

Amy Irby-Shasanmi, Ph.D.

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EMPLOYMENT

- 2017-Present Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of West Georgia
- 2014-2016 William T. Grant Postdoctoral Fellow, Indiana University Purdue University-Indianapolis, Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health

EDUCATION

- 2014 Ph.D, Sociology
Indiana University, Bloomington
Dissertation Title: “The Well-being of Inter-Racial and Inter-Ethnic Couples: Discrimination, Family Disapproval, and Relationship Quality as Explanatory Mechanisms”
Committee: Peggy Thoits (Chair), Pamela Braboy Jackson, Jane McLeod, and Patricia McManus
- Doctoral Minor: Social Science Research Methods
- 2010 Qualifying Exam, Medical Sociology
Committee: Peggy Thoits (Chair), Pamela Braboy Jackson, Ho-fung Hung
- 2008 Master of Arts, Sociology Indiana University, Bloomington
Master’s Thesis Title: “Predictors of Subjective Life Expectancy among African-Americans”
Committee: Clem Brooks (Chair), Jane McLeod
- 2005 Bachelor of Arts, Sociology DePauw University, Greencastle
Senior Thesis Title: “Reconstructing Gender Roles: Empowering Women Within the Movimento Sem Terra”

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Medical Sociology	Race and Ethnicity	Social Inequality
Life Course	Research Methods	Mental Health and Illness

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed

- Forthcoming Hood, Sula, **Amy Irby-Shasanmi**, Mary de Groot, Elissabeth Martin, and Andrew LaJoie. "Addressing Diabetes Distress in African American Adults Living with Type-2 Diabetes: Social Support Needs and Preferences" *The Diabetes Educator*
- 2016 **Irby-Shasanmi, Amy** and Tamara Leech. "Because I Don't Know": Uncertainty and Ambiguity in Closed-Ended Reports of Perceived Discrimination in U.S. Health Care. *Ethnicity and Health* 21:1-22.
- 2012 **Irby-Shasanmi, Amy**, Kathleen Oberlin, and Tiffani Saunders. "Teaching with Movement: Using the Health Privilege Activity to Physically Demonstrate Disparities in Society." *Teaching Sociology* 40:123-141.
SAGE podcast interview
- 2012 **Irby-Shasanmi, Amy**. "Predictors of Subjective Life Expectancy among African Americans." *Research on Aging* 34:1-26.
- 2010 **Irby, Amy** and Valerie Chepp. "Overcoming Constraints: Using Commercials in the Classroom." *Journal for the Liberal Arts and Sciences* 15:92-104.

Revise and Resubmit

Leech, Tamara, **Amy Irby-Shasanmi**, and Anne Mitchell. "Are You Accepting New Patients?" A Field Experiment on Telephone-based Gatekeeping and Black Patients' Access to Pediatric Care" (abstract selected for *Health Services Research* Special Issue on Health Equity)

Under Review

Leech, Tamara, **Amy Irby-Shasanmi**, and Hadya Sow. Recruiting and Retaining Black Adolescent Boys from Under Resourced Urban Neighborhoods: Procedures Used and Lessons Learned. (*Draft available upon request*)

Irby-Shasanmi, Amy. The Health Profile of Blacks in Interracial Relationships. (*Draft available upon request*)

Erving, Christy L. and **Amy Irby-Shasanmi** (equal authorship). The Effects of Support Exchanges on the Psychological Well-Being of Volunteers. (*Draft available upon request*)

Irby-Shasanmi, Amy and Christy L. Erving (equal authorship). Gender Differences in the Effects of Support Exchanges on Psychological Well-Being. *(Draft available upon request)*

Manuscripts in Progress

- In Progress Irby-Shasanmi, Amy. Does Discrimination and Negative Interactions with Family Explain the Relationship Between Interracial Status and Poorer Mental Health? *(Draft available upon request)*
- In Progress Irby-Shasanmi, Amy. The Role of Urban Daily Hassles in the Sleep Quality of Young Black Adolescent Boys.

Other Publications

- 2014 Irby-Shasanmi, Amy and Deidre Lynn Redmond. "Stressful Life Events" in *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Health, Illness, Behavior, and Society*, edited by William C. Cockerham, Robert Dingwall, and Stella Quah.
- 2010 Irby, Amy, Valerie Chepp, and HarmoniJoie Noel. Cognitive Interviewing Evaluation of the Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS). Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics.
- 2010 Irby, Amy and Valerie Chepp. Questions for the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and a question from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics.
- 2009 Chepp, Valerie, Amy Irby, and Katie Kaufmann. Testing of Health Surveillance Maps. National Center for Health Statistics.

AWARDS, HONORS, AND GRANTS

- 2017 College of Social Sciences Summer Research Initiative, University of West Georgia
- 2014 William T. Grant Postdoctoral Fellow, Indiana University Purdue University-Indianapolis, Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health
- 2015 Written Reviews, "The Nurses' Intermediary Role: Exploring the Processes By Which Nurses Contribute to Health Care Disparities" Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline
- 2015 MCUAAAR Summer Training Workshop on African American Aging Research
- 2013 The College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Year Research Fellowship
- 2013 SAGE/Pine Forge Teaching Innovations & Professional Development Award
- 2013 Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, Alternate

- 2012 American Sociological Association's (ASA) Minority Fellowship 2012
Travel Grant, Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study Data
Workshop
- 2011 Advanced Departmental Fellowship, Indiana University 2007
Summer Graduate Fellowship, Indiana University
- 2006-2009 Tuition/Fee Waiver, Indiana University

RESEARCH AND APPLIED WORK

- 2017 Co-Principal Investigator, Department of Sociology, University of West
Georgia. West Georgia Social Determinants of Health Study.
Conceptualization of community study on the social determinants of health in
Carrollton, Georgia by neighborhoods
- 2015-Present Co-investigator
Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Indiana University Purdue
University- Indianapolis; Fairbanks School of Public Health
Work under Drs. Silvia Bigatti and Kenzie Latham on "Investigating the
Relationship between Cumulative Disadvantage and Telomere Length as a
Contributor to Cancer Disparities"
Conducted life course interviews with African American participants, completed
thematic coding of all interviews, assisted with qualitative analysis; lead
independent project on never-married respondents
- 2016 Research Collaborator
Department of Social and Behavior Sciences, Indiana University Purdue
University- Indianapolis; Fairbanks School of Public Health
Work under Dr. Sula Hood on "Family Health Communication: African
American Young Adults"
Assisted with creation of interview guide; conducted qualitative interviews;
complete thematic coding of interviews
- 2015 Co-investigator
Department of Social and Behavior Sciences, Indiana University Purdue
University- Indianapolis; Fairbanks School of Public Health
Work with Dr. Tamara Leech on "Pockets of Peace: Investigating Urban
Neighborhoods' Resilience to Adolescent Violence"
Project management, primary data collection, survey development, data analysis,
interpretation and application of findings; lead independent project on
association between urban daily hassles and health
- 2011 Research Assistant/Interview Supervisor
Center for Survey Research (CSR), Indiana University
Worked under Peggy A. Thoits (PI) on the Sociological Research
Practicum: "Social Support from Similar Others"
Transcription and interview database; set procedures for inputting
transcription and de-identification information; worked with CSR staff on
day-to-day production; supervised telephone interviews, managed

transcription, verification, and de-identification activities; conducted telephone semi-structured interviews with Mended Hearts volunteers about support they provide to current heart patients and their family members

- 2009-2010 Behavioral Scientist/Researcher
National Center for Health Statistics, Hyattsville, MD Questionnaire Design Research Laboratory
Interviewed participants for NCHS research projects to test the effectiveness of various survey instruments; surveyed, interviewed, transcribed, summarized, and analyzed data; wrote final reports; served on three-person research team to design and execute, from its inception, research including conceptualization of methodological design, recruitment of survey participants, surveyed, face-to-face interviews, transcribed, maintained field notes, and conducted analysis using Q-notes, a qualitative research software
- 2010 Research Assistant
Department of Sociology, Indiana University
Worked under Jane McLeod (PI) on the National Institute for Mental Health (NIMH) Research Grant: “Mental Health and the Transition to Adulthood”
Analyzed the structure and content of friendship networks of youth with physical and mental health problems
- 2009 Research Assistant
Department of Sociology, Indiana University.
Worked under Pamela Jackson (PI) on the Robert Wood Johnson Investigator Award in Health Policy Research Grant: “Explaining Elevated Health Risk of the Black Middle Class”
Performed statistical analyses on health differences found in the Black middle class
- 2007 Research Assistant
Center for Survey Research (CSR), Indiana University
Worked under Dr. Clem Brooks (PI) on “Policy Preferences in the United States II Project”
Conducted phone interviews in order to collect information on respondents’ political attitudes, including feelings about welfare, the War on Terrorism, and health care

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2017 Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology, University of West Georgia
Courses: Social Problems, Medical Sociology, Sociology of Mental Health
- 2015 Postdoctoral Student

- Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, IUPUI
Course: Community Health
 Responsibility for course development, lecture, and grading
- 2012 Teaching Assistant
 Biology Department, Indiana University-Bloomington
Course: Biology of Mental Illness
 Graded assignments and maintained attendance record
- 2011-2012 Instructor
 Department of Sociology, Indiana University-Bloomington *Course:*
Growing Up, Growing Old: Introduction to the Life Course
 Full responsibility for course development, lecture, and grading
- 2011 Co-instructor
 Department of Sociology, Indiana University-Bloomington *Course:*
Sociological Research Practicum II, Social Support from “Similar Others”
 Assisted second-year graduate students with their Master’s theses; met students weekly; assisted with analysis, conceptual frameworks, and issues of clarity
- 2009 Instructor
 Department of Sociology, Indiana University-Bloomington
Course: Introduction to Sociology
 Full responsibility for course development, lecture, and grading
- 2006-2007 Teaching Assistant
 Department of Sociology, Indiana University-Bloomington *Course:*
Mental Illness; Social Change; Moral Controversy in American Politics
 Tutored, graded, held review sessions, and oversaw grade management

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 Gender Differences in the Effects of Support Exchanges on Psychological Well-Being. American Sociology Association, Montreal, Canada (with Christy L. Erving).
- 2017 Does Discrimination and Negative Interactions with Family Explain the Relationship between Being in an Interracial Relationship and Poorer Mental Health?. Society for the Study of Social Problems, Montreal, Canada.
- 2017 Understanding African Americans Family Health History Communication: Young Adult Perspectives. Society for Behavioral Medicine, San Diego, CA (with Sula Hood and Hadya Sow).

- 2016 Establishing Authority in the Classroom: A Content Analysis of Race and Gender Patterns in Syllabus Language. Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, MA (with Deidre Redmond, Dana Prewitt, and Christy L. Erving).
- 2014 Mental Health and Cultural Competence. Webinar Series for Cultural Competency Training. Equity Institute on Race, Culture, and Transformative Action. IUPUI.
- 2013 The Health of the Intermarried. American Sociological Association. New York, NY.
2012 Teaching with Movement: Using the Health Privilege Activity to Physically Demonstrate Disparities in Society. Society for the Study of Social Problems, Denver, CO (with Kathleen Oberlin and Tiffani Saunders).
- 2012 Receiving, Giving, and Reciprocity: Support and Multiple Measures of Health. North Central Sociological Association, Pittsburgh, PA (with Christy L. Erving).
- 2011 "I Said 'Don't Know' Because I Don't Know": Measuring Discrimination in Health Care. American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, NA.
- 2010 Bringing Interpretive Methods into the Cognitive Interview. Midwest Sociological Society/North Central Sociological Association, Chicago, IL (with Valerie Chepp and Katie Kaufmann).
- 2010 Overcoming Constraints: Using Commercials in the Classroom. Midwest Sociological Society/North Central Sociological Association, Chicago, IL.
- 2009 Predictors of Subjective Life Expectancy among African-Americans. Midwest Sociological Society, Des Moines, IA.
- 2008 My Life and Death Depend on You: Subjective Life Expectancy among African- Americans. North Central Sociological Association, Cincinnati, OH.

SERVICE

To the Profession

- 2017 Reviewer, *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*
- 2014 Reviewer, *Teaching Sociology*
- 2012 Presider and Discussant, Using Art, Visuals, and Popular Culture to Teach Social Problems, Society for the Study of Social Problems, Annual Meeting, Denver, CO
- 2012 Reviewer, *Research on Aging*
- 2011 *The Sociological Cinema*, Blogger and Contributor

To the University

- 2017 Faculty Advisor, Student Research Assistant Program
- 2012 Graduate Mentor, Junior Executive Institute
- 2010-2012 Planning Committee and Moderator, Preparing Future Faculty Program
- 2009-2010 Advisory Board, Ronald E. McNair Scholars' Program 2009
Travel Grant Reviewer, Graduate and Professional Student Organization
- 2008-2009 Graduate Advisor, Ronald E. McNair Scholars' Summer for Research Opportunities Program
- 2006 Graduate Advisor, Achiever's Summer Academy

To the Department

- 2017 Coordinator for Alpha Kappa Delta, University of West Georgia
- 2017 Search Committee Member for Assistant Professor of Sociology Position (2017-2018), University of West Georgia
- 2017 Search Committee Member for Department Chair Position (2017-2018), University of West Georgia
- 2017 Search Committee Member for Assistant Professor of Sociology Position (2016-2017), University of West Georgia
- 2017 Committee Member, Undergraduate Programs Committee, University of West Georgia
- 2015 Search Committee Member for Research Analyst Position, Fairbanks School of Public Health
- 2014, 2015 Reviewer, Master of Public Health Capstone Poster, Social and Behavioral Sciences
- 2007-2013 Present Member, Race and Ethnic Relations Committee
- 2011 Member of the Mentor Awards Committee, Graduate Student Association
- 2009-2010 Treasurer, Graduate Student Association
- 2008-2009 Secretary, Graduate Student Association

To the Community

- 2017 Member, Get Healthy Live Well Coalition
- 2009-Present Volunteer, City's Outreach, (Biannual)
- 2012 Invited Speaker on Stereotypes and Discrimination, Boys and Girls Club
2011 Volunteer, New Hope Family Shelter
- 2004 Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign

MASTER'S THESIS STUDENTS:

Current membership on master's thesis:

Lacey Moore, Sociology, University of West Georgia

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2014 Ins and Out of Applying for NIH Funding, IUPUI
- 2013 ASA Section on Teaching and Learning Pre-Conference Workshop SAGE/Pine Forge Teaching Innovations and Professional Development Award Universal Design: Interrogating Inequality in Learning
- 2012 Institute on Teaching and Mentoring Participant, Compact for Faculty Diversity, Tampa, FL
- 2011-2012 DePauw University Faculty Fellow, Preparing Future Faculty Fellow partnership between DePauw University and Indiana University
- 2010-2012 Preparing Future Faculty Certification, Indiana University-Bloomington
The Teaching of Undergraduate Sociology Social Issues in Higher Education
Social Research in Higher Education
- 2009 Future Faculty Development Certification and the Engagement in the School of Teaching and Learning, Midwest Sociological Society Conference

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Sociological Association
Section: Medical Sociology
Section: Sociology of Mental Health
Section: Racial and Ethnic Relations
Section: Teaching and Learning
- Society for the Study of Social Problems
Section: Mental Health
Section: Racial and Ethnic Minorities
- Alpha Kappa Delta, International Sociology Honor Society (Inducted 2002)

REFERENCES

Peggy A. Thoits
Virginia L. Roberts Professor
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