

## Dr. Elia Ortenberg Named Chief of the Social and Community Influences across the Lifecourse (SCIL) Review Branch



Dr. Elia Ortenberg has been selected as the Chief of the newly formed Social and Community Influences across the Lifecourse (SCIL) Review Branch at the Center for Scientific Review (CSR). Dr. Ortenberg joined CSR in 2016 as a scientific review officer in the Risk, Prevention, and Health Behavior Integrated Review Group. In this role, she led a recurring small business special emphasis panel as well as the review of U54 cooperative agreements submitted to the FIRST (Faculty Institutional Recruitment and Sustained Transformation) program. Her work on FIRST reviews included not only managing the review of applications but also extensive interactions with a Common Fund workgroup to develop the review process.

Prior to joining CSR, Dr. Ortenberg co-founded a research and development company specializing in tools, resources, and curricula for care partners and people with dementia. Her experience co-founding a small business, managing team members, and obtaining SBIR support from NIH will serve her well in leading this new review branch. CSR will benefit from her strong communication and interpersonal skills, energy and initiative, and command of review policy. As SCIL Chief, Dr. Ortenberg will oversee six standing panels and two recurring special emphasis panels covering topics in social, interpersonal, community, and cultural influences on health, development, and well-being across the lifespan.

Dr. Ortenberg earned a Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Studies from The Pennsylvania State University. After earning her doctorate, she held the position of Research Professor at The Pennsylvania State University. Her research focused on the impact of adult day programs on caregivers and participants with dementia.