

# prabhdeep singh kehal

prabhdeep\_kehal@brown.edu

pr: they/them/theirs

## POSITIONS

---

2019 Lecturer in Crime and Justice Studies, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth

## EDUCATION

---

2015-present Ph.D. Candidate Sociology, Brown University  
*Dissertation:* Racializing Meritocracy: Ideas of Excellence and Exclusion in Faculty Diversity  
Committee: José Itzigsohn, Michael Kennedy, Daniel Hirschman, Laura López-Sanders

- Charles V. Willie Minority Graduate Student Award, Eastern Sociological Society
- Exams: Organizational theory and cultural sociology

2018 Sheridan Teaching Certificate I, Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning

2017 M.A. Sociology, Brown University

2015 M.P.P. Public Policy and M.A. Higher Education, University of Michigan

2013 B.A. Applied Mathematics and Rhetoric, University of California, Berkeley

## PUBLICATIONS (\*equal authorship)

---

### Peer-reviewed Manuscripts

**kehal, prabhdeep singh**, Hirschman, Daniel, and Ellen Berrey. 2021. When Affirmative Action Disappears: Unexpected Patterns in Student Enrollments at Selective U.S. Institutions, 1990-2016. *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*.

Kaur, Harleen and **prabhdeep singh kehal**.\* 2020. Sikhs as Implicated Subjects in the United States: A Reflective Essay (ਵਿਚਾਰ) on Gurmat-Based Interventions in the Movement for Black Lives. *Sikh Research Journal*, 5(2):68-86.

**kehal, prabhdeep singh** and Cadence Willse. 2020. Institutional Type, Organizational Pathways, and Student Engagement: Deepening Student Engagement and the Benefit-Use Paradox in Formal Engagement Spaces. *Journal of Community Engagement in Higher Education*, 20(1):50-65.

Willse, Cadence, **kehal, prabhdeep singh**, and Mathew Johnson. 2020. Social Innovation and Civic Engagement: A Critical Praxis for Engagement in Higher Education. In E. Mlyn, and A. M. McBride (Eds.), *The Civic Mission of Higher Education: Connecting Social Innovation and Civic Engagement*. Sterling, VA: Stylus Publishing.

### Manuscripts Under Review

**kehal, prabhdeep singh**. A Du Boisian Interruption to the Sociology of Education. Mueller and Ray (Eds.), *The Racial Structure of Sociological Thought*

### Manuscripts Under Preparation

Kaur, Harleen and **prabhdeep singh kehal**. Intellectual Wounded Attachments: Definitional Recoveries with Colonial Libraries and Epistemes. (*Presenting at the American Academy of Religion 2021 Meeting*)

**kehal, prabhdeep singh**. Bounding academic expertise in status: Political-knowledge tournaments and communication in elite U.S. faculty hiring. (*Presenting at the Association for the Study of Higher Education 2021 Meeting, Presidential Session*)

**kehal, prabhdeep singh**. What's Merit Got To Do With It? Historicizing Merit and Institutional Racism in the Elite U.S. Professoriate. (*Presenting at the Social Science History Association 2021 Meeting*)

**kehal, prabhdeep singh**. Negotiating Utopia: Ethnography and Theorizing from Entangled Trans Subjectivities. (*Presented at the American Sociological Association 2021 Meeting, Du Boisian Sexualities*)

### Additional Publications ( \*\* denotes peer-reviewed)

**kehal, prabhdeep singh**. 2021. Inequality and the Propaganda of History. *ASA Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility Newsletter*.

**kehal, prabhdeep singh**, Garbes, Laura, and Kennedy, Michael D. 2021/2019. \*\* Critical Sociology of Knowledge. In Lynette Spillman (Ed), *Oxford Bibliographies in Sociology*. New York: Oxford University Press.

**kehal, prabhdeep singh**. 2021. "Sikhs Respond to Anti-Transgender Legislation Sweeping the Nation" and "Transgender & Queer Sikhs Share Their Challenges & Hopes". *Kaur Life*.

**kehal, prabhdeep singh**. 2020. Policing the Bodies of Transgender & Queer Sikhs. *Kaur Life*.

**kehal, prabhdeep singh**, and Michael D. Kennedy. 2020. Graduate Education and Academic Labor for Graduate Students during the Pandemic. *ASA Footnotes*, 12.

**kehal, prabhdeep singh**. 2018. "Hitting the Wall: It's Unfair to Expect Graduate Students to Shoulder All the Diversity Work." *Conditionally Accepted, Inside Higher Ed*.

Kennedy, Michael, **kehal, prabhdeep singh**, and Laura Garbes. 2018. \*\* Excellence, reflexivity, and racism: On sociology's nuclear contradiction and its abiding crisis. *History, Theory and Sociology in an Age of Crisis, Comparative and Historical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association*.

## **GRANTS**

---

2021	"Leaky Pipelines or Broken Pipes? Mapping Black Sociologists' Networks, Successes, and Setbacks during Hiring and Promotion", American Sociological Association Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (with Shantel Buggs, Whitney Pirtle, Bernard Coles IV, \$8,000)
2020	Research Grant for Oral History of Providence Mutual Aid Mobilization in Pandemic, Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America Humanities lab (with Elena Shih, \$10,000)
2018	Dissertation Fieldwork Award, Swearer Center (\$500)

- 2018 Dissertation Fieldwork Award, The Institute for Transformative Practice, Brown University (\$3,000)
- 2018 Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity, Brown University (\$3,000)
- 2018 William T. Grant Foundation Award, Sociology of Education, American Sociological Association (\$750)
- 2017 Beatrice and Joseph Feinberg Memorial Fund for Dissertation Research Grant (\$200)

## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

---

- 2020 Charles V. Willie Minority Graduate Student Award, Eastern Sociological Society
- 2020-2022 Graduate Fellowship in Community Engaged Scholarship, Swearer Center (two, two-year)
- 2017-2019 Brown University Dissertation Writing Fellowship
- 2019-2020 Brown Graduate School Graduate Community Fellows, Gender Queeries (\$2,000)
- 2018-2019 Du Bois Lectureship Series, Faculty Lectureship Fund, Brown University (with Laura Garbes & José Itzigsohn, \$5,000)
- 2018-2019 Race and Organizations Workshop, Faculty & Student Grant, Center for Study of Race and Ethnicity in America (with Laura Garbes, Dan Hirschman, and Laura López-Sanders, \$3,500)
- 2017 Summer Mentored Research Fellowship – Daniel Hirschman, Brown University (\$2,000)
- 2017 MIT Medici Summer School in Management Studies – Project presented by Co-PI
- 2017 Graduate Summer Scholars, Jonathan M. Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship (\$3,600)
- 2016 Summer Mentored Research Grant – Mark Suchman, Brown University (\$5,500)
- 2016 Race and Empire Colloquia Series, Faculty & Student Grant, Center for Study of Race and Ethnicity in America (with Tina M. Park & José Itzigsohn, \$3,500, max)
- 2015-2016 Brown University Graduate Fellowship
- 2012 Public Policy and International Affairs (PPIA) 2012 Junior Fellow

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

- 2019 Lecturer, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth (F'19)
- 2017 **Brown University, Department of Sociology**  
TA, Introductory Statistics for Social Research (Elizabeth Fussell, W'17)
- 2016 TA, Micro-Organizational Theory (Mark Suchman & Daniel Hirschman, F'16)
- 2015 **University of Michigan, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy**  
PPIA Graduate Student Instructor, Microeconomics (Janet Gerson, Summer'15)  
Graduate Student Instructor, Applied Econometrics (John DiNardo, W'15)

## SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

---

\*indicates public health-related cancellations

- 2021 Kaur, Harleen and **prabhdeep singh kehal**. “Intellectual Wounded Attachments: Definitional Recoveries with Colonial Libraries and Epistemes.”
- University of Oxford, Department of Education, Oxford, UK.
- 2021 **kehal, prabhdeep singh**. “Negotiating Utopia: Ethnography and Theorizing from Entangled Trans Subjectivities.”
- American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL.
- 2020 Saltmarsh, John, **prabhdeep singh kehal**, and Gene Corbin. “Rewarding Community Engaged Scholarship: Policy Briefs as a Resource for Catalyzing Change”
- 2020 Assessment Institute, American Association of State Colleges and Universities.
- 2020 “Merit as Race Talk: The Ontological Constriction of Merit Knowledge.”
- Sociology of Culture, American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.
  - American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA.\*
  - Social Science History Association, Washington DC.\*
- 2019 “To Fulfill These Rights: Political Struggle Over Affirmative Action and Open Admissions by Amaka Okechukwu.” Author Meets Critic.
- Association of Black Sociologists, New York, New York.
- 2019 **kehal, prabhdeep singh** and Cadence Willse. “Social Innovation and Civic Engagement: A Critical Praxis for Engagement in Higher Education.”
- Eastern Regional Campus Compact, Providence, RI.
- 2018 **kehal, prabhdeep singh** and Tina M. Park. “Racial Excavation: Racializing Organizations and Organizing Race.”
- American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2018 **kehal, prabhdeep singh**, Daniel Hirschman, and Ellen Berrey. “The Decline of the Diversity Imperative? Enrollment Trends Among Colleges Voluntarily Abandoning Race-Conscious Admissions.”
- American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2018 Kennedy, Michael, **kehal, prabhdeep singh**, and Laura Garbes. “Excellence, Reflexivity, and Racism: On Sociology's Nuclear Contradiction and Its Abiding Crisis.”
- Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, Brown University, Providence, RI.

## SELECTED INVITED TALKS & LECTURES

---

\*indicates public health-related cancellations

- 2021 Ellen Berrey, **kehal, prabhdeep singh**, and Daniel Hirschman. “Putting Diversity Narratives in Context: Affirmative Action Policy across the Field of Higher Education”.
- Culture and Social Analysis Workshop on Culture, Racial Categories, and Racial Paradigms, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
- 2020 **kehal, prabhdeep singh** and Harleen Kaur. “Identities In Flux: Identity Politics for Sikh Immigrants Through the Combahee River Collective and Settler Colonialism.”
- Surat Initiative, New York, NY.
- 2020 “Envisioning Present Day Colonialism within Our Academic Institutions.”
- 10th annual Undergraduate Art History Symposium. Los Angeles, CA, Chapman University.\* (*Keynote*)

- 2020 “The environment, identity, and self.”
- Virginia Commonwealth University.\* (*Keynote*)
- 2019 “Racialized Diaspora, Gender, Sexuality, and Sikhi: Questions and Forum.”
- Sikh Students Association, University of California, Santa Barbara. (*Keynote*)
- 2019 “The Racialized Diaspora, Gender, Sexuality, and Sikhi: Lecture and Workshop.”
- Sikh Students Association, University of California, Berkeley. (*Keynote*)
- 2018 “Fleeting Access: Racialized and Class Exclusion through Higher Education Enrollment Management.”
- Center for South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2018 “Institutional Policy & Practice to Support Community Engaged Scholars.”
- Lynton Colloquium, Brown University.
- 2017 "Race and Merit: Racialized Exclusion from Prestige in Higher Education Enrollment, 2004-2013."
- Seminar on Universities, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
- 2017 “Reclaiming Activist Sikhi: An Excavated Perspective.”
- Speaking of Sikhs Lecture Series, Sikhs of Princeton, Princeton University.

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (Ongoing & Former)**

---

- 2021- Board Member, *SAFAR – The Sikh Feminist Research Institute*
- 2021- Editorial Board Member, *Sikh Research Journal*
- 2021- Board Member, Kaur Life
- 2018- Interim Board Member, Du Boisian Scholars Network
- 2017-2021 Renn Mentor, Brown University LGBTQ Center,
- 2019-2021 Reviewer for: *American Journal of Sociology* (2021), *Social Problems* (2020), *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* (2019-2021), *American Sociological Review* (2019), *Gender & Society* (2019), *Sociological Perspectives* (2019)
- 2019-2020 Co-Organizer/Founder, Race, Indigeneity, and Power Workshop at Brown University
- 2018 Discussant for Racialized Inequality in Schooling, American Sociological Association
- 2018 Committee Member for Faculty Search, Brown University Sociology
- 2017 Graduate Student Representative to Department, Brown University Sociology
- 2016-2017 PhD Representative on Diversity Committee, Brown University Sociology
- 2015-2016 Mentor, ALANA Mentorship Program (Students of Color Campus Mentorship program)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

---

American Sociological Association  
 Eastern Sociological Society  
 Sociologists for Trans Justice

Social Science and History Association  
 Association for the Study of Higher Education  
 American Association of Religion