**Nomination of Elizabeth Mack for the Geoffrey J.D. Hewings Award in Regional Science.**

Dr. Elizabeth Mack is an Associate Professor of economic geography at Michigan State University. This nomination is based on Dr. Mack’s innovative and productive research agenda related to the impact of broadband availability on regional economies, entrepreneurship and water affordability. Dr. Mack has an outstanding record of generating grant money (several million dollars) to support her research program. Funding agencies include the National Science Foundation, the United States Department of Agriculture, NASA, and the Kauffman Foundation for entrepreneurship research. For a scholar at her professional stage this level of grant funding is outstanding.

In the short time since receiving her Ph.D., Dr. Mack has published in a diverse range of high-quality journals including some of the best regional science journals, such as *Papers in Regional Science, Regional Studies, International Regional Science Review,* and *Urban Studies* as well as a mix of more policy focused outlets such as *Economic Development Quarterly* and *Regional Science, Policy, and Practice*. Dr. Mack’s work has appeared in *Telecommunications Policy*, an outstanding journal for work on broadband, as well as geography focused journals such as *The Professional Geographer* and *Journal of Geographical Systems*. It also is very impressive that Dr. Mack has a co-authored book as well as a co-edited book.

Another important aspect of Dr. Mack’s work is the range of co-authors that she has worked with. The most promising young scholars are able to build networks among their peers and grow those networks over time. Building national and international reputations requires being an integral part of that larger network and Dr. Mack has excelled at tapping into those networks. Indeed, Dr. Mack has a broader network of collaborators than do many full professors. A second aspect of Dr. Mack’s pattern of working with others is her partnerships with students in publishing. Bringing students into the “publishing game” is an important responsibility for professors. The process of preparing manuscripts for submission and working through the review process can be a significant learning process for students, even those who elect not to remain in the academy. The mentoring of beginning scholars is at the heart of what made Geoffrey Hewings a pillar of regional science and of NARSC.

Dr. Mack’s work on water affordability has attracted the attention of several national outlets including CBS News, PBS NewsHour, Vox, Vice, and the Huffington Post. This national media coverage of her work speaks to the high quality of her research programs. Finally, Dr. Mack is a long-time member of NARSC, has organized several special sessions, a member of the NARSC Council and is recipient of NARSC’s Benjamin Stevens Fellowship. Dr. Elizabeth Mack is an ideal candidate for the Geoffrey J.D. Hewings Award.