

ARI MARTIN SAMSKY

Global Health Studies Program
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Anthropology, Princeton University, 2003 - 2009
Dissertation: "Topographies of Need: Humanitarianism, Science and the Market in Two International Drug Donation Programs."

M.A. Anthropology, Princeton University, 2008 (Incidental)
Master's Comprehensive Examination Topics (2005): Anthropology of Pharmaceuticals
Anthropology of Advertising

A.B. Anthropology, Princeton University, 1999 - 2003 (*Summa cum laude*)

POSITIONS

Postdoctoral Scholar, Program in Global Health Studies. International Programs, University of Iowa. 2009 – present.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Course: Biopolitics and Global Health – Global Health Seminar, Spring 2010, University of Iowa (Planned).

Global Health Research Scholar, Informal Advisor to Undergraduate Global Health Majors, University of Iowa.

Student Coordinator, Research Project: The Future of Global AIDS Treatment, Princeton Grand Challenges Initiative on Global Health and Infectious Disease Research Cooperative, Princeton University, 2008-2009

Leader, Anthropology Department Senior Thesis Writing Workshop, Princeton University, 2007-2009

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Medical Anthropology, Princeton University, Fall 2007

Coordinator, Community Based Learning Initiative, Community Based Projects for

Introduction to Medical Anthropology, Princeton University, Fall 2007

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Princeton University, Fall 2005

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Medical Anthropology, Princeton University, Fall 2003

AWARDS

Winner, Rudolph Virchow Award, Best Graduate Student Paper, Society for Medical Anthropology, 2009

Winner, Haarlow Prize for the Best Paper in Humanistic Studies, Princeton University, 2003

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Organizational Committee, “Globalization of Drug Therapies” conference, University of Iowa, Fall 2009.

Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Global Health Studies Exploratory Committee, University of Iowa, Fall 2009.

Organizational Committee, “Addicted to Profit: Tobacco, Opium and Society in South Asia” workshop, University of Iowa. December 2009.

Peer Reviewer, *Anthropology Quarterly*, 2009.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Cultural Anthropology; Medical Anthropology; Social Studies of Science and Technology; Globalization and Development; Global Health Initiatives; Global Philanthropy; Pharmaceuticals; Cultures of Advertising; Critical Theory

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Center for Health and Wellbeing, Princeton University, Dissertation Writing Fellowship, 2008-2009.

Dean’s Fund, Princeton University, Conference Grant, 2008, 2009.

Center for Health and Wellbeing, Princeton University, Research Grant, 2007-2008

Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, Princeton University, Research Support, 2007.

Center for Migration and Development, Princeton University, Research Support, 2007.

Office of the Dean of the Graduate School, Princeton University, Research Support, 2007

Princeton University, Ph.D. Fellowship for Anthropology, 2003-2008

PUBLICATIONS (IN PREPARATION)

“Valueless Labor in the Mectizan Donation”

“Trachoma Treatment with the SAFE Strategy: International Logics of Disease, Local Ecologies of Care” (submitted)

“Scientific Sovereignty: How International Drug Donations Reshape Health, Disease and Local Law” (submitted)

“Pictures of Disease: Mapping Global and Local in Two International Drug Donations” (submitted)

“Pioneering Drug Companies, ‘Neglected Tropical Disease’ and the New Terrain of Humanitarianism” (With Amy Moran-Thomas)

Scientific Sovereignty: Humanitarianism, Science and the Market in Two International Drug Donation Programs. Book manuscript. (submitted)

LECTURES

“Humanitarianism Without Humans: Drug Donations and Neglected Tropical Disease” Invited Speaker. “Globalization of Drug Therapies” conference, University of Iowa. October, 2009.

“Parasites, Pharmaceuticals and Philanthropy” International Mondays Public Lecture, University of Iowa International Programs. October, 2009.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

“Populations, Deformity, and Face-Washing: Tracking the Body and Value through Two International Drug Donations” Panel, “Reimagining Bodies & Embodying Value in a Neoliberal Age.” American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 2009.

“Humanitarian Applications of Veterinary Drugs: Pioneering Drug Companies, ‘Neglected Tropical Disease,’ and the New Terrain of Corporate Humanitarianism” Co-written with Amy

Moran-Thomas. Panel, “The Aid Complex: politics and pathologies of funding in global health.” Society for Social Studies of Science, Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. October 2009.

“Counting Worms: The Imperfection of Population in a Disease-Control Program.” Panel, “Global Disease Control Meets Local Realities.” Society for Medical Anthropology: Medical Anthropology at the Intersections. September, 2009.

“Worms, Circuits and Americans Abroad: Complex Humanitarian Structures in American Drug Donations” The Complex, Department of American Studies, Princeton University, May 2009. Abstract.

“Communication Challenges in Mass Drug Administration in Rural Tanzania: Thinking with Reciprocity” Unite for Sight Conference, New Haven, Connecticut, April 2009. Abstract.

“Topographies of Need and Humanitarianism Without Humans” Society for Humanistic Anthropology Annual Meeting, Santa Fe, New Mexico, March 2009.

“Valueless Labor: Powerful Drugs and Tedious Chores in Two Major Drug Donations.” Labour, Class, Value and Experimentation Workshop, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, February 2009.

“Parasites, Pharmaceuticals and a Man who loves Worms: Metaphors of Animal and Human in an International Drug Donation.” Conference: ANIMALITIES: Critical Approaches to the Question of the Animal in Anthropology, Johns Hopkins University, October 2008.

“Antigone Exposed: Bare Life and Death” Conference: Working Through Trauma in the Ancient World, Department of Classics, Harvard University, April 2008.

“Decisions to Donate: Creating an Ethics of What is Possible in Drug Donations.” Session: Redefining Essential Medications through Pharmaceutical Anthropology, Society for Medical Anthropology Annual Meeting, Memphis, Tennessee, March 2008

NON-ACADEMIC WRITING

Contributor, *Splice Today*, Baltimore, Maryland. 2008 – Present.

Columnist, “The Capricious Critic,” *Smyles and Fish*, New York, New York. 2007 – 2008.

Contributor, *Beeswax Magazine*, San Francisco, California. 2006 – 2008.

FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

Dissertation, “Topographies of Need: Humanitarianism, Science and the Market in Two International Drug Donation Programs.” Conducted a comparative study of two major

international pharmaceutical donations, considering both their US and Europe based organization and their impact on healthcare in specific local context in Africa. Conducted research full time from April 2006 until October 2007. Fieldwork experience includes:

- Ethnographic interviews with pharmaceutical sector employees, NGDO donation coordinators, NGDO eye health workers, and grant-making foundation personnel. Conducted semi-structured interviews with a diverse group of actors involved in the structuring and management of international pharmaceutical donations. Collected narratives of the creation of the pharmaceutical donations from various actors involved in their inauguration. Intensive interviews with the entire staff of two NGDOs which administer the disbursement of donated drugs. Interviews with NGDO personnel who facilitate specific international projects which partner with the drug donations.
- Participant observation at international meetings of tropical health professionals. Attended seven multi-day meetings in the US and Europe as an invited observer. Developed ethnographic database of scientific, logistic and statistical practices in international partnerships for tropical disease control. Charted process of creating scientific truth and best practices through group negotiations.
- Ethnographic interviews of Ministry of Health personnel in Dar es Salaam, community health workers, drug distributors and drug recipients in Morogoro region of Tanzania. Intensive field visit to Dar es Salaam and five villages in the Morogoro region. In cooperation with a local NGDO interviewed Ministry of Health officials charged with eye health and drug distribution. Conducted over thirty semi-structured interviews with local people in villages in Morogoro region, generating an ethnographic database which described their understanding of and participation in mass drug administration in the region.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND SERVICE

American Anthropological Association (AAA)

Sections: Society for Medical Anthropology, Society for Humanistic Anthropology

Peer Reviewer, Anthropological Quarterly, 2009.

LANGUAGES

Fluent in English and French (speaking and writing), basic German (speaking and writing) and Japanese (speaking).

REFERENCES

Joao Biehl (Advisor)
Professor of Anthropology
Princeton University
Email: jbiehl@princeton.edu
Phone: (609) 258-6327

Jim Boon (Dissertation Committee)
Professor of Anthropology
Princeton University
Email: jaboon@princeton.edu
Phone: (609) 258-2896

Carolyn Rouse (Dissertation Committee)
Professor of Anthropology
Princeton University
Email: crouse@princeton.edu
Phone: (609) 258-4556