

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR 2026-2029 RURAL STUDIES SERIES CO-EDITOR

Deadline: **April 30, 2026**

The [Rural Sociological Society](#) (RSS) Publications Committee requests proposals from experienced book authors or editors who are current members of RSS to serve as Co-Editor of the [Rural Studies Series](#) with current series Co-Editor Kai Schafft. The three-year appointment begins August 2026 and ends July 2029, with a one-year overlap with current Co-Editor, Kai Schafft. The Series is sponsored by the RSS to promote scholarly analysis of rural social science issues through the publication of high-quality books and research monographs. Since its inception in 1981, the Series has published nearly 50 volumes addressing the quality of rural life, including issues related to food production, processing, and consumption; rural health; agriculture; environmental issues; natural resource allocation and preservation; rural population trends; and community studies and development. For the past five decades, the series has also published the RSS decennial volume. The Series publishes approximately two books per year and is currently published through University of North Carolina Press. Further information about the Series can be found at: <https://uncpress.org/series/rural-studies/>.

The Co-Editors of the Rural Studies Series co-chair an editorial board, which consists of 5-6 scholars of distinction who advise the Co-Editors on soliciting manuscripts, evaluating book proposals, and managing the peer review process. The Co-Editors also are the primary liaison with the publisher and report to the RSS Publications Committee.

UNC Press provides an annual honorarium of \$750 per co-editor for incidental expenses related to conducting business for the series. RSS does not pay for office space or release time.

Applicants are invited to submit:

1. A curriculum vitae (no page limit).
2. A vision statement (2 page limit) that includes:
 - a. evidence of understanding the mission of the series as indicated by experience with rural social science books, journals, and/or series across a spectrum of activities.
 - b. an assessment of the status of the Series (strengths and challenges) and a vision for the future of the Series.
 - c. evidence of openness to the different theories, methods, and approaches to the rural social sciences.
 - d. evidence of responsible service to scholarly publishing.
 - e. evidence of organizational skill and intellectual leadership.
 - f. evidence of the feasibility for the Editor and host institution to fulfill their three-year commitment to the Rural Studies Series.

Letters from deans and other institutional authorities or names of references are not required or recommended at this time.

Applicants must be members of the Rural Sociological Society and hold a tenured position or equivalent in an academic or non-academic setting.

E-mail applications by April 30, 2026 to Angie Carter, RSS Publications Committee Chair (ancarter@mtu.edu) using the subject line “Rural Studies Co-Editor Application”. Inquiries are welcomed. The RSS Publications Committee will review the applications and make a recommendation to the RSS Council.