Lori Foster Bio

Lori Foster, Ph.D. is an Honorary Professor at the University of Cape Town (South Africa) and a Full Professor of Psychology at North Carolina State University (USA), where she leads the 4D Lab devoted to research at the intersection of work, psychology, technology, and sustainable development. She earned her Ph.D. in Industrial-Organizational psychology from the University of South Florida in 1999. Lori is a University Faculty Scholar at North Carolina State University who completed a two-year (2014-2016) rotation with the Obama White House Social and Behavioral Sciences Team, followed by an assignment as one of the first two Behavioural Sciences Advisors to the United Nations (2016). She currently serves as a Behavioural Sciences Advisor to UNICEF and to pymetrics, a global company that uses neuroscience and artificial intelligence to match people to jobs that fit.

Lori is a Fellow of a number of scientific societies and a long-time member of and contributor to IAAP, where she has written newsletter articles, presented at ICAP congresses, and served in other ways – most recently as a featured webinar speaker on the topic of psychology applied to policy. She has many years of experience with governance, having served in elected and appointed positions on numerous executive boards and committees worldwide. Examples include ten years on the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology's executive board, three years on the American Psychological Association's council of representatives, her current role on the executive board of the Federation of Associations of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, and her appointment to UNESCO's Expert Working Group on World Reference Levels as well as the global Green Growth Knowledge Platform's working group on Behavioral Insights. In her academic role, she has held visiting scholar appointments at a number of universities worldwide. As a scientist-practitioner, she has more than 20 years of consulting experience, applying psychology to regional, national, and international organizations in the private and public sectors. In addition to her roles with the United Nations Secretariat and White House Social and Behavioral Sciences Team, she has worked with a range of UN agencies, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the European Commission, the government of South Africa, the Chinese Ministry of Transportation, and various behavioral sciences teams globally.

Lori's printed scholarship has taken the form of refereed journal articles, book chapters, authored, and edited books, and her work has been featured in popular media outlets such as The *Wall Street Journal*, *Folha de São Paulo*, *Fast Company*, *Fortune*, and *Science.* She has delivered hundreds of papers and talks to audiences in countries spanning six continents. Selected invited talks from the past year include:

- Foster, L. L. (2020, April 3). *Using behavioural science to change organisations*. Presentation to be delivered virtually to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD's) Network of Economic Regulators, Paris, France.
- Foster, L. L. (2019, November). *Behavioral science in public policy*. Keynote address delivered at the Doing Good with Behavioral Economics Conference, Tel Aviv, Israel.

- Foster, L. L. (2019, October). *Behavioral science, sports, and the prevention of violent extremism*. Invited remarks delivered at a United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Event, Behavioural Insights Week, New York City, NY.
- Foster, L. L. (2019, September). *Behavioral insights in policy making.* Keynote address delivered at the Lahore School of Economics Symposium on Behavioral Economics in Policy Making, Lahore, Pakistan.
- Foster, L. L. (2019, July). *Using behavioral insights and AI to minimize bias and maximize potential.* Keynote address delivered at the International Personnel Assessment Council (IPAC), Minneapolis, MN.
- Foster, L. L. (2019, July). *From awareness to action: Confronting unconscious bias.* Invited address delivered at the Global Summit of Women. Basel, Switzerland.
- Foster, L. L. (2019, June). *Using behavioural science to strengthen public services*. Invited address delivered at United Nations Public Service Forum and Awards Ceremony organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) and hosted by the government of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Baku, Azerbaijan.
- Foster, L. L. (2019, April). *Using behavioral insights for greater environmental sustainability*. Invited address delivered at BX Arabia, Beirut, Lebanon.
- Foster, L. L. (2019, February). *Using behavioural approaches in organizational change management: Lessons and opportunities for the United Nations system*. Presentation delivered to the Joint Inspection United of the United Nations System, Geneva, Switzerland.

Lori Foster (above, right) with President Obama and the White House Social and Behavioral Sciences Team, discussing the team's Behavioral Insights initiatives.
(White House photo by Pete Souza: January, 2015.)

Lori Foster and Maya Shankar discuss the integration of Behavioural Science at the United Nations with Secretary-General Ban ki-Moon and his Deputy Secretary-General, Chef de Cabinet, & other UN leaders.
(United Nations photo by Eskinder Debebe: June, 2016.)