



## **2021 SRS Board of Directors Candidate**

### **Director-at-Large**

**Chandra Jackson, PhD, MS**



As an Earl Stadtman Investigator in the Epidemiology Branch at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) with a joint affiliation in the Intramural Program at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, my research group investigates social and environmental determinants of sleep health and subsequent cardiometabolic dysfunction.

I have demonstrated leadership relevant to the sleep field by serving as the Co-Chair of a National Institutes of Health (NIH) workshop in 2018, which convened experts in sleep or health disparities with the goal of identifying priorities to innovate sleep health disparities research. This workshop led to a report being published in the journal *Sleep* for which I served as lead author. I was also recently invited to deliver a distinguished lecture at the 34th Annual Meeting of the Associated Professional Sleep Societies, LLC, and joined a livestream at NIH to discuss ‘coping with sleep during the COVID-19 pandemic’ with the now Director of the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research at NIH while approximately 5,600 people viewed the interview online. Furthermore, I recently presented – along with a team of invited speakers – on sleep health disparities during an online sleep seminar for the American Academy of Sleep Medicine, which remains available for on-demand viewing. In addition to routinely training students (especially from underrepresented backgrounds) in matters related to ‘population health and sleep’ research, I am an ad-hoc reviewer for at least five sleep-related scientific journals (e.g., *Sleep*, *Journal of Sleep Research*, *Sleep Medicine*, *Sleep health*, *Nature* and *Science of Sleep*). I have also Chaired symposia independently as well as with senior (e.g., Susan Redline) and more junior colleagues. Regarding prior service to the Sleep Research Society, I have participated in the Sleep Research Society’s Board of Directors Strategic Planning Workgroup Meeting in Darien, Illinois in 2018 as well as served as a member for the

Sleep Research Society's Reimagining the Sleep Conference take force. Furthermore, I have gained experience as a member of a wide range of collaborative teams across various institutions (e.g., National Institutes of Health; National Academy of Science, Engineering, and Medicine), and have had formal training in, for example, conflict resolution. While I am broadly knowledgeable of both the society and the field, I am rather interested in learning more about both the legal responsibilities of the board and society as well as where knowledge gaps exist. Although free time is a luxury [for all of us], I do have the time to commit to serving on the Board of Directors as further demonstration of my commitment to the field. I have also demonstrated a strong commitment to the society's mission to advance sleep and circadian rhythms research fields through prior participation in, for instance, the SRS trainee symposia as both a trainee as well as speaker for years.

Ultimately, it would be an honor and a privilege to serve as a member of the Board of Directors in hopes of using my professional research experience (centered around population health and health disparities) to further advance sleep research by continuing to expand our society's scientific offerings, leveraging my prior policy-relevant experience at all levels of government to benefit the field's efforts, strengthening the society's pipeline development, and enhancing the diversification of our membership. Thank you for considering me for this important leadership position.