I, John Protzko, am running for Associate Director because I believe that in addition to replicating and testing generalizability, original novel research is critical to expanding the boundaries of our scientific knowledge and we are not doing nearly enough of it.

At the moment, our efforts have been focused on replication and generalizability. PSA 001, which I am proud to have been a part of in the role of data collector, has finished running a direct replication all over the globe, testing generalizability. PSA 005, which is close to my heart as my Ph. D. advisor was the co-creator of Stereotype Threat, aims at a high-powered direct replication of Stereotype Threat across the U.S. PSA 006, which I am proud to be the project monitor of, has finished collecting one study in 150 labs around the world in a direct replication and is now, under my direction, collecting data on a second study.

I do not want to take away from or diminish those important efforts in any way. We will and should continue focusing on issues of replicability and generalizability and cultural moderation. I believe, however, that we need to also inspire and empower the PSA as we do, because in my view, there is an untapped resource with the PSA.

There is a large need for research on questions where an individual researcher could not collect adequate data to answer original hypotheses. Research topics where the questions rely on small, hard to reach populations (e.g. trauma survivors). Research topics where the administration requires hours of in-person studies. Research topics where inclusion criteria become prohibitive. In any of these situations, a lone researcher could scarcely hope to collect a couple dozen participants, being inadequate for even minimally powered investigations. This is where the PSA can shine in a new way.

Picture it: one hundred labs, each collecting a dozen participants—that, means over a thousand participants an individual researcher could not hope to collect on their own. The PSA is
poised to address new research questions where even small numbers from many labs add up to new insights and break truly new scientific ground if we have the vision to make it happen. As Associate Director, I believe I have the vision to help spearhead a new initiative for novel research within the PSA. The goal will be to create a new section that will focus on original research that could not be conducted by individual researchers. The hundreds of labs in the PSA, however, can make such research a reality and break truly new scientific ground.

I am passionate about the PSA and the work that I have been an intimate part of in replicating and testing generalizability for the last couple years. But I also know the PSA can do more. I know that it can truly accelerate the future of psychological science. As Associate Director, it will be my mission to help the PSA grow into new roles and turn that future into today.