

## **Laura-Anne Minkoff-Zern**

Assistant Professor, Food Studies  
Department of Public Health, Food Studies and Nutrition  
Affiliated Faculty, Departments of Geography and Women's and Gender Studies  
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### **EDUCATION**

PhD, University of California, Berkeley  
Spring, 2012  
Department of Geography

Dissertation: *Migrations of Hunger and Knowledge: Food Insecurity and California's Indigenous Farm Workers*

BA, Cornell University  
Spring 2004, *Magna Cum Laude*  
Sustainable Agriculture and Development, College Scholar Program  
Concentration in Latin American Studies

Honors Thesis: *Local and Alternative Agricultural Practices for Permanent Soil Fertility in San Lucas Tolimán, Guatemala*

### **PREVIOUS POSITIONS**

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow  
2012-2014  
Goucher College  
Department of Environmental Studies

### **PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES IN PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS**

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne and Rick Welsh. 2017. Early Online View. "The Difference Between the Vaccine and the GMO Food Debates." *Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems*.  
doi:10.1017/S1742170517000436

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2017. Early Online View. "The Case for Taking Account of Labor in Sustainable Food Systems." *Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems*.  
doi:10.1017/S1742170517000060

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2017. Early Online View. "Race, Immigration, and the Agrarian Question: Farmworkers Becoming Farmers in the United States." *The Journal of Peasant Studies*.  
doi.org/10.1080/03066150.2017.1293661

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne and Sea Sloat. 2017. "A New Era of Civil Rights?: Latino Immigrant Farmers and Exclusion at the United States Department of Agriculture." *Agriculture and Human Values*. Vol 34 (3): 631-643.

Levkoe, Charles Z, McClintock, Nathan, Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne, Coplen, Amy K., Gaddis, Jennifer, Lo, Joann, Tendick-Matesanz, Felipe, and Weiler, Anelyse. 2016. "Forging Links Between Food Chain Labor Activists and Academics." *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*. Special Issue on Labor in the Food System. Volume 6 (2).

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne and Megan Carney. 2015. "Latino Im/migrants, "Dietary Health," and Social Exclusion: A Critical Examination of Nutrition Interventions in California." *Food, Culture, and Society*. Volume 18 (3).

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2014. "Subsidizing Farmworker Hunger: Food Assistance Programs, Farmworker Gardens, and the Social Reproduction of California Farm Labor." *Geoforum*. Volume 57.

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2014. "Hunger Amidst Plenty: Farmworker Food Insecurity and Coping Strategies in California." *Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability*. Special issue on Interstitial and Subversive Food Spaces. Volume 19 (2).

Brahinsky, Rachel, Laura-Anne Minkoff-Zern, and Jade Sasser. 2014. "Race, Space, and Nature: An Introduction and Critique." Introduction to guest edited special issue. *Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography*. Volume 46 (5).

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2014. "Knowing "Good Food": Immigrant Knowledge and the Racial Politics of Farmworker Food Insecurity." *Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography*. Special Edited Volume on Race, Space, and Nature. Volume 46 (5).

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2014. "Challenging the Agrarian Imaginary: Farmworker-Led Food Movements and the Potential for Farm Labor Justice." *Human Geography*. 18 Volume 7 (1).

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2012. "Pushing the Boundaries of Indigeneity and Agricultural Knowledge: Oaxacan Immigrant Community Gardening in California." *Agriculture and Human Values*. Volume 29 (3).

## **EDITED BOOK CHAPTERS**

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2017. "Farmworker-Led Food Movements Then and Now: The United Farmworkers, The Coalition of Immokalee Workers and the Potential for Farm Labor Justice." In Alkon, A. and J. Guthman (eds). *The New Food Activism: Opposition, Cooperation, and Collective Action*. University of California Press.

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2017. "Crossing Borders, Overcoming Boundaries: Latino Immigrant Farmers and a New Sense of Home in the United States." In *Food Across Borders: Production, Consumption and Boundary Crossing in North America*. Melanie Dupuis, Don Mitchell, and Matthew Garcia, Eds. Rutgers University Press.

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne, Nancy Peluso, Jennifer Sowerwine and Christy Getz. 2011. "Race and Regulation: Asian Immigrants in California Agriculture." In *Cultivating Food Justice: Race, Class and Sustainability*. Alison Alkon and Julian Agyeman, eds. MIT Press.

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2010. "Agribusiness." In *Green Food, An A-to-Z Guide*, Dustin J. Mulvaney and Paul Robbins, eds. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2013. A Review of "Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies: Migrant Farmworkers in the United States." *Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography*. Online.

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2013. A Review of "Free Food For All: Fixing School Food In America", *Food and Foodways: Explorations in the History and Culture of Human Nourishment*, Vol 21 (2): 156-158.

## **PROFESSIONAL PAPERS/ POPULAR PRESS**

Minkoff-Zern-Laura-Anne, Charles Levkoe, Levi Van Sant, Laura Johnson, Joshua Sbicca, Courtney Gallaher, Colleen Hammelman, Daniel Block, and Russell Hedberg. April 9, 2017. "Uncertain Future for US Food System." Op Ed. *Finger Lakes Times*.

Minkoff-Zern, Jonah and Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2015. "Citizen's United Ruling: A Dangerous Expansion of Corporate Power in the U.S." *Right to Food and Nutrition Watch: People's Nutrition is Not a Business*. FIAN International (7), 28.

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2013. "Care about Your Food? Then Care about Your Farmworkers Too." *YES Magazine*. Online Jan 30, 2013. [www.yesmagazine.org/people-power/care-about-your-food-rural-farmworkers](http://www.yesmagazine.org/people-power/care-about-your-food-rural-farmworkers) Reprinted in 2013. Menu For the Future. Northwest Earth Institute.

Meade, Sarah and Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne. 2013. "Market Offers Wealth of Tradition—and Veggies—for Immigrant Farmers and Shoppers. Online Oct 7, 2013.

Minkoff-Zern, Laura-Anne and Christy Getz. 2011. "Farmworkers- The Basis and Bottom of the Food Chain." *Race, Poverty, and the Environment*. Vol 18. No 1.

Gillon, Sean, Minkoff, Laura-Anne, and Thistlethwaite, Rebecca. 2007. "Grounding Ourselves: Innovative Land Tenure Models in California and Beyond." California Food and Justice Network Working Paper. Community Food Security Coalition. Reprinted 2008. In *Farmer's Guide to Securing Land*. Sebastopol, CA: California Farmlink.

Minkoff, Laura-Anne. *Local and Alternative Practices for Soil Fertility in San Lucas Tolimán, Guatemala*. 2004. Resource document for The Mesoamerican Institute for Permaculture (IMAP), San Lucas Tolimán, Guatemala.

Minkoff, Laura-Anne. *Land Ownership in Guatemala*. 2004. Resource document for The Network in Solidarity With the People of Guatemala (NISGUA), Washington DC.

## **INVITED PAPERS/ PRESENTATIONS**

Invited Panelist, “Food and Immigration,” National Food Policy Conference, Washington DC; 2017

Invited Plenary Commentator, “Bread and Water in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Boston; 2017

Invited Panelist, “Race and Space,” American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Boston; 2017

Visiting Scholar/ Invited talk: *From Farmworkers to Farm Owners: An Introduction*; University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Workshop on Food, Agriculture, and Society, UT Humanities Center; 2017

Invited Talk: *The New American Farmer: Agrarian Questions, Race, and Immigration*; Cornell University, Department of Development Sociology; 2016

Invited Talk: *The New American Farmer: Agrarian Questions, Race, and Immigration*; Lampert Institute for Civic and Global Affairs, Colgate University; 2016.

Invited Paper: *The New American Farmer: Agrarian Questions, Race, and Immigration*; Search for Common Ground Seminar Series; Modesto College; 2015.

Invited Paper: *Agrarian Spaces, Race, and Legibility: Latino Immigrant Farmers and Exclusion at the United States Department of Agriculture*, "Race and Rurality in the Global Economy" Workshop, Duke University, 2015.

Invited Panelist: Beyond the Academy, Nature and Society Workshop, Department of Geography, Syracuse University; 2014.

Invited Paper: *The New American Farmer: Mexican Immigrant Growers in the United States*; Towson University, Geography Department What Matters Speakers Series

Invited Paper: *Migrations of Hunger and Knowledge: Food Insecurity and California's Indigenous Farm Workers*; University of Maryland, Baltimore, Geography Department Colloquium; 2013

Invited Presentation: *Addressing Farmworker Food Insecurity*; Berkeley School of Law Food Justice Symposium; UC Berkeley; 2011

Invited Paper: *Corn Across Borders: Immigration, Labor, and Travelling Knowledge*. Symposium on The “Americorn” Way; UC Berkeley; 2011

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS AND OTHER PARTICIPATION**

*Crossing Borders, Overcoming Boundaries: Latino Immigrant Farmers and a New Sense of Home in The United States*; American Association of Geographers; San Francisco; 2016

*Food Across Borders*; Session Organizer: American Association of Geographers; San Francisco; 2016

*Land, Justice and Agrifood Movements: Trajectories and Tensions*; Session Organizer/ Chair;

American Association of Geographers; San Francisco; 2016

*Race and the Agrarian Question*; Discussant; American Association of Geographers; San Francisco; 2016

*Race, Immigration, and the Agrarian Question: Latino Immigrant Farmers in the United States*; Joint Conference of Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society and the Association for the Study of Food and Society; Pittsburg; 2015

*Race, Immigration, and the Agrarian Question: Latino Immigrant Farmers in the United States*, American Association of Geographers; Chicago; 2015

*Food Politics and The Agrarian Question*; Session Organizer/ Chair: American Association of Geographers; Chicago; 2015

*Crossing Borders, Overcoming Boundaries: Latino Immigrant Farmers and a New Sense of Home in the United States*; Symposium participant, paper presentation, at Food Across Borders: Production, Consumption, and Boundary Crossing in North America, A Joint Symposium Sponsored by The William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies and the Comparative Border Studies Program at Arizona State University; 2014.

*The New American Farmer: The Agrarian Question, Food Sovereignty and Immigrant Mexican Growers in The United States*; Food Sovereignty: A Critical Dialogue; Yale University; 2013

*Food Movements and Farm Labor: Strengthening Coalitions For Equality In The Food System*; Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference; University of Kentucky; 2012

Panelist; Migration and Alternative and Non-Capitalist Political Ecologies; Society for Applied Anthropology Meeting; 2012

*The Agrarian Question In California: Migration And (Non) Traditional New Farmers*; Association of American Geographers Meeting; New York; 2012

*Farmworker Food Insecurity, The Agrarian Question, and (Non)traditional New Farmers*; Critical Geography Conference; Clark University; 2011

*Knowing "Good Food": Immigrant Knowledge and the Racial Politics of Farmworker Food Insecurity*; Race, Space, and Nature: A One Day Symposium at UC Berkeley; 2011

*Knowing "Good Food": Immigrant Knowledge and the Racial Politics of Farmworker Food Insecurity*; Association of American Geographers National Conference; Seattle; 2011

Moderator and Discussant; Labor and Health Across the Food Industry; California Studies Association Annual Conference; Oakland, CA; 2011

Moderator and Discussant; Farmworkers Across Borders; International Day of Peasant Struggle Celebration; Sponsored by the Bay Area Friends of the MST, La Via Campesina, and the Urban Studies Program of the San Francisco Art Institute; 2011

*Migrations of Hunger and Knowledge: Food Insecurity and California's Indigenous Farm Workers*; Association of American Geographers National Conference; Washington DC; 2010

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

*Syracuse University, Department of Public Health, Food Studies, and Nutrition:*

Food Studies and Systems; Fall 2017

Labor Across the Food System; Fall 2014; 2017

Food, Identity, and Power; Fall 2015

Food Movements; Spring 2015; 2016

Feeding the World: Global Agri-food Governance; Spring 2015; 2016; 2017

Farm Labor Policy and History: Directed Independent Study with doctoral student; Spring 2015

*Goucher College, Department of Environmental Studies:*

Industrial Food and Agrarian Change; Spring 2014

Political Ecology; Summer 2010, Fall 2013, Spring 2014

Biosphere and Society; Fall 2012 and 2013

Senior Capstone Course; Spring 2013

Introduction to Environmental Studies; Fall 2012

*University of California, Washington DC Program:*

Food and Agriculture History and Policy; Spring 2012

*UC Berkeley, Department of Geography:*

Political Ecology; Summer 2010

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

Labor Studies Grant; Work, Labor and Citizenship Initiative; Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs; Syracuse University; 2017

Research Seed Grant; David B. Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics; Syracuse University; 2016

Association of American Geographers Research Grant Award; 2016

Crosby Course Development Grant; Goucher College; 2013

Rosenberg Grant for Immigration Reporting; The Rosenberg Foundation and UC Berkeley School of Journalism; 2011

Honorable mention; Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society Student Research Paper Awards; 2011; Paper title: *Pushing the Boundaries of Indigeneity and Agricultural Knowledge: Immigrant Community Gardening in California*

Society of Woman Geographer's Graduate Studies Fellowship; 2010

Programa de Investigación de Migración y Salud (PIMSA) and the Health Initiative of the Americas' dissertation research grant; 2010

The University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States (UCMEXUS) Grant for Student Research; 2009

The Center for Race and Gender Graduate Student Research Grant; UC Berkeley; 2009

### **UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

Faculty Advisor, Brainfeeders Student Club

Member; Academic Review Committee, Falk College, Syracuse University

Member; Sustainability Committee, Syracuse University

Member; Faculty Advisory Group for Campus as a Lab for Sustainability, Syracuse University

Member; Labor Studies Group, Syracuse University

Co-Organizer; “The Hand that Feeds” film showing and discussion with the director and the Workers Center of Central New York; Fall 2015

Co-Organizer; “Food Chains” film showing and discussion at Syracuse University with the Workers Center of Central New York; Spring 2015

Organizer; “Cultivating Food Justice” with Visiting Melon Scholar Dr. Alison Alkon; Goucher College; Spring 2013

Advisor; Goucher Student Farm Project; 2013- 2014

Faculty Member; Goucher Environmental Sustainability Council (GESAC); 2012

Co-organizer; “One Day Symposium on Race, Space, and Nature.” UC Berkeley; Spring 2011

Co-founder and member; The Geography Group on Gender and Difference; UC Berkeley; 2010-2011

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Chair, Geographies of Food and Agriculture Specialty Group (GFASG) of the Association of American Geographers (AAG); 2016-Present

Vice-Chair, Geographies of Food and Agriculture Specialty Group (GFASG) of the Association of American Geographers (AAG); 2014-2016

Chair, Graduate Student Grant Competition, Geographies of Food and Agriculture Specialty Group (GFASG) of the Association of American Geographers (AAG); 2014-2015

### **JOURNAL, BOOK, AND AWARD REFEREEING**

2013:

Agriculture and Human Values

2014:

Agriculture and Human Values; Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography; Annals of the Association of American Geographers; National Science Foundation

2015:

Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography; Food, Culture, and Society; Food and Foodways; Geoforum; Routledge; MIT Press; Economic Geography; Latino Studies; University of Maryland, Baltimore, Campus (UMBC) Review

2016:

Economic Geography; The Annals of American Association of Geographers; Journal of Peasant Studies; Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems; Human Organization

2017:

Journal of Peasant Studies

### **PREVIOUS RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, AND TRAINING**

Mellon Summer Sustainability Institute; Goucher College; 2013

Researcher and Project Site Coordinator, Farmworker Health Survey, National Latino Research Center (NLRC), California State University San Marcos; 2010-2011

Researcher, Ecoagriculture Partners and the UC Berkeley Center for Sustainable Resource Development; 2009

Research Assistant, Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF), Oakland, CA; 2007

Research Intern, Food First: The Institute for Food and Development Policy, Oakland, CA; 2005

Farm Apprentice, Full Belly Farm, Guinda, CA; 2004 - 2005

Board Member, Planning Task Force of Esparto Farmers Market, Yolo County, CA; 2004 - 2005

Farm Intern, The Mesoamerican Institute for Permaculture, San Lucas Tolimán, Guatemala; Certified in Permaculture Design; 2003

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

Association of American Geographers (AAG) 2005-Present  
Agriculture, Food, and Human Values (AFHV) 2011-Present  
Rural Sociology Society 2016

### **LANGUAGES**

SPANISH good and proficient