

CURRICULUM VITAE**VANIA SMITH-OKA**

Associate Professor
Director of Graduate Studies
 Department of Anthropology
 University of Notre Dame
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Faculty Fellow
 Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies
 Eck Institute for Global Health

Faculty Affiliate:
 Gender Studies; Riley Center for Science, Technology,
 and Values; iCeNSA

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Medical Anthropology; Medical Training; Knowledge Transmission between and within Groups; Mentorship and Peer Networks; Anthropology of Reproduction; Culture of Obstetrics Wards; Obstetric Violence; Research Methods in Anthropology; Indigenous Health; Development; Mexico; Finland; Kenya.

HIGHER EDUCATION

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- 2006 Ph.D. Anthropology. Joint program of University of Illinois at Chicago and Field Museum of Natural History.
 Dissertation: National Policies, Local Knowledge: Women's Health and Political Ecology in an Indigenous Mexican Village.
 Committee: Anna Roosevelt (chair), Joel Palka, John Monaghan, Gayatri Reddy, Mark Liechty, Alan Sandstrom.
- 2001 M.A. Anthropology (with an emphasis on Ecology). University of Florida.
- 1998 B.A. (*cum laude*). Biology, Anthropology, and Environmental Studies. Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisconsin.
- 1994-1995 Biology. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

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- 2006-2014 Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Notre Dame.
- 2008-2011 Nancy O'Neill Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Notre Dame.

PUBLICATIONS

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- * Indicates graduate student co-author
 ** Indicates undergraduate student co-author

BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS:

- 2013 *Shaping the Motherhood of Indigenous Mexico*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press.
- Under review* *Becoming Gods: Transformation of Doctors in Mexican Obstetrics Wards*. Under Contract at Rutgers University Press.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES:

- In prep* V. Smith-Oka. Cutting Women: Exploring the Iatrogenic Effect of Obstetric Incisions in Mexico. Part of special issue, *Medicine's Shadowside: Revisiting Clinical Iatrogenesis*, Emma Varley & Saiba Varma, issue editors.
- Under review* V. Smith-Oka, S.E. Rubin, and L.Z. Dixon. Obstetric Violence in Their Own Words: Comparative Ethnographic Examinations of Gender Violence in Health Care Settings in Mexico and South Africa. Submitted to *Violence against Women* October 23, 2019.

- 2019 A. Kristensen-Cabrera (**), E. Perez-Then, M. Miric, and **V. Smith-Oka**. Factors Associated with the Practice of Breastfeeding for Mothers in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. *Public Health Review* 2(2):1-10.
- 2019 **V. Smith-Oka** and M. Marshalla (**). Crossing Bodily, Social, and Intimate Boundaries: How Class, Ethnic, and Gender Differences in Mexico are Perpetuated in Medical Training. *American Anthropologist*. DOI:10.1111/aman.13174
- 2018 J. Oluoch-Aridi, **V. Smith-Oka**, E. Milan (*), and R. Dowd. Exploring Mistreatment of Women during Childbirth in Dandora, Kenya: Experiences and Perceptions of Women and Healthcare Providers. *Reproductive Health* 15:209 (14 pages), <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12978-018-0643-z>.
- 2015 V. Smith-Oka. Microaggressions and the Reproduction of Social Inequalities in Medical Encounters in Mexico. *Social Science & Medicine* 143: 9-16. (Impact Factor: 2.814)
- 2014 V. Smith-Oka. Fallen Uterus: Social Suffering, Bodily Vigor, and Social Support Among Women in Rural Mexico. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, 28(1):105-121. (Impact Factor: 1.298)
- 2013 V. Smith-Oka. Managing Labor and Delivery among Impoverished Populations in Mexico: Cervical Exams as Bureaucratic Practice. *American Anthropologist* 115(4):595-607. (Impact Factor: 1.539)
- 2012 V. Smith-Oka. Bodies of Risk: Constructing Motherhood in a Mexican Public Hospital. *Social Science and Medicine* 75(12):2275-2282. (Impact Factor: 2.699)
- 2012 V. Smith-Oka. An Analysis of Two Indigenous Reproductive Health Illnesses in a Nahua Community in Veracruz, Mexico. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 8:33. DOI: 10.1186/1746-4269-8-33. (Impact Factor: 2.39)
- 2009 V. Smith-Oka. Unintended Consequences: Exploring the Tensions between Development Programs and Indigenous Women in Mexico in the Context of Reproductive Health. *Social Science and Medicine* 68:2069-2077. (Impact Factor: 2.604)
- 2008 V. Smith-Oka. Plants used for Reproductive Health by Nahua Women in Northern Veracruz, Mexico. *Journal of Economic Botany* 62(4):604-614. (Impact Factor: 1.018)

BOOK CHAPTERS:

- In prep* J. Oluoch-Aridi, **V. Smith-Oka**, & J. Dailey (*). Making Dignified Care the Norm: Examining Obstetric Violence and Reproductive Justice in Kenya. *In The Routledge Handbook of Anthropology and Reproduction*, Sallie Han & Cecilia Tomori, eds. Routledge. Due March 2020.
- Under review* **V. Smith-Oka** & Kayla Hurd (*). "We Work with What We Have, Not with What We Would Like to Have": A Hospital Ethnography of Structure and Care in Mexico. *In The Work of Medicine: Anthropology in Hospitals*, William Olsen and Carolyn Sargent, eds. Rutgers University Press. Submitted October 4, 2018.
- 2020 **V. Smith-Oka**, N. Nissen (**), R. Wornhoff (**), & S.G. Sheridan. "I Thought I was Going to Die": Examining Experiences of Childbirth Pain in Latin America. *In Purposeful Pain: The Embodiment of Intentional Suffering*, Susan G. Sheridan and Lesley Gregoricka, eds. Springer Press.
- 2019 L.Z. Dixon, **V. Smith-Oka**, & M. El Kotni. *Teaching about Birth in Mexico: Working Across Birth Models*. *In Birth in Eight Cultures* (Pp. 17-47). Edited by R. Davis-Floyd & M. Cheney. Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press.

- 2018 **V. Smith-Oka** and M. Rokhdeh (*). *Social Support and Social Suffering: Uterine Health among Indigenous Women in Mexico*. In *Maternal Health, Pregnancy-Related Morbidity and Death Among Indigenous Women of Mexico & Central America: An Anthropological, Epidemiological and Biomedical Approach* (Pp. 225-247). Edited by David Schwartz. Springer Press.
- 2015 *Being a Doula when Birth Choice Is Limited: Supporting Birthing Mothers in a Mexican Hospital*. In *Intimate Care: Doulas and the Birthing Body*. Edited by Angela Castañeda and Julie Searcy. Toronto: Demeter Press.
- 2013 “*Es Mejor Tener Pocos*”: *Las Decisiones de las Mujeres Nahuá Respecto a la Planificación Familiar* (“It is Better to Have Few:” Nahua Women’s Decisions Regarding Family Planning). In *La Tercera Realidad: La Huasteca Como Espejo Cultural* (Pp. 67-86). Edited by J. Ruvalcaba Mercado. México: Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social.
- 2012 “*They Don't Know Anything*”: *How Medical Authority Constructs Perceptions of Reproductive Risk among Low-Income Mothers in Mexico*. In *Risk, Reproduction, and Narratives of Experience* (Pp. 103-121). Edited by L. Fordyce and A. Maraesa. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press.

NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS:**NON-REFEREED ARTICLES:**

- 2016 Examining Boundaries in Adolescent Birth in Mexico. Part of *Childbirth in the Americas* (Part 6). *Anthropology News*. <http://www.anthropology-news.org/index.php/2016/02/25/childbirth-in-the-americas-part-six/>

BOOK TRANSLATIONS:

- 2011 Bauer, Brian S., **Vania Smith-Oka**, and Gabriel Cantarutti, translators. *Report on the Fables and Rites of the Incas by Cristóbal de Molina*. Austin: University of Texas Press.
- 2007 Bauer, Brian S. and **Vania Smith**, translators. *The History of the Incas by Pedro Sarmiento de Gamboa*. Austin: University of Texas Press.

REPORTS:

- 2009 *Plants used for Reproductive Health among the Modern-Day Nahua*. Part of website published by MexicoLore (<http://www.mexicolore.co.uk/index.php?one=azt&two=hea&id=408&typ=reg>).
- 2006 *Traditional Medicine among the Nahua: Comparing Contemporary and Ancient Medicinal Plant Use*. Report for the Foundation for the Advancement of Mesoamerican Studies, Inc. (<http://www.famsi.org/reports/05063/index.html>)

BOOK REVIEWS:

- 2020 Invited Book Review: *No Alternative: Childbirth, Citizenship, and Indigenous Culture in Mexico*. Rosalynn A. Vega. Austin, University of Texas Press, 2018. 272 pp. *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*, <https://doi-org.proxy.library.nd.edu/10.1111/jlca.12447>.
- 2011 Invited Book Review: *Reproduction, Globalization, and the State: New Theoretical and Ethnographic Perspectives*. Edited by Carole H. Browner and Carolyn F. Sargent. Durham: Duke University Press, 2011. Review Published in: *Studies in Family Planning* 42(4):313–314.
- 2003 Book Review: *Women in Mexico: A Past Unveiled*. By Julia Tuñón Pablos. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1999. Review Published in: *Nahua Newsletter* 35(1).

INVITED LECTURES AND ADDRESSES

- 2019 *Knowing When to Cut: Obstetric Violence as a Reproduction of Social Inequality in Mexico*. Invited Lecture at the Kent Family Foundation Speaker Series, University of Central Florida, Anthropology Department, October 9, 2019.

- 2018 *Women Can't Be Trauma Doctors, and Other Gendered Stories of Medicine.* Invited Lecture at the Christina Research Seminar – SKY Advanced Research Seminar series, University of Finland, Helsinki, April 24, 2018.
- 2018 *Authoritative Knowledge, Inequality, and Obstetric Violence in Hospital Birth in Mexico: Strange or Comfortable Bedfellows?* Invited Keynote at the Finnish Reproductive Studies Network (FiResNet) spring seminar, University of Finland, Helsinki, April 20, 2018.
- 2015 Invited Discussant for “The Ontological Politics of Motherhood: Ordinary Exceptions” at the American Anthropological Association meeting. Denver, CO, November 18-22, 2015.
- 2015 Invited Discussant for “The International Labor Organization’s Andean Indigenous Program in Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Chile, 1950-1975,” presented by Dr. Mercedes Prieto, Kellogg Institute Visiting Fellow. Notre Dame, IN, November 12, 2015.
- 2015 Invited Panelist for “Understanding Human Dignity” at the University of Notre Dame. Notre Dame, IN, January 28, 2015.
- 2014 Invited Discussant for “Anthropological Approaches to Conditional Cash Transfer Programs” at the American Anthropological Association meeting. Washington, DC, December 4, 2014.
- 2014 Invited Discussant for 5th Annual Medical Anthropology Young Scholars (MAYS) Meeting, Freie Universität, Berlin, July 4-5, 2014.
- 2014 *Medical Anthropology, Medicine, and Empathy.* Invited Lecture at Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University, Medical College, Pune, India. June 19, 2014.
- 2014 *Shaping the Motherhood of Indigenous Mexico.* Invited Online Lecture at Lehman College, NY. February 26, 2014.
- 2013 Invited Discussant for “Challenging Communities: Power, Boundaries, and Resistance” at the University of Illinois’s Second City Anthropology Graduate Conference. Chicago, IL. March 9, 2013.
- 2011 Invited Discussant for “Reproductive Choice and Romantic Desire: Explorations of Intimacy, Sexuality, and Evolving Gender Norms” at the Society for Psychological Anthropology meeting, Santa Monica, CA. March 31-April 3, 2011.
- 2010 *The Power of Plants: Medicinal Plants and Traditional Healing in an Indigenous Mexican Village.* Invited Lecture at North Central College, Naperville, IL. November 11, 2010.
- 2010 Invited Discussant for “Comparative Perspectives on Fertility Regulation” at the Latin American Studies Association meeting, Toronto, Canada. Oct. 6-10, 2010.
- 2008 *Analyzing the Unforeseen Complexities of National Development Policies in Mexico.* Invited Lecture at the Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame. February 5, 2008.
- 2007 *Teoría de Decisión Aplicada a la Salud Reproductiva de la Mujer Nahua (Decision-Making Theory as Applied to Nahua Women’s Reproductive Health).* Invited Lecture at the Universidad Veracruzana Intercultural, Ixhuatlán de Madero, Mexico. June 14, 2007.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2004-2005;

2001-2002

University Fellowship. Competitive award given to outstanding incoming graduate students. University of Illinois at Chicago. (\$26,000/year)

1999-2006 Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología Scholarship (National Council for Science and Technology – Mexico). Competitive award given to outstanding Mexican students (6,000/year)

DISTINCTIONS, HONORS, AWARDS

2019 Outstanding Director of Graduate Studies Award, University of Notre Dame

2012-present Faculty Fellow, Eck Institute for Global Health, University of Notre Dame

2010-present Fellow, Society for Applied Anthropology

2007-present Faculty Fellow, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame

2011 Ruth Benedict Global Citizenship Award for Achievements in Public Anthropology, Center for a Public Anthropology

2009-2011 Chair, Council on Anthropology and Reproduction

2008-2011 Endowed Chair, Nancy O'Neill Assistant Professor of Anthropology

GRANTS AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS

RESEARCH GRANTS:

2019 *Investigating How Doctors Take Decisions in Hospitals in Puebla, Mexico.* Notre Dame International Mexico Faculty Grant Program, University of Notre Dame. (\$9380). (Principal Investigator).

2019 *Past and Present Parturition: Assessing the Timing and Duration of Childbirth using the Neonatal Line.* Department of Anthropology Internal Grant, University of Notre Dame. (\$8,500). (Co-Principal Investigator, with PI Susan G. Sheridan).

2019 *Maternity Spaces and Integral Human Development: Healthy Settings in Maternal-Child Health Centers in Kenya, A Pilot Study.* Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame. Faculty Research Grant, (\$28,316). (Principal Investigator, with co-PIs Nicoletta Setola, John Onyango, and Jacqueline Oluoch-Aridi).

2017 *Investigating the Cesarean Epidemic: How Micro-Processes Shape Decision-Making and the Health of Vulnerable Patients.* Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame. Faculty Research Grant, (\$5,780). (Principal Investigator).

2015 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Small Research and Creative Grant for research assistant in Puebla, Mexico. (\$2,400). (Principal Investigator)

2015 *Mentoring Medicine: Learning to be a Doctor in Mexican Obstetrics Wards.* Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame. Faculty Research Grant, (\$14,400). (Principal Investigator).

2015 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Small Research and Creative Grant for research travel to Puebla, Mexico. (\$1,405). (Principal Investigator)

2014 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Small Research and Creative Grant to carry out pilot research in Pune, India. (\$2,490). (Principal Investigator)

2014 *Good Mentors: An Anthropological Approach to Track the Effect of Networks on Empathy.* Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame. Faculty Research Grant (\$2,310). (Principal Investigator)

2013 Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame. Book workshop and launch award (\$3,150).

- 2013 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Small Research and Creative Grant to travel to Poza Rica, Veracruz, Mexico. (\$1,110). (Principal Investigator)
- 2013 *A Longitudinal Study of Mexican Medical Student Training and its Effect on Empathy In Medical Care*. Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame. Faculty Research Grant (\$4,820). (Principal Investigator)
- 2011 *Midwives and Reproductive Health Outcomes in a Mexican Public Hospital*. Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame. Faculty Research Grant (\$6,650). (Principal Investigator)
- 2011 *Midwives and Reproductive Health Outcomes in a Mexican Public Hospital*. Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Large Bi-Annual Spring Research Grant. (\$6,000). (Principal Investigator).
- 2008 *Reproductive Health from Rural to Urban: A Preliminary Look at Women's Health in Puebla, Mexico*. Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame. Faculty Research Grant (\$3,690). (Principal Investigator)
- 2007 *Reproductive Constraints: The Effects of Globalization and Development on Women's Health in an Indigenous Mexican Village*. Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. (\$5,350). (Principal Investigator)
- 2005 *Traditional Medicine among the Nahuas: Comparing Contemporary and Ancient Medicinal Plant Use*. Foundation for the Advancement of Mesoamerican Studies, Inc. (Grant # 05063). (\$4,000). (Principal Investigator)
- 2003 *The Ecological and Political Landscape of the Nahuas of the Huasteca, Veracruz, Mexico (AD 1800-1950)*. Provost Award for Dissertation Research. Graduate College, University of Illinois at Chicago. (\$3,000). (Principal Investigator)

TEACHING, TRAVEL, MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS:

- 2019 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Co-organized with Dr. Eric Haanstad. Henkels Mini-Conference Grant for "What Will You Do With That? Thinking Like An Anthropologist Beyond Academia", April 4-5, 2019. (\$2770).
- 2016 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Henkels Mini-Conference Grant for guest speaker Dr. Riikka Homanen (\$900).
- 2016 Teaching Beyond the Classroom Grant, Dean of Arts and Letters, University of Notre Dame. Grant to bring in guest speakers, Dr. Riikka Homanen and Dr. Amanda Veile, to speak in Anthropology of Reproduction Class (\$1,475).
- 2013 Teaching Beyond the Classroom Grant, Dean of Arts and Letters, University of Notre Dame. Grant to bring in guest speaker, Dr. Claire Wendland, to speak in College Seminar (\$1,350).
- 2013 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Travel to International Conferences Grant. (Travel to Prague, Czech Republic for Inter-Disciplinary conference). (\$2,225).
- 2013 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Grant for copyediting support. (\$1,000)
- 2012 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Grant for indexing book. (\$1,100)

- 2012 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Mini-conference grant for guest speaker (Mr. Surjit Randhava). (\$350).
- 2012 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Book subvention grant. (\$5,000)
- 2011 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Travel to International Conferences Grant. (Travel to Montreal, Canada for AAA conference). (\$2,009).
- 2011 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Small Research and Creative Work Grant. (\$1,575)
- 2010 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Travel to International Conferences Grant. (Travel to Toronto, Canada for LASA conference). (\$1,578).
- 2009 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Miscellaneous Research and Materials Grant for book editing support. (\$1,150)
- 2008 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Henkels Interdisciplinary Visiting Speaker Grant for Dr. Carolyn Sargent (Wash. U.), 7-9 April 2009. (\$600)
- 2008 College of Arts and Letters Language Across the Curriculum, University of Notre Dame. Proposal for Societies and Cultures of Latin America for Spring 2009. (\$1,500)
- 2008 Learning Beyond the Classroom Grant, University of Notre Dame. Support for Guest Speakers. Dr. Linda Whiteford (USF; October 2008) and Dr. Carolyn Sargent (Wash. U; March 2009). (\$1,040)
- 2008 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Henkels Interdisciplinary Visiting Speaker Grant for Dr. Linda Whiteford (USF), 7-9 October 2008. (\$790)
- 2008 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Research and Materials Grant for book editing support. (\$1,000)
- 2007 Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame. Travel to International Conference Grant (Travel to CIESAS Conference in Ciudad Valles, Mexico). (\$741)
- 2006 Learning Beyond the Classroom Grant of the College of Arts and Letters, University of Notre Dame. "Day of the Dead Celebration:" Travel with Societies and Cultures of Latin America class to Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum, Chicago. (\$950)

GRANTS IN PROGRESS

- In Review* Investigating Obstetric Violence: The Reproduction of Social Inequality in Cesareans. (Principal Investigator). National Science Foundation. Submitted August 2019 (\$203,320).

OTHER NOTABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

ORGANIZED CONFERENCE SESSIONS

- 2019 Responding to the Problem of Violence, Disrespect, and Abuse within Maternal Healthcare (Co-organized with Lydia Dixon, Sarah Rubin, Emma Varley, and Catherine Smith). American Anthropological Association meeting. Vancouver, Canada, November 20-24, 2019.
- 2014 Revisiting Midwifery: New Approaches to an Old Profession. (Co-organized with Lydia Dixon, U. California-Irvine). American Anthropological Association meeting. Washington, DC, December 3-7, 2014.

- 2010 Negotiating Inclusion and Exclusion of Reproductive Technologies in Local Contexts of Men and Women's Reproduction. (Co-organized with Crystal Patil, U. Illinois Chicago). Society for Applied Anthropology meeting. Mérida, Mexico, March 24-28, 2010.
- 2009 Responsibility and Blame: Social and Biomedical Constructions of Reproductive Risk (Co-organized with Lauren Fordyce, UNC-Asheville). Society for Medical Anthropology, New Haven, CT, September 24-27, 2009.
- 2009 Violence in Structure and Structure in Violence (Co-organized with Rahul Oka, U. Notre Dame). Society for Applied Anthropology meeting. Santa Fe, NM, March 17-21, 2009
- 2008 Reproductive Constraints: Addressing Current Reproductive Health-Care Policies (Co-organized with Lara Braff, U. Chicago). Society for Applied Anthropology meeting. Memphis, TN, March 25-29, 2008.
- 2007 Global Health Policies and Local Realities: Differences in Reproductive and Infant Health (Co-organized with Crystal Patil, U. Illinois Chicago). American Anthropological Association meeting. Washington, DC. November 28-December 2, 2007.
- 2006 Critical Intersections: Medicinal Plants and Transitioning Cultures in a Global Latin America (Co-Organized with Lynn Sikkink, Western State C., Colorado). American Anthropological Association meeting. San Jose, CA, November 15-19, 2006.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 How to Cut: Exploring Justice and Stratified Reproduction of Obstetric Incisions in Mexico. XI AFIN International Conference "Towards Reproductive (In)Justice? Mobilities, Technologies, Labourings and Decisions." Granada, Spain, September 3-5, 2019.
- 2018 L. O'Connell (**), C. Arega (**), S. Berumen (**), K. Hurd (*), & **V. Smith-Oka**. Syndrome or Symptom? Exploring *Susto* through Ethnobotanical Data. American Anthropological Association. San Jose, CA. November 15, 2019. Poster.
- 2017 Existence-Based Medicine: Doing Ethnography in the Hospital Wards in Mexico. American Anthropological Association meeting. Washington DC, November 30-December 3, 2017.
- 2017 J. Oluoch-Aridi, **V. Smith-Oka**, & E. Milan (*). Exploring Mistreatment of Women During Childbirth in Dandora: Experiences and Perceptions of Women in a Kenyan Informal Settlement. The Soul of Development: The 50th Anniversary of Populorum Progressio. University of Notre Dame, March 23-25, 2017.
- 2016 Authoritative Knowledge, Inequality, and Obstetric Violence in Hospital Birth in Mexico: Strange or Comfortable Bedfellows? American Anthropological Association meeting. Minneapolis, MN, November 16-20, 2016.
- 2016 M. Marshalla (**), & **V. Smith-Oka**. Mentoring Medicine: Learning to be a Doctor in Mexican Obstetrics Wards. American Anthropological Association meeting. Minneapolis, MN, November 16-20, 2016.
- 2015 **V. Smith-Oka**, N. Nissen (**), & R. Wornhoff (**). Purposeful, Anticipated, Intermittent, and Normal: Grappling with the Familiar/Strange Dichotomy of Childbirth Pain. American Anthropological Association meeting. Denver, CO, November 18-22, 2015.
- 2015 Making Modern Mothers: How Neoliberal Welfare Policies in Mexico Mold Low-Income Women's Motherhood. 9th European Feminist Research Conference. Rovaniemi, Finland, June 3-7, 2015.

- 2014 Invisible Midwifery: The Paradox of Definition among Mexican Midwives. American Anthropological Association meeting. Washington, DC, December 3-7, 2014.
- 2014 Like a Font of Holy Water: The Presence of Gender-Based Violence in Obstetrical Encounters in a Public Hospital in Mexico. Society for Applied Anthropology. Albuquerque, NM, March 19-23, 2014.
- 2013 Not Just Supporting the Physician: Nurses' and Midwives' Negotiation of Power in Mexico. American Anthropological Association. Chicago, IL, November 20-24, 2013.
- 2013 Birthing for the First Time: How Boundaries Define, Confine, and Refine Adolescent Reproduction. "Probing the Boundaries of Reproduction: Origins, Bodies, Transitions, Futures", 1st Global Conference. Prague, Czech Republic, May 12-14, 2013.
- 2011 Birthing Along the Passages: How Medical/Non-Medical Spaces are Created in an Obstetrics Ward in Mexico. American Anthropological Association. Montreal, Canada, November 15-20, 2011.
- 2010 "It's Like Giving Birth in a Private Hospital." Analyzing the Connection Between Technology and Low-Income Women's Perceptions of Birth Outcome. Society for Applied Anthropology meeting. Mérida, Mexico, March 24-28, 2010.
- 2009 Conceiving Right(s): Exploring the Connection between Medical Violence and Women's Reproductive Rights in Mexico. American Anthropological Association. Philadelphia, PA, December 2-6, 2009.
- 2009 Risking Modernity, Blaming Mothers: Exploring the Tensions Between the State and Women's Reproduction in Mexico. Society for Medical Anthropology, New Haven, CT, September 24-27, 2009.
- 2009 Beyond Structural Violence? Exploring "Violent" Birth in Medical Encounters in Mexico. Society for Applied Anthropology. Santa Fe, NM, March 17-21, 2009
- 2008 Risking Body and Child: Biomedical and Local Perceptions of Pregnancy and Birth in Mexico. American Anthropological Association. San Francisco, CA, November 19-23, 2008.
- 2008 Are Fewer Always Better? An Examination of Mexican Population Policies. Society for Applied Anthropology. Memphis, TN, March 25-29, 2008.
- 2007 National Policies, Local Lives: Development and Family Planning in Rural Mexico. American Anthropological Association. Washington DC, November 28-December 2, 2007.
- 2007 La Salud Reproductiva de la Mujer Nahua Dentro del Marco del Desarrollo y la Globalización (Nahua Women's Reproductive Health Within Development and Globalization). XV Encuentro Nacional de Investigadores de la Huasteca, Ciudad Valles, SLP, Mexico, October 8-12, 2007.
- 2007 Global Solutions, Local (Mis)Interpretations: Implementing Family Planning Policies in Rural Mexico. Society for Applied Anthropology. Tampa, FL, March 27-31, 2007.
- 2006 From Plants to Needles: Nahua Midwives' Response to Globalization. American Anthropological Association. San Jose, CA, November 15-19, 2006.
- 2006 Politics and Prayer: Relations between Protestants and Catholics in Northern Veracruz, Mexico. North Central Council of Latin Americanists. Mankato, MN, November 3-4, 2006.

- 2006 Reinterpreting Development: Evaluating the *Oportunidades* Program at the Local Level. Society for Applied Anthropology. Vancouver, Canada, March 28-April 2, 2006.
- 2005 Negotiating the Reproductive Body: The Role of Nurses Regarding Birth Control in a Rural Mexican Clinic. American Anthropological Association. Washington, DC, November 30-December 4, 2005.
- 2004 Where to be Healed? Attitudes Concerning a Pluralistic Health System in an Indigenous Mexican Community. North Central Council of Latin Americanists. Decorah, IA, October 22-23, 2004.
- 2003 Gendered Perspectives on Healing and the Political Ecology of the Nahua of the Huasteca, Mexico. Midwest Conference for Latin American Studies. Eau Claire, WI, April 24-25, 2003.
- 2003 Political Ecology of Nahua Healers of the Huasteca, Mexico. University of Illinois Institute for the Humanities Conference. Chicago, IL, February 27-28, 2003.
- 1999 C. M. Kusimba, R. C. Oka, and V. Smith. Wither Elderhood? Changing Perceptions of Elderhood in Kenya. American Anthropological Association. Chicago, IL, November 17-21, 1999.

ETHNOGRAPHIC FIELD RESEARCH

- 2018, 2019 Pilot Research. Investigating the Cesarean Epidemic: How Micro-Processes Shape Decision-Making and the Health of Vulnerable Patients. Principal Investigator. (2 weeks)
- 2016 Mentoring medicine: Learning to be a doctor in Mexican obstetrics wards. Puebla, Mexico. Principal Investigator. (3.5 months).
- 2014 Pilot research on the feasibility of setting up a comparative research program on the factors shaping medical empathy. Pune, India. Principal Investigator. (3 weeks).
- 2013, 2014 A preliminary study of Mexican medical student training and its effect on empathy in medical care. Puebla, Mexico. Principal Investigator. (1 month).
- 2011 Midwives and reproductive health outcomes in a Mexican public hospital. Puebla, Mexico. Principal Investigator. (2 months)
- 2008 Reproductive health from rural to urban: A preliminary look at women's health in Puebla, Mexico. Principal Investigator. (1.5 months).
- 2007 Reproductive constraints: The effects of globalization and development on women's health in an indigenous Mexican village. Principal Investigator. (2 months).
- 2005 Ethnographic and ethnobotanical research in northern Veracruz, Mexico. Ph.D. research. Principal Investigator. (2.5 months).
- 2004 Research about religious celebration of Tonantsin, the Mother Goddess of the Nahua. Principal Investigator. (1 week)
- 2003-2004 Ethnographic, ethnobotanical, and archival research in Mexico City and northern Veracruz, Mexico. Ph.D. research. Principal Investigator. (8 months).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2019 How to Teach Film Across the Humanities. Taught by Dr. James Collins (U. Notre Dame). Notre Dame, May 20-24, 2019.

- 2016 Statistics for Ethnographers Workshop. Taught by Dr. David Nolin (U. Missouri-Columbia) and Jeremy Koster (U. Cincinnati). Short Courses on Research Methods, NSF-Cultural Anthropology/U. Florida Grant. July 17-22, 2016.
- 2015 Text Analysis Workshop. Taught by Amber Wutich (Arizona State U.) and Elizabeth Krause (U. Massachusetts-Amherst). Short Courses on Research Methods, NSF-Cultural Anthropology/U. Florida Grant. July 13-18, 2015.
- 2014 Social Network Analysis Workshop. Taught by Chris McCarthy (U. Florida) and Jeff Johnson (E. Carolina U.). Society for Applied Anthropology meeting. March 20, 2014.

TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT

- 2006 – Present University of Notre Dame (Assistant and Associate Professor) (Each taught multiple times).
Undergraduate-only classes: University Seminar: Exploring Anthropology (ANTH 13181); Fundamentals of Social and Cultural Anthropology (ANTH 20203); Societies and Cultures of Latin America (ANTH 20360); How Doctors Think (CSEM 23101); People, Environment, and Justice (ANTH 30325); Cultural Difference and Social Change (ANTH 40855)
Undergraduate/Graduate classes: Gender and Health (ANTH 40825); Culture of Medicine (ANTH 43307); Anthropology of Reproduction (ANTH 45826)
Graduate-only classes: Analytical Methods in Anthropology (ANTH 60314)

UNDERGRADUATE THESES AND DIRECTED RESEARCH

ANTHROPOLOGY SENIOR THESES

- 2017-2018 Lauren O'Connell (*"Empieza con Nosotros" (It Begins With Us): Tobacco Use and Visibility of Medical Students in Puebla, Mexico*)
Candice Park (*Analysis of Stable Isotopes and Social Variables within a New Delhi Population*),
Chandler Turner (*Physician Burnout: The Causal Factors and Possible Solutions*)
- 2016-2017 Bernadette Miramontes (*Healthcare Access, Attitudes, and Knowledge of HIV+ Women in Maharashtra, India*)
Katherine Egan (*The Impact of Patient Research on the Length of Diagnostic Delays Experienced by Cluster Headache Sufferers*)
- 2014-2015 Anna K. Simon (*Going Green in Mexico: Steps Toward Sustainable Water Management in Toluca*)
Alexis Palá (*No Somos Animales: Stigma, Discrimination, and Adults with Intellectual Disabilities in Spain and Chile*)
- 2013-2014 Margeaux Prinster (*Ephemeral Empowerment? An Exploration of Rajasthani Women's Development Programs within Gendered Social Spaces*)
Amy Klopfenstein (*"Men Are Being Trafficked Too": Masculinity and Vulnerability in the Human Trafficking Discourse*)
Catherine Cichon (*When Health Systems Meet: Narratives of International Partnerships and Medical Education in Rwanda*)
- 2012-2013 Katelyn Melloh (*How to Face the Consequences: A Comparative Study of International Development Projects in Peru and Uganda*)
Margot Morris (*Community Dialogue and Participation: Influencing Malaria Prevention and Health Education in Rural Cambodia*)
- 2011-2012 Shelly Birch (*The Nature of Care and Caring: The Doctor-Patient Relationship in a Low-Resource Hospital in Mexico*)
Kelly Colas (*Birth Experience for Young Mothers at a Public Mexican Hospital*)
Hanna O'Brien (second reader; *Quality of Life for the Sick and Dying: Perspectives of Health Disparities, Challenges in Ugandan Palliative Care and its Relation to Disease-Modifying Services*)
Isaias Montaña Hernández – Universidad Veracruzana Intercultural, Mexico (second reader, *La Importancia De La Revitalización De La Danza Indígena Montesón En La Comunidad De Puyecaco, Ixhuatlán De Madero, Ver.*)
- 2010-2011 Claire Naus (*"It Feels Bad": Hunger, Food Insecurity, And The Liminal Status Of Women In Lesotho*);
Elizabeth Benson (*Structural Violence, Patient-Physician Communication and the Challenge of Compliance: Diabetes at a Health Center in South Bend, Indiana*)

- 2007-2008 Andrea Dreyfuss (*Autism Treatment in Peru: The Role Played by Family and Social Networks*)
Kathryn Bouskill (*Barren Beliefs: The Sterilization Campaign and Contraception in Peru*)
- 2006-2007 Emily Kelley (*Identity Formation for Rwandan Asylee Women in Northern Indiana: The Impact of Legality, Employment, and Community*)
Bryan Hambley (*Malaria and HIV in Cambodia*)

GENDER STUDIES SENIOR THESES

- 2019-2020 Dinuka Cooray (*Fetal Mortality in St. Joseph County, Indiana*)
- 2016-2017 Moira Horn (*La Fortaleza De La Mamá Chiapaneca: Maternal Identity and Wellbeing in the Sierra Madre of Chiapas, Mexico*)
Gabrielle Marzke (*"The Crisis in Our Nation": Rhetorical Construction of Responsible Parenthood and Reproduction in the Context of Indiana Social Services*)

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES CAPSTONES

- 2019-2020 Taylor Buck (*Social Networks and Maternal Health: Examining Spousal Joint Involvement and Outcomes in Bududa, Uganda*)
- 2018-2019 Vivian Nweze (*Experiences of Female Migrants and Refugees in Spain's Healthcare System*)
Eunice Agyapong (*Analyzing Dynamics Of Physician-Patient Social Relationships In Ghana*)
- 2017-2018 Rosemary Agwuncha (*Compassionate Care in Anambra State, Nigeria: Perceptions and Obstacles*)
- 2015-2016 Nicholas Nissen (*Examining the Dominican Republic's Cesarean Epidemic*)
Alexandria Kristensen-Cabrera (*Factors associated with the practice of breastfeeding for mothers in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic*)
Lauren Antozs (*Adolescent Mothers and Schooling in Santiago, Chile*)

ANTHROPOLOGY DIRECTED READING/RESEARCH

- 2019-2020 Teagen Tibbot, Katie Cox, Rachel Dinh, Juliana Couri, and Analie Fernandes (Directed Research)
- 2017-2018 Nicole Waddick (Directed Research)
- 2014-2015 Bernadette Miramontes; Megan Fuerst (Directed Research)
- 2013-2014 Alexis Palá (Directed Research)
Annie Kuster (Directed Reading)
- 2012-2013 Daniel Balcarcel; Katya Simon; Caroline Merriam; Catherine Cichon (Directed Reading)
- 2011-2012 Laura Larkin (Directed Reading)
- 2010-2011 Hanna O'Brien (Directed Research)
Shelly Birch (Directed Reading)
- 2009-2010 Hanna O'Brien (Directed Reading)
- 2008-2009 Nicole Yamaguchi (Directed Research)
Stephanie Fairhurst; Kerry Pecho (Directed Reading)
- 2007-2008 Vivian Urbieta; Nathan Serazin; Stephanie Fairhurst; Andrea Martin (Directed Research)
Lisa Rauh (Directed Reading)
- 2006-2007 Nicole Yamaguchi; Vivian Urbieta; Jenna Johnson; Jennifer Zabel (Directed Reading)
Lisa Rauh (Directed Research)

GRADUATE THESES/DISSERTATIONS COMMITTEE

PHD CHAIR

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2019-present | Ph.D. (chair) (J. Dailey) | U. Notre Dame, Anthropology |
| 2017-present | Ph.D. (chair) (K. Hurd) | U. Notre Dame, Anthropology |

PHD COMMITTEE

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2019-present | Ph.D. (committee) (K. Reese) | U. Notre Dame, Anthropology |
| 2019-present | Ph.D. (committee) (A. Bursali) | U. Notre Dame, Anthropology |
| 2018-present | Ph.D. (committee) (K. Hook) | U. Notre Dame, Anthropology |
| 2017-present | Ph.D. (committee) (S. Johnson) | U. Notre Dame, Anthropology |
| 2015-present | Ph.D. (committee) (P. D'Shaun) | U. Notre Dame, Anthropology |
| 2014-present | Ph.D. (committee) (T. Marek) | U. Notre Dame, Anthropology |

MA/MS CHAIR

2019-2020	M.S. Thesis (chair) (B. Flores)	U. Notre Dame, Master's in Global Health
2016-2017	M.S. Thesis (chair) (E. Milan)	U. Notre Dame, Master's in Global Health

MA/MS COMMITTEE

2019-2020	M.A. Thesis (exam) (I. Orozco)	UNAM, Mexico, Psychology
2016-2017	M.Res. Thesis (reader) (J. Cruz)	Macquarie University, Australia, Anthropology
	M.S. Thesis (committee) (A. Lalla)	U. Notre Dame, Master's in Global Health
2014-2015	M.S. Thesis (committee) (A. Gomez)	U. Notre Dame, Master's in Global Health
	M.S. Thesis (committee) (L. Smith)	U. Notre Dame, Master's in Global Health
2013-2014	M.A. Thesis (reader) (Z. Newman)	U. Massachusetts-Boston, Conflict Resolution
2008-2009	M.A. Thesis (committee) (M. Freitas)	UDLA, Puebla, México, Anthropology
2008-2009	Ph.D. Proposal (reader) (J. Urrego)	Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia Public Health

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

INTERNATIONAL:

2008-present	Member of Panel of Experts for MexicoLore (United Kingdom)
2013-2015	Member of Editorial Board of the Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine

NATIONAL:

2015-present	Administrator, BioAnthropology News. Facebook group with almost 16K members. https://www.facebook.com/groups/BioAnthNews/
2016	Member, Book Prize Committee, Council on Anthropology and Reproduction
2015	External Reviewer for Tenure Case for flagship state school.
2015	Member, Graduate Paper Award Committee, Council on Anthropology and Reproduction
2011-2012	Advisor to the Chair, Council on Anthropology and Reproduction
2009-2011	Chair, Council on Anthropology and Reproduction
2008-2009	Chair-elect, Council on Anthropology and Reproduction
2007-2009	Advisor, Memorial Hospital, South Bend's Puebla Research
2006-2008	Member, Steering Committee, Council on Anthropology and Reproduction
2006-2007	Member, Foundation for the Advancement of Mesoamerican Sciences Inc., Ancient Maya Botanical Research Committee

Reviewer for the following journals: *American Anthropologist*; *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*; *Pan American Journal of Public Health*; *Social Science and Medicine*; *PLoS One*; *Human Organization*; *Medical Anthropology*; *Ethnicity and Health*; *Ethos*; *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*; *Culture, Health & Sexuality*; *Anthropology and Humanism*; *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine*; *Economic Botany*; *Mesoamerican Voices*; *Revista Chilena de Antropología*

Reviewer for the following book presses: *Vanderbilt University Press*; *Waveland Press*; *Rutgers University Press*

Reviewer for the following granting agencies: *National Science Foundation*, *MacArthur Foundation*, *The Wellcome Trust (UK)*

UNIVERSITY:

2019-2020	Member, Steering Committee for the Health and Well-being Initiative
2018-2020	Member, Kellogg Institute Grants Committee
2011-present	Faculty Mentor, Kellogg Institute's International Scholars Program
2016-2019	Social Science Faculty Rep, Academic and Faculty Affairs Committee on Board of Trustees
2018	Member, Clinical, Educational, & Translational Opportunities Assessment, sub-committee for the Provost's Science of Wellness Initiative
2018	Member, Review Committee for Eck Institute for Global Health Graduate Fellowship
2018	Judge, 3MT® competition, qualifying round, College of Arts and Letters.
2014-2017	Co-Chair, Mexico Working Group, Kellogg Institute
2015	Member, Review Committee for Kellogg Institute Visiting Faculty Fellows

2015	Reviewer for Large Grants for the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts
2014–2015	Faculty Mentor, Building Bridges Program, Multicultural Student Programs and Services
2013–2015	Social Sciences Representative, Gender Studies Steering Committee
2010–2014	Member, Latin American Studies Program Advisory Council
2014	Member, Review Committee for Kellogg Institute Undergraduate Research Grants
2013	Usher, Diploma Ceremony for Arts and Letters
2012, 2013	Member, Review Committee for Kellogg Institute Visiting Faculty Fellows
2012–2013	Member, International Development Studies faculty
2012	Member, Review Committee for Kellogg Institute Experiencing the World Fellowships
2011–2012	Faculty Mentor, Building Bridges Program, Multicultural Student Programs and Services
2011	Invited Moderator, Undergraduate Scholars Conference, session “Health Practice and Policy.”
2009–2010	Faculty Mentor, Kellogg Institute’s International Scholars Program.
2010	Invited Discussant, Ford Program’s Student Conference “People, Power, and Pragmatism.”
2009	Organized Guest Speaker (Dr. Carolyn Sargent), with support from Anthropology, ISLA, Gender Studies, and Learning Beyond the Classroom
2009	Invited Guest, International Development Research Council's "Coffee and Conversation" student event
2008–2009	Mentor, Building Bridges, Multicultural Student Programs and Services
2008	Organized Guest Speaker (Dr. Linda Whiteford), with support from Anthropology, Kellogg Institute, Learning Beyond the Classroom, ISLA, Economics and Policy Studies, and Poverty Institute.
2008	Orientation/Mentorship for students participating in Puebla, Mexico program
2008	Member, Review Committee for Kellogg Institute Visiting Faculty Fellows
2007	Organized Guest Speaker (Dr. Crystal Patil), with support from Gender Studies and Kellogg Institute.

DEPARTMENTAL:

2019-present	Member, Committee on Renewal, Promotion, and Tenure (CRPT)
2016-present	Director of Graduate Studies
2019-2020	Member, Medical Anthropology Search Committee
2014–2019	Member, Committee on Appointments and Promotions (CAP)
2016–2017	Chair, Senior Sociocultural Anthropologist Search Committee
2014–2015	Member, Graduate Program Committee
2014–2015	Co-Chair, Medical Anthropologist Search Committee
2012–2015	Co-Chair, Kauffman Endowed Lecture Series Committee
2013–2014	Member, Latino Studies Anthropologist Search Committee
2011–2012	Member, Search Committee for Director of Undergraduate Studies for Anthropology
2010–2012	Advisor to the Anthropology Club and to the Honor Society of Lambda Alpha
2009–2010	Member, Student Internships Committee
2008–2009	Chair, Student Awards Committee
2007–2009	Member, Speakers Committee
2007–2008	Member, Student Awards Committee
2006–2008	Member, Curriculum Committee
2006–2007	Member, Archaeology Search Committee
2006-present	Anthropology Club activities

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association
Society for Medical Anthropology
Society for Applied Anthropology (Fellow)
Latin American Studies Association
Society for Economic Botany
Council on Anthropology and Reproduction
Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement

AFFILIATIONS

2012-present Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla. Mexico

2007-present Universidad Veracruzana Intercultural. Mexico.
2005-present Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social. Mexico.
2005-2007 Herbario de Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico.

LANGUAGES

Spanish – native speaker
English – native speaker
Nahuatl of the Huasteca region – working knowledge
Marathi – beginning