
EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy - Geography, 2008

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Advance Opportunity Fellow - 2006-2008

Title of Dissertation

- *(Re)Production of Social Space: Community, Homeownership, and Stability, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1970-1990*

Bachelor of Science - Landscape Architecture, 1992

University of Wisconsin-Madison

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, University of Houston-Clear Lake, 9/2009-Present

- **Develop and conduct detailed research projects.** Initiate, design, and lead research programs. Conduct fieldwork. Collect data including: human and natural site characteristics, socio-economic data, interviews, real property records, policy documentation, and court records. Conduct literature searches. Organize and analyze data (quantitative and qualitative) using spreadsheets and maps. Evaluate policies and procedures related to environmental issues.
- **Prepare reports to present findings and provide recommendations.** Complete recurring and special reports as required. Document evidence to support findings. Publish research results in peer-reviewed journal and professional publications.
- **Prepare grant proposals and manage grant projects.** Develop and submit grant proposals. Allocate and monitor sub-grants. Develop, revise, track, and reconcile budgets. Perform grant close-out. Prepare and submit quarterly and annual grant reports.
- **Provide guidance, lead, and coordinate.** Supervise and mentor support staff. Allocate work assignments by outlining tasks and setting goals. Evaluate work for accuracy and completion. Plan, contract, and advise student internships with local planning department and emergency management agencies. Maintain confidential personnel data.
- **Create and present written, oral, and graphic presentations.** Tailor materials to communicate with diverse audiences. Present research findings and recommend best practices to diverse public and private stakeholders, community organizations, and technical experts. Design graphic and cartographic presentations using ArcGIS, Adobe Photoshop, CorelDraw, and PowerPoint.

-
- **Represent the organization.** Represent the organization in public presentations and committees. Coordinate with applicable organizations and agencies. Represent the university at workshops, meetings, and conferences. Build relationships with regional, state and federal agencies and community organizations.
 - **Design and instruct curriculum.** Lead courses in environmental geography, planning, disaster recovery, and urban planning. Monitor and assess individual student progress. Advise students. Tailor instructional materials to meet specific learning needs. Maintain federally-protected student data. Create assignments and instruct others in geospatial data collection and analysis using ArcGIS and related software.

Accomplishments:

- Awarded nearly \$100,000 in U.S. Department of Homeland Security research funding to develop policy recommendations for community recovery following disaster.
- Published four peer-reviewed journal articles evaluating environmental policy and recommending improvements.
- Coordinated the Texas Coastal Watershed Program Community Planning Conference for local public officials and environmental planning professionals.
- Created database, analyzed, and mapped more than 30,000 nonprofit organizations. Sampled and surveyed 20% of total organizations.
- Received consistently high annual reviews from students and superiors.

LECTURER, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee,

9/2008 - 6/2009

- **Conducted research and performed data analysis.** Conducted site evaluations and prepared site plans. Completed literature reviews including previous research and policy documents. Used Microsoft Office, AutoCAD, ArcGIS to produce graphs, charts, plans, and maps of program and policy effectiveness.
- **Led community assessments.** Each assessment included field work, interviews, agency case studies, power / network analysis, and socio-economic data. Prepared final reports and policy recommendations with charts, graphics, and maps.
- **Evaluated planning policy.** Determined the feasibility of alternative policy approaches through benefit/impact analysis, identification of precedents and best practices, national and regional economic trends, socio-economic characteristics, cultural identity, and land use / zoning.
- **Designed graphic and oral presentations.** Presented research data analysis and research findings through reports, maps, photographs, and site plans.
- **Developed, managed, and presented courses.** Identified educational needs of students. Maintained student records. Evaluated and assessed student learning. Introduced complex environmental and social concepts to people from diverse backgrounds with common terminology and everyday analogies.

**RESEARCHER, Housing Authority for the City of Milwaukee,
Summers 2002-2005**

- **Conducted research.** Developed original research examining the site planning and construction of public housing in Milwaukee, 1945-2005. Summarized the factors that facilitated and inhibited lower-income housing development.
- **Reviewed and organized documents.** Inventoried and organized five decades of public housing documents, photographs, and supportive data.
- **Composed reports and presentations.** Analyzed documents, conducted interviews, and Prepared PowerPoint presentations for project team and administration representatives. Completed final reports for agency archives.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INTERN, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee,
Center for Urban Initiatives and Research
9/2003 - 6/2004**

- **Collected and interpreted environmental data.** Studied sustainable landscapes, roof-top gardens, rain gardens, and low-cost water management. Conducted site assessments and fieldwork. Evaluated previous methods and outcomes to determine which materials and approaches were suitable.
- **Developed policy recommendations.** Presented findings to supervisors and community stakeholders. Communicated constraints and opportunities. Provided guidance on best alternative.
- **Led and organized volunteers.** Planned and organized landscape installations with volunteers. Directed procedures and practices. Tracked progress and maintained records of completed work, hours, and materials.

**LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT / PLANNER, HNTB Corporation, Milwaukee, WI
3/1996 - 1/2001**

- **Performed site analyses.** Compiled, organized, and analyzed field data including plant and animal biology, drainage, wetlands and water quality, topography, above / below-ground structures, socio-economic uses, potential conflicts, and surrounding influences. Skilled in using ArcGIS.
- **Collaborated on multi-disciplinary teams.** Developed transportation plans, multi-county visual assessments, environmental assessments, environmental impact statements, urban redevelopment plans, and sustainable stormwater management plans. Prepared and presented community outreach, public earnings and design charrettes with diverse stakeholders.
- **Designed urban plans and landscapes.** Completed community parks, public spaces, zoning districts plans, multimodal transit plans, and visualization of proposed transportation infrastructure.
- **Supported community outreach.** Identified community partners. Built collaborative relationships. Prepared public hearing graphics.
- **Prepared construction and bid documents.** Completed to-scale construction documents using AutoCAD and related software. Selected construction materials and methods. Created final presentation plans and graphics. Compiled cost estimates and specifications for bid using spreadsheets. Supervised construction crews and performed quality control assessments.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, Lied's, Sussex, WI

3/1994-3/1996

- **Conducted site analyses.** Collected field data and mapped location, neighborhood context, land use and zoning, infrastructure / utility location and quality, political boundaries, historic features, legal regulations, drainage and topography, wetlands and water quality, ecology, circulation, and related information.
- **Designed site plans.** Prepared site plans, construction plans, planting plans, cost estimates, and specifications for bid packages using AutoCAD and Microsoft Office. Consulted with clients. Recommended materials and aesthetic design. Directed construction crews.

PUBLICATIONS

- "The Zone of Workingmen's Homes: Locating Industrial Neighborhoods in Milwaukee's Real Estate Market, 1880-1930." *Wisconsin Geographer*, 2006, (21), pp. 3-40, With Judith Kenny and David Bump.
- "The Practice and Process of Neighborhood: The (Re)Production of Riverwest, Milwaukee, Wisconsin." *Urban Geography*, 2008, (29)5, pp. 473-495
- "Dismantling the Ivory Tower: Engaging Geographers in University-Community Partnerships." *Journal of Geography in Higher Education*, 2011, (35)3, pp. 425-444, With Phil Klein, et al.
- "Urban Triage: Saving the Savable Neighborhoods in Milwaukee." *Planning Perspectives*, 2011, (26)4, pp. 569-589
- "Bone Dry in Texas: Resilience to Drought on the Upper Texas Gulf Coast," *Journal of Planning Literature*, 2012, November, pp. 434-445, With Dr. Kathleen Garland
- "Public-Private-Nonprofit Partnerships for Resilience," *HazNet*, Vol.7, No. 2, Fall 2015, pp. 18-19, With Dr. Kathleen Garland
- *Submitted:* "The Creation of Wilderness to Preserve Nature: The Socio-Ecological System of Houston's Suburban Sprawl", *The Journal of Political Ecology*
- "Sustainable Campus Landscapes: A Chinese and United States Comparative Analysis", *The Geographical Bulletin*, 2016, With Dr. Kathleen Garland, Zhaofang Zhang, and Jing Zhao.
- *In Preparation:* "Planning for Disaster Recovery and Resilient Communities with Faith-based and Secular Nonprofit Organizations." *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, With Dr. Kathleen Garland and Liliya Quebedeaux

GRANT-FUNDED RESEARCH

(Primary Investigator)

- “Housing Recovery and Resilience: Assessing the Constraints and Facilitators of Post-Disaster Housing Recovery in Vulnerable Coastal Communities,” **U.S. Department of Homeland Security**, Summer Research Team Program for Minority Serving Institutions, 2012, Funded: ~ \$50,000
- “Planning for Disaster Recovery and Resilient Communities with Faith-Based and Secular Nonprofit Organizations,” **U.S. Department of Homeland Security**, Summer Research Team Program for Minority Serving Institutions, 2013, Funded: \$47,000
- “Coastal Resilience Handbook: A Resource for Upper Texas Gulf Coast Communities,” **Environmental Institute of Houston**, 2010, Funded: \$14,000
- “Building Resilience from the Ground-Up: Urban Development on the Upper Texas Gulf Coast,” **University of Houston-Clear Lake, Faculty Research Support Funds**, 2011, Funded: \$4,500
- “Assessing Post-Disaster Housing Recovery in Three Texas Coastal Communities,” **University of Houston-Clear Lake, Faculty Research Support Funds**, with Kathleen Garland, 2012, Funded: \$5,950
- “Recovery and Resilience: Assessing Post-Disaster Housing Recovery in Vulnerable Coastal Communities,” **University of Houston-Clear Lake, Faculty Research Support Funds**, 2012, Funded: \$4,500

INSTRUCTIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, University of Houston-Clear Lake. Fall 2009 - Present

- ▶ Geography 1303 – World Regional Geography
- ▶ Geography 3137 – Global Geography
- ▶ Geography 4300 – Geography of the U.S. and Canada
- ▶ Geography 4301 – Urban Geography
- ▶ Geography 4311 – Historic Geography
- ▶ Geography 4312 – Human Geography
- ▶ Geography 4313 – Geography of Latin America
- ▶ Geography 4137 – International Political Economy
- ▶ Geography 4303 – Geography of Texas
- ▶ Geography 5132 – Urban Political Ecology

Lecturer, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Spring 2008 – Spring 2009

- ▶ Geography 110 – The World: Peoples and Regions
- ▶ Geography 125 – Introduction to Environmental Geography (online)
- ▶ Geography 306 – Natural Hazards
- ▶ Geography 441 – Geography of Cities and Metropolitan Regions
- ▶ Geography 443 – Cities of the World: Comparative Urban Geography
- ▶ Geography 350 – Conservation of Natural Resources

SELECTED PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- **Enhancing Resilience in the Nonprofit Sector.** Natural Hazards Workshop, Broomfield, CO. With Kathleen Garland and Lilya Quebedeaux, July 2015
- **Planning for Disaster Recovery and Resilient Communities with Faith-based and Secular Nonprofit Organizations.** Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, Mobile, AL. With Kathleen Garland and Lilya Quebedeaux, December 2014
- **Building Community Resilience with Nonprofit Organizations.** 2014 Coastal Resilience Conference, Galveston Historical Foundation and the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX. With Kathleen Garland, October 2014
- **Disaster Response and Recovery from the Perspective of Faith-Based and Secular Nonprofit Organizations: A Dialogue.** 4th Annual Texas Unites Conference, Galveston, TX. With Lilya Quebedeaux, October 2013
- **Housing Recovery and Resilience: Research Summary. Center for the Study of Natural Hazards and Disasters,** University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, Annual Meeting. With Hank Hodde, June 2013
- **Recovering with Resilience: Recommendations to Facilitate Post-Disaster Housing Recovery and Prepare for Future Climate Change.** Houston Sierra Club, Houston, Texas, September 2012
- **Creating Places of Resiliency: Community Building on the Upper Texas Gulf Coast.** The Association of American Geographers, Annual Meeting. April 2011
- **Triage Planning and Community Organizations: The Politics of Participation in Redlined Neighborhoods.** The Association of American Geographers, Annual Meeting. March 2009
- **Race, Homeownership, and Neighborhoods in Transition, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1970-2000.** The Association of American Geographers, Annual Meeting. April 2008
- **The (Re)Production of 'White' Park Space, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.** The Association of American Geographers, Annual Meeting. April 2007
- **Homeownership and Identities of Difference in Mixed Race Neighborhoods, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.** The Association of American Geographers, Annual Meeting. March 2006

REFERENCES & PORTFOLIO

Furnished upon request.