

SEUNGMI LAURA CHO, PH.D., MSW

(Previously Klunder, L.)

85 South Prospect Street, Burlington, Vermont 05405

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EDUCATION

Madison, Wisconsin

2024
2007
2006

University of Wisconsin

Doctorate in Social Welfare
Master of Social Work
Bachelor of Science of Social Work

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Burlington, Vermont

2024-Present

University of Vermont

Assistant Professor, Tenure Track

FUNDED RESEARCH

Title	Korean Adoptee Dual Citizenship Study
Funder	UVM Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) EXPRESS
Role	Principal Investigator
Amount	\$3,000
Period	11/2024-5/2026

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Cho, S., Banda, L., & Velez, C. (2025). Affirming Korean adoptee anti-adoption self-expressions as anti-racist, abolitionist articulations: Blog comment reactions to Adopter Savior Syndrome. *Abolitionist Perspectives in Social Work*, 3(1), 1-21.

Halpern-Meekin, S., **Cho, S.**, Landrum, G., & Talkington, A. (2025). Self-worth through expertise: Experiences of prime-age men who are out of the formal labor force. *The Sociological Quarterly*, 66(2), 335-354.

Halpern-Meekin, S., **Cho, S. L.**, Landrum, G., & Talkington, A. (2024). The dignity of nonworking men. *Rural Sociology*, 89(4), 913-931.

Cho, S. L. (2023). Anti-adopterism as resistant knowledge: An autoethnographic case study of Colorblind Distortions in transracial and international adoption. *Adoption Quarterly*, 28(2), 125-154.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Cho, S. L. (Under consideration). The Korean-foreigner binary excludes adoptees: A constructivist grounded theory study concerned with Korean adoptee daily life in Korea.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Cho, S. L. (In preparation). A constructivist grounded theory study concerned with Korean adoptee dual citizenship.

INVITED BOOK REVIEWS & CHAPTERS

Cho, S. L. (2022). [Review of the book *Disrupting kinship: Transnational politics of Korean adoption in the United States*, by K. D. McKee]. *Journal of American-East Asian Relations*, 29(1), 120-122.

Wong, A., Haigh, C., Ward, A., **Klunder, L.**, Angeles, A., & Mata, E. (2018, November). Positioning the positioned: Deconstructing masculinities in multicultural affairs. In C. Catalano, R. Wagner, & T. Davis (Eds.), *Gender-aware practices: Intersectional approaches to applying masculinities in student affairs* (63-72).

Klunder, L. (2016). Coming out as a Korean American adoptee. In M. Jeffries & M. Dimmett (Eds.), *Family: ibook devoted to stories about multiracial/transracial families* (19-22).

Klunder, L. (2016). [Review of the book *Mixed race students in college: The ecology of race, identity and community on campus*, by K. A. Renn]. *NASPA Blog*.

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

Cho, S. L. (2024). *Anti-adopterism as anti-racist, intersectional feminist praxis for social work* (Doctoral dissertation). Retrieved from Proquest Dissertations and Theses. (31329669)

RESEARCH & EVALUATION

Madison, Wisconsin

2021-2022

2018-2019

2006-2007

University of Wisconsin

Institute for Research on Poverty: Labor Force

Participation, Research Assistant

Behavioral Health in Schools, Program Assistant

University Health Services, Project Assistant

PEER REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Cho, S. L. (2022, January). Anti-adopterism as resistant knowledge: An autoethnographic case study of colorblind distortions in transracial and international adoption. Poster presentation at Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) Conference. Online.

Cho, S. L. (2021, November). Anti-adopterism as resistant knowledge. Paper presentation at the Critical Race Scholars in Social Work (CRSSW) Inaugural Convening. Online.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Cho, S. L. (2023, July). The intersections of adoptee identity panel at the International Korean Adoptee Associations (IKAA) Korea Gathering Research Symposium. Seoul, Korea.

Cho, S. L. (2023, July). Social and cultural barriers in reunion at the at the KoRoot Forum on “Assistant System” for Adoptee and Birth Family Reunion. Seoul, Korea.

Cho, S.L. (2022, August). Centering critical intersectional Black feminism to uproot Colorblind racism in social work. Keynote address for the UW-Madison School of Social Work Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Orientation. Online.

Cho, S. L. (2023, May). Korean adoptee personhood: Alternative ways of being, belonging, and knowing for Fulbright Korea. Seoul, Korea.

TEACHING**Burlington, Vermont**

2025-Present

2025-Present

2024-Present

University of Vermont

Social Work 3480: Theories, Part 2

Social Work 5170: Human Behavior, Part 2

Social Work 5160: Human Behavior, Part 1

Madison, Wisconsin

2024

University of Wisconsin

Social Work 710: Diversity, Oppression, Social Justice

2023	Social Work 840: Advanced Macro Practice, Instructor
2021	Social Work 457: Human Behavior, Teaching Assistant
2020	Social Work 578: Homelessness, Teaching Assistant
2019-2020	Social Work 640: Diversity and Oppression, Teaching Assistant
2017-2018	Social Work 205: Introduction to Social Work, Teaching Assistant
2016	Counseling Psych 620: Counseling & Guidance, Co-instructor
2005-2008	Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity (SEED), Co-facilitator

Saint Paul, Minnesota

2010-2011	Bonner Community Scholars Program, Co-facilitator
2009-2011	Emerging Leaders Program, Co-facilitator

Macalester College

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Burlington, Vermont

2025-Present	University of Vermont
2024-Present	Social Work Faculty Search Committee
Fall 2025	Social Work MSW Program Committee
Spring 2025	CESS First Generation Faculty Panelist
	CESS Faculty Commencement Marshal

Madison, Wisconsin

2021-2022	University of Wisconsin
2020-2021	Social Work Curriculum Committee
2019-2020	Social Work PhD Program Committee
2017-2018	Social Work Student Awards Committee
	Social Work Racial Injustice Conference

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Klunder, L. (2018, May). Reclaiming safety in unsafe spaces for the YWCA Moxie Annual Conference. Madison, Wisconsin.

Klunder, L. (2018, January). Outsider inclusion for the UW-Madison School of Social Work Confronting Racial Injustice Annual Conference. Madison, Wisconsin.

Klunder, L. (2016, January). The best badger: Exploring access barriers to academic success for the UW-Madison Office of Undergraduate Advising Annual Conference. Madison, Wisconsin.

Klunder, L. (2015, October). Interrupting adopteeophobia in higher education for the Student Personnel Association (SPA) Annual Conference. Madison, Wisconsin.

Klunder, L. (2014, August). Overseas Korean adoptee cultural competence training for the KoRoot Guesthouse and NGO Staff and Volunteer Training. Seoul, Korea

Klunder, L. (2014, August). Creating safe spaces: Korean adoptee microaggressions for the Boston Korean Adoptee (BKA) Anniversary Conference. Boston, Massachusetts.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2025-Present	Abolitionist Perspectives in Social Work Journal, Consulting Editor
2012-2015	Adoptee Solidarity Korea Steering Committee
2013-2014	Adoptee Relations for KoRoot Guesthouse
2013-2015	Gazillion Voices Contributing Author

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2025	The Korea Society, Beginning Conversation Korean II
2025	The Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR), Annual Conference
2024	National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD), Faculty Success Program
2024	CESS Social Work, Teaching Consultation Series
2024	UVM Division of Faculty Affairs, First-year Faculty Series

AWARDS

2024	University of Wisconsin, Capstone Teaching Award
2023	University of Wisconsin, Alfred Kadushin Dissertation Research Award
2022	Fulbright Korea U.S. Student Research Award
2022	University of Wisconsin East Asian Studies, Foreign Language Area Studies Award
2021	University of Wisconsin, Social Work Teaching Excellence Award
2020	University of Wisconsin, Social Work Sheldon D. Rose Memorial Award
2017	University of Wisconsin, Division of Student Life Outstanding Achievement Award
2017	Madison Student Personnel Association, Leadership in Social Justice Award
2016	Wisconsin Alumni Association, Forward Under Forty Award
2011	Macalester College, Academic Affairs Committee Educator of the Year Nominee
2010	Macalester College, Department of Multicultural Life Outstanding Ally of the Year
2008	University of Wisconsin, Outstanding Women of Color Award
2006	University of Wisconsin, Social Work, Helen I. Clarke Award