

# Meet the 2024-2025 Congressional Fellows

**ALEJANDRA SAMPSON** | PROGRAM ASSOCIATE, CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM & GOVERNANCE

The American Political Science Association is pleased to welcome the Class of 2024-2025 to its prestigious Congressional Fellowship Program (CFP). Since 1953, this selective, nonpartisan program has brought together political scientists, journalists, federal employees, and other professionals to gain firsthand experience on Capitol Hill through placements on congressional staff. The nine-month fellowship begins each November with an intensive orientation led by experts, followed by tailored placements and ongoing seminars. Through this unique opportunity, the program enhances public understanding of policymaking and improves the quality of scholarship, teaching, and reporting on American national politics.

**Welcome fellows!**

## Political Scientist Fellows



**Shane Day, PhD**  
Associate Professor, Portland State University



**Samuel (Sam) Erkiletian, PhD**  
University College London



**Kristen Essel, PhD**  
Brown University



**Josue (Josh) Franco, PhD**  
Associate Professor of Political Science, Cuyamaca College



**Rosa C. Krewson, PhD**  
Adjunct Faculty at American University and New York University



**Robert Oldham, PhD**  
Princeton University

## Journalist Fellows



**Amber Lin**  
Independent Journalist & Geopolitical Analyst

## Federal Executive Fellows

**Samantha Fein**—Interagency Fellow  
**Christopher Fortson**—Interagency Fellow  
**Andrew Pelkey**—Interagency Fellow

## Sasakawa Peace Foundation Fellow

**Kenta Fukao**—Assistant Director, Secretariat of the House of Representatives  
**Yuki Tsujimura**, PhD—University of Tokyo

## The Asia Foundation Fellow

**Kawisara Sukumolchan**—Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand

## Spirit Mountain Community Fund/ Mark O. Hatfield Fellow

**Kwani-Fawn Marcellay**—Reed College

## Health & Aging Policy Fellows

**Kealohaku'uolohaku'upoki'i (Poki'i) Balaz**, DNP, EMBA—Director of Strategic Initiatives, Center for Innovation, Geriatric Nurse Practitioner, Kōkua Kalihi Valley Health Center

**Carey Candrian**, PhD—Associate Professor and Director of LGBTQ+ Research and Community Engagement, Division of General Internal Medicine, University of Colorado School of Medicine, VP, Lesbian Health Fund

**Rebecca S. Crow**, DO—Director of Geriatrics, White River Junction VA Medical Center, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth

**Darlene J. Curley**, EdD, MS—Chair, Utah Governor's Commission on Aging, Advisor, Center for Health Policy, Columbia University School of Nursing

**Carol Dufresne**, MDiv—Staff Chaplain, Family Support Program, Women's Clinic Hampton Veterans Affairs Healthcare System

**Tracy Fasolino**, PhD, FNP-BC, ACHPN—Professor and Distinguished Palliative Care Leader, Clemson University School of Nursing

**Farhana Ferdous**, PhD—Associate Professor, Department of Architecture, Howard University

**Lin (Helen) Jiang**, PhD, MSSc—Associate Professor, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Social Work

**Clifford Y. Ko**, MD, MS, MSHS, FACS, FASCRS—Director, Division of Research and Optimal Patient Care, American College of Surgeons, Professor of Surgery and Health Services, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA School of Public Health

**Deborah Kaye**, MD, MS—Assistant Professor, Department of Urology, Division of Urologic Oncology at Duke University

**Julie Lowenthal**, MSW, MPH—Caregiver Program Development and Advocacy Specialist, Area Agency on Aging 1-B

**Samsun Naher**, PhD, MA—Aging and Disability Policy Research Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, University of Washington School of Medicine

**Priti Patel**, MD, MPH—Senior Advisor for Long COVID, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Emory University School of Medicine, CAPT, US Public Health Service

**Caroline Sloan**, MD, MPH—Assistant Professor of Medicine, Duke University

**Ilana Stol**, MD—Palliative Care Physician, Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center, Geriatrics and Extended Care, Affiliate Assistant Professor of Medicine and Psychiatry, Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC)

## Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Fellows

**Nicolle L. Arthun**, BSN, RN, MSN, CNM, FACNM—Founder, Changing Woman Initiative, Albuquerque, New Mexico

**Shamie Das**, MD, MBA, MPH—Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta

**A. Rani Elwy**, PhD—Professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Providence, RI; Research Career Scientist, Center for Healthcare Organization and Implementation Research, VA; Bedford Healthcare System, Bedford, Massachusetts

**Tracey L. Henry**, MD, MPH, MS—Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta

**Tonya Moore**, PhD, RN—Founder and Chief Executive Officer, MooreNOW, LLC, Brandon, Mississippi

**Sujith Ramachandran**, PhD—Associate Professor of Pharmacy Administration, University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy, University

**Michael T. Schmeltz**, DrPH, MS—Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health, California State University, East Bay, Hayward