**The Research Translation Blueprint:**

**Elevating Social Science Research for Policy and Public Impact**

**Dr. Christina Ciocca Eller, Harvard University**

*I developed this Blueprint while working at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy during the first half of the Biden-Harris Administration. Its purpose was to support social science leaders in the federal government in making research insights legible for senior policymakers at their agencies. My hope in sharing this guide with our academic social science community is that it can help us translate our own findings more actively and effectively—whether with practitioners, policy makers, or the diverse decision makers for whom our scholarship is relevant and important.*

**The Research Translation Blueprint**

**Section 1: “In a Nutshell”**

* One sentence about the social problem
* One or two sentences on the social science insight from your book/paper/report that can help to address the problem
* One or two sentences on what we should do in light of that insight, including available tools or resources (i.e., “levers,” in government speak) that might help to accomplish the things we should do

**Section 2: The Problem**

* What social problem is the research insight helping to address?
* Why is it a problem?

**Section 3: New Insights for Addressing the Problem**

* BRIEF, bullet-pointed description of the new research findings, in layperson’s terms
* DO NOT get into the weeds of data, methods, or theory
* DO describe what your research has found

**Section 4: Why Are These Insights Important?**

* BRIEF bullet-pointed argument regarding why the findings are novel and important
* DO NOT make this about scholarly or academic impact
* DO sell the significance of your work for people in the world

**Section 5: What Should Decision Makers Do?**

* What would be reasonable actions for decision makers to take, based on your new insights?
* Which decision makers should take them?

**Section 6: What Do We Still Need to Know?**

* What research questions remain?
* Where do we think we should direct the next research efforts?

**Section 7: Resources**

* Link to your full paper
* Links to any other papers or reports that would be helpful context

**Section 8: Contacts**

* Points of contact to learn more (you, co-authors, communications staff, etc.)