

NKU Faculty Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Highlights

VOLUME II // NUMBER 3

RGC Welcomes New Director

The Office of Research, Grants and Contracts is excited to welcome Craig Holloman as their new Director. Craig comes to NKU from the University of Nevada, Reno, where he served for ten years in research administration roles associated with the central sponsored projects office and departmental college units. He previously served for 12 years with the Pennyryle Area Development District and West Kentucky Workforce Board administering federal and state workforce development and training initiatives. He has also held leadership roles within the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA), as well as the National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB), and other local and regional organizations. Craig holds a bachelor's degree from Murray State University, a master's degree from Western Kentucky University in Interdisciplinary Administration, a master's in business administration (MBA) and a master's degree in higher education administration from the University of Nevada, Reno. He has three children, Jordan (29), Kennedy (23), and Issac (18). Please join us in welcoming Craig to NKU!

STEVE BIEN-AIME

Assistant Professor, Communication

[Nationalizing the "refugee crisis": A comparative analysis exploring how elite newspapers in four countries framed forced migration during World Refugee Day](#)

This comparative study examines framing of migration-related stories (focused on media coverage of World Refugee Day [WRD]) between four countries, and framing developments over 18 years, specifically if (and how) the 2015 peak "refugee crisis" altered news coverage of refugee issues. Elite newspapers, the New York Times (USA), the Times of India, Sueddeutsche Zeitung (Germany) and Haaretz (Israel) were content analyzed. Newspapers gave only sparse attention to WRD itself, but WRD was a "temporal opportunity" to discuss migration that increased coverage. But the 2015 peak refugee crisis had little effect on coverage over the long run.

* Tirosh, N., Bien-Aime, S., Sreenivasan, A., & Lichtenstein, D. (2021). Nationalizing the "refugee crisis": A comparative analysis exploring how elite newspapers in four countries framed forced migration during World Refugee Day. *Newspaper Research Journal*.

NKU Faculty Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Highlights

STEVE BIEN-AIME

Assistant Professor, Communication

[‘Community’ building: When do news publications use race to create groups](#)

The concept of "race" is inarguably entrenched in American culture, and news coverage often perpetuates the hegemonic practices of delineating White communities by geographical spaces while subjugating Black communities into one large monolithic group. In this chapter, Steve Bien-Aime conducts a comparative qualitative analysis to examine how the disparities in framing news stories between White and Black "communities" continue to exploit such issues as policing, crime, poverty, and other topics associated with "Black leaders," while depictions of Whites in newspapers are generally more nuanced by social class and economic diversity. By homogenizing the Black community into a single cultural group, Bien-Aime finds that such reductive news coverage erases the experiences of those who are already marginalized and further proliferates the binary between White and Black communities in the twenty-first century.

* Bien-Aimé, S. (2021). 'Community' building: When do news publications use race to create groups. L. M. Chao and C. Wang (Eds.), *Communicating Across Differences: Negotiating Identity, Privilege, and Marginalization in the 21st Century*, pp. 45-59. Cognella Academic Publishing.

RICHARD D. DURTSCHKE

Professor, Biological Sciences

3/1/2021

[Dr. Durtsche publishes photo-documentary article on metabolic rates in brown trout raised under elevated climate temperatures with a colleague from NKU's sister institution, Karlstad University, in Sweden.](#)

Future global temperature increases, especially in winter, in northern temperate regions may have adverse effects on migratory river breeding fish life histories like the brown trout, *Salmo trutta*. Our study tested metabolism (standard and maximum metabolic rate, and aerobic scope) of brown trout juveniles (parr) from resident-migratory crosses that were raised through winter embryogenesis at current (cold) and +3°C (warm – i.e., climate change) temperatures. Our results support the countergradient variation hypothesis, and indicate that "warm" fish have lower metabolism than "cold" fish which may suggest energy conservation or could predict a loss in capacity to escape predators or capture prey.

* Durtsche, R. D. and L. A. Greenberg. 2021. Respiration measurements of juvenile brown trout raised under varying embryonic temperatures to test climate impacts. *Bulletin of the Ecological Society of America* 102(2): e01852

NKU Faculty Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Highlights

RICHARD D. DURTSCHKE

Professor, Biological Sciences

2/9/2021

[Dr. Durtsche publishes an article on brown trout metabolic and migratory fitness when raised under climate change conditions with colleagues from NKU's sister institution, Karlstad University, in Sweden and from the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research.](#)

The projected climate change and temperature increase in northern latitudes over the next 60 years has the potential to alter the metabolic scope (fitness) of aquatic ectotherms. Here we experimentally tested if elevated egg incubation temperature affected metabolic scope in juvenile brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) as a phenotypically plastic response. Cohorts of brown trout from anadromous and resident crosses were raised through embryogenesis in either natural river temperatures (cold) or elevated (+ 3°C, warm) temperatures until they could feed exogenously. The aerobic metabolic scope (maximum metabolic rate - standard metabolic rate) of juveniles from four anadromous-resident crosses and from both incubation temperatures were tested at 13°C. We found that all metabolic measures were lower in warm vs cold incubated fish. There was no difference in the metabolic rates of fish from different anadromous-resident crosses. The results of this experiment are consistent with the countergradient variation hypothesis (CGV) in which thermal differences encountered at the embryonic stage can produce phenotypic variation (metabolic rates), that are inversely related to thermal conditions. While difficult to predict the consequences of lower metabolic rates in a future warmer climate, our study suggests that brown trout could expend less energy in daily activities, but this reduced aerobic scope could also limit both their capacity as a top predator and their ability to escape predators.

* Durtsche, R. D., B. Jonsson, and L. A. Greenberg. 2021. Thermal conditions during embryogenesis influence metabolic rates of juvenile brown trout *Salmo trutta*. *Ecosphere* 12(2): e03374.

VALERIE HARDCASTLE

Vice President, Institute for Health Innovation

10/08/2021

[Valerie Hardcastle recently published an article on care coordination in rural region for persons who misuse substances.](#)

Many rural regions lack the basic fundamentals in healthcare for Opioid Use Disorder. We present a case of a dual-diagnosed, impoverished, adult female court-ordered to inpatient treatment in rural Kentucky. A care coordinator linked her to regional and community resources to address her health, environmental, and psychosocial needs, as well as provided needed transportation, coaching, and emotional support. As a result, she overcame the substantial barriers that each component of the care continuum presents in severely underserved areas. This case study highlights the critical role care coordination plays in reentry, its differences from urban areas, and its alignment with social work's core values.

* Valerie Gray Hardcastle (2021) The critical role of care coordinators for persons with substance use disorder in rural settings: a case study, *Social Work in Health Care*, 60:8-9, 561-580

NKU Faculty Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Highlights

SUK-HEE KIM

Associate Professor, School of Social Work

8/20/2021

[Dr. Kim publishes article on Transforming Impossible into Possible \(TIP\) for SUD Recovery: A Promising Practice Innovation to Combat the Opioid Crisis](#)

The purpose of this study is to examine the psychological self-sufficiency (PSS) process among low-income individuals participating in the Transforming Impossible into Possible (TIP) program and explore the implications of TIP as a Substance Use Disorder (SUD) recovery intervention. A sample of 622 individuals from 9 local job training programs in a large Midwestern city was used to examine the group differences in substance abuse barrier and employment hope as they relate to economic self-sufficiency (ESS). Individuals in the TIP program (n = 315) had statistically significant path coefficients between substance abuse barriers, employment hope and ESS while the non-TIP counterpart (n = 307) showed a significant path only between employment hope and ESS. Also, the time difference score in substance abuse barrier and ESS was greater for the TIP group compared to the non-TIP comparison group. Results provide implications for social work practice among persons with SUDs. While the traditional employment programs focused only on the interview and job skills, TIP allowed participants to discover their resources to address the inner obstacles that have been holding them back. TIP could serve as a promising model to treat SUDs and support the recovery process.

* Hong, P. Y. P., Kim, S., Marley, J., & Park, J. H. (2021). Transforming Impossible into Possible (TIP) for SUD recovery: A promising practice innovation to combat the opioid crisis. *Social Work in Health Care*, 60(6-7), 509-528.

JOHN METZ

Retired, History and Geography

11/10/2021

[Dr. Metz and former student, Sarah Scherer, published article](#)

Farmers' markets can offer solutions to several of the biggest problems besetting the US food system: fair prices to farmers; healthy, fresh food for consumers; direct contacts between consumers and farmers; food for food deserts; support for local economies. Awareness of these benefits led us to study the farmers markets of the Greater Cincinnati area. Markets grew rapidly in the early 1980s, peaked in 2012, and declined 17% by 2018. Sixty-one percent of the markets that started since 1970 have closed. Two types of markets exist: farmer-focused markets, with farmer vendors, and consumer-focused markets, with farmers and specialist vendors. Detailed information about market management shows that managers, the majority of whom are volunteers or underpaid, have insufficient resources to be sustainable. Market decline is often blamed on an oversupply of markets, but other factors are involved: the inability of market personnel and customers to cross class and racial boundaries; the encroachment of online retailers; a scarcity of farmers; market manager failures. Individual markets need to form coalitions and gain sufficient resources from governments or private funders to employ specialists who can assist managers, expand the consumer base, and design promotion campaigns that effectively promote farmers' markets in the changing retail food landscape.

* Metz, J.J., Scherer, S.M. The rise and decline of farmers markets in greater Cincinnati. *Agric Hum Values* (2021).

NKU Faculty Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Highlights

KOBENA OSAM and NICOLE DILLARD

Assistant Professors, Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Organizational Leadership

10/1/2021

[Drs. Osam, Dillard and MPA student Dennia Palmer publish recent CAS funded research on Employee Engagement during times of crises](#)

Whether it is by creating the conditions that lead to maximizing human capital or the outcomes of productivity, increased performance and work ethic (Karatepe & Olugbade, 2016; Zhong et al., 2015), employee engagement has consistently been linked to workforce development. However, this past year we saw this relationship challenged due to the global pandemic of COVID-19. Additionally, amid COVID-19 a second pandemic of racial injustice created twin crises that further complicated the experiences of employee engagement in the workforce. As such, the purpose of this study was to explore how identity-based, qualitative research can provide insight to engagement research and practice during times of crisis. Therefore, the study sought to answer the following research question: in what ways can social identities help us further understand what it means to be engaged during times of crisis? To explore this question, an intersectional qualitative analysis was conducted across data from participant interviews of 15 diverse public servants across the US in local, state and federal agencies. Two themes were identified that informed the answers to this research question: (1) the need to expand the bounds of engagement and (2) the varying interpretations within the meaning of engagement. Implications for both engagement research and practice are discussed as well as specific recommendations for practitioners to foster higher levels of engagement.

* Osam, E. K., Dillard, N., & Palmer, D. Engagement Under Pressure: The Impact of Identity on Engagement During Times of Crisis. *Online Journal for Workforce Education and Development*, 11(1), 1-23.

SHAUNA REILLY

Professor, Political Science, Criminal Justice and Organizational Leadership

12/13/2021

[Drs. Ulbig and Reilly look at factors contribution to Minority Language Voting Behavior](#)

Voters with limited English language proficiency are protected by the Voting Rights Act, but some argue that existing provisions may not be enough in the face of complex ballot language. We test the possibility that complex ballot language may serve to hinder less English proficient voters' ability to participate meaningfully in elections. Using data collected through a two-stage panel study, we evaluate the relationship between student participants' English language ability and their voting behavior in a mock election. We find that those who scored lower on English-language ability tests were less able to vote in a manner consistent with their previously stated issue positions when faced with even simple ballot wording in English, and that they were more willing to cast potentially erroneous ballots when confronted with complex ballot language than those with high English proficiency. Our findings can help inform debates about ballot language, voting rights, and representative democracy more generally.

* Ulbig, Stacy G. and Reilly, Shauna (2021) "Compounded Confusion? Ballot Language Complexity, English Proficiency, and Minority Language Voter Behavior," *Journal of Political Science*, 49 (1): Article 2.

NKU Faculty Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Highlights

SHAUNA REILLY

Professor, Political Science, Criminal Justice and Organizational Leadership

12/30/2021

[Reilly publishes an article on local ballot measures](#)

This paper explores the development, use and challenges facing the use of direct democracy in the Tristate (Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana) area. Specifically, this article examines how ballot language suppresses participation in direct democracy measures.

* Reilly, Shauna. 2021. "Ballot Measures in the Tristate: An Examination of Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky" *Journal of Economics and Politics* 26(2).

SHAUNA REILLY and SAMANTHA LANGLEY-TURNBAUGH

Director, Institute for Student Research & Creative Activity /Vice Provost for Graduate Education, Research & Outreach

11/10/2021

[Drs. Reilly and Langley examine combining student research with high-impact practices](#)

Universities in the 21st Century engage students in multiple high-impact practices, which come at a significant cost to universities. Using a survey of 200 undergraduate researchers, we examine how high-impact practices combine to increase connection to universities, faculty, and programs during the course of a student's academic career. We find that there are substantial benefits perceived by students from participating in undergraduate research and that is compounded when participating in both undergraduate research and another high-impact practice.

* Reilly, Shauna and Samantha Langley-Turnbaugh. Forthcoming 2021. "Synergistic effects between undergraduate research and other high impact practices" *Journal of Student Success and Retention* 7(1).

SHAUNA REILLY and SAMANTHA LANGLEY-TURNBAUGH

Director, Institute for Student Research & Creative Activity/Vice Provost for Graduate Education, Research & Outreach

2/15/2022

[Drs. Reilly and Langley publish a book chapter on Online Celebration format](#)

There is an increased interest in showcasing student research and creativity from all students. With growing virtual populations at universities, offices of student research and faculty must endeavor to provide these students with the opportunity to share their work in the university's annual student research showcases. We explore different options in virtual showcases, the pitfalls, and benefits of inclusion to virtual students.

* Reilly, Shauna and Samantha Langley-Turnbaugh. 2022. "Online Showcases of Student Research/Creativity" *Undergraduate Research in Online, Virtual and Hybrid Courses* William Campbell, Jennifer Coleman and Nancy Hensel, Eds. Stylus Publishing (Chapter 14).

NKU Faculty Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Highlights

Other Research News

RACHEL BOSCH

Lecturer, Physics, Geology, and Engineering Technology

Dr. Bosch receives The Geological Society of America Karst Division Early Career Scientist Award

This honor is awarded to a distinguished scientist (within 5 years of their highest degree or diploma) for outstanding achievement in contributing to the karst profession through original research and service, and for the demonstrated potential for continued excellence throughout their career. Bosch's research uses field work and numerical modeling to explore erosional processes and their contributions to karst landscape evolution. During their time as a graduate student, Bosch was the Karst Division Student Representative. Currently, they serve as Treasurer to the Karst Division, the Karst Waters Institute Outreach Coordinator, and the Carbonate Critical Zone and Society Working Group Leader for the NSF-funded Carbonate Critical Zone Research Coordination Network. You can read more about their research at <https://sites.google.com/view/rachelbosch/home>.

SUK-HEE KIM

Associate Professor, School of Social Work

Dr. Suk-hee Kim National Honored with a Distinguished Recent Contributions to Social Work Education Award

Dr. Suk-hee Kim, Associate Professor in the School of Social Work, will be honored by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) with its Distinguished Recent Contributions to Social Work Education Award 2021 - a significant recognition at the national level. The prestigious award recognizes a social work educator's exemplary achievement within the last 10 years in at least two of the three areas: research and scholarship, pedagogy and curriculum development, and organizational leadership. To receive this unanimous recognition from the CSWE Board of Directors is a great honor because the council supports quality social work education, provides opportunities for leadership, and plays a central role in achieving the profession's goals of social and economic justice. Dr. Kim will be honored at the CSWE's Annual Program Meeting Nov. 4-7.

Do you have research, scholarship or creative activity to share?

Use this [link](#) to submit for the next edition.

Prepared by:

University Research Council and

Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Education, Research and Outreach

NKU Faculty Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Highlights
