

prabhdeep singh kehal  
(pronouns: they/them/theirs)

Maxcy Hall, Brown University, Box 1916  
108 George Street Providence, RI 02912

prabhdeep\_kehal@brown.edu  
pskehal.com

## EDUCATION

---

- 2015- 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
- 2018 Sheridan Teaching Certificate I, Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning
- 2017 M.A. Sociology, Brown University  
*Thesis:* “Race and Merit: Racialized Exclusion from Prestige in Higher Education Enrollment, 2004-2013”  
Exams: Organizational theory and cultural sociology
- 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

---

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

Willse, Cadence, **kehal, prabhdeep singh**, and Mathew Johnson. (Forthcoming). 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.

**kehal, prabhdeep singh** and Cadence Willse. Institutional Type, Organizational Pathways, and Student Engagement: Deepening Student Engagement and the Benefit-Use Paradox in Formal Engagement Spaces. *Revise and Resubmit*.

**kehal, prabhdeep, singh**, Hirschman, Daniel, and Ellen Berrey. When Colleges Drop Affirmative Action: Trends in Admissions Policies and Student Enrollment at Selective U.S. Institutions, 1990-2016. *In preparation*.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

- 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**

2014 PPIA Graduate Student Instructor, Microeconomics (Janet Gerson, Summer'15)  
Graduate Student Instructor, Applied Econometrics (John DiNardo, W'15)  
Tutor, Statistics for Social Sciences (Catherine Hausman, F'14)

## **RESEARCH IN-PROGRESS**

---

kehal, prabhdeep singh. "Merit as Race Talk: The Ontological Myopia of Merit Knowledge."

## **GRANTS**

---

2018 Dissertation Fieldwork Award, The Institute for Transformative Practice, Brown University (\$3,000)  
2018 Dissertation Travel and Fieldwork Grant, Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity, Brown University (\$3,000)  
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)  
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)  
2017 Graduate Summer Scholars, Jonathan M. Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship (\$3,600)  
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)  
2016 Summer Mentored Research Grant – Mark Suchman, Brown University (\$5,500)

## **HONORS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS**

---

2019-2020 Brown University Dissertation Writing Fellowship  
2017-2019 Graduate Fellowship in Community Engaged Scholarship, Swearer Center (renewed year 2)  
2017 Summer Mentored Research Fellowship – Daniel Hirschman, Brown University (\$2,000)  
2017 MIT Medici Summer School in Management Studies – Project presented by Co-PI  
2015-2016 Brown University Graduate Fellowship  
2014 Donald & Elizabeth Runck Scholarship, College of Literature, Science, and Arts  
2013-2014 Merit Alumni Fellowship, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy  
2013-2014 Merit Scholar, Center for the Study of Higher and Postsecondary Education  
2012 Public Policy and International Affairs (PPIA) 2012 Junior Fellow

## **SOCIOLOGY PUBLICATIONS IN PUBLIC MEDIUMS**

---

**kehal, prabhdeep singh.** 2018. Hitting the Wall: It's unfair to expect graduate students to shoulder all the diversity work. Retrieved from <https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2018/02/23/its-unfair-expect-graduate-students-shoulder-all-diversity-work-opinion>

Kennedy, Michael, **kehal, prabhdeep singh**, and Laura Garbes. 2018. Excellence, reflexivity, and racism: On sociology's nuclear contradiction and its abiding crisis. Retrieved from <http://chs.asa-comparative-historical.org/excellence-reflexivity-and-racism-on-sociologys-nuclear-contradiction-and-its-abiding-crisis/>

## INVITED LECTURES

---

"Fleeting Access: Racialized and Class Exclusion through Higher Education Enrollment Management." Center for South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, February, 2018.

"Reclaiming Activist Sikhi: An Excavated Perspective." Speaking of Sikhs Lecture Series, Sikhs of Princeton, Princeton University, March, 2017.

"A path to dialogue: Graduate students of color and liberating education," Gramlich Showcase, University of Michigan, Ford School of Public Policy, March, 2015.

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

---

- 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, August, 2019.
- 2018            "Racial Excavation: Racializing Organizations and Organizing Race." Manuscript presented at Du Boisian Sociology: Critical Insights for Theorizing Race and Ethnicity, American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA, August, 2018.
- 2018            "The Decline of the Diversity Imperative? Enrollment Trends Among Colleges Voluntarily Abandoning Race-Conscious Admissions." Manuscript presented at Institutional Change in Higher Education, American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA, August, 2018.
- 2018            "Excellence, Reflexivity, and Racism: On Sociology's Nuclear Contradiction and Its Abiding Crisis." Manuscript presented at the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America, Brown University, Providence, RI, April, 2018.
- 2017            "Race and Merit: Racialized Exclusion from Prestige in Higher Education Enrollment, 2004-2013." Manuscript presented at
- Seminar on Universities, Mahindra Center for Humanities, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, October, 2017.

- Workshop series, Brown University, Department of Sociology, Providence, RI, October, 2017.
- 2017 "Something in the Way We Race: Racial Order and Institutional Logics." Manuscript presented at
- W.E.B. Du Bois and the Color Line in the 21st Century: Continuity, Challenges, and New Directions, Social Theory Forum, Boston, MA, March, 2017.
  - Mini-conference on Race and Organizations, Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia, PA, February, 2017.
- 2017 "Who Gets to Walk the Straight Line? Racial Differences in the Accumulation of Structural Advantage/Disadvantage in Education." Manuscript presented at Population Association of America, Chicago, IL, April, 2017.
- 2017 "Minoritized Identity Formation: Students' Experiences with Diversity and Inclusion." Presented at Association for Psychological Science, Boston, MA, May, 2017.
- 2016 "(Re)Imprinting Race into Organizations: A Theoretical Framing of Racial Imprinting." Manuscript presented at workshop series, Brown University Department of Sociology, Providence, RI, April, 2016.
- 2015 "Educational and social pathways: A Critical Race Theory exploration of California Sikh youth." Jakara Sikholars, Stanford University Center for South Asia, February, 2015.
- 2014 "Institutionally stratified degree attainment in Michigan's postsecondary education." Division of Accountability Services & Educational Services, MI Dept. of Ed, August 2014.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

---

- 2016 **Brown University, Department of Sociology**  
 Graduate Student Researcher, Jayanti Owens, Assistant Professor  
 Graduate Student Researcher, Dan Hirschman, Assistant Professor
- 2015 **Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy**  
 Graduate Student Researcher, Megan Tompkins-Stange, Assistant Professor
- 2014 **Michigan Department of Education**  
 Data Fellow & Education Research Consultant

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE AND PARTICIPATION

---

- 2018-present Du Boisian Scholars Network, Advisory Board Member
- 2018 Faculty Search Committee, Brown University, Department of Sociology
- 2017-present Renn Mentor Program, Brown University, LGBTQ Center
- 2017 Graduate Student Representative, Brown University Department of Sociology

2016-2017 PhD Representative, Diversity Committee, Brown University Department of Sociology  
2015-2016 Mentor, ALANA (African American, Latino, Asian/Asian American, and Native American) Mentorship Program

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS/SERVICE AFFILIATIONS**

---

Du Boisian Scholars Network, Interim Board Member

Invited reviewer: *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, *Sociological Perspectives*

American Sociological Association, Sociologists for Trans Justice