

Amber D. DeJohn, Ph.D.

Florida State University Department of Geography & Program in Public Health

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EDUCATION

- 2023 Ph.D., Geography, University of Toronto
Supervisor: Dr. Michael Widener
Thesis: *Aging Alone, Together: Older adult ICT use, health, and place during the COVID-19 pandemic*
- 2019 M.A., Geography, University of Toronto
Thesis: *Transit access to subsidized food stores in the American Midwest*
- 2018 B.A. with Honor, Political Theory & Constitutional Democracy, Michigan State University
Additional Major, B.S. Economic Geography
Minor, Geographic Information Systems
Phi Beta Kappa

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS & AFFILIATIONS

- 2023 Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Florida State University
Cross-appointment, Public Health Program, Florida State University
Affiliate, Pepper Center for Aging and Public Policy

PUBLICATIONS

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2024 **DeJohn, AD**, Widener MJ, and K Wilson, “‘It’s not at all the same as being in the same room, being in the same space’: Older adult technology use and activity place modification during COVID-19 lockdown.” *SSM – Qualitative Research in Health*. (in press)
- 2023 **DeJohn, AD**, Widener MJ, and A Mihailidis, “Who uses technology to socialize? Evidence from older Canadian adults.” *Discover Social Science and Health*. 3,19.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s44155-023-00048-y>
- 2022 **DeJohn, AD**, Shannon J, and MJ Widener, “Transit access to subsidized food stores in the U.S. Midwest.” *The Professional Geographer*. 75(1), 76-89.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/00330124.2022.2103720>
- 2022 Higgins, C, Palm M, **DeJohn A**, Xi L, Vaughn J, Farber S, Widener M, and EJ Miller, “Calculating Place-Based Transit Accessibility: Methods, Tools and Algorithmic Dependence.” *Journal of Transport and Land Use*. 15(1), 95–116.
<https://doi.org/10.5198/jtlu.2022.2012>

- 2018 **DeJohn, AD**, Schulz EE, Pearson AL, Lachmar EM, and AK Wittenborn, “Identifying and understanding communities using Twitter to connect about depression: Cross-sectional study.” *JMIR Mental Health*. 5(4), e61. <https://doi.org/10.2196/mental.9533>

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION OR SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW

DeJohn, AD, Liu B, Ma X, Liu Z, and MJ Widener, “Avenues of social isolation and relationships to loneliness and health for an older Chinese migrant community.” (submitted, *BMC – Public Health* special issue)

Ma, X, Liu B, **DeJohn A**, Widener, M, and Z Liu, “More active lifestyle means better mental health? Examination of the associations between daily activity patterns and mental health for older adults in Beijing, China.” (Manuscript complete; awaiting submission to *Time Use & Society*)

Kelly-Adams, D, Nugent E, **DeJohn AD**, Yousefzadeh Barri E, Widener MJ, and S Wakefield, “Why Canadians access food banks: Elucidating the roles of food bank models and built environment in accessing food banks in Toronto.” (Manuscript in preparation)

Lahie Luna, M, Yousefzadeh Barri E, El Sabri S, Liu B, Smith L, **DeJohn AD**, and MJ Widener, “Understanding how access and time pressures shape food shopping behaviours in Canadian cities.” (Manuscript in preparation)

DeJohn, AD, Robertson A, Widener MJ, and A Yoon, “Politics and Public Health: The Role of Political Affiliation on Compliance with Covid-19 Public Health Measures.” (Manuscript in preparation)

DeJohn, AD, Liu B, Ma X, Liu Z, and MJ Widener, “Alone together? A time-use approach for examining loneliness among older Chinese migrants.” (in progress)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS OR REPORTS

- 2023 Bronstein, T, **DeJohn AD**, Dyson D, Kelly-Adams D, Yousefzadeh Barri E, Wakefield S, Widener MJ, “Daily Bread Food Banks and University of Toronto Study on Food Bank Models, Use, and Geographies in Toronto, Ontario,” prepared for Daily Bread Food Banks, Toronto: University of Toronto Department of Geography and Planning.
- 2020 Higgins, C, **DeJohn A**, Farber S, Palm M, Vaughn J, Widener M, Xi L, and EJ Miller, “Transport Accessibility Advice: Final Report,” prepared for the City of Toronto Planning Department, Toronto: University of Toronto Research Institute.
- 2019 **DeJohn, A**, Palm M, Higgins C and EJ Miller, “Transport Accessibility Advice, Report 1: Literature Review,” prepared for the City of Toronto Planning Department, Toronto: University of Toronto Transportation Research Institute.

PRESENTATIONS

* indicates the individual delivering the material

- 2024 Suandi, MD*, **DeJohn AD**, Palm M, “Housing Market Effects of Transit Development” American Real Estate Society (ARES) 2024 (abstract accepted).
- 2023 **DeJohn, AD***, Widener MJ, Liu B, Ma X, Liu Z [Poster Presentation] “Avenues of Social Isolation and Health among Older Chinese Migrants: A Structural Equation Modeling Approach” Gerontological Society of America (GSA) 2023 (November 8th, 2023, Tampa, Florida). <https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igad104.3199>
- DeJohn, AD***, Widener MJ, Liu B, Ma X, Liu Z, “Older Chinese migrants' emotional health and paired time use schedules during Toronto's extended lockdown” American Association of Geographers (AAG) 2023 (March 25th, 2023, Denver, Colorado).
- 2022 **DeJohn, AD***, Widener MJ, Liu B, Ma X, Liu Z [Poster Presentation] “Within household loneliness and time use among older Chinese adults in the Toronto area” International Association for Time Use Research Conference 2022 (August 16th–19th 2022, Montreal, Quebec).
- Lahie Luna, M*, Liu B, Smith L, **DeJohn AD**, and MJ Widener [Poster Presentation] “Understanding how access and time pressures shape food shopping behaviors in Canadian cities.” International Medical Geography Symposium 2022 (June 19th–24th 2022, Edinburgh, Scotland).
- DeJohn, AD*** “Spatio-political contexts of COVID-19 mobilities: an investigation of older Chinese migrants in Toronto, Canada” School of Cities Graduate Fellow Symposium 2022 (June 10th, 2022, Virtual).
- DeJohn, AD***, Liu B, Liu Z, Widener MJ “Time use, social isolation & health among older Chinese immigrants in the Greater Toronto Area, Canada” AAG 2022 (March 1st, 2022, Virtual).
- 2021 **DeJohn, AD***, Liu B, Liu Z, Widener MJ “Social isolation, mobility, & health among older Chinese immigrants in the Greater Toronto Area, Canada” Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) 2021 (October 22nd, 2021, Virtual).
- Ma, X, Liu B, **DeJohn A**, Widener, M, and Z Liu, “More active lifestyle means better mental health? Examination of the associations between daily activity patterns and mental health for older adults in Beijing, China” ACSP 2021 (October 22nd, 2021, Virtual).
- DeJohn, AD***, Widener MJ “Social and Physical Habits of Older Adults in Toronto, Ontario During the Coronavirus Pandemic” AAG 2021 (April 9th, 2021, Virtual).
- 2020 **DeJohn AD**, Ren L, Liu B, Liu Z, Widener MJ* “Social isolation, mobility, & health among older Chinese immigrants in the Greater Toronto Area, Canada (Study Design)” IACP 2020 (December 9th, 2021, Virtual).

DeJohn, AD*, Widener MJ “Social, Physical, and Technological Habits of Older Adults in Toronto During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Preliminary Findings” ACSP Meeting 2020 (November 6th, 2020, Virtual).

DeJohn, AD*, Widener MJ “Transit Access to Subsidized Food Stores in the American Midwest” AAG Meeting 2020 (April 7th, 2020, Virtual).

2019 **DeJohn, AD***, Widener MJ [Poster Presentation] “Characterizing Transit Access to SNAP Retailers in Michigan MPOs using Schedule-Based GTFS Data.” Michigan Transportation Planning Association Annual Conference (July 26th, 2019, Lansing, MI).

2018 **DeJohn, AD*** “Perils of pursuit: Understanding Autonomous Vehicles and their Impact on American Life.” James Madison College Senior Research Showcase (April 27, 2018, East Lansing, MI).

DeJohn, AD*, Schulz EE, Pearson AL, Lachmar EM, Wittenborn AK “What drives people to virtual communities for mental health support? A study of tweeting and community characteristics.” AAG 2018 (April 10, 2018, New Orleans, LA).

2017 **DeJohn, AD***, Schulz EE*, Pearson AL, Lachmar EM, Wittenborn AK [Poster Presentation] “Identifying and understanding communities where Twitter is used to connect about depression” MidSURE Symposium (July 26, 2017, East Lansing, MI).

INVITED TALKS

2024 FSU Demography Institute

2023 HealthX: Cognitive Health & Aging Symposium, University of Toronto Health Studies Student Union

2021 International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity (ISBNPA) Ageing Special Interest Group Webinar

MAJOR AWARDS

2017 Beinecke Scholar, US\$34,000

FUNDING

2023 First Year Assistant Professor Internal Grant, \$20,000 (SUBMITTED)

2022 University of Toronto School of Cities Graduate Fellowship, CA\$2,000

2019 University of Toronto Department of Geography & Planning Travel Grant, CA\$400

2018 University of Toronto Department of Geography & Planning Travel Grant, CA\$400

2018 Michigan State University Geography Travel Grant, US\$500

- 2017 “Identifying and understanding communities where Twitter is used to connect about depression,” *Provost Undergraduate Research Initiative, Michigan State University* (US\$1000). Student: A DeJohn. PI: A Pearson.

OTHER AWARDS

- 2019 John Horner Graduate Award, CA\$1,100
2019 University of Toronto Entrance Award, CA\$2,500
2019 Aalto University Summer School Scholarship, US\$300
2018 Frank H. Knight Award, US\$500
2014 Davison Optimist Club Award, US\$4,000
2014 Edward J. Barant Award, US\$1,400

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018-Present Research Assistant for Dr. Michael Widener
Department of Geography & Planning, University of Toronto
- Co-write grant applications
 - Assist with awarded \$40,000 grant as the lead research assistant
 - Design study materials (surveys, interview guides) for REB submissions
 - Coordinate research assistants for recruitment and data collection
- 2022-Present Research Assistant for Dr. Albert Yoon
Faculty of Law, University of Toronto
- Manipulate mobile phone data into a format for use in analysis
 - Design data scheme for COVID policy dataset
 - Conduct geostatistical analysis
- 2019-2020 Research Assistant for Dr. Eric Miller
Department of Civil & Mineral Engineering, University of Toronto
- Performed tests in OpenTripPlanner (OTP) to assess workflow feasibility
 - Assessed transportation accessibility software and metrics for use by the City of Toronto
- 2017-2018 Undergraduate Research Assistant for Dr. Amber Pearson
Department of Geography, Environment, and Spatial Sciences, Michigan State University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024 Course instructor – Medical Geography
Course instructor – GIS & Health
Department of Geography & Program in Public Health, Florida State University
- 2023 Course instructor – Medical Geography
Department of Geography & Program in Public Health, Florida State University

Teaching Assistant – Introductory Computation and Data Science for the Social Sciences
Department of Geography & Planning, University of Toronto

2022 Guest Lecture – Urban Geography, Planning, and Political Processes, Online
Department of Geography & Planning, University of Toronto (Summer Term)

Course Instructor – Urban Geography, Planning, and Political Processes, Hybrid
Department of Geography & Planning, University of Toronto (Winter Term)

Instructor – Methods Workshop II: Qualitative analysis, Online
Health Studies Program, University College, University of Toronto

Instructor – Methods Workshop I: Transcribing qualitative interviews, Online
Health Studies Program, University College, University of Toronto

2020 Guest Lecture – Crowd-sourced Urban Geographies, Online
Department of Human Geography, University of Toronto – Scarborough

Teaching Assistant – Introduction to Analytical Methods, Online
Department of Geography & Planning, University of Toronto

Guest Lecture – Health Geography, Online
Department of Geography & Planning, University of Toronto

2019 Teaching Assistant – Introduction to Analytical Methods
Department of Geography & Planning, University of Toronto

Teaching Assistant – Special Topics in GIS: Programming in ArcMap
Department of Geography & Planning, University of Toronto

2018 Teaching Assistant – Advanced Geographic Information Systems & Mapping
Department of Geography & Planning, University of Toronto

Teaching Assistant – Introductory Geographic Information Systems & Mapping
Department of Geography & Planning, University of Toronto

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016-2018 Student Assistant
Data Oversight & Geospatial Management Section, Michigan Department of Transportation

- Analyzed & segmented traffic patterns on 300,000+ roads using ArcGIS
- Maintained 67 fields of data reported to the Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS)
- Coded the conflation of HPMS data with new federally mandated congestion data
- Edited Michigan Geographic Framework road network to reflect Act-51 ownership

2015-2016 Student Assistant
Institutional Review Board, Michigan State University

- Familiarized researchers with federal ethical guidelines to limit protocol violations
- Streamlined administrative practices and coordinated data management efforts

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE ACTIVITIES

2018-Present Reviewer for:

- Journal of Geographical Systems
- Urban Geography
- Journal of Transport Geography
- Health & Place
- Transport & Health
- Social Science & Medicine – Qualitative Research in Health
- BMC Geriatrics
- Landscape and Urban Planning
- Journal of Medical Internet Research

2023-Present FSU Department of Geography Graduate committee member

2022-Present American Association of Geographers Health & Medical Geography Specialty Group Officer

2020-2023 Spatial Analysis of Urban Systems (SAUSy) lab manager

2022 Network on European Communications & Transport Activities Research Conference Volunteer

2021-2022 University of Toronto Department of Geography & Planning GIS Search Committee Graduate Representative

2018-2020 GeoHealth Network GIS Education Volunteer & Conference Session Chair

2019-2020 University of Toronto Gradlife Student Advisory Committee Member

2014-2018 Michigan State University Model United Nations
Committee Chair, Joint Committee Director, Senior Staff

2015 Together We Rise: Non-Profit Organization for Foster Children
Bike Build Coordinator

MEMBERSHIPS

2022 **Member**, American Association of Geographers
At-large board member, Health and Medical Geography Specialty Group
Geographic Information Science & Systems Specialty Group
Transportation Geography Specialty Group

Member, Network on European Communications and Transport Activities Research
(NECTAR)

Member, Gerontological Society of America

TECHNICAL SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Coding and statistical software – R Studio, Stata, OpenBUGS

Spatial software – ArcGIS, ArcGIS Pro, QGIS

Data visualization software – Adobe Photoshop, ArcGIS Online, Inkscape

Programming languages – Python, Linux Shell

English, French (Proficient)