

---

## CURRICULUM VITA

**Dr. William R. Donner**

E-Mail: [william.donner@utrgv.edu](mailto:william.donner@utrgv.edu)

---

### EDUCATION

**2007 Ph.D. in Sociology**

University of Delaware, Newark, DE

Dissertation: “*An Integrated Model of Risk Perception and Protective Action: The Case of Public Response to Tornado Warnings*”

Honors: Comprehensive Exam in Collective Behavior, Social Movements, and Disasters passed “with distinction”

**2003 M.A. in Sociology**

University of Delaware, Newark, DE

Thesis: “*The Human Ecological Model and Its Application to Severe Weather Phenomena: Predicting Tornado Morbidity*”

**2000 B.A. in Sociology (Departmental Honors)**

Millersville University, Millersville, PA

### AREAS OF SCHOLARLY AND TEACHING INTEREST

Environmental Sociology

Demography

Science and Technology

Disasters

Statistics

Research Methods

GIS

### ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH POSITIONS

**2021-** Faculty Affiliate, Population Research Center (PRC), University of Texas-Austin

**2019-** Chair, Department of Sociology, UTRGV

**2019-** Professor of Sociology, UTRGV

**2017-** Journal Co-editor, *International Journal of Disaster Response and Emergency Management (IJDREM)*

**2015-18** Coordinator, Sociology Program, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, UTPA/UTRGV

**2013-** Associate Professor of Sociology, UTPA/UTRGV

- 2013-19** Coordinator, Disaster Studies MA Program, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, UTPA/UTRGV
- 2013-** Co-Director, Center for Survey Research, UTPA/UTRGV
- 2008-2013** Assistant Professor of Sociology (Tenure Track), Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- 2007-2008** Postdoctoral Researcher and CATI administrator, University of Delaware, Disaster Research Center (DRC)
- 2002-2007** Graduate Researcher, University of Delaware, Disaster Research Center
- 1999-2001** Research Associate and CATI Supervisor, Millersville University, Center for Opinion Research

#### COURSES TAUGHT

Principles of Sociology  
 Statistics for Behavioral Science  
 Sociological Research Methods I  
 Sociological Research Methods II  
 Issues in Emergency Management  
 Environmental Sociology  
 Environmental Sociology (M.A.)  
 Advanced Statistics (M.A.)  
 Analysis of Social Data (Ph.D.)  
 Quantitative Research Methods I (Ph.D.)  
 Social and Cultural Change  
 Social Change (M.A.)

#### AWARDED RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2015-** PI, “Colonia Development and Hydrological Risks.” AXA Research Fund. Total Funding Received: \$300,000.

The project investigates how socioeconomic, cultural, and hydrological variables produce flood risks in established and developing colonia settlements in the Rio Grande Valley. Collaborative research between social and natural scientists builds on past research in the advancement of state-of-the-art demographic, geographic, and computer modeling approaches to the study of disasters. Results of the project will contribute to the theoretical understanding of social vulnerability as well as the development of public and scientific policy to mitigate environmental risks faced by vulnerable communities.

- 2012** Co-PI, Collaborative Adaptive Sensing of the Atmosphere (ERC-CASA). Funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) Engineering Research Center (ERC) Program. Total funding received: \$60,000.

The study involved the application of advanced statistical models (i.e., mixed, random-effects, etc.) to model a variety of behaviors associated with warning response.

#### AWARDED TEACHING GRANTS

**2014-** Co-Investigator, UTPA-RISE Undergraduate Training Program. Total funding: \$1,790,000.

The goal of the grant is to create and implement a new undergraduate research program designed to increase the number of Hispanics that pursue and complete PhDs in biomedical and behavioral sciences.

#### OTHER GRANTS

**2017** Co-PI (w/ Amy Hay), Summerlee Foundation. Total Funding: \$5000.

Small grant to develop a series of lectures and workshops to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hurricane Beulah.

#### EDITED BOOKS

**2018** Rodriguez, H., W. Donner, and J. Trainor (eds), (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) *Handbook of Disaster Research*. Springer: NY.

#### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

**2019** Kyne, D., Donner, W. and Lomeli, A. "Information Seeking and Evacuation Decision Making in Hypothetical Hurricane Events in the Rio Grande Valley, Texas." *International Journal of Emergency Management*. 15: 54-80.

**2018** Donner, W. and J. Lavariega. 2018. "Ethnicity, income, and disaster preparedness in Deep South Texas, United States." *Disasters*. 42: 719-733.

**2018** Kyne, D. and W. Donner. "Kyne-Donner Model of Authority's Recommendation and Hurricane Evacuation Decisions: A Study of Hypothetical Hurricane Event in the Rio Grande Valley, Texas." *Population Research and Policy Review*. 37: 897-922.

**2018** Kyne, D., L. Lomeli, W. Donner, and E. Zuloaga. "Who Will Stay, Who Will Leave: Decision-Making of Residents Living in Potential Hurricane Impact Areas During a Hypothetical Hurricane Event in the Rio Grande Valley," *Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management* (April (2nd Quarter/Spring)).

**2015** Brotzge, J. and W. Donner. "The General Use of Outdoor Warning Sirens." *Journal of Emergency Management*. 13: 61-69.

**2015** Brotzge, J. and W. Donner. "The General Use of Outdoor Warning Siren Systems for Severe Weather: A National Survey of Emergency Managers." *Natural Hazards Review*. 16.

**2013** Brotzge, J. and W. Donner. "An Interdisciplinary Overview of the Warning Process."

*Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*. 94: 1715–1733.

- 2012** Donner, W., H. Rodriguez, and W. Diaz. “Tornado Warnings in Three Southern States: A Qualitative Analysis of Public Response Patterns.” *Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*. 9: 1-19.
- 2009** Rodriguez, H., W. Donner, W. Diaz, and J.Santos. "Emergency managers, allocation of radar resources and policy implications." *Journal of Emergency Management*. March/April: 35-44.
- 2008** Donner, W. and H. Rodriguez. “Population Composition, Migration, and Vulnerability.” *Social Forces*. 87: 1089-1114.
- 2008** Bass, E., L. Baumgart, B. Philips, K. Kloesel, K. Dougherty, H. Rodriguez, W. Diaz, W. Donner, J. Santos, M. Zink. “Incorporating Emergency Management Needs in the Development of Weather Radar Networks.” *Journal of Emergency Management*. 7: 45-52.
- 2008** Donner, W. "Decision Making as Community Adaptation: A Case Study of Emergency Managers in Oklahoma." *Disasters*. 32: 292-302.
- 2007** Donner, W. "The Political Ecology of Disaster: An Analysis of Factors Influencing U.S. Tornado Fatalities and Injuries, 1998-2000." *Demography*. 44: 669-685.
- 2006** Donner, W. “Mahmood Monshipouri on Iran and the Nuclear Crisis: State of U.S.-Iran Relations.” *Muslim Public Affairs Journal*. July: 19-21.

#### ARTICLES AND BOOKS UNDER REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT

- 2018-** Donner, W; H. Rodriguez, W. Diaz, and J. Brotzge. Working title: *From Warning to Action: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Implementing an Effective Warning System*. Under Contract, Springer Nature.
- 2020** Kaika, A., A. Racelis, O. Temby, D. Kim, and W. Donner. “Community Engagement and Community Agriculture (Tentative).” *Agriculture and Human Values* (Tentative).

#### AWARDS

- 2019** Outstanding Graduate Program Coordinator. Highest Enrollment Growth in New Graduate Program: Disaster Studies
- 2013** President’s Advancing Grantsmanship Award. Total funding received: \$2,500.
- 2011** President’s Advancing Grantsmanship Award. Total funding received: \$2,500.
- 2012** Outstanding Researcher, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

#### INVITED AND NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2019** Dean, K. and W. Donner. "Editorial: Aiming toward Building Disaster Resilient Communities," *International Journal of Disaster Response and Emergency Management* 2, no. 1 (June 2019).
- 2018** Dean, K. and W. Donner. "Editorial: Preparedness and Response For Future Disasters with Increasing Intensity and Severity Under Climate Change ," *International Journal of Disaster Response and Emergency Management* 1, no. 2 (December 2018).
- 2011** Donner, W. and H. Rodriguez. "Disaster Risk and Vulnerability." Population Reference Bureau, Washington, D.C.
- 2009** Donner, W., D. Cohen, and M. Cottingham. "Disaster Prediction and Warning." *Encyclopedia of Geography*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

#### BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2018** Donner, W. and W. Diaz. "Methodological Issues in Disaster Research," n *Handbook of Disaster Research*, edited by H. Rodriguez, W. Donner, and J. Trainor. Springer: New York.
- 2006** Trainor, J., W. Donner, and M. Torres. "There for the Storm: Warning, Response, and Rescue Among Non-Evacuees in Hurricane Katrina." In *Learning from Catastrophe: Quick Response Research in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina*. Natural Hazards Center (NSF Grant No. CMS0408499), Institute of Behavioral Science, University Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO.

#### TECHNICAL REPORTS AND NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2015** Donner, W. "Longitudinal Analysis of Perceived Outcomes in a Computer Science Class." CSR Report, *Department of Defense*, Washington, D.C.
- 2014** Donner et al. "Academic Working Groups: Transdisciplinary Report." New University Transition Working Group Committee, University of Texas-Pan American, Edinburg, TX.
- 2010** Donner, W., A. Heckert, K. Bonach, and D. Hysock. "5-Year Assessment of the Department of Sociology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania." Report Prepared for Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE).
- 2009** Donner, W. "E3a – Public Response." Annual Report to the National Science Foundation (NSF), Year 6, Volume 2. University of Massachusetts -Amherst, Amherst, MA
- 2008** Donner, W. "E3a – Public Response." Annual Report to the National Science Foundation (NSF), Year 5, Volume 2. University of Massachusetts -Amherst, Amherst, MA
- 2007** Donner, W. R. and L.E. Barsky. "Ethics in Disaster Complicated by Human Needs." *Protecting Human Subjects*. U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Biological and

Environmental Research, Washington, D.C.

- 2007** Rodriguez, H., J. Santos, W. Donner, and W. Diaz. "Science, Technology, and Disasters: Integrating End-User Needs." *Weather and Society Watch*. 1: 4, 9.
- 2007** Donner, W., H. Rodriguez, and W. Diaz. "Public Warning Response Following Tornadoes in New Orleans, LA, and Springfield, MO: A Sociological Analysis." Symposium on Policy and Socio-Economic Research CD-ROM, 87th Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society, San Antonio, Texas, 14-18 January 2007.
- 2007** Donner, W. "E3a – Public Response." Annual Report to the National Science Foundation (NSF), Year 4, Volume 2. University of Massachusetts -Amherst, Amherst, MA.
- 2006** Donner, W. R. "The Political Ecology of Disaster: An Analysis of Factors Influencing U.S. Tornado Fatalities and Injuries, 1998-2000." DRC Preliminary Paper #351.
- 2006** Phillips, B., H. Rodriguez, W. Diaz, and W. Donner. "Pre- and Post-DCAS Behavior and Response." Annual Report to the National Science Foundation (NSF), Year 3, Volume 2. University of Massachusetts -Amherst, Amherst, MA.
- 2005** Donner, W. "Decision-Making as Community Adaptation: The Human Ecology of Emergency Management." DRC Preliminary Paper # 348
- 2005** H. Rodriguez, W. Diaz, W. Donner, J. Santos, and D. Marks. "Allocation of Radar Resources and Policy Implications: The End-User Community in Oklahoma." DRC Preliminary Paper #345.
- 2005** Donner, W. and D. Grainger. "Rainfall Estimates or Tornado Detection?: An Assessment Based on the Needs of Emergency Managers." ERC-CASA End-User Integration, Research Brief No. 4.
- 2005** Rodriguez, H, W. Diaz, W. Donner, J. Santos, D. Marks. "Allocation of Radar Resources and Policy Implications: The End User Community in Oklahoma." ERC-CASA End-User Integration, Research Brief No. 3.
- 2005** Phillips, B., H. Rodriguez, W. Diaz, and W. Donner. "Pre- and Post-DCAS Behavior and Response." Annual Report to the National Science Foundation (NSF), Year 2, Volume 2. University of Massachusetts -Amherst, Amherst, MA.
- 2004** Donner, W., D. Marks, C. Abbey, J. Rothrock, and D. Grainger. "Oklahoma Emergency Managers: Technical Needs, Policy Recommendations, and System Design." Technical Report Presented to CASA's (Engineering Research Center for Collaborative Adaptive Sensing of the Atmosphere) Engineering and Science Advisory Board (ESAB): University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Amherst, MA.

## PRESENTATIONS

- 2020** Donner, W. “Factors Affecting Preparedness in Coastal Border Communities: A Case Study of Hidalgo County, TX.” 2020 meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Albuquerque, NM.
- 2018** Kyne, D., Donner, W., (April 20, 2018). *Understanding Individual Disaster Preparedness in the Aftermath of Hurricane Harvey: A Case of Rio Grande Valley, Texas*, Association of American Geographers Annual Conference 2017 Association of American Geographers in New Orleans.
- 2017** Donner, W. and J. Lavariega. “Ethnicity, Income, and Disaster Preparedness in Deep South Texas: A Preliminary Analysis.” 2017 Meeting of the American Meteorological Society (AMS), 12<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Societal Applications, Seattle, WA.
- 2017** Kyne, D., Donner, W., (April 7, 2017). A Model of Evacuation-Decision Making for a Potential Hurricane Event in Rio Grande Valley, *Association of American Geographers Annual Conference 2017* Association of American Geographers in Boston.
- 2016** Donner, William, **Lopez, Bianca**, Rodriguez, Karen. 2016. “Disaster Vulnerability within Colonias in the Rio Grande Valley.” International Research Forum. South Padre Island, TX. October 24-26.
- 2014** Donner, W. “Social Vulnerability to Disaster: Structural and Demographic Predictors of Global Flood Mortality, 2008-2012.” 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society, Atlanta, GA.
- 2014** Brotzge, J. and W. Donner. “The General Use of Outdoor Warning Siren Systems for Severe Weather: A National Survey of Emergency Managers.” 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society, Atlanta, GA.
- 2010** Trainor, J., H. Rodriguez, W. Diaz, W. Donner, and J. Santos-Hernandez. “Predicting the Behavioral Response to Tornado Threats.” Presented at the International Research Committee/Natural Hazards Center Disasters Hazards Researchers Meeting, July 14, 2010. Broomfield, CO.
- 2009** Santos-Hernández, J., H. Rodriguez, W. Diaz, W. Donner, and J. Trainor. “Developing Informed Radar Technology: The social dimensions of risk communication.” International Research Committee on Disasters Researchers Meeting. Oral presentation. July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Broomfield, Colorado.
- 2009** Trainor, J., H. Rodríguez. J. Santos-Hernández. W. Díaz. and W. Donner. “Societal Impacts of Weather Hazards: Understanding Public Response to Severe Weather Events.” Joint Southeast Pennsylvania Regional Emergency Management Taskforce. December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009.
- 2007** Donner, W., H. Rodriguez, W. Diaz, J. Santos, and D. Marks. “Understanding Public Response Within a Decision Sciences Framework.” Presentation given at CASA

Decision Science Workshop, Dallas, TX, January 25-27.

- 2006** Donner, W.R. "Public Warning Response to Hurricane Katrina: A Preliminary Analysis." Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA), August, 2006, Montreal, QC.
- 2005** Rodriguez, H., W. Diaz, J. Santos, W. Donner, and D. Marks. "Technological Innovations, Disaster Management, and End-User Needs: Challenges and Opportunities for Emergency Managers and Practitioners." Presented at the 2005 NDMS Disaster Response Conference Orlando, Florida, May 4, 2005
- 2005** Rodriguez, H. and Donner, W. "Population and Vulnerability to Disasters: A Demographic Perspective." Presented at the Disasters Roundtable, National Research Council of the National Academies, Washington, DC, March 8, 2005.
- 2005** Santos, J. and W. Donner. "Integrating the End User Community: An Overview of Preliminary Findings." CASA Simulation Development Meeting, National Weather Service, Norman, OK, January 2005.
- 2004** Donner, W.R. "Non-Technological Problems in Emergency Management Decision-Making." Paper Presented at the Annual Boulder Hazards Workshop, July 11-14, 2004.
- 2003** Argothy, V. and W.R. Donner. "Foucault and the Microphysics of Solidarity." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, March 2003.
- 2003** Donner, W.R. "The Human Ecological Model and Its Application to Severe Weather Phenomena: Predicting Tornado Morbidity." Paper presented at annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, March, 2003.
- 2001** Donner, W.R. "Is the Relationship Between Deviance and Religiosity Spurious?: An Incorporation of Social Bond and Normative Dissensus Theories." Paper presented at annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, March, 2001.

#### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

- 2020** Grant Reviewer/Panelist, NSF ERC Program on Built Environment
- 2015** Representative, College Council, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, University of Texas-Pan American
- 2015** Member, Ad –Hoc Tenure and Promotion Transition Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Texas-Pan American
- 2014** Panel Member, Plenary Session on Coastal Environment and Hazards, 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society, Atlanta, GA.



- 2014** Chair, GIS Group, Transdisciplinary Scholarly Community, Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP), University of Texas-Pan American
- 2013** Member, Environmental Studies Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Texas-Pan American
- 2013** Chair, Transdisciplinary Transition Committee, University of Texas-Pan American
- 2013** Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Texas-Pan American
- 2013** Member, Annual Review Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Texas-Pan American
- 2013** Member, Promotion and Tenure Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Texas-Pan American
- 2013** Member, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Texas Pan-American.
- 2012** Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.
- 2009** Chair, Self-Study Committee, Department of Sociology, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.
- 2008** Member, College Assessment Committee, Department of Sociology, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.
- 2008** Member, Undergraduate Education Committee, Department of Sociology, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.
- 2007** Grant Proposal Reviewer, Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), DHS Scholarship and Fellowship Program.
- 2004** Graduate Student Representative, Faculty Search Committee, University of Delaware.

## THESIS AND DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

Jackie Wilson  
Wanda Minnick  
Michael Myers (Chair)  
Rebecca Zukowski  
Joseph Astorino  
Ginger Bucher  
Simon Hauser  
Travis Eisentrout (Chair)  
Shawn Hoke  
Rebecca Zukowski  
Amber Frame  
Nicolette Bell (Chair)  
Eric Ecklund  
Jeremy Shearer (Chair)  
Brian Farrester  
Jamal Wakeem (Chair)  
Yajaira Ayala (Chair)  
Bianca Lopez (Chair)  
Karen Rodriguez  
Amanda Mercado  
Deepa Acharya (Chair)  
Santosh Mukingal  
(Chair)  
Joseph Chavez  
Magaly Ramirez  
Alma Provencio  
Marlee Olivierez  
Allison Kaika  
Nancy Carlson

## JOURNAL REVIEWER

*American Sociological Review*  
*Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*  
*Social Science Quarterly*  
*Social Forces*  
*Demography*  
*International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*  
*Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*  
*Population and Environment*  
*Natural Hazards Review*  
*Natural Hazards*  
*Social Problems*

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association (ASA)

American Meteorological Association (AMA)

STATISTICAL AND SOFTWARE SKILLS

Arcview GIS

HLM

SAS

SPSS

Stata

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

German

REFERENCES

By Request