

# Shannon Sparks, Ph.D.

4151 NANCY NICHOLAS HALL | UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
1300 LINDEN DRIVE | MADISON, WI | 53706  
608.262.0871 | SPARKS2@WISC.EDU

## EDUCATION

---

- 2007                      Ph.D., Cultural & Medical Anthropology, University of Arizona  
Dissertation: Caregiving, Culture, and Community: The Place and Importance of White Mountain Apache Children in Family and Community Relations
- 1997                      M.A., Cultural & Medical Anthropology, University of Arizona  
Thesis: Can The Village Raise a Healthy Child? Alternative Caregivers and Implications for Child Health in the Developing and Developed World
- 1992                      B.A., Plan II Honors Program, University of Texas at Austin  
Thesis: Training Parents in Child Rearing: The Impact of Intervention Programs on Parental Self-efficacy and Satisfaction

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

---

- 2013 – present              Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Society & Community Studies (50%)  
School of Human Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2009 – present              Assistant Professor, American Indian Studies Program (50%)  
College of Letters and Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2009 – 2013                  Assistant Professor, Department of Human Development & Family Studies (50%)  
School of Human Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2008 – 2009                  Program Officer – Community Academic Partnership Fund  
Wisconsin Partnership Program, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
- 2005 – 2008                  Health Disparities Researcher  
Center for the Study of Cultural Diversity in Healthcare (CDH), University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

## Affiliations

- 2015 – present              Faculty Affiliate, Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI
- 2014 – present              Steering Committee, University of Wisconsin Center for Community & Nonprofit Studies, Madison, WI

2014 – present	Faculty Affiliate, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, School of Human Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI
2013 – present	Project-based Appointment, Cooperative Extension, University of Wisconsin-Extension, Madison, WI
2007 – present	Center Affiliate, Collaborative Center for Health Equity, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison, WI

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

Health Disparities & Health Equity	Maternal & Child Health/Well-Being
Social Determinants of Health	Child Caregiving & Alternative Caregivers
Health Care Decision Making and Treatment-Seeking Behavior	American Indian Communities
Household Production of Health	Hmong Communities
Lay Health Education & Patient Navigation	Community-Based Participatory Research
	Qualitative & Ethnographic Methods

## AWARDS

---

Fall 2016	University Housing Honored Instructor Award. University of Wisconsin-Madison.
Spring 2016	University Housing Honored Instructor Award. University of Wisconsin-Madison.
2015	Finalist, 2015 Ernest A. Lynton Award for the Scholarship of Engagement for Early Career Faculty. New England Resource Center for Higher Education and the Center for Engaged Democracy.
2015	Dr. Brenda Pfaehler Award of Excellence, Center for Educational Opportunity (CeO), University of Wisconsin-Madison.
2014	Community Outreach and Engagement Award, Outreach Planning Council (OPC), School of Human Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### Peer Reviewed Articles

Paradiso de Sayu, R. & **Sparks, S. M. A.** (2017). Factors that Facilitate Addressing Social Determinants of Health Throughout Community-Based Participatory Research Processes. *Progress in Community Health Partnerships*. 11(2).

**Sparks, S. M. A.**, Tiger, L., & Tiger, A. (2016). Developing a Model American Indian Intergenerational Youth Health Messenger Program to Promote Breast Cancer Screening. *American Indian Culture and Research Journal*. 40(4).

Faust, V., Christens, B. D., **Sparks, S. M. A.**, & Hilgendorf, A. E. (2015). Exploring Relationships among Organizational Capacity, Collaboration, and Network Change. *Psychosocial Intervention* 24:125-131. DOI: 10.1016/j.psi.2015.09.002.

**Sparks, S. M. A. & Vang, P.** (2015). The Development of the Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health: Capacity Building through Direct Community Engagement. *Progress in Community Health Partnerships* 9(3):405-412. DOI: 10.1353/cpr.2015.0055.

**Sparks, S. M. A., Faust, V., Christens, B. D., & Hilgendorf, A. E.** (2015). Effects of a Changing Organizational Ecology on Racial Disparities in Infant Mortality. *Journal of Community Psychology* 43(6):701-716. DOI: 10.1002/jcop.21751.

**Sparks, S. M. A., Vang, P., Peterman, B., Moua, M., & Phillips, L.** (2014). Utilizing Community-Engaged Approaches to Interrogate and Address the Roots of Hmong Women's Cancer Disparities. *Hmong Studies Journal* 15(1):1-18.

**Sparks, S. M. A.** (2014). Considerations of Culture and Community in the Production of Hmong Health. *Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal* 42(3):224-234. DOI: 10.1111/fcsr.12057.

Molloy, K., Reiner, M., Ratteree, K., Cina, K., Helbig, P., Miner, R., Lone Elk, D., Spotted Tail, C., **Sparks, S.**, Tiger, L. Esmond, S., & Petereit, D. G. (2007). Patient Navigation and Cultural Competency in Cancer Care. *Oncology Issues* 22(5):38-41.

### **Manuscripts Under Review**

### **Manuscripts in Preparation**

**Sparks, S. M. A., Faust, V., Christens, B. D., & Hilgendorf, A. E.** The Role of Access and Relational Trust in Improving African-American Birth Outcomes. For submission to *Ethnicity and Health*.

**Sparks, S. M. A., Vang, P., Peterman, B., Moua, M., & Phillips, L.** Conceptualizations of Cancer and Challenges to Obtaining Preventive Care among Milwaukee Hmong Women. For submission to *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*.

Curtis, T., **Sparks, S. M. A.**, Smallwood, M., & Lewis, J. Expanding Access Mapping Workshops: A Tool for Improving Engagement with Underserved Communities. For submission to *Journal of Extension*.

**Sparks, S. M. A.** Utilizing Lay Health Educators to Navigate Healthcare Decision Making at the Borders of Hmong and Western Conceptions of Cancer.

### **Book Chapters**

Christens, B. D., Faust, V., Gaddis, J., Tran Inzeo, P., Sarmiento, C. S., & **Sparks, S. M.** (2016). Action Research. Chapter 24 in L. A. Jason, & D. Glenwick (Eds.) *Handbook of methodological approaches to community-based research: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods*. New York: Oxford University Press. Pp. 243-251.

Joe, J., **Sparks, S.**, & Tiger, L. (1999). Changing Indian Marriage Patterns: Examples from Contemporary Western Apache. In *Till Death Do Us Part: A Multi-Cultural Anthology on Marriage*. S. L. Browning & R. R. Miller, eds. Greenwich, CT: JAI Press Inc. Pp. 5-21.

### **Reports**

Curtis, C., **Sparks, S.** & Smallwood, M. (2016). Expanding Access Workshops Evaluation Report. University of Wisconsin-Extension.

- Grande, K. (2012). Root Causes of Health Issues in the Milwaukee Hmong Community: Themes from Key Informant Interviews and Focus Groups with Community Leaders. **S. Sparks**, ed. Milwaukee, WI: Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health.
- Vang, C. Y. (2010). Living Your Healthiest Life: A Hmong Cancer Awareness Luncheon Report. **S. Sparks** & K. Grande, eds. Milwaukee, WI: Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health.
- Moua Consulting Group, LLC. (2009). Reproductive Health and Parent-Child Communication: Needs Assessment of the Milwaukee Hmong Community. **S. Sparks**, ed. Milwaukee, WI: Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health.
- Vang, C. Y. (2008). Cancer & Health Screening Experiences: Hmong Women in the Milwaukee Area. **S. Sparks** & K. Grande, eds. Milwaukee, WI: Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health.
- Sparks, S.** (2008). Walking Forward Screening Supplement Focus Group Analysis. Contract report to *Walking Forward* program, Dr. Daniel Petereit, PI.
- Stauber, L., Schrag-James, J., & **Sparks, S.** (2002). Parents and Children: Changing Roles, Changing Expectations. In *Social and Economic Impacts of Outer Continental Shelf Activities on Individuals and Families*. D. Austin and T. McGuire, Pls. Part 3 of Volume 2: Case Studies of Morgan City and New Iberia, Louisiana. Tucson, AZ: Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology.

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

---

### Conference Presentations

- Her, E., Lovang, K., & **Sparks, S.** (2017, April). *Warriors of Health: Fighting against Breast, Cervical and Liver Cancer in the Southeast Asian community in Milwaukee*. Paper presented at the 18th Hmong National Development Conference, Milwaukee, WI.
- Sparks, S.** (2016, November). *Applying Anthropology to Cooperative Extension: Utilizing Anthropological Methods to Investigate Success and Foster Engagement with Underserved Audiences*. Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN.
- Sparks, S.** & Curtis, T. (2016, June). *Investigating Success in Addressing the Programmatic Interests of Wisconsin's Diverse Communities: A Co-Authoring Approach*. Poster presented at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Cambio de Colores Conference, Columbia, MO.
- Sparks, S.** (2016, April). *Community Health Workers as Agents of Change: Lessons from a Community-based Cancer Prevention Initiative in the Milwaukee Hmong Community*. Paper presented at the 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Vancouver, BC.
- Sparks, S.** (2015, November). Youth Health Messengers: Empowering Youth as Agents of Change to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities. Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- Curtis, T., **Sparks, S.**, & Lewis, J. (2015, November). *A Sustainable, Equitable Engagement Process (SEEP) for Meeting the Needs of Wisconsin's Historically Underserved Communities*. Paper presented at the University of Wisconsin-Extension State Conference, Madison, WI.

- Curtis, T. **Sparks, S.**, & Lisowski, A. (2015, November). *Learning Communities: An Opportunity for Collective Reflection & Growth*. Paper presented at the University of Wisconsin-Extension State Conference, Madison, WI.
- Sparks, S.**, Phillips, L., Vang, P.C., Moua, M. (2015, November). *Healthy Hmong Women: Utilizing Lay Community Health Workers to Promote Cervical & Breast Cancer Literacy & Screening in the Hmong Community*. Poster presented at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Paradiso de Sayu, R. & **Sparks, S.** (2015, November). *Factors that Facilitate Addressing Social Determinants of Health Throughout a CBPR Process*. Poster presented at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Sparks, S.** & Curtis, C. (2015, September). *Investigating Success in Addressing the Programmatic Interests of Wisconsin's Diverse Communities: A Co-Authored Approach*. Poster presented at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Engagement Scholarship Consortium Conference, State College, PA.
- Sparks, S.**, Faust, V., Christens, B., & Hilgendorf, A. (2015, June). "The Impact of Organizational Ecology on Racial Disparities in Infant Mortality." Paper presented at the Society for Community Research and Action Biennial Conference, Lowell, MA.
- Sparks, S.**, Peterman, B., Vang, P., Moua, M., Phillips, L. & Grande, K. (2014, September). Healthy Hmong Women: How a Community Health Worker Program Strengthens the Connection Between Public Health and the Community. Paper presented at the 2014 Wisconsin Hmong Conference: *Koj Nyob Li Cas?* The Health and Well-Being of the Hmong Community, Stevens Point, WI.
- Sparks, S.**, Vang, P., Peterman, B., Moua, M., & Phillips, L. (2014, May). *The Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health: Building Capacity to Address Cancer Health Disparities Through Community Engagement*. Poster presented at the Community-Campus Partnerships for Health Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Sparks, S.** & Tiger, L. (2014, March). *Intergenerational Health & Wellness Messengers: An Innovative Model for Addressing American Indian Breast Cancer Disparities*. Paper presented at the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Albuquerque, NM.
- Sparks, S.** (2013, November). *Utilizing Community-Engaged, Anthropologically-Informed Approaches to Interrogate and Address the Roots of Hmong Women's Cancer Disparities*. Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, Chicago, IL.
- Sparks, S.**, Vang, P., Peterman, B., & Phillips, L. (2013, May). 'Healthy Hmong Women' (*Poj Niam Hmoob Kev Noj Qab Haus Huv*): Training Lay Health Educators to Address Hmong Cancer Health Disparities. Poster presented at the Wisconsin Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Wisconsin Dells, WI.
- Sparks, S.** (2012, November). *Utilizing Lay Health Educators to Navigate Healthcare Decision-Making at the Borders of Hmong and Western Conceptions of Cancer*. Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, San Francisco, CA.
- Moua, M., **Sparks, S.**, Vang, P., Peterman, B., & Phillips, L. (2012, September). 'Healthy Hmong Women': Utilizing Community Health Workers to Provide Culturally-Relevant Cancer Health Education in the Hmong Community. Poster presented at Leading the Way: A Joint Conference of Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Partnership Program, Milwaukee, WI.
- Sparks, S.**, Phillips, L., & Vang, P. (2012, August). *Healthy Hmong Women: How a Community Health Worker Program Strengthens the Connection Between Public Health and the Community*. Paper presented at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Health Nursing Conference, Stevens Point, WI.

- Sparks, S.** & Christens, B. (2012, March). *Erasing the Black-White Infant Mortality Gap: The Importance of Community and Institutional System*. Paper presented at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Baltimore, MD.
- Sparks, S.** & Christens, B. (2011, September). *The Role of Organizational and Interorganizational Relationships in Reducing Disparities in Infant Mortality*. Paper presented at the 2011 Wisconsin Health Improvement and Research Partnerships Forum, Madison, WI.
- Sparks, S.**, Peterman, B., Vang, P., Moua, M., & Phillips, L. (2011, September). Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health. Paper presented at the 2011 Wisconsin Health Improvement and Research Partnerships Forum, Madison, WI.
- Sparks, S.**, Vang, P., & Peterman, B. (2010, May). 'Kev Noj Qab Haus Hav Ntawm Pojnim Hmoob Lub Neej.' *Staying Healthy as a Hmong Woman: Building Capacity to Address Cancer Health Disparities through Community Academic Partnerships*. Poster presented at the Wisconsin Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Madison WI.
- Sparks, S.** (2005, April). *Reconciling Institutional and Community Conceptualizations of Child Care 'Quality': An Apache Case Study*. Paper presented at the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Santa Fe, NM.
- Sparks, S.** (2002, November). 'He Prefers It Here:' *Young Children's Autonomy in Decisions of Residence Among the White Mountain Apache*. Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, New Orleans, LA.
- Sparks, S.** (2001, November). *Looking Beyond Maternal Caregiving: White Mountain Apache Grandparent Caregivers and Health Considerations*. Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, Washington, DC.
- Sparks, S.** (2000, March). *The Impact of Offshore Oil on Young Children and Families*. Paper presented at the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for the Society for Applied Anthropology, San Francisco, CA.
- Sparks, S.** (1997, March). *Cultural Appropriation and Empowerment: The Impact of the Miracle Church in a Western Apache Community*. Paper presented at the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Seattle, WA.

### **Invited Presentations**

- Sparks, S.** (2016, October). *CBPR & the Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health*. Community Well-Being and Empowerment Focus Area Discussion. Center for Community and Nonprofit Studies (CommNS) Fall Event, Madison, WI.
- Sparks, S.** (2016, February). *Healthy Hmong Women*. Morgridge Center for Public Service Community-Based Research Lightning Round. Progressing Together: Campus and Community Summit, Madison, WI.
- Phaneuf, V., Campbell, J., McMahan, B., Gardner, G., **Sparks, S.**, & Luton, H. (2015, December). *Global Energy Panel Discussion: 20 Years of Ethnographic Research on the Gulf of Mexico Offshore Oil and Gas Industry*. University of Arizona School of Anthropology Centennial Colloquium: Reflecting on Our Past and Charting Our Future, Tucson, AZ.
- Sparks, S.** (2013, May). 'Healthy Hmong Women': *Promoting Improved Cervical & Breast Cancer Outcomes Through Community Engagement*. University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison, WI.

**Sparks, S.** & Christens, B. (2013, March). *Community-Based Research on Reducing Disparities in Infant Mortality*. Poster presented at Morgridge Center for Public Service Engaged Scholarship Summit, Madison, WI.

Christens, B & **Sparks, S.** (2011, November). *Shedding Light on Disparities in Birth Outcomes: A Mixed-Methods Community-Based Approach*. University of Wisconsin School of Human Ecology Colloquium, Madison, WI.

**Sparks, S.** (2009, November). *Perceived Barriers to Accessing Cancer Care among Native Americans in South Dakota*. University of Wisconsin-Madison Native American Health Working Group Meeting, Madison, WI.

## OUTREACH EDUCATION

---

- 2017 Building Bridges Webinar, UW-Cooperative Extension. <https://youtu.be/RutYjQP5ZII>.
- 2015 “Healthy Hmong Families: Advancing Equity through Lay Health Education.” 2015 Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Control Summit. Madison, WI. May 28, 2015.
- 2012 “Healthy Hmong Women Project.” Community Health Workers (CHW) Breast Cancer Conference. Milwaukee, WI. November 10, 2012.
- 2011 “Healthy Hmong Women/*Poj Niam Hmoob Kev Noj Qab Haus Huv*: Training Lay Health Educators to Address Hmong Cancer Health Disparities.” Hmong New Year. Milwaukee, WI. December 10, 2011.
- 1998 Invited Workshop Speaker, Navajo Nation Indian Child Welfare Act Program. Phoenix, AZ. December 2, 1998.

## RESEARCH GRANTS

---

### Active

#### **Healthy Asian American Women**

Funder: Susan G. Komen, Southeast Wisconsin Affiliate  
Effective Dates: 4/1/2017 – 3/30/2018  
Role: Academic Partner  
Total Costs: \$54,958

#### **Healthy Southeast Asian Families**

Funder: Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Control Program  
Effective Dates: 12/1/2016 – 12/30/2017  
Role: Academic Partner  
Total Costs: \$10,000

#### **Healthy Families, Healthy Communities: Engaging Southeast Asian Families through Culturally Appropriate Lay Cancer Education**

Funder: Prevent Cancer Foundation  
Effective Dates: 7/1/2016 – 6/30/2017  
Role: Academic Partner  
Total Costs: \$25,000

### Completed

**Healthy Hmong Women**

Funder: Susan G. Komen, Southeast Wisconsin Affiliate  
Effective Dates: 4/1/2016 – 3/30/2017  
Role: Academic Partner  
Total Costs: \$71,698

**Healthy Hmong Families: Advancing Health Equity Through Lay Health Education**

Funder: Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Control Program  
Effective Dates: 5/1/2015 – 8/31/2016  
Role: Academic Partner  
Total Costs: \$20,000

**Healthy Hmong Women**

Funder: Susan G. Komen, Southeast Wisconsin Affiliate  
Effective Dates: 2/16/2015 – 3/31/2016  
Role: Academic Partner  
Total Costs: \$5,000

**Comparative Case Study of Effective Health Promotion Coalitions**

Funder: Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation  
Effective Dates: 7/1/2014 – 6/30/2015  
Role: PI  
Total Costs: \$40,029

**Junior Pink Shawls: Training Intergenerational Health & Wellness Messengers to Address American Indian Breast Cancer Disparities**

Funder: Community-Academic Partnership Fund, Wisconsin Partnership Program  
Effective Dates: 7/1/2013 – 9/30/2014  
Role: Academic Partner/PI  
Total Costs: \$50,000

**Intergenerational Health & Wellness Mentor Education Program**

Funder: Vilas Life Cycle Professorship Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Effective Dates: 7/1/2012 – 6/30/2013  
Role: PI  
Total Costs: \$24,480

**Healthy Hmong Women (*Poj Niam Hmoob Kev Noj Qab Haus Huv*)**

Funder: Meta Schroeder Beckner Endowment Grant, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Effective Dates: 7/1/2012 – 6/30/2013  
Role: PI  
Total Costs: \$10,965

**Healthy Hmong Women (*Poj Niam Hmoob Kev Noj Qab Haus Huv*): Training Lay Health Educators to Address Hmong Cancer Health Disparities**

Funder: Community-Academic Partnership Fund, Wisconsin Partnership Program  
Effective Dates: 7/1/2011 – 6/30/2013  
Role: Academic Partner/PI  
Total Costs: \$50,000

**Examination of Systems Change in Dane County's Organizational Network of Health Care and Social Services: Impacts on Infant Mortality**



Funder: Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Effective Dates: 9/1/2011 – 8/31/2012  
Role: PI (Brian Christens, co-PI)  
Total Costs: \$32,557

**Community-Based Research on Reducing Racial Disparities in Birth Outcomes**

Funder: Morgridge Institute for Public Service Challenge Match Grant Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Effective Dates: 6/1/2011 – 5/31/2012  
Role: PI (Brian Christens, co-PI)  
Total Costs: \$14,797

**The Role of Organizations & Interorganizational Relationships in Reducing Disparities in Infant Mortality**

Funder: Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR-CAP), University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health  
Effective Dates: 8/1/2010 – 6/1/2011  
Role: PI (Brian Christens, co-PI)  
Total Costs: \$49,988

**Staying Healthy as a Hmong Woman (*Kev Noj Qab Haus Huv Ntawm Pajniam Hmoob Lub Neej*): A Project to Document and Improve Cervical Cancer Screening Rates in the Milwaukee Hmong Community**

Funder: Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Effective Dates: 7/1/2010 – 6/30/2011  
Role: PI  
Total Costs: \$28,041

**(*Kev Noj Qab Haus Huv Ntawm Pajniam Hmoob Lub Neej*) Staying Healthy as a Hmong Woman: Building Capacity to Address Cancer Disparities**

Funder: Community-Academic Partnership Fund, Wisconsin Partnership Program  
Effective Dates: 3/1/2008 – 2/28/2009  
Role: Academic Partner/PI  
Total Costs: \$50,840

**Alternative Caregivers Among the White Mountain Apache and Their Impact on Child Health**

Funder: National Science Foundation  
Effective Dates: 1/1/2001– 6/30/2002  
Role: PI (with dissertation advisor Mark Nichter)  
Total Costs: \$12,000

**Informal Caregiving Among the White Mountain Apache and its Impact on Child Health and Well Being**

Funder: Department of Health and Human Services, Child Care Bureau  
Effective Dates: 9/30/2000 – 9/29/2002  
Role: PI (with dissertation advisor Mark Nichter)  
Total Costs: \$69,704

**Reicker Grant**

Funder: Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona  
Effective Dates: 1999  
Role: PI  
Total Costs: \$1,000

**Edward H. Spicer Grant**

Funder: Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona  
Effective Dates: 1999  
Role: PI  
Total Costs: \$500

#### **Comins Fellowship**

Funder: Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona  
Effective Dates: 1999  
Role: PI  
Total Costs: \$700

## **TRAVEL GRANTS**

---

#### **Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education Travel Award**

Funder: University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Travel Dates: 4/2016  
Total Costs: \$1,000

#### **Graduate School Travel Award**

Funder: University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Travel Dates: 11/2012  
Total Costs: \$1,000

#### **Women's Studies Advisory Council Travel Grant**

Funder: University of Arizona  
Travel Dates: 11/2002  
Total Costs: \$270

## **RESEARCH PROJECTS**

---

2013 – present

#### **Sustainable Equitable Engagement Process**

Role: Research team member. Funder: UW-Cooperative Extension

Project evaluating Cooperative Extension programs throughout the state that have been successful in engaging underserved audiences with the aim of learning from these successes and integrating equitable engagement into Cooperative Extension's programming approach. The goal of SEEP is to cultivate a multilevel, responsive, equitable and sustainable process that intentionally engages underserved audiences around Cooperative Extension's educational priorities. The project integrates a three pronged approach – mapping workshops with county Extension offices and partners throughout the state; case studies of Extension programming that had been successful in engaging underserved audiences; and learning communities for Extension employees and partners to increase capacity for engagement with underserved audiences.

2007 – present

#### **Healthy Hmong Women / Healthy Asian American Families**

Role: Academic Partner/PI. Funders: Prevent Cancer Foundation; Susan G. Komen, Southeast Wisconsin Affiliate; Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation; Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Control Program; Wisconsin Partnership Program; Wisconsin Well Woman Program

Academic Partner for "*Poj Niam Hmong Kev Noj Qab Haus Huv (Healthy Hmong Women)*" (Milwaukee, WI). Increase knowledge of and build capacity to address cancer disparities among Hmong women in Milwaukee. Phase 1 involved (1) the development of a community-based consortium comprised of key stakeholders to raise visibility of and

increase capacity to address disparities in cancer screening and treatment for Hmong women; (2) qualitative interviewing of Hmong women to assess barriers to cancer screening and health care access; and (3) collection of cervical cancer screening and referral data for Hmong-serving Milwaukee clinics to establish baseline screening rates. Phase 2 consists of development and implementation of a culturally-appropriate lay health education and peer mentoring programs to increase knowledge of and screening for breast and cervical cancer among Milwaukee Hmong women and support for Hmong women diagnosed with breast and cervical cancer.

2014 – 2015

### **Comparative Case Study of Effective Health Promotion Coalitions**

Role: PI. Funder: Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation

Multi-site comparative case study of three prevention-focused community coalitions receiving Community Transformation Grant funds. Case study will investigate the best practices of developing and advancing the work of successful health promotion coalitions and contribute to a more specific understanding on how a focus on community capacity connects to better health and community outcomes.

2012 – 2014

### **Intergenerational Health and Wellness Messengers**

Role: Academic Partner/PI. Funders: Vilas Life Cycle Professorship Award; Wisconsin Partnership Program Community-Academic Partnership with Wisconsin Pink Shawl Initiative / Junior Pink Shawls, a Milwaukee-based non-profit dedicating to raising awareness and educating the American Indian (AI) community about breast cancer. Developing and piloting an intergenerational education and breast health promotion program that utilizes AI youth and women's intergenerational relationships to increase breast cancer screening rates for American Indian women. The program (1) trains AI youth as health and wellness messengers who engage female family members in breast health conversations aimed at educating about breast health and encouraging breast cancer screening, and (2) utilizes a "train the trainer" approach to train AI youth as peer educators who will work with other AI youth groups in the state to disseminate the youth health messenger model and train other youth as health messengers.

2009 – 2013

### **The Role of Organizations and Interorganizational Relationships in Reducing Disparities in Infant Mortality**

Role: Academic Partner/co-PI. Funders: UW Institute for Clinical and Translational Research; Morgridge Center for Public Service; Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation

Partnership between UW-Madison School of Human Ecology (Shannon Sparks, Brian Christens & Center for Nonprofits) and Public Health Madison & Dane County. Community-based participatory research project investigating the roles of local organizations in reducing racial disparities in birth outcomes in Dane County, Wisconsin. This study seeks to understand the impacts of changes in organizational programs and policies and changing relationships between organizations as they impact mothers' ability to access health services, information, social services, and other resources of importance for assuring positive birth outcomes.

2006 – 2009

### **Walking Forward**

Role: Consultant/Contractor. Funder: National Cancer Institute

John T. Vucurevich Cancer Care Institute, Rapid City Regional Hospital (Rapid City, SD). Providing guidance and assistance in the production of Patient Navigator training curricula and the design of survey instruments and other behavioral research tools for Native American community members and cancer patients concerning attitudes, beliefs, and experiences related to cancer, cancer screening, and cancer treatment, their ability to understand treatment options and informed consents, and barriers to screening and treatment. Also responsible for coding, analysis, and reporting of qualitative data.

- 2003 – 2004      **Yaqui Complementary Medicine Study**  
 Role: Statistical Consultant.  
 Native American Research and Training Center (Tucson, AZ). Advised project on quantitative methodology in relation to the project and trained personnel on codebook creation, coding, and SPSS.
- 2001 – 2002      **Informal Child Care Study**  
 Role: PI. Funders: Child Care Bureau; National Science Foundation  
 Dissertation research with White Mountain Apache Tribe. Ethnographic research with primary, supplemental, and surrogate caregivers of White Mountain Apache children age five and under. Project investigated caregiving decisions of parents and alternative caregivers, local constructions of caregiving quality, and examined health care decision making for children in the care of alternative caregivers.
- 1999 – 2000      **Gulf Oil Project**  
 Role: Research Assistant. Funder: Minerals Management Service  
 Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology (Tucson, AZ). Supervisor: Dr. Diane Austin. Conducted ethnographic fieldwork examining the impact of the offshore oil and gas industry on families and individuals in southern Louisiana with a focus on fathering roles and the impacts of concentrated work scheduling on children. Responsible for coding and analysis of project data in QSR NUD\*IST. Also co-wrote report entitled "Parents and Children: Changing Roles, Changing Expectations."
- 1999              **Carnegie Environmental Values Project**  
 Role: Research Assistant. Funder: Carnegie Council  
 Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology (Tucson, AZ). Supervisors: Dr. Diane Austin & Dr. Thomas McGuire. Assisted with interviewing and transcription on ethnographic study examining impact of federal limits on red snapper fishing on sports fishermen.
- 1994 – 1998      **Apache Children's Potential Project**  
 Role: Research Assistant/Data Manager.  
 Native American Research and Training Center (Tucson, AZ). Supervisor: Dr. Jennie Joe. Assisted in research design and survey development for project examining community attitudes toward and perceptions of children with disabilities in the White Mountain Apache community. Responsible for extensive database management, coding, and statistical analysis utilizing SPSS. Results from project were used to develop workshops providing Apache parents with information and resources for disabilities. Also conducted ethnographic interviews examining impact of the Miracle Church on traditionality and healing services in the community.
- 1994 – 1995      **Hardrock Relocation Study**  
 Role: Data Manager.  
 Native American Research and Training Center (Tucson, AZ). Supervisor: Dr. Jennie Joe. Responsible for extensive database management, coding, and statistical analysis utilizing SPSS and Epi Info.

## TEACHING

---

### Civil Society & Community Studies

**Community-Based Research** (CSCS 811; Inter-HE 881), University of Wisconsin-Madison  
 Role: Instructor. Semesters: Fall 2016, Fall 2014.

*Introduction to and exploration of the theory, principles, methods, and applications of community-based research (CBR). Includes a critical review of the advantages and limitations of a CBR approach, ethical considerations in CBR, and a discussion of the knowledge necessary to effectively participate in CBR projects.*

## **Human Development & Family Studies**

**American Indian Families** (HDFS 522; cross-listed as AMER IND 522), University of Wisconsin-Madison

Role: Instructor. Semesters: Fall 2013, Spring 2013, Spring 2012, Fall 2011, Fall 2010.

*Interdisciplinary, cross-cultural examination of Native American families in both historical and contemporary contexts. Investigates the changing experience and structure of Native American families in response to changing political, economic, social, and cultural pressures and policies over the past 200 years.*

**Community-Based Participatory Research** (HDFS 766), University of Wisconsin-Madison

Role: Instructor. Semesters: Fall 2012, Spring 2010.

*Introduction to and exploration of the theory, principles, methods, and applications of community-based research (CBR). Includes a critical review of the advantages and limitations of a CBR approach, ethical considerations in CBR, and a discussion of the knowledge necessary to effectively participate in CBR projects.*

**Social Ecology of Health Inequities** (HDFS 766), University of Wisconsin-Madison

Role: Instructor. Semesters: Spring 2011.

*Examines current and changing patterns of inequities in health in the United States. Takes a social ecological perspective to examining health inequities/disparities, looking to the dynamic interplay of the multiple factors, contexts, levels and dimensions at work. Includes consideration of a variety of contributors to health inequity and situates inequities within the specific contexts – historical, political, and other – that have shaped their existences.*

## **American Indian Studies**

**American Indian Health & Well-Being** (AMER IND 450), University of Wisconsin-Madison

Role: Instructor. Semesters: Fall 2014, Fall 2011.

*Introduction to the realities and experience of ill health and health care in reservation-based and urban American Indian communities with an emphasis on the multiple political, economic, social, cultural, and environmental determinants that have influenced American Indian health and well-being, both historically and today.*

**Introduction to American Indian Studies** (AMER IND 100), University of Wisconsin-Madison

Role: Instructor. Semesters: Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016, Fall 2015, Spring 2014, Fall 2013.

*Focus is history, social organization, political experience, artistic expression of North American Indians, using methods and materials from a number of disciplines as an introduction to the interdisciplinary field. Redeveloped course for Spring 2017 to be taught as large, mixed lecture/discussion course.*

**Native Peoples of the Southwest** (AMER IND 320), University of Wisconsin-Madison

Role: Instructor. Semesters: Spring 2015, Spring 2013, Fall 2012, Spring 2012, Spring 2011, Fall 2010, Fall 2009.

*Exploration of the changing ways of life of the indigenous peoples of the Southwest through both the pre- and post-contact periods. Focuses on the dynamic nature of culture, exploring changes in response to various historical (and pre-historical) events. Also explores contemporary issues and problems faced by southwestern tribes in response to modern pressures.*

## **Anthropology**

**Culture and the Individual** (ANTH 310), University of Arizona

Role: Teaching Assistant. Semesters: Spring 1999.

*Cultural and psychological dimensions of human development and human behavior.*

**Introduction to Medical Anthropology** (ANTH 444), University of Arizona

Role: Teaching Assistant. Semesters: Spring 1998.

*Overview of methods and contemporary topics in medical anthropology. Explores how health, illness, healing have been conceptualized and socially patterned across diverse human cultures. How processes and structures within economic systems (including poverty, political violence, and toxic waste disposal) impact well-being.*

**Native Peoples of the Southwest (ANTH 206), University of Arizona**

Role: Instructor. Semesters: Summer 2002, Summer 1999.

Role: Teaching Assistant. Semesters: Fall 1999, Fall 1998, Fall 1997.

*Nontechnical discussion of Southwestern Indian cultures from historic times to the present.*

**World Ethnography (ANTH 315), University of Arizona**

Role: Instructor. Semesters: Summer 1998.

*The comparative study of selected societies of the world through extensive use of the media.*

**Independent Studies**

**American Indian Community Priorities & Capacity Building, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Role: Facilitator. Semester: Spring 2015.

*Independent study with undergraduate students Emily Nelis & Patricia Post exploring priorities and opportunities for capacity building in their respective tribal communities and potential post-baccalaureate opportunities.*

**American Indian Health, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Role: Facilitator. Semester: Summer 2010.

*Independent study with undergraduate student Meagan Thompson exploring contemporary issues in maternal and sexual health for American Indian women.*

**Conceptual Modeling of Social Determinants of Health, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Role: Facilitator. Semester: Spring 2010.

*Independent study with graduate students Suzanne Gaulocher & Rebecca Paradiso exploring different potential conceptual models of social determinants of health.*

**Hmong Health Awareness Project, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Role: Facilitator. Semesters: Fall 2010 – Spring 2011.

*Independent study with undergraduate students Pa Yiar Khang, Maichou Lor, Kao Moua & Pa Xiong engaging in community-based research project on lay breast and cervical cancer education with the Madison Hmong community as part of a Kaufman Community Internship.*

**In Knowing Health: Hmong and Constructing Health Knowledge, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Role: Facilitator. Semester: Summer 2010.

*Independent study with undergraduate student Mai See Thao to produce manuscript and fact sheets based on research and outreach with Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin.*

**COURSE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS**

---

**Course: American Indian Health and Well-Being**

Funder: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Effective Dates: 6/1/2011 – 6/30/2011

Role: Course developer/instructor

Total Costs: \$5,000

**Course: Social Ecology of Health Inequities**

Funder: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Effective Dates: 6/1/2010 – 6/30/2010

Role: Course developer/instructor

Total Costs: \$5,000

## INVITED LECTURES

---

- Oct. 2016 "Community-Engaged Approaches to Addressing Health Disparities: The Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health as a Case Example. For Proseminar: Engaged Scholarship (CSCS 801). Department of Civil Society and Community Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Oct. 2015 "Research with Sovereign Nations." For Proseminar: Engaged Scholarship (CSCS 801). Department of Civil Society and Community Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Feb. 2015 "Who Owns the Data?" For Research in Communities of Color (HDFS 766). Department of Human Development & Family Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Nov. 2014 "Community-Engaged Approaches to Addressing Health Disparities: The Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health as a Case Example. For Proseminar: Engaged Scholarship (CSCS 801). Department of Civil Society and Community Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Nov. 2012 "Collaborative Research / Community Based Research." For Proseminar in HDFS (HDFS 664). Department of Human Development & Family Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- June 2012 "Working with Communities." For Institute for Clinical and Translational Research Short Course in Clinical Research, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison, WI.
- Oct. 2011 "Collaborative Research / Community Based Research." For Proseminar in HDFS (HDFS 664). Department of Human Development & Family Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- June 2011 "Working with Communities." For Institute for Clinical and Translational Research Short Course in Clinical Research, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison, WI.
- Feb. 2011 "Collaborative Research / Community Based Research." For Qualitative Research Methods (L SC COMM 875). Department of Life Science Communication, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Feb. 2011 "Community-Based (Participatory) Research." For Community-University Exchange (CUE): South Madison (INTER-HE 501). Department of Interdisciplinary Studies in Human Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Sept. 2010 "Collaborative Research / Community Based Research." For Proseminar in HDFS (HDFS 664). Department of Human Development & Family Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- June 2010 "Working with Communities." For Institute for Clinical and Translational Research Short Course in Clinical Research, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison, WI.
- Mar. 2010 "American Indian Health and Health Care." For Introduction to American Indian Studies (AMER IND 100). American Indian Studies Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

- Nov. 2009                “Perceived Barriers to Accessing Cancer Care among Native Americans in South Dakota.” For Proseminar in HDFS (HDFS 664). Department of Human Development & Family Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Sept. 1999              “American Indian Population Estimates and Disease.” For Ethnology of North America (ANTH 421/521). Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona.
- Nov. 1998                “Western Apache.” For Native Peoples of the Southwest (ANTH 206). Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona.
- Nov. 1998                “Environmental Protection, Monitoring, and Environmental Education.” For Native Peoples of the Southwest (ANTH 206). Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona.

## **ADVISING**

---

### **Current Graduate Advisees**

Erin Bailey, CSCR MS student – Chair

Falon Deimler, CSCR MS student – Chair

Becca Dower, CSCR MS student – Co-chair

Lauren Lewis, HDFS PhD student – Committee member

Haley Madden, Life Sciences Communication PhD student – Committee member

Diana Peterson, Nelson Institute PhD student – Committee member

Maya Reisz, CSCR MS student – Committee member

Paula Tran Inzeo, CSCR PhD student – Committee member

### **Graduated Graduate Advisees**

Abra Bankendorf Vigna – HDFS PhD student – Committee member (graduated 12/2016)

Christina Rencontre, Mass Communications PhD student – Committee member (graduated 5/2016)

Cheryl Funmaker, Curriculum & Instruction PhD student – Committee member (graduated 12/2015)

Jen Nunez, CSCR PhD student – Committee member (graduated 8/2015)

Meg Pollak, Anthropology PhD student – Committee member (graduated 5/2015)

Helyn Luisi-Mills, CSCR MS student – Committee member (graduated 12/2014)

Katty Cavero, HDFS MS student – Chair (graduated 8/2014)

Judith Sheche, HDFS MS student – Chair (graduated 8/2014)

Suzanne Gaulocher, Nelson Institute PhD student – Committee member (graduated 12/2013)



Adrienne Duke, HDFS PhD student – Chair (graduated 8/2013)

Rebecca Paradiso de Sayu, Social Work PhD student – Committee member (graduated 5/2013)

Sarah (Sadie) Munson, HDFS MS student – Chair (graduated 12/2011)

Amy Hilgendorf, HDFS PhD student – Chair (graduated 8/2011)

Amanda Hane, HDFS MS student – Chair (graduated 5/2011)

### **Graduated Undergraduate Advisees**

Mai See Thao (Anthropology), McNair Scholar – Advisor (graduated 8/2010)

Meagan Thompson, American Indian Studies Certificate student (graduated 8/2010)

## **SERVICE**

---

### **Departmental**

2016 – present	Graduate Program Committee, Department of Civil Society and Community Studies.
2013	Ad-hoc Scholarship/Awards Subcommittee, Graduate Program Committee, Department of Human Development and Family Studies
2012 – 2013	Graduate Program Committee, Department of Human Development and Family Studies.
2011 – 2012	Ad-hoc Diversity Committee, Department of Human Development and Family Studies.
2010 – present	Curriculum Committee, American Indian Studies Program.
2010 – 2011	Graduate Program Committee, Department of Human Development and Family Studies.
2010	Merit Committee, Department of Human Development and Family Studies.
2009 – 2010	Subcommittee to Review the Family Studies Option, Undergraduate Program Committee, Department of Human Development and Family Studies.
2009 – 2010	Undergraduate Program Committee, Department of Human Development and Family Studies.

### **School/College**

2016 – 2017	OneSoHE Methods Course Task Force, School of Human Ecology.
2016	Invited Panelist, Panel Discussion – Creating Learning Spaces for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Classroom. School of Human Ecology Fall Retreat, Madison, WI. September 2, 2016.
2016	Search Committee, Associate Director of Engaged Research, Center for Community & Nonprofit Studies (CommNS), School of Human Ecology.

- 2016 Ad-hoc Ethnic/Indigenous Studies Committee to Discuss Program Collaborations and Futures, College of Letters & Sciences.
- 2014 – present Steering Committee, Center for Community & Nonprofit Studies (CommNS), School of Human Ecology.
- 2014 – present Community Well-being and Empowerment Focus Area co-lead, Center for Community & Nonprofit Studies (CommNS), School of Human Ecology.
- 2009 – 2011 Student Academic Affairs and Awards Committee, School of Human Ecology.

**University**

- 2015 – present Ethnic Studies Subcommittee of the University General Education Committee (UGEC), University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2015 Invited Panelist, “Ethnic Studies and #BlackLivesMatter, From Ferguson to Madison: A Panel Discussion with UW-Madison Faculty.” April 10, 2015.
- 2015 Moderator, Healthy Living Breakout Session. UW/Native Nations Summit on Environment and Health. The Fluno Center, Madison, WI. March 12-13, 2015.
- 2014 Invited Participant, Panel Discussion on “Curriculum Development and the ESR.” Ethnic Studies Requirement Faculty Meeting, October 31, 2014.
- 2014 Design Team, Launch and Learn: Growing Together (An event to launch learning communities that support UW-Extension’s work across differences and promote inclusion), University of Wisconsin-Extension.
- 2009 – 2014 Steering Committee, Prevention Science Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2011 Tribal Nutrition Educators Group (TNEG), University of Wisconsin-Extension.
- 2008 – 2012 Native American Health Working Group (NAHWG), University of Wisconsin-Madison.

**Community**

- 2017 Planning Committee, “Empowering Asian American Families: Saving Lives through Education and Early Detection.” Conference held March 18, 2017 in Milwaukee, WI.
- 2016 Planning Committee, “Healthy Southeast Asian Families: Saving Lives Through Cancer Education.” Conference held April 16, 2016 in Milwaukee, WI.
- 2014 Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) Consultation with Education Director, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. May 28, 2014.
- 2013 Planning Committee, “1<sup>st</sup> Annual Hmong Women’s Health Conference: Engaging Men in the Conversation.” Conference held April 13, 2013 in Milwaukee, WI.
- 2012 – 2015 Planning Team, Junior Pink Shawls Intergenerational Health and Wellness Messenger project. Milwaukee, WI.
- 2012 – present Web Development Team, Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health. Milwaukee, WI.

- 2011 – present      Planning Team, “Healthy Hmong Women” Community Health Worker project. Milwaukee, WI.
- 2010                    Planning Committee, “Living Your Healthiest Life: A Hmong Cervical Cancer Awareness Luncheon.” Luncheon held March 27, 2010 in Milwaukee, WI.
- 2009 – 2010         Community Teams Program participant, Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute. Participating Team: Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health.
- 2008 – present      Founding Member and Co-Leader, Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health. Milwaukee, WI.

### **Professional**

- 2017                    Ad-hoc Task force to Evaluate Interest Group Integration, General Anthropology Division of the AAA.
- 2014 – present      Ad-hoc Reviewer, Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved.
- 2013 – present      Secretary-Treasurer, General Anthropology Division (GAD) of the American Anthropological Association.
- 2009                    Invited Participant, Screening and Detection Workgroup, 2010 Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan. Madison, WI.
- 2002                    Invited Speaker, Panel on "Child Care in Ethnic Minority Families." Child Care Policy Research Consortium. Washington, DC. April 17-19, 2002.
- 2001                    Organizing Committee, Child Care Research Conference. Washington, DC. June 27-29, 2001.
- 2000, 2001          Invited Participant, Child Care by Kith and Kin Research Issues Meeting. Sponsored by the National Center for Children in Poverty and Bank Street College of Education. New York City, NY. October 30, 2000, and October 9-10, 2001.

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

---

American Anthropological Association (AAA)  
 American Public Health Association (APHA)  
 Community-Campus Partnerships for Health  
 General Anthropology Division of the AAA  
 Society for Medical Anthropology  
 Society for Applied Anthropology  
 Wisconsin Public Health Association