

**For President:** (Select One)

**David Lindstrom** is Professor and former Chair of the department of sociology at Brown University. In addition to completing two consecutive terms as Chair, he has served as Director of Graduate Studies, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs in the Graduate School, and Director of the Center for Latin American Studies. Lindstrom is the founder and current Director of the master's degree program in Social Analysis and Research at Brown, and a faculty affiliate of the Population Studies and Training Center. He completed his undergraduate studies in Sociology and History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and received his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Chicago. His research examines the determinants and consequences of migration in economically developing societies, adolescent health and sexual behavior, and the changing dynamics of reproductive health and behavior.

Lindstrom's work on migration has focused primarily on the influence of place of origin characteristics on out- and return-migration, and the interrelationships between migration and other demographic behavior in places of origin at the individual, household and community level. Early work identified the important influence that origin community investment opportunities have on the choice of internal versus US migration in Mexico, and the decision on trip duration. Subsequent work on the impact of US migration experience on the occupational mobility of return migrants in Mexico provides evidence that return migrants encounter considerable friction in reentry into the Mexican labor market and in effect pay a penalty in terms of short- and long-term occupational mobility in Mexico for the time they spend outside of the Mexican labor market. He also examines the interrelationship between Mexico-US migration and family formation to show how couples make decisions about the timing of births, the location of childbearing and childrearing, and return to Mexico. Using retrospective migration and birth histories for couples from the Mexican Migration Project, he provides one of the very few empirical examples linking differential fertility and migration behaviors to selection effects, and one of the first examples of the potential diffusion effects of the low fertility of return migrant women on the fertility of non-migrant women in communities of origin. He has explored the effects of US and internal migration experience on a range of reproductive health behaviors in Guatemala and showed that urban as well as US migration experience leads to greater contraceptive use, lower fertility, and greater use of prenatal care and that return migrant women model reproductive health behaviors to non-migrant women. Current work examines long-term trends in Mexican migrant integration into the United States and the impact of U.S. migration experience on long-term health.

His work has been published in *Social Forces*, *Social Science Research*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *Social Biology*, *International Migration Review*, *Demography*, *Population Studies*, *Studies in Family Planning*, and *International Family Planning Perspectives* among other journals. He has received grants for his research from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Compton Foundation and RAND. Lindstrom served for many years as a panel member of the Population Sciences Subcommittee of NICHD, and he recently completed a term as a council member of the Section on Population of the American Sociological Association, and was a member of the section's Otis Dudley Duncan Book Award Committee.

Throughout his career he has been actively engaged in primary data collection and he has directed surveys in Mexico, Guatemala and Ethiopia. Lindstrom is currently a Co-Investigator on

the NIH supported Mexican Migration Project, and he will take-over the directorship of the project in 2020. As part of his program of research on Mexico-U.S. migration, Lindstrom has been very active in graduate level training in Mexico at the prestigious El Colegio de México in Mexico City, where he was a Distinguished Visiting Professor of the Mexican Academy of Sciences and the Mexico-United States Foundation. He regularly teaches a modular course on Event History Analysis, serves on thesis committees, and was a co-organizer of the Brown International Advanced Research Institute-Mexico on Migration in the Americas (2018), and the Advanced Research Institute on Migration (2019) that brought together young migration scholars from across Latin America.

With support from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Compton Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, NIAID, and NSF, Lindstrom directed a long-term training and research program in Ethiopia. The international team was engaged in a program of policy-relevant, scientific research on adolescent life-course transitions, physical and reproductive health, and sexual risk taking. The center piece of the collaboration was the Jimma Longitudinal Family Survey of Youth (JLFSY), which followed a cohort of 13-17 year-old youth for seven years. To date, the project has produced over 40 published articles, book chapters, and working papers; given over 60 presentations of research findings at scientific meetings, professional conferences, and invited lectures; produced 38 policy briefs highlighting key research findings and recommending implementable interventions, and produced public health messages for broadcast on local radio in the study area. Lindstrom has presented the study's key findings to national meetings of senior policy makers and service providers in Ethiopia and has changed the way university based research is disseminated in the country.

**Statement:**

I am honored to be nominated to for the Presidency of the Eastern Sociological Society. The ESS is an outstanding exemplar of how a regional professional society should function. It provides a networking and community building opportunity for faculty and students spread across a wide range of institutional settings. It offers junior scholars and students a critical opportunity to present their work, in many instances for the first time. It serves as an important gateway into the discipline for undergraduate students, and it provides a constructive and supportive forum for the exchange of innovative theoretical, methodological and substantive work. If elected president, I would be committed to preserving and enhancing these important functions, along with being mindful of the core values of inclusivity and diversity. The ESS is its members, and the program of the annual meeting should draw upon and be reflective of the diverse backgrounds, interests, and sociological approaches of its membership. If elected president I would pursue a number of additional goals. First, we live in an era in which scientific expertise is discounted and mistrusted by a significant proportion of the public and leading political figures. We need to combat the “sociology is goobledygook” characterization – we cannot pretend that it is does not matter nor think that we cannot do anything about it. We need to more effectively communicate the relevancy of sociology to understanding social behavior and addressing pressing social problems. The annual meeting provides an opportunity to showcase sociological research that can inform public policy and make complex social processes and relationships understandable. I would work to bring media attention to research findings of major public interest presented at the annual meeting. Second, we need to increase the participation of undergraduates in the annual meeting. Trend data on undergraduate sociology majors published by the ASA show a steady

growth in the number of sociology majors since the mid-1980s. We should not be complacent about this. One of the lessons I learned as department chair was that existing majors are the most effective recruiters of new majors. The more we connect sociology students to a broader regional community of sociologists and demonstrate to them the value and relevancy of sociology to a range of careers and professions, the more our undergraduate programs will grow. Third, we can do more to engage and professionalize graduate students. We need to look beyond the annual meeting as the only mechanism for engaging graduate students. I have considerable experience using web-based teleconferencing tools to conduct joint seminars and presentations across distant locations. These tools can be used to bring graduate students together in the region for thematically focused seminars and workshops that can culminate in student sessions at the annual meetings. Finally, we can do more to increase participation among all groups in the annual meetings through personal outreach and invitations. Nothing is more effective in getting people to participate than a personal invitation. Finally, I would work very closely with the executive committee and reach out to a diverse group of colleagues throughout the region to solicit their ideas and opinions, and to harness their wisdom and experience.

**Robert Courtney Smith** is Professor in the Austin W. Marxe School of Public and International Affairs, Baruch College, and Department of Sociology, and Program in Social Welfare, Graduate Center, CUNY. He authored *Mexican New York: Transnational Worlds of New Immigrants* (University of California Press, 2006), which won the ASA's 2008 Distinguished Book Award, three ASA section awards – the Thomas and Znaniecki Award from the International Migration section, the Robert Park Award from the Urban and Community Sociology section, and the Latinx Sociology section (co-winner) -- and a CUNY Presidential Award. He has received grants from W.T. Grant Foundation, National Science Foundation, Social Science Research Council, the Spencer Foundation/National Academy of Education. He has published in key journals, including *American Sociological Review*, *Racial and Ethnic Studies*, and the *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. He has been a Russell Sage Foundation Fellow, an Advanced Research Cooperative Fellow, and a Guggenheim Foundation Fellow. He recently published a book, *Immigration and Strategic Health Communication: Lessons from the Transnational Seguro Popular Project* (with Don Waisanen and Guillermo Yrizar Barbosa; Routledge, 2019).

Smith is at work on three books. The first is *Horatio Alger Lives in Brooklyn, But Check His Papers* (California, under contract); the second is *This Is Still America! Voting Rights and Contested Immigrant Integration*. The third book (funded to 2021) studies effects of having, lacking, gaining or losing legal status for DACA recipients and other legal status Category Changers (those changing from undocumented to having DACA or permanent legal status). This book emerged from the Mexican Initiative on Deferred Action (MIDA), which did direct service across New York State promoting DACA applications, and began long-term (2015-2021) research on how legal status affects individual/family lives.

Smith's service within sociology includes being a member of ASA's International Migration section Council. He has served on awards committees, including for the Thomas and Znaniecki Award, the Louis Wirth Award, the International Migration's Public Sociology Award, the overall ASA's Public Understanding of Sociology Award, the Robert Park Award, the Latino/a/x Best Book award. He has served on review panels, eg for the National Science Foundation; and in NSF meetings on the scientific bases of qualitative research. He has been an Associate Editor of *Global Networks* since its founding.

Smith has worked with and within CUNY for two decades to promote CUNY's outreach to new immigrants (especially Mexicans, the largest newcomer group in NYC) and their success at CUNY. This includes over a decade on CUNY's Commission on the Educational Future of Mexicans and Mexican Americans; and election to the CUNY's Mexican Institute's Board (advisory;2012-present); and on scholarship selection committees. Smith was Lead for the CUNY-Mexican Consulate Leadership program, which did capacity building with Mexican community leaders and organizations, so they would see CUNY as home. He also pitched and helped get funded an Emerging Leaders Scholarship Program, which funded the MPAs of promising young immigrant community leaders. One (Cristina Jimenez) was awarded a MacArthur "genius" grant for her work on Dreamer issues and immigrants' rights. Smith's strategic site approach is reflected in his Expert Witness work. He was an Expert Witness for the Department of Justice in a Voting Rights Act case (US v Village of Port Chester), testifying about how discrimination violated Latinx voters right to elect candidates of their choice. This led to the *This is Still America!* research. Smith's work for the *Horatio Alger* book, and on DACA, informed his Expert testimony in two federal lawsuits in 2019, one defending DACA against states seeking to end it, and another alleging discrimination against DACA recipients. Smith also regularly does pro-bono expert testimony in deportation and asylum cases. Smith drafted a brief and organized others to submit an *amici brief of Empirical Scholars* to the US Supreme Court's DACA cases in November, 2019. Finally, Smith was a founder and is now Board Chair of Masa ([masany.org](http://masany.org)), a nonprofit promoting educational achievement, leadership and empowerment in the Mexican community in South Bronx.

**Statement:** I was honored to be invited to run for ESS President, and propose as the focus of the 2022 ESS Meetings the theme "Strategic Sites and Ways for Sociology to Fight Inequality and Injustice." The emphasis on strategic sites highlights complementary work sociological analysis can do. First, the emphasis on strategic sites invokes Robert Merton's prescription that, in basic research, sociologists seek out strategic sites and contexts that show social processes, such as inequality or injustice, with particular clarity. Second, this emphasis invites sociologists to identify and engage with strategic sites in the world (in their institutions and beyond) where their research can help fight the increasing inequality and injustice we confront today. These have been guiding principles in my own career. I think many sociologists would like to use their work to engage in and change the world, but are not always sure how. I hope to use the ESS meetings to bring other sociologists engaged in excellent basic research and in public sociology to develop our collective capacity to do such work.

We live in times of increasing inequality and injustice, where our institutions and political system seem incapable of taking necessary steps to fight universal problems, like climate change or political polarization or massive inequality, or to defend or expand the rights of targeted groups, including immigrants, the LGBTQ community, labor organizations, racial or ethnic or other minorities, and others, or to address the demands of various social movements, including MeToo, Black Lives Matter, the Dreamers, climate change or gun control action advocates, and others. Sociological analysis can help understand and fight such problems.

The 2022 ESS meetings would include the normal creation of sessions and panels, but I also propose some specific ways to promote more engagement with strategic sites for sociological research and public sociological engagement. First, I would seek to organize panels and/or

workshops that discuss and teach how to do public sociology and engagement, across various sectors (immigration, LGBTQ rights, public policies, etc). The themes for these workshops would be chosen based on a survey of ESS members, and would include ESS Council members or other ESS volunteers in leadership roles. One example might be how to do Expert Witness testimony in your field, or how to develop a public sociological strategy. Second, I would seek to organize workshops promoting mentoring relationships for graduate students and junior scholars to help them with both their basic research, and the public sociological work, as they wish. These could be organized by primary research interest. Third, related to the issue of strategic sites, we would convene panels or workshops discussing how to pursue one's research career and public sociology at different types of institutions. Research 1 universities, liberal arts colleges, large public universities, community college, and applied careers all offer different institutional contexts for pursuing a research career, or doing public sociological work. We would convene panels or workshops to ensure that ESS members from all these institutions could learn best practices and strategies to pursue their careers.

Finally, I would seek to recruit active participation reflecting the wide diversity among ESS members, including by race/ethnicity, sexual or gender identification, primary issues studied, as well as geographic and institutional (including Research 1 universities, 4 and 2 year college, and practitioners) diversity.

Thank you for reading this statement. If elected, I look forward to working with you to make the 2022 ESS meetings a success that helps sociology and sociologists fight increasing inequality and injustice.

**For Vice-President:** (Select One)

**Helen B. Marrow** is Associate Professor of Sociology at Tufts University, where she researches and teaches in the areas of migration, race and ethnicity, inequality and social policy, health, Latinxs, and research methods. She is author of *New Destination Dreaming: Immigration, Race, and Legal Status in the Rural American South* (Stanford University Press, 2011) and co-editor of *The New Americans: A Guide to Immigration since 1965* (Harvard University Press, 2007, with Mary C. Waters and Reed Ueda). She is recipient of the 2008 Best Dissertation Award from the American Sociological Association; the 2011 Distinguished Contribution to Research Article Award from the Latino/a Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association; the 10th Anniversary Recognition Award of the Association of Mexicans in North Carolina (AMEXCAN); an Honorable Mention for the 2014 Distinguished Early Career Award given biannually by the Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities of the American Sociological Association; and the 2019 Lillian and Joseph Leibner Award for Excellence in Teaching and Advising at Tufts.

Helen is currently engaged in two collaborative, interdisciplinary research projects. The first—entitled *The Study of Immigrants and Non-Immigrants in Atlanta and Philadelphia (SINAP)*, and conducted in collaboration with political scientist Michael Jones-Correa, sociologist Dina G. Okamoto, and social psychologist Linda R. Tropp—investigates how immigration-driven diversity in metropolitan America shapes patterns of intergroup contact, threat, trust, and civic engagement between immigrant and U.S.-born groups of different socioeconomic and racial statuses. We are currently writing up results from this project in a book manuscript entitled *Welcoming Diversity: Blacks, Whites, and Immigrants in Segregated Cities*. The second—

conducted in collaboration with political scientist Amanda Klekowski von Koppenfels—utilizes an original, nationally-representative online survey of U.S.-born Americans to examine the correlates and predictors of Americans’ aspirations to move and live abroad, including how they may have changed between 2014 and 2019.

**Statement:**

I am very honored to be nominated for Vice President of the Eastern Sociological Society. I have long enjoyed ESS for the opportunities it provides to hear high-quality research-in-progress and to meet exciting scholars who work at a variety of institutions throughout the region—especially graduate students, since I work at an undergraduate-only institution. In the past, I have organized thematic panels on race and immigration, organized and/or served as discussant on author-meets-critics panels, and mentored graduate students and junior faculty through the ESS mentoring program on an ongoing basis. If elected, I will work to select exciting author-meets-critics sessions, with a special emphasis on promoting new and creative scholarship by emerging junior scholars. I will also work to encourage membership and attendance at the annual meeting, and to ensure we put forward a diverse slate of nominees for future elections.

**Laurel Smith-Doerr** is Professor of Sociology at University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Smith-Doerr investigates how scientific collaboration, gender, and organizations are connected and where equity and innovation are fostered. Results of this research have been published in her book, *Women’s Work: Gender Equity v. Hierarchy in the Life Sciences*, and scholarly journals, including the ESS flagship journal *Sociological Forum*; *Science, Technology and Human Values*; *Administrative Science Quarterly*; *Sociological Perspectives*; and *Gender & Society*. She was co-editor of the 2017 *Handbook of Science and Technology Studies* (MIT Press), and with the other handbook editors won the STS Infrastructure award from the Society for Social Studies of Science. Her published work has been cited more than 15,000 times. Her 2019 article with colleagues in the *American Journal of Sociology* provides an organization-level theory of the gender pay gap, explaining how different organizations pay women less than men using different kinds of organizational mechanisms. These organizational level processes are often hidden, but Smith-Doerr et al. present unique agency-level data for the population of US federal government workers to support their theory, with a focus on science agencies. In 2020 she is a Fulbright Scholar in Hamburg, working on a project that compares Artificial Intelligence (AI) knowledge production processes, racial equity, and the future of work in the US and Germany.

From 2007 until 2009 she was a Visiting Scientist and Program Director in Science, Technology and Society at the National Science Foundation. For her work at NSF in leading the Ethics Education in Science and Engineering program and serving on the committee implementing the ethics education policies of the U.S. Congress’ America COMPETES Act of 2007, Smith-Doerr received the NSF Director’s Award for Collaborative Integration. At University of Massachusetts, she was the Inaugural Director of the Institute for Social Science Research from 2013-2019. Smith-Doerr will serve as the UMass NSF ADVANCE Institutional Transformation grant PI when she returns to campus after sabbatical in 2019-2020. She was elected as a Council member-at-large for the Society for Social Study of Science (4S) from 2011-2013. For the American Sociological Association (ASA), she was elected as an at-large Council member (2012-2014), and is currently serving as the Chair of the Science, Knowledge and Technology (SKAT) section of the ASA.

At the 2019 annual meetings of the ESS, by invitation of ESS President Nazli Kibria and in collaboration with Joe Harris, Smith-Doerr organized a “Presidential Panel on Science and

Technology Studies in an Era of Anti-Science.” The thoughtful and thought-provoking talks by sociologists of science and ESS members who presented on that panel will be collected as articles in a special section of a forthcoming issue of the online 4S journal *Engaging Science, Technology & Society (ESTS)*. At the encouragement of Daniel Kleinman—a panel discussant and Editor of *ESTS*—Smith-Doerr will contribute an essay discussing a key theme across the articles. The working title is: “Hidden Injustice and Anti-Science.”

**Statement:**

If elected as the Vice President of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS), my main agenda for these times in which we now live will be to strategize with the ESS President about how the membership can best work together to support knowledge communities that we value. To me, this means advocating for science funding, particularly social science research funding, and even more specifically, advocating for supporting faculty and graduate student research in sociology. As a former NSF program officer, my inclination will be to support programs at that agency but I think it will also be important to build relationships with other science agencies in the US and abroad, private foundations, and state-based agencies in our region.

I would also like to bring issues of knowledge production, with a Science and Technology Studies (STS) sensibility, to more ESS conversations. I believe that many subfields of sociology are wrestling with issues of what it means to be engaged in debates about our role in shaping the development of technology and knowledge for more democratic outcomes. The Vice President’s role at ESS includes helping to organize Author Meets Critics book panels. If elected, I would like to see some book panels include reflexive conversations about sociology’s role in working for social justice in producing knowledge and developing technology. Sociologists should be at the forefront of conversations, for example, about social justice in AI and automation, environmental regulation, and health care technologies. I would also like to work with the ESS President and staff on ways that we can incorporate more public engagement in our conversations about these issues.

The work that you do is important, colleagues. It deserves resources and visibility. If I can be of service in this, I would be honored to receive your vote as ESS VP.

**For Executive Committee (Select Two):**

**Yao Lu** is an Associate Professor of Sociology, and faculty affiliate of the Columbia Population Research Center, Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, and Data Science Institute at Columbia University. Her research focuses on social stratification and inequality, with a primary emphasis on how migration intersects with sociopolitical processes to shape inequalities and politics in receiving and origin societies. Her recent and ongoing projects include the impacts of demographic processes such as migration on political outcomes; sources of gender, racial, and nativity inequality among highly-educated workers; immigrant labor market outcomes in the U.S. and Canada; and the consequences of parental migration for child well-being. Her work has drawn on mixed methods and data from a wide range of countries. Her research has appeared in both sociological and interdisciplinary journals and has been funded by grants from the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health (including a K01 Career Development Award), and the Russell Sage Foundation.

**Statement:** I am truly honored to be nominated to run for the ESS executive committee and to have an opportunity to serve the organization and its members. ESS has provided a great sense of

community for sociologists in the region and a platform for sharing exciting new research. I have benefited from attending the meetings and the access to local research communities provided by ESS. As someone whose research cuts across multiple subfields and methodologies, I hope to promote cross-field and cross-method dialogue to facilitate academic cross-pollination and advance scholarship throughout the discipline. I would also like to work with other members of the committee to broaden the reach of ESS, especially to facilitate translation of research to practice and policy.

**Diditi Mitra** is Associate Professor of Sociology at Brookdale Community College. She earned her Ph.D. in Sociology at Temple University. Mitra has authored *Punjabi Immigrant Mobility in the United States: Adaptation through Race and Class* and co-edited *Race and the Lifecourse: Readings from the Intersection of Race, Ethnicity and Age* with colleague Dr. Joyce Weil. Her research on South Asian immigrants has been published in journals such as *International Migration*, *Journal of Asian American Studies*, *Working USA*, *Journal of Punjab Studies*. Currently, she is exploring the intersections of family and gender identities and roles in immigration from Punjab, India to the United States.

Mitra has served as President of Mid Atlantic Region Association of Asian Studies (MARAAS). Prior to taking on the role of the President, she served as the Vice President and program chair for MARAAS' 2006 annual conference. Furthermore, Mitra has served on the status committee for racial and ethnic minorities for the American Sociological Association. She is co-chair of the Committee on Community Colleges for Eastern Sociological Society. In that capacity, she is representing the committee as a member of the program for Eastern Sociological Society's annual conference in 2020. Recently, Mitra joined the editorial collective at *Sikh Research Journal*.

As a sociologist interested in issues of social justice, she teaches for NJ Scholarship and Transformative Education in Prison (NJ STEP) which is a consortium of higher educational institutions that offer higher educational degrees to the incarcerated and assist with former prisoners' transition back to non-prison life.

Mitra is also a Kathak (a North Indian classical dance form) dancer and dabbles in poetry. As a dancer, she has volunteered to teach dance at an organization in New Jersey that promoted the well-being of homeless women and children and teaches Kathak part-time at Nriya Creations Academy of Dance.

**Statement:** Let me begin by stating that I am honored run for a position on the Executive Committee for Eastern Sociological Society. To the executive committee, and Eastern Sociological Society broadly, I bring my commitment to innovation, equity and inclusivity as a teacher, researcher and sociologist. Thus, if elected, my focus will be on the following:

A. As a sociologist for whom teaching is central to her professional routine, I will strive to expand the definition of "production" such that labor of teachers is sufficiently recognized. Teachers' invisible work nurtures minds so that they develop the knowledge and skills to critically engage with society. But for the discipline of Sociology specifically, teachers undertake a responsibility that is of grave significance – "raise" sociologists who will subsequently pursue research and move the field forward. Aren't teachers producing too then? Speaking pointedly about (sociology) faculty at community colleges offer one must note yet another reason to include teachers in the spotlight – they further an educational philosophy to expand access to higher education to those who have traditionally been excluded from it. Teaching faculty, like those who primarily pursue research, are hence of immense value to the discipline of Sociology.

My goal as a member of the executive committee will be to ensure they are given the respect due to them and secure their place among Sociologists.

B. Given the multi-method and non-traditional methodologies I employ in my research, I will strive to be inclusive of research that challenges traditional ways to do sociology. More specifically, my research has shed light on the under explored experiences of Punjabi (specifically Sikh immigrants) in sociological analysis. For this group, I look at the intertwining influences (simultaneous or intersecting) of race, immigrant status and socioeconomic status on the location of this group in American society. With my current work, I add gender to the analysis in examining the decision making in Punjabi households regarding immigration. In order to explore all these dimensions of the Punjabi immigrant (Sikh, particularly) experience, I integrate visual methods (film and photographs) with data obtained via ethnography and semi-structured interviewed. By so doing, I assert the importance of stretching the sociological imagination and bring to the Executive Committee the zeal to pursue innovation in scientific investigation.

C. For someone whose interest in social change catalyzed interest in sociology, I will invest in advancing efforts to celebrate sociologists who bridge theory and practice. Contained within the sociological framework is the concept of self-reflexivity that sets the stage for transformation in self and society. Moreover, I believe that the knowledge obtained by sociologists through their research should be utilized to influence social policy. After all, sociology is about society. Hence, I will seek out sociologists who engage with the public, or do “public sociology,” as well as sociologists who attempt to build the bridge between thought and practice within themselves (self-reflexivity) and encourage their participation in Eastern Sociological Society.

**Ellis Monk** is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Harvard University, where he is also a faculty affiliate of the Department of African & African American Studies and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs. He earned his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of California, Berkeley and a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He previously taught at the University of Chicago and Princeton University. His research focuses on the comparative examination of social inequality, especially with respect to race and ethnicity, in global perspective. This research uses both quantitative and qualitative methods, while drawing heavily upon contemporary theories of social cognition and categories. His research on colorism and health won the Oliver Cromwell Cox Article Award from the ASA Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities and the Outstanding Recent Contribution to Social Psychology Award, from the ASA Social Psychology Section. At Harvard, he recently won the George Kahrl Award for Excellence in Teaching. In addition to a series of articles on colorism and bodily capital, he is currently working on his book manuscript, "Tracing the Color Line: Race, Bodily Capital, and Inequality in the U.S. & Brazil."

Currently, he serves as a member of the editorial board of *Sociological Forum* and *Frontiers in Sociology (Race and Ethnicity)*. Previously he was an editorial board member of *Sociological Theory* and the *American Journal of Sociology*, in addition to most recently serving as a Consulting Editor for the *American Journal of Sociology*. As a member of the ASA he serves as a council member for the ASA Section on Sociological Theory, a member of the ASA Dissertation Award Committee, and served as a member of the Regional Planning Committee, as well as co-organizer of the ASA Theory Section's Junior Theorists Symposium. For the ESS he served on the Program Committee in 2018.

**Statement:** I am honored to have been nominated for the Executive Committee. I have greatly enjoyed ESS since my move to the East Coast. Serving on the Program Committee was an honor and a pleasure. ESS is a welcoming and vibrant space for scholars to share their work and make important connections across the discipline. As a potential member of the Committee, I look forward to maintaining ESS's commitment to remaining a heterogeneous and inclusive organization. Above all, I have always been impressed by ESS's ability to organize high quality panels across fields and sub-fields; and how, through its accessibility and affordability, ESS manages to bring together sociologists across different career stages (including undergraduates). As such it has and will continue to serve a vital role in the health and future growth of our discipline. If elected, I will work to carry on this admirable tradition and ensure that ESS continues its mission.

**Myron T. Strong** graduated with his Ph.D. in sociology from the University of North Texas. He has B.A. in English and minor in chemistry and a M.Ed. in secondary education from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the Community College of Baltimore County in Baltimore, Maryland. His current research is Afrofuturism and explores race, gender and other social factors in modern comics. His two most recent articles were published in *Sociological Forum* and *Context*. In *Sociological Forum*, "The Emperor Has New Clothes: How Outsider Sociology Can Shift the Discipline" explores the ways that the discipline of sociology fails to address the needs of community college sociologists and marginalizes them as outsiders. It argues that the structure of the discipline both training and focus is the major barrier to becoming inclusive. Based on this, it explores ways in which sociology can be inclusive of community college sociologists and how they can address their needs. This article won the ESS Barbara R. Walters Community College Faculty Award in 2019. Published in *Context* "Afrofuturism and Black Panther," uses an Afrofuturism perspective to analysis the movie *Black Panther*. It was significant because it builds on previous work and continues to position Afrofuturism as a great perspective to understand and unlock the meaning of the cultural texts of Black life.

His most recent co-authored book *Sociology in Stories: A Creative Introduction to a Fascinating Perspective: a Customized Version for The Community College of Baltimore County* uses multiple lenses to frame the sociological stories that make up each chapter. Stories in this book take both macro and micro settings and feature stories like the "Sociology of Spongebob," "Uncle Sam and the Crowd," and "That's My Car" to teach sociological theory and sociological concepts. This narrative based approach also examines the broad view of social structure that reflects patterned arrangements that guide social behavior and the agency people use within their lives to express their independence from social structure.

Being involved in the discipline was one of my main goals and since obtaining my doctorate in 2014. I have served on numerous committees for ESS, ABS and ASA. Currently at ESS, I am the co-chair of the Committee on Community Colleges and a member on the Committee on Teaching. I am also part of ESS mentoring initiatives. Within ASA, I serve on the following committees: Committee on the Status Race and Ethnic Minorities, ASA Annual Meeting Travel Fund Selection Committee, and the Organizing Committee for the Third Annual Teaching Symposium for the 2020 annual meeting. I am also a council member for both the Race, Gender, and Class and the Sex and Gender sections of ASA.

**Statement:** I really appreciate the support for nomination for the executive committee. As I write this statement, I think of Toni Morrison's remarks on how a pursuit of higher education is a pursuit of freedom that once obtain should be paid forward. "I tell my students," said Morrison, "When you get these jobs that you have been so brilliantly trained for, just remember that your real job is that if you are free, you need to free somebody else. If you have some power, then your job is to empower somebody else. This is not just a grab-bag candy game." This statement has always resonated with me. It is indeed our responsibility and if I am selected, I promise to continue to help, empower, support and pull up undergraduates, graduate students, colleagues and whoever is in need. Since graduating with my Ph.D., I have made this my mission and as I journey through my career, I am eager to learn more ways to encourage social change from this position.