

Invitation to join the Associate Board of the BSA journal *Sociology*



Introduction

Sociology relies on its peer reviewers to maintain high quality scholarship. Alongside the work of members of the Editorial Board, members of the Associate Board will help to ensure that the journal makes an expeditious response to all journal submissions. As the journal expands, there is a marked expansion in the range of research areas for submitted articles. Associate Board members will have research interests, which support this current expansion.

Associate Board composition and operation

The Associate Board is a flexible way for individuals to become involved in the ongoing success of the journal. It is open to everyone, regardless of previous publishing experience, and does not require the same time commitment as membership of the Editorial Board.

The Associate Board will be made up of **24** scholars who commit themselves to reviewing up to **circa 6 papers** a year for the journal.

We are recruiting **24 members** this year. Successful candidates will become members of the Board from June 2010 onwards, for a period of two years.

The Associate Board differs from the journal's Editorial Board in that the latter has a strategic role in assessing and guiding the current and future goals of the journal, while members of the Associate Board will have the more delimited role of assessing individual papers submitted to the journal. Thus the Associate Board will not have face-to-face meetings but will be a 'virtual' entity.

Why should I nominate myself to become a member of the Associate Board?

Being a member of the Associate Board means being professionally associated with *Sociology*, one of the most well-regarded journals in the field. It is also an excellent way to make your own contribution to the continued successful running of the journal, and to the future health of British sociology as a whole. To acknowledge the valuable contribution made to the journal by members of the associate board, the names of the latter will be publicly recognised, by being printed in each edition of *Sociology*, and listed on its web-pages.

Who can nominate themselves?

We envisage that the Associate Board will be made up of a wide variety of scholars. This variety will be expressed both in terms of research interests and in terms of the career stages of those involved. Scholars ranging from early career researchers through to senior and retired academics can apply to be Associate Board members.

Terms and Conditions of Associate Board membership

1. Membership of the Associate Board will normally last **two years**.
2. Nomination to become a member of the Associate Board is **open to all qualified candidates** (see point 3 below), **regardless of previous publishing experience** and regardless of BSA membership. However, if an individual were to take up a position on the Associate Board, s/he would be expected to **become a member of the BSA** if not one already.
3. Members of the Associate Board must possess EITHER a **PhD in sociology** (or a cognate social science discipline), OR **at least two years' research and/or teaching experience of sociology** (or a cognate subject) in **Higher Education** (Note: people retired from an HE post are welcome to nominate themselves). If you are in doubt about your eligibility, please contact the Chair of the 'Sociology' Editorial Board, Elizabeth Ettore, at the address below.
4. The number of Associate Board members will normally be **24**. Members of the journal's Editorial Board will cast their votes to decide on Associate Board membership.

If you would like to nominate yourself for membership of the Associate Board, please email completed form to Elizabeth Ettore, *Sociology* Chairperson, E.Ettore@liverpool.ac.uk no later than Friday 16 April 2010.

The application form is available on the BSA website:
<http://www.britsoc.co.uk/publications/pubsvacancies.htm>

The electors will be members of the Editorial Board of *Sociology*. Nominees will be informed of the results in late May and, if successful, their duties will commence from the start of June 2010.