Sharon R. Williams

Assistant Professor of Anthropology
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Purdue University
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Education

2003
Ph.D., Anthropology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Dissertation title: *Energy Balance, Health and Fecundity among Bhutia women of Gangtok, Sikkim, India.*

Dissertation advisor: Dr. Douglas E. Crews, Department of Anthropology, OSU

1996
M.A., Anthropology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

1994
B.S., Molecular Genetics The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Professional Interests

Aging: How biology, culture and impact the process of aging and health across the lifespan

Physiological assessment methods: the modification of ELISA and Luminex platforms for the assessment of biological data collected with minimally or non-invasive collection techniques.

Reproductive Ecology: Determinants of fertility/mortality, pregnancy outcomes, birth-spacing, energy expenditure and reproductive function, biocultural and environmental effects on reproductive events**.**

Women's health and nutrition: Determinants of women's nutritional status and health status, determinants of psychosocial stress, biocultural influences on maternal nutritional status and health

Publications

2010
Williams SR, Mukhopadhyay B. *Submitted – In preparation for* review. Variation in C-Reactive protein levels in young Bhutia women of Sikkim, India. *Collegium Antrhopologicum.*

2009
Shafer MH, Ferraro KF, Williams SR. *In review*. "Low socioeconomic status and body mass index as risk factors for inflammation: conjoint influences on C-reactive protein?" *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*.

Williams SR, McDade TW. 2009. "The use of dried blood spot sampling in the National Social Life, Health and Aging Project (NSHAP)." *Journals of Gerontology. Series B. Psychological and Social Sciences.* 64B(s1): i131-136.

Williams SR, Pham-Canter G, Leitsch SA. 2009. "Measures of Chronic Conditions and Diseases Associated with Aging in the National Social Life, Health and Aging Project (NSHAP). " *Journals of Gerontology. Series B. Psychological and Social Sciences.* 64B(s1): i67-75.

Schumm LP, Lindau ST, McClintok M, Williams S, Leitsch S, Lundstrom J, Hummel T. 2009. "Assessment of sensory function in the National Social Life, Health and Aging Project (NSHAP)." *Journals of Gerontology. Series B. Psychological and Social Sciences.* 64B(s1): i76 – 85.

2007
McDade TW, Williams SR and Snodgrass JJ. "What a drop can do: dried blood spots as a minimally invasive method for integrating biomarkers into population-based research." *Demography*: 44(4): 899-925.

2006
Williams SR. "Menstrual cycle characteristics and predictability of ovulation of Bhutia women in Sikkim, India." *International Journal of Physiological Anthropology and Applied Human Science***.** 25(1).

Williams SR. "Measuring stress in special populations." CH 8. In Ice GH, and James GD eds. Measuring Stress. A Practical Guide to Measuring Stress in the Field. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Pike IL and Williams SR. "Assessing psychosocial responses to social change among Turkana women of Kenya: preliminary findings." *American Journal of Human Biology.* 18(6): 729-740.

1999
Crews, DE and Williams SR. Molecular Aspects of Blood Pressure Regulation. *Human Biology*. 71(4): 475-503.

In preparation:
Williams SR and South S. *In preparation*. Stress, spousal support and risk factors for cardiovascular disease in older Americans: anthropological inferences from population-based data. To be submitted to the American Journal of Human Biology.

Williams SR, Leitsch SA, Kowal PR, James GD. *In preparation*. Health disparities in hypertension: a comparison between blacks and whites in the United States and South Africa. To be submitted to American Journal of Physical Anthropology.

SR Williams, JJ Snodgrass, WR Leonard, LA Tarskaia, NV Maharova, AG Egorova, NP Matveeva, IA Pinigina, SD Halyev AN Romanova. *In preparation.* Grip strength and hemoglobin levels among the Yakut of Siberia. To be submitted to Annals of Human Biology.

Williams SR, Snodgrass JJ, Nair S, Fitton LJ, Madrui L. *In preparation*. Validation of a pretreatment and protocol for the analysis of HbA1c from dried blood spots. To be submitted to Clinical Chemistry.

Williams SR, Snodgrass JJ, Kowal PR. *In preparation*. Global Trends in Hypertension: results from SAGE. To be submitted to Hypertension.

Williams SR, Snodgrass JJ, Kowal PR. *In preparation.* Global Trends in Obesity: results from SAGE. To be submitted in Obesity Research.

Williams SR, Sanger A, Kowal PR. *In preparation*. Defining Old Age. To be submitted to Medical Anthropology Quarterly.

Leitsch SA, Williams SR, Morris K. *In preparation*. Caregiving, Cardiovascular Disease Risk and Physical Function: Results from the National Social Life, Health and Aging Project. To be submitted to Journals of Gerontology Medical Sciences.

Snodgrass JJ, Williams SR, Kowal PR. *In preparation*. Global Trends in Physical Activity: Results from SAGE. To be submitted to Journal of Biosocial Science.

Snodgrass JJ, Williams SR, Magrid K and McDade TW. *In preparation* "Validation of a dried blood spot assays for LH, FSH, Testosterone, Estradiol, and Progesterone using the Luminex platform." To be submitted to Clinical Chemistry.

Professional Positions

2004-2006
University of Chicago, Center on the Demography and Economics of Aging, National Institute on Aging, National Institute on Aging Postdoctoral Fellow.

2003-2006
Northwestern University, Department of Anthropology, Visiting Assistant Professor.

Fellowships, Grants and Subcontracts

2011
WHO Subcontract. "Study on global aging and adult health(SAGE): Linking biomarkers and DBS assay results to self-reported health variables in a multi-country study" 2 course buyout.

2010
UCLA Center on Biodemography. Seed Grant. " Development of protocols for the use of dried blood spots in population based research. $25,000 – funding pending.

WHO Subcontract. "Study on global aging and adult health(SAGE): Linking biomarkers and DBS assay results to self-reported health variables in a multi-country study" 2 course buyout.

2009
WHO Subcontract. "Study on global aging and adult health(SAGE): Linking biomarkers and DBS assay results to self-reported health variables in a multi-country study" $20,000.

2004 – 2006
National Institute on Aging Postdoctoral Fellowship.

Spring 2002
Promoting Education for Graduate Students Fellowship at the Ohio State University

2001
Fulbright, Institute of International Education. Student Fellowship to India.

Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research. Dissertation Improvement Grant.

1997, 1998, 2000, 2002
Hughes Memorial Fund Travel Award, Department of Anthropology, The Ohio State University.

Research Experience

2007 **-** Present
Temporary Advisor to the World Health Organization. Implementation of dried blood spot collection and analysis in the Study of Aging in the Global Environment (SAGE).

2003- Present
National Social Life and Health at Older Ages Project. University of Chicago/National Opinion Research Center. NIA/NIH Funded Project. Primary Investigator: Linda Waite. Research Associate: directing the development of and training in the collection of biological and physical measures.

2003 – 2006
Laboratory of Human Biology Research. Researcher: methods in the analysis of human capillary blood from capillary tube collection and dried whole blood spots – including ELISA and Luminex technology.

2000-2001
Sikkim, India. Twelve months of fieldwork to complete dissertation research project, "Energy Balance, Health and Fecundity among Bhutia Women in Gangtok, Sikkim." Data collection including activity patterns, nutritional information and reproductive hormones.

1998
Turkana District, Kenya. Field Assistant; data collection including anthropometric measurements, blood pressure, blood and saliva samples under the direction of Dr. IvyPike.

1997-1998
Columbus, Ohio. Research Assistant; data collection including anthropometric measurements, blood and saliva samples. Project: *Stress and Health among the institutionalized elderly of Columbus* – under the direction of Dr. Gillian Ice.

1996
Ecuador. Field Assistant. Data collection including anthropometric measurements and blood collection. Project: *Health and modernization among the Cofan of Ecuador* – under the direction of Dr. Lori Fitton.

1995-1996
The Ohio State University, Department of Anthropology. Graduate Research Associate. Laboratory Director – Human Biological Anthropology Laboratory. DNA extraction and analysis.

1994-1996
Ohio. Research Assistant. Data collection including anthropometric measurement and blood samples. Study of NIDDM and blood pressure among African Americans in Ohio – under the direction of Dr. Douglas Crews.

1992-1993
The Ohio State University, **Biotechnology Center.** Laboratory Assistant. Media preparation, plasmid preparation, etc.

Advisory, Consulting and Contract Positions

2008
Consultant. LASI – Study of aging in India. Harvard School of Public Health. NIH grant in Preparation for resubmission (R21).

2006 – PresentWorld Health Organization.
Temporary Advisor/consultant. Study of Global Aging and Adult Health. Implementation of dried blood spot collection and analysis in SAGE.

2006 – Present
Consultant. The National Opinion Research Center and the Center on the Demography and economics of Aging. The National Social Life, Health and Aging Project. NIH R01AG021487.

2006 – Present
Consultant. The National Opinion Research Center and the Center on the Demography and Economics of Aging. The National Social Life, Health and Aging Project – WAVE II. NIH/NIA R37AG030481

Published Abstracts/Presentations

2010
Williams SR and Ice GJ. Cultural contexts, nutritional transitions: the Anthropology of global overweight and obesity trends in older adults. Podium presentation at the annual meetings of the Gerontology Society of America.

Williams SR. Sleep as a risk factor for cardiovascular disease: the relationship between sleep, sleep quality, blood pressure and inflammation in older Americans. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. Paper presented at the annual meetings of the American Association of Physical

Anthropologists.

Williams SR and Paul BN. "Health, culture and the importance of family in older adults in Kolkata, India." *American Journal of Human Biology*. Poster presented at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association.

2009
Williams SR. Preparing for the future of medical anthropology: interdisciplinary research and a holistic view of health. Podium presentation at invited President's session at the 2009 Society for Medical Anthropology conference.

SR Williams, JJ Snodgrass, WR Leonard, LA Tarskaia, NV Maharova, AG Egorova, NP Matveeva, IA Pinigina, SD Halyev AN Romanova. "Grip strength and hemoglobin levels among the Yakut of Siberia". *American Journal of Human Biology*. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association.

Howell DL and Williams SR. "Contextualizing stress and health outcomes for older adults from rural North Dakota." *American Journal of Human Biology*. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association.

Smith BK, Remis MR. and Williams SR. "Observing stress in captive lowland gorillas (*Gorilla gorilla gorilla*) through behavioral observations and fecal cortisol." *American Journal of Physical Anthropology.* Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists.

2008
Williams SR. "Stress, spousal support and risk factors for cardiovascular disease in older Americans: anthropological inferences from population-based data." *American Journal of Human Biology*. Podium presentation at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association.

2007
Williams SR and Leitsch SA. "Anemia and physical function in older adults – results from the National Social Life, Health and Aging Project. " *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. 132(S44): 250. Podium presentation at the annual meetings of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists.

2006
Williams SR. "Chronic disease, aging and adaptation." Podium presentation an invited session of the American Anthropology Association annual meetings.

Williams SR. "Dietary correlates of anemia in a young, urban, tribal population in Northeastern India." *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. 129(S42):188. Podium presentation at the annual meetings of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists.

Snodgrass JJ, Williams SR and McDade TW. Measurement of human pituitary hormones in dried blood spots by multiplex immunoassay. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. 129(S42): 168. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists.

Williams SR and Hicks KA. "Factors associated with self-reported health in Bhutia women of Sikkim, India. " *American Journal of Human Biology*. 18(2): 281. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association.

Williams SR, Lindau STR, McDade TW. "Evaluation of Dried Blood Spots Collected by Non-medically Trained Interviewers: Number, Size and Quality of Spots." Podium presentation at the annual meetings of the Population Association of America.

Snodgrass JJ, Williams SR, McDade TW. "Viability of capillary blood collection for use in population-based health research" Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Population Association of America.

McDade TW, Williams SR, Snodgrass JJ. "What a drop can do: expanding options for the analysis of blood-based biomarkers in population based research." Podium presentation at the annual meetings of the Population Association of America.

2005
Williams SR and Mukhopadhyay B. "Influence of social factors and health status on blood pressure of young, urban Bhutia women." *American Journal of Human Biology* 17(2):261. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association

2004
Williams SR. "Biologic and Physiologic Assessments." Podium presentation at the annual meetings of the Gerontology Society of America.

Williams SR. "Concerns, Cycles and Climate: Seasonality of Health and Fertility among Bhutia women." Podium presentation at the International Conference of Physiological Anthropologists.

Williams SR. "Seasonality of Health Status Measures of Bhutia Women in Sikkim India." *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. 123(S38):209. Podium presentation at the annual meetings of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists.

2003
Williams SR. "Determinants of Low Fertility among Urban Bhutia Women in Sikkim, India." *American Journal of Human Biology*. 15(2):290. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association

2002
Williams SR and Ice GH – Session Chairs. (co-organizers) "Stress and Health Across the Lifespan." Invited session in the Biological Anthropology Section of the 2002 American Anthropology Association Annual meetings.

Williams SR. "Seasonality of Stress among Bhutia Women of Gangtok, Sikkim, India." presented at the 2002 American Anthropology Association Annual meetings.

Vallianatos H and Williams SR. "Comparison of breast feeding practice in two urban north Indian populations." *American Journal of Human Biology*. 14(1):134. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association.

Williams SR and Pike IL. "What does love have to do with it? Perceived stress levels and health in love marriages vs. arranged marriages in a tribal population of India." *American Journal of Human Biology.* 14(1):136. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association

2000
Williams SR, Pike IL, and Sansbury L. "Hunger, illness and hard work: Turkana women's cortisol levels and perceived stress." *American Journal of Human Biology* 12(2):269. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association.

Williams, SR, IL Pike, CL Patil, and LB Sansbury. 2000. Hunger, illness, and hard work: Turkana women's cortisol levels and self-perceived stress. *American Journal of Human Biology* 12(2):272. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association.

1999
Williams SR, Fitton LJ and Crews DE. "Seasonality of Births among the Cofan of Ecuador. *American Journal of Human Biology.* 10(1):138. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association.

1997
Williams SR and Crews DE. " The ACE insertion/deletion polymorphism and blood pressure." *American Journal of Human Biology*. 9(1):145. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Human Biology Association

Invited Meetings/Presentations

2010
Williams SR. "On acronyms and old age: WHO, NSHAP and how we age around the world". Invited presentation at *Science on Tap*. September 23, 2010.

Williams SR. "Biomarker studies in low and middle income countries." Invited presentation at the World Health Organization Technical Meeting – Aging and Health: from evidence to policy. June 3, 2010.

2008
Williams SR. "Food and blood pressure" Invited presentation at the Ingestive Behavior Research Center, Purdue University. October 7th, 2008.

Williams SR. "Anthropological approaches to food." Invited presentation at the Indiana Association of Food Technologists. January 24th, 2008.

2007
Williams SR. "Anemia and physical function in older adults." Invited presentation at the Center on Aging and the Lifecourse, Purdue University. November 9th, 2008.

Williams SR. "Seasonal variation in health and the roots of chronic disease among Bhutia women of Sikkim." Invited presentation at The Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, July 2007.

Williams SR. "The use of dried blood spots in population-based research" Invited presentation at the Dr. S.N. Medical College, Jodphur India, August 2007.

2005
Williams SR. "Biologic and Physiologic Assessment in the National Social Life, Health and Aging Project." Invited presentation presented at The University of Chicago Demography Workshop. January 2005.

2004
Williams SR. "Measuring the sense of Touch" Invited presentation presented at The University of Chicago Biomarker Workshop. June 2004.

2003
Williams SR. "Energy Balance and Fertility among Urban Bhutia women in Sikkim India: a biocultural approach." Invited presentation at Wenner-Gren grantees' conference November 18th, 2003.

NIA/BSR Functional Performance Measures Meeting. Bethesda, Maryland. December 11, 2003.

Teaching Experience

Purdue University

2010
Anthropology 212: Culture, Food and Health
Foods and Nutrition 590/Psychology 690: Special Topics in Ingestive Behavior – 4 week module on food and culture.

2009
Anthropology 535: Foundations of Biological Anthropology
Anthropology 212: Culture, Food and Health
Anthropology 204: Human Origins
Anthropology 340: Global Perspectives on Health

2008
Anthropology 204: Human Origins
Anthropology 212: Culture, Food and Health
Anthropology 535: Foundations of Biological Anthropology

2007
Anthropology 204: Human Origins
Anthropology 392D: Global Perspectives Health

Northwestern University
2005
Global Health 303: Gender and Global Health
Anthropology 317: Human Evolution

2004
Anthropology 390: Topics in Anthropology – Anthropology of Aging
Anthropology 312: Human Population Biology
Anthropology 390: Topics in Anthropology - Reproductive Ecology
Anthropology 213: Human Origins
Anthropology 313: Anthropological Population Genetics
Anthropology 306: Evolution of Life Histories

The Ohio State University, Graduate Teaching Associate.
2003
Anthropology 200: Introduction to Physical Anthropology:Primary Instructor
Anthropology 597.02: Women, Culture and Development:Primary instructor

2002
Anthropology 200: Introduction to Physical Anthropology: Primary Instructor
Anthropology 597.02: Women, Culture and Development: Primary instructor

2000
Anthropology 200:Introduction to Physical Anthropology: Primary Instructor
Anthropology 620: Global Perspectives on Women's Health:Co-Instructor with Dr. Ivy Pike

1999
Anthropology 200: Introduction to Physical Anthropology: Primary Instructor

1998
Anthropology 200: Introduction to Physical Anthropology: Primary Instructor

1997
Anthropology 200: Introduction to Physical Anthropology: Primary Instructor

1996
Anthropology 200: Introduction to Physical Anthropology: Primary Instructor

Service
2010
Human Biology Association Program Committee (appointed position)

2009-Present
Purdue University Obesity Research Group

2009-2011

Center on Aging and the Life Course, Purdue University – Steering Committee

2008 – 2011
Human Biology Association Nominations and Elections Committee (elected position)

2008 – Present
Ingestive Behavior Research Center, Purdue University – Faculty Associate

2006 – Present
Center on Aging and the Life Course, Purdue University – Faculty Associate

2004 – Present
Association for Anthropology and Gerontology - Treasurer

2008 – 2009
Purdue Young Faculty Association Coordinator.

2003-2004
International Society of Physiological Anthropologists – Young Researcher Liaison and Annual meetings Local Arrangements Committee

1996-2004
Volunteer – American Red Cross First Aid Service Corps

2002-2003
OSU-Association of Women in Development Executive Committee

1994-2003
Member of OSU Graduate Student Anthropology Association

2002
Graduate student representative to the Department of Anthropology New Faculty Search Committee

2002, 1996
Department of Anthropology Graduate Teaching Workshop presenter

1999
Local Arrangements committee for the Human Biology Association Annual Meetings

1997, 1998, 1999
Department of Anthropology Graduate Teaching Workshop organizer

1997-1998
Graduate Student Anthropology Association President

1996-1997
Graduate Student Anthropology Association Representative to the Graduate Studies Committee

Professional and Honorary Memberships

American Anthropological Association
American Association of Physical Anthropologists
American Association of University Women
American Association of Women in Development
Association for Anthropology and Gerontology
Human Biology Association
International Society of Physiological Anthropologists
Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society
Phi Beta Delta Honor Society of International Scholars
Population Association of America

Journal and Book Reviews

Journal of Cross Cultural Gerontology
Journal of Gerontology: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Health and Quality of Life Outcomes