Curriculum Vitae

Rebecca A. Seligman, PhD February 2023

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Specializations

Medical and psychological anthropology; culture and mental health; anthropology of psychiatry; embodiment and somatization; chronic and medically unexplained illness; trauma and dissociation; cultural therapeutics; cultural neuroscience; Brazil; U.S.; Mexican diaspora.

Appointments

2015-present	Associate Professor, Anthropology and Global Health, Northwestern University
2008- 2014	Assistant Professor, Anthropology and Global Health, Northwestern University
2006-2008	Dial Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Global Health,
	Northwestern University
2004-2006	Canadian Institute of Health Research Post-Doctoral Fellow, Department of
	Psychiatry, Division of Social and Transcultural Psychiatry, McGill University

Affiliations

2014-present	Science in Human Culture Affiliated Faculty, Northwestern University
2013-present	Latin American and Caribbean Studies Affiliated Faculty, Northwestern University
2012-present	Cognitive Science Affiliated Faculty, Northwestern University
2009-present	Institute for Policy Research, Faculty Fellow

Education

2004	PhD, Emory University, Department of Anthropology
2002	Certificate, Transcultural Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, McGill University
2001	MA, Emory University, Department of Anthropology,
1995	BA, Anthropology, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY, summa cum laude

Publications

Books:

In Preparation **Seligman, R.** Somatic Selves: Culture, Illness, and the Mind-Body. Book proposal in preparation. To be submitted to Duke, Cambridge, and Cornell Presses.

- 2015 Chiao, J., R. Turner, S. Li, and **R. Seligman** Editors, Oxford Handbook of Cultural Neuroscience. Oxford University Press.
- 2014 **Seligman, R.** Possessing Spirits and Healing Selves: Embodiment and Transformation in an Afro-Brazilian Religion. Palgrave/MacMillan, Culture, Mind, and Society Series of the Society for Psychological Anthropology.

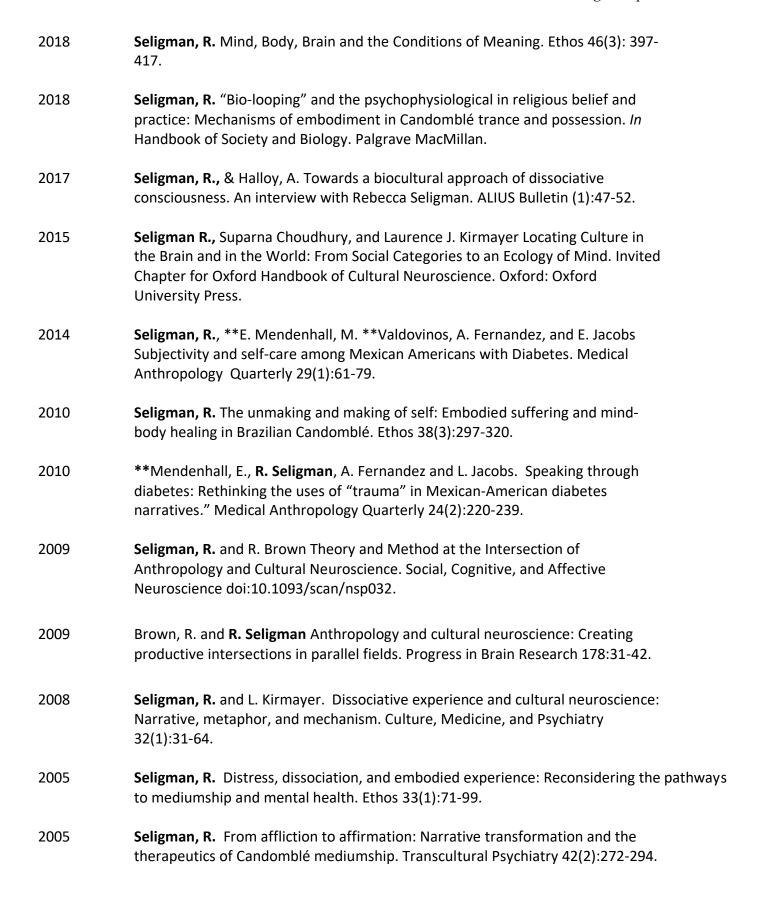
Articles:1

- In Preparation Seligman, R., **Layla Imani Joseph, and Rebecca Ford-Paz. Mental health care for Mexican American adolescents: Integrating the micro- and macrosocial in clinical care. To be submitted to Social Science and Medicine.
- In Preparation Seligman, R. and M. Canna. Biological Systems and the Embodiment of Culture.

 Chapter in Cambridge Handbook of Psychological Anthropology. Edward Lowe,
 Editor.
- In Preparation Canna, Maddalena and R. Seligman Communicative Traps and Feedback Loops: The Social Scaffolding of Embodied Distress. To be Submitted to Social Science and Medicine.
- Under Review Seligman, R. Mothering and Mental Health Care: Moral Sense-Making Among Latinx Mothers of Adolescents in Psychiatric Treatment. Submitted to Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry.
- Accepted Seligman, R. Emotion Regulation Across Disciplines: Anthropology. Handbook of Emotion Regulation (3e). James Gross and Brett Ford, Editors.
- **Seligman, R.** Metaphor and the politics and poetics of youth distress in an evidence-based psychotherapy. *Transcultural Psychiatry*, 13634615211066692.
- Canna, M., **Seligman, R.** & Koroma, M. (2021). How culture breaks down the mind-body divide. An interview with Maddalena Canna and Rebecca Seligman by Matthieu Koroma. ALIUS Bulletin, 5, 12-27.
- **ojalehto, Bethany, Douglas Medin, and **R. Seligman.** Cognition beyond the human: Cognitive psychology and the new animism. Ethos 48(1): 50-73.
- 2020 Canna, M., and **Seligman, R.** Dealing with the Unknown: Functional Neurological Disorders and the Conversion of Cultural Meaning. Social Science and Medicine 246: 112725.

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¹ Starred names indicate student co-authors



2002 Rilling, J. and R. Seligman. A Quantitative morphometric comparative analysis of the primate temporal lobe. Journal of Human Evolution 42(5):505-534.

Book Reviews

- 2017 **Seligman, R.** Mental Disorder, by Nichola Khan. Medical Anthropology Quarterly.
- 2009 **Seligman R.** Mental Health among Taiwanese Americans: Gender, Immigration, and Transnational Struggles, by Chien-Juh Gu. Medical Anthropology Quarterly 23(1):72-74.
- Seligman, R. Religion and the Politics of Ethnic Identity in Bahia Brazil, by Stephen Selka. American Ethnologist 36(4):807-808.

Research Fellowships and Grants

- Buffett Institute Global Catalyst Grant "Remaking Media and Mental Health Across Cultures." **R. Seligman,** Peter Locke, David Tolchinsky Pls. \$60,000.
- Buffett Institute Global Catalyst Grant "Media Representation of Mental Health/Illness." **R. Seligman,** Peter Locke, David Tolchinsky Pls. \$60,000.
- National Science Foundation Senior Scholars Grant. "From Sensations to Symptoms: The Social Shaping of Functional Illness Experience." **R. Seligman, Pl.** \$216,629.
- 2017 WT Grant Foundation Research Grant: "Cultures of Care: Exploring Inequalities in Mental Health Services Among Mexican American Youth." **R. Seligman PI**, R. Ford-Paz Co-PI. \$102,321.
- Northwestern Buffet Center Big Ideas Grant: Medical Cultures and Law. Helen Tilley PI, R. **Seligman, Co-PI**.
- 2016 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant: "The Role of Socioeconomic and Cultural Variation of Neurotrauma Recovery." R. Seligman, Pl. L. Garofalo, Co-Pl.
- 2014 Northwestern Institute for Policy Research Small Grant: "Making Sense of Mental Health Care: Interpretive, Cultural, and Psychosocial Dimensions of Mexican American Adolescent Experiences with Psychiatry." R. Seligman, Pl.

2019-2022	Three-year Institute for Policy Research Faculty Fellowship, Northwestern University.
2016-2019	Three-year Institute for Policy Research Faculty Fellowship, Northwestern University.
2013-2016	Three-year Institute for Policy Research Faculty Fellowship, Northwestern University.
2009-2012	Three-year Institute for Policy Research Faculty Fellowship, Northwestern University.
2011	NIH-funded Research Consortium "International Cultural Neuroscience" Joan Chiao PI, Shinobu Kitayama PI. R. Seligman Key Personnel.
2010	National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant: "Emotion, Stress, and Diabetes" R. Seligman PI , E. Mendenhall Co-PI.
2000-2003	National Institutes of Health, National Research Service Award Fellowship, National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine: "Psychobiology and Mental Health in a Spirit Possession Religion." R. Seligman PI .
2000	National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, Programs in Cultural and Physical Anthropology: "A Call to Mediumship: Social, Psychological, and Psychobiological Predispositions Among Mediums in a Brazilian Spirit Possession Religion." R. Seligman PI .
2000	Emory University Internationalization Fund, Research Grant Award. R. Seligman PI.
1999	Mellon Foundation Summer Research Grant Award. R. Seligman PI.
1997-2003	Four Year Graduate Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, Emory University
1995	Fulbright Institute of International Education (IIE), Grant for Independent Research Abroad: "Calypso and Carnival: A Psychosocial Study of a Trinidadian Mass Ritual." R. Seligman, PI.

Awards and Honors

2019-2020 Northwestern University Associated Student Government Faculty and Administration Honor Roll, Teaching Award

2018-2019	Northwestern University Associated Student Government Faculty and Administration Honor Roll, Teaching Award
2013-2014	Northwestern University Associated Student Government Faculty and Administration Honor Roll, Teaching Award
2003	Charles Hughes Fellowship for best paper, awarded by the Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture: "From Affliction to Affirmation: Narrative Transformation and the Therapeutics of Candomblé Mediumship."
1995	O. Roger Gallagher Memorial Award for Outstanding Student in the field of Anthropology, Skidmore College.
1995	Periclean Honor Society Award for Outstanding Senior Honors Thesis, Skidmore College: "Synthetic Anthropology: A Biocultural Examination of the Trinidadian Carnival."
1995	Phi Beta Kappa

Conferences Organized

- Seligman, R. Conference organizer and Program Chair, Society for Psychological Anthropology Biennial Meeting. Joan B. Kroc Center for Peace Studies, San Diego, California. April 27-30.
- Seligman, R. Co-Organizer, three-day symposium on Media and Mental Health, Co-organized with Pritzker Pucker Studio Lab and Dave Tolchinsky, Peter Locke, and Kate Erskine (Buffett Global Catalyst working group on Media and Mental Health). May 25-27.

Invited Lectures/Presentations

- 2022 **Seligman, R.** Spiritual Sensations: Embodiment in Brazilian Candomblé. Invited lecture, Department of Anthropology, University of California, San Diego. November 7.
- 2022 **Seligman, R.** The Mind-Body Problem in Medicine: From Hysteria to FND, How Meanings Shape Illness Experience. Montgomery Lecture, Center for Medical Humanities and Bioethics, Feinberg School of Medicine. October 13.



2015 Seligman, R. Culture and Mental Health. Invited Lecture for Buffet Center for International Studies, Northwestern University. May 29, 2015. 2015 Seligman, R. Making Sense of Mental Healthcare: Cultural, Political, and Social Dimensions of Psychiatric Treatment among Mexican-American Youth. Invited Lecture for Fay Lomax Cook Colloquium Series, Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University. March 9, 2015. 2014 Seligman, R. Exploring the Social, Political, and Individual Dynamics of Psychiatric Patienthood Among Mexican-American Adolescents. Invited lecture for Community Mental Health Research Unit Grand Rounds at the Jewish General Hospital, Montreal and the Department of Psychiatry, McGill University. October 29, 2014. Montreal, Quebec. 2014 Seligman, R. Possessing Spirits and Healing Selves: Suffering and Self-Transformation in an Afro-Brazilian Religion. Invited Lecture for Department of Anthropology Lecture Series, Western Michigan University. October 9, 2014. Kalamazoo, MI. 2014 Seligman, R. Pathology, Normativity, and Ideologies of Selfhood in Dissociation. Invited Lecture for Department of Anthropology Lecture Series, University of Wisconsin, Madison. September 15, 2014. Madison, WI. 2013 Seligman, R. Locating culture in the brain and in the world: Anthropology meets Cultural Neuroscience. Armour Lecture Series at the Chicago Field Museum, October 16, 2013. 2013 Seligman, R. Locating Culture in the Brain and in the World: From Social Categories to an Ecology of Mind. Invited talk for International Cultural Neuroscience Consortium Conference, Northwestern University May 10-12, 2013. 2012 **Seligman, R.** Social Suffering, Emotional Distress, and Self-care among Mexicans in the United States. IPR Colloquium Series, Northwestern University. February 13, 2012. 2012 **Seligman, R.** Healing the Embodied Self in Candomblé. Presentation for the Clinical Ethnography Workshop, University of Chicago. April 24, 2012. 2011 **Seligman, R.** Spirit possession and dissociation: What they can tell us about self, embodiment, and the construction of mental health and illness. Invited lecture at the Department of Anthropology Colloquium Series, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, March 11 2011.

2011 Seligman, R. Global Mental Health: Issues on a remaining frontier of international health research and intervention. Key-note address at the Global Health Summit, Medical College of Wisconsin, February 11. 2010 Seligman, R. Meeting of the Minds: Intersections of Anthropology and Cultural Neuroscience. Invited lecture at the Center for Culture, Mind, and the Brain seminar series. University of Michigan October 27-28. 2010 Seligman, R. Global Mental Health. Invited lecture presented at the Globemed Summit. Northwestern University, March 5. 2010 Seligman, R. Toward a cultural psychiatry of Dissociation. Presentation for the Clinical Psychology Brownbag series, Northwestern University. April 29. 2009 **Seligman, R.** Meaning in the ecology of emotional distress: Trauma, dissociation, and embodiment in cultural context. Invited paper presented at the International Society for Research on Emotion conference. August 6-9, Leuven, Belgium. 2009 Seligman, R. and R. Brown Community Based Psychophysiology. Presentation at the IPR and C2S Summer Biomarker Institute. June 8-10, Northwestern University. Seligman, R. Culture and Mental Health: Integrating Anthropological and 2008 Psychiatric Perspectives on Dissociation. Presented at the BCICS Faculty and Fellows Colloquium, January 18, Northwestern University. 2008 Seligman, R. Toward a Cultural Psychiatry of Dissociative Experience: Integrating Narrative, Metaphor, and Mechanism. Presented at the Clinical Ethnography Workshop, February 14, University of Chicago. 2007 Seligman, R. Culture and Mental Health. Presented for Cultural Evolution and Health Speaker Series, Sponsored by Department of Psychology, IPR, and C2S, January 8, Northwestern University. 2006 Seligman, R. International Mental Health. Presented at C2S/CICS Workshop on International Dimensions of Social Disparities in Health, October 12,

Conference Panels Organized/Chaired, Panel Discussant

Northwestern University.

2019 Canna, M. and **R. Seligman** Co-Organizers. "Somatic Cultures and Consciousness" panel for the meetings of the American Anthropological Association. Vancouver, CA. November 20-24, 2019.

2019 Seligman, R. Discussant for "Bodily Techniques of Self-Transformation" Panel, SPA Biennial Meeting, April 4-7. Santa Ana Pueblo, NM. Seligman, R. Discussant for "Place, Identity, Trauma and Healing" Panel, AAA 2015 November 19-23. Denver, Colorado. 2013 Seligman, R. and S. Selka Co-Organizers. "The Religious Dynamics of Body, Place, and Subjectivity." Panel for the meeting of the American Anthropological Association. November 20-24, 2013, Chicago, Illinois. 2013 **Seligman, R.** Member, Conference Committee. International Cultural Neuroscience Consortium Conference, Northwestern University May 10-12. 2013 Seligman, R. Session Chair "Cultural Neuroscience of Emotion" and "Enhancing the Culture in Cultural Neuroscience" panels at International Cultural Neuroscience Consortium Conference, Northwestern University May 10-12. 2009 Seligman, R. and R. Lester Co-Organizers and Chairs. "Volition and Self-direction in Subjective Experience, Emotional Distress, and Healing." Panel for the Society for Psychological Anthropology Biennial Meeting. March 27-29, Asilomar, CA. 2008 **Seligman, R.** and KA McKinney Co-Organizers. "Suffering and the Self." Session organized for the joint meetings of the Society for Medical Anthropology and the Society for Applied Anthropology, March 25-29, Memphis, TN. 2005 **Seligman, R.** Organizer and Chair. Religion and Mental Health. Panel for the biennial meeting of the Society for Psychological Anthropology, April 7-10, San Diego.

Conference Presentations

- 2023 **Seligman, R.** Plenary talk "Communicative Traps and Feedback Loops: Using Bateson to Think About Embodied Distress." Biennial Meeting of the Society for Psychological Anthropology. San Diego, California. April 27-30.
- Seligman, R. and M. Canna. Functional Disorders, Conversion, and the Biocultural Emergence of Chronic Illness. Biennial Meeting of the Society for Psychological Anthropology. April 6-10, 2021.
- 2019 **Seligman, R.** Somatic Enculturation, Emotion Regulation and the Body in Child and Adolescent Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, CA. November 20-24, 2019.



2008 **Seligman, R.** Cultural Neuroscience and the Anthropology of Dissociation. Presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings, November 19-23, San Francisco, CA. 2008 Seligman, R. The unmaking and making of self: Embodied suffering and mindbody healing in Brazilian Candomblé. Presented at the joint meetings of the Society for Medical Anthropology and the Society for Applied Anthropology, March 25-29, Memphis, TN. 2008 E. Mendenhall, R. Seligman, A. Fernandez, and L. Jacobs Un Cuento de Coraje: Anger, Depression, and Diabetes in a Chicago Mexican population. Presented at the joint meetings of the Society for Medical Anthropology and the Society for Applied Anthropology, March 25-29, Memphis, TN. 2006 Seligman, R. A Biocultural Perspective on Dissociation: Metaphors and Mechanisms. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Medical Anthropology, March 28-April 4, Vancouver, BC. 2005 **Seligman, R.** A supernatural guide to the self: emotional distress, personal identity, and the Orixas. Presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Psychological Anthropology, April 7-10, San Diego. 2004 **Seligman, R.** Sometimes affliction is a door: a bio-psycho-cultural analysis of the pathways to Candomblé mediumship. Presented at Culture and Mental Health Research Meeting, Institute for Community and Family Psychiatry, Jewish General Hospital, November 5. Montreal, CA. 2003 Seligman, R. From affliction to affirmation: Narrative transformation and the therapeutics of Candomblé mediumship. Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture, October 2-5, Montreal. 2003 Seligman, R. Mediumship and mental health: insights from Brazilian Candomblé. Presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Psychological Anthropology, April 10-13, San Diego. 2003 Seligman, R. Mental health and Spirit Possession Mediumship: biocultural findings from a study of religious participation in northeastern Brazil. Presented at "Building Biocultural Anthropology Conference," Emory University March 5-7, Atlanta. 2002 **Seligman, R.** Mediumship and mental health: preliminary results from a biocultural study in northeastern Brazil. Poster presented at the annual meeting

of the American Anthropological Association, November 19-23, New Orleans.

Briefings

2018 **Seligman, R.** and Rebecca Ford-Paz. Interpretive, Cultural and Psychosocial Dimensions of Latino Adolescent Experience with Psychiatry and Psychotherapy. Briefings for Clinicians at OPS (Study Site) December 7 and 12.

Consultancies and Research Consortiums

2017-2019 **Member,** Northwestern Research Consortium on Latino Health, a consortium of social and health science researchers developing a collaborative research program to better understand and intervene in Latino health disparities. Funded by Northwestern University Grant for Innovation in Diversity and Equity.

2014-2016 **Faculty**, FPR-UCLA-McGill Program in Cultural Psychiatry, a research consortium working to develop innovative mixed-method research methodologies involving ethnography, neuroimaging, and social psychology to explore the complex interactions among social, psychological and neurobiological processes.

2004-2006 **Consultant**, Psychiatric Cultural Consultation Service, Institute for Community and Family Psychiatry, Jewish General Hospital, Montreal. Service provides cultural consultants to work with Doctors in diagnosing and treating immigrant and refugee patients.

2004 **Consultant**, McGill University, Stigma and the Dynamics of Social Exclusion Dr. Laurence Kirmayer and Dr. Duncan Pederson, Pls.

Areas of Teaching

Psychological Anthropology, Medical anthropology, Global Health.

Courses Taught and Curriculum Development

Brain, Body, Culture (ANTH 496): Graduate "bridging" seminar.

Culture and the Brain (ANTH 101): Freshman seminar Mind, Body, and Health (ANTH 485): Graduate seminar

Medical Anthropology (ANTH 315): Upper-level undergraduate course

Psychological Anthropology (ANTH 377): Upper-level undergraduate course

The Nature and Culture of Ritual (ANTH 101): Freshman seminar

International Perspectives on Mental Health (GH 390, now GH 307) Upper-level undergraduate

Gender and Global Health (GH 303): Upper-level undergraduate course

Professional Service

2022-2023 Chair, SPA Biennial Program Committee.

2020-2023 Member, Editorial board of Ethos: Journal of the Society for Psychological

	Anthropology
2022	???
2021	Reviewer for National Science Foundation, Transcultural Psychiatry, Ethos
2020	Reviewer for Transcultural Psychiatry, Ethos, Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry;
	External Reviewer for Tenure Case, Haverford College.
2019	Reviewer for Ethos, National Science Foundation, Identities, Transcultural Psychiatry, Routledge, and Cultural Anthropology
2018	Reviewer for Oxford, WT Grant Foundation, Cultural Anthropology, Social
	Science and Medicine, Ethos
2018	Chair, Condon Student Paper Prize Committee, Society for Psychological
2047	Anthropology
2017	Reviewer for Ethos, Identities, Social Science and Medicine
2017	Program Committee Chair, SPA Biennial Meeting
2014-2018	Elected Member, Board of the Society for Psychological Anthropology
2015-2017	AAA Program Committee Chair, SPA section
2013-2019	Book Reviews Editor, Ethos: Journal of the Society for Psychological
	Anthropology
2015	Reviewer for National Science Foundation, Oxford University Press, Transcultural Psychiatry, Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry and American Ethnologist
2013	Reviewer for National Science Foundation, Ethos, Transcultural Psychiatry,
	Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry and SSHRC
2012	Reviewer for National Science Foundation, Ethos, Culture, Medicine and
	Psychiatry
2011	Reviewer for Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry and Transcultural Psychiatry
2010	Reviewer for National Science Foundation, Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry and
2000	Ethos
2009	Reviewer for National Science Foundation, Journal of Social, Cognitive, Affective
	Neuroscience and Transcultural Psychiatry
2009	Chair, Condon Student Paper Prize Committee, Society for Psychological
	Anthropology, reviewer for Transcultural Psychiatry
2006-2009	Member, Condon Student Paper Prize Committee, Society for Psychological
	Anthropology

Northwestern University Service

2021-2023	Member, Anthropology Department Executive Committee
2021-2022	Member, Science in Human Culture Advisory Board
2020-2021	Chair, Ad Hoc Committee for Tenure and Promotion Case, Weinberg College
2019-present	Associate Chair, Department of Anthropology
2018-19	Member: IPR at Fifty Conference Committee
	Member: Global Health Studies Promotion Committee for Peter Locke
2018	Chair: Anthropology Department Tenure Committee for Adia Benton
-	Member: Global Health Studies Promotion Committee for Noelle Sullivan
_	Member: IPR Seed Grant Committee

-	Member: Anthropology Department Executive Committee
2016-18	Member: Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
2016	Interim Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Anthropology
_	Member: Weinberg College Ad Hoc Tenure Committee
-	Member: Institute for Policy Research and Indigenous Studies Research Initiative
	Search Committee
-	Member: Institute for Policy Research Summer Undergraduate Research
	Assistantship Committee
2015	Member: Search Committee for Medical Anthropology/PAS Assistant Professor
-	Member: Departmental Review Committee for teaching faculty promotion case
2014	Member: Executive Committee, Dept. of Anthropology
-	Member: Undergraduate Honors Committee, Dept. of Anthropology
_	Member: Search Committee for continuing lecturer in Global Health Studies
2013	Member: Executive Committee, Anthropology Department
-	Member: Search Committee, Continuing Lecturer in Global Health
-	Member: Undergraduate Honors Committee, Department of Anthropology
2009	Member, Graduate program committee, Department of Anthropology,
	Northwestern University

2008-present Member, Global Health Curriculum Committee, Northwestern University

Professional Memberships

American Anthropological Association Society for Psychological Anthropology Society for Medical Anthropology Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture

Language Skills

Fluent Portuguese Conversational Spanish French - reading