



CSUS Faculty Mini-biographies

These faculty are considered “regular faculty” and may serve as chairpersons of graduate committees as well as committee members without needing to apply and move through an approval review process.



Fall 2021

Dr. Wenda Bauchspies

Associate Professor

Co-Director, Center for Gender in Global Context (International Research & Engagement)

Wenda K. Bauchspies is an interdisciplinary scholar trained in Science and Technology Studies with a focus on feminist theory, social theory and cultural anthropology. In addition to being an associate professor in Community Sustainability, she is the Co-Director for International Research and Engagement for the Center for Gender in Global Context (GenCen) in the International Center. Before coming to MSU she was a Program Director in the Directorate for Social and Behavioral and Economic Sciences at the National Science Foundation for the Science, Technology and Society Programs and Cultivating Cultures for Ethical STEM. In addition, Wenda also has worked as a professor at Pennsylvania State University and Georgia Institute of Technology, as well as a senior social scientist for the International Crops Research Institute of the Semi-Arid Tropics.

Wenda's research interests are diverse and center around gender, culture, science and technology. During the course of her career she has looked at women and schooling, everyday technologies of water and electricity, and adoptions/adaptions of agricultural innovations in Sub-Saharan Africa. She works in francophone West Africa and has had the good fortune to travel to Southern and Eastern Africa as well. Her current research interests include the impact of gendered practices on agriculture; feminist development research; and the movement of knowledge through the quotidian.

On campus she teaches graduate courses that support the Gender, Justice and Environmental Change Graduate Specialization: CSUS 858 Gender, Justice and Environmental Change: Issues and Concepts (*Cross-listed in: ANP, CJ, FOR, FW, GEO, SOC, and WS*) and ANP 859 Gender, Justice, and Environmental Change: Methods and Application (*Cross-listed in: FOR, FW, GEO, and SOC*).

Dr. Douglas Bessette

Assistant Professor

Doug Bessette is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Community Sustainability, where he researches and teaches courses (CSUS 433, CSUS 259 & CSUS 459) in clean energy systems, policy, and the social acceptance of renewable energy. He uses both a coupled human-environment system and applied decision research approach to tackle multi-scale problems that often require identifying and analyzing complicated tradeoffs. Doug works on structured decision-making frameworks that incorporate value-focused thinking and help stakeholders to identify objectives, generate alternatives, predict consequences and make explicit tradeoffs between values and strategies. His past research has spanned multiple contexts, including organic and sustainable agriculture, coastal climate risk management, natural resource management in developing territories, and green infrastructure. His published research can be found in *Solar Energy, Energy Research & Social Science, Energy Policy, and Risk Analysis*; see his personal website for more: www.dougbessette.com.

Doug is originally from Brighton, Michigan. He earned his PhD in Geography from the University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada and his MSc from the Department of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies here at MSU. Following completion of his PhD, Doug worked as a postdoctoral scholar with the Network for Sustainable Climate Risk Management at Pennsylvania State University and as a Senior Research Associate in the School of Environment and Natural Resources at Ohio State University. Before completing his undergraduate degree, he served four years in the U.S. Army as an M1A1 tanker.

Dr. Kimberly Chung

Associate Professor

Kimberly Chung is trained as a nutritionist and agricultural economist. Her work lies in the area of nutrition-agriculture linkages and focuses on how agricultural policies and programs can support better nutritional outcomes for marginalized populations. Kim has lived for extended periods in India, Guatemala, and Mexico and is interested in how ordinary people may have more voice in systems that govern their food systems. As a public scholar, she is an advocate of collaborative and participatory approaches to inquiry. Such approaches transcend disciplinary boundaries as well as expert and lay ways of knowing. Moreover, they create a means for scholars to engage with, and remain relevant to, the public.

Kim works internationally and in Michigan on projects that enhance the linkages between nutrition and agriculture policy. In Michigan, she collaborates with community partners in food banks, low-income farmers markets, neighborhood centers, and schools. On campus she teaches graduate courses that support the development of a critically-engaged practice of scholarship: specifically, CSUS 802 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Inquiry (fall 2020); CSUS 831 Foundations of Qualitative Research (spring 2021). CSUS 838 Participatory Modes of Inquiry and CSUS 865 Facilitative Leadership are scheduled for 2021-2022. Kim also serves on the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Graduate Committee.

Dr. Lissy Goralnik **Assistant Professor**

Lissy Goralnik is an assistant professor of Environmental Studies and Community Engagement in the Department of Community Sustainability. She is also affiliated with the Center for Gender in a Global Context (GenCen) and the Environmental Science and Public Policy (ESPP) program. Broadly her research on place relationships, learning, and wellbeing lies at the intersection of social science and the environmental humanities. Her PhD on field philosophy in Isle Royale National Park explored the role of experiential learning on care and responsibility for the natural world. She has since studied the impacts of experiential learning on moral development, place relationships, and wellbeing across a range of environments and audiences, including sustainable food systems. Lissy's current work is focused on placemaking, or the ways place relationships catalyze responsibility for communities and landscapes, both in experiential learning, as well as in community development, food systems, and environmental science, arts, and humanities contexts. Recent projects include urban agriculture in Michigan; community vibrancy in Michigan coastal communities; a place-based field trip experience in the Oregon Cascades; and environmental science, arts, and humanities interactions in the Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) network. Much of Lissy's research is engaged in the community and she collaborates often with farmers, educators, nonprofit organizers, and environmentalists. Lissy has a BA in English from Stanford, an MFA in creative writing from the University of Idaho, and a PhD in Fisheries and Wildlife from MSU. She had a teaching postdoc in Lyman Briggs College at MSU and a research postdoc in the Department of Ecosystems and Society at Oregon State University. She also worked for years as a field educator for wilderness leadership schools. Her academic work and pedagogy bridges these backgrounds.

Dr. Steven Gray **Associate Professor**

Steven Gray is an associate professor in the Department of Community Sustainability. His research focuses on understanding how individuals and groups make decisions about complex social-ecological systems and addresses questions about how values, attitudes, beliefs or local conditions influence human behavior toward the environment. This effort has recently led to a focus on understanding how collaborative modeling software tools help communities, resource managers, and other decision-makers understand, and to adapt to, the social impacts of climate and other environmental changes through iterative learning. He is currently the lead editor on the book, *Environmental Modeling with Stakeholders: Methods, Theories and Applications* (Springer 2017). His research has been funded domestically by the National Science Foundation, the Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center ([SESYNC](#)) and by federal resource management agencies including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the United States Geological Survey. Internationally his research has been supported by the Leibniz-Institute, the Australian Academy of Sciences and the Belmont Forum.

Currently his lab is working on a participatory modeling software called [Mental Modeler](#), which he, his students, and colleagues are applying in a variety of environmental planning and research contexts, including marine spatial planning in Europe, co-created citizen science projects in the US and in Australia, coastal hazard planning in the Pacific Islands, recreational angler decision-making in Germany, wildfire planning in the Pacific Northwest, conservation agricultural planning in Nepal and India, and understanding bushmeat trade dynamics for conservation planning in Tanzania.

Dr. Jenny Hodbod

Assistant Professor

Jenny Hodbod is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Community Sustainability, where she focuses on building resilient food systems – environmentally and economically sustainable food systems that can equitably feed a growing global population whilst adapting to security threats such as climate change, changing preferences and economic shocks. To integrate these components, she utilizes environmental social science methods within an integrative research design for investigating human-environment interactions – resilience assessment. Taking this perspective allows her to investigate impacts across multiple scales, to highlight all impacts – intended or not – for all actors. Jenny practices applied research in order to test and disseminate potential solutions in food systems. Her collaborators include members of key research and engagement organizations, academics from multiple disciplines and universities, local and national governments, NGOs, and smallholder and commercial producers. Jenny is a board member of the Resilience Alliance and a member of the editorial board for *Ecology & Society*.

Jenny has a PhD in Environmental Social Science from the University of East Anglia (UK), within the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, and was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Arizona State University. Her current research investigates urban agriculture in the USA, Holistic Management (or Adaptive Multi-Paddock (AMP) grazing) in the USA and Kenya, river basin development in Ethiopia, and leverage points in Flint’s food system. All these projects are linked by the use of interdisciplinary methods to investigate cross-scale impacts on adaptive capacity and transformative capacity, and how this influences social-ecological system resilience.

Dr. Phil Howard

Associate Professor

Phil Howard teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in Community, Food and Agriculture. His research focuses on the “food system,” or all of the steps required to produce food and get it to our plates—from farming and processing to distribution and consumption. He is the author of *Concentration and Power in the Food System: Who Controls What We Eat?* (2016), and a member of the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems. He served as president of the Agriculture, Food & Human Values Society in 2015-2016, and is a member of the editorial board of its journal, *Agriculture and Human Values*.

Phil holds a PhD in Rural Sociology from the University of Missouri, and conducted postdoctoral research at the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He was a visiting scholar at the University of Utah, Division of Nutrition in 2013-2014.

Dr. Rebecca Jordan

Professor and Department Chairperson

Dr. Jordan joined the Department in August 2018. Her research focuses on understanding how individuals reason with scientific data. In particular, she seeks to understand how individuals generate and test explanations for complex phenomena. Dr. Jordan has worked with several audiences (e.g., grade 6-12 students, undergraduate and graduate students, and the public involved in citizen science) to test general research questions about causal reasoning with regard to individual decision-making in environmental contexts. After receiving her B.S. in the Biological Sciences with focus on Psychology, Dr. Jordan received her PhD and Master’s Degrees in Organismal Biology at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Following her time in Massachusetts, Dr. Jordan has completed postdoctoral fellowships at Princeton University in New Jersey and at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Prior to joining the department, Dr. Jordan was a faculty member at Rutgers University in New Jersey.

Dr. Linda Kalof

Professor

Linda Kalof is Professor of Sociology and founder of the Michigan State University’s interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate in Animal Studies: Humanities & Social Science Perspectives (animalstudies.msu.edu). She studies the cultural representations of animals and the links between culture and nature. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation (Picturing Animals in National Geographic, Linda Kalof, Principal Investigator, NSF SES-1247824, \$247,000). She has published more than 60 articles and book chapters and 12 books, most recently *The Animals Reader, Second Edition* (2022) and *The Oxford Handbook of Animal Studies* (2017).

Dr. Michael D. Kaplowitz

Professor

Michael D. Kaplowitz is a professor of environmental law, resource economics, and sustainable development. Kaplowitz currently serves MSU as one of its two Faculty Athletics Representatives [FAR] to the Big Ten and NCAA. As FAR, Kaplowitz's responsibilities center on looking out for and enhancing the welfare of student-athletes as well as the academic integrity of the athletics program. Additionally, Kaplowitz is engaged in CSUS undergraduate education teaching multiple sections of the department's CSUS200-Introduction to Community Sustainability and engaged in graduate education primarily advising students engaged in international development.

Kaplowitz holds a BS in Industrial Economics from Union College (NY) and a JD from Duke University. After practicing law in New York City, Kaplowitz returned to school and received an MA in Latin American Studies, Environmental Policy, and International Economics from Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and a PhD in Resource Development and Resource Economics from Michigan State University (MSU).

Kaplowitz published *Property Rights, Economics, and the Environment* (JAI Press) and has peer-reviewed articles on topics including nonmarket valuation of ecosystems, watershed management, international development, and research methods in journals including *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Ecological Economics*, *Duke Environmental Law and Policy Forum*, *Journal of Environmental Planning & Management*, and *Public Opinion Quarterly*. Kaplowitz has co-authored chapters in: *Methods for Testing and Evaluating Survey Questionnaire*, Eds. S. Pressor et al. (John Wiley and Sons); *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment* (United Nations); and *Valuation of Ecological Resources* (Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry). In 2004, Kaplowitz received a Fulbright U.S. Scholars fellowship for teaching and research in eastern Costa Rica at EARTH University.

In addition, since 2018, Kaplowitz has been a co-facilitator for MSU Dialogues, specifically dialogues on race for MSU faculty and staff. Intergroup dialogues (dialogues) use co-facilitators and specially-designed curricula to foster sustained discourse between participants with different social identities to advance improved intergroup relationships, develop critical consciousness, and increase capabilities for promoting social justice. MSU Dialogues runs non-credit dialogue programs each semester on race and gender (and religion) for undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty/staff. If you haven't done an MSU Dialogue, you should really think about adding that to your list of things to do.

Kaplowitz served as department chair from 2011-2016.

Dr. John Kerr

Professor

John Kerr is a professor in the Department of Community Sustainability and serves as acting associate chair. Since 1990 he has conducted research on the roles of community development, collective action, property rights, economic incentives and policies related to natural resource management in the context of international agricultural development. More recently his research has also focused on the effects of short-term financial incentives for behavior change on social norms and collective action. He has lived in and/or conducted fieldwork for such research in numerous countries in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. He has taught graduate classes on international development (CSUS 826), community-based natural resource management (CSUS 848), and the core graduate class (CSUS 800). He also teaches CSUS 300, theoretical foundations of sustainability. Kerr received his Ph.D. and M.A. from the Food Research Institute at Stanford University and his B.A. in Economics from Swarthmore College. He worked for five years at an international research institute in India and has been at MSU since 1999.

Dr. Maria Claudia Lopez

Associate Professor

Maria Claudia Lopez is an associate professor in the Department of Community Sustainability. Her scholarly work is motivated by her commitment to investigate how different rules, norms regulations, understood as institutions, drive resource users to govern their natural resources in sustainable and cooperative ways. For the past years, she had been working in two different projects funded by National Science Foundation (NSF) aiming to find ways for positive environmental and socio-economic outcomes in hydropower development projects and reduce negative impacts. I have studied how communities are impacted by the construction of the dams, and how compensations mechanisms are not enough to restore people's livelihoods.

Before joining MSU, Maria Claudia was an assistant professor in her home country, Colombia. At MSU, she has taught the graduate level CSUS 802, a Survey of Research Methods, and CSUS 848, a course on Community-based Natural Resource Management in Developing Countries. She also teaches an undergraduate course on International Development and Sustainability.

Dr. Dan McCole

Associate Professor

Dan McCole is an interdisciplinary social scientist whose scholarly interests include tourism, protected areas, entrepreneurship, outdoor recreation/education/leadership. His scholarship is often at the nexus of organizations and the sustainability of communities, and he has worked extensively throughout Michigan, Europe and sub-Saharan Africa. His interests have led to funded studies in two main areas: 1) community impacts of natural resources/agriculture-based tourism and recreation; and 2) the emerging field of social enterprise. Dan's work combines the foundations and principles of economics, management systems, and motivation with a deep understanding of the role leisure in peoples' lives. Further, he uses research methods and analysis to bring a scientific approach to solving problems related to the development and management of small businesses and their relationship with the sustainability of communities. Some of his projects have included:

- A partnership with the USDA Forest Service to create a new resource for fee pricing of campgrounds and other amenities.
- A Fulbright fellowship to teach about tourism and study issues facing European tourism communities.
- Development and evaluation of a funded project in Tanzania, Ghana and Botswana that aims to introduce youth ages 15-19 to entrepreneurship using their interest in sport.
- A project funded by the Fulbright Commission to study the impact of consumer reviews and management responses on tourists' purchase decisions in Austria.
- A USDA funded project involving wine tourism in the northern United States. Initiatives include profiling tasting room visitors, understanding wine tourism behavior & collaboration in the wine tourism industry.
- A Sea Grant- funded project, *Integrated Assessment*, involving coastal areas of Michigan's Thumb region, which is working collaboratively to find new ways to use its resources to attract tourists after the Chinook Salmon fishery collapse.
- A project funded by Oakland County Parks examines how park attractions can contribute to a more sustainable community. The project focus has been on attractions such as: farmer's markets, greenhouse complex, nature-based education programs, a proposed off-road vehicle park, a heritage sports center.
- An impact assessment of the Grameen Foundations Community Knowledge Worker (CKW) program in Uganda. The program aims to reduce poverty among Ugandan farmers by equipping model farmers with smart phones equipped with a database of agricultural information. These model farmers (CKWs) then act as liaisons between their neighbors and information about improved agricultural practices as well as market and weather conditions.
- A project funded by the International Joint Commission to explore the impact of lower water levels in the Upper Great Lakes (as a result of climate change). Dan's research focus was on identifying sustainability indicators and providing a contextual narrative for coastal tourism and recreational boating in the Great Lakes.

Dr. R. Buddy McKendree

Assistant Professor

Buddy McKendree is an Assistant Professor within the Department of Community Sustainability at Michigan State University. Buddy's research focuses on effective teaching and learning within agriculture, food, and natural resources (AFNR) Education. Specifically, Buddy has a passion for research in the area of metacognitive thinking, and how metacognition influences student achievement. His research helps to inform his teaching in AFNR education, which includes teaching a seminar course for students interested in AFNR education as a career (CSUS 222), a preservice teacher education course focused on teaching methods (TE 407), a seminar course for student teachers (TE 804), an induction course for early career teachers and students enrolled in the AFNRE Master's of Arts program (CSUS 864), and co-teaches a Laboratory Methods Master's course for in-service AFNR educators (CSUS 863). In addition, Buddy supervises student teachers in the formal-track AFNR Education program (TE 501 and 502).

Before joining MSU, Buddy taught middle school and high school AFNR Education in both Florida and Indiana, and recently completed his Ph.D. through Kansas State University in Curriculum and Instruction (2019). Buddy also serves as co-Advisor for the AFNR Education Club.

Dr. Aaron McKim

Assistant Professor

Aaron McKim is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Community Sustainability. Aaron's research focuses on the facilitation of interdisciplinary learning spaces within the context of agriculture, food, and natural resources (AFNR) education. In this work, Aaron explores the role educators, both formal and non-formal, play in making connections between AFNR and science, mathematics, leadership, and engineering. This work is compelled by the critical need to prepare individuals to think outside traditional disciplinary boundaries to solve complex problems at the nexus of social and ecological interactions. Aaron is establishing a portfolio of funded projects, with current work funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and applications for funding at the USDA, National Science Foundation, United States Department of Education, and Environmental Protection Agency. His research helps to inform his teaching in AFNR education, which includes teaching a seminar course for students interested in AFNR education as a career (CSUS 223) as well as a preservice teacher education course focused on program planning (TE 408). In addition to his work in AFNR education, Aaron has a passion for research and teaching within leadership. Aaron's leadership research seeks to challenge traditional notions of leadership being influence, linear change, and organization and replace, instead, the concept of leadership for sustainability. Leadership for sustainability suggests all members of a system are responsible for guiding that system toward ecological, economic, and social sustainability; thus, the act of leadership being the responsibility of an identified "leader" is challenged. In this scholarship, Aaron positions leadership for sustainability as a required way of thinking to address the increasingly complex and consequential challenges faced by society. Leadership for sustainability presents an exciting opportunity to shape conversations about research and practice related to leadership for many years to come. Aaron's scholarship on leadership for sustainability guides his teaching of a leadership for sustainability course (CSUS 322). Before joining MSU, Aaron earned a B.S. in Agricultural Education (2006) from Purdue University; M.S. in Agricultural Education (2013) from Oregon State University; and Ph.D. in Science Education (2016) from Oregon State University.

Dr. Michael Olabisi

Assistant Professor

Michael Olabisi researches how the movements of goods, people and ideas shapes economic outcomes. He is interested in economic volatility and its heterogenous effects – how shocks to the normal flows of goods and income affect some households and businesses more than others. His ongoing research efforts include projects on women’s savings groups in East Africa, supply chain linkages that bring food to markets in West Africa, and how international trade drives growth in developing economies. His published works fall broadly in the areas of economic development and international trade. He is excited about interdisciplinary collaborations that address challenges on multiple scales.

Michael Olabisi received his PhD from the University of Michigan and has a master’s degree from Cornell University. His work on international trade led to research visits in Singapore and Beijing, with support from the National Science Foundation and the Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER). He is currently affiliated with Michigan State University's Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR). He is appointed jointly in the Department of Community Sustainability and the Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, with research and teaching responsibilities.

Dr. Elizabeth “Bess” Perry

Assistant Professor

Bess Perry is an Assistant Professor of Protected Areas and Natural Resources Recreation Management. Her work focuses on enhancing park relevance and management. Bess examines how parks and outdoor recreation activities can build meaningful, sustainable stewardship connections with visitors, underrepresented groups, organizational partners, and local communities. Her research spans from parks to regions and often includes interdisciplinary and cross-scale contributions.

She typically works with conservation agencies, recreation organizations, and place and identity-based groups on their pressing concerns. Bess draws from theoretical frameworks related to visitor use management, inclusion strategies, tourism and leisure, organizational behavior, and resilience. She commonly uses mixed methods to address the questions at hand. For example, a recent project at Joshua Tree National Park combines quantitative visitor surveys, cell phone spatial location data, and qualitatively coded Twitter posts to understand visitor perceptions of current conditions and potential management actions, in-park travel patterns, and beyond-park conversations, respectively. Current projects include work on recreation use measurement and management in Michigan and Indiana’s state wildlife areas; partnerships and collaborations for efficiency in Oman and D.C. parks; mountain biking impacts; and others on inclusion, climate change, and regional character.

Bess also enjoys teaching courses, mentoring students, writing collaboratively, and enthusiastically discussing all-things-parks-and-recreation. She is often out exploring parks and is commonly found trail running or playing outside with her children and dog.

Bess holds a PhD in Natural Resources (University of Vermont), MS in Forest Ecosystems and Society (Oregon State University), and BS in Natural Resource Ecology – Conservation Biology (University of Idaho). Before joining MSU, she was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Clemson University. Bess also has significant work experience in national and state parks, which assists in considering how to increase the utility of applied social science.

Dr. Matt R. Raven

Professor

Matt R. Raven is a Professor in the Department of Community Sustainability at Michigan State University. Dr. Raven received his B.S. in Plant Science (Agronomy and Range Science) as well as his Ag Specialist and Life Science Single Subject teaching credentials from University of California at Davis, his Masters in Agricultural Education from Kansas State University and his Ph.D. in Agricultural Education from The Ohio State University. Prior to Michigan State University he served on the faculty at Montana State University and Mississippi State University and as a program evaluator for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. His research interests include teaching and learning in higher education, diffusion and adoption of innovations in agriculture and community food systems, and the connection between healthy soils, healthy food, healthy people, and healthy communities with an emphasis on

the utilization of grazing livestock to improve our soils. Dr. Raven is a faculty coordinator of the Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center (UPREC) located in Chatham, Michigan with responsibilities in community food systems. Dr. Raven also coordinates the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resource pre-service teacher program and is the Hub Leader for the Savory Hub located at the Lake City Research Center located in Lake City, Michigan. He is an accredited Field Professional and Master Verifier through the Savory Institute.

Dr. Robert Richardson **Professor**

Robert Richardson is a Professor of the Department of Community Sustainability. He is an ecological economist with interests in the study of environment and development, particularly the contribution of ecosystem services and natural resources to socioeconomic well-being. He holds a PhD in agricultural and resource economics from Colorado State University. Dr. Richardson uses a variety of methods from the behavioral and social sciences to study tradeoffs in decision making related to the use of natural resources and the protection of ecosystem services. He has conducted research in southern and eastern Africa, Central America, and southeast Asia, as well as in several regions in the USA. He teaches courses in sustainable development and environmental studies. Dr. Richardson is Past-President of the U.S. Society of Ecological Economics, and a member of the International Society for Ecological Economics.

Dr. Laura Schmitt Olabisi **Associate Professor**

Dr. Schmitt Olabisi is a participatory modeler exploring the sustainability of complex systems with human and environmental components. She works directly with stakeholders, using participatory model-building techniques to foster adaptive learning about the dynamics of coupled human-natural systems, and to integrate stakeholder knowledge with academic knowledge. Dr. Schmitt Olabisi works predominantly with agricultural, food and energy systems, but the modeling tools she uses may be applied in a wide range of contexts. Her past and present research has addressed soil erosion, greenhouse gas emissions, water sustainability, energy use, deforestation, adoption of organic/sustainable agricultural technologies, climate change, human migration, and human health. Currently, she is working in Uganda with Alliance for African Partnership fellow Ellen Kayendeke on modeling wetland conversion to agriculture; and in Michigan, on food security, urban agriculture systems, and renewable energy. She is a founding member of Magnolia Moonshot 2030 (<https://www.mm2030.org/>), and was a 2018-19 Fellow with the American Association of the Advancement of Science Leshner Leadership Institute for Public Engagement.

Dr. Murari Suvedi **Professor**

Dr. Suvedi joined the faculty of Michigan State University in 1990. His teaching and research focus are on program evaluation. He teaches a course on program evaluation in agriculture development and natural resources management. He is actively engaged in international development. He recently completed a study on process skills and competency gaps in undergraduate agricultural extension curriculum in South Asia. He is currently working on strengthening agricultural extension training in the MSU-Alliance for African Partnership (AAP) consortium partners in Africa.

He serves as visiting professor and presents special lectures on international agricultural development at Tokyo University of Agriculture. He is the author of “What Every Extension Worker Should Know: Core Competency Handbook for Agricultural Extension Workers” and “Evaluation of Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services – A Training Module,” both published by USAID-funded Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services project. He also facilitated the development of Cambodia’s agriculture extension policy, agricultural extension strategic action plan, and policy implementation guidelines. He has on-going research projects in South Asia and MSU-AAP partner universities in Africa.

Dr. Paul B. Thompson

Professor and WK Kellogg Chairperson

Paul B. Thompson holds the W.K. Kellogg Chair in Agricultural, Food and Community Ethics at Michigan State University, where he serves on the faculty in the departments of Philosophy, Community Sustainability and Agricultural, and Food and Resource Economics. Thompson's three main areas of research are: theoretical foundations of sustainability, ethical dimensions of welfare in livestock and farmed animals; and ethical issues in emerging technology, especially gene technologies in agriculture. Thompson co-teaches a course on ethics in agricultural biotechnology with Professor Rebecca Grumet from MSU's Department of Horticulture. In addition, Thompson is interested in food ethics more generally, including food sovereignty, food justice and ethical consumption.

Dr. Gail A. Vander Stoep

Associate Professor and Graduate Program Coordinator

Dr. Vander Stoep came to MSU in 1992 after serving on faculty at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and Temple University. Her broad areas of work across teaching, research, and outreach include **Communications** (environmental, historical & cultural interpretation; environmental education; use of communication as a resource management tool); **Resource Management** (maritime heritage and resources; natural resources & resource-based recreation); **Tourism** (heritage/cultural tourism; community-based sustainable tourism development). She is involved in complementary work in zoo and aquarium management, museum studies, and wilderness/adventure/experiential education. Dr. Vander Stoep serves as the CSUS Department's Graduate Program Coordinator, has a small appointment with MSU Extension, and works with the MSU Museum Studies and the Arts and Cultural Management Programs, the Zoo and Aquarium Science and Management program, and is a member of the Informal Learning Network.

Dr. Vander Stoep serves Michigan in maritime-related areas as Secretary of the Michigan Lighthouse Association, Secretary of the Association for Great Lakes Maritime History, partner in the Great Lakes Fisheries Heritage Consortium, and has served on the Michigan Underwater Salvage and Preserve Committee. Nationally and regionally she serves her professions in numerous roles with the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) and National Environment and Recreation Research Association (NERRA), and as a reviewer for various journals. She is a certified trainer for NAI in interpretation, and for avocational underwater archaeology with the Nautical Archaeology Society.

During the past 20+ years, her work has expanded to international contexts. She has co-led study abroad programs to Anguilla, BWI and Australia, and since 2007, to the Himalayas of India. Since 2005 she has been involved with a sustainable development project in the Federated States of Micronesia, using tourism as an entrée to multi-sector, integrated sustainable development. Other international conference, education abroad, and project involvement has included Indonesia, Nepal, South Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, Australia & New Zealand, Canada, Scotland, Greece, Panama, Croatia, and Mexico.

Dr. Wynne Wright

Associate Professor

Wynne Wright is associate professor jointly appointed in the Departments of Community Sustainability and Sociology with obligations that span teaching, research (AgBioResearch), and engagement/outreach (MSU Extension). Her scholarly interests are in the area of Community, Food and Agriculture, Rural Development, Gender, and Social Inequality. Wynne's work largely focuses on the cultural and political aspects of agrifood system change in both local and global contexts, and its differential impacts on rural livelihoods and rural places. She is particularly drawn to the ways in which people come into conflict over food and agriculture, compelling her to explore issues of boundary setting that affirms inclusion/exclusion, equality/inequality via the process of 'othering.' Currently, she co-leads a program on advancing women agri-entrepreneurs in south and east Africa that is funded by the U.S. Department of State. Her work is primarily geographically concentrated in the U.S., but she also conducts research and teaches regularly outside the U.S. Currently, she holds a visiting lectureship at the University of Toulouse-INP, El Purpan in Toulouse, France. In 2006 she held a Fulbright Fellowship in which she served as a

visiting lecturer at Szent István University in Gödöllő, Hungary. She has also served as a visiting professor at Centre International d'Études Supérieures en Sciences Agronomiques (SupAgro) in Montpellier, France.

Current research projects include a comparative study of American and French farm women; farm women's entrepreneurialism; food, culture, ethnicity, and national identity; and, public engagement in techno-science. Wynne is co-editor of *The Fight Over Food: Producers, Consumers, and Activists Challenge the Global Food System* (2008, Penn State Press), which explores the ways in which global agrifood systems are being transformed. Wynne's research also can be found in multi-disciplinary journals such as *the Journal of Rural Studies*, *Journal of Food, Culture, and Society*, *Agriculture and Human Values Journal*, *Biofuels*, *Journal of Biomass and Bio-Energy*; in applied journals with a public outreach mission, such as *Journal of Extension* and *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*; as well as more classic disciplinary-focused venues such as *Rural Sociology*, *Sociologia Ruralis*, *Teaching Sociology*, and the *Journal of Illness, Crisis, and Loss*. Her engagement work advances citizen participation with both natural resource and agrifood system issues intended as a tool to advance social sustainability. She also uses cultural and place-based strategies to invigorate rural areas in her engagement portfolio. Wynne's regular teaching consists of leading graduate seminars in Community, Food and Agriculture: A Survey; and Gender & the Environment. In her free time she eats and farms in Lansing and Ithaca Michigan.

Dr. Adam Zwickle

Associate Professor

Adam conducts interdisciplinary social science research centered on communicating environmental risks and sustainable natural resource governance. Drawing from the fields of social psychology and risk communication, his work integrates theories of individual perception and decision science to aide communication practitioners and evaluate natural resource policies. Specifically, his goals are to better communicate environmental risks in ways that reduce the amount that their long-term impacts are discounted in order to create more sustainable policies. He is also active in sustainability issues at the university level; directing MSU's Annual Sustainability Survey, partnering with university sustainability offices across the country to increase conservation behaviors among students, and using campuses as living laboratories to produce both theoretical and practical research as well as tangible local impacts.

In addition to this work, Adam also cares deeply about issues of diversity, equity and inclusion among university students and values an environment where everyone feels [valued, supported, and inspired](#). A past member of the [Great Lakes Leadership Academy's Emerging Leader Program](#), he strives to conduct research and outreach in ways that are meaningful to under-represented stakeholders and communities. Adam holds joint appointments with the Department of Community Sustainability, the Environmental Science and Policy Program, and the School of Criminal Justice,

(Retired and Emeritus Faculty listed on next page)

Professors Emeritus / Retired

- Dr. Jon Bartholic** (water resources and environmental management)
- Dr. Jim Bingen** (community, food, and agriculture)
- Dr. Dan Bronstein** (environmental law; environmental impact assessment; international environmental management)
- Dr. Shari Dann** (environmental education, community engagement)
- Dr. Eckhart Dersch** (watershed management)
- Dr. Frank Fear** (extraordinary change in organizational and community settings)
- Dr. Michael Hamm** (sustainable and regional food systems)
- Dr. Kirk Heinze** (understanding and communicating salient environmental and agricultural issues)
- Dr. Don Holecek** (tourism and resource economics)
- Dr. Peter Kakela** (mining—especially iron ore, energy, and other natural resource issues)
- Dr. Ralph Levine** (human dimension of biological & physical systems; community health issues; system dynamics)
- Dr. Ed Mahoney** (commercial recreation, tourism, marketing)
- Dr. Eddie Moore** (agricultural education, leadership & organizational development, program planning, diversity, international programming)
- Dr. Charles “Chuck” Nelson** (natural resource recreation management, policy, and law enforcement)
- Dr. Pat Norris** (natural resource economics and governance)
- Dr. Richard Paulsen** (community-based recreation planning and management)
- Prof. Gaylan Rasmussen** (landscape architecture, planning and design)
- Dr. Ger Schultink** (international resource development and AgBio research)
- Dr. David Wright** (agriculture history and ethics)