

# JENNIFER WATLING NEAL

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Michigan State University  
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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

August 2009-  
present     **Assistant Professor**  
Ecological Community Psychology Program  
Department of Psychology  
Michigan State University

August 2008-  
August 2009     **NIMH Postdoctoral Fellow**  
Institute for Juvenile Research  
University of Illinois at Chicago

## EDUCATION

- 2008     **Doctor of Philosophy – Community Psychology**, University of Illinois at Chicago  
**Minor:** Statistics, Methods, and Measurement  
**Dissertation:** Examining relations in relational aggression: A social network approach\*  
**Committee:** Karina Olga Reyes (chair), Marc Atkins, David Henry, Pamela Popielarz, Edison Trickett  
*\*2010 Best Dissertaton on a Topic Relevant to Community Psychology, Society for Community Research and Action*
- 2004     **Master of Arts – Community Psychology**, University of Illinois at Chicago  
**Minor:** Statistics, Methods and Measurement  
**Thesis:** The impact of contextual exposure to aggression on children’s normative beliefs and aggressive behavior  
**Committee:** Karina Olga Reyes (chair), David Henry, Edison Trickett
- 2001     **Bachelor of Science – Psychology**, University of Arizona (Summa Cum Laude)  
**Bachelor of Arts – Sociology**, University of Arizona  
**Minor:** Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
**Thesis:** The role of parental involvement and teacher-child relationships in early school outcomes  
**Chair:** Angela Taylor

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Social Networks	Statistics and Research Methods
School-Based Interventions	Community Psychology
Diffusion of Innovations	Child Development

## FUNDED GRANTS, CONTRACTS, & RESEARCH SUPPORT

- 2012     Co-Principal Investigator (with Emily Durbin), Departmental Collaborative Grant, Department of Psychology, Michigan State University, “The Development of Peer Networks in Young Children“, \$5000.
- 2011-2012     Co-Investigator (with Rebecca Campbell, Deborah Bybee, & Megan Greeson), National Institute of Justice, “Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Implementation and Collaborative Process: What Works Best for the Criminal Justice System?“, \$278,713.
- Fall 2010     Co-Investigator (with Pennie Foster-Fishman, Hiram Fitzgerald, & Laura Bates), Early Childhood Investment Corporation, “Evaluating Michigan's Great Start Initiative“, \$171,998.

- 2008-2009 Principal Investigator, National Institute of Mental Health, Ruth L. Kirschstein Postdoctoral National Research Service Award (F32), “Modeling the Effects of Social Networks on the Diffusion of School-Based Interventions“, Priority Score: 128, Percentile Score: 4.4, \$50,346 (declined two additional years of funding at \$107,472).
- 2008-2009 Co-Investigator (with Zachary Neal), Midwestern Sociological Society Endowment Grant Award, “The Seeds of Collaboration: An Analysis of Sociology Graduate Student Social Networks”, \$1100.
- 2005-2006 Principal Investigator, Provost Award for Graduate Research, University of Illinois at Chicago, “Examining Relations in Relational Aggression”, \$2000.

#### PENDING GRANTS, CONTRACTS, & RESEARCH SUPPORT

- Submitted Principal Investigator (with Zachary Neal (PI), Patricia Farrell (Co-PI), & Yvonne Caamal-Canul  
October (Co-PI) “Examining How School Administrators Acquire Research Evidence through Social  
2011 Networks”, William T. Grant Foundation RFP for the Use of Research Evidence, Amount  
Requested: \$342,727

#### ARTICLES IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

- Neal, Z.P., & Neal, J.W. (in press). Opening the black box of social cognitive mapping. *Social Development*.
- Neal, J.W., & Neal, Z.P. (in press). The multiple meanings of peer groups in social cognitive mapping. *Social Development*.
- Neal, Z.P., & Neal, J.W. (in press). The public school as a public good: Direct and indirect pathways to community satisfaction. *Journal of Urban Affairs*.
- Cappella, E., Neal, J.W., & Sahu, N. (2012). Children’s agreement on classroom social networks: Cross-level predictors in urban elementary schools. *Merrill-Palmer Quarterly*, 58(3), 285-313.
- Cappella, E., & Neal, J.W. (2012). A classmate at your side: Classroom characteristics, peer victimization, and network connections in urban schools. *School Mental Health*, 4, 81-94. doi: 10.1007/s12310-012-9072-2.
- Neal, J.W., & Cappella, E. (2012). An examination of network position and childhood relational aggression: Integrating resource control and social exchange theories. *Aggressive Behavior*, 38, 126-140. doi: 10.1002/ab.21414.
- Neal, J.W., & Neal, Z.P. (2011). Power as a structural phenomenon. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 48 (3/4), 157-167. doi: 10.1007/s10464-010-9356-3.
- Neal, J.W., Cappella, E., Wagner, C., & Atkins, M.S. (2011). Seeing eye to eye: Predicting teacher-student agreement on classroom social networks. *Social Development*, 20(2), 376-393. doi: 10.1111/j.1467-9507.2010.00582.x.
- Neal, J.W., Neal, Z.P., Atkins, M.S., Henry, D.B., & Frazier, S.L. (2011). Channels of change: Contrasting network mechanisms in the use of interventions. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 47(3/4), 277-286. doi: 10.1007/s10464-010-9403-0.\*
- \*Hungarian Translation – Neal, J.W., Neal, Z.P., Atkins, M.S. Henry, D.H., & Frazier, S.L. (2011). A változás csatornái: hálózati mechanizmusok összehasonlítása az intervenció terjedése során. *Esély*, 5, 118 – 135.
- Neal, J.W. (2010). Hanging out: Features of urban children’s peer networks. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 27(7), 982-1000. doi: 10.1177/0265407510378124.
- Neal, J.W. (2010). Social aggression and social position in middle childhood and early adolescence: Burning bridges or building them? *Journal of Early Adolescence*, 30(1), 122-137. doi: 10.1177/0272431609350924.

**Neal, J.W.** (2009). Network ties and mean lies: A relational approach to relational aggression. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 37(6), 737-753. doi: 10.1002/jcop.20328.

**Neal, J.W.** (2008). Kracking the missing data problem: Applying Krackhardt's cognitive social structures to school-based social network research. *Sociology of Education*, 81, 140-162. doi: 10.1177/003804070808100202.

**Neal, J.W.**, Shernoff, E.S., Frazier, S.L., Stachowicz, E., Frangos, R., & Atkins, M.S. (2008). Change from within: Engaging teacher key opinion leaders in the diffusion of interventions in urban schools. *The Community Psychologist*, 41(2), 53-57[peer reviewed article in published newsletter].

**Neal, J.W.** (2007). Why social networks matter: A structural approach to the study of relational aggression in middle childhood and adolescence. *Child and Youth Care Forum*, 36(5-6), 195-211. doi: 10.1007/s10566-007-9042-2.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

**Neal, J.W.** (2011). Children's networks. In G. Barnett (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Social Networks (Volume 1)* (pp. 118-121). Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications.

Atkins, M.S., **Neal, J.W.**, Letondre, J., & Gamm, S. (2007). Development of the Chicago Public School's ADHD Policy Manual: From community to university and back. In S. Evans, Z. Serpell, & M. Weist (Eds.), *Advances in school-based mental health, Volume 2*. Kingston, NJ: Civic Research Institute, Inc.

Miller, R.L., **Watling, J.R.**, Staggs, S.L., & Rotheram-Borus, M.J. (2003). Growing up biracial in the United States. In D. R. Koslow & E. P. Salett (Eds.), *Race, ethnicity and self: Identity in multicultural perspective, 2nd edition*. Washington, DC: National MultiCultural Institute.

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Cappella, E., & **Neal, J.W.** (2012, May). A classmate at your side: Teacher practices, peer victimization, and network connections in urban schools. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Prevention Research, Washington DC.

**Neal, J.W.**, Collins, C.R., & Janulis P. (2012, March). Understanding the knowledge environment of community psychology: A network analysis of journal citations. Paper presented at the International Network for Social Network Analysis Sunbelt XXXII Social Networks Conference, Redondo Beach, CA.

Neal, Z.P., & **Neal, J.W.** (2011, August). *The role of public schools in community satisfaction*. Roundtable paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, NV.

**Neal, J.W.** (2011, June). *The promise of social network analysis for multi-level research*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Community Research and Action, Chicago, IL.

**Neal, J.W.**, Fehler-Cabral, G., Janulis, P., & Farrell, P. (2011, June). *Social networks, dissemination, and implementation: Lessons from the Promoting Academic Success Project*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Community Research and Action, Chicago, IL.

**Neal, J.W.** & Cappella, E. (2011, March). *Do friends of friends matter for aggressive behaviors?* Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Torrente, C., Cappella, E., & **Neal, J.W.** (2011, March). *Positive behaviors, social acceptance, and classroom norms in urban elementary schools*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Cappella, E., & **Neal, J.W.** (2011, March). *Teacher practices and peer relational equity in urban elementary classrooms*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

- Torrente, C., Cappella, E., & **Neal, J.W.** (2010, September). *Positive behaviors, social acceptance, and classroom norms in urban elementary schools*. Poster presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual International Institute on Developmental Science. New York, NY.
- Neal, J.W.**, Neal, Z.P., Atkins, M.S., Henry, D.H., & Frazier, S.L. (2010, August). *Channels of change: Contrasting network mechanisms in the use of interventions*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Diego, CA.
- Neal, J.W.**, Cappella, E., Wagner, C., & Atkins, M.S. (2010, May). *Seeing eye to eye: Predicting teacher-student agreement on classroom social networks*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Denver, CO.
- Shernoff, E.S., **Neal, J.W.**, Frazier, S.L., Wainer, A., & Atkins, M.S. (2009, August). *Using key opinion leaders to diffuse interventions in urban schools*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Torrente, C., Cappella, E., & **Neal, J.W.** (2009, August). School micro-contexts, children's behaviors, and peer relationships: Moderators and effects. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Neal, J.W.** (2009, April). *Network ties and mean lies: A relational approach to relational aggression*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development, Denver, CO.
- Neal, Z.P. & **Neal, J.W.** (2009, April). *The seeds of collaboration: An examination of graduate student social networks*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Sociological Society, Des Moines, IA.
- Cappella, E., & **Neal, J.W.** (2009, April). *Student awareness of classroom social networks: An ecological analysis in urban schools*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development, Denver, CO.
- Wagner, C., Zhao, Y., Mishlen, K., Cappella, E., & **Neal, J.W.** (2008, October). *Differences in teacher awareness of student social relationships in urban classrooms*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Educational Research Association, Rocky Hill, CT.
- Neal, J.W.** (2008, August). *Hanging out: Features of urban, elementary students' classroom social networks*. Roundtable paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Boston, MA.
- Atkins, M., Mehta, T., Frazier, S., Cappella, E., Marinez-Lora, A., Shernoff, E., Rusch, D., **Neal, J.W.**, Stachowicz, E., Frangos, R., Dawes, N., Dirks, M., Rosen, P., Ogo, M.Y., Williamson, J., & Schoenwald, S. (2008, August). *Links to Learning: School and community mental health resources alignment in support of children's learning in high-poverty urban schools*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Boston, MA.
- Cappella, E., Shernoff, E.S., **Neal, J.W.**, Mehta, T., Marinez-Lora, A., Rusch, D., Stachowicz, E., Frazier, S.L., & Atkins, M.S. (2008, May). *Links to Learning in urban schools: Classroom context and program adaptation*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Prevention Research, San Francisco, CA.
- Cappella, E., **Neal, J.W.**, Henry, D.B., & Atkins, M.S. (2008, March). *Teacher practices and student social networks in urban elementary classrooms*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New York, NY.
- Henry, D.B., Fogg, L., Schoeny, M., & **Neal, J.W.** (2008, March). *Permutation analysis*. Presentation to the Chicago Chapter of the American Statistical Association, Chicago, IL.

- Neal, J.W.** (2007, August). *Cracking the missing data problem: Applying Krackhardt's cognitive social structures to school-based social network research*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, NY.
- Neal, J.W.**, Atkins, M., Frazier, S., Haislup, C., Leathers, S., & Gibbons, R. (2006, May). *Urban school teachers' social networks: Does who you know affect what you do?* Poster presented at the 18<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, New York, NY.
- Neal, J.W.** & Trickett, E.J. (2006, May). *Predictors of cross-ethnic and co-ethnic friendships among Soviet Jewish refugees*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Neal, J.W.** (2006, March). *Envisioning relations in relational aggression*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Sociological Society, Omaha, NE.
- McDonald, K.E., **Neal, J.W.**, Mason, G., Blanton, S., Tanyu, M., Taylor-Ritzler, T., Miller, R.L., Conrad, K.J., & Telleen, S. (2005, October). *What did US and international conference attendees have to say about their experiences at Evaluation 2004*. Presented at the joint conference of the Canadian Evaluation Society and the American Evaluation Association, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Bloodworth, M.R., Whalen, S.P., & **Neal, J.W.** (2005, October). *Complex change initiatives: Evaluating frameworks rather than programs*. Roundtable presented at the joint conference of the Canadian Evaluation Society and the American Evaluation Association, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Neal, J.W.**, Blanton, S., Mason, G., McDonald, K.E., Tanyu, M., Taylor-Ritzler, T., & Reeves, E. (2005, June). *Reflections on learning opportunities in conducting a conference evaluation*. Poster presented at the Biennial Conference of the Society for Community Research and Action, Champaign-Urbana, IL.
- Neal, J.W.**, Tanyu, M., Reeves, E., Blanton, S., Mason, G., McDonald, K., & Taylor-Ritzler, T. (2005, May). *Stakeholder-based evaluation: A conversation of implementation challenges*. Roundtable discussion presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Neal, J.W.**, Reyes, O., & Henry, D.B. (2004, April). *Effects of exposure to aggression on children's beliefs and behaviors*. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- McDonald, K., Bloodworth, M., Howard, A., **Watling, J.R.**, Beard, S., Mason, G., & Townsend, S. (2003, November) *Apples and oranges, successes and failures: Diverse theorists contributions to context-specific evaluation*. Roundtable discussion at the American Evaluation Association Conference, Reno, NV.
- Bloodworth, M.R., **Neal, J.W.**, & Katz, S.L. (2003, August) *Three schools, three contexts: Adaptation of a preventive intervention*. Poster presented at the American Psychological Association Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Katz, S.L., **Watling, J.R.**, Beyer, R., Bloodworth, M., & Weissberg, R.P. (2003, May) *Partners for health, academic, social, and emotional success (PHASES) program*. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

#### INVITED TALKS

- Neal, J.W.**, Neal, Z.P., Atkins, M.S., Henry, D.B., Frazier, S.L., Fehler-Cabral, G., & Farrell, P. (2012, March 19). *Using social network analysis to inform dissemination and implementation of interventions*. Presented as part of a panel on Systems Science Methodologies: Involving Stakeholders to Enhance Dissemination and Implementation Research, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual NIH Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation, Bethesda, MD.
- Neal, J.W.** (2012, February 29). *Using social network analysis to inform dissemination and implementation efforts in urban schools*. Presented at the Psychology and Social Intervention Colloquium, New York University, New York, NY.
- Neal, J.W.** (2012, February 15). *Using social network analysis to inform dissemination and implementation efforts in urban schools*. Presented at the Human Development Initiative Brownbag Series, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.

### TECHNICAL REPORTS

- Neal, J.W.,** Fehler-Cabral, G., & Janulis, P. (2010). *Promoting Academic Success Project: Understanding Teacher Advice Networks about Minority Boys' Education*. Submitted to 5 Elementary Schools in Lansing, Michigan.
- Whalen, S.P., Bloodworth, M., Beyer, R., **Neal, J.W.,** Velazquez, V., Gong, Y., & Greene, G. (2005). *Early progress, early challenges: Exploring first year developments in the CPS community schools initiative*. Submitted to the Campaign to Extend Community Schools in Chicago.
- McDonald, K.E., **Neal, J.W.,** Tanyu, M., Mason, G., Taylor-Ritzler, T., Blanton, S., & Reeves, E. (2005). *Evaluation 2004: International attendees*. Submitted to the American Evaluation Association.
- Mason, G., Blanton, S., McDonald, K.E., **Neal, J.W.,** Tanyu, M., Taylor-Ritzler, T., & Reeves, E. (2005). *Evaluation 2004: Overall conference survey*. Submitted to the American Evaluation Association.
- Whalen, S.P., **Neal, J.W.,** & Gallogy, C. (2004). *Evaluation of the Campaign to Extend Community Schools in Chicago: Data portrait of CECSC school cohort one (2003-2004)*. Submitted to the Campaign to Extend Community Schools in Chicago.
- Whalen, S.P., Bloodworth, M. Beyer, R., Gallogy, C., Gong, Y., Greene, G., **Neal, J.W.,** Velasquez, V., & Wang, M. (2004). *Implementation of community schooling in Chicago: Early progress and challenges*. Submitted to the Campaign to Extend Community Schools in Chicago.

### ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL HONORS

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|-----------|---|
| 2010      | Best Dissertation on a Topic Relevant to Community Psychology, Society for Community Research and Action (APA Division 27)  |
| 2008      | Leonard D. Eron Graduate Student Award for Outstanding Scholarly Accomplishment, University of Illinois at Chicago<br>[Highest award available to UIC Psychology Graduate Students] |
| 2007-2008 | Dean's Scholar Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago<br>[Highest award available to UIC Graduate Students]  |
| 2006-2007 | University Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago  |
| 2005-2006 | University Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago  |
| 2001-2002 | University Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago  |
| 2001      | Phi Beta Kappa, University of Arizona   |
| 1991-2000 | Berdina Grundstrum Award, University of Arizona   |
| 1997-2001 | Regents Tuition Waiver, University of Arizona   |
| 1997      | Provost Scholarship, University of Arizona  |

### COURSES TAUGHT

#### Undergraduate

Introduction to Statistics (University of Illinois at Chicago, Psychology, Spring 2006)

#### Graduate

History and Theory of Community Psychology (Michigan State University, Psychology, Fall 2009, Fall 2011)

Field Research (Michigan State University, Psychology, Spring 2010, Spring 2011)

Social Network Analysis (Michigan State University, Psychology, Fall 2010)

Research Methods (Michigan State University, Psychology, Fall 2011)

### INVITED TRAININGS

- October 2011 *Social Network Analysis Basics*. Evaluation Circle Workshop Series. East Lansing, MI.
- June 2011 *Social Network Research with Culturally Diverse Populations*. American Psychological Association Advanced Training Institute: Research Methods with Diverse Racial and Ethnic Groups. East Lansing, MI.
- January 2012 *Social Network Webinar* (with David B. Henry). NIH LINKS Center.

### Master's Theses

Mariah Kornbluh (**Chair**)  
Lizeth Camacho

### GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEES

#### Comprehensive Examinations

Patrick Janulis (**Chair**)  
Jess Shaw  
Erin Watson (2010)  
Sarah Reed (2011)  
Rocio Escobar-Chew (2012)  
Allison Wainer (2012)  
Jedidiah Blanton (2012)  
Jenny Mortensen (2012)

#### Dissertations

Charles Collins (**Chair**)  
Meeta Banerjee  
Giannina Fehler-Cabral (2011)  
Mercedes Morales-Aleman (2011)  
Erin Watson (2012)

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

#### **Ad Hoc Reviewer,**

American Journal of Community Psychology  
American Journal of Evaluation  
Child Development  
Developmental Psychology  
Journal of Social and Personal Relationships  
Sociology of Education

- 2011 - 2012 **Member,** APA Division 27 Society for Community Research and Action Dissertation Awards Committee
- 2011 **Member,** APA Division 27 Society for Community Research and Action Nominations Committee
- 2010 - 2011 **Chair,** APA Division 27 Society for Community Research and Action Dissertation Awards Committee
- 8/10 **Session Chair,** American Psychological Association  
*Community Psychology in Diverse Settings and Contexts*
- 12/09-5/10 **Graduate Admissions Committee,** Ecological Community Graduate Program, Department of Psychology, Michigan State University
- 4/07 **Session Organizer,** Midwestern Sociological Society Annual Meeting  
*Applications of Social Network Analysis*
- 4/04 – 2/05 **Consultant,** American Evaluation Association  
Member of a team responsible for designing and implementing a stakeholder-based, mixed method evaluation of the 2004 American Evaluation Association Conference.
- 10/03 – 5/04 **Consultant,** Sinai Community Institute, Chicago, IL  
Conducted a formative evaluation of the *Sinai Mentoring Program*.
- 5/02-10/02 **Conference Organizing Team,** Midwestern Ecological-Community Conference

### TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Quantitative Analysis:** Multiple Regression, Social Network Analysis, Hierarchical Linear Models, Random

Permutation Tests

**Software:** STATA, SPSS, SAS, UCINET, LISREL, Datstat Illume, Filemaker

**REFERENCES**

Karina Olga Reyes

Associate Professor  
Department of Psychology  
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Edison Trickett

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