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## Society for Psychological Anthropology Election 2009

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### PRESIDENT 2-year term

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Katherine Pratt Ewing 

Claudia Strauss 



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# Society for Psychological Anthropology Election 2009

View details for: PRESIDENT 2-year term

## Katherine Pratt Ewing



**KATHERINE PRATT EWING** (PhD, University of Chicago, 1980) **Positions Held:** Professor (2008-Pres) Cultural Anthropology and Religion, Duke University; Assoc Pr...

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## Claudia Strauss



**CLAUDIA STRAUSS** (PhD, Harvard University, 1988) **Positions Held:** Professor of Anthropology, Pitzer College (2000- ); **Interests and...**

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## Society for Psychological Anthropology Election 2009

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

### Katherine Pratt Ewing



**KATHERINE PRATT EWING** (PhD, University of Chicago, 1980) **Positions Held:** Professor (2008-Pres) Cultural Anthropology and Religion, Duke University; Assoc Prof and Asst Prof (1991-2008) Duke University; **Interests and/or Activities:** psychoanalytic training at Chicago Institute for Psychoanalysis; Muslim minorities; gender, sexualities, and identity; **Significant Publications:** *Stolen Honor: Stigmatizing Muslim Men in Berlin*, Stanford, 2008; *Being and Belonging: Muslims in the US since 9/11* (editor), Russell Sage Foundation, 2008; *Arguing Sainthood: Modernity, Psychoanalysis and Islam*, Duke U Press, 1997.

The SPA can play a vital role in enhancing our work as publically visible anthropologists whose research is central to the discipline and speaks to critical issues such as economic distress, the changing positions of minorities, and the myriad effects of war and dislocation. As President of the SPA, I would foster participation by the growing number of younger scholars interested in subjectivity as affected by these and other phenomena such as the medicalization of the psyche, changing perspectives on gender and sexualities, religious conversion, and experiences of discrimination and violence. I would draw on my wide-ranging administrative experience to ensure the organization's smooth operation while continuing to encourage innovations in Ethos, our SPA-sponsored sessions, and our biennial meetings. I would also maintain active communication with other AAA sections such as the SCA, the Society for Medical Anthropology, and the Society for the Anthropology of Religion. Throughout my career I have played an active role in the SPA, serving as a Board member and as section editor for the Anthropology Newsletter. Informed by psychoanalytic training and fieldwork in Pakistan and Europe, my own research has focused on identity as a psychological and political phenomenon in an era of globalization, migration, and cultural fluidity.

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## Society for Psychological Anthropology Election 2009

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

### Claudia Strauss



**CLAUDIA STRAUSS** (PhD, Harvard University, 1988)

**Positions Held:** Professor of Anthropology, Pitzer College (2000- ); **Interests and/or Activities:**

psychological anthropology, discourse analysis, US cultural models of poverty, immigration, and other policies; **Significant Publications:**

"Blaming for Columbine: Conceptions of agency in the contemporary United States," *Current Anthropology* (2007); "Is empathy gendered and if so, why? An

approach from feminist psychological anthropology," *Ethos* (2004); *A Cognitive Theory of Cultural Meaning* (with Naomi Quinn, PhD), Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (1997).

As Secretary-Treasurer of the SPA from 2002 to 2006 I worked with three excellent presidents, from whom I learned a great deal. The presidency requires administrative skills and intellectual leadership. On the administrative side I would be attentive not only to routine section business but also to the need to safeguard SPA interests in the AAA as new issues arise. Intellectually, it is important to encourage new directions in our field and the work of upcoming generations of psychological anthropologists. The Lemelson/SPA Conference Fund and Lemelson Student Fellows Program are important resources and should be widely publicized. We must continue the vitality of *Ethos* and our Palgrave book series. One of the most important jobs of the president is working with the Board to organize the biennial meeting. I have attended every SPA meeting over the last 20 years. The best meetings were well-organized, incorporated diverse approaches, had considerable student participation, allowed time for meaningful discussion, and built in opportunities to meet and talk in a pleasant setting. Psychological anthropologists are producing excellent work. It is a good time to promote the creative energy in our field.

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