

KIMBERLY A. KOPKO

EDUCATION

- **Ph.D., CHILD DEVELOPMENT**, CORNELL UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (May 2005)
- **M.Ed., HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND PSYCHOLOGY**, HARVARD UNIVERSITY, GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
- **B.A., PSYCHOLOGY**, BROWN UNIVERSITY, Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude, With Honors

MAJOR APPOINTMENTS

- UNITED NATIONS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (OMEP) (November 2019-present). OMEP is an international, non-governmental and non-profit organization, which has worked for all aspects of early childhood education and care (ECEC) since 1948. Currently in over 70 countries, OMEP has special consultative status with the UN, UNESCO and ECOSOC, defends and promotes the rights of the child to education and care worldwide and supports activities which improve accessibility to high quality education and care.
- ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION and ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF EXTENSION AND OUTREACH IN THE COLLEGE OF HUMAN ECOLOGY (January 2015-present)
- CORNELL UNIVERSITY, SENIOR EXTENSION ASSOCIATE (March 2012-present) and DIRECTOR (January 2015-present) OF THE PARENTING PROJECT: HEALTHY CHILDREN, FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES, BRONFENBRENNER CENTER FOR TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH. Duties include providing University level support to parent educators in the Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) System across 40 counties and in New York City by linking county-level programs with the research-based resources of the College of Human Ecology; building connections between Cornell faculty, staff and educators by organizing professional development opportunities including In-Service trainings, Program Work Team Meetings and curriculum trainings; promoting and supporting the use of evidence-based curricula among CCE educators working with families and youth; and building a strong research base among county level educators by sharing the results of original research through Research Briefs, Parent Pages and other translational research materials related to families and youth.

MAJOR DISTINCTIONS

- FULBRIGHT SPECIALIST ROSTER CANDIDATE (April 2016-2021). This recommendation is on behalf of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) and the Institute of International Education's Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES). The Roster is a list of selected candidates who are eligible to be matched with incoming project requests from overseas academic institutions for Fulbright Specialists.
- LEADING CORNELL: (October 2016-April 2017). This capstone leadership program is designed to engage and develop staff who have demonstrated potential for advancing to key leadership positions within the University. A limited number of candidates are identified for their senior leadership potential and nominated by Deans and Vice Presidents in partnership with College Officers and Human Resource Directors.

COURSES TAUGHT

- **POPULATION AND PUBLIC POLICY PRACTICUM** (Summer 2023). DIS Copenhagen. This 1-credit faculty-led program explores the following topic areas from an international perspective: Introduction to the Scandinavian Welfare State; Sex Education in Denmark & the US; Gender Equity; Immigrant Adaptation and Integration and includes site visits to the Danish Parliament, Copenhill, the Synagogue of Copenhagen, and cultural and educational outings.
- **POPULATION & FAMILY POLICY PRACTICUM** (Summer 2017, Summer 2018, Summer 2019). DIS Copenhagen. This 1-credit faculty-led program explores three topic areas on comparative social policies: Integration and Multiculturalism in Denmark; Sexuality Education in the European Union; and Changing Family Patterns in Scandinavia and includes site visits to the Danish Ministry for Children and Social Affairs, to a Danish middle school, a mosque, the Rockwool Foundation, and Sex and Society, Denmark's largest non-governmental organization (NGO) in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- **CHILD DEVELOPMENT: THEORY AND PRACTICE** (Summer 2016). DIS Copenhagen. This 4-week course combines classroom learning in childhood and adolescence, with a learning lab immersion experience at summer camps and community organizations. The goal of the course is to introduce students to elements of education for children and young people in urban areas through active cultural and leisure activities. Students engage with children using their learning from the classroom to understand Danish/Nordic pedagogy in a hands-on context. The course includes a Study Tour to Helsinki, Finland.

SELECTED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **PROMOTING POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (PYD) THROUGH YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING** (Current). This project integrates research and extension activities in youth development and parent education and provides youth from diverse locations across New York State the opportunity to evaluate community spaces through their own unique lens by engaging youth and parents in supporting youth-friendly changes to their local environments.
- **PLAYING HARD OR HARDLY PLAYING? DO PARENTS PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INFANT LEARNING THROUGH PLAY?** (Current). This project examines the ways in which infants' play enhances learning. Parents' choice of infant play materials, how toy marketing may shape these choices, and whether parents view play as more effective for learning in infants than preschoolers will be assessed. Results will highlight the relation among parental views on infant learning, different forms of play and learning activities, and toys first-time parents of young children value.
- **PARENTING AND CHILD LEARNING: THE ROLE OF PARENTAL BELIEFS ABOUT CHILD LEARNING AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT** (Current). This project examines the ways in which young children's play with certain types of toys can promote learning and cognitive development. Caregivers' beliefs about early learning, their rationale for toy selections, and interactions with their toddlers in a play session will be assessed. Results will highlight the relation among parental beliefs about learning, access to quality toys and infant learning.

SELECTED MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- Kopko, K. (2025, January 17). Capital Tonight: Hochul targets impact of social media use on young people in and out of the classroom in State of the State. (Jack Arpey, Interviewer) [Video clip]. Retrieved from <https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/central-ny/politics/2025/01/18/hochul-targets-youth-social-media->
- Kopko, K. (2024, September 12). Newsmakers: Cell phones in schools (Andrew Donovan, Interviewer) [Video clip]. Retrieved from <https://www.localsyr.com/news/newsmakers/newsmakers-cell-phones-in-schools/>

- Kopko, K. (2022, March 14). Listen, validate, guide: How to best talk to children about the war in Ukraine (Joe Salzone, Interviewer) [Video clip]. Retrieved from https://soundcloud.com/whcuradio/kimberly-kopko-cornell?utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing
- Kopko, K. (2021, September 7). Teachers, experts weigh in on the pandemic and early childhood development (Jack Cooper, Interviewer) [Video clip]. Retrieved from <https://wbng.com/2021/09/07/teachers-experts-weigh-in-on-the-pandemic-and-early-childhood-development/>
- Kopko, K. (2019, February 14). Special Report: Disconnect to reconnect (Christina L. Episcopo, Interviewer) [Video clip]. Retrieved from <http://www.weny.com/story/40012115/special-report-disconnect-to-reconnect>
- Kopko, K. (Interviewee), Whitlock, J. (Host) (2018, October 16). *Give all children a chance* [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <http://itunes.apple.com>
- Kopko, K., (Interviewee), Lustick, S. (Host) (2017, June). *The role of fathers in parenting* [Radio interview].

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Kopko, K. (2023, October 5). Want better school outcomes? Prioritize play in the classroom. *Albany Times Union*. <https://www.timesunion.com/opinion/article/want-better-school-outcomes-prioritize-play-18406131.php>
- Kopko, K. & Oliveira, P. (2023). Push pause: The pressing case for play. *Journal of Social and Emotional Learning*, 4(4), 14-18. <https://www.crslearn.org/publication/sel-at-home/push-pause-the-pressing-case-for-play/>
- Kopko, K. (2022, September 15). Ask Amy: I yell at my teenage daughter almost daily. How can I change? *The Washington Post*. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/advice/2022/09/15/ask-amy-mom-yells-daughter/>
- Dunifon, R., Kopko, K., Chase-Lansdale, P.L. and Wakschlag, L. (2016). Multigenerational relationships in families with custodial grandparents. In M. H. Meyer & Y. Adbul-Malak (Eds.), *Grandparenting in the United States*. New York: Baywood Publishing.
- Dunifon, R., Zirol-Guest, K., & Kopko, K. (2014). Grandparent co-residence and family well-being: Implications for research and policy. *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 654(1), 110-126.

SELECTED EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS

- Chapman, J., & Kopko, K. (2024). [*Outcomes of Participants in Cornell Cooperative Extension Parent Education Programs: 2023-2024*](#)
- Cañas, A.M., Kopko, K. & Casasola, M. (2020). [*Parenting and Child Learning: The Role of Parental Beliefs about Child Learning and Language Development*](#).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS + WEBINARS

- Kopko, K. (2025). *Navigating Modern Parenting: Parenting Styles, Generational Shifts and Trends* [webinar]. New York State Parenting Education Partnership (NYSPEP).
- Kopko, K. (2024). *Parenting and Youth Social Media Use* [webinar]. New York State Parenting Education Partnership (NYSPEP).
- Kopko, K. (2024, May). Applying parenting education practices to contemporary issues: A research-based approach. NYS Parenting Education Partnership Annual Training Institute: The Development of the Parenting Educator Across Their Career, Albany, NY.
- Kopko, K. & Casasola, M. (2022, April). Parenting and child learning: The role of parental beliefs. Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Special Topic Meeting: Learning through Play and Imagination: Expanding Perspectives, St. Louis, MO.
- Sandahl, I. & Kopko, K. (2019, December). *The Danish Way of Parenting*. Presentation to the Young Presidents Organization (YPO), Please Touch Museum, Philadelphia, PA.
- Kopko, K. (2019, February). *Parenting: The influence of affluence*. Presentation to the New York Athletic Club Parents' Club, New York, NY.
- Kopko, K., Tennyson, S., Sipple, J.W. (2018, October). *Enhancing the impact of school-based health centers in rural New York via parenting education*. Presentation at the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research (BCTR) Talk at Twelve Series, Ithaca, NY.
- Kopko, K., Tennyson, S., Sipple, J.W. & Sanchez Arrieta M.J. (2016, May). *Enhancing community impacts of school-based health clinics in rural New York*. Presentation at the Community & Regional Development Institute (CaRDI) Research Roundtable Series, Ithaca, NY.
- Kopko, K. (2016, April). *Parenting In Context: An overview of program and research activities*. Presentation at the Rockwool Foundation, Copenhagen, DK.
- Dolbin-MacNab, M., Kopko, K., & Dunifon, R. (2015, November). *Custodial grandparents and the middle generation: A qualitative metasynthesis*. Poster presented at the 68th Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Orlando, FL.
- Dolbin-MacNab, M., Kopko, K., & Dunifon, R. (2014, November). *Grandparents raising adolescent grandchildren: A dyadic analysis of parenting interactions*. Paper presented at the 67th Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Washington, DC.
- Dunifon, R., Kopko, K., Chase-Lansdale, P.L. and Wakschlag, L. (2014, August). *Multigenerational relationships in families with custodial grandparents*. Paper presented at the 109th Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Kopko, K., Dolbin-MacNab, M., & Dunifon, R. (2014, March). *A dyadic analysis of parenting behaviors and relationship quality among adolescent grandchildren and custodial grandparents*. Paper presented at the 15th Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Austin, TX.

SELECTED EXTENSION PRESENTATIONS

- Kopko, K. (2024, September 12). *CCE and CHE Past, Present and Future*. Cornell Cooperative Extension Executive Leadership Conference. Ithaca, NY.

- Kopko, K. (2023, March). *Parenting and play*. Presentation at the Youth Research Café, Ithaca, NY.
- Kopko, K. (Interviewee), Baildon, K. & Treadwell, P. (Hosts) (2021, May 5). [Leading through Extension: Supporting families](http://itunes.apple.com) [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <http://itunes.apple.com>
- Kopko, K. (2021, February). *Parenting education: Where do we go from here?* Virtual panel presentation at the NYSPEP Summit.
- Kopko, K. & Chapman, J. (2020, June). *Parenting education 2.0: Curricula updates overview*. Webinar presentation for CCE Parent Educators, Ithaca, NY.
- Kopko, K. & Casasola, M. (2019, September). *The impact of parental beliefs on play and learning*. Presentation at the Parent Education In-Service, Ithaca, NY.
- Kopko, Kimberly (2019, February). *Cornell Cooperative Extension opioid training: Family impact*. Presentation at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Opioid Training, Syracuse, NY.
- Kopko, Kimberly (2019, January). *Cornell Cooperative Extension opioid training: Family impact*. Presentation at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Opioid Training, Albany, NY.
- Kopko, Kimberly (2017, April). *Bringing the classroom to reality: CCE summer internship program*. Presentation to CCE Systems Conference, Ithaca, NY.
- Kopko, Kimberly (2016, February). *Parenting education: Advancing extension and research activities statewide, nationally, and internationally*. Presentation to CCE Executive Leadership Conference. Ithaca, NY.

SELECTED GRANTS

- CCE/NIFA/USDA Smith-Lever Project: “*The Parenting Project: Integrating Parenting Education & Youth Development*.” Award: \$90,000. Funding period: October 1, 2024-September 30, 2027. Kimberly Kopko, Principal Investigator
- NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH)/NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS): “New York State Parenting Education Partnership.” Award: \$2,000,000. Funding period: July 1, 2023-July 1, 2028.
- CUAES/NIFA/USDA Hatch Project: “Parental Approaches to “Play”: Creativity or School Readiness?” Award: \$89,970. Funding period: October 1, 2023- September 30, 2026. Kimberly Kopko, Principal Investigator, Marianella Casasola, Co-Principal Investigator.
- NIFA/USDA/SMITH-LEVER Integrated Project: “Promoting Positive Youth Development (PYD) Through Youth Engagement in Community Environmental Assessment and Planning.” Award: \$176,982. Funding period: October 1, 2023-September 30, 2026. Janet Loebach, Principal Investigator, Kimberly Kopko, Co-Principal Investigator.
- CCE/NIFA/USDA Smith-Lever Project: “Community Partnerships to Advance Parenting Education.” Award: \$86,000. Funding period: October 1, 2023-September 30, 2026. Sharon Tennyson, Principal Investigator, Kimberly Kopko, Co-Principal Investigator.
- CCE/NIFA/USDA Smith-Lever Project: “The Parenting Project: Responding to Changing Needs via a Public Health Perspective.” Award: \$90,000. Funding period: October 2021-September 2024. Kimberly Kopko, Principal Investigator.

- CUAES/NIFA/USDA Hatch Project: "Playing Hard or Hardly Playing? Do Parents Provide Opportunities for Infant Learning through Play?" Award: \$90,000. Funding period: October 2020-September 2023. Kimberly Kopko, Principal Investigator, Marianella Casasola, Co-Principal Investigator.
- CCE/NIFA/USDA Smith-Lever Project: "Exploring School-Extension Partnerships with a Focus on Parenting Education" Award: \$75,000. Funding period: October 2020-September 2023. Sharon Tennyson, Principal Investigator, Kimberly Kopko, Co-Principal Investigator.
- CCE/NIFA/USDA Smith-Lever Project: "Developing Support for Families Experiencing Estrangement: The Cornell Reconciliation Resources Project." Award: \$78,050. Funding period: October 1, 2019-September 30, 2022. Karl Pillemer, Principal Investigator, Kimberly Kopko, Co-Principal Investigator.
- CCE/NIFA/USDA Smith-Lever Project: "Parenting In Context: Incorporating a Two-Generation (2Gen) Approach to Community Parenting." Award: \$90,000. Funding period: October 1, 2018-September 30, 2021. Kimberly Kopko, Principal Investigator.
- CUAES/NIFA/USDA Hatch Project: "Parenting and Child Learning: The Role of Parental Beliefs about Child Learning and Language Development." Award: \$79,607. Funding period: October 1, 2017-September 30, 2020. Kimberly Kopko, Principal Investigator, Marianella Casasola, Co-Principal Investigator.
- NIFA/USDA/SMITH-LEVER Integrated Project: "Enhancing the Community Impact of School- Based Health Centers in Rural New York via Parenting Education: A Pilot Study." Award: \$148,500. Funding period: October 1, 2016-September 30, 2019. Sharon Tennyson, Principal Investigator, Kimberly Kopko, Co-Principal Investigator.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- REUBEN FAMILY FUND GIFT (June 2021) earmarked to support the study of pre-K-12 education that includes faculty or student research, outreach and/or policy studies focused broadly on education, with preference for the study of early childhood education
- EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION AWARD nomination (March 2018). This award recognizes staff who bring fresh ideas to their work, inspire a spirit of innovation, or are willing to take a calculated risk

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Psychological Association
- Developmental Psychology Division of the American Psychological Association (Division 7)
- Phi Beta Kappa (Brown University)
- Sigma Xi, Honor Society of Research Scientists (Brown University)
- Society for Research in Child Development
- The National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)

REVIEWER

- Child Development
- Journal of Adolescence
- Journal of Family Issues
- Journal of Family Relations
- Parenting: Science and Practice

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

- RTE (Research, Teaching, Extension) Senator-At-Large (July 2020-2023); Re-elected for second term (July 2023-2026)
- CHE CEL Advisory Board (November 2020)
- Cornell United Way Campaign Unit Director (2018-19; 2019-20)
- College of Human Ecology College Engagement Leader (January 2015-2021)
- SUNY Faculty Senate representative for the College of Human Ecology (April 2014-2018; reelected for period July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2021)
- Management Institute for Academic Professionals (October 2015)

COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

- Co-Chair RTE (Research, Teaching, Extension) Task Force (November 2021-present)
- Northeast Family & Consumer Sciences Leaders Group (January 2021-present)
- Dean's Summer Archival Research Fellowship Committee (July 2016-present)
- Rose and Halpern Award Committee (May 2020)
- RTE (Research, Teaching, Extension) Issues Committee (May 2019)
- Committee on Academic Title-Holder Representation (March 2018)

CONSULTATION

- Developmental Consultant: Children's Museum of Manhattan
- The New York City Police Department (NYPD) Project entitled: "Parenting in the NYPD" (2019-2021)
- Consultant: New York State Parenting Education Partnership (NYSPEP) (Ongoing)