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CURRENT APPOINTMENT

Alfred Henry and Jean Morrison Hayes Career Development Associate Professor of Anthropology, MIT	2019 - Present
Alfred Henry and Jean Morrison Hayes Career Development Assistant Professor of Anthropology, MIT	2018 - 2019
Assistant Professor of Anthropology, MIT	2015 - 2018

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Anthropology Princeton University, Princeton NJ Dissertation: "Metabola: Chronic Life in Belize" Advisors: João Biehl and Carol Greenhouse	September 2012
Masters of Arts (MA) in Anthropology Princeton University, Princeton NJ; "Mark of Distinction"	May 2008
Bachelors of Arts (BA) in Literature American University Honors Program, Washington DC Senior Thesis: "Hookworm and History" <i>Summa cum laude</i> , Phi Beta Kappa	May 2005

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Anthropology of Science, Technology, and Medicine; Planetary Change and Human Health; Chronic Conditions; Kinship as Critical Method; Medical Humanities and Ethnographic Writing; the Caribbean and Central America (Belize, sugar); the United States (Pennsylvania, coal).

AWARDS AND HONORS

James A. and Ruth Levitan Research Prize in the Humanities MIT School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences	2020
Book Appreciation Award Diabetes Foot Care Group, Caribbean Diabetes Initiative	2019
Curl Essay Prize Royal Anthropological Institute	2014
David M. Schneider Prize American Anthropological Association	2011

Elsie Clews Parsons Medal American Ethnological Society	2011
Rudolph Virchow Graduate Paper Award Critical Anthropology of Global Health Group	2011
Science, Technology, and Medicine Paper Prize Science and Technology Interest Group, Society of Medical Anthropology	2011
Christine Wilson Paper Prize Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition	2008
Best Undergraduate Thesis Prize Department of Literature, American University	2005
Best Undergraduate Thesis Presentation Honors Program, American University	2005

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich, Germany Rachel Carson Writing Fellowship	2016-2017
Department of Anthropology & Cogut Humanities Center, Brown University Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in International Humanities	2013-2015
Princeton School for Public & International Affairs Global Health Program, Postdoctoral Fellowship	2012-2013
Mellon-ACLS (American Council of Learned Societies) Dissertation Completion Fellowship	2011-2012
Woodrow Wilson Society of Fellows Dissertation Writing Fellowship	2010-2011 (Declined 2011-2012)
Josephine De Kármán Trust Dissertation Completion Fellowship	(Declined, 2011-2012)

PUBLICATIONS

book

- 2019 *Traveling with Sugar: Chronicles of a Global Epidemic*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
Open Access at MIT Libraries: <https://dspace.mit.edu/handle/1721.1/125712>

refereed journal articles

- 2019 "What is Communicable? Unaccounted Injuries and 'Catching' Diabetes in an Illegible Epidemic." *Cultural Anthropology* 34(4), 471-502. <https://journal.culanth.org/index.php/ca/article/view/4023/480>

- 2019 “Struggles for Maintenance: Patient Activism and Dialysis Dilemmas Amidst a Global Diabetes Epidemic.” *Global Public Health* 14 (6-7), 1044-57.
- 2017 “Glucometer Foils.” (editor reviewed) Special issue on Little Development Devices/ Humanitarian Goods, Peter Redfield and Alice Street, eds. *Limm*, Issue 9. <https://limn.it/articles/glucometer-foils/>
- 2009 “Symptom: Subjectivities, Technologies, and Social Ills” (with João Biehl). *Annual Review of Anthropology* 38: 267-88. <http://www.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev-anthro-091908-164420>

chapters in edited volumes

Under review “Nutrition and Health” (with Gabrielle Robbins). *Oxford Bibliographies in Anthropology*, edited by John Jackson.

Forthcoming “Normal Sugar: Making Thresholds.” In *Eating Besides Ourselves: Thresholds of Foods and Bodies*. Heather Paxson, ed. Under contract with Duke University Press.

In press (2021) “The Para-Communicable: Living Between Infectious and Non-Communicable Conditions.” In *Epidemiological Change and Chronic Disease in Sub-Saharan Africa: Social and Historical Perspectives*. Megan Vaughan, Kafui Adjaye-Gbewonyo, and Marissa Mika, eds. London: UCL Press.

2020 “How a Popular Medical Device Encodes Racial Bias.” *Thinking in a Pandemic*. Matt Lord, ed. New York: Verso, Pp. 157-72. Originally in *Boston Review*: <https://bostonreview.net/science-nature-race/amy-moran-thomas-how-popular-medical-device-encodes-racial-bias>.

2019 “Patient Activism and Dialysis Dilemmas Amidst a Global Diabetes Epidemic.” Reprinted in *Social Inequities and Contemporary Struggles for Collective Health in Latin America*. Emily Vasquez, Amaya Perez-Brumer, and Richard Parker, eds. London: Routledge. Chapter 19, Pp. 268-81.

2015 “Creation of Emergency and the Afterlife of Intervention: Reflections on Guinea Worm Eradication in Northern Ghana.” In *Health and Humanitarianism: Ethnographies of Practice*. Catherine Panter-Brick & Sharon Abramowitz, eds. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

2013 “A Salvage Ethnography of the Guinea Worm: Witchcraft, Oracles and Magic in a Disease Eradication Program.” In *When People Come First: Critical Studies in Global Health*, João Biehl and Adriana Petryna, eds. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Pp. 207-39.

other publications

2017 “Mine.” *Hot Spots: The Rise of Trumpism, Fieldsights*, January 18. David Bond and Lucas Bessire, eds. <https://culanth.org/fieldsights/mine>

- 2016 “Breakthroughs for Whom? Global Diabetes Care and Equitable Design.” *New England Journal of Medicine* 375, 24: 2317-9, December. <http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1611475#t=article>
- 2016 “I Didn’t Bring My Camera.” Book forum on Hervé Guibert’s *Cytomegalovirus: A Hospitalization Diary*, Eugene Raikhel, ed. *Somatosphere*, December. <http://somatosphere.net/forumpost/i-didnt-bring-my-camera>
- 2014 Review of *Malignant: How Cancer Becomes Us*, by S. Lochlann Jain. *American Ethnologist* 41(3): 607-8. http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/amet.12100_16/full
- 2014 “The Pacification of Rio, as Observed from a Gondola.” *The Boston Review* May/June. <http://www.bostonreview.net/mayjune-2014>
- 2013 “Studying Unformed Objects: Integration.” Part of a “Field Notes” series of the Cultural Anthropology website, with Michelle Murphy, Kathleen Stewart, and Britt Dahlberg. July 17. <http://www.culanth.org/fieldsights/365-studying-unformed-objects-integration>
- 2010 “The Paradox of Non-Communicable Epidemic: A Generational Perspective on Diabetes Care in Northern Ghana.” *West African Research Association News*, Spring, pg. 8.
- 2009 “Paradox, Disparity, Ethnography: Observations on the Spread of Diabetes in the Developing World.” *Anthropology News* 50, 4.

solicited manuscripts (in preparation)

“One Hundred Years of Insulin for Some.” *New England Journal of Medicine* (“Perspective”).

“Living with Chronic Conditions.” *Annual Review of Anthropology* (2022-23).

RESEARCH AND TRAVEL FUNDS

MIT School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences SHASS Research Fund	2017
Wenner-Gren Engaged Foundation for Anthropological Research Engaged Anthropology Grant	2014
Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research Dissertation Fieldwork Fellowship	2009-2010
American Philosophical Society Lewis & Clarke Fund Field Research Grant, Belize	2009
West African Research Association Pre-Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, Ghana	2009

Princeton Program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies Faculty-Student Research and Publication Grant	2009
US Department of Education - UNC Chapel Hill Foreign Language and Area Studies Grant, Yukatek Maya	2009
Rockefeller Archive Center, Tarrytown NY Grant-in-Aid, History of Global Health Research	2008
Princeton Program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies William Ebstein Summer Research Grant, Belize	2008
Princeton Grand Challenges Development Initiative Pan African Institute Research Grant, Ghana	2008
Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Pre-Dissertation Summer Research Grant, Guatemala	2007
Office of the Dean, American University College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Research Grant, National Library of Medicine	2005

STUDYSUPPORT

Princeton University Presidential Fellowship	2006-2011
American University Presidential Fellowship	2001-2005

WORKSHOPS, LECTURES, AND COLLOQUIA

- Book Symposium: Reflections on *Traveling with Sugar: Chronicles of a Global Epidemic*, in conversation with Tonya Haynes. University of West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados. IGDS/Nina Barrow Unit, November 2020.
- Invited Talk: "Medical Technologies and Plantation Legacies in the Caribbean Diabetes Epidemic." Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies Program, Co-Sponsored by Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies and Sawyer Seminar. University of Wisconsin, Madison, November 2020.
- Invited Talk: "Repair Work: Diabetic Limb Salvage and What it Reveals about an Overlooked Epidemic." Princeton Global Health Colloquium, co-sponsored by the Department of Anthropology. October 2020.
- Colloquium: "Race, Covid, and Medical Technology: Case of the Pulse Ox," in conversation with Evelyn Hammonds. Harvard Critical Medical Humanities, October 2020.
- Invited Talk: "Carbon and Kinship." As part of "Scholars and Their Kin," with Martha Jones, Kendra Field, Edward Ball, and Christine Bard. New York University, March 2020.

Invited Talk: “Mine: A Family History of Carbon, Race, Place, and Planetary Health.”
Environmental Studies Program, Cunningham Lecture, Tufts, February 2020.

Invited Talk: “Sugar Machine.” Brown University, Anthropology and Population Studies
Working Group Colloquia Series, November 2019.

Invited Panelist: “Kinship as/against Dispossession.” As part of the Mellon Sawyer
Seminar on “The Politics of Kinship.” Center for the Study of Race and Democracy,
Tufts University, October 2019.

Invited Talk: “The Afterlives of Plantations: Implications for Contemporary Agriculture.”
Burchard Scholars for the Humanities Fellows, March 2019.

Invited Talk: “Chronicles of a Global Epidemic.” University of Illinois Chicago, March 2019.

Workshop Presenter: “Diabetes Medical Technologies and the Problem of Maintenance.”
MIT Insulin BioAccess Initiative, February 2019.

Invited Talk: “Chronic Conditions, Care Technologies, and the Problem of Maintenance.”
MIT Globe Med, Spring 2019.

Invited Talk: “Sugar High: Thresholds Between Religion and Medicine”. Science, Religion,
and Culture Program, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, March 2018.

Invited Talk: “Planetary Health and the Global Diabetes Epidemic.” Rachel Carson Center
For Environment & Society, Munich, Germany, November 2017.

Workshop Presenter: “Pennsylvania Salient.” For “Volatile Futures/Earthly Matters,”
organized by Joseph Masco and David Bond. Bennington University, May 2017.

Invited Talk: “Blood Sugar Beside Itself: Epidemic Diabetes in the Caribbean.” Harvard
Friday Morning Seminar in Culture, Medicine, and Global Mental Health, Oct 2016.

Workshop Presenter: “Food’s Entanglements with Life.” Panel organized by Wim Van Daele and
Heather Paxson. University of Oslo, Norway September 2016.

Workshop Presenter: “Things That Care: Humanitarian Goods.” Organized by Jamie Cross and
Alice Street. University of Edinburgh, Scotland June 2015.

Invited Talk: “The Problem of Maintenance: Medical Technologies for Global Diabetes.” Series
organized by Erica James, MIT Global Health & Medical Humanities Initiative, April 2015.

Invited Talk: “Medical Technologies and the Humanization of Care.” Organized by José Ricardo
C. M. Ayres. Princeton University, November 2014.

Colloquia Participant: “Race and Citizenship in Science and Medicine.” Princeton Program in Latin
American Studies “Race and Citizenship in the Americas” Research Network, 2013-2014.

Workshop Presenter: “Medical Humanitarianism in States of Emergency.” Organized by
Catherine Panter-Brick and Sharon Alane Abramowitz. University of Florida, Feb 2013.

Invited Talk: “An Anthropology of the Global Diabetes Epidemic.” Tulane University

Department of Anthropology, February 2013.

Workshop Presenter: “Food, Medicine Rights: How Do We Measure Social Determinants of Health?” Princeton Anthropology and Health Grand Challenges Initiative, May 2011.

Featured Artist and Exhibit Coordinator: “The Arts in Global Health.” Bernstein Gallery, Woodrow Wilson School; Princeton, NJ. Exhibit opening February 2011.

Workshop Presenter: “When People Come First: Social Innovation in Global Health.” Organized by João Biehl & Adriana Petryna. Princeton Institute of Interregional Studies, March 2010.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Three Atmospheres: Segregated Infrastructures of Hyperbaric Chamber Access in the Caribbean Diabetes Epidemic.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver. November 2019.

“Planetary Health, Nutritional Ecologies, and the Rise of Diabetes.” Institute for Social and Cultural Research Annual Conference. University of Belize, Belmopan. March 2019.

“Communicability in Crisis: A Four-Field Dialogue.” Executive Session, Panel Co-Organizer (with Elizabeth Roberts) and Paper Presenter. American Anthropological Association Meeting: San Jose, November 2018.

“Insurgent Archives: On the Unwritten, the Storied, and the Sentient,” organized by Julia Elyachar and João Biehl. Panel Discussant. American Anthropological Association Meeting: San Jose, November 2018.

“Transatlantic Sugar: Reflections on Para-Communicable Conditions.” Conference on “Africa and the Epidemiological Imagination: A Critical History of Epidemiological Transition.” University College, London, UK. September 2018.

“Filtering Global Health at the American Museum of Natural History.” Paper presentation (co-authored with Adia Benton). American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. December 2017.

“Animate Thresholds: Diabetes and Chronic Life at the Edge of the Sea.” Roundtable workshop for “Eating Beside the Human: Intercalary Exchanges on Food’s Thresholds.” Society for the Study of Science and Society Conference, Boston. September 2017.

“Struggles for Equitable Design: Black Box Medical Devices and Conundrums of Practice.” “Making and Doing” Installation, with Jose Gomez-Marquez ([MIT Little Devices Lab](#)). Society for the Study of Science and Society Conference, Boston. September 2017.

“Blood Sugar: Scenes from the Diabetes Epidemic in Caribbean Central America.” Paper for “Epidemiography.” Society for Cultural Anthropology Meeting, Ithaca NY. April 2016.

“What is Adherence, and When Should It Apply to Policy Makers?” Panel presentation, co-authored with Adia Benton. For conference: “Elimination: The Role of Science, Policy, and Advocacy.” Royal Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene: London, 2015.

- “Healthy Living Made Fun and Easy!: Ironies of Education in the Global Diabetes Epidemic.” Paper Presentation for panel on “Ethics and Expertise,” organized by Sarah Vaughn and Kirk Fiereck. AAA Meeting: Denver, 2015.
- “ToxiCities: Exploring Contamination.” Panel Discussant. AAA Meeting: Denver, 2015.
- “Chemicalized Ecologies: ‘Uncertain Exposures’ and Metabolic Disorders in Belize.” Paper Presentation and Panel Co-Organizer for “Metabolizing Environment: Anthropology of Metabolism Between Molecular and Eco-Political Scales,” with Nadine Levin. AAA Meeting: Washington DC, 2014.
- “Unfixed Intervals: Chronic Care and Making Time in Diabetes Triage.” Paper Presentation for Panel on Time and Metabolic Syndrome, organized by Jessica Hardin. SMA/SfAA Meetings: Albuquerque, NM 2014.
- “Waiting for the Hurricane: Chronic Disease and Life Between Storms in Belize.” Paper Presentation for double panel “Governing Catastrophe.” AAA Meetings: Chicago, 2013.
- “Creation of Emergency and the Afterlife of Intervention: The Guinea Worm Eradication Program in Ghana.” Paper Presentation. AAA Meeting: San Francisco, 2012.
- “Lines of Difference and Possibility in Medical Technology.” Panel Co-Organizer for Science, Technology and Medicine Interest Group. AAA Meetings: Montreal, 2011.
- “Kinship Electric: Technological Worms and the Parasitism of Americana.” Paper Presentation. American Anthropological Association Meeting: Montreal, 2011.
- “Diabetes and the Occult in Northern Ghana.” (Elise Clews Parsons Award Ceremony and Reading). American Ethnological Society Meeting: San Juan, Puerto Rico, 2011.
- “Diabetes in Ramadan: Medicine, Identity, and the Politics of Hunger.” Paper Presentation. American Ethnological Society Meeting: San Juan, Puerto Rico, 2011.
- “Constricted Geography of Metrics: Numbers and Occlusion in a Neglected Tropical Disease Control Program.” Paper Presentation. AAA Meetings, New Orleans, LA, 2010.
- “Corporate Philanthropy, ‘Neglected Tropical Disease,’ and the New Terrain of Corporate Humanitarianism” (with Ari Samsky). Paper Presenter and Co-Organizer of Panel “The Aid Complex”. Social Studies of Science and Society (4S) Meeting, Washington DC, 2009.
- “Paradoxes of Consumption: Notes on the Emergence of Diabetes in Northern Ghana.” Paper Presentation. Society for Medical Anthropology, Yale University, 2009.
- “Worms Politic.” Paper Presentation. American Comparative Literature Association, Harvard University, 2009.
- “Anecdote and Allegory in Health Policy Documents: The Role of Human Stories in Bureaucratic Evidence.” Paper Presentation. NE Modern Language Association, Boston 2008.
- “Metrics of Life: Emerging Medical Populations and Evidence-Making in Chronic Disease Care.” Paper Presentation. American Anthropological Association: San Francisco, CA, 2008.

“A Comparative History of Hookworm Campaigns in Neglected Tropical Disease Control.” Paper Presentation. Association for Applied Anthropology Meeting: Memphis, TN, 2008.

COURSES TAUGHT

21A.50: Planetary Change and Human Health

MIT Anthropology, Spring & Fall 2020.

21A.508: Culture and Ethics in Science Fiction

MIT Anthropology, Fall 2019.

21A.311: The Social Lives of Medical Objects

MIT Anthropology, Spring 2019.

21A.500/STS.075: Technology and Culture.

MIT Anthropology, Fall 2016, Fall 2018.

21A.301: Disease and Health: Culture, Society, and Ethics.

MIT Anthropology, Fall 2016, Fall 2018

21A.305/STS.062: Drugs, Politics, and Culture.

MIT Anthropology, Fall 2015.

21A.00: Introduction to Anthropology.

MIT Anthropology, Spring 2016 and 2017, Spring 2020.

21A.901/21A.902: From Plant, to Chemical, to Medicine (Independent Study)

MIT Anthropology, Fall 2016 - Spring 2017.

ANTH 1551: Techno-Ecologies: Health, Environment, and Culture in the Digital Age.

Brown University, Spring 2015.

ANTH 1552: Environmental Change: Ethnographic Perspectives.

Brown University, Spring 2014.

ANTH 1310: Anthropology of Global Health.

Brown University, Spring 2014.

ANTH1305: Medical Humanities: Illness, Healing, and Culture.

Brown University, Fall 2013.

STUDENT AWARDS

Paige Omura won the fall 2016 Kelly Douglas Travel Fund Award to support her ethnographic research on malaria pharmacology at the New York Botanical Garden, as well as the 2016 James Howe Anthropology Paper Prize for her final essay in 21A.305: Drugs, Politics, and Culture.

Savanah Harshbarger won the 2014 Rudolf Virchow Award for her essay, “For the Right Reasons: The Ethics of Medical Voluntourism and Perspectives on ‘Global Health Trip’ Student Participants” (course project/final paper for ANTH 1310: Anthropology of Global Health).

Lily Gutterman won the \$1,000 W.W. Norton & Co Writer’s Prize 2015 honorable mention for her essay “Decelerating: A Personal Anthropology of Climate Change” (course project/final paper for ANTH 1552: Environmental Change and Ethnographic Perspectives).

GRADUATE STUDENTS SUPERVISED

Beth Semel – MIT HASTS Ph.D. Program, Dissertation Committee Member for Thesis “Speech, Signal, Symptom: Designing Voice Analysis Technologies for Mental Health

Applications in the United States.” Defended August 2019.

Luísa Reis Castro – MIT HASTS Ph.D. Program, Generals Committee Member and Dissertation Committee Member for Thesis “Vectors of Health: Manufacturing Modified Mosquitoes in Brazil” (working title). Scheduled to defend in Summer 2021.

Elena Sobrino – MIT HASTS Ph.D. Program, Generals Committee Member 2019.

Gabrielle Robbins – MIT HASTS Ph.D. Program, Generals Committee Member 2020.

Alexander Rewegan – MIT HASTS Ph.D. Program, Generals Committee Member 2020.

Emma Brorder – Harvard History of Science Ph.D. Program, Generals Committee Member 2020.

Timothy Loh – MIT SHASS Ph.D. Program, Generals Committee Member 2021.

Elizabeth Rule – MIT SHASS Diversity Fellow (of Brown University), 2018-29 Faculty Mentor.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH SUPERVISED

Kimberlee Manora – narrations of medical technologies for type 1 diabetes, Summer 2017

Stephanie Kim – nutrition, food systems, and diabetes care in Central America, Spring 2016

Ariana Habbestad – policy timeline of techniques used in guinea worm eradication, Spring 2016

Sierra Weingartner -- water infrastructure policy in the history of global health, Fall 2015

Catherine Johnson -- a cultural history of eradication policies and technologies, Fall 2015

MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association

Society for Cultural Anthropology

American Ethnological Society

Society for Latin American & Caribbean Anthropology

Anthropology and Environment Society

Society for Medical Anthropology

LANGUAGES

English (native), Spanish and Belizean Kriol (proficient w/continuing study), Yukatek (basic reading)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Climate Action Advisory Committee, MIT, 2018 - 2021

Computing, Data, Anti-Racism Task Force, Social and Ethical Responsibilities in Computing, 2020

Burchard Faculty Fellow at MIT School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, 2016-2017

Elsie Clews Parsons Prize Committee for American Ethnological Society Graduate Paper, 2017

Faculty Mentor for Diversity Predoctoral Fellowship Program at MIT SHASS, 2016-2017

Charles Hughes Prize Committee for Society for Medical Anthropology Graduate Paper, 2016

Contributing Organizer for Friday Morning Seminar in Culture, Psychiatry, and Global Mental Health at Harvard, led by Mary-Jo DelVecchio Good, Byron Good, Michael Fischer, 2017-

Committee Member, History, Anthropology and STS (HASTS) Graduate Admissions, 2016-2018

Member, Harvard Contemporary Latin American Anthropology Working Group, 2017-Present

Faculty Affiliate of Science, Technology and Society (STS) Program at Brown, 2013-2015

Prize Committee Chair, Anthropology of Science, Technology, & Medicine Interest Group 2013

Project Coordinator for “Princeton Brazil Global Fellows” exchange network, brought ten students to collaborate with faculty advisors at University of São Paulo Brazil, March 2013

Graduate Mentor for undergraduate students in Princeton’s Health Grand Challenges Project “Social Determinants of Health: Future of Global AIDS Treatment,” 2007-2012

Peer Reviewer for National Science Foundation; University of California Press; *Social Science and Medicine*; *Biosocieties*; *Medical Anthropology*; *Cultural Anthropology*; and *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*.

Editorial Board Member, *Current Anthropology*, 2019 - present