

# CURRICULUM VITAE

September 2020

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## EDUCATION

- |         |       |   |
|---------|-------|---|
| 2018-   | Ph.D. | Washington University in St. Louis (Socio-cultural anthropology with certificate in Latin American Studies; advisor, Glenn Stone) |
| 2016-18 | M.A.  | Washington University in St. Louis (Socio-cultural anthropology)  |
| 2015    |       | Hertford College at Oxford University (Visiting student)  |
| 2012-16 | B.A.  | College of William & Mary (Anthropology; minor, Environmental Policy)   |

## ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

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|-----------|--|
| 2019-2020 | Visiting Fulbright Fellow, Amazonian Institute of Family Farming (INEAF), Federal University of Pará, Brazil |
| 2019      | Visiting Researcher, Center for the Analysis of Socio-Ecological Landscapes (CASEL), Indiana University      |

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Interests at intersection of political ecology, development politics, and social movements. Dissertation research focuses on the cumulative impacts of government policy on social and political organization of riverine farming communities in Brazil's Amazon estuary. Training in ethnographic field methods, social theory, political economy.

## KEYWORDS

Critical agrarian studies, political ecology, participatory development, political anthropology, environmentalism, social movements; Brazil, Amazon

## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Samuel Hughes Scholarship, Washington University, 2016-present.

Beinecke Fellowship, Sperry Fund, national award for graduate studies in the social sciences/humanities; selected nationally as one of 20 recipients. 2015-present.

Highest Honors, Department of Anthropology, College of William & Mary, 2016.

William Lamb Scholarship, College of William & Mary, 2015-2016.

Phi Beta Kappa, College of William & Mary, 2015.

Class of 1940 Scholarship, College of William & Mary, competitive merit-based award full tuition, room, and board to one W&M student in graduating class, 2014-2016.

Jennings Scholarship, College of William & Mary, 2013-2014.

Dean's List, College of William & Mary, 2012-2016.

Monroe Scholar, College of William & Mary Charles Center, 2012-2016.

## RESEARCH GRANTS

NSF, Cultural Anthropology, Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, "Amazon developments: the impacts of public policy on rural social organization in Brazil's Amazon estuary." 2019-2021. (PI)

Fulbright Scholar IIE, State Department and US-Brazil Fulbright Commission, "Amazon developments: the impacts of public policy on rural social organization." 2019-2020. (PI)

Divided Cities Summer Research Grant, Washington University – Mellon Foundation, "Arms-length urbanization in the Amazonian metropolis." 2019 (declined).

## PUBLICATIONS

2020. (Brent Kaup, Matthew Abel, and Amanda Sikirica). "Individualized environments, individual cures: an examination of Lyme disease activism in Virginia." **Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space**, online May 8, 2020.

2018. (Andrew Flachs and Matthew Abel). "An emerging geography of the agrarian question: spatial analysis as a tool for identifying the new American agrarianism." **Rural Sociology** 84 (2).

## **FIELDWORK**

2016-present, Doctoral Dissertation Research, “Amazon developments: the impacts of development policy on rural social organization in Brazil’s Amazon estuary,” ethnographic study of the cumulative impacts of development policy on social and political organization of riverine farming communities, supported by US-Brazil Fulbright Commission and National Science Foundation DDRIG.

2013-2016, Field Research, “Urban Farming, Shifting Concrete, and Economies of Difference,” ethnographic research on alternative agrifood movements, gentrification, and spatialization of inequality in Washington, DC

2014-2015, Field Research, “Community Gardens and the Private Life of Public Space,” multi-sited ethnographic and archival study of two Virginia community gardens initiatives

2013-2015, Research Assistant, “The Making of Lyme Disease” with Dr. Brent Kaup, College of William & Mary, research on Virginia Lyme disease activism and environmental politics

2013, Field Research, “Working in the Field: An Exploration of Farming, Ethnography, and Values,” ethnographic study of farmer guest-worker program

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

2019 Sixth Equatorial Anthropology Meeting, Federal University of Bahia, Salvador, Bahia, Brazil. “Desenvolvimentos amazônicos: família, comunidade, e conflito no Baixo Tocantins, Pará / Amazonian developments: family, community, and conflict along the Lower Tocantins, Pará.” Session Title – Notions in dispute: “family” and “community”, ethnographic problematics in multiple social contexts. December.

2019 American Ethnological Society Conference, St. Louis MO. “In the shadow of extraction: participatory development and the politics of distribution in rural Amazonia.” March.

2019 Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference, Lexington, KY. “Development policy and social differentiation in Brazil’s Amazon estuary.” Session Title – Intersections of intervention: on development, difference, dispossession, and discourse. Lexington, KY. February.

2018 American Anthropological Association Annual Conference, San José, CA. “‘Ocupa ou não ocupa’: political crisis and the double bind.” Session Title – Violence and Insecurity in Latin America. November.

2017 SfAA/PESO Joint Conference, Santa Fe, NM. “Landscape and society in Washington, DC: a reflection on the spaces we make that in turn make us.” Session Title – Reflections on Immigration and Resettlement. March.

2017 Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY. “Unpacking our publics: urban agriculture and the institutional contexts of critical engagement.” February.

2015 Public Anthropology Conference. “An Embedded Ecology: City Farming and the Ethnographic Moment.” Session Title – The Potentials and Limitations of Ethnography. American University: Washington, DC. October.

2015 SfAA/PESO Joint Conference, Pittsburgh, PA. “City Leaf Farm, Childhood, and a Brief Defense of Everyday Life.” Session Title – Exploring the Community in Gardens. March.

2015 Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY. “Composting the City: Urban Farming and the Moral Grounds of Political Ecology.” February.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

Intro to Cultural Anthropology, Instructor, University College, Washington University in St. Louis

Economies as Cultural Systems, Teaching Assistant to Dr. Talia Dan-Cohen, Dept. of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis

Culture and Environment, Teaching Assistant to Dr. Glenn D. Stone, Dept. of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis

Intro to Cultural Anthropology, Teaching Assistant to Drs. Geoff Childs and Kedron Thomas, Dept. of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis

## **SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Chair, Culture Club, Department of Anthropology at Washington University, organized discussion series on topics including intersection between scholarship and politics. 2017-2018.

Member, Society of the Anthropology of Lowland South America (SALSA)

Member, Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology (SLACA)

Member, Brazilian Anthropological Association (ABA)

Member, American Anthropological Association (AAA)

Member, American Ethnological Society (AES)

Member, Society for Economic Botany