

Melissa L. McTernan

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Current Positions

Research Statistician, Department of Research Services, Boston College, Boston, MA.

Adjunct Instructor (Part-time), Psychology Department, Clark University, Worcester, MA.

Previous Positions

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, California State University, Sacramento,
Sacramento, CA. August 2017- December 2019.

Education

Ph.D. in Quantitative Psychology. University of California, Davis, Davis, CA. January 2017.

B.S. in Psychology. University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, Virginia. May 2010.
Magna Cum Laude.

Scholarships, Honors and Awards

College of SSIS Travel Award, CSU Sacramento	2017-2018, 2018-2019
Psychology Department Dissertation Fellowship, UC Davis	November 2015
Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce Academic Scholarship	2013-2014, 2015-2016
SMEP Advances in Multilevel Modeling Conference Travel Award	November 2014
Western Users of SAS Regional Meeting Travel Scholarship	August 2013
SAS Global Forum Student Scholarship Award	April 2013

Manuscripts

- Blozis, S.A., **McTernan, M.**, Harring, J., & Zheng, Q. (In Press, Jan 2020). Two-part Mixed-effects Location Scale Models. *Behavior Research Methods*.
- McTernan, M.**, Yokoo, K., & Tong, W. (In Press, Dec 2019). Gender-affirming Chest Surgery on Non-binary versus Transmasculine Patients. *Annals of Plastic Surgery*.
- Davoudzadeh, P., **McTernan, M.**, & Grimm, K. (2015). School readiness predictors of Grade Retention from kindergarten through eighth grade. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 32, 183-192. doi:10.1016/j.ecresq.2015.04.005
- McTernan, M.** & Blozis, S.A. (2014). Longitudinal Models for Ordinal Data with many zeros and varying numbers of Response Categories, *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 22(2), 216-226. doi:10.1080/10705511.2014.935915
- McTernan, M.**, Love, P., & Rettinger, D.A., (2014). The Influence of Personality on the Decision to Cheat. *Ethics and Behavior*, 24(1), 53-72. doi:10.1080/10508422.2013.819783
- McTernan, M.** & Blozis, S.A. (2013). User-specified Likelihood Expressions using NLMIXED and the GENERAL statement. *Proceedings of the Western Users of SAS® 2013 Conference*. Las Vegas, NV.

Selected Poster Presentations

- Reproducible Research with R and R Markdown.* Hirota, C., Datko, K., Thornton, S., Vallejo, E., Wick, K., Morrison, A., & **McTernan, M.** Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA April 2019
- A Longitudinal Mixed-Effects Model of Alcohol Use in Adolescents.* Estrada, B., Boyd, M., **McTernan, M.** Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA April 2019
- Towards a More Comprehensive Measurement of Gender Identity in Psychological Research.* Datko, K., **McTernan, M.**, & Becker, J. Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA April 2019
- A Longitudinal Investigation of Personality as a Predictor of Vigorous Exercise Using a Two-Part Mixed-Effects Model.* Sanchez, V., Hirota, C., Snipes, M. & **McTernan, M.** Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA April 2019
- Asymmetric Adrenocortical-Parasympathetic Reactivity to Social Stress in Adolescent Girls Endorsing Non-Suicidal Self-Injury.* Han, S., Giletta, M., **McTernan, M.**, Helm, J., Rudolph, K., Nock, M., Hastings, P., & Prinstein, M. March 2019
- Modeling Youth Substance Use Across the High School Transition Using a Linear Piecewise Regression.* Estrada, B., Boyd, M., Hofer, K. & **McTernan, M.** Sacramento State Student Research Spring Symposium, Sacramento, CA March 2018
- Mismeasurement of Gender: Attempt to Capture the Variability of Gender Identity.* Datko, K., Napierski, T., & **McTernan, M.** Sacramento State Student Research Spring Symposium, Sacramento, CA March 2018
- An Investigation of the Big Five as Predictors of Health Behaviors.* Sanchez, V., Snipes, M., Hirota, C., & **McTernan, M.** Sacramento State Student Research Spring Symposium, Sacramento, CA March 2018
- The Effect of the Assumed Error Distribution on Random Effects Estimates in a Multilevel Model fit to Positive and Positive-Only Skewed Data.* **McTernan, M.** Conference for Advances in Multilevel Modeling for Educational Research, College Park, MD November 2014

- Surviving the Curriculum: Predictors of Grade Retention K-8*, April 2013
 Davoudzadeh, P. & **McTernan, M.**, Poster Presentation, 2013 Biennial Meeting for the Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle WA
- The Influence of Personality on the Decision to Cheat*, **McTernan, M.**, May 2010
 Love, P., & Rettinger, D.A., Association for Psychological Sciences Convention, Boston, MA
- The Influence of Personality on the Decision to Cheat*, **McTernan, M.**, April 2010
 Love, P., & Rettinger, D.A., Research Talk, Virginia Psychological Association Meeting, Norfolk, VA

Professional Talks

- An Introduction to Linear Mixed Effects Models for Psychological Research, **McTernan, M.** Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA. April 2019
- Psychological Research Toolbox: An Introduction to and Comparison of SPSS, SAS, and R, a Symposium (Chair: **Melissa McTernan**). April 2019
 Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA.
- Exploring a Two-Part Multiphase Mixed-Effects Model for Measuring Multiple Components of Change, **McTernan, M.** Innovations in Latent Variable and Random Effects Models, Colorado Springs, CO. September 2018
- When the Mean Isn't Enough: Methods for Assessing Individual Differences using SAS, **McTernan, M.** Western Users of SAS Software, Sacramento, CA. September 2018
- Two-Part Mixed-Effects Models, presented as a topic in a symposium entitled Multilevel Models for Repeated Measures from Daily Diary Studies, **McTernan, M. & Blozis, S.** Portland, OR. April 2018
- Predictors of Grade Retention from kindergarten through eighth grade: a survival-analysis approach, **McTernan, M.** CSU Chico REUT Summer Program, *Invited Speaker*, Chico, CA July 2016

- The effects of positive-only and positive-skewed residual error distribution on the covariance structure of a linear mixed-effects model across different sample sizes: A review and proposal, **McTernan, M.**, Innovations in Latent Variable and Random Effects Models Meeting, Champlin, MN September 2015
- Non-zero and positive-only outcomes in mixed effects models, **McTernan, M.**, Innovations in Latent Variable and Random Effects Models Meeting, Colorado Springs, CO September 2014
- User-specified likelihood expressions using PROC NLMIXED and the GENERAL statement, **McTernan, M.**, Western Users of SAS Regional Meeting, Las Vegas, NV November 2013
- Positive-Value distributions for the second part of a two-part mixed-model, **McTernan, M.**, Innovations in Latent Variable and Random-Effects Models, San Antonio, TX September 2013
- The Influence of Personality on the Decision to Cheat, **McTernan, M.**, Love, P., & Rettinger, D.A., Virginia Psychological Association Meeting, Norfolk, VA April 2012

Teaching Experience

Adjunct Professor (Spring 2020)

Graduate Statistical Methods, Clark University, Worcester, MA

Assistant Professor (Fall 2017-Fall 2019)

Statistics for Psychology, CSU Sacramento, Sacramento, CA

Statistics and Research Methods for Psychological Research, CSU Sacramento, Sacramento, CA

Lab Instructor

Advanced Statistical Analysis of Psychological Experiments (Graduate Level), UC Davis Spring 2016

Statistical Analysis of Psychological Data, UC Davis Winter 2014

Statistical Analysis of Psychological Data, UC Davis	Fall 2013
Statistical Analysis of Psychological Data, UC Davis	Winter 2013
Statistical Analysis of Psychological Data, UC Davis	Winter 2012

Teaching Assistant

Advanced Statistical Analysis of Psychological Experiments (Graduate Level), UC Davis	Spring 2016
Statistical Analysis of Psychological Experiments (Graduate Level), UC Davis	Fall 2015
Research Methods, UC Davis	Summer 2015
Data Visualization, UC Davis Interdisciplinary Course	Spring 2015
Causal Modeling of Correlational Data (Graduate Level), UC Davis	Winter 2015
Cognitive Development, UC Davis	Fall 2014
Clinical Psychology, UC Davis	Summer 2013
Advanced Statistical Analysis for Psychological Data, UC Davis	Spring 2013
Social and Personality Development, UC Davis	Fall 2012
Research Methods, UC Davis	Summer 2012
Abnormal Psychology, UC Davis	Spring 2012
Social Psychology, UC Davis	Fall 2011

Guest Lecturer

UC Davis Guest Lecture, Advanced Statistical Analysis for Psychological Experiments (Graduate Level), <i>Topic:</i> <i>Probability</i>	Spring 2013
UC Davis Guest Lecture, Advanced Statistical Analysis for Psychological Data, <i>Topic: Factorial ANOVA</i>	Spring 2013

Professional and Institutional Service

Working Group for the Implementation of Gender Neutral Bathrooms, Member. California State University, Sacramento.	2018-present
Students for a Quality Education (Student Organization), Faculty Co-advisor. California State University, Sacramento.	2018-present
Student Advocates for Ending Homelessness (Student Organization), Faculty Advisor. California State University, Sacramento.	2018-present
Faculty Senate Curriculum Policy Committee, Member. California State University, Sacramento.	2017-present
Psychology Department Assessment Committee, Member. California State University, Sacramento.	2017-present
Center for Race, Immigration, and Social Justice, Member. California State University, Sacramento.	2017-present
Transgender Inclusion Taskforce, Member. California State University, Sacramento.	2017-2018
New Faculty Orientation Panel on Inclusive Teaching Practices, Guest Panel Speaker. California State University, Sacramento.	Summer 2018
California State University, Sacramento, Division of Social Work, Invited Speaker. Topic: White supremacy, organizing against racism, and white racial identity. (Instructor: E. Fonseca)	Spring 2018
Psi Chi National Honor Society, “So You Wanna Get Involved?” panel event, Guest Panel Speaker. California State University, Sacramento.	Fall 2017, Spring 2018
Center for Race, Immigration, and Social Justice, ‘Charlottesville: Trumpism and White Supremacy’ panel event, Guest Panel Speaker. California State University, Sacramento.	Fall 2017
Psi Chi National Honor Society, Winter New-Member Induction Ceremony, Invited Speaker. California State University, Sacramento. California State University, Sacramento.	Fall 2017
Invited Manuscript Reviewer, <i>Structural Equation Modeling</i> .	Summer 2017
Invited Manuscript Reviewer, <i>International Journal of Behavioral Development</i> .	Spring 2016

UC Davis Gender and Sexuality Commission ‘Unpacking Professionalism’ panel event, Guest Panel Speaker. University of California, Davis.	Fall 2015
Graduate Student Association, Psychology Department Vice-President. University of California, Davis.	2013-2014
Graduate Student Association, Psychology Department Secretary. University of California, Davis.	2012-2013
Undergraduate Research Training Institute, Graduate Student Mentor. University of California, Davis.	2012-2013
Quantitative Psychology Area Brownbag Series Coordinator, University of California, Davis.	2012-2013

Community Service

Circle of Bees Suburban Beekeeping Project, Inc., Non-Profit Board Member.	2016-present
Rainbow Chamber Foundation, Non-Profit Board Member.	2019-2019
Harper Junior High School Career Day, Speaker.	Spring 2018
Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Sacramento, Coordinating Committee & Mobilizing Committee Member.	2016-2018