Mei-Ju (Meryl) Ko

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EDUCATION

May 2010	Ph. D, Child Development & Family Studies (Specialization: Marriage and Family Therapy) Department of Child Development and Family Studies Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN Dissertation: Response to Cancer Stress and Depressive Symptoms in Breast Cancer Survivors and Their Significant Others Committee Chair: Dr. Cleveland Shields Advisor: Dr. Volker Thomas
June 2004	M. Ed., Counseling, Family and Human Services University of Oregon Eugene, OR Specialization in Marriage and Family Therapy
June 2001	B.S., Applied Psychology Fu-Jen Catholic University, Taipei, Taiwan

PROFESSIONAL AND WORK EXPERIENCES_

Academic Position

2009 - 2014 Assistant Professor

Department of Applied and Professional Studies, Texas Tech University

Marriage and Family Therapy graduate program.

Community, Family, and Addiction Services undergraduate program.

Teaching: Higher Education

2011- 2014	CFAS 4390: Senior Seminar in CFAS-Grant Writing Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX Primary Instructor
2010 - 2014	MFT 7000; CFAS 4320: Research Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
2010 - 2014	MFT 6395: Practicum in MFT Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX Primary Instructor

2009 - 2014 MFT 6370: Diversity in Family Therapy

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

Primary Instructor

2009 - 2014 MFT 6342: Children and Adolescents in Family Therapy

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

Primary Instructor

Fall, Spring 2008 CDFS 255: Introduction to Couple and Family Relationships

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Primary Instructor (Supervisor: Dr. Charles Calahan)

Created the course syllabus, developed and graded assignments. Led two weekly class lectures on family life, family theories, communication and conflict, gender,

parenting, couple's relationship, human sexuality, and family transition.

Spring 2006 CDFS 301: Families in Multicultural Society

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Teaching Assistant (Supervisor: Dr. Paula Goodwin)

Graded assignments, attended class lectures, entered grades on WebCT, and

responded to student e-mails.

Fall 2005 CDFS 432: The Family Life Cycle

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Teaching Assistant (Supervisor: Dr. Charles Calahan)

Graded assignments, attended class lectures, entered grades on WebCT, responded

to student e-mails, and held office hours.

Fall 2005 CDFS 201: Introduction of Marriage and Families Theories

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Teaching Assistant (Supervisor: Dr. Shawn Whiteman)

Attended class lectures, designed exam questions, and held weekly office hours.

Spring 2005 CDFS 430: Sexuality and Family Life

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Teaching Assistant (Supervisor: Dr. Shruti Poulsen)

Graded assignments, attended class lectures, designed exam questions, and led

class discussion.

Clinical Experience

2010 - 2014 **Clinical Supervisor**

Texas Tech University, Marriage and Family Therapy Program, Lubbock, TX

Providing clinical supervision for graduate students in a marriage and family therapy training program through weekly group and individual supervision.

Pre-Doctoral Internship 2008 - 2009

Clarian Arnett Cancer Care Center, Lafayette, IN

Family therapist intern (Supervisor: Dr. Cleveland Shields)

Provided therapy to cancer patients and their families.

Spring 2006	Supervisor-in-Training Christian Theological Seminary Counseling Center, Indianapolis, IN Student Supervisor (Supervisor: Dr. Volker Thomas) Provided clinical supervision to six master's students in a marriage and family therapy training program through weekly group and individual supervision.
2004 - 2007	Practicum in Marriage and Family Therapy (Purdue University) Purdue Individual, Couples and Family Therapy Clinic, West Lafayette, IN Therapist intern (Supervisor: Dr. Volker Thomas and Dr. Shruti Poulsen) Provided therapy to individuals, couples, and families. Provided non-directive play therapy to families as part of a research project. Co-therapist for couple relationship enhancement workshops for 6 works. Co-facilitated workshops on play for parents and children.
2003 - 2004	Practicum in Marriage and Family Therapy (University of Oregon) Center for Family Therapy, Eugene, OR Therapist intern (Supervisor: Dr. John Millers and Dr. Jason Platt) Provided therapy to individuals, couples, and families.
2003 - 2004	The Child Center, Springfield, OR Therapist intern Provided therapy to outpatient children and their families.
2003 - 2004	Kennedy Middle School, Eugene, OR Co-facilitator for two social skills training groups for eighth grade girls.
2003	Head Start at Whiteacker Elementary School, Eugene, OR Co-facilitator for play therapy group with 5 year old children who experienced trauma or who have developmental disabilities.
2000 - 2001	Tai-Shan Junior High School - Student Counseling Center, Taipei, Taiwan Counselor intern; provided individual counseling for students.
2000	China Medical College Hospital - Mental Health Center, Taichung, Taiwan Clinical psychologist intern; provided psychological assessments (including MSE, Bender-Gestalt Test, Rorschach, TAT, and WISC-III) to day treatment patients.

Research

2013 - 2014

Body Image, Eating Behavior, and Clothing Selection Among College Students

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

Co- Principle Investigator

Collaborating with Dr. Hyo Jung (Julie) Chang, Department of Nutrition, Hospitality and Retailing. Conducted an online survey to investigate the influence of the media (e.g., a thin model vs. a plus size model) on college students' body image, eating behavior, and clothing selection.

2013 - Present

International MFT Student Supervision Experience Project

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

Principle Investigator.

Collaborating with a group of international students in the MFT program. Conducted a qualitative study that interviewed MFT international students in the U.S. regarding their supervision experiences.

2012 - Present

Differentiation and Healthy Family Functioning: A Cross National Project

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

Principle Investigator.

Collaborating with Dr. Hye-Jin Kim, along with university faculties in China, Taiwan, and South Korea. Examined whether Bowen's differentiation concept is applicable in Asian culture. Tested the reliability and validity of the differentiation scale and FACES scale with Asian populations.

2011 - Present

Couples' Adjustment in Cancer Project

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

Principle Investigator.

Collaborating with Dr. Cleveland Shields, and Dr. Cezanne Elias, Purdue University on examining couples' coping strategies and adjustment throughout cancer treatment.

2009 - 2011

Children and Cancer Project

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

Principle Investigator

Collaborated with Cezanne Elias, executive director of Children's Cancer Fund in New Mexico to start up research in support of children diagnosed with cancer and their families.

2009 - 2013

Congruence Couple Therapy for Problem Gambling Project

University of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

Serving as a research associate and statistics consultant for Dr. Bonnie Lee at Department of Health Science, Addictions Counseling Program on an intervention study examining the effectiveness of a 12-session therapy for couples with a pathological gambling partner.

2008 - Present

Quality of Life in Younger Breast Cancer Survivors Project

Purdue University, West Lafayette and IUPIU

Participant researcher (Supervisor: Dr. Cleveland Shields and Dr. Vickie Champion) Working on dyad data analysis with 300 breast cancer survivor couples. Examining couples' concerns about reoccurrence impact on couples' depressive symptoms. Also examining couples' communication impact on couples' adjustment to cancer treatment.

2007 - 2012

Coparenting, Parenting, and Socio-Emotional Development in Toddlers

Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

Participant researcher

Working with Dr. Kwon Ah Kwon in the Department of Early Childhood Education. Involved with data collection and coding video data of 67 families. Currently working on data management and analysis.

Nov 2007 - July 2008

Doctoral Dissertation

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Participant researcher(Supervisor: Dr. Doug Sprenkle and Dr. Dan Mroczek)

Worked on Eli Karen, Ph. D. Candidate's doctoral dissertation:

"The Alliance-Outcome Relationship Revisited: A Session-by-Session Perspective." The project involved monitoring client change and therapeutic alliance throughout the course of therapy. I was involved in data analysis, using multilevel modeling analysis with 296 clients in an average of 30 sessions.

Apr 2007 - May 2008

Parenting Program Development for Asian International Graduate Student Families Project

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Primary Investigator

Led a research team in developing a family resource inventory. Implemented a series of parenting workshop for Asian international graduate student parents. Presented in national-wide conferences. Developed a parenting program manual.

Aug 2006 - 2012

Asian International Student Project

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Participant Researcher (Supervisor: Dr. Judith Myers-Walls)

Conducting a qualitative research on adjustment and parenting among Asian international graduate students and their spouses. Currently writing a manuscript, presenting in national-wide conferences, and developing and distributing a family resource inventory.

May 2006 - Sept 2008

Infant Toddler Specialists of Indiana (ITSI) Project

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Research Assistant (Supervisor: Dr. Jim Elicker and Dr. Mary McMullen)
Developed a project website and organized web-based resources. Planned and organized annual conferences. Attended and steered committee meetings. Built a professional network. Developed and managed a member list. Helped propose Indiana State Infant-Toddler Credential System. Developed professional development needs scan. Edited research briefs. Mentored other graduate research

assistants. Searched and interviewed web developers(See

http://www.cfs.purdue.edu/itsi/)

2006 - 2007

War and Peace Project

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Participant Researcher (Supervisor: Dr. Judith Myers-Walls)

Worked on a qualitative study on Attitudes and Teaching Methods of Several Cohorts of Parents About War and Peace project. Collaborated with Taiwan's research data collection, analyzed Korean interview data, translated relevant website resource articles to Chinese, and presented in a national-wide conference.

2005 - 2006 Children's Interaction with Robotic Dog AIBO Project

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Research Assistant (Supervisor: Dr. Gail Melson)

Analyzed pre-existing data and composed the results paper.

2004 - 2007 Military Family Research Institute Project

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Research Assistant (Supervisor: Dr. Doug Sprenkle and Dr. Shelley MacDermid) Worked on program evaluation on services for military families. Planned the research project, attended focus groups, collected and analyzed, and managed administrative duties.

2003 - 2004 **Doctoral Dissertation**

University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

Participant researcher

Worked on Karrisa Adams, Ph. D. Candidate's doctoral dissertation: "University Counseling Center Clients' Perspectives of their In-Session Covert Reaction Between-Session Reactions: A Qualitative Study." Utilized the Consensual Qualitative Research (CQR) method to analyze the data...

2003 - 2004 Kids First: Safe Alternative Center, Program Evaluation Project

University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

Research Assistant (Supervisor: Dr. Jeff Todahl)

Input data of the interviews of both visiting parent and custodial parent in domestic violence families.

2001 - 2002 Multi-Media and Web-Based Constructive Mathematics Learning System for

Children with Disabilities Project (funded by Taiwan National Science Counsel)

Chang Gung University, Taoyuan, Taiwan

Project Manager (Supervisor: Dr. Thu–Hua Liu)

Planned the research project, collected and analyzed data, managed administrative duties, and supervised students who worked on the project.

2002 Disaster Mental Rehabilitation: Development of a School-Based Intervention

Program Project (funded by Taiwan National Science Counsel)

Chang Gung University, Taoyuan, Taiwan

Research assistant (Supervisor: Dr. Chia-Chen Chao)

Interviewed child survivors of 1999 Taiwan earthquake, assessed their PTSD

symptoms, and developed an intervention program.

2000 Community College Project

Fu-Jen Catholic University, Taipei. Taiwan

Research assistant (Supervisor: Dr. Lin-Chin Sha)

Worked on field study research on establishing a community college in Taipei. Led a home visit to Lui Chu County and interviewed family members about their need for continued education.

PUBLICATION & PRESENTATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Karam, E., **Ko**, **M. J.** Mroczek, D., & Pinsof, W. (2015). New directions in measuring the alliance-outcome relationship: A session-by-session perspective. *Journal of Marriage and Family Therapy*.
- *Yang, I., **Ko, M. J**., Prouty, A. (resubmitted). Same-sex parent's perceived co-parenting relationship. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*.
- Kim, H., Prouty, A. M., Smith, D., **Ko, M. J.,** Wetchler, J.L., & Oh, J. (2015). Differentiation and healthy family functioning of Koreans in South Korea, South Koreans in the United States, and white Americans, *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*.
- Kim, H., Prouty, A. M., Smith, D., **Ko, M. J,** Wetchler, J.L., & Oh, J. (2015). Differentiation of self and its relationship with family functioning in South Koreans, *The American Journal of Family Therapy*.
- *Sung, J., Mayo, N., **Ko, M. J.**, & Lasley, C. (2013). Characteristics of collaborative care in increasing access to mental health service in the Asian community. *Families, Systems, & Health*, *3*, 307-318.
- Myers-Walls, J., Frias, L., Kwon, K., **Ko, M. J**, & Lu, T. (2011). Living life in two worlds: Acculturative stress among Asian international graduate student parents and spouses. *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*, 42, 455-478.

Other Publications

- Sprenkle, D.H., MacDermid, S.M., & **Ko**, **M. J.** (2005). First Armored Division pilot counseling program. Report to Department of Defense.
- Sprenkle, D.H., MacDermid, S.M., & **Ko, M. J.** (2005). Military OneSource: Its use, impact, and effectiveness. Report to Department of Defense.
- Chang, H. K., Ma, C.M., Hsu, F. J. & **Ko, M. J.** (2001). Construction and experimentation of a web-based mathematics learning system for children with disability. *Taiwan National Computer Symposium, Spatial Information & Computer Education*.

Presentations

- Kim, H., Sung, J., Yang, I., **Ko, M. J.** & Oh, J. (2016). *MFT Supervision Experiences of International Trainees*. Poster presented at American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- **Ko, M. J.,** Kim, H., & Lasley, C. (2014). *Differentiation and family functioning in Asian countries*. Poster presented at American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Milwaukee, WI.
- **Ko, M. J.,** Bhakta, K., & Miller, A. (2014). *The experience and needs of couples coping with cancer*. Poster presented at American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Milwaukee, WI.

- Sung, J., & Ko, M. J. (2013). *Meaning in illness, medical concerns, and care of cancer survivors*. Poster presented American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Milwaukee, WI.
- **Ko, M. J.,** Bhakta, K., & Miller, A. (2014). *Couples coping with cancer*. Poster accepted in the International Family Therapy World Congress, Panama City, Panama
- Yang, I., **Ko, M. J.,** & Prouty, A. (October, 2013). Exploring coparenting relationship between same-sex couples. Poster presented in 2013 American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Portland, Oregon.
- **Ko, M. J.,** & Yang, I. (February, 2013). *Supervising and teaching international student therapists in the United States*. Workshop presentation in the International Family Therapy World Congress, Orlando, Florida.
- Yang, I., & **Ko, M. J.** (February, 2013). We Are a Family: Exploring coparenting relationship between samesex couples. Poster presented in IFTA 21World Family Therapy Congress, Orlando, Florida.
- **Ko, M. J.** (November, 2012). *Tools for Breaking Bad News to Patients*. One day workshop presented in International Faculty Development Fellowship in Family Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas.
- Kim, H., Oh, J., & Ko, M. J. (September, 2012). *Psychosocial development in South Korean couples and its effects on marital relationships*. Poster presented in American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Charlotte, NC.
- Prouty, A., Bermudez, M., Helmeke, K. B. & **Ko, M. J.** (September, 2012). *Intersections of human diversity with MFT supervision*. Workshop session presented in American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Charlotte, NC.
- Prouty, A., Kadieva, V., Bedard, C., & **Ko, M. J.** (September, 2012). *Family resiliency during breast cancer treatment*. Poster presented in American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Charlotte, NC.
- Kim, H., Prouty, A., & **Ko, M. J.** (September, 2012). *Empirical analysis of family functioning and differentiation differences of different generation in South Koreans*. Poster presented in American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Charlotte, NC.
- **Ko, M. J.,** Shields, C., & Champion, V. (April, 2012). *Response to cancer stress and depressive symptoms in breast cancer survivors and their significant others*. Poster presented in 33rd Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, New Orleans, LA.
- Sung, J., & Ko, M. J. (2014). *Meaning in illness, medical concerns, and care of cancer survivors*. Cutting edge research poster presented at 2014 American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- Sung, J., Mayo, N., & **Ko**, **M. J.** (October, 2011). *School adjustment and protective factors according to the severity of school violence*. Poster presented at College of Human Sciences Poster Presentation Week, Lubbock, TX.
- Sung, J., **Ko, M. J.** & Clemmer, N. (October, 2011). *Characteristics of collaborative care in increasing access to mental health service in the Asian population*. Poster presented at Collaborative Family HealthCare

- Association 13th Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Kose, O., Karakurt, G., & Ko, M. J. (September, 2011). *Attachment styles and substance abuse in a high-risk sample*. Poster presented at American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Dallas, TX.

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- Bradshaw, S., Bean, R., & **Ko, M. J.** (September, 2011). *Stress, depression, and parental psychological control*. Poster presented at American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Dallas, TX.
- Prouty, A., Bermudez, M., Helmeke, K. B. & **Ko**, **M. J.** (September, 2011). *Intersections of human diversity with MFT supervision*. Invited workshop at the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Dallas, TX.
- **Ko, M. J.,** Kwon, K, & Spruill, A. (September, 2010). *Associations among coparenting, parenting, and child outcome*. Poster presented at American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Kwon, K., **Ko**, **M. J.**, Frias, L., Myers-Walls, J., & Lu, T. (April, 2009). *Developing evidenced-based and culturally sensitive parenting programs for international graduate-student parents*. Poster presented at Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Denver, CO.
- Kwon, K., **Ko, M. J.,** Frias, L., Myers-Walls, J., & Lu, T. (November, 2007). *Suggestions for developing a parenting program for Asian international student families*. Poster presented at National Council of Family Relation Conference, Pittsburg, PA.
- Kim, S., Kwon, K., **Ko, M. J.,** Frias, L., & Myers-Walls, J. (November, 2007). *Living on the outskirts of U.S. life: Asian graduate student mothers*. Poster presented at National Council of Family Relation Conference, Pittsburg, PA.
- **Ko, M. J.,** Kwon, K., Frias, L., Myers-Walls, J., & Lu, T. (October, 2007). *Adjustment in Asian international students and their spouses*. Poster presented at American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Conference, Long Beach, CA.
- Kwon, Y., Hong, S., & Myers-Walls, J., & Ko, M. J. (March, 2007). *Understanding war and peace: South Korean children's views and their parents' attitudes*. Poster presented at Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Boston, MA.
- Kwon, K., **Ko, M. J.,** Frias, L., Myers-Walls, J., & Lu, T. (March, 2007). *Advantages and challenges in parenting of Asian international students and their spouses*. Poster presented at Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Boston, MA.
- Kwon, K., Frias, L., **Ko, M. J.,** & Myers-Walls, J. (November, 2006). *The acculturative experience and parenting among Asian international students and their spouses*. National Conference on Family Relations Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN.
- Ma, C.M., Xia, M. S., & Ko, M. J. (March, 2001). *Multi-media and web-based constructive mathematics learning system for children with disabilities*. Chung Shan Elementary School, Taipei, Taiwan.
- Liu, T. H., Ma, C.M., Xia, M. S., & **Ko, M. J.** (November, 2001). *Multi-media and web-based constructive mathematics learning system for children with disabilities*. National Science Counsel, Taipei, Taiwan.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES & SERVICES		
2013 - 2014	<i>Technology Users Committee</i> , College of Human Science, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX	
2012 - 2014	Faculty Partner Committee, Institute for Child and Family Studies in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX	
2011 - 2014	Graduate Dean's Representative, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX	
2011 - 2013	Ad-Hoc Reviewer, Journal of Marriage and Family Therapy	
2010 - 2013	Abstract Reviewer, Society for Research in Child Development Conference	
2009, 2013	Faculty Search Committee, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX	
2007 - 2008	Program Coordinator for a Series of Parenting Workshops for Asian International Graduate Student Parents Department of Child Development and Family Studies, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN	
Jan 4, 2008	Guest Speaker Office of International Students and Scholars, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. Give talk for 2007 Spring Semester International Students and Scholars Orientation. The topic is on "English Language opportunities and other resources for students, spouses and family members".	
Aug 23-25, 2006	Conference Coordinator 2006 Infant-Toddler Specialist of Indiana Annual Conference, West Lafayette, IN	
2003 - 2004	Volunteer visiting supervisor of visiting parent and child visits on a weekly basis. Kids First: Safe Alternative Center, Eugene, OR	
1999 - 2000	Vice President The Ark Social Service Organization, Taipei, Taiwan My duties were to supervise college students doing community service work in a variety of settings including primary schools, foster care centers, hospitals, and rehabilitation centers and to conduct training workshops on campus.	
1998 - 1999	Program Administrator The Ark Social Service Organization-Children Department, Taipei, Taiwan Conducted college student service activities at foster homes on weekly basis.	
July 1999	Director of an elementary school children's summer camp Pu-Zi Catholic Church, Chiai, Taiwan Led 27 college students in conducting outdoor activities for 100 primary school age children	
Sept 1998	Director of a department's new coming student orientation three day training workshop. Department of Applied Psychology in Fu-Jen Catholic University, Taipei, Taiwan	

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS_

2011 - 2014	Society of Behavioral Medicine
2004 - Present	National Council on Family Relations
2003 - Present	American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
2006 - 2009	Infant-Toddler Specialist of Indiana
2003 - 2004	Oregon Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
2001 - 2002	Chinese Psychological Association, Taiwan

GRANTS & AWARDS

2011 - 2013	Faculty Seed Grant, Texas Tech University, "Couple's Coping to Cancer", \$10,000.
2010 - 2011	Faculty Seed Grant, Texas Tech University, "Family Adjustment to Childhood Cancer", \$5,000.
2009 - 2011	New Faculty Start-up Funding, Texas Tech University, \$30,350.
2007 - 2008	Bilsland Strategic Initiative Fellowship (Award: \$43,233). Proposal: Parenting Program Development for Asian International Graduate Student Families (Supervisor: Dr. Judith Myers-Walls) Graduate School, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
2007	Graduate Student Travel Fellowship , Purdue University Department of Child Development and Family Studies, 2008 (\$500 to present at National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- International student supervision experience
- Couples' adjustment to cancer
- Medical family therapy
- Application of MFT theories to various Asian culture contexts
- Co-parenting and parent-child relationship in diverse contexts
- Filial and play therapy