

Curriculum Vitae

Bonita B. Sharma, MSSW

School of Social Work, The University of Texas at Arlington

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EDUCATION

- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Social Work, December, 2016
The University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work, Arlington, Texas

Dissertation Title: Sustainable Gender Equality Framework: A Justice Perspective

- Master of Science in Social Work (MSSW), May 2009
The University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work Arlington, Texas

Thesis Title: Underlying Causes of Forced Displacement

- Bachelors of Science in Biology and Chemistry (B. Sc.), December 1998
The University of Texas at Arlington, Department of Biology & Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Arlington, Texas

RESEARCH INTEREST

Empowerment and equality for girls and women, gender and sustainable development, natural and built environment, local and global health, technology, poverty and sustainable livelihood, social network and engagement, refugees and displaced persons, immigrants

Methods: Policy research, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research, community based participatory research, place-based initiatives, mixed methods

TEACHING INTEREST

Foundational Courses (across the curriculum);

Social Policy, Action, and Advocacy;

Community & Macro Practice Courses: Community Intervention, Program Development and Evaluation, Non-profits;

Global Social Work

Face-to-face, Synchronous and Asynchronous Online

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

- Council on Social Work Education - Katherine A. Kendall Institute for International Social Work Education's (CSWE-KAKI), Partners in Advancing International Education (PIE) Award – Student Recipient, 2015
- Research to Practice Institute (RPI), Network for Social Work Management and Leadership Training Recipient, 2015
- Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) Fellowship, University of Oxford, 2014
- Travel Grant to match the OPHI Fellowship, The University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work, 2014
- Graduate Research Fellowship Innovative Community Academic Partnership (ICAP), 2010, 2011
- Graduate Fellowship at University of Texas at Arlington, Recipient, 2009, 2010, 2011
- Outstanding Doctoral Student for GPA, 2011- 2012
- Academic Excellence Award, 2009, 2011
- Carolyn C. and Santos H. Hernández Endowed Scholarship, 2009
- AmeriCorps National and Community Service Fellowship Award, 1999
- Other Travel Grants, 2010 - 2014

RESEARCH

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

The Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Wireless Inclusive Technologies (WIT RERC). National Institute on Disability and Independent Living Research (NIDILRR). Funded (Pending) Research (UTA, \$108,000).

Dr. John Bricout, Principal Investigator

Key Personnel (Fall, 2016 - Current)

- Coordinated, facilitated and supported an interdisciplinary collaboration among faculties of School of Social Work, College of Liberal Arts and College of Nursing and Health Innovation (Kinesiology) at the University of Texas at Arlington, the University of Texas Research Institute and Georgia Institute of Technology.

Social Learning in Mixed Human-Robot Groups for People with Disabilities. National Science Foundation (NSF) Funded (Ongoing) Research in collaboration with the University of Central Florida. Funded Research (UTA, \$119,663).

Dr. John Bricout, Principal Investigator

Pre-doctoral and Project Manager (Fall, 2014 - Current)

- Forged partnership with a local community organization for participant recruitments and contributed towards outreach for the university.
- Facilitated interviews, focus group and collaborated on refereed journal articles.
- Updated community partner periodically with monthly reports on the progress of the research and in exchange drew practice knowledge to better inform the project.
- Prepared NSF Annual Reports for renewal of grant
- Co-developed a psychometric scale on user preference of social learning in human-robot environment

Global Health Projects: HIV/AIDs and Gender Based Violence

Dr. Eusebius Small, Principal Investigator

Research Collaborator (Fall, 2013 - Current)

- Garnered extensive knowledge on: impact of women's autonomy and empowerment on global health issues such as HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia; social determinants of health; health disparities; health risk behaviors
- Conducted extensive research using Demographic Health Survey (DHS)
- Collaborated on published refereed journal articles.

Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) Fellowship, University of Oxford. Funded (\$1,500). Travel grant funded by University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work (\$1,000)

Summer Fellow, (Summer, 2014)

- Completed the competitive summer school training on the Alkire-Foster axiomatic approach to poverty and well-being measure.
- Developed context specific measures using a national level survey (DHS) with an understanding of the potential applications of methodology towards national, community and impact evaluations

Students' Attitudes Toward International Social Work

Dr. Eusebius Small, Principal Investigator

Co-investigator (Spring, 2014)

- Explored topics on cultural competency, international social work education, and international field education
- Co-designed and conducted a web-based survey.
- Collaborated on published refereed journal articles.

Common Threads: Refugee Reintegration through Financial Literacy, Community Building and Creative Arts.

The University of Texas at Arlington collaboration of Social Work Innovative Community Academic Partnership (ICAP) with Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth, Inc. [Grant funded

through Amon G. Carter Foundation and the Harold Simmons Foundation]. Funded Research (\$60,000).

Dr. Diane Mitschke, Principal Investigator

Graduate Research Assistant (Summer 2012- Spring 2013)

- As the principal implementer of the project, recruited women from the Bhutanese refugee community and conducted four rounds of quantitative data collection (face-to-face pre/post/follow-up post) and qualitative interviews
- Implemented the financial literacy course and facilitated social enterprise as interventions to building a stronger community support and improved mental health outcome among the refugees
- Disseminated findings through presentations, symposia, refereed journal publications, and grant reports.

Parents' and Non-Parents' Awareness of and Responses to Teen Dating Violence.

Dr. Beverly Black, Principal Investigator

Graduate Research Assistant (Fall, 2009- Summer, 2010)

- Findings highlighted issues of dating violence in
- Published manuscript using secondary data analysis.

Other Publishable Manuscript Collaborations

PUBLICATIONS

Sharma, B.B., Small, E., Mengo, C. & Ude, P. (2017). Women's autonomy and attitudes toward condom use: A multi-country analysis. *Social Work in Public Health*, pp. 1-16. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19371918.2016.1275073>

Bricout, J.C., **Sharma, B.B.**, Baker, P.M.A., Behal, A., & Bolini, L. (2016). Learning futures with mixed sentence. *Futures*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.futures.2016.10.001>

Sharma, B.B. & Small, E. (2016): Let us talk about AIDS: Sexual health communication among Kenyan women about HIV/AIDS risk prevention. *Journal of Women's Health, Issues Care*, 5(2). doi:10.4172/2325-9795.1000225

Small, E., Nikolova, S., & **Sharma, B.B.** (2016). Cultural competency in the global setting: Are social work students prepared to serve in a culturally diverse world? *The British Journal of Social Work*, 0 pp.1-17. doi: 10.1093/bjsw/bcw050

Mengo, C., Small, E., **Sharma, B.B.**, & Ude, P. (2016). Risky sexual behavior of multiple partner relations and women's autonomy in four countries. *Sexuality and Culture*, 20(3), pp. 535-554. Doi: 10.1007/s12119-016-9341-6

Pillai, V. K., Wei, F. & **Sharma, B.** (2016). Men and reproductive decision-making in Zambia.

Applied Clinical Research, Clinical Trials & Regulatory Affairs, 3, pp. 20-26.

- Sharma, B.B.** (2015). Revisiting the United Nations' 1951 Convention relating to the Status of refugees: A critical analysis of the international refugee law. *Social Development Issues*, 37(2), pp. 80.
- Small, E., **Sharma, B. B.** & Nikolova, S. (2015). A pilot study evaluating students' interest in international Social Work Education. *Social Work Education*, 34 (4), pp. 414-427. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02615479.2015.1015979>
- Jayasundara, D., Neddegard, R., **Sharma, B.B.**, & Flanagan K (2014). Intimate partner violence in Muslim communities: A systematic review of the literature. *Special edition on Violence against Immigrant Women- Global Perspectives, Arts and Social Sciences Journal*, S1: 003. doi: 10.4172/2151-6200.S1-003
- Black, B. M., Weisz, A., Murray, K. & **Sharma, B.B.** (2014). Parents' awareness of and anticipated responses to their teens' reports of dating violence. *Journal of Family Social Work*, 18(1), pp. 3-20. doi: 10.1080/10522158.2014.968941
- Mitschke, D. B., Aguirre, R. T. P., & **Sharma, B.** (2013). Common threads: Improving the mental health of Bhutanese refugee women through shared learning. *Social Work in Mental Health* 11(3), pp. 249-266. doi.org/10.1080/15332985.2013.769926
- Carbajal, J., Parson, J., Salehin, M. Pillai, V. & **Sharma, B.** (2012). The effects of participation and resources on democratic attitudes: Role of social capital in four Latin American countries. *Journal of Social Service Research*, 38(3), pp. 330-341. doi.org/ 10.1080/01488376.2011.637850

REVISE AND RESUBMIT

- Small, E., **Sharma, B. B.**, Mengo, C. & Peterson, H. HIV serostatus disclosure among women and men in Kenya: Highlighting individuals expressed willingness to disclose HIV status. *British Journal of Social Work*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

- Sharma, B. B.** Role of gender mainstreaming towards sustainable development. (*Target Journal: The British Journal of Social Work*)
- Sharma, B.B.** & Bricout, J. Ethical issues in social work and engineering: An applied transdisciplinary approach in education. (*Target Journal: Journal of Education for Social Work*).
- Bricout, J. & **Sharma, B. B.** The effects of a robotic arm assisting people with a physical disability in tasks of daily living. A gendered perspective. (*Target journal: Journal of Human Services*).

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS: NATIONAL

- Sharma, B. B.**, Peterson, H., & Small, E. (2015, January). *HIV serostatus disclosure among a high risk Kenya's population*. Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), New Orleans, LA (*Oral Paper Presentation*).
- Maleku, A., **Sharma, B. B.**, & Kim, Y. K. (2015, January). *The Question of Social Justice in Social Work: A Systematic Examination*. Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), New Orleans, Louisiana (*Oral Paper Presentation*).
- Sharma, B.B.** & Peterson, H. (2014, October). *HIV Prevention among Kenyan women: Application of communication privacy management theory*. Council on Social Work Education Conference (CSWE), Tampa, FL (*Poster Presentation*).
- Sharma, B.B.**, Maleku, A., and Nikolova, S. (2014, January). *Internally displaced children, data inconsistency, and methodological implications: A case of Nepal*. Society for social work Research (SSWR), San Antonio, TX. (*Oral Paper Presentation*)
- Mitschke, D. B., Aguirre, R. T. P, & **Sharma, B.B.**, (2014, January). *Social enterprise and its potential for empowerment and enhanced self-esteem among female Bhutanese Refugees*. Society for Social Work and Research Conference (SSWR), San Antonio, TX (*Symposium Paper Presentation*).
- Maleku, A., **Sharma, B.B.**, and Pillai, V. (2014, January). *Reproductive health and social development in developing countries: A latent growth curve analysis*. Society for Social Work Research Conference (SSWR), San Antonio, TX (*Oral Paper Presentation*).
- Sharma, B.B.** (2012, October). *Gender mainstreaming in Nepal*. Himalayan Policy Conference, Madison, WI (*Oral Paper Presentation*).
- Sharma, B.B.** (2012, September). *Implications on internally displaced Children as a result of conflicts and consequent human rights violations*. Southwest Conference on Asian Studies, Dallas, TX (*Oral Paper Presentation*).
- Sharma, B.B.**, Jayasundara, D. Bouie, R., and Madrigal, C. (2012, January). *Maternal and infant mortality in developing countries: Empirical tests of Sen's perspectives of capability and development*. Society of Social Work Research (SSWR), Washington D. C. (*Oral Paper Presentation*).
- Sharma, B.B.** & Jayasundara, D. (2011, October). *Human development perspective and its application to global reproductive health*. Council in Social Work Education (CSWE), Atlanta, GA (*Oral Paper Presentation*).
- Opollo, D. & **Sharma, B.B.** (2010, October). *Culturally adapted social work practice with refugee*

women living with HIV/AIDS. National Association of Social Work (NASW), Houston, TX
(Oral Paper Presentation).

Madrigal, C. R., Jayasundara, D. S., **Sharma, B.B.** (2008, April). *Refugee and asylum policies in the US: a critical analysis*. Social Welfare Action Alliance on Katrina Recovery, Houston, TX
(Oral Paper Presentation).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS: INTERNATIONAL

Sharma, B.B. & Carbajal, J. (2013, July) (Oral Paper Presentation). Role of social capital on democratic attitudes: Effects of participation and resources in four Latin and South American countries. *International Consortium for Social Development (ICSD)*, Kampala, Uganda.

Jayasundara, D. S., Barkdull, C., **Sharma, B. B.**, & Madrigal, C. (2011, September) (Oral Paper Presentation). Maternal and infant mortality in developing countries: empirical tests of Sen's theoretical perspectives of capability and development. *Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA)*, The Hague, Netherlands.

Jayasundara, D. S., Barkdull, C., **Sharma, B.B.**, & Madrigal, C. (2011, September) (Poster Presentation). Efficacy of Sen's Capability and Development Perspectives to Fields of Reproductive Health and International Social Work. *Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA)*, The Hague, Netherlands.

TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT:

The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas (face-to-face and online)

- SOCW 6304 (5363): Social Policy and Child Welfare (Spring, 2017)
- SOCW 6452: Applied Social Work Practice II (Field Liaison) (Summer, 2013)
- SOCW 6315: Advanced Community Practice (Spring 2015)
- SOCW 6303: Poverty, Inequality, and Social Policy (Fall, 2015; Fall 2013)
- SOCW 6324: Research and Evaluation Methods II in Social Work (Fall, 2015)
- SOCW 5322: Research Methods II (Spring, 2014)
- SOCW 5303: Foundations of Social Policy and Services (Fall, 2016; Summer, 2016; Fall, 2014; Fall, 2014; Summer 2013; Spring 2013)
- SOCW 3306: Social Work Practice III (Fall 2013)
- SOCW 3303: Foundations of Social Policy and Services (Spring, 2012; Fall, 2016; Spring 2017)

- SOCW 5303: Graduate Teaching Assistant to Dr. Doreen Elliott. Foundations of Social Policy and Services (Summer, 2012)

The University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota (Synchronous Online)

- SOCW 507: Generalist Research Methods and Analysis (Spring 2014; Spring, 2015)
- SOCW 527: Advanced Generalist Human Behavior and the Social Environment I (Summer 2014)

Dallas County Community College District: North Lake College Science, Irving, Texas (face-to-face)

- BIOL 1406: General Biology for Majors (January 2006 – December 2014)
- BIOL 1409: General Biology for Non-majors (January 2006 – December 2014)

Honor's Academy School District, Oak Cliff, Dallas, Texas (face-to-face) (2004-2005)

- Chemistry and Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC).
- Social science courses, such as Health, Psychology, and Sociology
- TAAS, TAKS, SAT, and college preparations.

PRACTICE

SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Hamro Chahana Nepal (HCN), Kathmandu, Nepal

Advisor to the Board (January 2009 - Current)

Advisor to the Board of HCN, a non-governmental organization (NGO), committed in working with rural and underprivileged women and children to promote education, health, and sustainable livelihood by empowering them. Activities include,

- Develop programs for community based sustainable solutions
- Empower women for capacity building in leadership
- Provide support through fund raising and network
- Continue to support in rebuilding communities post 2015 earthquakes

Nepal Ko Yuwa, Nepal Rising Campaign, United States

Strategic member (April, 2015 – April, 2016)

Strategic team member in co-establishing a global collaborative campaign of relief, rebuilding and resilience in the wake of devastating earthquakes of 2015, in Nepal.

- Lead the youth, teams and organizations in different sectors to provide immediate relief materials in four different districts through local, social media and global networks.
- Mobilized Dallas based Nepal Rising Chapter at various capacity to fundraise in the US.
- Facilitated coalition of Nepali-American communities to advocate in Washington DC for increased funding support for earthquake relief in Nepal.
- Redirected funds to build temporary shelters for 73 families and 3 primary secondary schools in a remote village of Dolakha.

- Co-developed the campaign's strategic platform for a long-term adopt-a-village platform for community development using place-based and asset building initiatives.
- Served on the expert panel on sharing experiences and lessons learned at a local community earthquake anniversary discussion forum.
- Continue to serve as a member of Nepal Rising Dallas chapter

Texas Muslim Women's Foundation (TMWF), Dallas, Texas

Program Developer, (May, 2014- July, 2014)

Developed a culturally competent parent education program for the non-profit located in Dallas, Texas. TMWF operates as Domestic Violence Shelter and community support for Muslim and non-Muslim immigrant families in North Texas.

Koseli School for Slum and Street Children, Kathmandu, Nepal

Consultant (August, 2013- December, 2013)

Provided support to build capacity and evaluation planning for the non-profit that operates as a school committed to empower children of slums and streets by offering formal and informal education, meals, hygiene and shelter.

Community for Clinical Social Work, Arlington, Texas

Counselor, (August, 2008 – May, 2009)

Provided solution-focused brief therapeutic counselling strategies as an intern at the Center for Clinical Social Work of the School of Social Work, a clinical and translational research institute.

United Community Centers, Inc., Fort Worth, TX

Macro Practitioner, (August, 2007- December, 2007)

Shadowed program managers at United Community Centers, a non-profit agency in partnership with United Way of Tarrant County, the United Methodist Church and other foundations and grantees that empower individuals, strengthens families and enriches communities at three neighborhood centers.

- Assisted in grant research and writing
- Conducted child assessment and counseling under supervision,
- Conducted community needs assessment, attended program meetings, coalition meetings, and community networking events.
- Assisted and monitored after-school child care programs and client intervention programs.

AmeriCorps UTA @ Resource Center, Dallas, TX

AmeriCorps Volunteer (January 1999- October 1999)

Volunteered with AmeriCorps, a corporation for national and community service, a federal agency that helps people in improving the lives of their fellow citizens through service.

Worked at the Resource Center of Dallas to empower men, women, and youth with HIV/AIDS in identifying resources in the community.

- Collaborated in forming the social support program for women with HIV/AIDS
- Client advocate and case manager for basic services
- Assisted in the insurance referral program

The American Red Cross, Chisholm Trail Tarrant County Chapter, Fort Worth, Texas

Member of the Disaster Relief Team (June, 1997- June, 1999)

- Collaborated with the disaster action team for emergency quick response to clients' needs in house fires, family emergencies, and all other disaster emergencies.
- Evaluated damages, and provided reports to the organization.
- Provided emergency relief, such as housing, food, clothing assistance, vouchers, and medical assistance to displaced clients.
- Assisted hurricane Katrina displaced persons, Fort Worth, Texas, September, 2005

COLLEGIALITY, LEADERSHIP & SERVICES

ACADEMIC SERVICES

- Member: Students for Global Change (SGC-UTA, 2014-Current)
- Reviewer: The British Journal of Social Work (Summer, 2016)
- Reviewer: Contemporary Rural Social Work (2014 -2015)
- Reviewer: South African Journal of International Affairs (Fall, 2015)
- Student Member: Search Committee, UTA, School of Social Work (Spring, 2015)
- Reviewer: Social Development Issues (Spring, 2015)
- Panel Judge: Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students (ACES-UTA, 2014)

COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Board Advisor: Hamro Chahana Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal, (2009-Current).
- Strategic Team Member: Nepal Rising Campaign, Nepal Ko Yuwa, (2015).

PROFESIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member: Amnesty International (AI)
- Member: Council for Social Work Education (CSWE)
- Member: Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)
- Member: Human Development and Capability Approach (HDCA)
- Member: International Institute for Sustainable Development (iisd)
- Golden Key International Honor Society, Inductee, 2010
- Phi Kappa Pi Honor Society, Inductee, 2008
- Phi Alpha Honor Society, Inductee, 2008