

**Christopher S. Fowler, PhD.**

Assistant Professor of Geography and Demography

Associate, Population Research Institute

*Curriculum Vitae*

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814.863.1782 | [csfowler@psu.edu](mailto:csfowler@psu.edu) | 321 Walker Bldg. Penn State. University Park, PA 16802

**Education:**

- PhD. University of Washington (2007).  
Geography Dissertation: "From lived experience to economic models: a mixed methods analysis of competitive policies in Gioia Tauro and Genoa, Italy" Named "Best Dissertation" and "Runner Up Best Dissertation" from, respectively, the Economic Geography and Transportation Geography Specialty Groups of the Association of American Geographers.
- M.A. University of Washington (2003).  
Geography Awarded Ullman Prize for Best Thesis
- A.B. Dartmouth College (1997).  
Geography *cum laude* and highest departmental honors. Awarded Marsh Prize for Outstanding Thesis

**Recent Positions:**

- August 2012-present Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Faculty in Demography, The Pennsylvania State University.
- Jan. 2010-Sept. 2011 Postdoctoral Fellow in Applied Spatial Statistics, Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, University of Washington
- Dec. 2008-Dec. 2009 Postdoctoral Research Associate in Poverty Research, Community Vitality Project, Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington.

**Refereed Publications:** († indicates co-author is a supervised graduate student)

Lumley-Sapanski†, Audrey and **Christopher Fowler** (2017) "Planning dissonance' and the bases for stably diverse neighborhoods: The case of South Seattle." *City and Community* Vol. 16, Issue 1, pp. 86-115.

**Fowler, Christopher**, Barrett Lee and Stephen Matthews (2016) "The contribution of places to metropolitan ethnracial diversity and segregation: Decomposing change across space and time." *Demography* Vol. 53, Issue 6, pp. 1955-1977.

**Fowler, Christopher**, Danielle C. Rhubar† and Leif Jensen (2016) "Reassessing and revising commuting zones for 2010: History, assessment, and updates for U.S. 'labor-sheds' 1990-2010." *Population Research and Policy Review* Vol. 35, Issue 2, pp. 263-286.

**Fowler, Christopher** (2016) "Segregation as a multi-scalar phenomenon and its implications for neighborhood-scale research: the case of South Seattle 1990-2010." *Urban Geography* Vol. 37, Issue 1, pp. 1-25.

## Refereed Publications (continued):

- Chrisinger, Colleen, **Christopher Fowler** and Rachel Garshick Kleit (2015) "Industry clusters and employment outcomes in Washington State." *Economic Development Quarterly* Vol. 29, Issue 3, pp. 199-210.
- Fowler, Christopher**, Jane Cover and Rachel Garshick Kleit (2014) "The geography of fringe banking." *Journal of Regional Science* Vol. 54, Issue 4, pp. 688-710.
- Fowler, Christopher** and Rachel Kleit (2014) "The effects of industrial clusters on the poverty rate." *Economic Geography* Vol. 90, Issue 2, pp. 129-154.
- Chrisinger, Colleen<sup>†</sup>, **Christopher Fowler** and Rachel Garshick Kleit (2012) "Shared skills: Occupation clusters for poverty alleviation and economic development in the U.S.." *Urban Studies* Vol. 49, Issue 15, pp.3403-3425.
- Ellis, Mark, Steven Holloway, Richard Wright, and **Christopher Fowler** (2012) "Agents of change: Mixed-race households and the dynamics of neighborhood segregation." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* Vol. 102, Issue 3, pp.549-570.
- Berkemeier, Betty, Matthew Bryan, Matthew D. Dunbar, and **Christopher S. Fowler** (2012) "Local health department provision of WIC services relative to local "need" –Examining 3 states and 5 years," *Frontiers in Public Health Services and Systems Research* Vol. 1, Issue 1, pp. 1-7.
- Beyers, William and **Christopher Fowler** (2012) "Economic structure, technological change and location theory: The evolution of models explaining the link between cities and flows." in Cities and Flows edited by Peter Hall and Markus Hesse. New York: Routledge. pp. 23-41.
- Wang, Man, Rachel Garshick Kleit, Jane Cover, and **Christopher Fowler** (2012) "Spatial variations in U.S. poverty: Beyond metropolitan and non-metropolitan." *Urban Studies* Vol. 49, Issue 3, pp. 563-585.
- Fowler, Christopher** (2011) "Finding equilibrium: How important is general equilibrium to the results of geographical economics?" *Journal of Economic Geography* Vol. 11, Issue 3, pp. 457-480.
- Fowler, Christopher** (2007) "Taking geographical economics out of equilibrium: implications for theory and policy." *Journal of Economic Geography* Vol. 7, Issue 3, pp. 265-284.
- Fowler, Christopher** (2006) "Re-exploring transport geography and networks: a case study of container shipments to the west coast of the United States." *Environment and Planning A* Vol. 38, Issue 8, pp.1429-1448.
- Fowler, Christopher** (2001) "Applying the least-cost transportation model to estimate the effects of major transportation system changes - case study of dam breaching on the Snake River." *Transportation Research Record: Multimodal and Marine Freight Transportation Issues* No. 1763, pp. 65-72.

## In Review

- Fowler, Christopher** "Key assumption in multiscale segregation measures: How zoning and strength of spatial association condition outcomes" (in review as part of a special issue on representation and visualization of segregation at *Environment and Planning B*).
- Martin, J.R. Michael<sup>†</sup> and **Christopher Fowler** "Connecting the dots: The spatial processes underlying place-level diversity change in U.S. metros between 1990 and 2010" (under review at *Spatial Demography*).

## Work in Progress

Frey, Nathan<sup>†</sup> and **Christopher Fowler** “The contextual fallacy reframed: Uncertainty in the representativeness of census counts for individual experience.”

**Fowler, Christopher**, Seth Spielman, and David Folch “Door to door demographics: the similarities and differences among American neighbors.”

Baumer, Eric and **Christopher Fowler** “Is the Spatial Clustering of High Poverty Neighborhoods Lethal? An Analysis of Metropolitan Counties, 1980 – 2010.”

**Fowler, Christopher**, Danielle Rhubart<sup>†</sup>, and Leif Jensen “Delineating labor-sheds from commuter-flow data for the U.S.: A generalized method for defining functional regions with quality of fit statistics.”

**Fowler, Christopher** “Scale in quantitative research on neighborhoods: considering the social construction of scale and the interdependence of scales with multiscale measures.”

## Grants:

### Ongoing

Investigator, “Early Life Stress and the Environmental Origins of Disease: A Population-based Prospective Longitudinal Study of Children in Rural Poverty” NIH #1UG3OD023332-01 Clancy Blair Principal Investigator. (2016-2023) ~\$1.6M first year with expected extension with equivalent funding for 6 more years. ~\$670K two-year subcontract to date.

Principal Investigator, “Publicly subsidized disasters: examining the connections between economically vulnerable populations, housing policy, and hazard risk in the Houston-Galveston region” NSF Graduate Research Fellowship with advisee Travis Young (2016-2019)

Co-Investigator, NSF-Census Research Network: Spatial Science Node. NSF #1132008 Seth Spielman Principal Investigator. (2011-2017) ~\$1.6M Award ~\$97K subcontract

### Completed:

Co-Principal Investigator, “Designing U.S. Labor Market Areas” USDA Economic Research Service #58-6000-4-0053. (2014-2016). \$25K

Co-Investigator, “Racial and Ethnic Diversity in American Communities, 1980-2010,” NICHD, Principal Investigator Barrett Lee. (2013-16) ~\$250K

Co-Principal Investigator, “Labor Market Areas and the changing connectivity between rural and urban areas in the U.S.” Population Research Institute Seed Grant, Penn State (2015). ~\$14K

Principal Investigator, “Economic Development and Gentrification: The Complex Impacts of Local Investments in Neighborhoods” Deike Research Grant. Penn State College of Earth and Mineral Sciences (2013) ~\$50K

## **Courses Taught:**

### At Penn State University

GEOG 126: Introduction to Economic Geography

GEOG 424: Geography of the Global Economy

GEOG 497A: Population Geography

GEOG 520: Seminar in Human Geography

### At the Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, University of Washington (*Workshops*)

Spatial R

Geographically Weighted Regression

Spatial Regression

Exploratory Spatial Data Analysis

Point Patterns and Raster Surfaces

Methods in Spatial Demography

### At the University of Washington Department of Geography

GEOG 448: Transportation and Equity

GEOG 377: Urban Political Geography

GEOG 449: Geography of Maritime Transportation

## **Awards and Fellowships:**

Best Poster, "The contextual fallacy reframed: uncertainty in the representativeness of census counts for individual experience." Population Association of America Annual Conference, Chicago (2017)

Visiting Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Racial, Ethnic, and Religious Diversity. Gottingen, Germany (2016).

Supported Participant, Bayesian Modeling for Practicing Ecologists. Fort Collins (2013)

Supported Participant, Institute for Research in the Social Sciences: "Migration as Adaptation," Stanford (2011).

Supported Participant, Advanced Spatial Analysis Workshop: Geographically Weighted Regression. Santa Barbara (2010).

Supported Participant, Advanced Spatial Analysis Workshop: Spatial Regression Analysis. Santa Barbara (2009).

Fellow (Non-residential), Brookings Institute Center on Social and Economic Dynamics (2008-2009).

Supported Participant, Graduate Workshop in Computational Social Science. Santa Fe Institute (2007).  
One of ten students selected to participate in an intensive workshop on computational modeling.  
The first geographer ever selected for participation in this workshop.

Ullman Prize for Best Dissertation, University of Washington Department of Geography (2007)

Supported Participant, Summer Institute in Economic Geography, Madison, Wisconsin (2006).

Graduate Fellow in Canadian-American Studies. Vancouver, B.C. (2006).

Research award from the Canadian Consulate to support two quarters of interviews and archival research related to competition and the port of Vancouver, B.C.

Fellow, Chester Fritz Foundation. Genova and Gioia Tauro, Italy (2005).

Research fellowship funding ten weeks of fieldwork for dissertation research on competition and politics in two Italian ports.

Fellow, Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship. Genova, Italy (2004).

Federally funded language study in Italian to support dissertation research.

Honorable Mention, National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship (2003).

Stefansson Fellowship for Arctic Research, Dartmouth College (1997).

### **Conference Presentations and Invited Talks:**

Poster Presentation, “The contextual fallacy reframed: uncertainty in the representativeness of census counts for individual experience” Best Poster winner, PAA Annual Meetings, Chicago (2017).

Invited Speaker, “Segregation and diversity as multiscale phenomena: Why we need multiscale measures to understand neighborhoods and neighborhood effects.” Minnesota Population Center, Minneapolis Minnesota (January 2017).

Presenter, “Delineating labor-sheds from commuter-flow data for the U.S.: A generalized method for defining functional regions with quality of fit statistics.” North American Regional Science Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis Minnesota (November 2016).

Invited Speaker, “Segregation and diversity as multiscale phenomena: Why we need multiscale measures to understand neighborhoods and neighborhood effects.” University of Kentucky, Lexington Kentucky (October 2016).

Presenter, “Changing diversity in U.S. metropolitan areas: An analysis of place-level diversity changes 1980-2010” PAA Annual Meetings, Washington D.C. (April 2016).

Presenter, Chair, Organizer, “Why we need multiscale measures to understand neighborhoods and neighborhood effects” AAG Annual Meetings, San Francisco (March 2016).

Invited Speaker, “Remaking commuting zones for 2010” Rural Sociology Department Colloquium, Penn State University (February 2016).

Invited Speaker, “Segregation as a multiscale measure” Population Research Institute, Penn State University (February 2016).

Presenter, “Comparing interpolated and dasymmetric data for use in spatial segregation measures.” Regional Science Association Annual Meeting, Portland, Oregon (November, 2015).

Invited Speaker, “Segregation as a multiscale measure” Spatial Statistics in the Social Sciences at Brown University, Providence Rhode Island (October 2015).

Presenter, “Planning dissonance’ and the bases for stably diverse neighborhoods: The case of South Seattle” RC21 Conference on the Ideal City, Urbino, Italy (August 2015).

Presenter, “Segregation as a multiscale measure” PAA Annual Meeting, San Diego, California (April 2015).

Discussant, “Spatial demographic analysis of poverty” PAA Annual Meeting, San Diego, California (April 2015).

Poster Presenter, “Identifying neighborhoods based on context: Multi-scale segregation and neighborhood dynamics in space and time” PAA Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts (May 2014).

Organizer, Presenter, Discussant, “Understanding neighborhood change.” Three part series of presentations, and panel discussion at AAG Annual Meeting, Tampa, Florida (April 2014).

Presenter, “Multiscale segregation and neighborhood change: Diversity and enclaves in South Seattle” Changing American Communities and Neighborhoods Working Group. Penn State University (Jan. 27, 2014).

Discussant, “Evolutionary economic geographies” AAG Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, California (April 2013).

Discussant, “Port cityscapes” AAG Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, California (April 2013).

Presenter, “Can lagging cities have taxes?” AAG Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, California (April 2013).

Discussant, “Cities and flows” AAG Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington (April 2011).

Presenter, “Geography of fringe banking” Annual Meeting of the North American Regional Science Association, San Francisco, California (November 2009).

Presenter, “Rising oil prices and globalization: A comparative analysis of general equilibrium and agent-based methods.” AAG Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada (March 2009).

Organizer, Chair, Presenter, “When geographers do economics.” AAG Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts (April 2008).

Participant and Presenter, Microeconomics of Competitiveness Faculty Workshop, Harvard Business School (2008).

Panelist and Presenter “Scale and spatial complexity: Agent-based models and geographical economics.” , Brookings Institute, Symposium on agent-based modeling and demography, Washington, D.C. (Dec. 2007).

Presenter, “The complex city: agent-based models and the potential for a critical quantitative economic geography.” AAG Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California (April 2007).

Presenter, “Port competition and the Puget Sound.” Black Hills Audubon Society, Olympia (Jan. 2007).

Organizer, Chair, Presenter “Models as theory/Models as explanation.” AAG Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois (March 2006).

Presenter, “The last bastion of the middle class: the effects of local competitive policy on essential services in U.S. cities 1980-2000.” AAG Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado (March 2005).

Presenter, “Traffic jams in the ‘Spaces of flows:’ Bringing transport networks into the globalization debate.” AAG Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (March 2004).

Presenter, “Links and nodes in the global network: The role of transportation companies in shaping globalization.” AAG Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana (Feb. 2003).

**Professional Service and Membership:**

Editorial Board Member, *Demography* 2016-present

Member, Association of American Geographers

-----Executive Committee Member, Population Geography Specialty Group (2016-present)

-----Executive Committee Member, Economic Geography Specialty Group (2006-2007).

Member, Regional Science Association

Member, Population Association of America

**Work and Other Non-Academic Experience:**

Instructor, “Introduction to spatial statistics” course taught through *Statistical Horizons* Philadelphia, PA. October 16-17 2013.

Owner, C.S. Fowler Consulting LLC (2011 – 2013)

Planning Commissioner, Lake Oswego, Oregon (1998-2000).

Economist and Planner, HDR Engineering, Portland, Oregon (1998-2000).

Planner, Group Mackenzie, Portland, Oregon (1997-1998).

**Other Competencies:**

Fluent in Italian

Programming capabilities in Java, Visual Basic, C++

Competency with a wide range of statistical and mapping software packages including: R, ArcGIS, GeoDa, GWR, SAS, SPSS, AtlasTi, RePast, NetLogo