

SEUNGAH SARAH LEE

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) 2022 - present
Visiting Senior Lecturer, Social Research and Public Policy

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Organization Studies & International Comparative Education 2022
Stanford University

Dissertation: When entrepreneurship becomes a national enterprise: The case of the Arab Gulf (committee: Francisco O. Ramirez, John W. Meyer, Woody Powell, and Patricia Bromley)

M.A., Sociology 2020
Stanford University

Ed.M., International Education Policy 2013
Harvard University

B.S. Foreign Service, International Political Economy (honors) 2012
Georgetown University

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Organizations, Entrepreneurship, Higher Education, Comparative Education,
Global Transnational Sociology, Public Policy, International Development, Arab Gulf

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- 2023 (pre-print) **Seungah S. Lee** and Francisco O. Ramirez “Globalization of universities as organizational actors?” *Research in the Sociology of Organizations*
- 2023 **Seungah S. Lee**. “The global rise of an ‘entrepreneurship for development’ agenda: Expanding meaning of entrepreneurship in society over time.” *World Development*. 166, 106-226.
- Academy of Management Best Paper Award 2023 (Entrepreneurship Division)
 - Academy of Management William H. Newman Award Nominee 2023
- 2021 **Seungah S. Lee**. “A precarious balancing act: Globalization, political legitimacy, and higher education expansion in the Arab Gulf.” *Contemporary Arab Affairs*. 14(1): 113-33
- 2021 **Seungah S. Lee** and Leena Zahir. “Applying global models of teacher development to improve student outcomes: Insights from a teacher development and leadership program in Qatar.” *Gulf Education and Social Policy Review*. 2(1): 46-68.
- 2020 **Seungah S. Lee**. “Cultivating ‘global citizens?’ Trends in global awareness, global agency, and recognizing perspectives in textbooks worldwide, 1950-2011.” *Prospects: Comparative Journal of Curriculum, Learning, and Assessment*. 48: 215-236

- 2016 **Seungah S. Lee.** “What motivates and engages students in the education process: An examination of Qatari students’ mindset and attitudes toward going to school, learning, and future aspirations.” *Journal of Education and Learning* 5(3)
- Revise & Resubmit “Making an entrepreneurial citizenry? Institutionalizing entrepreneurship for national development in the Arab Gulf” (*Entrepreneurship & Regional Development*)
- Under Review “To STEM or not to STEM? A cross-national analysis of gender and tertiary graduates in STEM, 2008-2018.” (with Christine Wotipka, Francisco Ramirez, and Jieun Song*)
- Under Review “Perception, performance, and detectability of conversational artificial intelligence across 32 university courses” (with Yasir Zaki, Tala Rahwan, and other colleagues at NYUAD)
- Under Review “Same Sea, Different Boats: How university-based incubators educate entrepreneurship, bridge opportunities, and reveal structural inequalities.”

PEER-REVIEWED CONTRIBUTED VOLUMES

- 2023 (forthcoming, pre-print) Francisco O. Ramirez and **Seungah S. Lee.** “Globalizing nation-states and national education projects.” in *Oxford Handbook on Education and Globalization*, ed X. Dumay.
- 2021 **Seungah S. Lee** and Cameron Mirza. “Pursuing innovation as a strategy for improving quality of higher education: Challenges and opportunities facing GCC countries” in *Higher Education in the Gulf: Quality Drivers.*, eds. Segumpan & J. McAlaney, Routledge.
- 2021 **Seungah S. Lee**, Christine M. Wotipka, and Francisco O. Ramirez. “A cross-national analysis of women graduates with tertiary degrees in science, technology, engineering, and math, 1998-2018: Commonalties and variations” in *Gender Equity and Higher Education: International Perspectives*, eds. H. Ro, F. Fernandez, and B. House, Routledge.
- 2021 **Seungah S. Lee** and Jeremy Jimenez. “Portrayal of religion against the backdrop of progress and modernity in US and Canadian social science textbooks from 1850 to 2010” in *Comparative Perspectives on School Textbooks: Analyzing Shifting Discourses on Nationhood, Citizenship, Gender, and Religion*, ed. A. Wiseman, Palgrave Macmillan.
- 2018 **Seungah S. Lee** and Cameron Mirza. “Fostering a rise in youth social entrepreneurship and innovation in the Arabian Peninsula: From policy to implementation.” in *Youth as architects of change: global efforts to advance youth-driven innovation for social change.*, eds., S. Bastien and H. Holmarsdottir, Palgrave MacMillan.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

- “Making entrepreneurial citizens?: Entrepreneurship, youth, and development in the Arab Gulf” (book project)
- “Walking the talk? Institutional logics as a vehicle to legitimate incubators and accelerators as agents of entrepreneurship development”
- “Dreams, Donors, and Dollars: Philanthropy and American Universities” (with Nadine A. Skinner and Francisco O. Ramirez)
- “Green Emissaries: The dual sustainability embeddedness and climate change leadership of American branch campuses in the Arab Gulf” (with Gabriela Gavrila)

“Becoming ‘world-class:’ Global ambitions and expansion of internationalization efforts of universities worldwide.” (with Jieun Song* and Francisco O. Ramirez)

*Indicates student collaborator

POLICY PAPERS, BRIEFS, AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 **Seungah S. Lee** and Victoria Basma “Qatar’s edtech testbed: Building collaborative partnerships for innovative teaching and learning outcomes.” *WISE Annual Research Report* [[Link](#)]
- 2022 **Seungah S. Lee**. “Cultivating local, homegrown entrepreneurship in the UAE and Ras Al Khaimah.” *Policy Paper 55, Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research* [[Link](#)] (Relevant [podcast here](#))
- 2021 **Seungah S. Lee** and Victoria Basma. “Piloting Qatar’s first edtech testbed: The journey towards best practice, sustainable partnerships and innovation.” *WISE Annual Research Report No. 7* [[Link](#)]
- 2020 **Seungah S. Lee** and Patricia Bromley “Move fast and reach many? Disruptive philanthropy and the celebration of scale.” *NORRAG Special Issue 04* [[Link](#)]
- 2019 **Seungah S. Lee** and Patricia Bromley “Educating young people towards sustainable development and a more inclusive, global society? with focus on the Arab world.” *NISSEM Global Briefs Volume 1* [[Link](#)]
- 2018 Connie K. Chung, Ashim Shanker, **Seungah S. Lee**, and Vincent Qian. *Building bridges to the future: Global case studies of teaching and learning in the 21st century*. [[Link](#)]

ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

Entrepreneurship, Education, and National Development in the Arab Gulf

- Investigates how global models of entrepreneurship are contextualized and enacted by government, quasi-government, and educational organizations in the Arab Gulf and how actions of these “entrepreneurship educating” organizations influence and shape emergence of entrepreneurship ecosystems and local/national entrepreneurial culture.

Globalization and Organizational Expansion in Higher Education

- Examines the extent to which global cultural norms around diversity and inclusion, development/advancement, and internationalization influence organizational forms, practices, and actorhood of universities. This project draws upon an international sample of 500 universities.

Role of Intermediary Organization(s) in Cultivating Edtech Ecosystem

- This community-engaged research project investigates the role intermediary organizations such as WISE Edtech Accelerator and Testbed can play in creating communities of learning between schools, teachers, and edtech ventures and in cultivating a collaborative edtech ecosystem (Community Research Partner: Qatar Foundation).

TEACHING

- 2022 - present **New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD)**, Primary Instructor
SRPP-UH 2620 Education & Society
SOCSC-UH 1010Q Statistics for Social and Behavioral Sciences
SRPP-UH 2629 Education Policy Analysis and Design (newly developed course)

- 2018- 2021 **Stanford University**, Teaching Assistant
SOC231 World, Societal, and Educational Change: Comparative Perspectives
EDUC 306A Economics of Education in the Global Economy
- 2011-2012 **Georgetown University**, Teaching Assistant
ECON 121 Economic Statistics
ECON 001 Principle of Microeconomics
INAF 008 Map of the Modern World

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, & GRANTS

- 2023 Academy of Management Best Paper Award, Entrepreneurship Division
- 2023 Culture & Diversity Cluster Seed Grant, NYU Abu Dhabi (\$5,000)
- 2023 Global Dynamics Cluster Small Grant, NYU Abu Dhabi (\$5,000)
- 2023 Fund for Inclusion and Innovation, NYU Abu Dhabi (\$1,700)
- 2022 Stanford Graduate School of Education Travel Grant (\$1,100)
- 2020-2022 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (\$42,932)
- 2020-2022 Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation Doctoral Research Grant (\$7,923)
- 2019 Abbasi Program on Islamic Studies Graduate Student Grant (\$6,000)
- 2018, 2019 Stanford Projects for Intellectual Community Enhancement Grant (\$3,000/year)
- 2018 Stanford Graduate School of Education Travel Grant (\$700)
- 2017-2021 Stanford Graduate Fellowship in Science and Engineering (full tuition + stipend)
- 2008-2022 Gates Millennium Scholarship (merit-based scholarship for undergraduate and graduate studies)

REFERRED CONFERENCE PAPERS (selected)

- 2023 “Institutional logics as a legitimating force in enacting top-down entrepreneurship in the Arab Gulf” *Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management*, Boston, MA.
- 2023 “Entrepreneurship for all? The Rise of a Global "Entrepreneurship for Development" Agenda, 1950-2021” *Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management*, Boston, MA.
- 2023 “Dreams, Donors, and Dollars: Philanthropy and American Universities” *European Group for Organization Studies*. (with Nadine A. Skinner and Francisco O. Ramirez)
- 2022 “Enacting a top-down entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Arab Gulf: institutional logics and their influence on purpose and actions of entrepreneurship support organizations” *American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting*, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2022 “Globalization of universities as organizational actors?” *European Group for Organization Studies*. Vienna, Austria. 7 – 9 July 2022 (with Francisco O. Ramirez)
- 2022 “Making of an entrepreneurial citizenry? The role of national narrative and founding of organizations in institutionalizing the entrepreneurship for development agenda in the Arab Gulf” Future of World Society Theory Mini-Conference. Pomona College, California, USA
- 2022 “Entrepreneurship education for all? The global rise and expanding meaning of entrepreneurship education over time” *Comparative International Education Society (CIES) Annual Conference*

- 2021 “The rise of the entrepreneurship for global development agenda.” Reversing the Arrow: How Entrepreneurship Affects Society Conference. Lake Tahoe, CA
- 2021 “A cross-national analysis of gender and tertiary degree graduates in science, technology, engineering, and math, 1998-2018.” *Virtual Comparative International Education Society (CIES) Annual Conference*.
- 2020 “Role of institutional actors in shaping attitudes and localizing entrepreneurship education: A case of Qatar.” *Virtual Comparative International Education Society (CIES) Annual Conference*
- 2019 “A precarious balancing act: Globalization, political legitimacy, and higher education expansion in Qatar and the UAE.” *American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting*, New York, NY
- 2019 “Higher education policies in the GCC: Barriers or Challenges to Innovation and Entrepreneurship?” *Gulf Research Meeting*, University of Cambridge, UK.
- 2019 “The global race towards a “world class” university? An examination of mission statements worldwide.” *Comparative International Education Society (CIES) Annual Conference*, San Francisco, CA
- 2018 “Engaging students in the learning process: insights and applications for the Arabian Gulf based on the Teach For Qatar experience” *Comparative International Education Society (CIES) Annual Conference*, Mexico City, Mexico

INVITED TALKS AND LECTURES

- 2022 Guest Lecturer, “The race towards a ‘world class’ university: Globalization of higher education worldwide” International Studies Student Association Majlis, American University of Sharjah.
- 2022 Guest Lecturer, “Revisiting business hypothesis and defining your minimum viable product.” AEIC Success Pathway, American University of Dubai.
- 2022 Panelist, “Social impacts of digital disruption in economy: Cornerstone to sustainability.” IEEE Global Conference on AI & IoT. Dubai, UAE.
- 2021 Speaker, “Testbeds and Edtech Ecosystems: A closer look at innovation in education and partnership building for the future.” WISE Summit. Doha, Qatar
- 2021 Guest Lecturer, “Asking good questions: Research in the social sciences” American University in Ras Al Khaimah (AURAK)
- 2021 Panelist, “Students of change: Edtech in Qatar before and after COVID” ASU+GSV Summit

SERVICE, ENGAGEMENT, & LEADERSHIP

New York University Abu Dhabi

- 2023 - present Co-Convener, Theorizing the Gulf Working Group
- 2022 - present Faculty Advisor, ElevatED, a student interest group in education

Stanford University

- 2017 - 2022 Stanford Graduate School of Education, Student Mentor
- 2018-2021 Stanford Partnership for International Education and Development, Co-Chair
- 2018-2021 Stanford Graduate School of Education Student Guild, Community Chair

- 2018-2020 Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies Student Network Coordinator
2017-2018 Stanford Graduate School of Education Student Guild, PhD Cohort Representative

Research Supervision

- 2020 - 2021 Research Supervisor and Mentor, Stanford Institute for Research in the Social Sciences (Students: Claire Tajima, Manami Suenaga)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Member Comparative International Education Society
(*varies by year*) American Sociological Association
European Group of Organization Studies
Middle East Studies Association
Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies
- Ad hoc Journal: Prospects, International Journal of Comparative Sociology, Sociology of
reviewer Education, World Development, Gulf Education and Social Policy Review
Conference: Comparative International Education Society

INDUSTRY/PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020-2022 Research Fellow at WISE Initiative (Doha, Qatar)
2016-2018 Affiliate Researcher at Harvard Global Education Innovation Initiative
2014-2017 Head of Alumni Leadership Programs & Impact Evaluation, Teach for Qatar
2016 Monitoring & Evaluation Consultant, INJAZ Kuwait
2012 - 2015 Interim Managing Director, Dream Blue Foundation
2013-2014 Consultant, Supreme Council of Higher Education, Bahrain
2012-2014 Research Consultant, Omid e Mehr Foundation, Cambridge, MA

LANGUAGE, TECHNICAL, AND OTHER SKILLS

- Language Korean (native)
Arabic (advanced intermediate proficiency)
Spanish (limited proficiency)
- Technical Stata, R/R Studio, NVivo
- Intercultural Experience living and/or working professionally in South Korea, USA, Jordan, Bahrain, Qatar, and the UAE with diverse, international teams