

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL
COMPREHENSIVE PROFESSIONAL VITAE

October 2020

Susan Thomson Tripathy

Department of Sociology
College of Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
Associate Teaching Professor

A. EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

1. EDUCATION

Ph.D., Anthropology, Harvard University, 1989

Dissertation title: "Seraikela Chhau Dance and the Creation of Authority: From Princely State to Democracy"

M.A., Anthropology, Harvard University, 1983

M.M., Clarinet Performance, Cleveland Institute of Music, 1979

A.B., Music, Magna cum Laude, Mount Holyoke College, 1977

2. ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY of MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL, Lowell, MA

Associate Teaching Professor in the Sociology Department, 2018-present

Director of the Bachelor of Liberal Arts Program, 2016-2019

Lecturer in the Sociology Department, 2015-2017

Visiting Lecturer in the Sociology Department, 2012-2015

Adjunct faculty in the Sociology Department, 2011-2012

MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Lowell, MA

Instructor in Behavioral Sciences, adjunct faculty, 1995-2007, 2011

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Cambridge, MA

Teaching Fellow in Introductory Anthropology courses, 1983-4

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY, Cleveland, OH

Instructor in English as a Second Language, 1980

B. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION PARTICIPATION

- American Society of Engineering Education Conference, presenter
(scheduled for Montreal, held online due to the pandemic), 2020
- Crossing Borders: Interdisciplinary Studies Conference, presenter and
organizer, Lowell MA, 2018
- Southeast Asian American Studies Conference, panelist, Lowell MA,
2017
- American Ethnological Association Annual Meeting, presenter, Boston,
MA, 2014
- American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, presenter,
Chicago, Ill, 2013
- Northeast Regional Campus Compact Meeting, poster session,
Burlington, VT, 2010
- Northeast Regional Campus Compact Meeting, workshop
organizer, Nashua NH, 2006.
- Northeast Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, attendee,
Plymouth NH, 1999
- American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting,
attendee, Philadelphia PA, 1986
- Society for Ethnomusicology Annual Meeting, presenter, Rochester
NY, 1986

2. PROFESSIONAL HONORS AND AWARDS

UNIVERSITY of MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL, Lowell MA

- Nominated for a Pillars of Excellence Award, 2018
- FAHSS Teaching Excellence Award, Sociology, 2017
- Faculty Teaching and Learning Symposium, awards in
Applied and Experiential Learning, November 2013 and 2014

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

- Class Marshal, 1983

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE, South Hadley MA

- Helen Blythe Hazen Music Award, 1977
- Phi Beta Kappa, 1976
- Sarah Williston Scholar and prize-winner, 1976.

3. OTHER NON-TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Researcher, 2018, 2019, 2020--present

RAMP (Research, Academics, Mentoring Pathways) summer program.
The goal of RAMP is to increase the participation and success of women and minorities in Engineering fields at UMass Lowell.

Associate, 2020 - present, 2005-2007

UMASS LOWELL CENTER FOR WOMEN & WORK, Lowell, MA

Peer-reviewer, 2017

Omega: Journal of Death and Dying
Journal of Southeast Asian American Education and Advancement

Affiliated Scholar, 2013 - present

Visiting Research Associate, 2009-
2013

BRANDEIS WOMEN'S STUDIES RESEARCH CENTER, Waltham, MA

Director of Research, 2007- 2011

Involved overseeing and conducting outcomes research at Germaine Lawrence, a residential treatment center for adolescent young women with a range of behavioral issues, all of whom had experienced trauma, abuse and/or neglect and were receiving services through the Department of Children and Families.

GERMAINE LAWRENCE, Arlington Heights, MA

Researcher, The Lowell Civic Collaborative Planning Team, 2003-2006

The Lowell Civic Collaborative was a partnership between Middlesex Community College and the Lowell National Historical Park to increase civic engagement among young adults, funded for three years (2003-2006) by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

THE LOWELL CIVIC COLLABORATIVE, Lowell MA

Consultant, Case studies on employee training programs for Limited English Proficiency immigrant workers in Lowell, MA, 2004

URBAN INSTITUTE, WASHINGTON D.C.

Project Diarist, One Lowell: Building the New American Community, 2001-2003. *Included observation/analysis of the One Lowell Coalition, facilitation of focus groups with immigrant community members, and research papers on faith-based organizations and civic engagement, ESL classes, organization of political power in Lowell, and employee training programs.*

URBAN INSTITUTE, WASHINGTON D.C.

Faculty Associate, Service Learning Program, 1999-2000

Included presentations about Middlesex Community College's Service Learning program at Northern Essex Community College, Quinsigamond Community College, and UMASS Boston; workshops and tip talks for faculty at Middlesex Community College; reviews of service learning literature and on-line resources; and collaborations with faculty members on service learning assessment and reflection issues.

MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Lowell and Bedford, MA

Consultant, course development of "Multicultural Communication" offered for paraprofessionals in Lowell Public Schools, 1999

LOWELL PUBLIC SCHOOLS and MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
Lowell MA

Research Assistant, Harvard Institute of International Development, 1984

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Cambridge MA

C. RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

1. GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

UNIVERSITY of MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL, Lowell MA

- o 2017. Transformational Education Student Success Mini Grant for the project "Community Action for Smart Environments," in collaboration with Dr. Kavitha Chandra, \$2,000.
- o 2016-2017. Community Engaged Scholars Mini Grant, "Science of Learning: Improving English Language Learning Skills among Refugees from Burma in Lowell, MA," Co-principal investigator in collaboration with Dr. Yana Weinstein and Dr. Kavitha Chandra, \$1200.
- o 2013, 2014. Service-Learning Mini Grants to support projects in SOCI.3200, Community Service, \$2000 each year
- o 2006-2008, Joseph P. Healey and Public Service Endowment Grant, "Redefining Aging, Redefining Community" Co-principal investigator in collaboration with Andrew Hostetler, UML Department of Psychology

MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Lowell, MA

- o 1999-2000, Middlesex Community College Faculty Mini-Grant, "In Their Own Words: Selected Excerpts from Lowell Immigrants' Oral Histories," in collaboration with Susan

Bumbulucz, MCC adjunct faculty.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Cambridge MA

- o 1987-1988, Social Science Dissertation Fellowship
- o 1984-1986, Fulbright Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship for the research study "Seraikela Chhau Dance: A Study in the Anthropology of Performance," conducted in Bihar, India.

2. ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Book chapter

Thomson, Susan. 2007. "Along the Path to Nibbana: Civic Engagement, Community Partnerships and Lowell's Southeast Asian Buddhist Temples." In *Southeast Asian Refugees and Immigrants in the Mill City: Changing Families, Communities, Institutions - Thirty Years Afterward*, edited by S.C. Cowan, J. Gerson, and L.Pho. Hanover, NH: University Press of New England.

Peer-reviewed journal articles

Silverman, Phyllis and Susan Thomson. 2018. "When Men Grieve: Widowers' Stories of Coping with their Wives' Deaths." *Omega: Journal of Death and Dying*, 77(2):133-153.

Thomson, Susan, David Hirshberg and Joanne Qiao. 2011. "Outcomes for Adolescent Girls after Long-term Residential Treatment." *Residential Treatment for Children and Youth*, 28:3, 251-256.

Thomson, Susan, David Hirshberg, Amy Corbett, Nicole Valila, and Denise Howley. 2011. "Residential Treatment for Sexually Exploited Adolescent Girls: Acknowledge, Commit, Transform (ACT)." *Children and Youth Services Review*, 33:11, 2290-2296.

Peer-reviewed conference paper

Tripathy, Susan Thomson, Kavitha Chandra, and Diane Reichlen. 2020. "Participatory Action Research (PAR) Focus Groups as Formative Assessment of a STEM Summer Bridge Program." In *ASEE Conference Proceedings*, June 2020 (Virtual conference).

Other publications

Thomson, Susan. 2010. "Good Mothering in Residential Treatment."
ReSearch, Brandeis Women's Studies Research Center. Retrieved
from: <http://www.brandeis.edu/wsrc/research/docs/fall10.pdf>.

Thomson, Susan. 2007. The Care Tetrahedron: Portraits of Elder Care in
the United States. Center for Women & Work Working Paper
Series, WP07-04.

Thomson, Susan, ed. 2006. The Lowell Civic Collaborative: Projects
between Community Colleges and National Parks. Bedford, MA:
Middlesex Community College.

Thomson, Susan. 2000. "Service Learning Group Project Peer Review."
In *Opening lines, Approaches to the Scholarship of Teaching and
Learning*, edited by P. Hutchings. The Carnegie Foundation for the
Advancement of Teaching. Menlo Park, CA: Carnegie Publications.

Bumbulucz, Susan and Susan Thomson. 2000. "In Their Own Words:
Selected Excerpts from Lowell Immigrants' Oral Histories."
Unpublished booklet.

3. OTHER RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Presentations:

June 2020. American Society of Engineering Education Annual Conference.
Montreal, Canada (held virtually due to the pandemic). Presentation of
paper, "Participatory Action Research as Formative Assessment of a STEM
Summer Bridge Program," with Dr. Kavitha Chandra and Ms. Diane
Reichlen.

March 2018. Crossing Borders: Interdisciplinary Studies Conference.
Lowell, MA. Presentation of paper, "Open Borders: Blending Disciplinary
Insights to Understand Widowers' Grief."

November 2017. UMass Lowell Faculty Research Symposium.
Transformational Education Mini-Grant Panelist for "Community Action
for Smart Environments," with Dr. Kavitha Chandra.

November 2017. UMass Lowell Faculty Research Symposium. Lightning

Talk presenter, "Community Action for Smart Environments," with Dr. Kavitha Chandra.

July 2017. Southeast Asian American Studies Conference. Lowell, MA. Member of panel discussion, "Reconsidering Southeast Asian Refugees and Immigrants in the Mill City."

October 2014. Transnationalization of Religion through Music International Conference. Montreal, Quebec. Presentation of paper, "From Chaitre Parve to YouTube: Hinduism, Transnationalism and Seraikela Chhau Dance."

April, 2014. American Ethnological Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA. Presentation of paper, "Making the Invisible Visible: Visual Stories of Lowell's Refugee Communities at Lowell National Historical Park."

February 2014. UMass Lowell Gender Studies Conference, Lowell MA. Presentation of paper, "Musician, Researcher, Bohu: Gender and the Ethnographic Research Process."

November 2013. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, Ill. Presentation of paper, "The Concerto and the Peacock: Ethnographic Fieldwork and the Music of Seraikella Chhau Dance."

October 2010. AAUW Chapter Meeting. Bedford, MA. Presentation of talk, "Moving On: College and Career Paths of Young Women after Residential Treatment."

January 2010. Child Welfare League of America National Conference, Washington, D.C. Co-presentation of workshop: "Outcomes Research in Residential Treatment."

April 2008 and June 2009. Presentations for Clinical Staff at Germaine Lawrence, Arlington MA. "What Happens to Girls after they Leave?"

March 2007. UMass Lowell Center for Women and Work, Lowell, MA. "Gathering at the Well" Forum, Presentation of invited talk: "Who Cares? Portraits of Elder Care in the United States."

April 2007. Committee on Industrial Theory and Assessment (CITA) Conference, Lowell, MA. Co-presentation of paper: "The Mill City's Park and the Community's College: Weaving the Cloth of Collaboration."

November 2005. Institute for Asian-American Studies Conference

on Researching Asian Americans in New England: Scholarship, Resources and Community Engagement. Boston, MA. Participated in Round-Table Discussion: "New Research on Southeast Asian American Communities in New England."

June 2005. Learning from Diverse Voices: Seminar on Southeast Asian Refugees in the Mill City: Changing Families, Communities and Institutions, UMass Lowell, Lowell MA. Presentation of Paper: "Beyond Meditation and Merit-Making: Civic Engagement at Lowell's Southeast Buddhist Temple."

January 2005. The Lowell Civic Collaborative Faculty Institute, Middlesex Community College, Lowell MA. Presentation of talk: "Buddhism and Civic Engagement: A Look at Lowell's Lao Temple."

January 2004. The Lowell Civic Collaborative Faculty Institute, Middlesex Community College, Lowell MA. Presentation of paper: "Civic Engagement among Immigrant Faith-Based Groups in Lowell, MA."

D. INSTRUCTION RELATED ACTIVITY

1. TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL, Lowell MA, 2011-present

Courses Taught:

- o Social Anthropology (48.102), 2011-2014
- o Sociology of the Family (SOC1.2310), 2012-2018
- o Sociology of Health and Healthcare (SOC1.3510), 2012-2018
- o Community Service (SOC1.3200), 2013-2018
- o Foundations of Liberal Studies (FAHS.2130), 2016

New Courses Designed and Taught:

- o Honors Seminar on Homelessness: Lowell and Mumbai (SOC1.3020), 2015-2018
- o BLA Capstone (FAHS.4130), 2016, 2018

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY, Waltham, MA

2009-2010. Student-Scholar Partnership, Brandeis Women's Studies Research Center, Waltham MA. Mentored and directed three Brandeis undergraduates assisting with a research study examining outcomes from a residential treatment program.

MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Lowell MA
1995-2007, 2011. Adjunct Instructor in Behavioral Sciences
Courses taught include Introduction to Cultural
Anthropology, Introduction to Sociology, and Sociology of the Family.

2. OTHER ACTIVITIES RELATED TO INSTRUCTIONAL FUNCTION

2020. Participated in the Summer Institute in Community Based Participatory Research for Health: Indigenous and Critical Methodologies, virtually, University of New Mexico.

2017. Participated in Medical Narrative workshop at Kripalu Center, Stockbridge MA.

2016, 2017. Designed and taught MCAT Sociology Preparation Sessions (series of five 2-hour classes) for UMass Lowell Pre-Health Organization.

2016. Designed and implemented new course: BLA Capstone Project.

2015. Designed and implemented new Sociology and Honors course: Honors Seminar on Homelessness: Lowell and Mumbai.

2013-2017. Integrated service-learning into all of my courses. Partners have included Fairhaven Healthcare Center, SayDaNar, International Institute of Lowell, GEAR UP, PALS, Merrimack Valley Food Bank, Tsongas Industrial History Center, and Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association.

2014-2015. Participated in the Assessment of Multicultural and Global Learning Project, a collaboration between UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College.

2013-2014. Participated in the Assessment of Social Responsibility and Civic Engagement Project, a collaboration between UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College.

2013. Teaching Sociology: New England Regional Conference. Easton, MA. Presentation of talk, "Teaching Community Service, The Whole Course Model."

2010. Northeast Regional Campus Compact Conference. Burlington, VT Co-presentation of poster session, "University Research Centers as Opportunities for Engagement: The Student-Scholar Partnership at

Brandeis Women's Studies Research Center."

2006. Northeast Regional Campus Compact Conference. Nashua, NH. Co-presentation of workshop: "Multicultural Service-Learning: Storybooks and Ethnographies in the Service of Understanding."

2006. The Lowell Civic Collaborative Faculty Institute, Middlesex Community College, Lowell, MA. Presentation of talk: "Multi-Cultural Service Learning and Civic Engagement: Storytelling, Ethnographies and Celebrations."

2005. Community College Humanities Association National Conference. Boston, MA. Presentation of talk: "Hearing the Unheard Story: Bringing Personal and Community Voices into the Classroom."

2003-2005. Researcher for The Lowell Civic Collaborative, Middlesex Community College, Lowell, MA. Funded by a Learn and Serve America Grant.

1998. Second Annual Conference on Teaching and Learning in Community Colleges, Bristol Community College, Fall River MA. Co-Presentation of talk: "Service Learning: Extending Learning into the Community."

E. SERVICE

1. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PROFESSIONAL FIELD

- o 2018-2020. HUNGER and HOMELESSNESS COMMISSION, CITY of LOWELL, appointed as Commissioner
- o 2017- 2018. MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION of GREATER LOWELL Human Rights Committee member
- o 2016-2019. SAYDANAR Community Development Center, Lowell MA, Board member
- o November 2015. Collaborated with Housing Families, Inc., to organize the Panel Discussion and Photo Exhibit: "Family Homelessness: A View Beyond Stereotypes." O'Leary Library, UMass Lowell

- o September 2013-May 2014. Collaborated with the Tsongas Industrial History Center and UMass Lowell students in Social Anthropology and Sociology of the Family to design the Museum exhibit: "Their Stories: Lowell's Youth and Refugee Experience"
- o November 2013. Collaborated with Ekjut (Drs. Nirmala Nair and Prasanta Tripathy) to organize the presentation and photo exhibit: "Community Interventions for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health: Findings from Indigenous Populations from Jharkhand and Odisha, India." O'Leary Library, UMass Lowell

2. SERVICE TO THE SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

- o Fall 2020 – present. Designed a new mentoring program for first year and transfer Sociology students
- o Spring 2020 – present. Served on the Sociology dept. Curriculum and Personnel Committees.
- o Fall 2017. Served on search committee for a new faculty member specializing in Race and Ethnicity.
- o Spring 2016-Fall 2016. Collaborated with department members to create a Sociology Department Strategic Plan.
- o Spring 2016. Designed an online e-portfolio Sociology advising guide
- o Fall 2014-Winter 2015. Developed curriculum sequences for research and writing
- o Fall 2012-Spring 2013. Advised Sociology majors

3. SERVICE TO THE COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (FAHSS)

- o Spring 2019. Served on search committee for a new Director of the Bachelor of Liberal Arts Program
- o Fall 2018. Served on FAHSS College Personnel Committee

- Spring 2018. Served on search committee for a new Associate Dean
- Spring 2018. Co-organized “Crossing Borders: Interdisciplinary Studies Conference with Dr. Ashleigh Hillier and Dr. Susan Winning
- May 2016-2019. Director of the Bachelor of Liberal Arts (BLA) program. This position involves supervising an interdisciplinary liberal arts program with 19 different concentrations and an enrollment of approximately 250 students, with 2 faculty advisors.
- Fall 2017. Collaborated with Associate Dean Bridget Marshall and Dr. Deidra Murphy to create a Health Studies BLA concentration; with Dr. Ashleigh Hillier to create a Disability Studies BLA concentration; and with Dr. Laura Barefield to create a Medieval and Renaissance Studies BLA concentration.
- Spring 2017. Collaborated with Associate Dean Bridget Marshall, Dr. Jehanne-Marie Gavarani and Dr. Stephen Mishol to create a new Studio Arts BLA concentration
- Fall 2016. Presented information about changes to the BLA program at the FAHSS Chairs meeting, and met individually and/or at department meetings to discuss concentration requirements with chairs and/or coordinators of Education, History, Political Science, Music, Sociology, Psychology, American Studies, and Theatre Arts
- Spring 2016. Designed an online e-portfolio BLA advising guide.
- Spring semester 2015. Interim Director of the BLA program
- 2014-2015. Collaborated with Dr. George Chigas and Associate Dean Julie Nash to redesign the BLA program requirements
- 2013-2019. Advisor for 90-120 students annually in the BLA program

4. SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

- Spring 2018-present. River Hawk Experience Distinction Community Engagement Committee member
- Spring 2018. Transformational Education Mini-Grant Evaluation Committee member
- Fall 2017. NEASC five-year interim report standard team member for “Standard Four: The Academic Programs.”
- Spring 2017. Curriculum Enhancement 2020 Strategic Plan Sub- Committee member
- Fall 2016-present. Southeast Asian American Studies Center member
- May 2016-present. Faculty Senate member
- Fall 2016-present. Faculty mentor for UML Parents Club
- May 2015-present. LGBTQ Ally Space member
- Fall 2014-present. Navigators Club Harbormaster
- 2010-present. Sukant Tripathy Endowed Professorship Committee member
- 2005-2007. Gathering at the Well, Center for Women and Work Forum Committee member
- 2001-present. Sukant Tripathy Memorial Scholarship Committee member