whose research topic or methods, geographic location, institution type, and/or level of seniority are different than those that have been traditionally prioritized in our field.

Social and personality psychology has changed dramatically in the past decade. I'm proud of what we've accomplished and feel that our science is on firmer footing. However, we are at a critical point where we can either stall at the current status quo or we can push further together in incentivizing openness, rigor, diversity, and inclusion. I will advocate for the latter.