

# Manuel Rosaldo

The School of Labor and Employment Relations  
The Pennsylvania State University  
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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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- Assistant Professor of Labor and Employment Relations and Sociology** 2020-  
*School of Labor and Employment Relations, College of Liberal Arts*  
*The Pennsylvania State University*
- Post-Doctoral Scholar, Center for Global Workers' Rights** 2018-2020  
*School of Labor and Employment Relations, College of Liberal Arts*  
*The Pennsylvania State University*

## EDUCATION

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- PhD, Sociology** 2018  
*University of California, Berkeley*  
*Dissertation: "From Disposable People to Professional Recyclers: Waste Pickers' Struggle for Labor Rights in Brazil and Colombia"*  
*Committee: Peter Evans (Chair), Michael Burawoy, Laura Enriquez, Mara Loveman, Tianna Paschel*
- MA, Sociology** 2013  
*University of California, Berkeley*
- MS, Global Affairs** 2007  
*New York University*
- BA, College of Letters (high honors)** 2003  
*Wesleyan University*

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Informal work, labor, social movements, economic development, ethnography, Latin American politics, Latinx Studies

## PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

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Rosaldo, Manuel. (forthcoming) "Bottom-Up Versus Top-Down Formalization: Waste Pickers' Struggles for Labor Rights in São Paulo and Bogotá," *Industrial Labor Relations Review*.

Rosaldo, Manuel. (2022) "Dilemmas of Co-production: The Exclusion of Street Waste Pickers from Inclusive Recycling in São

Paulo.” *Latin American Politics and Society*.

Rosaldo, Manuel (2021) “Problematizing the Informal Sector: 50 Years of Critique, Clarification, Qualification, and More Critique.” *Sociology Compass*.

\* *Wiley Top Cited Paper 2021-2022*

Rosaldo, Manuel (2019). “The Antinomies of Successful Mobilization: Colombian Recyclers Maneuver between Dispossession and Exploitation.” *Development and Change*.

\* *Winner of Outstanding Marxist Sociology Article, Award American Sociological Association, Marxist Sociology Section*

\**Honorable Mention for Distinguished Scholarly Article Award, American Sociological Association, Labor and Labor Movements Section*

\* *Wiley Top Cited Paper 2021-2022*

Rosaldo, Manuel (2016). “Revolution in the Garbage Dump: The Political Economic Foundations of the Colombian Recycler Movement (1986-2012).” *Social Problems*.

\**Winner of Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association, Labor and Labor Movements Section*

\**Winner of Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association, Sociology of Development Section*

Herring, Chris, Manuel Rosaldo, Josh Seim, Ben Shestakofsky (2016). “Living Theory: Principles and Practices for Teaching Theory Ethnographically.” *Teaching Sociology*.

Rosaldo, Manuel (2016). “Pimp my Carroça Bogotá: From disposable people to environmental superheroes.” *The Berkeley Journal of Sociology*. [Published in English, Spanish, and Portuguese]

## BOOK REVIEWS

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Rosaldo, Manuel. “Salvaging Cardboard, Plastic, and Dignity - Kathleen Millar, Reclaiming the Discarded: Life and Labor on Rio’s Garbage Dump.” *European Journal of Sociology/Archives Européennes de Sociologie*, 59(3), 495-499.

## POPULAR MEDIA PUBLICATIONS

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Rosaldo, Manuel. “Research Findings: the dispossession-versus-exploitation dilemma.” *Work in Progress*. October 14, 2021.

<<http://www.wipsociology.org/2021/10/14/the-dispossession-versus-exploitation-dilemma-for-informal-worker/>>

Rosaldo, Manuel. "The dispossession-versus-exploitation dilemma for informal workers." *Marxist Sociology Blog*. September 15, 2021. <<https://marxistsociology.org/2021/09/the-dispossession-versus-exploitation-dilemma-for-informal-workers/>>

Rosaldo, Manuel. "The criminalization of street waste pickers in Brazil: a human rights crisis." *The Global Alliance of Waste Pickers: Struggles and Victories Newsletter*. March 28, 2017. <<https://globalrec.org/2017/03/28/the-criminalization-of-street-waste-pickers-in-brazil-a-human-rights-crisis/>>

Rosaldo, Manuel. "A criminalização dos catadores autônomos – uma crise de direitos humanos." *Sul 21* March 19, 2017. <https://sul21.com.br/opinioao/2017/03/a-criminalizacao-dos-catadores-autonomos-uma-crise-de-direitos-humanos-por-manuel-rosaldo/>

Rosaldo, Manuel. "Will Occupy Lead to Policy Change?" *Dowser Changemaking*. December 1, 2021. <<http://dowser.org/will-occupy-lead-to-policy-change/>>

#### AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

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**Outstanding Marxist Sociology Article**, Award American Sociological Association, Marxist Sociology Section, Summer 2021.

**Faculty Marshall**, School of Labor and Employment Relations, Pennsylvania State University, 2020-2021. Named by Hannah Oleynik, Student Marshall of the Class of 2021, in recognition of excellence in teaching and mentorship.

**Distinguished Scholarly Paper Award (Honorable Mention)**, American Sociological Association, Labor and Labor Movements Section, Summer 2020.

**Outstanding Postdoctoral Scholar Award (Nomination)**, Pennsylvania State University, Spring 2020.

**Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award**, American Sociological Association, Labor and Labor Movements Section, Summer 2017.

**Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award**, American Sociological Association, Sociology of Development Section, Summer 2017.

**Alumni Public Sociology Prize**, University of California at Berkeley, Spring 2017. A \$4,000 prize recognizing research that engages publics and makes impacts that transcend the academy.

**Outstanding Graduate Instructor Award**, Spring 2014. For excellence in teaching in Berkeley Sociology Department.

#### GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

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**Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Grant**, Spring-Winter 2018

\$10,000 in support of dissertation write up.

**Fulbright Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship**, Spring-Winter 2016

\$21,696 for 6 months of field research on waste picker organizations in Brazil.

**Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship**, Spring-Winter 2016

\$16,535 in support of 4 months of field research on waste picker organizations in Colombia and Brazil.

**Simpson Fellowship in International and Comparative Studies**, Summer 2015

\$10,000 in support of field research on waste picker organizations in Colombia.

**Inter-American Foundation Grassroots Development Fellowship**, Spring-Winter 2015

\$15,575 in support of nine months of field research on waste picker organizations in Colombia.

**Fulbright U.S. Student Award**, Fall 2014-Summer 2015 (DECLINED)

Full funding for nine months of field research on waste picker organizations in Colombia.

**Leo Lowenthal Fellowship (UC Berkeley Sociology)**, Fall 2014-Spring 2015

\$17,800 in support of 6 months of field research on waste picker organizations in São Paulo, Brazil.

**Foreign Language and Area Studies Program (FLAS)**, Summer 2014

\$9,000 in support of two-month intensive Portuguese course at Middlebury College in Vermont.

**University of California Human Rights Center Fellowship**, Summer 2012

\$4,000 in support of research internship with human rights organization in Bogota, Colombia.

**UC Berkeley Sociology Summer Research Grant**, Summer 2012

\$2,000 in support of research on waste picker cooperatives in Bello Horizonte, Brazil.

**Tinker Summer Research Grant**, Summer 2011

\$800 in support of research on waste picker cooperatives in Bogota, Colombia.

**Mellon Summer Research Grant**, Summer 2011

\$5,000 in support of research on waste picker cooperatives in Bogota, Colombia.

SELECTED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS

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“Top-Down v. Bottom-Up Formalization: Waste Picker Inclusion in Bogotá and São Paulo.” To be presented at *Center for Global Workers’ Rights Symposium* in State College, Pennsylvania on April 14, 2023.

“Is Informality the Problem? Is Formalization the Solution?” (invited talk) *Labor Speaker Series* at the Institute for Research on Labor and Employment at the University of California, Los Angeles on October 13, 2022.

“Informal Work and Climate Change: The Case of São Paulo’s Waste Pickers.” Presented at the *Latin American Studies Association Congress* (virtual) on May 8, 2022.

“A Just Transition? How Street Waste Pickers Became Excluded from Inclusive Recycling in São Paulo.” Presented at the *Global Labour University Conference* (virtual) on March 31, 2022.

“Dilemmas of Co-production: The Exclusion of Street Waste Pickers from Inclusive Recycling in São Paulo.” (invited talk) presented at *The American Sociological Association Annual Meeting* (virtual) on August 9, 2020.

“Waste Pickers’ Struggles for Survival, Growth, and Development in São Paulo and Bogotá” (invited talk) presented at the *Research Team on Inclusion and Governance in Latin America (ÉRIGAL) International Seminar* in Montreal, Quebec on October 24, 2019.

“Is Informality the Problem? Waste Pickers’ Struggles for Labor Rights in Brazil and Colombia.” Presented at *The American Sociological Association Annual Meeting* in New York, New York on August 12, 2019.

“Unintended Consequences of Formalization.” Presented at *The American Sociological Association Annual Meeting* in New York, New York on August 12, 2019.

“How São Paulo’s Street Waste Pickers Became Excluded from Inclusive Recycling.” (invited talk) Presented at *The Center for Global Workers’ Rights Symposium* in State College, Pennsylvania on April 4, 2019.

“Organizing in the Informal Economy: Colombian and Brazilian Waste Pickers’ Struggles for Worker Rights.” Presented at the *XIII Global Labour University Conference* in Campinas, Brazil on August 8, 2018.

“The Antinomies of Successful Mobilization: Colombian Recyclers Maneuver between Dispossession and Exploitation.” (invited talk) Presented at *The Center for Global Workers’ Rights Symposium* in State College, Pennsylvania on April 19, 2018.

“The Antinomies of Successful Mobilization: Colombian Recyclers Maneuver between Dispossession and Exploitation.” Presented at the *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting* in Montreal, Canada on August 13, 2017.

“From Disposable People to Professional Recyclers: Waste Pickers’ Struggle for Labor Rights in Brazil and Colombia” Presented at *The National Association of Social Science Graduate Studies and Research (ANPOCS)* on October 27, 2016.

“Comparative Perspectives on Informal Worker Organizing: Recycler Movements in Colombia and Brazil” presented at the *Labor and Employment Relations Association Annual Meeting* in Portland, Oregon on May 30, 2014.

“Waste Pickers of the World Unite? Outcomes, Constraints, and Potentials of Transnational Informal Worker Organizing” presented at the *Global Labor Mini-Conference* in New York, New York on Aug 12, 2013.

“Transnational Networks of Informal Workers: Recycler Cooperatives Respond to Challenges and Opportunities of Globalization” presented at the *International Sociological Association Forum: Social Justice and Democratization* in Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 1, 2012.

“Scrapping for Dignity: Colombian Recycler Cooperatives’ Struggle for Social and Economic Inclusion” presented at the *International Sociological Association Forum: Social Justice and Democratization* in Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 2, 2012.

“A Conceptual Framework on Informal Work and Informal Worker Organizing” (coauthored with Peter Evans and Chris Tilly) framing document for *Experiences Organizing Informal Workers: A Comparative Investigation* forum at the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA), April 21-22, 2012.

“Doing Public Sociology: Practices and Challenges” opening remarks for *Public Sociology Conference* at UC Berkeley, February 3, 2012.

“The Power of Powerless Workers: A Comparative Analysis of the Brazilian and Colombian Waste Picker Movements” presented at *Labor in the Global South: A Search for Solutions* at UCLA on May 27, 2011.

“Strategic Mapping as an Organizational Tool in Transnational Labor Campaigns: Hi-tech and Lo-tech Possibilities” (invited talk) presented at *Transnational Strategies for Supporting Collective Capabilities* at Brown University on November 11, 2011.

“Collaborating to Make Strategic Maps for Social Movements” workshop led at the *Democratizing Global Economic Governance* conference at La Universidad de Los Andes in Bogota, Colombia on Aug 11, 2011.

“Mapping the Global Apparel Industry: Supply Chains, Government Institutions, and Points of Leverage” framing document for the *Democratizing Global Economic Governance* conference at La Universidad de Los Andes in Bogota on Colombia, Aug 11, 2011.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **Instructor of Record--The Pennsylvania State University**

*American Labor Unions*, Labor and Employment Relations (Spring 2023)

*Global Workers’ Rights*, Labor and Employment Relations (Spring 2023)

*Fundamentals of Labor and Employment Relations*, Labor and Employment Relations (Spring 2022)

*American Labor Unions*, Labor and Employment Relations (Spring 2022)

*Global Workers' Rights*, Labor and Employment Relations (Fall 2021)

*American Labor Unions*, Labor and Employment Relations (Spring 2021)

*Global Workers' Rights*, Labor and Employment Relations (Spring 2021)

*American Labor Unions*, Labor and Employment Relations (Fall 2020)

*\*Named "Faculty Marshall for Labor and Employment Relations" in recognition of teaching*

*Capstone Research Seminar* (co-instructor with Jinyoung Park), Labor and Employment Relations (Summer 2018)

*Global Workers' Rights*, Labor and Employment Relations Fall 2019)

*Global Workers' Rights* (co-instructor with Paolo Marinaro), Labor and Employment Relations (Spring 2018)

#### **Instructor of Record-- University of California at Berkeley**

*Informal Work in the Global Economy*, Sociology, UC Berkeley (Fall 2017)

#### **Graduate Student Instructor--University of California at Berkeley**

Contemporary Social Theory, Sociology (Michael Burawoy, Spring 2014)\*

*\*received Outstanding Graduate Instructor Award*

Graduate Student Instructor, Classical Social Theory, Sociology (Michael Burawoy, Fall 2013)

Graduate Student Instructor, Classical Social Theory, Sociology (Dylan Riley, Spring 2013)

Graduate Student Instructor, Introduction to Sociology, Sociology (Anne Swidler, Fall 2012)

#### **GUEST LECTURES**

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Guest Lecture in Dr. Jana Silverman's course on "Work-Life Practices and Policies," Pennsylvania State University (Fall 2023)

Guest Lecture in Dr. Phillip Hough's course on "Labor and Globalization," Florida Atlantic University (Fall 2023)

Guest Lecture in Dr. Jana Silverman's course on "Gender, Race, and Labor," Pennsylvania State University (Fall 2021)

Guest Lecture in Dr. Katy Fox Hodess's course on "Industrial Relations," University of Sheffield (Fall 2021)

Guest Lecture in Dr. Andrew Britt's course on "Dramaturgy: Mother Tongue," University of North Carolina School of the Arts (Fall 2021)

Guest Presentation for "Pennsylvania United Community Learning Series," Pennsylvania (Spring 2020)

Guest Lecture in Dr. Krista Brune's course on "Imagining Brazilian Cities" (Fall 2019)

Guest Lecture in Dr. Katherine Maich's course on "Introduction to Labor and Employment Relations," Pennsylvania State University (Fall 2019)

Guest Lecture in Dr. Elaine Hui's course on "Comparative Employment Relations Systems," Pennsylvania State University (Spring 2019)

Guest Lecture in Dr. Katherine Maich's course on "Academic Writing and Research Methods for Labor Practitioners," Pennsylvania State University (Fall 2018)

Guest Presentation for "Zero Waste Alliance of São Paulo," São Paulo, Brazil (Spring 2017)

Guest Presentation for "Socioeconomic Institutions and Development Group," Universidad Nacional, Bogota, Colombia (Fall 2016)

#### UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

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Core Faculty Member, Center for Global Workers' Rights. (2018-present)

Advisory Board Member, Latina/o Studies. (2020-present)

Faculty Adviser, Student Works at Penn State (SWAPS) and United Students Against Sweatshops. (2021-present)

Editor and Contributor, Center for Global Workers' Rights Newsletter. The Pennsylvania State University. (2018-present)

Organizer, 'Landscapes of Labor' Film Series. The Pennsylvania State University. (2018-present)

Organizer, 'Labor and Global Workers' Rights Open House.' The Pennsylvania State University. (2021-present)

Organizer, Penn State Labor Teach-In (2023)

Organizer, 'Making Hard Choices to Protect Workers' Rights: Case Studies of Bangladesh and Ghana.' School of Labor and Employment Relations Student/Alumni Forum. The Pennsylvania State University. (2021)

Organizer, Center for Global Worker's Rights 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium, 'Women Workers' in Struggle—Organizing for Labor Rights and Gender Equity.' The Pennsylvania State University. (2018-2019)

Committee Member, Hispanic Heritage Month 2019, 'Poderosas, Latinas Leading Change.' (2019)

Organizer, Dolores Huerta Keynote Address and Day of Service (2019)

Organizer, 'Center for Global Worker's Rights 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium: Alternative Worker Movements at a Time of Political Crisis—from Predicament to Possibility.' The Pennsylvania State University. (2018-2019)

Committee Member, 'Penn State Committee for Democracy in Brazil.' The Pennsylvania State University. (2018-2019)

Committee Member, 'Hispanic Heritage Month 2019: *Poderosas*—Latinas Leading Change.' The Pennsylvania State



University. (2019)

#### OCCASIONAL JOURNAL REVIEWER (2015-Present)

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*American Sociological Review*

*Anti-Trafficking Review*

*Berkeley Journal of Sociology*

*Global Public Health*

*Journal of Environment and Development*

*Latin American Politics and Society*

*Mobilization*

*Society and Space*

*Sociology of Organizations*

*Work in the Global Economy*

*Work and Occupations*

#### PROFESSIONAL AND APPLIED RESEARCH

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**Faculty Advisor, United Students Against Sweatshops**

**Penn State**

*Summer 2021 - present*

- Helped coordinate national campaign to hold apparel brands accountable for wage theft during the pandemic.
- Helped students design and conduct a survey of 80 student-workers about their conditions and wages, which formed the basis of a “Fight for \$15” campaign on campus.

**Founding Director, Centre County Wage Justice Coalition**

**State College, Pennsylvania**

*Summer 2019 - present*

- Built an alliance of members of labor unions, faith-based groups, community organizations, immigrant rights groups, and student groups dedicated to raising the minimum wage, combatting wage theft, and supporting unions.
- Developed a participatory action research project in which low wage workers interviewed one another about the challenges that they faced and potential solutions.
- Offered expert testimony on minimum wage at Pennsylvania Senate Democratic Policy Committee Hearing on January 18, 2021.

**Research Assistant to Professor Peter Evans**

**UC Berkeley**

*Spring 2011*

- Researched 2009 anti-sweatshop campaign at Russell Athletic plants in Honduras.

**The Center for Law, Justice and Society (DeJusticia)**

**Bogota, Colombia**

*Research intern, Spring 2011-Winter 2012 (parts of internship conducted remotely)*

- Authored four user-friendly manuals on how social movement organizations can use basic social network analysis tools to increase coordination and strategy.
- Led workshops on the uses of “strategic map making” in the anti-sweatshop movement at Ford-Foundation backed conferences in Bogota (Aug 11-12, 2011) and Brown University (Nov 11, 2011)

**Research Assistant to David Bornstein (author)**

**New York, NY**

*Spring 2007-Spring 2010*

- Interviewed 30 leaders of social change organizations; research trips to San Francisco, Toronto, and Washington D.C.
- Drafted and edited articles, speeches, and book chapters on social entrepreneurship

**Dowser.org (social change news organization)**

**New York, NY**

*Founding Editor/Project Manager, Spring 2007-Spring 2010*

- Cofounded first serious online news site covering the field of social entrepreneurship.
- Managed 30 writers, photographers, filmmakers, and interns who conducted interviews with over 100 leaders of social change organizations.
- Oversaw design and development of Dowser website; orchestrated user testings and focus groups.

**Economic Transformations Group (development consultancy)**

**Tabasco, Mexico and New York, NY**

*Development Intern, Fall 2006 –Spring 2007*

- Conducted qualitative research of “Van Mujeres” microfinance institution for two weeks in Tabasco, Mexico
- Wrote strategic report on how “Van Mujeres” can restructure operations to access international capital markets.

**Steinhardt School of Education**

**New York University**

*Fieldworker, Fall 2005-Sept 2007*

- Conducted and analyzed interviews with Dominican-American families for study on adolescent scholastic achievement.
- Lead three-month trainings in cross-cultural interviewing and research techniques for new researchers.

**SEIU 1199: Hospital Debt Justice Project**

**New Haven, CT**

*Community Organizer/Researcher, Spring-Summer 2005*

- Directed campaign to reform abusive debt collection tactics of Yale-New Haven Hospital.
- Interviewed hospital patients and presented their stories as testimony at public hearings.

**UNITE HERE! Joint Board**

**New York, NY**

*Labor Organizer/Researcher, Spring 2004 –Spring 2005*

- Orchestrated joint campaign with retail workers in US and Europe at “Never Work Alone Week” in Hamburg.
- Evaluated working conditions at New York apparel stores through participant observation.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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**Labor Network for Sustainability**

*Member, Summer 2019-Present*

- Member of a network of trade unions, workers, community groups, and researchers who support economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

**Experiences Organizing Informal Workers: A Comparative Investigation**

*Founding researcher, Spring 2011-Present*

- Member of research project on informal worker rights movements to be carried out by teams of researchers in eight countries.

**Public Sociology Workshop**

**UC Berkeley**

*Founder and Chair, Fall 2011-2013*

- Founded student group dedicated to promoting channels for using scholarship to engage publics and make impacts that transcend the academy.
- Organized “Doing Public Sociology: Practices and Challenges” conference with 25 presenters and 85 attendees at UC Berkeley on February, 3, 2011.

**Social Justice Fellowship**

**UC Berkeley**

*Cofounder and Organizer, Spring 2012-2018*

- Created and administered fellowship that supports sociology graduate student internships with social justice organizations.

**United Autoworkers 2865**

**UC Berkeley**

*Head Steward/Departmental Steward, Spring 2011-2018*

- Volunteer organizer for University of California graduate student union.

**OTHER GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS**

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**Doctoral Completion Fellowship (UC Berkeley), Fall 2016-Summer 2017**

\$18,000 plus registration fees to support dissertation writing.

**Foreign Language and Area Studies Program (FLAS), Fall 2014**

\$7,500 in support of Portuguese courses in São Paulo, Brazil.

**Foreign Language and Area Studies Program (FLAS), Summer 2014**

\$9,000 in support of two-month intensive Portuguese course at Middlebury College in Vermont.

**Advancement Incentive Award (UC Berkeley Sociology)**, Spring 2014

\$5,000 for advancing to PhD candidacy within normative time.

**Cota Robles Fellowship**, Fall 2010-Summer 2012

\$22,000 merit-based fellowship, UC Berkeley

**Faculty Mentor Research Award**, Fall 2010-Summer 2011

\$4,000 merit-based scholarship, UC Berkeley

**Dean's Fellowship for Academic Excellence**, Summer 2006-Spring 2007

\$1,000 merit-based Fellowship, New York University

**Kevin Echart Memorial Prize**, Summer 2002

Awarded to "the graduating College of Letters senior who best exemplifies the intellectual curiosity and range, the pleasure of colloquy, the capacity for admiration and skepticism, and the moral seriousness and love of books."

**William Lankford Memorial Grant**, Summer 2002

\$1,800 grant to support senior thesis research on relations between Latin American immigrants and their families.

**Outstanding Service Award**, Spring 2002

In recognition for role as founder and chair of student-run ESL program for 30 janitors at Wesleyan University.

**Outstanding Service Award**, Spring 2002

In recognition for role as founder and chair of student-run ESL program for 30 janitors at Wesleyan University.

## AFFILIATIONS

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### **The Pennsylvania State University**

Center for Global Workers' Rights

Center for Latin American Studies

Latina/o Studies

Sociology Department

### **Professional Associations**

American Sociological Association

Labor and Employment Relations Association

Latin American Studies Association

International Sociological Association

## LANGUAGES

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**Spanish**

Fluent reading, writing, and speaking; coursework in English to Spanish translation.

**Portuguese**

Fluent reading, writing, and speaking; coursework at Middlebury College in Vermont and Escola Lótus in São Paulo.