

## LEPING WANG

Department of Sociology, Boston University  
100 Cummings Mall, Boston, MA 02215  
[lw928@bu.edu](mailto:lw928@bu.edu)

### EDUCATION

---

Ph.D., Sociology, Boston University, Boston, MA, Expected May, 2025. (GPA: 3.92)  
Dissertation Topic: *The Impacts of Social Connectedness and Social Capital on Older Adults' Mental and Cognitive Health: A U.S.- China Comparison.*  
Committee: Dr. Deborah Carr (Chair), Dr. Neha Gondal, Dr. Jonathan Mijs, Dr. Brady West (University of Michigan)

M.A., Applied Quantitative Research, New York University, New York, NY, 2020. (GPA: 3.92)  
Thesis: *Human Capital and the Upward Occupational Mobility of Rural Migrant Workers in China.* (Advisor: Dr. Siwei Cheng)

L.L.B., Sociology, Xiamen University, Xiamen, CN, 2018. (GPA: 3.63)  
Thesis: *Social Capital, SES, Social Identity, and Institutionalized Rural Environmental-Rights-Protection Behaviors.* (Advisor: Dr. Rong Hu)

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

Medical Sociology, Quantitative Methods, Aging and the Life Course, Social Network, Social Inequality and Stratification, Education

### PUBLICATIONS

---

- Bacon, Rachel, and **Leping Wang** (equal authorship). Forthcoming. "Selection into Higher Education and Subsequent Religious Decline in a United States Cohort." *Social Science Research*.
- Carr, Deborah, **Leping Wang**, and Pamela Smock. 2024. "Gender Differences in the Economic Consequences of Life-long Singlehood among Older White US Adults." *Journal of Marriage and Family*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jomf.13011>
- Ballard, Madeleine, Helen Elizabeth Olsen, Caroline Whidden, Daniele Ressler, Lynn Metz, Anoushka Millear, Daniel Palazuelos, Nandini Choudhury, Fabien Munyaneza, Rene Diane, Kelly Lue, P. Émile Bobozi, Anant Raut, Andriamanolohaja Ramarson, Mamy Andrianomenjanahary, Karen Finnegan, Carey Westgate, Wycliffe Omwanda, **Leping Wang**, David Citrin, Ash Rogers, Moses Banda Aron, Molly Christiansen, Agnes Watsemba, Rehan Adamjee, and Amanda Yembrick. 2022.. "Lessons from an Eight-country Community Health Data Harmonization Collaborative." *Global Health Action: 15*(1). <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/16549716.2021.2015743>

### WORK IN PROGRESS

---

- Wang, Leping**. "Human Capital and the Upward Occupational Mobility of Rural Migrant Workers in China." (Revise & Resubmit at *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*).
- Richards, Lindsay, **Leping Wang**, Joashilia Jeanmarie, Shirin Shafazand, Daniel Palazuelos, and Vitina Monacello. "Understanding the Impact of a Social Support Program in

Immokalee, FL, during the COVID-19 Pandemic.” (Revise & Resubmit at *Healthcare in Low-resource Settings*).

Carr, Deborah, **Leping Wang**, and Pamela Smock. “Do Social Security Benefits Rules Perpetuate Marital Status and Gender Inequalities?” (Under Review at *The Gerontologist*).

**Wang, Leping**, and Jonathan Mijs. “How Blatant, Cultural, and Ambivalent Racism Informs Beliefs about Inequality: Comparison across the United States and the Netherlands.” (Under Review at *European Sociological Review*).

**Wang, Leping**. “Changes in Social Connectedness During Versus Before COVID-19 and Loneliness among Older Adults.” (Preparing to submit).

**Wang, Leping**. “Managerial Roles and the Social Network Characteristics of Chinese Urban Residents: Evidence from 2013 CGSS Data.” (Preparing to submit).

**Wang, Leping**. “Unpacking Merit, Fit, and Diversity: A Multi-Faceted Framework to Academic Gatekeeping.” (Preparing to submit).

### **Public Writing**

**Wang, Leping**. “Measuring Wellbeing among College Students.” *The Learning Well Magazine*.  
<https://learningwellmag.org/article/measuring-wellbeing-among-college-students>.

## **GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS**

---

### **External Grants & Fellowships**

Collaborative for Innovation in Data & Measurement in Aging (CIDMA) Trainee Grant, The University of Chicago NIA P30 Center on Healthy Aging Behaviors and Longitudinal Investigations (CHABLIS), August 2024, August 2023.

Best Practices in Comparative Life Course Research Training Honorarium, Case Western Reserve University Department of Sociology, July 2024.

Social Networks and Health 2024 Fellowship, Duke University Network Analysis Center (DNAC), April 2024.

Travel Stipend to the 2024 Population Association of America Annual Meeting, The University of Chicago NIA P30 Center on Healthy Aging Behaviors and Longitudinal Investigations (CHABLIS), April 2024.

Network for Innovative Methods in Longitudinal Aging Studies (NIMLAS) Travel Support, University of Michigan Institute for Social Research, January 2024.

Registration Grant, International Sociological Association Forum of Sociology, February 2020.

### **Internal Grants & Fellowships**

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Summer Fellowship, Boston University, June-July 2024, June-July 2023, June-July 2022, June-July 2021.

Morris Travel Support Grant, Boston University Department of Sociology, May 2024, December 2023, May 2023.

Social Sciences PhD Summer Internship Fellowship, Boston University Graduate School of Arts & Sciences & Center for Innovation in Social Sciences, June-August 2023, June-August 2022, June-August 2021.

Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award, Boston University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, May 2023.

The Center for Innovation in Social Science (CISS) Summer 2023 Mini-Grant, Boston University College of Arts and Sciences, May 2023.

GRS Graduate Enrichment Fund, Boston University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, April 2023.

Morris Collaborative Research Grant (with Jonathan Mijs), Boston University Department of Sociology, December 2021.

ICPSR Summer Grant, Boston University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, June-August 2021.

Dean's Fellowship, Boston University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, September 2020-May 2021.

Summer Professional Development Fellowship (SPDF), Boston University Professional Development & Postdoctoral Affairs, April 2021.

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

---

- "Social Connectedness and Subsequent Cognitive Functions of American Older Adults, and Their Cognitive Profiles." Roundtable Presentation at the 2024 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, CA, August 2024.
- "Substitutability of Social Connectedness and Loneliness among Older Adults during the COVID-19 Pandemic." Oral Presentation at the 2024 Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Columbus, USA, April 2024.
- "Merit, Fit, and Diversity Unpacked: How Academic Gatekeeping in Social Sciences Reproduces Inequality." Oral Presentation at the 2024 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, USA, April 2024.
- "Do Changes in Social Connectedness Predict Loneliness during the COVID-19 Pandemic? Evidence from A Nationally Representative Sample of American Older Adults." Oral Presentation at the 2023 Collaborative for Innovation in Data & Measurement in Aging (CIDMA) at The University of Chicago Center for Health and the Social Sciences, Chicago, USA, September 2023.
- "Merit, Fit, and Diversity: A Multi-faceted Framework to Academic Gatekeeping." Oral Presentation at the 2023 The Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, USA, August 2023.
- "Authors of their Own Adversity: A Profile of Dutch and American Non-Racists, Racists, and Ambivalent Racists and their Beliefs about Inequality." (With Jonathan Mijs). Oral Presentation at the 2023 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, USA, August 2023.
- "Selection into Higher Education by Religion and Subsequent Religious Decline in a United States Cohort." (With Rachel Bacon). Roundtable Presentation at the 2023 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, USA, August 2023.
- "Structural Singlism? An Examination of Economic Security Among Never-Married Older Adults." (With Deborah Carr and Pamela Smock). Oral Presentation at the 2023 Population Association of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans, USA, April 2023.
- "Gender Differences in Older Adults' Economic Security: Assessing the Role of Family Histories." (With Deborah Carr and Pamela Smock). Oral Presentation at the 2022 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, USA, August 2022.
- "Managerial Roles and the Social Network Characteristics of Chinese Urban Residents." Roundtables Presentation at the 2022 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, USA, August 2022.
- "Understanding Meritocracy Through the Lens of Academic Gatekeeping: Institutionalized

- Tastes, and Situated Identities.” Oral Presentation at the 2022 Eastern Sociological Society Meeting, Boston, USA, March 2022.
- “Gender, Family Histories, and Late-Life Economic Well-Being.” (With Deborah Carr and Pamela Smock). Oral Presentation at the Gerontological Society of America 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting, Remote, November 2021.
- “Human Capital and the Upward Occupational Mobility of Rural Migrant Workers in China.” Oral Presentation at the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2 2021), Zurich (Remote), July 2021.
- “The Heterogeneity in the Returns to Human Capital: Insights from the Career Progression Trajectories of Chinese Rural Migrant Workers.” Oral Presentation at the IV International Sociological Association Forum of Sociology, Porto Alegre, BR (Remote), February 2021.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

---

- Research Assistant to Dr. Deborah Carr, Boston University, Boston, MA, September 2021-Present. Project: “Gender, Marital Histories and Late-life Poverty: Updating Social Security Rules for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Families.” (Funded by RRF Foundation for Aging).
- Social Science PhD Summer Research Intern, Center for Innovation in Social Science. Placement: Mary Christie Institute, Boston, MA (Remote), June-August 2023.
- Center for Mind and Culture, Boston, MA, June-August 2022.
- Partners in Health, Boston, MA (Remote), June-August 2021.
- Research Affiliate, Center for Antiracist Research, Boston University, Boston, MA, March-October 2023.
- Research Assistant to Dr. Jonathan Mijs, Boston University, Boston, MA, February-October 2022. Project: “How Blatant, Cultural, and Ambivalent Racism Informs Beliefs about Inequality: Comparison across the United States and the Netherlands.” (Funded by the Dutch Research Council (NWO))
- Research Lead, Wasserman Center for Career Development, New York University, New York, NY, October-November 2019.
- Research Assistant to Dr. Jiaxing You, Xiamen University, Xiamen, CN, March 2017-May 2018. Project: “The Role of Media Reports in Financial Markets.” “The Role of Financial Analysts in Corporate Governance.” (Funded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China)

## **TEACHING**

---

SO 100 *Principles in Sociology*

Teaching Fellow, BU Department of Sociology, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Summer 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Summer in 2023, Summer 2024.

SO 215 *Sociology of Health Care*

Teaching Fellow, Fall 2023 and Spring 2024.

SO314 *Social Problems and Social Change*

Guest Speaker, April 2022.

## SERVICE

---

### Professional Service

Ad-hoc Reviewer to *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences, Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Journal of Aging and Health, Social Science Computer Review*.

Graduate Student Representative, Lee Student Support Fund Committee, The Society for the Study of Social Problems, September 2023-Present.

Section Presider for Section on Social Networks, 2023 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Philadelphia, USA); Paper Session on Social Practice and Institutional Constraints, 2022 Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting (Boston, USA); Paper Session on Statistical Methods and Applications, the 7th International Conference on Computational Social Science (Remote, July 2021).

### Departmental Service

Graduate Student Representative, Morris Funds Committee, Boston University Department of Sociology, September 2024-Present.

Social Chair, Sociology Graduate Student Committee (SGSC), Boston University Department of Sociology, September 2023-Present.

Co-Organizer, Quant Lab, Boston University Department of Sociology, April 2023-Present.

Reviewer, *Armchair Journal*, Boston University Department of Sociology, May 2023-Present.

Graduate Mentor, Undergraduate Mentoring Program, Boston University Department of Sociology, October 2022-August 2023.

Mentor, BU Spark! Welcome Back Mini Hackathon, Boston University Faculty of Computing & Data Sciences, September 2023.

Mentor, BU Spark! Civic Tech Hackathon, Boston University Faculty of Computing & Data Sciences, February 2023.

Department Co-Representative, Graduate Student Organization, Boston University Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Boston, MA, September 2021-May 2022.

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

Document Accessibility Technician, New York University IT & NYU Moses Center, New York, NY, October 2018-December 2019.

Finance Intern, Ernst & Young Department of Finance, Beijing, CN, July-September 2017.

Social Worker Intern, Tongyuan Social Service Center, Xiamen, CN, April-May 2016.

## SKILLS & LANGUAGES

---

*Statistical Programming* STATA, R, Python, SPSS, Eviews, Colab, Github

*Languages* English (fluent), Mandarin (native)

*Social Network Analysis* Pajek, UCINET, PNet

*Other* Parsehub, Airtable, Qualtrics

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

---

Collaborative for Innovation in Data & Measurement in Aging (CIDMA) Institute.

Network for Innovative Methods in Longitudinal Aging Studies (NIMLAS).

Boston University Center for Innovation in Social Sciences Graduate Fellow

(<https://www.bu.edu/ciss/profile/leping-wang/>).

Computational Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Initiative with the Faculty of Computing and Data Sciences at Boston University (<https://www.bu.edu/chass/people/leping-wang/>).

Population Association of America

American Sociological Association

International Sociological Association (RC28)

The Society for the Study of Social Problems

## REFERENCES

---

Deborah Carr, Ph.D.

Director, Center for Innovation in Social Science

A&S Distinguished Professor of Sociology, Boston University

[carrds@bu.edu](mailto:carrds@bu.edu)

Neha Gondal, Ph.D.

Faculty of Computing & Data Science

Associate Professor of Sociology, Boston University

[gondal@bu.edu](mailto:gondal@bu.edu)

Jonathan Mijs, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Sociology, Boston University

[mijs@bu.edu](mailto:mijs@bu.edu)

Brady T. West, Ph.D.

Research Professor of Biostatistics

Research Professor, Institute for Social

Research, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

[bwest@umich.edu](mailto:bwest@umich.edu)

Pamela J. Smock, Ph.D.

Research Professor, Population Studies Center

Professor of Sociology, University of

Michigan-Ann Arbor

[pjsmock@umich.edu](mailto:pjsmock@umich.edu)