

## Rebecca Robertson, Ph.D.

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### Education

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- Ph.D.** Oregon State University, Education - degree conferred June, 2020  
Dissertation Title: *Higher Education Diversity Work and its Discontents: Theorizing Student Social Media Activism as Counter-hegemonic Network of Practice*
- M.A.** Humboldt State University, Social Science: Globalization and the Environment  
Title: *A Gendered Analysis of the Makuleke Land Restitution Agreement and its Resulting Integrated Conservation and Development Program*
- B.A.** Humboldt State University, Anthropology  
Minors: Spanish, Art

### Research Areas

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Applied Anthropology, Organizational Change, Student Activism and Social Media, Institutional Equity and Inclusion, Diversity Work, Higher Education, Critical Race Theory, Network Ethnography, Critical Discourse Analysis, Globalization, Community Development, Gender and Development, South Africa

### Academic Appointments

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- Director, Applied Anthropology and Ethnographic Research Lab** 2018-  
Department of Anthropology, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA 95521
- Coordinator, Applied Anthropology Master of Arts Program** 2016-  
Department of Anthropology, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA 95521
- Lecturer** 2004-  
Department of Anthropology, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA 95521
- Visiting Professor** 2009  
University Study Abroad Consortium (USAC), Universidad del País Vasco, San Sebastian, Spain
- Associate Faculty** 2002- 2005  
Anthropology Department  
College of the Redwoods, Eureka, CA 95501
- Graduate Instructional Assistant** 2000-2001  
Department of Anthropology  
College of the Redwoods, Eureka, CA 95501
- Graduate Teaching Assistant** 2000  
Department of Anthropology  
Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA 95521

## Applied Research/Consulting

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### **Ethnographer**

Salmon River Floodplain and Mine Tailing Remediation Project, Cultural Resources Facility, Humboldt State University 2020-

2019/2020

### **Quantitative Research Analyst**

Eureka Homelessness Assessment Project, Eureka Police Department

### **Qualitative Researcher**

Oregon Transfer Project, Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission 2018-  
PI: Dr. Gloria Crisp, College of Education, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331

### **Consultant, Research and Design**

[McLean Community Center Development Project](#), Fortuna, CA 2017  
Principal: Kirk Cohune, Greenway Partners, Arcata, CA,

### **Consultant, Research and Design**

[Arcata Volunteer Fire Department Remodel Project](#) (McKinleyville Station) 2016  
Principal: Kirk Cohune, Greenway Partners, Arcata, CA,

### **Consultant, Research and Design**

Arcata Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) Redevelopment Project, Eureka, CA 2016  
Principal: Kirk Cohune, Greenway Partners, Arcata, CA,

### **Consultant, Research and Design**

[Arcata Volunteer Fire Department Remodel Project](#) (Arcata Main Station) 2015  
Principal: Kirk Cohune, Greenway Partners, Arcata, CA,

### **Consultant, Ethnographic Research**

Eureka Business Ready Project 2015  
Principal: Kirk Cohune, Greenway Partners, Arcata, CA,

### **Consultant, User Experience Researcher**

One Hills Plaza Terrace User Experience Research 2013  
One Hills Plaza Homeowners Association (HOA), 75 Folsom St., San Francisco, CA.

## Research Experience

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### **Quantitative Researcher**

Unlocking Opportunity through Accessible Bachelor's Granting Institutions 2020

- Retrieval and analysis of IPEDS data

### **Qualitative Researcher**

Oregon Transfer Project, College of Education, Oregon State University, PI: Dr. Gloria Crisp, Oregon State University 2018-2019  
IRB Number: 8726

- Grounded theory research with first generation community college (CC) students at Oregon CCs

### **Doctoral Student Researcher**

College of Education, Oregon State University, IRB Number: 0437 2017-2020

- Network ethnography examining higher education diversity work through the lens of student social media activism using social network analysis (SNA) and Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA)

**Mixed Methods Researcher** 2016-2017  
**Course Design with Technology Project**, Office of the Chancellor, California State University, Long Beach, CA

- Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. Mixed methods case study, combining Institutional Research (IR) with qualitative inquiry into student experience.

**Graduate Student Researcher** 2000-2004  
Makuleke, South Africa

- Critical gender analysis of the benefits of a community based Integrated Environmental Conservation and Economic Development Program (ICDP). Research disseminated in ‘A Gendered Look at Integrated Conservation and Development Programs: The Case of the Makuleke Community’

**Graduate Research Assistant** 2000-2002  
**American Indian Civics Project, W.W. Kellogg Foundation Grant**, PI: Dr. John Meyer, Department of Politics, Humboldt State University, Arcata CA 95521

- Research, collection, and review of scholarship related to American Indians and US Politics for edited volume: Meyer, J. (2002) American Indians and US Politics: A Companion Reader. Praeger Publishers, Westport, CT

## Publications

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**Robertson, R.** (under review) #DiversityisNotInclusion: Anatomy of a Student Activist Network of Practice. *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education*.

**Robertson, R.** (in revision) A Critical Race Theory Analysis of Transnational Student Activism, Social Media Counter-stories, and the Hegemonic Logics of Diversity Work in Higher Education. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*.

Pacifico, D; **Robertson, R.** (accepted) Meeting Students (and Subjects) Where They Are: Perspectives in Teaching, Learning, and Doing Archaeology and Anthropology Online. *Journal of Archaeology and Education*.

**Robertson, R.** (accepted) Exploring Tensions and Opportunities of Anthropology and the Academy Online. *Journal of Archaeology and Education*.

Crisp, G.; **Robertson, R.**; Garrison-Engbrecht, A. (forthcoming, early 2021) Questioning Assumptions about Accessible Bachelor’s Granting Institutions. *Unlocking Opportunity through Broadly Accessible Institutions*. Crisp, G; McClure, K; Orphan, C (eds.). Routledge Press.

Crisp, G.; **Robertson, R.**; Cox-Brand, E. (forthcoming, late 2020) Supporting Transfer for First Generation College Students. *At the Intersection: Unpacking the Experiences of First-Generation College Students Today*. Longwell-Grice, R.; Longwell-Grice, H. (eds.). Stylus Publishing, VA.

Crisp, G.; Potter, C.; **Robertson, R.**; Carales, V. (2020), Empirical and Practical Implications for Documenting Early Racial Transfer Gaps. *New Directions for Community Colleges*, 2020: 55-65. doi:[10.1002/cc.20423](https://doi.org/10.1002/cc.20423)

**Robertson, R.** (2020) World Bank. *Encyclopedia of Higher Education*, 5v. Amey, M. (ed.) SAGE Publishing. ISBN: 9781473942912

## Refereed Conference Presentations

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**Robertson, R.** (under review – held over from 2020) Applying Social Network Analysis and Critical Discourse Analysis to Explore the Anatomy of a Student Activist Network of Practice. Paper presentation: *American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting*, 2021.

**Robertson, R.** (accepted) #DiversityisNotInclusion. Paper presentation: *American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting*, 2021.

**Robertson, R.** (2020) Student Activist Counter-stories and the Hegemonic Logic of Diversity in Higher Education. Paper presentation: *Philosophy and Theory of Higher Education Conference*, Uppsala, Sweden, October 18-20, 2020 (conference cancelled)

Crisp, G.; Potter, C.; **Robertson, R.**; Carales, V. (2020) Documenting Early Racial Transfer Gaps: Empirical and Practical Implications for Transfer Partnerships. *Council for the Study of Community Colleges Annual Meeting, 2020* (conference cancelled).

**Robertson, R.** (2019) Hashtag as Boundary Object: Counter-narrative Agency and the Circulation of Meaning in a Student Activist Network of Practice. Paper presentation: *American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting*, Vancouver, Canada, November 20-24, 2019.

**Robertson, R.** (2019) Student Activism and Diversity Work in Higher Education: A Review and Synthesis of the Literature. Paper presentation: *Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)*. Portland, OR, November 14-18, 2019

**Robertson, R.**; Crisp, G.; Cox-Brand, E. (2019) Developing a Grounded Theory of First-Generation Community College Students' Understanding of the Transfer Process in Oregon. Paper presentation: *Council for the Study of Community Colleges Annual Meeting (CSCC)*. San Diego, CA, March 28-30, 2019.

**Robertson, R.** (2019) Ambiguity, Neoliberalism, and Non-performativity: Examining Higher Education Diversity Work through Student #Activism. Paper Presentation: *Ethnography and Education Forum*. Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, February 22-23, 2019

Pacifico, D.; **Robertson, R.**; Shoaps, R (2018) Teaching and Learning Anthropology Online. Roundtable chair and presenter. *American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting*, San Jose, CA, November 14-18, 2018.

**Robertson, R.** (2018) Challenging Institutional Hegemony Through Student Activism. Paper presentation: *American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting*, San Jose, CA, November 14-18, 2018.

**Robertson, R.** (2017) Ghosting: Uncaptured Student Engagement in Online Courses. Poster presentation: *American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting*, Washington D.C., November 28-Dec 3, 2017.

## **Selected Presentations, Lectures, and Workshops**

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'Student Social Media Activism and the Dilemmas of Diversity Work in Higher Education', Carpenter Lecture, Oregon State University, Wilsonville, March 7, 2019

'Grad School/Career Preparation', Invited Workshop Series (3 sessions), Sponsored by Anthropology Club, Humboldt State University, Fall 2018.

'Improving Student Success by Increasing Interactivity and Active Learning Opportunities', e-Portfolio Presentation, California State University, Course Design with Technology Summer Institute, Sacramento, CA, June 26-29, 2017

'Professionalizing Student Work through a Virtual Conference', Digital Scholarship, Publishing & Sustainable Learning: Exploring, Designing, Creating and Sharing Learning Experiences, Humboldt State University, UnConference, April 11, 2017

'Global Citizenship', Presented at the Humboldt State University Social Justice Forum, February 2009

'Anthropological Approaches to Studying Culture' Introduction to International Studies, Humboldt State University, September 29, 2009

'Work, Study, Serve: International Experience and Global Citizenship', International Education Week, Humboldt State University, November 16-19, 2009

## **Public Dissemination of Research**

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University of Washington, Community College Research Initiatives, Transfer Partnership Series – [Data Note 11](#), *Transfer Partnerships: Lessons to Improve Student Success During and After COVID-19*, May 2020.

#CCRIchat - Twitter Chat ([@CCRI\\_UW](#)), *Transfer Partnerships: Lessons to Improve Student Success During and After COVID-19*, May 15, 2020.

Oregon State Legislature, Senate Interim Committee on Education. *Expert Perspectives on Community College to University Transfer Systems*. September 16, 2019. [Archived video](#) (testimony begins at minute 20:16).

Eureka City Council, Regular Session. *Eureka Police Department Homelessness Assessment Report*. March 5, 2019. [Archived Video](#).

## **Grants and Fellowships**

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Spencer Foundation, Research Grant - Small, <i>COVID-19 Counter-stories: Ethnographic Analysis and Practical Implications of Student Activist Narratives Constructed and Circulated Via Social Media During the COVID-19 Crisis in Higher Education</i> (\$27,931 – under review)	2020
Social Science Research Council, SSRC Rapid Response Research Grants 2020, <i>Student Activism in the Time of COVID-19: Exploring Physically Distanced Resistance</i> (\$5,000 – unfunded)	2020
California State University (CSU) Chancellor, Doctoral Fellow Research Grant, <i>Student Activism and Diversity Work in Higher Education</i> (\$1500)	2019
California State University Chancellor's Doctoral Fellowship (\$30,000)	2017-2020
Humboldt State University Graduate Equity Fellowship (\$5,000)	AY 1999-00

## **Courses Taught - Instructor of Record**

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\*\*NOTE: (F2F) Face to Face, (H) Hybrid, (O) Online

<b>Undergraduate Courses</b>	<b>Graduate Courses</b>
Cultural Anthropology (F2F, H, O)	Introduction to Applied Anthropology (H)
Cultural Anthropology Lab (F2F, H)	Methods in Applied Anthropology (H)
University: Place, Space, and the Student Experience (H)	Qualitative Research and Analysis (O)
Race/Class/Culture (H)	Theory in Applied Anthropology (O)
Anthropology of Religion (F2F, O)	Quantitative Data Analysis (O)
History and Theory of Anthropology (F2F, H)	
Anthropology and Development (F2F, H, O)	
Women and Development (F2F, H)	
Ethnographic Research (F2F, H, O)	
Anthropology of Art (H)	
Anthropology of HIV/AIDS (F2F)	
Power & Resistance: South African Counter-stories (H)	
European Union: Sociocultural Integration (F2F, H)	
Art and Material Culture: South Africa (H)	
Anthropology Capstone (H)	
Grad School Prep (H)	
Anthropology Teaching & Leadership (H)	
Working with Historical Documents (F2F)	
Argonauts of the Human Experience (H)	

## Graduate Thesis/Project Advising

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### **Primary Advisor**

- Amy Deuink, 'Transforming the University Library for Equity and Inclusion: A Critical Environmental Analysis at a Research-Intensive Public University' (expected Spring 2021)
- Jordan Walsh, 'The Impact of Intensive Individual Academic Counseling on Student Persistence and Retention: An Applied Narrative Analysis' (Spring 2020)
- Samantha Reid, 'Cultivating Food Security: A Quantitative Analysis of Humboldt County's Food Pantries', 2019
- Ariel Eastburn, 'Qualitative Analysis of Barriers to Maternal Health Care in Santa Clara County, CA', 2019
- Edward Fernandez, 'Banking for the Future: An Ethnographic Study of the Local Food Bank and its Role in Food Justice and Patron Perception', 2018
- Laura Benne, 'The 2016 Election: Conservative Female Voters - Agentive, Adversarial and Resolutely Republican', 2018
- Ariel Fishkin, 'Fighting Rape Culture at Humboldt State University: Challenges and Growth in Student Activism', 2018
- Jacqueline Heinzin, 'Transformation in Three American Orchestras: An Analysis of Labor, Agency, and Change', 2017
- Meleana Akolo, 'A Feminist Interpretation of Women's Work with Koloa in the Tongan Community',

### **Committee Member**

- Grant Skoglund, 'Café Para Todos': A Critical Narrative of Bilingual Education Policy and Practice in Monolingual Spain, 2018
- Nora E. Mounce, 'Words to Cook By: Changing Meanings of Eating Local in Humboldt County', 2018
- Isadora Sharon, 'Countering a Colonial Fantasy of Filipinos Highlanders: Ethnic Versus Ethical Tourism', 2017
- Corinna Irwin, 'Equal Access, Knowledge, and Empowerment: Promoting Inclusion in Sex Education and Reproductive Health Care for Humboldt County's Spanish Speaking Population', 2017
- Katherine Ruprecht, 'Examining Veiled Muslim Women's Experiences in Educational Institutions in France and the United States and Decolonizing the Curriculum to Reflect Their Stories', 2017
- Patiño, May, 'What does it mean to go Paleo? An Exploration of the Ancestral Diet Movement', 2016
- Slentz, Rosie, 'From Soil to Soul: Food Systems Curriculum for 5th Graders', 2016

## University Service

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Faculty Advisor, Students for Violence Prevention, First Year Learning & Living Community	AY 2020-21
eLearning Ambassador, Center for Teaching and Learning, HSU	2020-
Founding Member, Supporting Graduate Students of Color Faculty Working Group	2019-
Faculty Advisor, Anthropology Club, Humboldt State University	AY 2018-19
Director, Applied Anthropology and Ethnographic Research Lab, Humboldt State University	AY 2018-
Comprehensive program review, CSU Pilot Conversion, MA Applied Anthropology Program, HSU	2018-2019
Curriculum and Program Development	
• MA Applied Anthropology Program, Humboldt State University	2012-
Graduate Advisor/Thesis Committee Member, MA Applied Anthropology, Humboldt State University	2014-
Graduate Council Member, Humboldt State University	2016-
Lead, Department of Anthropology Peer Mentoring Pilot Program, HSU	2016-2019
• AY 2016-17, developed peer-mentoring program proposal	
• AY 2017-2018, established and piloted program structure	
• AY 2018-19, coordinated peer mentoring program	
Presenter, UnConference, Humboldt State University	Spring 2016
• Digital Scholarship, Publishing & Sustainable Learning: Exploring, Designing, Creating and Sharing Learning Experiences	
Faculty Supervisor, Undergraduate Research Award, HSU Dept of Anthropology	AY 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19

Faculty Supervisor, IdeaFest, Showcase of Research and Creative Projects, HSU	2016, 2017, 2018, 2019
Faculty Editor, Anthropology Student Research Symposium, HSU	2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019
Participant, Chancellor's Office Course Redesign and Technology Program, California State University	AY 2016-17
Committee Member, 5-year Program Review, HSU, Department of Anthropology	AY 2016-17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lead: Diversity Report, Program Goals</li> </ul>	
ePortfolio Development, California State University Chancellor's Office	AY 2016-17
Participant, Department of Anthropology, Diversity and Inclusion Student/Faculty Forums	AY 2016-17
Curriculum Committee Member, Department of Anthropology, Humboldt State University	2013-
Assessment Committee Member, Department of Anthropology, Humboldt State University	2013-
Participant, Course Transformation Project (CTP) Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, HSU	Spring 2011
Presenter, HSU Social Justice Forum	Fall 2009
Session Leader, International Education Week, HSU Multicultural Center	Fall 2009
Director, World AIDS Day Fundraiser, Department of Anthropology, HSU	2007

## **Professional Service**

External Reviewer, International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education (QSE)	2019-
External Reviewer, Journal of Applied Research in the Community College (JARCC)	2019-
Reviewer, Annual Conference, Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)	2019, 2020

## **Community Engagement**

Trustee, Redwoods Community College District, Board of Trustees	2020-
Quantitative Research Analyst, Homelessness Assessment, Eureka Police Department	2019/2020
Member, Redwood Coast Mountain Bike Association (RCMBA)	2016-
Assistant Coach, Humboldt Composite High School Mountain Bike Team (HCMTB)	2016
Sexual and Reproductive Health Educator, Six River's Planned Parenthood, Eureka, CA 95501	2009-2011
Member, Board of Trustees, Vector Rehabilitation, Eureka, CA 95501	2004-2007
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-profit occupational and physical therapy organization</li> </ul>	

## **Awards and Honors**

CSU, Office of the Chancellor, Faculty Recognition Award for Outstanding Performance	2017
Humboldt State University (HSU), Exceptional Service to Students Award	AY 2016-17
HSU, Quality in Online Education Recognition Award	2014
CSU, Office of the Chancellor, Exemplary Online Course Design and Instruction Award	2013
Humboldt State University, Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award Nominee	2011
Presidential Scholar	1997, 1998, 1999
Pi Gamma Mu: International Social Science Honor Society Inductee	1999

## **Professional Training/Development**

Equity-Minded Practices for Remote Teaching, Webinar	April 2020
Labor Based Grading as Anti-Racist Assessment, 2-part Workshop	December 2019/February 2020
Council for Advancement of Higher Education Programs (CAHEP) Early Career Faculty Workshop	November 2019
Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research – Social Network Analysis</li> </ul>	June 2019
California State University, Professional Learning Community, Course Redesign	AY 2016-2017
California State University, Course Redesign with Technology, Summer Institute	June 2017
Applying the QOLT Instrument Faculty Course, HSU	Summer 2016
California State University, Course Redesign with Technology Summer Institute	Summer 2016
Humboldt State University, Faculty Learning Circle, Using Mobile Technology in the Classroom	Spring 2014

## **Technical Skills**

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Online Learning Management, Course Design, and Delivery (Canvas, Moodle, Blackboard); Audio/Video Recording and Editing (Kaltura, Camtasia, Screencast-o-matic); Online Publishing (YouTube, ISSUU, WordPress, Merlot); Video Conferencing/Online Collaboration (Zoom, Skype, Webex, Google Hangout, Google Drive, Dropbox, Slack, VoiceThread, FlipGrid); Data Visualization (Tableau), Qualitative Data Analysis (NVivo); Descriptive and Inductive Statistical Analysis (SPSS, Excel); Social Network Analysis (NVivo, R); Survey Creation/Distribution (Qualtrics, Google Forms, Survey Monkey); Reference Management (Zotero, Endnote)

## **Professional Organization Memberships**

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American Anthropological Association  
Council on the Anthropology of Education  
Council for International Higher Education  
Council for Advancement of Higher Education Programs  
Council for the Study of Community Colleges  
American Educational Research Association  
Association for the Study of Higher Education