

Michelle Smirnova

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RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

2025 - present	Rice University , Houston, TX Associate Professor of Sociology
2025 - present	Kinder Institute , Houston, TX Director of the Center for Housing & Neighborhoods,
2015 - present	FrameWorks Institute , Washington, DC Research Fellow
2019 - 2025	University of Missouri , Kansas City, MO Associate Professor of Sociology
2021 - 2025	Affiliate Faculty of Race, Ethnic, & Gender Studies
2015 - 2021	Affiliate Faculty of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
2013 - 2019	Assistant Professor of Sociology
2011 - 2013	United States Census Bureau , Research & Development, Suitland, MD Research Sociologist

EDUCATION

2013	University of Maryland , College Park - Ph.D., Sociology
2008	University of Maryland , College Park - M.A., Sociology
2006	Washington University in St. Louis - B.A., International Studies & Psychology

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Health Medicine Social Movements Reparative Justice Intersectionality Housing

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

Smirnova, Michelle. *Tenant Power: How to Grow a Housing Justice Movement*. Under Contract with Princeton University Press.

Smirnova, Michelle. 2023. *The Prescription-to-Prison-Pipeline: The Medicalization & Criminalization of Pain*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

- Reviewed in the *American Journal of Sociology*, *Contemporary Sociology*, *Family Medicine*, the *Journal of Anthropological Research*, and the *Journal of Historical Behavioral Science*
- Featured in *Inquest*, *Work in Progress*, and *WUSTL's The Source*

- Hosted on *KPFA's Law & Disorder, The Annex, The New Books, and Infectious Historians* podcasts
- Keynote at the University of Maryland's William Form Lecture

Journal Articles

- Smirnova, Michelle, Jordan Ayala, Clara Irazábal. 2024. "What do we want? Housing! When do we want it? Now! Building a Social Movement in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Black Lives Matter, and Housing Injustice ." *Socius*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23780231241290540>
- Grimes, Amanda and Michelle Smirnova. 2020. Perspectives on an Earn-a-Bike Intervention on Transportation, Health and Self- Esteem among Men Experiencing Homelessness. *Journal of Transport & Health*. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S2214140520301080>
- Featured by the Health Forward Foundation: <https://healthforward.org/study-shows-bikes-are-a-lifeline-for-kc-men-experiencing-homelessness/>
 - Featured by BikeWalkKC: <https://bikewalkkc.org/blog/2020/08/bikes-as-freedom-hope-faith-study/>
- Smirnova, Michelle and Jennifer Owens. 2019. The New Mothers' Little Helpers: Medicalization, Victimization, and Criminalization of Motherhood via Prescription Drugs. *Deviant Behavior*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01639625.2018.1449433>
- Owens, Jennifer and Michelle Smirnova. 2019. Combatting Rx Drug Misuse: Women's Proactive and Reactive Policy Recommendations. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0887403418786549>
- Smirnova, Michelle. 2018. Small Hands, Nasty Women, and Bad Hombres: Hegemonic Masculinity and Humor in the 2016 Presidential Election. *Socius*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2378023117749380>
- Owens, Jennifer and Michelle Smirnova. 2018. It's the Same, Only It's Not: Perceptions of the Prescription Drug Market in Comparison to other Illicit Drug Markets. *Journal of Drug Issues*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022042618762731>
- Smirnova, Michelle. 2017. Authenticity as (Post-) Modern Ethics: An Analysis of the *New York Times'* Ethicist Column. *Journal of Sociology*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1440783317729763>
- Smirnova, Michelle and Jennifer Owens. 2017. Medicalized addiction, self-medication, or nonmedical prescription drug use? How trust figures into incarcerated women's conceptualization of prescription drug use. *Social Science & Medicine* 183: 106-115. doi: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2017.04.047
- Smirnova, Michelle and Paul Scanlon. 2017. Experience- and Cultural-Repertoire-Based Avenues of Trust: An Analysis of Public Trust in Statistical Agencies and their Data. *Social Policy & Society*. 16(2): 219-236.
- Smirnova, Michelle. 2017. Multiple Masculinities: Gender Performativity in Soviet Humor. *Men & Masculinities* 20(2): 204-229. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1097184X15625315>
- Smirnova, Michelle. 2016. 'I'm a cheerleader, but secretly I deal drugs': Authenticity in the Disclosed and Undisclosed Self. *Symbolic Interaction* 39(1): 26-44. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/symbinte.39.1.26?seq=1>

Smirnova, Michelle. 2014. What is the Shortest Russian Joke? Communism. Russian Cultural Consciousness Expressed through Soviet Humor. *Qualitative Sociology* 37(3): 323-343.

Smirnova, Michelle. 2012. A Will to Youth: The Aging Woman's Civic Duty. *Social Science & Medicine* 75(7):1236-1243. doi: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2012.02.061

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Government Reports & Research Briefs

Kotlaja, Marijana, Byung Gu Kang, Misty Campbell, Joseph Workman, Michelle Smirnova, Daniel Ferman-Leon. 2025. Justice and Community Safety Initiative Violence Prevention Fund Annual Report.

Smirnova, Michelle, Aleia Clark Fobia, and Theresa J. DeMaio. 2013. Final Report on Cognitive Testing of the 2013 Current Population Survey Unbanked/Underbanked. *Research and Methodology Directorate, Center for Survey Measurement Study Series (Survey Methodology #2013-25)*. <http://www.census.gov/srd/papers/pdf/ssm2013-25pdf>

Smirnova, Michelle. 2013. Cognitive Testing Report of Notice of Visit Flyer and Questions about Administrative Records Linkage. *Research and Methodology Directorate, Center for Survey Measurement Study Series (Survey Methodology #2013-20)*. U.S. Census Bureau. Available online at <<http://www.census.gov/srd/papers/pdf/ssm2013-20.pdf>>.

Smirnova, Michelle and Paul Scanlon. 2013. 2013 National Census Contact Test (NCCT) Cognitive Testing Report. *Research and Methodology Directorate, Center for Survey Measurement Study Series (Survey Methodology #2013-19)*. U.S. Census Bureau. Available online at <<http://www.census.gov/srd/papers/pdf/ssm2013-19.pdf>>.

Smirnova, Michelle and Paul Scanlon. 2013. 2013 Census Test Cognitive Interview Report. *Research and Methodology Directorate, Center for Survey Measurement Study Series (Survey Methodology #2013-18)*. U.S. Census Bureau. Available online at <<http://www.census.gov/srd/papers/pdf/ssm2013-18.pdf>>.

Childs, Jennifer, Jennifer Leeman, and Michelle Smirnova. 2012. Behavior Coding Report of 2010 Census Coverage Followup English and Spanish Interviews. *Research and Methodology Directorate, Center for Survey Measurement Study Series (Survey Methodology #2013-19)*. U.S. Census Bureau. Available online at <http://www.census.gov/srd/papers/pdf/ssm2012-08.pdf>

Invited Book Reviews

Smirnova, Michelle. 2021. Legalizing Racism, Review of *Debating the Drug War: Race, Politics, and the Media*, by Michael L. Rosino. *Symbolic Interaction*.

Smirnova, Michelle. 2014. Review of *Mothers Unite!: Organizing for Workplace Flexibility and the Transformation of Family Life*, by Jocelyn Elise Crowley. *Gender & Society*. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0891243214528375>

Invited Encyclopedia Entries

Smirnova, Michelle. 2013. Organic Food. In George Ritzer and J. Michael Ryan's (eds) *Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Globalization*. Wiley-Blackwell Publishing, 2013.

- Smirnova, Michelle. 2008. Body and Sexuality. In George Ritzer and J. Michael Ryan (eds) *Concise Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*. London: Wiley-Blackwell, pp. 38-9.
- Smirnova, Michelle and George Ritzer. 2007. McDonaldization. In Wade Clark Roof and Mark Juergensmeyer (eds) *Encyclopedia of Global Religion and Society*. Oxford: SAGE Publications.
- Smirnova, Michelle. 2007. Cosmetic Surgery. In George Ritzer (ed) *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*. Blackwell Publishing. Blackwell Reference Online.

Public Writing and Appearances

- Featured in Isabella Ledonne's "Raytown apartment complex launches rent strike, demands better living conditions." October 1, 2025. <https://www.kshb.com/news/local-news/raytown-apartment-complex-launches-rent-strike-demands-better-living-conditions>
- Invited Guest. "The Prescription-to-Prison Pipeline." *KPFA's Law & Disorder*, October 3, 2024.
- Featured in Mark Dent's "In sports-crazed Kansas City, a proposed stadium tax exposes deep divisions." *Washington Post*, April 1, 2024. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/2024/04/01/royals-chiefs-stadium-tax-vote/>
- Invited Guest. "The Prescription-to-Prison Pipeline." *The Annex* podcast, February 5, 2024.
- Invited Guest on "Help with Navigating a Complex Media Landscape" *PBS Flatland in Focus*. December 21, 2023. <https://flatlandkc.org/news-issues/help-with-navigating-a-complex-media-landscape/>
- Invited Guest. "The Prescription-to-Prison Pipeline." *Infectious Historians* podcast, October 9, 2023. <https://infectioushistorians.com/2023/12/16/prison-pipeline/>
- Invited Guest on "What helped KC Tenants gain influence so quickly? One word: outrage." *Up to Date*, National Public Radio, KCUR, June 30, 2023. <https://www.kcur.org/podcast/up-to-date/2023-06-30/whats-made-kc-tenants-so-effective-so-quickly-the-answer-emption>
- Smirnova, Michelle. 2023. "The Essentialism of Addiction." *Inquest*. June 27, 2023. <https://inquest.org/the-essentialism-of-addiction/>
- Smirnova, Michelle. 2023. "When Medicine Becomes a Drug: Treatment and Punishment of Prescription Drug "Abuse"." *Work in Progress*. May 25, 2023. <http://www.wipsociology.org/2023/05/25/when-medicine-becomes-a-drug-treatment-and-punishment-of-prescription-drug-abuse/>
- Invited Guest. "The Prescription-to-Prison Pipeline." *New Books Network* podcast. May 15, 2023. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/the-prescription-to-prison-pipeline>
- Invited Guest on "Missouri professor discusses limits of federal eviction moratorium." *The Hill*, February 21, 2021. <https://thehill.com/hilltv/rising/539607-university-of-missouri-professor-discusses-limits-of-federal-eviction/>
- Invited Guest on "Screentime: I, Tonya" *Central Standard*. National Public Radio, KCUR, January 24, 2018. <http://kcur.org/post/screentime-i-tonya-marbles>
- Invited Guest on "St. Louis Protests; #MeToo" *Central Standard*. National Public Radio, KCUR, October 18, 2017. <http://kcur.org/post/st-louis-protests-metoo>

Invited Guest on “Russian-Americans in Kansas City” *Central Standard*. National Public Radio, KCUR, January 31, 2017. <http://kcur.org/post/russian-americans-kansas-city#stream/0>

Invited Guest on “Thanksgiving Conversations” *Central Standard*. National Public Radio, KCUR, November 28, 2016. <http://kcur.org/post/thanksgiving-conversations#stream/0>

Invited Guest on “Halloween Customs” *Central Standard*. National Public Radio, KCUR, October 31, 2016. <http://kcur.org/post/halloween-customs-evolutionary-case-homosexuality#stream/0>

Invited Guest on “Who are we? Cultural Identity on The Kansas-Missouri Border” *Central Standard*. NPR, KCUR, December 18, 2014. <http://kcur.org/post/unspoken-rules-kansas-city-etiquette#stream/0>

Invited Guest on “Won’t You Be My (Online) Neighbor?” *Central Standard*. NPR, KCUR, August 22, 2014.

Invited Guest on “Global Standards of Beauty” Interview for *The Make Believe*, NPR, WBUR.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

2026-2031	Houston Affordability Dashboard, Harris County Finance Corporation. (\$517,930), Principal Investigator
2026-2027	Closing the Data-to-Action Gap: Turning Survivor Reports into Coordinated Recovery with the Connective Survey, Adaptive Capacities for Transformation (ACT) Initiative: Houston (\$50,000), Consultant
2025-2026	2026 State Of Housing in Harris County and Houston, Wells Fargo Foundation (\$50,000), Principal Investigator
2024-2025	Evaluation of Kansas City’s Violence Prevention Fund, Missouri Department of Health (\$1,311,484), Qualitative Lead
2024-2025	Funding For Excellence Research Grant (\$10,000), Principal Investigator
2023-2024	Chancellor’s Fellow for Diversity and Inclusion (\$12,000)
2022-2024	Bernardin Research Development Grant (\$4,000), Principal Investigator
2021	Freedom Frontier Heritage Area Discussion Grant (\$2,500)
2021-2023	Provost’s Fellow for Diversity and Inclusion (\$24,000)
2020-2021	Health Equity Institute Mini-Grant (\$1,900), Principal Investigator
2019-2021	Norman Royall Distinguished Professor Award (\$16,000)
2018	University of Missouri Inter-Campus Research Board Grant (\$7,220), Principal Investigator
2017	Women, Gender & Sexualities Studies Faculty Research Grant (\$1,700), Principal Investigator
2016	Women, Gender & Sexualities Studies Faculty Research Grant (\$2,000), Principal Investigator
2016	Funding for Excellence Research Grant (\$15,000), Principal Investigator
2015	Women & Gender Studies Faculty Research Grant (\$2,000), Principal Investigator
2014-15	University of Missouri Faculty Scholars Fellowship
2014-15	University of Missouri Inter-Campus Research Board Grant (\$10,000), Principal Investigator
2014	University of Missouri Teaching Enhancement Grant (\$4,000)
2012	Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship (\$10,000)
2012	Behavioral & Social Sciences Outstanding Instructor Finalist
2011	Dissertation Fellow, European University in St. Petersburg, Russia
2010	Summer Research Fellowship, University of Maryland (\$5,000)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Rice University

Bodies in Context
Houston: Sociology of a City

University of Missouri, Kansas City

Body & Society
Culture, Emotion, & Identity
Introduction to Sociology
Social Theory
Social Movements
Sociology of Medicine
Sociology of Gender
Technology & Society
Graduate Qualitative Methods
Graduate Sociology of Gender
Graduate Sociology of Medicine
Graduate Critical Discourse Analysis (Independent Study)

University of Maryland, College Park

Introduction to Sociology
Honors Introduction to Sociology
Contemporary Social Problems
Sociological Social Theory
Sociological Social Psychology
Sociological Theories of Popular Culture
Introduction to Psychology (Assisted)
Globalizing Theory (Assisted in Graduate Seminar)

ADVISING

PhD Committee

J. Ayala – Economics (ongoing)
B. Matlock – Economics - (ongoing)
T. Murphy—Sociology, University of Maryland (ongoing)
D. Dan-Irabor – Criminology, University of Missouri, St. Louis – (2022)

MA Thesis Chair

E. Robertson – Sociology, UMKC (2019)
C. Thompson- Sociology, UMKC (2018)
K. Fagan- Sociology, UMKC (2015)

MA Committee Member

- R. Dexter – Sociology, Rice
- E. McQuillen – Criminal Justice / Criminology, UMKC (2025)
- A. Niner- Criminal Justice / Criminology, UMKC (2022)
- M. Hough- Sociology, UMKC (2018)
- K. Hamel- Sociology, UMKC (2018)
- S. Merritt- Sociology, UMKC (2016)
- K. Douglas- Sociology, UMKC (2016)

DISCIPLINARY SERVICE

- Nominations Committee, Collective Behavior & Social Movements, ASA (2024-2027)
- Chair-Elect, Chair, Outgoing Chair, Body & Embodiment Section, ASA (2021-2023)
- Hacker-Mullins Paper Award committee member, Science, Knowledge & Technology Section, ASA (2021-2022, 2023-2024)
- Sociologists for Women in Society Mentor (2021-2023)
- Nominations committee member, Body & Embodiment Section, ASA (2020-2021)
- Nominations committee member, Sociology of Culture Section, ASA (2019-2020, 2020-2021)
- Sex & Gender Book Award committee member, Sex & Gender Section, ASA (2019-2020)
- Star-Nelkin Paper Award committee member, Science, Knowledge & Technology Section, ASA (2018-2019)
- Nominations committee member, Section of Sex & Gender, ASA (2018-2019)
- Section of Collective Behavior and Social Movements Newsletter Editor, ASA (2012-2015)

Peer Reviewer:

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|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| AIMS Public Health | PLOS One |
| BMC Women’s Health | Qualitative Sociology |
| Gender & Society | Social Problems |
| International Critical Thought | Social Science & Medicine |
| Journal of Consumer Culture | Sociology of Health & Illness |
| Journal of Family Issues | Socius |
| Mobilization | |

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Rice University

- Director of the Center for Housing & Neighborhoods, The Kinder Institute (2025-present)

University of Missouri, Kansas City

- Faculty Senate (2023-present)
- Chancellor’s Diversity & Inclusion Faculty Fellow (2024)
- Chancellor’s Diversity Council Representative (2021-2023)
- Provost Fellow for Diversity & Inclusion (2021-2022)
- Chair, Educate – Organize – Advocate Social Justice Conference (2019- 2022)
- Member, Educate – Organize – Advocate Conference Planning Committee (2018- 2019)
- Vice-President, ARWAA Affinity Group (2020-2022)

Onboarding facilitator, ARWAA Affinity Group (2020-2022)
College of Arts & Sciences Awards Committee Member (2019-2021)
Member, ARWAA Affinity Group (2019-2020)
Undergraduate Research Symposium Judge (2018-2020)
College of Arts & Sciences Strategic Planning Committee Member (Spring 2019)
Faculty Advisor, ASHA - Accredited Social Health Activist RooGroup (2018-2019)
Women & Gender Studies Program Review Committee Board Member (2015-2019)
Women & Gender Studies STEAM Initiative Committee Member (2015-2016)
General Education Curriculum Committee's Discourse Subcommittee Member (2013-2015)
Administrator and Facilitator, Association of College & University Educators UMKC of Focus Groups (2014-2015)

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

University of Missouri, Kansas City

Sociology Annual Review Committee Member (2014-2017, 2022-2024)
Sociology Assessment Committee (2019-2023)
Sociology Graduate Director/Coordinator (2017-2019)
Chair of Sociology Graduate Standards Committee (2017-present)
Sociology Graduate Research Symposium Faculty Advisor and Coordinator (2013-2018)
Sociology Hiring Committee (S15, F15, F16)
Sociology Service Management Committee Member (2013-2016)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Houston-Harris County Housing Affordability Strategy Advisory Committee (2025-present)
Kansas City Community Land Trust Board Member (2025-present)
Kansas City Tenants Base Member (2019-present)
Kansas City Public Library Board Member (2021-2025)
Project Homeless Connect (2019-2025)

INVITED TALKS / PRESENTATIONS

"Closest to the Problem, Closest to the Solution: Intersectional Solidarity in The Housing Justice Movement"

- Bard College, Annandale-on-the-Hudson, NY, March 2026
- Huth Lecture, Keynote Speaker, University of Dayton, Dayton, OH, September 2025
- University of Minnesota, Minnesota Population Center, Minneapolis, MN, February 2025
- Rice University, Department of Sociology & Kinder Institute, January, Houston, TX, January 2025
- University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, December 2024

"The Prescription-to-Prison-Pipeline: Medicalization and Criminalization of Pain."

- Bard Prison Initiative, Annandale-on-the-Hudson, NY, March 2026
- William Form Lecture, Keynote Speaker. University of Maryland, College Park. Department of Sociology. March, 2024.
- Dr. Chiarello's *Drugs & Society* course, Saint Louis University St. Louis, MO. November 2023.
- Dr. Huberman's *Social Stratification* course. University of Missouri- Kansas City, Kansas City, MO. October 2023

"What do We Want? Housing! When Do We Want It? Now! KC Tenants and the Fight for Safe, Affordable Housing in Kansas City."

- First-Year Experience. Keynote Speaker with Jordan Ayala. University of Missouri- Kansas City. Kansas City, MO, October 2022

"Moving at the Speed of Trust: Collaborative Research with Grassroots Organizations."

- Criminal Justice Career Conference. University of Missouri- Kansas City. Kansas City, MO, March 2023

"Advancing Health Equity and Empowering Unhoused Men through an Earn-a-Bike Program"

- *Listen to Understand: Conversations at the Heart of Homelessness*. University of Kansas Medical Center Community Conversations, online, July, 2023.

"Will the Real Muzhik Please Stand Up? Masculinities and Soviet Political Humor"

- University of Kansas, Center for Russian, Eastern European and Slavic Studies Brown Bag Lecture Series, Lawrence, KS, December 2015.

"The Power of Gender: An exploration of gender in humor"

- University of Missouri, Kansas City's Graduate Art History Lecture Series, "We Now Pronounce You: Redefining Marriage in the 21st Century," Kansas City, MO, April 2014.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 That Ain't Right & We Got Your Back: Anger, Love, and Joy in Social Movement Work. *American Sociological Association Annual Conference*, August, Chicago, IL.
- 2024 Remembering Our Ancestors: Ideological Diversity and Tension in the Housing Justice Movement. *American Sociological Association Annual Conference*, August, Montreal, CA.
The Prescription-to-Prison-Pipeline: Medicalization and Criminalization of Pain. *Law & Society Annual Conference*. Denver, CO, June.
- 2023 "Those Closest to the Problem are Closest to the Solution: Managing Diversity and Tension in The Housing Justice Movement ." *American Sociological Association Annual Conference*, August, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2022 "Leaning Into Tension: Intersectionality in the Fight for Housing Justice." *American Sociological Association Annual Conference*, August, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2021 "What do We Want? Housing! When Do We Want it? Now! KC Tenants and the Fight for Safe, Affordable Housing in Kansas City." Presented with Jordan Ayala and Clara Irazabel. *American Sociological Association Annual Conference*, August, online.

- 2020 “What do We Want? Housing! When Do We Want it? Now! KC Tenants and the Fight for Safe, Affordable Housing in Kansas City.” Presenting with Jordan Ayala and Clara Irazabel. Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference, November, online.
- “The Crime of Curiosity: DIY Transhumanists, Biohackers, and Grinders” Theorizing the Web Conference, November, online.
- “Removing or Reinforcing Binaries? Reshaping the human body and society through DIY science” American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August, online.
- “Dismantling Binaries through DIY Transhumanism” Sociologists for Women in Society, February, San Diego, CA.
- 2019 “The Pain of Poverty: Nonmedical Prescription Drug Use Among Marginalized Men & Women” American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August, New York, NY.
- “The Contradictions and Distractions of the Prescription Drug ‘Epidemic’” at the Eastern Sociological Association Annual Conference, March, Boston, MA.
- “The Pain of Poverty: The medicalization and criminalization of nonmedical prescription drug use” Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting, February, Denver, CO.
- 2018 “Small Hands, Nasty Women, and Bad Hombres: Hegemonic Masculinity and Humor in the 2016 Presidential Election” at American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August, Philadelphia, PA.
- “The New Mothers’ Little Helpers: Gendered Dimensions of Nonmedical Prescription Drug Use” at American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2017 “Medicalized addiction, self-medication, or nonmedical prescription drug use? How trust figures into incarcerated women’s conceptualization of prescription drug use” at American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August, Montreal, QC.
- “The New Mothers’ Little Helpers: Gendered Dimensions of Nonmedical Prescription Drug Use” at Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Conference, February, Albuquerque, NM.
- 2016 “Trusting Medicine, Doctors, and Herself: Incarcerated Women’s Nonmedical Prescription Drug Use” at American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August, Seattle, WA.
- 2015 “Confessing to Others: Ethical Citizenship in a Morally Ambiguous World” at American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August, Chicago, IL.
- “I’m a cheerleader, but secretly I deal drugs’: Authenticity in the Disclosed and Undisclosed Self” at Eastern Sociological Society, March, New York, NY.
- 2014 “He said, She said: A dialogue between Gendered Soviet Humor and Folklore” at American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August, San Francisco, CA.
- 2013 “Multiple Masculinities: A Gendered Russian Nationalism expressed through Soviet Humor” at the Social Science and History Association Annual Conference, November, Chicago, IL.
- “A Russian, An American and a Jew Walk into a Bar... Nationalism in the Russian Soviet Anekdot” at the American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August, New York, NY.
- “To Share or Not to Share? Understanding Respondents’ Privacy and Confidentiality Concerns regarding Administrative Records Usage” at American Association for Public Opinion Research, May, Boston, MA.

- 2012 “What is the Laughter All about? Collective Identities, Social Movements, Everyday Resistance in the Russo-Soviet Anekdot” at the Social Science History Association Annual Conference in Vancouver, BC.
- “Collective Identities, Memories and Movements: Soviet Humor’s Collective Narratives” at the American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August, Denver, CO.
- “Using Cognitive Interviewing to Identify Privacy and Confidentiality Concerns” with Jennifer Hunter Childs at the Joint Statistical Meetings, July, San Diego, CA.
- “Comparative Research on Non-English Speakers” with Anna Can and Yuling Pan at American Association for Public Opinion Research, May, Orlando FL.
- “Fostering Collective Movements through Humor: The Russo-Soviet Anekdot in Historical Context” at the New School for Social Research Conference ““Locating Solidarity: A Critical Investigation of the Social World”, March, New York, NY.
- 2011 “The Role of Anekdoty in Politicized Collective Identity,” at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August, Las Vegas, NV.
- 2010 “Religious Foundations of the Soviet Union & the Modern Nation State” at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August, Atlanta, GA.
- “Regulation of Intellectual Property and Neo Colonialism,” with Aleia Clark at the Eastern Sociological Society’s Annual Meeting, March, Boston, MA.
- 2009 “A Will to Youth: The Aesthetic Component to the Life-Extension Project,” at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August, San Francisco, CA.
- “Jews for Jesus in Post-Soviet Russia: Identity Tangled in Citizenship, Ethnicity and Religion,” at the American Sociological Association San Francisco, CA.
- “Awakening Sleeping Beauty: Promises of eternal youth & beauty packaged through scientific innovation” at the Conference of Science & Technology in Society at the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, DC.
- 2008 “Doubly Defined, Doubly Rejected: How Russian Jews self-construct identities of their own” presented at "Belief Matters: Re-conceptualizing Belief and its Use," at Columbia University, New York, NY.