

Possibilities for Finding Your Voice via Radical Publishing

Matthea Marquart, MSSW

Session 3: Summer Research and Writing Program

Social Work Pathways Initiative and the Action Lab for Social Justice

Please feel free to chat throughout this mini-presentation

It will be more interesting & valuable for you if you connect with each other and share ideas, questions, and more



My motivations for publishing

As an administrator and as a non-PhD, there isn't much direct professional benefit to publishing, I don't get paid for it, and it's not part of my job.

However, I publish for:

- Professional development
 - Opportunity to reflect and sharpen my thinking
 - Opportunity to learn more about something I'm interested in
 - Opportunity to develop new skills
 - Reputational benefits for myself and our online campus
- Team-building with colleagues
- To help others by sharing knowledge freely, and as a way to virtually mentor
- To take action, or because I feel like I have to speak up (e.g. about a particular issue or because we need more articles by women of color)
- Personal enjoyment

In academia, this is considered radical

Writing with colleagues can be fun & worth celebrating



I have a tradition of sending mugs from [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com) to colleagues when we've published together twice.

What have I published? (i.e. what can you ask me about?)

- 1 book
- 10+ book chapters
- 10+ journal articles
- 100+ articles and blog posts

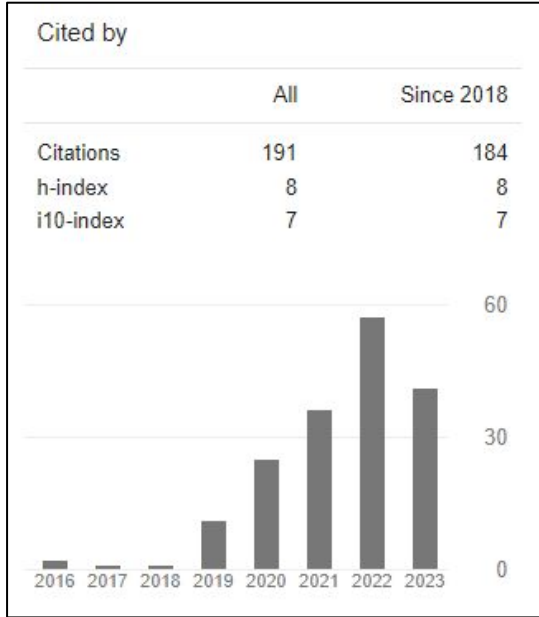
Links to my writing are available here: [Matthea Marquart - Publications](#)

Citations vs other metrics -- what's valuable to you and your passions? Who are you writing for?

- Citation count examples
 - [Google Scholar](#)
 - [ResearchGate](#) (only counts citations that are on their platform)
- Examples of other metrics
 - [Altmetrics](#) (counts mentions online, e.g. on social media - not comprehensive)
 - [Columbia's Academic Commons](#) (counts views & downloads)
- In academia, citations are the most valuable
- However, other types of publications may feed your passions, develop your writing skills, reach the people you want to reach, demonstrate your interests in a PhD application, and help you find your voice

Who do you want to reach with your writing?

Examples of my metrics



Downloads		Views	
Jun 2023	Lifetime	Jun 2023	Lifetime
495	31033	837	48234

495	31033	837	48234
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Title	Page Views	PDF Downloads	MS Word Downloads	Audio Listens
Overall	32,193	10,492	734	30



From: [Matthea Marquart - Google Scholar](#)

From my account (logged in): [Academic Commons - My Works](#)

From the analytics for my book (logged in): [Designing Engaging and Interactive Synchronous Online Class Sessions](#)

Finding your voice -- what do you care enough about to be worth the challenges of publishing?

- Reviewer comments & editor comments can be harsh -- they are busy and often unpaid, and don't take time for trauma-informed feedback
 - Example: "This is a jumbled mess"
- Imposter syndrome and the personal negative impacts of -isms can be silencing
 - [Characteristics of White Supremacy Culture](#)
- There can be real-world negative impacts, especially for authors from marginalized backgrounds
 - Example experience

For you personally/professionally, what's worth facing challenges to write about?

What do you care about?

What can you publish now, even without being part of IRB-approved research projects? (*Institutional review board)

- Book reviews
- Literature reviews
- Analyses of publicly available data
- Op-eds
- Personal essays
- Newsletter articles or blog posts for professional associations
- Articles about your experiences & your praxis (blend of theory & practice)
- Other

What do you want to publish? What have you already published?

Two examples

The first example is from an article I worked on,
and the second is from Agata Dera, who
graciously shared slides

Example: In the Spotlight: 12 Asian and Pacific Islander (API) Social Workers

In [The New Social Worker](#)

Authors: Nicole Wong & Matthea Marquart



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the social work careers magazine

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In the Spotlight: 12 Asian and Pacific Islander (API) Social Workers

May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Like 23 people like this. Sign Up to see what your friends like.

Like this article? Share it! RSS Print

by Matthea Marquart, MSSW, and Nicole Wong, LMSW

This past year, anti-Asian violence has been increasing, and some say that dehumanization of Asian and Pacific Islanders (API) in the U.S. is a contributing factor. One way to combat this is to share our stories. After the March 16, 2021, attack in Atlanta, we feel more urgency to uplift and showcase our API community, whose hundreds of years of contributions to America is often missing from mainstream history. API Heritage Month, commemorated in the month of May, is an opportunity to do this and to celebrate Asian and Pacific Islander social workers in the United States.

Representation matters, and this article is our attempt to establish solidarity and spotlight individuals who represent a range of API identities and who hold a mix of social work roles. API community members come from a large geographical area—the United Nations counts 53 member states and 9 associate members of its Asia-Pacific region. We explored our professional networks informally and reached out to individuals who we admire and whose voices we wanted to amplify. We asked them to share their bios and a reflection on how their API identities connect with their identities as social workers.

There can be so much power in hearing from and honoring API social workers and colleagues, and we hope the stories below inspire you to celebrate the work of our API community.

Timeline of our article

March 17 – pitched the article

I'm writing to pitch an article with Nicole Wong (cc-ed). Asian and Pacific Islander (API) Month is coming up in May, and we hoped you'd be interested in an article spotlighting a dozen or so Asian social workers. For each of them, this would basically entail a photo, short bio (2-3 sentences), and short quote related to how their API identity connects with their identity as a social worker (3-4 sentences). We would try to represent a mix of API identities and a mix of social work roles, and the folks we spotlight would be folks from our networks (i.e. not a scientific sampling or a formal call for nominations to be spotlighted, but rather informal).

The impetus for this is in response to the sharp increase in anti-Asian racism and the invisibility of Asians -- e.g. today I heard a student say that we never celebrate Asian social workers. We'd love to help uplift and celebrate API social workers.

March 18 – pitch accepted by Linda Grobman, the Editor, with caveats

I would be interested in this to publish for Asian and Pacific Islander Month if the people highlighted are from a variety of areas of the U.S. and graduates of different schools of social work. Thank you!

If you can get it to me by mid-April, that should work well.

March 22, 29, and April 11 – met outside of work to collaborate

Included working on the article planning, drafting, editing, and finalizing

March 22 - April 11 – emailed with social workers we wanted to spotlight

Included inviting them, requesting their bios & images, emailing about edits, sharing the final version for feedback

April 11 – submitted the article and the image files

Submitted a couple different versions – with and without embedded images – to give the Editor options. Followed the [author guidelines](#) for both versions.

April 14 – article accepted & author agreements requested/submitted

May 3 – article published

Advice re: this process & pitching an article idea

- Writing can be a way to take action
 - It felt hopeful to work on this
- It's helpful to get editor feedback before writing
 - We made sure to double- and triple-check we were meeting her priorities
- When collecting quotes, it can be helpful to use a Google Form to make sure you collect permissions, answer potential questions, share requirements, and have everything in one place
 - Here is our [Google Form](#); we also included an option to submit via email in case of tech glitches
- We used Google Docs to collaborate and Google Slides to create the images that included multiple pics
 - No need to spend money on software
- It's motivating to celebrate milestones, e.g. "halfway there!"
- Be ready for the article to be rejected even if the pitch was accepted
 - If this happened, options included submitting the article to *Social Work Today* or publishing each profile separately as LinkedIn articles
- Be ready for the Editor to make edits before publishing and remember that once the article is submitted, the Editor doesn't need to consult you about edits or formatting

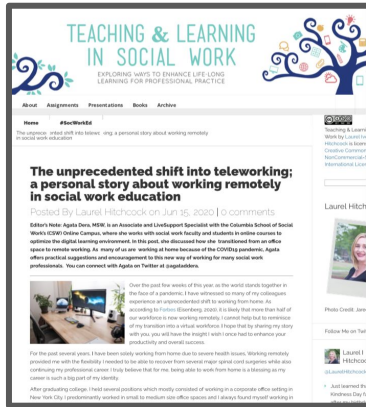


DEMISTIFYING PUBLISHING IN SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

Agata Dera



<https://laurelivershitchcock.org/2020/06/15/the-unprecedented-shift-into-televorking-a-personal-story-about-working-remotely-in-social-work-education/>



<https://laurelivershitchcock.org/2020/03/16/the-power-of-lighting-in-a-virtual-classroom-tips-on-improving-webcam-lighting-for-online-educators/>

MY FIRST BLOG POSTS

My first two posts were published with Laurel Hitchcock on her blog “Teaching & Learning in Social Work”.

TEACHING & LEARNING IN SOCIAL BLOG

<https://laurelivershitchcock.org/>



ABOUT LAUREL AND HER BLOG

How to work with Laurel:

If you wish to write up a post for Laurel, please email her expressing your interest. It is great to approach her with your general area of interest to see if it goes well with her brand. If she is interested, she will help you narrow the topic of the blog post.

Additionally she will provide some edits to your draft which is always really helpful.

Approximate turnaround for a blog post from coming up with the idea to publishing is about a month or so.

TEACHING & LEARNING IN SOCIAL BLOG

Dr. Laurel Iverson Hitchcock is an Associate Professor of Social Work and the BSW Program Director at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

LIHITCH@UAB.EDU

TWITTER: @LAURELHITCHCOCK



GENERAL STEPS FOR WRITING

01.

COME UP WITH AN IDEA. OVER SEVERAL DAYS, WRITE UP EVERYTHING YOU CAN THINK OF

02.

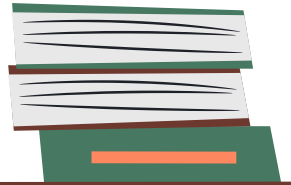
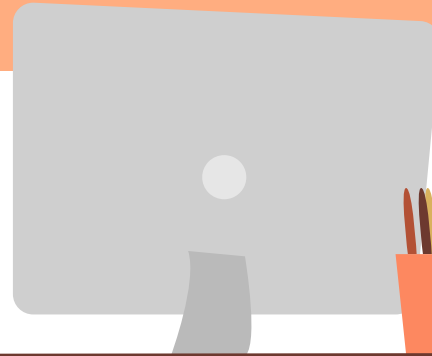
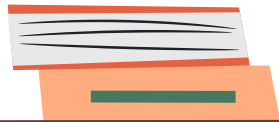
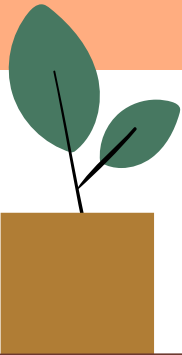
WRITE UP A BASIC OUTLINE SHOWING THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF THE POST. IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP GOING BACK TO IT AS OPPOSED TO WRITING IT ALL IN ONE SITTING.

03.

GET FEEDBACK - ASK FOR EDITS (WHETHER CO-AUTHOR, A FRIEND, COLLEAGUE ETC.)

04.

TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND CLICK POST!



MY GENERAL TIPS FOR PUBLISHING

DIVIDE UP THE WORK SO
YOU WRITE WHILE
HAVING FRESH IDEAS

DON'T ASK YOURSELF
"WHY WOULD I GET MY
WORK PUBLISHED?",
INSTEAD "WHY WOULD I
NOT GET MY WORK
PUBLISHED?"

REMEMBER YOUR
COMMUNITY OF SOCIAL
WORKERS WANTS TO HEAR YOU
DO YOUR RESEARCH

ENJOY THE PROCESS AND
BE PROUD OF THE WORK
YOU HAVE DONE

ENJOY THE PROCESS AND
BE PROUD OF THE WORK
YOU HAVE DONE



- IF YOU ARE NOT SURE WHERE TO START, ASK YOUR COLLEAGUES FOR ADVICE.
- EXPRESS YOUR WILLINGNESS TO WRITE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY!



An illustration of a man and a woman in a meeting. The man, on the left, has dark curly hair and is wearing an orange long-sleeved shirt and brown pants. He is sitting on a brown stool at a dark brown table, with a laptop and papers in front of him. He has his right hand raised as if speaking. The woman, on the right, has brown hair in a bun and is wearing a brown patterned sweater and orange pants. She is sitting on a brown stool at a desk with a computer monitor in front of her. The background is a solid dark green color.

THE END

Thank you for your time.

Happy Writing

-Agata Dera

add2143@columbia.edu

Twitter [@agataddera](https://twitter.com/agataddera)

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Resources

- [Teaching Journals Directory](#)
- Podcasts related to research or student voices:
 - ["Research in Action" Podcast](#)
 - [The Hidden Curriculum Podcast on RadioPublic](#)
 - [Maintenance Phase](#)
- Articles that may be helpful re: your continuing higher ed journey:
 - [Adjunct Teaching in Social Work Education: Practical Information for Using Your MSW in Higher Education](#)
 - [Evolving Education: Which Behavioral Health PhD Is Right for You? - Social Work Today Magazine](#)
- Author guidelines for social work publications:
 - [Guidelines for Writers - SocialWorker.com](#)
 - [Writer's Guidelines - Social Work Today](#)
 - [Submissions | Columbia Social Work Review and Blog "The Amsterdam"](#)
 - For info / questions about submitting articles to NASW-NYC CURRENTS, the bi-annual official Chapter Newsletter: cares.naswnyc@socialworkers.org
- Sample book review guidelines:
 - [Book Review Guidelines - International Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics](#)
 - [Guidelines for Book Reviewers: Journal of Applied Social Science](#)
 - [Guidelines for Book Reviews in Journal of Social Work Research and Evaluation: An International Publication](#)
- [For Graduate Students | Columbia CTL](#)
- Language use:
 - [Inclusive Language | PBS Standards](#)
 - [Disability Language Style Guide](#)

Q&A

Thank you, and good luck with your social work journey!

If you'd like to connect on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/matthea-marquart/>

Special thanks to Kevonyah Edwards, Saanya Advani, Aaron Kim, Carrie Fan, Adam Pellegrini, Ovita Williams, and the Action Lab for Social Justice

