

Andrea Ballesteros
Curriculum Vitae

Department of Anthropology, MS-20
Rice University
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Research Interests:

Legal and political anthropology, science and technology studies, political economy, feminist theory, anthropology of quantification, water, the subterranean, value, property, and nature.

Academic Appointments:

- 2019- Associate Professor of Anthropology, Rice University.
- 2012-19 Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Rice University.
- 2011- Founder and Director, The Ethnography Studio. <https://ethnographystudio.org/>
- 2010-12 Assistant Professor of Anthropology, School of Human Evolution and Social Change, Arizona State University.

Education:

- 2010 Ph.D. Anthropology, University of California-Irvine.
- 2004 M.Sc. Natural Resource Policy. SNRE, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
- 2002 M.Sc. Environmental Law. University for International Cooperation, San José, Costa Rica.
- 1997 B.A. Law. Universidad Autónoma de Centro América, Escuela Libre de Derecho, Costa Rica.

Publications:

Book

- 2019 *A Future History of Water*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press. Open access version available: <https://doi.org/10.25611/egc8-n043> or <https://andreaballesteros.com/a-future-history-of-water/>

Edited Books

- (2021) *Experimenting with Ethnography: A Companion to Analysis*, Eds. **Andrea Ballesteros** and Brit Ross Winthereik (Duke University Press).
- 2009 *Aportes para la Discusión sobre el Derecho Humano de Acceso al Agua en Costa Rica*. Andrea Ballesteros, Ed. San José, Costa Rica: CEDARENA.

Journal Articles

- 2019 “The Anthropology of Water,” Annual Review of Anthropology. Volume 48. <https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/full/10.1146/annurev-an-48-themes>

- 2019 Touching with Light, or, How Texture Recasts the Sensing of Underground Water. Science, Technology and Human Values: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0162243919858717>
- 2019 E. Reddy, B. Caciki and **A. Ballestero**. "Beyond the Detective Mystery: Algorithmic Accountability in Context." Big Data and Society. 6 (1)
- 2018 Capacidade de Agregação: Compromissos, água e uma forma de cuidado coletivo no Nordeste do Brasil. Revista Culturas Jurídicas 5(11) mai/ago.
- 2017 Ethnography and the Governance of I/legality: Some Methodological and Analytical Reflections. Werth, Robert J, & **Ballestero, Andrea**. Social Justice: A journal of Crime, Conflict and World Order, 44(1): 10-26.
- 2017 "Capacity as Aggregation: Promises, Water and a Form of Collective Care in Northeast Brazil." The Cambridge Journal of Anthropology 35(1): 31-48.
- 2016 Howe, et al. "Paradoxical Infrastructures: Ruins, Retrofit and Risk." Science, Technology and Human Values. (41) 3: 547-565 [collaborative piece, **Ballestero** one of fifteen co-authors]
- 2015 The Ethics of a Formula: calculation and the financial-humanitarian price of water. American Ethnologist (42) 2:262-278.
- 2014 What's in a percentage? Calculation as the poetic translation of human rights. Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies 21(1): 27-53.
- 2012 Turem, Z. Umut, and **Andrea Ballestero**. Regulatory Translations: Affect and Expertise in the Global Scene, Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies 21(1): 1-25.
- 2012 Transparency Short-Circuited: Laughter and Numbers in Costa Rican Water Politics. PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review 35(2): 223-241.
- 2012 Transparency in Triads. PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review 35(2): 160-166.

Journal Special Issues

- 2014 Turem, Z. Umut and **Andrea Ballestero** (eds.) Regulatory Translations: Uncertainty, Affect and Expertise in the Global Scene, Special Issue of Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies, 21(1).
- 2012 Transparency in Triads. Special Issue of Political and Legal Anthropology Review 35(2).

Peer Reviewed Book Chapters

- Forthcoming. **A. Ballestero** and B. Ross Winthereik "Analysis as Experimental Practice". In: Experimenting with Ethnography: A Companion to Analysis. **A. Ballestero** and B. Ross Winthereik, Eds. Durham, NC. Duke University Press.
- Forthcoming. Danyi, E., **Ballestero, A.**, Knox, H., Macguire, J., & Spencer, M. Propositional Politics. In L. Watts & B. R. Winthereik (Eds.), Energy Worlds, in Experiment. Manchester, UK: Mattering Press.
- 2019 "Underground as Infrastructure? Figure/Ground Reversals and Dissolution in Sardinal." In: Environment, Infrastructure, Life. Ed. K. Hetherington. Duke University Press. Pgs. 17-44
- 2015 "Theory as Parallax and Provocation." In: Theory is not what it used to be. D. Boyer, J. Faubion, and G.E. Marcus, eds. Pp. 171-179. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

- 2015 "Dialogue" In Theory Can Be Much More Than It Used To Be. D. Boyer, J. Faubion and G. Marcus, ed. Pp. 210-232 Cornell University Press. [Collaborative piece, **Ballestero** is one of eight co-authors]
- 2012 "The productivity of non-religious faith: openness, pessimism and water in Latin America." In *Nature, Science and Religion: intersections shaping society and the environment*. Ed. C. Tucker, School for Advanced Research Press, New Mexico. pg. 169-190.

Book Chapters

- 2009 "Derecho Humano de Acceso al Agua: propiciando una mejor discusión en Costa Rica." In *Aportes para la Discusión del Derecho Humano de Acceso al Agua en Costa Rica*. Edited by A. Ballestero. San Jose: CEDARENA. Pg. 5-17.
- 2009 "La Nebulosa del DDHH al Agua en Costa Rica." In *Aportes para la Discusión del Derecho Humano de Acceso al Agua en Costa Rica*. Edited by A. Ballestero. San Jose: CEDARENA. Pg. 145-153.
- 2007 Knowledge, action and reflection: "we" the experts and our participation in natural resource policy in Central America, In *Natural Resource Policies in Central America: Lessons, Positions, and Experiences for Change*. Edited by R. de Camino, A. Ballestero and J. Breitling, San Jose: United Nations University for Peace. Pg. 347-362. [In Spanish]
- 2006 *Bajo Jaguaribe: The Creation of Political Space through Water Policies*. In: *Re-estruturação produtiva e urbanização no Baixo Jaguaribe*. Ed. Denise Elias, Fortaleza, Ceará, Brazil, Ceará State University Press. [In Spanish]

Other Articles, Reviews and Commentaries:

- 2020 "The Plume," in Geological Anthropology series, *Theorizing the Contemporary*, Society for Cultural Anthropology.
- 2019 "Aquifers (or, Hydrolithic Elemental Choreographies), for *Theorizing the Contemporary Series*, Society for Cultural Anthropology, <https://culanth.org/fieldsights/aquifers-or-hydrolithic-elemental-choreographies>
- 2019 "Success through Failure: translation, temporal tricks and numeric concept work." Book Forum Essay on *The Seductions of Quantification* by Sally Engle Merry, *American Anthropologist*.
- 2018 "SpongiForm" for *Theorizing the Contemporary Website*, Society for Cultural Anthropology, <https://culanth.org/fieldsights/1447-spongiform> .
- 2018 "Transparency" entry for the *International Encyclopedia of Anthropology*. Ed. Carol Greenhouse, Wiley Blackwell.
- 2017 "Lineages and Discomforting Relatives" Commentary on *New ontologies? Reflections on some recent 'turns' in STS, anthropology and philosophy*. *Social Anthropology* 25(4): 540-541.
- 2016 "Spongy Aquifers, Messy Publics." *Limn* 7: 48-52. <http://limn.it/spongy-aquifers-messy-publics/>
- 2015 Ballestero, A., B. Campbell and E. Storer What can Twitter do to/for the Field?, invited entry at Platypus: Blog of the Committee for the Anthropology of Science,

Technology and Computing:

- 2015 [https://www.academia.edu/23002626/What Can Twitter Do to for the Field](https://www.academia.edu/23002626/What_Can_Twitter_Do_to_for_the_Field)
“Underground water: from infrastructures to sponges” Invited entry for Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences at Rice University. <http://culturesofenergy.com/andrea-ballestero-on-infrastructure-sponges-and-aquifers/>
- 2013 Techno-scientific numbers as fields of mobilization. Invited entry in Mobilizing Ideas, a blog published by the Center for the Study of Social Movements at University of Notre Dame. (<http://mobilizingideas.wordpress.com/2013/04/15/techno-scientific-numbers-as-fields-of-mobilization/>)
- 2003 Policies and Institutions for Protected Area Management. AMBIENTICO No. 121, San José, Costa Rica, National University of Costa Rica. [In Spanish]
- 2002 Ballestero, A. and E. Müller (Ed). Guide for Biosphere Reserve Management. San José. Universidad para la Cooperación Internacional-UNESCO-CYTED. [In Spanish]
- 1999 Training for the type of development one should aspire to. In: South-South Perspectives Working Paper 28, UNESCO-Third World Academy of Sciences-Universidade de Lisboa. [In Spanish]
- 1999 Rojas, M., E. Muller and A. Ballestero. Red Iberoamericana de Reservas de Biosfera: perspectives. In: South-South Perspectives Working Paper 28, UNESCO-Third World Academy of Sciences-Universidade de Lisboa. [In Spanish]
- 1999 Rojas, M., E. Muller and A. Ballestero. Reconstruction, conservation, and sustainable development in the Savegre Watershed. In: South-South Perspectives Working Paper 28, UNESCO-Third World Academy of Sciences-Universidade de Lisboa. [In Spanish]

Invited Book Reviews

- 2018 Review of Helmreich, S. Sounding the Limits of Life: Essays in the Anthropology of Biology and Beyond. (Princeton University Press). *American Ethnologist* 45(1):131-33.
- 2014 Review of Comaroff, J. and J. L. Comaroff. Theory from the South: or, How Euro-America is evolving toward Africa. (Paradigm Publishers) *PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review* 37(1).
- 2011 Review of Strang V. Gardening the World: Agency, Identity, and the Ownership of Water. (New York, Berghan) *American Anthropologist* 113(3):535.

Art Works

2019 [Under]Gallery: a large-scale multimedia exploration of subterranean spaces combining sound, moving images, virtual reality, and the architectural transformation of an exhibition hall. Developed with students at Rice University, and with Marie Saldana, Mario Norton, and Joahannes Birringer. Moody Center for the Arts, April 23rd.

Research Grants

- Under review by National Science Foundation: Expanding the Social World Downwards: Aquifers, Property and Responsibility in Costa Rica.
- 2015 Humanities Research Center Seed Award, Objectification. With Neyran Turan, Architecture-(declined).
- 2013 Center for Sustainability, Rice University. Ethnographic investigation of the underground, with C. Masiello (Earth Science and Chemistry), K.B. Medlock (Economics) and E. Siemann (Ecology and Evolutionary Biology), Rice University.
- 2008 National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant (BCS-0751987) for “Human Rights, Commodities and Expertise: re-composing water in Brazil and Costa Rica” co-funded by the Cultural Anthropology and Law and Social Sciences Programs.
- 2007 Wenner Gren Foundation Dissertation Grant for “Between Human Rights and Commodities: Water, Expertise and Politics In Latin America.”
- 2007-8 CGPACS Small Research Grant, for preliminary fieldwork research in Costa Rica and Mexico, University of California-Irvine.
- 2007 Urban Water Research Center, Dissertation Research Fellowship, University of California-Irvine.
- 2007 H. Mills-McCartney Fellowship on Human Security Granted by the Center for Unconventional Security Affairs, University of California-Irvine.
- 2006 School of Social Sciences Summer Research Grant, University of California, Irvine.
- 2005-6 CGPACS Research Grant for conducting fieldwork research in Costa Rica and Brazil. University of California-Irvine.

Awards and Fellowships

- 2019 Sophia Meyer Farb (Phi Beta Kappa) Prize for Teaching Excellence.
- 2018 Nominated by students for the Presidential Mentoring Award, Rice University.
- 2018 Underground Spatialities Design Studio, Spatial Humanities Initiative, Humanities Research Center, Rice University.
- 2018 Brasil@Rice Travel Grant, Rice University.
- 2017-8 Award for Institutional Collaboration with University of Costa Rica, with Nia Georges.
- 2016-7 Award for Institutional Collaboration with University of Costa Rica, with Nia Georges.
- 2016 Treybig Teaching & Innovation Colloquy, Center for Teaching Excellence, Rice University.
- 2016 Feminist Research Group Workshop Award, CSWGS, Rice University.
- 2016 Social Analytics Cluster Manuscript Workshop Award, CENHS, Rice University.
- 2015 Research Professorship, Social Science Research Institute, competitively awarded by School of Social Sciences, Rice University.
- 2014 Brasil@Rice Travel Grant, Rice University.
- 2011-12 World Society and Regulation Fellowship, National Humanities Center, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Germany & Indiana University, Bloomington.

- 2011-12 Fellow, Institute for Humanities Research, Arizona State University.
- 2009 Human Rights Center Fellow, University of California-Berkeley.
- 2008-9 Fellow of the Center in Law, Society and Culture, University of California-Irvine.
- 2007-8 Miguel Velez Merit Fellowship, University of California, Irvine.
- 2007 School of Advanced Research (SAR) Prize for Nature, Science and Religion in Latin America, for “Fragmented and Sutured Faith: Scenarios and the Law in Latin American Water Politics.” Shared with session panelists presenting at the Latin American Studies Association annual meeting in Montreal, Canada.
- 2007 School of Social Sciences Order of Merit Award for Outstanding Graduate Service, University of California-Irvine.
- 2004-5 Warmington Fellowship, Merit award offered to one student per year, University of California-Irvine.
- 2004 Service and Social Justice Award, The Edward Ginsberg Center for Community Service and Learning, University of Michigan.
- 2002-4 Fulbright-LASPAU Fellowship United States Department of State, for Masters Degree at the University of Michigan.
- 2002 WWF-COSUDE Fellowship for Environmental Policy Design, United Nations University for Peace, Costa Rica.
- 2000-2 University for International Cooperation Fellowship to conduct graduate studies in Environmental Law, Costa Rica.
- 1999 INTERCAMPUS-AECI. Research Fellowship on European Environmental Policy, Universidad de Alcalá de Henares, Spain.
- 1994 Academic Excellence Award, Universidad Autónoma de Centroamérica, Costa Rica.

Collaborative projects

- 2018-20 Cuerpos en Transformación, with Dr. Carolina Quesada, Dr. Denia Román, and Dr. Claudia Palma, School of Anthropology, University of Costa Rica.
- 2011- Ethnographies of Designed Space with Gould-Evans Architects.
- 2011-12 Echo: System Project with Grisha Coleman, Assistant Professor of Arts, Media and Engineering at Arizona State University.
- 2011- 12 Ethnographic experimentation, with Dr. Dawn Nafus, Intel.
- 2009-12 Transparency Research Collaboratory, with Dr. Gemma John (Manchester University-UK), Dr. Amy Levine (Changwon National University-Korea), and Dr. Leticia Barrera (CONICET-Argentina)

Invited Presentations

- 2020 Interruption, Pause, Reorientation, AusSTS, TopeEnd STS, and Science and Society Network workshop, August 6th. https://youtu.be/K5Gg3HO_noo
- 2020 Interruption, Pause, Reorientation, Keynote for Research, Interrupted Workshop, ITU Copenhagen, June 10th.
- 2020 Construyendo Futuros: La Sensibilidad Etnográfica como Ventana de la Vida en Colectivo, Kaleidos, Universidad de Cuenca, FLACSO Ecuador, May 29th.

- 2020 “How to wonder with technolegal devices?,” Anthropology Department, London School of Economics, June 5th.
- 2020 “How to wonder with technolegal devices?,” Anthropology Department, Northwestern University, March 9th.
- 2020 “How to wonder with technolegal devices?,” Anthropology Department, University of Texas-Austin, March 6th.
- 2020 “Surrendering to the pull and the cultivation of volumetric awareness,” Keynote at Anthropology in Transit Graduate Student Conference, University of California, Irvine, February 7th.
- 2020 “How to Wonder with Techno-Legal Devices?,” Department of Comparative Cultural Studies, University of Houston, January 22nd.
- 2020 “How to Wonder with Techno-Legal Devices?,” Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz, January 15th.
- 2019 “Assetization, Aquifers, and Plumes,” Anthropology Department, Johns Hopkins University, December 14th.
- 2019 “La Etnografía como Espacio para la Creación Metodológica,” Escuela de Antropología, Universidad de Costa Rica, December 10th.
- 2019 “Plumes, Concentrations, Liveliness: underground choreographies of harm and responsibility,” Life Revitalized Workshop, Anthropology, University of Colorado Boulder, October 25.
- 2019 “A Future History of Water,” Keynote for Living with Water Summit, Art Hub Copenhagen, June 11-12.
- 2019 “A Future History of Water,” Anthropology Department and Center for the Study of Women, UCLA, May 13-14.
- 2019 “Surrendering to the pull,” Fluid Ecologies Symposium at Center for South Asia and Anthropology Department, Stanford University. Feb 21st.
- 2018 “Surrendering to the pull, sensing subterranean space,” Institute for Science, Innovation and Society and School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, Oxford University, December 12th.
- 2018 “Spongy Aquifers and the Cultivation of Volumetric Awareness in 21st Century Costa Rica,” Institute at Brown for Environment and Society and Anthropology Department, Brown University, Nov 26th.
- 2018 Roving Panelist, The Anthropocene Campus, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia. September 6th.
- 2017 “Touching with light: Sympathetic sensing and the Stickiness of History,” at Volatile Futures/Earthly Matters, Center for Advancement of Public Action, Bennington College, Vermont, May 25th.
- 2017 “The Commodity and The Right,” Food for Thought STS series, University of California-Davis, March 13th.
- 2017 “Algorithmic materials, or, instructions and the substances they depend upon,” Algorithm Network Workshop, February Linköping University, Uppsala University, Sweden.
- 2017 “Analytic Moves-A workshop,” ETHOS Lab, IT University Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2017 “#ESIFRice an Ethnographic Experiment,” IT University Copenhagen, Denmark.

- 2017 “Social Sustainability: Nano-Scale,” invited presentation at NEWT Core Graduate Course, Rice University, February 6th.
- 2016 “Pact as Experiment: the cumulative energy of aggregation,” at Alien Energy Workshop, IT University Copenhagen, Oct 20th.
- 2016 “Objects, materials and aggregates: the endo-politics of algorithmic numeration,” Stockholm Algorithm Summer School, Linköping University, Sweden. July 5th.
- 2016 “Doing Openness @ Ethnography Studio,” Ethnography and Pedagogy Workshop, Center for Ethnography, UC Irvine. April 21st.
- 2015 “Capacity as Aggregation,” at Capacity Building Wenner Gren Workshop, Copenhagen IT University, Denmark. May 25th.
- 2015 “Ethnography by other means: cultural artifacts and theoretical experiments in an anthropology of the contemporary,” Keynote presentation, III Jornadas de Investigación Antropológica, Escuela de Antropología, Universidad de Costa Rica, April 28th.
- 2015 “The Ethics of a Formula: prices and the financial-humanitarian calculation of water,” Anthropology Department, Brown University, Providence, March 6th.
- 2015 “The Ethics of a Formula: prices and the financial-humanitarian calculation of water,” Massachusetts Institute of Technology Anthropology Colloquium, Boston, March 11th.
- 2014 “Formulas and Public Goods: the regulation of the collective,” Programa de Ciências Ambientais (PROCAM), Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil.
- 2014 “Regulation, the Human Right to Water and the Ethics of Numbers,” Keynote Presentation at Biannual Legal Anthropology Conference UBA-UnSAM-RELAJU, Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 23rd.
- 2014 “The Ethics of a Formula,” Anthropology Department, University of Texas, Austin, April 8th.
- 2013 “Pacts and the Political Economy of Possibility,” American Bar Foundation, Chicago, October 16th.
- 2013 “Pacts,” Scientia Institute Mini-Lectures, Rice University, October 8th.
- 2012 “Prices without Markets: Water, Ethical Entanglements and Calculation in the Era of Rights,” at Trans-Science Symposium University of Chicago, December 14th.
- 2012 “The Territories of Care: Water, Politics and Pacts in Brazil,” at Fragmented Territorialities Conference, Hamburg University, Germany. Nov 16th.
- 2012 “Prices without Markets: Water, Ethical Entanglements and Calculation in the Era of Rights,” at CRESC, University of Manchester. November 9th.
- 2012 “Prices as Political Devices,” Center for the Analysis of Risk and Regulation and Accounting Department, London School of Economics. October 16th.
- 2012 “How do Beets and Pantyhose make Water (un)affordable? Technique, Ethics and the Future in Costa Rica,” Anthropology Department, Rice University. February 1st.
- 2011 “Prosthetic Experiments with the Self: the politics of transparency in Costa Rica,” to Intel Social Science Research Lab, Portland, Oregon. August 16th.
- 2011 “How do Anthropologists think about Science and Technology?,” to HSD 601: Human Dimensions of Science and Technology-ASU. September 16th.

- 2010 “The Policy, the Regulator, the Price and its Number: Quantifying the Human Right to Water in Costa Rica,” Anthropology Department, University of Florida. February 24th.
- 2010 “The Policy, the Regulator, the Price and its Number: Quantifying the Human Right to Water in Costa Rica,” School of Human Evolution and Social Change, Arizona State University.
- 2008 “Conocimiento Experto, Agua y Antropología en Costa Rica,” at the Critical Studies of Science Colloquium, Physics Department, University of Costa Rica. March 26th.
- 2005 “Adaptação institucional do manejo participativo das Aguas,” at the Universidade Estadual do Ceará, Brazil. August 18th.

Conference Presentations

- 2019 “The Plume,” at American Anthropological Association Meetings, Nov 21-24, Vancouver, Canada.
- 2019 “Listening to the sound-work of the underground,” Soundtable, at American Anthropological Association Meetings, Nov 21-24, Vancouver, Canada.
- 2018 “Water, wonder and ice cubes,” at American Anthropological Association Meetings, Nov 14-18, San Jose, CA.
- 2018 “Surrendering to the pull, inhabiting subterranean water worlds,” Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting, August 29-September 1st, Sydney, Australia.
- 2018 Author Meets Reader Panelist for “Reinventing Hoodia” by Laura Foster and “Patent Politics” by Shobita Parthasarathy, Law and Society Association Meetings, Toronto June 5-10.
- 2017 “Surrendering to the Pull, Underground Water in Movement,” American Anthropological Association Meetings, Washington, D.C. November 29th-December 3rd.
- 2017 “Socio-legal Studies meets STS: a roundtable,” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Mexico City, June 20-23.
- 2016 “After Lines” Roundtable, American Anthropological Association Meetings, Minneapolis.
- 2016 “The wonders of aggregation,” Executive Board Invited Panel, Anthropological Expertise on Trial, American Anthropological Association Meetings, Minneapolis, November 16th-20th.
- 2016 “International Relations meets Anthropology,” International Studies Association Meetings, Atlanta, Georgia, March 16th-19th.
- 2015 “Subterranean Liquidity: thinking with sponges” at the American Anthropological Association Meetings, Denver, CO. November 16-20th.
- 2015 “The deep future of legal instrumentalism: underground water and the drift of time” at Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting in Denver, CO. November 11-14th.
- 2015 “Hypercontextualized Obligations and the Political Economy of the Possible in Northeast Brazil” at Law and Society Annual Meetings, Seattle, WA. May 27th.
- 2014 “Aggregate Obligations and the Summation of Sentiments in Brazil,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. December 6th.

- 2014 Author meets reader panelist for Eve Darian Smith's "Law and Societies in Global Contexts" at Law and Society Association Meeting, Minneapolis, May 29th-June 1st.
- 2014 "Libertarian Ice Cubes: the Carving of Liberal Legal Objects," at Law and Society Association Meeting, Minneapolis, May 29th-June 1st.
- 2013 "Translating Human Rights and the Private: Water Regulation in Costa Rica" at Law and Society Annual Meetings, Boston May-June 1st.
- 2013 "Libertarian Ice Cubes and Expropriated Bodies: Continuities in the Carving of Liberal Objects," at American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago.
- 2013 "What's in a percentage? Calculation as the creative translation of human rights. At Regulatory Translations: Affect, Uncertainty and Expertise in the Global Scene," Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey. May 17-18th.
- 2013 Panelist, Cultures of Energy Spring Symposium, Rice University.
- 2012 "Prices as Political Devices" at Joint 4S and EASST Annual Meetings, Copenhagen, Denmark. October 17-19.
- 2012 "How do Beets and Pantyhose make Water (un)Affordable? Experiments against definitional desires in thinking water materially" presented at the Society for Cultural Anthropology bi-annual meetings, Providence, Rhode Island. May 11-13.
- 2011 "Bureaucratic Pacts As Moral Infrastructures: Water and Movement in Northeast Brazil" presented at the 109th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Montreal, Nov 16-20.
- 2011 "The Pricing of a Human Right: Water, Profit Control, and Ethics in Costa Rica" presented at Sociological Studies Association-United Kingdom, Brighton, UK. April 12-15.
- 2010 "Numbers, Extensions, and Laughter in a Costa Rican Auditing Project" presented at the 108th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA, Nov 17-21.
- 2010 "Ontological indeterminacies, humor and gravity" presented at SWARM: Multispecies Salon, at the 108th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA, Nov 17-21.
- 2010 "Laughter, auditing, and the emergence of transparent objects in Central American Water Politics" presented at the Law and Society Association Meetings in Chicago, Ill, May 26-31.
- 2009 "Prices without Markets: ethics, surrogacy and water in Costa Rica" presented at the American Anthropological Association Meetings, Philadelphia, PA, December 2-6.
- 2009 "Prices without Markets: ethics, surrogacy and water in Costa Rica" presented at the Social Studies of Science Conference, Washington D.C., October 28-31.
- 2008 "Faith in the Future: Scenarios, Science and Water in Costa Rica" presented at the 107th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA, November 19-23.
- 2008 "How do you know what you know? Laughter, auditing and "democratic" water projects in Costa Rica" presented at HYDROUS event at joint 4S/EASST meetings, Erasmus University, Rotterdam, August 21st.

- 2008 “Conocimiento Experto, Agua y Antropología en Costa Rica” Invited presentation at the Critical Studies of Science Colloquium, Physics Department, University of Costa Rica. March 26th.
- 2008 “Found Objects, Water, and De-stabilizing Ethnography” presented at “Experimental Systems as Ethnographic Modality” conference organized by the Center for Ethnography and Department of Anthropology, University of California-Irvine, March 14-15th.
- 2007 “The policy, the regulator, the price and its number: quantifying the human right to water in Costa Rica,” presented at the American Anthropological Association meeting at Washington D.C., November 28-December 1st.
- 2007 “Fragmented and Sutured Faith: The Making of Scenarios and the Law in Latin American Water Politics” presented at Meeting of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Montréal, Canada September 5-8.
- 2007 “Are Human Rights and Commodities Different? Water and Expert Knowledge in Latin America” presented at the annual meeting of the Law and Society Association, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany. July 24-28.
- 2007 “Re-composing water: Commodities, human rights, and expertise in Latin America,” at “What is so hard about soft law? De-texturizing law’s structures of feelings” Conference, at the Anthropology Department & Center for Ethnography, University of California, Irvine. May 4-5.
- 2006 “Social Change as Policy Practice: water conflicts and political subjectivities in Northeast Brazil,” presented at the Annual Center for Peace and Conflict Studies Graduate Student Research Panel, University of California, Irvine. May 12.
- 2006 “Water Policies, Resistance and Social Change: scenes from Northeast Brazil.” Paper presented at the meeting of the Latin American Studies Association-LASA, San Juan, Puerto Rico, March 15-18.
- 2005 “Adaptação institucional do manejo participativo das Aguas.” Invited colloquium at the Universidade Estadual do Ceará, Universidade Estadual do Ceará, Brazil. August 18th.
- 2004 “Institutional adaptation in collaborative water management: understanding change within change in Northeast Brazil.” Paper presented at the meeting of the Latin American Studies Association-LASA, Las Vegas, NV, October 6-8.
- 1999 “A review of Costa Rica’s experience in conservation through eco-development” with E. Muller and E. Castillo. Paper presented at the Sustainable Development in the Atlantic Coast of the Americas, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina-UNESCO-Third World Academy of Science, Santa Catarina, Brazil. December 4-10.
- 1998 “Perspectives on International Cooperation through Latin American Networks.” presented at the Meeting for Cooperação para o desenvolvimento sustentável entre América Latina e os Países Africanos de Língua Oficial Portuguesa, Universidade de Lisboa-UNESCO, Sesimbra, Portugal. May 17-22.

Media

- 2019 Interstitial Pod cast by Thinkbelt: <https://thinkbelt.org/shows/interstitial/a-future-history-of-water-andrea-balletero>

This is hell radio-Interview, Oct 4. <https://www.thisishell.com/interviews/1079-andrea-ballestero>

Teaching (* indicates newly developed course)

Slow Reading Seminar (ANTH 409/609)*
Feminist Science and Technology Studies (ANTH 428/628)*
Values and Valuables (ANTH 623)*
Underground Spatialities (ANTH 426/626)*
Anthropology Journal Club (ANTH 397)
The Anthropology of Water (ANTH 451/651) *
Law and Resistance in the Everyday (ANTH/SOC 296, ANTH 596) *
Law, Power and Culture (ANTH 326/526) *
Anthropological Theory: A Survey (ANTH 302)
Exploring the Underground Lab (ANTH 441) *
Anthropologies of Nature (ANTH 348/548) *
Ethnography Studio (ANTH 420/620) *
Regulatory Translations Lab (ANTH 440) *
Ethnography, Theory, Imagination (ASB 591) *
Peoples of Latin America (ASB 322) *
Ecological Anthropology: Nature, Knowledge, and Consumption (ANT 125B)
Teaching Assistant: Origins of Global Interdependence (ANTH41), Introduction to Socio-Cultural Anthropology (ANTH 2A), Sustainable Development II (ENVIRON 100).

Ethnography Studio Events organized:

2011-present. Founder and Director, “The Ethnography Studio” <https://ethnographystudio.org/>
Workshops Organized:

- Ethnographic Salon GRAPHIC, with Dr. Coleman Nye (Simon Fraser University), Dr. Juan Llamas Rodríguez (UT Dallas), and Dr. Jeffrey Himpele (Princeton University). February 28th, 2020.
- Experiments in Decolonization, with Dr. Tim Neale (Deakin University, Australia), September 11, 2019.
- Ethnographic Salon SONIC, with Dr. Marina Peterson (UTAustin), Dr. Stefan Helmreich (MIT), March 1, 2019.
- Being the Rogue Ethnographic Goat, a workshop with Dr. Page West (Columbia University), October 19th, 2018.
- Ethnographic Salon: OPTICS, with Dr. Kristina Lyons (UCSC), Dr. Dana Powell, (Appalachian State University), and Dr. Joe Masco, (University of Chicago). March 2, 2018.
- CONVERSIONS: ethnographic fieldwork workshop, October 5th and 13th, 2017.
- Ethnographic Salon: FACT, with Dr. Danilyn Rutherford (UCSC/Wenner Gren Foundation), April 15th, 2017.
- Sensorial Excess, with Dr. Patricia Alvarez Astacio (Brandeis) and Dr. Dawn Nafus (Intel Labs), March 10th, 2017.
- Intervention as Collaboration: a workshop with Dr. Brit Ross Winthereik, (IT University Copenhagen) April 15th, 2016.

- Ethnographies that Move: a workshop with Dr. Kim Fortun (RPI), October, 2015.
- Talking about Ethnographic Sparks: a conversation with Dr. Hugh Raffles (New School) March, 2015.
- Ethnographies of Capital and Activist Flows: with Dr. Julia Elyachar, (Princeton University), October, 2014.
- INVERSIONS workshop: with Dr. Valerie Olson (UC Irvine), 2014.
- Taking Ethnography out of the Lab: A conversation with Dr. Gail Davies, (University of Exeter), April, 2013.
- X is Power: experiments in knowledge mobility. A workshop with Dr. Dawn Nafus (Intel Labs), April 2012.
- Talking about insects, talking about ethnography: A workshop with Dr. Hugh Raffles (New School), February 2012.

Other conferences and workshops

- 2020 *Cuerpos en Transformación*, co-organized speaker series with Anthropology Department, University of Costa Rica.
- 2019 Elements, Humanities Research Institute, University of California-Irvine.
- 2019 Water Bodies II, Arizona State University, Social Science Research Council (SSRC), NY.
- 2018 Faculty Borderlands Initiative: Water Bodies. Social Science Research Council (SSRC), NY.
- 2015 Co-organizer of Jornadas de Investigación Antropológica, Laboratorio de Etnología (UCR) y Ethnography Studio (Rice University), 28-30 April.
- 2014 Organizer Ecological Infrastructures Workshop, CENHS, Rice University.
- 2013 Co-organizer of Regulatory Translations: uncertainty, expertise and affect in the global scene, Boğaziçi University, May 14th-16th, Istanbul, Turkey.
- 2011 Co-organizer of the “Practices, Instruments and Techniques” Parallel Workshop during AAA meetings in Montreal, Canada.
- 2010 Organizer of the Early Career APLA mentoring workshop at the 108th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA, Nov 17-21.
- 2007-9 Student Representative to the Board of the Association of Political and Legal Anthropology (APLA), American Anthropological Association.
- 2008 Co-organizer of five APLA student research workshops and a Professional Mentorship session at the 107th American Anthropological Association Meetings in San Francisco, CA, November 19-23.
- 2007 Organizer of the Student Workshop: Expertise and legal and political anthropology, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology at the 2007 American Anthropological Association Meeting, Washington D.C., November 28th-December 2nd.
- 2007 Co-Organizer of the Conference “What is so hard about soft law? De-texturizing law’s structures of feelings” at the Anthropology Department and Center for Ethnography, University of California, Irvine. May 4-5, 2007.

- 2006 Co-organizer of the Student Workshop of the Interest Group on Anthropology of Public Policy and the Association for Political and Legal Anthropology at the 2006 American Anthropological Association Meeting , San Jose, California, November 15-19.
- 2005 Founder and Coordinator of the Development Studies Group at University of Irvine.
- 2004-6 Board member, Environment Section, Latin American Studies Association.
- 2004 Member of organizing committee, Environmental Justice and Global Climate Change Conference Ann Arbor, MI. Sponsored by the School of Natural Resources, the Environmental Justice and Climate Change Student Group, and the Department of Philosophy, University of Michigan. March 25-28.
- 2003 Costa Rican Delegate to the V World Parks Congress-IUCN, Durban, South Africa. This congress takes place every 10 years and participants are subject to invitation by IUCN.
- 2002 Chairperson of the Organizing Committee of “I Encuentro Latinoamericano de Gestión de Areas Protegidas, Reservas de Biósfera y Corredores Biológicos” Sponsored by WWF, TNC, UNDP-GEF, CYTED, UCI, Ministry of Environment of Costa Rica, Mesoamerican Biological Corridor.
- 2001 International Conference on Biodiversity and Society, Columbia University, NY.
- 1996 “Sound Development in the tropics” University of Yunnan-Third World Academy of Sciences-UNESCO, Yunnan, China.

Other Professional Experience

- 2008 Consultant for FANCA/Costa Rica/BothEnds-Netherlands. MFS 08 project, Gender and Water Management in Quebrada Grande, San Carlos, Costa Rica.
- 2008 Consultant for IUCN on Citizen Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment processes in Central America: Honduras, El Salvador and Belize.
- 1998-2007 Consultant on biodiversity conservation, local development, policy design, Biosphere Reserve design, participatory approaches and local planning. Consultancies done for UNESCO, GTZ-Government of Ecuador, Interamerican Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture IICA-OAS, IUCN, among others.
- 1997-2006 Founder and Director of the Latin American School for Protected Areas at the University for International Cooperation, Costa Rica.
- 1997-2003 Co-Chair of the Latin American Network of Biosphere Reserves, sponsored by UNESCO and the Government of Spain.
- 1996-1997 Assistant to the Law School Dean, University for International Cooperation, Costa Rica.

Service

To the Department:

- 2020 Anthropology-CAAAS Search Committee Chair, Anthropology Department, Rice.
- 2020 Short-term Lecturer Search Committee, Anthropology Department, Rice.
- 2019 AAAS+Anthropology Committee, Anthropology Department, Rice.
- 2019 Annual Chair’s Lecture Committee, Anthropology Department, Rice.

2018 Annual Chair's Lecture Committee, Anthropology Department, Rice.
 2017 Departmental Diversification Committee.
 2017-18 Weekly Colloquium Series Committee Co-Chair, Anthropology Department, Rice.
 2016-17 Weekly Colloquium Series Committee Co-Chair, Anthropology Department, Rice.
 2016-17 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Anthropology Department, Rice.
 2014-15 Undergraduate Curriculum Re-design Committee, Anthropology Department, Rice.
 2015-16 Weekly Colloquium Series Committee Co-Chair, Anthropology Department, Rice.
 2015-16 Website Redesign Committee, Anthropology, Rice University.
 2014-15 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Anthropology Department, Rice.
 2014-15 Undergraduate ROAR Committee, Anthropology Department, Rice.
 2014- Martell College Associate, Rice.
 2012-14 Director of Undergraduate Studies, Anthropology Department, Rice.
 2013-14 Medical Anthropology Search Committee, Anthropology Department, Rice.
 2012-13 Medical Anthropology Search Committee, Anthropology Department, Rice.
 2012-13 Weekly Colloquium Series Chair, Anthropology Department, Rice.
 2010-11 SHESC Library and Computing Committee, ASU.

To the School and University:

2020-21 Fellowships and Awards University Committee
 2019-20 Social Science Dean Search Committee
 2019-20 Social Science Research Institute Faculty Board.
 2019-20 Fellowships and Awards University Committee
 2018 Post-Doctoral Search Committee, Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality (CSWGS).
 2018-19 Fellowships and Awards University Committee
 2017-18 Faculty Advisor to Social Science Undergraduate Journal Club: Rice Examiner.
 2017-18 Fellowships and Awards University Committee
 2016-17 Faculty Sponsor for the Society for Anthropological Debates Graduate Student Club.
 2015-17 Faculty Sponsor for Ethnography Studio Graduate Student Club.
 2015-16 Fellowships and Awards University Committee.
 2017 Undergraduate and Graduate Paper Prize Committees, Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality (CSWGS).
 2016-18 Steering Committee, Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality (CSWGS).
 2016-17 Gateway Evaluation Committee, School of Social Sciences.
 2015- Costa Rica Interest Group and Rice-University of Costa Rica Strategic International Collaboration.
 2014-15 Fellowships and Awards University Committee.
 2012-14 Dean's Advisory Committee, School of Social Sciences.
 2013 School of Social Science Gardner Award for Best Dissertation Committee.
 2012 Social Science Centennial Undergraduate Research Competition Judge.
 2011-12 CLAS Academic Standards Committee, ASU.

To the Profession:

- 2020- Society for Cultural Anthropology Board Member (elected).
- 2018-19 Program Co-Chair for the 2019 Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Sept. 4-7.
- 2016-19 Board of Trustees Class 2017 (elected), Law and Society Association.
- 2016-18 Ethnography, Law and Society Collaborative Research Network Co-Chair (elected), Law and Society Association.
- 2016 National Science Foundation Advisory Panel, Law and Social Sciences Program.
- 2016 Association for Political and Legal Anthropology Book Prize Committee Chair.
- 2015 Association for Political and Legal Anthropology Book Prize Committee Chair.
- 2015 Law and Society Association Best Article Prize Committee Member.
- 2013-5 APLA Future of Publishing Committee.
- 2013-15 APLA Web content editor.
- 2007-09 Graduate Student Representative, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology.

Editorial Boards:

- 2015- Political and Legal Anthropology Review (PoLAR), American Anthropological Association.
- 2015- Cuadernos de Antropología, University of Costa Rica.
- 2013- Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies, Maurer School of Law, Indiana University.
- 2009-10 Editorial Fellow, American Anthropologist

Ad hoc reviewer for:

Science, Technology and Human Values, Cultural Studies Review, Economic Anthropology, Anthropology Today, Environment and Society, Current Anthropology, American Ethnologist, Cultural Anthropology, GeoForum, Journal for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology, Latin American Research Review, Anthropologica, Science and Technology Studies, Science as Culture, Journal of Development Studies, National Science Foundation (Law and Society, Cultural Anthropology, and Science, Technology and Society programs), Social Science Research Council, Political and Legal Anthropology Review, MIT Press, Stanford University Press, Berghman, University of California Press.

Languages

- English: fluent.
- Spanish: fluent.
- Portuguese: fluent reading and speaking, good command of written.

Professional Organizations and Societies

- American Anthropological Association-AAA
- Law and Society Association-LSA.
- Society for the Social Study of Science-4S.
- Latin American Studies Association-LASA