



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we begin another new semester, I'm excited to share with you some of what our faculty and students have been up to over this past summer. Whether it's launching new research projects, receiving awards and grants, publishing research findings, community engagement, being featured in news media, or achieving major milestones--please join me in celebrating their many accomplishments!

We gathered at Strange Matter for our fall social in early September and had the opportunity to catch up with one another and welcome new members, including two new Consortium social work interns (Christina Cattivera and Meg Petipren) and a new social work doctoral student (Kaytee Gillis). Two additional doctoral students joining us in the Consortium this year are Caitlin Edwards and Lauren Wiklund. We had many members over this past year graduate from their programs or move on to new opportunities outside of MSU and we wish them joy and much success on their new journeys. We are always happy to have new students and faculty join us, so we encourage you to invite others who are interested in SGM health and well-being to reach out and connect. Just have interested folks send me an email at cpfeffer@msu.edu and we'll do the rest. Speaking of new faculty, we're happy to welcome Dr. Ariel Cascio to the Consortium crew this year!

Inside this issue:

- Letter from the Director
- Congratulations
- Community Engagement
- Events
- Publications
- Award/Grant Recipients
- Call for Applications
- Spotlights

Last year, we scheduled many speakers and workshops. This year, we will be more focused on developing our special issue of *Social Science & Medicine* and a new online summer course on SGM Health and Well-Being. We will also be holding our monthly workshopping meetings and offering a series of research awards and seed grants, so be sure to make a note of application due dates for those opportunities. As the leaves begin to turn from deep green to shades of russet, gold, amber, sepia, and scarlet, I hope you're able to take some time to breathe in the cooling air and appreciate all of your own changes, beauty, and growth. I'm wishing you a fun fall semester filled with plenty of coziness, whatever nurtures you, and curiosity.



Congratulations!

stef shuster was awarded a prestigious NSF CAREER grant valued over \$400,000. Dr. shuster was also named Deputy Editor of Gender & Society. They won Honorable Mentions for Best Book Award from the Section on Sociology of the Body and Embodiment and the Section on Medical Sociology Donald W. Light Award of the American Sociological Association. Dr. shuster's book, Trans Medicine, was featured in the American Sociological Association's 2023 Book Forum in Philadelphia.



Robin Lin Miller, along with Dr. Giovanni Dazzo of the University of Georgia have received a \$1.78 million grant from the United States Department of State's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor. This three-year grant will fund their project, Promoting Rights-based Evaluation, which aims to strengthen the use of partner-centered evidence to ensure equitable design, implementation, and evaluation of human rights policies, practices, and programs, with a special focus on realization of LGBTQ and disability human rights objectives.



Congratulations!



The 2023 MSU College of Social Science Outstanding Faculty Award went to Dr. Heather McCauley! Presented annually, this award recognizes a current faculty member in the College of Social Science who takes pride in and is committed to quality teaching and who demonstrates substantial continuing involvement in undergraduate education. Nominations are submitted by chairs and directors with input from current students.

CHEERS!

Jae Puckett received the 2023 Outstanding Service Award from the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies.



Congratulations!



Jax Kynn was the recipient of the Graduate School and COGS (graduate student government), “Disciplinary Leadership Endowment.” The award comes with a \$1,000 stipend to support their research and learning. They also received a Council on Social Work Education Travel Grant.

Carla A. Pfeffer was named a 2023-2024 Big Ten Academic Alliance Leadership Fellow.

Together, Carla A. Pfeffer and Deirdre Shires were awarded a \$15,000 Creating Inclusive Excellence Grant to create a summer online course on Sexual and Gender Minority Health. The course is envisioned as one pathway for creating a more sustainable revenue stream for the Consortium. They will be contacting members of the Consortium for possible pedagogical resource contributions to this online course.



The *Social Science & Medicine* special issue, “Unequal Care: Trans Medicine and Health in Dangerous Times” call for papers received over 80 submissions! The co-editors (stef shuster, Carla A. Pfeffer, and Anna Kirkland) are busy at work and grateful for the remarkable response.



GENDER-AFFIRMATION PROJECT:

Breaking Down Barriers for Trans and Nonbinary Communities

Michigan State University's Trans-ience lab and Allen Neighborhood Center have joined forces to launch the Gender Affirmation Project, aimed at assisting transgender (trans) and nonbinary individuals in overcoming the challenges they face in affirming their gender. The project seeks to address the difficulty of accessing legal name and gender marker changes by offering logistical and financial support.

The program is led by Dr. Jae Puckett, director of the Trans-ience lab and a professor of ecological-community psychology. Dr. Puckett emphasizes the importance of legal gender affirmation for the well-being of trans and nonbinary individuals, as it has been shown to reduce suicidality, depression, anxiety, harassment, and violence.

The Gender Affirmation Project aims to improve access to legal name and gender marker changes, recognizing that identification documents impact various aspects of a person's life. Without updated documents, trans and nonbinary individuals may face difficulties in employment, housing, healthcare, and education.

The project focuses on providing guidance and financial assistance to trans and nonbinary individuals in Ingham County, aged 18 or above, who meet the eligibility criteria and report a financial need. It supports individuals seeking legal name changes, gender marker changes on Michigan state identification or license, and changes to their name and/or gender marker on their birth certificates.

The initiative acknowledges the challenges within the existing systems and aims to make the path toward gender affirmation more accessible. By offering support throughout the process, including form assistance and financial coverage, the Gender Affirmation Project aims to provide a more positive experience for individuals seeking legal gender affirmation.

- [Click here to learn more and donate to support the program!](#)
- Learn more about the research on the importance of legal gender affirmation by visiting the [Trans-ience Facebook page!](#)
- If you're a trans or nonbinary adult living in Ingham County and would like assistance with your legal gender affirmation, you can fill out [this request form to participate](#) in the program.



Coffee with the Consortium!

Over the summer, we offered a series of coffee and coworking events at Strange Matter and via Zoom. These events provided an opportunity for our community to come together, network, maintain summer writing accountability, and collaborate in a casual and supportive environment either in-person or virtually.

The Summer Coffee and Coworking events occurred on:

1. Wednesday, May 24: 10-2 at Strange Matter Coffee
2. Wednesday, June 7: 10-2 on Zoom
3. Wednesday, June 21: 10-2 at Strange Matter Coffee
4. Wednesday, July 5: 10-2 at Strange Matter Coffee
5. Wednesday, July 19: 10-2 on Zoom
6. Wednesday, August 2: 10-2 at Strange Matter Coffee
7. Wednesday, August 16: 10-2 at Strange Matter Coffee



For the in-person events, we gathered at Strange Matter Coffee located at 2010 E Michigan Ave #103, Lansing, MI 48912. It's a cozy and inviting space where we enjoyed quality coffee in a queer-owned and queer-supporting local business while working on our projects and engaging in meaningful conversations.

For those who preferred to join virtually, we set up a Zoom link. This allowed members to participate from the comfort of their own workspaces while connecting with others online.

Whether members attend in person or virtually, these events foster a sense of community, encourage collaboration, and provide a platform for discussion and knowledge sharing. It's a fantastic opportunity to meet fellow researchers, professionals, and advocates in the field of sexual and gender minority health.



NEW PUBLICATIONS

DeJong, Christina, Osborn, Max, & Kaur, Harnour. 2023. Trans panic: The representation of trans women as murder victims in true crime podcasts. In Abbie E. Goldberg, Danielle C. Slakoff, and Carrie L. Buist. *The (Mis)Representation of Queer Lives in True Crime*. Taylor & Francis.

DeMichele, Matthew, Peter Baumgartner, Michael Wenger, Megan Comfort, and Amanda Witwer. 2023. "Where's the Bias: No Evidence of Bias by Sex When Testing the Public Safety Assessment." *Crime & Delinquency*. doi: [10.1177/00111287221130953](https://doi.org/10.1177/00111287221130953).

DuBois, L. Z., Puckett, J. A., Price, S., Kuehn, K., Lash, B., Walker, T., Holt, N., Ralston, Huit, T. Z., A. L., Miles, M., Volk, S., Capannola, A., Tipton, C., Hope, D. A., Mocarski, R., & Juster, R. P. (2023). Transgender and gender diverse people's reflections on sociopolitical events. *Bulletin of Applied Transgender Studies*, 2, 1-26. <https://doi.org/10.57814/sdx3-7y41>

DuBois, L. Zachary, Cindi SturtzSreetharan, Bex MacFife, Jae A. Puckett, Alex Jagielski, Terra Dunn, Taylor Anderson, Debra A. Hope, Richard Mocarski, and Robert-Paul Juster. 2023. "Trans and Gender Diverse People's Experience Wearing Face Masks During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Findings from Data Across 4 States in the USA." *Sexuality Research and Social Policy* 20(3):1072-80. doi: [10.1007/s13178-022-00781-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13178-022-00781-0).

Haimson, Oliver L., and Megh Marathe. 2023. "Uncovering Personal Histories: A Technology-Mediated Approach to Eliciting Reflection on Identity Transitions." *ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction* 30(2):23:1-23:28. doi: [10.1145/3504004](https://doi.org/10.1145/3504004).

Holloway, Brendon, C. Hostetter, Karaya Morris, Jax Kynn, and Maximillion Kilby. 2023. "We're All We Have': Envisioning the Future of Mutual Aid from Queer and Trans Perspectives." *The Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare* 50(1). doi: [10.15453/0191-5096.4693](https://doi.org/10.15453/0191-5096.4693).

Kattari, Leonardo. 2023. "Civic Education's Role in Advancing Health Equity for LGBTQIA2S+ Youth." *Health Promotion Practice* 24(1):59-61. doi: [10.1177/15248399221129887](https://doi.org/10.1177/15248399221129887).

Kattari, Leonardo, Danielle R. Brittain, and Virginia Visconti. 2023. "HPP Call to Action for LGBTQIA2S+ Health Equity." *Health Promotion Practice* 24(3):385-86. doi: [10.1177/15248399231157334](https://doi.org/10.1177/15248399231157334).



NEW PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

Kattari, Leonardo, and Kaston D. Anderson-Carpenter. 2023. "Effects of Psychological Distress and Life Satisfaction on COVID-Related Traumatic Stress: An International, Cross-Sectional Study." *Journal of Affective Disorders* 328:222–27. doi: [10.1016/j.jad.2023.02.052](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2023.02.052).

McCauley, Heather L., Reid, Taylor A., Anderson, Raeann E., Ast, Roxanna., Zelazny, Sarah, & Miller, Elizabeth. 2023. "Contextualizing Cisgender Women's Histories of Intimate Partner Violence Victimization with Men and Women." *Violence Against Women*, Accepted In Press Manuscript.

Osuna, Amanda Isabel, Krystal Garcia, Seth Wyatt Fallik, and Taylor Markevitch. 2023. "Victimization in Juvenile Sexual Assault Legislation: A Critical Content Analysis of State Laws in the United States of America." *Youth Justice* doi: [10.1177/14732254231167339](https://doi.org/10.1177/14732254231167339).

Park, Kiwoong, and Ning Hsieh. 2023. "A National Study on Religiosity and Suicide Risk by Sexual Orientation." *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 64(2):235–43. doi: [10.1016/j.amepre.2022.08.020](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amepre.2022.08.020).

Park, In Young, N. Eugene Walls, Brittanie Atteberry-Ash, and Leo Kattari. 2023. "Trusted Adults as a Protective Factor for Bullying and Suicide Attempts Among Youth Across Differences in Race, Sexual Orientation, and Gender Identity." *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research* 14(2):313–36. doi: [10.1086/716241](https://doi.org/10.1086/716241).

Pearce, Ruth, Hines, Sally, Pfeffer, Carla A., Riggs, Damien W., Ruspini, Elisabetta, and White, Francis R. 2023. "Giving Birth as a Father: Experiences of Trans Birthing Parents." In Jules Gill-Peterson (Ed.), *The Conversation on Gender Diversity* (chapter 30). Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press. <https://www.press.jhu.edu/books/title/33265/conversation-gender-diversity>

Pfeffer, Carla A., Hines, Sally, Pearce, Ruth, Riggs, Damien W., Ruspini, Elisabetta, and White, Francis Ray. 2023. "Medical Uncertainty and Reproduction of the 'Normal': Decision-Making around Testosterone Therapy in Transgender Pregnancy." *SSM – Qualitative Research in Health*, 4. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmqr.2023.100297>

Phillips, Gregory, Dylan Felt, Esrea Perez-Bill, Megan M. Ruprecht, Erik Elías Glenn, Peter Lindeman, and Robin Lin Miller. 2023. "Transforming the Paradigm for LGBTQ+ Evaluation: Advancing a Praxis of LGBTQ+ Inclusion and Liberation in Evaluation." *American Journal of Evaluation* 44(1):7–28. doi: [10.1177/10982140211067206](https://doi.org/10.1177/10982140211067206).



NEW PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

Prieto, Lucas R., Deirdre A. Shires, Leonardo Kattari, Ishaan K. Modi, Brayden A. Misiolk, and Shanna K. Kattari. 2023. "Secondary Analysis of the Michigan Transgender Health Survey Examining HIV and STI Screening Use Among Transmasculine Individuals." *Annals of LGBTQ Public and Population Health* 4(1):14–25. doi: [10.1891/LGBTQ-2021-0025](https://doi.org/10.1891/LGBTQ-2021-0025).

Puckett, J. A., Aboussouan, A. B., Ralston, A. L., Mustanski, B., & Newcomb, M. E. 2023. Systems of cissexism and the daily production of stress for transgender and gender diverse people. *International Journal of Transgender Health*, 24, 113-126. DOI: [10.1080/26895269.2021.1937437](https://doi.org/10.1080/26895269.2021.1937437)

Puckett, Jae A., Christina Dyar, Meredith R. Maroney, Brian Mustanski, and Michael E. Newcomb. 2023. "Daily Experiences of Minority Stress and Mental Health in Transgender and Gender-Diverse Individuals." *Journal of Psychopathology and Clinical Science* 132(3):340–50. doi: [10.1037/abn0000814](https://doi.org/10.1037/abn0000814).

Puckett, Jae A., Cindy B. Veldhuis, Paul A. Gilbert, Kaston D. Anderson-Carpenter, Brian Mustanski, and Michael E. Newcomb. 2023. "Differential Associations between Enacted and Expected Stigma with Psychological Distress, Alcohol Use, and Substance Use in Transgender and Gender Diverse People." *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 248:109921. doi: [10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2023.109921](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2023.109921).

Puckett, J. A., Kimball, D., Glozier, W. K., Wertz, M., Dunn, T., Lash, B. R., Ralston, A. L., Holt, N. R., Huit, T. Z., Volk, S. A., Hope, D., Mocarski, R., & DuBois, L. Z. 2023. Transgender and gender diverse clients' experiences in therapy: Responses to sociopolitical events and helpful and unhelpful experiences. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 54(4), 265–274. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pro0000513>

Puckett, Jae A., Cindy B. Veldhuis, Paul A. Gilbert, Kaston D. Anderson-Carpenter, Brian Mustanski, and Michael E. Newcomb. 2023. "Differential Associations between Enacted and Expected Stigma with Psychological Distress, Alcohol Use, and Substance Use in Transgender and Gender Diverse People." *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 248:109921. doi: [10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2023.109921](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2023.109921).

Puckett, Jae A., Lauren O. Wiklund, Courtney Louis, Connor Gallik, Linden Brown-Wren, Henry Chu, Julia Rodriguez, Nokuphiwa S. Langeni, and Elliott Strong. 2023. "Clinical Practice with Transgender and Gender Diverse Clients: Setting up an Inclusive Practice and Training Considerations." *Practice Innovations*. doi: [10.1037/pri0000209](https://doi.org/10.1037/pri0000209).



NEW PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

Reid, Taylor A., Jax Kynn, Joanne P. Smith-Darden, and Heather L. McCauley. 2023. "Resilience in the Context of Sexual Violence: A Scoping Review." *Journal of Family Violence*. doi: [10.1007/s10896-023-00571-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-023-00571-1).

Riggs, Damien W., Hines, Sally, Pearce, Ruth, Pfeffer, Carla A., & White, Francis R. 2023. 'Spunkles', Uncles, and Fathers: Transmasculine People's Accounts of Sperm Donors and Their Relationships to Children." In Fiona Kelly, Deborah Dempsey, & Adrienne Byrt (eds.), *Donor-linked Families in the Digital Age: Relatedness and Regulation* (chapter 11). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. <https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/donorlinked-families-in-the-digital-age/8912A01A159499DAC8034CFDC03FF844>

Riggs, Damien W., Pearce, Ruth, Hines, Sally, Pfeffer, Carla A., and White, Francis Ray. 2023. "Whiteness in Research on Trans/Masculine and Non-Binary People and Reproduction: Two Parallel Stories." In Rikke Andreassen, Catrin Lundström, Suvi Keskinen, and Shirley Anne Tate (eds.), *The Routledge International Handbook of New Critical Race and Whiteness Studies* (pp. 339-349). Abingdon, UK: Routledge. <https://www.routledge.com/The-Routledge-International-Handbook-of-New-Critical-Race-and-Whiteness/Andreassen-Lundstrom-Keskinen-Tate/p/book/9780367637699>

Rogers, Ethan M., Andrew T. Krajewski, and Stef M. Shuster. 2023. "The Disproportionate Mental Health Burden Among Incarcerated Transgender and Gender Diverse People." *Journal of Correctional Health Care* 29(1):39-46. doi: [10.1089/jchc.21.10.0109](https://doi.org/10.1089/jchc.21.10.0109).

Shires, Deirdre A., Luisa Kcomt, Leonardo Kattari, Meghan Liroff, and Rachel Lee. 2023. "Emergency Clinicians' Comfort Levels in Caring for Transgender Patients." *Transgender Health* 8(3):246-53. doi: [10.1089/trgh.2021.0031](https://doi.org/10.1089/trgh.2021.0031).



CONSORTIUM RESEARCH AWARD AND SEED GRANT RECIPIENTS



Faculty Research Award

Jae Puckett

Assistant Professor

Department of Psychology, College of Social Science

**Paper Title: Transgender and Gender Diverse
Individuals' Daily Experiences of Rumination**



Faculty Seed Grant Recipient

Megh Marathe

Assistant Professor

Department of Media and Information,
College of Communication Arts and Sciences

**Center for Bioethics & Social Justice,
College of Human Medicine**

**Project Title: Engineering Inclusion: Representing Diverse
Genders in Data Systems**



Faculty Seed Grant Recipient

Ning Hsieh

Associate Professor

Department of Sociology, College of Social Science

**Project Title: Health Disparities among Sexual
Minority Older Adults**



Faculty Seed Grant Recipient

Andrea Kelley

Assistant Professor

Lyman Briggs College

**Project Title: Trans and Gender Diverse Navigation of
Medical Education and Residency**



CONSORTIUM RESEARCH AWAD AND SEED GRANT RECIPIENTS



Student Research Award

Caitlin Edwards

Human Development and Family Studies, College of Social Science

Project Title: Cultural Adaptation of Emotionally Focused Therapy (EFT) for LGBTQ+ Romantic Relationships



Student Seed Grant Recipient

Lauren Wiklund

Department of Psychology, College of Social Science

Project Title: Sexual Well-Being Among Queer Women of Color



Student Seed Grant Recipient

Leo Kattari

School of Social Work, College of Social Science

Project Title: Motivators for Transgender and Gender Diverse Related Activism and Policy Action in the United States



Student Seed Grant Recipient

Yuan Xiong

School of Social Work, College of Social Science

Project Title: A Qualitative Study of Social Determinants of Health among Transgender and Gender Nonconforming People in China





CONSORTIUM FOR
**SEXUAL & GENDER
MINORITY HEALTH**

\$1,500 Faculty and Graduate Student Research Awards

Applications due November 1, 2023

The Michigan State University Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health is comprised of faculty and graduate students from the Colleges of Social Science, Education, Communication Arts and Sciences, Lyman Briggs, Human Medicine, and Arts and Letters. Our members study sexual and gender minority physical and mental health with a focus on minority stress, the life course perspective, and intersectionality, using social ecological approaches. The MSU Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health is dedicated to supporting the overall wellbeing and health of LGBTQIA+ individuals across the lifespan. Grounded in the social sciences, we promote interdisciplinary SGM health research and collaborations that are vital to SGM communities. We provide mentorship and training to faculty and graduate students across and beyond MSU, engage with community stakeholders, and develop evidence-based strategies for promoting systemic change, social justice, and SGM health and wellness locally, nationally, and internationally. The Consortium serves as a coordinating resource for social science research in SGM health and aims to establish the College of Social Science at MSU as a national leader in SGM health research.

The Fall 2023 Research Award will provide \$1,500 awards to one current faculty member and one current MSU graduate student in any program, department, or school, to recognize scholarship on SGM health that reflects and/or advances the mission and aims of the Consortium. Submissions will be evaluated on their rigor and innovation and potential impact on SGM health.

To be considered for this award, please send an email with a PDF attachment of your first- or single- author publication, conference paper, or completed thesis/dissertation along with a cover letter explaining how this work contributes to the field and your role in the study (for collaborative projects) to Carla A. Pfeffer (cpfeffer@msu.edu), Director of the Consortium for SGM Health, no later than November 1, 2023. Any work completed or published in the past year is eligible for submission. Self-nominations are accepted and encouraged. No letter of nomination is required for the submission to be considered. Submissions will be evaluated by members of the Consortium for SGM Health faculty. The winner will be announced in December and will be expected to provide a photo/headshot and write a brief statement about their work, which may be featured in listserv, newsletter, and website spotlights. *Note to students:* this award may impact your financial aid, please check before submitting a proposal.





CONSORTIUM FOR SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY HEALTH

\$2500 Faculty and Graduate Student Seed Grants

Proposals due November 01, 2023

The Michigan State University Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health is comprised of faculty and graduate students from the Colleges of Social Science, Education, Communication Arts and Sciences, Lyman Briggs, Human Medicine, and Arts and Letters. Our members study sexual and gender minority physical and mental health with a focus on minority stress, the life course perspective, and intersectionality, using social ecological approaches. The MSU Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health is dedicated to supporting the overall wellbeing and health of LGBTQIA+ individuals across the lifespan. Grounded in the social sciences, we promote interdisciplinary SGM health research and collaborations that are vital to SGM communities. We provide mentorship and training to faculty and graduate students across and beyond MSU, engage with community stakeholders, and develop evidence-based strategies for promoting systemic change, social justice, and SGM health and wellness locally, nationally, and internationally. The Consortium serves as a coordinating resource for social science research in SGM health and aims to establish the College of Social Science at MSU as a national leader in SGM health research.

The Fall 2023 MSU Consortium for SGM Health Seed Grant will provide \$2,500 to a current MSU faculty member or graduate student in any program, department, or school (one faculty award and one graduate student award), to help fund the initiation or continuation of a research project on SGM health that reflects and/or advances the mission and aims of the Consortium. Submissions will be evaluated on their rigor and innovation, potential to advance the scholar's research agenda, and impact on SGM health.

To apply, please send an email with 1) a 3-page PDF attachment of your research proposal (including background, methods, contribution to your scholarship, potential implications and long term goals of the project, and for projects involving collaborations – a description of the role of each applicant); 2) an itemized budget that includes research expenses (e.g., participant payments, equipment, software, transcription and/or translation, editing); and 3) a detailed research completion timeline, to Carla A. Pfeffer (cpfeffer@msu.edu), Director of the Consortium for SGM Health, no later than November 01, 2023. The winner(s) will be announced in December and will be expected to provide a photo/headshot and write a brief statement about their work, which may be featured in listserv, newsletter, and website spotlights. *Note to students:* this award may impact your financial aid, please check before submitting a proposal.



SPOTLIGHTS

Faculty Spotlight:

Congratulations to Consortium Faculty
stef shuster and Deirdre Shires!



stef shuster
(they/them)
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology



Deirdre Shires
(she/they)
Associate Professor
School of Social Work

**Dr. stef shuster was tenured and promoted to
Associate Professor of Sociology!**

**Dr. Deirdre Shires was tenured and promoted to
Associate Professor of Social Work!**



Invited Talks and Presentations:

Jae Puckett delivered an invited webinar on “Resilience and Coping in Transgender and Gender Diverse Clients” for the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies.

Carla A. Pfeffer will deliver an invited talk on “Transgender Reproductive Health and Justice” for the Duke Sexual and Gender Minority Wellness Symposium. She also delivered talks on biosociology and on domestic violence against transgender and nonbinary people at the American Sociological Association in Philadelphia.



SPOTLIGHTS

WELCOME

New Member: Dr. Ariel Cascio



Dr. Ariel Cascio (ithey/she) is an anthropologist and Assistant Professor in the Center for Bioethics and Social Justice. They undertook training in neuroethics and pragmatic health ethics at the Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal. Their research focuses on social and ethical issues around autism, cognitive difference and disability, and neurodiversity in Europe and North America, with a particular focus on Italy. Dr. Cascio's research projects largely center around the questions "what does autism mean?" and "how do groups account for the neurological diversity of their members?" They also conduct research in medical education and uncertainty in medicine and support student endeavors in the medical humanities. This research has been funded, in part, by the U.S.-Italy Binational Fulbright Commission, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship Program, and the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research.



SPOTLIGHTS

New Member: Kaytee Gillis



Welcome

Kaytee Gillis (she/her) is a psychotherapist, writer, consultant, and author with a passion for working with survivors of family trauma and relationship trauma. Her clinical work focuses on assisting survivors of psychological abuse in families and relationships. She has worked in the area of family trauma for over a decade, assisting clients with recovery from childhood trauma, psychological abuse, and CPTSD.

Her research interests include intimate partner violence, particularly within the LGBTQ community, and the legal system's inability to protect victims. She provides trainings nationally on the areas of intimate partner violence and family trauma. She has a regular blog on Psychology Today, Invisible Bruises, where she posts in support of relational trauma survivors.



SPOTLIGHTS

New Member: Caitlin Edwards



Welcome

Caitlin Edwards (they/she) is a doctoral candidate in the Couple and Family Therapy track in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies. Caitlin's research interests lie in cultural adaption of attachment-based couple and family therapies, processes in Emotionally Focused Therapy (EFT), and integration of LGBTQIA+ populations into therapeutic research. Their interests have led them to research the unique attachment experiences of lesbian women, how couples in therapy experience hope for their relationship, the association between attachment and hope, how therapists make cultural adaptations when using EFT, the development of an adherence measure for Emotionally Focused Individual Therapy (EFIT), and the first systematic documentation of how EFT therapists adapt the model to account for the unique lived experiences of LGBTQ + individuals.

They are currently involved in a community engaged research projects with Michigan PMTO, examining the substance use of bisexual individuals in a nationally representative sample, and using theater testing to document how the lived experiences of sexual and gender minority clients influence their experiences of EFT. Caitlin's research draws heavily from attachment theory and queer theory, with a feminist framework of values, attention to diversity, and desire for social change.



SPOTLIGHTS

New Member: Christina Cattivera

**WELCOME ✨
to the TEAM**



Christina (she/her) is a current MSW student in the Organization and Community Leadership concentration. She received her Bachelor's of Science from MSU in Human Biology in 2022. She is a graduate intern for the Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health. Her research interests focus on healthcare disparities impacting marginalized communities, with an emphasis on SGM populations. Christina is also a Research Assistant with the Kinship Care Resource Center.



SPOTLIGHTS

New Member: Lauren Wiklund



Lauren Wiklund (she/her) is a PhD candidate in Clinical Science at Michigan State University. Her research and clinical work focuses on amplifying the strengths and resilience within communities that are marginalized by race, gender, and sexuality to empower folks to lead healthy and joyful lives. As an intersectional scholar she is committed to increasing access and equity in healthcare through research, advocacy, and creating spaces for healing. She is currently completing her clinical internship at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine.

welcome!



SPOTLIGHTS

Welcome

New Member: Meg Petipren



Meg Petipren is a first-year Master's student in Social work, with an intended focus on Organizational and Community Leadership. Currently, they are serving as an intern at the Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health. Whilst at the Consortium they plan to assist with research surrounding the LGBTQIA+ community, as well as community event planning, and social media. They hope to take the skills and knowledge that they gain here to aid them in their post-graduation goals of policy advocacy work to develop better policies and laws impacting the LGBTQIA+ community. As well as finding ways to bring more queer-friendly resources to rural communities.



SPOTLIGHTS

Pat Arnold Feature: Staff Voice: Supporting LGBTQIA2S+ belonging

In an MSU Today article, Pat Arnold, an academic specialist at Michigan State University and Consortium member, who has been actively promoting LGBTQIA2S+ education and advocacy was featured. Pat has played a key role in creating LGBTQ studies courses, organizing conferences, and driving positive change within the university. They are dedicated to supporting LGBTQIA2S+ students and improving representation in various fields.



Pat's research shows the positive impact of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion-focused courses on student well-being and academic success. Looking ahead, there are plans to expand the LGBTQ and Sexuality Studies program with more inclusive courses, internships, and education abroad opportunities.

The community is also coming together to support the Gender and Sexuality Campus Center's Unconditional Love Fund, providing assistance to students in need.

The update emphasizes the university's commitment to supporting LGBTQIA2S+ Spartans and highlights the achievements of former students in making a difference in their respective fields.



Member Transitions and New Adventures

- Sam Safford left MSU Sociology in Fall 2023 for the PhD program in Sociology at Cornell University.
- Drew Kirks-Cler left MSU Sociology in Fall 2023 for the PhD program in Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.
- Amanda Osuna completed her PhD in Criminal Justice at MSU and accepted a tenure-track faculty position as Assistant Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Tampa beginning in Fall 2023.
- Taylor Reid completed her PhD in Human Development and Family Studies at MSU and accepted a position as a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University beginning Fall 2023.



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- Congratulations to Jax Kynn, who successfully completed their comprehensive exam in the School of Social Work. Jax was also accepted into the MSU Graduate Certificate Program in Community Engagement.
 - Congratulations to Leo Kattari, who will be defending their dissertation in October and has accepted a tenure-track faculty position as Assistant Professor of Social Work at the University of Michigan Dearborn that will begin in 2024.



Consortium Faculty



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School of Social Work



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Director, Consortium for
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Fellow
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CONSORTIUM FOR
**SEXUAL & GENDER
MINORITY HEALTH**



Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health Newsletter

Summer/Fall 2023

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Graduate student
Master of Public Health



Lamia Bagasrawala
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Graduate student
College of Education



Kalei Glozier (he/him)

PhD student
Clinical Science



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(she/her/hers)

PhD student
Department of Human
Development and Family
Studies



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Justice



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Writing, Rhetoric, and
American Cultures



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III** (he/him/his)

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Lauren Wiklund (she/her)
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Kaytee Gillis (she/her)
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Christina Cattivera (she/her)
MSW student
School of Social Work



Meg Petipren (they/them)
MSW student
School of Social Work



College of Social Science
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



School of Social Work
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Rescheduling for Spring 2024: Date/Time/Place TBA

EXPLORING THE NARRATIVES BEYOND THE NUMBERS: EXPERIENCES OF SYSTEMS IMPACTED LGBTQ+ YOUTH OF COLOR

Dr. Sarah Mountz
(she/her/hers), Associate
Professor, SUNY Albany's
School of Social Welfare



Talk Description

Research has shown that LGBTQ+ youth are overrepresented in the foster care and juvenile justice systems, as well as among homeless youth populations. Within these contexts, LGBTQ+ youth also experience disparate treatment and outcomes when compared to their heterosexual and cisgender peers. This is particularly true for multiply marginalized youth such as LGBTQ+ youth of color, as well as for transgender and nonbinary youth. This presentation will share findings from two Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) studies that use qualitative interviewing and photovoice methodology to illuminate the experiences and amplify the voices of systems impacted LGBTQ+ youth and young adults of color, and share strategies for affirming, trauma informed, and healing centered practice, programming, and research.

About **Sarah Mountz**

Dr. Mountz's research, teaching, and practice focus on the experiences of LGBTQ+ youth in child welfare and juvenile justice systems using an intersectional lens. She is particularly interested in LGBTQ+, systems impacted, and other youth activism and organizing, and issues of educational access for youth and young adults with foster care experience. Dr. Mountz was a caseworker in a congregate foster care facility for LGBTQ youth.



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Our goal at the MSU Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) Health is to create a world where all sexual and gender minority communities thrive. Your funds will help promote the wellbeing of sexual and gender minorities across the lifespan by supporting Consortium faculty and students as they engage in research, teaching, and community collaborations related to SGM health issues.

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