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Annual Report to the Budget, Finance and Audit Committee of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, 2013

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The Department of Sociology at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK) and the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) enjoy a long and productive relationship. We have been the home of the Executive Office since 1990, and remain the home of the Administrative Office. Most, if not all, of our faculty and graduate students are members of SSSP, attend the annual conference, and avidly read *Social Problems*. Several faculty members have served on a variety of SSSP committee positions over the years. As both a long-standing member of the SSSP, and as department head, the relationship is one that I support without reservation.

My work with the Administrative Office staff (Michele Koontz, Sharon Shumaker, and Lisa East) and the Executive Officer (Héctor L. Delgado) continues to be both positive and productive. They are doing an excellent job and they operate in a very professional manner.

Our senior departmental administrative assistant, Nancy Loftis works closely with Michele on budgetary matters in the Department. Michelle has a very good working relationship with both Nancy Loftis and our other administrative assistant, Shirley Martin.

The Department will continue to review and update Administrative Office staff salaries in accordance with UTK guidelines. We do not expect modifications in the budget at this point but if modifications are required we will request changes as appropriate. It is important to note at this point, however, that the Department of Sociology agreed to pay the tuition of the SSSP GRA at a point when that tuition was much lower. Since the time of that agreement, UTK tuition has close to tripled, and we are close to being unable to

pay that tuition out of our departmental operating budget. The Society and the Department will need to have a conversation about this issue soon. We have been told to expect another salary raise: we will certainly keep the Society up to date on any changes that may pertain. The College continues its strong support of the Administrative Office.

I have had an excellent working relationship with the Administrative Office staff and the Executive Officer since taking this position, and fully expect that will continue. We are committed to hosting the Administrative Office and the College and UTK will continue to support the Department in this effort. In sum, the Department continues to benefit greatly from hosting the Administrative Office. We could not be more pleased. I look forward to this longstanding and very positive relationship continuing, and working with the Executive Officer and the Administrative Office this next year.