

# Riva C. H. Denny

Curriculum vitae

10/29/2018

Department of Sociology  
509 E. Circle Dr., Rm 317 Berkey  
Michigan State University  
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## EDUCATION

- 2018      Ph.D.  
Department of Sociology  
Michigan State University  
Advisor: Dr. Sandra Marquart-Pyatt  
Dissertation title: “A Cross Scale Examination of How Knowledge and the Physical Environment Influence the Use of Best Management Practices in US Commodity Agriculture”  
*Graduate Specialization in Environmental Science and Policy*  
*Graduate Specialization in Ecological Food and Farming Systems*  
*Graduate Certificate in Environmental and Social Systems Modeling*
- 2012      M.S.  
Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology  
Auburn University  
Advisor: Dr. Michelle R. Worosz  
Thesis Title: “Between the Farm and the Farmer’s Market: Slaughterhouses, Regulations, and Alternative Food Networks”
- 2008      B.A.  
Department of Anthropology  
Boston University

## RESEARCH AREAS

Environment, Agriculture, Food systems, Development, Water, Human-environment systems

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2018      Research Associate  
Michigan State University, Department of Sociology, East Lansing, MI

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed Journal Articles

- 2018 Houser, M., **R. C. H. Denny**, A. Reimer, S. T. Marquart-Pyatt, and D. Stuart. “Strategies to Enhance University Extension’s Role as an Agricultural Information Source.” *Journal of Extension*. 56(6): 6FEA5
- 2018 Reimer, A. P., **R. C. H. Denny**, and D. Stuart. “The Impact of Federal and State Conservation Programs on Farmer Nitrogen Management.” *Environmental Management*. 62(4):694-708. DOI: 10.1007/s00267-018-1083-9
- 2018 **Denny, R. C. H.**, and S. T. Marquart-Pyatt. “Environmental Sustainability in Africa: What Drives the Ecological Footprint Over Time?” *Sociology of Development*. 4(1):119–44 DOI: 10.1525/sod.2018.4.1.119
- 2018 Stuart, D., **R. C. H. Denny**, M. Houser, A. Reimer, and S. Marquart-Pyatt. “Farmer selection of sources of information for nitrogen management in the US Midwest: Implications for environmental programs.” *Land Use Policy* 70:289–297. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2017.10.047>
- 2017 Olabisi, L. S., S. Liverpool-Tasie, L. Rivers, A. Ligmann-Zielinska, J. Du, **R. Denny**, J. Li, S. Marquart-Pyatt, and A. Sidibé. “Using Participatory Modeling Processes to Identify Sources of Climate Risk in West Africa.” *Environment Systems and Decisions* 38(1):23–32. DOI: 10.1007/s10669-017-9653-6
- 2017 **Denny, R. C. H.**, S. T. Marquart-Pyatt, A. Ligmann-Zielinska, L. S. Olabisi, L. Rivers, J. Du, and S. Liverpool-Tasie. “Food Security in Africa: A Cross-scale, Empirical Investigation using Structural Equation Modeling.” *Environment Systems and Decisions* 38(1):6–22. DOI: 10.1007/s10669-017-9652-7
- 2016 **Denny, R. C. H.**, M. R. Worosz, and N. L. W. Wilson. “The Importance of Governance Levels in Alternative Food Networks: The Case of Red Meat Inspection Rules.” *Rural Sociology* 81(4):601–34. DOI: 10.1111/ruso.12103
- 2017 *Rural Sociology* Best Paper Award winner

### Book Chapters

- In press Ligmann-Zielinska, A., E. J. Du, L. Rivers, S. Liverpool-Tasie, **R. C. H. Denny**, A. L. Wood, U. Sanga, S. Marquart-Pyatt, V. Breeze, R. Paudel, and L.S. Olabisi. “Principles of Participatory Ensemble Modeling to Study Complex Socioecological Systems.” In *Innovations in Collaborative Modeling*, edited by W. F. Porter, J. Zhao, L. S. Olabisi, and M. McNall. East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press.
- Under contract **Denny, R. C. H.** “Contributions to Global Climate Change: A Cross-National Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Meat Production.” In *Global Meat: The Social and Environmental Consequences of the Expanding Meat Industry*, edited by B. Winders and E. Ransom. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

## Manuscripts in Review

Houser, M., S. T. Marquart-Pyatt, **R. C. H. Denny**, A. Reimer, and D. Stuart. “Farmers, Information, and Nutrient Management in the US Midwest.” Revised and resubmitted to *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*.

**Denny, R. C. H.**, M. Houser, and S. T. Marquart-Pyatt. “Understanding the Past and Present and Predicting the Future: Farmers’ Use of Multiple Nutrient BMPs in the Upper Midwest.” Revised and resubmitted to *Society and Natural Resources*.

## Manuscripts in Preparation

K. R. Salk, **R. C. H. Denny**, and J. Greif. “The Role of Policy as an Adaptive Feedback for Addressing Nitrogen Issues in the Mississippi River Basin.”

**Denny, R. C. H.** “Moving Beyond Basic Tillage Categories in Midwest Row-crop Agriculture.”

**Denny, R. C. H.** “Questioning the Fertilizer Savings Incentive for BMP Adoption in the North Central Region.”

**Denny, R. C. H.** “Knowledge and Attitudes in Midwestern Farmers’ use of Best Management Practices.”

**Denny, R. C. H.** “Agricultural Exceptionalism in Environmental Regulation: The Political Ecology of Wilderness.”

Houser, M., **R. C. H. Denny**, D. Stuart, and S. T. Marquart-Pyatt, “Proposing Synthetic Nitrogen Fertilizer Application Rate as a Measure for Nitrogen Best Management Practice Adoption Research.”

**Denny, R. C. H.** and S. T. Marquart-Pyatt. “Using Structural Equation Modeling to Understand Food Security.”

## Outreach & Extension Publications

2017 **Denny, R. C. H.**, “How farmers use and manage nitrogen: Reflections from an LTER fellow.” Blog post for MSU W.K. Kellogg Biological Station Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) program.

<https://lter.kbs.msu.edu/2017/01/farmer-nitrogen-use/>

2016 **Denny, R. C. H.**, N. L. W. Wilson, and M. R. Worosz. *How Presence of State Inspection and HACCP Rule Influence Number of Federal and Non-federally Inspected Red Meat Slaughter Facilities*. Auburn University, Auburn, AL. <http://aers.auburn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2017/03/Auburn-AFN-Summary-Dec-2015.pdf>

## FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

2018 MSU Graduate Office Fellowship conference funding by Department of Sociology

2017–18 MSU W.K. Kellogg Biological Station Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) program, Full Year Fellowship for Long-term Ecological Research (\$45,000)

2017 MSU Graduate Student Research Enhancement Award (\$3,000)

- 2017 Michigan Applied Public Policy Research (MAPPR) grant from MSU's Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR), with S. T. Marquart-Pyatt (\$25,000)
- 2017 MSU Graduate Office Fellowship conference funding by Department of Sociology
- 2016 MSU Environmental Science and Policy Program (ESPP) Climate, Food, Energy and Water (CFEW) Summer Research Fellowship (\$7,000)
- 2016 MSU W.K. Kellogg Biological Station Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) program Summer Research Fellowship (\$7,500)
- 2016 MSU Graduate Office Fellowship conference funding by Department of Sociology
- 2015 MSU Graduate Office Fellowship conference funding by Department of Sociology
- 2014 MSU Graduate Office Fellowship conference funding by Department of Sociology
- 2013 MSU W.K. Kellogg Biological Station Summer Fellowship (\$500)
- 2012–14 C.S. Mott Predoctoral Fellowship in Sustainable Agriculture at Michigan State University (\$35,000)
- 2012–13 Environmental Science and Policy Program Graduate Recruiting Fellowship at Michigan State University (\$30,000)
- 2011 E.T. York International Scholars Program, Auburn University College of Agriculture

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- 2017 *Rural Sociology* Best Paper Award for “The Importance of Governance Levels in Alternative Food Networks: The Case of Red Meat Inspection Rules.”
- 2015 Inducted to Alpha Kappa Delta (The International Sociology Honor Society)
- 2011 Inducted to Gamma Sigma Delta (The Honor Society of Agriculture)
- 2010 3rd place in Tuskegee Chapter Gamma Sigma Delta Graduate Student Oral Presentation Competition

## **CONFERENCE, SYMPOSIA, COLLOQUIA & WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION**

### **Conference Papers Presented**

- 2018 “Conservation Practices and Fertilizer Use: An Analysis Using Multilevel Structural Equation Modeling.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. July 26–29. Portland, OR.
- 2018 “Understanding Conservation Practice Adoption of Midwestern US Corn Farmers.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. July 26–29. Portland, OR. (co-authored with S. T. Marquart-Pyatt, M. Houser, and J. Lai)
- 2018 “Knowledge and Attitudes in Midwestern Farmers’ Use of Best Management Practices.” International Symposium on Society and Resource Management. June 17–21. Snowbird, UT.
- 2017 “A Cross-National Analysis of GHG Production Efficiency for Beef, Pork and Chicken.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. July 27–30. Columbus, OH.

- 2016 “Food Security in Africa: An Empirical Investigation of its Key Drivers.” 5th Annual Conference of the ASA Section on the Sociology of Development. Ithaca, NY. October 6–8. (co-authored with S. T. Marquart-Pyatt)
- 2016 “Environmental Sustainability in Africa: What Drives The Ecological Footprint Over Time?” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. August 20–23. Seattle, WA. (co-authored with S. T. Marquart-Pyatt)
- 2016 “Farmers’ Knowledge of Nitrogen and Nutrient Management Practices in the Midwest US.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. August 7–11. Toronto, Canada.
- 2016 “Drivers of Agricultural Fertilizer Use: An Analysis Using Multilevel and Structural Equation Models.” International Symposium on Society and Resource Management. June 22–26. Houghton, MI.
- 2015 “A Multilevel Examination of the Effect of the Conservation Stewardship Program on Fertilizer Use.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. August 6–9. Madison, WI.
- 2015 “The Importance of Governance Levels in Alternative Food Networks: The Case of Red Meat Inspection Rules.” Joint Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Food and Society and the Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society. June 24–28. Pittsburgh, PA. (co-authored with M. R. Worosz and N. L. W. Wilson)
- 2014 “Agricultural Exceptionalism in Environmental Regulation: The Role of Social Constructions of Wilderness.” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. August 16–19. San Francisco, CA.
- 2014 “Effects of Federal Conservation Payments on Fertilizer Use in the Midwest.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. July 31–August 3. New Orleans, LA.
- 2013 “Agricultural Exceptionalism in Environmental Regulation: The Role of the Social Construction of the American Farmer.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. August 6–9. New York, NY.
- 2012 “Stakeholder Perceived Benefits of State Meat Inspection.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. July 26–29. Chicago, IL. (co-authored with M. R. Worosz)
- 2012 “Values–Based Supply Chains: A Comparison of the Michigan and Alabama Beef Sectors.” Annual Meeting of the Southern Rural Sociological Association. February 4–7. Birmingham, AL. (co-authored with M. R. Worosz)
- 2011 “The Population Ecology of Slaughterhouses in the United States, 1967–2010.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. July 28–31. Boise, ID. (co-authored with M. R. Worosz)
- 2010 “Meat Inspection Regulations: A Federal vs. State Comparison.” 68th Professional Agricultural Workers Conference. December 5–7. Tuskegee, AL. (co-authored with M. R. Worosz)

### **Conference Posters Presented**

- 2018 “Midwest Farmer Perceptions of Cover Crops: Implications for Cover Crop Use.” NSF Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) Network All Scientists Meeting. September 30 – October 4. Pacific Grove, CA.
- 2017 “Investigating the Differences Between Knowledge, Education, and Experience for Agricultural Management Practice Use.” MSU Kellogg Biological Station Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) All Scientists Meeting. October 6–7. East Lansing and Hickory Corners, MI.
- 2016 “Studying Conservation Practices and Fertilizer Use with Multilevel and Structural Equation Models.” MSU Kellogg Biological Station Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) All Scientists Meeting. September 16–17. Hickory Corners, MI.

### **Conference Sessions Chaired, Organized and Assisted**

- 2018 Session chair. “Sustainable Farming: Innovation, Diffusion, Adoption.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. July 29. Portland, OR.
- 2017 Rapporteur. MSU W.K. Kellogg Biological Station Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) All Scientists Meeting. October 6. East Lansing, MI.
- 2017 Session chair. “Agricultural Practices, Environmental Attitudes, Place Attachment, and Sustainable Development.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. July 28. Columbus, OH.
- 2016 Rapporteur. MSU W.K. Kellogg Biological Station Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) All Scientists Meeting. September 16–17. Hickory Corners, MI.
- 2015 Session chair. “Food System Analysis II.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. August 8. Madison, WI.
- 2014 Organizer. “Agriculture, Conservation Policy and the Environment: A Student Research Panel Discussion.” MSU Environmental Science and Policy Program Colloquia. October 29. East Lansing, MI.
- 2012 Rapporteur. Bioenergy Futures: Technical Feasibility Meets Social Sustainability. November 29–December 1. East Lansing, MI.
- 2012 Session chair. “Informing Meat Policies.” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. July 28. Chicago, IL.
- 2011 Organizer. MAP International Ecuador Office, Food Security & Development Workshop. May 23. Quito, Ecuador. (with H. Chavez and N. Wilson)

### **Campus Talks and Seminars**

- 2018 “Social Science Research in Agro-ecological Systems: A Practical Methods Guide.” MSU W.K. Kellogg Biological Station. April 27. Hickory Corners, MI. (with M. Houser)
- 2017 “Knowledge and Attitudes in Midwestern Farmers’ use of Best Management Practices.” MSU W.K. Kellogg Biological Station, Brown Bag Seminar. December 8. Hickory Corners, MI.
- 2017 “Midwestern Row-Crop Farmers Through a Sociological Lens.” MSU Department of Sociology, Speaker Series. December 1. East Lansing, MI. (with M. Houser and J. Lai)

- 2017 “Using Structural Equation Modeling with Latent Variables to Model Food Security in Africa.” MSU Department of Sociology, Environment Graduate Student Showcase. March 30. East Lansing, MI.
- 2016 “U.S. Farmers’ Beliefs and Actions Pertaining to Nutrient Management.” MSU Environmental Science and Policy Program (ESPP) Climate-Food-Energy-Water Nexus Summer Research Fellowship Presentations. November 15. East Lansing, MI.
- 2014 “Agriculture, Conservation Policy and the Environment: A Student Research Panel Discussion.” MSU Environmental Science and Policy Program (ESPP) Colloquia. October 29. East Lansing, MI.
- 2011 “Explorations of Food Security and Exchange in Ecuador.” Auburn University College of Agriculture E.T. York International Scholars Program Seminar. Auburn, AL. (presented with H. Chavez and N. Wilson)
- 2011 “A General Overview of Food Security from the Views of Economists and Sociologists.” MAP International Ecuador Office, Food Security & Development Workshop. May 23. Quito, Ecuador. (presented with H. Chavez and N. Wilson)
- 2011 “The Political Economy of the Slaughter Industry in the US.” Auburn University Sociology Department Lunch Seminar. Auburn, AL.

**Workshops and Meetings Attended**

- 2017 Workshop: “The Global Meat Industry and its Implications.” March 9–10. Atlanta, GA. (Invited participant)
- 2016 Focus group workshop on “Data to Motivate Synthesis.” National Socio–Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) at the University of Maryland. November 29–30. Annapolis, MD. (Invited participant)
- 2016 STEM Food & Ag Council Meeting. October 13–14. Des Moines, IA.
- 2016 Data Carpentry Sampler Workshop. MSU Kellogg Biological Station Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) site. September 17. Hickory Corners, MI.
- 2016 NC1190 Catalysts for Water Resources Protection and Restoration: Applied Social Science Research Multistate Research Project annual meeting. June 1–3. Ames, IA.
- 2015 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. August 22–25. Chicago, IL.
- 2015 NC1190 Catalysts for Water Resources Protection and Restoration: Applied Social Science Research Multistate Research Project annual meeting. June 1–3. West Lafayette, IN.
- 2013 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. August 10–13. New York, NY.
- 2010 Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting. August 12–15. Atlanta, GA.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Michigan State University, Department of Sociology, East Lansing, MI**

Analysis of Social Data I (graduate)

Fall 2018, co-instructor

Multi-equation Quantitative Models: Multilevel Modeling and Structural Equation  
Modeling (graduate) Fall 2018, co-instructor  
Race and Ethnicity (undergraduate) Fall 2013, Spring 2014, teaching assistant

**Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Program  
in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, Ann Arbor, MI**

Simultaneous Equation Models 2016, 2017, teaching assistant

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Graduate Research Assistant**

- 2015–17 Michigan State University, Department of Sociology, East Lansing, MI  
Supervisor: Dr. Sandra Marquart-Pyatt  
Project: NSF Interdisciplinary Behavioral and Social Science Research (IBSS) project  
examining food security in West Africa using model ensembles.
- 2016 Michigan State University, Office of Academic and Student Affairs, College of  
Agriculture and Natural Resources, East Lansing, MI  
Supervisor: Dr. Kelly Millenbah  
Project: Focus group analysis for STEM Connector Food & Ag Council, sub-  
committee on workforce development.
- 2014–15 Michigan State University, Department of Sociology, East Lansing, MI  
Supervisor: Dr. Diana Stuart  
Project: NSF Couple Human and Natural Systems (CNH) project examining nitrogen  
efficiency in Midwest corn production.
- 2010–12 Auburn University, Department of Agricultural Economics & Rural Sociology,  
Auburn, AL  
Supervisor: Dr. Michelle Worosz  
Project: Beef Value Chains: Barriers and Constraints Between Farm Gate and Dinner  
Plate

**SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

**Committee Participation**

- Committee Member (student), Rural Sociological Society Development Committee (2015–2016)  
Committee Member (student), Rural Sociological Society Nominations Committee (2013–2014)  
Committee Member (student), Rural Sociological Society Awards Committee (2012–2013)

**Manuscript Reviewer**

*Agricultural Systems*  
*Case Studies in the Environment*



*Environmental Science and Policy*  
*Global Environmental Change*  
*Rural Sociology*  
*Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics*  
*Journal of Rural Social Sciences* (formerly *Southern Rural Sociology*)  
*Journal of Rural Studies*

## **DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

Co-coordinator for new student orientation, MSU Department of Sociology (2017)  
Department representative, MSU Council of Graduate Students (COGS) (2014–2016)  
Co-leader of Sociology Graduate Student Collective, MSU Department of Sociology (2014–2015)  
Speaker Series Committee, MSU Department of Sociology (2014–2015)  
Women’s Advisory Committee to the Provost, Michigan State University (2014–2015)  
Graduate Education Committee, MSU Department of Sociology (2013–2014)  
Department representative, Auburn University Graduate Student Council (2010–2011)

## **PROFESSIONAL SKILLS & EXPERIENCE**

2016 MSU ESPP Graduate Certificate in Environmental and Social Systems Modeling  
2013–15 Schedule Coordinator at The Writing Center at Michigan State University  
2012–14 Writing Consultant at The Writing Center at Michigan State University

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Sociological Association  
    Environment and Technology Section  
    Sociology of Development Section  
International Association for Society and Natural Resources  
Rural Sociological Society  
    Natural Resource Research Interest Group  
    Sociology of Agriculture and Food Research Interest Group

## REFERENCES

Sandra Marquart-Pyatt, Professor  
Department of Sociology  
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