

Biographic Sketches for Nominees to Open Executive Positions

President

Radhika Desai is Professor, Department of Political Studies and Director of the Geopolitical Economy Research Group, University of Manitoba. She also convenes the International Manifesto Group, served as platform chair for Dimitri Lascaris's 2020 campaign for leadership of the Green Party. She became treasurer of the Society for Socialist Studies in 2014 and is completing her third term as President of the Society for Socialist Studies. She writes about party politics, political economy, international affairs and Marx's analysis of capital, is worried about the drift to militarism and the right in so many countries and is interested in constructing a diverse, anti-militarist and anti-imperialist ecosocialism.

Treasurer

Cheryl Hewitt:

I am seeking election for a second 3-year term as SSS Treasurer.

In the past three years, I strove to make SSS financial reporting and budgeting as transparent as possible. I am pleased to use my financial management skills so that socialist scholars and social justice activists can work collaboratively toward our common goal – building a socialist future.

I worked as a teacher, a community organizer and manager, and a community development worker in the co-operative, political and non-profit sectors. I ended this varied 'career' as the executive director of PeerNetBC, a health promotion initiative based in Vancouver. I am a lifelong socialist activist and organizer.

Now retired, I have been a community advisor to the New Westminster Rent Bank for the past four years, a homeless prevention program supported by the City of New Westminster and the BC Rent Bank. I also volunteer in various ways with the Welcoming and Inclusive New West (LIP) Council, a broadly based initiative that promotes integrated settlement services and collaborative local anti-racism and anti-hate actions. I help write and edit the newsletter of the Community Health Services (Saskatoon) Association, a primary health-care co-op formed in 1962.

Membership Secretary

Alison Bodine is an antiwar, climate justice and social justice organizer based in Vancouver, the unceded traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples of the səliłwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations. Alison regularly publishes articles on climate justice, migrant and refugee issues, and Venezuela and is on the Editorial Board of the Fire This Time newspaper. Most recently, her articles have been published by

Venezuelanalysis, Global Research, Council on Hemispheric Affairs, Common Dreams, Monthly Review, The Canada Files and CounterPunch.

Alison is also the coordinator of the Fire This Time Venezuela Solidarity Campaign and author of the book *Revolution and Counter-Revolution in Venezuela* (Battle of Ideas Press). She has been a speaker and participant at international antiwar and anti-imperialist conferences in Cuba, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Ireland, England, and the U.S. and given lectures at the Bolivarian University of Venezuela.

As Membership Secretary, Alison is looking forward to expanding the Chapters and Affiliate groups programs of the Society. Alison also wants to focus on strengthening and broadening the work of the Society and socialist thought in Canada through building stronger partnerships between the academic and activist communities and growing memberships in both areas.

Members-at-Large (3)

Bill Carroll has been active in Socialist Studies since the 1990s. He currently serves on the Socialist Studies Executive and served some years ago on the Program Committee. He has been a member of the University of Victoria's Sociology Department since 1981, and was founding Director of UVic's interdisciplinary program in Social Justice Studies. His research interests are in the political economy/ecology of corporate capitalism, social movements and social change, and critical social theory and method. Since 2015 he has co-directed The Corporate Mapping Project, an interdisciplinary initiative bringing scholars and activists together in research and knowledge mobilization on the power and influence of fossil capital in Canada. His books include *Regime of Obstruction: How Corporate Power Blocks Energy Democracy* (free download here: <https://www.aupress.ca/books/120293-regime-of-obstruction/>), *The Making of a Transnational Capitalist Class*, *Organizing the 1%: How Corporate Power Works* (with J.P. Sapinski), *Expose, Oppose, Propose: Alternative Policy Groups and the Struggle for Global Justice*, *A World to Win: Contemporary Social Movements and Counter-Hegemony* (with Kanchan Sarker), *Corporate Power in a Globalizing World*, *Critical Strategies for Social Research*, *Organizing Dissent* and *Corporate Power and Canadian Capitalism*.

Megan Aiken is a PhD Candidate (ABD) of Political Science at the University of Alberta, an instructor at the University of Alberta and a soon-to-be instructor at Saint Mary's University in Kijipuktuk (Halifax, NS), situated on the unceded lands of the Mi'kmaq Nation. Her doctoral dissertation, "Locked-in Language: The Discourses, Politics, and Crises of Opioid Policy" stands at the intersection of health policy, canadian politics, and political economy.

They have been an active member of the Society for Social Studies since 2019, beginning as a non-voting Student Observer, then acting as the first Membership Secretary. She is seeking election with a view to taking primary responsibility for non-conference events planning for

SSS, using her skills in logistics and planning to continue delivering engaging online events for the membership and broader leftist community.

Student/Youth Representatives (2)

Brendan Devlin is a Master's student in Political Studies at the University of Manitoba. His research focuses on capitalist class rule, the class character of sovereignty and imperialism in Canadian politics, and Canada-China relations. He is a research assistant with the Geopolitical Economy Research Group. His writing has appeared in *Canadian Dimension* and *Monthly Review Online*.

William Kujala I'm a PhD candidate in Political Science at the University of Alberta, where I also work as a sessional lecturer. My research interests concern empire and political theory, and my dissertation explores the idea of "domestic colonialism" mobilized by revolutionaries in the 1960s. The student representative position is attractive to me as it gives me the opportunity to get other graduate students involved in the wonderful intellectual community in SSS. I've also worked as part of the book prize committee and look forward to doing this again.

Activist Scholars Representatives (2)