

ARNOVA

Presents the

2023 Lester M. Salamon Memorial Award for Promising PhD Proposal in Nonprofit and Voluntary Action Research

to

Jeannie (Fox) Entenza

for

Third Sector Organizations in Iceland: Size, Scope, and Scale

The Committee found this proposal to be most closely aligned with honoring Lester Salamon's legacy and the groundbreaking cross-national research work of the Johns Hopkins Comparative Nonprofit Sector Project. By mapping the nonprofit sector in Iceland, this dissertation project promises to make an important contribution to our comparative understanding of the evolution of the nonprofit sector on the national and global level.

The Nordic countries form a distinct pattern of the social origins of the nonprofit sector—the social democratic one, but also show considerable variation among themselves which has raised questions about the universality of the Nordic pattern, the potential for co-evolution and convergence. By adding an in-depth empirical assessment of the last, so far un-studied Nordic country, the dissertation holds the potential to add significantly to the empirical and theoretical discussions of the past and future of the social-democratic pattern of nonprofit sector evolution. By relying heavily on official data and collaboration with the Icelandic Revenue Office, the dissertation project fully embraces Lester Salamon's preferred approach to the empirical study of nonprofits. Handling a data set of 12,000 nonprofits over a 50-year span is a very ambitious task in and by itself that, in its temporal dimension, goes

beyond the Hopkins Project's empirical snapshot with the potential to illuminate the historical aspects of the social origins approach empirically.

The selection committee consisted of Dr. Wendy Chen (Texas Tech University), Dr. Stefan Toepler (Chair, George Mason University), Dr. Jesus Valero (University of Utah), Dr. Marlene Walk (Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg), and Dr. Nathaniel Wright (Rutgers University).

The Committee has also decided to recognize with honorable mention Christopher Dougherty's (Carleton University) proposal "To What Extent is the Canadian Charitable Sector a Politically Expressive Sector?" Studying the linkages between charitable activity and political identities is a project that is both timely and important at the current juncture.