

**Eastern Sociological Society
2006 ESS Candidate Bios and Statements**

**Candidates for office were asked to supply biographical information about themselves
and a brief statement about their goals and priorities if elected to office.**

For President:

Katherine Newman is the Malcolm Forbes Class of 1941 Professor of Sociology and Public Affairs at Princeton University. Formerly the Dean of Social Science at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University and the Malcolm Wiener Professor of Urban Studies in the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Newman is the author of several books on middle class economic insecurity, including *Falling From Grace* (1988) [honorable mention for the C. Wright Mills Award] and *Declining Fortunes* (1993) [named by the New York Times as one of the “notable books” of 1993].

Her 1999 book, *No Shame in My Game: The Working Poor in the Inner City* was one of the first ethnographies of low wage workers. The book attempted to change the conversation on poverty from an exclusive focus on welfare, to a primary concern with workers whose wages leave them stranded below the poverty line. *No Shame* was named the winner of the Sidney Hillman Book Prize and the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award for the year 2000.

Newman published *A Different Shade of Gray: Mid-Life and Beyond in the Inner City* in 2003 (The New Press), a qualitative study of aging in New York’s poorest neighborhoods. It brought together two streams of research that are usually held apart, work on aging (which often focuses on the middle class) and work on poverty (which is mainly on youth and family formation, rather than on the elderly).

Rampage: The Social Roots of School Shootings (2004), coauthored by Newman and a team of Harvard graduate students in Sociology, examines the mini-epidemic of mass murders on high school campuses in the 1990s. Based on fieldwork in Kentucky and Arkansas, *Rampage* examines the underbelly of social capital, the organizational blinders that prevented teachers from recognizing the catastrophe that was coming, the dynamics of peer culture that inclined kids who knew of the shooters’ plans from coming forward, and the role of religious culture in promoting a particular understanding of blame and forgiveness. *Rampage* was a finalist for the C. Wright Mills Award in 2005.

Katherine Newman’s current research projects focus on the long term career pathways of workers who enter the world of employment at the bottom. Her eight-year study of Black and Latino service sector workers concludes in her forthcoming book, *Chutes and Ladders: Navigating the Low Wage Labor Market* (Harvard University Press and the Russell Sage Foundation, 2006). With Victor Chen, she is presently working on *The Poor Next Door*, a book that explores an invisible population – the near poor – who are far more numerous than those living below the poverty line. This project is based on fieldwork with Dominicans in Washington Heights, African Americans in Bedford-Stuyvesant, and Puerto Ricans in Sunset Park.

With Paul Attewell (Sociology, CUNY Graduate Center) and Devah Pager (Sociology, Princeton), she has launched four related projects on labor market discrimination in the formal sector in India. She is also embarking on a new long term project on the meaning of delayed departure from the parental nest in Western Europe, Japan, and the U.S.

Katherine founded the Harvard program in Sociology and Social Policy, which she chaired for its first six years. She directed the National Science Foundation Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality and Social Policy as well and in that connection, developed the Global Network on Inequality, a research consortium of 14 different institutes in Western Europe and Japan. She has served on the NSF Advisory Board for the Social, Economic and Behavioral Sciences, and the IGERT review panel. She is an active participant in the ESS, having organized all of the author meets critic sessions for the 2006 meetings. She is currently serving on the ASA Dissertation Award Committee and the Editorial Board of the Rose Monographs.

Statement: It is an honor to be nominated for the Presidency of the Eastern Sociological Society, a vital gathering ground for sociologists working in and studying the most densely settled region of the U.S.

If elected, there are three initiatives I would bring to my colleagues for consideration. First, I would like to expand the range of presentations we hear at the meetings to include a “new directions” series at our annual meetings which would consist of thoughtful assessments of where important subfields are going. We might ask scholars who are working on aspects of network analysis, or cultural sociology, or immigration, to come together and reflect on what they think the cutting edge issues will be in the next five years in their fields. A parallel kind of session could bring together foundation program officers to reflect on where they see research headed in the domains they support, not in the form of a “grants workshop,” but in a more intellectual format that looks ahead to the issues they see on the horizon to which sociologists might address themselves.

Because we face the Atlantic, the prospect of reaching out toward our sociological colleagues in Western Europe seems a fruitful possibility that could spread the word about the work we do and give us an opportunity to learn more about how new paradigms are developing overseas. I would propose that we invite a few European scholars every year, both to present their own research, but also to participate in the “new directions” series mentioned above in ways that will illuminate the divergent approaches they are taking. For example, an entirely different sociology of poverty has developed in European countries with stronger welfare states, focused on questions of “social exclusion,” issues that are at the heart of the recent unrest in France. European scholars often have travel funds at their disposal for this purpose, particularly given the spectacular increase in research support that has accompanied the European Union, and can take advantage of it when invited by an organization like the ESS.

Finally, I would like to see what might be done to enhance the research resources that would permit us to do more to chart, analyze and understand social, economic, and political change in our geographic area. An “Eastern Area Survey” analogous to the “Detroit Area Survey” could be vital for all of us. No one university could support an initiative of that kind. The Eastern Sociological Society is an important venue for pursuing an initiative on this scale, not because it has the infrastructure (or funds) to launch it, but because it is a crossroads for sociologists in all of the institutions that could participate in and benefit from such an enterprise.

Patricia A. Roos is Professor of Sociology at Rutgers University. Prior to coming to Rutgers, she was Assistant to Associate Professor at SUNY Stony Brook, and before that a Research Associate at the National Academy of Sciences. She earned her B.A. and M.A. degrees in Sociology from the University of California, Davis, and her Ph.D. in Sociology from UCLA. Her research interests include work and family, gender and work, and stratification. She has published extensively on gender and work, including two books: *Gender and Work: A Comparative Analysis of Industrial Societies* (SUNY Press, 1985) and, with Barbara Reskin, *Job Queues, Gender Queues: Explaining Women’s Inroads into Male Occupations* (Temple University Press, 1990). Related published or current work include articles on the feminization of academic sociology (with Katharine Jones); the feminization of HR management and sex differences in earnings among HR managers (with Joan Manley); the gender gap in earnings, occupational integration, and gender equity in higher education (with Mary Gatta); and work, family, and community (with Mary Trigg and Mary Hartman).

Prof. Roos served as Chair of the Sociology Department at Rutgers from 1991 to 1997, and as Dean, Social & Behavioral Sciences from 1997-2000. In 1998-99 she served as Vice President of the American Sociological Association, and also served two three-year terms on ASA Council. She has been awarded grants from the National Science Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and has served on several professional editorial boards, advisory councils, and NSF grant review panels.

Statement: My service with ESS began in 1984 when I was an assistant professor at SUNY Stony Brook. Rose Coser, my colleague and then ESS-President, asked Diane Barthel and me to co-chair the ESS papers committee. Under Rose’s kind guidance, we worked hard to organize an excellent set of papers for the 1985 meetings. As a new assistant professor, it was exciting to be a part of the inner workings of the ESS. Over the years I’ve participated in the ESS as presider, presenter, and member and Chair of the Merit Award Committee. I’ve been impressed with how ESS has evolved, especially with the recent inclusion of affiliated mini-conferences. I participated in the 2003 mini-conference on Work, Family, and Gender Equality, which was instrumental in allowing me to further my emerging interests in work/family.

My positive reactions to that meeting have drawn me back each year since.

What are the larger lessons here? At its best, the ESS is a place that enables us to further our intellectual goals, providing a forum in which we present our work-in-progress and connect with like-minded colleagues. Its relatively small scale, and its intellectually rich mix of participants, provide for lively intellectual and collegial interchange. It's also a place that affords our younger colleagues opportunities to showcase their intellectual and administrative talents. Finally, as the ESS has demonstrated very effectively in recent years, it is also a place where graduate students can gain their first entrée into what we all hope is a life-long relationship with their regional professional society. I'm honored to have been nominated for the President of the ESS, and would look forward to serving in this important intellectual and administrative role.

For Vice President:

Elizabeth Higginbotham is currently a Professor of Sociology in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at the University of Delaware. She returned to the East in 1998 after years in the South. Raised in New York City, she received her B.A. in Sociology at City College of CUNY in 1971. She completed her M.A. (1975) and Ph.D. (1980) at Brandeis University. She taught at the University of Pittsburgh (1977-1980); following a year as a Ford Foundation Post-Doctoral Fellowship, she taught at Columbia University in Urban Planning. In 1983, she went to Memphis State, later renamed the University of Memphis, to work with Bonnie Thornton Dill and Lynn Weber at the Center for Research on Women. In addition to conducting comparative research on women, teaching a range of courses on race and ethnicity, poverty, qualitative methods, and sociology of the south, she coordinated a curriculum integration program and developed a working paper series. Dill, Higginbotham and Weber received the ASA Jessie Bernard Award and the ASA Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award for their research and service work at the Center for Research on Women in 1993.

Professor Higginbotham has also been a Visiting Professor in Sociology at Macalaster College and in Center for African And Afro-American Studies, and Women's Studies at the University of Michigan. In the spring of 2005, she had a residency at the Rockefeller

Foundation's Bellagio Study and Conference Center where she worked on new project on Black professional women.

She has published numerous articles and several books, including *Women and Work: Exploring Race, Ethnicity, and Class*, co-edited with Mary Romero (Sage Publications, 1997); *Too Much to Ask: Black Women in the Era of Integration*, (University of North Carolina Press, 2001); and, most recently two new anthologies, *Race and Ethnicity in Society: The Changing Landscape* (Thomson-Wadsworth, 2006), co-edited with Margaret Andersen and *The Souls of W.E. B. Du Bois: Sociological Perspectives* (Paradigm Publishers, 2006), co-authored with Alford Young, Jr., Jerry Watts, Manning Marable, and Charles Lemert

In 2003-2004, Professor Higginbotham was the Robin M. Williams Jr. Lecturer, where she talked about new work on Black women in elite professions. She is currently a member of the ASA Committee on Nominations, having also previously served on this committee 1990-91. She is ending a term as a member of the ASA Awards Committee (2003-2006). Other service to the ASA includes the Committee on Publications (1996-1999) and the 1998 Annual Program Committee. She is the former Book Review Editor of *Gender & Society* (1992 to 1996).

Statement: I am honored to be nominated to run for the Vice President of the ESS. As a graduate student, the ESS was the place where I was able to connect to other working-class and students of color who were forging our way in the profession. I had opportunities to serve on committees and help to shape both program and policy initiatives. The ESS was also a critical site for mentoring. Thus, I recognize how critical the ESS and all regional associations are for professional socialization. Since returning to the region, I've encouraged my own students to participate in the annual meetings where they can learn early in their careers to network with people from other institutions. If elected, I hope to work in the tradition of many in the ESS as we continue to provide a critical network for academics and professionals in the region. In an era when social policies are not flowing from empirical work, we have to continue to develop our skills and tools of analysis so that we can still contribute to dialogues about critical issues in the society. Today's students might not have had opportunities to develop critical thinking skills until they enter our classrooms. The ESS is a place to aid members in to developing theories

and empirical research, as well as translating them for students, colleagues and the general public.

Rhonda F. Levine is Professor of Sociology and the Arnold A. Sio Chair in Diversity and Community at Colgate University, where she has been teaching since 1982. She received her B.S. from Michigan State University in 1974, her M.A. from McGill University in 1975, and her Ph.D. from SUNY-Binghamton in 1980.

Her most recent books include *Enriching the Sociological Imagination: How Radical Sociology Changed the Discipline*, ed. (Paradigm Publishers, 2005) and *Class, Networks, and Identity: Replanting Jewish Lives from Nazi Germany to Rural New York* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2001). She is also the author of, *Class Struggle and the New Deal: Industrial Labor, Industrial Capital, and the States* (University of Kansas Press, 1988), editor of *Social Class and Stratification: Classic Statements and Theoretical Debate* (Rowman and Littlefield, 1998) and co-editor of *Recapturing Marxism: An Appraisal of Recent Trends in Sociological Theory* (Praeger, 1987), *Bringing Class Back In: Contemporary and Historical Perspectives* (Westview Press, 1991), and, *Radical Sociologists and the Movement: Experiences, Lessons, and Legacies* (Temple University Press, 1991).

She is currently doing research on the hopes, fears, and educational experiences of African American teenagers in a diverse small-city high school in the northeast. She has served on the editorial boards of *Social Problems*, *Critical Sociology*, and *Sociological Forum*. In addition, she has served on the Council of the ASA, several ASA committees, the Board of Directors of the SSSP, and the Executive Committee of ESS as well as chaired the Candace Rogers Award Committee of ESS.

Statement: One of the special qualities of the ESS is that it not only provides a forum for intellectual exchange, but that it plays an important role in the professional socialization of graduate students and young scholars. For me, as I am sure for many others, the annual meeting of the ESS was my introduction to the profession. One of the strengths of ESS is the diversity of our membership, not only in terms of race/ethnicity/gender/sexual preference, but also in terms of institutional setting, whether it be research-based universities, four-year liberal arts institutions, two-year colleges, or applied and research settings. I would like to continue to

build our membership and work to expand participation by people from all types of educational and institutional settings in the annual meeting. I would like to see more active participation by senior scholars who would engage with junior scholars, and to continue reaching out to graduate students and expanding undergraduate involvement as well. I believe that ESS will be able to advance the discipline and the profession if we continue to actively reflect and promote our diversity as scholars, teachers, and practitioners. I would be gratified to be part of this process.

For Executive Committee:

Tim Clydesdale (Ph.D. 1994, Princeton University) is Associate Professor of Sociology at The College of New Jersey (Ewing, NJ). Professor Clydesdale is a cultural sociologist who employs quantitative and qualitative methods to study American religion, American education, and their intersections. His book, *The First Year Out: Understanding American Teens during the First Year after High School*, is forthcoming in the Morality and Society Series at University of Chicago Press. Professor Clydesdale recently published two pieces on minorities and legal education, one in the May 2005 issue of the *Stanford Law Review*, and another in the December 2004 issue of *Law & Social Inquiry*. He has also published in *Social Forces*, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Contemporary Sociology*, and several reference works. A long-time member of ESS, Professor Clydesdale has served on its undergraduate education committee and most recently served as its program chair for the well-attended and highly regarded 2005 annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

Statement: I am honored to be nominated for the ESS Executive Council. The ESS provides a wonderful opportunity for the Boston-to-D.C. sociological community to gather annually to learn, share, and connect. If elected, I would particularly work to support the annual meeting, doing all I can to ensure that each year's program exceeds the depth and breadth of the previous, and involves more and more of the vibrant sociological community that it is fortunate to serve. I will also work to support the financial stability of the ESS, to grow its membership, and to continue the fine work of its journal.

Margaret M. Chin is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Hunter College of CUNY. She received her BA Harvard University and her PhD

from Columbia University. After receiving her PhD, she was a Social Science Research Council Post Doctoral Fellow in International Migration. In 2004-05 she was a Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation Junior Faculty Career Grant Recipient. She studies new immigrants, working poor families, and race and ethnicity and uses qualitative and comparative methods in her research. She is currently working on two projects - one that examines two immigrant groups, the Chinese and Dominicans, who reside in Chinatown and Washington Heights in New York City and how they are looking for and finding work. Many new immigrants still gravitate toward these two communities for cultural and language reasons even though there seems to be few jobs within those neighborhoods. The second project takes her beyond the world of work, while still researching the importance of communities. She is examining New York Chinatown during the exclusion era (1882-1943) when Chinese immigration was strictly limited. Preliminary research of household level US Census data in New York Chinatown reveals, however, that there were Chinese families, and intermarried Chinese men and White women which differs from the "bachelor societies" that other studies depict.

Her book: *Sewing Women: Immigrants in the New York City Garment Industry* (Columbia University 2005) offers a detailed and complex portrait of the work lives of contemporary Chinese and Latino garment workers. She explores how immigration status, family circumstances, ethnic relations, and gender affect the garment industry workplace. Other published work includes: a chapter entitled, "Moving On: Chinese Garment Workers after 9/11" in a volume entitled *Wounded City*, edited by Nancy Foner (Russell Sage Foundation, 2005). Another chapter, "Expanding Spheres: Men and Women in the Late Twentieth Century Garment Industry," appears in *A Coat of Many Colors*, edited by Danial Soyer (Fordham University Press 2005). She has also published two articles with Katherine S. Newman, "High Stakes, Hard Choices," in *The American Prospect*, and "High Stakes: Time Poverty, Testing and the Children of the Working Poor," in *Qualitative Sociology*.

Statement: I would be interested in recruiting and socializing graduate students and young scholars. In particular, this would mean providing a venue that allows young scholars to present their research and new ideas in a friendly environment. Moreover, this would give young

scholars visibility and contact with more established scholars. I would also continue the efforts to attract well known and distinguished scholars to the meetings so that there can be a dialogue. This should serve to strengthen networks within and outside the academy.

Karen O'Neill is an assistant professor in the Human Ecology Department at Rutgers University specializing in environmental policy, contention, and state power in the U.S. In her book, *Rivers by Design* (Duke University Press), she shows that while infrastructure projects may appear to be imposed by the central state, campaigns for projects that stimulated central state growth were often initiated by elites in the outlying regions. A portion of that research was awarded the Marvin E. Olsen Student Award from the ASA's Section on Environment and Technology. Her other work on risk preparedness and response, perceptions of genetically modified food, the social experience of space and place, international conservation, resource planning, and experts and government legitimacy has appeared in a variety of journals, including *Sociological Forum*. She has served on several committees for the ASA's Section on Environment and Technology and on the publications and development committees for the Rural Sociological Society.

Statement: Because sociologists have many professional societies to choose from, it is important for smaller societies to identify and promote their special qualities. The ESS serves as a friendly and small-scale gathering place for experienced academics and practitioners, a welcoming venue for graduate students, and a forum for sociologists from a variety of colleges and universities to learn ideas they can apply in their teaching. I would encourage the Executive Committee to promote these special qualities as they work to build the membership base, to appeal to practitioners as well as academics, and to provide for academics at a range of institutions.

Susan A. Ostrander is Professor of Sociology at Tufts University, where she teaches courses on wealth, poverty and inequality; nonprofits, states, and markets; community organizing; and gender. She is the author of *Women of the Upper Class* (1984) and *Money for Change: Social Movement Philanthropy at Haymarket People's Fund* (1995), both published by Temple University Press; and the senior editor of *Shifting the Debate: Public/Private Relations in the Modern*

Welfare State (1987, Transaction Press). She has published papers in *Gender & Society*; *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*; *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*; *Social Services Review*; and *American Sociologist* – plus in numerous edited volumes – on topics of social justice philanthropy, women and philanthropy, the ethnographic study of class elites, and higher education civic engagement. She serves on the boards of *Qualitative Sociology* and *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly* (for whom she co-edited in 2004 a special issue on Community and Grassroots Associations and Organizations). For over 15 years, she has practiced methods of teaching which engage students in local communities, and in 2003 was a National Finalist for the Thomas Ehrlich Award for Teaching and Service in Community Service Learning. Syllabi from several of her courses have appeared multiple times in ASA published volumes. In terms of her scholarship, she is currently revising and expanding her notion of philanthropy as social relation (developed in 1990 with Paul G. Schervish) to explore the growth of increased donor control in relation to socio-economic class in the U.S.

Statement: As a longstanding member of ESS, Ostrander has served on award committees and presented papers at annual meetings. One important role for ESS, in her view, is providing a forum at annual conferences for graduate students and senior people in the field to meet one another, serve as co-panelists, and establish on-going collaborations and mutually beneficial learning opportunities. Maintaining the quality of the ESS journal and ensuring that it publishes papers on cutting edge issues in the field is also of particular interest to her.

Mario Luis Small is Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Faculty Associate at the Office of Population Research at Princeton University. Small's research has focused on urban poverty, inequality and culture, and migration from both qualitative and quantitative perspectives. His work has been published or is forthcoming in journals such as the *American Journal of Sociology*, *Annual Review of Sociology*, *Social Forces*, *Theory and Society*, and *Social Science Quarterly*, among others. His recent book, *Villa Victoria: The Transformation of Social Capital in a Boston Barrio* (2004, University of Chicago Press), examines social capital in a Boston housing complex inhabited primarily by Puerto Rican immigrants. The book received the C. Wright Mills Award for Best

Book from the Society for the Study of Social Problems and the Robert E. Park Award for Best Book from the Community and Urban Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association, among other citations. Small is currently working on the distribution of for-profit and non-profit establishments across neighborhoods, and on the mechanisms by which childcare centers and other neighborhood institutions shape the social networks and research-accessing strategies of the poor.

Timothy Wickham-Crowley (Ph.D., Cornell; A.B., Princeton) has taught at Georgetown since 1986, where he is Associate Professor of Sociology. He directs the M.A. curriculum in Latin American Studies there and has taught more than a dozen different undergraduate sociology courses, ranging from Intro to Demography to Theory to Revolutions. Two of his past syllabuses have been included in course-materials booklets published by the ASA. He has been nominated twice by Foreign Service seniors for a teaching award and thrice by his department for the College Dean's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Research interests include Latin American guerrilla movements and revolutions, and more recently development and underdevelopment in the Americas since 1500. In addition to roughly a dozen articles, he is the author of two monographs, *Exploring Revolution: Essays on Latin American Insurgency and Revolutionary Theory* (M. E. Sharpe, 1991), and *Guerrillas and Revolution in Latin America: A Comparative Study of Insurgents and Regimes since 1956* (Princeton, 1992), the latter nominated for major book prizes awarded by the ASA and by the Latin American Studies Association (LASA). He served as Program Chair of LASA's 21st International Congress, held in Chicago in 1998, and later on LASA's Executive Council, 2000-2003. Out of the 1998 conference emerged two book-projects he co-edited with Susan Eckstein: *What Justice? Whose Justice? Fighting for Fairness in Latin America* (California, 2003) and *Struggles for Social Rights in Latin America* (Routledge, 2003).

Statement: I have been a member of the ESS since holding my first real academic job, have attended and given presentations at a few ESS Conferences, and even managed to get published once in *Sociological Forum* (way back in 1987, for the archivists among you). Frankly, those ESS activities hardly qualify me for this important post on its Executive Council, yet

perhaps my bona fides might be suggested by my previous experiences running a LASA Congress (with over 500 panels and sessions, and attended by 3,000+ scholars) and then serving for three years on the Executive Council of that association. What did I bring to, and learn from, those experiences? I believe I showed a deep sense of fairness and civic responsibility in both instances, in particular while developing the program for the multidisciplinary LASA Congress, where I soon came to understand that “nothing scholarly to me is alien.” While I have strong intellectual views about many issues, that pilfered and adapted aphorism is one I take most seriously, and believe therefore that I am well suited to make decisions on behalf of sociologists in general, and not only my favored coreligionists.