

## Important Message from SSSP President and Executive Officer

June 25, 2025

Dear SSSP membership,

We send this letter a few weeks before our Annual Meeting in Chicago. The conference will occur in an unprecedented social, political, and economic moment. Let us be clear: **the values of SSSP are under attack**. Assaults on academic freedom, our ability to teach and protest, immigration raids, environmental destruction, war and genocide are at the forefront of these attacks. Not one aspect of lives remains untouched. We can contend with whether the moment is fascist or neofascist, but the political context demands we name the threat and build a response. Indeed, our very ability to exist as scholars, researchers, critical thinkers and human beings are at risk in this drive toward full scale dominance by the forces of reaction. It is a racialized, gendered, and class project that is local, national and global in reach. We know that our international undergraduate and graduate students are being targeted. Indeed, on campuses any student, faculty or staff may find themselves doxxed, even fired or deported. These moves impact all of us, and the direction of white nationalist global capitalist imperialism is clear.

We also know that **we can and will fight back**. Our conference theme “[Insurgent Sociology in a Time of Crises](#)” and programming lift up the best of the history of insurgent SSSP. We have joined with other sociological associations to assert our rights as knowledge producers and change agents saying no to a political project that crushes humanity and the planet. We know our communities have not remained silent, whether it is the AAUP and the AFT suing the Trump administration’s attempt to silence our ability to teach or the thousands of protests across the country against this destructive agenda. Students, women, immigrants, LGBTQIA, Black, Brown, Indigenous, peoples are at the forefront of the resistance. But there is much more to be done. We must unite across campuses, professional associations and with communities – in the streets locally and globally. We must have rich and critical conversations in Chicago. Most importantly, we must build strategically and act.

Those are our tasks at the SSSP 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting in Chicago and beyond. If you cannot make it to Chicago, [join us](#) to build our organization, and [nominate yourself](#) to get more involved. We must unite to reject the increasing reaches of authoritarianism and oppression. Together, let us lift our collective response in this moment.

Stand with those who raise their voices and resist, moving with clarity and solidarity. That is our charge.

Rose M. Brewer, PhD, SSSP President 2024-2025

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