

JENNIFER BLECHA

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D.** in Geography, University of Minnesota, 2000-2007 2007
Thesis: Urban Life with Livestock: Performing Alternative Imaginaries through
Small-Scale Urban Livestock Agriculture in the United States
Minors: Sustainable Agriculture Systems; Development Studies and Social Change
Advisor: Professor Helga Leitner
- Master of Arts** in Cultural Anthropology; University of Oregon 1995
- Bachelor of Arts**, *magna cum laude*; Pacific Lutheran University 1991
Majors: Anthropology, Political Science, and Global Studies
Minors: English and German

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS AND RANKS HELD

- Assistant Professor*, Geography and Environment, San Francisco State University, 2007- present
 - The Human Environment, GEOG 102
 - Geography of Garbage: Waste Reduction and Recycling, GEOG 666
 - Agriculture and Food Supply, GEOG 427
 - Transforming Food & Agriculture Systems: Local to Global, GEOG 430
 - Environmental Problems and Solutions, GEOG 600
 - Graduate Seminar in Human Geography, GEOG 820
- Community Faculty Member*, Metropolitan State University, St Paul, MN 2011
 - Introduction to Geography
 - World Regional Geography
- Visiting Assistant Professor*, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN 2009, 2010
 - Regional Geography of Central and Eastern Europe, GEOG 294
 - Cultural Geography of People, Animals, and the Environment, GEOG 194
- Local Foods Program Manager*, The Minnesota Project, St. Paul, MN 2008 – 2009
- Graduate Instructor*, Geography, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 2004-2006
 - Senior Project Seminar (3x), GEOG 3985
 - Introduction to Human Geography, GEOG 1301
- Teaching Assistant*, Urban Studies, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 2004
 - Urban Environmental Problems
- Teaching Assistant*, Geography, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 2001-2003
 - Changing Form of the City
 - Geography and Urban Planning

- Introduction to Human Geography (3x)
- Graduate Intern*, City Farmer; Vancouver, Canada Summer 2001
- Graduate Intern*, Minnesota Food Association; Minneapolis, MN Summer 2000
- Program Coordinator*, Continuing Education Program, College of Forest Resources,
University of Washington, Seattle 1999-2000
- Human Resources Generalist*, Neil Kelly Company; Portland, OR 1996-1999
- Adjunct Faculty*, Anthropology, Portland Community College, Portland, OR 1997-1998
 - Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, ANTH 207, 208, 209
- Adjunct Faculty*, Anthropology, Linfield College,
Division of Continuing Education, McMinnville, OR 1996
 - Peoples and Cultures of Eastern Europe
- Graduate Teaching Fellow*, *Savage Professorship of Peace*, U of Oregon, Eugene, OR 1995
- Graduate Teaching Fellow*, Anthropology, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 1994-1995

Master of Arts Committee Membership

Melissa Kent, Master's Committee.

Jill Miller, Master's Committee.

Gia Grant, Master's Committee. M.A. completed, August 2015. "San Francisco Park Bond Funding: An Equity Mapping and Analysis."

Alex Roa, Master's Committee. M.A. completed September 2013. "Boots and Birkenstocks: Landowner Attitudes about Conservation Easements in San Mateo County."

David Toy, Committee Chair. M.A. completed, May 2012. "Local Decision Factors in Implementing Municipal Food Scrap Collection Programs in California."

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AND GROWTH

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Blecha, J. (under review) "Regulating Backyard Slaughter: Strategies and Gaps in U.S. Municipal Livestock Ordinances." *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*.

Blecha, J. and A. Davis (2014) "Distance, Proximity, and Freedom: Identifying Conflicting Priorities Regarding Urban Backyard Livestock Slaughter," *Geoforum* 57: 67-77.

Blecha, J. and H. Leitner, (2013). "Reimagining the Food System, the Economy and Urban Life: New Urban Chicken-Keeper in U.S. Cities," *Urban Geography* 35(1): 86-108.

Editor-Reviewed Publications

Dias, K. and J. Blecha, 2007. "Feminism and Social Theory in Geography: An Introduction." *The Professional Geographer*, 59(1), 1-9.

Conference Presentations

- “Regulating Backyard Slaughter: Strategies and Gaps in U.S. Municipal Livestock Ordinances.” Association of American Geographers, Chicago, IL. April 2015.
- ““For Food Purposes”: Regulating backyard animal slaughter in U.S. Cities.” Association of American Geographers, Tampa, FL. April 2014.
- ““Absolutely!” “Oh hell no!”: a survey of perspectives on backyard slaughter in the Bay Area, California.” Association of Pacific Coast Geographers. Lake Tahoe, September 2013.
- ““This is Not the Place for Slaughtering’: Conflicts over Backyard Livestock Slaughter in Oakland and Minneapolis-Saint Paul.” Association for American Geographers, Los Angeles, CA. April 2013
- “Animal Butchering and Animal Welfare,” Urban Agriculture Summit, Toronto, Canada, August 2012
- “Regulating Urban Livestock: Comparing Municipal Animal Ordinances in U.S. and Canadian Cities.” Association of American Geographers, Washington, DC, April 2010
- “Food is an Energy Issue,” Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTS) 2009 Conference, ‘Harnessing Resources & Teamwork for Minnesota’s Energy Future.’ St. Cloud, MN, February 2009
- “The Urban Livestock Movement.” Community Food Security Association annual conference, Philadelphia, PA, October 2008
- “The Urban Livestock Movement,” workshop. Pollinating Our Future, Urban Agriculture Conference. Milwaukee, WI, February 2008
- “If you get to know those animals, you really love them’: moral proximity and urban livestock agriculture,” Association of American Geographers, San Francisco, CA, April 2007
- “Being ‘Junior Farmer’: performing alternative economics through urban livestock agriculture,” Association of American Geographers, Chicago, IL, March 2006
- “Land of Milk and Honey? Livestock Agriculture in a Detroit City Schoolyard,” Association of American Geographers, Denver, CO, April 2005
- “The New Urban Chicken-Keeper.” Association of American Geographers, Philadelphia, PA, March 2004
- “The State of Urban Agriculture In Vancouver, Canada: A Survey Of Food Growers In The City.” Poster presentation. West Lakes Regional Meetings of the Association of American Geographers. Minneapolis, MN. October, 2002

Guest Lectures, Conference Panels & Professional Colloquia

- California Higher Education Sustainability Conference*, Invited Speaker, “Foundations for Zero Waste Action on Campus.” July 23, 2015.
- SF Build Scholars’ summer intensive seminar*. Invited Speaker, “Movements for Food Justice and Community Health.” June 23, 2015.

Political Ecology and Social-Ecological Interactions of Food Production and Systems II: Urban Food Systems and Activism. Discussant. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. April 2015.

Planning for Urban Agriculture, panel participant. National Planning Conference, American Planning Association, Minneapolis, MN, April 2009

Animal Subjectivity & Methodology. Panel Participant. Association of American Geographers, Boston, MA, 2008.

Ecological Cities. Panel Participant. Association of American Geographers, Chicago, IL. 2006

Feminism and Social Theory in Geography II. Panel Participant. Association of American Geographers, Denver, CO. April 2005

"The New Urban Chicken-Keepers (and other unlikely rebels against omnipresent capitalism, environmental degradation and interspecies alienation.)" MacArthur Brownbag Lecture Series. University of Minnesota May 2004.

Feminist Ecological Economics Workshop, Invited Participant. Sponsors: York University and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRCC), Toronto, February 2003

"Farming the City: The State of Urban Agriculture in Vancouver, B.C." What's Up in Sustainable Agriculture (WUSA) lecture series. University of Minnesota, 2001

Other

"Lawns," 2007. Encyclopedia of Environment and Society. Sage Reference, Thousand Oaks.

"Chicken-keeping produces unexpected benefits," 2005. Seattle Tilth Newsletter. Nov/Dec Issue. Seattle, WA.

SERVICE TO CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY

Contributions to Department and Campus

Co-Chair, Departmental Committee for Mid-Term Review of Department Chair	Spring 2015
Advisor, Real Food Challenge SFSU, student organization	2014 - present
Geography Major Advisor	2013-present
Geography Minor Advisor	2012-present
Departmental representative, SFSU Commencement	2008, '10, '12, '13, '14, '15
COSE Selection Committee, Rosenblatt Scholarship	Fall 2014
Completed GE Certification process for GEOG 666	Spring 2013
Submitted new course proposal for Geog 430. Accepted.	Spring 2013
Departmental Curriculum Committee	2012-2013
*Refreshed records of Program Learning Objectives, and initiated faculty-wide process of discussing and defining Student Learning Objectives for all courses.	
Faculty Judge, BSS College, CSU Student Research Competition	Annually 2012-14

Department Representative at SFSU Graduate School Fair	October 2012
Completed GE Certification process for Geog 102 with J. Henderson	September 2012
Chair, Departmental Committee for Mid-Term Review of Department Chair	Spring 2012
Department Chair Search, Active member, Committee of the whole	Spring 2010
Departmental Representative to the Writing in the Disciplines Colloquium	January 2008
Provided recommendation letters for various students for scholarships, graduate schools, and study abroad programs	2008-present

Media & Public Scholarship

- Interviewed and appeared on KTVU 10pm news for a story by Katie Utehs on Oakland Public Works' "Adopt-A-Drain" Program. December 1, 2014.
- Interviewed and quoted in Marketplace: By the Numbers (blog), Nancy Marshall-Genzer (reporter), "Cluck, cluck: Debating the merits of urban chickens." American Public Media, August 18, 2013. <http://www.marketplace.org/>
- Interviewed by Alex Emslie, reporter with SF News, for article on San Francisco Environment's progress toward the goal of Zero Waste, October 2012.
- Interviewed for feature documentary film, Growing Cities, 2011.
- Interviewed by Devery Sheffer, reporter with SF News, for article on food and sustainability, November 2011.
- Interviewed and quoted in: Susan Peters, "Nobody Here but Us Chickens," Canadian Geographic, April 2010
- Cited in: Alissa Irei, "Controversial urban chickens still roost around Chicago," Medill Reports, Chicago. March 09, 2010. <http://news.medill.northwestern.edu/chicago/news.aspx?id=160734>
- Interviewed by Susan Orlean for: "The It Bird: The return of the back-yard chicken," Popular Chronicles, The New Yorker. September 28, 2009. http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2009/09/28/090928fa_fact_orlean?currentPage=all
- Interviewed and featured in: Madeleine Baran, "Program aims to fill food shelves with local fruit," Minnesota Public Radio, August 21, 2009. <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2009/08/17/fruits-city-foodshelves/>
- Interviewed and quoted in: Kim Palmer, "Got fruit to share?" Minneapolis Star Tribune, StarTribune.com. July 14, 2009.
- Interviewed and quoted in: Peter Applebome, "Envisioning the End of 'Don't Cluck, Don't Tell' New York Times, April 29, 2009. <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/30/nyregion/30towns.html>
- Fact checker for article, "Urban Chickens," National Geographic Magazine, April 2009, p.24.
- Interviewed and quoted in: Megan Verlee, "City Folk Flock to Raise Small Livestock at Home," Weekend All Things Considered, National Public Radio, January 14, 2009
- Interviewed and quoted in: Jessica Bennett, "The New Coop deVille: The craze for urban poultry farming," Newsweek Magazine, 11/18/2008. www.newsweek.com/id/168740

Interview, "Metro Livestock," Show #586, Food Chain Radio, syndicated news/talk show.
Hour-long interview regarding raising livestock animals in cities. Aired April 19, 2008.

Panelist/Discussant for the film "King Corn" at the San Francisco Public Library. Invited by
ITVS (Independent Television Service) Community Cinema. March 5, 2008.

Interview, Equal Time Radio, WDEV 96.1/96.5 FM & 550 AM, Waterbury, Vermont, with an
estimated 8,000 - 10,000 listeners. Hour-long interview regarding raising livestock
animals in cities. To air in September 2008.

Interview, "Metro Livestock," Show #586, Food Chain Radio, syndicated news/talk show.
Hour-long interview regarding raising livestock animals in cities. Aired April 19, 2008.

Interviewed and quoted in article, "Halifax Family Runs Afoul of Poultry Police" by Charles
Mandel. Calgary Herald, March 13, 2008.

Panelist/Discussant for the film "King Corn" at the San Francisco Public Library. Invited by
ITVS (Independent Television Service) Community Cinema. March 5, 2008.

Interview, "Farms in the City," Show #579, Food Chain Radio, syndicated news/talk show.
One of five guests discussing the first national urban agriculture conference, being held
in Milwaukee, WI. Aired March 1, 2008.

Guest Lectures & Community Workshops

Oakland Urban Farm Tour, Speaker/Farmer/Host, Institute for Urban Homesteading, June
13, 2015.

"The Geography of Garbage," teaching staff at Holden Village Retreat Center. Led 12 sessions
for adults and youth on a variety of waste reduction topics, Chelan, WA, July 2012

"Human Impacts of Climate Change," guest lecture, Geography 313: Earth's Climate Systems,
SFSU. November 2011. Instructor: Andrew Oliphant

E-waste Recycling in Third World Countries, faculty speaker. Eco-Students workshop, San
Francisco State University. March 2010

"Urban Livestock Regulation," invited speaker, monthly telephone conference, Urban
Agriculture Committee of the Community Food Security Coalition, July 2009

"Fruits of the City" Local Foods Roundtable monthly speaker, Minneapolis, MN. June 2009

"The Local Foods Program at the Minnesota Project," What's Up in Sustainable Agriculture
Colloquium (WUSA), Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture, University of
Minnesota, March, 2009

"The Urban Livestock Movement." Guest lecture, Organic farm school, Women's
Environmental Institute, Minneapolis, MN, July 2008

"Political Economy of Food and Hunger in U.S. Cities." Guest instructor. Geog 488, Political
Ecology Seminar. Macalester College, St. Paul, MN. April 2005. Instructor: Bill Moseley

"Alternative Economics: feminist economic geography," guest instructor. Geog 488, Political
Ecology Seminar. Macalester College, St. Paul, MN. April 2005. Instructor: Bill Moseley

"Sustainable Agriculture: The Cuban Example." Invited Speaker, Earth Day 2005.
Macalester College, St. Paul, MN. April 2005

- "Sustainable Agriculture in Cuba." Guest instructor. Geog 110, Introduction to Human Geography. Macalester College, St. Paul, MN. March 2005. Instructor: Bill Moseley
- "Environmental Sustainability in Construction: The Natural Step," guest speaker. Construction Management 4013, University of Minnesota. February 2005. Instructor: Judy Otto
- "Food and Agriculture Systems: The Example of Cuba." Guest lecture in undergraduate course: Introduction to Human Geography. University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. 2002
- "Alternative Agriculture Systems: The Case of Cuba." Guest lecture in graduate course: Population, Environment and Sustainability. University of Minnesota, St. Paul. 2002

Professional Memberships & Leadership

- Peer Reviewer for Gender, Place & Culture 2015
- Board Member, Geographies of Food & Agriculture Specialty Group 2014 - 2016
- Founding Associate, MetroAg: Alliance for Urban Agriculture, US/Canada 2008 - 2012
- Founding Board Member, Animal Geographies Specialty Group, AAG 2009 - 2011
- Member, Association of American Geographers (AAG) 2002 - present
 Cultural Animal Geographies Specialty Group
 Latin America Specialty Group
 Geographic Perspectives on Women Specialty Group
 Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group
- Peer Reviewer for Environmental Studies and Sciences 2011
- Guest Co-Editor, February 2007. Special Issue: "Feminism and Social Theory in Geography."
The Professional Geographer. 2006
- Invited Reviewer, J. Rubenstein, 2005. An Introduction to Human Geography: The Cultural Landscape (8th Edition). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall. 2006
- Co-organized two paper sessions, "Urban Animals I" and "Urban Animals II," at the Association of American Geographers annual meeting, Philadelphia, PA 2004
- Session Chair, "Urban Animals I," Association of American Geographers annual meeting, Philadelphia, PA 2004
- Member, Feminist Speakers Series organizing committee,
 Department of Geography, University of Minnesota 2003 - 2005
- President, Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG) at the Univ. of Minnesota 2002 - 2003
- Graduate Student Representative to the Faculty, Geography Dept., U of Minn. 2002 - 2003
- Member, American Anthropological Association 1994 - 1997
- Member, Association for Feminist Anthropology 1994 - 1997

Continuing Professional Development & Education

- Reader, Advanced Placement (AP) Human Geography Exam Annually 2010-15
- Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) 2014 -
 Webinar - "Promoting Sustainable Campus Landscapes: Making a Case for Campus Trees"

Community Service, San Francisco & Oakland

Building & Sustainability Manager (volunteer), St. Gregory of Nyssa Church, SF 2014-2017

- Converted light fixtures to LED. Cut electricity consumption in half.
- Managing contract for installation of PV solar system on roof.
- Lead team to replace landscaping with Bay-Friendly (native & drought tolerant) plantings
- Seeking ways to reduce water and energy use.

Volunteer Camp Teacher, hands-on sessions on food gardening and water conservation for 4-10 year olds, FOG Camp, St. Gregory of Nyssa Church, SF June 2015

Volunteer, Adopt-A-Drain Program, Oakland Public Works 2014-present

Community Engagement, Minnesota (during professional leave 2008-09)

Positions and Projects Initiated

Founder and Manager, Fruits of the City program in the Twin Cities, Minnesota

Local Foods Advisor, GreenStep City Program, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Advisory Committee, Twin Cities Urban Agriculture Connection

Member, Minnesota Food & Justice Alliance

Homegrown Minneapolis Initiative Participant, City of Minneapolis Mayor's Office

Funded Grant Applications for Community Projects

Grantwriter and PI for USDA Community Food Program Planning Grant, "Assessing Food Security in Two St. Paul Communities," in collaboration with the Community Design Center of Minnesota, Afro Eco, and Minnesota Food Association, 2009. \$25,000.

SuperValu Foundation, Program Grant for Fruits of the City, 2009. \$40,000.

Women's Foundation of Minnesota, Planning Grant for Women's Urban Farm Incubator, 2009. \$6,000.