

**Curriculum Vitae**  
**Leigh T. Johnson, PhD**  
APRIL 2020

Department of Geography  
1251 University of Oregon  
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#### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, University of Oregon  
(March 2016-present)

Lecturer, Department of Geography, University of Zurich, Switzerland  
(June 2014-February 2016)

Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Geography, University of Zurich, Switzerland  
(March 2011-May 2014)

#### EDUCATION

**Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, Geography, May 2011**  
Dissertation: *Insuring climate change? Science, fear and value in reinsurance markets*

**B.A. Columbia University, Anthropology, 2003**  
*Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Departmental Honors*

#### PUBLICATIONS

##### *Journal articles:*

1. *In review:* L. Johnson. "Rescaling index insurance for climate and development in Africa", Revised and resubmitted at *Economy and Society* (resubmitted December 2019)
2. S. Erikson and L. Johnson. 2020. "Will financial innovation transform pandemic response, or be transformed by public health indignation?" *The Lancet Infectious Diseases* (Online First) doi:10.1016/S1473-3099(20)30150-X
3. Christophers, B., P. Bigger, and L. Johnson. 2020. "Stretching scales? Risk and sociality in climate finance" *Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space*. 52(1): 88-110.
4. Johnson, L., B. Wandera, N. Jensen, R. Banerjee. 2019 "Competing expectations in an index-based livestock insurance project" *Journal of Development Studies* 55:6, 1221-1239
5. Ouma, S., L. Johnson, P. Bigger. 2018 "Rethinking the financialization of nature", *Environment and Planning A*. (50) 500-511
6. Müller, B., L. Johnson, and D. Kreuer. 2017 "Maladaptive outcomes of climate insurance in agriculture" *Global Environmental Change* 46: 23-33
7. Johnson, L. 2015 "Catastrophic fixes? Cyclical devaluation and accumulation through climate change impacts", *Environment and Planning A* (47) 2503-2521
8. Addor, N., T. Ewen, L. Johnson, A. Çoltekin, D. Derungs, and V. Muccione. 2015 "From products to processes: Academic events to foster interdisciplinary and iterative dialogue in a changing climate", *Earth's Future* (3) 289-297
9. Johnson, L. 2014 "Geographies of securitized catastrophe risk and the implications of climate change", *Economic Geography* (90) 155-185
10. Lave, R., M. Wilson, E. Barron, C. Biermann, M. Carey, M. Doyle, C. Duvall, L. Johnson, M. Lane, J. Lorimer, N. McClintock, D. Munroe, R. Pain, J. Proctor, B. Rhoads, M. Robertson, J. Rossi, N.

Sayre, G. Simon, M. Tadaki, and C. Van Dyke. 2014 "Intervention: Critical Physical Geography", *The Canadian Geographer* (58) 1-10

11. **Johnson, L.** 2013 "Index insurance and the articulation of risk-bearing subjects", *Environment and Planning A* (45) 2663-2681
12. **Johnson, L.** 2013 "Catastrophe bonds and financial risk: Securing capital and rule through contingency", *Geoforum* (45) 30-40
13. **Johnson, L.** 2010 "The fearful symmetry of Arctic climate change: Accumulation by degradation", *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 28: 828-847

#### Book Chapters:

1. **Johnson, L.** (forthcoming July 2020) "Sharing Risks or Proliferating Uncertainties? Insurance, Disaster and Development", in I. Scoones and A. Stirling (eds), *The Politics of Uncertainty: Challenges of Transformation*. London: Earthscan/Routledge.
2. **Johnson, L.** and C. Rampini. 2017 "Are climate models global public goods?", in D. Tyfield, R. Lave, S. Randalls, and C. Thorpe (eds), *Routledge Handbook of the Political Economy of Science*
3. **Johnson, L.** 2015 "Near futures and perfect hedges in the Gulf of Mexico", in M. Watts, A. Mason and H. Appel (eds), *Subterranean Estates: Life Worlds of Oil and Gas*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press
4. **Johnson, L.** 2010 "Climate change and the risk industry: The multiplication of fear and value", in R. Peet, P. Robbins & M. Watts (eds), *Global Political Ecology*. London: Routledge

#### Editorials, Commentaries, and Book Reviews:

1. **Johnson, L.** 2019. Book Review Symposium on Trevor Barnes and Brett Christophers *Economic Geography: A Critical Introduction*. *The AAG Review of Books*, 7:1, 62-63.
2. **Johnson, L.** 2018. Invited review of Jessica Dempsey, "Enterprising Nature: Economics, Markets and Finance in Global Biodiversity Politics". *Antipode*, February 9
3. **Johnson, L.** 2017 "Commentary: What's Beyond Capitalist Natures? A view from the camel's back" *Dialogues in Human Geography* (3) 319-322
4. **Johnson, L.** and D. Wrathall. 2017 "The limits of risk science" *Science* E-letter, 19 Feb
5. **Johnson, L.** 2015 "On Crises and Peculiar Endurance", invited commentary on Naomi Klein, *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate*, Book Review Symposium in *Human Geography*, 8:1
6. **Johnson, L.** 2013 "West, TX through the Damage Mirror: The Enabling Contradictions of Preparedness" *Antipode* Intervention Symposium: Explosive Geographies, May 20

#### Policy and research brief formats:

1. Müller, B., **L. Johnson**, D. Kreuer. 2017 "Risks of maladaptation: Climate insurance in agriculture" Briefing Paper 22/2017. Bonn: German Development Institute/ Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik.
2. Mburu, S., **L. Johnson**, A. Mude. 2015 "Integrating index-based livestock insurance with community savings and loan groups in northern Kenya" *ILRI Research Brief* 60. Nairobi: International Livestock Research Institute.

#### GRANTS AND AWARDS

1. Wayne Morse Resident Scholar, Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics, University of Oregon, 2019-2020 (\$8,000)
2. Kariel Faculty Endowment Award, Department of Geography, University of Oregon, 2019 (\$5,000)

3. University of Oregon International Research Travel Grant, 2017 (\$1,000)
4. Swedish Research Council, “Climate change and transformations of financial risk” PI: B. Christophers, Co-PIs: L. Johnson and P. Bigger, 2016-2019: SEK 4,332,000 (US \$478,0000 total)
5. Honorable mention, Ashby Prize for innovative paper of 2015 in the journal *Environment and Planning A*, for the paper “Catastrophic fixes: cyclical devaluation and accumulation through climate change impacts”
6. Ashby Prize, Most innovative paper of 2013 in the journal *Environment and Planning A*, for the paper “Index insurance and the articulation of risk-bearing subjects”
7. Forschungskredit Postdoctoral Grant, University of Zurich, 2012-2014: CHF 120,000 (US \$130,000)
8. Short Mentorship Abroad Award, University of Zurich, 2012
9. Chancellor’s Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley, 2010-2011
10. National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, 2009-2011 (*Geography and Spatial Science & Science, Technology and Society Programs*, \$15,000)
11. Society of Women Geographers Pruitt Fellowship, 2008-2009
12. National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2006-2009
13. University of California Regents Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley, 2004-2006
14. William J. Fulbright Fellowship (Brazil), 2003-2004, Center for the Study of Land Use and Global Change (SETEM), Federal University of Acre

### Invited Talks and Workshops

1. London School of Economics, Financialization, Development and Economic Inclusion Seminar: “Unmaking ‘risk capacity’: African sovereign drought insurance and its discontents” February 2020
2. Center for Disaster Protection, London, Working Paper Seminar: “Problems of legitimacy, expertise, and learning in sovereign insurance risk: Towards technologies of humility?” February 2020
3. University of Lausanne, Institute of Geography and Sustainability: “The promises and perils of Climate Risk Insurance”, January 2020
4. Indiana University Department of Geography, Stephen Visher Lecture: “The promises and perils of leveraging science for ‘climate risk insurance’ in Africa, October 2019
5. Invited theme leader for “Insurance and disaster governance” theme, Symposium on “The politics of uncertainty: Practical challenges for transformative action”, University of Sussex Institute of Development Studies/STEPS Centre, July 2019
6. University of Oregon African Studies Lecture Series, February 2019: “Leveraging science for ‘climate risk insurance’ in Africa: Hopes and Impediments”
7. Invited participant, Climate Change and Insurance Workshop, Finnish Academy and New School for Social Research, April 2018
8. University of Oregon Department of Geography, March 2015: “Reorganizing vulnerability through markets in climate change risk”
9. University of Toronto Development Seminar, March 2015: “Financialization as exception? Negotiation and adaptation of index insurance in Kenya’s arid lands”
10. University of Nottingham School of Geography, October 2012: "Making risk-bearing subjects: Weather index insurance and climate vulnerability”

11. Pennsylvania State University Department of Geography, January 2011: “Climate risks, finance, and energy futures for the Gulf of Mexico”
12. UC Berkeley College of Engineering, Undergraduate Ethics Program, May 2010: “Anthropogenic climate change, geoengineering, and the ethics of climate emergency”
13. School for International Training, Program in Amazonian Ecology and Natural Resource Management, Belém, Brazil, March 2004: “Ecology, politics, and representation in the cartography of Amazonia”

#### Papers, Sessions and Posters at Professional Meetings

1. **Johnson, L.** “Unmaking Drought Insurance: Parametric Politics in Sovereign Disaster Management” American Anthropological Association/Canadian Anthropology Society Annual Meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia, November 2019
2. **Johnson, L.** Budgetary rationalization of drought relief and humanitarian aid in Sub-Saharan Africa. *5<sup>th</sup> Global Conference on Economic Geography*, Cologne, Germany, July 2018
3. **Johnson, L., A. Mude, N. Jensen, and D. Khalai.** 2018. “Market-environmental statecraft in arid borderlands: Securing livestock and populations from drought via the Kenyan Livestock Insurance Program”, *American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, April
4. Invited panelist, “Author-meets-Critics: Trevor Barnes and Brett Christophers’ *Economic Geography: A Critical Introduction*”, *American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, April 2018
5. Müller, B., **L. Johnson**, D. Kreuer. 2018. “The ambivalent effects of climate insurance on land use practices”, *Landscape 2018 Annual Conference*, Berlin, March
6. Müller, B., **L. Johnson**, D. Kreuer. 2017. “Maladaptive outcomes of agricultural insurance programs”, *Resilience 2017 Annual Conference*, Stockholm, August
7. Christophers, **L. Johnson**, P. Bigger. 2017. “Stretching Scales: Risk and sociality in climate finance”, invited paper for the “Geographies of Markets” workshop at the Karl Polanyi Institute, Concordia University, Montreal, June
8. **Johnson, L.** 2017. “Paying Ex Gratia: Index insurance relations beyond contract” *American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting*, Boston, MA, April
9. Invited panelist for the session “Contested commodities: Market Formation, Reformation and Deformation in Action” *American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting*, Boston, MA, April 2017
10. **Johnson, L.** 2015. “Non-financialization and the reorganization of vulnerability through ‘markets’ in climate risk” *4<sup>th</sup> Global Conference on Economic Geography*, Oxford, UK, August
11. **Johnson, L., B. Wandera, R. Banerjee.** 2015. “Competing Expectations in Index-Based Livestock Insurance” *Academic and Policy Workshop on Mobile Pastoralism, Index Insurance and Policy Innovations for Arid and Semi-Arid lands of East Africa*, International Livestock Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya, June.
12. Ewen, T., N. Addor, **L. Johnson**, A. Çoltekin, C. Derungs, and V. Muccione. 2014. “Fostering climate dialogue by introducing students to uncertainty in decision-making”, *American Geophysical Union Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, California, USA, December.
13. Ewen, T., N. Addor, **L. Johnson**, A. Çoltekin, C. Derungs, and V. Muccione. 2014. “Creating dialogue: a workshop on Uncertainty in Decision Making in a Changing Climate” *European Geosciences Union General Assembly*, Vienna, Austria, May.
14. **Johnson, L.** 2014. “Pastoralists hedging climate variability? Negotiating index insurance in Northern Kenya’s arid lands”, *Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference*, Lexington, KY, February.

15. Johnson, L. 2013. "Catastrophic fixes? Cyclical devaluation and accumulation through climate change impacts", *Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting*, Los Angeles, CA, April.
16. Johnson, L. 2012. "Index insurance, climate vulnerability, and risk-bearing subjects", *Swiss Geoscience Meeting*, Bern, Switzerland, November.
17. Johnson, L. 2012. "Microinsurance for climate change: Performing risk and forming risk-bearing subjects", *International Geographical Congress*, Cologne, Germany, August.
18. Johnson, L. 2012. "Rain, Risk, Relations: Index insurance and the trouble of articulating new circuits of finance for small-scale agriculture", *Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting*, New York, NY, February.
19. Invited panelist for the session "Critical Physical Geography", *Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting*, New York, NY, February 2012
20. Johnson, L. 2011. "Contract time, forecast time, end times: Climate and the dynamics of futures trading in the Gulf of Mexico", *Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting*, Seattle, WA.
21. Johnson, L. "Capital markets, insurance, and the anti-politics of financial risk", *17<sup>th</sup> Annual Critical Geography Mini-Conference*, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 2010
22. Johnson, L. 2010. "Trading natural catastrophes and lives: Abstract financial risk, profits, and pensions in an age of securitization", *Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting*, Washington, D.C., April.
23. Johnson, L. 2009. "Scientific diligence, climatic urgency, and the public/private expert: Hurricane forecasts go to market", *Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting*, Washington, D.C., October.
24. Kobrak, C. and L. Johnson. 2009. "Innovating insurance: Captives, exotic insurance, and the current crisis", (co-author with C. Kobrak), presented to the *Insurance in History Meeting of the World Economic History Congress*, Zurich, Switzerland.
25. Johnson, L. 2008. "Private science to create responsible citizens? Governing hurricane risk pools through proprietary catastrophe models", *Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting*, Boston, MA, April.
26. Johnson, L. 2007. "Extraction frontiers and climate change in the Arctic: Accumulation by degradation", *Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, March.
27. Johnson, L. 2004. "Historicizing the failures of common property enterprises in the Brazilian Landless Worker's Movement (MST)", *Conference of the International Association for the Study of Common Property*, Oaxaca, Mexico, August.
28. Johnson, L., Garcia, J., Mendoza, E., Selhorst, D., Nascimento, E. & Brown, I.F. 2004. "Field Assessment of Hot Pixel Data: A Case Study of the Alcobrás Settlement Wildfire to Evaluate the Accuracy of AVHRR, GOES, and MODIS Sensors", Poster presentation, *3<sup>rd</sup> Conference of the Large Scale Biosphere-Atmosphere Experiment in Amazonia (LBA)*, Brasília, Brazil, July.

## TEACHING

### University of Oregon

*Geog 391: Social Science Inquiry and Research* (2016, 2017, 2018)

*Geog 4/565: Environment and Development: Facing Climate Change* (2017, 2018, 2020)

*Geog 4/597: Qualitative Methods* (2018, 2020)

*Geog 607: Keywords in the Anthropocene* (2016), *Vulnerability and Climate Justice* (2018)

## University of Zurich

*Global Economic Geographies of Agriculture and Food Systems* (Masters seminar 2014, 2015)  
*Thinking Geographically* (Masters module co-teaching 2013, 2014)  
*Economic Geography of Globalization* (Undergraduate lecture 2013, 2014)  
*Undergraduate Small Group Tutorials* (2014)  
*Global Economic Geographies* (Masters seminar, 2011, 2012, 2013)

## University of California, Berkeley

*World Peoples & Cultural Environments* (2009)  
*Introduction to Development: Poverty, Development and Globalization in History and Theory*, (Graduate student instructor, 2007)

## Current Student Supervision

Kate Shields, PhD, UO Geography (supervisor)  
Bianca Malkoc, MA, UO Geography (supervisor)  
Devin Lea, PhD, UO Geography (committee member)  
Cristina Faiver Serna, PhD, UO Geography (committee member)  
Tianna Bruno, PhD, UO Geography (committee member)  
Adriana Uscanga Castillo, PhD, UO Geography (committee member)  
David Bachrach, MA, UO Geography (committee member)  
Holly Moulton, PhD, UO Environmental Studies (committee member)  
Daniel Shtob, PhD, UO Environmental Studies (committee member)

## Past Student Supervision

Belén Noroña, PhD, UO Geography, 2019 (committee member)  
Sara Fatima, BA, UO Geography and International Studies (co-supervisor)  
Patrick Greiner, PhD, UO Sociology, 2018 (Institutional Representative)  
Andrea Willingham, MSc, UO Environmental Studies, 2017 (committee member)  
Julia Siegrist, MSc Geography, University of Zurich, 2015 (co-supervisor)  
Christoph Mani, MA Geography, University of Zurich, 2015 (supervisor)  
Daniela Jorio, MA Geography, University of Zurich, 2013 (supervisor)  
Ivo Heeb, MA Geography, University of Zurich, 2013 (co-supervisor)

## SERVICE

### Service to University

Panel reviewer, Resilience Initiative Seed Funding Program, University of Oregon, Vice President's Office of Research and Innovation, Fall 2019

### Service to Communities of Practice

Participant, Policy Roundtable on Disaster Risk Insurance, Overseas Development Institute, London September 2017

Field co-organizer: Participatory elicitation for index-based livestock insurance contract redesign, International Livestock Research Institute, Turkana and Wajir County, Kenya, August-September 2014

Field co-organizer: Evaluation of the CARE Kenya/ILRI collaborative Marsabit Group Savings and Loan pilot project, Marsabit County, Kenya, May-June 2013

## Service to Discipline

### Advisory boards

Editorial Advisory Board, *Environment and Planning A* (2016-present)

### Peer review

#### *Research funding agencies:*

U.S. National Science Foundation (Geography and Spatial Science Program)

#### *Journals:*

*Antipode*

*Annals of the Association of American Geographers*

*Capitalism, Nature, Socialism*

*Development and Change*

*Economic Geography*

*Environment and Planning A*

*Environment and Planning C*

*Geoforum*

*Global Environmental Politics*

*International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*

*Journal of Cultural Economy*

*New Political Economy*

*Progress in Human Geography*

*Regional Environmental Change*

*Science*

### Paper sessions organized and discussant roles

1. Discussant for the paper session “Negotiating Financialized Infrastructure”, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA, November 2018
2. Co-organized two paper sessions for “Global Finance, Development, and the New Peripheries” 5<sup>th</sup> *Global Conference on Economic Geography*, Cologne, Germany, July 2018
3. Discussant for the paper session “Infrastructures of Climate Governance” *American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting*, Boston, MA, April 2017
4. Co-organized three paper sessions “Same but different? Critical perspectives on the financialization of nature and resource-based ventures” 4<sup>th</sup> *Global Conference on Economic Geography*, Oxford, UK, August 2015
5. Discussant for the paper session “Value in Capitalist Natures” *American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting*, Chicago, IL, April 2015
6. Discussant for two paper sessions on “The Politics of Expectations: Nature, Culture and the Production of Space”, *Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting*, Seattle, WA, April 2011.
7. Co-organized two sessions on “Critical geographies of finance and the financial crisis”, 17<sup>th</sup> *Annual Critical Geography Mini-Conference*, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 2010
8. Co-organized session on “Private science and environmental governance”, *Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting*, Boston, MA, April 2008

9. Co-organized three panels and paper sessions on “The politics of climate change”, *Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, March 2007

**Mentoring activities**

Faculty mentor and resource person for regional Left Coast Political Ecology Network, 2018

**Current professional memberships and affiliations**

Association of American Geographers (2005-present)

Microinsurance Network (2014-present)

American Anthropological Association (2018-present)