2023 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for Sociological Practice and Public Sociology

Introduction

Annual reports are used by the Sections Committee to assess the health of a Section, measure the Section's vitality, and identify processes, programs, or initiatives that could serve as a model for other Sections. In addition, they serve to provide institutional memory, socialize new Section leaders, and promote transparency to Section members.

This annual report covers the period of Section activity from September 2022 to August 2023 and a fiscal year from January 2023 to December 2023. This portion of the report will be shared publicly.

Section Governance

Provide details of your Section's governance activity during the period between September 2022 and August 2023.

Business Meeting

Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and draft/approved meeting minutes from the Section business meeting which include a count of members present and summary of decisions made at this meeting. Minutes are not a transcript of proceedings, but a listing of what discussions took place and official actions taken.

SPPS Business Meeting 8/19/23 (Notes are italicized)

11-11:30am

Attendance: Council members (Jill, Andy, Erica, Carrie); Award winners and non-council members also present.

Agenda:

Council member transition: Jill

Thank members rotating off, introduce new members

Rotating off:

Andy Beveridge Past Chair CUNY-Queens College Erica Ramos Secretary/ Treasurer Northwestern University

Terceira Berdahl Member Agency for Healthcare Research and

Quality

Aliyah Turner Student Rep University of Washington

Jon Norman Member Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of

Teaching

Chair-Elect (3-year term begins in 2023): Caren Arbeit

Secretary Treasurer: two year term begins 2023: Carrie Smith

Council Member-at-Large (3-year term begins in 2022) Brandon McReynolds Marie Skoczylas Sandra Stone

Council Member, Student (2-year term begins in 2022) Kristin Sajadi Student Rep University of Louisville

Member update: Erica - 304, current member count as of 8.7.23

Finances update: Erica - Healthy, section was able to keep costs under budget and account for costs from the previous year. Will be helpful for the next year's budget estimates as well.

SPPS Award Announcements: Carrie - Presented awards to awardees present but Erica will deliver two remaining awards in-person to those who had a conflict (one is available the following day for the Symposium and the other is at UIC).

Robert Dentler Award (Student Award)
Publication Award
William F Whyte Award (Career Award)

Review upcoming SPPS and other relevant sessions this weekend: Jill - Welcomed other members to join for the evening's reception in addition to attending the Symposium.

Ask if anyone is interested in being on the program committee for next year: Jill - Need to reach out to Jill and/or Carrie if any members are interested in being part of any program committee planning.

(Time permitting): Brainstorming session on setting priorities for the year for our council: Jill - Awardees are welcome to lead a webinar as part of our webinar series and members encouraged to contact Jill and/or Carrie for any future webinar ideas that promote specific needs within public/applied sociology (ex. Similar to our first session workshop where we talked about CVs to resumes and using LinkedIn).

Council Meeting

Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and draft/approved meeting minutes of all council meetings. Minutes must include a list of council members present and a summary of decisions made. Minutes are not a transcript of proceedings, but a listing of what discussions took place and official actions taken.

(Please see separate attachment with council meeting minutes)

Awards

The Awards Committee received four nominations for each of the three SPPS Section awards. The Awards Committee, consisting of Terceira Berdahl, Brandon McReynolds, Rogelio Sáenz (Chair), and Carrie Smith, recommended two nominees as award winners for each of the three Section awards. The SPPS Council considered the recommendations and voted to approve the Committee's recommendation. The following is a list of the SPPS Section Award winners.

Sociological Practice and Public Sociology Section William Foote Whyte Career Award (co-winners): a) Erin Maher, University of Oklahoma and b) Robert Courtney Smith, Baruch College, City University of New York

Sociological Practice a) and Public Sociology Section Robert F. Dentler Student Practitioner Award (cowinners): Christina Pao, Princeton University and b) Sangeetha (IIā) Ravichandran, University of Illinois at Chicago

Sociological Practice and Public Sociology Section Publication Award (co-winners): a) Ashley Gromis, Ian Fellows, James Hendrickson, Lavar Edmonds, Lillian Leung, Adam Porton, and Matthew Desmond. 2022. "Estimating Eviction Prevalence across the United States," *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 119: 1-8. and b) Kasey Henricks, Chris D. Poulos, Iván Arenas, Ruben Ortiz, and Amanda E. Lewis. 2022. "475,106 Mistakes: When Tickets are Issued Under False Pretenses." University of Illinois at Chicago Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy Policy Report.

(Please see separate attachment with additional information on awards)

2023 Finances

Provide a narrative on how the 2023 budget matched with actual expenses and income from 2023. Please account for any substantive differences.

The 2023 budget for the majority of the line items including the Reception and Other costs aligned with the actual expenses. The only expense that cost more was the actual plaques as it accounted for the year prior (2022) as well but was accounted for when calculating the budget. Generally, the most expensive expense is the Reception which was kept under budget.

Some expenses that rolled over from the previous fiscal year are expenses that will be accounted for the 2024 budget which include costs to cover for Intern compensation in addition to any potential workshop and or materials needed for SPPS events. The overall health of the SPPS budget is healthy and has some flexibility if certain costs exceed the intended budget.

The Previous Year

Describe Section activities during the period between September 2022 and August 2023.

Provide an overview of the Section's communications with its members and include explanation of how your communication strategy meets the goals and values of the Section. Include links to the section website, newsletters, and any other electronic media used.

Our main way of communicating with the section was through messages through ASA connect. We would send out information about upcoming events, such as the webinars described below, events at ASA, applied job opportunities, and other opportunities relevant to our section. We have a section website here: https://sspps.wordpress.com/. We do not have a newsletter per se, but flyers were distributed for upcoming events through ASA connect.

Describe the Section's diversity, equity, and inclusion goals. What steps were taken this year to achieve those goals?

The SPPS section is engaged in ways to increase membership in the section with special emphasis on diversifying along racial and ethnic lines. In comparison to the racial/ethnic composition of the ASA membership, our Section falls slightly below in Black (7.3% vs 8.2% for ASA), Asian (6.0% vs 12.0%), Latina/o (4.3% vs 6.1%), and Native American (0.0% vs 0.3%). In addition, in our nominations for SPPS officers, we ensured that we diversify the diversity of our slate of candidates. Moreover, we broadened the diversity of our Awards committee and nominees for SPPS awards. We did this through sending out the call for nominations for awards and officers to a variety of ASA sections including those with specializations in race and gender.

Provide an overview of the section's programming at the annual meeting and include explanation of how this programming meets the goals and values of the section (e.g. intellectual exchange, professional networking, mentoring, inclusion).

We offered several well attended sessions at the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. We planned these sessions to meet our section's goals and values. We provided opportunities for intellectual exchange, professional networking and mentoring. Our session "Living the Applied Sociology/Practicing Sociologist Life: Career Trajectories and Advice" was beneficial for our section members who are considering applied careers. We had speakers from a variety of applied fields on that panel. Our session "From op-eds to Tik-Tok: Using sociological insights to shape the public narrative" provided an opportunity for applied sociologists to share their creative ways of getting their work disseminated. Our session, "Marketing sociology: translating research into sellable skills" provided concrete ideas for how folks can take what they've learned in graduate school directly to the job market.

Provide an overview of the Section's programmatic activities outside of the Annual Meeting (e.g. webinars, networking events, mentoring initiatives, resources for dissemination) and include explanation of this programming meets the goals and values of the Section.

Our main programmatic activities outside of the annual meeting were webinars. We had several different types of webinars. We had a series of webinars from our section award winners. There were four total webinars where award winners presented on their award winning work. These were well attended. These webinars provided a platform for applied sociologists to share their work and for section members (and others) to see it.

We also co-sponsored a series of webinars with SWS, SSSP, and AACS on applied sociology, including how to transition to an applied career, networking opportunities, and community

engagement. These webinars provided our section members with useful career skills and ideas for future opportunities.

SPPS Council Meeting Agendas 2022-2023

5/23/23

Attendance: Brandon, Jill, Lorella, Jenn, Erica, Rogelio

Rogelio: updates on student award

Social media intern - help with making flyer for SPPS sessions at ASA

ASA meeting in Philadelphia: times now posted on ASA website Please put these on your calendar!

Marketing sociology: translating research into sellable skills
Sat, August 19, 10:00 to 11:00am, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Floor: 100 Level, 106A

Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology Business Meeting Sat, August 19, 11:00 to 11:30am, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Floor: 100 Level, 106A

From op-eds to Tik-Tok: Using sociological insights to shape the public narrative Sat, August 19, 12:00 to 1:30pm, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Floor: 100 Level, 106A

Living the Applied Sociology/Practicing Sociologist Life: Career Trajectories and Advice Sat, August 19, 2:00 to 3:30pm, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Floor: 100 Level, 106A

Reception will be around 6: still working on a location

4/25/23

Attendance: Jill, Erica, Jenn, Marybeth, Andy, Lorella, Victoria

Agenda:

Rogelio: update on awards

Recommendations for council are here. We need to submit to ASA by June 1st. We still have one more council meeting on Tuesday, May 23rd if we need to talk about nominations then

They are recommending two awards in each of the two categories

no nominations for the Sociological Practice and Public Sociology Section Robert F. Dentler Student Practitioner Award received: we have until June 1st, perhaps we can try to solicit some student nominations?

For both awards, 6/6 voted in favor

Ask Rogelio for specific student facing materials to send out.

Printed Awards Program: Submit Information by June 1.

Gift Memberships: Deadline Is July 31, 2023

Elections: are open now, please vote!

2023 ASA Elections Open April 18

Jill:

Update on last webinar, and plans for future webinars

ASA Program updates

Partnership with SWE for reception. Exploring venues now.

Section Receptions at the 2023 ASA Annual Meeting

Any other updates on program committee?

Our last SPPS council meeting of the year will be on Tuesday, May 23rd. The program committee may meet as we finalize plans for ASA. We are looking forward to seeing you at the conference!

3/28/23

Attendance: Jenn, Jill, Marybeth, Lorella, Rogelio, Victoria

Agenda:

Rogelio: update on awards

5 nominations so far. Deadline is April 17th.

Goal: have recommendations for whole council by April 25th

Jill:

Program: updates from committee

Reception

Upcoming Webinar on Thursday, April 20th at 2pm Eastern

Andy: any updates about election?

Other business?

2/28/23

Attendance: Andy, Jill, Marybeth, Rogelio, Carrie

Agenda:

Rogelio: awards: link to the <u>awards</u>

Award information is online, Deadline is April 17th

Rogelio will check to see when deadline is to have the awardees listed in the program: This deadline is June 1st

Can Erica send it out on ASA connect and send it out through our section Also send to Sociologists Working Everywhere community: Jill: done

Jill:

Program: updates from program committee?

Our section day is Saturday August 19th

Reception: possibly co-sponsor with Sociologists Working Everywhere: they are

asking their members and will get back to us

OK to co sponsor even if they don't have funds

Upcoming Webinar on Thursday, April 20th at 2pm Eastern

Sponsoring Applied Worldwide Essay competition for \$50?

The council is ok with this

Reach out to Erica about doing this since she is the treasurer: Jill did

Andy: election

Chair and sec/treasurer running unopposed

More students than we need. See if we can get them involved in some other way

Other business?

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 28th at 1pm Eastern Time

1/24/23

Attendance: Jenn, Jill, Rogelio, Lorella, Marybeth, Erica, Carrie, Brandon, Victoria, Andy

Agenda

Rogelio: awards

Need assistance in spreading the call

Jill

Council Meeting times: 4th Tuesday of each month at 1pm Eastern Time

Webinars:

Tomorrow at 2pm Eastern Time: featuring Ricky Bluthenthal

February 23rd at 2pm Eastern Time: Featuring Mary Shi

April 20th at 2pm Eastern Time: Featuring Sarah Brothers

Annual meeting program committee updates

Next meeting Feb 1st at noon eastern Reception ideas?

A few things to share:

Message from Applied Worldwide Message about statistics courses

Elections: Andy

Enough candidates for council and student reps

Other business?

12/2/22

Agenda:

Introductions: Rogelio

Annual Report updates, including budget approval: Rogelio

We are a little behind on this, but goal is to get this turned in next week

SPPS Council Awards updates: Rogelio

Andy is going to provide the information on the awards to Rogelio

Committee made of third year council members

SPPS Council election updates: Andy

Need each position to have at least two people
The nominations committee is made up of the second year council members
Andy will get committee together sometime next week

Annual meeting updates: Jill

Webinars: Jill

Upcoming webinar on Tues Dec. 6th at 5pm eastern: Lessons Learned in Navigating the Applied Workplace

Jill has contacted award winners to try to schedule webinars in the spring Any other ideas for webinars?

Monthly council meetings moving forward: Jill Jill will send a when2meet in early January

Social Media Intern Updates: Erica Need other material to post Post about members

Attendance: Andy, Jill, Brandon, Allison, Carrie, Rogelio, Jenn, Erica, Victoria

9/8/22

- Time-sensitive items?
 - ASA connect is replacing the listserv
 - You can set your email preferences for ASA connect as you want to
- Member & Finances Status
 - Member Count 317 members
 - Regular (MB) 185
 - Student (SA) 93
 - Affiliate (AF) 13
 - Emeritus (EM) 25
 - Associate (AF) 1
 - Finances Status ASA hasn't updated since July but adjustment should be about ~\$5600
- Planning monthly SPPS Webinars
 - Upcoming October Webinar: 10/3: 2-3PM EST Joss Greene, "The Cost of Crossing Gender Boundaries: Trans Women of Color and the Racialized Workplace Gender Order."
 - o More information will be on our website: https://sspps.wordpress.com/
 - Previous webinar is posted on our website: about applied sociology career
- ASA Annual Philadelphia Meeting Planning (Chair-elect plans next meeting, previous chair takes care of awards)

- o Dates are later next year Thursday-Monday, Aug 17-21, 2023
- Section day is Sunday, Aug 20, 2023
- o In-person: 2 panels, 1 roundtable
- Proposed: Annual webinar around meeting dates focused on Applied/Public jobs for those unable to attend ASA
- Program committee meeting Tuesday, September 13th at 2pm eastern timehttps://uncw.zoom.us/j/86254850962?pwd=M0ZrZ2QwdWk1M1Y1aW5OcFFaQVV Tdz09 - have any ideas, let Jill know

Committees -

- o Refresher who is on which committees? Refer to Andy's email
- Program Committee first years
- Nominations second years
- Awards third years
- o Brandon technically third year after taking over Jill's position
- Here is a link to all council members and their term limits: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1x7-WB49pvKkdwYo6AvSiW3N3-mqgC89hp5bTh1uf3g4/edit?usp=sharing
- ASA Connect (replaces listserv) To-Do's?
- Upcoming Deadlines:
 - Award Nomination Calls: Submit by October 25
 - Bylaws Amendments Proposals: Submit by November 15 Rogelio will double check with Andy
 - o Dues Change Proposals: Submit by November 15 Check in with Terceira
 - Annual Reports: Submit by November 15 Each year, section has to submit a report on what their section did in the previous year. Erica will add in details of proposed budget.
- Scheduling Recurring Monthly SPPS Meetings
 - Need everyone's general availability, either note weekly availability or we use
 When2Meet scheduler Erica will send the When2Meet scheduler
- ASA meeting run down
 - 15 attendees
 - All award winners but one were there
 - Reception was well attended about 30 people attended at the yard house
 - The session that we organized was well attended about 10-12 people
 - Related applied sessions were well attended

Attendance: Carrie, Jill, Marybeth, Rogelio, Lorella, Victoria, Brandon, Erica, Jenn

2023 SPPS Section Awards

Per the section bylaws, the award committee was chaired by the current section chair, and comprised the third-year council members. We advertised the awards call about a month before the submission due date. The call was posted on ASA Connect, and also shared widely among our individual networks (e.g., through the SWS listserv). At the submission due dates, we had not received any submissions for the student practitioner award. We decided to extend the submission due date for that award, and circulated the call again. In all, we received the following number of nominations:

Publication Award	4
Robert F. Dentler Student Practitioner Award	5
William Foote Whyte Career Award	4

All committee meetings were conducted remotely via Zoom. We met prior to the due dates to discuss and lay out the deliberation process. All nominations were collated and shared via Google Drive. Individually, we reviewed all nominations. We then met twice as a committee – first to deliberate on the Publication and William Foot Whyte Career Awards, and then again to deliberate on the Robert F. Dentler Student Practitioner Award. Each committee member provided their review and feedback, and we then arrived at a decision.

2023 SPPS Section Award Winners

Sociological Practice and Public Sociology Section Publication Award (2 Co-Winners)

Ashley Gromis, Ian Fellows, James Hendrickson, Lavar Edmonds, Lillian Leung, Adam Porton, and Matthew Desmond. 2022. "Estimating Eviction Prevalence across the United States," *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 119: 1-8.

This study collected nearly 100 million eviction records towards constructing the first-ever nationwide dataset of eviction filings in the United States. The study reveals that nearly 6 out of 100 renting households are threatened with eviction in an average year; that the highest eviction filing rates are not concentrated solely in high-cost urban areas, and that state-level housing policies are strongly associated with county-level eviction filing risk. In addition, these findings were accompanied by a major new update to evictionlab.org, which displays the data in an interactive way so that anyone can access reliable data on evictions at the national, state, and local levels. Journalists, policymakers, and researchers have drawn on these findings and the CDC and the Biden administration have also cited this research as motivation for the national eviction moratorium during COVID-19.

Kasey Henricks, Chris D. Poulos, Iván Arenas, Ruben Ortiz, and Amanda E. Lewis. 2022. "475,106 Mistakes: When Tickets are Issued Under False Pretenses." University of Illinois at Chicago Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy Policy Report.

This report takes the premise that many innocent people are subject to monetary sanctions under false pretenses each year. Using the city of Chicago as a case study, the authors reviewed 3.6 million parking tickets issued between 2012 and 2018 and found that more than one in eight tickets (13%) were issued under conditions when restrictions did not apply. The team also focused on seven different types of parking violations where compliance is circumstantial according to factors of space, time, and weather, finding that during these six years, erroneous parking tickets generated \$27, 532,807 in revenues while another \$8,034,666

remains as unsettled debt that has no statute of limitation. Upon publication, some of the report's findings were featured on local media, and other national-level policy organizations, including the Fines and Fees Justice Center and the Center for Policy Equity, have publicized the report's findings and built upon them in subsequent white papers. In addition, the public-private partnership the report focused on – a contract on ticket-processing technology between the city of Chicago and IBM – has yet to be renewed since the report's publication, and efforts for reform spearheaded by local organizations like Community Organizing and Family Issues and the Chicago Jobs Council remain ongoing.

Sociological Practice and Public Sociology Section Robert F. Dentler Student Practitioner Award (2 cowinners)

Christina Pao, Princeton University

Christina Pao is recognized for her work in partnering with nonprofit organizations to discuss survey methods and implement original survey experiments – she very much wants to ensure that work on methods is not detached from the communities who are using the methods and resulting findings. Since 2021, Christina has worked with the nonprofit, Liberation Ventures (LV) – a field-builder for the Black-led reparations movement. In her letter of support, Aria Florant – co-founder of LV – said, "Christina has been crucial to developing our next steps for our Lab research. She sits in on meetings with survey research organizations and takes the lead on the development of the survey instrument. She has been using her own research experience in her PhD program and prior to ensure the rigor of the research we are doing through each of our proposed stages. She has pressed the research organizations with essential methodological questions, which we would not have known to ask without her there. Given the large scope of the work we are proceeding with now, we are tremendously grateful that she has been here to thoughtfully and intentionally steer the work that will underpin the Lab moving forward."

Sangeetha (Ila) Ravichandran, University of Illinois at Chicago

Ila has had a long history of community engagement, working as an art therapist and program coordinator at "A Long Walk Home" – a local organization that supports gender-oppressed Black and brown immigrant women confronting domestic violence. She deferred admission to UIC's PhD program to take a position as director of counseling at another organization that supports immigrant women survivors of gender violence. Since beginning her graduate studies at UIC, Ila has been a core member of the Policing in Chicago Research Group (PCRG) – a small collective of faculty and graduate students that conducts research in support of social movements and transformative justice organizations on the frontlines of struggle against police violence in Chicago. I quote from Andy Clarno's recommendation letter – "Over the last three years, Ila's research with the PCRG has focused on the production and use of data by local and federal agencies as part of the so-called "War on Terror." Ila has worked closely with the Arab American Action Network (AAAN) to access and analyze Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) produced by the Department of Homeland Security's "If you see something, say something" program. Through FOIA requests and interviews with community organizers, legal support groups, and law enforcement agencies, Ila and the AAAN Youth Organizing Team conducted an institutional ethnography of this racialized and gendered policy strategy. The result with a major report that Ila co-authored with our community partners exposing the use of SARs to suppress political dissent and criminalize the everyday activities of people of color, particularly Arabs and Muslims. We released the report in summer 2022 and the AAAN is now using it to build a campaign to abolish the use of SARs."

Sociological Practice and Public Sociology Section William Foote Whyte Career Award (co-winners)

Erin Maher, University of Oklahoma

Erin Maher is Associate Professor of Sociology and Senior Associate Director of the University of Oklahoma's Data Institute for Societal Challenges. She has an extensive record of applied and sociological practice work, and worked in the position of Director of Research and Program Evaluation with Casey Family Programs prior to joining OU. She has participated in collaborative partnerships with several state and public/private agencies, including the OK Department of Human Services, the OK Supreme Court, the Quality Improvement Center for Adoption and Guardianship, Oklahoma's Post Adoption Department, and the OK Partnership for School Readiness. She has built strong relationships with senior agency leaders across the state of OK, who turn to her and the university when they need evaluation or research assistance. Her research evaluation work informs state policy and social service delivery – just to cite two examples, her evaluation work for the OK Partnership for School Readiness and the OKFutures Project resulted in OK receiving national recognition for its program performance evaluation design. She has also been vital in raising \$4 million for the OU Parent-Child Assistance Program, which works with pregnant and parenting mothers who are struggling with substance use disorders and other complex issues. Erin also established and leads OU's Opioid Research Group, serves on OK DHS' Clearinghouse for Early Childhood Outcomes and Research Committee. Her commitment to community engagement carries over to the student level, where she has developed the first Service-Learning designated course in Sociology for the Program Evaluation Practicum. In this class, students are placed in local non-profits and governmental agencies to conduct program evaluation. She has also mentored and worked with graduate students to enhance their prospects for work within state government and academic pursuits. I conclude by quoting by Professor Amy Kroska's letter of support - "Erin Maher is eminently worthy of the William Foote Whyte Career Award. She is an extraordinary scholar whose stellar record includes pathbreaking and multidisciplinary research in the areas of poverty, child development, complex family needs, and adverse experiences in early childhood. Her career has been centered on applied questions aimed at devising interventions and policies to address social problems, and she has trained numerous young scholars in these methods and approaches. She is a model scholar of sociological practice and public sociology who richly deserves recognition with this important award."

Robert Courtney Smith, Baruch College, City University of New York

Robert Courtney Smith is Professor of Sociology, Immigration Studies, and Public Affairs at the Marxe School of Public and International Affairs at Baruch College. Rob has an extensive record of applied and sociological practice work, focusing on immigration, cofounding the Mexican Educational Foundation (MexED) in 1998, which worked closely with Masa. MedEx formally merged with Masa in 2012, for nearly two decades, Masa-MexEd has run a free afterschool and tutoring program for Mexican families (over 200 each semester) in the south Bronx, and has done organizing and advocacy programs. It has also run programs promoting DACA applications, taught parents ESL, and run one on one mentoring programs. Since the 1990s, Rob has used his scholarly expertise on Mexico and migration to serve as an expert witness to defend Mexican immigrants against discrimination, deportation, or in asylum or convention against torture cases. Just to cite one example - Rob served as a testifying witness on conditions of and discrimination against Hispanic voters for the US Department of Justice in the 2006-2007 Voting Rights Act case of U.S. v. Port Chester, writing two expert reports and testifying in the federal trial. The DOJ secured a victory in this case, and the voting system in Port Chester was modified. In 2014, Rob, along with CUNY students and leaders in the immigrant community, founded the DACA Access Project (DAP). He secured \$1.2 million dollars in funding from the Mexican Consulate and worked with 15 organizations statewide to help over 300 people get DACA, and over 50 people to secure permanent visas. Moreover, the

DAP also offers nonprofit organizational (e.g. board or fundraising training) and individual development work (including paying tuition) for immigrant communities. Rob has authored and co-authored many opeds, sharing his sociological insights with the wider public, and has also mentored and worked with many students. As the president of the Eastern Sociological Society, he promoted more recognition and support of publicly engaged and applied sociological research and practice, creating Public Sociology Awards for both early career and established scholars. As Professor Andy Beveridge points out in his nomination, "virtually all of Rob's work embodies sociological practice and/or public sociology."