

AMWA NEWS

2023 John P. McGovern Award Recipients Jessica B. Steier, DrPH, PMP, and Andrea C. Love, PhD

Elise Eller, PhD / 2022-2023 AMWA President

The John P. McGovern Award is named in honor of John P. McGovern and is presented to a member or nonmember of AMWA to recognize a preeminent contribution to any of the various modes of medical communication. The McGovern Award is presented during AMWA's Medical Writing & Communication Conference.

One of the perks of being the AMWA president is selecting the recipient of the McGovern Award. I am thrilled to announce that our 2023 McGovern Award recipients are Dr Jessica Steier and Dr Andrea Love in recognition of their work to communicate science on social media and via their *Unbiased Science* podcast, which critically appraises available evidence on health-related topics relevant to the public in an approachable way.

Dr Steier and Dr Love began their *Unbiased Science* podcast during the pandemic as a way to counter misinformation and misconceptions about COVID-19. The podcast has expanded to other topics, ranging from mammograms to vaping to health and wellness trends on social media. The podcast has a *Substack* as a permanent repository of their sources, allowing their audience to delve into the details and reliably return to content. For those of you into infographics, you should check out their *unbiasedscipod Instagram*, which has a wealth of health-related infographics.

In addition, Dr Steier and Dr Love's work involves training the next generation of science communicators. Their *Unbiased Science* team includes several interns who do research and infographic design. Furthermore, Dr Steier and Dr Love have founded the *Unbiased Science Institute* to improve science literacy, help people be better consumers of scientific information, and train the next generation of science communicators. The institute works with public health leaders, students in science, technology, engineering, and math, and community organizations, and its programs include education, training, and community engagement to build health and scientific literacy.



Figure. Dr Andrea C. Love (left) and Dr Jessica B. Steier (right), cofounders of the *Unbiased Science* podcast and the *Unbiased Science Institute*.

Although Dr Steier and Dr Love work on health issues in different ways—macro (public health) and micro (immunology/microbiology), respectively—their areas of expertise enable them to provide a comprehensive perspective on various scientific topics. Please join me in congratulating our 2023 McGovern Award winners, and I hope you join me in hearing their talk at the 2023 Medical Writing & Communication Conference in Baltimore.

Dr Jessica Steier is a public health scientist with expertise in public health policy, biostatistics, and advanced analytics. Dr Andrea Love is an immunologist and microbiologist, with expertise in infectious disease immunology, cancer immunology, and autoimmunity. Dr Steier and Dr Love believe strongly in scientific education and health literacy and the translation of research for the general public, and their *Unbiased Science* podcast is devoted to the objective, critical appraisal of available evidence on science and health-related topics relevant to listeners' daily lives.