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**EDUCATION**

- 2007 **MSW** George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University, St. Louis.  
1998 **Ph.D.** Department of Anthropology, University of California, San Diego,  
1993 **M.A.** Department of Anthropology, University of California, San Diego  
1991 **B.A.** Department of Anthropology, University of Florida. Honors.

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Psychological anthropology, medical anthropology, psychiatric practice, religion and ritual, gender, embodiment.

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

- 2002-present **Assistant Professor**, Dept. of Anthropology, Washington University, St. Louis.  
**Assistant Director**, Medicine and Society Program  
**Affiliated faculty** of the Center for Mental Health Services Research  
**Faculty Fellow**, Washington University Institute for Public Health  
Joint Appointments in Women & Gender Studies and Religious Studies.
- 1999-2002 **NIMH Postdoctoral Fellow in Culture and Mental Health**, The Committee on Human Development, The University of Chicago.
- 1998 –1999 **Visiting Assistant Professor**, Department of Religious Studies, University of California, Riverside
- 1997 –1998 **Visiting Instructor**, Department of Religion, Wesleyan University

**LANGUAGES**

- Spanish      Fluent in reading, writing, speaking  
Hebrew      Basic  
Arabic      Basic

**FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE**

- 2003-present McCallum Place Eating Disorders Treatment Center, St. Louis, MO.  
Ongoing participant-observation and interviewing, longitudinal research.
- 6/03-8/03 Avalon, Centro de Tratamiento de la Mujer, Mexico City, Mexico  
12/03-1/04 Avalon, Centro de Tratamiento de la Mujer, Mexico City, Mexico  
6/04-8/04 Avalon, Centro de Tratamiento de la Mujer, Mexico City, Mexico  
1996-1998 Corporation for Supportive Housing, New York, NY  
1994-1995 Dissertation Field Research, La Siervas, Puebla Mexico  
7/95-12/95 Commission for Human Rights, Prostitution Program, Puebla, Mexico  
1992-1993 Masters Field Research, Rader Institute Eating Disorders Center, San Diego

**CLINICAL TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE**

- 2008-present **Founder and Executive Director, The Foundation for Applied Psychiatric Anthropology, Inc.**  
FAPA is a non-profit organization that promotes the use of ethnographic research and mixed-methods approaches to improve understandings and treatments of mental illness, broadly defined. Website: [www.psychanthro.org](http://www.psychanthro.org).
- 2007-present **Licensed Clinical Social Worker (MO #2007031682)**  
I maintain a small clinical practice where I specialize in treating eating disorders, mood disorders, personality disorders, and self-harm issues.
- 2005-2007 **Practicum Trainee**  
McCallum Place Eating Disorders Treatment Center, St. Louis, MO.
- 2000-2002 **Clinical Trainee**  
Self Psychology & Religion: Clinical Specialization & Applications Program, Center for Religion and Psychotherapy, Chicago, IL
- 1999-2002 **Co-therapist**  
Eating Disorders Treatment Center, The University of Chicago.
- 1993-1994 **Psychotherapy Trainee**  
UCSD Gifford Psychiatric Clinic, San Diego, CA
- 1992-1994 **Clinical Trainee**  
Anthropology and Psychiatry Program, University of California, San Diego.
- 1992-1993 **Assessment Counselor**  
The Rader Institute Eating Disorders Center, San Diego, CA

**PUBLICATIONS****Books**

- Under Review **Treating Eating Disorders: An Anthropological Critique** (working title).  
Cambridge Studies in Medical Anthropology. Rutgers University Press.  
This book is a critical intellectual history of Western views of eating disorders and their treatment from the Middle Ages to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I propose that clinical, theoretical and popular thinking about eating disorders—what they are, what causes them, how to treat them, and what recovery looks like—crystallize historically specific concerns, anxieties, and fantasies about what makes us human and what makes that humanity meaningful.
- 2005 **Jesus in our Wombs: Embodying Modernity in a Mexican Convent**. University of California Press.

### **Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters**

- Under Review How do I Code for Black Fingernail Polish?: Finding the Disappearing Adolescent in Managed Mental Health Care. *In Policy-Relevant Research on Adolescents: New Directions from Anthropology* (Anderson-Fye and Korbin, eds.). Being considered by Rutgers series on Childhood and Springer series on Child Well-being.
- 2009 Brokering Authenticity: Borderline Personality Disorder and the Ethics of Care at an American Eating Disorder Clinic. *Current Anthropology* 50(3). This article was awarded The Stirling Prize, Society for Psychological Anthropology
- 2008 Anxious Bliss: A Case Study of Dissociation in a Mexican Nun. *Transcultural Psychiatry* 45(1): 56-78.
- 2007 Critical Therapeutics in Two Eating Disorders Treatment Centers. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 21(4): 369-387.
- 2007 It's Like Being in a Labyrinth: Hispanic Immigrants' Perceptions of Depression and Attitudes Towards Treatment, (second author with Leo Cabassa and Luis Zayas), *Journal of Immigrant & Minority Health* 9 (1): 1-16.
- 2005 Why Do So Many Latina Teens Attempt Suicide?: A Conceptual Model for Research (second author, with Luis Zayas and Leo Cabassa), *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* 75 (2): 275-287.
- 2004 Eating Disorders and the Problem of 'Culture' in Acculturation. *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 28 (4): 607-615.
- 2003 The Immediacy of Eternity: Time and Transformation in a Roman Catholic Convent. *Religion* 33 (3): 201-219.
- 2000 Like a Natural Woman: Celibacy and the Embodied Self in Anorexia Nervosa. In *Celibacy, Culture, and Society: The Anthropology of Sexual Abstinence*. E.J. Sobo and S. Bell, eds. Pp. 197-213. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press.
- 1999 Let Go and Let God: Religion and the Politics of Surrender in Overeaters Anonymous. In *Interpreting Weight: The Social Management of Fatness and Thinness*. Jeffery Sobal and Donna Maurer, eds. Pp.139-164. Hawthorne, NY: Aldine de Gruyter.
- 1997 The (Dis)Embodied Self in Anorexia Nervosa. *Social Science & Medicine* 44(4): 79-489.
- 1995 Embodied Voices: Women's Food Asceticism and the Negotiation of Identity. *Ethos* 23(2): 187-222.

### **Book Reviews**

- 2009 The Cambridge Handbook for Sociocultural Psychology, edited by Jann Valsiner and Alberto Rosa. *Medical Anthropological Quarterly* 23(1): 82-84.
- 2008 The Madness of Mary Lincoln. *History: Reviews of New Books* 36 (2): 73.

- 2006      Rebellious Nuns: The Troubled History of a Mexican Convent, 1752-1863.  
History 34 (4): 112-113.
- 2004      Body/Meaning/Healing, by Thomas J. Csordas. Journal of the American Academy of Religion 72 (1):244-247.
- 2004      Bodies of Thought, by Ian Burkitt and Body and Organization, by Hassard, Holliday and Willmott. Theory and Psychology 14(3):409-419.
- 2000      Culture: A Problem that Cannot Be Solved, by Charles W. Nuckolls and Culture in Mind: Cognition, Culture, and the Problem of Meaning, by Bradd Shore. American Ethnologist 27 (4):760-2.
- 1998      Bizarre and Eccentric Behaviors, by Louis R. Franzini and John M. Grossberg. Social Science and Medicine 47(10):1632.

#### **PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS**

##### **Book Manuscript**

Bargaining Lives: Eating Disorder Clinicians in the Era of Managed Care (working title).

To be submitted for review 2010. This book is an ethnography about how front-line clinicians in one American eating disorder clinic experience their therapeutic work in the face of what seem to be insurmountable odds: clients who often don't want to get better, families who are in crisis yet resist change, an illness that kills more people than any other psychiatric condition, and a healthcare system that devalues the very sorts of clinical expertise that seem to help.

##### **Journal Article**

"Me, Myself, and Ed: Possession, Volition, and Recovery in an American Eating Disorder Clinic," to be submitted for review in Summer 2009. This article brings anthropological theories of spirit possession together with a critical perspective on biopsychiatric discourse to understand the recovery process in an American eating disorder clinic.

#### **RESEARCH SUPPORT**

- 2005-2010      NIMH. "Sociocultural Processes in Latina Teen Suicide Attempts." R-01. P.I. Luis Zayas. I helped write the grant and my ongoing role is as qualitative research consultant. (\$1,930,633)
- 2005-2006      Washington University Faculty Research Grant, "Assessing Recovery from Eating Disorders." (\$6,000)
- 2004-2005      Center for Mental Health Services Research, George W. Brown School of Social Work, Washington University. "The Cultural Dimensions of Eating Disorders Treatment." (\$4500)
- 1997-1998      The Charlotte W. Newcombe Memorial Fellowship Dissertation Award
- 1994-1995      Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research
- 1994-1995      Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies, University of California, San Diego

- 1991-1995 Department of Anthropology, University of California, San Diego  
 1992-1998 Jacob K. Javits Memorial Fellowship

#### **ADDITIONAL GRANTS, HONORS AND AWARDS**

- 2009 Awarded The Stirling Prize, Society for Psychological Anthropology (for best published article or book chapter in the previous two years) for the article, "Brokering Authenticity: Borderline Personality Disorder and the Ethics of Care in an American Eating Disorder Clinic." Current Anthropology 50(3).
- 2009 Recognition for Excellence in Mentoring, Awarded by The Graduate Student Senate at Washington University in St. Louis
- 1993 George Haydu Prize for the Study of Culture and Human Values, Department of Anthropology, UCSD. This prize is awarded for excellence in writing about the relation between culture, behavior, and human values.

#### **COURSES TAUGHT**

##### ***Undergraduate***

Psychological Anthropology  
 Gender, Culture, and Madness  
 Freshman Seminar in Medicine and Society  
 Pharmaceutical Personhood

##### ***Graduate***

Advanced Seminar in Psychological Anthropology  
 Body and Flesh: Theorizing Embodiment  
 Argumentation Through Ethnography

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

##### **Invited Lectures and Conference Presentations**

- 2008 "Anorexia Treatment and Local Theories of Mind." Paper presented as part of the panel Integrating "Local" and "Western" Psychotherapies: Prospects for Disciplinary Clinical Collaboration, American Anthropological Association meetings.
- 2008 Discussant for the panel Is the Self Still Worthwhile to Think With? American Anthropological Association meetings.
- 2008 "How Do I Code for Black Fingernail Polish?" Finding the Disappearing Adolescent in Managed Mental Health Care." Paper presented as part of the conference New Directions in Policy-Relevant Research on Adolescents, hosted by Case Western Reserve University. Conference co-sponsored by the SPA/Lemelson Fund and the Schubert Center for Child Studies.
- 2007 "Crossing the Event Horizon: Borderline Personality Disorder and Anthropological Problematics of Self," paper presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings as part of the session Knowledges of the Self and Social Action.
- 2007 Discussant for the panel, Missionary Impositions, American Anthropological Association meetings.
- 2007 "Turning the Screw: Psychiatry, Manipulation, and Anthropological Understanding," paper presented at the Society for Psychological Anthropology Meetings.
- 2007 Discussant for the panel Discourses of the Self, Society for Psychological Anthropology Meetings.

- 2006 "Clinicians as Ritual Experts: Liminality and Transformation in Two Eating Disorders Clinics." Paper presented at the American Anthropological meetings as part of the invited session Critical Therapeutics (I was also session co-organizer)
- 2005 "When Time and Space are Broken." Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings as part of the session Voices and Visions.
- 2003 "Attempting Suicide: Latina Teenage Girls and the Impossibility of 'Culture'." Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings as part of the invited session Globalization, Gender, & Well-being Among Adolescents.
- 2002 "The Mastery of Submission: Agency and Authenticity in Two Religious Communities." Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings as part of the invited session Christianities, the Work of Imagination, and Everyday Techniques of Self.
- 2001 "Like a Natural Woman: Celibacy and the Embodied Self in Anorexia Nervosa." Paper presented at meetings of the Society for Psychological Anthropology (panel: Feminism and Psychological Anthropology) and the American Anthropological Association (panel: Women on the Edge)
- 2000 Discussant, Presentations from the Human Development Perspective, 7th Annual Committee on Human Development Student Conference, The University Chicago.
- 2000 Discussant, Constructing Moralities through Body, Self, and Society, Central States Anthropology Society Meetings, Bloomington, Indiana.
- 1999 "Idle Hands are the Devil's Playground: Action, Time, and Subjectivity in a Mexican Convent." Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings.
- 1999 "(Un)Becoming Women: Cultural Strategies of Suffering and Redemption." Paper presented at the Psychiatric Anthropology conference in San Diego, CA.
- 1998 "Religious Vocation and the Transformation of Subjectivity in a Mexican Convent." Public lecture delivered as part of the Distinguished Alumni Series, Department of Anthropology, University of California, San Diego.
- 1997 "Men Think and Women Wonder: Gender and (Ir)rationality in the Anthropological Study of Religion." Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings as part of the panel Tabooed Topics in the Anthropological Study of Religion.
- 1997 Organizer and co-chair of the panel Tabooed Topics in the Anthropological Study of Religion at the 1997 American Anthropological Association Meetings.
- 1996 "My Name Would Be Jerusalem: Cultivating the Anti-Modern Subject in a Contemporary Mexican Convent." Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Meetings as part of the invited session Change, Continuity and the Anthropology of Religion.
- 1995 "Conspicuous Consumption: Self-Stylization and Illness in Anorexia Nervosa." Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Meetings as part of the invited session Culture in and Culture of: the Embodiment of Culture in Psychiatry and Psychoanalysis.

- 1995 "My Name would be Jerusalem: Becoming a Nun in a Contemporary Mexican Convent." Keynote address delivered at the Fifth Annual Conference of Vocational Coordinators, Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla in Puebla, Mexico.
- 1995 Participant in the radio debate "Abortion: Proposals from the Peking Conference" on XEHR 1090 AM. Puebla, Mexico, October 10.
- 1994 "Hail Mary, Full of Grace: Suffering and the Paradox of Womanhood in Mexico." Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Meetings as part of the session Cultural Conceptions of Mind and Body.
- 1994 "Abstinence, Confession and the Twelve Steps: Gender and Religiosity in Overeaters Anonymous." Paper presented at the Graduate Women's Conference, University of California, San Diego.
- 1994 "(Dis)embodied Woman: Religiosity and the Politics of Surrender in Overeaters Anonymous." Paper presented at the Southwestern Anthropological Association meetings.
- 1993 Member of the planning and organizing committees for the 1994 Graduate Women's Conference held in April at the University of California, San Diego.
- 1993 "Embodied Voices: Women's Food Asceticism in Cultural Context." Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Meetings.
- 1993 Organizer and Chair of a session for the American Anthropological Association meetings entitled Constructed Identity: Negotiations within Social Contexts.

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### **Service to the Anthropology Department**

#### ***Undergraduate Coordinator 2008-2011***

#### ***Faculty Search Committee Member***

- 2008-9 Linguistic Anthropology Search  
2006-7 Medical Anthropology Search

#### ***Dissertation Chair***

- 2003-present Katie Hejtmanek, writing up  
2005-present Anubha Sood, in the field

#### ***Dissertation Committee Member***

- 2003-present Eric Repice  
2005-2008 Bertin Louis  
2005-present Kate Lee  
2008-present Liv Heingardner  
2008-present Jennifer Epstein  
2009-present Meghan Ference

***Honors Thesis Supervisor***

- |      |  |      |   |
|------|--|------|---|
| 2009 | Katie Ammann<br>Ariel Cascio                       | 2005 | Micah Goldfus<br>Catherine Powers                 |
| 2008 | Jaime Allinson<br>Theresa Biagoni<br>Sarah Colbert | 2004 | Melissa De Jesus<br>Jessica Dixon<br>Sarah Marion |

***Faculty Sponsor for Summer Internships***

- 2004 Joseph Langub  
2006 Alena Groopman  
2006 Laura Bailis

***Mellon Mentor***

- 2005-7 Veronica Thomann

***Faculty Sponsor for Individualized Major***

- 2004 Tanya Charumilind: Special Major in Medical Humanities.  
2005 Hiral Desai: Special Major in Public Health  
2009 Shilpa Peddi: Special Major in Public Health

***Independent Study Director***

- 2003 Leo Cabassa (graduate student, social work): Psychological anthropology/social work  
2004 Leah Malhota (medical student): Anthropological approaches to psychiatric diagnosis  
2004 Molly Martin (undergraduate anthropology major): Ethnographic Research  
2005 Jennifer McClendon (graduate student, social work): Psychological anthropology  
2007 Susan Land (undergraduate women and gender studies): Eating disorders & art therapy  
2008 Jackie Dodd (undergraduate anthropology major): Embodiment theory and practice

**Service to the University**

***Association of Women Faculty, Board Member, 2008-10***

***Dissertation Committee Service Outside of Anthropology***

- 2003 Andrea Morris, Romance Languages and Literatures  
2004 Ellen Landers, Department of Psychology  
2006 Leo Cabassa, School of Social Work  
2008 LeaAnne DeRigne, School of Social Work  
2008 Lisa Johns, School of Social Work  
2008 Charlotte Bright, School of Social Work  
2008 Jason Pagan, Department of Psychology  
2009 Stavroula Kiryakakis, School of Social Work

***Invited Talks, Lectures, and Additional Service to the University***

- 2009 Panelist, American Medical Women's Association discussion about body image awareness.  
2009 Panelist / discussant, The Thin Line, a one-woman autobiographical play about a woman's experience with an eating disorder, Washington University in St. Louis.  
2009 "Anthropology and Eating Disorders," presented at the Washington University in St. Louis Medical School as part of a first-year student selective.

- 2008 “Clinical Ethnography,” presented to the Clinical Psychology Program, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2008 Featured Speaker, Century Club Speaker Series, Washington University in St. Louis.
- 2008 Facilitator, Staff Development Event, “Real Women Have Curves,” Washington University in St. Louis
- 2007-present SARAH Safe (Sexual Assault and Rape Anonymous Helpline) Faculty Member, Washington University in St. Louis.
- 2007 Panelist, New Faculty Orientation Panel, Washington University in St. Louis.
- 2007 Panelist, “Thin, a film by Lauren Greenfield,” Sponsored by the Women and Gender Studies Program, Washington University in St. Louis.
- 2007 Featured Speaker, “Women in Academia,” Sponsored by the Diversity Committee of the Graduate Student Senate, Washington University in St. Louis.
- 2005 Speaker, Friday Forum Series, “On the Body: Women, Health, and Contemporary Culture. Sponsored by the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, Washington University in St. Louis.
- 2005 Featured Author, “Celebrating Our Books, Recognizing Our Authors,” Sponsored by the Center for the Humanities, Washington University in St. Louis.
- 2005 Panelist, “Examining the Hiroshima Maiden: Exploring the Historical, Cultural, and Ethical Issues. Sponsored by The Center for the Study of Ethics and Human Values and the Edison Theatre OVATIONS! Series, Washington University in St. Louis.

### **Service to the Profession**

- 2009--pres Book Series Editor for the Society for Psychological Anthropology’s book series Culture, Mind, and Society.
- 2008-2009 AAA Program Chair for the Society for Psychological Anthropology.
- 2007-2011 Elected to the board of the Society for Psychological Anthropology
- 2002-2006 Secretary, Society for the Anthropology of Religion.
- 2002-2003 Editor, Society for Psychological Anthropology column of the Anthropology Newsletter
- 1998-1999 Editor of “Points of View,” newsletter of the Anthropology of Religion Section.
- 1998-1999 Named to the editorial board of the journal Religion.
- 1996-1998 Member of the steering committee and executive board of the newly established Society for the Anthropology of Religion of the American Anthropological Association.

### ***Manuscript Review for Publication***

|                                   |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| American Anthropologist           | Oxford University Press        |
| American Ethnologist              | Qualitative Health Research    |
| Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry | Stanford University Press      |
| Ethos                             | Transcultural Psychiatry       |
| Medical Anthropology Quarterly    | University of California Press |

### ***Professional Memberships***

- American Anthropological Association
- Society for Psychological Anthropology
  - Society for Medical Anthropology
  - Society for the Anthro of Religion
- National Eating Disorders Association  
National Association of Social Workers  
Academy for Eating Disorders