

Department of Social Sciences
University of South Carolina Beaufort
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Education

- 2013 Ph.D., Florida State University, Sociology
Dissertation: “Choosing Learning in Later Life: Constructions of Age and Identity among Lifelong Learners”
Committee: Anne Barrett (chair), Douglas Schrock, John Reynolds, Jean Munn
Qualifying Exam: Social Psychology, spring 2011
- 2010 M.S., Florida State University, Sociology
Thesis: “Online Dating in Middle and Later Life: Gendered Expectations and Experiences”
Committee: Anne Barrett (chair), Douglas Schrock, Koji Ueno
- 2006 B.S, Georgia Institute of Technology, Public Policy, With Highest Honors
Minor: Law, Science, and Technology

Professional Experience

- 2021 – Present Associate Professor with Tenure, University of South Carolina Beaufort
2019 – Present Sociology Program Coordinator
2017 – Present Co-Director of USCB’s Quality Enhancement Plan – Students Connected
2017 – Present Coordinator of the Gerontology Certificate Program
2015 – Present Assistant Professor, University of South Carolina Beaufort
2014 – 2015 Visiting Assistant Professor, University of South Carolina Beaufort
2013 – 2014 Instructor of Sociology, Armstrong Atlantic State University

Research Interests

Aging and the Life Course	Qualitative Methods
Family	Social Psychology
Gender and Sexuality	Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

Teaching Experience (*denotes course also taught in online format)

Aging and the Life Course*	Principles of Gerontology*
Applied Sociology	Senior Research Seminar
GLDCE Capstone	Sociological Research Methods*
Introductory Sociology*	Sociology of Crime
Introduction to Social Problems	Sociology of Death and Dying*
Individual and Society*	

Publications

- Roberts, Summer. 2021. “Our Members are Growing Up!”: Aging Talk in a Lifelong Learning Institute.” *Ageing & Society*. 41(4): 836-853.
- McWilliams, Summer and Anne Barrett. 2018. “I Hope I Go Out of this World Still Wanting to Learn More’: Identity Work in a Lifelong Learning Institute.” *Journal of Gerontology: Series B, Psychological and Social Sciences*. 73(2): 292-301.
- Malta, Sue and Summer Roberts. 2017. “Older People as Cyber-Sexual Beings: Online and Internet Dating.” In *Addressing the Sexual Rights of Older People: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, edited by C. Barrett and S. Hinchliff. New York: Routledge.
- McWilliams, Summer and Anne Barrett. 2014. “Online Dating in Middle and Later Life: Gendered Expectations and Experiences.” *Journal of Family Issues* 35(3): 411-436.
- McWilliams, Summer and Anne Barrett. 2013. “Greeting Card Analysis: Gendered Constructions of Love and Parenthood.” *Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology* (peer-reviewed online teaching resource).
- Ueno, Koji and Summer McWilliams. 2010. “Gender-Typed Behaviors and School Adjustment.” *Sex Roles* 63(7-8): 580-591.

Book Reviews

- Roberts, Summer. 2020. Review of *Retirement and Its Discontents: Why We Won’t Stop Working, Even if We Can* in *American Journal of Sociology* 125(4): 1179-1181.

Awards, Grants, and Honors

- 2021 Sea Islands Institute Grant
- 2018 RISE (Research Initiative for Summer Engagement) Award (\$5960)
- 2013 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award Nominee, Florida State University
- 2012 Claude and Mildred Pepper Dissertation Fellowship, Honorable Mention (\$2000)
- 2012 Dissertation Research Grant (\$750), Florida State University
- 2011 Program for Instructional Excellence Teaching Associate
- 2010 Best Student Paper for “Online Dating in Middle and Later Life: Gendered Expectations and Experiences,” Southern Gerontological Society

Workshops, Panels, and Invited Lectures

- 2019 Invited speaker (with Caroline Sawyer) at Columbia College, “Students Connected: Building Engaged Citizens through Experiential Learning & Community Engagement”
- 2015 Gender Bender panel participant, “Bras, Backlash, & Balance: Multigenerational Perspectives on the ‘F’ Word”
- 2012 Invited speaker at the Southern Regional Conference for Learning in Retirement, “‘Because There’s So Much to Learn’: Constructions of Later Life Education”
- 2011 Workshop for sociology graduate students, “Teaching Resources in Sociology”
- 2010 Presentation for Department of Sociology graduate course on Introduction to Qualitative Methods, “In-Depth Interviewing”

Media Coverage and Interviews

- Rennie, Alexander. "Senior Dating: Busting the Myths." *Elite Singles*, April 19, 2017.
- Gross, Renee. "A Second Chance at Love and Gender Roles." *USC Annenberg Media*, Fall 2016.
- Bisceglia, Paul. "Is There Love After 30? What Tinder's new age-based prices say about mid-life dating." *Pacific Standard*, March 24, 2015.
- Dempsey, Ruth. "Five Fascinating Facts about Online Dating." *Aging Horizons Bulletin*, July/Aug 2014.

Professional Presentations

- Roberts, Summer. April 2021. "Students Connected with Local Aging Research: Performing a Needs Analysis for Beaufort County." Virtual Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society.
- Roberts, Summer. November 2018. "Successful Aging as Preparation for Successful Dying." Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA.
- Roberts, Summer. April 2017. "Revitalizing a Gerontology Certificate New Brought to Life." Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society, Asheville, NC.
- McWilliams, Summer. April 2016. "Connections between Lifelong Learners and College Students." Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society, Charlottesville, VA.
- Bamford, Melissa and Summer McWilliams. March 2015. "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of Using Free, Online-Format Textbooks." Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans, LA.
- McWilliams, Summer. April 2014. "Race, Gender, and Class in Lifelong Learning Institute Ads." Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, Charlotte, NC.
- McWilliams, Summer and Shannon Sabo. April 2013. "Understanding Women's Attitudes toward the Cessation of Menstruation." Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, Atlanta, GA.
- McWilliams, Summer. April 2013. "'Our Members are Growing Up!': Aging Talk in a Lifelong Learning Institute." Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society, Charlotte, NC.
- McWilliams, Summer. August 2012. "Combating Ageism through Identity Work." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Denver, CO.
- McWilliams, Summer. March 2012. "'Having the Time of Our Lives': Understanding the Role of Lifelong Learning Institutes in Promoting Aging Group-Consciousness." Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans, LA.
- McWilliams, Summer. November 2011. "I'm Floating through School: Identity Construction in a Lifelong Learning Institute." Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA.
- McWilliams, Summer and Anne Barrett. August 2010. "Online Dating in Middle and Later Life: Gendered Expectations and Experiences." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Atlanta, GA.

Departmental Service

- Program Coordinator for Sociology, 2019-present
- Psychology Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee Member, 2019
- Sociology Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee Member, 2019
- Psychology Assistant Professor Search Committee Member, 2016
- Developed electronic Sociology Teaching Assistant Manual, 2012
- Graduate Student Representative of Graduate Program Committee in Sociology, 2011-2012
- Co-chair, Florida State University Qualitative Research Group, 2010-2011
- Graduate Student Representative of Information Resources Committee in Sociology 2010-2011

University Service

Co-Director of the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), 2017-present
Experiential Learning Strategic Plan Implementation Subgroup Committee Member, 2018-present
Academic Program Assessment Committee Member, 2019-present
Graduation with Leadership Distinction in Community Engagement Advisor, 2020-present
Chalk & Wire/ Portfolio Implementation Chair, 2021-present
Campus Labs Implementation Team, 2020
Assessment Software Selection Committee Member, 2019
Dean for the School of Humanities and Social Sciences Search Committee Member, 2017
Academic Steering Committee Member, 2016-2018
QEP Steering Committee Member, 2016-2017
Director of Online Learning Search Committee Member, 2015
First Year Outreach advisor at USCB, 2014
AASU Common Read Selection Committee Member, 2014
Faculty Facilitator for “Making a Difference: Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention” program for AASU incoming freshman, 2013
Reviewer for Florida State University Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards, 2012
Tutor for FSU Student-Athlete Academic Services, 2009-2010, 2013

Professional Service

Reviewer for the *Journal of Gerontology*, 2016-present
Reviewer for the *Journal of Family Issues*, 2016-present
Reviewer for Oxford University Press, 2018-present
RISE Senior Campus Committee, 2019
OpenStax Research Partner, 2017
Presider for “Teaching Gerontology” workshop, Southern Gerontological Society Annual Meeting, 2017
Member of Program Committee, Southern Gerontological Society, 2016-2017
Presider for “Aging Issues” paper session, Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, 2011
Organizer and Presider for “Uncovering Identities of Subordinated Groups through Qualitative Research” paper session, Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, 2011
Member of Registration Committee, Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, 2010

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association
Gerontological Society of America
Southern Sociological Society
Southern Gerontological Society

Professional Development

Getting Ready to Teach Online at USCB, 2020
SACS COC Institute on Quality Enhancement and Accreditation, 2016
Preparing Future Faculty Fellow, 2012