American children have a long summer break. For over two months, parents are responsible for structuring all their children’s activities. Examining racial-ethnic variation in children’s summer activities may provide a unique window to understanding racial-ethnic variations in parenting and children’s developmental outcomes. In this talk, Dr. Nomaguchi presents findings from her current project on racial-ethnic differences—White, Black, Hispanic, and Asian parents—in children’s activities during the summer after first grade, using data from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2010-11, with special attention to the intersection of race-ethnicity and social class measured by parental education. Her analyses focus on three aspects of summer activities, including (a) active play, such as family trips, summer camps, and outside play, (b) screen media use, such as television, video games, and the computer, and (c) academic or literacy activities, like attending summer school, studying with a tutor or parents. She also shows how each of these activities is related to gains in children’s reading and math scores as well as body mass index measured in the following fall semester. Drawing on past research findings as well as insights from critical race theory on race-ethnicity, social class, parenting, and time use, she discusses possible interpretations of the findings.

About the Speaker
Kei Nomaguchi is Professor of Sociology at Bowling Green State University (BGSU). She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland in 2003. Prior to joining the BGSU faculty in 2009, she was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Calgary and a faculty member of Northern Illinois University. Dr. Nomaguchi’s research areas include parenthood, parent-child relations, work-family linkage, and stress and well-being, with special attention to disparities in parental and child well-being across social statuses such as gender, social class, race-ethnicity, and family structure as well as across cohorts and life stages. Her work has been supported by the National Institute of Health and published in journals such as *Journal of Marriage and Family, Journal of Family Issues, Family Relations, Journal of Family and Economic Issues, Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Society and Mental Health, Social Science and Medicine, Social Science Research,* and *Socius.*