



Charlene Stainfield Wins 2019-2020 Tarnai Scholarship Award

We are pleased to announce that Charlene Stainfield, Senior Research Associate at the Public Opinion Research Lab (PORL) of the University of North Florida, has been awarded a 2019-2020 Tarnai Scholarship by the Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations (AASRO). The award provides a scholarship in memory of John Tarnai, former AASRO president, and recognizes an outstanding early-career Survey Center employee with great promise for long-term involvement in and contributions to the field of survey research.

Ms. Stainfield is being honored for her service to PORL where she has authored several dozen press releases and analytic client reports, and has been a hard-working, self-motivated and dedicated staff member. While employed with PORL, Ms. Stainfield carried out valuable survey methods research, including an investigation of interviewer effects on responses to police brutality questions (resulting in a poster presentation at the American Political Science Association's 2019 annual meetings), and further work looking into the effects of interviewer partisanship on political polling (resulting in a paper presented at the 2019 annual meetings of the American Association for Public Opinion Research, or AAPOR). The latter work demonstrated not only that respondents are more likely to express support for candidates of an interviewer's political party, but also that the source of this bias was not an agreement or social desirability effect, but rather a differential cooperation effect – interviewers are more successful at convincing co-partisans to complete a survey. In addition to her high quality work for PORL, Ms. Stainfield is also an involved member of the larger local community, working as a regular volunteer for programs to feed the Jacksonville homeless, and tutor local refugees. AASRO wishes Ms. Stainfield well as she pursues a graduate degree in political science at the Ohio State University – we hope to be reading more survey methods papers authored by her in the years to come.