

Rebecca Dunning PHD

North Carolina State University
Department of Horticultural Sciences
Academic Programs, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Center for Environmental Farming Systems
Raleigh, NC 27695
rebecca_dunning@ncsu.edu

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (snapshot)

- 2018-present Director, Foundation for Food and Agriculture Fellowship Program, NCSU
- 2014-present Research Assistant Professor & Instructor, Department of Horticultural Science, NC State University, Raleigh, NC
- 2012-present Program Director, Supply Chain Initiatives, Center for Environmental Farming Systems, NC State University Raleigh, NC
- 2008-2011 Visiting Assistant Professor, Researcher, Duke University
Department of Sociology and the Kenan Institute for Ethics
- 2002-2007 Research Assistant, Instructor, and Graduate Student in the PhD program, Department of Sociology, Duke University
- 1995-2002 Aquaculture Economist, North Carolina Department of Agriculture
- 1990-1994 Aquaculture Economist, Ecuadmins, S.A., Guayaquil, Ecuador

EDUCATION

- 2008 Ph.D. Sociology, Duke University, Durham, NC
- 1988 M.S. Agricultural Economics, Auburn University, Auburn, AL
- 1986 B.S. Economics, *Phi Beta Kappa*
Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham, AL

RESEARCH AND TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

- Current Research Assistant Professor (2014-Present)
North Carolina State University
Center for Environmental Farming Systems
Raleigh, NC
- 2012 Senior Research Scholar
North Carolina State University
Center for Environmental Farming Systems
Raleigh, NC
- 2010 Research Analyst and Instructor
Duke University
Kenan Institute for Ethics
Durham, NC
- 2008 Visiting Assistant Professor
Duke University
Department of Sociology
Durham, NC
- 2006 Research Assistant
Duke Center for Child and Family Policy
Durham, NC
- 2003 Research Assistant
Sociology Department, Duke University
Durham NC

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND EVALUATION (2012-Current)

2018-present

Director for the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research PhD Fellows Program. Includes recruiting PhD candidates and industry match partners and leading professional development activities.

2012-present

Project Director for three USDA-funded supply chain initiatives (annual budget 2012-present \$600,000-\$1,000,000) involving multiple public and private food business partners.

2016-present

Program evaluator for the USDA FoodLINC Program, a national initiative with \$3 million in combined private and federal funding to support Value Chain Coordinator organizations at 13 sites across the U.S.

2012-present

Project planning and evaluation consultant for Center for Environmental Farming Center grant-funded projects.

TEACHING

North Carolina State University, Departments of Horticultural Science and Agriculture and Natural Resources

Ethics of Agricultural Biotechnology (summer 2018)

Community-Based Food Systems (fall 2018, foundations course for the major in Agroecology)

Sustainable Food Production (fall 2018, capstone course for the major in Agroecology)

Duke University, 2008-2012, Department of Sociology and Kenan Institute for Ethics

Research Methods (2 sections)

Sociological Inquiry (4 sections)

Food and Energy (1 section)

Organizational Ethics (1 section)

Sociology of Childhood (2 sections)

Lead Instructor and Content Creator, *Ethics of Engagement* Workshops (2010-2011), designed content including teaching case studies for the *Ethics of Engagement* workshops attended by all Duke students departing for summer service programs in the U.S. and abroad.

Created framework and curriculum for case studies of ethical crisis in organizations and institutions.

PUBLICATIONS (Journal Peer Reviewed, 2013-Current)

- 2018 Johnson, Dunning, Bloom, Gunter, Boyette, and Creamer. "Estimating On-farm Food Loss at the Field Level: A Methodology and Applied Case Study on a North Carolina Farm." Forthcoming in *Resources, Conservation & Recycling*.
- 2018 Givens, G. and **Dunning, R.** "Distributor Intermediation in the Farm to Food Service Value Chain". *Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems*, January 16. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1742170517000746>
- 2017 **Dunning, R.**, Day, John, and Creamer, N. "Local Sourcing and the Military: Lessons Learned through a University-Based Initiative to Increase Local Procurement at a US Military Base". *Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems*, Sept 18, pp. 1-9, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S174217051700045X>
- 2017 Bloom, J.D., Lelekacs, J., **Dunning, R.**, Piner, A., Emma, B. "Local Food Systems Course for Extension Educators in North Carolina: Summary of an Innovative Program." *Journal of Extension*, 55(4), <https://www.joe.org/joe/2017august/iw3.php>.
- 2017 Givens, G. and **Dunning, R.** "Distributor vs Direct: Farmers, Chefs, and Distributors in the Local Farm to Restaurant Supply Chain." *Journal of Food Distribution Research*, 48(1): 107-108.

- 2016 **Dunning, R.** "Collaboration and Commitment in a Regional Supermarket Supply Chain." *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*, 6(4): 21-39.
- 2016 Rysin, O., and **Dunning, R.** "Economic Viability of a Food Hub Business: Assessment of Annual Operational Expenses and Revenues." *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*, 6(4): 7-20.
- 2016 Kline, C., Joyner, L., Kirchoff, J., Crawford, A., Pitts, S., Wall-Bassett, E., Gurganus, C., **Dunning, R.** "Gaps and Barriers Along the North Carolina Agri-food Value Chain." *British Food Journal*, Vol. 118(2): 301 – 317
- 2015 **Dunning, R.**, J.D. Bloom, & N. Creamer. "The Local Food Movement, Public-Private Partnerships, and Food System Resiliency." *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences*, 5(4): 661-670.

PUBLICATIONS (Extension Peer Reviewed, 2013-Current)

- 2018 Stout and **Dunning**. *in press*. Farm to Institution Guide for Extension Agents. LF-017. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina Cooperative Extension.
- 2018 Kure, Horning, and **Dunning**. Selling Produce to Wholesalers. LF-016. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina Cooperative Extension.
- 2017 Edmonds, E., and **Dunning, R.** Building Local Food Economies: A Guide for Governments. LF-001. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina Cooperative Extension.
- 2016 Bloom, J.D., Lelekacs, J.M., and **Dunning, R.** Local Food Systems: Clarifying Current Research. North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service LF-013.
- 2016 Blacklin, S., and **Dunning, R.** How to Sell Pastured Meat Products to Grocery Stores via Direct-Store-Delivery. North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service LF-012.
- 2013 Mettam, L., King, B., & R. **Dunning**. A Community and Local Government Guide to Developing Local Food Systems in North Carolina. North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service. LF-01.

SPONSORED FUNDING (2013-Current)

Total: \$12,598,399 / as PI: \$839,771 / as pi/co-pi and Project Director: \$10,246,824

2018-2019 **PI**

World Wildlife Fund, \$150,000

Determining Baseline Losses in Specialty Crop Production and Understanding Supply-Chain Constraints to Total Utility

2018-2019 CO-PI

USDA/Specialty Crop Initiative Planning Grant, \$50,000

Planning to Optimize the Quality of Strawberry Nursery Production in Full Controlled Environment Systems

2018 – 2022 CO-PI

USDA/Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program Project, \$599,020

A Comprehensive Approach to Growing Successful Beginning Meat Producers

2017-2022 Co-PI, **Director**

Foundation for Food and Agriculture, \$5,507,053

Innovations in Workforce Development: University Industry Consortium Fellowship

2018-2022 CO-PI

USDA NIFA, \$499,079

Product Liability and Product Contamination Insurance: Improving Food Safety, Ensuring Market Access, and Boosting Profitability for Specialty Crop Producers

2017-2019 **PI**

Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, \$220,000

A Supply Chain Approach to Finding Win-Win Sustainable Solutions for Edible but Unharvested Produce

2016-2018 CO-PI

Kellogg Foundation, \$700,000

North Carolina Farm to Childcare: State Level Change in North Carolina as a Model for the Nation

2016-2017 **PI**

USDA/NIFA AFRI Small and Medium Size Farmer and Rancher Program Area, \$469,771

Building University Market Opportunities for Small and Mid-Scale Farmers: Applied Research and Outreach to Strengthen Campus Community Local Food Systems

2012-2017 CO-PI, **Director**

USDA NIFA/AFRI Food Security Challenge, \$3,900,000

An Integrated Project to Enhance Food Security and Sustainability Through the Development and Evaluation of Supply Chains from Local Farmers (Grocery and Military Food Service Models)

2016-2017 CO-PI

Golden Leaf Foundation, \$151,405

Creating Long-Term Solutions to Advance Farmer Profitability and Market Capacity for NC Pastured Meats

2016-2017 CO-PI

USDA/NIFA Southern Risk Management Education Center, \$49,992

Gate to Plate: Targeted Business and Production Management Training for Women, Beginning, and Transitioning Ranchers Selling Meat into the Marketplace

2015-2017 CO-PI

USDA Rural Development Block Grant, \$39,265

Quality for Profit: Using Carcass Quality Data to Grow Premium Markets for Southeastern NC Pastured Pork Producers

2014-2015 CO-PI

USDA Southern Risk Management and Education Center, \$46,000

Integrated Risk management for Women Producers, Processors, and Retailers in the Local Meat Product Value Chain

2014-2015 CO-PI

Golden Leaf Foundation, \$175,000

Growing a Profitable Niche Meat Industry: Enhancing Economic Viability Across the Local Meat Supply Chain

2013-2014 CO-PI

Centralina Council of Governments, \$81,814

Creating a Food Systems Assessment & Regional Action Plan for the Connect Our Future Project

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (2013-current)

2018 Dunning, Johnson, Bloom. "Supply Chain Strategies to Manage Farm-Level Food Loss." National Direct Agriculture Marketing Summit. September 15-18, Washington, D.C.

2018 **Dunning**, Magner, Smith and Tuschak. "Food Hubs as Drivers of Community Economic Development: A Case Study from a Small North Carolina Mountain Town." National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals, June 11-13, Cleveland, OH.

2018 **Dunning** and Horning. "Dining and Distributor Collaboration for Authentically Local Sourcing." National Association of College and University Food Service Professionals, March 6-8, Denton, TX.

2018 **Dunning** and Rogers. "Food Service Management Companies – Structures, Incentives, & Strategies for Collaboration." National Good Food Network Conference, March 27-30, Albuquerque, NM.

2018 Stout, Hutchens, Davis, **Dunning**. "Building Campus Demand for Local Foods through Teams and Partnerships." Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group, January 17-18, Chattanooga, TN.

- 2017 Davis, Turner, Swift, and **Dunning**. "A Data-Driven Approach to Identify Local Food Procurement Opportunities in University Food Supply Chains". National Value-Added Agricultural Conference, Nov 14-16, Little Rock, AK.
- 2017 **Dunning**, Johnson, Creamer, Bloom, and Boyette, "Whole Crop Harvest: A Multidisciplinary Approach to On-Farm Food Loss." National Value-Added Agricultural Conference, Nov 14-16, Little Rock, AK.
- 2017 **Dunning**. "Measuring Value Chain Indicators." USDA Local Foods Impact Conference, April 3-4, Washington, D.C.
- 2016 Givens and **Dunning**. "Distributor vs. Direct: Farmers, Chefs, and Distributors in the Local Farm to Restaurant Supply Chain." Food Distribution Research Society, September 30-October 3, New Orleans, LA.
- 2016 **Dunning**, Edmonds, Lauffer, and Stout. "Strategies for Supporting Value Chain Development between Small/mid-scale Growers and Large-scale Buyers." 7th National Small Farm Conference: Creating and Sustaining Small Farmers and Ranchers." September 20-22, Virginia Beach, VA.
- 2014 **Dunning**, McWhirt, and Schroeder-Moreno. "Sustainable Agriculture and Local Food Supply Chains: Making the Connection through Experiential Learning." Sustainable Agriculture Education Association Conference, August 3-6, Pittsboro, NC.
- 2014 **Dunning**. "Localizing the Food System: Theory and Application for Grocery and Food Service Distribution." Agriculture and Human Values Association Conference, June 18 – 21, Burlington, VT.
- 2014 Demarco, Hopping, Watson-Ormond, Fugate, Williams, **Dunning**, and Colloredo-Mansfeld. "Local Loyalty Project: Can Positioning a Regional Grocery Chain as a Purveyor of Local Foods Increase Customer Loyalty and Local Food Sales." American Public Health Association, November 17, New Orleans, LA.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS (2013-current)

- 2018 "Farm to Table." Keynote, BASF Quality Group Meeting, September 15, 2018.
- 2017 "Community Food Projects Grant Program: Evaluation Methods". New Entry Sustainable Farming Project webinar series. November 20, 2017.
- 2017 "Writing Successful Community Food Projects Grants." NC Cooperative Extension training series for agents and community organizations. (3 locations in NC).

- 2017 "Sustainable Food Supply Chains." Sustainability Symposium, Center for Sustainability, East Carolina University, February 20, 2017.
- 2016 "Building Food Value Chains." North Carolina Rural Center Regional Value Chain Training. August 23, Raleigh, NC.
- 2016 "Nonstop: Two Approaches to Direct Store Delivery to Retail." National Good Food Network Webinar. June 16. (283 registered attendees, all states in the US represented)
- 2016 "Local Food Market Channels, Supply Chains, and Producer Success." NC Community and Regional Development Conference on Local Foods and Economic Development. May 25, Winston-Salem, NC.
- 2016 "A Value Chain Coordination Framework." Kentucky Value Chain Coordination Practitioner's Summit." University of Kentucky, May 26, Lexington, Kentucky.
- 2016 "Defining, Supporting, and Sustaining a Local Food Economy." *Graduate Research and Intervention in the South*, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, April 4, Chapel Hill, NC.
- 2016 "Strengthening American Food System Resilience." 16th National Conference and Global Forum on Science, Policy, and the Environment. Conference theme: *The Food-Energy-Water Nexus*. January 19-21, Washington, D.C.
- 2015 "Growing Together: Bringing Small and Mid-Scale Producers into Mainstream Supply Chains." Carolina Farm Stewardship Association Sustainable Agriculture Conference, November 3-5, Durham, NC.
- 2015 "Building Local Food Supply Chains to University Food Service." National Association of College and University Food Services Southern Regional Conference. March 12, Raleigh, NC.
- 2015 "When Local Meets Global: Meeting Consumer Demand for Local Foods in a Global Supply Chain World." Association of Supply Chain Professionals, Triangle Chapter, January 21, Raleigh, NC.
- 2014 "Selling to Retailers and Other Commercial Accounts." Piedmont Grown Annual Growers Conference, February 24, Winston-Salem, NC.
- 2013 "Research Supporting Local Food System Work in Extension Programming." North Carolina Cooperative Extension Annual Meeting, November 5, Raleigh, NC.
- 2013 "Mainstream Retail Grocers and Food Service Distributors as Active Participants in (Re)-Building Local Food Supply Chains." Yale Food Symposium, October 17-18, New Haven, CT.
- 2013 "Context and Evidence for Supporting Urban Agriculture." Advocates for Health in Action, Dig In! 3rd annual conference, Raleigh, NC. March 9.

MENTORSHIP (2013-Current)

PhD Committee Membership

Lisa Johnson, Department of Horticulture, NCSU, 2016-present

Beth Hopping, School of Public Health, UNC-Chapel Hill, graduated in 2016,

Currently a Post-Doc at Duke University

MS Committee Membership

Cristian Eduardo Loyola, Department of Horticulture, 2017-present

2013-present

Designed and mentored 20+ applied food supply chain research projects for MBA and undergraduate business students.

2015-present

Designed and executed a local food supply chain summer internship program for up to 16 undergraduates per year placed with private businesses and nonprofits for 8-week terms.

JOURNAL AND GRANT PROGRAM REVIEWER (2012-Current)

Academic Journals

Supply Chain Management: An International Journal

Sustainability

Community Development

Journal of Agriculture and Human Values

Journal of Food, Agriculture, and Community Development

Invited Panel Reviewer, USDA Grant Programs

Small Business Innovation Research Program – Phase 1

Innovation for Rural Entrepreneurs and Communities (part of the AFRI Foundational Grant Program)

Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program

Local Food Promotion Program (USDA-Agriculture Marketing Service)

Farm to School Promotion Program (USDA-Agriculture Marketing Service)

Southern Sustainable Agriculture and Research Education Program (S-SARE), Research and Education grant program