Caroline Hodges Persell:

Good afternoon and welcome to the Presidential and Awards Ceremony of the American Sociological Association in its Centennial Year. If you are coming in the doors, I will ask those of you who have seats next to you to raise your hand please, a trick I just learned from our President Troy Duster. So come on in and have a seat and welcome. I am Caroline Persell. I am the Vice President of the Association and the first thing we are going to do is take a moment of remembrance for those of our colleagues who have died in the past year and their names will be on the screen and we will remember them in silence. Thank you.

(Screen shot of names 00:00:46 to 00:01:30).

Okay. Thank you. It gives me great pleasure now to introduce a distinguished international visitor who is going to present a plaque to our President, Troy Duster. Professor Roberto Cipriani, Presidente Associazione Italiana di Sociologia will come up and give a presentation or our President Troy Duster.

Roberto Cipriani:

Mr. President, colleagues. The Founder of the American Sociological Society, Lester Ward, learned many languages and travelled a lot and it was his ideas to summon European scholars. The spirit of our Founders, our sponsors, must be preserved, notwithstanding the differences from a historical point of view. When the *American Journal of Sociology* began, in Italy we had *Rivista Italiana di Sociologia* – The Italian Review of Sociology. Afterwards, Vilfredo Pareto left our country and our fascist government prevented any development of sociological studies. Now, our Association, founded in 1984 is a good sending, thanks to one thousand members. We want to increase our international links and we want to thank you for the previous cooperation. It is a pleasure to present our gift to celebrate the Centennial Year of the American Sociological Association. See you as many times, I do hope so.

(Presentation).

President Troy Duster:

On behalf of the ASA let me say thank you for a gracious gesture. I have now seen this plaque, it has such Italian flair. Sally will find a place, a permanent place, on the walls of the ASA in the entry. It is an extraordinary piece of work. Thank you.