

## **Tiffani A. Riggers-Piehl, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of Higher Education,  
Educational Leadership, Policy, & Foundations  
School of Education, University of Missouri Kansas City

### **Education**

- 2013 Ph.D., Higher Education and Organizational Change  
University of California, Los Angeles  
Dissertation: *Enhancing Classrooms and Conversations: How Interactions with Faculty Predict Change in Students' Spirituality in College*. Chair: Linda J. Sax
- 2009 M.A., Higher Education and Organizational Change  
University of California, Los Angeles
- 2008 M.S. Ed., Higher Education and Student Affairs  
Baylor University, Waco, Texas
- 1996 B.S., Fashion Merchandising; Magna Cum Laude  
Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona

### **Research Agenda**

College student development; Campus climate; Spirituality and religion in college; Student-faculty interaction, pedagogy, and student success; Interfaith experiences in college; Gendered aspects of spiritual development in college; Conditional effects of gender.

### **Academic and Research Positions**

**Assistant Professor of Higher Education**, August 2017 to present  
*Educational Leadership, Policy, & Foundations, School of Education*  
*University of Missouri Kansas City, Kansas City, MO*

- Teach graduate level courses related to the topics of College Student Affairs, College Student Development Theory, and History of Higher Education.
- Publish scholarly work related to college student development and research interests.
- Supervise and mentor masters and doctoral level students.

**Adjunct Professor**, August 2016 to June 2017  
*Baylor Interdisciplinary Core, Honors College*  
*Educational Leadership, School of Education*  
*Baylor University, Waco, TX*

- Teach introductory freshman experience course in the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core.
- Teach graduate seminar in research and assessment in higher education course.

**Assistant Director**, August 2015 to December 2016  
*Academy for Teaching and Learning*  
*Baylor University, Waco, TX*

- Coordinate Seminars for Excellence in Teaching by recruiting faculty to present on compelling topics related to teaching, recruit participants, and coordinate logistics.
- Teach programs as needed on topics related to informal and formal assessment, teaching, student development, and gender issues in higher education.
- Develop grant and conference proposals.
- Manage Graduate Fellows.

**Postdoctoral Associate**, September 2014 to August 2015

*New York University Steinhardt, New York, NY*

Interfaith Diversity Attitudes and Experiences Longitudinal Survey (IDEALS), Principal Investigators: Dr. Matthew Mayhew (NYU), Center for Research on Higher Education Outcomes and Dr. Alyssa Rockenbach (NCSU)

- Recruit a national set of institutions to participate in the study.
- Author and co-author papers from existing data.
- Develop grant and conference proposals.
- Manage day-to-day activities of the research project, including graduate research assistants, marketing, administration, and budget management.

**Assessment and Research Analyst**, August 2013 to August 2014

*University of California, Los Angeles*

Student Affairs Information and Research Office

- Improve capacity for assessment in division of student affairs, including identification of data, analysis, and reporting.
- Develop assessment skills of student affairs professionals across functional areas.
- Produce research briefs as needed for various stakeholders.
- Create and administer student affairs assessments as needed.

**Research Consultant**, May 2013 to present

*SKG Analysis, Burlingame, CA 94010*

- Develop survey for 2500 participants of ACS Scholars Program, including survey design, pilot testing, and recruitment of participants. Prepare data for analysis.
- Clean, organize, and analyze data for a national study of Chemistry graduate students. Provide data interpretation, presentation, and writing support for final report.

**Graduate Research Analyst and Postdoctoral Researcher**, May 2011 to August 2013

*University of California, Los Angeles*

Trends in the Determinants of Gender Segregation across STEM Majors (1976-2006) project, Principal Investigator: Dr. Linda Sax (UCLA). Funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF)

- Co-author proposal for NSF-funded RFP.
- Coordinate budget, project planning, and status of various aspects of the overall project.
- Oversee quantitative analysis for project, manage graduate students.
- Co-author conference proposals, papers, and reporting for NSF.

**Funded Research Activities**

**Fostering Academic and Social Engagement: An Investigation into the Effects of All-Girls Education in the Transition to University.**

**Funder:** National Coalition for Girl's Schools

**Date:** August 2017-January 2019

**My role:** Principle Investigator (in partnership with Dr. Kyungmin Lim, Co-Principle Investigator)

**Study:** Awarded \$43,000 to update a 2009 study on women graduates of single sex high schools as they enter colleges. Study uses a multi-level approach to better understand the effect of participation in single-sex high schools at college entry.

**The Role of College Experiences in the Development of Self-Authored Worldview Commitment for First-Year STEM Students.**

**Funder:** This research was made possible through the generous support of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Interfaith Youth Core, Dr. Matthew Mayhew, and Dr. Alyssa Rockenbach.

**Date:** October 2017-December 2018

**My role:** Co-Principle Investigator (in partnership with Dr. Kate Lehman, Co-Principle Investigator, UCLA, and Emily Sandval, M.S., Baylor University)

**Study:** Awarded \$7500 to examine how students within STEM develop a spiritual or worldview commitment and how their experiences within their major may foster or hinder the development of a spiritual commitment.

**Enhancing Classrooms and Conversations: How Interactions with Faculty Predict Change in Students' Spirituality in College.**

**Funder:** Graduate Division, University of California Los Angeles

**Date:** 2011-2012

**My role:** Principle Investigator

**Study:** Awarded \$18,000 to further dissertation work, prepare work for publication, and extend teaching experience.

**Finding Meaning in Grief: A Phenomenological Investigation of Spirituality in the Grieving Process of College Students.**

**Funder:** Graduate Division, University of California Los Angeles

**Date:** Summer, 2010

**My role:** Principle Investigator

**Study:** Awarded \$5,500 to investigate how students who experienced a death loss of a close friend or family member may use spirituality as a part of the grieving process.

**Exploring Perceptions of Campus Climate for Religious Students at the University of California.**

**Funder:** Graduate Division, University of California Los Angeles

**Date:** Summer, 2009

**My role:** Principle Investigator

**Study:** Awarded \$5,500 to investigate how campus spiritual climate may influence students' sense of belonging at the University of California Campuses.

## Publications

### **Refereed Publications in Press** (ordered by most recent, then alphabetical):

- Blevins, B., LeCompte, K., & **Riggers-Piehl, T.A.** (2019). Developing civic competence through Action Civics: A longitudinal study. *Journal of Social Studies Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jssr.2019.03.002>
- Mayhew, M. J., Bowman, N. A., Rockenbach, A. N., Selznick, B., & **Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2018). Appreciative attitudes toward Jews among non-Jewish U.S. college students. *Journal of College Student Development*, 59(1).
- Rockenbach, A. N., Bowman, N. A., **Riggers-Piehl, T. A.**, Mayhew, M. J., & Crandall, R. E. (2018). Respecting the LDS/Mormon Minority on Campus: College Students' Attitudes toward Latter-day Saints. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 56(4): 798-819. DOI: 10.1111/jssr.12481
- Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** & Sax, L. J. (2018), Enhancing the Spirit: How Interactions with Faculty Influence Students' Meaning-Making and Spiritual Quest in College. *Journal of College and Character*, 19(2), 101-119. DOI: 10.1080/2194587X.2018.1445642
- Bowman, N. A., Rockenbach, A. N., Mayhew, M. J., **Riggers-Piehl, T. A.**, Hudson, T. D. (2017). College students' appreciative attitudes toward atheists. *Research in Higher Education*, 58(1), 98-118.
- Mayhew, M. J., Rockenbach, A. N., Bowman, N. A., Lo, M. A., Starcke, M., & **Riggers-Piehl, T.**, Crandall, R E. (2017). Expanding perspectives on evangelicalism: How non-evangelical students appreciate Evangelical Christianity. *Review of Religious Research*, 59, 207-230. DOI: 10.1007/s13644-017-0283-8
- Rockenbach, A. N., Mayhew, M. J., Bowman, N. A., Morin, S. M., & **Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2017). An examination of non-Muslim college students' attitudes toward Muslims. *Journal of Higher Education*, 88(4), 479-504.
- Rockenbach, A. N., **Riggers-Piehl, T.**, Garvey, J., Lo, M., & Mayhew, M. J. (2016). The influence of campus climate and interfaith engagement on self-authored worldview commitment and pluralism orientation across sexual and gender identities. *Research in Higher Education*, 57(4), 497-517. DOI: 10.1007/s11162-015-9395-6
- Riggers-Piehl, T. A.**, & Lehman, K. (2016). Modeling the Relationship between Campus Spiritual Climate and the Sense of Belonging for Christian, Muslim, and Jewish Students. *Religion and Education*, 43(3), 247-270. DOI: 10.1080/15507394.2016.1175843
- Kanny, M.A., Sax, L. J., **Riggers-Piehl, T.A.** (2014), Investigating forty years of STEM research: How explanations for the gender gap have evolved over time. *Journal of Women and Minorities in Engineering*, 20(2), 127-148. DOI: 10.1617/JWomenMinorScienEng.2014007246
- Sax, L. J., Kanny, M.A., **Riggers-Piehl, T. A.**, Whang, H., & Paulson, L. (2015). "But I'm not good at math": The changing salience of mathematical self-concept in shaping

women's and men's stem aspirations. *Research in Higher Education*, 56(8): 813-842.  
DOI: 10.1007/s11162-015-9375-x.

Sax, L. J., **Riggers, T. A.** & Eagan, M. K. (2013). The role of single-sex education in academic engagement of college-bound women: A multilevel analysis. *Teachers College Record*, 115 (1).

### **Book Chapters:**

**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2016), Finding Meaning and Purpose in Loss: Insights into Spiritual Aspects of the Grieving Process of College Students. In Terence Hicks (Ed.), *Spirituality Research Studies in Higher Education*. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, Inc.

**Riggers, T. A.** and Sax, L.J. (2011). College Student Development. In Barbara J. Bank (Ed.), *Gender and Higher Education*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press.

### **Research Reports:**

**Riggers-Piehl, T.A.**, Lim, G., & King, K. (2018). *Fostering academic and social engagement: An investigation into the effects of all-girls education in the transition to university*. Los Angeles, CA: Higher Education Research Institute.

Riggers-Piehl, T. (2017). *Data analysis and report: 2013-2016 iEngage Summer Civics Program*. Prepared for Dr. Brooke Blevins and Dr. Karon LeCompte, Principal Investigators, *iEngage Civics Program*, School of Education, Baylor University (Waco, TX)

Riggers-Piehl, T, Jemison, R., & Hernandez, C. (2017). *Data analysis and report of 2016 ACS Scholars Program Current and Alumni Scholars Survey*. Prepared for the Educational Division of the American Chemical Society (Washington, D.C.)

Sax, L. J., Arms, E., Woodruff, M., **Riggers, T.**, & Eagan, K. (2009). *Women graduates of single-sex and coeducational high schools: Differences in their characteristics and the transition to college*. Los Angeles, CA: Sudikoff Family Institute for Education and New Media.

## **Scholarly Presentations**

### **Refereed Presentations:** (By date)

LeCompte, K., **Riggers-Piehl, T.A.**, Blevins, B., Scholten, N. (2019, April) Transforming Youth as Civic Participants: Educating for Community and Political Engagement. Paper Presentation at the 2019 Annual Meeting, American Educational Research Association, Toronto, Ontario (CAN).

**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.**, (2018, November). In K. J. Lehman (Chair), *Catching the spirit: A discussion on the role of spirituality and diversity in the experience of STEM students*. Symposium conducted at the 2018 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Tampa, FL.

**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.**, Lehman, K.J. & Sandvall, E.S. (2018, September). The role of college experiences in the development of self-authored worldview commitment for first-year

stem students. Paper Presentation at the IDEALS Symposium: Building Research and Practice, Atlanta, GA.

Blevins, B., LeCompte, K., & **Riggers-Piehl, T.A.** (2018, April) Developing civic competence through action civics: a longitudinal look at the data. Paper Presentation at the 2018 Annual Meeting, American Educational Research Association, New York, NY.

Lehman, K.J. & **Riggers-Piehl, T.A.** (2017, April) STEM students' soft skills: Differences in men's and women's views on leadership, politics, and spirituality. Paper Presentation at the 2017 Annual Meeting, American Educational Research Association, San Antonio, TX.

**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** & Sax, L. J. (2016, October). Enhancing the Spirit: How Interactions with Faculty Influence Students' Meaning-Making and Spiritual Quest in College. Paper presentation at the 2016 Baylor Symposium for Faith and Learning, "Higher Learning." Waco, TX.

Bowman, N. A., Rockenbach, A. N., Mayhew, M. J., **Riggers-Piehl, T. A.**, Hudson, T. D. (2015, November). College students' appreciative attitudes of atheists. In J. J. Park (Chair), *Using research to address interfaith conflict: how college experiences shape students' attitudes toward people of other worldviews*. Symposium conducted at the 2015 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Denver, CO.

Mayhew, M. J., Bowman, N. A., Rockenbach, A. N., Selznick, B., & **Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2015, November). Appreciative attitudes toward Jews among non-Jewish U.S. college students. In J. J. Park (Chair), *Using research to address interfaith conflict: how college experiences shape students' attitudes toward people of other worldviews*. Symposium conducted at the 2015 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Denver, CO.

Mayhew, M. J., Rockenbach, A. N., Bowman, N. A., Lo, M. A., Starcke, M., & **Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2015, November). Disrupting norms while embracing narratives: How non-evangelical students appreciate Evangelical Christianity. In J. J. Park (Chair), *Using research to address interfaith conflict: how college experiences shape students' attitudes toward people of other worldviews*. Symposium conducted at the 2015 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Denver, CO.

Rockenbach, A. N., Mayhew, M. J., Bowman, N. A., Crandall, R. E., & **Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2015, November). A portrayal of college students' appreciative attitudes toward Latter-day Saints. In J. J. Park (Chair), *Using research to address interfaith conflict: how college experiences shape students' attitudes toward people of other worldviews*. Symposium conducted at the 2015 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Denver, CO.

Rockenbach, A. N., Mayhew, M. J., Bowman, N. A., Morin, S. M., & **Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2015, November). An examination of non-Muslim college students' attitudes toward Muslims. In J. J. Park (Chair), *Using research to address interfaith conflict: how college experiences shape students' attitudes toward people of other worldviews*. Symposium conducted at the 2015 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Denver, CO.

- Riggers-Piehl, T. A.**, & Mayhew, M. J. (2015, March). *Developing a self-authored worldview commitment: The impact of campus climate and interfaith experiences for LGBT students*. Presentation for the 2015 American Association of Colleges and Universities (AACU): Diversity, Learning and Student Success Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.
- Mayhew, M.J., **Riggers-Piehl, T.A.**, Lo, M, & Selznick, B. (2015). *Developing students' interfaith understanding: Results from the campus religious and spiritual climate survey*. Presentation for the 2015 NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2013, November) “*Exploring the Relationship between Student-Faculty Interactions and Spiritual Change in College, by Gender.*” Symposium presentation. “Faculty and Spirituality in Higher Education: Their Journeys and Their Influence on Students,” for the 2013 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, St. Louis, MO.
- Sax, L. J., Kanny, M.A., **Riggers-Piehl, T. A.**, & Whang, H. (2013, November) “*But I’m Not Good at Math’: The Changing Salience of Mathematical Self-Concept in Shaping Women’s and Men’s STEM Aspirations.*” Paper presentation for the 2013 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, St. Louis, MO.
- Kanny, M. A., Sax, L. J., & **Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2012, November) “*Investigating 40 Years of Trends in STEM Research: How Explanations for the Gender Gap Have Evolved Over Time.*” Paper presentation for the 2012 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Las Vegas, NV.
- Riggers, T. A.** (2011, November) “*Exploring the Linkages between Civic Engagement and Students' Senior-Year Spiritual Commitment.*” Paper presentation for the 2011 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Charlotte, NC.
- Sax, L. J., Jacobs, J. J., **Riggers, T. A.**, Lim, G. K. (2011, November) “*What Explains the Gender Gap in Computer Science Majors? Examining Shifts in Predictors Between 1976-2006*”, Paper presentation for the 2011 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Charlotte, NC.
- Riggers, T. A.** (2010, November) “*Everything Happens For a Reason”: A Phenomenological Investigation of Spirituality in the Grieving Process of College Students.*” Roundtable presentation for the 2010 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Indianapolis, IN.
- Riggers, T. A.** (2010, November) “*Modeling the Relationship Between Campus Spiritual Climate and the Sense of Belonging for Students of Different Religious Backgrounds*” Paper presentation for the 2010 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Indianapolis, IN.
- Sax, L. J., Jacobs, J. J., **Riggers, T. A.** (2010, November) “*Women’s Representation in Science and Technology (STEM) Fields of Study, 1976-2006*”, Paper presentation for the 2010 Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Indianapolis, IN.

**Riggers, T. A., & Millstein, C.** (2010, October), "*Summer @ CENS: High School and Undergraduate Scholars Program Review.*" Poster session presented at the CENS 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Review, University of California, Los Angeles, CA.

**Riggers, T. A.** (2010, May) "*Assessing the Impact of Campus Spiritual Climate on Student Sense of Belonging.*" Paper presentation for the 2010 Annual Meeting, American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, B.C.

Sax, L. J., **Riggers, T. A., & Eagan, M. K.** (2010, May) "*The Impact of Single-Sex Education on Academic Engagement among College-Bound Women: A Multilevel Analysis.*" Paper presentation for the 2010 Annual Meeting, American Educational Research Association, Denver, CO.

**Riggers, T. A., & Fulmer, S. M.** (2010, March) "*Campus Spiritual Climate: Creating Safe Spaces for Women and Men.*" Paper presentation for the 2010 Annual Conference, NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education; Chicago, IL.

**Riggers, T. A., & Millstein, C.** (2009, October), "*Summer @ CENS: High School and Undergraduate Scholars Program Evaluation.*" Poster session presented at the CENS 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Review, University of California, Los Angeles, CA.

**Riggers, T. A.** (2009, May). "*Exploring effects of perceived campus spiritual climate on student sense of belonging at the University of California.*" Paper presented at the third annual SERU research symposium: Comparative perspectives on the undergraduate experience, Berkeley, CA.

***Invited Presentations or Guest:***

**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2019, April), *Women in STEM Leadership*, ECS1111: Women in Leadership, Baylor University, Waco, TX.

**Riggers-Piehl, T.A.** (2018, October). "*The role of single-sex education for college-bound women, revisited: A multilevel analysis.*" Research presented at the Educating Girls' Symposium, hosted by the National Coalition for Girls' Schools, Cleveland, OH.

**Riggers-Piehl, T.A.** (2018, June). "*The role of single-sex education for college-bound women, revisited: A multilevel analysis.*" Research presented at the Global Forum on Girls' Education II, hosted by the National Coalition for Girls' Schools, Washington, D.C.

**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2017, October), *Women in STEM: What We Know Now*, ECS1111: Women in Leadership, Baylor University, Waco, TX.

**Riggers-Piehl, T.A.** (2017, September), On Becoming a Scholar, Doctoral Women's Pro-Seminar Luncheon, School of Education, University of Missouri, Kansas City.

**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2016, March), *Women in STEM: Research on the Last 40 Years*, ECS1111: Women in Leadership, Baylor University, Waco, TX.

**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2016, February), Invited Guest, *Ladies and Legos*, Baylor University, Waco, TX.



**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2016, June), *Making Over your Assessment Strategy*, Course Makeover Workshop, Baylor University, Waco, TX.

**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2016, May), *Best Practices for Assessment in your NSE Course*, New Student Experience Workshop, Baylor University, Waco, TX.

**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2016, May), *Connecting Learning Outcomes to Behavioral Change Through Assessment*, Student Affairs Assessment Committee Retreat, Baylor University, Waco, TX.

**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2016, April), *Finishing Strong: Assessing Learning Formally and Informally*, Graduate School Faculty Development and Research Symposium, Academy of Health Sciences Graduate School, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX.

**Riggers-Piehl, T. A.** (2015, November), *What do they know? Using Informal Assessment in the Classroom to Improve Student Success*, Baylor University, Waco, TX.

### **Teaching and Advising Experience:**

#### Courses Taught:

##### ***University of Missouri, Kansas City (2017 to present)***

- The College Student (EDUL 5556)
- Advanced Student Development Theory (EDUL 5558)
- History of Higher Education (EDUL 5564)
- Student Affairs Administration (EDUL 5551)
- Internship in Higher Education Administration (EDUL 5556)

##### ***Baylor University, Waco, TX (2016-2017)***

- The Examined Life (Baylor Interdisciplinary Core)
- Research Applications in Higher Education

##### ***University of California, Los Angeles (2009-2015)***

- Research and Evaluation in Higher Education (Teaching Associate)
- Computer Analysis of Empirical Data in Education (Teaching Associate)
- Why Research Matters to Student Affairs Practice (Teaching Associate)
- Gender in Higher Education (Teaching Associate)
- Women in Higher Education (Teaching Associate)
- “Conducting Assessment in Student Affairs” Professional Development Curriculum (Instructor)

#### Doctoral Dissertations Defended, Chaired or Co-Chaired:

- Begley, Laura. (May, 2018), Doctor of Education (UMKC)
- Chelladurai, Cary (June, 2018), Doctor of Education (UMKC)
- Wyatt, Sybil (Expected May, 2019), Doctor of Education (UMKC)

## **Awards and Honors**

- 2019**            **Contributing Scholar**  
Selected by the Interfaith Diversity Experiences and Attitudes Longitudinal Survey (IDEALS) team to lead the development and publication of a paper from their data.
- 2017**            **Most Influential Educators**  
One of 150 faculty or staff to be recognized by freshman as the most influential person to their success in Fall 2016, New Student Experience.
- 2014**            **Dissertation of the Year,**  
Religion and Education SIG, American Educational Research Association
- 2014**            **Dissertation of the Year,**  
Dalton Institute for College Student Values  
Florida State University

## **Professional Involvement and Service**

### ***Memberships:***

Association for the Study of Higher Education

- Conference proposal reviewer: 2010 to present
- Session chair: 2012
- Discussant: 2017

American Educational Research Association

- Conference proposal reviewer: 2014, 2018
- Member, Religion and Education Special Interest Group (SIG): 2013-present
- Secretary/Treasurer, Religion and Education SIG: 2018-2019
- Chair, Dissertation of the Year Committee, Religion and Education SIG: 2019-2020

NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education

- Conference proposal reviewer: 2011, 2012

### ***Service:***

2017 – present

**Associate Editor**

2010 - 2017

**Column Editor**, Spirituality on Campus Column  
Journal of College and Character (De Gruyter)

2010 – present

**Editorial Reviewer**

Death Studies (Routledge), 2010 - present  
Journal of Higher Education (Ohio State University Press), 2012 - present  
Journal of College and Character (De Gruyter), 2012 – present  
Religion and Education (Taylor and Francis), 2015 - present  
Research in Higher Education (Springer), 2015 - present