ARNOVA

Presents the

Best 2021 Conference Paper Award

to

B Kelly LeRoux, Julie Langer, and Samantha Plotner

for

Nonprofit Messaging and the 2020 Election: Findings from a Nonprofit Get-Out-The Vote (GOTV) field experiment

The paper investigates the relationship between nonprofit voter mobilization efforts and reducing the participation gap by increasing turnout among under-represented voters. The paper uses field experiments from a Nonprofit Get-Out-the-Vote (GOTV) campaign to understand the efficacy of political messaging (political efficacy vs. policy issue: immigration) and method of delivery (text vs. postcard) on voting behavior. The authors find a significant crossover interaction with political efficacy messages sent by text yielding the highest turnout. The paper adds to a distinct problem for American democracy where participation rates remain higher among older, wealthier, and more highly educated citizens by suggesting ways to voter participation. Finally, the paper contributes to the important role of nonprofit organizations in the political process.

Honorable mention to:

Jiahuan Lu, Bin Chen, and **Qiang Dong** for *"What Makes the Chinese Nonprofit Sector Grow? A Cross-Province Configurational Analysis"*

The paper analyzes the emergence and growth of the Chinese nonprofit sector by exploring combinations of demand and supply side factors. The study identifies three pathways to high and two pathways to low nonprofit density, each involving a unique mix of demand- and supply-side factors. This study helps unpack the causal complexity underlying nonprofit sector development by adding new empirical evidence from a non-Western context and novel insights on how different nonprofit sector theories can combine in various configurations.