

ISAAC SOHN LESLIE

University of Vermont Extension
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2022- Extension Assistant Professor of Community Development, University of Vermont
2023- Graduate Faculty in Food Systems
2021-22 Postdoctoral Research Associate in Food Systems, University of New Hampshire

EDUCATION

2020 Ph.D., Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2016 M.A., Sociology, University of New Hampshire
2016 M.S., Natural Resources, University of New Hampshire
2010 B.A., International Studies & Music, Vassar College (honors)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Environmental sociology; Food systems & justice; Gender & sexuality; Rural economic & community development

PUBLICATIONS

Book

2021 Bell, Michael Mayerfeld, Loka L. Ashwood, Isaac Sohn Leslie, and Laura Hanson Schlachter. *An Invitation to Environmental Sociology*. 6th edition. Thousand Oaks, CA, and London, UK: Sage.

Covered in [The Guardian](#)

Special Issue Editor

2019 Leslie, Isaac Sohn, Jaclyn Wypler, and Michael Mayerfeld Bell. "Relational Agriculture: Gender, Sexuality, and Sustainability in U.S. Farming." *Society & Natural Resources* 32(8):853-74.

Covered on [Indiana Public Media](#) and in [The Sierra Club Magazine](#)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Online Hoffelmeyer, Michaela, Jaclyn Wypler, and Isaac Sohn Leslie. "Surveying Queer Farmers: How Heteropatriarchy Affects Farm Viability and Farmer Well-being in U.S. Agriculture." *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*.

Online Leslie, Isaac Sohn, Jessica Carson, and Analena Bruce. "LGBTQ+ Food Insufficiency in New England." *Agriculture and Human Values*.

Covered on [Public News Service](#)

2019 Leslie, Isaac Sohn. "Queer Farmland: Land Access Strategies for Small-Scale Agriculture." *Society & Natural Resources* 32(8):928-46.

Covered in [Civil Eats](#), [Wisconsin Public Radio](#), [Milwaukee Public Radio](#), and [Wisconsin Watch](#)

2019 Crowley, Morgan, Kara E. Shannon, Isaac Sohn Leslie, Andrea Jilling, Cameron D. McIntire, and Emily Kyker-Snowman. "Sustainable Beef Production in New England: Policy and Value Chain Challenges and Opportunities." *Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems* 43(3):274-98.

2017 Leslie, Isaac Sohn. "Improving Farmers Markets and Challenging Neoliberalism in Argentina." *Agriculture and Human Values* 34(3):729-42.

2017 Leslie, Isaac Sohn. "Queer Farmers: Sexuality and the Transition to Sustainable Agriculture." *Rural Sociology* 82(4):747-71.

Covered in [The Jewish Telegraphic Agency](#), [The Bangor Daily News](#), the [The Keene Sentinel](#), and [The Planet Magazine](#)

Book Chapters

2018 Leslie, Isaac Sohn and Monica M. White. "Race and Food: Agricultural Resistance in U.S. History." Pp. 347-64 in *Handbook of the Sociology of Racial and Ethnic Relations*, edited by Pinar Batur and Joe Feagin. New York: Springer.

Policy Briefs

2021 Carson, Jess, Analena Bruce, and Isaac Sohn Leslie. "Half of New Hampshire Residents Buy Local Farm Food at Least a Few Times a Month, But Engagement Varies by County." *Carsey School of Public Policy*, Regional Issue Brief #65: 1-4.

Covered on [New Hampshire Public Radio](#), in the [Concord Monitor](#), the [New Hampshire Bulletin](#), the [New Hampshire Business Review](#), the [New Hampshire Union Leader](#), and [Foster's Daily Democrat](#)

GRANTS *Total = \$1,819,007*

2023 University of Vermont Food Systems Research Center, "Sustainability Metrics for Consumer-Facing Agriculture." PI: David Conner; Co-PIs: Lisa Chase, Gillian Galford, and Isaac Sohn Leslie; Key Personnel: Juan Alvez, Emily Belarmino, Farryl Bertmann, Terry Bradshaw, Mark Cannella, Joshua Faulkner, Maire Folan, and Eric Bishop von Wettberg. \$599,840.

2023 University of Vermont Food Systems Research Center, "Social Values, Identity, and Sustainability Outcomes: Measuring Social Processes in Agriculture." PI: Joseph Ament; Co-PIs: Isaac Sohn Leslie and Daniel Tobin; Key personnel: Scott Merrill, Caitlin Morgan, and Amy Trubek; Advisors: Kristal Jones and NOFA-VT. \$580,596.

2022 Sociological Initiatives Foundation, "Rural LGBTQ+ Health in New England." Co-PIs: Isaac Sohn Leslie and Out in the Open. \$20,000

2022 U.S. Department of Agriculture Northeast SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Extension), "Developing Mediated Market Models to Increase Consumer Engagement

- and Market Access for New England Farmers.” PI: Analena Bruce; Co-PIs: Jess Carson, Isaac Sohn Leslie, and Kenesha Reynolds; Advisors: David Conner and Jennifer Hashley. \$257,846
- 2021 U.S. Department of Agriculture AFRI (Agriculture and Food Research Initiative), “Increasing Consumer Participation in Alternative Food Networks to Support Small and Medium-Sized Farms.” PI: Analena Bruce; Co-PIs: Jess Carson and Isaac Sohn Leslie; Advisors: Semra Aytur and Lawrence Hamilton. \$299,724
- 2020 Rural Sociological Society Dissertation Research Award, “Local Food Myths: Agriculture’s Global Green New Deal.” \$3,187
- 2020 University of Wisconsin-Madison Crowe Dissertation Research Award, “Local Food Myths: Agriculture’s Global Green New Deal.” \$3,000
- 2020 Mellon-Wisconsin Fellowship, “Local Food Myths: Agriculture’s Global Green New Deal.” \$7,380
- 2019 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship in Argentina, “Alternative Agriculture as a Development Strategy: Certified Organic and Agroecological Food Systems in Argentina.” \$25,784
- 2018 University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems Mini-Grant, “Sustainable Food System Law and Policy.” \$2,500
- 2017 Fulbright Study/Research Award in Argentina, “Sustaining Family Farms and Farmers Markets in the Rural Pampas.” \$10,650
- 2017 University of Wisconsin-Madison Crowe Pre-Dissertation Research Award, “Small-scale Farmers’ Relationship & Livelihood Strategies.” \$1,500
- 2015 Rural Sociological Society Master’s Thesis Research Award, “Masculinity and Sexuality on Farms: Implications for the Transition to Sustainable Agriculture.” \$500
- 2015 Vassar College Research Grant, “Is CSA Farming a Form of Dissent?” PI: Pinar Batur; Researchers: Danielle Falzon and Isaac Sohn Leslie. \$1,000
- 2013 Honda Motor Company Educational Assistance Program for M.S. coursework in Sustainable Food Systems. \$3,000
- 2013 Vassar College Fellowship for Graduate Study for M.S. coursework in Sustainable Food Systems. \$2,500

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2023 University of New Hampshire Sustainability Award for article “LGBTQ+ Food Insufficiency in New England”
- 2019 Rural Sociological Society Olaf Larson Graduate Student Paper Award for article “Queer Farmland: Land Access Strategies for Small-Scale Agriculture”
- 2019 University of Wisconsin-Madison Genevieve Gorst Herfurth Award for article “Queer Farmland: Land Access Strategies for Small-Scale Agriculture”
- 2016 University of New Hampshire Kidder Fund Award for fostering greater understanding of equity and inclusion for the UNH LGBTQ+ community
- 2014 Eagle Rock School & Professional Development Center Exceptional Instructor Award

2013 Berklee City Music Network Emerging Service Leader Award

PRESENTATIONS

Invited

- 2021-22 Queering Food Systems for Justice and Sustainability
Indiana University ([webinar](#)), online
University of California, Davis, online
Babson College, online
- 2021 Defetishizing the Family Farm: Alternative Perspectives on Farm Life
Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting (panel), online
- 2021 Queering Qualitative Research on the Farm (with Michaela Hoffelmeyer)
Beloit College, online
- 2020 Gender, Sexuality, and Food Access
Bennington College, online
- 2019 What Are We Missing by Leaving LGBTQIA* Out of Natural Resource Management Research?
International Symposium on Society & Resource Management (panel), Oshkosh, WI
- 2018 Harvesting as Researchers and Farmers: Farming while Queer
Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting (panel), Portland, OR

Public (selected)

- 2022 Queering the Food System
Indiana Public Media ([podcast](#)), radio and online
- 2022 LGBTQ+ Food Insufficiency in New England (with Jess Carson and Analena Bruce)
Vermont Foodbank Hunger Action Conference ([webinar](#)), online
- 2020 Gender, Agriculture, and Food Access (with Tatiana Abatemarco and students)
Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont ([webinar](#)), online
- 2020 Queering Climate Activism
Vassar College Urban Education Initiative (presentation), Poughkeepsie, NY
- 2019 Farming for Justice: Queering Sustainable Agriculture (with Michaela Hoffelmeyer & Jaclyn Wypler)
Groundswell: Center for Local Food & Farming ([webinar](#)), online
- 2018 Sexuality and the Sustainable Agriculture Movement (with Jaclyn Wypler)
F.H. King: Students for Sustainable Agriculture (presentation), Madison, WI
- 2016 Integrating LGBTQ+ Topics into the Curriculum (with Tamsin Whitehead & Mark Anthony)
University of New Hampshire (workshop), Durham, NH

- 2016 Sexuality and Sustainable Agriculture
Northeast Organic Farming Association New Hampshire Winter Meeting (workshop), Concord, NH
- 2013 Queer! Facilitating Real Conversations
Coalition of Essential Schools Fall Forum (workshop), San Francisco, CA
- 2013 Using PULSE (Pre-University Learning System Experience) with Limited Resources
Berklee College of Music PULSE Training Institute (workshop), Boston, MA
- 2013 Staff and Student Community Development (with Dan Condon)
Big Picture Learning (workshop), South Burlington, VT
- 2012-13 Proficiency-Based Graduation Requirements (with Michael Soguero)
Big Picture Learning (workshop), South Burlington, VT
- 2012 Expanding Partnerships: Teachers as Learners, Students as Teachers (with Helen Beattie)
Youth and Adults Transforming Schools Together Conference (conference co-organizer), Montpelier, VT
- 2012 Assessing Your Students
Berklee College of Music PULSE Training Institute (workshop), Boston, MA
- 2012 Curriculum Development (with Michael Soguero)
Big Picture Learning (workshop), South Burlington, VT

Conference

- 2022 Queering Food Justice (with Michaela Hoffelmeyer)
American Association of Geographers (regular session), online
- 2021 “Organic is Capitalist and Agroecology is Socialist”: Alternative Farmers’ Approaches to Food Insecurity Beyond Dualisms
Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting (regular session), online
- 2019 Constructing a Sustainable Food System? Alternative Food Networks in Buenos Aires, Argentina (with Clara Craviotti)
Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting (regular session), New York, NY
Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting (regular session), Boston, MA
- 2018 Queer Farmland: Land Access Strategies for Small-Scale Agriculture
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Environmental Sociology section session), Philadelphia, PA
Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting (regular session), Portland, OR
- 2017 Improving Farmers Markets and Challenging Neoliberalism in Argentina
Latin American Studies Association International Congress (regular session), Lima, Peru

- 2016 Struggling in the New England Countryside: Is CSA Farming a Form of Dissent? (with Danielle Falzon & Pinar Batur)
 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (roundtable session), Seattle, WA
 Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting (regular session), Boston, MA
- 2016 The Co-Construction of Outness: Conducting Qualitative Research with Queer Farmers
 Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting (regular session), Toronto, Canada
- 2015-16 Queer Farmers: Sexuality and the Transition to Sustainable Agriculture
 International Rural Sociology Association World Congress (regular session), Toronto, Canada
 Transecting Society Conference (regular session), Durham, NH

TEACHING

Certifications

- 2014 Professional Teaching License, Eagle Rock Professional Development Center
 2011 Initial Teaching License, Eagle Rock Professional Development Center

Extension Programming

University of Vermont, Extension Assistant Professor

- 2022- Community Development programming
 23 Educational activities delivered
 106 People reached

Graduate Student Advising

University of New Hampshire, Postdoctoral Research Associate

- 2021-22 Alexa Wilhelm, M.S. in Agricultural Sciences (committee member): “Connecting New England Farmers to Large Retailers via Values-based Supply Chains”

Graduate Courses

University of New Hampshire, Postdoctoral Research Associate

- 2021 U.S. Food Systems: Political Economy, Governance, and Social Movements

High School Courses (selected)

Eagle Rock School & Professional Development Center, Instructional Specialist

- 2012-14 Theater & Society
 2013 Community Problem Solving
 2012 Digital Music & the Environment
Eagle Rock School & Professional Development Center, AmeriCorps/Public Allies Teaching Fellow
 2011 Soil, Society, & Sustainability
 2011 Improvisation
 2010 Race, Class, & Gender in Jazz History

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Public Service

- 2021- Member, Queer Agricultural Service Provider Cohort, U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network in the Northeast
- 2021- Community Participatory Research Facilitator, Rural Trans and Queer Health Justice Working Group, Out in the Open
- 2019- Listserv Moderator, Northeast Queer Farmers Alliance
- 2021-22 Advisory Committee Member, New England Feeding New England, New England State Food System Planners Partnership

Service to Academic Associations

American Sociological Association

- 2019-20 Graduate Student Representative, Environmental Sociology Section Teaching & Outreach Committee

Rural Sociological Society

- 2018-19 Graduate Student Representative, Publications Committee
- 2017-18 Graduate Student Assistant, Gender and Sexualities Research Interest Group
- 2016-17 Graduate Student Representative, Development Committee

Service to Department

University of Vermont

- 2023 Member, Community and Economic Development Search Committee

University of New Hampshire

- 2021 Member, Food & Climate Research Network, Collaborative Research Excellence Interdisciplinary Working Group
- 2014-16 Facilitator, President's Commission on the Status of LGBTQ+ People Professional Development Working Group
- 2014-16 Director & President, Stonewall Grads
- 2015-16 Member, President's Commission on the Status of LGBTQ+ People

University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 2018 Graduate Student Representative, Department of Community & Environmental Sociology
- 2018 Graduate Student Representative, Department of Sociology Evaluation and Improvement of Instruction Committee

Eagle Rock School & Professional Development Center

- 2011-14 Founder & Director, Berklee City Music Network Site
- 2011-14 Co-founder & Advisor, Spectrum (LGBTQ+ discussion group)
- 2013-14 Facilitator, Diversity & Inclusion Critical Friends Group

2011-13 Member, Professional Development Critical Friends Group

Manuscript Reviews

Agriculture and Human Values (2); *Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems* (1); *Environmental Sociology* (1); *Feminist Studies* (1); *Food, Culture & Society* (1); *Journal of Rural Studies* (1); *Latin American and Caribbean Ethnic Studies* (1); *Rural Sociology* (4); *Sexuality Research & Social Policy* (1); *Social Currents* (1)

Professional Affiliations

Agriculture, Food & Human Values Society

American Sociological Association

Rural Sociological Society

Languages

English (native)

Spanish (fluent)