

MARIA DE JESUS, Ph.D.

American University

4400 Massachusetts Ave, NW

(202) 885-6392 / dejesus@american.edu

<https://mariadejesusamericanuniversity.wordpress.com/>

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2023 -present	Full Professor, School of International Service (SIS), American University (AU), Washington, DC
2024-	Senior Associate Director of Community-Based Research and Engagement, Center for Latin American and Latino Studies (CLALS)
2024-	Faculty Advisor for the M.A. Graduate Certificate in Global Migration
2016 - 2023	Associate Professor, School of International Service (SIS), American University (AU), Washington, DC
2019-present	Research Fellow, Center on Health, Risk, and Society, American University
2010 - present	Affiliate Faculty, Center on Health, Risk, and Society, American University
2014 - present	Faculty Fellow, Metropolitan Policy Center, School of Public Affairs, American University
2012 - present	Investigator, District of Columbia Center for AIDS Research (DC CFAR)
2017 - 2018	Associate Director for Teaching & Learning, The Center for Teaching, Research & Learning, American University
2010 - 2016	Assistant Professor, School of International Service (SIS), American University (AU), Washington, DC
	Affiliate Faculty, Center on Health, Risk, and Society, American University
2007 - 2009	Yerby Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Harvard University, School of Public Health and Dana–Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA
2009 - 2010	Adjunct Professor, Boston University, School of Public Health
2008 - 2010	Adjunct Professor, Boston College, Dept. of Applied Developmental & Educational Psychology
2002 - 2007	Researcher, Boston College, Dept. of Applied Developmental & Educational Psychology

EDUCATION

2006	Ph.D.	Applied Developmental & Educational Psychology, Lynch School of Education, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA Dissertation: “Ethnic Community Health Promotion and Well-being: Relational and Cultural Praxis of Cape Verdean Women Health Advocates”
2001	M.A.	Mental Health Counseling Psychology, Lynch School of Education, Boston College, Graduated with First Class Honors
1997	B.A.	Psychology, McGill University, Montreal, Canada, <i>summa cum laude</i> (Honors Program)

LANGUAGES

- English, Spanish, Portuguese, French (fluent)

HONORS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

Research

- Fulbright Canada U.S. Scholar Research Award (awarded in May 2022) 2022-2023
- Leadership Appointment – Editorial Board of the *American Journal of Public Health* 2019-present
- Research Fellow, Lyon University Institute for Advanced Studies 2019-2021
- Research Fellow, Center on Health, Risk, and Society, American University 2019-2021
- Research Fellow (Phase 2), Center on Health, Risk, and Society, American University. 2022-2023
- AU International Travel Award 2016-2017
- Institute of Medicine & Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellowship Finalist; not awarded, but advised to resubmit post-tenure 2014
- AU International Travel Award (Chile) 2013-2014
- SIS Conference Travel Award 2013-2014
- SIS Conference Travel Award 2014-2015
- SIS Conference Travel Award 2015-2016
- Best research poster, “Moving Immigrant Families Out of Homelessness”: Faculty/student community-based research collaboration with *DC Doors*, a non-profit agency 2015
- Yerby Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, Harvard University, School of Public Health and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute 2007-2009
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Conference and Travel Award 2008
- Nominated to participate in the Graduate Student International Research Forum 2002-2003
- Graduate Student Research Association Award, Boston College 2002-2003
- Hugh Brock Research Scholarship, McGill University 1994-1997

Teaching

- SIS Innovative Teaching Fellow Award 2024
- AU’s Outstanding Scholarship, Research, Creative Activity, and Other Professional Contributions Award 2023
- F. Gunther Eyck Teaching and Mentoring Award 2022
- William Cromwell SIS Award for Outstanding Teaching 2015
- AU’s CTRL Teaching Enhancement Grant 2015, 2016
- Center for Teaching, Research, and Learning (CTRL) Teaching with Research Award 2014
- AU General Education Faculty Assistance Program Award 2010-2015

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Published Articles

1. Hendrickson, Z., **De Jesus, M.**, Barrington, C. et al. (2024). “You know that we travel a lot”: Mobility narratives among female sex workers living with HIV in Tanzania and the Dominican Republic. *PLOS Global Public Health*, 4(7): e0003355.
2. **De Jesus, M.**, Ware, D., Meanley, S., et al. (2024). Disrupting the path from depression to loneliness: Multilevel resilience among older sexual minority men with and without HIV. *AIDS and Behavior* (epub ahead of print).
3. **De Jesus, M.**, Warnock, B., Moumni, Z., et al. (2024). Strategies of survival, livelihood, and resistance in transit: A narrative analysis of the migration trajectory of a Guinean asylum seeker in France. *Frontiers in Human Dynamics*, 6 (epub ahead of print).
4. **De Jesus, M.**, Hendrickson, Z., Rivara, J. et al. (2024). Mobility paradoxes: disruptors, benefits, and agency among mobile female sex workers living with HIV in the Dominican Republic and Tanzania. *BMC Global Public Health* 2, 5.

5. Balamou, C., Rodrigue-Moulinie, C., Rahmani, S., **De Jesus, M.** (2023). Optimizing cancer screening rates in populations with low literacy in France: Results of a mixed-methods cancer educational intervention study. *Cancer Research, Statistics, and Treatment* 6(3):365-375.
6. **De Jesus, M.**, Sullivan N., Hopman, W., et al. (2023). Examining the role of quality of institutionalized healthcare on maternal mortality in the Dominican Republic. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 20(14):6413:1-11.
7. **De Jesus, M.**, Warnock, B., Moumni, Z., et al. (2023). The impact of social capital and social environmental factors on mental health and flourishing: the experiences of asylum-seekers in France. *Conflict and Health*, 17, epub ahead of print (April 7, 2023).
8. **De Jesus M.**, Moumni, Z., Sougui, Z.H., et al. (2022). “Living in confinement, stopped in time”: Migrant social vulnerability, coping, and health during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown in France. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19(16):10084:1-15.
9. **De Jesus M.**, Ramachandra, S.S., Jafflin, Z., et al. (2021). The environmental and social determinants of health matter in a pandemic: Predictors of COVID-19 case and death rates in New York City. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 18:1-17.
10. **De Jesus M.**, Rodrigue, C., Rahmani, S., & Balamou C. (2021). Addressing cancer inequities by promoting cancer prevention knowledge, awareness, self-efficacy, and screening uptake among low-income and illiterate women in France. *International Journal of Public Health*, 66:1-12.
11. **De Jesus M.**, Ramachandra, S., De Silva, A., et al. (2021). A mobile health breast cancer educational and screening intervention tailored for low-income, uninsured Latina immigrants. *Women’s Health Reports*, 2.1: 325-336.
12. **De Jesus M.**, Ware D., Brown A.L et al. (2021). Social-environmental resiliencies protect against loneliness among HIV-positive and HIV-negative older men who have sex with men: Results from the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study (MACS). *Social Science and Medicine*, 272:1-30.
13. **De Jesus, M.** & Hernandez, C. (2019). Generalized Violence as a Threat to Health and Well-Being: A Qualitative Study of Youth Living in Urban Settings in Central America’s “Northern Triangle.” *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 16(18):3465-3482.
14. **De Jesus, M.** & Williams, D.R. (2018). The Care and Prevention in the United States Demonstration Project: A call for more focus on the social determinants of HIV/AIDS. *Public Health Reports*, 133(Supplement 2):28S-33S.
15. **De Jesus, M.**, Taylor, J., Maine, C., & Nalls, P. (2016). A one-size-fits-all HIV prevention and education approach?: Interpreting divergent HIV risk perceptions between African American and East African immigrant women in Washington, DC using the proximate-determinants conceptual framework. *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, 43(2):78-83.
16. **De Jesus, M.** (2016). How religiosity shapes health perceptions and behaviors of Latina immigrants: Is it an enabling or prohibitive factor? *Psychology, Health, and Medicine*, 21(1):128-133.
17. Palazzolo, S., Yamanis, T., **De Jesus, M.**, Maguire-Marshall, M., & Barker, S. (2016). Documentation status as a contextual determinant of HIV risk among young transgender Latinas. *LGBT Health*, 3(2): 132-138.
18. **De Jesus, M.**, Carrete, C., Maine, C., & Nalls, P. (2015). Attitudes, perceptions, and behaviors toward HIV testing among African American and East African immigrant women in Washington, D.C.: Implications for targeted HIV testing promotion and communication strategies. *Sexually Transmitted Infections*, 91(8):569-575.

19. **De Jesus, M.**, Carrete, C., Maine, C., & Nalls, P. (2015). 'Getting tested is almost like going to the Salem witch trials': Discordant discourses between western public health messages and sociocultural expectations surrounding HIV testing among East African immigrant women. *AIDS Care: Psychological and Socio-Medical Aspects of AIDS/HIV*, 27(5):604-611.
20. **De Jesus, M.** & Miller, E.B. (2015). Examining breast cancer screening barriers among Central American and Mexican immigrant women: Fatalistic beliefs or structural factors? *Health Care for Women International*, 36(5):593-607.
21. **De Jesus, M.** & Kim, K. (2014). Bridging the gap in health communication: U.S. biomedical and immigrant Latina ethnomedical models of healthcare. *Intercultural Management Quarterly*, 15(3):7-9.
22. **De Jesus, M.** & Xiao, C. (2014). Predicting health care utilization among Latinos: Health locus of control beliefs or access factors? *Health Education & Behavior*, 41(4):423-430.
23. **De Jesus, M.** & Earl, T. R. (2014). Perspectives on quality mental health care from Brazilian and Cape Verdean outpatients: Implications for effective patient-centered policies and models of care. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies on Health and Well-Being*, 9:228-239.
24. Greaney, M.L., **De Jesus, M.** et al. (2014). Designing audience-centered interactive voice response messages to promote cancer screenings among low-income Latinas. *Preventing Chronic Disease: Public Health Research, Practice, and Policy*, 11:230-239.
25. **De Jesus, M.** & Xiao, C. (2013). Cross-border health care utilization among the Hispanic population in the United States: implications for closing the health care access gap. *Ethnicity & Health*, 18(3):297-314.
26. **De Jesus, M.** (2013). The impact of mass media health communication on health decision-making and medical advice-seeking behavior of U.S. Hispanic population. *Health Communication*, 28(5):525-529.
27. Shelton, R.C., Snavely, A.C., **De Jesus, M.** Othus, M.D., & Allen, J.D. (2013). HPV vaccine decision making and acceptance: Does religion play a role? *Journal of Religion and Health*, 52(4):1120-1130.
28. **De Jesus, M.** (2012). Promoting culturally responsive health communication. *Intercultural Management Quarterly*, 13(2):9-11.
29. **De Jesus, M.** & Xiao, C. (2012). Predicting Internet use as a source of health information: a "language divide" among the Hispanic population in the United States. *Policy and Internet*, 4(2):1-11.
30. Allen, J.D., **De Jesus, M.**, Mars, D., Laura, T., Cloutier, L., & Shelton, R.C. (2012). Decision-making about the HPV vaccine among ethnically diverse parents: Implications for health communications. *Journal of Oncology*:1-5.
31. Quintilliani, L., **De Jesus, M.**, & Wallington, S.F. (2011). The impact of student diversity on interest, design, and promotion of web-based tailored nutrition and physical activity programs for community colleges. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 43(5):379-384.
32. **De Jesus, M.**, Puleo, E., Shelton, R.C., & Emmons, K.M. (2010). Factors associated with colorectal cancer screening among a low-income, multiethnic, highly insured population: Does provider's understanding of the patient's social context matter? *Journal of Urban Health: Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine*, 87(2):236-243.
33. **De Jesus, M.**, Shelton, R., Puleo, E., & Emmons, K. (2010). Associations between perceived social environment and neighborhood safety: Health implications. *Health & Place*, 16(5):1007-1013.
34. **De Jesus, M.** (2010). Institutional barriers and strategies to health promotion: perspectives and experiences of Cape Verdean women health promoters. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, 12(3): 398-407.
35. **De Jesus, M.**, Parast, L., Shelton, R.C., Kokkinogenis, K., Othus, M., Li, Y., & Allen, J.D. (2009). Actual versus preferred sources of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) information among Black, White, and Hispanic parents: implications for health care providers and parent education. *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine: The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) Network*, 163(11):1066-1067.
36. **De Jesus, M.** (2009). Mutuality at the center: Health promotion with Cape Verdean immigrant women.

Ethnicity & Health, 14(1):45-59.

37. **De Jesus, M.** (2009). The importance of social context in understanding and promoting low-income immigrant women's health. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved: The Johns Hopkins University Press*, 20(1):90-97.
38. **De Jesus, M.** (2007). HIV/AIDS and immigrant Cape Verdean women: Contextualized perspectives of Cape Verdean community advocates. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 39(1-2):121-131.

Articles under review

1. **De Jesus, M.**, et al. Cancer education interventions among immigrant women in France.

Work-in-progress

1. **De Jesus, M. (Editor)** & Castañeda E. (Co-editor). "Migration and Migration Status: Key Determinants of Health and Well-Being," Special Issue selected by Editors of *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* to be published as a book (September 2025)
2. **De Jesus, M.**, Rivara, J., Remy J., et al. Associations between mobility and social cohesion among female sex workers living with HIV in the Dominican Republic
3. **Castañeda, E., Jenks D., De Jesus, M.** Latino immigrants and social capital in El Paso, Texas.

Other publications

1. **De Jesus, M.** (2021, December). As COVID-19 lingers, wealthy nations must not abandon migrants. *The Globe Post*, December 21, 2021. <https://theglobepost.com/2021/12/21/covid-migrants-wealthy-nations/>
2. **De Jesus, M.** (2021, June). Global herd immunity remains out of reach because of inequitable vaccine distribution—99% of people in poor countries are unvaccinated. *The Conversation*, June 22, 2021. <https://theconversation.com/global-herd-immunity-remains-out-of-reach-because-of-inequitable-vaccine-distribution-99-of-people-in-poor-countries-are-unvaccinated-162040>
Reprinted: UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), The Huffington Post, Houston Chronicle, Yahoo News, Seattle Epi, Cron.com news, userwalls, etleboro.org
3. **De Jesus, M.** (2019, February). To end the HIV epidemic, addressing poverty and inequities one of most important treatments. *The Conversation*, February 14, 2019. <https://theconversation.com/to-end-the-hiv-epidemic-addressing-poverty-and-inequities-one-of-most-important-treatments-111484>

Working Papers

1. Bader, M., AbouAssi, K., Addington, L., Blankenship, K., Castañeda, E., **De Jesus, M.**, . . . Yamanis, N. (2016). Diversity in the D.C. Area: Findings from the 2016 D.C. Area Survey. (Metropolitan Policy Center and Center for Latin American & Latino Studies Working Paper Series No. 14). Washington, DC: Center for Latin American & Latino Studies.

Book Chapters

1. **De Jesus, M.** & Lykes, M. B. (2004). Racism and 'Whiteness' in transitions to peace: Indigenous peoples, human rights, and the struggle for justice. In M. Fine, L. Weis, L. P. Pruitt, & A. Burns (Eds.), *Off White: Readings on power, privilege, and resistance*. New York: Routledge Farmer, pp. 331-344.

Medical Abstracts

1. Shelton, R.C., Snaveley, A.C., **De Jesus, M.**, Othus, M.D., Allen, J.D. (2010). Religious factors and HPV vaccine access among multiethnic caregivers. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 39(supplement), S135.

Health Communication Materials

1. **De Jesus, M.**, & Allen, J.D. (2009). *HPV Vaccines: I want more for my daughter*. Patient education pamphlet targeted for parents contemplating whether or not to obtain the HPV vaccine for their daughters. Community health centers in Boston, MA.
2. **De Jesus, M.** *Your relationships and HIV: Know your risks and your options*. Culturally centered pamphlet aimed at increasing awareness of vulnerability among Black women. HIV/AIDS community-based organizations in Washington, DC.

Encyclopedia Entries and Newsletter Articles

1. **De Jesus, M.** & Mercer, J. (2005). UNICEF. In C. B. Fisher & R.M. Lerner (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Applied Developmental Science*, Volume 2. Thousand Oaks: Sage, pp. 1107-1108. [Encyclopedia Entry].
2. **De Jesus M.**, Moumni, Z., Sougui, Z.H., et al. (2022). *Scholarly Community Encyclopedia*. Migrants during the COVID-19 Pandemic Lockdown in France. [Encyclopedia Entry]. <https://encyclopedia.pub/entry/26495>
3. **De Jesus, M.** (Fall 2002). Understanding terrorism through the lens of Ignacio Martín- Baró's liberation psychology. *The Just Word: The Ignacio Martín-Baró Fund for Mental Health & Human Rights*, 8(2), p. 1-2. [Newsletter Article].
4. **De Jesus, M.** (Fall 2003). Nicaraguan perspective: An interview with Fernando Cardenal, S.J. [Una perspectiva Nicaragüense: Una entrevista con Fernando Cardenal, S.J.]. *The Just Word: The Ignacio Martín-Baró Fund for Mental Health & Human Rights*, 9(2), p. 1. [Newsletter Article].
5. **De Jesus, M.** (Spring 2008). Six Projects Funded for 2008. *The Just Word: The Ignacio Martín-Baró Fund for Mental Health & Human Rights*, 14(1), p. 6-7. [Newsletter Article].

RESEARCH FUNDING

Current

Internal

SIS Faculty Exceptional Research Award (2024)

External

Principal Investigator, Platelet Disorder Support Association (PDSA) (2022-2024), “Centering Youth Voices and Experiences: Improving the Quality of Life Among Adolescent Patients Living with Chronic Immune Thrombocytopenia (ITP),” \$20,000

Principal Investigator, (with NY-based health technology partner, *Clear Session* and DC-based community partner, *Nueva Vida*), National Institutes of Health (NIH) (2022-2024), “Latinas CaPACES: Connecting and Promoting Active Cancer Engagement Successfully using a Culturally-Tailored Digital Tool to Reduce Delays in Breast Cancer Diagnostic Follow-up Testing and Treatment,” \$361,902

Co-Investigator, (with Nueva Vida, DC), Bright Pink cancer organization (2022-2024), “From Mothers to Daughters (De Madres a Hijas): Exploring Best Educational Tools for Genetic Counseling Among Latina Breast Cancer Survivors and their Daughters,” \$1,200

Submitted (not funded)

Co-Investigator, (with Dr. Michele Lambert, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute), National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), National Institutes of Health (NIH), "Identifying atypical pediatric Immune Thrombocytopenia at diagnosis"

Completed

Internal

Principal Investigator, Dean's Research Award (2022-2023), "Using the Digital Storytelling Method to Explore Illness Experience, Health Inequities, and Quality of Life Outcomes Among Ethnically/Racially Diverse Youth Patients," \$6,000

Principal Investigator, Deputy Provost & Dean of Faculty's Pilot Grant Award for faculty-student scholarly and creative collaboration (2022-2023), "Maternal Care Inequities in the Dominican Republic," \$5,000

Center on Health, Risk, and Society (CHRS) Research Fellow, CHRS (2022-2023), "Phase 2 CHRS Research Fellowship," \$10,000

Center on Health, Risk, and Society (CHRS) Research Fellow, CHRS (2019-2020), "Mobility among female sex workers in the Dominican Republic," \$25,000

Co-Investigator, (with Michael Bader, PI, College of Arts and Sciences, Sociology, American University), Office of the Provost's Competitive Intramural Faculty Research Support Grant, American University, (2018-2019), "DC Area Survey Study of Immigrant and Multiethnic Neighborhoods," \$25,000

Principal Investigator, Office of the Provost's Competitive Intramural Faculty Research Support Grant, American University, (2015-2016), "Impact of Social & Economic Conditions on Health, Healthcare Access, & Migration among Mexicans & Central Americans in Urban Contexts," \$10,000

Co-Investigator, (with Michael Bader, PI, College of Arts and Sciences, Sociology, American University), Office of the Provost's Competitive Intramural Faculty Research Support Grant, American University, (2015-2016), "DC Area Survey Pilot Study of Latino Immigrant and Global Neighborhoods," \$25,000

Principal Investigator, Dean's Competitive Intramural Summer Research Award, Academic-Community Research Partnership with DC-based organization, *The Women's Collective*, (2012), "Feasibility Study: HIV-Related Perceptions, Barriers, and Facilitators to HIV Testing, and HIV-Related Communication Norms Among East African Immigrant and African American Women in Washington, DC," \$2,000

Principal Investigator, Washington Institute for Public Affairs Research, Academic-Community Research Partnership with DC-based community organization, *Nueva Vida*, (2012), "Pilot Study Examining Impact of a Community Health Worker-Delivered Mobile Health (m-Health) Communication Strategy to Increase Mammography Screening among Hispanic Women," \$3,000

Principal Investigator, Office of the Provost's Competitive Intramural Faculty Research Support Grant, American University, (2011-2012), "Barriers and Facilitators Related to Cancer Prevention and e-Health Communication Strategy Among Hispanic Women,"* \$10,000

***The study data served as a basis for the larger study funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.**

Principal Investigator, SIS Research Award, American University, Academic-Community Research Partnership with DC-based clinic, *La Clínica del Pueblo*, (2010-2011), “Quality Cross-Cultural Health Communication: Ethnically Diverse Patient Perspectives,” \$2,500

External

Fulbright U.S. Scholar, Canada (2023), “Rare Diseases with Youth: Research Collaboration Across Canada, the U.S., and Mexico,” \$12,500

Research Fellow, Lyon University Institute for Advanced Studies, (2019-2021), “Health and Health Care Among Vulnerable Populations in France: The World Health Organization (WHO)’s Social Determinants of Health Framework,” \$100,000

Principal Investigator, National Institutes of Health (NIH) Supplement Grant (2019-2021), “The role and mechanisms of mobility on care and treatment outcomes among female sex workers living with HIV in the Dominican Republic,” \$126,000

Co-Investigator (with Kim Blankenship, PI, American University and Alan E. Greenberg, PI, George Washington University), National Institutes of Health, (2015-2020), “District of Columbia Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) Core,” \$1,058,148

Co-Investigator, (with Dr. Alan Greenberg, DC Center for AIDS Research), NIH Grant (2021-2022), “A City-Wide Approach to HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Scale-Up in Multiple High-Risk Communities in Washington D.C.,” \$750,000

Principal Investigator, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Academic-Community Research Partnership with *Nueva Vida*, (2014-2016), “The Role of Mobile Health (m-Health) Technology and Patient Navigators in Breast Cancer Prevention Among Hispanic Women,” \$200,000 (no cost extension until end of Oct 2017)

Principal Investigator, DC Developmental Center for AIDS Research (DC D-CFAR), National Institutes of Health, Academic-Community Research Partnership with DC-based organization, *The Women’s Collective*, (2012-2013), “HIV-Related Perceptions, Barriers and Facilitators to HIV Testing, and HIV-Related Communication Norms Among East African Immigrant and African American Women in Washington, DC,” \$35,000

Co-Investigator (with Thespina Yamanis, PI, School of International Service Competitive Intramural Collaborative Research Award, American University, Academic-Community Research Partnership with DC-based clinic, *La Clínica del Pueblo*, (2012-2013), “Identifying HIV Prevention Strategies for Latino Sexual Minority Young Men Living in DC,” \$21,538

Co-Investigator (with Jennifer Allen, PI, Center for Community-Based Research, Harvard School of Public Health), U-54 Comprehensive Cancer Center Partnership Grant with Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/ Harvard Cancer Center & UMass Boston, (2009-2010), “Promoting Utilization of Cancer Early Detection Methods among Latinos in Churches: A Faith-Based Approach,” \$75,000

Co-Investigator (with Karen Emmons, PI, Center for Community-Based Research, Harvard School of Public Health and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute), National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute, Academic-Community Research Partnership with *Greater Lawrence Family Health Center*, (2009-2013), “CATCH: Cancer Prevention with the Latino Community,” \$500,000

Co-Investigator (with Karen Emmons, PI, Center for Community-Based Research, Harvard School of Public Health), National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute, Academic-Community Research Partnership with Community Health Centers in Boston, (2008-2012), “Healthy Directions2: Multiple Risk Behavior Intervention in Health Care Settings in Boston,” \$500,000

Principal Investigator, Davis Putter Grant, (2002-2003), “Cape Verdean Community Health Promoters: A Health Promotion Theoretical Model,”* \$10,000

***This pilot study served as the basis for my Ph.D. dissertation.**

LICENSURES AND CERTIFICATIONS

- NVivo qualitative data analysis (Obtained March 30, 2010)
- Atlas.ti qualitative data analysis, Atlas.ti, National. (Obtained February 4, 2013)
- R and STATA quantitative data analysis (Obtained May 2019)

INVITED LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025 “Community-based Research to Reduce Health Inequities,” Speaker, National Academies of Medicine, Culture of Health Event Pathways to Achieving Health for Everyone, Everywhere: Exploring Systems Impact and Shared Solutions, Washington, DC (February 2025)

2024 “Disrupting the Path Between Depressive Symptoms to Loneliness: Multilevel Resilience among Older Sexual Minority Men Living with HIV” Panelist, 15th International Workshop on Aging and HIV, Washington, DC (October 2024)

2024 “Youth and Chronic Illnesses: Quality of Life Issues,” Speaker. Platelet Disorder Support Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL (July 2023)

2023 “Centering Youth Voices and Experiences: Improving the Quality of Life Among Adolescent Patients Living with Bleeding Disorders,” Panelist, 64th Annual Meeting and Exposition, American Society of Hematology, New Orleans, LA (December 2023)

2021 “Global Insights: Vaccines and a Vaccinated World,” Panelist, Co-sponsored by SIS, the Balsillie School of International Affairs, the Department of Politics and International Studies at the University of Warwick, the Institute of Strategic Affairs in Addis Ababa, the Department of Politics and Public Administration at the University of Konstanz, and Ritsumeikan University

2019 “Health and Health Care Among Vulnerable Populations in France: The World Health

Organization's (WHO) Social Determinants of Health Conceptual Framework", Plenary Speaker, Collegium of Lyon, France (October 2019)

2019 "Factors associated with cancer prevention screenings: an active patient model and good understanding of the patient's social context by the health provider", Plenary Speaker, Oncoriales, Villefontaine, France (September 2019)

2018 "Latinx Health Roundtable", Participant, DC Department of Health, Washington, DC

2017 "HIV-Related perceptions among East African and African American women in DC", poster presented at the District of Columbia Center for AIDS Research Inaugural Research Symposium in Washington, DC

2016 "Using a community-based participatory research approach to examine a culturally appropriate m-Health technology intervention to increase uptake of mammography screening among low-income Hispanic women", invited talk, 15th Annual Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic Serving Institutions Health Services Research Conference in Washington, DC

2016 "Community-academic partnerships: Benefits and challenges", invited talk at Center on Health, Risk, and Society weekly seminar, American university, Washington, DC. Co-sponsored by the DC CFAR Social and Behavioral Sciences Core.

2015 "Getting tested is almost like going to the Salem witch trials': Discordant discourses between western public health messages and sociocultural expectations surrounding HIV testing among East African immigrant women", paper presented at the American Public Health Association's (APHA) 143rd Annual Meeting in Chicago

2015 "Culturally appropriate and effective patient-centered models of quality mental healthcare: Perspectives from Brazilian and Cape Verdean immigrant patients", poster presented at the 3rd biennial DC Health Communication Conference: Communication Competence and Health Promotion in Fairfax, VA

2014 "Promoting immigrant women's health: Community health workers' perspectives and practice", poster presented at the American Public Health Association's (APHA) 142nd Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA

2014 "Colorectal cancer screening among a low-income, multiethnic, highly insured population: Does provider's understanding of the patient's social context matter?", poster presented at the American Public Health Association's (APHA) 142nd Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA

2014 "Conflicting discourses between public health and sociocultural expectations related to HIV testing among East African immigrant women", paper presented at the 2nd United States Conference on African Immigrants and Refugee Health (USCAIH-2) in Pittsburgh, PA

2014 "The community perspective in research partnerships", invited panelist, The Core Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Seminar Series, The Georgetown-Howard Universities Center of Excellence for Health Disparities in Our Nation's Capital (CEHD), the Center for Clinical and Translational Science (GHUCCTS), and the University-wide Initiative to Reduce Health Disparities, Georgetown University in Washington, DC

- 2014 “Sociocultural and contextual factors in HIV risk of African American and East African immigrant women in Washington”, paper presented at the Center on Health, Risk, and Society weekly seminar, American University in Washington, DC
- 2014 “HIV-related perceptions among East African and African American women in DC”, findings presented at the Research in Progress Seminar, George Washington University in Washington, DC
- 2014 “Understanding Latina perceptions and experiences of quality health care”, paper presented at the 15th Annual Intercultural Management Institute Conference on Intercultural Relations in Washington, DC
- 2014 “The social context of HIV risk behavior among immigrant gay and transgender Latinos living in Washington, DC”, poster presented at the 20th International AIDS conference in Melbourne, Australia (1st author Thespina Yamanis, SIS Faculty Collaborator)
- 2013 “HIV epidemic in Washington, DC: Implications for African-born and African American women,” invited talk, Georgetown University’s School of Medicine in Washington, DC
- 2013 “Differences and similarities among East African and African American women’s HIV knowledge, attitudes, perceptions, communication norms, and testing barriers”, invited talk, 7th National Scientific Meeting, Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Network (SBSRN) in Washington, DC
- 2013 “Comparing East African and African American women’s perceptions, knowledge, and HIV testing communication norms”, invited talk, Mental Health Scientific Interest Group, George Washington University in Washington, DC
- 2013 “Seeking health care in Mexico and Latin America: Closing the access gap for U.S. Hispanic immigrants”, paper presented at the American Public Health Association’s (APHA) 141st Annual Meeting in Boston, MA
- 2013 “Promoting immigrant women’s health: Cape Verdean community health workers’ perspectives and practice”, paper presented at oral roundtable at the APHA’s 141st Annual Meeting in Boston, MA
- 2013 “Importance of social context in understanding and promoting low-income immigrant women’s health”, paper presented at the APHA’s 141st Annual Meeting in Boston, MA
- 2013 “Internet as a source of health information among the U.S. Hispanic population: A “language divide”, poster presented at the APHA’s 141st Annual Meeting in Boston, MA
- 2013 “Border-crossing to seek health care services among Latino immigrants in the United States”, paper presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention in San Francisco, CA
- 2012 “Emic perspectives of immigrant patients on quality mental health care”, paper presented at the Summit on the Science of Eliminating Health Disparities, The National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities and the Office of Minority Health in Washington, DC

2012 “Relational cross-cultural communication strategies work effectively with multicultural patients: Perspectives of Cape Verdean health promoters”, paper presented at the 13th Annual Intercultural Management Institute (IMI) Conference on Intercultural Relations in Washington, DC

2012 “Social determinants of health disparities: Moving the nation to care about social justice,” presented at the 18th National Health Equity Research Webcast

2011 “The impact of mass media health communication on health decision-making and medical advice-seeking behavior of U.S. Hispanic population”, paper presented at the 2nd Biennial DC Health Communication Conference: Translating Research into Practice in Fairfax, VA

2010 “Contextual factors and health among multiethnic populations: HPV and implications for primary care”, invited talk presented at the Department of Family Medicine, McGill University in Montreal, Canada

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Triangles	2019-2020; 2020-2021
Online Pilot Faculty Learning Community	2021-2023

Teaching

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

- SISU 103 21st Century Challenges: Environmental Sustainability and Global Health
- SISU 106 Power, Justice, and Global Health
- SISU 140 Cross-Cultural Communication
- SISU 250 Environmental Sustainability and Global Health
- SISU 260 Identity, Race, Gender, and Culture
- SISU 349 Power, Justice, and Global Health: Migration in the 21st Century
- SISU 350 Health Communication Across Borders: Immigrants and Refugees
- SISU 490 Independent Study: Pandemics and Migrant Policies
- SIS 628 Global Health, Culture, and Communication (Master’s-level)
- SIS 628 Community-Based Participatory Approaches for Health Research
- SIS 635 Migrant Youth: Global Health, Violence, and Communication
- SIS 635 Migration, Equity, and Health
- HNRS196 AU Scholars Research Lab: Power, Justice, and Health: Community-Based Participatory Research Models

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

- Health Communication Across Borders (Master’s-level)

BOSTON COLLEGE

- Family, School, and Society: The Social Context of Development and Learning (undergraduate-level, 2 sections)
- Advanced Practicum in Human Development (undergraduate-level, 2 sections)

Guest Lectures

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

- Interdisciplinary seminar on global infectious diseases (graduate-level seminar)
Professors Richard Calderone and Jeff Collmann
Spring 2018

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

- SISU419 Senior Capstone: Conflict & Climate Migration
Professor Victoria Kiechel
Spring 2022
- SIS587 Globalization: Power, Production and Culture (graduate-level seminar)
Professor James Mittelman
Fall 2011

BOSTON COLLEGE

- Research Methods and Analysis (undergraduate-level)
Fall 2006
- Research at the Margins (doctorate-level)
Fall 2006, 2007, 2008

Research Supervision

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

- Substantial Research Paper (SRP)/Independent Studies Supervisor 2016-present
- Global Health Research Group 2020-present
- Summer Health Communication Research Group 2014-2018
(5 undergraduates and 2 Masters' students)
- Summer Health Communication Grantwriting Group 2010-2014
(3 undergraduates and 6 Masters' students)
- HIV Perceptions Study Research Team 2012-2014
(2 undergraduates and 2 Masters' students)
- Dissertation Committee Member (1) 2010-2011
- Master's Thesis Supervisor (6) 2016-2021
- Honors Capstone Supervisor (6) 2016-2021

BOSTON COLLEGE

- Undergraduate Honors Thesis Supervision (3) 2004-05

HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

- Doctoral Student Supervisor (1) 2007-2009

INTERNAL SERVICE

**University-wide
American University (AU)**

- AU Faculty Awards Committee 2025-
- Senior Associate Director of Community-Based Research and Engagement Center for Latino and Latin American Studies (CLALS) 2024-present
- Faculty Senate Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Member 2022-present
- ADVANCEAU Associate Professors Cohort Leader 2024-present
- Faculty Mentor 2024-present
- Working Group on Race, Racialization, & Related Structured at AU Member 2023-2024
- Mosaic Community Circles Facilitator 2022
- Inclusive Pedagogy Working Group Member 2020-2023
- AU Provost Search Committee Member 2018-2019
- Center for Teaching, Research, and Learning (CTRL) Associate Director 2017-2018
- CTRL Faculty Learning Community 2017-2018
- Workshop on Diversity and Inclusion Facilitator 2016
- Fulbright Application Reviewer 2016, 2018, 2022
- AU Institutional Review Board 2013-2015
- AU 10-year review—United Methodist Church 2015
- CTRL Ann Ferren Conference, Panelist 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2025
- AU Student Evaluation of Teaching summer working group 2014
- AU Faculty Retreat Planning Committee 2011-201
- AU Faculty Retreat Panelist, “Promoting Diverse Perspectives in the Classroom” 2012
- AU2030 Initiative: Collaborative Proposal on DC Area Survey Study and Urban/Metropolitan Studies 2012
- AU Program Assessment Committee 2011

School and Program

School of International Service (SIS)

- SIS Budget Committee 2024-
- SIS Faculty Research Board Member 2024-present
- Alternative Break Advisor, Brazil 2024-2025
- SIS Tenure-line Assistant Professor Search Committee Member. 2024
- SIS 3-person promotion to full professor committee Member 2024
- SIS 3-person promotion to full professor committee Chair 2023
- SIS 3-person promotion to full professor committee Member 2024
- SIS Student Scholarship Committee 2024
- SIS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Faculty Committee Member 2022-2024
- Member, Term Faculty Search 2019, 2022
- SIS Dean’s Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusion Member 2019-present

- Dean’s Task Force on MA Administrative Clustering Appointed Member 2019
- SIS 3-person tenure and promotion committee Chair 2020
- SIS 3-person tenure and promotion committee Member (2) 2017, 2018
- SIS Dean’s Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusion Chair 2018-2019
- Chair, Term Faculty Search 2018
- Olson Scholar Mentor 2017-2018
- SIS Dean Search Committee Member 2017-2018
- Alternative Break Advisor 2018-2019
- SIS Faculty Actions Committee Elected Member (FAC) 2015-2016
- SISU140 Cross-Cultural Communication Coordinator 2015-2016
- 2018-2019
- 2021-present
- SIS Research Roundtable presentation on research in Washington, DC 2015
- SIS Faculty Vice-President 2014-2015
- Graduate Student Recruitment, Conversion, and Retention 2010-present
- SIS Research Roundtable presentation on engaging students in research 2014
- Talk on Resume Building and Career Pathways for IC Masters’ students 2014
- SIS Tenure-line Faculty Search Committee in Global Health 2014
- SIS Tenure-line Faculty Search Committee in Transnational Security 2013
- SIS Undergraduate Studies Committee 2011-2012
- Discussant at Cross-Cultural Communication Retreat 2012
- Faculty Advisor, Haiti Trip 2011-2015
- SIS Tenure-line Faculty Search Committee in International Communication 2010-2011
- IC Graduate Student Research Symposium 2011-2015
- Tea Talk for IC graduate students 2011

Boston College

- Dean Search Committee, Graduate Student Representative 2004-2005
Lynch School of Education
- Graduate Education Association Advisory Committee
Vice president, Lynch School of Education 2003-2004
- Leader on Student International Service Trips
 - Mozambique 2005
 - Mexico 2004
 - El Salvador 2003, 2004

EXTERNAL SERVICE

Editorial Board Member

- Leadership Appointment – Editorial Board of the *American Journal of Public Health* 2019-2024
- *International Journal of Communication and Health* 2020-present
- *SM Journal of Public Health & Epidemiology* 2019-2021

- *International Journal of Healthcare* 2018-2020

Reviewer

- *The Open Public Health Journal* 2020-present
- *Ethnicity & Disease* 2016-present
- *International Journal of Culture and Mental Health* 2014-present
- *Health Communication* 2013-present
- *Health Education & Behavior* 2013-present
- *Qualitative Health Research* 2013-present
- *AIDS & Behavior* 2013-present
- DC Center for AIDS Research (DC-CFAR) 2016-present
- American Association of Public Health (APHA) 2016-present
abstract reviewer for HIV/AIDS program
- abstract reviewer for Public Health Education & Health Promotion program 2014-present
- National Institutes of Health Scientific Review Group 2018-present
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research 2018-present
(Instituts de Recherche en Santé du Canada)

Professional Member

- AcademyHealth 2012-present
- International Studies Association 2011-present
- Metropolitan Washington Public Health Association (MWPCHA) 2010-present
- National Communication Association 2010-present
- American Public Health Association 2010-present
- Emerging Scholars Interdisciplinary Network 2010-present
- International Communication Association 2010-present
- Society for Community Research and Action-Community Psychology 2009-present
- American Psychological Association 2007-present
- Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues 2007-present

Task Force, Scientific Interest Group, and Research Group Engagement

- African-born and HIV/AIDS Interest Group Co-Founder 2016-present
- African Immigrant Health Task Force Member (International) 2014-present
- American University's Interdisciplinary Ebola Research Group Member 2014-2017
- American University's Global Health Research Group Member 2014-present
- DC Developmental Center for AIDS Research (DC D-CFAR) Investigator 2012-present
(Washington, DC)
- Mental Health and Neuroscience Scientific Interest Group Member 2012-present
(Washington, DC)
- American University's Metropolitan Policy Center Faculty Fellow 2014-present
- American University's Center on Health, Risk, and Society Faculty Affiliate 2010-present

Service/ Research Collaboration with Community-based Health Centers in Washington, DC

- Nueva Vida (Research Collaborator) 2015-present
- The Women's Collective (Research Collaborator) 2012-present
- African Immigrant and Refugee Foundation (Research Collaborator) 2014-present
- La Clínica del Pueblo (Research Collaborator) 2010-present
- Mary's Center (Research Advisor) 2010-2013
- Unity Health Care Center: Upper Cardozo (Research Advisor) 2010-2013
- Identity: Serving Latino Youth and Their Families (Research Advisor) 2010-2012
- AYUDA (Research Advisor) 2010-2012

Media Appearances and Newsletter Stories

- SIS Online news: How 2021 Made History: First the COVID vaccine, now another scientific miracle in global health miracle: the first malaria vaccine, December 6, 2021
<https://www.american.edu/sis/news/20211206-how-2021-made-history.cfm>
- SIS Online news: Can Mobile Devices Increase Breast Cancer Education and Screening among Underserved Populations?, December 3, 2021
<https://www.american.edu/sis/news/20211203-can-mobile-devices-increase-breast-cancer-education-and-screening-among-underserved-populations.cfm>
- SIS Online news: Global Herd Immunity Remains Out of Reach Because of Inequitable Vaccine Distribution: The high costs of the world's colossally unequal COVID-19 immunization rates, June 22, 2021
<https://www.american.edu/sis/news/20210622-global-herd-immunity-remains-out-of-reach-because-of-inequitable-vaccine-distribution.cfm>
- SIS Online news: Combating global HIV/AIDS epidemic starts in DC, November 2016
- Peace Corps' WorldView Magazine: "Great Challenges of our Time Demand a Global Perspective: How do we Reduce Social and Health Inequalities Locally and Globally?", March 2015
- Foreign Policy: The Global Magazine of News and Ideas: "Great Challenges of our Time Demand a Global Perspective: How do we Reduce Social and Health Inequalities Locally and Globally?", December 2014
- SIS Online news: "Class Explores DC Immigrant Housing", February 25, 2015
- Online newsletter: DC Developmental Center for AIDS Research (DC D-CFAR)
"Early Investigator Publication: DC D-CFAR Pilot Award Recipient and Assistant Professor at the School of International Service has published an article in *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*", January 27, 2016
- Online newsletter: DC Developmental Center for AIDS Research (DC D-CFAR)
"New DC D-CFAR Investigator Publication: DC D-CFAR Pilot Award Recipient and Assistant Professor at the School of International Service has published an article in *AIDS Care: Psychological and Socio-Medical Aspects of AIDS/HIV*", January 28, 2015
- SIS Online news: "Student Gains Research Experience on HIV Study", November 3, 2014
- SIS Online news: "The Outbreak and the Aftermath- Ebola working group", November 26, 2014
- American Way of Life Magazine: "Does that Major Even Exist?: Public Health at AU", December 22, 2011