

Steven Schwartz
University of Chicago
Department of Anthropology
1126 East 59th Street, Chicago, IL 60637
sdschwartz@uchicago.edu

Education

- 2022 Ph.D., Anthropology, University of Chicago
- Dissertation: *Wind Futures: Indigeneity, Aerial Politics, and the Making of Renewable Energy in Colombia*
- Dissertation Committee: Justin Richland, Joseph Masco (Co-Chairs), Julie Chu & Mareike Winchell
- Graduate Certificate in Latin American and Caribbean Studies (2022)
- 2013 M.A., Social Sciences (Concentration in Sociocultural Anthropology),
University of Chicago
- Thesis: *Indigeneity at the Edge: Indigenous Sovereignty, Oil, and the Politics of Smuggling in Venezuela* (Advisor: Alan Kolata)
- 2011 B.A., *Summa cum Laude*, Anthropology, Universidad Central de Venezuela

Research and Teaching Interests

Extractive capitalism; renewable energy; energy transitions; climate change; corporations and corporate social responsibility; economic anthropology; indigeneity; indigenous environmental politics; ethnographic writing; Colombia and Venezuela; Latin America and the Caribbean.

Publications

Peer-reviewed Articles

- 2021 “Wind Extraction? Gifts, Reciprocity, and Renewability in Colombia’s Energy Frontier,” *Economic Anthropology* 8 (1): 116-132,
<https://doi.org/10.1002/sea2.12192>
- In press “The Politics of Bachaqueo: Gasoline Black Markets and Indigeneity in Venezuela,” *American Ethnologist*.

Non-Refereed Articles

- 2018 “La estética de la informalidad. Imágenes e imaginaciones de la minería artesanal de oro en el Amazonas brasileño,” *Istor – Revista de Historia Internacional*, XIX (75): 119-130.
- 2017 “Of Populists and Mutants,” *Anthropology News*, 58 (3): 18-21, co-authored with Agnes Mondragón, <https://doi.org/10.1111/AN.433>
- 2014 “El discurso criollo de los objetos. Capitalismo, consumo y modernidad en la Venezuela Petrolera (1925-1942),” *Enlace Científico*, 15 (10): 85-103.
- 2013 “Los límites de la soberanía: Reflexiones sobre indigeneidad y territorialidad en tiempos de globalización,” *Revista Nuestro Sur: Historia, Memoria y Patrimonio*, 3 (4): 99-110.

Books

- 2015 *Una enfermedad monstruo: Indígenas derribando el cerco de la discriminación en salud* (Buenos Aires: Lugar Editorial), co-edited with Germán Freire and Aimé Tillet.

Public Writing

- 2020 “Making Wind Energy with Venezuelan Horsepower,” *Contextos: The Blog of the Center for Latin American Studies*, University of Chicago.

In Preparation

- “Interrogating Energy Transitions: Wind Farms and Coal Mines in La Guajira”
Co-authored with Emma Banks.

Grants, Fellowships & Awards

External

- 2018-2019 Social Science Research Council, Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship, New York, NY
- 2018-2019 Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, New York, NY
- 2018-2019 Fulbright – Institute of International Education (*declined*)

Internal

- 2021 Mellon Foundation-University of Chicago, Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 2020 Ignacio Martín-Baró Prize Lectureship on Latin American Studies and Human Rights, University of Chicago
- 2018 L. and S. Rudolph Field Research Award, Center for International Social Science Research, University of Chicago
- 2017 PhD Research Grant, Pozen Family Center for Human Rights, University of Chicago
- 2016 & 2017 Tinker Research Grant, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Chicago
- 2017 Graduate Council Travel Fund Award, University of Chicago
- 2016 Leiffer Fund Research Grant, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago
- 2016-2019 Lichtstern Student Conference Travel Grant, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Chicago
- 2015-2021 Graduate Fellowship, University of Chicago
- 2015 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships, FLAS (*declined*)
- 2014 Earl S. and Esther Johnson Prize for MA Thesis, University of Chicago

Presentations

Conference Presentations

- 2019 “Wind Theft? Rumors of Corporate Corruption in Colombia’s Green Energy Economy.” Paper presented on the panel “Corruption Talk: New Ethnographies of Finance and Corporate Power,” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, BC, November 21
- 2019 “Aeolian Reconstructions: Wind Energy and Post-Extractive Futures in the Colombian Guajira.” Paper presented at the Biannual Meeting of the Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, April 11
- 2017 “Extracting Indigeneity in Colombia’s Energy Frontier.” Paper presented on the Panel “New Landscapes of Extractivism in the Andean Region,” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC., November 30

- 2017 “Borders of Deception: Extractive Spectacles and Mediations of Indigeneity in Colombia’s Frontier.” Paper presented at the Biannual Meeting of the Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology, Antigua, Guatemala, April 7
- 2016 “Smuggling ‘Free Fuel’: Oil Extraction, Illicit Flows and the Politics of Petro Development in Venezuela.” Paper presented on the panel “Corporate Mines and Unauthorized Miners: Violence and the Valences of Possession,” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, MN, November 2016
- 2011 “Indigenizando lo global: fútbol, consumo y reciprocidad entre los Piaroa del Orinoco medio, Venezuela.” Paper presented at the 10th Annual Meeting of Social Anthropology, Buenos Aires, Argentina, November 30
- 2011 “Mimesis, corporalidad y cambio cultural entre los Piaroa del Orinoco medio, Venezuela.” Paper presented at the 10th Annual Meeting of Social Anthropology, Buenos Aires, Argentina, December 1

Workshop Presentations

- 2021 “Interrogating Energy Transitions: Wind Farms and Coal Mines in La Guajira, Colombia” Paper presented at the Post-Extractivism Working Group, University of New Brunswick & University of Toronto, August 6 (co-authored with Emma Banks)
- 2021 “Genealogical Energy: Kinship and the ‘Clean’ Sociality of Wind Power in Colombia.” Paper presented at the Environmental Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, March 12
- 2020 “Turbulence: Securing Wind Energy in Colombia.” Paper presented at the Workshop on Latin America and the Caribbean, University of Chicago, November 5
- 2020 “Interruption: Disrupting the Jepirachi Wind Farm.” Paper presented at the Ethnographic Experiments Seminar, University of Chicago, June 7
- 2020 “Wind Rush: Ethnographic Notes on Wind in the Colombian Guajira.” Presentation at the Social Science Research Council Virtual Workshop, August 20
- 2013 “Indigeneity at the Edge: Informal Sovereignties, Money, and the Politics of Smuggling in Venezuela.” Paper presented at the Workshop on Latin America and the Caribbean, University of Chicago, November 14
- 2011 “Los límites de la soberanía: reflexiones sobre indigeneidad en tiempos de globalización.” Paper presented at the Workshop Cultural Sovereignty and Indigenous Peoples in Venezuela, Ministry of Culture - Cultural Diversity Center, Caracas, Venezuela, April 15

Teaching Experience

Instructor

2021 Extractivism in Latin America (Undergraduate seminar, University of Chicago, Martín-Baró Prize Lecturership)

Teaching Assistant

2018 Introduction to Latin American Civilizations III, University of Chicago, Brodwyn Fischer

2018 Power, Identity, Resistance II, University of Chicago, Jacob Eyferth

2017 Power, Identity, Resistance I, University of Chicago, Benjamin Lessing

2017 Anthropology of Development, University of Chicago, Alan Kolata

Pedagogical Training

2021 Fundamentals of Teaching in the Social Sciences and Humanities Workshop, Chicago Center for Teaching, University of Chicago

Service

2017-2018 Co-coordinator of the Workshop on Latin America and the Caribbean, University of Chicago

2014-2015 Outreach and Campus Program Coordinator, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Chicago

Professional Memberships

American Anthropological Association
 Latin American Studies Association
 Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology
 American Ethnological Society
 Anthropology & Environment Society
 Society for Cultural Anthropology

Research and Related Professional Experience

2016- 2019 PhD Ethnographic Research in Colombia (La Guajira, Bogotá and Medellín) – 16 months

- 2015-2021 Research Consultant, World Bank; projects on Latin America and the Caribbean (Colombia, Uruguay, Costa Rica, Peru) and Oceania (Kiribati, Tonga, and Marshall Islands)
- 2012-2013 Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Dain Borges, Department of History, University of Chicago
- 2010-2012 Research Specialist, Cultural Diversity Center, Ministry of Culture, Caracas – Venezuela
- 2007-2010 Student Research Assistant, Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Research (Instituto Venezolano de Investigaciones Científicas, IVIC), Anthropology Center, Dr. Franz Scaramelli, Caracas – Venezuela

Policy Reports

- In press *Disability Inclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Path to Sustainable Development* (Washington DC, World Bank), co-authored with Germán Freire and María Elena García Mora.
- 2020 *Social Inclusion in Uruguay* (Washington DC, World Bank), also published in Spanish, co-authored with Germán Freire, María Elena García Mora, and Gabriel Lara Ibarra, <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/34229>
- 2018 *Afro-descendants in Latin America: Toward a Framework of Inclusion* (Washington DC, World Bank), also published in Spanish and Portuguese, co-authored with Germán Freire, Carolina Díaz-Bonilla, and Jorge Soler, <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/30201>
- 2015 *Indigenous Latin America in the 21st Century: The First Decade* (Washington DC, World Bank), also published in Spanish and Portuguese, co-authored with Germán Freire, Melissa Zumaeta, Rita Damasceno Costa, and Jonna Lundvall, <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/23751>

Languages

Spanish—native speaker
 English—advanced proficiency

References

Justin Richland
Professor

Department of Anthropology
 University of California Irvine
 3151 Social Sciences Plaza

Irvine, CA 92697
(949) 824-2766
jbrich@uci.edu

Julie Chu
Associate Professor
Department of Anthropology
University of Chicago
1126 East 59th Street
Chicago, IL 60637
(773) 702-7708
juliechu@uchicago.edu

Joseph Masco
Professor
Department of Anthropology
University of Chicago
1126 East 59th Street
Chicago, IL 60637
(773) 834-7807
jmasco@uchicago.edu

Mareike Winchell
Assistant Professor
Department of Anthropology
University of Chicago
1126 East 59th Street
Chicago, IL 60637
(773) 702-6755
mareike@uchicago.edu