



savir

Society for Advancement of
Violence and Injury Research

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATE PROFILE

Kelsey Conrick, PhD, MPH

Candidate background

I am a Postdoctoral Scholar at the University of Washington Center for Firearm Injury Prevention (CFIP; formerly the Firearm Injury & Policy Research Program) in the Department of Pediatrics. I hold a PhD in Social Welfare and an MPH in Health Services, both from the University of Washington. My research focuses on preventing firearm-related harm through community- and policy-based interventions that advance equity and safer communities. In particular, I study how behavioral health providers support prevention through client-centered firearm safety counseling and policy tools such as Extreme Risk Protection Orders.



My interdisciplinary background in social work and public health allows me to bridge research and practice, translating findings into tools, trainings, and interventions that can be implemented in real-world settings. I am deeply committed to mentoring students and early career scholars and to building interdisciplinary networks that advance the reach and sustainability of injury and violence prevention research.

SAVIR experience

I have been a member of SAVIR since attending my first conference in 2019 and have presented at every annual meeting since. I served as the Student Representative to the Board of Directors from 2021-2022 and as Co-Chair of the Student and Early Career Professionals (SECP) Committee from 2023-2025. I am also a member of the Science Committee, where I have supported several subcommittees and served as a conference abstract reviewer for the past four years. This year, I also contributed to planning the Fall Forum.

As SECP Co-Chair, I led the revitalization of the SAVIR 1:1 Mentorship Program, which is now entering its third year of matching students and early career members with senior mentors in the field. These experiences have given me a deep appreciation for how SAVIR sustains connection, mentorship, and rigor across disciplines. SAVIR has been a professional anchor for me, offering community, opportunity, and continuity within an evolving academic landscape, and I want to help ensure it remains that same anchor for the next generation of injury and violence prevention scientists.

Vision

SAVIR has entered a period where thoughtful planning and sustainability are essential, and I deeply value the steps the Board and Executive Leadership have taken to ensure the organization's long-term strength. Across research and practice, many of us are navigating reduced funding stability, shrinking career pathways, and growing expectations for translational impact. These realities make it even more important that SAVIR remains a place that both advances science and supports the people who produce it.

As someone who has experienced firsthand how precarious this time can be for early career scholars, as well as the value of being a SAVIR member during such precarity, I see SAVIR as a professional home--one that provides community, connection, and continuity in a changing landscape. If elected to the Board, I would focus on three priorities: strengthening organizational sustainability, enhancing member engagement, and expanding partnerships beyond academia. I want to help efforts to diversify revenue streams, reinforce mentorship infrastructure, and create professional development opportunities that connect members across career stages and sectors. I also hope to help position SAVIR as a convener for collaboration across disciplines, linking research, policy, and practice to strengthen the collective impact of our field.