

**Patrice Johnelle Sparks**  
*Curriculum Vitae*

Professor  
Department of Demography  
The University of Texas at San Antonio  
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**Education**

- Ph.D. Rural Sociology and Demography, The Pennsylvania State University, August 2006
- M.A. Sociology, University of Arkansas, August 2003
- M.A. Social Policy, University of Sydney, Australia, December 2003
- B.A. Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Arkansas, May 2001

**Professional Experience**

- 2017-present Chair, Department of Demography, The University of Texas at San Antonio
- 2019-present Professor, Department of Demography, The University of Texas at San Antonio
- 2012-present Associate Professor, Department of Demography, The University of Texas at San Antonio
- 2006-2012 Assistant Professor, Department of Demography, The University of Texas at San Antonio
- 2003-2006 Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, The Pennsylvania State University
- 2001-2003 Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Human Development, Family Sciences & Rural Sociology, University of Arkansas

**Academic Leadership Experience**

- Chair, Department of Demography, The University of Texas at San Antonio (July 2017-present)
- Graduate Advisor of Record, Department of Demography, The University of Texas at San Antonio (August 2010-July 2015)

**Scholarships, Honors and Awards**

- 2015 Mid-Career Research Award, The University of Texas at San Antonio (\$10,000)
- 2014 COPP Nominee, President's Distinguished Achievement Award for Excellence in University Service, Award, The University of Texas at San Antonio
- 2014 College Faculty Travel Award, College of Public Policy, The University of Texas at San Antonio (\$1,000)
- 2013 COPP Nominee, President's Distinguished Achievement Award for Excellence in University Service, Award, The University of Texas at San Antonio

- 2012 Minnie Stevens Piper Award Nominee, College of Public Policy, The University of Texas at San Antonio
- 2011 Excellence in University Service Award, College of Public Policy, The University of Texas at San Antonio
- 2011 College Faculty Travel Award, College of Public Policy, The University of Texas at San Antonio (\$850)
- 2010 Excellence in Research Award - Tenure-Track Faculty, College of Public Policy, The University of Texas at San Antonio
- 2010 College Faculty Travel Award, College of Public Policy, The University of Texas at San Antonio (\$1,200)
- 2009 College Faculty Travel Award, College of Public Policy, The University of Texas at San Antonio (\$1,265)
- 2009 Mentor, Provost's Summer Research Program, The University of Texas at San Antonio (\$1,300)
- 2008 College Faculty Travel Award, College of Public Policy, The University of Texas at San Antonio (\$500)
- 2007 College Faculty Travel Award, College of Public Policy, The University of Texas at San Antonio (\$1,200)
- 2006 College Faculty Travel Award, College of Public Policy, The University of Texas at San Antonio (\$1,000)
- 2005 Kenneth P. Wilkinson Memorial Scholarship in Rural Sociology (\$1,000)
- 2005 Thomas C. and Jackie M. Floore Memorial Scholarship Fund in Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology (\$500)
- 2005 Graduate Student Competitive Travel Award, College of Agricultural Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University (\$300)
- 2004 Gamma Sigma Delta, The Honor Society of Agriculture, The Pennsylvania State University
- 2004 Panhellenic Council Chapter Advisor of the Year, The Pennsylvania State University
- 2004 Rural Sociological Society Student Paper Award
- 2004 Ruth Pretty Palmer Scholarship, Alpha Delta Pi Foundation, Inc. (\$1,000)
- 2003 Graduate with Merit, University of Sydney, Australia
- 2000 Alpha Kappa Delta, Sociology Honors Fraternity, University of Arkansas

### **Publications**

- Locke, Victoria Nevin and P. Johnelle Sparks. Forthcoming, 2019. "Who gets held back? An analysis of grade retention using stratified frailty models." *Population Research and Policy Review*.
- Martinez, Matthew and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2018. "Towards Conceptualizing and Empirically Examining Legacy of Place: An Exploratory Consideration of Historic Neighborhood Characteristics on Contemporary Dropout Behavior." *Population Research and Policy Review* 37(3): 419-441.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11113-018-9458-4>
- Schmidt, Susanne and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2018. "Disparities in injury morbidity among young adults in the USA: individual and contextual determinants." *Journal of*

- Epidemiology and Community Health* 72: 458-464.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/jech-2017-210259>
- Howard, Jeffrey and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2016. "The Effects of Allostatic Load on Racial/Ethnic Mortality Differences in the United States." *Population Research and Policy Review* 35(4): 421-443. doi:10.1007/s11113-016-9382-4
- Howard, Jeffrey T. and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2016. "Does allostatic load calculation method matter? Evaluation of different methods and individual biomarkers functioning by race/ethnicity and educational level." *American Journal of Human Biology* 28(5): 627-635. doi:10.1002/ajhb.22843
- Sagna, Marguerite and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2016. "Institutional Birth in Uganda: The Interplay of Individual Characteristics, Physical Accessibility, and Social Context." *Women's Reproductive Health* 3(1): 30-44. DOI 10.1080/23293691.2016.1150134
- Howard, Jeffrey and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2015. "The Role of Education in Explaining Racial/Ethnic Allostatic Load Differentials in the United States." *Biodemography and Social Biology* 61(1): 18-39
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Anne-Marie Nuñez. 2014. "The Role of Postsecondary Institutional Urbanicity in College Persistence." *Journal of Research in Rural Education*. 29(6): 1-19.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle, Corey S. Sparks, and Joey Campbell. 2013. "Poverty segregation in nonmetro counties: A spatial exploration of segregation patterns in the US." *Spatial Demography*, 1(2):162-177.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle, Corey S. Sparks, and Joey Campbell. 2013 "An application of Bayesian spatial statistical methods to the study of racial and poverty segregation and infant mortality rates in the US." *GeoJournal*, 78(2): 389-405. DOI 10.1007/s10708-011-9445-3.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Susanne Schmidt. 2012. "A Demographic Analysis of Metro/Nonmetro Differences in Adult Normal Weight, Overweight, and Obesity." *Journal of Rural Social Sciences*, 27(3): 46-73.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Corey S. Sparks. 2012. "Socioeconomic Position, Rural Residence, and Marginality Influences on Obesity Status in the Adult Mexican Population." *International Journal of Population Research* (Article ID 757538), 13 pages.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2011. "Racial/Ethnic Differences in Breastfeeding Duration Among WIC-Eligible Families." *Women's Health Issues*, 21(5): 374-382.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Mary Bollinger. 2011. "A Demographic Profile of Obesity in the Adult and Veteran US Populations in 2008." *Population Research and Policy Review* 30(2): 211-233.
- Nuñez, Anne-Marie, P. Johnelle Sparks, and Eliza A. Hernandez. 2011. Latino access to community colleges and Hispanic-Serving Institutions. *Journal of Hispanic Higher Education*. 10(1): 18-40.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Corey S. Sparks. 2010. "An application of spatially autoregressive models to the study of U.S. county mortality rates." *Population, Space and Place* 16(6): 465-481.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2010. "Rural-Urban Differences in Breastfeeding Initiation in the United States." *Journal of Human Lactation* 26(2): 118-129.

- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2010. "Childhood morbidities among income- and categorically-eligible WIC program participants and non-participants." *Journal of Children and Poverty* 16(1): 47-66.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2009. "Mommy knows best: Parents' perceptions of their infant's health." *Journal of Child Health Care* 13(1): 63-74.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2009. "Do biological, sociodemographic, and behavioral characteristics explain racial/ethnic disparities in preterm births?" *Social Science and Medicine* 68(9): 1667-1675.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2009. "One size does not fit all: An examination of low birthweight disparities among a diverse set of racial/ethnic groups." *Maternal and Child Health Journal* 13(6): 769-779.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle, Diane K. McLaughlin, and C. Shannon Stokes. 2009. "Differential neonatal and postneonatal infant mortality rates across US counties: the role of socioeconomic conditions and rurality." *The Journal of Rural Health* 25(4): 332-341.
- Durham, Rachel E. and P. Johnelle Smith. 2006. "Nonmetropolitan Status and Kindergarteners' Early Literacy Skills: Is There A Rural Disadvantage?" *Rural Sociology* 71(4): 625-661.

### Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- Nuñez, Anne-Marie and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2012. "Who are linguistic minority students in higher education? A national perspective." Pp. 110-129 in Y. Kanno & L. Harklau (Eds.), *Linguistic Minority Students Go to College: Preparation, Access, and Persistence*. New York: Routledge.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2012. "Rural Health Disparities." Pp. 255-271 in Kulscar, L.J. and K. Curtis (Eds.). *The International Handbook of Rural Demography*. London: Springer.
- McLaughlin, Diane K., C. Shannon Stokes, P. Johnelle Smith, and Atsuko Nonoyama. 2007. "Differential Mortality Across The United States: The Influence of Place-Based Inequality." In Lobao, L.M., G. Hooks and A.R. Tickamyer (Eds.) *The Sociology of Spatial Inequality*. (pp. 141-152) State University of New York Press.

### Other Publications

- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2010. "The Impact of WIC Participation on Food Insecurity and Early Childhood Health Outcomes for a Nationally Representative Sample of Children." in Majchrowicz, T. Alexander (Ed.) *Ridge Project Summaries, 2009: Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Innovation and Development Grants in Economics Program*. (pp. 17-19). Economic Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Administrative Publication Number 051.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2007. "Where have all of the rural sociologists gone?" *The Rural Sociologist* 27(4, December): 37-38.
- Smith, P. Johnelle. 2006. "Inequality and Infant Health: A Multilevel Approach to Disentangling Correlates of Metropolitan/Nonmetropolitan Disparities in Low Birth Weight Infants." *The Rural Sociologist* 26(3, September): 17-20.

### **Under Review**

- Gordon, Danielle M. and P. Johnelle Sparks. “Young children’s risk of asthma and elevated lead in the home environment.” *Health & Place*
- Hernandez, Stephanie and P. Johnelle Sparks. “Intersectionality, minority status, and history of HIV testing in the United States.” *American Journal of Public Health*

### **Grants and Fellowships - Funded**

- Methodist Health Ministries Social Determinates of Health Contract, 2018-2019, PIs - Corey S, Sparks and P. Johnelle Sparks (\$55,807)
- UTSA Proposal Enhancement Program Grant, 2015-2016, PI – P. Johnelle Sparks (\$20,000)
- UTSA Mid-Career Faculty Development Grant, 2015, PI – P. Johnelle Sparks (\$10,000)
- US Department of Veteran Affairs, 2014, PI – Mary Bollinger, Co-PI – P. Johnelle Sparks (\$25,000 for student stipend)
- UTSA Special Summer Seed Grant, 2014, PI – P. Johnelle Sparks (\$5,000)
- College of Public Policy Collaborative Research Grant, The University of Texas at San Antonio, 2012, PI - P. Johnelle Sparks, Co-PI – Gabriela Sanchez-Soto (\$4,000)
- Foodshed Assessment Contract, City of San Antonio, August 4, 2011 - February 29, 2012, PI - Corey Sparks, Co-PIs - P. Johnelle Sparks and Lesli Biediger-Friedman (\$50,000)
- Tenure-Track Research Award, University of Texas at San Antonio, September 1, 2009 - August 31, 2010, (\$22,000)
- IRP-RIDGE Grant, University of Wisconsin and the Economic Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, July 1 2008 – December 31, 2009, (\$32,551)
- College of Public Policy Collaborative Research Grant, The University of Texas at San Antonio, 2010, PI - P. Johnelle Sparks, Co-PIs - Jolyn Mikow and Linda Benavides (\$7,455)
- College of Education and Human Development Mini-Grant, The University of Texas at San Antonio, 2009, PI - Anne-Marie Nunez, Co-PI - P. Johnelle Sparks (\$4,000)
- College Faculty Research Grant, College of Public Policy, The University of Texas at San Antonio, 2008, (\$2,000)
- San Antonio Health Services Research Program Faculty Summer Research Award, 2007, (\$6,900)
- University Faculty Research Award, The University of Texas at San Antonio, 2007, (\$5,000)
- College Faculty Research Grant, College of Public Policy, The University of Texas at San Antonio, 2007, (\$2,000)
- Rural Sociological Society Dissertation Grant, 2005-2006, (\$3,750)
- Rotary International Ambassadorial Fellowship, 2002-2003, (\$25,000)

### **Grants Under Revision**

- Huang, Ying and P. Johnelle Sparks. “Dynamic Exposure to Neighborhood Disadvantage in Childhood and Health in Adulthood.” R03 NIH, PA-18-488, To be submitted June 2019, Requested Budget - \$149,665.

Sparks, P. Johnelle (PI). Environment, Stress Mediators, and Mortality. NIH R01 PA 16-160.

### **Professional Presentations**

- Cruz, Monica and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2019. "Intimate Partner Violence and Mental Health: Does the Threat of Violence Affect a Woman's Mental Health as Much as the Act of Violence?" Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Austin, TX.
- Hernandez, Stephanie and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2019. "Mental Health Among Minoritized Individuals in the United States." Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Austin, TX.
- Muntasir, Masum and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2019. "Alcohol Consumption and Mortality Risk in the United States." Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Austin, TX.
- Bitew, Fikre and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2019. "Risk Factors for Under-5 Mortality: Evidence From Ethiopian Demographic and Health Surveys." Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Austin, TX.
- Atherwood, Serge and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2019. "Stress-to-CVD Pathways and Midlife Mortality Among U.S. Non-Hispanic White Females." Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Austin, TX.
- Kim, Jenogsoo and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2019. "Not the Same Answers in the Rapidly Aged Countries: Importance of Public Pension and Children." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Austin, TX.
- Masum, Muntasir and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2018. "Alcohol consumption and mortality risk in the United States." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Durham, NC.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Sharon Goodwin. 2018. "Does veteran status mediate the association between race/ethnicity and socioeconomic status on self-reported health?" Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Denver, CO.
- Hernandez, Stephanie and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2018. "Multiple minority status and history of HIV testing in the United States." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Denver, CO.
- Goodwin, Sharon and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2017. "Understanding the demographic profile of adult men in the US and the effects of military service." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Morgantown, WV.
- Martinez, Matthew and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2017. "Neighborhood Legacies: Exploring the Importance of the History of Place and Its Influence on Today." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, CA.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Jeffrey T. Howard. 2017. "Examining the Impact of Segregation on Racial/Ethnic and Educational Differences in Allostatic Load Levels and Mortality Risks." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Chicago, IL.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Jeffrey T. Howard. 2016. "The Mediating Role of Allostatic Load in Assessing the Impact of Residential Segregation on Individual Mortality

- Risks.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Athens, GA.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Jeffrey T. Howard. 2016. “The Effects of Allostatic Load on Racial/Ethnic Mortality Differences in the United States.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington, DC.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Corey S. Sparks. 2016. “Shifting demographics and food security transitions: an analysis of two cohorts of US children.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington, DC.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Jeffrey T. Howard. 2015. “New Perspectives to Addressing Racial/Ethnic Differences in Mortality: Segregation, Educational Profiles, and Allostatic Load.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, San Antonio, TX.
- Colon-Lugo, Heidy, Susanne Schmidt, Roberto Villarreal, P. Johnelle Sparks, and Barbara Taylor. 2015. “Too Many Options? What Effect does Proximity to other Healthcare Facilities have on HIV Patient Retention at an HIV/AIDS Clinic in South Central Texas?” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, San Antonio, TX.
- Gordon, Danielle and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2015. “Disparities in Comorbidity of Lead and Asthma among Preschool Children in the US.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, San Diego, CA.
- Colon-Lugo, Heidy, Susanne Schmidt, Roberto Villarreal, and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2015. “Lost to Care in Bexar: What Role do Individual and Contextual Factors Play in HIV/AIDS Patient Retention in a Majority Hispanic Community?” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, San Diego, CA.
- Sparks, Corey S. and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2014. “A Spatio-Temporal Analysis of Black White Mortality Disparities in the US, 1980-2010: The Role of Changing Patterns of Residential Segregation.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Memphis, TN.
- Gordon, Danielle and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2014. “Effects of Primary Child Care Arrangements on Asthmas in Preschool-Aged Children Dependent on Poverty Status.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Boston, MA.
- Howard, Jeffrey and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2014. “The Role of Education in Explaining Racial/Ethnic Allostatic Load Differentials in the United States.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Boston, MA.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Gabriela Sanchez-Soto. 2013. “Negotiating Infant Feeding Decisions in Food Insecure Households.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Montgomery, AL.
- Locke, Victoria. 2013. “Who Gets Held Back? An Analysis of Grade Retention Using Stratified Frailty Models.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, New Orleans, LA.
- Sparks, Corey S. and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2013. “A Spatial Analysis of Changing Segregation Patterns in the United States between 1990 and 2010.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southwest Social Science Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Susanne Schmidt. 2012. “Metro/Nonmetro differences in adult

- overweight and obesity with an emphasis on food consumption patterns.”  
Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Chicago, IL.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Susanne Schmidt. 2012. “A Multilevel Analysis of Low Birth Weight and Black-White Interaction.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, San Francisco, CA.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Anne-Marie Nuñez. 2012. “Institutional Location and College Persistence: The Role of Urbanicity.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, San Francisco, CA.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Anne-Marie Nuñez. 2012. “Institutional Location and College Persistence: The Role of Urbanicity.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, BC.
- Schmidt, Susanne and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2011. “Socioeconomic, Behavioral and Contextual Determinants of Non-fatal Injury Risk among Young Adults in the United States.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Tallahassee, Florida.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Susanne Schmidt. 2011. “The Impact of Different Dimensions of Residential Segregation on Prematurity Status of Infants.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Tallahassee, Florida.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Susanne Schmidt. 2011. “A Demographic Analysis of Metro/Nonmetro Differences in Adult Overweight and Obesity.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Boise, Idaho.
- Nunez, Anne-Marie and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2011. “Understanding Postsecondary Trajectories of Linguistic Minority Students.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle, Corey S. Sparks, and Joey Campbell. 2011. “Poverty Segregation in Nonmetro Counties: A Spatial Exploration of Segregation Patterns in the U.S.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington, DC.
- Campbell, Joey, Corey S. Sparks, P. Johnelle Sparks. 2010. “An Application of Bayesian Methods to Small Area Estimates of Poverty Rates.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Knoxville, Tennessee.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle, Corey S. Sparks, and Joey Campbell. 2010. “Battle of the Bulge: Structural Correlates of County Obesity Rates using Spatial Regression Techniques.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Knoxville, Tennessee.
- Locke, Victoria and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2010. “The Impact of Segregation on Mathematics Achievement Post NCLB: Findings from the ECLS-K Eight Grade Sample.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Knoxville, Tennessee.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle, Anne-Marie Nunez, and Eliza Hernandez. 2010. “Rural-urban Differences in College Enrollment Choices among First-Time, First-Year College.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle, Corey S. Sparks, and Joey Campbell. 2010. “Segregation in Nonmetro Counties: A Spatial Exploration of Segregation Patterns in the US.”



- Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle, Corey S. Sparks, and Joey Campbell. 2010. "Spatial patterns of nonmetropolitan segregation: a comparison of racial and economic segregation between metro and nonmetro counties." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Dallas, Texas.
- Nunez, Anne-Marie, P. Johnelle Sparks, and Eliza Hernandez. 2010. "Latino access to community colleges and Hispanic-Serving Institutions: a national study." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Hispanics in Higher Education, Costa Mesa, California.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2009. "The impact of WIC participation on food insecurity and early childhood health outcomes for a nationally representative sample of children." Presented at the Research Innovation and Development Grants in Economics (RIDGE) Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle, Joey Campbell, and Corey S. Sparks. 2009 "A decomposition analysis of poverty segregation measures in the US from 1990-2000." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Galveston, Texas.
- Hernandez, Eliza, P. Johnelle Sparks, and Anne-Marie Nunez. 2009. "Latino Educational Attainment and Hispanic Serving Institutions: A Population Perspective." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Galveston, Texas.
- Bollinger, Mary and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2009. "Obesity in Texas: A multilevel analysis." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Galveston, Texas.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2009 "Rural-urban differences in breastfeeding patterns in the United States." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Madison, Wisconsin.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Corey S. Sparks. 2009. "Well, it depends on where you're born: A practical application of geographically weighted regression to the study of infant mortality in the US." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of American, Detroit, Michigan.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2008. "A Demographic Analysis of the Relationship between WIC Usage and Food Insecurity." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Greenville, South Carolina.
- Bollinger, Mary and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2008. "An Examination of Obesity Risk among the Veteran and Non-Veteran Population." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Greenville, South Carolina.
- Roth, Jennifer and P. Johnelle Sparks. 2008. "A Demographic Profile of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in the United States." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Greenville, South Carolina.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle and Corey S. Sparks. 2008. "A Multilevel Analysis of Rural and Urban Health Differences in Mexico." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Manchester, New Hampshire.

- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2007. "Health Disparities and Infant/Child Health: Socioeconomic Status, Race/Ethnicity, and Health Care Access." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Birmingham, Alabama.
- Sparks, Corey S., P. Johnelle Sparks, and Miguel Flores. 2007. "A Spatial Exploration of Economic, Health, and Social Indicators in Mexican Municipalities." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association, Birmingham, Alabama.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2007. "Metropolitan/Nonmetropolitan Variations in Early Childhood Education Programs in the United States." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Santa Clara, California.
- Sparks, P. Johnelle. 2007. Panelist - Voices from the Future: Constructing a New Rural Sociological Society for the 21st Century. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Santa Clara, California.
- Smith, P. Johnelle. 2007. "Birth Weight and Place: The Impact of Structural Level Characteristics on Infant Health Outcomes." Presented at the Invited Conference: Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Birth Cohort (ECLS-B) First Release Conference: Development from Birth through Age Two, Rockville, Maryland.
- Smith, P. Johnelle and Corey S. Sparks. 2007. "Resources, Race, and Health: Spatial Patterning of Mortality in the United States." Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, New York.
- Smith, P. Johnelle. 2006. "Rurality and Infant Health: A Multilevel Approach to Disentangling Correlates of Structural-Level Disparities in Birth Weight." At the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Louisville, Kentucky.
- Smith, P. Johnelle, Diane K. McLaughlin, and C. Shannon Stokes. 2006. "Neonatal and Post-Neonatal Infant Mortality in US Counties: Is There a Nonmetro Advantage?" At the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Louisville, Kentucky.
- Smith, P. Johnelle. 2006. "Inequality and Infant Health: A Multilevel Approach to Disentangling Correlates of Metropolitan/Nonmetropolitan Disparities in Low Birth Weight Infants." At the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Los Angeles.
- Smith, P. Johnelle and Rachel E. Durham. 2005. "Nonmetropolitan Status and Literacy Ability: Is There a Rural Disadvantage in Students' Growth Trajectories?" At the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Tampa.
- Durham, Rachel E. and P. Johnelle Smith. 2005. "Nonmetropolitan Status and Kindergarteners' Early Literacy Skills: Is There a Rural Disadvantage?" At the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Philadelphia.
- Smith, P. Johnelle. 2004. "Dimensions of Rurality and Life Chances: Infant Mortality." At the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Sacramento.
- McLaughlin, Diane K. and P. Johnelle Smith. 2004. "Explaining the Nonmetro-Metro Gap in Income Inequality: Structure or Effects of Structure?" At the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Sacramento.
- Brasier, Kathryn, Diane K. McLaughlin, and P. Johnelle Smith. 2004. "The Effect of Local Structure of Agriculture on Economic Inequality, 1980 to 2000." At the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Sacramento.

**Chair of Completed Dissertations**

- Bollinger, Mary. May 2010. *Obesity and Place: A Study of the South Texas Veterans Health Care System (STVHCS) User Population*
- Roth, Jennifer O. August 2010. *Veteran Health and Health Care in the United States and Texas: A Mixed Methods Approach*
- Sagna, Marguerite L. August 2010. *Inequalities in Utilization of Maternal Health Services in Uganda*
- Hernández, Eliza A. December 2010. *Persistence and Degree Attainment: The Role of Individual Decision Making, Various Forms of Capital, and Institutional Factors among Mexican-American Undergraduate Students*
- Joseph Campbell. May 2011. *Poor People and Poor Places: Local Opportunity Structures and Poverty Transitions*
- Mary Hogan. May 2011. *Public Health Crisis – Obesity: Individual Risks and Causes*
- Gilbert Suarez. May 2011. *Acculturation and Contraceptive Use Among Latino Adolescents in the U.S.*
- Alma Martinez-Jimenez. December 2012. *Individual determinants associated with fasting glucose levels and environmental factors associated with diabetes prevalence.*
- Victoria Locke. May 2012. *Calling it out: The Role of Institutional Racism in Disparities in Educational Outcomes.*
- Jinny Case. August 2013. *Spousal homogamy and marital dissolution in the highly education science and engineering population of the United States.*
- Susanne Schmidt. December 2013. *Inequalities in Injury Risk in US Adults: Socioeconomic Status, Health Behaviors, and Contextual Determinants of Injury Morbidity and Mortality.*
- Jeffrey Howard. May 2014. *An Examination of Racial/Ethnic and Socioeconomic Differentials in Allostatic Load Biomarkers and the Subsequent Effects on Mortality Outcomes in the United States.*
- Matthew Martinez. August 2015. *Dropout Legacy: Exploring the Effects of Historic Neighborhood Contexts on Contemporary Individual and Neighborhood Dropout Behavior.*
- Mikiko Oliver. August 2015. *Population Aging and Economic Growth in the United States and Japan.*
- Heidy Colon-Lugo. December 2015. *Lost to care: Individual and neighborhood characteristics associated with the out-of-care HIV positive patient population of an outpatient HIV/AIDS clinic in Bexar County, TX: 2008-2013.*
- Danielle Gordon. May 2016. *Environmental Risk Factors for Childhood Asthma across Multiple Setting.*
- Daniel Shinaberry. May 2016. *An Examination of Racial/Ethnic Differentials in Social Network Use and the Subsequent Effects on Biomarkers Outcomes for Adolescents in the US.*
- Becky Adeigbe. May 2017. *Structural determinants of health: The influence of income inequality, racial residential segregation, and social cohesion on Latino childhood obesity.*
- Sharon Goodwin. May 2017. *Veteran status as an explanation for SES and health differentials for men in the US*

Clarissa Ozuna. December 2017. *Community cultural wealth and Latina/o student success: An examination of community cultural wealth in a multicontextual model of Latina/o 4-year college enrollment.*

Jose Louro. May 2018. *Health insurance and health care access: measures and trends during pre- and post-implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA).*

Sara Robinson. August 2018. *Trends in the prevalence of prediabetes over time: differentials by socioeconomic status, age, period and cohort.*

Bricio Vasquez. August 2018. *Unemployment effects on college enrollment: on the role of race/ethnicity, parental involvement, and spatially bound resources in the warehousing of American Youth.*

### **Major Professor for Students**

Steven Sano – Expected Graduation Date December 2018

Stephanie Hernandez - Expected Graduation Date May 2019

Jeongsoo Kim - Expected Graduation Date May 2019

Kahlí Ramano - Expected Graduation Date May 2019

### **Member of Dissertation Committee for Students**

Lila Valencia – Graduated May 2011

Samantha John – Graduated December 2012

Chun-Lin Lin – Graduated December 2012

Ke Meng – Graduated December 2012

Brian Munkombwe – Graduated Date May 2013

Rabindra K.C. –Graduation Date December 2013 (posthumous)

Carlos Valenzuela – Gradated August 2013

Ramona Serban – Graduated August 2015

Daesung Choi – Graduated December 2016

Xiaoling Ling – Gradated August 2017

Daniela Krotzer – Graduated August 2018

Andres Gallardo – Graduated May 2019

Joan Babcock – Expected Graduation Date December 2019

Carlos Natividad Licón – PhD in Applied Statistics, Outside Committee Member,  
Expected Graduation December 2019

### **University Service**

2019-2020 Chair, Chair's Council, UTSA

2018-2019 Artificial Intelligence University Cluster Hire Advisory Committee

2018 Search Committee Member, Vice President for Business Affairs Search

2018-2019 Women's Professional Advancement and Synergy Academy (WASPA)

2018-2019 Handbook of Operating Procedures Representative, Chair's Council,  
UTSA

2017-2018 Big Data University Cluster Hire Advisory Committee

2017-present Chair's Council, UTSA

2017-present Women's Task Force, UTSA

2015-2017 University Grievance Committee, UTSA

2014-2015 Parliamentarian, Graduate Council, UTSA  
 2013-2014 Committee on Handbook of Operating Procedures, Faculty Senate  
 Standing Committee  
 2013-2014 Budget Committee, Faculty Senate Standing Committee  
 2013 (May-Oct) Vice Chair, Faculty Senate  
 2012-2015 Research Advisory Board  
 2012-2013 Faculty Senate Research Committee, Faculty Senate Standing Committee  
 2011-2012 Leadership UTSA  
 2011-2015 Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, Faculty Senate Standing  
 Committee (Chair 2012-2013, Co-Chair 2013-2014)  
 2011-2013 Graduate Programs and Courses Committee, Graduate Council Standing  
 Committee  
 2010-2013 Secretary, Faculty Senate  
 2010-2015 Graduate Council  
 2010 Judge, Graduate Student Association Research Competition  
 2009-2013 Faculty Senate  
 2009-2013 Executive Committee, Faculty Senate, College of Public Policy Delegate  
 2009-2012 Nominating, Elections, and Procedures Committee, Faculty Senate  
 Standing Committee (Chair 2009-2011)

### **College Service**

2017-present COPP Alumni of the Year Committee  
 2015-2016 COPP Travel and Research Committee  
 2014-2015 Affirmative Action Representative for College of Architecture  
 Departmental Search Committee  
 2011-2012 Affirmative Action Representative for College of Public Policy  
 Departmental Search Committee  
 2011-2012 College of Public Policy Travel and Research Award Committee  
 2011-2012 College of Public Policy Faculty Development Leave Selection  
 Committee  
 2008-2010 College of Public Policy Dean's Search Committee  
 2008-2009 College of Public Policy Student Research Competition Committee

### **Departmental Service**

2015-2016 IDSER and Chair/Full Professor Search Committee, Committee Chair  
 2015 Third Year Review DFRAC Committee, Chair  
 2014 Junior Search Committee, Chair  
 2012 Senior Search Committee, Chair  
 2011-2015 Graduate Program Committee, Chair  
 2010-2015 Graduate Advisor of Record  
 2010 Department Chair Search Committee, Member  
 2010-2011 Graduate Student Admissions Committee, Chair  
 2008-2009 Graduate Affairs Program Sub-Committee, Member  
 2007-present Recruitment Committee, Member  
 2006-present Curriculum Committee, Chair  
 2006-present Graduate Program Committee, Member

**Professional Service**

- 2019-2021 President, Southern Demographic Association
- 2017-2018 Session Organizer, Population Association of America
- 2016 - present Editorial Board, *Journal of Rural Social Sciences*
- 2015 Meeting Organizing Chair, Southern Demographic Association
- 2012-2015 Secretary/Treasurer, Southern Demographic Association
- 2011-2012 Chair, Endowment Committee, Rural Sociological Society
- 2010-2011 Chair-Elect, Endowment Committee, Rural Sociological Society
- 2010-2012 Council Member, Rural Sociological Society
- 2008-2009 Elected member of the Nominations Committee, Rural Sociological Society
- 2007-2011 Program Committee, Rural Sociological Society
- 2007-2011 Chair, Demography Interest Group, Rural Sociological Society
- 2006-2008 Publications Committee, Rural Sociological Society
- 2005-2006 Publications Committee, Graduate Student Representative, Rural Sociological Society
- 2005 Awards Committee, Graduate Student Representative, Rural Sociological Society
- 2005-present Reviewer, *Rural Sociology*
- 2009-present Reviewer, *Maternal and Child Health Journal*
- 2009-present Reviewer, *The Journal of Rural Health*
- 2009-present Reviewer, *BMC Public Health*
- 2009-present Reviewer, *Women's Health Issues*
- 2009-present Reviewer, *Journal of Women's Health*
- 2010-present Reviewer, *Social Science and Medicine*
- 2010-present Reviewer, *Journal of Rural Social Sciences*
- 2010-present Reviewer, *Population, Space and Place*
- 2010-present Reviewer, *Journal of Human Lactation*
- 2010-present Reviewer, *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*
- 2010-present Reviewer, *Health and Place*
- 2011-present Reviewer, *Prevention Science Journal*
- 2011-present Reviewer, *Demography*
- 2011-present Reviewer, *Population Research and Policy Review*
- 2013-present Reviewer, *Spatial Demography*
- 2014-present Reviewer, *Demographic Research*
- 2015-present Reviewer, *American Journal of Public Health*
- 2017-present Reviewer, *Social Science and Medicine – Population Health*