

KATHLEEN SEXSMITH, Curriculum Vitae

December 2025

Assistant Professor of Rural Sociology and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Department of Agricultural Economics, Sociology, and Education
Pennsylvania State University

110-B Armsby Building
kjs95@psu.edu

EDUCATION

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, U.S.A.

PhD, 2017

Development Sociology

University of Oxford, Oxford, U.K.

MPhil (Distinction), 2008

Development Studies

** Eugene Havas Prize for best performance in MPhil in Development Studies program*

University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada

B.A. 2005

Economics (Honors)

** University Gold Medal for Highest Standing in the Faculty of Arts*

AWARDS

Teaching awards

Advancing a Global Penn State: Global Learning Instructor Award. Penn State Global. (2025).

Excellence in Instruction Award. Rural Sociological Society. (2024)

Community of Teaching Excellence Award. College of Agricultural Sciences, Penn State University. (2021)

NACTA Teaching Award of Merit. College of Agricultural Sciences, Penn State University. (2019)

Research, academic, and outreach awards

Integrated Team Research Award, College of Agricultural Sciences, Penn State University. (2025). With Adrian Barragan and Maria Gorgo-Simcox.

Exemplary Designation, 2021 Emerging Faculty Outreach Award. Penn State Outreach. (2021)

Rural Sociological Society Early Career Award. (2021)

Roy C. Buck Faculty Award. College of Agricultural Sciences, Penn State University. (2017)

PUBLICATIONS

**Student co-author

Peer-reviewed journal articles

Scott, Christian, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, and Guangqing Chi. (2025). "Caretaker Perceptions of the Effects of Parental Migration on Left-Behind Children in Rural Kyrgyzstan." *Development in Practice* 35 (5): 804-821.

Scott, Christian, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, and Guangqing Chi. (2024). "Gendered Migration Patterns and Social Change in Rural Kyrgyzstan." *Migration and Development* 13 (2): 176-198.

Velasco Palacios, Hazel**, Paige Castellanos, Leif Jensen, Janelle Larson, Alfredo Reyes*, Carolyn Sachs, Arie Sanders, and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. (2024). "Perceptions and Experiences of Gender Transformative Approaches in Rural Honduras." *Rural Sociology* Vol 89 (4): 860-883.

Sexsmith, Kathleen, Ilse Huerta**, Maria Gorgo, Effie Palacios**, and Megan A.M. Griffin**. (2024). "Farm Labor Shortage in the Pennsylvania Mushroom Industry: A Gender-Sensitive Comparison of Farmer and Farmworker Perspectives." *Rural Sociology* Vol 89 (3): 404-430.

Reyes, Francisco** and **Sexsmith, Kathleen**. (2024). "Workplace sexual harassment in waged agricultural employment: a literature review." *Journal of Agromedicine*. Vol 29, No 3: 516-530.

Sexsmith, Kathleen and Richard Kiely. (2023). "Towards a transformative GSL ethics: How faculty Global Service-Learning instructors reconcile clashing personal and institutional values surrounding GSL." *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*. Vol 27: No 3: 5-29.

Velasco, Hazel**, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, Maite Matheu, and Andrea Celeste Reiche*. (2023). "Gendered adaptations to climate change in the Honduran coffee sector." *Women's Studies International Forum*. Vol. 98: 1-10.

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2022). "The embodied precarity of year-round agricultural work: Health and safety risks among Latino/a immigrant dairy farmworkers." *Agriculture and Human Values* Vol. 39, pp. 357-370.

Sexsmith, Kathleen, Effie Palacios**, Maria Gorgo, and Ilse Huerta Arredondo**. (2022). "Latino/a farmworkers' concerns about safety and health in the Pennsylvania mushroom industry." *Journal of Agromedicine* Vol. 27, No. 2, pp. 169-182.

Weiler, Anelyse, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, and Laura-Anne Minkoff-Zern (2020). "Parallel precarity: A comparison of United States and Canadian Agricultural Guestworker Programs." *The International Journal of Sociology of Agriculture and Food*, Vol. 26, No. 2, pp 143-163.

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2019). "Decoding worker 'reliability': Modern agrarian values and immigrant labor on New York dairy farms." *Rural Sociology*, Vol. 84, No. 4, pp 706-735.

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2017). "*But We Can't Call 9-1-1*": Undocumented Migrant Farmworkers and Access to Social Protection on New York Dairies." *Oxford Development Studies*, Vol. 45, No. 1, pp. 96-111.

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2016). "Exit, Voice, Constrained Loyalty, and Entrapment: Migrant Farmworkers and the Expression of Discontent on New York Dairy Farms." *Citizenship Studies*, Vol. 20, No. 3-4, pp. 311.

Sexsmith, Kathleen and Philip McMichael. (2015). "Formulating the SDGs: Reproducing or Reimagining State-Centered Development?" *Globalizations*, Vol. 12, No. 4, pp. 581.

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2009). "Violent Conflict and social transformation: an institutionalist approach to the role of informal economic networks." *European Journal of Development Research*, Vol. 21, No. 1, pp. 26.

Co-edited Volumes

Sachs, Carolyn, Leif Jensen, Paige Castellanos, and **Kathleen Sexsmith** (Eds.). (2020). *Handbook of Gender and Agriculture*. Routledge.

Loxley, John, Jim Silver, and **Kathleen Sexsmith** (Eds.) (2007). *Doing Community Economic Development*. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing.

Guest editorships

Hoffelmeyer, Michaela, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, and Leland Glenna. Divergent approaches to the 'family farm': celebrate, reform, or abolish? Special symposium of *Agriculture and Human Values* Vol 41 (4). December 2024.

Van Tulder, Rob, Suzana Braga Rodrigues, Hafiz Mirza, and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. Guest editors: The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): What Role for Multinational Enterprises? Special issue of *Journal of International Business Policy* Vol. 4, No. 1, March 2021.

Book Chapters

Southard, Emily** and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. (In Press). "Immigration to Rural New Destinations in the U.S.: Insights from Qualitative Studies." In Eduardo Barberis, Tiziana Caponio, and Ruth McAreavey (Eds.). *Handbook on International Migration in Small Towns and Rural Areas*. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Sexsmith, Kathleen and Rebecca Tarlau. (In Press). Chapter 15: Agricultural Work: Unfreedom and Resistance. In Jonathan Preminger, Stephanie Limoncelli, Ödül Bozkurt & Chris Rees (Eds.). *Handbook of the Sociology of Work*. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Sexsmith, Kathleen and Megan Griffin**. (2020). "Gender and Precarious Work in Agriculture." Chapter 25 in Sachs, Carolyn, Leif Jensen, Paige Castellanos, and Kathleen Sexsmith (Eds.). *Routledge Handbook of Gender and Agriculture*. Routledge. Pp 326-335.

Palacios, Effie** and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. (2020). "Occupational Justice for Latinx Livestock Workers." Chapter in Thomas Arcury and Sara Quandt (Eds.) *Latinx Farmworkers in the Eastern United States – Health, Safety, and Justice. Second Edition*. Springer. Pp. 107-131.

Gretchen Purser, Fabiola Ortiz Valdez, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, Rebecca Fuentes & Carly Fox. (2020). "Milking Research for Social Change: Immigrant Dairy Farmworkers in Upstate New York." Ch 10 in Susan Greenbaum, Glenn Jacobs, and Prentice Zinn (Eds.). *Collaborating for Change: A Casebook of Participatory Action Research*. Rutgers University Press.

Tickamyer, Ann R. and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. (2019). "How to Do Gender Research? Feminist Perspectives on Gender Research in Agriculture." Chapter 4 in Carolyn Sachs (Ed). *Gender, Agriculture and Agrarian Transformations*. Routledge University Press. Pp. 57-71

Kiely, Richard and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. (2018). "Innovative Considerations in Faculty Development and S-LCE: New Perspectives for the Future." Ch 12 In Becca Berkey, Cara Meixner, Patrick Green, and Emily Eddins (Eds.). *Reconceptualizing Faculty Development in Service-Learning/ Community Engagement: Exploring Intersections, Frameworks, and Models of Practice*. Stylus Publishing. Pp 283-314.

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2017). "Milking Networks for All They're Worth: Precarious Migrant Life and the Process of Consent on New York Dairies." Ch 11 in Melanie DuPuis, Matt Garcia & Don Mitchell (Eds.). *Food Across Borders*. Rutgers University Press. Pp 201-218.

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2012). "Towards Gender Equality in Global Sustainable Consumption and Production Agreements." Ch 4 in Harcourt, Wendy (Ed.). *Women Reclaiming Sustainable Livelihoods: Spaces Gained, Spaces Lost*. Palgrave Macmillan. Pp 42-61.

Sexsmith, Kathleen and Aaron Pettman. (2007). "Aboriginal Employment in the Banking Sector in Manitoba." Ch 13 In John Loxley, Jim Silver and Kathleen Sexsmith (Eds.). *Doing Community Economic Development*. Fernwood Publishing.

Book Reviews

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2021). "Daily Labors: Marketing Identity and Bodies on a New York City Street Corner" by Carolyn Pinedo-Turnovsky. *Contemporary Sociology* Vol. 50, No. 4: 339-341.

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2019). "For-Profit Democracy: Why the Government is Losing the Trust of Rural America" by Loka Ashwood. *American Journal of Sociology* Vol. 125, No. 2. Pp. 577-579.

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2013). "This Land is Ours Now: Social Mobilization and the Meanings of Land in Brazil by Wendy Wolford." *Journal of Peasant Studies* Vol. 40, No. 2, pp. 452-6.

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2009). "Fair Trade and a Global Commodity: Coffee in Costa Rica, by Peter Luetchford." *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford-online*, New Series Vol. 1, No. 2, pp. 240-242.

Research Reports

Velaszo, Hazel**, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, and Andrea Celeste Reiche González. (2021). *Impacts of Climate Change from a Gender Perspective: Exploratory Study*. Research report published by CARE. [Spanish version: *Impactos del cambio climático desde una perspectiva de género: Estudio exploratorio*.]

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2019). *Leveraging Voluntary Sustainability Standards for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Agriculture. A Guide Based on the Sustainable Development Goals for Development Organizations*. Winnipeg, Canada: International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD).

[multiple contributing authors.] (2017). *ASEAN 50 2017: A Historical Milestone for FDI and MNEs in ASEAN*. ASEAN Secretariat & Australian Aid.

Fox, Carly, Rebecca Fuentes, Fabiola Ortiz, Gretchen Purser, and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. (2017). *Milked: Immigrant Dairy Farmworkers in New York State*. Published by the Workers' Center of Central New York and the Worker Justice Center of New York.

***ASA Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology (SPPS)
Publication Award.

Sexsmith, Kathleen, Carin Smaller and Will Speller. (2017). "How to Improve Gender Equality in Agriculture?" Policy Brief #5: Investment in Agriculture. Winnipeg, Canada: International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD).

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2017). "Promoting Gender Equality in Foreign Agricultural Investments: Lessons from Voluntary Sustainability Standards." Winnipeg: IISD.

Sexsmith, Kathleen and Jason Potts. (2009). "Voluntary Sustainability Standards and Economic Rents: The economic impacts of voluntary sustainability standards along the coffee, fisheries and forestry value chains." Winnipeg: IISD.

Sexsmith, Kathleen and Jason Potts. (2009). "Voluntary Sustainability Standards and Value Chain Governance: How sustainability standards affect the distribution of decision-making power in global value chains." Winnipeg: IISD.

Sexsmith, Kathleen with Aaron Pettman. (2005). "Aboriginal Employment in the Banking Sector in Manitoba." 28 June, 2006. Winnipeg: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives-Manitoba.

Newspaper & Popular Press

Hazel Velasco** and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. "[Pennsylvania's mushroom industry faces urgent labor shortage – and latest immigration policies will likely make it worse.](#)" The Conversation. Published March 12th, 2025.

Sexsmith, Kathleen and Greg Asbed. "[Farmworkers Cannot Wait for OSHA to Adequately Protect Them From Heat. The Fair Food Program Provides a Solution.](#)" Modern Farmer. Published June 13th, 2024.

Sexsmith, Kathleen, Francisco Reyes**, and Megan A.M. Griffin**. "[Sexual violence is a pervasive threat for female farm workers – here's how the US could reduce their risk.](#)" The Conversation. Published July 31st 2023.

Sexsmith, Kathleen and Ilse Huerta Arredondo**. (2019). "Labor shortage in the mushroom industry: Worker and employer perspectives." *Mushroom News*, October.

Sexsmith, Kathleen and Rossana Coto-Batres. (2017). "Farmworkers deserve better than Guestworker Act." Commentary in *Albany TimesUnion*, November 23.

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2017). Introduction to the Special Section: Immigrant farmworkers in Northeast Agriculture: Life, labor conditions, and organizing for change. *Voices of Mexico*, Issue #102. Center for Research on North America, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). p. 97.

Sexsmith, Kathleen. (2017). "The Transnational Lives of Migrant Youth on New York dairies." *Voices of Mexico*, Issue #102. Center for Research on North America, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). pp. 107-110.

GRANTS

Extramural Research Grants

López-Urbe, M., Underwood, R., Gorgo-Simcox, M., Sexsmith, K., and Sanchez, E. "Identifying incentives and barriers for the incorporation of beekeeping as a side livelihood strategy." USDA Northeast SARE Research and Education program. \$249,999. 03/2025 – 02/2027.

Gorgo-Simcox, M., Falcone, L., Kassube, H., Sexsmith, K., Weber, D., Lorenzoni Calvo, A., and Peter, K. "Success Skills in Spanish 4 Ag (SSS4A)." AgriProspects Workforce Development Network, Extension Foundation. \$95,764. 09/2024 – 08/2026.

Kemanian, A. (PI), Multiple co-PIs, Sexsmith, K. (co-PI). "Climate-smart Agriculture that is Profitable, Regenerative, Actionable, and Trustworthy (CARAT)." USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. \$25,000,000. 2023-2027.

**Canceled in April 2025 after federal agency leadership transition.

Sexsmith, K. (PI), Gorgo, M., and Barragan, A. "Assessing the Quality and Quantity of Housing for the PA Agricultural Workforce." Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. \$43,101. 07/2022 – 06/2024.

Sexsmith, K. (PI). "Impacts of COVID pandemic on unpaid care work among food system workers." Oxfam America. \$8,844. 05/2022 – 12/2022.

Sexsmith, K. (PI), Castellanos, P., Maich, K., and Glenna, L. "Impacts of COVID-19 crisis on unpaid and underpaid care work among food system workers." Oxfam America. \$15,000. 03/2021 – 03/2022.

Sexsmith, K. (PI), Castellanos, P., Glenna, L. "Identifying Success Factors for Scaling Up Saving for Change." Oxfam America. \$48,594. 01/2020 - 10/2020.

Singh, S. Fox, C. Ramsaroop, C. Xiuhtecutli, N., and Sexsmith, K. (co-PI). "Farmworkers' Participatory Research Project on Automation, Technology, and Surveillance." Sociological Initiatives Foundation. \$20,000. 01/2020 - 02/2021.

Singh, S., Fox, C., and Sexsmith, K. (co-PI). "Impacts of automation on farmworkers." Center for Democracy and Organizing, University of California, Berkeley. \$5,000. 11/2019 - 06/2020.

Sexsmith, K. (PI) and Glenna, L. "Global Poverty Hotspots: Linking Global Commodity Chains to Extreme Poverty." Oxfam America. \$5,000. 06/2019 – 08/2019.

Sexsmith, K. (PI), Snipes, A., Pate, M., Gorgo-Gourovitch, M., and Rajotte, E. "Understanding and Addressing the Labor Shortage in the Pennsylvania Mushroom Industry." American Mushroom Institute. \$6,642. 09/2018 – 08/2020.

Extramural research grants under review

Paudyal, S., Baffoe-Bonnie, A., Maich, K., Cantor, M., and Sexsmith, K. "Evaluating the social implications of robotic technology adoption in dairy farms." \$649,028 requested. Submitted to USDA NIFA AFRI in October, 2024.

Internal Penn State Research Grants

Lopez-Urbe, M., Sprow Forte, K., Barragan, A., Dietrich, D., Duque, L., Garcia-Prudencio, J., Gorgo, M., Sanchez, E., Sexsmith, K. "Harvesting Partnerships: Engaging Pennsylvania's Latino Agricultural Voices." Latino Research Seed Grant Program, Penn State Harrisburg. \$22,812. 07/2025 – 05/2026.

Sexsmith, K., Barragan, A., Kemanian, A., Becot, F., and Gorgo-Simcox, M. "Advancing climate-smart agriculture for farmworkers." Strategic Networks and Initiatives Program, College of Agricultural Sciences, Penn State University. \$22,000. 12/2024 – 03/2027.

McShane, M., Kowalkowski, J., and Sexsmith, K. "Connecting the Network: Establishing a Coalition Toward Increased Immunization Rates in Central Pennsylvania." Clinical and Translational Science Institute 'Bridges to Translation' IX Pilot Award, Penn State University. \$50,000. 07/2024 – 06/2025.

**Canceled in May 2025 after federal agency leadership transition.

Duiker S., Larson, J., Sexsmith, K., Foster, D., Miller Foster, M., Butler, T. "Outreach and Education in Conservation Agriculture in Kenya." College of Agricultural Sciences 'Science to Practice' Grant, Penn State University. \$9,720. 11/2023 – 12/2024.

Lopez-Urbe, M., Underwood, R., Gorgo, M., Sexsmith, K., and Sanchez, E. "Assessing opportunities and barriers for the incorporation of beekeeping as a side livelihood strategy in the LatinX community. College of Agricultural Sciences 'Science to Practice' Grant, Penn State University. \$10,000. 10/2023-09/2024.

***Awarded second round of funding, \$10,000, 10/2024 – 09/2025.*

Brennan, M., Finefter-Rosenbluh, I., Sexsmith, K., Lindemann, J., Reimer, K. "Sustainable Community Development, Active Citizenship, and Environmental Ethics: Empowering Marginalized Youth as Agents of Change." Penn State Global and Monash University. \$19,873. 06/2023-12/2024.

Zimmerer, K., Sexsmith, K. (co-PI) and Castellanos, P. "A Gender-Sensitive Analysis of the Global Biodiversity of Food and Agriculture (Agrobiodiversity) and Value to Food/Nutrition Security in the COVID-19 Pandemic: Experiences of Indigenous Communities in Latin America." Penn State Sustainability Institute. \$10,000. 06/2021-05/2022.

Sexsmith, K. (PI), Castellanos, P., Larson, J., Jensen, L., and Warner, A. "Climate Intensified Water Stress, Public Health, and Gender-Based Violence: Assessing the Relationships between Security Crises through Participatory Methods in Rural Honduras." Center for Security Research and Education, Penn State University. \$30,000. 03/2021 – 09/2022.

Sexsmith, K. (PI), Gorgo, M. (PI), Sanchez, E., and Baugher, T. "Supporting Career Transitions to Commercial Sustainable Agriculture: An integrated approach with aspiring and small-scale Latinx growers in Pennsylvania." College of Agricultural Sciences 'Science to Practice' Grant, Penn State University. \$10,000. 11/2020 – 11/2021.

Curry, K. and Sexsmith, K. (co-PI). "Analyzing Gender Differences in Pennsylvania School-based Agricultural Education." Social Science Research Institute, Penn State University. \$3,340. 03/2019 – 03/2021.

Sexsmith, K. (PI), Snipes, A., Pate, M., Gorgo-Gourovitch, M., and Rajotte, E. "Gender Analysis of Occupational Health and its Relation to Labor Shortage for Immigrant Workers on Pennsylvania Mushroom Farms." Population Research Institute, Penn State University. \$14,631. 03/2018 – 06/2020.

Extramural Teaching Grants and Fellowships

Sexsmith, K. (PI), Habashy, N., Ingram, P. "Developing skills for promoting gender equity in the agricultural workforce." USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Higher Education Challenge Grant (Standard Grant). \$149,000. 01/2023 – 12/2025.

Sexsmith, K. (PI), Behring, D., Castellanos, P., Jensen, L., Larson, J., Barbercheck, M., Habashy, N., Mendum, R., and Miller Foster, M. "Graduate student workshop and summer internship program with Oxfam on the gender dynamics of the agri-food system." USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Higher Education Challenge Grant (Planning Grant). \$30,000. 04/2020 – 04/2021.

Sexsmith, K. (co-PI) and Miller-Foster, M. "Community Engaged Learning with Pennsylvania Farmworkers." Innovative Teaching Award, Association of Public and Land Grant Universities. \$3,000. (Deferred to 2021).

Internal Penn State Teaching Grants and Fellowships

Sexsmith, K. (PI). "Scaling up with students: Engaging CED/WMNST 420W students in analysis of government adoption of the CARE Farmer Field and Business School model." Engaged Scholarship and Experiential Learning Seed Grant Program, Penn State Institute for Sustainable Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Science. \$5,000. 06/2025 – 06/2026.

Engagement Faculty Academy Fellow. Student Engagement Network, Penn State University. 2022-23. (Withdrawn)

Sexsmith, K. (co-PI) and Miller-Foster, M. "Community Engaged Learning with Pennsylvania Farmworkers." Harbaugh Faculty Scholars Program, Office of Undergraduate Education, College of Agricultural Sciences, Penn State University. \$4,800. 06/2019 – 06/2020.

Sexsmith, K. (co-PI) and Miller-Foster, M. "Community Engaged Learning with Pennsylvania Farmworkers." Teaching Support Grant, Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence, Penn State University. \$3,300. 07/2019 – 07/2020.

Sexsmith, K. (co-PI) and Miller-Foster, M. "English Language Instruction for Latino Immigrant Dairy Farmworkers: A Service-Learning Program." Harbaugh Faculty Scholars Program, Office of Undergraduate Education, College of Agricultural Sciences, Penn State University. \$5,000. 06/2018 – 06/2019.

Extension and Outreach Grants

Sexsmith, K. (co-PI) and Sivaprasad Wadhia, S. "Know-Your-Rights Trainings for PA Restaurant and Agricultural Workers." Penn State Center – Philadelphia. \$4,929. 01/2020-01/2021.

Bull, C., Sexsmith, K. (co-PI), Gorgo-Gourovitch, M., Sanchez, E.S., Miller Foster, M.J., Rajotte, E.J., Weltman, S., Rice, J. "Forming a Penn State Extension Latinx Agricultural Network." Penn State Extension. \$24,960. 02/2019 – 02/2020.

Sexsmith, K. (PI), Gorgo-Gourovitch, M., Weber, D. and Dudley, M.J. "Identifying Strategies to Improve Workplace Communication on Pennsylvania Tree Fruit Farms." Penn State Extension. \$7,082. 05/2019 – 06/2020.

Doctoral Research Grants and Fellowships

Sexsmith, K. (PI), McMichael, P. "Milking Networks for All They're Worth: Moral Economies in New York Dairy Production." National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, Sociology Program. \$10,419. 01/2014 – 08/2016.

Sexsmith, K. (PI). "Dairy Farmworker Organizing in Upstate New York: Assessing Farmworker Empowerment, and Supporting WJCNY Campaigns for Change." American Sociological Association Spivack Program Community Action Research Initiative. \$2,019. 04/2015 – 04/2016.

Fox, C., Fuentes, R., Ortiz, F., Purser, G., and Sexsmith, K. (co-PI). "Documenting Wage and Working Conditions of Immigrant Workers on New York Dairy Farms." Sociological Initiatives Foundation. \$20,000. 02/2014 – 11/2015.

Sexsmith, K. (PI). "Transnationalism and migratory circulation." Dissertation Proposal Development Fund, Social Sciences Research Council. 06/2012 – 09/2012.

Cornell University travel research grants for PhD dissertation: College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Alumni Association, Department of Development Sociology, Engaged Learning + Research, Graduate School, Institute for Social Studies Theme Project on Immigration Research Travel Grant, Einaudi Center for International Studies, Latin American Studies Program, Latino Studies Program.

Council of Women World Leaders, Environmental Policy Graduate Fellowship at Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea. Summer 2009.

Cornell College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Excellence Fellowship. 2009-2014

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (Canada), Doctoral Fellowship for Cornell University. 2009-2013

Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (Canada), MPhil fellowship for University of Oxford. 2006-2008

PRESENTATIONS

Professional conference presentations

** Graduate student co-author/ presenter

Kathleen Sexsmith, Adrian Barragan, and Maria Gorgo. "'We're treated like criminals: Pennsylvania farm employer perspectives on worker housing". Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting. (Salt Lake City, UT, July 2025).

Andres Mayorga**, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, Sara Bonilla, Arie Sanders, and Francis Mclean. "Gender-based violence and climate change in rural communities of La Paz, Honduras." Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting. (Salt Lake City, UT, July 2025).

Michaela Hoffelmeyer, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, and Leland Glenna. "Divergent approaches to the 'family farm': celebrate, reform, or abolish?" Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society Annual Meeting. (Corvallis, OR, June 2025).

Kathleen Sexsmith, Maria Gorgo, Adrian Barragan, Lourdes Perez**, and Hazel Velasco**. "Farmworker housing challenges in the Pennsylvania mushroom and dairy industries." Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting. (Madison, WI, July 2024).

Kathleen Sexsmith, Adrian Barragan and Veronica Villena. "'Baptized by fire' Occupational health and safety risks to U.S.-born and immigrant farmworkers on Pennsylvania dairy farms." Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting. (Burlington, VT, August 2023).

Reyes, Francisco** and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. "Workplace sexual harassment in waged agricultural employment." Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting. (Burlington, VT, August 2023).

Hazel Velasco**, Rosario Castro, Paige Castellanos, Kathryn Maich, and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. "Care Realities of Food System Workers during the COVID-19 Pandemic." Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting. (Burlington, VT, August 2023).

Kathleen Sexsmith, Marcela Martinez, Adrian Barragan, and Veronica Villena. "COVID-19 Vaccination on Pennsylvania Dairy Farms: A Comparison of US-born and Latino Immigrant Worker Perspectives." 2023 Community and Public Health Conference. (State College, PA, June 2023).

Gloria Mangoni**, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, and Brian Thiede. "Housing violations on Pennsylvania Seasonal Farm Labor Camps." Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting. (Westminster, CO, August 2022).

Kathleen Sexsmith, Melanie Miller Foster, Laura Cruz, and Noel Habashy. "Ethical considerations for community-engaged learning with PA farmworkers." Engaged Scholarship Consortium 2021 Conference. (Virtual presentation, September 2021).

Panelist: "Defetishizing the Family Farm: Alternative Perspectives on Farm Life". Rural Sociological Society, presenters **Kathleen Sexsmith**, Justine Lindemann, and Isaac Leslie. (Virtual presentation, July 2021).

Kathleen Sexsmith and Megan Griffin**. "'Who doesn't deserve 25 cents?' Gender and employment conditions on Pennsylvania mushroom packing plants." Agricultural and Human Values Association. (Virtual presentation, June 2021).

Maria Vivanco**, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, Paige Castellanos, and Leland Glenna. “‘Empowerment can’t be translated into Maya’: Perceptions of empowerment and gender justice among members of women’s savings groups in Central America.” Rural Sociological Association Annual Meeting. (Virtual presentation, June 2021).

Kendra Flood**, Kevin Curry, and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. “Gender Stereotypes of Suits and Boots: Student Perceptions of Gender in School-based Agricultural Education and Careers.” American Educational Research Association Conference. (Virtual presentation, April 2021).

Kendra Flood**, Kevin Curry, and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. “Gender Stereotypes of Suits and Boots: Student Perceptions of Gender in School-based Agricultural Education and Careers.” North Central American Association for Agricultural Education (NC AAEE) and National Learner Centered Teaching Virtual Conference. (Virtual presentation, October 2020). ***Distinguished Manuscript Award.***

Hazel Velasco Palacios** and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. “Gender effects of climate change: Perceptions of smallholder coffee farmers in Intibucá, Honduras.” Rural Sociological Society Gender and Sexuality Research Interest Group. (Virtual presentation, August 2020).

Kathleen Sexsmith, Maria Gorgo-Gourovitch, Effie Palacios**, Ilse Huerta Arredondo**, and Maria Armington. “Worker Perspectives on the Labor Shortage on Pennsylvania Mushroom Farms.” Rural Sociological Society. (Richmond, VA, August 2019).

Anelyse Weiler, Laura Anne Minkoff-Zern, and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. “Parallel Precarity: A Comparison of United States and Canadian Agricultural Guestworker Programs.” American Association of Geographers. (Washington, DC, April 2019).

Christian Scott**, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, Michaela Hoffelmeyer**, and Guangqing Chi. “‘Women are Fond of Money Now’: Gendered Migration Patterns and Social Change in Rural Kyrgyzstan.” Population Association of America. (Austin, TX, April 2019).

Dudley, Mary Jo and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. “Farmworker Youth and Uneven Legal Geographies in Rural Upstate New York.” Migrant Illegality Across Uneven Legal Geography: A Two-Part Convening. (Brown University, October 2018)

Hoffelmeyer, Michaela**, **Kathleen Sexsmith**, Kathryn Brasier, Hannah Whitley**, and Elisabeth Garner**. “Farming against the grain: A spatial and temporal analysis of U.S. women farmers, 1997-2012.” Rural Sociological Association. (Portland, OR, July 2018).

Richard Kiely and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. “A Multi-Year Study of Faculty Learning in Global Service-Learning and Community Engagement: An Emerging Theory of Critically Reflective Practice.” International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement. (Galway, Ireland, September 2017).

Kathleen Sexsmith and Rebecca Fuentes. "Milk Cows, Not Workers: Dairy Farmworker Organizing in New York State." Growing food worker power: Creative forms of worker organizing across the food system. (Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, March 2017).

Kathleen Sexsmith and Agustín Omar Rodríguez Juárez**. "Salida, Voz, Lealtad – y Atrapamiento: Trabajadores Lecheros en Nueva York." Seminario sobre Migración, Investigadores Visitantes, CISAN-UNAM. (Mexico City, February 2016).

Kathleen Sexsmith. "La Vida Indocumentada en la "Otra Frontera": Paternalismo y el Proceso Laboral en las Lecherías de Nueva York." Seminario de Investigadores Visitantes, CISAN-UNAM. (Mexico City, February 2016).

Kathleen Sexsmith and Roberto Gonzales. "Farmworker Youth, DACA, and Belonging in California's Central Valley." International Metropolis Conference (Mexico City, September 2015).

Kathleen Sexsmith. "Perilous Peripheries: Producing Precarious Migrant Labor in the Borderlands." Latin American Studies Association Annual Congress (San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 2015).

Kathleen Sexsmith and Mary Jo Dudley. "Deferred Access for Rural Childhood Arrivals: DACA's Urban Bias and Undocumented Farmworkers in Upstate New York." Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference (New York, February 2015).

Richard Kiely and **Kathleen Sexsmith.** "Faculty experiences in Global Service-Learning: A Qualitative Study." International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement. (New Orleans, September 2014).

Kathleen Sexsmith. "The politics of OSHA regulatory reform in the New York dairy industry: Reproducing or exposing the agrarian myth?" Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society Annual Conference. (University of Vermont, June 2014).

Kathleen Sexsmith. "Industrial Restructuring, Moral Obligation, and Undocumented Immigrant Labor on New York Dairy Farms." International Studies Association 2014 Annual Convention. (Toronto, March 2014).

Kathleen Sexsmith and Mary Jo Dudley. "Who has the right to DREAM? Access to DACA among Undocumented Youth on New York Dairy Farms." Latino Communities in Old and New Destinations: Multi-disciplinary Approaches to Assessing the Impact of Legal Reforms. (University of South Florida, November 2013).

Kathleen Sexsmith. "Everyday life under multiple exclusions: Undocumented Mexican youth working on New York dairy farms." Illegality, Youth and Belonging: International Symposium. (Harvard University, October 2013.)

Kathleen Sexsmith. "Milking Networks for All They're Worth: Moral Economies in New York Dairy Production." European Society for Rural Sociology Congress XXV. (Florence, Italy, July 2013).

Kathleen Sexsmith. "Engaging the Invisible: Reciprocity as Action Research with Undocumented Immigrants on New York dairy farms." Graduate Engaged Research Conference. (Cornell University, May 2013).

Kathleen Sexsmith. "Defining reciprocity in research." American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Geographies of Hope Symposium. (Los Angeles, April 2013). (panelist)

Kathleen Sexsmith. "Does Fair Trade create solidarity rents? Empowerment and disempowerment of smallholder coffee farmers in a Fair Trade global value chain." Canadian Association for Food Studies Annual Meeting. (University of New Brunswick, Canada, May 2011).

Kathleen Sexsmith. "Patriarchy and global capitalism: Applying a gender lens to food regimes." Political Economy of the World-System Section of the American Sociological Association. (Florida Atlantic University, Florida, April 2010).

Kathleen Sexsmith. "Power relations in the fair trade coffee global value chain." Polson Institute for Global Development ENCORE conference. (Cornell University, January 2010).

Invited presentations and panels

Kathleen Sexsmith. "Scaling up with students: Engaging CED/WMNST 420W students in analysis of government adoption of the CARE Farmer Field and Business School model." SAFES Annual Showcase, Penn State University (Penn State University Park, PA, November 2025).

Invited panelist for "Healthcare access for farmworkers: Exploring the Challenges of Providing Healthcare to Farmworkers; Accessible Health Insurance, Social Stigma, and Added Difficulties for Migrant Farmworkers." Fields of Knowledge: Conversations about Farmer Health and Safety panel series, Northeast Center for Occupational Health and Safety (virtual, May 2025).

Kathleen Sexsmith and Hazel Velasco Palacios**. "Methodologies for Research with Hard-to-Reach Populations in Agriculture." 32nd Annual Population Research Institute Sponsored Graduate Student Methodology Workshop, Penn State University (Penn State University Park, PA, May 2025).

Becot, Florence and **Kathleen Sexsmith.** "Safety for non-Native speakers." Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention (Virtual/Hershey, PA, Jan 2025).

Invited panelist for “Career Panel for International / ‘Majority World’ Students: Navigating the Post-Graduate School Job Search,” Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society Annual Conference (Virtual, May 2022).

Invited panelist for United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards event, “Applying Gender Lens on Sustainability Standards and Certification Systems for International Trade”. (Virtual presentation, March 2021).

Workers’ Center of Central New York and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. “Food Chain Workers are Always Essential”. (Hamilton College, March 2021).

Workers’ Center of Central New York and **Kathleen Sexsmith**. “Milked: Immigrant Dairy Farmworkers in New York State”. (Binghamton University, March 2019).

Kathleen Sexsmith. “*Somos soñadores*: Assessing concepts and strategies for organizing farmworkers in the New York dairy industry.” Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. (Syracuse University, February 2014).

Kathleen Sexsmith. “Power relations in the fair trade coffee global value chain.” Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics. (St Cross College, University of Oxford, May 2008).

Kathleen Sexsmith. “Power relations in the fair trade coffee global value chain.” Said Business School Fair Trade Research Group. (Said Business School, University of Oxford, June 2008).

Kathleen Sexsmith. “Ethical Coffee Production in Chiapas: How participation in the FairTrade market empowers and/or disempowers cooperatives and small producer families.” (Centre for Fair and Alternative Trade Studies, Colorado State University, September 2007).

Kathleen Sexsmith. “El café ético en Chiapas.” (Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social (CIESAS) Unidad Sur-Este, Chiapas, Mexico, September 2007).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate student advising at Penn State University (year of completion)

PhD Committee Chair

Current

Emily Southard, dual-title PhD in Rural Sociology and Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies

Hazel Velasco Palacios, PhD in Rural Sociology and Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies (also advised M.S. in Rural Sociology 2019-2022)

Alex Wenger, PhD in Rural Sociology

Chanel Lange-Maney, PhD in Rural Sociology and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies

Paige Price, dual-title PhD in Rural Sociology and International Agriculture and Development

Completed

Francisco Alfredo Reyes Rocha, dual-title PhD in Rural Sociology and International Agriculture and Development (2025)

Placement: Postdoctoral scholar, Entomology and Rural Sociology, Penn State

Supriya Joshi, PhD in Rural Sociology (2025)

Placement: Assistant Research Professor, Social Sciences Research Institute, Penn State

Sara Bonilla Anariba, dual-title PhD in Rural Sociology and Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and the Environment (Co-Chair with Kathryn Brasier) (2024)

Placement: Postdoctoral Researcher, WorldFish, Nairobi, Kenya

Michaela Hoffelmeyer, dual-title PhD in Rural Sociology and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies (2023)

Placement: Assistant Professor in Public Engagement with Agriculture in the Department of Community and Environmental Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

M.S. Committee Chair

Current

Andrés Mayorga, dual-title M.S. in Rural Sociology and International Agriculture and Development (co-chair with Andrew Smolski)

Completed

Megan Griffin, dual-title M.S. in Rural Sociology and International Agriculture and Development (2022)

Effie Palacios, dual-title M.S. in Rural Sociology and International Agriculture and Development (2020)

PhD Committee Member

Current

Gloria Mangoni, PhD in Rural Sociology

Emma Chiaroni, PhD in Rural Sociology and Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and the Environment

Keia Jones, PhD in Rural Sociology

Alejandra Armesto, PhD in Education, Development, and Community Engagement

Nan Yang, PhD in Landscape Architecture

Ankita Karmakar, PhD in Landscape Architecture

Nethmi Bathige, PhD in Geography

Marie Louise Ryan, PhD in Geography

External PhD Committee Member

Jacqueline Salguero Huaman, PhD at United Nations University – Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT)

Completed

Lina Tami Barrera, Lina Tami Barrera, PhD in Rural Sociology (2025)

Lourdes Perez, PhD in Biobehavioral Health (2025)

Sovanneary Huot, PhD in Rural Sociology (2025)

Tejaswini Joshi, PhD in Information Sciences and Technology (2025)

Kaitlin Fischer, PhD in Rural Sociology (2024)

Jacklyn Weier, dual-title PhD in Geography and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (2022)

Maria Vivanco, PhD in Rural Sociology (2022)

Carolyn Reyes, dual-title PhD in Rural Sociology and Demography (2022)

Christian Scott, dual-title PhD in Rural Sociology and International Agriculture and Development (2021)

Noel Habashy, PhD in Agricultural and Extension Education (2019)

M.S. Committee Member

Current

Zoe Chambliss, M.S. in Rural Sociology

Completed

Cara Adrien, M.S. in Rural Sociology (2022)

Emily Southard, M.S. in Rural Sociology (2021)

Hannah Whitley, M.S. in Rural Sociology (2019)

M.P.S Paper Advisor

Khaled Edwan, M.P.S. in Community and Economic Development (2021)

Veronica Calle Goldman, M.P.S. in Community and Economic Development (2020)

Rachel Smallwood, M.P.S. in Community and Economic Development (2020)

M.P.S. Committee Member

Golden Joel Hardy, M.P.S. in Community and Economic Development (2023)

Olivia Gray, M.P.S. in Community and Economic Development (2022)

Caitlin Fager, M.P.S. in Community and Economic Development (2022)

Pierre Garcia, M.P.S. in Community and Economic Development (2019)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis advising

Current

Hannah Hammond, BA in Middle Eastern Studies and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (co-chair with Tobias Brinkmann)

Completed

Falynn Dunkelberger, BA in International Politics and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies (2021)

Graduate courses taught at Penn State

Gender and Agricultural Development (RSOC/WMNST 597)

Qualitative Research Methods (RSOC 514)

Principles of Local Economic Development (CEDEV 430)

Undergraduate courses taught at Penn State

Gender and International Development (CED/WMNST 420W)

Service-Learning with PA farmworkers (CED 497)

Community Development: Concepts and Practice (CED 152)

Development Issues in the Global Context (CED 230)

ADVISING AND CONSULTING

External Advisory Committee member for IFPRI's (International Food Policy Research Institute's) Applying New Evidence for Women's Empowerment (ANEW) initiative. (2021-2023).

International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD). Assisted with gender integration initiative in the Economic Law and Policy Program. Revised 'The IISD Guide to Negotiating Investment Contracts for Farmland and Water' to be gender mainstreamed. (2015-2018).

The World Bank. Assignment with Agriculture group to review and contribute writing to the Responsible Agricultural Investment Knowledge in Action Note series. (2017).

CARE International. Researched the gender dynamics of adoption and upscaling of Climate-Smart interventions in the agriculture, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, and livestock sectors. (2017).

CIMMYT (International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center), Texcoco, Mexico. Supported the Director General, Dr. Martin Kropff on CGIAR governance re-organization and other organizational matters. (2016).

Cornell Farmworker Program. Provided support with grant preparation, research, and report writing for extension programming. (2011-2016).

Engaged Learning + Research, Cornell University. Researched global service-learning, faculty development, and engaged scholarship at U.S. universities and colleges. (2013-2015).

MEDA Peru. Collected and analyzed socio-economic data on smallholder coffee farmers. (2005).

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Professional Societies

Secretary of the Rural Sociological Society (2022-2025), elected
Member, Awards and Endowment Committee member, Rural Sociological Society,
appointed (2025 -)

Grant reviewer

Proposal reviewer, Partnership Grants Program, NESARE (2024)
Proposal reviewer, University at Buffalo Clinical and Translational Science Institute
(2024)
Proposal reviewer, Swiss National Science Foundation (2022)
Pre-proposal reviewer, Research for Novel Approaches program, Northeast Sustainable
Agriculture Research and Education (NESARE) (2021)

Reviewer for Peer-Reviewed Journals

Agriculture and Human Values
American Journal of Industrial Medicine
Anthropology of Work
Culture, Agriculture, Food and Environment
Development in Practice
Development Studies Research
Discover Social Science and Health
Entrepreneurship Research Journal
FOCAAL: Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology
Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems
Gender, Place and Culture
Gender, Technology, and Development
Geoforum
Global Food Security
Global Labour Journal
Globalizations
International Journal of Migration, Health and Social Care
International Journal of Sociology of Agriculture and Food
Journal of Agromedicine
Journal of International Business Policy
Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
Journal of Rural Studies
Population and Environment

Qualitative Sociology
Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems
Research in Social Stratification and Mobility
Rural Sociology
Social Problems
Society and Natural Resources
Sociological Forum
Studies in Social Justice
Violence Against Women
Violence and Gender
Women's Studies International Forum
World Development Sustainability

Editorial Board Member for Peer-Reviewed Journals

Journal of International Business Policy

Service to department, college, and university

Elected positions

College of Agricultural Sciences Student Scholarship and Awards Committee (2025 -)
 Faculty Advisory Committee for Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality
 Studies (2018-2020; 2025 -)
 College of Agricultural Sciences Student Activities Committee (2021-2024)

Appointed and volunteer positions

CED Program Review Committee (2024-2026)
 Rural Sociology Graduate Program Committee (2018-2021; 2023-2026)
 Chairperson, Search committee for Assistant Professor of Rural Sociology with focus on
 the Sociology of Agriculture and Food (2024)
 AESE Awards Committee (2021-2022)
 Rural Sociology Hiring Committee (2018- 19)
 Rural Sociology Hiring Committee (2018- 19)
 Co-facilitator, Rural Sociology Program Anti-Racism Book Club (2020-2022)
 Community Environment and Development Undergraduate Program Committee (2018-
 2021)
 Rural Sociology Seminar Committee (2018)
 Schreyer Honors College admissions reviewer (2017)

Grant and award reviewer

College of Agricultural Sciences Graduate Student Competitive Grants Program
 College of Agricultural Sciences Paul Hand Graduate Teaching Award reviewer
 College of Agricultural Sciences Reviewer for Roy C Buck Faculty Award
 College of Agriculture Graduate Student Competitive Grants Program

Professional memberships

Rural Sociological Society

LANGUAGES

Spanish (advanced proficiency)