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## American Ethnological Society Election 2009

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### PRESIDENT-ELECT 2-year term

*Instructions:* (Your vote is optional) Please vote for only one choice

Dorothy Holland 

Sally Engle Merry 

### COUNCILOR 4-year term

*Instructions:* (Your vote is optional) Please vote for only one choice

Caitrin Lynch 

Samuel Martínez 



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## American Ethnological Society Election 2009

View details for: PRESIDENT-ELECT 2-year term

### Dorothy Holland

**DOROTHY HOLLAND** (PhD, University of California-Irvine, 1974) **Positions Held:** Cary C. Boshamer Professor of Anthropology, University of North Carolina at Cha...

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### Sally Engle Merry



**SALLY ENGLE MERRY** (PhD, Brandeis Univ., 1978) **Positions Held:** Professor of Anthropology, New York Univ. 2005 - present, Director of Law and Society Program...

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## American Ethnological Society Election 2009

View details for: **PRESIDENT-ELECT 2-year term**

### Dorothy Holland

**DOROTHY HOLLAND** (PhD, University of California-Irvine, 1974) **Positions Held:** Cary C. Boshamer Professor of Anthropology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2002-Pres); Co-Director of the Center for Integrating Research and Action UNC-CH (2008-Pres), Editorial Board, Sage Handbook of Identities (2006-Pres); Corresponding Editor, *Ethnography* (1999-Pres); AAA Commission on Governance (2005-2007); President-Elect, President, Society for Psychological Anthropology; (2001-2005) Chair; Department of Anthropology, UNC-CH (1996-2001); **Interests and/or Activities:** Social movements, Democracy, Identity and Agency. **Significant Publications:** *Local Democracy Under Siege: Activism, Public Interests and Private Politics* (Holland et al, NYU, 2007--recipient of the SANA Delmos Jones and Jagna Sharff Memorial Prize for the Critical Study of North America); *History in Person: Enduring Struggles, Contentious Practice, Intimate Identities* (co-edited with Jean Lave, School of American Research 2001); *Identity and Agency in Cultural Worlds* (Holland et al, Harvard University Press, 1998).

As one of the AAA's largest sections, AES stands to lead anthropology into a period of extreme political-economic uncertainty and potentially great social transformation. The scholarly activities of the Society continue to foster important theoretical developments and to produce research of a quality that illuminates crucial public interests and issues. At the same time, AES is promoting self-reflection and informed action to shape the future of anthropology, enrich the conditions for anthropological knowledge, and increase the presence of anthropology in public debates. These are all important initiatives and I would work to continue them. My current fascination lies with the university's reactions to neoliberal transformations of the last thirty years. One emerging scholastic response, "engaged scholarship," emphasizes conducting research *with* not *on* communities. This development could result in greater democratization of knowledge production, increased theoretical attention to situating knowledge in complex, asymmetrical power relations, and the evolution of participatory action research methods. My experience as co-director of UNC's Center for Integrating Research and Action (CIRA) shows that engaged scholarship is not an easy path. Yet it is one expansion of the university into research/action projects that I would like to see AES explore and have a hand in shaping.

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## American Ethnological Society Election 2009

View details for: **PRESIDENT-ELECT 2-year term**

### Sally Engle Merry



**SALLY ENGLE MERRY** (PhD, Brandeis Univ., 1978)

**Positions Held:** Professor of Anthropology, New York Univ. 2005 – present, Director of Law and Society Program NYU 2007 – present; Professor of Anthropology, Wellesley College 1975-2005;

**Interests and/or Activities:** legal anthropology, human rights, AAA Executive Board; **Significant**

**Publications:** *Gender Violence: A Cultural Perspective* (Wiley-Blackwell Introductions to Engaged Anthropology Series, 2009), *The Practice of Human Rights: Tracking Law between the Global and*

*the Local*. Co-edited with Mark Goodale. (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2007); *Human Rights and Gender Violence: Translating International Law into Local Justice* (Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 2006).

If elected president of AES, I would bring a substantial knowledge of the AAA, experience in liberal arts and university teaching, and a strong record of scholarship to the leadership of the association. I have written or edited eight books on urban anthropology and crime, conflict and law, colonialism in the Pacific, human rights, and gender violence. I have substantial leadership experience in the AAA, particularly its publication and conference programs. I just finished a three-year term on the Executive Board of the AAA and chaired the publications committee during the major transition to Wiley-Blackwell. I worked hard to make the process as open and consultative as possible, incorporating section input. I support the expansion of the section role in AAA governance. I served as AAA Program Chair for the 2003 AAA meetings and as president and board member of the Association of Political and Legal Anthropology. I was also president of the Law and Society Association and member of its executive board. I am very committed to the idea of an engaged anthropology that recuperates our historic role of social critique. I would be very pleased to put this experience to work for the AES.

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## American Ethnological Society Election 2009

View details for: COUNCILOR 4-year term

### Caitrin Lynch



**CAITRIN LYNCH** (PhD, University of Chicago, 2000)  
**Positions Held:** Assistant Professor, Olin College (2004-Pres); Visiting Research Associate, Brandeis University,...

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### Samuel Martínez

**SAMUEL MARTÍNEZ** (PhD, Johns Hopkins University, 1992) **Positions Held:**  
Assistant Professor (1997-2004), Associate Professor (2004-present), University of C...

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## American Ethnological Society Election 2009

View details for: **COUNCILOR 4-year term**

### Caitrin Lynch



**CAITRIN LYNCH** (PhD, University of Chicago, 2000)

**Positions Held:** Assistant Professor, Olin College (2004-Pres); Visiting Research Associate, Brandeis University, Anthropology (2004-Pres); Assistant Professor, Drew University (2003-4); Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Johns Hopkins (2001-2003); Board Member (2002-2005) and Treasurer (2004-Pres), American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies.

**Interests and/or Activities:** labor, gender, globalization, aging, Sri Lanka, United States.

**Significant Publications:** *Juki Girls, Good Girls: Gender and Cultural Politics in Sri Lanka's Global Garment Industry* (2007, Cornell University Press).

I would bring to the AES Councilor position a commitment to understanding and acting on contemporary problems of globalization, labor, and gender. Anthropologists who specialize in the world of work have a critical role to play during the economic downturn—we can lend analytical insights to understanding the histories, experiences, and possible futures as people worldwide make sense of and respond to dramatically changing socioeconomic landscapes. I appreciate the challenges and importance of communicating the anthropological project to non-anthropologists, and look forward to continued work in this area. *Juki Girls, Good Girls* analyzed the experiences of politicians, investors, and workers in the Sri Lankan garment trade. My current project engages questions about work, aging, gender, community, social values, and business profitability in the U.S. I am concerned with how the economic downturn may challenge and highlight our cultural assumptions (which themselves vary by class and gender) about the value of work, the experiences of retirement, and what constitutes "successful aging." I would bring to the AES Councilor Position administrative experiences, e.g., as Managing Editor of *Public Culture* (1999-2001); as founding co-chair of Olin College's IRB; and as Chair of Olin College's Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences program.

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## American Ethnological Society Election 2009

View details for: **COUNCILOR 4-year term**

### Samuel Martínez

**SAMUEL MARTÍNEZ** (PhD, Johns Hopkins University, 1992) **Positions Held:** Assistant Professor (1997-2004), Associate Professor (2004-present), University of Connecticut, Department of Anthropology and Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies; member (2001-04) and chair (2003-04), AAA Committee for Human Rights; **Interests and/or Activities:** Migration, human rights, contemporary slavery; **Significant Publications:** *International Migration and Human Rights: The Global Repercussions of U.S. Policy* (editor), 2009, University of California Press; "Making Violence Visible: An Activist Anthropological Approach to Women's Rights Investigation." In *Engaging Contradictions: Theory, Politics, and Methods of Activist Scholarship*, 2008, Charles Hale, ed. ([http://repositories.cdlib.org/gaia/gaia\\_books/6](http://repositories.cdlib.org/gaia/gaia_books/6)); *Decency and Excess: Global Aspirations and Material Deprivation on a Caribbean Sugar Plantation*, 2007, Paradigm Publishers.

My academic path has always brought me back to field study with Haitian emigrants and people of Haitian ancestry in the Dominican Republic, involving me in analysis of the complex of injustices and poverty that entraps many Haitian-Dominicans, in research and writing in support of this community's rights struggles, and most recently in critique of the U.S. response to the global crisis of migrant smuggling and human trafficking. My experiences as researcher, teacher, mentor, and organizer of scholarly events and publications suggest that scholarly situated-ness is as much a matter of where we are coming from as where we would elect to position ourselves as observers of humanity, and have affirmed the intellectual value of measures to expand the diversity of academia. As AES Councilor I would strive to enhance our membership's capacity to speak to audiences outside the anthropological profession. The unity of theory with detailed and imaginative descriptive ethnography, exemplified by *American Ethnologist*, will remain the main criterion of excellence that guides me in these roles. Yet we can do progressively more; I look forward in particular to helping expanding awareness outside of the AES about the engaged, activist scholarship being carried out and supported by AES members.

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