

Helen W. Schaffer

Tucson, Arizona
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SUMMARY Social scientist and public health practitioner with expertise in program evaluation. Well-versed in qualitative and quantitative research methods; excellent organizational and administrative skillset, and impeccable writing ability. History of successfully guiding complex research projects from concept to actionable insights.

EXPERIENCE **Research Consultant**
Arizona Center for Rural Health, University of Arizona. Tucson, AZ. 7/2020-present

Gathering interview data to inform the development of course modules for instructional faculty. Developed interview guide, collecting interview data, completing thematic analysis of interview data, reporting findings to instructors and Center leadership.

Organizational Capacity Assessment Intern
Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona. Tucson, AZ. 12/2019-7/2020:

Responded to client's need to enhance beneficiary participation in programming by designing online staff training module to respond to needs identified in primary data collection (interviewing).

External Program Evaluator (Contractor)
El Rio Community Health & Pima County Health Department. Tucson, AZ. 12/2019-3/2020:

Worked with agency stakeholders to provide funder with reports on breastfeeding education and support for Native American and Hispanic families. Conducted key informant interviews of health care and other service providers by telephone, completed targeted literature review, examined existing data, and wrote reports synthesizing findings and making recommendations for environmental change to improve breastfeeding practices; reports were widely distributed to stakeholder groups across Pima County.

Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Arizona State University. Tempe, AZ. 9/2015-6/2018:

Led research projects for multi-disciplinary research lab. Initiated field research program on social support in underserved communities of central Appalachia; collected, analyzed, and reported data from in-depth interviews with community members. Collaborated on grant proposals for national and institutional funding sources; gave 5 research talks and published 2 peer-reviewed articles.

EDUCATION	Master of Public Health: University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 8/2018-8/2020	Ph.D., Anthropology: Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 9/2005-10/2012	B.A., Anthropology: Hobart & William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY 9/1995-6/1999
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SKILLS & ASSETS	+ Evaluation Planning	+ Qualitative Data Coding & Analysis
	+ Needs Assessments	+ Randomized Controlled Trials
	+ Data Collection Protocols	+ Oral Presentation of Research Findings
	+ Instrument Design (Survey, Interview)	+ Report Writing
	+ Participant Recruitment & Consenting	+ Quantitative Methods (SPSS, Stata)
	+ MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)	+ Grant Writing

**ADDITIONAL
EXPERIENCE**

Adjunct Faculty, Anthropology
Montclair State University. Montclair, NJ. 9/2013-6/2015:

Designed and successfully led lecture and laboratory course on human evolution at state teaching college serving diverse student population.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Anthropology
Rutgers University. New Brunswick, NJ. 9/2012-6/2013:

Led undergraduate courses and supervised graduate teaching assistants.

**GRANTS AND
AWARDS**

University and Louis Bevier Dissertation Completion Fellowship (2010-2011)
Selected by faculty as the departmental candidate for graduate school competition.
Awarded full funding.

Excellence in Mentoring Fellowship, National Science Foundation (2011-2012)

Research Grants:

Center for Human Evolutionary Studies, Rutgers: Research grant to fund work on social support, culture, and economic change (southeast Kentucky) (2019)

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant
Physical and Cultural Anthropology (2010-2011)

Center for Human Evolutionary Studies, Rutgers: Pre-dissertation Grant
(2006; 2008; 2009; 2011)

Department of Anthropology, Rutgers: Bigel Award (2007; 2008; 2009)

Rutgers University Graduate School: Special Opportunity Grant (2007)

**RECENT
PUBLICATIONS /
PRESENTATIONS**

(under Wasielewski, family name):

Lynch, R., **Wasielewski, H.**, & Cronk, L. (2018). Sexual conflict and the Trivers-Willard hypothesis: Females prefer daughters and males prefer sons. *Scientific Reports*.

Wasielewski, H., Alcock, J., & Aktipis, A. (2016). Resource conflict and cooperation between human host and gut microbiota: implications for nutrition and health. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*. 1372: 20–28. Invited review for special volume.

Wasielewski, H. (2014). Imitation is necessary for cumulative cultural evolution in an unfamiliar, opaque task. *Human Nature* 25(1):161-179.

Cronk, L. and **Wasielewski, H.** (2008). An unfamiliar social norm rapidly produces framing effects in an economic game. *Journal of Evolutionary Psychology* 6(4):283-308

Wasielewski, H. (2018). Shifting Subsistence: Food Production, Sharing, and Social Capital in Eastern Kentucky. Paper presented at the Appalachian Studies Association Annual Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio.