

**Eastern Sociological Society
2008 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:

Rosanna Hertz is the Luella LaMer Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies at Wellesley College. For the last 8 years she has chaired the Women's Studies Department. She has held visiting positions at The Florence Heller Graduate School in the Social Welfare, Family and Children's Policy Center at Brandeis University and in the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Presently, she is also an affiliated Professor at Haifa University and Bar-Ilan University.

In her groundbreaking 1986 book, *More Equal Than Others: Women and Men in Dual-Career Marriages*, she provided an early framework for examining the dual-earner marriage. Using in-depth interviews with a select group of middle level employees she examined how couples cope with issues of equality, finances, and childrearing. She found that when faced with the choice between demanding relief from inflexible work schedules from their employers and purchasing services to substitute for "home-made" originals, dual-earner couples almost invariably meet the demands of employment. The New York Times (1986) praised the book for the "sober and informative" analysis it provided in what is often a controversial topic.

Two subsequent empirical studies featured equally penetrating analyses of the interaction between the social organization of family life and the demands of the external economy. The first study (co-authored with Joy Charlton) looked at how working class families whose members live on different shifts stitch together the fragments of their lives to make something whole as time. Of added interest was the context for the shiftwork: military bases which were among the first to integrate enlisted women into this combat career field. The second study focused on the dynamics of care and kinship. Hertz interviewed couples of different social classes and racial groups about how they made the decisions about childcare arrangements in order to better understand how ideological beliefs about parenthood, racial concerns about minority status of children and work schedules are factors that inform parents' decisions.

Her articles from these studies and others have appeared in *Social Problems*, *Gender & Society*, *Journal of Family Issues*, *Symbolic Interaction*, *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*, *Journal of Community*, *Work and Family*, *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography* and *The Annals*. In addition, she worked with Karen Hansen, Anita Garey and Cameron McDonald to edit two issues of *Journal of Family Issues* on "Care and Kinship" (2002).

Rosanna teamed with Nancy Marshall to organize the first Alfred P. Sloan and the Business and Professional Women's Foundation conference on Work and Families (Boston 1998). They published an edited collection, *Working Families: The Transformation of the American Home* (2001) from papers presented at this conference. This book addresses issues that face diverse families in a changing economy. It speaks to the need for a national discussion about family policies to address work/family concerns.

In 2006 she published her second major book, *Single by Chance, Mothers by Choice: How Women Are Choosing Parenthood Without Marriage and Creating the New American Family* as the culmination of a ten-year project during which she conducted two rounds of interviews (separated by 5 years) with middle-class single mothers. The women she studied elected to bypass the storied passage from love to marriage to motherhood and to become mothers through donor-assistance, adoption and chancing pregnancy. Hertz' book charts the interplay between women's strategies to become mothers and the still dominant two-parent cultural model; in particular, she explored the place of men in these families and the role of childcare providers as they enable mothers to navigate work-family tradeoffs. In an epilogue, which updates the changing lives of these women, Hertz provides a model for longitudinal qualitative research. The Times Literary Supplement (2007) noted: "Indeed, Hertz is at her best when she captures the messiness, the idiosyncrasies of individual choices and compromises...." *Single by Chance, Mothers by Choice* was a finalist for the C. Wright Mills Award (2006).

Rosanna has had a long-standing interest in qualitative methodology as a field of inquiry that crisscrosses the borders of various disciplines in the social sciences and humanities. She was the editor of *Qualitative Sociology* from 1991-1999 (with Jonathan Imber, 1991-1994). Her interest in epistemology also led to a series of edited collections: *Studying Elites Using Qualitative Methods* (edited with Jonathan B. Imber, 1995); *Voice and Reflexivity* (1997); *Qualitative Sociology as Everyday Life* (edited with Barry Glassner, 1999); and *Our Studies, Ourselves: Sociologists' Lives and Work* (edited with Barry Glassner, 2003). She has also published extensively on qualitative methodology in *Qualitative Inquiry* (1989), *Symbolic Interaction* (2003) and *Journal of Marriage and the Family* (2006). Most recently, she was the co-editor of the Backstage Column for *Contexts* (2004-2007) and a member of the board for the Rose Monograph Series (2000-2003). She completed two terms on the International Advisory Board for the *Handbook on Qualitative Research* (1997-1999, 2002-2005). Presently, she is on the editorial board of *Qualitative Sociology* (2000-present), *Journal of Community, Work and Family* (1997-present) and *Journal of Family Issues* (1998 –present.) Her embrace of multiple research methods has also provided the foundation for her effort to build Wellesley College's first interdisciplinary department in Women's Studies while she retains deep roots in the ethnographic traditions of Sociology.

Rosanna is presently working on a global study of social welfare policies on the state and corporate levels. Partnering with colleagues in Britain, Spain, Norway, Slovenia, Israel and Japan, she hopes to learn why some global corporations have succeeded in implementing family friendly workplace structures while others have tried but failed.

Rosanna has done substantial service for the Eastern Sociological Society over thirteen years. She served on the Executive Committee (2002-2005); the Merit Award Committee 2003-2005 (Chair 2004-2005); Robin Williams Committee (2003-2004); Candace Rogers Award Committee (Chair 2002-2003); and the Komarovsky Book Award Committee, 1998- 2001 (Chair 2000-2001). She served on the ESS Committee on the Status of the Profession (1994 –1996). Rosanna has also been active in the ASA where she served on the ASA Committee on Nominations (2003-2005). She chaired the ASA Committee for the Award for Distinguished Contributions to Teaching, (1994-1997). She served both the Family Section (1999-2000) and the Sex and Gender Section (2003-2004) on their nominating committees and she was a member of the Goode Book Award Committee (2002-2003).

Statement:

"I am honored to be nominated for the Presidency of the ESS. Regional meetings have always been incredibly important to me. Starting with the Midwestern Sociological Society when I was a graduate student and then at "the Easterns" (which was the envy of those of us in the Midwest) I learned how to be a professional: how to present papers and how to give (and more importantly, how to receive) criticism. I admired the mid-career scholars who critiqued my work and taught me how to improve it. At the ESS as a junior faculty member I met other sociologists who would come to play significant roles in my intellectual development and offer me sage advice about institutional life. They came to represent the cornerstones in my "virtual" community of scholars—men and women critical to those of us who labor away in small departments and in institutions with few sociologists. I credit my colleagues throughout the ESS with shaping my career as I hope I have shaped (and will continue to shape) the career paths of younger scholars in the various administrative and editorial capacities I have worked hard at over the years. I have remained an active, productive and cutting-edge scholar while taking seriously my responsibility as a teacher, mentor and institution-builder.

Having served under several ESS presidents in varying capacities in the past years I watched in admiration as they and their boards turned the ESS around. The ESS has returned to the hub of intellectual vitality and financial stability. The experience of turnaround in the ESS has convinced me that we need different generations to commit to continued participation in order for this organization to remain the hub of sociology. This includes the importance of undergraduates participating in these meetings.

I believe that there are huge opportunities that we have only begun to tap. Three, in particular, are worth exploring. First, we are acutely aware of demographic shifts occurring in the population as a whole; as the baby boom generation prepares to retire, a new generation is finding its way into the field of sociology with a very different history, a different set of expectations, and a very different sense of the world around it. The ESS ought to harness the potential of its diverse, multi-generation membership. For example, at future ESS meetings I would like to have "State of the Art Sessions" where newer and older scholars can think through the present and the future of their specialties (and new ones), the institutions in which they practice them, and the profession as a whole. These sessions will be useful for scholarship and for pedagogy. The balance

is between where new research is going and discussing how to implement this in our teaching.

Second, the ESS is an important crossroads for local, state and national debates. As more sociologists work in interdisciplinary departments, professional schools and outside academic institutions, we need to find ways to bring these perspectives back to ESS while maintaining our commitment to those members located in sociology departments. I would work to increase both the level and the intensity of ESS participation, as well as the benefits people receive from participation by promoting many types of dialogue with the diverse group of scholars, teachers and practitioners in this region.

Third, the crisis in liberal arts institutions is about accountability for what we do as scholars and teachers. Sociology as a discipline is well-poised to be part of what will become a national conversation about the nature of higher education. I will work to put the ESS at the center of that conversation by making visible our knowledge and essential contributions to and about social life. We need to make people aware of the utility of a sociological perspective –not just through media and policy (which are critical) but through the day-to-day work we all do."

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

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

them in the institutional contexts in which both are produced.

Zussman edited *Qualitative Sociology* from 1999-2004 and from 2000-2006 was one of the co-editors of the American Sociological Association's *Rose Monograph Series*. He was the "nano feature" editor of *Contexts* for three years. With Naomi Gerstel and Dan Clawson, he co-edited *Families at Work* (Vanderbilt University Press, 2002). With the other editors of the *Rose* series and Michael Burawoy, he co-edited *Public Sociology* (University of California Press, 2007), to which he and Joya Misra also contributed an introduction. Zussman has served on the ASA's committee on employment and chaired the ASA's Distinguished Book Award Committee. As a long time member of the Eastern Sociological Society, Zussman has served on the Robin Williams Lecture committee and chaired the society's publications committee. He currently sits on the editorial board of *Sociological Forum*.

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

Statement:

"I have lived my entire professional life in the Northeast (in a radius of about 100 miles from a point somewhere in southern Connecticut). The Easterns have long been an important part of that life. A meeting of the Easterns in New York City was the first professional conference I attended when I was a first or second year graduate student. I remember listening to a few sessions and cowering in the book exhibit, desperately looking for someone-anyone—I knew and could talk to. Although the Eastern meetings have since come to seem much more welcoming—a place to see old friends and colleagues as well as to make new ones—I have not forgotten my first timid initiation.

The Easterns are probably in the best shape they have been in for many years. The Robin Williams lectureship, still little more than a decade old, has increased the visibility of the society. Recent annual meetings have been well attended. A new publishing contract for *Sociological Forum*, the society's flagship publication, promises a break from

the periodic fiscal crises that have plagued the society in the past. And an accomplished and energetic new editor for the *Forum* (Karen Cerulo) will almost certainly increase the prominence of an already strong journal. Because of the extraordinarily good work of recent past officers and staff at the Easterns, the most important task for a new president may well be not to mess up a good thing. The ESS should build on these strengths.

First, the Easterns are eclectic. It is important to maintain an annual meeting that is open to a wide range of substantive, methodological, and political commitments as well as to sociologists of diverse backgrounds. Sociologists have probably become more specialized than ever before and the Easterns provide one of the few opportunities to transcend these specializations. A “general sociology” that is inclusive may be hard to find these days, but it is worth continuing the search.

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

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

Finally, the Easterns are, if not exactly intimate, much friendlier than the annual meetings of the ASA. The Easterns provide the opportunity to bring together students, faculty, and practitioners at different career stages, to bring together scholars and teachers from research universities, liberal arts colleges, and community colleges. Past presidents have been aware of this opportunity. I would continue and extend their efforts by setting up a series of informal discussion sessions that would bring together sociologists across academic rank and across employment settings to discuss common concerns about research and teaching. Elusive as the goal might be, I would like to imagine an annual meeting where nobody has to cower alone in the book exhibits.

Looking over a list of past candidates for

president of the ESS, I am both honored and humbled to be included among them. The ESS is a vital organization, with an important part to play in the life of students and faculty, of scholars, teachers, public sociologists and practitioners. I hope to have the opportunity to maintain and extend that tradition."

For Vice President:

Barrett (Barry) Lee is Professor of Sociology and a senior scientist in the Population Research Institute at Penn State University. A University of Washington Ph.D. (1980), he began his career on the Vanderbilt faculty, where he remained for a decade and directed the urban studies interdisciplinary program. Since moving from Vanderbilt to Penn State, he has served as department head (1996-2001), graduate officer (1991-1996), and undergraduate officer (2005-present).

Lee's primary research interests fall within urban sociology and demography. He has published widely on topics such as community attachment, neighborhood change, gentrification, residential mobility, local social networks, and spatial aspects of affluence. Presently he is engaged with a team of collaborators in developing an innovative approach to the conceptualization and measurement of racial and income-based residential segregation. Support for his work has been provided by NSF, NICHD, and the Brookings Institution, among other sources.

He also has a career-long commitment to understanding and addressing the issue of homelessness. Each year he teaches a popular “Homelessness in America” course that draws students from a variety of majors. His scholarly contributions, which appear in outlets ranging from *ASR* to *American Behavioral Scientist*, examine domiciled-homeless interactions and the antecedents and consequences of panhandling, criminal victimization, and food insecurity among homeless people. He has been active in the public domain as well, both as a member of a local homeless advocacy group and in an advisory capacity to government agencies.

With respect to organizational service, Lee is past chair of ASA's Community and Urban Sociology section, and he coordinated Penn State's involvement in the MOST (Minority Opportunities through School Transformation) program. Other ASA duties include *ASR* and *Contexts* editorial board appointments and regular participation in professional workshops at the annual meeting. From 2003 through 2006, he served on the ESS Executive Committee. He has chaired two ESS standing committees (Komarovskiy Book Award, Rogers Student Paper Award) and been a member of a third (Williams Lectureship).

Statement:

“Despite cutting my teeth in the Pacific Sociological Association and still belonging to the Southern Sociological Society, I have come to appreciate why ESS has so many loyal friends: it ranks at the forefront of regional associations in our discipline. Its continued vitality, however, depends on the ability to attract new members and meet their needs. If privileged to serve, I will work to sustain the positive trend already underway toward greater inclusiveness. This means reaching out to students and to underrepresented groups. Sociologists in applied settings and in locations beyond the “coastal core” should also be informed of the benefits of ESS membership and made to feel welcome. So should persons engaged in promoting the value of sociological knowledge outside the academy, particularly in matters of public interest and policy. In addition to stepped-up recruiting efforts, we should think carefully about how the appeal of our various vehicles for fostering scholarly community (e.g., the annual meeting and *Sociological Forum*) might be enhanced. Simply put, what can we do to make participation in ESS a satisfying experience for as broad a range of individuals as possible?”

Pamela Stone is Professor of Sociology at Hunter College, The City University of New York (CUNY), and also holds an appointment on the doctoral faculty in Sociology at the Graduate Center, CUNY. She received her BA from Duke University and her PhD from Johns Hopkins University, both in Sociology. Prior to coming to Hunter, she was a researcher at the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), where she worked on the now landmark study that evaluated the federal government’s occupational information system and assessed the potential of pay equity policy. The recipient of a fellowship at the Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, during 1998-2000, she also served as the Associate Director of Radcliffe’s Public Policy Institute during 2000-2001 while on leave from Hunter. Stone’s research interests are stratification and inequality, occupations and professions, and labor force demography, with a special interest in work and gender, including issues such as job segregation, pay equity, and the work-family interface. Her research has been supported by a variety of funders, among them the National Science Foundation and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

Stone has published articles in edited volumes, sociology journals such as *American Sociological Review* and *Teaching Sociology*, and interdisciplinary journals such as *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* and *Journal of Women, Politics and Policy*, and is the author of two books. The first grew out of her work

at NAS, the co-authored *Work, Jobs, and Occupations* (National Academy Press, 1980), a critical analysis and validation of the *Dictionary of Occupational Titles* (DOT). This book and related articles provided scholars across a spectrum of disciplines and far-ranging applications with an authoritative evaluation that significantly broadened research use of the DOT’s standardized measures of work requirements, conditions, and responsibilities. One of her articles on the subject (with Donald Treiman) was named an ASR “greatest hit” based on citation frequency and long-term impact.

Her second book, *Opting Out?: Why Women Really Quit Careers and Head Home* (University of California, 2007), is the first study to explore and critically examine the so-called “opt-out revolution,” whereby high-achieving women are said to be forsaking careers for family. Based on in-depth life-history interviews and written in an accessible style, the book challenges conventional understandings and reveals the striking disconnect between the individualized rhetoric of choice that surrounds women’s decisions and the occupational and organizational milieus that actually shape them. Published in May, it has been selected for “Author Meets Critics” sessions at upcoming meetings of the Eastern and Southern Sociological Societies and has received considerable media attention, having been featured on NBC’s *Today* and *Weekend Today*, *The CBS Evening News*, and *ABC World News Tonight* among others and in print publications such as *Time*, *USA Today*, *US News & World Report*, *Business Week*, and *Newsweek*.

Stone’s research on inequality represents intersectionality in the broadest sense: the intersection of individual agency and structural constraint, the intersection of class, race, and especially gender; the intersection of basic and applied research, of scholarship and practice; and the intersection of disciplines, drawing on sociology, economics and psychology in particular. She takes a critical perspective, especially skeptical of the neoclassical model that has come to dominate much of our understanding of paid and unpaid labor. Stone is interested in method and measurement per se, and employs a mix of quantitative and qualitative approaches in her research.

Former chair of the Department of Sociology at Hunter (1987-1998), Stone was active in efforts to enhance teaching and learning, obtaining an NSF instrumentation grant to establish a computer lab and other grants to support curriculum development, e.g., a study of the representation of race and ethnicity in introductory sociology texts (published in *Teaching Sociology*). She also served as director of the department’s MS degree program in applied social research and as special assistant to then

Hunter President Donna Shalala. At CUNY, she has been involved in faculty development initiatives, including efforts to advance women in science and to explore new scholarship in the emerging field of carework studies. She is especially proud of having mentored a number of students who went on from Hunter to leading doctoral programs in sociology. She routinely reviews manuscripts for journals and publishers as well as grant proposals. A believer in the mission of public sociology, Stone shares her expertise with many different audiences and constituencies in and beyond the academy through public speaking, media appearances, op-eds, and consulting.

Stone has been active in ASA, serving as session organizer and in other capacities, including being an invited speaker at chairs conferences and a member of two special committees: one charged with the articulation of sociology curricula across two- and four-year colleges; another that oversaw ASA's NSF-funded national panel study of the learning and career outcomes of graduating sociology majors. She is a member of the Executive Committee of the Carework Network, an association of scholars and practitioners in the fields of carework and caregiving, and oversaw arrangements for its recent national conference in New York City in August, 2007, held in conjunction with the annual meetings of the ASA.

Stone is a long-time member of the ESS, having served on a number of committees including Papers and Employment and, most recently, Nominations. She also headed Local Arrangements for the 2004 annual meetings in New York City and has served as president, presenter, or discussant at numerous sessions.

Statement:

"It is a special honor and pleasure to be nominated for the ESS Vice Presidency. The "Easterns" have long been one of my favorite meetings, and are justifiably well-recognized for their mix of intimacy and high-caliber professionalism, qualities that I know are valued by ESS members who want to see this mix continued. Making sure that it is, in support of the Society's president, would be my highest priority. The ESS has long taken advantage of our location; as VP, increasing our outreach and impact through building more bridges to funders (especially foundations), media, and policymakers, primarily through the venue of our annual meeting, would also be among my highest priorities. ESS meetings have always been approachable and the environment non-threatening; junior scholars feel comfortable introducing new work and senior scholars can test-run work-in-progress. I would devote my efforts to sustaining this tradition of vitality and dynamism in

whatever way possible. Given that we have a lot of members employed in non-academic settings, I'd like to make sure that ESS is meeting the needs and showcasing the talents of this group. Having long worked with students, especially undergraduates from diverse backgrounds, most of whom are the first in their family to attend college, I see firsthand what it means to be unfamiliar with the academic tradition and intimidated by it. I am a big supporter of our student initiatives and want to continue to strengthen them. ESS meetings have recently become a magnet for smaller, more specialized mini-conferences, many of which attract scholars from outside our region, and I enthusiastically support these new initiatives.

The ESS has been blessed with hardworking and visionary leadership and dedicated members, with the result that our meetings continue to be innovative, our journal ever stronger, and our membership growing. Working with our new president and newly-elected leadership in other positions, I would bring to the job of the VP a perspective informed by my experience as an academic administrator, professor/teacher at a large public urban university, and scholar devoted to issues of social justice. If elected, I would look forward to continuing ESS's tradition of excellence, advancing the larger goals of our discipline and enriching the professional lives of our members."

For Executive Committee:

Gabriel Aquino, Assistant Professor at Westfield State College. My research focuses on Puerto Rican Intermarriages in the United States, and I am currently working on a project that focuses on interracial dating at small liberal art campuses using a mix-methodology. I have worked as a Research Scientist for the New York State Office of Mental Health, and received a teaching fellowship through the Consortium for a Strong Minority Presence where I taught for four years at Skidmore College as a full time lecturer. I am currently the chair to the Permanent Organization and Strategic Planning Committee for the Society for the Study of Social Problems. Additionally, I served on the Status of Minorities Committee in the Eastern Sociological Society and have been a member since 1997.

Statement:

"I have been a member of ESS for several years and know that although ESS serves many functions, I believe that its most important role is in fostering the professional development of our members and our students. As our discipline grows the regional, state, and local organizations have gained a greater responsibility, specifically ESS and the others have

taken the charge to train and socialize our members into the discipline. I have seen how ESS has pursued this mission and I would count myself a beneficiary of this great aim. If elected, I see my role in the Executive Committee as one which would support the continuation of this goal. As a graduate student, Lecturer, and Assistant Professor I have served on many committees and have been very engaged in giving service back to our discipline. I would be honored if allowed to serve in ESS."

Rebecca S.K. Li (Ph.D. 1998, UC Riverside) is Associate Professor of Sociology at The College of New Jersey (Ewing, NJ). Professor Li employs historical-comparative method to examine the interactions between market dynamics and state development in China. She is currently working on her book entitled *Globalization, Market, and State Development in China*. In this book, she uses state breakdown theories to first examine three cases of rebellion and one case of revolution in Qing China and finds that rapid commercial and market development can be as destabilizing as rapid population growth and geopolitical deterioration. Applying this theoretical framework to examine contemporary China, she then argues that while rapid market development has brought about changes in the Chinese state, it is not necessarily moving toward democracy. Professor Li's work has been published in *Sociological Theory* and *Sociological Inquiry*. She is a member of the editorial board of *Sociological Perspective*, and has served as reviewer for a number of refereed journals. She is a long-time member of the Pacific Sociological Association, having served on the students affairs committee and organized numerous paper sessions in sociological theory and globalization and professional workshops. She has also organized professional workshops at ASA. She has been a member of ESS since 1998 and served on the program committee of the 2005 annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

Statement:

"I strongly believe that regional associations like the ESS have an important role to play in the profession. When I was in graduate school in California, the Pacific Sociological Association served me very well in welcoming me to the community of sociologists and socializing me into a young scholar. The experience has inspired me to give back to the discipline in whatever way I can. That is why I continue to participate in PSA meetings, giving paper presentations and workshops to help graduate students and young scholars early in their career. In addition to playing this important role in the professional socialization of graduate students and

young scholars, the ESS is also uniquely positioned to have serious impacts on the discipline given the high concentration of fine sociology departments in the region. Over the years, I have presented at the ESS annual meeting every year and I found myself engaging in intellectual discussions that are highly stimulating each and every time. If elected, I will work with other executive committee members to take advantage of the wealth of intellectual resources in the region to make the annual meetings one of the most intellectually stimulating events in sociology as well as a welcoming home where fellow sociologists come to share their work and life. I will also work with others to reach out to the community to further strengthen the association's finances and to expand its membership."

Arthur Paris is an Associate Professor of Sociology in the Maxwell School at Syracuse University. He taught previously at Rutgers University-Camden, Cornell University and has also been a visiting professor at the Free University-Berlin and the University of Pennsylvania. Author of *Black Pentecostalism: Southern Religion in an Urban World* (U. Mass. Press, 1981), his work in recent years has moved toward studying market development, innovation, and public policy in the Computing and Telecom industries. He has also written about changing US cityscapes both their demographics and political economies and has continued to write about popular culture.

His articles have appeared in *The Review of Black Political Economy*, *Journal of Ethnic Studies*, and *Journal of Negro Education*. He has also contributed essays and chapters to several other books and journals, and reviews to *Contemporary Sociology* et al.

A long time member of ESS, he has served on its Minorities and Papers Committees, and organized, chaired, and presented at numerous session and panels. He has also been an active member of the Association of Black Sociologists (ABS), been its Membership Committee chr., co-editor of several issues of *The Black Sociologist*, & co-editor of its book reviews. He has also organized and chaired panels and presented at numerous ABS conferences.

Statement:

"I am honored to be nominated to serve on the ESS Executive Committee. As a long-standing member, I have both benefited from the intellectual and collegial support it has afforded, and in turn have used its offices to mentor younger scholars. I look forward to helping the organization continue its successful efforts in recent years of reaching out to, and bringing into the organization researchers and

practitioners from constituencies which had formerly been mainly subjects of our research. I also look forward to encouraging use of newer communications technologies to leverage its outreach and gain voice in arenas where the work that ESS constituents are doing needs to be heard and have influence."

Rebecca Plante (Ph.D. 1997, SUNY-Stony Brook) is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Ithaca College. She joined Ithaca in 2003. Before that she was an Assistant Professor at Wittenberg University and taught at the University of New Hampshire and Tufts University. She also spent a year as a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Behavioral Sciences (College of Medicine), at the University of Kentucky (1998-99).

Plante studies sexualities, social psychology, and culture, employing mixed method analyses of the intersections of self and society. Her primary research questions revolve around how individuals give meaning to their sexual and gendered experiences. Current research includes a multi-site study, begun by Paula England at Stanford, of short-term sexual relationships among students and young adults. She is especially intrigued by the pathways into and out of various forms of intimacy. Prior applied work includes evaluation studies of HIV/AIDS education and prevention in three states and stints as a certified sexual health educator. She has also served in section leadership in the ASA, including the Animals and Society and the Sexualities sections.

Publications include *Sexualities in Context* (Westview, 2006) and *Sexualities: Identities, Behaviors, and Society*, co-edited with Michael S. Kimmel (Oxford University Press, 2004). Her research and reviews have appeared in *Gender & Society*, *Journal of Homosexuality*, *Sexualities*, *Symbolic Interaction*, and several edited volumes and undergraduate course readers. She is currently finishing a book about dating and popular culture.

Statement :

"I am honored to be nominated for the ESS Executive Committee. Having presented at a number of regional meetings, I can attest to the particular vibrancy of the Eastern region and the Society. If elected, I would work to strengthen mentoring, networking, and professionalization for sociologists of color, particularly for students. I also have a long-term interest in expanding the power of sociological inquiry and enhancing the general public's understanding of the crucial work we do."