

2017 Patrice L. Engle Dissertation Grant in Early Child Development Award Winners: Zülal Akçayüzlü, Sulochana Basnet, Rudo M.S. Chingono, and Aldo Anzures Tapia



Zülal Akçayüzlü is a doctoral candidate in Developmental Psychology at the Department of Psychology, Hacettepe University. Her advisor is Professor Zehra Uçanok. Zülal's research interests include parent-child relationships, quality and determinants of caregiving behaviors, and the associations between parenting and developmental outcomes of children during early childhood. Her dissertation project entitled "Attachment Security between Incarcerated Mothers and Their Children: Factors Explaining Intergenerational Transmission" aims to examine the intergenerational attachment relationships between incarcerated mothers and their children staying with them in prison facilities. In this project, the premises of children's attachment security will be examined in order to enrich the ongoing elaboration of attachment theory by examining underlying factors that explain intergenerational transmissions. During her undergraduate years, Zülal worked in a project targeted Kurdish children who emigrated

from their homelands (east part of Turkey) with their families to a more industrialized part of the country. And recently, she also worked in a cross-cultural project about cyberbullying and bullying with middle and high school students. Zülal hopes that results of this study might be a significant endeavor in contributing to our knowledge from developmental perspective regarding the nature of attachment relationship at risky conditions. Accordingly, findings of current study might be useful for researchers and policy makers in terms of developing policies to determine the psychological needs of mothers and also practical needs specific to infancy and early childhood period during their daily life. So, she believes that her findings will help to provide valuable insights in order to plan prevention and intervention strategies to meet incarcerated mothers' and their children's needs during this highly stressful experience, and strengthen individual characteristics of mothers to enhance their caregiving practices.



Sulochana Basnet is pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior at the Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina. Her doctoral advisor is Professor Edward A. Frongillo. Sulochana completed a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Tribhuvan University, Nepal and a Master of Medical Science degree with focus on International Health from Uppsala University, Sweden. As a doctoral student, Sulochana has been involved in research focused on early child development, child growth, and care behaviors by using the United Nations Children's Fund's Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys. She was also a part of an external evaluation of a community-based maternal and newborn health and nutrition project in three countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Her dissertation focuses on understanding the role of resources for care in improving care behaviors, early child development, and child nutritional status in Bangladesh,

Vietnam, and Ethiopia. This project uses a comprehensive set of measures of resources for care that could influence care behaviors and child outcomes. Sulochana hopes that her dissertation work will provide evidence for developing intervention programs and policies to promote children's growth and development in low- and middle-income countries.



Rudo Chingono is pursuing her Doctorate in Infection and Population Health (Ph.D.) in the Research Department of Global Health at University College London. Her supervisors are Professor Lorraine Sherr and Professor Frances Cowan. Rudo's research interest lies on the impact of maternal mental health on parenting skills and early childhood development. Of particular focus her thesis investigates the impact of maternal mental health on the outcome of a comprehensive community based intervention addressing early childhood stimulation, economic resilience and HIV care delivered to HIV infected women and their children in Zimbabwe. The study aims at assessing the impact of maternal mental health on influencing the outcome of early childhood stimulation/parenting programmes in improving development of HIV exposed infants in resource constrained areas. Rudo hopes that her dissertation will contribute

towards increased and improved interventions addressing maternal mental health issues that affect parenting and child development outcomes. With 5 years research experience, Rudo is currently working for a lead HIV Sexual Reproductive Health non-governmental organization in Zimbabwe called Centre for Sexual Health HIV/AIDS Research (CeSHHAR) Zimbabwe as Project Coordinator within the Children and Adolescents Department. She holds an MSocSc in Child and Family Studies (Africa University), a BsocSc Honors in Development Studies (Rhodes University) and a BsocSc Psychology & Anthropology majors (Rhodes University).



Aldo Anzures Tapia is a Graduate Research Fellow and doctoral candidate at the University of Pennsylvania pursuing his Ph.D. in Educational Linguistics at the Graduate School of Education. His dissertation advisor is Nancy H. Hornberger. Since 2015 he has engaged in collaborative research with the Caste War Museum (Tihosuco, Quintana Roo, Mexico) through the Tihosuco Heritage Preservation and Community Project. He has assisted the Caste War Museum in the production of bilingual comics, bilingual lesson plans and materials for the museum workshops; in the documentation of bilingual rap practices and oral histories from the elders in Tihosuco; as well as in the promotion of a trilingual approach to the museography. Broadly, his dissertation research is a new phase in his collaboration with the community of Tihosuco, where he tries to exemplify how long-term partnerships are crucial components in policy making, and at the same time seeks to benefit the

community through the collaborative development of materials, and by opening spaces for reflection on the language and early childhood ecologies in the town. Specifically, his dissertation explores how early childhood education initiatives and official language education support, complement, and complicate community efforts for the revitalization of Yucatec Maya within early childhood education. Aldo's research addresses common tensions in early childhood education in Indigenous contexts, where formal education efforts are often at odds with the linguistic and cultural practices of Indigenous families, and positions multilingual education as a platform where greater justice could be achieved for the most minoritized populations. Aldo aims to be an applied researcher and development practitioner who is not limited to university settings, but can work with schools, multilateral organizations and governments to pry open spaces for multilingual education at the preschool level in Indigenous contexts. Aldo holds an M.A. in International Educational Development from Teachers College, Columbia University, and a B.A. in Psychology from the National Autonomous University of Mexico.