

**Eastern Sociological Society
2013 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:

Nancy Foner is Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Hunter College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. She received her B.A. from Brandeis University and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. Her main area of specialization is immigration, with particular interest in issues pertaining to race and ethnicity, gender, and family dynamics. She has done research on Jamaicans in their home society as well as in New York and London, studied nursing home workers, and has written widely on immigration to New York City. She is especially interested in the comparative study of immigration – comparing immigration today with earlier periods in the United States, the immigrant experience in various American gateway cities, and immigrant minorities in the United States and Europe.

Nancy Foner is the author or editor of sixteen books as well as numerous articles and book chapters. Her books include *From Ellis Island to JFK: New York's Two Great Waves of Immigration* (Yale University Press, 2000, winner of the Theodore Saloutos Award of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society); *In a New Land: A Comparative View of Immigration* (New York University Press, 2005, Choice Outstanding Academic Title for 2006); *Not Just Black and White: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity in the United States* (edited with historian George Fredrickson, Russell Sage Foundation, 2004, Honorable Mention, Thomas and Znaniecki Book Award of the International Migration Section of the ASA); *Across Generations: Immigrant Families in America* (New York University Press, 2009); *Islands in the City: West Indian Migration to New York* (University of California Press, 2001); *Wounded City: The Social Impact of 9/11* (Russell Sage Foundation, 2005); *Immigration Research for a New Century: Multidisciplinary Perspectives* (edited with Ruben Rumbaut and Steven Gold, Russell Sage Foundation, 2000); and *The Caregiving Dilemma: Work in an American Nursing Home* (University of California Press, 1994).

Her forthcoming book, *One Out of Three: Immigrant New York in the Twenty-First Century* (Columbia

University Press, 2013), is a collection of original essays that provides an in-depth and up-to-date look at immigrant New York City after nearly half a century of massive inflows. She is also working on three other books. One, *Struggles for Inclusion: The Challenges of Diversity in North America and Europe*, with Richard Alba, compares the incorporation of immigrants and their children in Europe and North America, a major goal being to analyze the factors impeding or facilitating integration in different national contexts. Two are edited volumes: a book examining the impact of immigration on New York and Amsterdam, with Jan Rath, Jan Willem Duyvendak, and Rogier van Reekum (all of the University of Amsterdam and to be published by New York University Press) and another, with Patrick Simon (French National Institute for Demographic Studies, INED), *Fear and Anxiety over National Identity*, bringing together essays by European and North American scholars that explore issues of national identity, diversity, and immigrant integration on both sides of the Atlantic. Nancy Foner is a former Chair of the ASA's International Migration section and former council member of the ASA section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities, and she is a member of the Sociological Research Association. She was a member of the Social Science Research Council Committee on International Migration (chairing several working group, fellowship, and conference sub-committees) and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population panel on the integration of immigrants. She is currently a member of the Russell Sage Foundation Immigration Research Advisory Committee, the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island History Advisory Committee, and the Advisory Group of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. In 2010, she received the Distinguished Career Award from the International Migration Section of the ASA, and in 2011 she was elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Statement:

It is a great honor to be nominated to run for the office of president of the Eastern Sociological Society. The ESS is an exciting and important association that nurtures and encourages innovative and intellectually rigorous work in sociology through its annual meeting, journal, and awards. Being asked

to run for office has a special personal meaning to me. My mother, Anne Foner, was vice-president of the ESS in the late 1980s, so being involved in the ESS, one might say, is something of a family tradition.

What would be my goals if I were to be elected? Above all, I would aim to continue the excellent work of recent presidents. I would work hard to support, promote, and sustain our outstanding journal, *Sociological Forum*, and the annual meeting, which are at the very heart of the ESS. The annual meeting is a place for sharing and generating new research and ideas among established scholars as well as those in earlier stages of their careers. A great strength is its welcoming environment for graduate students and junior faculty who have an opportunity to present their work, have conversations with more senior sociologists, and expand their networks in the discipline. It has been wonderful to see my own students presenting papers at the ESS annual meeting and making connections there that have, in some cases, led to new collaborations and projects.

Just as important as welcoming graduate students, junior faculty, and independent scholars to the annual meeting is the need to continue to encourage prominent sociologists to participate through thematic and other special sessions and the highly-successful mini-conferences that have become a staple in recent years.

I would also seek to strengthen and increase our international outreach, especially through invitations to sociology colleagues in Western Europe to participate in the annual meeting. Among other things, they can bring a trans-Atlantic comparative perspective to a range of issues of concern in this country, from immigration and ethnoracial diversity to questions of gender inequality and class stratification and mobility. It would also be fruitful to encourage interdisciplinary discussions in special sessions--bringing sociologists into dialogue with leading historians, political scientists, geographers, and other social scientists as a way to highlight the distinctive contributions of sociological approaches to particular theoretical and empirical questions and reflect on what we can learn from other fields.

The ESS has long been a place for discussion of central policy issues in American society, and there are many pressing concerns now on the table. Income inequality has grown to outsize proportions, for example, racial inequalities are still ever present, and health-care needs are rising as an aging population of baby boomers faces an uncertain future. The ESS provides an important forum for

sociologists to share research that analyzes these and other policy questions.

In the end, it is the emphasis on serious and high quality scholarship, the openness to different theoretical and methodological approaches, and the welcoming of scholars from a range of backgrounds, institutions, and career stages that are major hallmarks of the ESS. These are all traditions that I am deeply committed to preserving and indeed strengthening.

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Rhonda F. Levine (Ph.D SUNY-Binghamton) is Professor of Sociology at Colgate University, where she has been teaching since 1982. Prior to joining the faculty at Colgate, Rhonda taught at Bowdoin College and Hobart and William Smith Colleges. At Colgate, she has served as Chair of the Sociology and Anthropology Department, was the inaugurating holder of the Arnold A. Sio Chair in Diversity and Community, and is currently completing her term as coordinator of African American Studies. She is author of *Class Struggle and the New Deal: Industrial Labor, Industrial Capital, and the States* (University of Kansas Press, 1988), *Class, Networks, and Identity: Replanting Jewish Lives from Nazi Germany to Rural New York* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2001), editor of *Social Class and Stratification: Classic Statements and Theoretical Debate* (Rowman and Littlefield, 1998, 2nd edition with new introduction, conclusion, and chapters, 2006), *Enriching the Sociological Imagination: How Radical Sociology Changed the Discipline*, ed. (Paradigm Publishers, 2005) and co-editor of *Recapturing Marxism: An Appraisal of Recent Trends in Sociological Theory* (Praeger, 1987), *Bringing Class Back In: Contemporary and Historical Perspectives* (Westview Press, 1991), and *Radical Sociologists and the Movement: Experiences, Lessons, and Legacies* (Temple University Press, 1991). Rhonda has published articles in a number of journals and edited books, including *Social Problems*, *Research in Social Movements*, *Conflicts and Change*, *Current Perspectives in Social Theory*, *Research in Political Sociology*, *Critical Sociology*, *Paradigm Lost: State theory Reconsidered*, ed. Aronowitz and Bratsis, *Sociology Confronts the Holocaust: Memories and Identities in Jewish Diaspora*, ed. Gerson and Wolfe, *Sociology of Sport and Social Theory*, ed. Smith, and *Crisis, Politics and Critical Sociology*, ed. Cassano and DelloBuono. Her forthcoming book, *When Race Meets Class: African Americans Coming of Age in a Small City* (Paradigm Publishers) is a ten year longitudinal ethnographic account of the lives of low-income African American teenagers and young adults in an

integrated small city in the Northeast. Specifically, it is about how their lives unfold through the intersection of human agency and the social and cultural milieu in which they live. Focusing on their high school years but continuing through young adulthood, this book explores how their interaction and experience with multiple social institutions (family, school, community) and individuals (parents, friends, teachers, coaches, strangers) shape their hopes, fears, aspirations, and worldviews. In turn, the intersectionality of their social identities—how race, class, gender come together to influence how they come to think about who they are—influences many behaviors that directly contradict their stated aspirations. Coupled with limited access to resources, this intersectional conceptualization of self often takes these youths on a path profoundly different than their stated values and life goals. By following the same youths and young adults over the course of their high school years and five years after, critical junctures and turning points shaping life trajectories as they unfold in real time are uncovered, at the same time challenging common explanations for the educational and occupational barriers facing African American youth and young adults.

Rhonda has served on the editorial boards of *Sociological Forum*, *Social Problems*, *Critical Sociology*, *Research in Political Sociology*, and the book series, *Sociological Perspectives in Social Life* (Westview Press). She has also served on numerous committees and has held elected office in a number of professional organizations. Rhonda has served the ESS as member and chair of the Candace Rogers Award Committee, member of the Papers Committee, Committee on Membership, and the Publications Committee and elected to the Executive Committee. Rhonda also served for five years on the Editorial Board of ESS's flagship journal *Sociological Forum*. Rhonda has served on various committees of the Society for the Study of Social problems (SSSP), including member and chair of the Harry Braverman Award Committee, Chair of the Program Committee, and was elected to the Board of Directors. In the American Sociological Association (ASA), Rhonda has been elected to various positions (council, chair, secretary-treasurer) in a number of ASA Sections and has served on ASA committees, including Committee on Sections (also chair), Committee on Freedom of Research and Teaching, Committee on Committees, Task Force on Human Rights, Task Force on Contingent Employment in the Academic Workplace, Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline, and the 2012 Program Committee. She also has held elected positions as member of Committee on Nominations and ASA Council.

Statement:

I am greatly honored to be asked to run for the Presidency of the Eastern Sociological Society. I still remember clearly presenting a paper at an annual ESS meeting as a graduate student and how much in awe I was of meeting well-known sociologists and thrilled when they would ask me questions and appear to be actually interested in my research. It was not only well-known sociologists who were important for my own sociological development, but also the larger ESS membership -- my peers, when I was a graduate student and young assistant professor, and sociologists in all kinds of research, teaching, and applied settings. So many of those early relationships have been sustained over the past 30+ years. For me, as I am sure for many others, ESS, especially the annual meeting, was my introduction to the profession and provided me with a solid professional foundation from which to build. One of the special qualities of the ESS is that it not only provides a forum for intellectual exchange, but that it plays such an important role in the professional socialization of graduate students and young scholars. One of the many strengths of ESS is the diversity of our membership, not only in terms of race/ethnicity/gender/sexual preference, but also in terms of institutional setting, whether it be research-based universities, four-year liberal arts institutions, two-year colleges, or applied and research settings.

If elected, I will continue what the ESS leadership has been building over the past years -- an intellectually relevant and vibrant association. This means assuring that our flagship journal, *Sociological Forum*, receives all the support necessary to maintain its high standing in the discipline and to do all we can to assure that we receive an ample number of first-rate articles to review. It is safe to say that of all the regional associations, ESS has the *best* annual meetings. Our sessions with well-known sociologists, our mini-conferences, our author-meets-critics sessions, and of course our sessions made up of submitted papers from our membership at large, are engaging, thought-provoking, and best of all, inclusive to all kinds of sociologists. I will continue to build our membership and work to expand participation by people from all types of educational and institutional settings in the annual meeting. I would like to see even more active participation by senior scholars who would engage with junior scholars, and to continue reaching out to graduate students and expanding undergraduate involvement as well.

Most recently, my participation on the 2012 ASA Program Committee gives me a great appreciation of what it takes to create successful meetings. First and

foremost is a good working relationship with our Executive Office. Second is to be open to diverse voices in order to assure that our meetings are inclusive and relevant to all segments of our membership. Finally, encourage alternative ways that discussions which begin in sessions can continue well after our meetings have ended.

My extensive and diverse networks allow me to tap into our broad membership. I will work toward capturing innovative ideas and help translate them into research and teaching programs and organizational initiatives that benefit ESS, our membership, and the discipline overall.

I believe that ESS will be able to advance the discipline and the profession if we continue to actively reflect and promote our diversity as scholars, teachers, and practitioners. I would be gratified to be part of this process.

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For Vice President:

Nazli Kibria is Professor of Sociology at Boston University. She has served as a member of the ESS Executive Committee (2010-2013) and also of the 2010 Program Organizing Committee for the 2010 ESS Annual Meeting. She was Co-Chair of the 2011-2012 Mirra Komarovsky Book Award Selection Committee. She has been a member of the Editorial Boards of Contemporary Sociology, Ethnic and Racial Studies, Identities, Journal of Asian American Studies, Journal of Marriage and the Family, and South Asian Diaspora.

Kibria received her B.A. from Wellesley College and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. Much of her research focuses on the social and political dynamics of immigration, particularly in relation to families and communities. She has also written on childhood, gender, and development issues with a focus on South Asia. Her first book, titled *Family Tightrope: The Changing Lives of Vietnamese Americans* (Princeton University Press, 1993), received honorable mention for the William Goode Book Award of the ASA Sociology of Family section. The book drew on ethnographic fieldwork to explore the complexity of household economic strategies within a community of newly settled Vietnamese American families, and the consequences of these strategies for gender and generational relations.

In her second book called *Becoming Asian American: Identities of Second-Generation Chinese and Korean Americans*, Kibria turns to questions of race and identity in the immigrant experience. With a

focus on the experiences of the adult children of Chinese and Korean immigrants to the US, she considers questions of race and assimilation among post-1965 immigrants to the US, specifically among Asian Americans. She reports the emergence among second-generation Chinese and Korean Americans of a new kind of pan-Asian American identity, one that complements the Chinese or Korean American identity rather than replacing it.

Kibria's most recent book is called *Muslims in Motion: Islam and National Identity in the Bangladeshi Diaspora*. The study offers a comparative look at Bangladeshi Muslims in different global contexts-including Britain, the U.S., the Middle East, and Malaysia. Drawing on more than 200 in-depth interviews, Kibria examines international migrant flows from Bangladesh, and considers how such migrations continue to shape Islamization in these areas. She also focuses on the complex significance of nationality--with rich analyses of the diaspora, the role of gender and class, and the multiple identities of the migrants, she shows how nationality can be both a critical source of support and also of difficulty for many in their efforts to attain lives of dignity.

Kibria's contributions have appeared in *Amerasia Journal*, *Culture and Religion*, *Ethnicities*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Gender & Society*, *International Journal of Sociology of the Family*, *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*, *Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship*, *Social Problems*, *Sociological Perspectives* and a number of edited books. She is currently writing a book on race and immigration in the contemporary US.

Statement:

I am greatly honored to be nominated for the position of Vice President of the Eastern Sociological Society. I remember the first academic paper I ever presented to be as a graduate student at an ESS Annual Meeting. Many years later, I continue to value the openness of ESS to active participation from faculty, practitioners, graduate students, and even undergraduates from a wide range of colleges, universities, and non-academic settings. As a member of the ESS Executive Committee (since 2010), I have been delighted to see several highly successful annual meetings, jam-packed with exciting panels, round-table discussions, author-meets critics sessions and mini-conferences. If elected, I look forward to working with ESS members to ensure the continued vitality of the annual meetings as well as the journal *Sociological Forum*. I am particularly interested in creating forums and initiatives within ESS that would bring international issues and perspectives into focus. Having served as Graduate Program Director of the

Sociology department at Boston University for several years, I would also like to see ESS expand its support for graduate students through mentorship programs and employment workshops.

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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. She has been invited to lead a graduate seminar based on her work at Goethe University in Frankfurt, Germany and to give lectures at universities in Hong Kong. She organized the first mini-conference on China at the ESS in 2010. Professor Li's work has been published in journals such as *Sociological Theory* and *Sociological Inquiry*. She served on the editorial board of *Sociological Perspective*, and has served as reviewer for a number of refereed journals and Polity Press.

Rebecca has been a member of the ESS since 1998 and served on the program committee of the 2005 annual meeting in Washington, D.C. She was elected to the ESS executive committee in 2008. During her three year term, she chaired the Candace Roger Student Paper Award committee, Rose Laub Coser Dissertation Proposal Award committee, ESS Merit Award committee and served on the nomination committee and Robin M. Williams, Jr. Lectureship site selection committee. She also chaired the Sociology and Anthropology Department at The College of New Jersey from 2002-2005 during which she led the faculty through a curricular transformation where all courses had to be redesigned and an assessment plan for the new curriculum had to be designed and put in place while recruiting new faculty to build two new specializations. Outside the department, she has also chaired the Middle State Student Learning Assessment committee and the strategic planning committee of the School of Culture and Society, among others.

Rebecca 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 been invited to organize professional workshops at ASA and nominated to serve as treasurer of the Theory Section.

Statement:

I am honored to be nominated to serve as Vice President of ESS. My three years on the ESS executive committee (2008-2011) afforded me tremendous opportunity to grow professionally as a sociologist. I worked with three great presidents, Kathleen Gerson, Rosanna Hertz and Christine Bose, which allowed me to learn from them how they used their past leadership experience and mobilized their professional networks to organize successful annual meetings and nurture the organization to fulfill its full potential. Every year I was on the executive committee, attendance at the annual meeting broke record. I witnessed how the presidents and vice-presidents build on past success and identify ways to make our annual meeting an even more attractive venue for stimulating intellectual discussions and useful opportunity for professional development for scholars at different stages of their career. ESS strives to be a place where sociologists from different kinds of institutions can feel at home to share their research, contribute to the organization's growth and benefit from their participation. This vision is very dear to my heart and it is why I decided to accept the nomination so that I can, if elected, work with everyone on the executive committee to ensure that ESS continues to be a welcoming place to all sociologists in the region.

The future of our discipline relies a great deal on the health of its professional organizations. For these organizations, such as the ASA and ESS, to fulfill their functions well, having leaders who are able and willing to take the organizations through the challenges of our time is crucial. I believe regional organizations like the ESS can serve the discipline in this regard as incubators of future leaders. I have been very fortunate to have the opportunity to contribute to ESS as a member of the executive committee where I learned the work of running a professional organization and its annual meeting. The experience broadened my perspective and left me with valuable leadership experience I can apply on campus and in professional organizations to promote the discipline of sociology. During my three-year term, I chaired a number of award committees and I saw these committees as important ways to bring young sociologists in the region into

the ESS family. I always tried my best to recruit committee members from different kinds of institutions to serve on these committees, with the belief that the experience would encourage them to engage more actively in the ESS, and many did. Service on these committees provides sociologists early in their career opportunities to network with others and learn the work of professional organizations. While the ESS benefits from the insight and energy these young sociologists bring to the committees, including them also serves the important purpose of training future leaders for the organization. If elected, I will work with others on the executive committee to identify ways to help the ESS fulfill this function even more effectively.

I strongly believe that regional associations like the ESS have an important role to play in professional socialization of students. 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, and served on the editorial board of PSA's official journal *Sociological Perspective*. If elected, I will work with the executive committee to further promote this function of the ESS for graduate students in the region.

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 the executive committee 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.

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For Executive Committee:

[Alondra Nelson](#) is Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at Columbia University. She also holds an appointment at the Institute for

Research on Women and Gender, where she is the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Nelson's research explores the production of knowledge about human difference in biomedicine and technoscience and the circulation of these ideas in the public sphere: Her research focuses on how science and its applications shape the social world, including aspects of personal identification, racial formation and collective action. In turn, she also explores the ways in which social groups challenge, engage and, in some instances, adopt and mobilize conceptualizations of race, ethnicity, and gender derived from scientific and technical domains.

Nelson is the author of [Body and Soul: The Black Panther Party and the Fight Against Medical Discrimination](#) (University of Minnesota Press, 2011), which received the [Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Book Award](#) from the American Sociological Association (Section on Race, Gender, and Class); the Letitia Woods Brown Memorial Book Award from the Association of Black Women Historians; and the [Association for Humanist Sociology Book Award](#). *Body and Soul* is the first book-length exploration of the radical organization's health-focused activities. Through its activism, Nelson argues, the Black Panther Party advanced a "social health" frame—a distinctive, expansive conceptualization of well-being that articulated biological wellness with both economic justice and racial equality and that would anticipate contemporary debates about racial health disparities.

Her next book, *The Social Life of DNA: Race and Reconciliation after the Genome* (forthcoming from Beacon Press), traces how claims about ancestry are marshaled together with genetic analysis in a range of social ventures. She takes up these themes in two recent publications that are among the earliest empirical scholarly investigations of direct-to-consumer genetic testing: "Bio Science: Genetic Ancestry Testing and the Pursuit of African Ancestry" (*Social Studies of Science* 38, 2008) and "The Factness of Diaspora: The Social Sources of Genetic Genealogy" (in *Revisiting Race in a Genomics Age*, Rutgers University Press, 2008). Nelson is also co-editor of [Genetics and the Unsettled Past: The Collision of DNA, Race, and History](#) (with Keith Wailoo and Catherine Lee; Rutgers University Press, 2012) and [Technicolor: Race, Technology, and Everyday Life](#) (with Thuy Linh N. Tu; New York University Press, 2001).

Nelson's essays, reviews and commentary have appeared in the [New York Times](#), the [Washington Post](#), the Boston Globe, [Science](#), Scientific American, the Chronicle of Higher Education,

[Dissent](#) and the [Guardian](#), among others venues. Her publications also include articles on race and digital culture; “scientism” in black power politics; the use of racial categories in medicine; and the social implications of direct-to-consumer genetic testing, genetic genealogy and [social media](#).

The Ford Foundation, the Woodrow Wilson Foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation have supported her research. From 2006-2007, she was an external fellow at the W.E.B Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research at Harvard University. She has also been a visiting scholar at the International Center for Advanced Study at New York University, the BIOS Centre at the London School of Economics, the Bavarian-American Academy in Munich, and the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin. Prior to joining Columbia University, Nelson was on the faculty of Yale University, where she received the Poorvu Family Award for Interdisciplinary Teaching Excellence.

Nelson received her B.A. in Anthropology (*magna cum laude*) from the University of California at San Diego, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and earned her Ph.D. in American Studies from New York University in 2003.

Statement:

I am honored to be considered to serve on the executive committee of the Eastern Sociological Society, alongside such a distinguished slate of candidates. My professional service to the ASA has included membership on the ASA Distinguished Dissertation Committee and on the Best Article Prize Committee for the Race, Gender, and Class section. I would welcome the opportunity to extend my service to the profession by becoming involved in the stewardship of the ESS. The ESS is a special community because it fosters interaction amongst scholars at various stages of the profession and from varied types of institutions in a small, supportive environment. As a member of the executive committee, I would work to enhance the organization’s embrace of sociologists across institutions and at all stages of their intellectual trajectories. In particular, I would like to support the expansion of roles for advanced sociology graduate students, who are doing some of the most exciting work in the field and represent the future of the field. Lastly, at a time of widening social inequality, both domestically and globally, I would be committed to encouraging scholarship that explicitly engages with both policy and politics, that does not shy away from advocating for justice and equality, and that helps to chart a better future.

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Enrique S. Pumar holds Ph.D. (1999) from American University and currently serves as Associate Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Sociology Department at The Catholic University of America. He is also a Faculty Fellow at the Institute for Policy Research and Catholic Studies at Catholic and a member of the Advisory Board of the Smithsonian Institution’s Latino Center.

Pumar serves on the editorial boards of Sociological Forum and The Delaware Review of Latin American Studies and is Consulting Editor for Sociology to the Library of Congress Handbook of Latin American Studies. He has been elected to several committees at the American Sociological Association and the Eastern Sociological Society. Last year, Dr. Pumar served in the Executive Council of the ASA Sociology of Development Section and in the Selection Committee for the Barrington Moore Jr. Book Award of the Comparative Historical Sociology Section of the ASA. Until 2011, he served as Chair of the Graduate Committee of the ESS. He served as President of the DC Sociological Society in 2008-09 and as Past President in 2009-10.

Pumar has published extensively in the areas of political sociology, national development, and migration. His current research involves studying migration and violence and the incorporation of Latino immigrants in the Washington DC metro area. Dr. Pumar is the editor of the forthcoming book *Hispanic Migration and Urban Development* (Emerald Press) and co-editor of *Perspectives in Social Research Methods and Analysis* (Sage, 2009). He was part of the working groups on migration and urban development for the Interactivity Foundation. In 2012 he received a grant to coordinate Phase II of the Latino History Project for the Smithsonian Latino Center through 2013. Dr. Pumar was recently featured in NPR Talk of the Nation, Noticiero Telemundo, and Destination Casa Blanca HITV.

Statement:

I am humble to have the opportunity to serve in the ESS Executive Committee. My first encounter with the organization was when as a graduate student, my paper submission was accepted for one of the meetings in Boston. Later on, when I was hired in my first academic job, I served on the graduate studies committee, eventually becoming its chair for several years until last Spring. I currently serve on the editorial board of Sociological Forum. All in all, my service to the organization is a testament of my commitment to its growth and sustainability. I look forward to the opportunity of servicing the ESS

community in a new capacity to ensure the continuous professional dynamics of our organization for many years to come. Thank you.

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Magali Sarfatti Larson is Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Temple University and was Distinguished Professor at the University of Urbino in Italy. She has been a Visiting Research Associate in the Department of Communications and Culture at Drexel University since 2006; there, her collaboration with Professor Douglas Porpora has led recently to the publication of “The Resistible Rise of Sarah Palin: Continuity and Paradox to the American Right Wing” (*Sociological Forum*, December 2011).

Sarfatti-Larson has written two books with a focus on Latin American development; in a later phase, she has published extensively on the sociology of the professions. Her 1974 book, *The Rise of Professionalism*, received Honorable Mention at the C. W. Mills Award; Transaction Books is publishing it with a new introduction as a social science classic this October. *Behind the Post Modern Façade: Architectural Change in Late Twentieth Century America* obtained awards from the American Institute of Architects and the Sociology of Culture section of the ASA. Sarfatti-Larson has been Director of the Women’s Studies Program at Temple and Chairman of Temple’s Department of Sociology.

Since her retirement, she is active as an editor of scholarly publications, most notably *Politics and Society*, *Theory and Society*, *Cultural Studies*, the *ASR* (2004-2006), and, last but not least, *The Sociological Forum*. She is also very active in her city, Philadelphia, working with immigrants of Latin American origin (she has served on the boards of several non-profit organizations, most recently of Acción Colombia, for which she is a consultant). She participates in progressive organizations and campaigns, often in the Hispanic areas of Philadelphia. Her political practice includes writing in Spanish for local newspapers (part of this activity is described in “Si se Puede! Working for Obama at K and A,” *Sociological Forum*, June 2009). She is starting to study systematically the evolution of Western-type democracies, a subject of vital interest for her since at least the US election of 2000. Sarfatti-Larson travels extensively and maintains assiduous contacts with foreign scholars and universities.

Statement:

It is a very special honor for me to have been asked to run for the Executive Council of ESS, an organization that has been an important focus of my professional and intellectual life. I have been

Chairman of the Mirra Komarovsky Award Committee of the ESS in 2003 and 2004, and Chair of the Graduate Committee in 2006. I have also organized the Author Meets Critics sessions in 2005 and the memorial session for Eliot Freidson in 2007. I have responded to every possibility of participation with enthusiasm and gratitude, for it is uncommon that they should be offered to retired sociologists. I welcome the extraordinary initiative that has created the ESS Opportunities in Retirement Network, and I plan to contribute to it more fully than I have been able to until now.

I appreciate deeply this opportunity of running for the Council. If elected, I would serve it to the best of my abilities and work to diversify and expand even more the mission and goals of our organization.

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Steven P. Vallas completed his doctoral work at Rutgers University, and has taught at several research universities on the East Coast (Georgia Institute of Technology, George Mason University, and now Northeastern University). For most of the last decade, he has combined administrative duties with scholarship and teaching. His research has been devoted to the study of social inequality within work organizations, focusing on work processes and the structural changes that have impacted workers within such branches of the economy as manufacturing, high tech, and higher education. Though his emphasis has been on class inequality, he has also written on how workplaces have been racialized and gendered. His articles have appeared in the *American Journal of Sociology*, the *American Sociological Review*, *Sociological Theory*, *Theory and Society*, *Sociological Forum*, and various other journals. He has written or edited five books, the most recent of which is *Work: A Critique* (Polity, 2012). His current research centers on the discourse of “personal enterprise” that is found in popular management publications, affecting the identity norms that workers are expected to internalize under conditions of labor market uncertainty. He teaches courses on Work and Inequality, Popular Culture, and Contemporary Sociological Theory, both at the graduate and undergraduate level.

Statement:

I have had a fair share of leadership experience now, both for academic departments and for our discipline. I’ve chaired two fair-sized departments at different research universities; served as chair of a large ASA section; and currently serve on the ASA Publications committee. I also introduced a new Ph.D. program at George Mason University when I served in that department, and recently established a successful

blog for sociologists of work. In all of this activity, I've been deeply committed to the furtherance of our discipline, which has faced no small number of challenges of late. My sense is that ESS is a critically important regional association; I will bring my leadership and commitment to the discipline to bear on ESS, and seek out ways of ensuring that ESS can engage some of the most pressing concerns that are relevant to the wider polity.

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For Secretary:

Katherine K. Chen is assistant professor of sociology at The City College of New York and the Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY). Her ethnographic study examined the growing organization behind the annual [Burning Man event](#). Her book, [Enabling Creative Chaos: The Organization Behind the Burning Man Event](#) (2009, University of Chicago Press), shows how an enabling organization can support members' efforts without succumbing to either under-organizing's insufficient structure and coordination or over-organizing's excessive structure and coercive control. This book received the Best Book Prize for Outstanding Book in Nonprofit and Voluntary Action Research by the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) and Honorable Mention for the Max Weber Award of the Organizations, Occupations, and Work (OOW) Section of the American Sociological Association (ASA). Her other publications include articles in *American Behavioral Scientist*, *Qualitative Sociology*, *Research in the Sociology of Organizations*, and *City, Culture and Society*. Prof. Chen's current research examines how organizations in an organizational field collectively manage uncertainty wrought by policy changes and fiscal crisis.

Prof. Chen received her Ph.D. in Sociology from Harvard University. Prior to joining CUNY, she was a postdoctoral fellow at the Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning at Harvard University and an assistant professor at William Paterson University.

Statement:

As an academic who has worked in several kinds of institutions, both academic and non-academic, I am well-acquainted with the daily challenges that scholars face, including securing employment, getting adequate resources to teach and conduct research, disseminating findings to a broad audience, and forming collegial connections with colleagues both near and far. Eastern Sociological Society's

annual meeting and resources provide unique support to the development of scholars who labor in a variety of institutions, from universities that serve first generation college-goers to think tanks to government agencies. I look forward to representing a wider range of interests at ESS, and my priorities are to enhance opportunities for members to form a supportive community and to collectively advance knowledge within our discipline and in the public domain.