

# cupc highlights

april 24, 2020

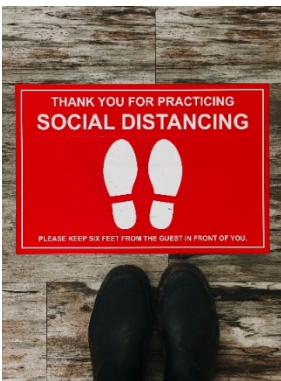
## set your watches today!

Today at **12:45 pm**, **Fernando Riosmena** will be speaking online at the PAA 2020 Meeting, for its Latin-American Population Studies session “Households and Environmental Risks in Latin America.” Fernando will be discussing his paper “Do Environmental Shocks Alter the Quantum or Tempo of Migration? An Examination in Contemporary Mexico”. **Join the session here:** <https://bluejeans.com/664038370>. (Full PAA program: <https://events.rdmobile.com/Sessions/Index/13204>)

## media coverage on the coronavirus

**Matt McQueen** was interviewed by the *Daily Camera* in the April 8th article [“Boulder County's coronavirus fatality toll falls well short of metro neighbors.”](#) An epidemiologist, McQueen attributes the difference to the more younger population in Boulder County, which has fewer “infection clusters” usually found in vulnerable population groups, such as nursing homes and retirement communities. McQueen referenced a [statistical “population pyramid”](#) showing 20-year-olds easily comprising Boulder County’s largest age bracket.

*“Obviously it’s spreading among a more vulnerable population,” McQueen said. “While college students and younger people in Boulder can still pass it along to more vulnerable populations, it can be isolated more, in a younger community.”*



Should we use the term “physical distancing” instead of “social distancing”? How about “distant socializing”? **Lori Peek** discusses the terminology confusion with CNN reporter [Harmeet Kaur](#) in the online article [“Forget 'social distancing.' The WHO prefers we call it 'physical distancing' because social connections are more important than ever”](#).

*“My main concern is that this switch in terminology—in the midst of the crisis—violates one of the key principles of effective risk communication, which is to ensure that there is clarity and consistency in messaging,” says Peek.*

## forthcoming published papers

**Lori Hunter** and colleagues recently had their article [“A portfolio perspective of rural livelihoods in Bushbuckridge, South Africa”](#) accepted by the *South African Journal of Science*, which is such a wonderful recognition for her South African collaborators!

**Co-Authors:** Ragie FH, Olivier DW, Hunter LM, Erasmus B, Vogel C, Collinson M, Twine W

**Abstract:** Land-based income streams, which include the consumption and selling of crops, livestock and environmental products, are inherent in rural households’ livelihoods. However, the off-farm cash income stream – primarily comprised of migrant labour remittances, state grants, and savings and loans – is increasing in importance in many regions. This case study of 590 households from Bushbuckridge, South Africa, analyses the economic value of each of these income streams at three points: what enters the household, what is used and what is sold. Two important findings emerge. First, dependence on off-farm cash incomes is far higher than previously suggested by case studies in the area and the benefits of employment accrue to those already better educated and wealthier. This suggests that shifts in off-farm opportunities will exacerbate already deep

inequalities. Second, while environmental products and crops are important for direct use, they generate insignificant cash incomes from sales. This suggest a weakening of the direct links between the local ecosystem and this society, challenging traditional notions of African rurality being intrinsically land-based.

## awards



Fabulous news! GRA [Kim Truong-Vu](#) has won a **GPTI Teaching Excellence Award**, which is her 2<sup>nd</sup> teaching award since being at CU. Given annually by the Graduate School, the GPTI awards celebrate the highest caliber of teaching-related work by graduate students inside the classroom and beyond, with a monetary prize of \$600 to boot! Kim's vast teaching resume includes courses such as Introduction to Sociology, Research Methods, U.S. Racial and Ethnic Relations, Social Construction of Sexuality, Sex, Gender, Society, Social Disparities in Health.

*~ We're all very proud of you Kim!*



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