

# María Del Socorro Castañeda, Ph.D.

(408) 314-7089 | soco.phd@gmail.com

Author, *Our Lady of Everyday Life: La Virgen de Guadalupe and the Catholic Imagination of Mexican Women in America*, Oxford University Press (2018)  
(winner of the American Sociological Association Latina/o Best Book Award 2020)  
Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Santa Clara University (2011-2018)  
Acting Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Santa Clara University (2010-2011)  
Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology, University of California, Santa Barbara (2011)  
Master of Arts in Sociology, University of California, Santa Barbara (2001)  
Bachelor of Science in Sociology, Santa Clara University (1998)  
(Double minor in Women's Studies and Ethnic Studies)

## Post Academia Professional Experience

- 2020 Book content editor, Oxford University Press
- 2019-present Co-editor *Perspectivas Journal*, Hispanic Theological Initiative
- 2019- present *Becoming Mujeres*, CEO. *Becoming Mujeres* is an organization that offers workshops and seminars on the ways gender expectations for Latinas foster a culture that reduces their agency to rubble. Our goal is to break the cycle of shame and silence one Latina at a time. For more information please visit [becomingmujeres.com](http://becomingmujeres.com)
- 2019-present *Becoming Mujeres* YouTube channel. We offer advice to teens and women in short video stories.
- 2019 Book content editor, University of Arizona Press

## Fundraising, grant writing, and administrative/managerial skills

- *Journal of Hispanic Latino Theology*, Editorial Board member, (2019-present).
- Applied for 37 grants/fellowships (97% success rate), which entailed managing full proposals with their budgets and reporting requirements, to fund my graduate and post-graduate academic career. Received 36 grants (over \$230,000), including Louisville Institute First Book Grant for Scholars of Color (\$30,000), Ford Foundation Diversity Dissertation Fellowship (\$21,000), and the Pew Charitable Trusts Hispanic Theological Initiative Doctoral Fellowship (\$18,000).
- Graduate student mentor on grant/fellowship writing and Masters/Doctoral theses (2004-present).
- Peer faculty mentor to junior faculty on how to write more effective book proposals and grants (2015-present).
- Over 10 years of professional experience conducting ethnographic research with Latinx communities through in-depth interviews, focus groups, visual analysis, participant

observation, surveys, and census data analysis that led to the publication of my book, *Our Lady of Everyday Life: La Virgen de Guadalupe and the Catholic Imagination of Mexican Women in America*, Oxford University Press, 2018.

- Raised over \$7,000 toward pre-publication costs for the upcoming edited volume, *Portraits of the Dream: The Importance of Investing in Undocumented America* (working with university institutes and GoFundMe sources).
- Computer skills working with Apple OS, Microsoft Office Suite, Word Excel, Outlook, Raiser's Edge, networking through Google Docs, Skype web conferencing, Survey Monkey, social media skills administering Instagram and Twitter accounts, creating Facebook pages.
- Co-designed and executed a campus-wide assessment of student attitudes toward religion through the Religious Studies Department at Santa Clara University (2016-2018).

### **Grants and Fellowships Awarded**

- 2017-2018 Faculty Grant for First Book, Santa Clara University (\$1,000)
- 2016-2018 Bannan Institute Scholar. "Is There A Common Good in Our Common Home? A Summons to Solidarity." (\$6,000)
- 2016 Hackworth Grant, Markkula Center for Applied Ethics, Santa Clara University for the *Living Religions Collaborative Pedagogies Consultation* (\$3,000)
- 2013-2014 Junior Faculty Development Grant, Santa Clara University (\$5,000)
- 2013 Wabash Center For Teaching and Learning In Theology and Religion Summer Grant (\$5,000).
- 2013-2014 The Louisville Institute First Book Grant for Minority Scholars. (\$30,000)
- 2012. Hackworth Grant, Markkula Center for Applied Ethics, Santa Clara University for *Portraits of the Dream: The Importance of Investing in Undocumented America* (\$3,479).
- 2012. GoFund Me for *Portraits of the Dream: The Importance of Investing in Undocumented America* (\$3,000).
- 2012. Special Projects grant, Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education Santa Clara University for *Portraits of the Dream: The Importance of Investing in Undocumented America* (\$2,500).
- 2012-2013 Pre-Tenure Latino/a Religion Faculty in Theological Schools, Colleges, and Universities. Wabash Center For Teaching and Learning In Theology and Religion. (\$5,000)
- 2008. Dissertation Writing Grant (\$1,000), Hispanic Theological Initiative (HTI).
- 2006. University of California Committee on Latino Research (UCCLR) Committee, Center for Chicana/o Studies, UC Santa Barbara (\$6,000),
- 2006. Graduate Travel Grant (\$324.75), Department of Sociology, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2005-2006. Ford Foundation Diversity Dissertation Fellowship (\$21,000).
- 2004. Graduate Research Grant (\$1,150), UCCLR Committee, Center for Chicana/o Studies, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2004-2005. UC President's Dissertation Fellowship, (\$15,000 plus \$500 for research, travel, fees, and health insurance).
- 2004. Travel Grant (\$200), Latina Goddess GATE (Global Awareness Through Experience).
- 2004. Research Travel Grant (\$500), Department of Sociology, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2003-2005. Dissertation Grant (\$12,000), UC MEXUS (University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States).
- 2003. Research Travel Grant (\$800), Department of Sociology, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2003-2004. Dissertation Fellowship (\$18,000), Hispanic Theological Initiative, Pew Charitable Trusts.

- 2003-2004. Louisville Institute for the Study of American Religion (declined, I was then invited to be an Honorary Dissertation Fellow) (\$18,000).
- 2003-2004. Graduate Student Fee Fellowship (\$7,500), Department of Sociology, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2002. Hispanic Theological Initiative Research Travel Grant (\$2,000), Pew Charitable Trusts.
- 2002. Research Travel Grant (\$460), Department of Religious Studies, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2002. Research Travel Grant (\$500), Department of Sociology, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2001. Pew Charitable Trusts, Hispanic Theological Initiative, Research Travel Grant (\$1000).
- 2001-2002. UC Santa Barbara, Graduate Research Mentorship Program (GRMP), Doctoral Fellowship \$15,000 plus fees and health insurance.
- 2001-2002. Pew Charitable Trusts, Hispanic Theological Initiative, Special Mentoring Award (\$1000).
- 2001-2002. Center for Chicana/o Studies, UC Santa Barbara, UCCLR Graduate Research Fellowship (\$2000).
- 2001. Research Travel Grant (\$800), Department of Sociology, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2000-2001. Graduate Student Fee Fellowship (\$7,500), Department of Sociology, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2000-2001. Hispanic Theological Initiative, Doctoral Fellowship (\$15,000), Pew Charitable Trusts.
- 2000. Department of Sociology, Research Travel Grant (\$540), UC Santa Barbara.
- 1999-2000. UCCLR Graduate Research Fellowship (\$2,000), Center for Chicana/o Studies, UC Santa Barbara.
- 1999-2000. Graduate Opportunity Fellowship, Doctoral Fellowship \$12,000 plus fees and health insurance, University of California Santa Barbara.
- 1998. PARAL (Program for the Analysis of Religion Among Latinos) Project funded by the Lilly Endowment and the Ford Foundation. Training Fellowship in Latina/o cultural issues. (\$5,000)

**Led collaborative strategic planning and problem solving for campus-wide events at Santa Clara University that incorporated the local Latinx community.**

- Brokered and developed partnerships across departments, student groups, and community leaders for a multilingual Our Lady of Guadalupe play performed annually since 1997 by Teatro Corazón of Sacred Heart Parish, San Jose.
- Co-founded the annual Beca San Juan Diego, a full-tuition scholarship established in 1997 for a youth leader from the Sacred Heart Parish community.
- Coordinated campus support services for the Beca San Juan Diego scholars (2010-2018).
- Developed partnerships with the Greater Washington neighborhood community in San Jose to organize a campus-wide panel presentation by mothers from this community on the topic of undocumented experiences as part of my Mexican Popular Catholicism and Gender course. The panel was followed by a reception in honor of the mothers and their families.
- Co-organized a one-week campus event on human trafficking awareness. Collaborated across departments, campus institutes, and the Diocese of San Jose, which culminated with a panel presentation by community leaders and law professors (2015-2017).

- Facilitated college readiness focus groups among Spanish speaking parents, junior high, and high school students in the local Latinx community (2013-2017).

### **Undergraduate Mentoring Experience**

- Facilitated undergraduate small career readiness mentoring groups for first-generation Chicana/Latina students, and took them to the annual Silicon Valley Latino Leadership Summit at Stanford University. Partnered with Latinx professionals to come to campus to mentor Chicana/Latina students. Advised Chicana/Latina students on academic success, campus climate, internships, and professional development (2010-2018).

### **Community Building and Academic Outreach**

- Developed partnerships between *Modern Latina* magazine and Santa Clara University to host a panel presentation by local Latina authors, followed by networking reception (2018).
- Created, managed, and evaluated student service learning placements at local non-profit agencies for my annual courses, Sociology of Religion (RSOC99) and Faith and Resilience in Silicon Valley (RSOC127) (2010-2018).
- Founding member, The Society of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion (SRER), American Academy of Religion. Latinx Religion Culture and Society Group, steering committee member. Participating mentor for doctoral students on the Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession, Committee on Racial and Ethnic Minorities, and Women's Caucus (2012-2018).
- Latinx Critical and Comparative Consultation, steering committee member, American Academy of Religion (2014-2018).
- Board member of Sabor del Valle, a non-profit that brings together local Latinx vintners and Latinx owned restaurants to fund raise money for other local non-profits (2014-2017).
- Mentored and secured paid internships for the Latinx first-generation college students in my Sociology of Religion (RSOC127) and Mexican Popular Catholicism (RSOC139) courses.
- Academic Religious Studies advisor to National Geographic magazine, "How the Virgin Mary Became the World's Most Powerful Woman," December 2015 issue.
- Community liaison between the Tamien neighborhood (District 3) and San Jose City Council to develop a new community park in honor of the late Padre Mateo Sheedy (2005).