

# GEMMAE MAYA FIX

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Human biology, medical anthropology, biosocial models of health and well-being, health disparities, psychosocial stress, chronic degenerative diseases, social network analysis, qualitative and quantitative research methods

## EDUCATION

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2000-present

### State University of New York at Buffalo

*Department of Anthropology Ph.D. Student*

*M.A. (September 2004)*

*M.A. title: Getting to the Heart of the Matter: a Biosocial Model of Coronary Heart Disease*

1995-1999

### University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

*B.S. Sociology and Anthropology: Sociology Concentration*

*Magna Cum Laude*

*Honors Fellow*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### Research Assistant

D'Youville College Heart Study

Spring 2003-present

*Don Sabo, Ph.D. (PI), Julia Hall, Ph.D. (co-PI): D'Youville College Buffalo, NY*

- Qualitative assessment of how gender, class, and level of physical activity influence psychosocial adjustment to diagnosis, treatment, and recovery from a coronary event
- Tasks include: library research, recruitment of subjects, coordination of transcription, semi-structured interviewing, and qualitative analysis of interviews

### Research Assistant

Buffalo Area Neighborhood Study

Fall 2003-present

*Peter K.B. St. Jean, Ph.D. (PI): University at Buffalo*

- Assess Buffalo neighborhoods through a variety of methods: analysis of New York State health data, census data, historical texts, Systematic Social Observation (technique involving integration of digital video images of neighborhood façades and Geographic Information Systems), interviews of neighborhood leaders, ethnography
- Project leader: managed team of research assistants in exploring the relationship between the physical and social disorder of a neighborhood, the actions of its residents, and the rates of congestive heart failure, angina, and myocardial infarction

### Graduate Assistant

Office of Medical Computing

2000-present

*School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences: University at Buffalo,*

- Assess computer support needs for students, faculty, and staff

- Responsibilities include: room scheduling, record keeping, customer service
- Familiarity with Windows applications, operating systems, and computer hardware

**Intern**

Spring 1999

Dismas House

*Project Endeavors, Chattanooga, TN*

- Comprehensive rehabilitation program for ex-convicts
- Facilitated support groups, administered aptitude and skill examinations

**Peer Counselor**

Spring 1998

Sale Creek High School, Sequoya Vocational School, and Soddy-Daisy High School

*Hamilton Co. TN School District*

- Informed students of educational opportunities and assisted with college application process, instructed parents on filing FAFSA application

**English Tutor**

Spring 1998

Private Adult Tutor

*Harrison Bay, TN*

- Instruction in both written and verbal English skills

**Survey Research**

Summer 1997

LaValle Research, Inc.

*Syracuse, NY*

- Collected consumer-behavior data via face-to-face interviews

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

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**Paper Presentation**

March 2004

*Eastern Sociology Society*

*The Heart of a Community: Understanding Variation in Rates of Coronary Heart Disease at the Neighborhood Level*

STATISTICAL TRAINING

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**Statistics Modules**

Summer 2002

Summer Training Institute in Advanced Statistics

*University at Buffalo*

- Working knowledge of path analysis, confirmatory factor analysis, hierarchical linear modeling, structural equation modeling
- Statistical package training in AMOS®, HLM®, SPSS®

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP/INVOLVEMENT

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**American Association of Physical Anthropologists (AAPA)**

Served on organizing committee for 2002 annual meeting—Buffalo, NY

Responsibilities included registration desk, setting up audio-visual, created Buffalo-orientation packets

**Eastern Sociology Society (ESS)**

**Graduate Student Employees Union (GSEU)**

Department representative

**Human Biology Association (HBA)**

**Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA)**

## AWARDS RECEIVED

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### **Honors Fellow**

*University of Tennessee at Chattanooga: University Honors Program*

### **Outstanding Student of the Year 1998-99**

*Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga*

One student designated annually by faculty

## REFERENCES

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AT Steegmann, Jr., Ph.D.

Department of Anthropology  
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Ellicott Complex, North Campus  
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