

Bethany Laursen

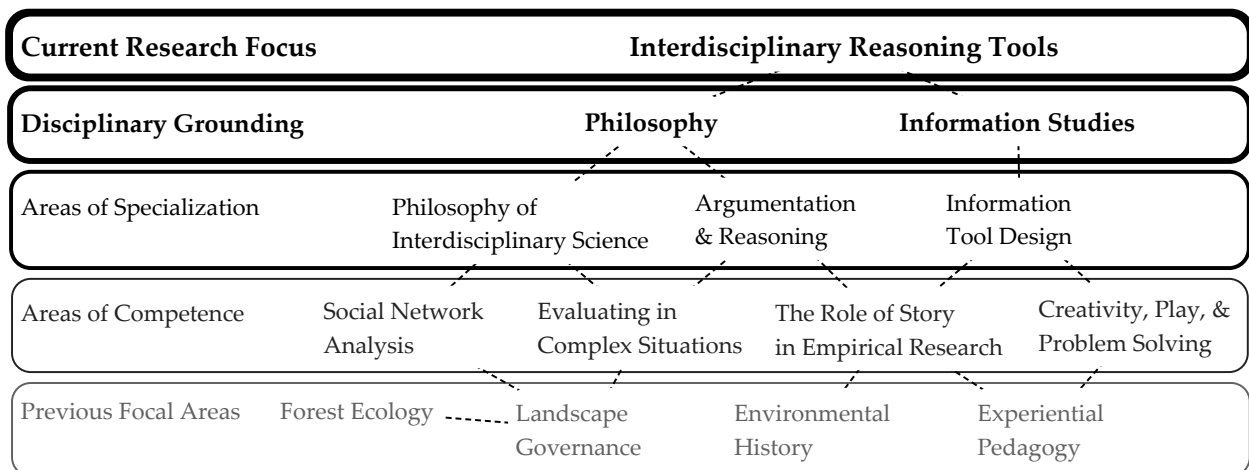
Curriculum vita, November 2016

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Education

- (2021) **Ph.D. Community Sustainability and M.A. Philosophy**
Michigan State University
- 2013 **M.S. Environment & Resources and Forestry**
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Committee members from the Departments of Forest & Wildlife Ecology,
Community & Environmental Sociology, and Agronomy
*Sustaining Multifunctional Landscapes Through Expertise Networks: A Case Study from
Southwest Wisconsin, USA.* <http://go.wisc.edu/e6627g>
- 2006 **B.S. Biological Sciences, Chemistry minor**
Biola University, *summa cum laude*
Torrey Honors Institute, Highest Honors and Perpetual Member
Epsilon Kappa Epsilon Honor Society

Current Research



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Publications

Peer-reviewed Articles

- 2015 Green, M. B., **B. K. Laursen**, J. R. Campbell, K. T. McGuire, and E. P. Kelsey. "Stable water isotopes suggest sub-canopy water recycling in a northern forested catchment." *Hydrological Processes*. 29: 5193-5202. doi: 10.1002/hyp.10706.
- 2014 **Laursen, B. K.** "The *sina qua non* is Christ: A Synthesized Model Of Educational Excellence." *Journal of the Society for Classical Learning*. Vol VII: Spring 2014.
- 2014 **Laursen, B. K.** "Standing in Line, Standing in a Legacy: An Environmental History of the Babcock Hall Dairy Store." *Wisconsin Magazine of History*. 97 (3): Spring 2014.

Evaluation Reports

- 2015 **Laursen, B. K.** "Communities of Practice Impact Evaluation Report." University of Wisconsin-Madison Office of Human Resources. July. <http://go.wisc.edu/dr6h4h>
- 2015 **Laursen, B. K.** "Sustainability Needs in Wisconsin's Built Environment: Roles for Educators and Assistance Providers." Solid & Hazardous Waste Education Center. University of Wisconsin-Extension and University of Wisconsin-Madison. March. <http://go.wisc.edu/pmtqxi>

Other Publications

- 2015 **Laursen, B. K.** "Defining the standard for 'good' when using social network analysis as an evaluation tool." *AEA365.org*, July 21.
- 2015 **Laursen, B. K.** "What is a System Story? Creating and Using a Crazy Story to Explain a Complex Situation." Laursen Evaluation and Design, LLC. Video & worksheets.
- 2014 **Laursen, B. K.** "How to Evaluate the Situation, Not Just the Program: It's Complex!" Edited by Sheila B Robinson. *AEA365.org*, July 3.
- 2014 **Laursen, B. K.** "2013 Activity and Impact Update." Solid & Hazardous Waste Education Center. University of Wisconsin-Extension and University of Wisconsin-Madison. May 2014. <http://go.wisc.edu/8s7j31>
- 2013 **Laursen, B. K.** "Executive Summary: Sustaining Healthy Landscapes through Expertise Networks: A Case Study from the Driftless Area." University of Wisconsin-Madison. July 19.
- 2012 **Laursen, B. K.** "Stewardship Meets Complexity Theory." (D. Bouma, Ed.) The Ausable Institute for Environmental Studies. March 15, 2012. <http://tinyurl.com/StewardshipComplexity>
- 2010 **Laursen, B. K.** "Water Quality Monitoring is Addictive; Beware!" Merrymeeting News. Friends of Merrymeeting Bay. Winter 2010.

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Works in Progress

- In review **Laursen, B. K.** and M. G. Rickenbach. "What counts as a good adaptive, collaborative management network? Modular adhocracies, as revealed by a meta-synthesis." *Evaluation and Program Planning*.
- In review **Laursen, B. K.** "Interdisciplinary Argumentation Requires Unique Abductive Tools." *Journal of Argumentation in Context*.
- In review Gray, S. A., **B. K. Laursen**, et al. "Defining purpose, processes, partnerships, and products in participatory socio-environmental modeling." *Ecological Applications*
- In review O'Rourke, M., B. Robinson, S. Vasko, S. Crowley, and **B. Laursen**. "State of the Science: Disciplinary Diversity in Teams, Integrative Approaches from UD to TD, and Broadening Team Membership beyond Academia." In *Advancing Social and Behavioral Health Research through Cross-Disciplinary Team Science: Principles for Success*. Eds. K. L. Hall, A. L. Vogel, and R. T. Croyle. Springer: New York, NY.

Engaged Scholarship

- 2016 – "Making sense of sense making: An online performance of real-time research." Public philosophy (concept analysis) using a Styrofoam ball, videos, blog posts, comments, and pictures. <http://sensemaking.bethanylaursen.com>.

Extramural Funding

- 2016 "Transcending boundaries: guiding the use of boundary objects to better represent social-ecological systems in international transboundary water collaboration." National Center for Socio-Environmental Synthesis. \$14,000 plus travel funds. Funded. Team leads: Alex Metzger and Jason Walters. I assisted in writing the proposal.
- 2015 "Attitudes toward animal agriculture: understanding and influencing attitudes using experiential learning." Michigan Alliance for Animal Agriculture. \$43,771. Funded. PI: Paul Thompson. I assisted in writing the proposal.

Presentations

Peer-reviewed Conferences

- 2016 **Laursen, B. K.**, J. Siegford, L. Thorp, P. Thompson, and D. Rozeboom. "College student perceptions of animal welfare are sensitive to experiential farm tours and classroom pedagogy." International Society for Applied Ethology, Edinburgh, Scotland. July 23.

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- 2016 "Explicating and negotiating bias in interdisciplinary inquiry using abductive tools." Argumentation, Objectivity, and Bias: the 11th Conference of the Ontario Society for the Study of Argumentation, Windsor, Ontario, Canada. May 19.
- 2016 **Laursen, B. K.**, J. Siegford, L. Thorp, P. Thompson, and D. Rozeboom. "College student perceptions of animal welfare are sensitive to experiential farm tours and classroom pedagogy." 4th Food Justice Workshop, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. May 13.
- 2015 "What is a System Story? How Do I Create One? How Do I Use One?" American Evaluation Association National Conference, Chicago, IL. November 13.
- 2015 "More Than Just a Needs Assessment: Putting the Analysis Back in SWOT Analysis To Find The Best Fit Between Your Program And The Situation." American Evaluation Association National Conference, Chicago, IL. November 12.
- 2014 Pappalardo, G., **B. K. Laursen**, and B. Pecorino, "Assessing adaptive co-management capacity for improving the LEADER Initiative: Findings from two Sicilian Local Action Groups," International Symposium on Society and Resource Management, Hanover, Germany. June 8-12.
- 2013 "Sustaining complexity by evaluating expertise networks: A case study from a Driftless Area landscape." Environmental Evaluators Network Pacific Forum, Corbett, OR. September 23.
- 2013 "Sustaining multifunctional landscapes through expertise networks: A case study from the Driftless Area." Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison. July 17. <http://go.wisc.edu/e6627g>
- 2013 "The world is made of stories of atoms: Narratives and networks in Driftless Area landscape governance." As co-convener and participant in the discussion panel, "Interpreting people and place: The role of storytelling in environmental research." Center for Culture, History and Environment, University of Wisconsin-Madison. February 9. <http://tinyurl.com/NarrativesAndNetworks>
- 2011 "Water isotopes suggest seasonality, water recycling, and mixing drive W3 hydrology." 48th Annual Hubbard Brook Cooperator's Meeting, Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest, North Woodstock, NH. July 5-6.

Invited Presentations

- 2016 "Four ways to explain your identity as a sustainability scholar." Department of Community Sustainability, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. October 14.
- 2015 " 'Feeling into' accurate, credible, and just explanations: Empathy as the means to know how and why." Presented at the Department of Philosophy Seventh Annual Public Proseminar Workshop, East Lansing, MI. December 5.
- 2015 "Communities of Practice Impact: What's going on and what should we do about it?" University of Wisconsin-Madison Office of Human Resources. November 9.

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- 2015 "Social Network Analysis: Use as a systems tool when evaluating collaboration capacity." University of Colorado-Denver School of Public Affairs. May 13.
- 2013 "Sustaining multifunctional landscapes through expertise networks: Stakeholder focus group." Kickapoo Valley Reserve, La Farge, WI. August 7.
- 2013 "Who knows what? How expertise networks support ecosystem services in a Driftless landscape." Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison. February 1.
- 2012 "Summer Fieldwork." Segment in the radio show, "Science as Storytelling, Scientists as Storytellers." Produced by Kaitlin Rienzo-Stack. The Perpetual Notion Machine. WORT FM 89.9. Madison, WI. November 28. <http://tinyurl.com/SciStory>
- 2012 "How are we going to do that? How researchers can contribute to 'messy' problem solving." Human-Environment Research Discussion, University of Wisconsin-Madison. September 21.
- 2012 "Moving beyond sliced bread and dragonfly vision: How can researchers and extension professionals understand complex, social-ecological systems across disciplinary lines?" Madison Chaos and Complex Systems Seminar, University of Wisconsin-Madison. May 1.
- 2012 "Social network analysis: How conservation connects with Kevin Bacon." People for Conservation and Society, University of Wisconsin-Madison. April 11.

Workshops for Professionals and Graduate Students

- 2016 "Powerful Information Design." Department of Community Sustainability, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. March 4.
- 2015 "Communication skills for foresters: 3-day workshop." Department of Forestry, Michigan State University, Roscommon, MI. October 9-11.
- 2015 "Powerful data design: tips for county extension leaders." University of Wisconsin-Extension County Leadership Conference, Green Bay, WI. May 20.
- 2015 "The integral strategy for collaboration through adhocracy." Focus on Facilitation Community of Practice, University of Wisconsin-Madison. April 16.
- 2015 "Powerful data design: Tips for extension educators, staff, and evaluators." University of Wisconsin-Extension. February 11.
- 2013 "Easy SNA (for evaluating modular adhocracies)." Environmental Evaluators Network Pacific Forum, Corbett, OR. September 23.
- 2013 "Experiential techniques for facilitators: Moving beyond just talking to action." Focus on Facilitation, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI. May 14.
- 2013 "Social network analysis: A tutorial for Ph.D. students." School of Human Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI. April 2.

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Honors & Awards

2016	Department of Philosophy Slaughter Fellowship
2016	NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention
2012-2013	University of Wisconsin-Madison Hooper of the Year
2011-2013	Au Sable Institute Graduate Fellowship
2002-2006	Biola University Academic Scholarship
2006	Epsilon Kappa Epsilon Honor Society, Biola University
2006	Summa cum laude, Biola University
2006	Highest Honors, Torrey Honors Institute
2006	Perpetual Member, Torrey Honors Institute

Professional Experience

Summary My research interests are firmly grounded in my professional experience. In the following positions, I facilitated collaborative group dynamics for learning outcomes when information was uncertain, stakes were high, values were disputed, and consequences were immediate. Perhaps surprisingly, we often found insight not by controlling these variables, but through creativity, play, and imagination. My current goal is to develop tools that facilitate such interdisciplinary insights in societally relevant problems.

Research

2016 –	Graduate Research Assistant , Michigan State University The Toolbox Project; data manager, researcher, and facilitator
2015-2016	Graduate Research Assistant , Michigan State University Paul Thompson <i>et al</i> Animal Attitudes Project: Qualitative Data Analyst
2014-2015	Publication Editor , American Journal Experts Environmental governance, forestry, hydrology, ecology, history
2013-2014	Research Affiliate , University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Forest & Wildlife Ecology
July 2014	Expedition Co-Leader , Michigan State University, Miesel Lab Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, Pagami Creek Fire soil sampling
2011-2013	Research Assistant , University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology Mark Rickenbach research group
2010-2011	Post-baccalaureate Research Intern , Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest Forest hydrology

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- 2001, 2008 **Author of California and Maine Natural History Inventories**
Developed (Maine) and began completing formalized catalogues of the most common bioregions, ecosystems, flora and fauna of each state using field observation and literature reviews
- 2009 **Water Quality Monitor and Data Analyst**, Friends of Merrymeeting Bay Richmond, ME
- 2005 **Research Technician**, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Parlier, CA
Elaine Backus entomology lab

Evaluation

- 2015 **Evaluation Communications Specialist**
University of Wisconsin-Extension
Program Development & Evaluation
- 2014-2015 **Evaluation Outreach Specialist**
University of Wisconsin-Madison and University of Wisconsin-Extension
Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center
- 2014-2015 **Environmental Evaluation Curriculum Designer**
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies
- 2013-2015 **Communities of Practice Fellow and Evaluator**
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Office of Human Resources Development
- 2013-2014 **Strategic Planning and Evaluation Consultant**
Arbor Covenant Church, Madison, WI

Community Coordination

- 2016 – **SMEP Scholars Program Coordinator**
Michigan State University
Sustainable Michigan Endowed Project
- 2013-2015 **Communities of Practice Fellow and Evaluator**
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Office of Human Resources Development
- 2013-2014 **Confluence Community of Practice Coordinator**
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2012-2013 **Trip Leader Coordinator and Executive Board Member**
University of Wisconsin-Madison Hooper Outing Club

Teaching and Team-building

- 2015 **Communication Skills Trainer**
Dept. of Forestry, Michigan State University

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2015	Adventure Instructor Madison School and Community Recreation
2012-2013	Trip Leader Hooper Outing Club, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2009-2011	Outdoor Classroom Instructor/Wilderness Trip Leader The Chewonki Foundation, Wiscasset, ME
2008, 2009	Camp Counselor and Activity/Trip Leader Chop Point Camp, Woolwich, ME
2009-2010	Substitute Teacher Elementary, middle and high schools, Midcoast Maine
2007-2008	Science and Math Teacher Maine Classical Christian School, Freeport, ME
2007	Naturalist and Gear Specialist River Odysseys West, Clarkston, WA
2006-2007	Naturalist and Program Specialist Alliance Redwoods Conference Grounds, Occidental, CA
2004-2006	Math and Science Tutor Private clients, La Mirada, CA

Curriculum Design

2016	SMEP Scholars Sustainability Study Tour: 6 days in Detroit Sustainable Michigan Endowed Project, Michigan State University
2015	FOR XXX: Professional Practice for Foresters – Communication Department of Forestry, Michigan State University
2014	EnvirSt 979: Environmental Conservation Professional Practice – Evaluation Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2014	EnvirSt 999: Transdisciplinary Paradigms of Science Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2007-2008	Chemistry (high school) Maine Classical Christian School, Freeport, ME
2007-2008	Physical Sciences (high school) Maine Classical Christian School, Freeport, ME
2007-2008	General Sciences (middle school) Maine Classical Christian School, Freeport, ME
2007-2008	Plant Sciences (middle school) Maine Classical Christian School, Freeport, ME

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2007-2008 **Math (middle school)**
Maine Classical Christian School, Freeport, ME

Service

To the Profession

2015-2016 **Systems in Evaluation (Un)Conference Founding Co-Organizer**
American Evaluation Association. Events October 15-17, 2015, & June 21, 2016

2014 – **Peer Reviewer**
Journal of Continuing Education for Health Professionals
Evaluation and Program Planning

2012 **Host Committee Member**, Association for Experiential Education 40th Annual
International Conference, Madison, WI. November.

To the Organization

2015-2016 **Graduate Student Representative to the MSU Mental Health Committee**
Michigan State University

2014 **Human Resources Engagement Facilitator**, Office of Human Resource
Development, University of Wisconsin-Madison. April 8, 10; October 30.

2014 **Strategic Planning Facilitator**, Department of Family Medicine, University of
Wisconsin-Madison. September 4.

2014 **Public Participation Facilitator**, Ad-hoc Diversity Committee, University of
Wisconsin-Madison. April 8 and 10.

2013 **Conference Shepherd**, Big Learning Event, University of Wisconsin-Madison. June
4, 5.

2013 **Study Group Facilitator**, “Sustainable Resource Extraction—Oxymoron or a Path to
Peace?” Big Learning Event, University of Wisconsin-Madison. April – June.

2013 **Coordinator**, Confluence: an Interdisciplinary Community of Practice, University of
Wisconsin-Madison. March – June.

2012-2013 **Undergraduate Student Mentor**, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies and
Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

To the Community

2016 – **Career Role Model**
Junior Achievement of Lansing, MI.

2013 **Scientist Ambassador to Teens**, Cornerstones of Science, Lewiston, ME, October.

2012-2013 **Gallery Owner and Curator**, Art @ 939: A Community Conversation Space,
Madison, WI.

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2012 **Middle School Science Symposium Mentor**, Madison Metropolitan School District, Madison, WI, February – April.

Training Courses Completed (16 hours or more)

2016 **Learner-Centered Teaching in Philosophy**, American Association of Philosophy Teachers, Saginaw, MI. 16 hours.

2016 **Liberating Structures for Increasing Participation**, Ann Arbor, MI. 20 hours.

2014 **Presenting Data Effectively**, American Evaluation Association, Denver, CO. 16 hours.

2013 **Journey of Facilitation and Collaboration**, Madison, WI. 40 hours.

2012 **Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow**, Madison, WI. 20 hours.

2012 **Social Network Analysis**, LINKS Center for Social Network Analysis, University of Kentucky-Lexington. 40 hours.

2012 **Mentor Training**, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies. 20 hours.

Since 2009 **Wilderness First Responder with CPR for the Professional Rescuer**, Wilderness Medical Associates. 72 hours. Renewed 32 hours, twice.

2004 **Naturalist Certificate**, Au Sable Institute for Env. Studies. Over 450 hours.

Professional Affiliations

Since 2016 American Association of Philosophy Teachers

Since 2013 American Evaluation Association

Since 2013 Environmental Evaluators Network

Since 2004 The Au Sable Institute for Environmental Studies

Since 2002 Torrey Honors Institute

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Graduate Level Coursework

UW = University of Wisconsin-Madison, MSU = Michigan State University

Science Courses

AGROECOL 724	Agroecosystems & Global Change	UW	Fall 2011
URPL 912	Urban Planning Capstone: Regional Bioenergy Planning	UW	Fall 2011
FWE 875	Approaches to Socio-Ecological Analysis	UW	Fall 2012
CSUS 800	Foundations of Community Sustainability	MSU	Fall 2015
PSY 801	Visual Perception	MSU	Spring 2016

Philosophy Courses

ENVIR ST 999	Independent Study: Transdisciplinary Paradigms of Science	UW	Spring 2012
PHL 800	Proseminar in Philosophy/ Moral Psychology	MSU	Fall 2015
FW 863	Philosophy of Interdisciplinarity, Team Science, & Big Data	MSU	Spring 2016
PHL 880	Philosophy of Communication	MSU	Fall 2016
PHL 867	Nature & Practice of Cognitive Science	MSU	Fall 2016

Methods Courses

STAT 571	Statistical Methods for Bioscience I	UW	Fall 2011
STAT 572	Statistical Methods for Bioscience II	UW	Spring 2012
STAT 692	Intro Data Analysis with R	UW	Spring 2012
INTER-HE 501	Evaluation Research in Practice	UW	Spring 2013