

Nellie Tran

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POSITION

2010 **Assistant Professor** of Psychology, University of Massachusetts Lowell

EDUCATION

2010 **Ph.D.**, Community & Prevention Research, Department of Psychology, University of Illinois at Chicago
Using Color-blindness to Understand the Effects of Discrimination on the Well-being of Asian Americans
Committee: Dina Birman (Chair), Edison J. Trickett, Sabine E. French, Kevin Kumashiro, & Karen Su
Minor: Minority Youth & Education

2007 **M.A.**, Community & Prevention Research in Psychology, University of Illinois at Chicago
Teacher expectations of refugee children with no prior educational experiences in the American classroom
Committee: Dina Birman, (Chair), Edison J. Trickett, Lisa Frohmann

2003 **B.A., Cum Laude** Psychology with Minor in Women's Studies, University of California, Los Angeles
Primary Advisors: Sandra Graham (Educational Psychology) & Jaana Juvonen (Developmental Psychology)

PUBLICATIONS

Birman, D. & **Tran, N.** (2008). Psychological distress and adjustment of Vietnamese refugees in the United States: Association with pre- and postmigration factors. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 78, 109-120.

Tran, N., & Birman, D. (2010). Questioning the model minority: Studies of Asian American academic performance. *Asian American Journal of Psychology*, 1, 106-118

Under Review:

French, S. E., **Tran, N.**, & Chavez, N. (under review). Racial identity and race-related stressors: Their relation to mental health among Asian Pacific Americans. Submitted for review to the *Journal of Applied Social Psychology* on March 19, 2011.

In Preparation:

Tran, N. (in preparation). Using Color-blindness to Understand the Effects of Discrimination on the Well-being of Asian Americans.

Birman, D., & **Tran, N.** (in preparation). Somali Bantu refugee children in a U.S. school: Challenges to mutual accommodation.

Tran, N., & Birman, Tran. (in preparation). Shifting Teacher Expectations: Learning from Teachers Experiences with Somali Bantu Refugees.

Tran, N. (in preparation). Is pizza American? Differences in the construction of meaning across race and generation.

Ho, I. K., Dinh, K. T., & Tran, N. (in preparation). Experiences of traumatic and non-traumatic interpersonal stress among Southeast Asian American women.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Hayashino, D., Tsong, Y., Loan, P., Dinh, K., & **Tran, N.** (2011, August). The experiences of institutional oppression through the profession and the role of mentoring in coping and thriving among APIA Women. Symposium to be presented at 2011 American Psychological Association in Washington D.C.
- Enchautegui-de-Jesus, N., Ferrari, J., Guitterez, L., Hazel, K., Long, S., Majer, J., Phillips, S., Schlehofer, M., **Tran, N.**, & Zimmerman, L. (2011, June). Experiential learning in undergraduate community psychology courses. Workshop to be presented at 2011 Society for Community Research & Action Biennial in Chicago, IL.
- Tran, N.**, Dinh, K., Ho, I., Nadal, K., Sue, D. W., Lee, M., Langrehr, K., Yoo, Y. C., & Alvarez, A. (2010, August). Microaggression Research: Envisioning a future of expansion, collaboration, and innovation. Innovative session presented at 2010 Asian American Psychological Association Conference in San Diego, CA.
- Tran, N.**, French, S. E., & Chavez, N. (2010, January). Racial identity and race-related stressors: Their relation to mental health among Asian Pacific Americans. Poster presented at 2010 Society for Personality & Social Psychology Convention in Las Vegas, NV.
- Tran, N.**, & Birman, D. (2009, October). The making of a model minority: A critique of the Asian American academic performance literature. Paper presented at 2009 Midwest ECO Conference in Chicago, IL.
- Tran, N.**, & Birman, D. (2009, August). The making of a model minority: A critique of the Asian American academic performance literature. Poster presented at 2009 Asian American Psychology Association Conference in Toronto, Canada.
- Tran, N.** (2009, May). Is pizza American? Differences in the construction of meaning across race and generation. poster presented at 2009 American Psychological Sciences Annual Convention in San Francisco, CA
- Tran, N.**, & Birman, D. (2008, June). Scope and dynamic nature of teacher expectations for Somali Bantu students: A qualitative inquiry. In D. Birman (Chair), *Immigrant and Refugee Students in a School Context*. Symposium conducted at the meeting of the International Community Psychology Annual Conference in Lisbon, Portugal.
- Tran, N.**, & Birman, D. (2008, May). A Qualitative Inquiry into Teachers' Expectations of Somali Bantu Refugee Children. Paper presented at 2008 Midwest Psychological Association Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.
- Blanton, S., Weinstein, T., & **Tran, N.** (2008, May). Understanding Issues in the Education of Marginalized Students. Roundtable discussion presented at 2008 Midwest Psychological Association Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.
- Tran, N.** (2007, June). A Qualitative inquiry into teachers' expectations of Somali Bantu refugee children. In D. Birman (Chair), *Immigrant and Refugee Students in U.S. Schools*. Symposium conducted at Society for Community Research & Action's Biennial Meeting in Pomona, CA.
- Tran, N.**, Birman, D., Urso, M., Carrow, L., Czopor, M., Rustandi, E., & Damentas, I. (2007, May). Collaboration and School-Based Research: Challenges of Evolving Relationships. Roundtable discussion at 2007 Midwest Psychological Association Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.
- Carrow, L., Frangos, U., **Tran, N.**, & Birman, D. (2007, May). Shifting Gears: Comparing Teaching Strategies in Mainstream and ESL Classrooms. Poster presented at 2007 Midwest Psychological Association Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.
- Birman, D., & **Tran, N.** (2007, March). No Somali Bantu Left Behind: Refugee Children Adjusting to School. Paper presented at 2007 Society for Applied Anthropology's Annual Meeting in Tampa Bay, FL.
- Tran, N.**, & Birman, D. (2007, February). Teacher Expectations of Refugees with No Prior Education: No Somali-Bantu Child Left Behind. In *Diversity and the School Climate: No Child Left Behind?* Symposium conducted at Beyond

Valuing Diversity: Promoting equity and social justice for children and youth in multicultural societies in Whittier, CA.

Weinstein, T., Beehler, S., & **Tran, N.** (2006, October) Challenges in working with diverse populations: Insider & outsider experiences from a graduate student perspective. Roundtable discussion presented at Annual Midwest ECO Conference in Saugatuck, MI.

Tran, N., & Birman, D. (2006, May). Psychological adjustment of Vietnamese refugees: Impact of trauma, acculturation, and social support. Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Sciences Annual Convention, New York, NY.

Birman, D., **Tran, N.**, & Vujic, D. (2005, July). Ethnography of refugee children in a U.S. school: Challenges to mutual accommodation. Poster presented at the European Regional Congress, International Association of Cross-Cultural Psychology, San Sebastian, Spain.

Tran, N., Taylor, R., & Dymnicki, A. (2005, October). School-based action research: The challenge of collaborating to create change, Roundtable discussion presented at Annual Midwest Eco Conference Saugatuck, MI.

Frangos, R., Orlando, A., Monu, F., & **Tran, N.** (2006, May). School Smarts? Qualitative Study of Refugee Student's Hidden Academic Skills, Poster presented at the Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Episcopo, D., Carrow, L., Ng, D., Lusha, E., & **Tran, N.** (2006, May). Street Smarts? Qualitative Study of Non-Academic Skills of Refugee Children, Poster presented at the Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Tran, N., Cadenasso, N., Ibaraki, A., Orimoto, T., & Nishina, A. (2004, March) Ethnicity, ethnic identity, and psychological adjustment among urban adolescents. Poster presented at the Western Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ.

Orimoto, T., Ibaraki, A., **Tran, N.**, Cadenasso, N., & Giang, M. (2004, March). Ethnic group differences in aggressive beliefs regarding retaliatory situations. Poster presented at the Western Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ.

AWARDS

2nd Place APA Division 27 Poster Session Travel Award at the Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Meeting

2006 Asian American Resource and Cultural Center Travel Award for the Asian-American Psychology Association Annual Meeting

GRANT

2010 "Do You Understand English?": Exploring Physiological & Psychological Responses to Identity Denial among U.S.-born Asian Americans

Funding Source: University of Massachusetts Lowell; Research, Scholarship, & Creative Work Seed Grants

Role: PI (Co-PI: Ivy Ho, Psychology; Co-PI: Cynthia Ferrara, Physical Therapy)

Amount: \$7500

2010 Common Pool Resource Social Dilemmas: Merging the Economic and Psychological Perspectives

Funding Source: University of Massachusetts Lowell; Research, Scholarship, & Creative Work Seed Grants

Role: Co-PI (PI: David Kingsley, Economics; Co-PI: Benyuan Liu; Computer Science)

Amount: \$8000

2006 American Acculturation: What is it really? Does it differ by ethnic group and generational status?

Funding Source: Graduate Student Grant from the Society for Community Research and Action.

Role: PI (Faculty Advisor: Dina Birman, Psychology)
Amount: \$500

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Course Instructor

Research I: Basics (Spring 11, Fall 11)
Research III: Laboratory (Spring 11)
Community Psychology (Fall 10)
Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology (Spring 09)

Graduate Course Instructor

Applied Research Methods (Fall 11)
Graduate Teaching in Psychology Colloquium (Fall 09)

Teaching Assistantships

Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology (Fall 07, Spring 08, Summer 08, Fall 08, Spring 09, Summer 09)
Introduction to Community Psychology (Spring 07)
Introduction to Psychology (Fall 04, Spring 05)
Social Psychology (Fall 08, Fall 09)
Writing in Psychology (Summer 07, Spring 09)
Community Psychology Lab (Fall 08)

Guest Lectures

Graduate Level

Qualitative Methods (Spring 08, Spring 09)
Community Psychology Research Methods (Fall 08, Fall 09)

Undergraduate Level

Practicum in Psychology
 Topic: Community Psychology (Spring 11)
Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology
 Topic: Naturalistic Research Methods (Fall 08, Summer 09)
 Topic: Hypothesis Testing & Correlational Research Methods (Summer 09)
Psychology & Education of Asian American (Honors Seminar; March 17, 2009)
 Topic: Academic Performance literature for Asian Americans

UNDERGRADUATE MENTORED PAPERS

Smith, J. (2009, April). Relationship between acculturative hassles and social resources. Poster presented at the annual UIC Undergraduate Symposium, Chicago, IL.

Carrol, L. (2006, April). American Behavioral Acculturation: Is it beneficial to ESL children? Poster presentation at the Annual UIC Undergraduate Symposium, Chicago, IL.

Episcopo, D., Carrow, L., Ng, D., Lusha, E., & Tran, N. (2006, May). Street Smarts? Qualitative Study of Non-Academic Skills of Refugee Children, Poster to be presented at the Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Frangos, R., Orlando, A., Monu, F., & Tran, N. (2006, May). School Smarts? Qualitative Study of Refugee Student's Hidden Academic Skills, Poster to be presented at the Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Mukhtar, M. (2006, April). My Native Tounge: When are ESL students allowed to speak it in class? Poster presentation at

the Annual UIC Undergraduate Symposium, Chicago, IL.

Ng, D. (2006, April). Native language use when learning English: Beneficial or detrimental to English acquisition? Poster presented at the annual UIC Undergraduate Symposium and 2nd place poster competition winner, Chicago, IL

Maggard, N. (2005, April). With a little help from my friends: Observations of Somali Bantu students in a Chicago elementary school. Poster presentation at the Annual UIC Undergraduate Symposium, Chicago, IL.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Editorial:

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| Ad-hoc reviewer for Cultural Diversity & Ethnic Minority Psychology | 2011 |
| Editorial Board Associate for <i>American Journal of Community Psychology</i> | 2005 – Sept. 2007 |

Review:

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| <i>Asian American Psychology Association Conference Submission Reviewer</i> | 2011 |
| <i>Asian American Psychological Association Poster Competition Judge</i> | 2010 |
| <i>American Psychological Sciences Student Research Award Reviewer</i> | 2007 |
| <i>American Psychological Sciences RiSE-UP Award Reviewer</i> | 2007 |

University Service – UMass Lowell

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| Department of Psychology | |
| Undergraduate Program Committee | 2010-present |
| Graduate Program Committee | 2010-present |
| Recruitment & Retention of Cambodian Americans Majoring in Psychology (RRCAMP) | 2010-present |
| Community Social Psych Graduate Program Marketing Sub-Committee | 2010-present |
| Community Social Psych Graduate Program Curriculum Sub-Committee | 2010-present |
| University | |
| UMass Lowell-Vietnam University Collaboration Initiative Committee | 2010-present |
| UMass Lowell-UMass Worcester ADVANCE IT Committee | 2010-present |

University Service - UIC

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| Department of Psychology | |
| Graduate Equal Opportunities Committee (Diversity Committee) Student Representative | 2003 – 2010 |
| Community & Prevention Research Division Student Representative | 2007 – 2008 |
| Community & Prevention Research Division Assistant to the Chair | 2007 – 2008 |
| Asian-American Resource and Cultural Center | |
| Advisory Board Member | 2006 – 2008 |
| Asian-American Studies Advisory Council Member | 2006 – 2008 |
| Asian-American Studies Search Committee Graduate Student Representative | 2006 – 2007 |

National Professional Services

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| Society for the Psychology of Women, Section V: Psychology of Asian Pacific American Women | |
| Program Chair | 2010- present |
| Asian American Psychological Association Conference | 2008 – 2010 |
| Volunteer Committee Co-chair | |
| Society for Community Research and Action (SCRA, APA Division 27) | Summer 2009 |
| Conference Mentor for Undergraduates & Early Graduate Students | |

Professional Organizations:

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| <u>Member:</u> American Psychological Association, Society for Community Research & Action (Division 27) | |
| Nellie Tran | 5/18/2011 |

American Psychology Association, Society for the Teaching of Psychology (Division 2)
American Psychology Association, Society for Personality & Social Psychology (Division 8)
American Psychology Association Society for the Psychology of Women (Division 35)
American Psychology Association, Society for Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues (Division 45)
American Psychology Association
Association of Psychological Sciences
Asian-American Psychological Association
UIC Psi Chi

RELEVANT EXPERIENCES

- Sept 2004 – May 2007 *Project Manager*, Ethnography of Refugee Children in a Multicultural school, Chicago, IL
- Liaison for research team of ~15 and elementary school in Albany Park
- Worked with Vietnamese, Bosnian, Somali-Bantu children in ESL classrooms
- Conducted interviews with parents, teachers and World Relief Agency
- Acted as Vietnamese translator and culture broker for research team
- Oct 2006 – June 2007 *Community Practicum/Internship*, Vietnamese Association of Illinois, Chicago, IL
- Conducted ecological evaluation of agency
- Fall 2006 *Research Assistant*, Links to Learning Project, Chicago, IL
- Reliability in the CLASS and BOSS observational protocols
- Collected data from Chicago Public Elementary Schools
- 2001 – 2004 *Project Manager*, UCLA Peer Relations Project, Los Angeles, CA
- Liaison between research team of ~40 and 5 middle schools in LA County
- Survey research with minority middle school students ($N = \sim 2000$ students)
- Trained undergraduate research assistants to prepare data collection materials, administer survey questionnaires with middle school students, data entry using SPSS
- 2003 – 2004 *Research Assistant*, Poza Consulting Services, Santa Monica, CA
- Multicultural research for media projects, focus groups