**Heather M. Tucker**

**PhD Candidate, Gender Studies**

**Focus in Sociology and Cultural Anthropology**

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**Education**

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**PhD Candidate, Gender Comparative Studies and Social Anthropology, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary, 2013-2016**

* *Dissertation: “Supi and the NGO: an ethnography of identity and intimacy amongst "women" and LGBT spaces in Accra, Ghana”*

**MA Gender and Development, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, Brighton, UK**. **2011- 2012**

* Dissertation: *Coming Out in Uganda: LGBTI Sexworkers and Refugees and the Complexities of Sexual Rights*

**BA Critical Race, Gender, and Ethnic Studies, International Focus, Minor in Francophone Studies, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA., U.S. 2008**

**Academic Achievements**

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**Grants and Awards:**

* Doctorate Fellowship, Central European University 2013-2016
* CEU Short Research Grant, 2014
* Academic Merit, University of Sussex 2011-2012

**Presentations:**

* 2017. ***The Liberated Lesbian: The Politics of Intersectional Research on LGBT “Women” and NGOs in Ghana***, on the “African Mobilizations” panel at the American Anthropological Associations (AAA) Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota
* 2016. ***Love, Relationships, and Care: A discussion of research from Africa*** (Presentation and Panel Coordination) Co-Coordinated with the Gender Studies Department and the African Research Group at Central European University, Budapest, Hungary
* 2016. ***Supi and the NGO: Female Identity, Intimacy, and Precariousness in Transnational Sexual Rights Organizing in Accra, Ghana****,* at the Commission on the Status of Women, United Nations, NGO Panel hosted by the Unitarian Universalist Association of the United Nations
* 2015. ***LGBTI Women, Violence, and Wellbeing*** (Presentation and Facilitation) at LGBTI Human Rights Training, funded by The Initiative for Equal Rights (Nigeria), in Accra, Ghana
* *2014.* ***Strategic Ethnography in Uganda****,* European Association of Social Anthropology Conference, University of Tallinn, Tallinn, Estonia
* *2012.* ***Contesting Neo-Colonial Subjectivities in Development****,* at Sheffield Development Conference, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK.
* *2012.* ***Human Rights and Identity: A Capacity Building Workshop for LGBTI Refugees*** (Presentation, Coordination, and Facilitation) at the Refugee Law Project, Makere School of Law, Kampala, Uganda.

**Presentations and Workshops Organized:**

* 2016. ***Love, Relationships, and Care: A discussion of research from Africa*** (Presentation and Panel Coordination) Co-Coordinated with the Gender Studies Department and the African Research Group at Central European University, Budapest, Hungary
* 2015. ***LGBTI Women, Violence, and Wellbeing*** (Presentation and Facilitation) at LGBTI Human Rights Training, funded by The Initiative for Equal Rights (Nigeria), in Accra, Ghana
* 2014. ***At the Intersection of Queer and Postcolonial Approaches to Anthropology: A Symposium****.* (Co-Coordinator and Facilitator), Central European University, Budapest, Hungary
* *2012.* ***Human Rights and Identity: A Capacity Building Workshop for LGBTI Refugees*** (Coordinator and Facilitator) at the Refugee Law Project, Makere School of Law, Kampala, Uganda.
* *2012.* ***Queering Development: Reading Group***(Coordinator and Facilitator) Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, Brighton, UK
* *2010.* ***Violence and the Law in the U.S.: A Presentation for Refugee Families*** *(Facilitator and Presenter),* Jewish Family Services Resettlement Program, San Diego, CA.
* *2008.* ***Transformative Theatre: Solutions for Social Change?*** (Facilitator and Presenter) Humboldt State University, Humboldt, CA.

**Publications:**

* (Co-author and Reviewer) ***LGBT Rights: A Handbook for Advocacy and Empowerment: 2015.*** Human Rights Advocacy Centre: Accra, Ghana <http://www.hracghana.org/images/PDF/HRAC_LGBT_Handbook_2015%20Edition.pdf>
* ***Neoliberalism and Regimes of Life and Death: A Book Review of Queer Necropolitics edited by Jin Haritaworn, Adi Kunstman and Silvia Posocco.*** *Graduate Journal of Social Sciences. 2016, 12: 1 (Pp. 130-136)* [*https://www.academia.edu/22438867/Neoliberalism\_and\_regimes\_of\_Life\_and\_Death\_A\_Book\_Review\_of\_Queer\_Necropolitics\_edited\_by\_Jin\_Haritaworn\_Adi\_Kunstman\_and\_Silvia\_Posocco*](https://www.academia.edu/22438867/Neoliberalism_and_regimes_of_Life_and_Death_A_Book_Review_of_Queer_Necropolitics_edited_by_Jin_Haritaworn_Adi_Kunstman_and_Silvia_Posocco)
* (Co-contributor) Graham, M. et al (2015) ***Anthropologists are Talking About Queer Anthropology.*** *Ethnos*. 2015 (p. 1-14). Taylor and Francis <https://www.academia.edu/19802864/Anthropologists_are_talking_about_queer_anthropology>
* ***Queer Necropolitics and Embodiment in Africa: Thinking Through the Euro-Center. Ethnographies of Gender and the Body****. LOVA Journal. 2013,* 35. LOVA Network: The Netherlands Society for Gender Studies and Feminist Anthropology
* Director and Producer, ***“Out of the Box”,*** A Refugee Law Project Film, 2012 <http://youtu.be/V3C4z8M8998>
* Director and Producer, ***“Narratives of Change”,*** A Men Mobilizing Men Programme and Refugee Law Project Film, 2012 <http://youtu.be/DbAr4gTa1kE>

**Research and Relevant Work Experience**

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**Consultant, African Women’s Development Fund, Accra, Ghana, April– August 2016**

Produced a summary report on the AWDF’s Economic Empowerment and Livelihoods grant, spanning over 10 years of funding and practice.

**Global Fellowship Tutor, Visiting Research Fellow Program, Central European University, February – April 2016**

Responsible for tutoring a visiting fellow and professor from the University of Yangon, Myanmar in foundational gender theory as well as methodologies relevant to their research project.

**Gender Expert Reviewer, GDRSC (Governance, Social Development, Conflict and Humanitarian Knowledge Services) 2015**

Conducted an expert review of a “Behavioral Change Topic Guide,” written by Ting Jiang and Rachel Marcus, a DFID funded project contracted through GDRSC. The expert review involved adding a gender expert analysis and critique to the subject of Behavioral Change, including Behavioral Economics and the topic of Social Norms. This analysis and critique included editing and adding additional references, as well as enhancing the gendered perspective of the project to include a cross-cultural sensitivity and over-view.

**Teaching Assistant, Central European University, Comparative Gender Studies 2016**

Assisted with the general facilitation of a Masters Gender Studies course entitled “Commodification of the Human Body”, with supervision provided by Judit Sandor. Responsibilities included independent facilitation of a course focusing on biopolitics, the body, and transnationalism. Also assisted with discussion and facilitation during regular courses, as well as grading and feedback for Masters level students.

**PhD Researcher, Central European University 2013-present**

Conducted an 8-month independent ethnographic study in Accra, Ghana which included semi-structured interviews with individuals and organizations working and around the field of sexual rights and health. The research also including maintaining professional organizational relationships and offering volunteer work when available with both the Human Rights Advocacy Centre and the Centre for Popular Education and Human Rights, Ghana. Prior to the research, I conducted a comprehensive literature review resulting in a 30-page proposal, and a 30-page comprehensive essay on the topics: cross-cultural sexuality studies, queer theory, anthropology of sexuality and gender, embodiment studies, anthropology of globalization, neoliberal governmentality, post colonial theory, de-colonial theory, black feminist theory, African gender studies, masculinity studies, ethnographies of NGOs, and anthropology of space and place.

**Consultant, Pathways to Women’s Empowerment, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK. (2013)**

Consulted Pathways to Women’s Empowerment to create a new conceptual framework to expand gender trainings. Responsibilities included producing a semi-comprehensive overview of literature and tools used to develop a dynamic approach to human rights trainings that expand upon gender to also consider issues of sexuality with an intersectional approach. Also created a database and resource guide of training theories and practices, and managed data for a pilot training and or online gender-training module.

**Research Assistant, Institute of Development Studies Sexuality Programme (IDS) University of Sussex, UK. (2013)**

Conducted a semi-comprehensive, systematic review on sexuality and poverty for a DFID accountable grant. Covering English-speaking Africa as a regional focus, I co-developed a feminist political economic conceptual framework to analyze the collection of data. I used systematic methods and the zoltero application; and maintained storage, organization, and distribution of data.

**Research Assistant, Institute of Development Studies Sexuality Programme (IDS) University of Sussex, UK. (2012)**

Responsible for collecting sensitive data and information on Ugandan sexual rights groups’ engagement with the law while in Kampala, Uganda, for the IDS Sexuality Programme’s Uganda Case Study. Also, conducted a literature review on “African Sexualities, Ugandan Sexualities, and the Law”; including secure collection, storage, and distribution of data and the production of an annotated bibliography and short essay.

**Consultant, Institute of Development Studies, Power and Participation Programme/Men Mobilizing Men Programme (MMMP) University of Sussex, UK. (2012)**

Consulted the Mobilizing Men in Practice (MMP) IDS programme, through technical support to the Refugee Law Project (RLP), of Kampala, Uganda, in delivering outputs. Conducted sensitive interviews with RLP staff and clients on their engagement with the Sexual and Gender Based Violence initiative. Also, worked alongside the RLP video unit as a producer and director of a short documentary and evaluative video, entitled, “Narratives of Change”. Also responsible for transcription of the digital interviews into case studies for a future IDS publication.

**Research Associate, Refugee Law Project (RLP), Makere University School of Law, Kampala, Uganda (2012)**

Evaluated the success of the RLP’s human rights social exclusion training through the production and direction of “Out of the Box”, a documentary video on the RLP’s social exclusion trainings on ethnicity, sexuality, race, class, and gender persecution. This video highlights conversations regarding human rights and LGBTI rights in Uganda.

**Qualitative Researcher, MA Dissertation, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK (2012)**

Conducted a qualitative research project with LGBTI sexworkers and refugees living in Kampala, Uganda, which included qualitative narrative interviews and facilitation of a one-day capacity building, participatory workshop on human rights and identity. I co-developed the research ethics, security, safety, and frameworks for the interviews and the workshop with the Director of the RLP, Chris Dolan and my supervisor, Andrea Cornwall. In addition, I initiated storage methods for the research results, which followed research ethics of security. The research, grounded in anthropological methods, focused on the realities and identities of LGBTI sexworkers and refugees within sexual rights movements, and resulted in an MA dissertation entitled “*Coming Out in Uganda: LGBTI Sexworkers and Refugees and the Complexities of Sexual Rights”*

**Case Manager and SGBV Educator, Project SARAH (Stop Abusive Relationships at Home), Jewish Family Service of San Diego, San Diego, CA. (2008- 2011)**

Facilitated case management through safety planning, crisis management, resource referrals and advocacy for survivors of intimate partner SGBV, informed through a safety and security first, capacity building approach. I assisted survivors in understanding their rights and access to resources based on national Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) policies and the California state domestic violence policy. I monitored capacity building through qualitative and quantitative data, using a database and evaluative tools, while also writing individual financial grants for survivors needs. I researched new security methods for protection of survivors from technological and financial violence.

**Volunteering and Memberships**

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* European Association of Social Anthropologists (2013- Present)
* American Anthropological Association (2016 – Present)
* European Network for Queer Anthropology, Post-Graduate Representative (2014-Present)
* Association of Women in Development (2012- Present)
* San Diego Shelter and Services Committee, San Diego, CA. (2009- 2011)
* Coalition for Abused Refugees and Immigrants (CARI), San Diego, CA. (2009-2011)
* San Diego County Hotline Volunteer, Center for Community Solutions, San Diego, CA. (2009)
* Creative Unity for Non Violence Transformation, Arcata, CA., (2006- 2008)
* Azusa Project, Accra, Ghana (2001)
* Journalist, Accra Mail, Accra, Ghana (2001)

**Additional Training and Skills**

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**Certificate, Suicide Assessment**, Jewish Family Service Suicide Assessment Training, San Diego, CA. 2010

**Mental Health Training Certificate**, Center for Community Solutions, San Diego, CA., Ongoing Mental Health Trainings, 2009

**State Certified Advocate Certificate**, 60 Hour Office of Emergency Services Approved DV and Sexual Assault Crisis Intervention Training, San Diego, CA. 2008

**Languages**: English (native speaker), French (beginner), Spanish (basic) Ga (beginner)

**References**

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**Andrea Cornwall, Head of Global Studies Elissa Helms, Head of Gender Studies**

**University of Sussex Central European University**

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