

**Eastern Sociological Society**  
**2010 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.*

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**For President:**

**George Ritzer** is Distinguished University Professor at the University of Maryland. He is currently the first Chair of the American Sociological Association's Section-in-Formation on Global and Transnational Sociology and has previously chaired the ASA sections on Theoretical Sociology and Organizations and Occupations. Among his other awards are an Honorary Doctorate from La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia; UNESCO Chair in Social Theory, Russian Academy of Sciences; Fellow-in-Residence, Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study in the Social Sciences; Fellow-in-Residence, Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study; Honorary Patron, University Philosophical Society, Trinity College, Dublin; Honorary Fellow, EuroMed; Lady Davis Fellowship, Hebrew University, Jerusalem; a Fulbright to the Netherlands as well as the first Fulbright Chair at York University, Canada.

Ritzer has been honored on several occasions for his abilities as a teacher. In recognition, in part, for his teaching he has been named both a Distinguished Scholar-Teacher and a Distinguished University Professor at the University of Maryland. In 2000 he was awarded the American Sociological Association's Distinguished Contribution to Teaching Award

Ritzer's work and publications have evolved and changed several times in his career. His earliest work was in the sociology of occupations and professions and resulted in, among other things, *An Occupation in Conflict* (Cornell, ILR Press, 1969) and *Working: Conflict and Change* (1972; 1986).

His longest-running (and continuing) interest is in sociological theory, especially in metatheory. Among his publications in the latter area are *Sociology: A Multiple Paradigm Science* (1975/1980), *Toward an Integrated Sociological Paradigm* (1981), and *Metatheorizing in Sociology* (1991). Edited works in this area include "Metatheory: Its Uses and Abuses in Contemporary Sociology" *Sociological Forum*

(1990); "Recent Explorations in Sociological Metatheorizing" *Sociological Perspectives* (1991) and *Metatheorizing*. (1992). A number of his essays on theory and metatheory are to be found in his *Explorations in Social Theory: From Metatheorizing to Rationalization* (2001). Ritzer has authored several textbooks in theory including *Sociological Theory* 8<sup>th</sup> ed. (forthcoming), *Classical Sociological Theory* 6<sup>th</sup> ed. (forthcoming), *Contemporary Sociological Theory and Its Classical Roots* 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. He has also edited a number of works in theory including *Frontiers of Social Theory: The New Syntheses*. NY: Columbia University Press (1990), *Blackwell Companion to Major Social Theorists* (2000; 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. forthcoming), *Handbook of Social Theory* (co-edited with Barry Smart) (2001), and *Encyclopedia of Social Theory* (2 vols.; 2005).

A more recent interest is the sociology of consumption. Ritzer was founding editor of the *Journal of Consumer Culture*. He has written a number of articles on consumption and some of the earlier ones are to be found in his *Explorations in the Sociology of Consumption: Fast Food Restaurants, Cards and Casinos* (2001).

Consumption is also of focal concern in a series of books that are best seen as applications of social theory to the social world. These include *The McDonaldization of Society* (6<sup>th</sup> ed., forthcoming, 2011), *McDonaldization: The Reader* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed., 2010), *Enchanting a Disenchanted World* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed. 2010), and *The Globalization of Nothing* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2007). He is currently working on *The Outsourcing of Everything* (with Craig Lair).

A still more recent interest is globalization and that concern is reflected in some of the titles list above. He edited *The Blackwell Companion to Globalization* (2008) and is currently editing the 5-volume *Encyclopedia of Globalization*. In addition, Ritzer has recently published *Globalization: A Basic Text* (2010).

Ritzer has also written and edited a number of other textbooks for basic sociology courses such as introduction to sociology and social problems. In addition, he edited the *Encyclopedia of Sociology* (11 vols., 2007).

His most recent interest integrates his earlier interests in production and consumption under the heading of “prosumption” (simultaneous production and consumption), especially as it is found on Web 2.0. He has authored several forthcoming essays on this topic and is editing a special double issue of the *American Behavioral Scientist* devoted to the digital prosumer.

George Ritzer’s books have been translated into more than twenty languages, with over a dozen translations of *The McDonaldization of Society* alone.

Finally, Ritzer has given many keynote and plenary addresses at a wide range of conferences in many parts of the world (Europe, Asia, Latin America, Australia). For example, since 2000 he has spoken at conferences on consumption, globalization, the media, rural sociology, American Studies, business, culture, sport, brands, hospitality management, food, credit cards, ethics, tourism, higher education, information technology, the city, and prosumption, among others.

#### **Statement**

First, of course, I want to express my gratitude for being nominated to be President of the Eastern Sociological Society; it is a great honor. Over the years I have been involved with ESS meetings many times and in various ways (presenter, discussant, session chair, etc.) and have published in *Sociological Forum* on several occasions.

As I was writing my biographical sketch, it struck me that in my work what I have always valued is change and innovation. In fact, the pace of change in my focal interests has increased rather than decreased in recent years as I have moved into new areas such as the sociology of consumption, globalization, and most recently prosumption. Even in long-standing areas of interest such as theory my interests continue to change and have evolved over the years from a focus on classical, to modern, and postmodern theories. I am particularly drawn to the era of the “posts”- post-industrial, post-Fordist, and perhaps now post-consumerist society. I am also drawn to the creation and/or refinement of new

ideas- some successful (“McDonaldization”), some less successful (“globalization”), and some that are still too new to tell whether or not they will succeed (“prosumption”).

If elected President of the ESS, I would like to focus on innovation in its widest sense. This is particularly important at this time because of the rapid changes taking place around us in the economy, in the university, on the Internet, globally, and so on; we need, more than ever, to be open to, even to embrace, change at many levels. At the broadest level a focus on change could be the (a) theme at the 2012 meeting with sessions focusing on cutting-edge issues in a variety of different domains in sociology. Included here would be new substantive areas, theories, methods, findings, concepts, policy initiatives and opportunities, and so on. I am particularly interested in the changes being wrought by globalization. Indeed, it would be useful to involve scholars in this area in the meetings, including several from other parts of the world. The best of the meeting’s papers would make for a nice special issue(s) of *Sociological Forum*.

A great deal of attention should also be devoted to innovations in teaching. Clearly, we are living through dramatic changes in this area that relate to web-based teaching and teaching tools; new attitudes toward, and forms of, textbooks, and the like. We need to examine all of these changes from the perspectives of teachers (full-time and adjunct), graduate students and undergraduate students.

It would also be useful to discuss issues that relate to organizational change, including changes taking place, or that should take place, in the ESS, our colleges and universities, and the varied other organizations in which ESS members are employed or with which they are otherwise associated.

In terms of my interests in the prosumption and Web 2.0, ESS could serve as a nexus for sociologist-bloggers. ESS could act as a link to sociology blogs produced by journals or individual members of the ESS community. More importantly, it could host its own blog where members would be able to discuss sociological insights in a public forum that is much different from that provided by journals. ESS, like other associations of sociologists, is particularly well positioned to serve as a hub for these emerging possibilities.

The decline of the “old” media and the rise of the “new” media such as those associated with Web 2.0 have implications for “public sociology”. While it has not always been easy for sociologists to attract the attention of the old media, new media, such as blogging, make it much easier for sociologists to address a public audience. There are great new possibilities for public sociology and ESS can play an important role for its members by becoming more involved in the new media.

**Robert Zussman** is Professor of Sociology at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst where he was also Graduate Program Director from 2000 to 2006. Before joining the faculty at the University of Massachusetts, Zussman taught at SUNY-Stony Brook (from 1986 through 1996) and before that at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University. He received his PhD in Sociology from Columbia in 1982.

Zussman is the author of *Mechanics of the Middle Class: Work and Politics among American Engineers* (University of California Press, 1985), which received an Honorable Mention for the C Wright Mills Award, and of *Intensive Care: Medical Ethics and the Medical Profession* (University of Chicago Press, 1992), which won the first Elliot Freidson Award from the Medical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association. For more years than he cares to admit, Zussman has been working on a study of “autobiographical occasions,” the various calls to account (including therapy, reunions, photo albums, job applications, and statements of the very sort of which this sentence is a part) in which selves are narrated. Pieces of this ongoing research project have appeared in *Contexts*, *Contemporary Sociology*, *Qualitative Sociology*, and occasional talks. In all of his research projects, Zussman has tried to look at “people in places,” to examine behavior, beliefs and the tensions between them in the institutional contexts in which both are produced.

Zussman edited *Qualitative Sociology* from 1999-2004 and from 2000-2006 was one of the co-editors of the American Sociological Association’s Rose Monograph Series. He was the “nano feature” editor of *Contexts* for three years. With Naomi Gerstel and Dan Clawson, he co-edited *Families at Work* (Vanderbilt University Press, 2002). With the other editors of

the Rose series and Michael Burawoy, he co-edited *Public Sociology* (University of California Press, 2007), to which he and Joya Misra also contributed an introduction. Zussman has served on the ASA’s Committee on Employment and its Distinguished Dissertation Award Committee. He has also chaired the ASA’s Distinguished Book Award Committee and is currently an elected member of the Publications Committee. As a long time member of the Eastern Sociological Society, Zussman has served on the Robin Williams Lecture committee and chaired the society’s Publications Committee. He also currently serves on the editorial board of *Sociological Forum*.

Zussman is particularly proud of the success of the graduate students he has worked with at both the University of Massachusetts and Stony Brook, many of whom have gone on to publish their dissertations with major presses. These students, now teaching across the country and across the world, have written about a range of topics--therapeutic communities, collective memories of race, the culture of caring in nursing, beauty myths and gender, high schools reunions, sexuality and youth cultures, race and the rhetoric of childhood sexual abuse, the rise of vaccination, and the enactment of masculinity in strip clubs, and military honor—as diverse as Zussman’s own interests.

#### **Statement**

I have lived my entire professional life in the Northeast (in a radius of about 75 miles from a point somewhere in southern Connecticut). The Easterns have long been an important part of that life. A meeting of the Easterns in New York City was the first professional conference I attended when I was a first or second year graduate student. I remember attending a few sessions and cowering in the book exhibit, desperately looking for someone, anyone, I knew and could talk to. Although the Eastern meetings have since come to seem much more welcoming—a place to see old friends and colleagues as well as to make new ones—I have not forgotten my first timid initiation.

The Great Recession, which has taken a heavy toll on the ASA, may actually represent an opportunity for the Easterns. At a moment of financial austerity and cutbacks in travel budgets (among much else), regional societies may well assume even more significance than they have enjoyed in the past. The Easterns, in any case, are remarkably healthy. The Robin Williams

lectureship, still little more than a decade old, has increased the visibility of the society. Recent annual meetings have been well attended, usually drawing more than a thousand participants, with the most recent meeting in Baltimore drawing an all-time record. A still new publishing contract for *Sociological Forum*, the society's flagship publication, promises a break from the periodic fiscal crises that have plagued the society in the past. And an accomplished and energetic editor for the *Forum* (Karen Cerulo) has increased the prominence of an already strong journal. Because of the extraordinarily good work of recent past officers and staff at the Easterns, the most important task for a new president may well be not to mess up a good thing. The ESS should build on its strengths. First, the Easterns are eclectic. It is important to maintain an annual meeting that is open to a wide range of substantive, methodological, and political commitments as well as to sociologists of diverse backgrounds. Sociologists have probably become more specialized than ever before and the Easterns provide one of the few opportunities to transcend these specializations. A "general sociology" that is inclusive may be hard to find these days, but it is worth continuing the search.

Second, the Easterns draw on the densest concentration of sociological talent anyplace in the world. Like past presidents, I will work hard to entice this talent to participate in the annual meeting. I think, though, that the point is not so much to extend beyond the Eastern region as to intensify our efforts to engage more deeply within the region, to bring in students, faculty and practitioners from beyond the major metropolitan centers (Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore) where the annual meetings are traditionally held and from schools and other settings that have, in the past, been underrepresented.

Third, the Easterns are flexible. The annual meeting can experiment with new forms. Not just thematic sessions or author-meets-critics sessions, but also mini-conferences held jointly with other organizations, panel discussions and professional workshops (on publishing, writing dissertations, getting tenure, teaching, public sociology, and sociological practice) could make the annual meetings even more useful to its members.

Finally, the Easterns are, if not exactly intimate, much friendlier than the annual meetings of the

ASA. The Easterns provide the opportunity to bring together students, faculty, and practitioners at different career stages, to bring together scholars and teachers from research universities, liberal arts colleges, and community colleges. Past presidents have been aware of this opportunity. I would continue and extend their efforts by setting up a series of informal discussion sessions that would bring together sociologists across academic rank and across employment settings to discuss common concerns about research and teaching. Elusive as the goal might be, I would like to imagine an annual meeting where nobody has to cower alone in the book exhibits.

Looking over a list of past candidates for president of the ESS, a list that includes my past teachers and, more recently, friends and colleagues, I am both honored and genuinely humbled to be included among them. The ESS is a vital organization, with a strong tradition of enhancing the intellectual life of students and faculty, of scholars, teachers, public sociologists and practitioners. I hope to have the opportunity to maintain and extend that tradition."

**For Vice President:**

**Ivy Kennelly** is Associate Professor of Sociology at George Washington University, where she also serves as Graduate Director. Professor Kennelly was on the ESS Executive Board from 2005-08 and chaired the Mirra Komarovsky Book Award Committee (2007) and the Candace Rogers Student Paper Award Committee (2008). As chair of the ESS Committee on the Status of Women (2002-05) Professor Kennelly organized a number of panels for the annual meetings, including, "When to Have Kids: The Timing of Children in Graduate School and Beyond" (2003).

Professor Kennelly proudly represents academicians who have earned degrees from non-elite schools. She received a BA in sociology and business from a small liberal arts college called Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, and her Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies, MA in sociology, and PhD in sociology from the University of Georgia, all in the 1990s. She received intensive mentoring from feminist scholars at these schools, and is therefore very attentive to the importance of mentors in the academic paths of men of color and women.

The common thread in Professor Kennelly's scholarship is inequality. Early in her career she focused mainly on labor market inequality, including issues such as discriminatory hiring processes, occupational gender segregation, and the status of women in science. Yet while she studies inequality empirically, Professor Kennelly's position teaching social theory at George Washington University has facilitated her development as a theorist of inequality. In analyzing race, class, and gender conceptually in her recent work, she has directly addressed one of the foremost questions in the field, namely, how are these sources of oppression and privilege related to each other? That is, what does gender have to do with race and class? To that end, she has a forthcoming book entitled *Digesting Race, Class, and Gender: Sugar as a Metaphor*. In it, and a related article in *Sociological Theory*, Professor Kennelly uses the processes of sugar production, sugar consumption, and sugar digestion to illustrate how the relationships among race, class, and gender are formed when these sources of oppression and privilege are simultaneously produced, consumed, and "digested."

Professor Kennelly's future directions include more theoretical work in this vein, along with policy work that builds on a fortuitous link that has developed between her conceptual scholarship and the sociology of food. She is in the beginning stages of a long-term project on the quality of food served by the nation's day care providers. While increasing attention has been devoted to the food served to students in K-12, relatively little mind has been paid (at a policy level) to the food younger children are eating. Professor Kennelly is specifically interested in the ability of day care centers to participate in any aspects of the recently revitalized progressive food movement. Farm-to-table, farm-to-cafeteria, and farm-to-school activities abound, but day care centers are low on the priority list. The importance of getting young children connected to local food, area farmers, gardening practices, organic methods, sustainable techniques and related activities is hard to overestimate, and Professor Kennelly's project will document the ability of urban, suburban, and rural centers to participate in these activities, as well as recommend some "best practices" based on those centers that have successfully implemented these activities. Excellence in teaching and service are strong motivators for Professor Kennelly, and she has won two teaching awards (the Robert W. Kenny

Teaching Prize and the Bender Teaching Award) in the last few years. In addition to her commitment to ESS, Professor Kennelly has served as an NSF Review Panel member, an SWS Cheryl Allyn Miller Student Paper Award Committee member and chair, an ASA Racial and Ethnic Minorities Section Feagin Undergraduate Paper Award Committee member, the SSS Organizations Liaison and Consortium of Social Science Associations representative, an Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) proposal reviewer, an ASA Committee on the Status of Women member, the SSSP Board of Directors student representative, and many other posts. Professor Kennelly also engages in community work in her neighborhood, such as planting trees with urban foresters, supporting tenant-sponsored conversions of apartment buildings, and volunteering at her children's school.

#### **Statement**

I am very honored to be nominated for the Vice Presidency of the Eastern Sociological Society – an organization that I have come to know very well over the last decade. I almost feel as though the ESS adopted me after I moved into the region from the South in 2001, and I have enjoyed serving the membership of ESS in a number of different capacities. Perhaps the most illuminating of these has been a term on the Executive Committee, where I became familiar with the inner workings of the organization and came to appreciate the hard work that so many people devote to this professional society.

If elected I will certainly match that hard work and strive to support the vision of the organization's President. I have been struck by how ambitious and comprehensive each president's program for the annual meeting has been, and I look forward to being part of the excitement of putting a program together. Above all I believe I have a lot to learn – from the way things operate in this organization and from the people who work so dutifully for it – and I hope to use what I learn to inspire another generation of Eastern sociologists, as I have been inspired. I would appreciate the opportunity to do this in the capacity of Vice President.

**Anne R. Roschelle** is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the State University of New York at New Paltz, where she just completed her second three year term as Department Chair. Roschelle is also an affiliate in and teaches for the

Women's Studies Program at SUNY New Paltz. Roschelle is on the Editorial Board of *Sociological Forum*, the official journal of the ESS and is a Founding Contributing Editor of *Black Women, Gender & Families*. Anne has served as a manuscript reviewer for a variety of journals including *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, *Symbolic Interaction*, *Sociological Forum*, *Social Forces*, *The American Sociological Review*, and *Gender & Society*. Roschelle was recently selected to participate in a Hays-Fulbright Group Project Abroad to India. Anne was chosen as one of ten alternates by the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Study and Conference Center in Italy for an Individual Residency in 2002.

Roschelle was on the Publications Committee of the Eastern Sociological Society from 2002-2005 and served as Chair of that committee from 2006-2008. In 2009 Roschelle organized a panel on the films of John Waters for the ESS conference in Baltimore (with Judith Halasz) which became a highlighted event at the conference. Anne served on the Russell Sage Foundation, Visiting Scholars Fellowship Award Selection Committee (2007) and was a member of the Jesse Bernard Award Selection Committee (2002-2005) of the American Sociological Association. In addition, Roschelle was the Secretary/Treasurer of the Latino/a Section (1999-2002), the Race, Class, and Gender Section (2005-2008), and was a Council Member of the Section on Racial Ethnic Minorities (1998-2001) of ASA. In addition, Roschelle was on the Nominations Committee of the Race, Class, and Gender Section (2006-2007), the Sex and Gender Section (2003-2004) and Chaired the Nominations Committee for the Race Class, and Gender Section (1999-2000) of the ASA.

Professor Roschelle received her B.A. in 1982, and her M.A. in 1985 from the University at Albany, SUNY, and an M.A. in Secondary Education from the University of Maryland, College Park in 1987. Anne received her Ph.D. from the University at Albany in 1993 and has been teaching at SUNY New Paltz since 1999. Roschelle's research and teaching interests include racial ethnic families, poverty and homelessness, welfare and welfare reform, and work and family in Havana, Cuba. Roschelle is the author of *No More Kin: Exploring Race, Class, and Gender in Family Networks* (Sage, 1997), which was a recipient of Choice Magazines 1997 Outstanding Academic Book Award, and received Honorable Mention as an

Outstanding Book from the Gustavus Myers Program for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights in North America at Boston University.

The focus of Roschelle's research over the last several years has been on extended kinship networks and informal social support networks among racial-ethnic families. Her book *No More Kin: Exploring Race, Class, and Gender in Family Networks* grew out of her dissertation. The research utilized an integrative theoretical perspective that explored the intersection of gender, race, and class by examining both cultural and structural determinants of participation in informal social support networks among a national sample of African American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, and non-Hispanic White families. Of particular interest was the finding that extended social support networks historically found to be prevalent in racial-ethnic communities no longer persist. Upon the completion of this research project, Anne conducted a follow-up qualitative study of social support networks among Puerto Rican women in upstate New York. The ethnographic research provided rich detail explicating why kinship networks are in decline and the ramifications of this decline for this particular ethnic enclave. The resulting articles, "Declining Networks of Care: Ethnicity, Migration, and Poverty in a Puerto Rican Community" was published in *Race, Gender, & Class in The World Cultures* in 1997 and "The Tattered Web of Kinship: Black White Differences in Social Support in A Puerto Rican Community" was published in *The New Politics of Race: From W. E. B. DuBois to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century* (Edited by Marlese Durr, Praeger) in 2002.

My current research on homelessness was prompted by the findings of my previous work on the loss of extended kinship networks in low-income minority families. I wanted to determine whether or not the erosion of traditional kinship networks in impoverished communities has contributed to a rise in homelessness among racial-ethnic families. Subsequently, I spent four years conducting an ethnographic study of homeless and formerly homeless families in the San Francisco Bay Area. In addition, to examining the loss of support networks this research has examined a variety of experiences that homeless kids and their parents face. The most recent publications from this ethnography include "Fitting in and Fighting Back: Stigma Management Strategies Among Homeless Kids" (With Peter Kaufman, *Symbolic Interaction*,

2004), “Welfare Indignities: Homeless Women, Domestic Violence, and Welfare Reform in San Francisco” (*Gender Studies*, 2008), “Motherhood Unbound: Homeless Chicanas in San Francisco” (In *Latina/Chicana Mothering*, edited by Doría Smith Silva, Demeter Press, 2012). In addition, I am currently writing a book on homeless families in San Francisco using my ethnographic data. In addition, along with colleagues Maura Toro-Morn and Elisa Facio, Roschelle’s article “Towards a Feminist Methodological Approach to the Intersection of Race, Class, and Gender: Lessons From Cuba will be published in *Advances in Gender Research* in 2010. In addition to these publications, Roschelle has published several other book chapters and journal articles throughout her career. Anne is an avid hiker and plays flute in an all professor-rock band called *Questionable Authorities*.

#### **Statement**

I am deeply honored to be nominated for Vice President of the ESS. Since returning to the East Coast in 1999 I have participated in the Eastern Sociological Society in a variety of ways. I have organized panels, participated in roundtables, and presented research on several panels. The intimacy of the Eastern meetings has been essential in my professional development. Over the years I have met incredible scholars and mentors who have graciously read my work and given me invaluable feedback and encouragement. I am most proud of my work on the ESS Publications Committee. During my tenure as a committee member we selected a new editor of *Sociological Forum* (Karen Cerulo) from a variety of outstanding applications. When my three year term was completed, I was asked by the President of ESS, (Philip Kasnitz), to remain on the committee and become Chair. During my tenure as Chair we met twice yearly, re-wrote the Publications Committee By-Laws, and selected a new publisher (Blackwell) for our journal *Sociological Forum*. After receiving incorrect information regarding the number of subscriptions from our previous publisher we had to renegotiate our already settled contract with Blackwell. During the summer of 2007 I went with colleagues from the Publications Committee and the Editor of *Sociological Forum* to Boston for a weekend to work with the staff at Blackwell to hammer out the subscription problems and develop a long-term strategy for the journal. Throughout this experience we developed a wonderful relationship with our new publisher and together have re-energized the journal. This experience solidified my commitment to the ESS and inspired me to more fully participate in the Eastern Sociological Society.

The Vice Presidency of ESS is an opportunity for me to serve the regional sociological community and to mentor graduate students and new faculty in the same ways that I was mentored.

#### **For Secretary:**

**Katherine K. Chen** is assistant professor of sociology at The City College of New York and the Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY). Her ethnographic study examined the growing organization behind the annual Burning Man event. Her book, *Enabling Creative Chaos: The Organization Behind the Burning Man Event* (2009, University of Chicago Press), shows how an enabling organization can support members’ efforts without succumbing to either under-organizing’s insufficient structure and coordination or over-organizing’s excessive structure and coercive control. Her other publications have appeared in the *Research in the Sociology of Organizations* and *Contexts*, and her papers in progress focus on the cultural aspects of Burning Man. Prof. Chen’s current research continues to examine how new organizations coordinate complex activities and advance their legitimacy while still representing clients’ interests.

Prof. Chen received her Ph.D. in Sociology from Harvard University. She was a recipient of the National Science Foundation Fellowship and a fellow in the Social Science Research Council’s “Corporation as a Social Institution” program. In addition, she has worked as a summer associate at Rand and conducted organizational research via Abt Associates, the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard Business School, and Stanford Business School. Prior to joining CUNY, she was a postdoctoral fellow at the Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning at Harvard University and an assistant professor at William Paterson University.

#### **Statement**

As an academic who has worked in several kinds of institutions, both academic and non-academic, I am well-acquainted with the daily challenges that scholars face, including securing employment, getting adequate resources to teach and conduct research, disseminating findings to a broad audience, and forming collegial connections with colleagues both near and far. Eastern Sociological Society’s annual meeting and resources provide unique support to the development of scholars who labor in a variety of institutions, from universities that serve first

generation college-goers to think tanks to government agencies. I look forward to representing a wider range of interests at ESS, and my priorities are to enhance opportunities for members to form a supportive community and to collectively advance knowledge within our discipline and in the public domain.

**Denise A. Copelton** is Assistant Professor of Sociology at The College at Brockport, State University of New York, a position she has held since 2005. She regularly teaches courses on health and illness, families, research methods, and the sociology of food. Her areas of expertise within sociology include medical sociology and gender, and her research centers on the social experience of illness and its intersection with foodways and family systems. She has published articles on the social process of diagnosis with celiac disease, prenatal nutritional norms, and other reproductive health issues. Her articles have appeared in *Social Science & Medicine*, *Sociology of Health & Illness*, *Deviant Behavior*, and several edited collections. She is currently completing a co-authored textbook on *Food & Society*, and a sole-authored monograph on the social experience of celiac disease. She is the recipient of numerous awards recognizing her work with undergraduates including the College at Brockport's Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program's "Mentor of the Year Award" for 2007-08, and the College's "Outstanding Academic Advising Award" for 2008-09.

Dr. Copelton is an active participant in regional and national sociology professional organizations. In ESS, she served on the Mirra Komarovsky Book Award Committee in 2006-07 and 2007-08, and, since 2006, serves on the ESS Committee on the Status of Women. Dr. Copelton has organized sessions, presented papers (including student co-authored papers), and participated in teaching and career panels at ESS meetings. In addition to her work in ESS, she is also actively engaged in Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), chairing the Career Development Committee (CDC) from 2005-07. As an elected member of the SWS Membership Committee from 2007-09, Dr. Copelton served as the SWS liaison to the ASA Minority Fellows Program, helping to solidify SWS's annual financial commitment to fund one fellow. She currently chairs the Beth B. Hess Memorial Scholarship Committee, an award co-sponsored by ESS, SWS, SSSP, and ASA, and is a

founding member of the Eastern chapter of SWS. As member (from 2002-05) and Chair (from 2005-06) of the Professional Issues and Standards Committee of the Midwest Sociological Society (MSS), Dr. Copelton coordinated efforts to draft committee policies and procedures for breaches of the society's code of ethics, which were adopted by the Executive Committee in 2006. She was also previously active in the Midwest chapter of SWS (MSWS), serving as Program Chair from 2005-07, when she coordinated the details for over 55 co-sponsored sessions for the MSS annual meetings.

### **Statement**

I am extremely honored to be nominated for the position of secretary of ESS, an organization that has nurtured my own scholarly development since my days as a graduate student at Binghamton University. The voluntary contributions of its members are the foundation on which the ESS is built, and I benefitted enormously as a teacher-scholar from my regular participation in ESS and the many fruitful exchanges I have had with other teacher-scholars as a result. I have presented my work at ESS meetings, gaining crucial and critical feedback that helped to foster new and important intellectual pursuits. In recent years, as an advanced assistant professor, I have brought several promising undergraduates (all now sociology graduate students) to the ESS meetings, where they too have benefitted from professional socialization opportunities. Having participated in several regional organizations, the ESS is surely one of the most vibrant and intellectually stimulating.

If elected, I look forward to doing my part both to maintain, as well as enhance, the numerous opportunities for improving teaching, advancing scholarship, and promoting professional development for teacher-scholars and graduate and undergraduate students alike through the ESS annual meeting. My prior work on the ESS Committee on the Status of Women and the Mirra Komarovsky Book Award, as well as my participation in ESS annual meetings, provided me with useful experiences in the ESS and an enhanced understanding of the importance of the secretary within it. However, my work as chair of the Career Development Committee in SWS and chair of the Professional Issues and Standards Committee in the MSS has best prepared me to meet the challenges of a recording secretary. In those positions I created meeting agendas, kept accurate minutes of

meetings, and submitted reports to the executive committees of the respective organizations, tasks that have given me new appreciation for the care and attention to detail necessary to fulfill successfully the role of secretary.

**For Executive Committee:**

**Susan E. Bell** is Professor of Sociology and A. Myrick Freeman Professor of Social Sciences at Bowdoin College. She joined the Bowdoin faculty in 1983, after completing her doctorate in sociology at Brandeis and postdoctoral work in the Department of Psychiatry at the Massachusetts Mental Health Center, Harvard Medical School. She is former chair of Bowdoin's Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Her scholarly work investigates the experience of illness, women's health, and narrative ways of knowing and has appeared in a wide variety of journals and book chapters. She is deeply committed to developing a social science vocabulary for incorporating visual methods into analyses of disease regimes and embodied social movements. Her research in this field has interpreted works of art produced during the late 20th century by women who have had breast cancer, exploring the types of "work" these works of art do – for the artists, for viewers, and for breast cancer activism. She is author of *DES Daughters: Embodied Knowledge and the Transformation of Women's Health Politics*, which explores how illness, suffering, and uncertainty can become opportunities for producing embodied knowledge and making social change. She is co-editor with Alan Radley (Loughborough University) of a special issue of the journal *health*, "Another way of knowing: art, disease, and illness experience" (forthcoming March 2011). She has served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, *Qualitative Sociology*, and *Women & Health*; currently she is an editorial advisor for *Sociology of Health & Illness* and a member of the editorial board for *health*. She is a long-time member of the ASA and of the medical sociology section (elected to the nominations and teaching committees) and science, knowledge and technology section (elected to the council) and she has organized, presented, chaired and/or served as discussant for sessions at many Annual Meetings. Since 2000 she has been a faculty/scholar for the Literature and Medicine program of the Maine Humanities Council, where she has developed and taught six-month seminars for hospital and health center staffs at

the Maine Medical Center, Frannie Peabody Center, and Maine General Medical Center.

**Statement**

I am honored to have been nominated for the ESS Executive Committee. As a member of the ESS Executive Committee I would work to foster ties between faculty and students of undergraduate colleges with those at graduate institutions as a way of strengthening and expanding sociological networks and of producing the next generation of sociologists. In addition, I am particularly interested in extending the visual and performative dimensions of sociology, and of encouraging transnational scholarship and pedagogy. Over the years I have presented early versions of papers at ESS Annual Meetings that were later published. In 1994 I was invited by Irving Zola, then president of the ESS, to organize a plenary session. This opportunity was important to my career development, and I would like to facilitate such leadership opportunities for others – particularly at early stages of their careers – at upcoming ESS meetings.

**Anita Ilta Garey** is Associate Professor of Family Studies and of Sociology at the University of Connecticut. She received her doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1993. Following postdoctoral fieldwork in Botswana and a postdoctoral fellowship at Brown University, she began a tenure-track position in the Department of Sociology at the University of New Hampshire in 1995. She has been at the University of Connecticut since 2000.

Starting from concrete experience and the meaning people give to those experiences, Garey's work focuses on (1) the interconnections of people's daily lives with larger social and economic structures and (2) the interactions between families and other social institutions. Her 1999 book, *Weaving Work and Motherhood*, received the 2000 William J. Goode Award Book Award from the Family Section of the ASA. Based on interviews with women hospital workers at various occupational levels – nurses, nurses' aides, housekeeping staff, and clerical workers, Garey argues against the standard "orientation model" of work and family for women and posits an alternative framework for conceptualizing women's relationship to the intersecting parts of their lives.

In other research, Garey looks at the effect of policy and its implementation on families and family members. While a research fellow at the Berkeley Center for Working Families in 1999, she conducted interviews and fieldwork to examine the implications and consequences of new state legislation that established after-school programs for public-school children. In 2002, she began a 3-year observational study of truancy cases in family court, with a particular focus on the interactions of judicial, educational, and family systems. Her most recent research is a collaborative project with colleagues at the University of Maryland, Brown University, and the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa, in which she brings her expertise in qualitative analysis to the study of children's social connections in a rural area of northern South Africa. Garey has been sole and co-author on a number of journal articles and chapters resulting from these research projects.

Garey has two published anthologies: *Families in the U.S.: Kinship and Domestic Politics* (co-edited with Karen V. Hansen, 1998), and *Who's Watching: Daily Practices of Surveillance among Contemporary Families* (co-edited with Margaret K. Nelson, 2009). Both collections were designed to reframe the approach to the topics they cover. *Families in the U.S.* decenters the dating-marriage-children linear arrangement of previous readers on the family, and *Who's Watching* brings together the fields of family sociology and surveillance studies to raise questions about the mobius strip of "care and control." A third anthology will soon be in press; *At the Heart of Work and Family* (with Karen V. Hansen) brings together recent research exploring the emotion management work at the center of people's work/family negotiations. Garey is one of the editors of the new series, *Families in Focus*, for Rutgers University Press.

#### **Statement**

I am pleased and honored to have been nominated for the Executive Committee of the Eastern Sociological Society. I have been an active member of the ESS since coming to the East Coast in 1994. In addition to my regular participation in giving papers and serving as discussant at the annual meetings, I organized the author-meets-critics sessions for the 2004 ESS meetings, co-organized (with Annette Lareau and Karen V. Hansen) an ESS mini-conference in 2007 (The Importance of Being Conceptual: Exploring the Sociological Contributions of Arlie Russell Hochschild), and

am currently serving on the 2010 ESS Annual Meeting Program Committee. I would consider it a privilege to increase my involvement in the ESS by serving on the Executive Committee.

The above "bio" focuses on outcomes (degrees, positions held, research conducted, publications, etc.), but it does not reveal the *process* of getting to those outcomes. And it is the process that gives meaning to my research, my writing, and my reasons for wanting to serve on the ESS Executive Committee. For example, it was my experience of growing up among working-class employed mothers that prompted me to question the way that most research on work and family was being framed when I was in graduate school and to continue to work on ways to decenter and reframe the topic more inclusively. Another example is related to my interest in serving on the Executive Committee. In my determined pursuit of higher education, I began my college career at a community college, transferring to a four-year state college to finish my BA, and then entered graduate school at a major public university. This experience gave me an appreciation of the educational contributions of each of these institutions. If elected to the Executive Committee, I would work toward achieving a strong representation in ESS from faculty members across institutional type and size, something which would not only be of benefit to those who join and participate, but would also help to strengthen ESS and support its ongoing vitality.

**Nazli Kibria:** I am currently an Associate Professor and Chair of Graduate Programs in Sociology at the Department of Sociology at Boston University. Prior to coming to Boston University I taught at the University of Southern California. I received my PhD from the University of Pennsylvania and my B.A from Wellesley College.

My research and teaching interests are in the study of family, migration and globalization with a particular focus on Asian diasporas and contemporary South Asia. Much of my work has emerged from looking across these sub-fields to understand the experiences of marginalized groups and populations. I am currently at work on a book about the Bangladesh diaspora, specifically of Bangladesh-origin communities in the U.S. and Britain as well as of labor migration streams to the Persian Gulf states and to Malaysia. I explore the question of how migrants

negotiate Muslim religious identity as well as Bangladeshi national identity within these diverse contexts. I also examine the consequences of these negotiations for the emerging contests of Islam in Bangladesh.

**Statement**

Were I to become a part of the ESS Council I would work to bring more issues related to immigration, global diasporas and the study of Asia to the ESS. I am currently involved with several organizations and initiatives that focus on these issues, such as the Boston University Center for the Study of Asia (BUCSA), the South Asia Studies Consortium and the Bangladesh Development Initiative (BDI). I hope to bring the concerns and interests of such forums to the ESS Council.

**Rebecca Joyce Kissane** is currently an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Lafayette College. Prior to coming to Lafayette College, she was a Postdoctoral Fellow at Princeton University's Center for Research on Child Wellbeing. She received her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania and her B.A. from Villanova University.

She is a qualitative sociologist with research interests in social welfare and housing policy, urban poverty, and nonprofit community-based organizations. Her work has appeared in *Social Service Review*, *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*, *Journal of Poverty, Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, *Sociology Compass*, and *Humanity & Society*. She also has articles forthcoming in *Sociological Perspectives* and the *Journal of Marriage and Family*. Recent and forthcoming publications have explored how social and geographic space influence poor women's use of local social services, the administrative challenges facing nonprofit organizations that employ welfare recipients as welfare-to-work interns, poor women's and nonprofit directors' assessments of faith-based versus secular social service providers, and poor women's views of welfare-to-work programs. She is presently working on several articles investigating the wellbeing of families who participated in the Moving to Opportunity (MTO) housing mobility demonstration in Chicago and Baltimore.

**Statement**

I am honored to have been nominated for the ESS Executive Committee. The ESS provides

an intimate environment for scholars to share their research, engage in scholarly debate, and connect with one another. Moreover, as a professor at a small, undergraduate liberal-arts college, I particularly value the opportunities that the ESS provides for students to present their research. Our students always return from ESS conferences not only energized but also with a greater understanding of sociological research. If elected, I would dedicate myself to strengthening and promoting the organization, particularly in the areas of social welfare and public policy. I would also welcome the opportunity to enhance the Society's support and mentorship of its student and pre-tenured faculty members.

**Gregory Smithsimon** is an Assistant Professor of sociology at Brooklyn College, City University of New York. Prior to coming to Brooklyn, he was a visiting assistant professor at Barnard College. He received his Ph.D. from Columbia University and his BA from Brown University.

Greg is the author of *Battery Park City as Urban Citadel: Rebuilding an Enclave in Lower Manhattan*, under contract with NYU Press, and co-author, with Benjamin Shepard, of *The Beach Beneath the Streets: Exclusion, Control, and Play in Public Space*, under contract with SUNY Press.

His work explores the reciprocal relationship between the built environment and social inequality. Thus his first book is an ethnography examining how residents of an elite community across the street from the World Trade Center rebuilt their neighborhood to maintain its privilege. His second book examines how urban parks and plazas have been used to maintain or challenge segregation, exclusion, and social inequality in the city. His current research is an ethnography of a middle-class African American suburb outside Baltimore. This project continues his interest in the relationship between space and inequality as it examines the ways in which both the challenges and community activism of an African American community are shaped by its suburban setting.

**Statement:**

Coming from a college that has an emphasis on teaching, and that is also part of a university with a strong record of research, I appreciate ESS as a regional organization whose conferences are the

right size to bring together both researchers to discuss the latest developments in each others' projects, and students and faculty to mentor rising sociologists.

ESS benefits from having a particularly strong collection of sociologists in the region and such engaging cities to host our conferences. I look forward to the opportunity to work with my colleagues to maintain ESS's strengths. In addition, I hope I can continue the work of previous executive committee members to increase the diversity of conference participants and use online technology to make presentations more accessible to those inside and outside the discipline.