
CURRICULUM VITA

Dr. William R. Donner
Professor and Department Chair
University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV)
Department of Sociology
E-Mail: william.donner@utrgv.edu

EDUCATION

- 2007 Ph.D. in Sociology**
University of Delaware, Newark, DE
- 2003 M.A. in Sociology**
University of Delaware, Newark, DE
- 2000 B.A. in Sociology (Departmental Honors)**
Millersville University, Millersville, PA

AREAS OF SCHOLARLY AND TEACHING INTEREST

Environmental Sociology	Statistics
Disasters	Research Methods/Survey Design
Interdisciplinary Research	Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
Science and Technology	

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

- 2019-** Department Chair, Department of Sociology, UTRGV
- 2013-19** Coordinator, Disaster Studies MA Program, Department of Sociology, UTPA/UTRGV
- 2015-19** Coordinator, Sociology Program, Department of Sociology, UTPA/UTRGV
- 2017-** Journal Co-editor, *International Journal of Disaster Response and Emergency Management (IJDREM)*
- 2013-15** Chair, GIS Group, Transdisciplinary Scholarly Community, Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP), UTPA
- 2013-** Co-Director, Center for Survey Research, UTPA/UTRGV

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021-** Faculty Affiliate, Population Research Center (PRC), UT-Austin
- 2019-** Professor of Sociology, UTRGV
- 2013-18** Associate Professor Sociology, UTPA/UTRGV

- 2013** Associate Professor of Sociology, IUP
- 2008-13** Assistant Professor of Sociology (Tenure Track), IUP
- 2007-08** Postdoctoral Researcher and CATI administrator, University of Delaware, Disaster Research Center (DRC)
- 2001-07** Graduate Researcher, University of Delaware, Disaster Research Center (DRC)
- 1999-01** Research Associate and CATI Supervisor, Millersville University, Center for Opinion Research (COR)

COURSES TAUGHT

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

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, IUP
- 2012** Outstanding Researcher, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IUP
- 2011** President's Advancing Grantsmanship Award. Total funding received: \$2,500, IUP

PEER-REVIEWED ORIGINAL AND EDITED BOOKS

2022 Donner, W., H. Rodriguez, J. Brotzge, and W. Diaz. *Severe Weather Warnings: An Interdisciplinary Approach*. Springer-Nature: NY.

*1st place, ASLI Choice Award, 103rd Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society (AMS), Denver, CO.

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

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2019** Kyne, D., W. Donner. and A. Lomeli. "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. "Ethnicity, income, and disaster preparedness in Deep South Texas, United States." *Disasters*. 42: 719-733.

- 2018** Kyne, D. and W. Donner. "A 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.
- 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.
- 2006** Donner, W. "Mahmood Monshipouri on Iran and the Nuclear Crisis: State of U.S.-Iran Relations." *Muslim Public Affairs Journal*. July: 19-21.

RESEARCH GRANTS

2015-18 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): \$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.

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 the biomedical and behavioral sciences.

OTHER GRANTS

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

Small grant to develop a series of community engagement lectures and workshops to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Hurricane Beulah.

BOOK CHAPTERS AND NON-PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

2021 Donner, W. “Risk Perception and Decision Making in the COVID-19 Era.” In *The Rio Grande Valley in the Time of the Pandemic*, edited by R. Bacha-Garza, R. Skowronek, and G. Ozuna. Edinburg, TX: CHAPS Program.

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 Donner, W. and W. Diaz. “Methodological Issues in Disaster Research,” in *Handbook*

of *Disaster Research*, edited by H. Rodriguez, W. Donner, and J. Trainor. Springer: New York.

- 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.
- 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

- 2015** Donner, W. "Longitudinal Analysis of Perceived Outcomes in a Computer ScienceClass." CSR Report, *Department of Defense*, Washington, D.C.
- 2014** Donner, W. and J. Benavides. "Academic Working Group: Transdisciplinary Report." New University Transition Working Group Committee, UTPA, 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** 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** Rodriguez H., 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

- 2023** Donner, W. "Socioeconomic Predictors of Preparedness for Catastrophic Power Outages." 2023 Meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association, San Antonio, TX.
- 2022** Donner, W. "Towards a General Theory of Risk." 2021 Meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association, San Antonio, TX.
- 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.

- 2017** Kyne, D. and Donner, W. "Understanding Individual Disaster Preparedness in the Aftermath of Hurricane Harvey: A Case of Rio Grande Valley, Texas." 2017 Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, New Orleans, LA.
- 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), 12th Symposium on Societal Applications, Seattle, WA.
- 2016** Donner, W., B. Lopez, and K. Rodriguez. 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." 94th 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." 94th 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 19th, 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 8th, 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

- 2021** Guest Speaker, Fundamental of Resilient and Sustainable Infrastructure course, UPRM
- 2021-** Chair Advisor, Psychological Sciences Chair Search, UTRGV
- 2021-** Co-coordinator, State Farm Disaster Studies Ambassador Program, UTRGV
- 2021** Grant Reviewer/Panelist, NSF ERC Program on Future Manufacturing
- 2020** Guest Speaker, Fundamental of Resilient and Sustainable Infrastructure course, UPRM
- 2020** Grant Reviewer/Panelist, NSF ERC Program on Built Environment
- 2015** Representative, College Council, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, UTPA
- 2015** Member, Ad –Hoc Tenure and Promotion Transition Committee, Department of Sociology, UTPA
- 2014** Panel Member, Plenary Session on Coastal Environment and Hazards, 94th Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society, Atlanta, GA.

- 2013** Member, Environmental Studies Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, UTPA
- 2013** Chair, Transdisciplinary Transition Committee, UTPA
- 2013** Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, UTPA
- 2013** Member, Annual Review Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, UTPA
- 2013** Member, Promotion and Tenure Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, UTPA
- 2013** Member, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, UTPA.
- 2012** Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology, IUP.
- 2009** Chair, Self-Study Committee, Department of Sociology, IUP.
- 2008** Member, College Assessment Committee, Department of Sociology, IUP.
- 2008** Member, Undergraduate Education Committee, Department of Sociology, IUP.
- 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	Nicolette Bell (Chair)	Joseph Chavez
Wanda Minnick	Eric Ecklund	Magaly Ramirez
Michael Myers (Chair)	Jeremy Shearer (Chair)	Alma Provencio
Rebecca Zukowski	Brian Farrester	Marlee Olivarez
Joseph Astorino	Jamal Wakeem (Chair)	Allison Kaika
Ginger Bucher	Yajaira Ayala (Chair)	Nancy Carlson
Simon Hauser	Bianca Lopez (Chair)	Ashrafuzzanam Nazim
Travis Eisentrout (Chair)	Karen Rodriguez	(Chair)
Shawn Hoke	Amanda Mercado	Jeannette Zallar
Rebecca Zukowski	Deepa Acharya (Chair)	
Amber Frame	Santosh Mukingal (Chair)	

OCCASIONAL 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