



## **2024 SRS Board of Directors Candidate**

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

**Dayna A. Johnson, PhD**



Dear Colleagues:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic interest in the position of Director-At-Large for the Sleep Research Society (SRS). My name is Dr. Dayna Johnson, and I am honored to be considered for this leadership role.

As an Assistant Professor of Epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, I have been engaged in sleep research since 2010 and have actively contributed to the SRS for over a decade. Throughout my membership, I have served on various committees, including the program committee, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Taskforce, and the Awards committee. These experiences have provided me with a comprehensive understanding of the Society's operations and its commitment to advancing sleep and circadian research.

Throughout my career, I have demonstrated strong leadership skills. I have completed several leadership training programs, which have successfully prepared me to execute the role of Director-At-Large. I am currently engaged in several leadership positions. At my institution, I serve as Director for the Sleep Epidemiology Research Group and I co-led the Emory Sleep Consortium, which bridges sleep research across the university. I am also a leader in sleep epidemiology research. I am dedicated to advancing sleep and circadian research, which is underscored by my significant contributions to research (over 100 peer-reviewed publications), particularly in the areas of sleep inequities and sleep and cardiovascular health. In 2023, I was honored to receive the APSS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership Award, recognizing my commitment to fostering a more inclusive and diverse sleep research community.

One of my key strengths is my leadership in developing trainees, as evidenced by my mentoring record, participation in Trainee Day, and other sleep-related training programs. I believe in the importance of mentorship and strive to create opportunities for the next generation of sleep researchers. Additionally, my role as a woman of color allows me to bring a unique perspective to the leadership team, contributing to the ongoing efforts to enhance Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion within the Society.

I am a strategic and innovative thinker who values collaboration. My leadership style is characterized by effective communication and openness to diverse perspectives. I believe in fostering an inclusive and positive culture within the Society. In fact, I led the first manuscript discussing diversity and inclusion in the SRS, which is currently under review.

My extensive experience in sleep research, coupled with my active involvement in SRS, positions me as a knowledgeable and dedicated candidate. I am committed to the mission of the SRS – advancing sleep and circadian science to cultivate knowledge and to optimize health and well-being – and I am excited about the prospect of contributing to the organization's continued success.

If elected as Director-At-Large, I am fully prepared to fulfill the responsibilities of assisting in directing the affairs of the Society and setting expectations for a tone of inclusivity and ethical conduct. I understand the importance of the role and am committed to dedicating the necessary time and effort to serve the Society to the best of my abilities.

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I am eager to contribute to the advancement of the SRS and look forward to the opportunity to further discuss my vision for the Society's future.

Sincerely,

Dayna A. Johnson, PhD