

# Christopher Michael Whitsel

Work:

Department of Sociology, North Dakota State University, Minard Hall 428

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Home:

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## Research and Teaching Interests

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- Global Stratification
- Post-Socialist Transition
- Sociology of Education
- Research Methods (Quantitative, Qualitative)
- Central Eurasia
- Civil Society/ Democratization
- Development

## Research Languages

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Tajik

Uzbek

Russian

## Positions Held

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2009- present

**Assistant-/Associate-/ Professor of Sociology**

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

North Dakota State University

2021- present

**Adjunct Instructor: “Design Thinking Course”**

Education and Innovation M.A. Program

Webster University, Tashkent, Uzbekistan Campus

2018-2021

**Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology**

North Dakota State University

Duties include:

- Managing departmental response to the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Managing department personnel, including ongoing searches for faculty, committee work, attention to interpersonal conflict, and mentoring faculty at all levels
- Teach one course per semester for the department
- Overseeing curricular offerings, including online GP IDEA program
- Overseeing department budgets and allocating resources in a transparent manner
- Consulting with the faculty in the administration of the department
- Completing annual evaluations of faculty for Promotion and Tenure
- Coordinating and submitting annual assessment reports
- Attending relevant meetings with Dean, Provost, and other campus administrators and committees
- Establishing goals for the department through consensus building
- Promoting the Department of Sociology and Anthropology

- 2014-2015      **Department Coordinator, Department of Sociology & Anthropology**  
 Nazarbayev University, Astana, Kazakhstan  
 Duties include:
- Organizing and presiding at department meetings.
  - Facilitating the creation of a department committee system.
  - Facilitating information requests from the Dean’s Office.
  - Providing liaison and information to the Dean’s Office.
  - Working with Section Heads to produce course schedules for various semesters.
  - Coordinating department-wide recruitment and hiring efforts.
  - Coordinating department-wide student advising efforts.
  - Ensuring proper department representation on School-wide committees.
- 2013-2015      **Associate Professor of Sociology**  
 Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
 Nazarbayev University, Astana, Kazakhstan
- 2003-2009      **Associate Instructor**  
 Sociology Department  
 Indiana University
- 2008            **Adjunct Professor** (*Introduction to Sociology*)  
 Butler University
- 2006            **Adjunct Instructor** (*Introduction to Sociology*)  
 Ivy Tech Community College, Columbus Region
- 2006            **Adjunct Instructor** (*Introduction to Sociology*)  
 Indiana University Purdue University Columbus
- 1999-2001      **English Instructor**  
 International Business School, “Kelajak Ilmi,” Tashkent, Uzbekistan

**Education**

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- 2009            **PhD. Sociology**  
 Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana  
 Minor: Central Eurasian Studies  
 Dissertation: “Growing Inequality: Post-Soviet Transition and Educational Participation in Tajikistan”
- 2006            **M.A. Central Eurasian Studies**  
 Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana
- 2004            **M.A. Sociology**  
 Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

1998

**B.A. Social Science**

Bethel College, Mishawaka Indiana

Graduated Magna Cum Laude

**Courses Taught:**

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Undergraduate:

*Social Research Methods* (Asynchronous Online and in-person)  
*Social Research Methods Lab* (SPSS instruction) (Asynchronous Online and in-person)  
*Quantitative Methods in Social Science* (Excel and STATA instruction)  
*Qualitative Methods*  
*Global Social Problems* (Asynchronous Online and in-person)  
*Cultural Diversity* (Asynchronous Online)  
*Global Service Seminar: Costa Rica* (Study Abroad Course)  
*Introduction to Sociology*  
*Social Problems and Issues: Global Society*  
*Senior Capstone*  
*Conversational Fluency*  
*American Culture*

Combined undergraduate/ graduate seminars:

*Sociology of Education*  
*Social Inequality*  
*International Development and Global Inequality*  
*Contemporary Society in Central Asia*  
*Conquerors, Communists, and Presidents-for-Life: An Introduction to Central Asia*  
Co-taught with historian colleague

Graduate:

*Qualitative Research Methods*  
*Advanced Qualitative Analysis*  
*Design Thinking* (Synchronous Online and Hybrid)

**Publications**

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Web of Science ID: ABA-4801-2020

**Articles:**

Whitsel, Christopher M and Martha Merrill. (2021) "Towards Building a Culturally-Informed Consent Process in Central Asia" at *Central Asian Survey*

<https://doi.org/10.1080/02634937.2021.1898338>

Sarah K. Anderson , Brittany D. Hagen , Kayla D. Smith , **Christopher Whitsel** & Stacy Duffield. (2020). "Multiple Measures of Student Learning: A Case Study Examination of Completer Impact" *Action in Teacher Education*

<https://doi.org/10.1080/01626620.2020.1842820>

Whitsel, Christopher M. & Barbara Junisbai, Azamat Junisbai. (2019). "Polarization during Institutional Decline: Variation in Educational Attainment in Post-Soviet Central Asia in 1991-2006" *European Education* 51: 186-211.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/10564934.2019.1601020>

Anderson, S.K., Hagen, B. D., **Whitsel, C. M.**, Dulski-Bucholz, A. L, Smith, K. D., & Willeson, A. M. (2019). "Leveraging case study research: A mechanism for measuring teaching effectiveness." *Mid-Western Educational Researcher* 31: 1-43.

<https://www.mwera.org/MWER/volumes/v31/issue1/V31n1-Anderson-FEATURE-ARTICLE.pdf>

Whitsel, Christopher M. 2014. "Parental Choices in the Educational Market in Dushanbe, Tajikistan" *European Education: Issues and Studies* 46:53-73.

<https://doi.org/10.2753/EUE1056-4934460203>

Whitsel, Christopher M. & Kate Lapham. 2014. "Increasing Programme Effectiveness through Parent Empowerment: The Getting Ready for School Project in Tajikistan" *International Journal of Early Years Education* 22:105-116.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/09669760.2013.809658>

Whitsel, Christopher M. & Shodibek Qodirov. 2013. "Выйти Из Тени: Как Родители Помогают Инклюзивному Образованию В Таджикистане (Out of the Shadows: how parents help inclusive education in Tajikistan)" *Журнал Исследований Социальной Политики* (Journal of Social Policy Studies) 11:471-482.

<http://jsps.hse.ru/2013-11-4/107165009.html>

Mudzongo, Courage & Whitsel, Christopher. 2013. "Determinants Of Child Labor In Malawi And Tanzania" *Journal of Community Positive Practices*, 13: 3-24.

<http://www.jppc.ro/reviste/JCPP%20Nr.%203%202013/articole/art01.pdf>

Whitsel, Christopher M. 2012. "Sex, Urban/Rural, and Minority Differences in Educational Attainment in Soviet and Post-Soviet Tajikistan." *International Studies of Sociology of Education* 22:19-39.

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09620214.2012.680323#.VFkRPPmUfJQ>

Whitsel, Christopher M. 2011. "Compulsory Policy Change and Divergence in Educational Attainment in Four Former-Soviet Republics" *European Education: Issues and Studies* 43:56-75.

<http://mesharpe.metapress.com/content/131671x4668v6856/?genre=article&id=doi%3a10.2753%2fEUE1056-4934430104>

Whitsel, Christopher M. 2011. "Counting Costs: The Effects of Informal Costs and Corruption on Educational Attainment in Tajikistan" *Problems of Post-Communism* 58:28-38.

<http://mesharpe.metapress.com/content/y46w5310tj64332m/>

Whitsel, Christopher M. & Weeda Mehran. 2010. "School, Work and Community-Level Differences in Afghanistan and Tajikistan: Divergence in Secondary School Enrollment of Youth" *Central Asian Survey* 29:501-519

[http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/02634937.2010.533973#.VFkSJ\\_mUfJQ](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/02634937.2010.533973#.VFkSJ_mUfJQ)

Whitsel, Christopher M. 2009. "Family Resources, Sitting at Home, and Democratic Choice: Investigating Determinants of Educational Attainment in Tajikistan" *Central Asian Survey* 28:29-41.

[http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02634930902771516#.VFkSq\\_mUfJQ](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02634930902771516#.VFkSq_mUfJQ)

### **Book Chapters:**

Whitsel, Christopher M. (2020) "Parents' Perspectives on the Educational Market in Central Asia" *Globalization on the Margins: Education and Post-socialist Transformations in Central Asia* 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Iveta Silova and Sarfaroz Niyozov editors. Information Age Publishing: Charlotte: N.C. (pgs. 293-314).

Martha Merrill and Christopher M. Whitsel. 2017. "Intercultural Barriers of Intuition Research Boards" *Reimagining Utopias: Theory and Method for Educational Research in Post-Socialist Contexts*. Iveta Silova, Noah W. Sobe, Alla Korzh & Serhiy Kovalchuk, Eds. Sense Publishers: Rotterdam, The Netherlands. (pgs.141-161) [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-6351-011-0\\_9](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-6351-011-0_9)

Whitsel, Christopher M. 2017. "Missing Pieces: Factors Affecting Girls' School Attendance in Tajikistan" in *Educational Policies in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan: Contested Terrain in the Twenty-First Century*. Dilshad Ashraf, Mir Afzal Tajik, & Sarfaroz Niyozov Eds. Lexington Books: New York.

Whitsel, Christopher M. & Shodibek Qodirov. 2013. "Out of the Shadows: The Work of the Parents' Association of Children with Disabilities in Tajikistan" *Learning to See Invisible Children: Inclusion of Children with Disabilities*. Martyn Rouse & Kate Lapham, Eds. Central European University Press: Budapest.

Whitsel, Christopher M. & Weeda Mehran. 2011. "School, Work and Community-Level Differences in Afghanistan and Tajikistan: Divergence in Secondary School Enrollment of Youth" in *Youth in the Former Soviet South: Everyday Lives Between Experimentation and Regulation*. Stefan Kirmse, Ed. Routledge: London. (Reprint of Article from 2010)

### **Reports:**

Barbara Junisbai, Azamat Junisbai, and **Christopher Whitsel**. 2017. "What Makes 'Ardent Democrats' in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan?" PONARS Eurasia Policy Memo No. 489, <http://www.ponarseurasia.org/memo/what-makes-ardentdemocrats-kazakhstan-and-kyrgyzstan>.

UNICEF. 2013. *Global Initiative on Out-of-School Children: Tajikistan Country Study*: Dushanbe, Tajikistan.<sup>1</sup>

Whitsel, Christopher M. 2013. *Mapping the Educational Market in Tajikistan*. 2013-2014 Title VIII Research Scholars Program Final Report. Washington, D.C. 2013

Whitsel, Christopher M. 2010. *Scholar Research Brief: Classroom Gender Differences in Tajikistan* Washington, D.C., International Research and Exchanges Board, 2010

### **Book Reviews:**

Whitsel, Christopher. M. (2020). Laboratory of Socialist Development: Cold War Politics and Decolonization in Soviet Tajikistan, written by Artemy M. Kalinovsky. *The Soviet and Post-Soviet Review*, 48(1), 122-125.

Whitsel, Christopher M. (2017). "When Salary is not enough"...Private households in Central Asia (2nd ed., vol. 46, pp. 174-175). *Contemporary Sociology*.

### **Manuscripts under Review and in Progress**

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Under Review:

Whitsel, Christopher M. & Zhuldyz Amankulova "Exploring Social Class Differences in Urban Parents' School Choices in Kazakhstan" at *European Education*.

In Progress:

Christopher Whitsel & Martha Merrill "Cultural Appropriate Informed Consent in Central Asia"

Yakubova, Muhabbat & Christopher Whitsel "Education during the Civil War in Tajikistan"

### **Invited Talks**

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"A Nested Model of Educational Participation: Evidence from Tajikistan" School of Education, University of Glasgow, Scotland June 2023

"Round Table Discussion: Russian Invasion of Ukraine" Main Street, Prairie Public Broadcasting, March 2022

<https://news.prairiepublic.org/podcast/main-street/2022-03-09/roundtable-discussion-on-ukraine>

"A sociologist's view of education in Central Asia" Westminster International University, Tashkent, Uzbekistan . November 2021

"Fieldwork Tips for Eurasia: Safety and Ethics" Central Eurasian Studies Summer Institute, University of Wisconsin, July 2019

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<sup>1</sup> My role in the study was to revise the statistics and re-write the report originally submitted by the lead author Rupert Maclean and his team because of his miscalculations and multiple mistakes.

“Fieldwork Tips for Eurasia: Safety and Ethics” Central Eurasian Studies Summer Institute, University of Wisconsin, July 2018

“Fieldwork Tips for Eurasia: Safety and Ethics” Central Eurasian Studies Summer Institute, University of Wisconsin, August 2018

“Demodernization? The Case of Girls’ Education in Tajikistan” World I View Lecture Series, North Dakota State University, April 2013: Fargo

“By the Numbers: Quantitative Data Sources in Eurasian Studies” with : Dr. Cynthia Buckley, Nicole Butkovich Kraus, Dr. Ani Sarkissian, Webinar hosted by the Social Science Research Council-Eurasia Program, February 2012

“American Credit System” Tajik State Pedagogical Institute, June, 2011: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

“Surviving the Collapse: Stories from Post-Soviet Tajikistan” World I View Lecture Series, North Dakota State University, March 2010: Fargo

“Pulling the Pieces Together: State, Community, and Family Factors in Children’s Education in Tajikistan” OSCE-Tajikistan, May 2010: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

“Educational Participation in Tajikistan: Theoretical Perspectives” Agha Khan Humanities Project Foundation, July 2004: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

### **Refereed Conference Presentations**

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“Trends in Educational Inequality: Russian Diaspora”, Central Eurasian Studies Society, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 2023.

“Parents’ Choices and Inequality in Access in Newly Emerging Markets”, Comparative International Education Society, Washington, D.C. February, 2023.

“Social Class and Preferences in School Choice in Kazakhstan”, based on co-authored work with Zhuldyz Amankulova, Central Eurasian Studies Society Conference, Bloomington, Indiana, October 2022.

“Ethical Dilemmas in Fieldwork in Central Asia”, based on co-authored work with Martha Merrill. International Conference on Eurasian Politics and Society, Lisbon, Portugal, July 2022.

“Parents’ Perspectives on Quality”, Central Eurasian Studies Society International Conference, Tashkent, Uzbekistan, June 2022

“Diversity in Parents Choices in Kazakhstan” Conference on Eurasian Politics and Society, September, 2021

“Exploring LGBTQ+ Student Academic Performance” with Tara Nelson, Midwest Sociological Society, March 2021

“Parents' Perspectives of Educational Choice in Post-Soviet Central Asia” Great Plains Sociological Society, Sioux Falls, SD. November 2019.

Muhabbat Yakubova & Christopher M. Whitsel “Student Experiences of Educational Disruption during the Civil War: Oral History Project of Tajikistan” Central Eurasia Studies Society, Washington, D.C. October 2019.

“Context and Actors in Educational Participation: Case of Girls in Tajikistan” Association of Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies, Boston, MA. December 2018.

“Towards and Ecological Model of Educational Stratification: The Case of Girls in Tajikistan” Central Eurasia Studies Society, Pittsburgh, PA. October 2018.

“Considering Models of Educational Stratification in the Global South” Great Plains Sociological Society, Aberdeen, SD. October 2018.

“Problems implementing North American ethics review policies in Eurasia” Comparative International Education Society, Mexico City, Mexico. March 2018.

“Rethinking Models of Educational Stratification: Case of Girls in Tajikistan” Midwest Sociological Society, Minneapolis, MN. March 2018.

“Educational Attainment of Multiple Generations in Former-Soviet Central Asia” International Conference on Eurasian Politics and Society, Istanbul, Turkey. July 2017.

“The Educational Market in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan: A View from Parents” Central Eurasian Studies Society, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. June 2017.

“Parent’s Perspectives of The Educational Market in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan” Comparative International Education Society. Atlanta. March 2017

“Researchers’ Perspectives on the Effects of Ethics Review Boards on Fieldwork” Central Eurasian Studies Society, Princeton, NJ, November 2016.

“Educational Markets in Central Asia: Parents’ Schooling Decisions in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan” International Conference on Eurasian Politics and Society, Istanbul, Turkey, June, 2016.

“Trends in Gender Differences in Central Asia” Midwest Sociological Society, Chicago, March 2016.



“Comparing Parents’ Perspectives of the Educational Market in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan” Central Eurasian Studies Society, Washington, D.C., October 2015.

“Patterns of Inequality During Institutional Decline: Educational Attainment of Multiple Generations in Former-Soviet Central Asia” American Sociological Association. Chicago, August 2015.

“Parents Navigating the Educational Market in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan” Welfare State and Collective Action in Central Asia. Almaty, Kazakhstan May 2015.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z9ku0KRun3M>

“Parents’ Preferences in School Choice in Kazakhstan” Comparative International Education Society. Washington, D.C. March 2015.

“Navigating the Educational Market in Dushanbe, Tajikistan” Workshop on Urban Transformation in Post-Socialist Space. Astana, Kazakhstan. May 2014.

“Educational Choice in Kazakhstan” ASEEES/CESS Regional Conference. Astana, Kazakhstan. May 2014. (With students Merye Seitova and Aikerim Karaghazanova)

“Parental Choices in the Educational Market in Tajikistan” Comparative International Education Society. Toronto, Canada. March 2014.

“Mapping the Informal Education Market in Post-Soviet Tajikistan” Informal Practices and Structures in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Fribourg, Switzerland. November 2013.

“Power of Parents: Inclusive Education in Tajikistan” World Congress of Comparative Education Societies. Buenos Aires, Argentina. June 2013.

“School Factors of Girls’ Enrollment” Central Eurasian Studies Conference. Bloomington, Indiana. October 2012.

“Educational Stratification during the Second Decade of Post-Socialist Transition: The Case of Tajikistan” Comparative International Education Society. San Juan Puerto Rico. April 2012.

“The Power of Parents: Inclusive Education in Tajikistan” Comparative International Education Society. San Juan Puerto Rico. April 2012.

“Community and School Factors in Girls’ Dropout in Post-Soviet Tajikistan” Midwest Sociological Society. Minneapolis, Minnesota. March 2012.

“Educational Stratification during the Second Decade of Post-Socialist Transition: The Case of Tajikistan” Central Eurasian Studies Society. Columbus, Ohio. September 2011.

“Parent empowerment through home-based early education programs” (With Kate Lapham) Montreal, Canada. Comparative International Education Society. May 2011.

“Considering Community Influence in Education in the 2/3 World: The Case of Tajikistan” (With Courage Mudzongo) Midwest Sociological Society. St. Louis, Missouri. March 2011.

“School and Classroom Factors of Girl's Drop-out in Tajikistan” (with Madhurim Thapa). NDSU Women’s Week. March 2011.

“Counting the Costs: The Price of Informal Costs and Corruption on Educational Quality in Post- Soviet Tajikistan.” World Council of Comparative Education Societies. Istanbul, Turkey. June 2010.

“Stories from Chaos: Reports from the Archive of the Oral History Project of Independent Tajikistan” Midwest Sociological Society. Chicago, Illinois. April 2010.

“Community Effects on Educational Participation: The Case of Tajikistan and Afghanistan” (with Weeda Mehran) Central Eurasian Studies Society. Toronto, Canada. September 2009.

“Post-Socialist Transition and University Students in Tajikistan” Midwest Sociological Society. Des Moines, Iowa. March 2009.

“Expanding, Shrinking, Contracting, and Widening: Educational Attainment in Soviet and Post-Soviet Tajikistan.” American Sociological Association. Boston, Massachusetts. August 2008 (paper available at [http://www.allacademic.com/meta/p237514\\_index.html](http://www.allacademic.com/meta/p237514_index.html) ).

“Family Resources, Sitting at Home, and Democratic Choice: Investigating Determinants of Educational Attainment in Tajikistan” Central Eurasian Studies Society. Washington, D.C. October 2008.

“Teachers’ Perspectives of Transition” Midwest Sociological Society. St. Louis, Missouri. March 2008.

“Increasing Prosperity in Tajikistan: The Perspectives of the People” Central Eurasian Studies Society. Seattle, Washington. October 2007.

“Growing Inequality: Market Transition and Educational Participation” Midwest Sociological Society. Chicago, Illinois. April 2007.

“Education and Transition: University Students Perspectives” Midwest Sociological Society. Chicago, Illinois. April 2007.

“Lost in Transition: Educational Participation in Tajikistan” Midwest Sociological Society. Minneapolis, Minnesota. April 2005.

“Regional Differences in Enrollment in Tajikistan.” Association of Central Asian Students Conference. Bloomington, Indiana. April 2004.

“School Enrollment Patterns in Tajikistan” Central Asian Sociological Conference. Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. June 2003.

### **Creative Activities**

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Exhibition “Memorabilia: Faculty Collections from Former-Soviet Eurasia”, NDSU Memorial Union Art Gallery, January-March 2017 Co-curated with Susan Curtis and Florin Salajan

### **Selected Honors & Awards**

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| 2021 | <b>Bison Leadership Awards: Advisor of the Year</b><br>North Dakota State University Student Government   |
| 2018 | <b>Tapestry of Diverse Talents</b><br>North Dakota State University –recognition for promoting diversity on campus  |
| 2018 | <b>Faculty/ Staff Recognition (Wrestling, Soccer)</b><br>Athletics Division, North Dakota State University  |
| 2015 | <b>Faculty Research Excellence Award</b><br>School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nazarbayev University   |
| 2013 | <b>Outstanding Teaching Award</b><br>College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, North Dakota State University  |
| 2010 | <b>Outstanding Faculty Award</b><br>Equity and Diversity Center, North Dakota State University  |
| 2008 | <b>Best Graduate Student Paper Award</b> , for paper titled “Family Resources, Sitting at Home and Democratic Choice: Investigating Determinants of Educational Attainment in post-Soviet Tajikistan”<br>Central Eurasian Studies Society |
| 2008 | <b>Social Action Award</b> , for recognition of research, teaching and service that affects social change.<br>Sociology Department Indiana University   |

### **Selected Fellowships and Grants**

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#### **Awarded:**

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| 2015-2017  | <b>Fellow, ND Gateways Project</b><br>A National Science Foundation funded project for instructional faculty.                              |
| 2013 -2015 | <b>Investigating Educational Mobility and Choice in Kazakhstan</b> , Nazarbayev University Seed Grant<br><b>2,700,000 KZT (~ \$18,000)</b> |

- 2013      **Gendered Perceptions of Justice on Campus**, NDSU Advance FORWARD, with Chris Ray (PI), Pam Emanuelson, Claudette Peterson, and Kara Gravley-Stack  
**\$4,005**
- 2013      **Mapping the Educational Market in Post-Soviet Tajikistan**, Research Scholar Program funded by *United States Department of State, Program for Research and Training for Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union* (Title VIII), administered by ACCELS  
**~ \$10,000**
- 2009/2010      **Embassy Policy Specialist Grant, “Girl’s Literacy in Tajikistan”**  
funded by *United States Department of State, Program for Research and Training for Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union* (Title VIII), administered by International Research and Exchanges Board  
**~ \$10,000**
- 2009      **Partnerships in Collaborative Research Program Grant**  
**“Tajik Oral History Project”**, funded by International Research and Exchanges Board.  
**~ \$10,000**      (Refused due to family issues of Tajik Colleague)
- 2009      **Grant for Study of Russian and US and Global Public Health Policy.**  
Indiana University  
**~ \$10,000**
- 2009      **Regional Policy Symposium Participant, “Prospects and Challenges for the First Post-Communist Generation: Young People Today in Eurasian and Eastern Europe”** sponsored by the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the International Research and Exchanges Board  
Washington, D.C.
- 2009      **Dissertation Development Workshop Participant, “Resources in Eurasia: Wealth, Scarcity or Curse”** sponsored by the SSRC, Eurasia Program.  
Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.
- 2008      **Associate, Eurasian Studies Junior Scholars Workshop “Gendering Democracy,”**  
Russian, Eastern European and Eurasian Center  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- 2007      **Individual Advanced Research Opportunity Grant**, funded by *United States Department of State, Program for Research and Training for Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union* (Title VIII), administered by IREX  
**~ \$10,000**
- 2006      **Advanced Research Fellowship**, funded by *United States Department of State, Program for Research and Training for Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union* (Title VIII), administered by ACCELS

~ \$20,000

- 2006 **Central Eurasian Studies Department Teaching Fellowship**, for course “Conquerors, Communists, and Presidents-for-life: An Introduction to Central Asia”
- 2003-2006 **Discipline-Based Scholarship in Education Research Associate**, DBSE grant in conjunction with Spencer Foundation and Indiana University
- 2005 **Social Science Research Council Grant for study of Tajik Language** under the *United States Department of State, Program for Research and Training for Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (Title VIII)*.
- 2005 **Central Eurasian Studies Department Teaching Fellowship**, for course “Contemporary Society in Central Asia”
- 2003/2004 **Fellowship for Tajik language study** under the *United States Department of State, Program for Research and Training for Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (Title VIII)*.
- 2002 **Fellowship for Language and Area Studies**, Russian
- 2002 **Research Fellowship**, Department of Sociology, Indiana University

### **Research Consultant Experience**

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- 2017 **Data Collection for Case Studies Related to Accreditation with Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation**  
Mayville State Teacher Education Program, North Dakota
- 2013 **Analysis of the System of Social and Legal Services Available to the Victims of Human Trafficking in Kazakhstan**  
United Nations Development Programme- Kazakhstan
- I served as a team member with Elena Maltseva, Ph.D., Gwen McEvoy, Ph.D., Caress Schenk, Ph.D. The purpose was to analyze legislation and interview government officials and NGO workers about the current social support system for trafficking victims in Kazakhstan.
- 2012-2013 **Rapid Assessment of Girls’ Education Consultant**  
UNICEF-Tajikistan
- Compile most information of the situation of girls’ education from recent reports and policies. Conduct “perception gap study” between Ministry of Education officials, international organizations, and local stakeholders (parents, teachers, girls)

- 2012            **Development Partner Assessment of National Strategy of Education Consultant**  
UNICEF-Tajikistan
- Review National Strategy of Education and interview Ministry officials and representatives of development agencies to gather their assessment of the process in which it was developed and the contents of the document.
- 2011            **Case Study Research on Inclusive Education in Central Asia Consultant**  
Open Society Foundation
- Work with local researcher on update of case study project on inclusive education in Tajikistan.
- 2010-2012     **Education Data Management Consultant (Multiple contracts)**  
UNICEF-Tajikistan  
2012: Update statistics for Out of School Children Study  
2011: Revise report on Out of School Children's Study  
2011: Enter data and provide report for the School and Kindergarten Survey  
2010: Compile data from 3 key data sets to provide baseline information for the 6-year country strategy on education.  
2010: Provide report for the School and Kindergarten Survey
- 2009- 2011    **Getting Ready for School Project Evaluation Consultant**  
Open Society Foundation
- Advise and monitor research design, sampling, and implementation in Tajikistan and aid in interviewer training. Supervise data collectors and data entry.
- 2006-2008    **Senior Methods Advisor**  
Oral History of Independent Tajikistan Project  
OSCE Academy, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- Advise on research design, sampling, implementation, and dissemination. Conduct interviewer training.
- 2007            **Research Consultant**  
Social Sector Poverty Conference  
UNICEF, Tajikistan
- Work with local researchers to develop conference materials, write the conference report, create presentation based on qualitative study of children's poverty
- 2006-2007    **Research Consultant**  
Qualitative Study of Children's Poverty in Tajikistan  
UNICEF, Tajikistan

Conduct quality check of research methods used by local research firm and edit final report.

### **Selected Theses or Papers Advised and Thesis Committees**

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#### Advisor:

- In Progress Kyle Sarpong (M.S.) Topic: Budget Barriers to Minority Students in Higher Education
- 2022 Natasha Cary-Waselk (M.S.) Topic: Best Practices in Study Aboard Programs
- 2022 Briana Gunka, (M.S.) Topic: Development Plans for Indigenous Communities
- 2020 Marisa Sorenson, (M.S.) Topic: Housing and Human Capital
- 2020 Parvina Yakubova (M.S.) Topic: Women's Education in Tajikistan
- 2017 Danielle, Seehafer (M.S) Topic: Instagram and Social Performance
- 2015 Muhabbat Yakubova (M.S.) Topic: Education during the Civil War in Tajikistan
- 2013 Shelby Bohenenkamp (M.S.) Topic: Intergenerational Land-transfer in North Dakota (co-Advisor with Christina Weber)
- 2012 Courage Mudzongo (M.S.) Topic: Individual, Household, and Community Determinants of Child Labor in Malawi and Tanzania
- 2012 Madhurim Thapa (M.S.) Topic: Community Perspective on Girls' School Drop-Out in Tajikistan.

#### Committee Member:

- In Progress Brian Thomas (M.S.) Topic: Effectiveness of NGO organizational strategy
- In Progress Veronique Walters (Ph.D.) Topic: Interpersonal communication in foreign language classes and the development of cultural competence.
- 2019 Michael Learn (PhD) Topic: Social Science Education
- 2015 Kara Gravely-Stack (PhD) Topic: Diversity Officers on University Campuses
- 2014 Christine Okurut-Ibore (PhD) Topic: Education and Development in Africa
- 2013 Nazgul Borkosheva (M.S.) Topic: NGO and Government definitions of disasters and response effectiveness

- 2013 Mariama Yakubu (PhD) Topic: developing higher education programs in emergency management: Ghana's experience
- 2012 Frank Heley (M.A.) Topic: Policy Recommendations on Domestic Firearms Trafficking
- 2011 Nile Haich (M.A.) Topic: Developing Teaching Objectives
- 2011 Lindsay Bergenheier (M.A.) Topic: Downtown Development and Displacement of Marginalized Populations
- 2011 Karen Okigbo (M.A.) Topic: Oral History of Nigerian Civil War
- 2011 Angela Napakol (M.A.) Topic: Examination of the Coverage of HIV/AIDS in Uganda's Newspapers
- 2011 Samantha Larson (M.A.) Topic: Women, work opportunities and rural migration
- 2011 Angela Mathers (M.A.) Topic: International service learning as a teaching tool for social inequality
- 2010 Tamara Khavaratshkeli (M.A.) Topic: Corporate Social Responsibility in the Republic of Georgia

**Service**

***Department:***

North Dakota State University

- 2016-2018 Promotion, Tenure and Evaluation
- 2017-2018 Curriculum Committee
- 2017-present, Chair, Assessment Committee
- 2010-2013
- 2009- 2017 Member, Sociology program committee (chair 2016-2018)
- 2009- 2013 Member, Community Development Graduate Admissions Committee
- 2010-2013 Member, Graduate Committee

Navarbayev University

- 2013-2015 Member, Sociology Program Committee
- 2014 Sociology representative to Dean's Council

Indiana University

- 2001-2002 Member, Conference Planning Committee for Association of Central Eurasian Studies Students

***College/School:***

North Dakota State University

- 2017-2018 Representative, Faculty Senate



Nazarbayev University

2013-Present Member, Curriculum Committee  
2014-2015 Chair, Ethics Review Board

**University:**

North Dakota State University

2015-present Member, Institutional Review Board  
2020-present Member, President's Council for Diveristy  
2018-present Member, FORWARD Advocates  
2017-2020 Member, NDSU Inclusion Committee  
2015-present, Faculty Advisor for Gay-Straight Alliance  
2012-2013  
2011-2013 Member Faculty Senate Committee on Diversity  
2011-2013 Diversity Liaison, Division of Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach  
2010-2011 Member, President's Diversity Council  
2009-2011 Member, International Studies Advisory Board  
2009- present Member, NDSU Pride Network

Nazarbayev University:

2014-2015 Member, Ethics Review Board

Indiana University

2002-2004 Representative to the Graduate Professional Student Organization from  
the Association of Central Eurasian Studies Students, Indiana University  
2002-2004 Treasurer Navruz Student Association, Indiana University

**Professional:**

2018-2020 Senior Co-Chair, Eurasia Special Interest Group of Comparative  
International Education Society  
2015-2016 Fieldwork Safety Taskforce, Central Eurasian Studies Society.  
2012-2015 Secretary, Eurasia Special Interest Group of Comparative International  
Education Society  
2012 Faculty Instructor, SSRC Quantitative Methods for Eurasian Scholars  
Workshop at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and  
University of Wisconsin, Madison

**Professional Memberships**

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2010-present Comparative International Education Society  
2008 -present American Sociological Association  
2004-present Central Eurasian Studies Society, Lifetime Member  
2018-2020 Great Plains Sociological Association  
2018-2019 Association for Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies  
2005-2018 Midwest Sociological Society