



The Society for the Study of Social Problems

Publishers of the Journal *Social Problems*

901 McClung Tower University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN 37996-0490
Phone: 865-689-1531 Fax: 865-689-1534 E-mail: sssp@utk.edu
www.sssp1.org

OFFICERS (2019-2020)

Heather M. Dalmage, Ph.D.
Roosevelt University
President

Corey Dolgon, Ph.D.
Stonehill College
President-Elect

Nancy J. Mezey, Ph.D.
Monmouth University
Past-President

Daina Cheyenne Harvey, Ph.D.
College of the Holy Cross
Vice-President

Pamela Anne Quiroz, Ph.D.
University of Houston
Vice-President-Elect

Glenn W. Muschert, Ph.D.
Khalifa University of Science & Techno
Secretary

Susan M. Carlson, Ph.D.
Western Michigan University
Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Maralee Mayberry, Ph.D. (2020)
University of South Florida

Fernando I. Rivera, Ph.D. (2020)
University of Central Florida

Yvonne A. Braun, Ph.D. (2021)
University of Oregon

Matthew W. Hughey, Ph.D. (2021)
University of Connecticut

Debbie A. Potter, Ph.D. (2021)
University of Louisville

Giovanna Follo, Ph.D. (2022)
Wright State University

Bhoomi K. Thakore, Ph.D. (2022)
University of Central Florida

Apoorva Ghosh, Student (2020)
University of California, Irvine

Melissa R. Maxey, Student (2021)
University of Oklahoma

Kristen M. Budd, Ph.D. (2021)
Miami University
Ex-Officio, Chairperson, Council of the Divisions

Annulla Linders, Ph.D. (2021)
University of Cincinnati
*Co-Editor of *Social Problems**

Earl Wright II, Ph.D. (2021)
University of Cincinnati
*Co-Editor of *Social Problems**

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Héctor L. Delgado, Ph.D.
University of La Verne (Emeritus)

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Michele Smith Koontz
University of Tennessee
Administrative Officer & Meeting Manager

Kelsey Whitaker
University of Tennessee
Assistant to the Administrative Officer

Rachel Cogburn
University of Tennessee
Information Technology Specialist

Zaina Shams
University of Tennessee
Graduate Research Associate & Webmaster

July 23, 2020

Chief of Staff Michael Collins
100 Peachtree Street NW
Suite 1920
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Chief of Staff Collins:

I am writing on behalf of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), one of the oldest and most respected social science organizations in the country, to express our condolences for your loss. The loss of Representative John R. Lewis saddens us deeply, but we recognize that the loss for you and his family is so much more personal and painful. We want to take this opportunity to thank you, and his family, for all you and they have done to support and help him do the essential work to which he dedicated his life, and to assure you that we, collectively and individually, will do what we can to protect the many wonderful things he helped to achieve and to fashion a more just and equal society.

Attached is a statement in the form of a resolution adopted by our Board of Directors upon learning of Representative Lewis's passing. Attached as well are copies of letters we have sent to the President of the United States, Congressional leaders, and the Governor of Alabama and their legislative leaders in support of renaming the Edmund Pettus Bridge the John R. Lewis Bridge, replacing the statue of Alexander Hamilton Stephens in the Capitol with a statue of Representative Lewis, and the expansion of voting rights and reforms in the criminal justice system, including policing reforms.

Please convey our condolences to Representative Lewis's family for us and feel free to share with them the attached. If you can think of ways that we as a professional academic and social justice organization can help you to advance the late representative's civil rights and social justice agenda, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Héctor L. Delgado, Ph.D.
Executive Officer, SSSP
Professor Emeritus, University of La Verne