

**Eastern Sociological Society
2014 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:

Rick Fantasia is the *Barbara Richmond 1940'* Professor in the Social Sciences at Smith College, where he is Professor and current Chair of the Department of Sociology, and where he regularly teaches courses on class, on culture, on cities, and on the arts in society. He is also a member of the graduate faculty at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where he has taught a graduate seminar on Pierre Bourdieu's theory and practice, and he has taught a course in social theory to PhD students at the Smith College School for Social Work.

After high school Fantasia attended several community colleges, lived in Paris, worked in a steel foundry, a hospital, a tire factory, and a paper mill, and participated in the National Teacher Corps, a federal program to prepare those from "disadvantaged" backgrounds to teach in "disadvantaged" schools. This program permitted him to complete a B.S. degree at Upsala College (a reasonably venerable, century-old liberal arts college in New Jersey that has now completely disappeared, leaving no forwarding address). He received an M.S. from SUNY Buffalo while working in Niagara Falls as a counselor to "troubled" adolescents, and completed his PhD in Sociology at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Fantasia's research and writing have focused on labor and culture, and on their interpenetration, in both the U.S. and in France. His book, *Cultures of Solidarity* (U. of California Press, 1988) was a study of working class consciousness in the U.S., based on three case studies of collective action. In that book he sought to conjoin a symbolic interactionist emphasis on process, group dynamics, and the contingent nature of collective action, with a cultural Marxism concerned with class power and the labor movement in the context of workplace relations. The book was chosen "runner up" for the ASA Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award; it was named co-winner of the award for "best book" published in 1988 and 1989 by the ASA Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements, and was a 1992 co-winner of the Culture Section book award as "best book published within the last four years".

The strongly relational focus of this work, combined with an interest in overcoming the analytical barriers between micro and macro perspectives, subjective and objective indicators, and structure and agency, predisposed him toward the analytical approach of Pierre Bourdieu, with whom he was privileged to become associated and from whom he relearned the practice of sociology. Following the publication of an edited book on class, *Bringing Class Back In* (1991, with Rhonda Levine and Scott McNall) and a reference book on homelessness (with Maurice Isserman in 1994) Fantasia published "Dictatorship OVER the Proletariat: Deprivations of Work and Labor in the U.S.", an article that appeared in Bourdieu's journal, *ACTES*, and that won the award for "best article" published between 2001-03 for the ASA section on Labor and Labor Movements. This led to a book (with Kim Voss), *Hard Work: Remaking the American Labor Movement* (U. of California Press, 2004), a book originally commissioned by Bourdieu for his *Raisons d'Agir* book series in France. The book pushed the investigation of U.S. labor practices beyond the self-imposed limits that Fantasia had set in his earlier work, and in the context of rapid Neo-Liberal restructuring. More recently, Fantasia's work has focused, variously, on the sociological practice of Pierre Bourdieu, on French gastronomy as a cultural field, on the nature of class reproduction in American higher education, as well as on neo-liberal challenges to labor and its potential as a social movement. Several of these pieces have been published in *Le Monde Diplomatique*, in France and in its numerous foreign language editions. For a number of years he has worked on a project to analytically construct French gastronomy as a cultural field, a project that he will soon complete as a book manuscript entitled *The Magic of Americanism: French Gastronomy in the Age of Neo-Liberalism*.

Statement:

I feel completely honored and grateful to be nominated for this position, but I'm also a bit surprised. Like so many others, I was a grad student when I first attended an ESS meeting as my first professional sociology conference, and found it a tremendously valuable experience. However, over the years I haven't been very active, and this has not been only (or primarily) a matter of poor citizenship. In general, I have not been a particularly strong

promoter of professional associations in the discipline. I think this is largely because although a key function they serve is to facilitate and sustain social and intellectual networks (something I have undoubtedly benefited from) they can also enable, if not encourage, aggressive practices of individual careerism and institutional distinction that some find distasteful. In other words, while our conferences and annual meetings bring scholars together from various institutional locations, they are also the occasion for generating forms of social exclusion to the extent that they validate and reproduce the pervasive hierarchies that characterize higher education in our society. We are all aware of the various forms of stratification and ranking systems that operate between departments and institutions in our discipline and across higher education, as well as the pecking order of key actors, both those already “made” and those “on the make”. However, I think that we rarely consider how this stratification order is inscribed in our own conscious (and unconscious) practices and how our predispositions, perspectives, and judgments are influenced by it.

I recognize the irony in noting this while standing for election to the Presidency of ESS, but I believe that as sociologists we should always be seeking to apply a strong degree of reflexivity to our own practices, as sociologists. Such a “sociology of sociology” can have real intellectual value for our work and for our thinking and it could have a useful presence at our annual meeting. Whether in sessions or a mini-conference, or some other forum, the annual meeting can provide an intellectual space for analyzing the social determinations (like the structures of academic hierarchy) bearing down on us, both individually and collectively.

I realize that the ESS is better in many of these ways than our national association tends to be. By definition, our association has a membership and an outlook that is regional and not national, perhaps allowing for stronger intellectual affinities, personal connections, and more of a sense of inclusiveness. Also, the routine organization of mini-conferences at ESS affords a depth and breadth of intellectual focus that can contribute to intellectual cohesion, while having a vibrant publication (*Sociological Forum*) associated with ESS likely adds to a sense of connectedness. I want us to maintain these elements and strengthen them where we can. I wouldn't necessarily favor too much agreement, however, for I would actually want to do more to encourage or structure intellectual debate at the annual meeting. Expressing intellectual differences around theory and method are a valuable way of learning and ideas needn't be handled too gingerly, as if they were

precious objects. Ideas should be stretched and worked through and, when respectfully offered, criticism and debate can be valuable methods of presenting ideas. I would encourage the Program Committee to find opportunities to bring critical perspectives together to demonstrate intellectual differences over key issues, rather than eliding them.

Overall then, I would want to find ways of considering the effects of social and institutional hierarchy; while increasing opportunities to raise intellectual differences; and all the while maintaining those elements of ESS that have worked so well for so long.

Barbara Katz Rothman is Professor of Sociology at the City University of New York, teaching in Sociology, Public Health, Disability Studies and Women's Studies; and on the faculty of the Masters in Health and Society at the Charite in Berlin, the University of Plymouth in the UK, and the International Midwifery Preparation Program at Ryerson University in Toronto Canada.

BKR is a third generation Brooklynite who recently made it across the river (just barely) into Manhattan's Lower East Side. A miserable, failingly poor high school student in a place that looked and felt like an inner-city prison, she made it into Brooklyn College (the only imaginable choices offered in her working-class family were 'Brooklyn Day' or 'Brooklyn Night,' the non-matriculated option for those not accepted to the day version.) And there, in her first semester, she met Professor Setsuko Matsunaga Nishi, newly arrived to the Department of Sociology. They went through their first Intro Soc class together – the first one Suki taught. It was, for BKR, life-changing, maybe life saving. A sociological imagination – yes! Someone understands. There is a way of thinking outside of 'my little corner of Brooklyn,' the family's world-view.

She went through her degree at Brooklyn College in very short order and stayed on for a Master's degree with Suki as her thesis advisor and ongoing mentor. It was Suki who encouraged and pushed and led her on to imagining herself as a sociologist, a professor. One of life's great joys for both of them, it is fair to say, was co-teaching a course at the CUNY Graduate School in the years before Suki retired.

BKR has been blessed with a wonderful series of mentors, and that – mentoring, doctoral pedagogy, the bonds between generations of scholars and activists and thinkers – continues to shape her life and her work. Judith Lorber and Peter Conrad were outside members of her dissertation committee at

NYU, and they and Edwin Schur made a world of difference to her in the development of her scholarship. Judith Lorber who brought her to the Eastern Sociological Society the first time, who has served as a past president of this Society, has been a most important mentor, friend and colleague.

Her dissertation work grew out of her very personal decision in the 1970's to have her first child born at home. Through that experience she came upon the most fascinating sociology-of-knowledge questions she'd encountered. The dissertation became *In Labor: Women and Power in the Birthplace* (how 70's-feminist that sounds!) (Norton, 1981) and in many ways shaped her interests – to this day.

She went on to write *The Tentative Pregnancy*, (Viking 1986), a book about women's experiences with Prenatal Diagnosis and the newly developing technologies that enabled fetal 'selection' and abortion,. The eugenic framework of the testing was hard to see in the US context (it's only about healthy babies!) but very clear to the Germans, and *The Tentative Pregnancy* was quickly translated into German. As startling as it might seem for a Brooklyn Jew born in 1948, there has been an ongoing warm connection between BKR and German colleagues, including a semester as the Maria Goeppert-Mayer Professor at the University of Osnabrueck, other translations, and most recently a specially developed collection of her work aimed at a German audience *SCHONE NEUE WELT DER FORTPFLANZUNG: TEXTE ZU SCHWANGERSCHAFT, GEBURT UND GENDIAGNOSTIK*, (Mabuse-Verlag, 2012) Germany, translated by feminist theologian Hildburg Wegener. She is on faculty at a public health program with a gender focus at the Charite in Berlin, and works closely with MPH students there.

Her involvement in the infamous Baby M case, an early 'surrogacy' case gone awry, led to her thinking about the ways in which motherhood was being reformulated in the American contemporary context. *Recreating Motherhood* (Norton, 1989; revised edition Rutgers 2000, Japanese translation 1996), which won the Jesse Bernard Award of the ASA, grew out of that experience. Other books include *Centuries of Solace* (Temple, 1992), coauthored with Wendy Simonds, BKR's first doctoral student, and a return to the birth issues, rewriting *In Labor* with Wendy Simonds, and Barrie Norman, as *Laboring On* (2007, Routledge)

Birth issues and the midwifery movement remain central in her life – she did a Fulbright in the Netherlands, the country with the model of midwifery care that most of the midwifery movements in the developed world have aspired to,

and did a study with her students there on Dutch midwives' experiences with prenatal testing, *Spoiling the Pregnancy*, a monograph published by the Dutch association of Midwives in 2000. In recognition of her career-long commitment to midwifery, the Midwives Alliance of North America awarded her a lifetime achievement award as a "Midwife to the Movement" in 2012.

Involvement with issues of reproductive technology brought her to the ELSI (ethical, legal and social implications) work of the Human Genome Project, and *The Book of Life: A Personal and Ethical Guide to Race, Normality, and the Implications of the Human Genome Project* (Norton 1998; Beacon edition 2001; Finnish translation 2002) Involvement in the world of reproductive technology also brought her to her decision, after the birth of her first two children, to adopt one of the many African American infants awaiting placement in New York in the late 1980's -- which in turn brought her to her book *Weaving a Family: Untangling Race and Adoption* (Beacon, 2005) and her editorship with another former student, Heather Dalmage, of a reader in *Race in an Era of Change* (Oxford, 2010)

Her current work includes a book in process comparing the birth movement with the food movement, and their shared concerns with deindustrialization vs the 'ways of the hand,' craft and skill. That, the many doctoral students she works with, and some further reflections on the ways the medicalization and technologies shape American life, are the bulk of her current work.

Statement:

It is an honor to have received this nomination, to have this organization's value and respect. Having served as President of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, and of Sociologists for Women in Society, along with my many years as an ESS member, give me some feeling for how much – and how little – a President can contribute to an organization. ESS is in solid shape, doing good work, and has been blessed with a long series of outstanding Presidents and officers, an important and widely respected journal, and a strong, truly admirable executive office. I would step into this with no sense that I can do much better than continue to guide us in the directions we are going. But yes, we can go further, we can do what we are doing and do it better. I've been teaching a class in 'Writing for Publication' for Sociology doctoral students, and one of the requirements has been submitting an abstract for Eastern Sociological society meetings. It's been very heartening to see how well-received their work has

been, how welcoming the Easterns continue to be for young scholars. But we can build on that, we can include more early-career workshops and events. We also need, as an organization, to be keenly aware of the changes in the career-possibilities for newer Sociologists, and work on supporting them in the range of options that are available, and cognizant of the ways that is changing. We do this now, but here too we can build – we can think more outside the (academic) box, and provide more engagement with non-academic sociologists.

We also have the wonderful advantage of being in a fabulous region – each city that we meet in is itself a marvelous place to live and to work as sociologists, but also a wonderful microcosm of social worlds. I would like to see more active outreach not only to non-academic sociologist, but also to other disciplines. Working within the demands of tightened budgets, limited travel and all of that – we nonetheless are meeting in the home cities of some of the most exciting interdisciplinary programs in America and maybe the world. I am thinking, for one favorite example of mine, of the growing Food Studies world and the established and new programs in New York City – we can bring in our non-sociology colleagues to both introduce us to these new interdisciplinary areas, and to create the bridges and connections we as sociologists need to other disciplines and areas of work. In Food, in Sexuality, in Ecology, in Ethnic studies, in Disability Studies, in Arts and Sciences all across the board, there are interdisciplinary groups that we can invite to join us in both our innovative ‘mini conferences’ and in our regular panels and sessions as well.

The strategy of moving beyond our own academic comfort zones will also serve us well in the goals so many of us in the ESS have of contributing to and influencing not just research but policy and action. None of this is new for the Easterns – these are indeed things we do, but things I would like to see us do yet more creatively, and creativity is one of the things an organization’s Presidency can foster.

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For Vice President:

Margaret M. Chin is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Hunter College and at the Graduate Center CUNY. She received her PhD from Columbia University and BA from Harvard University. She is a former Social Science Research Council Post Doctoral Fellow in International Migration and a former Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation Junior Faculty recipient. Margaret studies new immigrants, working poor families, and

race and ethnicity. She uses qualitative and comparative methods. She is currently working on two projects – one that examines job transitions for second generation Asian Americans and another on how immigrants use ethnic media to help them adapt to US society.

Margaret’s book, *Sewing Women: Immigrants in the New York City Garment Industry* (Columbia University 2005) offers a detailed and complex portrait of the work lives of contemporary Chinese and Latino garment workers. She explores how immigration status, family circumstances, ethnic relations, and gender affect the garment industry workplace. Her latest publications include: “The Transformation of Chinese America: New York vs. Los Angeles” by Min Zhou, Margaret M. Chin, and Rebecca Kim, a chapter in *New York and Los Angeles: The Uncertain Future* edited by Halle and Beveridge. Oxford University Press. 2013, “Changing Expectations: Economic Downturns and Immigrant Chinese Women in New York City” a chapter in *Immigrant Women Workers in the Neoliberal Age* edited by Guevarra, Florez-Gonzalez, Chang, and Toro-Morn. University of Illinois Press. 2013 and “In the Factories and on the Streets: Studying Asian and Latino Garment Workers in NYC.” A chapter in *The Handbook of Research Methods in Migration*. Edited by Carlos Vargas-Silva. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd, 2012

She has served as a member of the ESS Executive Committee (2006-09) and as Program Co-Chair of the 2007 ESS Annual Meeting. Most recently, in summer of 2013, she Co-Organized the ASA International Migration Section’s One-day Mini Conference- “Shaping the Future of Immigration Research.” Margaret was also a member a later a co-chair of the ASA’s Jesse Bernard Award Committee (2005-07).

Statement:

I am honored to be nominated to serve as Vice President of ESS. I remember my very first time at ESS. I was an ASA Minority Fellow who had to present on that named panel. I was impressed by the academic exchange and how the seasoned scholars mentored the graduate students. To this day, ESS still plays an important role in the professional socialization of graduate students and young scholars. I want to support these relationships.

In addition, the conference itself, because of its relative small size is one of the best places to meet and speak with other sociologists. It offers scholars at all stages in their careers to network with one

another, both formally in a session and informally over coffee. I would like to encourage networking.

Another strength is its diverse membership. Members come from all kinds of backgrounds and institutions- small, large, public and private- and yet, can find a place to share their research and participate in building a professional organization. I would like to continue to build our membership and work to expand participation at all levels.

Finally, at this time of increasing inequality, I would like to encourage ESS scholars to engage in public sociology. So much of what we do lends itself to policy and everyday life. I would encourage more sociologists to think of their work as public sociology.

Amy Lutz is an Associate Professor of Sociology in the Maxwell School for Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. She has served as a member of the ESS program committee for the 2014 meeting. She has also served on the committee for the graduate student paper award for the International Migration Section of ASA.

Lutz received her BA from Boston College and her MA and PhD from the University at Albany, SUNY. Subsequently, she was a Spencer Foundation postdoctoral fellow in the Sociology Department and the Center for Social Organization of Schools at the Johns Hopkins University. In 2006 served as an SSRC Research Fellow at Centre Maurice Halbwachs- CNRS - Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, France.

Lutz's research areas are in immigration, sociology of education, racial and ethnic inequality, families, and sociology of language. Her early work, based on her dissertation, focused on the topic of bilingualism among Latinos and utilized both longitudinal data from the National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988 (NELS:88) and qualitative interviews to investigate the causes and educational consequences of bilingualism for Latino students. The findings suggest that Latino youth vary in their language proficiencies across race, gender, and family socioeconomic status, and that bilingualism provides enhanced educational attainment and achievement for those who are literate in both English and Spanish.

More recently Lutz has worked on several collaborative projects. In her work on one such project, *Children of Immigrants in Schools* (CIS), she investigates the transition from school to work of children of immigrants in the United States and

France. It is part of a wider multinational project sponsored by the Social Science Research Council that investigates the education of children of immigrants in five European countries and the United States. Lutz is at work on several articles and a chapter in an edited book based on this project.

Lutz is also currently at work on a book with Pamela Bennett and Lakshmi Jayaram based on their project *Parenting and Schooling in Diverse Families*. The book, based on in-depth interviews with parents at one predominately working-class public school and another predominately middle-class public school, investigates parenting across class, race and immigrant generation in the transition from eighth grade to high school. The authors have received grants from the American Sociological Association and the Poverty and Race Research Action Council (PRRAC) as well as a fellowship from the Russell Sage Foundation to work on this project.

Amy Lutz and Pamela Bennett have also received an NSF grant to investigate to examine students' access to selective institutions prior to and after changes in the affirmative action context sparked by the *Grutter* Supreme Court decision. Lutz and Bennett are analyzing the National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988 (NELS) and the Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 (ELS)—two longitudinal nationally-representative surveys of youth undertaken by the National Center for Education Statistics before and after the *Grutter* Supreme Court case—to examine race and immigrant generation differences in college access with a particular focus on selective colleges.

Lutz's recent publications include "Beyond the School Yard: Social Class Differences in Parenting and Youth Participation in Structured Activities" with Pamela Bennett and Lakshmi Jayaram in *Sociology of Education*, "How African American is the Net Black Advantage?: Differences in College Enrollment among Immigrant Blacks, Native Blacks and Whites" with Pamela Bennett in *Sociology of Education* and "Who Joins the Military?: A Look at Race, Class, and Immigration Status" in the *Journal of Political and Military Sociology*. She has published in *Demography*, *Social Forces*, *Sociology of Education*, *Ethnicities*, *Migraciones Internacionales*, *Youth and Society*, and *Ethnic and Racial Studies* among others.

Statement:

It is an honor to be nominated for Vice President of the Eastern Sociological Society. For me the ESS has been a place where students, professors and practitioners to come together in an open and welcoming environment to exchange ideas. I

remember the excitement I felt my first ESS meeting as a wide-eyed graduate student when I presented at a round table, and later the excitement that I felt as an assistant professor when some senior sociologists in my field came to my session. If elected, I will do my best to ensure that the meetings offer something to maintain that sense of excitement among ESS members through a relevant and diverse array of panels, author-meets-critics sessions, round-table sessions and mini conferences. Given my own interest in international-comparative work and an increasing number of sociologists doing international work, if elected, I would try to promote an even greater focus on international research projects at the annual meeting. Given that the Vice President organizes the author-meets-critic sessions, if elected, I will work to ensure a variety of books in the author-meets-critics sessions.

The ESS was particularly supportive of me as a graduate student and participation in ESS meetings helped me learn what it meant to be a professional sociologists. I would like to see the ESS continue to expand its role in providing support for graduate students by providing mini-conferences on publishing and teaching that are very relevant for graduate students as well as providing mentorship opportunities.

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For Executive Committee:

Joanna Dreby is Assistant Professor of Sociology the University at Albany, State University of New York (since 2011) and received her PhD from the CUNY Graduate Center in 2007. Previously she worked at Kent State University (2007-2011). Joanna is author of the book *Divided by Borders: Mexican Migrants and their Children* (University of California Press 2010), which received both the Goode Book Award and the Thomas and Znaniecki Best Book Award from the American Sociological Association in 2011 and the 2011 Book Award from the Association for Humanist Sociology. She has also published a number of other articles on transnational family life, including “Transnational Gossip” (*Qualitative Sociology* 2009), “The Strength of Family Ties” (*Childhood* 2012), and “Making Something of the Sacrifice” (*Global Networks* 2012).

Joanna is an ethnographer of family life, whose research focuses on the ways migratory patterns and families’ decisions about work and child care affect children. Her current research, funded by the Foundation for Child Development, explores the

experiences of young children growing up in Mexican immigrant households in Ohio and New Jersey. The project documents the ways variations in legal status within families and settlement patterns in new destination sites impact the lives of children. Preliminary findings from this project are published in “The Burden of Deportation on Children in Mexican Immigrant Families” (*Journal of Marriage and Family* 2012) and in “The Relational Contexts of Migration: Mexican Women in New Destination Sites.” (*Sociological Forum* 2013).

Joanna’s scholarship also focuses on family conflicts, as experienced by the families she has interviewed, and by ethnographers—and academics more broadly—like herself. She is co-editor with Tamara Mose-Brown of *Family and Work in Everyday Ethnography* (Temple University Press 2013).

Martha Ecker - received her doctoral degree from the Graduate School and University Center of the City University of New York. Her dissertation focused on the manner in which the City and the unions negotiated the definition(s) of productivity during the fiscal crisis of the 1970s and beyond.

She received a post-doctoral fellowship sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health on the 'Sociology and Economics of Women and Work.' Her research during that time period concerned the dual status of public sector workers as employees of the state and recipients of transfer payments.

Professor Ecker came to Ramapo in 1986 and began to work on pedagogy and diversity specifically with respect to the teaching of methods and statistics courses. She went on to serve in a number of administrative positions including vice provost and acting provost between 1993 and 2008. During that time period, she was engaged in issues of curriculum development, pedagogy and general education. She returned to the faculty after spending some time in India working with the staff of the Fireflies Intercultural Centre.

Her recent research focused on postal workers during the Great Depression. She continues to work on this subject investigating the restructuring of the United States Postal Service

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 social class, 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) 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). 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. Building on and extending this work, she is currently working on a book manuscript on social class and extended family ties. This project was funded by a Russell Sage Foundation Visiting Scholar Fellowship.

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), was recognized with the 2005 Rosabeth Moss Kanter International Award for Research Excellence in Families and Work. Her research in this area was funded by a research grant from the Sloan Foundation that helped collect data from employees of multinational companies in 11 countries. Sarkisian now utilizes these data 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.

Sarkisian's recent book, *Nuclear Family Values, Extended Family Lives: The Importance of Gender, Race, and Class* (Routledge, 2012), summarized her research on extended kin for undergraduate audiences. Her other recent publications examine the effects of the timing of retirement on subjective physical and emotional health, investigate the influence of ethnicity on older American Indian patients' interpretations of healthcare providers' affective behavior, and assess whether "holistic spirituality" promotes individualistic withdrawal or fosters social engagement.

Dr. Sarkisian is currently serving as the ESS Treasurer; she has also served on the ESS Robin Williams Lecturer Award Committee and the Nominations Committee. In addition, she is currently serving on the Council of the ASA Section on Race, Gender, and Class, and 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.

Statement:

I am honored to be nominated for the position of an ESS Council Member. 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. Serving ESS as a Treasurer has been a great privilege and provided me with a lot of knowledge on how ESS operates. If elected to be a Council Member, I will use this knowledge to further strengthen ESS, help maintain

its vitality, and nurture and develop its vibrant community.

Barbara R. Walters, PhD, is Professor of Sociology at CUNY Kingsborough Community College and Academic Director of the CUNY School of Professional Studies BA in Sociology Program. She received her BA from Vanderbilt University and her PhD from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where she also completed a post-doctoral fellowship in sexual identity development in the Department of Psychiatry, focusing on sex differences in cognitive styles across various preschool and parental background settings. Her main areas of teaching and research are religion and culture: liturgy and the arts, religion and human rights, implicit and civil religions, urban and immigrant religions, religion and gender, and religious or cultural organizations and networks. Other research and teaching interests include comparative-historical methods, collective memory, global inequality, children and children's rights, sustainable development, and the United Nations Millennium Developmental goals. She is especially proficient in online and hybrid teaching and learning and was recognized by CUNY in 2007 as a recipient of the Michael Ribaud Information Technology Award.

Barbara Walters has worked in a variety of settings: academic, business, and government. Her books include: *The Politics of Aesthetic Judgment* -- an empirical analysis of the changing art world and patrons with "modern" art shaping the site of struggle for status and power among different groups, especially recently assimilated Jews in fin-de-siècle France --and *The Feast of Corpus Christi*, with Vincent Corrigan and Peter T. Ricketts, which presents a complete set of source materials for the feast, including multiple versions of the original Latin liturgy, a set of poems in Old French and their English translations, and includes complete transcriptions of the music associated with the feast. Her refereed journal articles have appeared in the *Journal of Implicit Religion*, *Sociology of Religion*, *Contemporary Sociology*, *Sociological Theory*, *Visual Sociology*, *Art and Text*, and *Sociological Symposium*. A number of other articles have appeared in edited books published by academic presses.

Barbara Walters was a founding member of the New York Chapter of Sociologists for Women in Society, a founding member of the 2nd Congressional District Virginia Women's Political Caucus, and served as a member of the Commonwealth of Virginia Board of

Health Professions as Chair of the Scope and Standards of Practice Committee, as Chair of the Virginia Secretary's Task Force on the Utilization of Nurse Practitioners, on the Virginia Governor's Task Force on the Need for a Redefinition of Nursing, as Chair of the ASA Committee on Professional Ethics, on the board for the International Visual Sociology Association, and on the board and as Executive Director of the Virginia Opera.

As a teacher, Barbara Walters was a core founding member of the KCC Learning Communities and WAC team, the founding editor of *Distinctions: A Student Honors Journal*, and a founding organizer of the Kingsborough Eco-Festival Faculty Symposium. She currently serves as Council representative for the ASA section on Teaching and Learning, as outgoing program co-chair for the Association for Authentic Experiential Evidence Based Learning, and as Chair of the CUNY Committee on Academic Technology ePortfolio subcommittee.

Statement.

I have been a member of the Eastern Sociological Society for over twenty years and am deeply honored to be nominated to serve on the Executive Committee. My position as the Academic Director of the BA in Sociology Program at the CUNY School of Professional Studies has provided enormous insight into the challenges we face as individual sociologists and as a discipline, both within and outside the academy. I welcome and value the opportunity to work with colleagues to address these challenges and especially those in the education, professional community development, and employment of sociologists. Having served with great joy on the teaching faculty at Kingsborough Community College and at SPS, I find it particularly rewarding to help younger (or simply newer) members and teaching colleagues who struggle to find voice and community within ESS, working to advance knowledge in the discipline, while sharing through sociological research their classroom experiences with the struggles and successes of disadvantaged, immigrant, or otherwise marginalized students.

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For Treasure:

Amy Armenia is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, VA. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 2006. Prior to joining the faculty at Randolph-Macon College in 2008, she was an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY.

Her research interests span the topics of paid and unpaid care work. Her research on family leave and the implementation of the Family and Medical Leave Act (with Naomi Gerstel) has been published in *Social Science Research*, the *Yale Journal of Law and Feminism*, and is forthcoming in *Work and Occupations*. Her dissertation research on family child care providers was published in the *Journal of Family Issues*. She is currently co-editing a volume entitled, *Caring on the Clock: The Complexities and Contradictions of Paid Care Work*, with Mignon Duffy and Clare Stacey.

In her appointment at Randolph-Macon College, she teaches Research Methods, Family, Gender, and Race and Ethnicity, and serves as Affiliated Faculty in the Women's Studies and Black Studies Programs at R-MC. In 2012, she was awarded the Thomas Branch Award, a campus-wide honor for teaching excellence.

She has served widely both within her college and in the discipline. At Randolph-Macon College, she was Acting Director of the Women's Studies Program in 2012-13, currently serves on a committee to redesign the college's First-Year Program, and is Chair of the college IRB. She is also the outside member of the IRB at the University of Mary Washington, and has been on the organizing committee of the Virginia IRB conference for the last three years.

Dr. Armenia has gained diverse experience in professional associations, starting as the list serve manager of the Carework Researchers' Network for five years before serving as a Steering Committee member, Steering Committee Chair, and Conference Co-Chair for two national conferences, where she managed conference content, submissions, registrations, and finances for this self-supporting organization.

Statement:

The ESS has long been my intellectual home, and I am excited and honored to be nominated for election to Treasurer. As a faculty member at a small college, I know that regional associations like the ESS are critically important as an avenue to stay connected to other sociologists and the profession. The sense of welcome I felt at ESS as a graduate student has been continued throughout my professional career. I have a wealth of administrative and organizing experience, and would be honored to use my skills in service of the ESS

Christopher Donoghue is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Montclair State University. He joined the sociology department in 2012 after leaving Kean University where he had served as a tenured professor and program coordinator of Sociology and Anthropology.

He earned his Ph.D. in Sociology at Fordham University. At the start of his career, his research was focused on staff turnover and inequalities in nursing home care. This work appeared in journals on health policy and aging such as *The Gerontologist*, *Research on Aging*, *The Journal of Applied Gerontology*, *Health Care Management Review* and *The Journal of Health and Social Policy*.

Dr. Donoghue's current work focuses on a range of social psychological topics in elementary, middle school and high school education such as peer aggression, coping, deviant behavior, academic motivation and the acquisition of ethnic prejudice. In 2005 and in 2013, he published the results of the two most recent replications of Emory Bogardus' classic Social Distance Study with Vincent Parrillo. The 2005 paper showed a continuation of the trend toward greater acceptance among Americans toward people from 30 different ethnic and racial groups. The 2013 paper, published in *Sociological Forum*, is the first ever to indicate a reversal in the trend of greater acceptance.

Dr. Donoghue is also an educational consultant for several public and private middle schools and high schools in New Jersey, focusing on school climate, bullying, and multicultural education. Currently he is serving as Principal Investigator of the School Climate Survey, a two-year project to assess the quality of school climate, and the levels of peer aggression and bullying in New Jersey schools. In this capacity, he has conducted public forums for parents, workshops for teachers, and presentations for school administrators. He is also the Program Evaluator for a New Jersey Personal Responsibility Education Program (NJPREP) grant that enables the administration of a program called "Reducing The Risk" to high school students in Jersey City and Newark. This program is intended to reduce teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections. Dr. Donoghue teaches many courses in Sociology such as quantitative and qualitative methods, the sociology of aging, and poverty and social welfare policy.

In 2011, he was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi. In 2012, he was elected Representative of the Northeast Region of Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Sociology Honors Society. He is an active member of the American Sociological Association and the

Eastern Sociological Society and an Associate Member of the National Association of School Psychologists. He also frequently serves as a peer-reviewer for several academic journals.

Statement:

I feel honored to have been nominated for the position of Treasurer of the Eastern Sociological Society. As an ESS member since the start of my career, I have enjoyed presenting papers and reuniting with colleagues at the annual meetings for many years. If given the opportunity to serve as Treasurer, I will bring creativity, enthusiasm, and dedication to the task. As an active member of our discipline's regional and national associations, and Alpha Kappa Delta, our International Honors Society, I have experienced the great value of professional service in a variety of capacities. I look forward now to the opportunity to serve our ESS membership in this new position.