

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### SARAH MANTWILL

#### CORE RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health Communication - Health Literacy - Health Disparities

#### EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

<b>Ph.D.</b> in Health Communication ( <i>Summa cum laude</i> ) Institute of Communication and Health, University of Lugano (Switzerland)	01/2012 – 06/2015
Thesis: Linking Health Literacy and Health Disparities: Conceptual Implications and Empirical Results.	
Committee: Rukhsana Ahmed, University of Ottawa (Canada) Kasisomayajula “Vish” Viswanath, Harvard University (USA)	
Advisor: Peter J. Schulz, University of Lugano (Switzerland)	
<b>M.Sc.</b> in Communication and Economics ( <i>Summa cum laude</i> ) Faculty of Communication Sciences, University of Lugano (Switzerland) Major: Corporate Communication, Minor: Corporate Social Responsibility	09/2009 – 09/2011
<b>B.A.</b> in East Asian Economics and Politics Ruhr-University Bochum (Germany) Main Emphasis: Political Science & Sinology	09/2004 – 10/2008
<b>Xiamen University (厦门大学)</b> – Xiamen (PR China) Sinology	08/2006 – 06/2007
<b>Tongji University, (同济大学)</b> – Shanghai (PR China) Chinese language classes	08/2005 – 09/2005

#### SUMMARY DISSERTATION

Health literacy (HL) is an important predictor for a number of health outcomes. The objective of my dissertation was to empirically and conceptually explore the concept of HL across different cultural contexts and to identify in how far patterns found concur with those found in other countries, mainly the US. Further, I aimed at contributing to the still ongoing debate on the conceptualization and operationalization of HL and, more importantly, the conceptual pathways that link HL to health disparities.

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

<b>Coordinator in the Swiss Learning Health System (SLHS)</b> Department of Health Sciences & Health Policy, University of Lucerne  Tasks: Coordination of activities in the SLHS, including formulation of calls for evidence syntheses and organizing stakeholder dialogues; coordination of the PhD scholarship program; scientific project reporting; monitoring and evaluation of project outcomes	04/2017 - present
<b>Postdoctoral fellow</b> Center for Translational Health Communication Science, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Center for Community-Based Research, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute  Funding: Swiss National Science Foundation - Early Postdoc.Mobility Fellowship  Projects: Understanding health information sharing across different health literacy levels – The mediating mechanisms of social environment and message cues; Cancer communication surveillance in Massachusetts: An exploratory approach (NCI-supplement)	03/2016 – 03/2017
<b>Postdoctoral fellow</b> Institute of Communication and Health, University of Lugano (Switzerland)  Main Project: The perception of psychosocial pressure and back pain at the work place in the context of migration, <i>Project Coordinator</i> Funding: Swiss National Accident Insurance Fund (SUVA)	07/2015 - 02/2016
<b>Research and teaching assistant</b> Institute of Communication and Health, University of Lugano (Switzerland)  Main Projects: EMPOWER – Support of Patient Empowerment by an intelligent Self-Management Pathway for Diabetic Patients Funding: European Union FP7-ICT Framework	10/2011 – 06/2015
The Relationship of Health Literacy and the Utilization of the Swiss Health Care System – A Study of Patients with Type 2 Diabetes, <i>Project Coordinator</i> Funding: Helsana Insurance Company	01/2012 – 01/2015
<b>Research assistant</b> Institute of Communication & Health, University of Lugano (Switzerland)	01/2012 – 12/2013
Institute for Public Communication, University of Lugano (Switzerland)	03/2011 – 06/2011
	09/2010 – 02/2011

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Institute of Communication and Health, University of Lugano (Switzerland)

<b>Thesis Proposal Seminar (M.A.),</b> lecturer M.A. "Communication, Management & Health", Institute of Communication	09/2015 - 12/2015
<b>Various seminars (M.A.),</b> lecturer, incl. sessions on health literacy, risk communication and health behavior theories	2013 - 2015
<b>M.A. course Health Communication,</b> lecturer and teaching assistant	09/2012 – 12/2012

<b>M.A. course Interpersonal Communication in Health</b> , lecturer and teaching assistant	09/2011 – 12/2011
<b>M.A. course Data Analysis</b> , lecturer and teaching assistant	09/2011 – 12/2011

## THESIS SUPERVISION

### 2016

Armin Rozsa: Empowerment and health literacy in the context of depression – An experimental study in the field of DTCA. (supervisor)

Charlotte Trevisan: Umbilical cord blood donation in Ticino: Explaining the intention to donate. (co-examiner)

### 2015

Fattyima Goretti: The CSM: Fever in the eyes of Italian and Peruvian patients. (co-examiner)

Geo Medolago: Social tightness and organ donation: towards a new measurement scale. (co-examiner)

## SERVICES

### Panel organizer and discussion leader

“Successful Health Literacy Interventions – Are we there yet?”. *International Conference on Communication in Healthcare organized by the European Association for Communication in Healthcare 2016*. Heidelberg, Germany.

“Health Literacy and Health Disparities: An Obvious Relationship?: Identifying Missing Links, Gaps and Solutions.”. *Kentucky Conference on Health Communication* (2014), Lexington, KY, USA.

“EMPOWER – Support for patient empowerment by an intelligent self-management pathway for diabetic patients: is this feasible.”. *COMET Conference* (2014), Lugano, Switzerland.

### Workshop organization and coordination

COHERENT Seminar (Communication and health: research on new topics): weekly research colloquium. University of Lugano, Switzerland (2014-15).

Seminar “Communication Sciences in Asia”. University of Lugano (Switzerland) (fall term 2013)

### Review service

Ad hoc journal reviewer for: Patient, Education & Counseling; Journal of Health Communication; Health Promotion International; Health Expectations; Studies in Communication Sciences; Journal of Public Health Research; Games for Health; Global Health Communication

Ad hoc conference reviewer for:

12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Communication Medicine & Ethics (2014, Lugano); 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the ad hoc group Health Communication (DGPuK) (2015, Lugano)

## GRANTS

Swiss National Science Foundation Early Postdoc.Mobility Fellowship to spend 18 months at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health/Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston (USA) (USD 70'650)	2016
Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAGW) Travel Grant: Kentucky Conference on Health Communication 2014 (CHF 1200)	2014
Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAGW) Travel grant: Conference of National Communication Association 2013 (CHF 1100)	2013
Julius and Regine Steffens' grant: R-EACH Junior Investigators Workshop Workshop for young researchers in the field of communication and healthcare (R-EACH Committee 2013), Gremmelin, Germany	2013
Swiss National Science Foundation PhD Summer School Grant (CHF 1390)	2013
Swiss National Science Foundation PhD Summer School Grant (CHF 1200)	2012
Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAGW) Travel grant: COMET Conference 2012 (CHF 900)	2012
China Scholarship Council Full tuition fee scholarship, Xiamen University, PR China	2006-07

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

European Association of Communication in Healthcare (EACH)  
Young Scholar Network of EACH (Y-EACH)

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

German (mother tongue)	Italian (fluent)	French (advanced)
English (fluent)	Chinese (advanced)	Spanish (basic)