

## RAFFAELE VACCA

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Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law  
Bureau of Economic and Business Research  
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### [Appointments](#)

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#### Current

**Research Assistant Professor**, Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law, University of Florida (Jun 2016 to date)

**Research Associate**, Clinical and Translational Science Institute and Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida (Sep 2014 to date)

**Visiting Professor**, Department of Education, Psychology and Communication, University of Bari Aldo Moro (Apr 2017 to Aug 2017)

#### Past

**Research Assistant Professor**, Department of Family, Community and Health System Science, College of Nursing, University of Florida (Sep 2014 to May 2016)

**Post Doctoral Associate**, Clinical and Translational Science Institute and Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida (Feb 2013 to Aug 2014)

## Education

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- 2013 **Ph.D., Sociology**, University of Milan-Bicocca (Italy)
- 2009 **M.S., Economics and Social Sciences**, Bocconi University (Italy)
- 2006 **B.S., Economics and Social Sciences**, Bocconi University (Italy)

## Other Training

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- 2012 **Visiting Scholar**, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida (USA)
- 2008 **Research Assistant**, Observatoire Sociologique du Changement, Sciences Po Paris (France)
- 2007 **Exchange Graduate Student**, Department of Sociology, Sciences Po Paris (France)

## Research Interests

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International migration; Race and ethnicity; Health disparities; Personal networks and social support; Social network methods; Urban studies; Scientific and knowledge networks.

## Publications

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(\* Graduate student co-author)

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Kennelly Okraku, T.\*, Vacca, R., Jawitz, J. W., & McCarty, C. (2017). Identity and publication in non-university settings: Academic co-authorship and collaboration. *Scientometrics*, 1-16.

Hamilton, C.\*, Vacca, R., & Stacciarini, J. M. R. (Accepted). The Emergence of Team Science: Understanding the State of Adoption Research through Social Network Analysis. *Adoption & Fostering*.

- Vacca, R., Solano, G.\*, Lubbers, M. J., Molina, J. L., & McCarty, C. (In Press). A Personal Network Approach to the Study of Immigrant Structural Assimilation and Transnationalism. *Social Networks*.
- Stacciarini, J. M. R., Vacca, R., Wiens, B., Loe, E., LaFlam, M., & Pérez, A. (2016). FBO Leaders' Perceptions of the Psycho-social Contexts for Rural Latinos. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*, 37(1), 19-25.
- Bosma, L. M., Vacca, R., Martinez, J. L., Boyle, R. J., & Lew, R. (2016). Developing Capacity, Skills, and Tobacco Control Networks to address Tobacco-related Disparities: Leadership and Advocacy Institute to Advance Minnesota's Parity for Priority Populations (LAAMPP). *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*, 9(1).
- Vacca, R., McCarty, C., Conlon, M., & Nelson, D. R. (2015). Designing a CTSA-Based Social Network Intervention to Foster Cross-Disciplinary Team Science. *Clinical and Translational Science*, 8(4), 281-289.
- Vacca, R., & Boffi, M. (2009). The Residential Trajectories of Immigrants in Milan in the 1990's: A Spatial Analysis of Census Data. (In Italian.) *Cheiron-Materiali e strumenti di aggiornamento storiografico*, 52, 109-138.

#### Articles Under Review

- Leone Sciabolazza, V., Vacca, R., Kennelly Okraku, T.\*, & McCarty, C. (Under review). Detecting and analyzing research communities in longitudinal scientific networks. *PLoS One*.
- Mao, L., Stacciarini, J. M. R., & Vacca, R. (Under review). A spatio-socially integrated approach for community-based health and intervention — A case study on improving well-being of US Latino immigrants. *Research in Nursing & Health*.

#### Manuscripts in Preparation

- Vacca, R., Stacciarini, J. M. R., & Tranmer, M. Using Non-hierarchical Multi-level Models to Analyze Overlapping Personal Networks.
- Vacca, R., & Vitale, T. The Network Origin of Plural Identities: Structural Brokerage, Diversity and Cultural Holes in International Immigrants' Social Networks.
- McCarty, C., Lubbers, M., Vacca, R., & Molina, J. L. Personal Networks. Research and Applications. *Guilford Press*.

## Talks and Seminars

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### Invited Talks and Seminars

- “Using non-hierarchical multilevel models to analyze overlapping personal networks.” ARS '17 International Workshop. University of Naples Federico II, Naples, Italy. May 2017.
- “Social Network Analysis: History, methods and research applications.” Invited seminar. University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico. May 2016.
- “Social Network Analysis: Applications to migration studies and disaster research.” Invited seminar. University of Bari Aldo Moro, Bari, Italy. December 2015.

### Conference Presentations

- “A personal network approach to the study of structural assimilation and transnationalism in international migration.” Annual Meeting of the International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS). University of Utrecht, Utrecht, the Netherlands. June 2016.
- “Using non-hierarchical multilevel models to analyze social support in overlapping egocentric networks.” XXXVI Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis. Newport Beach, California. April 2016.
- “Inefficient hubs in a daily Twitter @ mention network.” Vizards Session, XXXV Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis. Brighton, UK. June 2015.
- “Social networks, social isolation and mental health inequalities among rural Latinos in Florida.” XXXV Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis. Brighton, UK. June 2015. (Abstract)
- “A method for rapid detection of typical personal network structures.” 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Washington, D.C. December 2014. (URL)
- “A social and spatial network approach to migrant mobility and transnationalism.” 1<sup>st</sup> European Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain. July 2014. (Abstract)
- “The network origin of plural identities: structural brokerage, diversity and cultural holes in international immigrants’ networks.” 1<sup>st</sup> European Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain. July 2014. (Abstract)

- “A network intervention on scientific networks: design and reactions.” XXXIV Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis. St Pete Beach, Florida. February 2014.
- “Using social networks to evaluate the impact of a CTSA on research at a university.” XXXIV Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis. St Pete Beach, Florida. February 2014.
- “Cohesion and segregation in transnational migrant networks: An ego-network approach to transnationalism and assimilation.” XXXIII Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis. University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany. May 2013. (Abstract)
- “How do people know each other? Categories of knowing across cultures using a two-mode personal network approach.” XXXIII Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis. University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany. May 2013. (Abstract)
- “Using ego-network structure to assess migrants’ transnationalism and ethnic segregation.” International Seminar “Personal networks in times of economic hardship and political discontent”. Autonomous University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain. July 2012.
- “Activity spaces and personal networks of transnational migrants in Milan, Italy.” XXXII Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis. Redondo Beach, California. March 2012.
- “Are there ethnic enclaves in Milan? Spatial analyses and maps from 1991 and 2001 census-tract data.” Spaces and Flows: An International Conference on Urban and ExtraUrban Studies. Monash University Prato Centre, Prato, Italy. November 2011. (Abstract)
- “Esistono *enclaves* etniche a Milano? Un’analisi della popolazione dei “quartieri etnici” milanesi nel 2001.” Flussi migratori e crisi economica: questioni globali e riflessi locali. Bocconi University, Milan, Italy. December 2010. (Abstract)

## Research Support

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### Externally Funded

2015-2019. Clinical and Translational Science Award (UL1TR001427). Co-Investigator (PI: Nelson, D.) National Institutes of Health, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. \$16,676,770.

2014-2015. Clinical and Translational Science Award (UL1RR029890-01, in funded cost extension). Co-Investigator (PI: Nelson, D.) National Institutes of Health, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. \$20,743,298 award for years 2009-2014.

### Internally Funded

2016. The “migrant Rom”: From exclusionary processes to resources for social integration (REPIN). Co-Investigator (PI: Vitale, T.) The Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po). €60,000.

2015. Mobilità precaria. L'accesso alla città delle persone in situazione di precarietà lavorativa a Milano e Lione. Co-PI (PI: Daconto, L.) Fondazione Roberto Franceschi and Bocconi University. €6,166.

2014-2015. Immigrant self-employment and transnational practices: the case of Moroccan entrepreneurs in Amsterdam and Milan. Co-PI (PI: Solano, G.) Fondazione Roberto Franceschi and Bocconi University. €6,000.

2011-2012. Social networks and immigrant integration: The case of Sri Lankans in Milan. PI. Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Economics, Psychology and Social Sciences (University of Milan-Bicocca) and Centro Studi Luca d'Agliano. €6,000.

### Submitted, Pending

2017-2019. Using social networks to map and evaluate team science across CTSA hubs. Co-PI (PI: Nelson, D.) National Institutes of Health, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. \$527,360.

2017-2020. CBPR intervention: Addressing social health determinants in rural Latinos. Co-investigator (PI: Stacciarini, J.M.R.) National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Nursing Research. \$429,316.

### Submitted, Not Funded

2016-2020. A Social and Phylogenetic Network Approach to ‘Precision’ Modeling of HIV Prevention, with Integration into Surveillance Systems. Co-investigator (PI: Prospero, M.) National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. \$1,394,508.

2017-2019. Characterization of Longitudinal Behavioral Endotypes of Underage Drinking using Twitter. Co-investigator (PI: Prospero, M.) National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. \$275,000.

2016-2020. TEAM Center for research in the self-management of pain and cognitive/affective symptoms. Co-investigator (PI: Lyon, D.) National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Nursing Research. \$1,874,995.

2015-2017. SONDA: The Social Observatory for Network Data and Analysis. Co-investigator (PI: Johnson, J.) National Science Foundation, Directorate for Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences. \$1,523,140.

### Consultancies

2017. The Willmar Community Health Initiative. BlueCross BlueShield of Minnesota. \$56,775.

2014. Leadership and Advocacy Institute to Advance Minnesota's Parity for Priority Populations (LAAMPP). Evaluation and Advisory Panel. Clear-Way Minnesota. \$175,000.

### Teaching

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#### University Courses

Social Network Analysis (SYA 7933). University of Florida, Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law. Spring 2017.

Advanced Quantitative Methods (SYA 7933). University of Florida, Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law. Fall 2016.

Applied Statistical Analysis II (NGR 6845). University of Florida, College of Nursing. Summer 2015.

Applied Statistical Analysis I (NGR 6840). University of Florida, College of Nursing. Spring 2015.

Social Network Analysis (ANG 5420). University of Florida, Department of Anthropology. Spring 2014.

#### Invited Short Courses

Social Network Analysis with R. Invited seminar and workshop at the College of Public Health, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium. June 2017.

Theory, Methods and Applications of Personal Networks. Summer School at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain. July 2015; July 2017.

Social network analysis: Research design, data collection and analysis. National Science Foundation Ethnographic Field School in Cultural Anthropology. University of Florida, USA. July 2015; July 2016.

Social Network Analysis with UCINET and R. Invited seminar and workshop at the University of Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico. May 2016.

### Conference Workshops

Introduction to Ego-network Analysis with R.

\* Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis. June 2015; April 2016.

\* The European Conference on Social Networks (EUSN). June 2014; June 2016.

Introduction to Social Network Analysis. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Washington, DC. December 2014.

### Professional Service

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#### University of Florida

Member of the UF Research Computing Advisory Committee. 2016-2017.

Reviewer for the UF Informatics Institute Fellowship Program. 2016.

Reviewer for the UF Informatics Institute SEED Fund Program. 2015.

Member of the Evaluation Panel of the UF Clinical and Translational Science Institute. 2015.

#### Mentoring Panels

Faculty mentor for the PRIDE Training Program on Behavioral Medicine and Sleep Disorders, Department of Population Health, NYU School of Medicine. Sep 2016 - Sep 2017.

#### Conferences

Member of the Technical Program Committee for the 4th International Conference on Computational Social Networks (CSoNet 2015). Beijing, China. April 2015.

Reviewer for the 2015 International Conference on Social Computing, Behavioral-Cultural Modeling & Prediction (SBP15). Washington, DC. March 2015.

Organizer of the panel "Social Networks in Clinical and Translational Science" for the University of Florida Clinical and Translational Science Institute. XXXIV Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis. St Pete Beach, Florida. February 2014.



## Journals

Ad hoc reviewer for Social Networks, Ethnic and Racial Studies, Sociological Forum, Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology, Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication, Societies.

## Awards

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2014. *Outstanding Visualization Award*. 1<sup>st</sup> European Conference on Social Networks (EUSN). Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain. (Visualization video and code.)

2010. *Roberto Franceschi Award for M.A. dissertations in Economics and Social Sciences*. Fondazione Roberto Franceschi and Bocconi University.

2006-2008. *Bocconi Graduate Merit Award*. Bocconi University graduate scholarship, a.y. 2006/2007 and 2007/2008. Bocconi University.

## Computer Skills

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**Programming languages** R.

**Statistical packages** R, Stata, SPSS.

**GIS software** ArcGIS, GeoDa.

**Other** GIT, LaTeX.