

MEGAN MAURER

EDUCATION

University of Kentucky	Anthropology	PhD	2017
Kenyon College	Anthropology	BA	2007

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2018 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, The Earth Institute at Columbia University.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020 RAPID: Examining How Access to Green Space Impacts Subjective Well-being during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Grant #2029301. National Science Foundation – Engineering: Environmental Sustainability. \$99,970. Role: co-PI.
- 2014 Dissertation Research Fellowship: Growing Change? Urban Gardening and Citizenship in Southeast Michigan. Grant #8883. Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research. \$6456.
- 2014 Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant: An Anthropological Examination of the Re-ordering of Urban Space in Food Security and Redevelopment Efforts. Grant #1356904. National Science Foundation - Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences. \$11,385.

PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 Nourishing Environments, Caring Cities: Gardening and the Social Reproduction of the Urban Environment in Deindustrial Michigan. *City & Society*. DOI:10.1111/ciso.12347
- 2020 Chickens, Weeds, and the Production of Green Middle-class Identity through Urban Agriculture in Deindustrial Michigan, USA. *Agriculture & Human Values*. <https://doi-org.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/10.1007/s10460-020-10174-x>

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Manuscripts Under Review

- 2020 More than nature: Linkages between well-being and greenspace influenced by a combination of elements of nature and non-nature in a New York City urban park. Co-authored with Lisa Zaval, Ben Orlove, Valeria Moraga, and Patricia Culligan. Under review at *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening*.
- 2020 Fostering interdisciplinary research careers to solve complex sustainability crises. Co-authored with J.N. Hernandez (lead), W. Anderson, A. Bridges, M.P. Fernandez, W. Hansen, E. Nebie, and A. Stock. In revision for *Nature Sustainability*.

Manuscripts in Progress

- 2020 Making Trees Infrastructure: Care, Stewardship, and Maintenance in the Unruly Ecologies of New York City. In preparation for *Environmental Humanities*.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Papers Presented (last 5 years)

- 2019 Governing Urban Natures: Infrastructure, Citizenship and Municipal Ecologies. Aarhus University, Aarhus, DK. "Making trees infrastructure: stewardship, neoliberal governance, and contested ecologies in New York City." December 4–5, 2019.
- 2019 American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting. Vancouver, BC. "Time, Trees, and the Troubling of Green Infrastructural Promise in New York City." November 20–24, 2019.
- 2019 American Ethnological Society, Annual Meeting. St. Louis, MO. "Urban Trees, Urban Futures: Imagining environmental sustainability and 'the good life' in New York City." March 14–16, 2019.
- 2018 Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society, Annual Meeting. Madison, WI. "Hippies and Fuddy-duddies: The Role of Urban Agriculture in Environmental Gentrification." June 13–16, 2018.
- 2017 American Anthropological Association, Annual Meetings. Washington, D.C. "Making habitat for people, plants, and pollinators: Urban vegetable gardening as a practice of care for communities and ecosystems." November 29–December 3, 2017.

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- 2016 American Anthropological Association, Annual Meetings. Minneapolis, MN. “‘To nurture something that nurtures you’: Narratives of care and desires for the future among community gardeners in Michigan.” November 16–20, 2016.
- 2016 American Ethnological Society, Annual Meeting. Washington, D.C. “‘You can see what you’ve done at the end of the day and it’s beautiful’: the search for reconnection in everyday lived environments through gardening and beekeeping.” March 31–April 2, 2016.

Panels Organized

- 2019 American Ethnological Society, Annual Meeting. St. Louis, MO. “Locating Urban Futures: Ethnographic Engagements with Cities and Environments In-the-Making.” (w/ Dr. Kristin Monroe) March 14–16, 2019.
- 2017 American Anthropological Association, Annual Meetings. Washington, D.C. “Planting for a Different Future: Gardens and the Making of New Environmental Subjects.” (w/ Dr. Amy Cox Hall) November 29–December 3, 2017.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2014 Dissertation Enhancement Award, Graduate School, University of Kentucky.
- 2011 Susan Abbott-Jamieson Award, Department of Anthropology, University of Kentucky.
- 2009–2012 Multi-Year Fellowship, Graduate School, University of Kentucky: a competitive award providing three years of full funding, with stipend.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Student Mentorship

- 2021 Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Environmental Sciences, Barnard College. “Wellbeing, Greenspace Accessibility, and Park Visitation Rates in NYC during the Covid-19 Pandemic.” Clio Tai.
- 2020 Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Environmental Sciences, Barnard College. “Perceptions of Nature during the Covid-19 Pandemic.” Olivia Visnic.
- 2020 Master’s student Collaborative Research Grant, Earth Institute, Columbia University. “The Psychology of Winter Park Use and Climate Change Perceptions.” Dan Poniachik.

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2019 Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Sustainable Development, Columbia University.
"Comparing New York City Park User Perceptions with Urban Sustainability
Planning Discourse." Carla Singson.

Teaching Assistant, University of Kentucky, Department of Anthropology

2012 Cultural Diversity in the Modern World. Supervisor: Dr. Renee Bonzani.

2012 Global Dreams and Local Realities (Online). Supervisor: Dr. Sarah Lyon.

Guest Lectures

2019 "The Social and Cultural Impacts of Green Infrastructures" In Green Sustainable
Cities, The Cooper Union, March 28, 2019.

2017 "From Food Justice to Food Sovereignty" In Sustainable Regional Food,
Guilford College, September 18, 2017.

2014 "Fieldwork Gets Personal: Participant Observation and Being a Community-
member" In Theory & Method in Anthropology, Albion College, September 16,
2014.

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

2017–18 Contributing Editor, Anthropology News, Culture & Agriculture section,
American Anthropological Association.

2015–17 Student Representative, Culture & Agriculture section, American
Anthropological Association.

INVITED TALKS

2020 "Making trees infrastructure: stewardship, neoliberal governance, and contested
ecologies in New York City." Science of the Living City Series, NYC Urban Field
Station. March 11, 2020.

2020 "How Nature Impacts Well-being in Urban Green Spaces." Centre for Urban
Environments, University of Toronto-Mississauga. February 26, 2020.

2018 "Making habitat for people, plants, and pollinators: Urban vegetable gardening
as a practice of care for communities and ecosystems." Department of
Anthropology, University of North Carolina-Greensboro. February 6, 2018.

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DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2010 Secretary, Anthropology Graduate Student Association, University of Kentucky.

2009 Distinguished Lecture Series Committee Member, Anthropology Graduate Student Association, University of Kentucky.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

2019–2020 New York, NY, New York City Urban Forestry Taskforce, Research and Assessment Committee.

2009 Lexington, KY, Community Food Security Assessment.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association

Society for Urban, National, and Transnational Anthropology subsection

REFERENCES

Dr. Kristin Monroe, Anthropology, University of Kentucky (PhD Advisor)

Dr. Patricia Culligan, Engineering, Notre Dame University

Dr. Ben Orlove, International and Public Affairs, Columbia University