

April 2024

Kjersten Bunker Whittington
Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Department of Sociology
Reed College
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EMPLOYMENT

Professor of Sociology (with tenure), Department of Sociology, Reed College. 2020-present

Department Chair: AY 2016-2018; AY 2020-2022

Special Assistant to the Director, Office for Research on Women's Health, National Institutes of Health (Science & Technology Policy Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 2014-2015 Academic Year)

Associate Professor of Sociology, Reed College. 2013 - 2020

Assistant Professor of Sociology, Reed College. 2007-2013

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Stanford University (Sociology), 2007
M.A. Stanford University (Sociology), 2001
Special Student Program, Harvard University (Sociology), 1999-2000
B.S. North Carolina State University (Physics), 1999

PAPERS AND CHAPTERS

Kjersten Bunker Whittington, Molly King, Isabella Cingolini,. 2024. "[Structure, Status and Span: Gender Differences in Co-authorship Networks across 16 Region-Subject Pairs \(2009-2013\)](#)" *Scientometrics* Vol 129(1), pages 147-179.

- Contributing author**, Elsevier Report (2022) “The researcher journey through a gender lens: An examination of research participation, career progression and perceptions across the globe”. [https://gender-spear.eu/assets/content/Gender-2020-report-A4-WEB%20\(1\).pdf](https://gender-spear.eu/assets/content/Gender-2020-report-A4-WEB%20(1).pdf). (Chapter 4).
- Whittington, Kjersten Bunker**. 2018. “A Tie is a Tie? Gender and Network Positioning in Life Science Inventor Collaboration” *Research Policy*. 47; pages 511-526
- Plank-Bazinet, Jennifer L., **Kjersten Bunker Whittington**, Sara K.B. Cassidy, Rosemarie Filart, Terri L. Cornelison, Lisa Begg, and Janine Austin Clayton. 2016. “Programmatic Efforts at the National Institutes of Health to Promote and Support the Careers of Women in Biomedical Science” *Academic Medicine*. Vol. 91, No. 8 /
- Mary Frank Fox, **Kjersten Bunker Whittington**, and Marcela Linkova. 2016. "Gender, (In)Equity, and the Scientific Workforce." In Handbook of Science and Technology Studies, edited by U. Felt, R. Fourche, C. Miller, and L. Smith-Doerr. Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press.
- Justine Tinkler, **Kjersten Bunker Whittington**, Manwai C. Ku, and Andrea Davies. 2015. “Gender and Venture Capital Decision-Making: The Effects of Technical Background and Social Capital on Entrepreneurial Evaluations” 51:1-16.
<http://authors.elsevier.com/a/1QO4R,17Ro4qcK>
- Powell, Walter W., Kelley Packalen, and **Kjersten Bunker Whittington**. 2012. “Organizational and Institutional Genesis: The Emergence of High-Tech Clusters in the Life Sciences.” Pp 434-465 in *The Emergence of Organizations and Markets*, by John Padgett and Walter W. Powell. Princeton University Press.
- Whittington, Kjersten Bunker**. 2011. “Mothers of Invention?: Gender, Motherhood, and New Dimensions of Productivity in the Science Profession.” *Work and Occupations*. 38(3) 417-456.
- Whittington, Kjersten Bunker**, Jason Owen-Smith and Walter W. Powell. 2009. “Networks, Propinquity and Innovation in Technological Communities.” *Administrative Science Quarterly*. 54:90-122
- Whittington, Kjersten Bunker**. 2009. “Patterns of Male and Female Dissemination in Public and Private Science”. *The New Market for Scientists and Engineers: The Science and Engineering Workforce in the Era of Globalization*, edited by Richard B. Freeman and Daniel F. Goroff. University of Chicago Press.
- Whittington, Kjersten Bunker** and Laurel Smith-Doerr. 2008. “Women Inventors in Context: Disparities in Patenting across Academia and Industry”. *Gender & Society* 22(2) 194-218.
- Whittington, Kjersten Bunker**. 2008. Review of *Women, Gender and Technology*, edited by Mary Frank Fox, Deborah Johnson and Sue Rosser (2006, University of Illinois Press), Invited review by: *Review of Policy Research*, 25(2), p189-191.

Whittington, Kjersten Bunker. 2007. "Employment Sectors as Opportunity Structures: The Effects of Location on Male and Female Scientific Dissemination", Dissertation, Stanford University, Department of Sociology.

Whittington, Kjersten Bunker and Laurel Smith-Doerr. 2005. "Women and Commercial Science: Women's Patenting in the Life Sciences" *Journal of Technology Transfer* 30:355-370.

Porter, Kelley, **Kjersten Bunker Whittington**, and Walter W. Powell. 2005. "The Institutional Embeddedness of High-Tech Regions: Relational Foundations of the Boston Biotechnology Community." *Clusters, Networks, and Innovation*, edited by Stefano Breschi and Franco Malerba, Oxford University Press, Pg 261-296.

GRANT ACTIVITY, HONORS AND AWARDS

Extramural

National Science Foundation: NSF Science of Science: Discovery, Communication, and Impact, Human Networks and Data Science Program and Science of Broadening Participation). "Gender Differences in Co-authorship across a Global Landscape: The Role of Network Structure in Men's and Women's Scientific Productivity". 8/2023-8/2026 (\$404,186). Co-PI with collaborator Molly King, Santa Clara University; collaborating researcher Megan Frederickson, University of Toronto.

NIH Director's Award, 2015. Recognized for work on NIH ORWH SABV policy team. The NIH Director's Award recognizes superior performance or special efforts significantly beyond the regular duty requirements, and directly related to the fulfilling the mission of the National Institutes of Health.

AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellowship. AY 2014-2015 (offered AY 2015-2016, declined). National Institutes of Health, Office for Research on Women's Health.

National Science Foundation (Science of Science and Innovation Policy) SBE-0915725. Principal Investigator. September 2010-June 2013. \$115,675. "The Influence of Network Structure on Sex Disparities in Scientific Collaboration: Commercial Innovation in the Life Sciences"

Sloan Foundation, Science and Engineering Workforce Project. Principal Investigator. September 2009-August 2010. \$38,478. "Scientific Careers and Inventor Networks in the Biotechnology Industry"

National Bureau for Economic Research Science and Engineering Workforce Project Graduate Dissertation Fellowship, 2004-05, renewed 2005-06.

Association for Institutional Research Graduate Dissertation Fellowship 2003-04.

ASA Section on Science, Knowledge and Technology Hacker-Mullins Graduate Student Paper Award, 2002.

National Science Foundation Honorable Mention, Graduate Research Fellowship, 2001.

ICPSR Clogg Scholarship to attend the ICPSR Summer Institute of Quantitative Methodology, 2003.

Intramural Involvement

Jennifer Hartman Seminare Collaborative Fund. June-August 2020. “Racial Frameworks in the Consumption of Genetic Ancestry Technologies”. \$11,500. With Meredith Riley (?20).

Faculty Summer Research Fund. Summer. 2020. “Racial Frameworks in the Consumption of Genetic Ancestry Technologies”. \$1,500.

Howard Hughes Medical Institute, USE Inclusive Excellence Institutional Grants. Consultant and “Assessment Expert” with STEM faculty, Mary James, Kathy Oleson, and Diane Gumz (2017-2018, not funded). (Consultant for Reed College PI team).

Faculty-Student Collaboration for Curricular Technology Innovation Grant. 2018. With Eitan Frachtenburg and Henry Blanchette. “Generating Author Citation Grants”. \$5,000.

Jennifer Hartman Seminare Collaborative Fund. June-August 2017. “Studying Both Sexes: Politics of Sex Differences Research in Pre-Clinical Biomedical Research”. \$11,500. With Rebeca Willis-Conger (?17).

Mellon Foundation, Northwest 5 Consortium. September 2012-August 2013. \$10,000. “Launching a Gender Studies Consortium”. With Deborah Heath (Lewis & Clark College) and Marva Duerkson (Willamette University).

Mellon Post-Baccalaureate Fellowship (Student: Samuel Gast, AY 2008-09).

PRESENTATIONS

“Teaching and Conducting Research at a Liberal Arts Institution”. 2021. Presentation to the Department of Sociology and the Department of Sociology Graduate Association.

“Gender and the Social Structure of Collaboration”. Presentation to the Reed College Board of Trustees, October 2022.

- “Structure, Status, and Span: Gender Differences in Disciplinary Authorship Networks across a Global Landscape”. With Molly King and Isabella Cingolani. Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Conference. Regular Panel, 2021
- “Racial Frameworks in the Consumption of Genetic Ancestry Technologies.” With Meredith Riley. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Annual Seminare Collaborative Grant Research Presentation, 2020.
- “Racial Frameworks in the Consumption of Genetic Ancestry Technologies.” With Meredith Riley. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Regular Panel, 2021.
- “Studying Both Sexes: Politics of Sex Differences Research in Pre-Clinical Biomedical Research.” With Rebeca Willis-Conger. American Sociological Association, 2018.
- “Studying Both Sexes: Politics of Sex Differences Research in Pre-Clinical Biomedical Research.” With Rebeca Willis-Conger. Annual Seminare Collaborative Grant Research Presentation, 2018.
- “Gender and the Social Structure of Collaboration”. Presentation at Elsevier Report Launch, “Gender in the Global Research Landscape”. March 2017.
- “Gender and the Social Structure of Collaboration”. Workshop on Diversity in Innovation, Institute for Women’s Policy Research. May 2017.
- “Let’s *Lean-In*: A case study of media communication regarding women and work”. Presentation at American Sociological Association, 2016.
- “Catalysis and Transposition: The Relational Basis of Robust Regional Economies”. APROS/EGOS, December 2015.
- “Catalysis and Transposition: The Relational Basis of Robust Regional Economies”. Industry Studies Association, invited panel, “Opening Sources of Innovation”. May 2014.
- “Gender and Collaboration Networks”
Invited presentations at: Washington University (October 2013); University of Oregon, (Spring 2014); University of Georgia (expected April 2015).
- “Uncertainty and the Effects of Gender, Technical Background, and Social Capital on Venture Capital Evaluations”. American Sociological Association, accepted for Organizations, Occupations, and Work section session “Gender and Scientific Work”, August 2012.
- “Catalysis and Transposition: The Relational Basis of Robust Regional Economies”. Academy of Management symposium on “The Local and The Global in Community Dynamics”, August 2011.

- “A Tie is a Tie? Gender and Network Influence in Inventor Collaboration in the Life Sciences”
Invited presentation at Portland State University, November 2010. Also, Networks and Innovation Conference, University of Oregon, 2010; American Sociological Association Regular Session on Race and Gender at Work, 2010.
- “Networks, Propinquity, and Innovation in Technological Communities.” Arthur Rock Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Harvard Business School, December 2004; Annual meeting of the Academy of Management, Honolulu, HI, August 2005; the Scandinavian Consortium for Organizational Research, Stanford, CA. October 2004; American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada, August 2006. SCANCOR 20th Anniversary, Stanford University, November 2008.
- “The Influence of Network Structure on Men’s and Women’s Scientific Collaboration”. American Sociological Association Regular Session on Social Networks, 2008; SCANCOR Workshop on Institutional Theory, 2008
- “University-Industry Interfaces in the Life Sciences in Boston and the Bay Area” (with Walter W. Powell). Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research Innovation Summit, 2007.
- “Employment Sectors as Opportunity Structures: The Effects of Location on Male and Female Dissemination.” Brown University; Georgia Tech; SUNY-Albany; Case Western Reserve University; Drew University Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, 2007; National Bureau for Economic Research (NBER), Science and Engineering Workforce Project (SEWP) group. Cambridge, MA. January 2005.
- “Gender and Patenting in Academia and Industry: Interactions between Individual and Contextual Characteristics”, National Science Foundation Workshop on "Using Human Resource Data from Science Resources Statistics", Arlington, Virginia, October 2006; Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada, August 2006.
- “A *New* Productivity Puzzle? Gender and Commercial Science in the Life Sciences.” The American Sociological Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, August 2004; the Kauffman Foundation, Technology Transfer Society Meetings, Kansas City, MO, September 2005.
- “Patenting Collaboration Networks across Public and Private Science: The Effects of Location on Male and Female Dissemination. Stanford/Berkeley Conference on University-Industry Interfaces. Stanford, CA. November 2004.
- “Exploring the Breakup of Violent Adolescent Relationships.” Presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Session on Childhood and Youth, Atlanta, GA, August 2004.
- “The Role of Collaboration Structures on Gender Differences in Patenting across Industry and Academia.” Presented at the Santa Fe Institute, Workshop on the Network Construction of Markets, May 2003.

“Patterns of Dissemination in Public and Private Science: The Effects of Gender and Discipline.”
Presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Section on Gender and
Science, Chicago, IL. August 2003.

MENTIONS IN THE PRESS

- “Object of Study: Inventing the Future”. Profile of research, December 2018. Reed Magazine.
- ChemistryWorld. 2017. “Female researchers on the rise.”
<https://www.chemistryworld.com/news/female-researchers-on-the-rise/3007069.article>
- Nature. March 6, 2013. “Women in Biotechnology: Barred from the Boardroom.” Volume 495, Issue 7439. <http://www.nature.com/news/women-in-biotechnology-barred-from-the-boardroom-1.12546>
- Nature. June 10, 2010. “Gender Stop-Gaps.” Volume 465, p. 832-833.
<http://www.nature.com/naturejobs/2010/100610/pdf/nj7299-832a.pdf>
- The New Yorker, 1 June 2009. “[The Cost Conundrum](#)” by Atul Gawande. References published work with colleagues Woody Powell and Kelley Packalen. Available at:
http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2009/06/01/090601fa_fact_gawande
- The Daily Reporter, 27 May 2008. “Women make mark in budding industry”, Press Interview. <http://dailyreporter.com/2008/05/27/women-make-mark-in-budding-industry/>
- Boston Globe, 6 May 2007. “The gender gap in biotech”, Press Interview.
http://www.boston.com/business/specials/bio2007/articles/gender_gap/
- Nature, vol. 442, 973 - 973 (31 Aug 2006). “Mothers of Invention?”, Press Interview,
<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v442/n7106/pdf/442973a.pdf>
- USA Today, 1 April 2001. Study of Family Life and Internet Behavior with Telocity, Inc., Press Interview: <http://www.usatoday.com/tech/news/2001-05-16-ebrief.htm>

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE

Extramural

NSF Advance Resource and Coordination Network, STEM Equity Brain Trust

Committee Member, Emerging Research Workshop: Equity in Academic
Commercialization: Towards Systemic Change. July 28-30, 2023

American Sociological Association

Member, 2017-2018, 2019-2020 Merton Book Award Committee, ASA Science, Knowledge and Technology section
Invited Panel Organizer, ASA Science, Knowledge and Technology Section Research Panel, “Scientific Careers: Key Dimensions of Social Inequality”.
Member, 2013 and 2014 ASA Annual Meeting Program Committee
Member, Advisory Committee for NSF funded research conducted by the ASA, “Research and Evaluation on Education in Science and Engineering”, 2009-10
Invited Panel Organizer, Thematic Session, “Inequality and the Culture and Practice of Science”, 2013
Invited Panel Organizer, Author Meets Critics, “The Nature of Race”, by Ann Morning
Invited Panel Organizer, Regular Session, “Sociology of Science”, 2013
Star-Nelkin Paper Award Committee, 2013-2014, Section on Science, Knowledge, and Technology

Elsevier

2017 Report Subject Expert, “Gender in the Global Research Landscape: Analysis of research performance through a gender lens across 20 years, 12 geographies, and 27 subject areas”.

2020 Report Collaborator and Author, “The researcher journey through a gender lens: An examination of research participation, career progression and perceptions across the globe”.
[https://gender-spear.eu/assets/content/Gender-2020-report-A4-WEB%20\(1\).pdf](https://gender-spear.eu/assets/content/Gender-2020-report-A4-WEB%20(1).pdf).

APROS/EGOS

Invited Panel Organizer, “Dynamics of Clusters”, 2015

Work and Family Researchers Network Member 2011 - present

National Science Foundation

Member, Science and Engineering Human Resources Expert Panel (HREP), 2007-2011.
Grant Review Panelist, 2008
Grant Review Panelist, 2017
Grant Review Panelist, 2019

Anita Borg Institute Advisory Committee, Social Science Task Force, 2009-present

Pacific Sociological Association

Member, Program Committee, 2008-2009
Invited Panel Organizer, “Gender and Work”, 2008
Invited Panel Organizer, “Networks and Work”, 2010

Intramural

Visiting Search Committee, Math Statistics (Spring 2023)
Search Committee, Math-Statistics (Spring 2022)

Appeals and Review (2021-2022)
 Committee on Advancement and Tenure (elected committee) (AY 2018-2020; 2022-2024; 2024-2026)
 Ad Hoc CAPP Committee on Strategic Visioning (HSS Division Representative) (2021-2022)
 ICPS Committee (2022-2023)
 Committee on Mentoring (2020-2022; Chair 2021-2022)
 Mentoring Committee, Chair (2020-2022)
 Visiting Search Committee, Political Science (Spring 2021)
 Ad Hoc Committee on Pandemic Academic Planning Working Group (Summer 2020)
 Search Committee, Computer Science (Spring 2020)
 Visiting Search Committee, Computer Science (Fall 2019)
 Presidential Transition Planning Committee (Spring 2019)
 Visiting Search Committee, Department of French (Spring 2019)
 Visiting Search Committee, Chemistry (Spring 2019)
 Visiting Search Committee, Math (Spring 2019)
 Ad Hoc Committee on Undergraduate Summer Research Opportunities (AY 2017-2018)
 Sociology Department Chair (AY 2016-2018) (AY 2020-2022)
 Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies Committee (AY 2017-2019)
 Sex, Gender and Sexuality Consortium (AY 2011-2019)
 Search Committee, Department of Mathematics (Computer Science) (AY 2016-2017)
 Library Committee (AY 2017-2018)
 Committee on Diversity (AY 2013-2014)
 Physical Plant Committee (AY 2011-2014)
 Computer Policy Committee (AY 2008-2013)
 Secretary, Division of History and Social Sciences (AY 2013-2014; AY 2017-2018)
 Search Committee, Department of Anthropology (Spring 2014)
 Search Committee, Department of Psychology (Spring 2009)
 Co-organizer, Social Science Summer Workshop Series (Summer 2008)
 Search Committee, Department of Anthropology (Spring 2008)
 Financial Aid and Admissions Committee (AY 2007-2009)

INVITED JOURNAL, PRESS, AND GRANT REVIEW

American Sociological Review	Journal of Women and Minorities in Science and Engineering
American Journal of Sociology	Social Science Research
Administrative Science Quarterly	Socio-Economic Review
Social Forces	Industry and Innovation
Gender and Society	National Science Foundation
Work and Occupations	Oxford University Press
Economic Geography	Women's Health Issues
Research Policy	Sociology Compass
Organization Science	Sociological Perspectives
Journal of Technology Transfer	Research in the Sociology of Work

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association
Academy of Management
International Network for Social Network Analysis
Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS)
Pacific Sociology Association
Society for the Social Studies of Science

FORMER THESIS STUDENTS

Year	Name of Student	Title
2008	Samuel Gast	"Embedding Innovation in Shifting Norms of Commercial Collaboration: A Social Network Analysis of the Boston Biotechnology Cluster, 1980-2000"
2009	Molly Gingras	"Journalists' Conceptions of Journalistic Objectivity: Strategy, Credibility, and the Construction of a Paradigm"
2012	Adrien Schless-Meier	"Open and accessible to all?: organizational color-blindness in the Portland farmers market"
2013	Daniel Ku	"Disrupting the Network: the Structure of Hacktivism"
2013	Talia Tiffany	"Vital Social Ecology: Investigating the State and Forms of Contemporary Intentional Communities"
2013	Sam Levin	"Count Me In: Industrial Outcomes of Mathematicians in the United States"
2013	Katharine Chen	"The Commercialization of the Unmanaged Heart"
2014	Olivia Jensen (Dance-Sociology)	"Interactions Between Marginalized Status & Social Structure: Quantitative & Choreographic Approaches"
2014	Chiara Packard	"Voices Against Violence: the Women's Movement and the Wave of Mobilization Against Rape in India"
2014	Sophie Naranjo-Rivera	"Started from the Bottom Now We're Here: Examining Representations of Black Masculinity in Popular Music"
2016	Rosa Kalish	"I Would Kill for Your Body: Mean Girls and Peer Appearance Culture"
2017	Caitlin O'Shea	"This Must Not Be the Place for Me: Gender and Inclusive Practice in the Comic Book Industry and Fandom"
2017	Jordana Ryerson	"Identity and Agency in Overeaters Anonymous"
2017	Rae Willia-Conger	"Gender Work in Science Policy: a Discourse Analysis of NIH's SABV Announcement"

2017	Heidi Loening	"Let's Move!: the Obama Administration, Food Policy, and America's Favorite Welfare Program"
2017	Franchesca Breedlove	"Risky Business: Risk Calculus and Birth Control Use in College Attending Women"
2018	Alexandra Boyd	"Ethnic studies in the U.S. school system : emergence and institutionalization"
2018	Eleanore Denegre	"Gender, race, and artificial intelligence"
2018	Sydney Lewis	"Pain in the assessment : physicians navigating ambiguity, defining roles, and reacting to media attention during the American opioid epidemic"
2019	Asher Sorenson	"Defining deviance: navigating boundaries within the occult"
2019	Michelle Owens (American Studies – Sociology)	"From criminality to insanity: contesting deviance in mental health courts in Portland, Oregon."
2020	Meredith Riley	"Boxing Up Biological Race: Racial Frameworks in the Consumption of Genetic Ancestry Technologies"
2020	Anna Volz	"Finding a "match": student support at liberal arts colleges and the community college transfer"
2021	Chloe Lombardo	"Does access to technology disrupt how socio-economic status structures inequalities in engagement with health-related information and services?"
2021	Kathleen Kwenda	"Assortative Mating Revisited"
2022	Roe Gardner	"The 'Troubled Teen' Industry and New Regimes of Punishment"
2022	Sarena Solodoff	"Their Pride and Joy (it's Perfectly Queer): Supportive Parental Framing and Social Networks in Parenting Transgender and Gender Expansive Children"
2022	Kayla Luo	"The Myth of Choice: How Women Nurses in the U.S. and China Choose between Work and Family during The Covid-19 Pandemic"
2022	Hannah Card	"'Resting time is not wasted time': Chronic Illness, Time Perspectives, and the Reed Student Experience"
2023	Olivia Jenkinson	"Who's doing what : birth control practices and divisions of labor in young couples"
2023	Robin Hart	"Inclusive course content shifts in higher education : driven by school classification, socio-demographic diversity, and departmental creation"
2023	Riley Schlemmer	"Managing masculinity in the military : experiences, outlooks, and reflections after serving"