

Curriculum Vitae
John “Jack” Vertovec

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Topics: Inequities and inequalities; labor and health vulnerabilities; healthcare disparities; stigma and spatial stigma; (in)formal economic strategies; migration and mobility; structural conditions and risks; community organization; intersectionality; Disciplines: medical anthropology; economic anthropology; applied social science; public health; implementation science; program evaluation; research translation and translational research; Methods: ethnography; Photovoice and visual participatory methodologies; Community-Based Participatory Research; mixed methods; participation evaluation; Settings: Latin America, the Caribbean, and other resource-constrained settings.

EDUCATION

- 2021** Florida International University (FIU), Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Department of Global & Sociocultural Studies, **Ph.D. in Anthropology**
Dissertation: *Entrepreneurial Intersections: An ethnographic study of entrepreneurial strategies amidst crisis and community in Havana, Cuba*
- 2017** FIU, Department of Global & Sociocultural Studies, **M.A. in Anthropology**
- 2012** University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Anthropology,
B.A. in Anthropology (*magna cum laude*), **Minor in Ethnic Studies**
Honors Thesis: *Street Hustling, Wanderlust, and Two Currencies: Contemporary Transitions Within Cuban Socialism*

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2026-pres. Co-Investigator**, PrEP-RISE: Reducing Intersectional Stigma for Empowerment to Increase PrEP Uptake among Women Who Inject Drugs (National Institutes of Drug Abuse (NIDA) Grant R34DA064469). PI: Walters. Co-Is: Vertovec & Lee. Langone Health, New York University, New York, New York, United States.

- 2025-pres. Qualitative Advisor**, The role of momentary acute perceived discrimination and cultural resilience in poly-substance use among adults from communities of color (National Institutes of Health (NIH) Grant R01DA055839). PI: Huh. Steven J. Keck School of Medicine of USC, Los Angeles, United States.
- 2025-pres. Research Scientist**, Resilience, Intersectional Stigma, and Empowerment (RISE) Lab. NYU Langone Health. New York, NY.
- 2025-pres. Lecturer**, Education & Psychological Studies Department. School of Education & Human Development. University of Miami. Miami, FL.
- 2023-pres. Principal Researcher and Co-Founder**, Integrated Methods, LLC. (Independent Applied and Academic Research Practice). Miami, FL.
- 2023-pres. Social Science Team Member**, Evidence Preservation Project, Champlain Towers South Collapse National Construction Safety Team Investigation. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Miami, FL.
- 2022-pres. Research Analyst**, Sol y Salud Project: Disasters, Solar Energy, and Chronic Disease Management in Aging Puerto Ricans (National Institutes of Health (NIH) Grant R01AG072613). PIs: Varas-Díaz, Padilla, Rodríguez-Madera. Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, FIU, Miami, FL and Casa Pueblo, Adjuntas, Puerto Rico.
- *2021-pres. Senior Research Associate**, Behavioral Science Research Institute, Coral Gables, FL.^{1*}
- 2018-pres. Research Affiliate**, REACH – Research Center for Health & Society, SIPA, FIU, Miami, FL
- 2023-2025 Co-Investigator**, Intervening with Haitian Immigrants in the U.S. to Improve HIV Outcomes (National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Grant R34MH133481). PI: Devieux, Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work, FIU, Miami, FL.
*Terminated early because of NIH funding cuts
- 2020-2025 Research Associate**, PLACES Project: Physician Migration and its Implications for Puerto Rico's health care system (NIH Grant 5R01MD014188-02) PIs: Padilla, Varas-Díaz, Rodríguez, Center for Research on U.S. Latino HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse (CRUSADA), Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work, FIU, Miami, FL and Ponce School of Medicine, Ponce, Puerto Rico.
- 2021-2023 Research Associate**, Optimizing PrEP Utilization Among Alcohol and Other Drug Using Women of Color (NIH Grant U34AA026219). PI: Devieux. Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work, FIU, Miami, FL.

^{1*} Primary Employment *

- 2018 Qualitative Data Analysis Consultant and NVivo Trainer**, Intervening with HIV+ Alcohol Abusers: Influence of Neurocognitive Factors (NIH Grant R01AA017405) PIs: Devieux and Malow. Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work, FIU, Miami, FL and Les Centres GHESKIO, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.
- 2018 Graduate Research Assistant**, Syndemics Project: Migration, Tourism and the HIV-drug use Syndemic in the Dominican Republic (NIH Grant R01DA031581) PI: Padilla. LACC, SIPA, FIU Miami, FL.

PHOTOVOICE & PARTICIPATORY VISUAL METHODS PROJECTS

- 2024-pres. Photovoice Advisor**, Equitable Pathways from Unsheltered Homelessness to Housing: A Mixed Methods Participatory Study of Innovative Street Outreach in Miami-Dade County. Sponsored by the National Alliance to End Homelessness. PI: Marr, Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies, FIU, Miami, FL.
- 2024-pres. Photovoice Advisor**, Washington Heights Photovoice Project: "The Day-to-Day of the Addict" and Harlem Photovoice Project: "Hope in the Sorrow, Pain, and Suffering." Parts of a study to explore and identify community support, social networks, and sources of joy among Spanish-speaking people (Washington Heights) and English-speaking people (Harlem) who inject drugs as potential facilitators of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV prevention and harm reduction. NYU and OnPoint Harm Reduction Centers, New York City, New York.
- 2023-2025 Director and Lead Facilitator**, Miami Open for Business Photos for Change Project, studying the impacts (perceived and actual) of a loan forgiveness program helping minority business owners purchase collective real estate in Miami. The Miami Foundation and Behavioral Science Research Institute, Miami, FL.
- 2023-2025 Photovoice Advisor**, ENTRUST Project: Economic navigation and strengthening to realize unrestricted services for transgender women (National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Grant 1DP2DA058436-01). PI: Cyrus, Population Health Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL. *Terminated early because of NIH funding cuts
- 2020-2022 Co-Director**, GREETINGS COVIDIANS Interdisciplinary Participatory Photography Project studying the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on people across the world, FIU, Miami, FL.
- 2020-2021 Co-Facilitator**, Camillus House COVID-19 Photovoice Project studying the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on shelter residents of Miami, FIU, Miami, FL.
- 2020-2021 Co-Facilitator**, Pridelines COVID-19 Photovoice Project studying the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people living with HIV/AIDS in Miami, FIU, Miami, FL.

- 2019** **Director and Lead Facilitator, *Habana Pedazos*** (Havana Pieces) Photovoice Project, *La Red de Proyectos Socioculturales* (The Network of Sociocultural Projects), Havana, Cuba (see the gallery here: <https://jvertovec.wordpress.com/Photovoice-project-havana-2019/>).

PUBLICATIONS

REFEREED ARTICLES

- 2026** Rodríguez-Madera, S., Varas-Díaz, N., Padilla, M., Rivera-Bustelo, K., Ramos, J., Rivera-Rodríguez, S., Santiago-Santiago, A., Mercado-Ríos, C., **Vertovec, J.**, Massol-Deyá, A., Rodríguez-Banch, R., Varas Rodríguez, E., Reid, G., & Grove, K. "Energy Insecurity and Health Among Older Adults: Chronic Disease Management and Resilience Strategies in Rural Puerto Rico." *BMC Public Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-026-26558-3>
- Padilla, M., Rodríguez-Madera, S., Varas-Díaz, N., Rivera-Rodríguez, S., Varas-Rodriguez, E., Ramos, J., Rivera-Bustelo, K., Santiago-Santiago, A. J., Mercado-Ríos, C. A., **Vertovec, J.**, Massol-Deya, A., Reid, G., Rodríguez-Banch, R., & Grove, K. "Fear of Falling in the Dark: Energy Insecurity as a Contextual Factor in Fall-Related Fear in Rural Puerto Rico." *Research Connections*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/rescon/vmag085>
- 2025** Rivera-Rodríguez, S., Santiago-Santiago, A., R-Madera, S., Padilla, M., Varas-Díaz, N., Rivera-Bustelo, K., Mercado-Ríos, C., **Vertovec, J.**, Massol-Deyá, A., Ramos, J., Reid, G., Rodríguez-Banch, R., Grove, K., & Varas-Rodríguez, E. "Disaster governance, energy insecurity, and public health in rural Puerto Rico: How communities resist political abandonment." *Frontiers in Public Health*, 13. <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/public-health/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2025.1595830/abstract>
- Varas-Díaz, N., Rodríguez-Madera, S., Padilla, M., Neilands, T., **Vertovec, J.**, Rivera-Bustelo, K., Santiago-Santiago, A., Mercado-Ríos, C., Reid, G., Grove, K. & Ramos-Pibernus, A. "Beyond Financial Incentives: A Quantitative Study on Puerto Rican Physician Migration to the United States." *Global Public Health* 20(1). <https://doi.org/10.1080/17441692.2025.2467767>.
- Rivera-Rodríguez, S., Varas-Díaz, N., Rodríguez-Madera, S., Padilla, M., Rivera-Bustelo, K., Reid, G., Santiago-Santiago, A., Mercado-Ríos, C., Grove, K., Massol-Deyá, A., Rodríguez-Banch, R., **Vertovec, J.**, Ramos, J. "Powering well-being: Energy independence and mental health in a zone of ongoing disasters." *Health and Place*, 91. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.healthplace.2025.103418>.

- 2024** Santiago-Santiago, A., Rivera-Custodio, J., Mercado-Ríos, C., González-Font, Y., Rodríguez-Madera, S.L., Varas-Díaz, N., Padilla, M., Ramos-Pibernus, A., Rivera-Bustelo, K., **Vertovec, J.**, Matiz-Reyes, A., & Grove, K. "Puerto Rican physicians' recommendations to mitigate medical migration from Puerto Rico to the mainland United States." *Health Policy Open*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.hopen.2024.100124>.
- Padilla, M., Varas-Díaz, N., Rodríguez-Madera, S., **Vertovec, J.**, Rivera-Custodio, J., Rivera-Bustelo, K., Mercado-Ríos, C., Matiz-Reyes, A., Santiago-Santiago, A., González-Font, Y., Ramos-Pibernus, A., & Grove, K. "They Think We Wear Loincloths': Spatial Stigma, Coloniality, and Physician Migration in Puerto Rico." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 38(2), 224-239. <https://doi.org/10.1111/maq.12857>.
- Rodríguez-Madera, S.L., Padilla, M., Varas-Díaz, N., Ramos-Pibernus, A., González-Font, Y., Santiago-Santiago, A., **Vertovec, J.**, Matiz-Reyes, A., Rivera-Bustelo, K., Mercado-Ríos, C., Rivera-Custodio, J. J., & Grove, K. "On staying: Non-migration among Puerto Rican physicians." *Crossings: Journal of Migration & Culture* 14:2. https://doi.org/10.1386/cjmc_00084_1.
- 2023** Witkowski, K., Silva, N.M., Marr, M. & **Vertovec, J.** "Safe but stifled: Assessing the impact of space and place on risk and adaptive response among shelter residents during the COVID-19 pandemic." *Health & Place*, 83. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.healthplace.2023.103087>.
- Varas-Díaz, N., Rodríguez-Madera, S., Padilla, M., Rivera-Bustelo, K., Mercado-Ríos, C., Rivera-Custodio, J. J., Matiz-Reyes, A., Santiago-Santiago, A., González-Font, Y., **Vertovec, J.**, Ramos-Pibernus, A., & Grove, K. "On leaving: Coloniality and Physician Migration in Puerto Rico." *Social Sciences & Medicine* 325. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2023.115888>
- 2022** **Vertovec, J.** & Ghaffari, M. "Gathering Insights on Inequities and Inequalities from a Photovoice Project with Community Organizations in Havana, Cuba." *American Journal of Qualitative Research* 6(2), 17-34. <https://doi.org/10.29333/ajqr/12126>
- Dévieux, J., **Vertovec, J.**, Jean-Gilles, M., Rosenberg, R., Réne, C., Cyrus, E., Emieux Jean, S., & Dunbar, W. "Patterns of sexual and HIV-related stigma among men who have sex with men and women living with HIV in Haiti." *Sci Rep* 12(7511). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-11647-1>.
- 2021** Witkowski, K., **Vertovec, J.**, Silva, N.M., Awadzi, R., Yamini, F., Varas-Díaz, N., Padilla, M., Rodriguez Madera, S., Matiz-Reyes, A., & Marr, M. "Miami in Transformation during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Participatory Visual Culture Analysis." *eTropic: Electronic Journal in the Tropics*, 20(1), 157-181. <https://doi.org/10.25120/etropic.20.1.2021.3772>

- 2020** **Vertovec, J.** "Collaborative problem-solving through Photovoice: Helping community organizations move from network building to action in Havana, Cuba." *Tracce Urbane* 8, 159-179. https://doi.org/10.13133/2532-6562_4.8.17044.
- Vertovec, J.** "No trabajaré pa' ellos: Entrepreneurship as a form of state resistance in Havana, Cuba." *Economic Anthropology*, 8, 148-160. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/sea2.12191>.
- Colón-Burgos, J.F., **Vertovec, J.**, Padilla, M., Mixson-Pérez, N., Matiz-Reyes, A., Varas-Díaz, N., Nuñez, A., Matos, N., Barker, R. & Neira, C. "Coping with stress and anxiety: An ethnographic comparison of labor and health vulnerabilities among Dominican deportees in two transnational industries." *Critical Public Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09581596.2020.1826031>.
- Stein, M., & **Vertovec, J.** "The transformative dynamics of self-employed dance-instruction in Havana, Cuba's tourism industry." Wood, D.C. (Ed.) *Anthropological Enquiries into Policy, Debt, Business, and Capitalism (Research in Economic Anthropology, Vol. 40)*, Emerald Publishing Limited, pp. 169-190. <https://doi.org/10.1108/s0190-128120200000040011>.
- 2019** Padilla, M., Hintzen, P., Cyrus, E., **Vertovec, J.**, Varas-Díaz, N. (eds.). Co-edited Special issue of *Global Public Health* entitled "Pan-Caribbean Perspectives on HIV/AIDS."
- Hintzen, P., **Vertovec, J.**, Cyrus, E., Padilla, M., Varas-Díaz, N. "Introduction to the Special Issue: Applying the Caribbean perspective to an analysis of HIV/AIDS." *Global Public Health*, 14(11), 1547-1556. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17441692.2019.1658122>.
- 2018** Padilla, M., Matiz-Reyes, A., Colón-Burgos, J., Varas-Díaz, N., **Vertovec, J.** "Adaptation of the Photovoice Methodology to Promote Policy Dialogue among Street-based Drug Users in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic." *Arts & Health*, 11(2), 147-162. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17533015.2018.1444647>.

REFEREED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- 2018** **Vertovec, J.** "Utilizing Intersectionality to Analyze Social Diversity in Cuban Self-Employment." *Cuba in Transition*, 239-251. Miami, FL: Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy.
- Vertovec, J.**, Colón-Burgos, J.F., Matiz-Reyes, A., Padilla, M., Varas-Díaz, N. "El Proyecto Lentos: Utilizando Foto-Voz como metodología de transformación social para personas con uso problemático de drogas en la República Dominicana." In *Aspectos teóricos-metodológicos para el estudio de las desigualdades sociales*. Havana, Cuba: El Instituto Cubano de Investigación Cultural Juan Marinello.

REVISE AND RESUBMIT

- 2026** Walters, S., Matiz-Reyes, A., Perez, G., Pla, E., Albano, O., Mejia, A., Duncan, D.T., Padilla, M., Fisher, T., **Vertovec, J.** "Embodying Social Work Values: A Photovoice Study with People Who Use Drugs in Overdose Prevention Centers." Accepted, awaiting publication notice in *Social Work Research*.
- Santiago-Santiago, A., Mercado-Ríos, C., Rodríguez Madera, S., Padilla, M., Varas-Díaz, N., Rivera-Bustelo, K., Rivera-Rodríguez, S., Reid, G., Rodríguez-Banch, R., Massol-Deyá, A., **Vertovec, J.**, Grove, K., Varas-Rodríguez, E., and Ramos-Santiago, J. "Loneliness among Older Adults in Energy-Insecure Rural Puerto Rico." Submitted to *Journal of Population Ageing*.
- 2025** **Vertovec, J.**, & Baylon Guillen, M. "Struggling Against the Current: Community Work amid Extremity and Uncertain Futures in Havana, Cuba." Varas-Díaz, N. & Nevárez Araújo, D. (eds.) *Extremity and the Future: Imagining Lives to Come*.
- Grove, K., Reid, G., **Vertovec, J.**, Padilla, M., Varas-Díaz, N., Rodríguez-Madera, S., Rivera-Bustelo, K., Mercado-Ríos, C., Matiz-Reyes, A., Santiago-Santiago, A., & González-Font, Y. "Physician migration, coloniality, and landscapes of care in post-Hurricane Maria Puerto Rico." Submitted to *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*.

SUBMITTED UNDER REVIEW

- 2026** Oh, H., **Vertovec, J.**, Lee, R., Blevins, B., Villanueva, I., Khalilian, S., Walters, S., Keum, B.T., Volpe, V., & Huh, J. "Online discrimination among Black, Latino, Asian American, and Multiracial adults: A socioecological systems perspective." Submitted to *Information, Communication & Society*.
- Reid, G., Grove, K., Varas-Díaz, N., Rodríguez-Madera, S., Padilla, M., **Vertovec, J.**, Escobar Sanabria, T., Santiago-Santiago, A., Mercado-Ríos, C., Massol-Deyá, A., Rivera-Bustelo, K., Rodríguez-Banch, R., Rivera Rodríguez, S., Ramos, J., & Varas-Rodríguez, E. "Toward a Community Geography of Data Ethics." Submitted to *GeoJournal*.
- Varas-Díaz, N., Rodríguez-Madera, S., Padilla, M., Neilands, T., **Vertovec, J.**, Rivera-Bustelo, K., Santiago-Santiago, A., Mercado-Ríos, C., Reid, G., Grove, K., & Ramos-Pibernus, A. "Which Factors Matter Most? A Dominance Analysis of Physician Migration from Puerto Rico to the United States." Submitted to *Health Policy and Planning*.
- Reid, G., Varas-Díaz, N., Grove, K., Padilla, M., Madera, S. R., Escobar Sanabria, T., Santiago-Santiago, A., Mercado-Rios, C., Deyá, A. M., Rivera-Bustelo, K.,

Rodríguez-Banch, R., **Vertovec, J.**, Ramos, J., Rivera-Rodriguez, S., Rodríguez, E. V. "Data Ethics from Below in Rural Puerto Rico: Supporting Collaborative Health Research with Community-Based Organizations." Submitted to the special issue: "Rethinking Data Colonialism in/from the Global South: Embodiment, Everyday Experiences, and Resistance" in *Big Data & Society*.

Walters, S., Vertovec, J., Padilla, M. Fisher, T., Matiz-Reyes, A., Pla, E., Perez, G., Delva, R., Albano, O., Mejia, A., Brown, M., & Duncan, D. T. "Adapting Photovoice for people who inject drugs: Introducing the ORA (Observe, Reflect, Act) method." Submitted to the *American Journal of Public Health*.

Rahman, F., Khezri, M., Huh, J., Vertovec, J., Brown, M., Padilla, M., Earnshaw, V., Duncan, D., Ompad, D., & Walters, S. "Community Attitudes Toward People Who Inject Drugs and the Role of a Photovoice Exhibit in Stigma Reduction." Submitted to the *American Journal of Public Health*.

Rivera-Rodríguez, S., Varas-Díaz, N., Rodríguez-Madera, S., Padilla, M., Rivera-Bustelo, K., **Vertovec, J.**, Neilands, T., Santiago-Santiago, A. J., Mercado-Ríos, C. A., Reid, G., Grove, K., & Ramos-Pibernus, A. "'The health plan can't put a price on my work': Physicians' experiences with private health insurers and physician migration in Puerto Rico, a mixed-method study." Submitted to *International Journal of Health Planning and Management*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Vertovec, J. "Latticed Health-Seeking and Layered Healthcare: Toward a Superdiversity Framework for Health in the Americas." To be included in the forthcoming anthology: *Rethinking Superdiversity from Latin America: Migration Crises, Social Complexity, and Unequal Diversification* (eds: Avelino, H., Cruz, A., & Vertovec, S.). *After invited-participation in "Superdiversity in the Americas" Workshop, October 2026, Mexico City, Mexico.

EXAMPLE TECHNICAL REPORTS & OTHER PUBLISHED MATERIAL

2026 Mooss, A., **Vertovec, J.**, & Evans, J. "Qualitative Data Report on HCV-Positive Persons Who Inject Drugs in Broward County" [Technical Report]. Produced by Behavioral Science Research Institute for the CDC's National HIV Behavioral Surveillance Brief HIV Bio-behavioral Assessment – Broward County, FL, USA. *Report available on request.

2025 Mooss, A., **Vertovec, J.**, Botero Londoño, A. & Mato, I. "2025 Triennial Behavioral Health Needs Assessment for Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties" [Technical Report]. Produced by Behavioral Science Research Institute for the Thriving Mind South Florida – the South Florida Managing Entity funded by Florida Department of Children and Families. *Synopsis available on request.

Vertovec, J., Hartman Diaz, M., Morgan, B. "Rooted in the 305: A Case Study of Miami Open for Business's Collective Real Estate Ownership (CREO) Fund in Miami-Dade County, Florida" In 2024 Case Studies: Community Ownership Strategies to Prevent Small Business Displacement: *Small-Business Anti-Displacement Network*. https://antidisplacement.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Community-Ownership-Strategies-for-Keeping-Small-Businesses-in-Place-FINAL_medium.pdf

Strompolis, M., **Vertovec, J.,** Rivas, A., Mooss, A., & Alton, F. L. "Slowing down the 'scientific method' for non-scientists" [White paper]. 1000 Feathers and Behavioral Science Research Institute. <https://bsrinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Slowing-Down-The-Scientific-Method.pdf>.

*More technical reports can be provided upon request.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Alex Stepick Best Dissertation Award, 2021 (FIU)
 Provost-WPHL Humanities Research Grant, 2020-2021 (FIU)
 University Graduate School Dissertation Year Fellowship, 2020 (FIU)
 Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center Event Grant, 2019 (FIU)
 Steven J. Green School for International and Public Affairs Travel Grant, 2019 (FIU)
 University Graduate School Dissertation Evidence Acquisition Fellowship, 2018 (FIU)
 Elena Rivero Cuban Studies Research Scholarship, 2018
 Morris and Anita Broad Research Fellowship, 2018
 Global and Sociocultural Studies Conference Presentation Grant, 2017 (FIU)
 Steven J. Green School for International and Public Affairs Travel Grant, 2017 (FIU)
 Global and Sociocultural Studies Preliminary Research Travel Grant, 2016 (FIU)
 Steven J. Green School for International and Public Affairs Travel Grant, 2016 (FIU)
 Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program Grant, 2012 (CU Boulder)
 Academic Dean's List (4 consecutive semesters), 2011 – 2012 (CU Boulder)

GRANTS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW OR IN PREPARATION

Multilevel Study of Food Insecurity in Disaster-Affected Puerto Rico (National Institutes of Health (NIH) R01). PIs: Varas-Díaz, Padilla, & Rodríguez-Madera. Co-Is: **Vertovec**, Palar, Neilands, & Rivera-Bustelo. Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, FIU, Miami, FL, and Division of Prevention Science, Department of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, CA. (Under Revision after Initial Scoring). *Co-I; lead ethnographer, survey lead, and community engagement lead.*

Advancing Photovoice Implementation Supports for Youth Mental Health Prevention: Developing and Testing a Decision-Support Tool (National Institutes of Mental Health (NIMH) R34 PAR-23-105). PIs: **Vertovec** & Walters. Co-Is: Mooss & Lee. Langone Health, New York

University, New York, New York, United States. (Submitted June 2026). *Co-PI; leading intervention design and implementation, and community partnerships.*

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

- 2026** "Evaluation Data from the South Florida Prevention System of Care 2025-26." July 23, 2026, Hialeah Community Coalition Needs Assessment Planning Meeting with officials from Hialeah, the CDC, Florida Poison Information Center, and other state and county officials, Virtual, Hialeah, Florida.
- 2025** "Evaluation, Reporting, and Ethics: Open Discussion on Applied and Community-Based Research including Photovoice." November 22, 2025, Guest Lecture in Program Evaluation, University of Miami, Department of Educational and Psychological Studies Course: EPS625.
- "Southern Region [Miami-Dade & Monroe Counties] Needs Assessment Overview." Presentation with Angela Mooss (CEO of BSRI) & Laura Naredo (Senior VP and COO of Thriving Mind South Florida). *Florida Department of Children and Families – Regional Behavioral Health Interagency Collaboration Meeting*, November 13, Virtual, Florida, Statewide.
- "El Rigor de la Ciencia en Tono de Facilitación" [The Rigor of Science in a Facilitative Tone]. August 27, 2025, Delivered to *La Asociación Latinoamericana de Facilitadores* [The Latin American Association of Facilitators].
- "Thriving Mind South Florida Triennial Needs Assessment [on the Behavioral Health System of Care in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties]." July 9, 2025, Delivered to the Executive Committee of Thriving Mind South Florida.
- "From Chaos to Clarity: Nonprofit Data Management & Evaluation Simplified." April 17, 2025, Workshop with Angela Mooss (CEO of BSRI) & Megan Diaz (COO of BSRI). The Children's Trust's Trust Academy & The Pontis Group's Small Business CBOs Capacity Building Series.
- "Adapting the Photovoice methodology for graduate-level research: Including, possibilities for virtual visual participatory research." March 4, 2025, Guest Lecture in Visual Methods in Social Science Research, FIU Global and Sociocultural Studies Course: SYD 6901-U01.
- 2024** "Youth Substance Use Trends in Hialeah, FL, USA: Local experiences discovered through focus groups." August 6, 2024, Needs Assessment Planning, Hialeah Community Coalition.

"From Economic Anthropology to Community Psychology: Crossing Disciplines Through CBPR and Photovoice." July 25, 2024, Community Health Interest Group, Society for Community Research and Action, Division 27 of the American Psychological Association.

"Photovoice: Conceptualization, implementation, execution, and analysis." March 6, 2024, Guest Lecture in Visual Methods in Social Science Research, FIU Global and Sociocultural Studies Course: SYD 6901-U01.

"Preparing for Photovoice: Adapting the Photovoice method for context specific circumstances." February 21, 2024, Guest Lecture in Conducting Research: Photovoice I, Furman University Graduate Studies Department.

2023 "Photovoice: Conceptualization, implementation, execution, and analysis." February 22, 2023, Guest Lecture in Visual Methods in Social Science Research, FIU Global and Sociocultural Studies Course: SYD 6901-U01.

2022 "Photovoice: Conceptualization, implementation, execution, and analysis." February 23, 2022, Guest Lecture in Visual Methods in Social Science Research, FIU Global and Sociocultural Studies Course: SYD 6901-U01.

2021 "Photovoice: Conceptualization, implementation, execution, and analysis." March 31, 2021, Guest Lecture in Visual Methods in Social Science Research, FIU Global and Sociocultural Studies Course: SYD 6901-U01.

2020 "*Habana Pedazos*: Adapting the Photovoice methodology for dissertation research." March 25, 2020, Guest Lecture in Visual Methods in Social Science Research, FIU Global and Sociocultural Studies Course: SYD 6901-U01.

"Metas de la Red, los beneficios y su valor. La Red como una herramienta." (Goals of the Network: The benefits and their values, the Network as a tool.). February 3, 2020, La Red de Proyectos Comunitarios de la Habana, Plan Maestro, La Oficina del Historiador de la Habana, Havana, Cuba.

2019 "'¿Perfeccionamiento?': The unequal effects of policy transformations in Cuban cuentapropismo." February 7, 2019, the Cuban Research Institute, FIU, Miami, FL.

2017 "La Teoría de la Interseccionalidad." (Intersectionality Theory). Workshop on Intersectionality Theory, July 13, 2017, Cuba Emprende, Havana, Cuba.

2016 "Conceptualizing the Cuban Informal Economy: Intersections across Cuba's Localized Economies." April 7, 2016, FIU Global and Sociocultural Studies' Brown Bag Special Interest Series, Miami, FL.

"Always Changing and not so Nefarious: The Underground Economy in Cuba." December 29, 2016, Viva Cuba, LLC., Boulder, CO.

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

- 2017** Sociology, Anthropology, and Geography Graduate Student Association (SAGGSA) Annual Conference: Migrations and Diasporas. March 24, 2017, FIU, Miami, FL.
- 2016** Sociology, Anthropology, and Geography Graduate Student Association (SAGGSA) Annual Conference: Identities and Inequalities. March 4, 2016, FIU, Miami, FL.

PANELS ORGANIZED

- 2025** “Bridging the Academic-Community Divide: Lessons from Practice Across a Spectrum of Roles.” June 20, 2025, Society for Community Research and Action (SCRA) Biennial Conference 2025, East Lansing, MI.
- 2024** “Helping youth out of their shells: Utilizing Photovoice and Sound It Out to build effective prevention programming and generate resiliency.” August 22, 2024, Florida Behavioral Health Conference 2024, Orlando, FL.
- “Community Voice and Collaboration: Using Evaluation Methods to Develop a Clinical Training Workshop.” August 9, 2024, American Psychological Association (APA) Annual Conference 2024, Seattle, WA.
- “Lessons from the Wu-Tang Clan: Strategies to align diverse skill sets and project portfolios to elevate evaluation and research success.” April 18, 2024, Eastern Evaluation Research Society (EERS) Annual Conference 2024, Zoom.
- “Strengthening the collective understanding of suicide in Florida: An interactive presentation of community-driven suicide prevention solutions in Broward County.” February 20, 2024, Florida Suicide Prevention Conference 2024, Tampa, FL.
- 2023** “Incorporating Youth Voice into Prevention Programming: Tackling Substance Use and Mental Health Challenges through Arts-based Methods in Miami.” June 22, 2023, Society for Community Research and Action (SCRA) Biennial Conference 2023, Atlanta, GA.
- “Linking Funder to Beneficiary: The creative deployment of partnerships, funding, and mixed methods evaluation.” April 25, 2023, Eastern Evaluation Research Society (EERS) Annual Conference 2023, Zoom.
- “Layering Stakeholder Tables, Systems Maps, and Ethnographic Maps: Opportunities to better identify project strengths and weaknesses.” April 25, 2023, Eastern Evaluation Research Society (EERS) Annual Conference 2023, Zoom.

- 2022** "Linking Prevention and Treatment in Miami: A Multitiered Approach to US Youth Mental Health Crises." August 4, 2022, American Psychological Association (APA) Conference 2022, Minneapolis, MN.
- "Training Practitioners in Research and QI to Promote Equity and Enhance Clinical Practice." August 6, 2022, American Psychological Association (APA) Conference 2022, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2021** "Greetings, Covidians: Participatory Visual Analyses of Vulnerabilities and Transformation amidst COVID-19 in Miami." March 26, 2021, Annual Conference for SAGGSA, FIU, Miami, FL.
- 2020** "Desigualdades e inequidades en Cuba y diseño de políticas públicas." May 13-16, 2020, Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Congress, Guadalajara, MX.
*Cancelled because of COVID-19.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2025** "Rooted in the 305: The Miami Open for Business Collective Real Estate Ownership (CREO) Fund in Miami-Dade County." Panel: SBAN's 2025 Case Studies - Creative Funding for Commercial Community Ownership. Presentation by Brittany Morgan. *Small Business Anti-Displacement Network Annual Conference*, November 12-14, The University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland.
- 2024** Rivera-Rodríguez, S., Varas-Díaz, N., Rodríguez-Madera, S., Padilla, M., Rivera-Bustelo, K., Reid, G., Santiago-Santiago, A., Mercado-Ríos, C., Grove, K., Rodríguez-Banch, R., Massol-Deya, A., & **Vertovec, J.** (2024). "Powering mental health: Energy independence in ongoing disasters." Presented at the ICP Conference July 21-26, 2024.
- "Compounded Crises: Disaster, Coloniality, and Physician Migration in Puerto Rico." May 3, 2024. Created with Genevieve Reid & Kevin Grove. Presented at the VI Puerto Rican Public Health Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2023** "'Look, this is what I was telling you...' Women's negative experiences in accessing healthcare during the COVID-19 pandemic." November 12, 2023. Poster presentation by Amelia Leon & Floriene Joseph at the 2023 American Public Health Association annual meeting, Atlanta, Georgia.
- "Safe but Stifled: The Impact of Risk and Resilience Among Shelter Residents." Panel: Disaster Displacement and Shelter Needs in Recovery. Presentation by Kaila Witkowski. *Natural Hazards Center Researcher's Conference*, July 12-13, Denver, Colorado.

2022 "Qualitative and Quantitative Methodologies used in Quality Improvement and Healthcare Disparities Research." August 6, 2022, American Psychological Association (APA) Conference 2022, Minneapolis, MN.

"Stigmatizing and Discriminatory Experiences among Puerto Rican Physicians in US Medical Settings." August 5, 2022, Poster presentation by Yoymar González-Font at the 2022 *American Psychological Association*, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

"Targeting Readmissions: Individual-level experiences of a Care Coordination Program in Miami, FL." August 4, 2022, American Psychological Association (APA) Conference 2022, Minneapolis, MN.

Rivera-Custodio, J., **Vertovec, J.**, González-Font, Y., Mercado-Ríos, C., Santiago-Santiago, A., Rodríguez-Madera, S., Varas-Díaz, N., Padilla, M., Ramos-Pibernus, A., Rivera-Bustelo, k., Grove, K., & Matiz-Reyes, A. (July, 2022). "Reenergizing Ourselves and Our Communities: Connections Across Borders and Barriers." Presented at the *Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Conference*. San Juan, Puerto Rico.

"Hospital Ya!": Visual Resistance to the Health Crisis in Vieques, Puerto Rico." July 24, 2022, Oral presentation by Joshua Rivera-Custodio at the 2022 *Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues Conference*, San Juan, PR.

Santiago- Santiago, A., González- Font, Y., Rodríguez- Madera, S., Ramos-Pibernus, A., Rivera- Custodio, J., Mercado- Ríos, C., **Vertovec, J.**, Varas- Díaz, N., Padilla, M., Grove, K., Rivera- Bustelo, K., & Matiz- Reyes, A., (May, 2022). "Esta es mi isla, esta es mi casa": Factors that Motivate Physicians to Stay in Puerto Rico Presented at the 17th PHSU_PR Annual Scientific Conference. Ponce, Puerto Rico

González Font, Y., Mercado Ríos, C., Santiago Santiago, A., Rivera Custodio, J., Rivera Bustelo, K., **Vertovec, J.**, Matiz Reyes A., Grove, K., Ramos-Pibernus, A., Varas-Díaz, N., Rodríguez-Madera, S., & Padilla, M. (2022). "The System is all Messed Up: Motives that Foster Physician Migration from PR to US." Presented at the 7th Behavioral Health Student Research Symposium of Southern Puerto Rico.

Mercado Ríos, C., González Font, Y., Santiago Santiago, A., Rivera Custodio, J., Rivera Bustelo, K., **Vertovec, J.**, Matiz Reyes A., Grove, K., Ramos-Pibernus, A., Varas-Díaz, N., Rodríguez-Madera, S., & Padilla, M. (2022). "Implementation of a Mixed Methods Study to Document Physicians Migration in Puerto Rico's Health System." Presented at the 7th Behavioral Health Student Research Symposium of Southern Puerto Rico.

"Lenses of Compassion: Exploring the COVID-19 Pandemic Through Participatory Photographs Across Borders." June 8, 2021, Multidisciplinary and International

Web-Conference: *COVID-19 beyond Borders: Rethinking Medical Humanities at the Frontlines*. University of Vienna.

- 2021** "Lenses of Compassion: Exploring the COVID-19 Pandemic Through Participatory Photographs Across Borders." June 8, 2021, Multidisciplinary and International Web-Conference: *COVID-19 beyond Borders: Rethinking Medical Humanities at the Frontlines*. University of Vienna.
- "From uncertainty to solidarity: Participatory visual perspectives of people living with HIV/AIDS during COVID-19." March 26, 2021, Annual Conference for SAGGSA, FIU, Miami, FL.
- 2020** "'Habana pedazos': Insights from a Photovoice initiative with seven community projects in Havana, Cuba." March 13, 2020, Annual Conference for SAGGSA, FIU, Miami, FL. **Cancelled because of COVID-19.*
- 2019** "Comparing labor and health experiences among Dominican deportees in two transnational industries." Co-authored with José Colón-Burgos, presented by José Colón-Burgos. November 20, 2019, Annual Conference for the American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, Canada.
- "Disparate crises: Considering the unequal experiences of the impending economic crisis in Havana, Cuba." November 20, 2019, Annual Conference for the American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, Canada.
- "This crisis will be different: A comparative case-study of unequal economic realities in contemporary Havana, Cuba." February 15, 2019, Annual Meeting for the Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy, Miami, FL.
- "'Lo temenos en la sangre': Political, economic, and social circumstances of self-employed dance instructors in Cuba." February 15, 2019, FIU's Cuban Research Institute's Twelfth Conference on Cuban and Cuban-American Studies, Miami, FL.
- 2018** "Visión general de la implementación de la metodología Foto-Voz para un proyecto investigatorio social." December 12-14, 2018, El Taller III: Aspectos teóricos y metodológicos, El Instituto Cubano de Investigación Cultural Juan Marinello, Havana, Cuba.
- "'Hay que resolver': Entrepreneurial spirit during economic transformation in Cuba." March 30, 2018, Annual Conference for Sociology, Anthropology, and Geography Graduate Student Association, FIU, Miami, FL.
- 2017** "La Metodología FotoVoz: Adaptado por los estudios de la desigualdad." December 12, 2017, El Taller II: Aspectos teóricos y metodológicos, El Instituto Cubano de Investigación Cultural Juan Marinello, Havana, Cuba.

"Varying Opportunities: Identifying Intersectional Inequalities in Cuba's Emergent Self-Employment System." December 3, 2017, Annual Conference for the American Anthropological Association, Washington DC.

"In the Eye of *La Yuma*: Looking at U.S. Ethnographic Interest in Cuba's post-Soviet Inequalities." February 23, 2017, FIU's Cuban Research Institute's Eleventh Conference on Cuban and Cuban-American Studies, Miami, FL.

"In the Eye of *La Yuma*: Looking at U.S. Ethnographic Interest in Cuba's post-Soviet Inequalities." February 10, 2017, Rollins College's "Cuba at the Crossroads" Conference, Winter Park, FL.

OTHER COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

- 2026** Gallery Exhibition for the Equitable Pathways to Housing Photovoice Project, March 27, 2026, The Homeless Trust, Miami, FL.
- 2021** Virtual Exchange and Gallery Exhibition for Camillus House and Pridelines COVID-19 Photovoice Projects, April 14, 2021, Zoom.
- 2020** Gallery Exhibition for *Habana Pedazos*: Photovoice Project Created by the Network of Community Projects in Havana March 18, 2020, Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center, FIU, Miami, FL. **Postponed indefinitely because of COVID-19.*
- 2019** Gallery Opening for *Habana Pedazos*: A Photovoice Project created by the Network of Community Organizations in Havana, Cuba. October 21, 2019, Proyecto Entimbalao, Plaza de la Revolución, Havana, Cuba. (see the gallery here: jvertovec.wordpress.com/Photovoice-project-havana-2019/).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, EPS 684: Research and Program Evaluation in Counseling, Fall 2025, Fall 2026.

Applied Research and Quality Improvement, Resident Research Seminar, Citrus Health Network, 2021-Present

- Provided research didactic and applied teaching to Citrus Health psychology and psychiatry residents and fellows to support scholarly activity in their training.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies, FIU, 2015-2020.

Geographies of Food, Spring 2020

Introduction to Quantitative Sociological Research, Fall 2019

Introduction to Sociology, Spring 2019
 Introduction to Sociology, Summer 2018
 Introduction to Sociology, Spring 2018
 Introduction to Sociology, Fall 2017
 Introduction to Sociology, Summer 2017
 Myths, Ritual, and Mysticism, Spring 2017
 Introduction to Sociology, Fall 2016
 Myths, Ritual, and Mysticism, Summer 2016
 Medical Anthropology, Spring 2016
 Anthropology of Sex and Gender, Fall 2015

MENTORSHIP

Dissertation Committee Member: Laura Bustillos, *Artificial Intelligence Literacy and Ethics for Under-Resourced Higher Education Institutions*, Doctorate of Education Dissertation, Higher Education Leadership Program, University of Miami

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION & COMMUNITY

- 2025-pres. ENABLE Pillar Steward**, Strategic Planning Committee, Society for Community Research and Action, Division 27 of the American Psychological Association
- 2024-pres. Community Advisory Board Member**, Care 4 U Community Health Center, Miami, FL.
- 2024-pres. HIV Prevention Committee Member**, Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership, Miami, FL
- 2023-pres. Strategic Planning Core-Team Member**, Society for Community Research and Action, Division 27 of the American Psychological Association
- 2023-pres. Participating Member**, Community Health Interest Group, Society for Community Research and Action.
- 2022-pres. Community Research Representative**, Health Care Disparities Task Force, Citrus Health Network in conjunction with the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education(ACGME), Miami & Hialeah, FL.
- 2019-pres. Foreign Ambassador**, Artecorte Community Project, Havana, Cuba.
- 2019-pres. Community Organization Advisor**, Proyecto Vida (Community Project), Arroyo Naranjo, Havana, Cuba.
- 2022-2023 Intern Mentor**, Miami Open for Business Program, Behavioral Science Research Institute, Miami, FL.

- 2021-2023 External Mentor**, Students undertaking participatory photography methods, FIU
- 2020-2021 Spanish-Speaking Business Accelerator Mentor**, Emprendimiento para Todos (EparaTodos) [Entrepreneurship for All (EforAll)], Boulder County, CO, USA.
- 2020 Website Editor**, Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies, FIU.
- 2019-2021 Social Science Researcher and Co-Founding Member**, La Red de Proyectos Comunitarios (The Network of Community Projects), Havana, Cuba.
- 2019-2021 Advisory Board Member and Social Science Researcher**, Contramuros: Talleres de las Artes Plásticas (Contramuros: Workshops of Plastic Arts), Cerro, Havana, Cuba.
- 2019 English Instructor**, Artecorte: Escuela de peluquería y cantinearía (Artecorte: Hairstyling and Bartending School), Habana Vieja, Havana, Cuba.
- 2018-19 Community Project Advisor**, Los Azules del Malecón: Club de Beisbol (Los Azules del Malecón: Baseball Club), Centro Habana, Havana, Cuba.
- 2018-19 Guest Editor**, *Global Public Health* Special Issue: "Applying a Caribbean perspective to an analysis of HIV/AIDS."
- 2016-18 Volunteer Graduate Researcher**, Proyecto Lentes (Lens Project), Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center at FIU.
- 2017 Spanish/English Translator**, Pan-Caribbean Regional Assessment of the HIV/AIDS Epidemic, Department of Global & Sociocultural Studies in conjunction with the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center at FIU.
- 2017 Graduate Student Judge**, McNair Scholars Research Conference, FIU.
- 2017 Graduate Student Discussant**, Sociology, Anthropology, and Geography Graduate Student Association's Annual Conference: Nature and Society, 2017.
- 2016-17 Volunteer Graduate Researcher**, Syndemics Project (NIH Grant R01 DA031581-01A1. PI: Mark Padilla), Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center at FIU.
- 2015-17 Colloquium Chair and Vice-President**, Sociology, Anthropology, and Geography Graduate Student Association, FIU, 2015-2017.
- 2013-15 Volunteer English as a Second Language (ESL) Instructor**, Intercambio: Uniting Communities, Boulder County, CO, USA.

MEDIA COVERAGE

TELEVISION

- 2020** **Vertovec, J.** *CBS4 Miami*, interview. "Greetings, Covidians: FIU Visual Research Project Looks At COVID-19 In New Light." On air news story and article by Hank Tester, CBS4 Miami. December 8.
<https://miami.cbslocal.com/2020/12/08/greetings-covidians-fiu-visual-research-project-covid-19/>

PRINT

- 2020** **Vertovec, J.** *FIU News*, interview. "Greetings, Covidians: Seeing COVID-19 through fresh eyes." Article by Daniel Lederman. July 15.
https://news.fiu.edu/2020/greetings,-covidians-seeing-covid-19-through-fresh-eyes?fbclid=IwAR2oOINy_v6HgqJp--x5rPDpLDyZG3Kjgd_ngeV6G8lWhUAESUK7lrEvED0

LANGUAGES & PROFICIENCIES

LANGUAGES

English: Native

Spanish: Fluent

PROFICIENCIES

SPSS: Intermediate

Word: Advanced

Canva: Intermediate

NVivo & Dedoose: Advanced

PowerPoint: Advanced

LucidChart: Advanced

Excel: Advanced

HTML: Intermediate

Qualtrics: Advanced

ADDITIONAL LIFE EXPERIENCES

- 2013-2015** **Program Manager**, University of Colorado Boulder Alumni Association Events Management Team, Boulder, CO, USA.
- 2009** **General Assistant for Operations**, United States Antarctic Program, McMurdo Station, Antarctica.
- 2007** **Volunteer and Paid Substitute Teacher**, Centro de Educación Creativa (The Cloud Forest School), Monteverde, Costa Rica.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Society for Community Research and Action (active)

Eastern Evaluation Research Society (active)
American Psychological Association (previously active)
Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (previously active)
Latin American Studies Association (previously active)
American Anthropological Association (previously active)
Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology (previously active)
Society for Economic Anthropology (previously active)
Society for the Anthropology of Work (previously active)