Esther Sullivan
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Education:

The University of Texas at Austin

Ph.D. Sociology expected December 2014
Academic Interests: Theory, Urban Sociology, Inequality, Housing, Geospatial Analysis, and Ethnography
Dissertation Topic: Housing insecurity and eviction among low-income residents and homeowners living in mobile home communities

M.A. Sociology with certification in Sustainability, August 2009
M.A. Thesis: "(Un)Intentional Community: Process and Politics in an Alternative Sustainable Community"
M.A. Thesis nomination for UT-Austin Graduate School Outstanding Thesis Award

The University of Chicago

B.A. English, 2004, with General Honors from The College and Departmental Honors in English Language and Literature

Dean's List 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003, and 2003-2004

Invited year-long Honors Colloquium participant.
Honors Thesis: An original play, "One Week in October," which explores the life, death, and revolutionary writings of French philosopher, social thinker and activist Frantz Fanon.
Producer: Staged reading of the play at The University of Chicago University Theatre.
Recipient: Olga and Paul Menn Foundation Prize for literature, a prize given to only one University of Chicago student each year.

Fellowships and Awards:

Law & Social Inquiry Graduate Student Paper Prize, 2013, $500 plus publication in *Law & Social Inquiry*

William C. Powers Fellowship, The University of Texas at Austin, Spring 2012, $25,000 plus tuition, fees and medical insurance stipend.

The Graduate School at The University of Texas, which writes that Powers Fellowships are: "among the most prestigious fellowships awarded by the Graduate School, providing a financial incentive package totaling $36,000 over a twelve-month period. Students who receive one of these fellowships are considered to be among the most academically competitive scholars on our campus."
http://www.utexas.edu/ogs/powersfellows/esther_sullivan/

Harry E. and Bernice M. Moore Fellowship, Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, Spring 2012, $20,000.

The Hogg Foundation awards one $20,000 fellowship each year to a doctoral student completing a dissertation on the human experience in crises. The competition is open across all disciplines, the process is highly selective, and one award is given. In a press release the executive director of the Hogg Foundation had this to say about my dissertation project: "Esther Sullivan's research will give a unique look at some of the most at-risk populations in Texas and continue the Moore Fellowship tradition of advancing public understanding of human adversity."
http://www.hogg.utexas.edu/detail/258/2012MooreFellowship.html

The University of Texas Graduate Dean's Prestigious External Fellowship supplement, 2012, $1,000.

Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies Grant, Fall 2011, $10,000

College of Liberal Arts Graduate Research Fellowship, Winter 2009, $500

UT-Austin Professional Development Award, Summer 2011, $400

UT-Austin Professional Development Award, Summer 2010, $400

Departmental nomination for Graduate School Outstanding Thesis Award, Spring 2010

Olga and Paul Menn Prize for Literature, 2004, $2000:
One prize for a dramatic literary work produced at The University of Chicago is awarded each year.

Marcia A. and Sheldon E. Berkson Scholarship, 2004, $6000:
One scholarship for a student that maintains academic excellence while working to pay his or her own tuition without family support is awarded each year.

Neighborhood Schools Program Teaching Award, 2003

National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts Award, 2000

University and College Scholastic Honors:
Comprehensive Exam Honors, UT-Austin, May 2011:
The only exam to receive Honors in the 2011 Sociology Theory section exam, sub specialization Urban Sociology and Inequality,

University General Honors, The University of Chicago, Spring 2004

Departmental Honors, English, The University of Chicago, Spring 2004

Dean's List, The University of Chicago, 2000-2004

Publications:
Peer-reviewed
Esther Sullivan. *Forthcoming*. "Half-way Homeowners: Eviction and Forced Relocation among Homeowners in Manufactured Home Parks in Florida." *Law & Social Inquiry*.

Esther Sullivan And Peter M. Ward. (2012). "Sustainable housing applications and policies for low-income self-build and housing rehab." *Habitat International* 36 (2): 312–323.

Other
LBJ School of Public Affairs. (2010). "Urban Sustainability and Renewable Energy Applications for Colonia-Type Housing in the Southern U.S." Final Report prepared by Peter M. Ward, Esther Sullivan and graduate students. Latin America Housing Network:
http://www.lahn.utexas.org/Texas%20Colonias/TexasColonias3.html

Steven Moore and Barbara Wilson, Assistant Ed. Esther Sullivan. (2009). *The Ally Flat Initiative: East Side House Farm*. The University of Texas Center for Sustainable Design.

Under Review
Esther Sullivan and Carlos Olmedo. "Informal Development in Low-income Communities: Housing Conditions and Self-help Strategies in Informal Subdivisions in Texas." Under review at *Urban Studies,* Fall 2012.

Conference Presentations:
International Conferences
"Half-way Homeowners: Eviction and Forced Relocation among Homeowners in Manufactured Home Parks in Florida" invited presentation at the American Sociological Association annual meeting New York, NY, August 10-13, 2013.

"Informal Development in Low-income Communities: Housing Conditions and Self-help Strategies in Informal Subdivisions in Texas." Invited presentation at the International Sociological Association RC43 Conference: At home with the Housing Market, Centre for Urban Studies, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, July 10-12, 2013.

"Informal Development in Low-income Communities: Housing Conditions and Self-help Strategies in Informal Subdivisions in Texas," invited presentation at the American Sociological Association annual meeting, Denver, CO, August 18th, 2012.

"Manufacturing Insecurity: Assessing Eviction and Displacement of Mobile Home Park Residents," invited presentation at the American Sociological Association annual meeting, Las Vegas, NV, August 20th 2011.

"(Un)Intentional Community: Legitimating Power in a Collectivist Organization," invited presentation at the American Sociological Association annual meeting, Atlanta GA, August 17th 2010.

"Community when Convenient: Individualist Pursuits in a Communal Organization," invited presented at the British Sociological Association annual meeting, Glasgow, Scotland April 7th 2010.

"Sustainable Home Retrofitting Technologies for Low-Income Communities and *Colonias"* The Latin American Housing Network Policy Conference, Austin TX, May 2010.

"The Nature of the Innerburbs in Comparative Perspective" The Latin American Housing Network Policy Conference, Austin TX, April 2009.

Employment and Research Experience:
Research Assistant, Housing Sustainability, Self-help and Upgrading in Texas *Colonias*: A Longitudinal Perspective, LBJ School of Public Affairs, 2010-2011

Research Assistant, UT Law Community Development Law Clinic and LBJ School of Public Affairs, Informal, Self-help and Low-income Housing Survey, 2010

Research Assistant, LBJ School of Public Affairs, The Innerburbs in Comparative Perspective, Latin America and the U.S. Summer 2009

Research Assistant & Co-editor, Ally Flat Initiative, UT-School of Architecture, Summer 2009

Graduate Scorer and Advisor for the UT-Austin Accreditation program, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Accreditation Program, 2009

SAT Preparation Materials Writer and Editor, Sullivan Prep, 2004-2007

Production Assistant, ABC Network News: Brian Ross Investigative Unit, New York, Summer 2003

Intern for ABC Network news broadcasts including: World News Tonight with Peter Jennings, Good Morning America, 20/20 and Primetime. Chief intern for every stage of 2003 Emmy-nominated 9/11 Special, which received national acclaim and won the duPont-Columbia Award in 2005.

Curriculum Enrichment Programs:

Portfolio Program in Sustainability, 2008-2009:

In addition to my Master's degree, I undertook an elective interdisciplinary portfolio program in Sustainability, a program sponsored by the Departments of Architecture & Planning, Engineering, and the LBJ School of Public Policy. This elective certification supplemented my education in my home department of Sociology. Merging training in the liberal arts, environmental engineering, architecture, planning and public policy has enriched my academic studies and my research on housing inequality. Achieving the certification took about two years. I was the first person in my department to undertake a portfolio program in sustainable studies.

The Alley-Flat Initiative, 2009:

I joined an interdisciplinary team of professors and graduate students to conduct the second phase of research on a UT-Austin project called The Ally-Flat Initiative. This initiative serves low-income residents of Austin's rapidly gentrifying Eastside by providing them with green, affordable, professionally designed secondary dwellings on their property. The initiative currently has two homes constructed and another 10 homes underway. The project won the 2009 Envision Central Texas (ECT) Community Stewardship Award. Visit: http://www.thealleyflatinitiative.org/

Public Service Activities:

McNair Scholars Program and Intellectual Entrepreneurship Consortium, 2011:

The purpose of this federally funded Ronald E. McNair Achievement Program is to prepare University students who meet federal low-income guidelines, whose parents have not completed undergraduate degrees and/or are members of groups underrepresented in graduate education for graduate study leading to a doctorate through mentorship with a seasoned Ph.D. student.

Community Development Law Clinic, 2010:

I provided research and technical assistance to law professors and students giving pro-bono legal aid to residents of two low-income Texas communities. I developed, administered and analyzed a survey of the housing needs of both communities. The law clinic used the findings of the survey to apply for grant money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (President Obama's current stimulus plan) on behalf of community residents.

UT Intellectual Entrepreneurship Program, 2010:

As a mentor to first generation UT undergraduates, I provide guidance, academic support, and research opportunities on an individual basis to first generation college students that are considering continuing their academic careers in a graduate program. I have helped students conduct their Honor's thesis projects and accompanied them to their first conferences where they presented their research. I am featured as an IE mentor in the following essay on their website: https://webspace.utexas.edu/cherwitz/www/ie/christina_ngo.html

Habitat for Humanity and The American Red Cross, Relief Worker, New Orleans, LA, 2007

During the summer of 2007 I lived in a base camp and worked full time to remove debris, mud, and personal belongings from the homes of Katrina survivors. I also worked with Habitat for Humanity to construct over a dozen new homes for those whose homes were beyond repair.

Teaching Experience:

Co-director, Graduate Seminar: "Sustainability for Low-income Housing"
The University of Texas Sustainable Cities Program, Spring 2010

Co-designed and facilitated a graduate level seminar, which resulted in two major reports to the Latin American Housing Network and several non-profit organizations as well as a two-day capstone conference held at UT-Austin.

Teaching Assistant: The University of Texas at Austin, 2004 - Present

For nine semesters I have served as a TA for courses ranging from introductory level sociology classes of about 200 students to upper-division Theory classes of approximately 50 students. For two semesters I designed and taught my own discussion sections (3 separate sections for each semester course). Courses taught have included Sociological Theory, Introduction to Sociology, Criminal Justice, Social Psychology and the Law.

Signature Course Teaching Assistant: Life and Death Decisions with Dr. Ekland-Olson, 2009

In 2009, I served as the TA for a Signature Course alongside Dr. Ekland-Olson, the former executive vice president and provost of UT-Austin. Signature courses are meant to provide a rigorous intellectual experience for first year students. I led three discussion sections (including one Honors section) that were an integral requirement of this course. I undertook specialized training to TA this course.

Supplemental Instructor: Introduction to Sociology, 2007

Supplemental Instruction aims to improve student performance in historically difficult classes by offering discussion sections with specially trained graduate students. As a Supplemental Instructor I received semester-long training and evaluation to strengthen my ability to help students process course material more effectively by modeling and discussing critical thinking and writing skills in small discussion sections.

Assistant Teacher: Neighborhood Schools Program, Chicago Public Schools, 2000-2004

For four years during college I worked as an assistant teacher in two different inner city Chicago Public Schools, one elementary school and one alternative school for pregnant and mothering teenage girls. I specialized in intensive Language Arts instruction in overcrowded classrooms. I was awarded the Neighborhood Schools Program Teaching Award in 2003.

Professional Service:

Steering Committee: Poverty and Marginality in the Americas: An Ethnography Workshop, Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, UT-Austin, Spring 2011

Referee for three peer-reviewed journals: *Law & Social Inquiry*, *Qualitative Sociology, Sociological Insight*

Invited lecturer: Applied Sociology, UT-Austin, Fall 2010

Invited panel participant: Supervised Teaching, UT-Austin, Spring 2009

Graduate Mentor in Sociology, 2009-2011

Professional Affiliations:

Member: American Sociological Association (Sections on Community and Urban Sociology and Environmental Sociology), British Sociological Association, Urban Affairs Association