

**Eastern Sociological Society
2011 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:

Michael Kimmel (PhD, UC Berkeley) is Professor of Sociology at Stony Brook University. He is the author or editor of more than 20 books, including: *Men's Lives* (8th edition, 2009) *The Politics of Manhood* (1996), *Manhood in America: A Cultural History* (1996), *The Gendered Society* (2000; 3rd edition, 2006), *The Gender of Desire* (2005), and *The History of Men* (2005). He founded and edits *Men and Masculinities*, a leading interdisciplinary scholarly journal in Gender Studies, and edited the *Encyclopedia of Men and Masculinities* (2004) and the *Handbook of Studies on Men and Masculinities* (2004). He crosses the country and travels around the world consulting with governmental ministers to develop programs to engage men in efforts to promote gender equality.

Academically, Kimmel has been instrumental in helping to build the subfield of Gender Studies that focuses on men and masculinities. In the past 20 years, this subfield has grown enormously, in stature, substance, and reach. He has been pivotal in four ways: (1) as a scholar, (2) as the builder of a field, (3) as a public intellectual, and (4) as a mentor.

(1) Kimmel is one of a several scholars whose research has formed the scholarly foundation for this field. His book, *Manhood in America: A Cultural History* (1996, 10th anniversary edition, 2006) was hailed as the definitive work on the subject. The reviewer in the *AJS* called the book "the canonical text" in the field. Other reviewers called the book "wide-ranging, level headed, human and deeply interesting," "superb... thorough, impressive and fascinating," "perceptive and refreshing." One reviewer wrote that "Kimmel's humane, pathbreaking study points the way toward a redefinition of manhood that combines strength with nurturing, personal accountability, compassion and egalitarianism, and another called it "the most wide-ranging, clear-sighted, accessible book available on the mixed fortunes of masculinity in the United States...a cultural history as readable and fascinating as Kate Millet's epoch-making *Sexual Politics*."

His most recent book, *Guyland: The Perilous World Where Boys Become Men* was published in September 2008 by HarperCollins. Of this book,

feminist icon Gloria Steinem said it "could save the humanity of many young men." It has been featured in newspaper and magazine articles, and he appeared on dozens of television and radio shows. The film rights were optioned to Dreamworks for a feature film.

His next book, *Angry White Men* (forthcoming Nation Books/Perseus) explores gender and masculinity issues on the extreme right of the political spectrum. He has interviewed neo-Nazis, white supremacists and Aryan youth in the U.S., and Scandinavia. He has already presented his findings to the ministries of justice and gender equality in Norway, Denmark and Sweden, as well as at the national police academy and National War College of Sweden.

Other books have collected his essays and articles, written over a wide range of scholarly journals. *The History of Men* and *The Gender of Desire*, both published in 2005 by SUNY Press represent two of those. A third volume of essays and articles, *Misframing Men*, collects articles and essays about the various men's "movements" of the 1990s and today, such as father rights, mythopoetic, the PromiseKeepers, and the Million Man March was published by Rutgers University Press in 2010.

(2) Programmatically, he has worked tirelessly to build this subfield. He is the founding editor of *Men and Masculinities*, a scholarly journal. Entering its 10th volume year, the journal was given an "A" rating (top 10%) by both the British and Australian boards that evaluates all scholarly journals for British academic reviews. With an acceptance rate of about 11%, this has become one of the most prestigious journals in gender studies. In addition, Kimmel co-edited *The Encyclopedia on Men and Masculinities* (2 volumes, 2004) and *The Handbook of Studies on Men and Masculinities*. The *Encyclopedia* was named "Best of Reference" by the New York Public Librarians Association in 2004.

(3) Kimmel's work with students has been widely noted. His teaching at Stony Brook has been featured in newspaper and magazine articles (*The Wall Street Journal*, *The Boston Globe*, *Newsweek*, *People*) and television shows, such as *Donahue*, *Sonia Live*, *Frontline*, *The Today Show*, *CNN*, *Smithsonian*

World, Bertice Berry, and Crossfire, and numerous radio shows, including The Diane Rehm Show on National Public Radio.

He has edited four collections that were designed for classroom use – *Classical Social and Political Theory: Readings* (Allyn and Bacon, 1998; 2nd edition, Oxford University Press, 2005) designed for use in courses on sociological and political theory; *Men's Lives* (7th edition, 2006), which is best-selling book in courses on men and masculinity in the country; and *The Gendered Society Reader* (OUP, second edition, 2003) which collects important articles in the development of a social science understanding of gender and *Privilege* (Westview, 2004).

His CV is filled with co-authored articles – all with graduate students. (Indeed, his research on pornography, and the co-edited textbook, *Sexualities*, are collaborative projects with former graduate students.) He edits a series called “Classics in Gender Studies” and selects an advanced graduate student as his co-editor on each volume.

Each year, he selects one or two students to prepare a paper for the ASA meetings. They submit the paper together, present it together, and then spend the ensuing year preparing the article for publication. This is usually the student's first publication, and part of his mentoring work is to help them through the entire process.

His mentoring was acknowledged when he received the Feminist Mentor Award from the Sociologists for Women in Society in 2009.

(4) As a public intellectual, Kimmel is featured on dozens of television talk shows, radio shows and is a constant presence quoted in the media. He writes frequent op-eds for Newsday, and has also written for The New York Times Book Review, The Harvard Business Review, The Nation, The Village Voice, The Washington Post, and Psychology Today, where he was a Contributing Editor and columnist on male-female relationships. He is a regular columnist at Ms. Magazine and the Huffington Post.

On the basis of his expertise, Kimmel served as an expert witness for the U.S. Department of Justice in the VMI and Citadel cases. He has lectured at more than 250 colleges and universities in the United States. Recently, his lecture was taped as a DVD, “Mars and Venus, or Planet Earth: Women and Men in the 21st Century” which is now available through the Media Education Foundation.

His work has been recognized internationally and he consults regularly with ministers for Gender Equality in the Nordic countries, as well as Ireland, Belgium, and Italy, and is a frequent keynote speaker at international conferences on gender equality in the workplace. He regularly consults with European ministers on gender equality issues. He has addressed the Parliament of Europe, the European Commission, the Council of Europe, and the Commonwealth Secretariat, and developed projects for UNDP and the United Nations. At the UN, he has addressed the annual International Conference on the Status of Women every year since 2000, including being the host and featured speaker of a general session including all five Nordic Ministers for Gender Equality.

Kimmel's career has been a series of "firsts". He was a member of the first coeducational class at Vassar College in the 1970s. He was the first man honored as "Feminist Lecturer" by SWS, the first male ever to address the European Parliament in its annual International Women's Day lecture (which led to invitations in subsequent years at the European Commission, The Council of Europe and the European Space Agency.) And this past summer he was the first man to receive the “Feminist Mentor” award from the Sociologists for Women in Society.

Statement:

I'm honored to have been invited to stand for election as President of the Eastern Sociological Society. It is, and has been for many years, a professional home. As states are to the national government, so too, are regional associations to the ASA.

What I have noticed over the past decade is an increased vitality at ESS meetings. My colleagues and graduate students are engaged by the ESS, intellectually and professionally. For many of our members the ESS is their first opportunity to present a paper; for other members the ESS is their primary professional association, finding the ASA too big, alienating and off-putting. ESS membership has increased. Simply put, among all the regional associations, the ESS has a buzz.

My primary task as President will be to not kill that buzz. I don't mean that facetiously, nor do I take it lightly. What I mean is that I want to take that vitality and nourish it, sustain it, feed it. I want members to feel that their professional home is alive, teeming with exciting ideas, opportunities for professional growth, for intellectual excitement. Oh, and for fun. Meetings, after all, should be enjoyable as well as serious intellectual endeavors. We know

enough about social networking to know that, well, that networking is also “social.”

I see four ways that the energy and vitality of the ESS can be sustained. All of these ideas center around fostering and nurturing different types of interactions.

(1) Dialogue between sociologists and our publics.

Our meetings are regional, yes, but they also take place so often in the corridors of the highest concentration of media, government, and global NGOs of anyplace in the nation. I would like our meetings to provide a less-formal, more interactive arena where ESS members can network and interact with people in the media, local and national politics, and the wide array of global organizations and NGOs that cluster around the United Nations and other global institutions located so close to our meetings.

My contacts here, in both media and those global organizations, will enable my administration to draw on those resources. Many sociologists want their work to have some resonance outside the academy, to proclaim a public sociology – a sociology that is both engaged with and speaks to current issues, and a sociology that reaches beyond academic confines to address them. I want to encourage more cross-conversations between sociologists and the people who directly deal with the publics with which we want to engage.

(2) Conversations among sociologists ourselves. I would like those connections made at meetings to be sustained throughout the year, to enable those sociologists who seek those public arenas to develop their skills, identify their audiences, and reach their professional goals. At the meetings themselves, there will be sessions devoted to practical issues like writing blogs, op-eds, and bringing sociological ideas to more and more varied publics. During the year between meetings, those workshops and tutorials will continue by using social networking sites and email to encourage greater participation for those who want it. Professional development does not end at the ESS meetings.

(3) Conversations between faculty and graduate students. I mean this in several ways. For one thing, many ESS members teach at colleges or community colleges – that is, they do not formally have graduate students. But many of us enjoy mentoring young professionals, and, as graduate students tell me, they really want it. The ESS should be an opportunity for sociologists in a variety of departments to work with younger scholars. In addition, graduate students often come to the field wondering where they will find a place within the profession, what it means to

be a sociologist, to *do* sociology instead of studying it. Many want to feel that their work is advancing some political conversations or addressing problems that require our particular expertise. These conversations between grad students, whose first foray into the profession is at ESS meetings, and faculty are generative of ideas, yes, but also of emotions: people come to think they have a stake in this profession, that there is a place for them at the table. And I know of many really generative collaborations that can trace their origins to these casual conversations at meetings. These conversations are as much about research and making our work available to various publics.

(4) Conversations about pedagogy. After all, one of those publics to which we are accountable, and with which we wasn't to engage is the undergraduate population. And the place where most sociologists work is the classroom. Conversations about pedagogy – from teaching materials and resources, to classroom strategies, the use of technology (both ours and the students') and interactions with today's students are important conversations for virtually all of us to have.

We are told that our tenure decisions are based on some admixture of research and scholarship, teaching, and service – so too, should be our meetings, devoted to our professional and social development as scholars, as teachers, and as colleagues. And we can look inwards, towards our colleagues for the abilities to look outwards, at the social world, with which many of us feel called to engage publicly.

That's what I would like to bring to the presidency of the ESS during my tenure.

Five years ago, a group of sociologists at Stony Brook inherited the ASA's prestigious Rose Book Series from the collective at UMass that had shepherded for the previous five years. That group, at UMass had done an amazing job of restoring the series to its former prominence; indeed, just about every book published in the series, through the Russell Sage Foundation, has won a major award. After our collective's first meeting at the ASA, I ran into Bob Zussman on the street outside the convention hotel. “I just have one thing to say to you, Kimmel,” he said, knowing we were now assuming the editorial duties, and acknowledging how hard the UMass group had worked. “Don't screw it up.”

This will be the second time I would be following Bob Zussman's tenure in a professional capacity for

the profession that we both love. So, above all, I again promise that I'll do everything I can to not screw it up.

Given our nation's history with presidential campaign promises, that is a significant promise indeed.

* * * * *

Nancy A. Naples is Professor of Sociology & Women's Studies at the University of Connecticut where she is also affiliated with the Human Rights Institute and International Studies. Prior to accepting the faculty position at UConn, she held an appointment in Sociology and Women's Studies at the University of California, Irvine, and in Sociology and Social Work at Iowa State University. She is series editor for *Praxis: Theory in Action* (SUNY Press) and *New Approaches in Sociology: Studies in Social Inequality, Social Change, and Social Justice* (Routledge). Her teaching links directly with her scholarship on the intersection of race, class, gender, sexuality and region and includes courses on inequalities and the welfare state, globalization and activism, feminist theory and methods, and qualitative methodology.

She has held elected office in a number of professional organizations including President of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP, 2007-2008), President (2004-2005) and Vice President (2001-2003) of Sociologists for Women and Society (SWS); and Council Member of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS, 2003-2006). She was also elected to Committee on Committees of SSSP and the Pacific Sociological Association (PSA) and the Publications Committees of SSSP and PSA. She also served as chair of ESS's Rose Laub Coser Dissertation Proposal Award Committee (2004-2006).

By using a diversity of research methods including ethnography, discourse analysis, and comparative research, she has conducted research on the relationship between the state, market, and other social institutions to determine how racial, ethnic, and sexual minorities are affected by, and organize around diverse economic and social policies. Her initial research on women's political and social citizenship focused on identifying the motivations for, and the changing contexts of low income women's urban community-based activism. She subsequently refocused her research from an urban to a rural context to analyze the social restructuring of inequality in rural communities with particular focus on Mexican and Mexican American migrants to the Midwestern U.S. Her current work on sexual citizenship continues her efforts to explicate how the

state, broadly defined, responds to challenges from diverse social movements and how social policies designed to expand the basis for citizenship claims are reshaped in the process of implementation in different geographic and political contexts. She is currently conducting a comparative research study that explores the sexual citizenship of gay men and lesbians with regard to relationship recognition and family policies in the U.S. and Australia. Along with co-PI, Mary Bernstein she is working on a book on sexual citizenship that explores the diversity of ways sexuality serves as an axis of citizenship in diverse national and international contexts. It places this discussion in the context of broader discussions of sexual citizenship including analysis of marriage rights, heteronormativity, compulsory heterosexuality, sexual contract, sexual democracy, and reproductive rights.

Her research has been supported by numerous grants and fellowships including awards from the National Institute of Mental Health (1990-1992), the American Sociological Association's Spivack Program on Applied Social Research (1995-1996), U.C. Mexus Grant from the Center for U.S. Mexican Studies (1997-1998), and the National Science Foundation (2008-2010). She has also presented her research in many conferences and invited talks, including as the Earl and Edna Stice Feminist Scholar of Social Justice Lecturer, University of Washington (2004), Distinguished Visiting Scholar, Department of Sociology, Boston College (2006); and Distinguished Lecturer, Rutgers University's Institute for Research on Women. She has also held an appointment as Distinguished Visiting Scholar in Gender, Work, and Social Inquiry at the University of Adelaide (2008). Her overall research activity has been recognized by a Faculty Excellence Award in Research (Humanities/Social Sciences) from by the Alumni Association of the University of Connecticut (2008). This year she received the 2011 Distinguished Feminist Lecturer Award from SWS.

She is author of *Feminism and Method: Ethnography, Discourse Analysis and Activist Scholarship* and *Grassroots Warriors: Activist Mothering, Community Work and the War on Poverty*; editor of *Community Activism and Feminist Politics: Organizing Across Race, Class, and Gender*; and co-editor of *Women's Activism and Globalization: Linking Local Struggles with Transnational Politics* (with Manisha Desai); *Teaching Feminist Activism* (with Karen Bojar) and *The Sexuality of Migration: Border Crossing and Mexican Immigrant Men* by Lionel Cantú (with Salvador Vidal-Ortiz). *Grassroots Warriors* was a finalist for the C. Wright Mills Award of the Society

for the Study of Social Problem and received Honorable Mention from the ASA's Section on Race, Class, and Gender Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Book Award. *The Sexuality of Migration* was co-winner of the Distinguished Book Award of the Sexualities Section of the ASA and Honorable Mention for the Distinguished Contributions to Latino Studies from the Latino Studies Section of the Latin American Studies Association. Her scholarship has also been published in numerous other books and journals including *Social Problems*, *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, *Gender & Society*, *Women & Politics*, *Journal of Poverty*, *Sociological Compass*, and *Social Politics*.

Statement:

I am truly honored to have an opportunity to run for the office of President of the Eastern Sociological Society. As someone who lived almost half of my life in the northeast and who has a Ph.D. from the City University of New York, I have a deep fondness for this region and for the extensive sociological community here. Although I have spent more than half of my post-graduate university life in other regions of the U.S., I do feel most at home in this region. As a consequence of my regional travels, I have witnessed the significant role that regional societies play in the life course of academics and sociological practitioners. This role includes introducing undergraduate students to the theoretical debates and methodological practices of professional sociologists, nurturing the early career development of graduate students and junior faculty, promoting opportunities for continued engagement in the profession by sociologists working outside of academia, and providing the context for senior faculty to share as well as renew their pedagogical and intellectual energies. Regional societies also offer all in attendance at the annual meetings the opportunity to engage with other scholars in a more intimate setting than the national meetings.

The smaller setting of ESS meetings enables participants to engage in sustained consideration of the most contentious and challenging issues facing society today with special attention to the specific dynamics of gender, race, class, economics and politics in our region. For example, while the issues of increased unemployment, home foreclosures, evictions, and poverty related to the current economic crisis may be the subject of papers delivered at the national meetings, they rarely, if ever, provide a context for more open discussion of what sociologists are doing or can do to respond through their research questions and policy interventions. ESS annual meetings also serve as an important place to consider

how academics negotiate the contemporary challenges posed by the neoliberal academy including how to respond to the accelerating corporatization of the academy. These responses must also take into consideration the local and regional context. As President of ESS, I envision creating opportunities for scholars to share their research on how the current economic crisis is changing the communities, urban landscape, inequalities and social life of residents of our region as well as the universities, colleges and research institutes. I would also like to provide a forum for the examination of the link between globalization and local political and economic processes.

In preparation for writing this statement, I enjoyed reading the comments of those who ran for the office of ESS President in previous years. I found myself agreeing with many of their accounts of, and visions for ESS. A consistent theme that runs through these statements is the importance of continuing the good work that is already a hallmark of ESS. Anyone who assumes the role of President will be well-served by the excellent leadership within the society as represented by members of the Executive Committee and supported by the Executive Office. Past presidents have established a number of important traditions that reflect sensitivity to the diverse intellectual, pedagogical, and career interests of the membership. I am especially interested in continuing to offer opportunities for more engaged discussion across lines of difference that often serve to divide participants in professional conferences. These include the lines between presenters and audience, between faculty and students, between experts in different specialities, and between scholarship and public policy. As ESS president, I would also explore ways to increase collaboration between ESS and local policy institutes to enhance our knowledge of, and research on community-based and public policy initiatives that are in response to the contemporary social, economic, and political environment.

In the present economy, many universities, colleges, and non-profit research institutes have cut back on funds for travel. ESS and other regional associations are becoming more important vehicles for the professional engagement of our members. This offers us a responsibility as well as an opportunity to strengthen the society's strong tradition of scholarship and professional development in response to the intellectual and pedagogical goals of sociologists across our region. ESS has achieved prominence as an important site for intellectual exchange and innovative approaches to sociological theory and practice through the annual meetings and the society's flagship journal, *Sociological Forum*. If

elected, I would continue the ongoing efforts to enhance ESS's visibility and service to the diverse members of the society.

For Vice President:

David Grazian is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania. He served as Treasurer of the Eastern Sociological Society from 2007 to 2009. His past ESS service work also includes chairing the Mirra Komarovsky Book Award Selection Committee (2007-08), and serving on the ESS Merit Award Selection Committee (2008-09), the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2007 annual meetings in Philadelphia, and the Program Committee of the 2003 annual meetings. He currently serves on the Council of the ASA Sociology of Culture section, and the editorial boards of *Poetics* and *Qualitative Sociology*. He has previously served as a Consulting Editor for the *American Journal of Sociology* (2006-08), and the Culture Editor of *Contexts* (2008-10).

Professor Grazian received his B.A. from Rutgers University in 1994, and his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 2000. His research interests broadly include the sociology of culture, urban sociology, social interaction, media studies, ethnographic methods, and social theory. He is the author of three books: *Blue Chicago: The Search for Authenticity in Urban Blues Clubs* (University of Chicago Press, 2003), *On the Make: The Hustle of Urban Nightlife* (University of Chicago Press, 2008), and *Mix it Up: Popular Culture, Mass Media, and Society* (New York: W. W. Norton, 2010). In his work he employs a variety of ethnographic and qualitative methods to study the production and consumption of popular entertainment in the urban milieu. His first book, *Blue Chicago: The Search for Authenticity in Urban Blues Clubs*, an urban ethnography based on his dissertation research on the rising commercialization of Chicago's longstanding blues subculture, received honorable mention for the Best Book Award of the ASA Sociology of Culture section. Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork in over thirty blues bars, and countless barroom conversations with professional musicians, bar regulars, tourists, club owners, bartenders, service staff, and city boosters (as well as a short-lived stint as a mediocre blues saxophonist), Professor Grazian examines how participants employ authenticity as an organizing principle for producing, marketing and experiencing the symbolic economy of the city's blues scene.

His second recent book, *On the Make: The Hustle of Urban Nightlife*, is a study of the production and consumption of downtown nightlife in Philadelphia.

By relying on a variety of qualitative research methods—participant observation in the city's restaurants, nightclubs, and cocktail bars; interviews with key industry informants; narrative accounts collected among over 800 undergraduate students at the University of Pennsylvania; and peer-led focus groups with a smaller sample of those students—he illustrates how the anonymity of postindustrial cities and their downtown entertainment landscapes encourages young men and women to approach evenings out as sporting rituals in which they experiment with strategies of role-playing, impression management, and sexual interaction in public. Specifically, the book illustrates how college students use such opportunities to explore elaborate codes of fashion and personal appearance; engage in rituals of confidence building; flirt with fellow students; and strategically avoid risky confrontations with overbearing competitors. He also demonstrates how nightlife producers, publicists and service workers exploit these consumers by crafting their own set of performances and tactics of stagecraft, deception and guile.

His most recent book, *Mix it Up: Popular Culture, Mass Media, and Society*, is a textbook on the sociology of media and popular culture. Based on courses Grazian has taught at Penn since 2001, its coverage of topics includes the consolidation of corporate ownership within the media industry; the relationship between cultural consumption and social status; the rise of aesthetics and style in everyday life; the globalization of branding; and the social effects of new media technologies in the digital age.

In addition to his books, Professor Grazian has also published articles and essays in the *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Science*, *Contexts*, *Ethnologie française*, *Poetics*, *Qualitative Sociology*, *Sociological Forum*, and *Symbolic Interaction*. He is currently writing a book on metropolitan zoos as repositories of culture and habitats of human interaction, and what they tell us about our relationship to the natural living world.

Statement:

It is a tremendous honor to be nominated for Vice President of the ESS. Since returning to the region ten years ago, I have witnessed firsthand the increasing excitement and intellectual vitality surrounding the ESS annual meeting, with its star-studded panels, distinguished guests, author-meets-critics sessions, and jam-packed mini-conferences. At the same time, I appreciate how important the ESS meetings have been for my graduate students (and, increasingly, our undergraduates as well) seeking to present their works-in-progress and

receive constructive feedback in a professional context. Given the close proximity of so many wonderful colleges and universities in our region, the ESS has enormous potential to serve as a bridge between sociology departments, connecting our faculty and students to one another in a spirit of collegiality. If elected, I look forward to solidifying our gains in recent years by encouraging creative programming and active participation in our annual meeting by students and faculty alike, recruiting new members to the organization, and strengthening our journal *Sociological Forum*.

* * * * *

Beth Mintz is Professor of Sociology at the University of Vermont (UVM) where she has served as Department Chair, Chair of Women's Studies, and presently sits on the Executive Committee of United Academics, UVM's faculty union. She has Chaired the American Sociological Association's (ASA) section on Political Sociology, served on the Committee on Committees of both the ASA and the SPSS, and has been a member of the editorial boards of *Social Problems*, *Research in Political Sociology*, and *the Journal of Lesbian Studies*.

Mintz's early research focused on interlocking directorates and corporate structure and her coauthored book, *The Power Structure of American Business* (with M. Schwartz, University of Chicago Press, 1985) was a finalist for the ASA's Most Distinguished Publication Award and was also nominated for the C. Wright Mills Award. Other work from this project appeared in a number of prominent sociology journals including the *American Sociological Review* and *Social Problems*. She also edited *Corporate Control, Capital Formation and Organizational Networks* (with T. Takuyoshi and M. Schwartz, Chou University Press, 1996) and was the American representative to the European Consortium for Political Research Investigation of Intercorporate Structure.

Maintaining her interest in corporate structure, she turned to the field of medicine where she published a number of articles on business participation in health care policy formation and capital formation in the health care sector. More recently, she and her colleague, Dan Krymkowski, have been working on occupational attainment, examining the intersection of race/ethnicity, and gender in United States labor markets. This project includes published or forthcoming pieces on the determinants of changing female representation in detailed occupational categories; the race and gender gap in workplace authority, the gender and racialized nature of changes over time in occupational segregation; and the role of

college graduation rates in occupational desegregation. They are currently working on the role of stereotyping in labor market outcomes. Most recently, she has started work on a book with a working title of, *Screwed: My Kid Owes \$80,000 in Student Loans and Other Tales of Higher Ed Woes*.

Statement:

I am very honored to be nominated for the position of Vice President of the Eastern Sociological Society. As we all know, the ESS serves a very important function within the discipline as a place for exploring new research and ideas and for nurturing younger colleagues. This, I am sure, will always be our first priority. The academy is changing very quickly, however, and I believe that there is room within the Easterns to consider these changes, both from an intellectual point of view, and as a vehicle for information exchange. Some of our members have been studying these changes and, thus, have important insights about the process; others are feeling the impact of reduced budgets and changing attitudes about higher education, without having thought much about the larger dynamics at work. Our meetings, then, are a very appropriate venue for sharing information about what is happening on campuses in the region, analyzing the changes that we are experiencing, and strategizing about appropriate responses to the assault. Integrating this into the program would be an important prior for me, if I were elected.

For Treasurer:

Susan M. Ross is Associate Professor of Sociology at Lycoming College where she currently serves as vice-chair of the faculty and chair of the departments of Sociology-Anthropology and Criminal Justice-Criminology. She earned her B.A. from Millersville University in 1991 and her Ph.D. from the University of New Hampshire in 1998. She is the recipient of teaching awards from both Lycoming College and the University of New Hampshire and serves as a reviewer for *Teaching Sociology*. Although much of her professional time is spent in the classroom—having taught twelve different course preparations over the past four years—she maintains active research interests in the fields of military sociology, sociology of family, and gender studies. She is the co-author of *Deployed: How Reservists Bear the Burden of Iraq* (University of Michigan Press 2008, with Michael Musheno). This qualitative work examines the impact of multiple deployments on Army reservists following 9/11. The book reveals three themes of response to the seismic changes in these reservists' lives, including adaptive reservists who adjust quickly to their competing roles as

citizens and soldiers, struggling reservists whose homegrown troubles are exacerbated by the experiences of wartime deployments, and reservists who are resistant to their roles as soldiers and their military lives as they express opposition to the war in Iraq.

She is also the editor of the anthology *American Families Past and Present: Social Perspectives on Transformations* (2006 Rutgers University Press) and has most recently published a chapter on issues of military recruiting and retention within the context of two protracted wars for *The Routledge Handbook of War and Society*. She has also co-authored a chapter in the edited book *Corporal Punishment of Children in Theoretical Perspective* and has published articles and book reviews appearing in *Child Abuse & Neglect, Armed Forces & Society*, and *Teaching Sociology*. She was recently invited to become a fellow with the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society. In addition to past service to ESS, she has also served on the ASA's Task Force on Sociology and General Education which culminated with the publication of *Sociology & General Education*.

Statement:

I am humbled by the nomination for the position of Treasurer in ESS. The annual Eastern meetings are always a source of professional rejuvenation for me, and I love that the intimate atmosphere of this organization allows for faculty from all types of academic institutions to contribute to the success of the Society. I have enjoyed serving ESS for three years as chair of the Committee on Undergraduate Education and helping to oversee the growth and continued success of the undergraduate poster sessions. If elected, I look forward to devoting that same enthusiasm to the overall financial well-being of the organization.

* * * * *

Natalia Sarkisian is Associate Professor of Sociology at Boston College. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts in 2005. Her research interests include family sociology, race, gender, and class, aging and the life course, and quantitative methods. Her research examines variation in kin and community ties by race/ethnicity, gender, age, and marital status and explores the structural circumstances and cultural values that may account for this variation.

Sarkisian's research on racial/ethnic differences in extended kin ties, published in *Social Forces*, *American Sociological Review*, *Journal of Marriage and Family*, and *Family Relations*, addresses two

longstanding debates --the disorganization versus superorganization debate and the culture versus structure debate--and highlights the need to transcend the binary approach to families of color that is implicit in the disorganization versus superorganization debate. Sarkisian demonstrates that the differences between Black, Latino, and White extended families can be attributed primarily to contemporary differences in structural position rather than to cultural values. This research has been recognized by a number of awards, including the 2008 Oliver Cromwell Cox Article Award from the ASA Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities for the article, "Street Men, Family Men: Race and Men's Extended Family Involvement" (*Social Forces* 86:763-794) and the 2008 Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Article Award from the ASA Race, Gender, and Class Section for the article, "Extended Family Integration Among Euro and Mexican Americans: Ethnicity, Gender, and Class," coauthored with Mariana Gerena and Naomi Gerstel (*Journal of Marriage and Family* 69:40-54). In addition, Sarkisian's earlier work in this area has been recognized with Distinguished Student Paper Awards from the ASA Latino/a Sociology Section, ASA Race, Gender, Class Section, ASA Family Section, and the Racial and Ethnic Minorities Division of the Society for the Study of Social Problems. Sarkisian also received the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) Dissertation Fellowship and an Honorable Mention from the ESS Rose Laub Coser Best Dissertation Proposal Award.

Another area of Sarkisian's research focuses on the relationship between nuclear and extended kin ties. This research, published in the *Journal of Marriage and Family* and in *Contexts*, assesses whether marriage is an integrative force bringing communities together or a "greedy institution" that detracts from kin and community ties. Her work in this area has received a lot of media attention, including articles in *Washington Post*, *Boston Globe*, and *Wall Street Journal*.

The third major area of Sarkisian's research concerns links between employment and family life and examines the role of gender, race, class, and age in shaping these links. Her article, "Explaining the Gender Gap in Help to Parents: The Importance of Employment," coauthored with Naomi Gerstel (*Journal of Marriage and Family* 66:431-451), was recognized with the 2005 Rosabeth Moss Kanter International Award for Research Excellence in Families and Work. Her current research in this area is funded by a research grant from the Sloan Foundation; it involves data collection from employees of multinational companies in ten

countries and aims to evaluate the role of country-specific factors in shaping the link between quality of employment and its work/family outcomes across the life course.

Dr. Sarkisian is currently serving on the ESS Robin Williams Lecturer Award Committee. In addition, she has chaired and served on various committees of the ASA Section on Race, Gender, and Class, ASA Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities, and ASA Sex and Gender Section. She has also served on the Council of the ASA Section on Race, Gender, and Class.

Statement:

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Secretary/Treasurer. ESS is particularly dear to my heart as it was the first professional society I joined. My first paper presentation also took place at ESS meetings, in a welcoming environment that contributed greatly to my professional socialization. I enjoyed the warm collegiality of ESS for many years, and at this point of my career, I feel that it is time for me to give back to the ESS community. If elected, I look forward to this opportunity to contribute to the effort of strengthening ESS, to help nurture and develop its vibrant community, and to ensure that ESS remains financially stable in these difficult economic times.

For Executive Committee:

Alya Guseva is Associate Professor of Sociology at Boston University where she has been since 2002. She was born and raised in Ukraine, where she also received her undergraduate degree in Sociology. She received her doctorate from the University of California, San Diego. Her areas of expertise are economic and medical sociology, and her regional focus is on transitional economies of East and Central Europe. Prof. Guseva is the author of *Into the Red: The Birth of the Credit Card Market in Postcommunist Russia* (Stanford 2008), which explores the emergence of this entirely new market and the making of a mass consumer in Russia during the two decades of 1988-2007. Her analysis locates the dynamics of market-making in the social structure, specifically the creative use of social networks, and places it in the context of the ongoing restructuring in postcommunist Russia and the expansion of Western markets and ideologies through the rest of the world. *Into the Red* was profiled in the Author Meets Critic at the 2010 ESS meeting in Boston. Prof. Guseva's work also appeared, among other venues, in *American Sociological Review*, *Social Science Research*, *Socio-Economic Review* and *Genesis*. While she continues to pursue research

on consumer credit markets in transitional economies, she also has a long-standing interest in biomedical markets. Her new project explores the market for commercial surrogacy in the US. Prof. Guseva teaches classes on economic sociology, medical sociology, health and society and market transitions. She has been actively involved with undergraduate students pursuing a pre-medical track and Accelerated Medical Program at Boston University. Outside of BU, Prof. Guseva has been taking an active part in the Economic Sociology section of the ASA as a member of several book and article award committees, organizer of Regular and Section panels and, most recently, as an elected Section Council member. Last year, she co-organized a mini-conference on the Global Rise of Consumer Credit during the annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE), and has just co-founded a new permanent research network in SASE (Finance and Society).

Statement:

If elected to the Executive Committee of the ESS, I would like to pursue the issue of making our academic work count and matter beyond the academy, in education, policy-making and greater community. In my own work, I see myself making the greatest impact on the world around me when I teach medical sociology to undergraduate students, predominantly non-majors, most of whom are going to pursue future careers in health or medicine. I strive to help my students become more self-reflective, culturally sensitive and humble, but also more politically aware and activist future doctors, nurses and other health professionals. I would also like to further promote the ESS's role in professional development of future sociologists, by helping to expand on the opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students to attend annual meetings, to be mentored and to network with peers and faculty. Finally, given that my research so far has been comparative in nature, I would like to work to devote more space to showcase comparative and transnational research at the ESS annual meetings. I look forward to expand my involvement with the ESS through the work of the Executive Committee, and I hope to draw on my previous experience in the ASA and SASE. I have made East Cost my home for the past 10 years, and I am excited to contribute to the ESS's mission.

.
* * * * *

Jose Itzigsohn is a Professor of Sociology at Brown University. I received my Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins in 1995 and in 1996 I joined the Brown Sociology faculty in 1996, where I have been since then. During the 2006-2007 I was a Visiting Scholar

at the Russell Sage Foundation. My research concentrates on two fields: the sociology of immigration and the sociology of development. In both of these fields my research addresses two broad issues: The first one is how structures of inequality affect people's everyday life, in particular, how people make a living. The second issue is processes of identity and group formation.

My recent book, *Encountering American Faultlines* (Russell Sage Foundation, 2009) analyzes how class and race affect the socioeconomic incorporation and the identities of first and second generation Dominicans. Looking at their position in the occupational structure, I argue that the second generation experiences a class split. Parts of the second generation enter middle class occupations, but the bulk of the second generation becomes part of the service working class. This class bifurcation corresponds to the racialized character of the American stratification system and it is likely to endure unless there is a political change that transforms the stratification trends. In my book I call this pattern stratified ethnoracial incorporation and I argue that it also affects their identity formation. Dominicans embrace panethnic and transnational identities. These identities are not the result of a failure to assimilate but they are the form that assimilation takes under the pattern of stratified racialized incorporation.

My first book, *Developing Poverty*, addressed the question of how people make a living in the informal economy in Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. My current work takes me back to that question. It focuses on a group of Argentinean enterprises that have been taken over by their workers. These factories were bankrupt and their workers took them over and put them to work. Furthermore, they decided that they were not going to bring external managers but they were going to manage the enterprises by themselves and they were going to do so in an egalitarian and democratic way. I have followed five enterprises to see if this form of organization constitutes a viable alternative to more mainstream forms of economic organizations. The impulse of the project is to understand the possibilities of organizing economic life on a logic of cooperation and solidarity rather than the atomization and competition characteristic of market economies. In the current global crisis, where millions are losing jobs or the hope of getting one, this issue acquires new urgency.

Statement:

I am honored to be nominated to the ESS executive committee. I have always found the smaller meetings

of the regional association to be more conducive to real intellectual exchange than the more massive national ones, so I'll be happy to have an opportunity to contribute to them. If I were elected I would work to strengthen two areas that in my opinion are central to the discipline. The first is the critical analysis of the contemporary intersections of racial and class identities and inequalities. The second one is to make sociology global and comparative. Only by looking at the issues that interest us in a comparative way, and only by understanding that the United States is only one case—a very important one for us who live here, but just one case—can sociology rise to the challenge of providing meaningful answers to the problems of the 21st century.

* * * * *

Shirley A. Jackson is Professor of Sociology, affiliated faculty in Women's Studies, and co-coordinator of the Ethnic Studies minor at Southern Connecticut State University. She received her doctorate from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2000. Prior to teaching in the Ethnic Studies Department at Bowling Green State University, she was a summer fellow at the University of Kentucky, a teaching fellow at Wellesley College, and a summer fellow at Tufts University.

Statement:

I teach race & ethnicity, urban sociology, community sociology, global race relations, women of color in the U.S., women of the developing world, and a host of others. I am currently working on two research projects. The first is a large socio-historical study of race/ethnicity, gender, nationalism, and violence in editorial cartoons during WWII and during the U.S. Civil Rights Movement. The cartoons are drawn from five major mainstream U.S. newspapers and two newspapers from the African American press. My second project is an ethnographic study which began in the summer of 2010 and explores the development, programming, and support for a local program designed to assist men and women who are ex-offenders, homeless, and/or substance abusers reintegrate into the community. The first stage of the project, interviews with staff, has already been completed. Client surveys and interviews are underway and observations of staff group sessions with clients are ongoing.

I currently serve on a number of committees in professional associations and in my community. I am a firm believer in getting my students out of the classroom and into the community. But that means, if I send them out, I'm there too! For me, this includes being involved in a multitude of activities in and

around New Haven, Connecticut. My activities also extend to traveling to other countries because I am an advocate of integrating what I learn in the community or abroad in the classroom as a way to engage my students. This attitude is reflected in my attempts to diversify my students' experiences to go beyond those with which they may be most comfortable. Sometimes you have to squirm around a bit to get comfortable!

I have found the Eastern Sociological Society to be an organization that is welcoming. It is a place to meet new friends and reconnect with old ones. I would like to see more graduate students have the positive mentoring kind of experience I had attending regional meetings. For some students, the cost of attending conferences can be expensive, unless it is a regional meeting. This means that students such in institutions like mine with limited funding streams for graduate students and with master's level only programs, find attending conferences co-prohibitive. If elected to Council, I would do my best to increase the diversity of the membership and the participation of graduate students at state universities. I also look forward to working with my fellow Council members and the membership to do what we can to continue the success we have had as an organization.

* * * * *

Deirdre A. Royster joined the New York University Department of Sociology as an Associate Professor in January 2009. Prior to that, she taught at the College of William and Mary from 2002-2009, where she served as the Director of the Center for the Study of Inequality, as Chair of the Department of Sociology for three years, and as the director of the Africana Studies program for one year. Royster earned her Ph. D. from Johns Hopkins University in 1996 and worked from 1993-2001 as an assistant professor at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst Campus, where she was awarded the 1999-2000 Outstanding Teacher Award from the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Royster's teaching trajectory also includes participation as a Lilly Teaching Fellow and as a Carnegie Scholar in the Carnegie Foundation's Scholarship of Teaching of Learning Institute.

Royster's first book, *Race and the Invisible Hand: How White Networks Exclude Black Men from Blue Collar Jobs* (University of California Press, 2003), was a finalist for the 2004 C. Wright Mills Best Book Award (Society for the Study of Social Problems) and was winner of the 2004 Oliver Cromwell Cox Best Book Award (American Sociological Association ~ Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities). Royster's most recent research

projects fall into three areas; an examination of the development of and challenges to "minority set-aside" policies that were originally designed to strengthen and support minority- and specifically, black-, owned firms; an analysis of the costs black boys and men, as opposed to white boys and men, pay for enacting ordinary American masculinity norms; and an ethnographic project examining how older black male (small) construction firm owners mentor younger black male workers, some of whom are ex-offenders. Royster is currently working on a book manuscript, "Embedded Dependency," that will highlight her findings on the impacts of state efforts to promote and include minority-owned businesses in public works projects and her work on black boys and men was highlighted in her article, "What Happens to Potential Discouraged?: Masculinity Norms and the Contrasting Institutional and Labor Market Experiences of Less Affluent Black and White Men" which appeared in the January 2007 edition of the journal, ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science (special issue on Race and Inequality in the Labor Market). Overall, Royster's research trajectory has emphasized understanding sources of inequality, especially race-based inequalities, using a variety of different methodological and theoretical tools, including most prominently an economic sociology conceptual framework, which she sees as key to uncovering processes, policies, ideologies and practices that reproduce institutional inequalities over time.

Statement:

I am humbled to be considered among a set of other candidates whom I deeply respect and admire and I am excited about the possibility of serving on the executive committee of the Eastern Sociological Society. I believe that my experiences as a faculty member and leader in different types of institutions, including a liberal arts college and large research university, would help me to bring some of the perspectives and concerns of differently-situated groups of sociologists to the ESS leadership. I also think that insights I've gained in my experience chairing both a department and an inter-disciplinary program may prove useful in the deliberations the executive committee would be engaged in. Finally, I think that some of the service roles I've taken on within the discipline, at national and regional levels--including participation on the ASA's nomination committee; as a MOST program co-coordinator; as a section award committee chair, as a section book and article award committee member, as a section council member, and as an editorial board or advisory editorial board member for ASR, Social Problems, Contemporary Sociology, and others--would also prove useful if I were elected. Perhaps my greatest

contribution would be in convincing some of the next generation of scholars--a diverse set of graduate students whom I've been meeting, mentoring, and learning from in the last few years--to get involved and start shaping the agendas of the ESS. I am not sure that I have a more specific agenda that I would pursue as an executive committee member, but I do have one concern that I'd like to work on. In my view, the insights of sociologists who are doing excellent critical scholarship remain far too marginal in public discourse here in the United States, and I would like to see the ESS consider new ways to actively increase the public visibility of our best and most constructive critical analyses on our troubled society, its limited political discourse, and the unnecessary social suffering of so many in these times.