

Deb Adkins
Research Project Director
Accessible Teaching, Learning, & Assessment Systems (ATLAS)
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EDUCATION

University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon	2020
Ph.D., Educational Leadership, specialization in Quantitative Research Methods Dissertation Chair: Dr. Kathleen Scalise Ph.D. Title: Interest Based Assessment: The Impact of Choice in Measures of Assessment on Performance and Engagement.	
Portland State University, Portland, Oregon	2011
M.S., Systems Science Thesis Chair: Dr. Wayne Wakeland Ph.D. Title: Is Decoding Sufficient to Predict Reading Ability in Kindergarten Through 2nd Grade Students?	
Western Oregon University, Monmouth, Oregon	1997
B.S., Computer Science , Minor: Business	
Mt. Hood Community College, Gresham, Oregon	1995
A.A., General Studies , with a focus on Computer Science	

CAREER HISTORY

Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA), Portland, Oregon	2003 – 2021
<i>Research Scientist I & II</i>	<i>2011 to 2021</i>
<p>I designed research projects where I worked closely with both internal and external partners to ensure appropriate content was utilized and business needs were addressed while providing specifications necessary for third-party development. I conducted both quantitative and qualitative analysis including measurement and scaling using IRT and CTT methods of estimation, univariate and multivariate quantitative methods, SEM, HLM, program evaluation, usability testing, ethnographic research, interviews, surveys and focus groups. Additionally, I disseminated and presented results to audiences with varying levels of technical and nontechnical expertise. I collaborated on projects at the school and state levels such as assessment prototypes, usability studies, innovative assessments, program evaluation, surveys, etc., including papers and presentations. I served on our IRB where I both reviewed research proposals and collaborated on updates to documentation and procedural practices.</p>	

Research Associate & Senior Research Associate 2007 - 2011

I collected research samples, including data quality checks, and analyzed and prepared results for internal and external publication as warranted. I conducted alignment studies and authored subsequent internal reports. I coauthored external research publications. Additionally, I wrote and QA'd test scripts for all assessments within the organization using Java script, QA'd item calibrations and conducted DIF analysis using WinSteps. I collaborated on cross-functional teams in the development of the web-based CAT tests for grades K-12 and on data validation and architecture of the item bank database including a data dictionary.

Technical Support Specialist & Data Analyst 2003 - 2007

As a technical support specialist, I provided technical support to partner school systems in the setup of client/server assessment system. Additionally, I created a tracking process for identifying commonly reported issues and FAQs. As a data analyst I processed class roster files for use in the assessment system, identified the root cause of reporting anomalies, and worked with software and QA engineers to identify use cases for subsequent system testing.

Kewill\Aristo Computers (acquired by Kewill), Beaverton, Oregon 1997 – 2001

Product Development Manager 1999 - 2001

I was responsible for product planning and execution throughout the product lifecycle for our receiving system. I was responsible for developing and managing strategic client relationships, gathering and prioritizing product and customer requirements, defining the product vision, working closely with software and QA engineers, sales, marketing and technical support to maximize revenue and customer satisfaction. My leadership duties included coaching, team building, and conflict resolution.

Software Engineer 1998 – 1999

I collaborated with clients subscribing to our core product to create custom shipping and receiving solutions using Visual FoxPro. Additionally, I created custom shipping and receiving labels in compliance with carrier specifications.

Senior Technical Support Specialist 1997 – 1998

I provided the second tier of support for clients subscribing to our shipping and/or receiving products. I conducted all Y2K QA testing of internal systems, products and custom solutions.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Published Manuscripts

Adkins, D. (2021). Digital Self-Administered Assessments: The Utility of Touch Screen Tablets as a Platform for Engaging Early Learner Assessment. *Journal of Early Childhood Research*.

Anderson, R.C., Porter, L., & **Adkins, D.** (2019). A Dramatic Confrontation of Frames: Arts-Integration Teacher Development, Organizational Learning, and School Change.

Leadership and Policy in Schools.

Adkins, D., & Guerreiro, M. (2017). Learning Styles: Considerations for Technology Enhanced Item Design. *British Journal of Educational Technology*.

Cronin, J., Dahlin, M., **Adkins, D.**, & Kingsbury, G.G. (2007). The Proficiency Illusion. Thomas B. Fordham Institute. Available from http://edex.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/publication/pdfs/Proficiency_Illusion_092707_7.pdf

Cronin, J., Dahlin, M., **Adkins, D.**, & Kingsbury, G.G. (2007). The Proficiency Illusion. *American Educator*, 23-28.

Unpublished Manuscripts

Adkins, D. (2020). Interest Based Assessment: The Impact of Choice in Measures of Assessment on Performance and Engagement. (Doctoral dissertation, The University of Oregon). Scholar's Bank.

Adkins, D., & Bowe, B. (2013). Transition from State Aligned to Common Core Aligned Assessments. The Northwest Evaluation Association.

Adkins, D. (2011). Is Decoding Sufficient to Predict Reading Ability in Kindergarten Through 2nd Grade Students? (Master's thesis). Available from <http://archives.pdx.edu/ds/psu/7027>

Dahlin, M. & **Adkins, D.** (2007). A Study of the Alignment of the NWEA RIT Scale with the California Standardized Testing and Reporting Program. The Northwest Evaluation Association.

Adkins, D. (2007). A Study of the Alignment of the NWEA RIT Scale with the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress-Plus. The Northwest Evaluation Association.

Adkins, D. (2007). A Study of the Alignment of the NWEA RIT Scale with the Maine Educations Assessment. The Northwest Evaluation Association.

Adkins, D. (2007). A Study of the Alignment of the NWEA RIT Scale with the Maryland Assessment System. The Northwest Evaluation Association.

Adkins, D. (2007). A Study of the Alignment of the NWEA RIT Scale with the New Jersey Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment, and High School Proficiency Assessment. The Northwest Evaluation Association.

Adkins, D. (2007). A Study of the Alignment of the NWEA RIT Scale with the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment. The Northwest Evaluation Association.

Adkins, D. (2007). A Study of the Alignment of the NWEA RIT Scale with the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations – Criterion Referenced Test. The Northwest Evaluation Association.

Conference Presentations – National

Nesterak, M., **Adkins, D.**, & Guerreiro, M. (2018, June). Innovation in Assessment: How is Research Looking to the Future? Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Northwest Education Association, Portland, OR.

Adkins, D. (2018). Self-Administered Assessments: The Utility of iPads as a Platform for Engaging Early Assessment. Poster session at the Annual Conference of the American Educational Research Association, New York, NY.

Guerreiro, M. & **Adkins, D.** (2017). The Impact of a Technology Enhanced Constrained Performance Task on Student Engagement in Mathematics. Poster session at the Annual Conference of the American Educational Research Association, San Antonio, TX.

Adkins, D. & Dahlin M. (2015, June). Transition Guidelines: Moving Students from MPG to MAP 2-5 and from MAP 2-5 Mathematics to 6+. Paper presented at the Central Conference of the Northwest Education Association, Chicago, IL.

Slibeck Francis, J.B., Sanders, L., **Adkins, D.**, Calliope, M., & Wilmurth, G. (2014, June). Turning Theory into Reality: Lessons Learned About Text Complexity from Early Adoption of the Common Core State Standards. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Northwest Education Association, Portland, OR.

Adkins, D. (2012, June). Do Test Scores Differ as a Function of Inaccessibility? Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Northwest Education Association, Portland, OR.

Adkins, D. (2011, March). Is Decoding Sufficient to Predict Reading Ability in Kindergarten Through 2nd Grade Students? Paper presented at the Early Education and Technology for Children Annual Conference, Salt Lake City, UT.

Cronin, J., Kingsbury, G. G., Dahlin, M., **Adkins, D.**, & Bowe, B. (2007, April). Alternate methodologies for estimating state standards on a widely-used computer adaptive test. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Research

Experience with both technical and non-technical writing, research design, writing and presentation, program evaluation, survey research and questionnaire design, quantitative and

qualitative research.

Research Methods

Univariate Quantitative Methods

Multiple Regression and Multivariate Quantitative Methods

Structural Equation Modeling

Item Response Theory

Hierarchical Linear Modeling

Qualitative Research Methods (surveys, observations, interviews, and focus groups)

Statistical Software Packages

SPSS, Amos, R, SAS, WinSteps, HLM7, Qualtrics, Dedoose, ATLAS.ti

Educational Assessment

Assessment development including writing test scripts, test validation, item calibration, DIF and pool analysis

Curriculum & Instruction

Experience in content alignment, course construction and teaching undergraduate students in a new leadership course, for the Leadership + Administrative Skills (LEADS) program as part of the University of Oregon's College of Education, while obtaining my PhD.

Software

GPower, Survey Monkey, Survey Gizmo (Alchemer), SQL, MySQL, JavaScript, Mendeley, Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Word, Visio, and OneNote

Operating System

Windows 10

Technology Platforms

iPads, Chromebooks, Android tablets, e-Readers

Learning Management Systems

Canvas, ObaVerse, Blackboard

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CITI IRB Member Certification	2021
LinkedIn Learning – Anti-racism and Race Relations	2021
LinkedIn Learning – Social Emotional Learning	2021
CITI IRB Certification – refresher	2018
Using R Software for Item Response Theory (IRT) Model Calibrations- AERA PD	2017
CITI IRB Certification	2016
WebbAlign Depth of Knowledge – WCEPS	2016

Using Blended Learning to Improve Schools - Michael Horn, EdWeek Webinar	2015
Tips and Tools for Flipping Your Classroom - Aubrey Harrison, edWeb Webinar	2015
How Video Games Embody 21 st Century Learning Skills - Paul Darvasi, edWeb Webinar	2015
Conducting Implementation-Informed Evaluations - REL Mid-Atlantic/AERA Webinar	2015
Engaging Families in Partnership Programs to Promote Student Success – REL Webinar	2015
An Introduction to Hierarchical Linear Modeling for Educational Researchers - AERA PD	2014
Mixed Data Analysis Techniques: A Comprehensive Step-by-Step Approach - AERA PD	2013
Introduction to Rasch Measurement – Journal of Applied Measurement	2012
Analytical Problem Solving – Alamo Learning Systems	2004
Project 2000, Level 1 – New Horizons Computer Learning Centers	2003
Excel 2000, Level 2 – New Horizons Computer Learning Centers	2003
Excel 2002, Level 3 – New Horizons Computer Learning Centers	2003
Fundamentals of Visual FoxPro – AppDev Seattle	1999

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Council on Measurement in Education	2007 - Present
American Educational Research Association	2007 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division D, Measurement and Research Methodology • Division H, Research, Evaluation, and Assessment in Schools 	

SERVICE

IRB Committee member	2018- 2021
David Douglas School District	2018
Peer Review AERA	2017
Big Brothers Big Sisters	2017 – 2020
Sanctuary Church Outreach, Gresham Oregon	2012 – Present
TAG Advisory Committee, Reynolds School District	2010 – 2012
Phi Theta Kappa, Vice President	1995

AWARDS

Graduated Cum Laude - Western Oregon University	1997
President's List – Mt. Hood Community College	1995
National Dean's List – Mt. Hood Community College	1995