

Bonita B. Sharma, PhD, MSSW

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EDUCATION

- December 2016 The University of Texas at Arlington
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Social Work
- May 2009 The University of Texas at Arlington
Master of Science in Social Work (MSSW)
- December 1998 The University of Texas at Arlington
Bachelor of Science in Biology and Chemistry (B. Sc.)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- August 2018 Assistant Professor • The University of Texas at San Antonio, Department of Social Work
- 2012 - Current Adjunct Assistant Instructor • The University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work
- 2014 – Current Project Manager in Research • The University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work
- 2006 – 2014 Instructor • Dallas County Community College, Department of Math and Science

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- Council on Social Work Education - Katherine A. Kendall Institute for International Social Work Education's (CSWE-KAKI), Partners in Advancing International Education (PIE) Award – Student Recipient, 2015 (*In name only*).
- Research to Practice Institute (RPI), Network for Social Work Management and Leadership Training Recipient, 2015 (\$500)
- Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) Fellowship, University of Oxford, 2014 (\$1,500)
- Graduate Research Fellowship Innovative Community Academic Partnership (ICAP), 2010, 2011 (\$21,000)
- Graduate Fellowship at University of Texas at Arlington, Recipient, 2009, 2010, 2011(\$22,000)
- Outstanding Doctoral Student for GPA, 2011- 2012 (*In name only*).
- Academic Excellence Award, 2009, 2011(*In name only*).
- Carolyn C. and Santos H. Hernández Endowed Scholarship, 2009 (\$500)
- AmeriCorps National and Community Service Fellowship Award, 1999 (\$10,000)
- Other Travel Grants (\$3,500)

RESEARCH INTEREST

Topics: Gender; Sustainability; Natural and Built Environment; Community and Global Health, Technology as Intervention, Empowerment and Leadership of Women; Human Migration; Place; Global Social Work

TEACHING INTEREST

Topics: Foundational Courses Across the Curriculum; Social Policy, Action, and Advocacy; Community & Macro Practice Courses: Community Intervention, Program Development and Evaluation, Non-profits; Health Promotions and Preventions; Global Social Work

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

13. Carbajal, J., Cordova, Dutra, C. F., Bailey-Wallace, K., Wigington, T., **Sharma, B.B.**, & Scott, S. (Accepted). *Women ascending to leadership positions in rural communities*. Sage Research Methods Cases.
12. **Sharma, B.B.**, Small, E., Mengo, C. & Ude, P. (2017). Women's autonomy and attitudes toward condom use: A multi-country analysis. *Social Work in Public Health*, 32, pp. 238-253. [dx.doi.org/10.1080/19371918.2016.1275073](https://doi.org/10.1080/19371918.2016.1275073)
11. Small, E., Nikolova, S., & **Sharma, B.B.** (2017). Cultural Competency in the Global Setting: Are Social Work Students Prepared to Serve in a Culturally Diverse World? *The British Journal of Social Work*, 47 (3), pp. 666–682, doi.org/10.1093/bjsw/bcw050
10. Bricout, J.C., **Sharma, B.B.**, Baker, P.M.A., Behal, A., & Bolini, L. (2016). Learning futures with mixed sentence. *Futures*, 87, pp. 91-105. [dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.futures.2016.10.001](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.futures.2016.10.001)
9. **Sharma, B.B.** & Small, E. (2016): Let us talk about AIDS: Sexual health communication among Kenyan women about HIV/AIDS risk prevention. *Journal of Women's Health, Issues Care*, 5(2). [dx.doi.org/10.4172/2325-9795.1000225](https://doi.org/10.4172/2325-9795.1000225)
8. Mengo, C., Small, E., **Sharma, B.B.**, & Ude, P. (2016). Risky sexual behavior of multiple partner relations and women's autonomy in four countries. *Sexuality and Culture*, 20(3), pp. 535-554. [dx.doi.org/10.1007/s12119-016-9341-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12119-016-9341-6)
7. Pillai, V. K., Wei, F. & **Sharma, B.B.** (2016). Men and reproductive decision-making in Zambia. *Applied Clinical Research, Clinical Trials & Regulatory Affairs*, 3 (1), pp. 20-26.
6. **Sharma, B.B.** (2015). Revisiting the United Nations' 1951 Convention relating to the Status of refugees: A critical analysis of the international refugee law. *Social Development Issues*, 37(2), pp. 80.
5. Small, E., **Sharma, B.B.** & Nikolova, S. (2015). A pilot study evaluating students' interest in international Social Work Education. *Social Work Education*, 34 (4), pp. 414-427. [dx.doi.org/10.1080/02615479.2015.1015979](https://doi.org/10.1080/02615479.2015.1015979)
4. Jayasundara, D., Neddegard, R., **Sharma, B.B.**, & Flanagan K (2014). Intimate partner violence in Muslim communities: A systematic review of the literature. *Special edition on Violence against Immigrant Women- Global Perspectives, Arts, and Social Sciences Journal*, S1: 003. [dx.doi.org/10.4172/2151-6200.S1-003](https://doi.org/10.4172/2151-6200.S1-003)
3. Black, B. M., Weisz, A., Murray, K. & **Sharma, B.B.** (2014). Parents' awareness of and anticipated

responses to their teens' reports of dating violence. *Journal of Family Social Work*, 18(1), pp. 3-20. dx.doi.org/10.1080/10522158.2014.968941

2. Mitschke, D. B., Aguirre, R. T. P., & **Sharma, B.B.** (2013). Common threads: Improving the mental health of Bhutanese refugee women through shared learning. *Social Work in Mental Health* 11(3), pp. 249-266. dx.doi.org/10.1080/15332985.2013.769926
1. Carbajal, J., Parson, J., Salehin, M. Pillai, V. & **Sharma, B.B.** (2012). The effects of participation and resources on democratic attitudes: Role of social capital in four Latin American countries. *Journal of Social Service Research*, 38(3), pp. 330-341. dx.doi.org/10.1080/01488376.2011.637850

Under Review

Mohr, R., Carbajal, J., & **Sharma, B.B.** The Influence of Educational Level on Teenage Pregnancy in Low Income Countries: A Systematic Review. *Social Development Issues*.

Small, E., **Sharma, B.B.**, Nikolova, S.P., & Touni, B. Hegemonic Masculinity Attitudes toward Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting among College Students in Sierra Leone. *Violence Against Women*.

Small, E., **Sharma, B. B.**, Mengo, C. & Nikolova, S. HIV serostatus disclosure among women and men in Kenya: Highlighting individuals expressed willingness to disclose HIV status. *British Journal of Social Work*.

Manuscripts in Progress

Sharma, B. B., Bricout, J. & Vilbig, K. The effects of a robotic arm assisting people with a physical disability in tasks of daily living. A gendered perspective. (*Target Journal: Journal of Human Services*).

Xiang, M., Bricout, J., & **Sharma, B.B.** A distinct role for technology in a new paradigm for societal participation for people with disabilities in China and the United States. (*International Journal of Disability, Development, and Policies*).

Sharma, B.B. The role of built environment and its impact on human and planetary health. (*Target Journal: International Journal of Technology, Policy, and Management*).

Sharma, B.B. & Bricout, J. Ethical considerations on the evolving role of advancing technology in social work. (*Target Journal: Journal of Education for Social Work*).

Sharma, B.B. & Nikolova, S.P. Increased vulnerability and poor health access in post-disaster context. A spatial analysis. (*Target Journal: Environmental Health Perspectives*).

REPORTS/BOOK CHAPTER/POETRY

Sharma, B. B., & Small, E. (*Abstract Accepted for Paper*). *Empowering Social Work Educators and Students to meet the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals*. Global Master's in Development Practice Secretariat, Center for Sustainable Development, The Earth Institute at Columbia University.

Sharma, B. B. (2017). Poetry: *Reproductive Justice for Women of the East*. In *Radical Reproductive Justice: Foundation, Theory, Practice, Critique*, edited by Ross, L.J., Roberts, L., Derkas, E., Peoples, W., & Toure, P. B. Feminist Press in the City University of New York.

Contribution Acknowledgement: Huang, J., Sherraden, M. S., Despard, M. R., Rothwell, D., Friedline, T., et. al.

(2018). *Building Financial Capability for All*. In *Grand Challenges in Social Work Society*, edited by Fong, R., Lubben, J., & Barth, R. P. Oxford University Press.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL)

21. **Sharma, B. B.**, Nikolova, S. P., & Small, E. (2018). Meeting student demand: using mixed-model group effect to understand students' interest in international social work. *Council on Social Work Education Conference (CSWE)*, Orlando, FL.(Accepted).
20. **Sharma, B. B.**, Bricout, J. & Vilbig, K. (2018). Engaging community capabilities with technology: a mixed-method study of human-robot social learning for people with disabilities. *Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)*, Washington, D.C.
19. Mengo, C. & **Sharma, B. B.** (2016). A human rights approach for addressing gender-based violence. A cross-cultural study. *Council on Social Work Education Conference (CSWE)*, Atlanta, GA.
18. **Sharma, B. B.**, & Nikolova, S.P. (2016). Factors associated with social work students' willingness to participate in international exchange program. *Council on Social Work Education Conference (CSWE)*, Atlanta, GA.
17. **Sharma, B.B.**, Small, E., Mengo, C., & Ude, P. (2016). A sustainable approach to addressing gender-based violence. A multi-country studies. *Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)*, Washington, D.C.
16. Mengo, C., **Sharma, B.B.**, & Ude, P. (2015). Women's Autonomy and HIV/AIDS: An analysis of four countries using Demographic Health Surveys Indicators. *Council on Social Work Education Conference (CSWE)*, Denver, CO.
15. **Sharma, B. B.**, Peterson, H., & Small, E. (2015). HIV serostatus disclosure among a high-risk Kenya's population. *Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)*, New Orleans, LA.
14. Maleku, A., **Sharma, B. B.**, & Kim, Y. K. (2015). The Question of Social Justice in Social Work: A Systematic Examination. *Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)*, New Orleans, Louisiana.
13. **Sharma, B.B.** & Peterson, H. (2014). HIV Prevention among Kenyan women: Application of communication privacy management theory. *Council on Social Work Education Conference (CSWE)*, Tampa, FL.
12. **Sharma, B.B.**, Maleku, A., and Nikolova, S. (2014). Internally displaced children, data inconsistency, and methodological implications: A case of Nepal. *Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)*, San Antonio, TX.
11. Mitschke, D. B., Aguirre, R. T. P, & **Sharma, B.B.**, (2014). Social enterprise and its potential for empowerment and enhanced self-esteem among female Bhutanese Refugees. *Society for Social Work and Research Conference (SSWR)*, San Antonio, TX.
10. Maleku, A., **Sharma, B.B.**, and Pillai, V. (2014). Reproductive health and social development in developing countries: A latent growth curve analysis. *Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)*, San Antonio, TX.

9. **Sharma, B.B.** & Carbajal, J. (2013). Role of social capital on democratic attitudes: Effects of participation and resources in four Latin and South American countries. *International Consortium for Social Development (ICSD)*, Kampala, Uganda.
8. **Sharma, B.B.** (2012). Gender mainstreaming in Nepal. *Himalayan Policy Conference*, Madison, WI.
7. **Sharma, B.B.** (2012). Implications on internally displaced Children as a result of conflicts and consequent human rights violations. *Southwest Conference on Asian Studies*, Dallas, TX.
6. **Sharma, B.B.**, Jayasundara, D. Bouie, R., and Madrigal, C. (2012). Maternal and infant mortality in developing countries: Empirical tests of Sen's perspectives of capability and development. *Society of Social Work Research (SSWR)*, Washington D. C.
5. **Sharma, B.B.** & Jayasundara, D. (2011). Human development perspective and its application to global reproductive health. *Council in Social Work Education (CSWE)*, Atlanta, GA.
4. Jayasundara, D. S., Barkdull, C., **Sharma, B. B.**, & Madrigal, C. (2011). Maternal and infant mortality in developing countries: empirical tests of Sen's theoretical perspectives of capability and development. *Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA)*, The Hague, Netherlands.
3. Jayasundara, D. S., Barkdull, C., **Sharma, B.B.**, & Madrigal, C. (2011). Efficacy of Sen's capability and development perspectives to fields of reproductive health and international social work. *Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA)*, The Hague, Netherlands.
2. Opollo, D. & **Sharma, B.B.** (2010, October). Culturally adapted social work practice with refugee women living with HIV/AIDS. *National Association of Social Work (NASW)*, Houston, TX.
1. Madrigal, C. R., Jayasundara, D. S., **Sharma, B.B.** (2008). Refugee and asylum policies in the US: a critical analysis. *Social Welfare Action Alliance on Katrina Recovery*, Houston, TX.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Project Manager /Consultant, 2016 - Current

The Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Wireless Inclusive Technologies (WIT RERC).

PI: Dr. John Bricout, on site PI: Dr. Ling Xu

NIDILRR Funded (UTA, \$108,000)

- Consult, coordinate, facilitate, and support the interdisciplinary collaboration among faculties of School of Social Work, College of Liberal Arts and College of Nursing and Health Innovation (Kinesiology) at the University of Texas at Arlington in partnership with the University of Texas Research Institute and Georgia Institute of Technology.
- Forge partnership with a local community organization for participant recruitments for the project

Project Manager/Pre-Doctoral, 2014 - Current

Social Learning in Mixed Human-Robot Groups for People with Disabilities.

PI: Dr. John Bricout

National Science Foundation (NSF) Funded (UTA, \$119,663).

- Collaborated with the University of Central Florida
- Forged partnership with a local community organization for participant recruitments and contributed towards outreach for the university.
- Facilitated interviews, focus group, and collaborated on refereed journal articles.
- Updated community partner periodically with monthly reports on the progress of the research and in exchange drew practice knowledge to better inform the project.
- Prepared NSF Annual Reports for renewal of grant
- Co-developed a psychometric scale on user preference of social learning in human-robot environment
- Collaborated on published refereed journal articles.

Research Collaborator, 2013 - 2016

Global Health Projects: HIV/AIDs and Gender Based Violence

PI: Dr. Eusebius Small

- Assessed impact of women's autonomy and empowerment on global health issues such as HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia; social determinants of health; health disparities; health risk behaviors
- Conducted extensive research using Demographic Health Survey (DHS)
- Collaborated on published refereed journal articles.

Summer Fellow, 2014, Summer

Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), University of Oxford Funded (*OPHI, \$1,500*).

Travel grant, The University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work Funded (*UTA, \$1,000*)

- Completed the competitive summer school training on the Alkire-Foster axiomatic approach to poverty and well-being measure.
- Developed context specific measures using a national level survey (DHS) with an understanding of the potential applications of methodology towards national, community and impact evaluations

Co-investigator, 2014, Spring

Students' Attitudes Toward International Social Work

PI: Dr. Eusebius Small

- Explored topics on cultural competency, international social work education, and international field education
- Co-designed and conducted a web-based survey.
- Collaborated on published refereed journal articles.

High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, United Nations, New York, NY. (2013, September 23, 24)

- Invitee to the sustainable development fund raiser luncheon for the land-locked and least developed countries
- Attended discussion forum on gender and sustainability
- Attended discussion forum on "What People Want"

Project Manager/Graduate Research Assistant, (I-CAP) Fellowship, 2012- 2013

Common Threads: Refugee Reintegration through Financial Literacy, Community Building, and Creative Arts.
PI: Dr. Diane Mitschke

The University of Texas at Arlington collaboration of Social Work Innovative Community Academic Partnership (ICAP). [Grant funded through Amon G. Carter Foundation and the Harold Simmons Foundation] (*UTA, \$60,000*)

- As the principal implementer of the project, built relationship with the community and recruited women participants from the Bhutanese refugee community
- Conducted longitudinal mixed-method/ intervention research
- Implemented the financial literacy course and facilitated social enterprise as interventions to building a stronger community support and improved mental health outcome among the refugees
- Disseminated findings through presentations, symposia, refereed journal publications, and grant reports.

Graduate Research Assistant, 2012

Parents' and Non-Parents' Awareness of and Responses to Teen Dating Violence.

PI: Dr. Beverly Black

- Findings highlighted issues of dating violence in teenagers
- Published manuscript using secondary data analysis.

Other Publishable Manuscript Collaborations

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Courses Taught as Primary Instructor, 2012 – 2018

The University of Texas at San Antonio, College of Public Policy, San Antonio, TX

- The Global Context of Social Work

The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX (Face-to-Face and Online)

- Research Methods and Evaluation, I
- Research and Evaluation II
- Research Methods II
- Social Policy and Child Welfare
- Foundations of Social Policy and Services
- Applied Social Work Practice II (Field Liaison)
- Advanced Community Practice
- Advanced Administrative Practice
- Poverty, Inequality, and Social Policy

The University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota (Synchronous Online)

- Generalist Research Methods and Analysis
- Advanced Generalist Human Behavior and the Social Environment I
- Consultant for Student Internship in Nepal

Undergraduate Courses Taught as Primary Instructor

The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas (Face-to-Face and Online), 2012 - 2015

- Foundations of Social Policy and Services
- Social Work Practice III

Dallas County Community College District: North Lake College Science, Irving, Texas (face-to-face), 2006 - 2014

- General Biology for Majors
- General Biology for Non-majors

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Post-MSW

Program Officer/Grant Writer, 2009 – 2015

Hamro Chahana Nepal (HCN), Kathmandu, Nepal

A non-governmental organization (NGO), committed in working with rural and underprivileged women and children to promote education, health, and sustainable livelihood by empowering them.

- Developed programs for community based sustainable solutions
- Empowered women for capacity building in leadership
- Provided support through fund raising and network
- Continue to support in rebuilding communities post 2015 earthquakes

Program Developer, 2014

Texas Muslim Women's Foundation (TMWF), Dallas, Texas

TMWF operates as Domestic Violence Shelter and community support for Muslim and non-Muslim immigrant families in North Texas.

- Developed a culturally competent parent education program for the non-profit located in Dallas, Texas.

Consultant, 2013

Koseli School for Slum and Street Children, Kathmandu, Nepal

Koseli operates as a school committed to empower children of slums and streets by offering formal and informal education, meals, hygiene, and shelter.

- Provided support to build capacity and evaluation planning for the non-profit that operates as a school committed to empower children of slums and streets by offering formal and informal education, meals, hygiene, and shelter.

Pre-MSW

Counselor Intern, 2008 – 2009

Community for Clinical Social Work, Arlington, Texas

The Center for Clinical Social Work of the School of Social Work, a clinical and translational research institute.

- Provided solution-focused brief therapeutic counselling strategies as an intern at the Center for Clinical Social Work of the School of Social Work, a clinical and translational research institute.

Macro Practitioner, 2007

United Community Centers, Inc., Fort Worth, TX

United Community Centers is a non-profit agency in partnership with United Way of Tarrant County, the United Methodist Church and other foundations and grantees that empower individuals, strengthens families, and enriches communities at three neighborhood centers.

- Assisted in grant research and writing

- Conducted child assessment and counseling under supervision,
- Conducted community needs assessment, attended program meetings, coalition meetings, and community networking events.
- Assisted and monitored after-school child care programs and client intervention programs.

AmeriCorps Intern, 1999

AmeriCorps UTA @ Resource Center, Dallas, TX

The Resource Center of Dallas empowers men, women, and youth with HIV/AIDS in identifying resources in the community.

- Collaborated in forming the social support program for women with HIV/AIDS
- Client advocate and case manager for basic services

Assisted in the insurance referral program

SERVICE (PROFESSION)

Member: The Council on Global Social Issues, Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), 2018 - 2021

Ad Hoc Reviewer: The British Journal of Social Work, 2016, 2018

Ad Hoc Reviewer: Contemporary Rural Social Work, 2014 -2015

Ad Hoc Reviewer: South African Journal of International Affairs, 2015

Ad Hoc Reviewer: Social Development Issues, 2015

SERVICE (SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY)

The University of Texas at San Antonio

Member: Graduate Program Committee, 2018 -2019

Ad Hoc Member: Program Evaluation Committee, 2018 -2019

The University of Texas at Arlington

Member: Students for Global Change (SGC-UTA), 2014-2016

Student Member: Search Committee, UTA, School of Social Work, 2015

Panel Judge: Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students (ACES-UTA), 2014

SERVICE (COMMUNITY)

Board Advisor, 2012 - Current

Hamro Chahana Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal.

A non-governmental organization (NGO), committed in working with rural and underprivileged women and children to promote education, health, and sustainable livelihood by empowering them.

Strategic Team Member/ Coalition Builder, 2015 – 2016

Nepal Rising Campaign, Nepal Ko Yuwa, USA.

A global collaborative campaign of relief, rebuilding and resilience in the wake of devastating earthquakes of 2015, in Nepal.

- Led the youth, city teams, and organizations in different sectors to provide immediate relief materials in four different districts through local, social media and global networks.
- Mobilized Dallas based Nepal Rising Chapter at various capacity to fundraise in the US.

- Facilitated coalition of Nepali-American communities to advocate in Washington DC for increased funding support for earthquake relief in Nepal.
- Redirected funds to build temporary shelters for 73 families and 3 primary secondary schools in a remote village of Dolakha.
- Co-developed the campaign's strategic platform for a long-term adopt-a-village platform for community development using place-based and asset building initiatives.
- Served on the expert panel on sharing experiences and lessons learned at a local community earthquake anniversary discussion forum.
- Continue to serve as a member of Nepal Rising Dallas chapter

Disaster Relief Assistance, 2005

The American Red Cross, Chisholm Trail Tarrant County Chapter, Fort Worth, Texas

Hurricane Katrina displaced persons relief initiative, Fort Worth, Texas

- Assisted hurricane Katrina displaced persons through call center support, Fort Worth, Texas

Member of the Disaster Relief Team, 1997 -1999

The American Red Cross, Chisholm Trail Tarrant County Chapter, Fort Worth, Texas

Emergency quick response service provision.

- Collaborated with the disaster action team for emergency quick response to clients' needs in house fires, family emergencies, and all other disaster emergencies.
- Evaluated damages, and provided reports to the organization.
- Provided emergency relief, such as housing, food, clothing assistance, vouchers, and medical assistance to displaced clients.

AFFILIATIONS

Member: Amnesty International (AI)

Member: Council for Social Work Education (CSWE)

Member: Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)

Member: International Institute for Sustainable Development (iisd)

Golden Key International Honor Society, Inductee, 2010

Phi Kappa Pi Honor Society, Inductee, 2008

Phi Alpha Honor Society, Inductee, 2008