

## MICHAEL SAUDER

Department of Sociology  
University of Iowa  
416 North Hall  
Iowa City, IA 52242

Phone: (319) 335-0366  
Fax: (319) 335-2509  
michael-sauder@uiowa.edu

### **PROFESSIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL HISTORY**

---

#### **Academic Positions**

2022-present    Chair, Department of Sociology and Criminology, University of Iowa  
2017-present    Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa  
2019-2021       COFUND Fellow, Max-Weber-Kolleg, Erfurt, Germany  
2014-2019       Editor, *Contemporary Sociology*  
2018-2019       Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa  
2013              Fellow, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies, University of Iowa  
2012-2014       Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa  
2011-2017       Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa  
2010-2012       Fellow, Robert Wood Johnson Scholars in Health Policy Program, Harvard University  
2005-2011       Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa

#### **Education**

2005              Ph.D., Northwestern University, Department of Sociology  
1997              M.A., Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology  
1993              B.A., Truman State University, Psychology (Minor: Philosophy)

## SCHOLARSHIP

---

### Books

- 2021 Ringel, Leopold, Wendy Espeland, Michael Sauder, Tobias Werron (eds.), *Worlds of Rankings* (Emerald Publishing)
- 2016 Espeland, Wendy and Michael Sauder. *Engines of Anxiety: Academic Rankings, Reputation, and Accountability* (Russell Sage Foundation)  
\*Midwest Sociology Society's 2018 Distinguished Book Award  
\*Max Weber Book Award – Honorable Mention  
\*Distinguished Book Award of the American Sociological Association's Sociology of Law Section – Honorable Mention
- 2009 Manza, Jeff and Michael Sauder (eds.), *Inequality and Society: Social Science Perspectives on Social Stratification* (W.W. Norton)

### Publications

- Forthcoming Accominotti, Fabien and Michael Sauder. "The Making of Meritocratic Status Orders" *Annual Review of Sociology*.
- 2025 Soulet, Marc-Henri and Michael Sauder. "Le Potentiel Ignore de la Chance." SociologieS. <https://doi.org/10.4000/151dv>
- 2024 Sauder, Michael, Yongren Shi, and Freda Lynn. "Multiple Meritocracies: Luck, Language Use, and Success Narratives." *Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*.
- 2024 Vasi, Ion Bogdan and Michael Sauder. "Beyond Petroleum? The Growth of Alternative Fuels Markets in the United States, 1996-2013." *Sociological Quarterly* 65(4): 427-447.
- 2023 Chun, Hyunsik and Michael Sauder. "The Power in Managing Numbers: Changing Interdependencies and the Rise of Ranking Expertise." *Higher Education* 86:771-790.
- 2023 Rittenhour, Kathryn and Michael Sauder. "Identifying the Impact of Sexual Scripts on Consent Negotiations." *Journal of Sex Research*, 61(3):454-465.
- 2022 Accominotti, Fabien, Freda Lynn, and Michael Sauder. "The Architecture of Status Hierarchies: Variations in Structure and Why They Matter for Inequality." *Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 8:87-102.
- 2022 Chun, Hyunsik and Michael Sauder. "The Logic of Quantification: Institutionalizing Numerical Thinking." *Theory and Society* 51:335-370.
- 2021 Ossandon, Jose, Wendy Espeland, and Michael Sauder. "Islands of Quality in an Ocean of Quantification." *Valuation Studies* 8:103-121.

- 2021 Sauder, Michael, Hyunsik Chun, and Wendy Espeland, "The Garbage Can Model and Organizational Metrics." *Research in the Sociology of Organizations (Worlds of Rankings)* 74:175-197.
- 2021 Ringel, Leopold, Wendy Espeland, Michael Sauder, Tobias Werron. "Worlds of Rankings." *Research in the Sociology of Organizations (Worlds of Rankings)* 74:1-23.
- 2021 Goto, Michihiko, Eli Perencevich, Alexandre Marra, Bruce Alexander, Brice Beck, Daniel Livorsi, Julia Friberg, Christopher Richards, DeShauna Jones, and Michael Sauder. "Automated Nationwide Benchmarking Dashboard for Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs within the Veterans' Health Administration. *Antimicrobial Stewardship Healthcare Epidemiology*.
- 2020 Sauder, Michael. "A Sociology of Luck." *Sociological Theory* 38(3): 193-216.  
**Theory Prize for Outstanding Article, ASA Theory Section, 2021**
- 2020 Stapleton, Orla, Michael Sauder, and Tim Hallett. "What are Public Ideas?" *Contexts* 19(3):46-51.
- 2019 Hallett, Tim, Orla Stapleton, and Michael Sauder. "Public Ideas: Their Varieties and Careers." *American Sociological Review* 84(3): 545-576.  
**Clifford Geertz Prize for Best Article, ASA Sociology of Culture Section, 2020**
- 2019 Sauder, Michael, Wendy Espeland, and Hyunsik Chun. "Managing Measures: The Dangers of Reactivity." *Controlling and Management Review* 63:14-19.
- 2019 Kava, Christine, Edith A. Parker, Barbara Baquero, Susan J. Curry, Paul A. Gilbert, Michael Sauder, and Daniel K. Sewell. "Associations between Organizational Culture, Workplace Health Climate, and Employee Smoking at Smaller Workplaces," *Tobacco Use Insights*, 12.
- 2019 Lynn, Freda, Mary Noonan, Michael Sauder, and Matthew A. Andersson. "A Rare Case of Gender Parity in Academia." *Social Forces* 98(2): 518-547.
- 2018 Sauder, Michael. "Systems of Evaluation and the Matthew Effect," *Journal of Management Inquiry* 27(4).
- 2018 Livorsi, Daniel, Cassie Goedken, Michael Sauder, Mark Vander Weg, Eli Perencevich, Heather Schacht Reisinger. "Barriers to Effective Audit and Feedback Using Direct Observation of Hand Hygiene Compliance: A Qualitative Study." *JAMA Network Open*.
- 2018 Kava, Christine, Edith A. Parker, Barbara Baquero, Susan J. Curry, Paul A. Gilbert, Michael Sauder, and Daniel K. Sewell. "A Qualitative Assessment of the Smoking Policies and Cessation Activities at Smaller Workplaces." *BMC Public Health*.
- 2018 Kava, Christine, Edith A. Parker, Barbara Baquero, Susan J. Curry, Michael Sauder, and Daniel K. Sewell. "Organizational Culture and the Adoption of Anti-Smoking Initiatives at Small to Very Small Workplaces: An Organizational Level Analysis." *Tobacco Prevention and Cessation* 39: 1-10.

- 2017 Anna Essen and Michael Sauder, "The Evolution of Weak Standards: The Case of the Swedish Rheumatology Quality Registry," *Sociology of Health and Illness* 39:513-531.
- 2015 Michael Sauder and Wendy Espeland, "On the Audit Trail," (comment on "Audit Culture Revisited" by C. Shore and S. Wright), *Current Anthropology* 56: 442-443.
- 2015 Chad McPherson and Michael Sauder, "The Quantification of Qualitative Research" in *Innovative Qualitative Research*, ed. Kimberly Elsbach and Roderick Kramer. Routledge, pp. 434-443.
- 2014 Arik Lifschitz, Michael Sauder, and Mitchell Stevens. "Football as a Status System in U.S. Higher Education" *Sociology of Education* 87:204-219.
- 2014 Gabriel Abend, Caitlin Petre, and Michael Sauder. "Styles of Causal Thought: An Empirical Investigation." *American Journal of Sociology* 119:602-654.
- 2013 McPherson, Chad and Michael Sauder. "Logics In Action: Managing Institutional Complexity in a Drug Court." *Administrative Science Quarterly* 58:165-196.
- 2012 Sauder, Michael, Freda Lynn, and Joel M. Podolny. "Status: Insights from Organizational Sociology." *Annual Review of Sociology* 37:267-283.
- 2012 Doubt, Keith and Michael Sauder. "Friendship in Plato's Lysis." *Luvah* 1:39-47.
- 2012 Espeland, Wendy and Michael Sauder. "The Dynamism of Indicators," in *Governance by Indicators: Global Power through Quantification and Rankings*, ed. Kevin E. Davis, Benedict Kingsbury, and Sally Engle Merry. Oxford University Press
- 2010 Manza, Jeff, Michael Sauder, and Nathan Wright. "Producing Textbook Sociology." *European Journal of Sociology* 51:271-304
- 2010 Linnenberg, Kathryn and Michael Sauder. "Applying the Sociological Imagination to Ourselves." *Sociological Imagination* 45:37-42.
- 2009 Sauder, Michael and Wendy Espeland. "The Discipline of Rankings: Tight Coupling and Organizational Change." *American Sociological Review* 74:63-82.
- 2009 Sauder, Michael and Wendy Espeland. "Rankings and Diversity." *The Southern California Review of Law and Social Justice* 18:587-610.
- 2009 Espeland, Wendy and Michael Sauder. "A Matter of Rank." *Contexts*. 8:16-21.
- 2009 Sauder, Michael and Chad McPherson. "The Value of a Negative Case: Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*." *Sociological Forum* 24:474-480.
- 2008 Sauder, Michael. "Interlopers and Field Change: The Entry of U.S. News into the Field of Legal Education." *Administrative Science Quarterly* 53:209-234.
- Alfred R. Lindesmith Award, Society for the Study of Social Problems**
- 2008 Sauder, Michael and Gary Alan Fine. "Arbiters, Entrepreneurs, and the Shaping of

Business School Reputations.” *Sociological Forum* 23:699-723.

- 2007 Espeland, Wendy and Michael Sauder. “Rankings and Reactivity: How Public Measures Recreate Social Worlds.” *American Journal of Sociology* 113:1-40.

**Clifford Geertz Prize for Best Article, ASA Sociology of Culture Section, 2009**

**Shelton Prize for Outstanding Published Empirical Research in Legal Education, Law School Admissions Council, 2009**

- 2006 Sauder, Michael. “Third Parties and Status Systems: How the Structures of Status Systems Matter.” *Theory & Society* 35:299-321.

- 2006 Sauder, Michael and Ryon Lancaster. “Do Rankings Matter? The Effect of *U.S. News & World Report* Rankings on the Admissions Process of Law Schools.” *Law and Society Review* 40:105-134.

Reprinted in *The Law and Society Reader*, eds. Erik Larson and Patrick Schmidt. New York University Press: New York, NY. 2013.

**ASA Sociology of Law Section Award for best graduate student paper, 2004**

- 2006 Sauder, Michael and Wendy Espeland. “Strength in Numbers? A Comparison of Law and Business School Rankings.” *Indiana Law Journal* 81:205-227.

- 2005 Sauder, Michael. “Contexts and Symbols: An Interactionist Approach to the Study of Social Status.” *The Sociological Quarterly* 46:279-298.

- 2005 Manza, Jeff, Clem Brooks, and Michael Sauder. “Money, Participation, and Votes: Social Cleavages and Electoral Politics,” in *A Handbook of Political Sociology: States, Civil Societies and Globalization*, ed. Thomas Janoski, Robert Alford, Alexander M. Hicks, and Mildred A. Schwartz. Boston: Cambridge University Press, pp. 201-227.

- 2004 Fine, Gary Alan, Tim Hallett, and Michael Sauder. “Myths and Meanings of Bowling Alone: A View from the Lanes,” *Society* 41:47-49.

#### *Non-refereed*

- 2020 Sauder, Michael. “Self-Control Won’t Save You.” Review Essay for *Public Books*.

- 2017 Sauder, Michael. “The Art of Acknowledgments.” *Contemporary Sociology*, 47.

- 2017 Sauder, Michael. “The Pleasures of Flipping Through.” *Contemporary Sociology*, 46.

- 2016 Sauder, Michael. “Sociology is Huge.” *Contemporary Sociology*, 45

- 2015 Sauder, Michael. “Editor’s Introduction. *Contemporary Sociology*, 44

- 2013 Sauder, Michel and Wendy Espeland. “How Sociologists of Education can make the College Scorecard more Effective” *Sociology of Education Newsletter* 16:3 (Fall)

- 2011 Sauder, Michael. "Status," in *Oxford Bibliographies Online*, edited by Jeff Manza. Oxford University Press.
- 2010 Sauder, Michael. "The Modern Research University: Outside and In." *Contemporary Sociology* (review essay), 39:540-543.
- 2009 Sauder, Michael and Wendy Espeland. "Fear of Falling: The Effects of U.S. News & World Report Rankings on Law Schools." Grant Report for Law School Admissions Council.
- 2006 Sauder, Michael and Jeff Manza. "Social Capital," *Cambridge Dictionary of Sociology*, edited by Bryan Turner. Cambridge UK: Cambridge University Press.
- 2005 Sauder, Michael. "W. Lloyd Warner," *Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers*. London: Routledge.

#### *Book Reviews*

- 2025 Sauder, Michael. Review of *Ordinal Society* by Marion Fourcade and Kieran Healy. *Administrative Science Quarterly*
- 2025 Sauder, Michael. Review of *Structured Luck: Downstream Effects of the U.S. Diversity Visa Program* by Onoso Imoagene. *American Journal of Sociology*
- 2012 Sauder, Michael. Review of *Rich, Free, and Miserable* by John Brueggemann. *Contemporary Sociology*
- 2009 Sauder, Michael. Review of *The Power of Privilege: Yale and America's Elite Colleges* by Joseph A. Soares. *American Journal of Sociology* 113:1470-1472.

#### **Work in Progress**

- "Luck and Meritocracy: The Narrative Neutralization of Luck" (with Hannah Espy and Freda Lynn) (under review)
- "The Construction of Skepticism about Mask Efficacy: A Comparison of News Sources" (with Yujia Liu et al.) (under review)
- "Becoming a Contribution: Pathways to Publication Success" (with Freda Lynn and Olga Novoselova) (revise and resubmit)
- "The Influence of Intermediaries on Organizational Status: A Theory of Status Judges"

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

---

### *Grants Awarded*

- 2026-2027      Principal Investigator, ““The Geometry of Status Hierarchies: Structure and Inequality Across Social Systems”” Academy of Korean Studies (\$16,000)
- 2022-2024      Principal Investigator, “Examining the Consequences of University Rankings: Institutional Challenges and Status Competition in Korean Universities and Beyond” Academy of Korean Studies (\$18,240)
- 2019-2021      Principal Investigator, “Beliefs about Luck and Inequality” National Science Foundation (\$257,906)
- 2019-2020      Principal Investigator, “A Comparative Study of the Effects of University Rankings on Korean and American Higher Education” Academy of Korean Studies (\$14,000)
- 2018-2020      Co-Investigator “Antimicrobial Stewardship and Prevention of Antimicrobial Resistance” Department of Veteran’s Affairs (\$777,950)
- 2014            Investigator “Building an Optimal Hand Hygiene Bundle” Department of Veteran’s Affairs (\$13,500)
- 2013-2015      Co-Principal Investigator (Freda Lynn) “The Biographies or Scientific Ideas: The Diffusion of Knowledge in Medicine and Sociology” National Science Foundation. Recommended for Funding 01/2013 (\$159,234)
- 2010            Midwest Sociological Society Endowment Award (\$1450) “The Effects of Ambiguity on Status”
- 2006            “Ambiguity in Status Processes.” Old Gold Summer Fellowship. (\$6,000)
- 2003-2005      Co-Principal Investigator (with Wendy Espeland) “Fear of Falling: The Effects of Rankings on Legal Education,” Law School Admissions Council Research Grant (\$152,566)

### *Awards and Honors*

- 2021            Theory Prize for Best Article, ASA Theory Section
- 2020            Elected to Sociological Research Association
- 2020            Clifford Geertz Prize for Best Article, ASA Sociology of Culture Section
- 2019-2021      COFUND Fellowship, Max Weber Centre for Advanced Cultural and Social Studies, Erfurt, Germany
- 2018            Chair-Elect, Organizations, Occupations and Work Section, American Sociological Association
- 2018            Midwest Sociology Society’s Distinguished Book Award

2018	Max Weber Book Award (ASA Organizations, Occupations, and Work Section) – Honorable Mention
2017	Distinguished Book Award of the American Sociological Association’s Sociology of Law Section – Honorable Mention
2016	Visiting Fellow, Institute for Advanced Study, Indiana University
2016	Guest Researcher, Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology, Bielefeld, Germany
2013	Fellow, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies, University of Iowa
2010-2012	Robert Wood Johnson Scholars in Health Policy Fellowship, Harvard University
2009	Clifford Geertz Prize for Best Article, ASA Sociology of Culture Section (with Wendy Espeland)
2009	Shelton Prize for outstanding published empirical research in legal education (with Wendy Espeland). Sponsored by the Law School Admissions Council (\$5,000)
2004	ASA Sociology of Law Section Award for best graduate student paper (with Ryon Lancaster) for “Do Rankings Matter? The Effect of <i>U.S. News &amp; World Report</i> Rankings on the Admissions Process of Law Schools”
2004	Alfred R. Lindesmith Award for best law-related paper presented at the Society for the Study of Social Problems written by an untenured faculty member or graduate student for “Legitimacy Crises and Educational Rankings”
2003-2004	University Scholar, Northwestern University Graduate School
2002-03	Dissertation Year Fellowship, Northwestern University
2001-02	Institute for Policy Research Graduate Fellowship, Northwestern University
2001	Robert F. Winch Memorial Award for Outstanding Published or Presented Paper in Sociology by a graduate student, Northwestern University for “Status Judges: The Effects of Formalization on Status Systems”
2001	Macarthur Collaborative Summer Research Fellowship
2001	Second Place Prize, Midwest Sociological Society’s Graduate Student Paper Competition for “Contexts and Symbols: An Interactionist Approach to the Study of Social Status”
2000-01	Institute for Policy Research Graduate Fellowship, Northwestern University
2000	Macarthur Collaborative Summer Research Fellowship
1999	Macarthur Collaborative Summer Research Fellowship

1998-99            University Fellowship, Department of Sociology, Northwestern University

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES**

### *Invited Presentations (Selected)*

“Sociology of Luck in Everyday Life.” Keynote Address at the Iowa Sociological Association Annual Meeting, April 2023

“Social Science Methods for the Study of Luck” Indiana University, April 15, 2022

“Luck and Meritocracy” University of Iowa Law School, October 1, 2021

Panelist, Author-Meets-Critic session for “Regulation Human Research,” SASE Annual Meeting, July 2021

“Luck, Ambiguity, and Meritocracy” Seminar Series on the Supply and Demand of Authenticity, MIT, June, 2021

Panelist, Author-Meets-Critic session for “More Than Medicine,” Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, February 2021

“A Sociology of Luck” London School of Economics, Department of Sociology, London, UK, February 2020

“The Logic of Quantification” Department of Accounting Organizations and Institutions, London School of Economics, London, UK, February 2020

“The Logic of Quantification” Leibniz Center, University of Hannover, Hannover, Germany, January 2020

“A Sociology of Luck” Max-Weber-Kolleg, Erfurt, Germany, January 2020

“The Intractable Logic of Quantification” (with Hyunsik Chun). Paper presented at the International Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Toronto, Canada, June, 2018.

“The Logic of Quantification in Higher Education.” Invited Paper at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Montreal, Canada, August 14, 2017.

“Engines of Anxiety.” Author-Meets-Critic at American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Montreal, Canada, August 12, 2017.

“The Future of the Sociology of Organizations and Economic Sociology.” Invited Plenary Presentation for the Economic Sociology, and Organizations, Occupations, and Work Miniconference, Desautels Faculty of Management, Montreal, Canada, August 11, 2017.

“Engines of Anxiety.” Author-Meets-Critic at Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Lyon, France, Thursday, June 29, 2017

“Luck and Markets.” Invited Plenary Presentation at Economic Sociology Conference, Chicago, IL, October 14, 2016

“Engines of Anxiety.” Invited Presentation at Northwestern Law School, Chicago, IL, September 1, 2016.

“The Useful vs. The Good: Ethics and Quantitative Assessment.” Invited Presentation at American Bar Foundation, Chicago, IL, May 5, 2016.

“By the Numbers: How Rankings Have Changed Higher Education.” Obermann Center for Advanced Studies, February 2015

“The Effects and Effectiveness of Patient Experience Surveys.” Invited Presentations at University of Iowa Veteran's Administration CADRE workshop (10/13), University of Indiana (11/13), Stanford Business School (1/14), University of Pennsylvania, Department of Sociology (4/14), Dartmouth College (5/14)

“Making Sense with Identities: The Cultural Bases of Inter-Professional Identity Work” Invited Presentation at Tippie School of Business, University of Iowa (10/13)

“Football: Field Formation and Status Production in U.S. Higher Education.” Invited Presentation at University of Chicago Booth Organizations and Markets Workshop, Chicago, IL, February 6, 2013; Harvard-MIT Economic Sociology Workshop, Cambridge, MA, November 9, 2012; and University of Connecticut Sociology Colloquium, November 30, 2012.

“Tools of the Trades: The Micro-Foundations of Institutional Logics” (with Chad McPherson). Invited Presentation at the University of California, Davis Qualitative Conference, Graduate School of Management, Davis, CA, March 24, 2012.

“Marks of Distinction: Reputation and Identity among Children’s Hospitals” (with Brayden King). Invited Presentation for the Centre for Corporate Reputation Symposium, Oxford, UK, September 16, 2011.

“Going Forward: The NRC Rankings of Sociology Departments.” Invited Panelist at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Las Vegas, NV, August, 2011.

“Accountability, Quantification, and Sustainability Metrics.” Keynote Presentation at “Unpacking Sustainability Metrics” Conference, HEC Montreal, June 13, 2011.

“Football: Field Formation and Status Production in U.S. Higher Education.” Invited Presentation at Stanford University SCANCOR Workshop, Stanford, CA, November 7, 2009.

“The Unintended Consequences of Rankings.” Invited Presentation for the Law School Admissions Council Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, May 28, 2009.

“The De-Reification of USN Rankings: The Value of Ambiguity.” Invited Presentation for Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, January 9, 2009.

“The Effects of Rankings on Legal Education.” Invited presentation at University of Iowa Law School, April 14, 2008.

“Report on Interviews” (with Wendy Espeland). Plenary Speaker at Workshop on the Ratings Game, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, January 3, 2007.

“Rankings and Reactivity: How Public Measures Recreate Social Worlds.” Invited Presentation at The Institute for Legal Studies, University of Wisconsin, October 10, 2006.

“The Benefits of Multiple Evaluations: A Comparison of Law and Business School Rankings.” Invited paper presented at the Next Generation of Law School Rankings Symposium, Indiana University School of Law, Bloomington, IN, April 15, 2005.

#### *Conference Presentations (Selected)*

“In Defense of Meritocracy: The Narrative Neutralization of Luck” (with Hannah Espy and Freda Lynn), American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Chicago, IL, August, 2025.

“The Construction of Skepticism Towards Science During the 2019 COVID-19 Mask Debate” (with Yujia Liu and Mario Paez-Arellano), Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, March, 2023

“Luck and Inequality” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, August 2020

“The Intractable Logic of Quantification” (with Hyunsik Chun). Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Philadelphia, PA, August 13, 2018.

“Public Ideas and Their Careers” (with Tim Hallett and Orla Stapleton). Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Montreal, Canada, August 12, 2017.

“Managing Measures: The Rise of the Logic of Quantification” (with Hyunsik Chun). Paper presented at Symposium of Different Forms of Inequality in Korea and Beyond, Yonsei University, Seoul, Republic of Korea, July 7-8, 2017.

“Beyond Petroleum? The Emergences of Alternative Fuel Markets in the United States, 1993-2015 (with Ion Bogdan Vasi). Paper presented at the European Group for Organizational Studies, Copenhagen, Denmark, July 7, 2017

“Luck Nuance.” Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Seattle, WA, August, 2016.

“The Sociology of Luck.” Paper presented at the Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meetings, Chicago, IL, March, 2016

“Football and Status in Higher Education” (with Arik Lifschitz and Mitchell Stevens). Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Denver, CO, August, 2012.

“The Effects and Effectiveness of Patient Experience Surveys.” Paper presented at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars in Health Policy Annual Meeting, Leesburg, VA, June, 2012.

“Causal Thinking in Practice: An Empirical Analysis of Ethnographic Articles” (with Gabriel Abend and Caitlin Petrie). Paper presented at Causal Thinking and Ethnographic Research Conference, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, March 8, 2012.

“The Influence of Third Party Evaluations on Healthcare Organizations” (with Brayden King and Chad McPherson). Paper presented at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars in Health Policy Annual Meeting, Itasca, IL, June, 2011.

“Institutional Logics in Action: The Case of a Drug Court” (with Chad McPherson). Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Atlanta, GA, August, 2010.

“Football: Field Formation and Status Production in U.S. Higher Education” (with Arik Lifschitz and Mitchell Stevens). Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Atlanta, GA, August, 2010.

“Rankings and Diversity” (with Wendy Espeland). Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, San Francisco, CA, August 11, 2009.

“The Importance of Context for Status Inequality.” Paper Presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Boston, MA, August 3, 2008.

“The Legitimacy of Organizational Status Judges.” Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Montreal, Canada, August 13, 2006.

“Interpretive Flexibility and Trojan Horses: The Proliferation of Public Ideas” (with Tim Hallett and Ryo Uemera). Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Montreal, Canada, August, 2006.

“Discipline and Rankings: Accountability and the Transformation of Authority” (with Wendy Espeland). Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Philadelphia, August, 2005.

“Gaming Rankings” (with Wendy Espeland). Paper presented at the Law and Society Association Annual Meetings, Las Vegas, June, 2005.

“The Effect of Rankings on Work in Legal Education.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Minneapolis, MN, April 1-3, 2005.

“How Third Parties Shape Status Systems: The Case of Law School Rankings.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA, August, 13-16, 2004.

“Quantitative Authority and the Reflexivity of Rankings” (with Wendy Espeland). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Chicago, IL, June, 3-7, 2004.

“The Benefits of Ambiguity in Status Systems.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Kansas City, MO, April, 15-18, 2004.

“Reputational Markets: The Legitimacy of Business School Rankings.” Paper presented at Institutions, Conflict, and Change, Kellogg School of Management, Evanston, IL, September 2-4, 2004.

“Legitimacy Crises and Educational Rankings.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Atlanta, GA, August, 16-19, 2003.

“The Effects of U.S. News Rankings on Law School Applications and Yields” (with Ryon Lancaster). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Pittsburgh, PA, June, 5-8, 2003.

“The Allure of Numbers: Law School Rankings and the Rationalization of Reputation” (with Wendy Espeland). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Pittsburgh, PA, June, 5-8, 2003.

“Third Parties and Organizational Status.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Chicago, IL, April, 16-19, 2003.

## **TEACHING**

---

### **Students Supervised**

Name	Role	Outcome
<i>Ph.D Dissertations</i>		
Andrea Smith	Committee Member	In Progress
Regan Smock	Committee Member	In Progress
Katherine Linder	Committee Member	In Progress
Jay Sorensen	Committee Member	In Progress
Chad Rhym	Co-Chair	In Progress
Daniel Knipp	Committee Chair	In Progress
Hannah Zadeh	Committee Member	Completed 2025
Yujia Lyu	Committee Member	Completed 2024
Hyunsik Chun	Co-Chair	Completed 2024
Hannah Espy	Committee Member	Completed 2023
KaLeigh White	Committee Member	Completed 2023
Lisa Covington	Committee Member	Completed 2022
George Ellerbach	Committee Member	Completed 2022
Sean Kearney	Committee Member	Completed 2022
Kathryn Rittenhour	Co-Chair	Completed 2022
Inga Popovita	Committee Member	Completed 2021
Hansini Munasinghe	Committee Member	Completed 2021
Ji Hye Kim	Committee Member	Completed 2021
Nicole Oehmann	Committee Member	Completed 2020
SuYeong Shin (Education)	Committee Member	Completed 2020
Olga Novoselova	Co-Chair	Completed 2019

Stefan Beljean (Harvard U.)	Committee Member	Completed 2019
Alison Gorga	Committee Member	Completed 2018
Veronica Ferreira	Committee Member	Completed 2018
Graham Miller (Education)	Committee Member	Completed 2018
Christine Kava (Public Health)	Committee Member	Completed 2018
McPherson, Chad	Chair	Completed 2017
Kwesi Ewoodzie	Chair	Completed 2017
Wooseok Jung (Northwestern U.)	Committee Member	Completed 2015
Timothy Robbins (English)	Committee Member	Completed 2015
shuster, stef	Committee Member	Completed 2014
Chavez, Jorge	Committee Member	Completed 2014
Turchi, Jennifer	Committee Member	Completed 2014
Phillipa Chong (U. of Toronto)	Committee Member	Completed 2013
Matthew Boswell	Committee Member	Completed 2013
Levchak, Charisse	Committee Member	Completed 2013
Levchak, Phil	Committee Member	Completed 2013
Campos-Holland, Ana	Co-Chair	Completed 2012
Campos, Celeste	Committee Member	Completed 2012
Woodley, Vernon	Committee Member	Completed 2012
Saichaie, Kem (Education)	Committee Member	Completed 2011
Navarre-Jackson, Layana	Committee Member	Completed 2011
Civettini, Nikki	Committee Member	Completed 2009
Lyman, Beth	Committee Member	Completed 2008
Ziegrowsky, Laura (Education)	Committee Member	Completed 2008

### *Masters Theses*

Derek Sheehan	Committee Member	In Progress
Priscila Mendieta	Chair	In Progress
Mahdi Feyz Karimlou	Committee Member	In Progress
Ei Miyauchi	Committee Member	Completed 2025
Hannah Zadeh	Committee Member	Completed 2023
Alex Peralta Cornejo	Committee Member	Completed 2023
Andrea Smith	Committee Member	Completed 2022
Maddie Libao	Committee Member	Completed 2022
Chad Rhym	Chair	Completed 2021
Rachel Maller	Committee Member	Completed 2021
Chanhum Yoon	Committee Member	Completed 2021
Alexandra Leaskas	Committee Member	Completed 2020
Leia Belt	Committee Member	Completed 2020
Jay Sorenson	Chair	Completed 2019
Dustin Lee	Committee Member	Completed 2019
Yujia Lyu	Committee Member	Completed 2019
Sean Kearney	Committee Member	Completed 2019
Hyunsik Chun	Chair	Completed 2018
Kathryn Rittenhour	Chair	Completed 2017

Hannah Espy	Committee Member	Completed 2017
Teniel Trollden (Education)	Committee Member	Completed 2016
Leah Woods	Co-Chair	Completed 2016
Nicole Filloon	Committee Member	Completed 2016
Emma Anderson	Committee Member	Completed 2015
Durkee, Rebecca	Committee Member	Completed 2014
Gorga, Alison	Committee Member	Completed 2013
McPherson, Chad	Chair	Completed 2010
shuster, stef	Chair	Completed 2010
Campos-Holland, Ana	Co-Chair	Completed 2009
Verploegh, Miriam	Committee Member	Completed 2010
Chavez, Jorge	Committee Member	Completed 2009
Dennis Heinrich	Committee Member	Completed 2009
Johnson, Brian	Committee Member	Completed 2007

## SERVICE

---

### Profession

2023-2025	Advisory Board, Princeton Series in Cultural Sociology, Princeton University Press
2022-2023	Review Panel, American Sociological Association's Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (DDRIG) Program
2022	Review Panel, National Science Foundation
2021-2022	Chair, Theory Prize Committee, Theory Section, American Sociological Association
2020-2021	Review Panel, American Sociological Association's Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (DDRIG) Program
2019-2020	Chair, Organizations, Occupations and Work Section, American Sociological Association
2014-2019	Editor, <i>Contemporary Sociology</i>
2014	Member, Nominations Committee, Theory Section, American Sociological Association
2014	Member, Best Book Prize Committee, Midwest Sociological Society
2011-2013	Consulting Editor, <i>American Journal of Sociology</i>
2011-2014	Member, Editorial Board for <i>Contemporary Sociology</i>
2013	Session Organizer, "Theorizing Context," Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, NY, August.
2012	Organizer and Presider, Author Meets Critic Session for <i>Social Knowledge in the Making</i> , eds. Charles Camic, Michele Lamont, and Neil Gross. Eastern Sociological Society, New York, NY, February 10.
2008-2021	Member, Editorial Board for <i>Sociological Quarterly</i>
2011	Member, ASA Sociology of Law Undergraduate Paper Prize Committee
2009-2010	Chair, Publications Committee for Midwest Sociological Society
2008-2010	Chair, Membership Committee for the Theory Section of the American Sociological Association
2010	Invited Participant, Education Conservancy's Exemplary Admissions Meeting, New York University, January 15.
2009	Session Organizer, "Qualitative Study of Organizations," panel, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Des Moines, IA, April.
2008-2011	Member, Publications Committee for Midwest Sociological Society
2007-2008	Member, Membership Committee for the Theory Section of the American Sociological Association

	Association
2005	Member, Alfred Lindesmith Award Committee for the Society for the Study of Social Problems
2004	Presider, Organizations Roundtable, Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.
2004	Session Organizer and Discussant, "Ambiguity in the Social World: Forms, Functions, and Dilemmas" panel, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Kansas City, MO, April 15-18.
2003-2004	Member, Nominations Committee for the Sociology of Law Section of the American Sociological Association.
2003	Chair, "Environment Regulation" panel, Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Pittsburgh, PA, June 5-8.
2001	Session Organizer and Discussant for "Status and Culture" panel, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, St. Louis, MO, April 5-8.

### University and College

2025-2027	Chair, Faculty Senate's Committee on Selection of Central Academic Officials
2024-2027	Elected Member, CLAS Executive Committee
2024-2026	Member, Advisory Board, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies
2024-2025	Member, UI Office of President Review Committee
2023-2026	Member, College Committee on Faculty Promotion and Tenure
2023-2025	Mentor, Provost's Iowa Academic Leadership Academy
2023-2024	Member, Public Policy Center Transition Committee
2023-2024	Elected Member, CLAS Executive Committee
2023	Participant, Big Ten Academic Alliance Department Executive Officers Program
2023	Member, Graduate School Promotion and Tenure Committee
2022-2023	Participant, Provost's Iowa Academic Leadership Academy
2022	Member, Search Committee for Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel
2020-2021	Member, CLAS Self-Study Committee
2020-2021	Member, Faculty Senate University Search Committee
2020	Participant, Summer Institute on Interdisciplinary Graduate Education, Obermann Center
2017-2019	Elected Member, CLAS Executive Committee
2014-2017	Member, Advisory Board, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies
2014-2020	Member, Advisory Board, Development of CLAS Enterprise Leadership Major
2015	Nominated, Executive Committee
2015	Member, Faculty Senate Working Group
2013	Invited Speaker at Veteran's Administration CADRE Workshop, "The Effects and Effectiveness of Patient Experience Surveys," November.
2013	Invited Speaker at Tippie School of Management, "Making Sense with Identities: The Cultural Bases of Inter-Professional Identity Work," October.
2012	Invited Speaker at Social Science Interdisciplinary Group, Schaeffer Hall, "Football and Status in Higher Education," September 26.
2009-2010	Faculty Senator, University of Iowa
2010	Invited Speaker "Rankings and Their Effects." Invited presentation at University of Iowa Law School, April 21.
2009	Invited Speaker at Management and Organizations Colloquium, Henry B. Tippie College of Business. "Organizational Rankings," October 16.
2009	Invited Speaker for students at University of Iowa Law School. "What Rankings Mean," March 19.
2008	Invited Participant for Department of Communication Symposium, "Erving Goffman and

the Question of Communication.” University of Iowa, September 12.

## Department

2022-present	Department Chair
2021-2022	Chair, Executive Committee
	Member, DEI Committee
2020-2021	Member, Executive Committee
	Member, Graduate Studies
	Member, Colloquium Committee
2018-2019	Director of Graduate Studies
	Chair, Graduate Studies
	Chair, Graduate Admissions
2017-2018	Chair, Executive Committee
	Chair, Awards Committee
2016-2017	Chair, Executive Committee
	Member, Graduate Studies
	Member, Departmental Review Committee
2015-2016	Chair, Executive Committee
	Chair, Awards Committee
	Member, Graduate Studies
	Member, Diversity Committee
2014-2015	Member, Executive Committee
	Member, Theory Workshop Committee
	Member, Graduate Recruitment Committee
2013-2014	Director of Graduate Studies, University of Iowa
	Chair, Graduate Studies Committee, University of Iowa
	Chair, Graduate Recruitment Committee, University of Iowa
	Member, Executive Committee, University of Iowa
2012-2013	Director of Graduate Studies, University of Iowa
	Chair, Graduate Studies Committee, University of Iowa
	Chair, Graduate Recruitment Committee, University of Iowa
	Executive Committee, University of Iowa
2009-2010	Faculty Recruitment, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
	Theory Workshop Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
	Endowment Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
2008-2009	Executive Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
	Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
2007-2008	Chair, Theory Workshop Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
	Communications Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
	Undergraduate Affairs Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
2006-2007	Chair, Theory Workshop Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
	Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
	Graduate Affairs Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
2005-2006	Awards Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
	Dismissal/Appeals Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
	Recruitment Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Iowa
2001-2002	Graduate Recruitment Committee, Department of Sociology, Northwestern University
1999-2001	Faculty Recruitment Committee, Department of Sociology, Northwestern University

**Reviewer** (previous five years): Administrative Science Quarterly, American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review, American Journal of Education, European Management Review, Israel Science Foundation, Journal of Contemporary Ethnography, Higher Education, Journal of Management Studies, Organizations and the Environment, Organization Science, Organization Studies, Pine Forge Press, Public Administration, Qualitative Sociology, Research in Sociology of Organizations, Routledge, Social Anthropology, Social Problems, Social Psychological Quarterly, Socio-Economic Review, Sociological Focus, Sociological Forum, Sociological Quarterly, Sociological Theory, Sociology of Education, Work and Occupations.