

# Erik A. Ekberg

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## EDUCATION

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<b>MS Experimental Psychology</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	06.2018
<b>BS Psychology, Minor Sociology</b>	Washington State University, Pullman, Washington	05.2015
<b>BS Mathematics</b>	Washington State University, Pullman, Washington	05.2015

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## AWARDS

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<b>Dean's Award, Graduate Studies</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	05.2018
<b>Research Communication Award</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	05.2018
<b>Top 20 Wildcats</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	05.2018
<b>Top 25 Wildcats</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	06.2017

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## THESIS

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"Evaluation of paper test strategies on computer-administered tests: The impact of item response marking on test performance."

**Designed, developed, and launched** the front and back-end systems of an online testing web application to measure the effects of novel front-end designs on test performance and anxiety. This study provided insight into student testing behavior and how simple UI enhancements may significantly improve the user experience and quality of computer testing products.

Thesis readers: Assistant Professor Tonya Buchanan (chair), Professor Kara Gabriel, Distinguished University Professor Susan Lonborg.

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## COURSEWORK

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- Advanced Statistics – SAS & R
- User Interface Design and Development
- Quantitative Psychology & Topology
- Mathematical Modeling – Python
- Perception and Cognition

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## EXPERIENCE

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<b>Full-Stack Web Developer</b>	05.2015 – Present
Freelance	Tukwila, Washington
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Programmed JSON REST APIs and full-stack web services powered by Docker, Ruby on Rails, and PostgreSQL using Git and AWS to meet client scalability and reliability requirements.</li><li>• Designed reactive mobile-first UIs using Vue, JavaScript, HTML5, SCSS, and other front-end tools employing emerging standards to promote best practices and create robust products.</li><li>• Built rapid prototypes in Adobe XD, Photoshop, Pencil, and Justinmind to conduct guerrilla usability testing for quick and cost-effective feedback to validate assumptions of UI designs.</li><li>• Authored detailed UX reports on web applications requested by Career Services and the HSRC at Central Washington University to help product managers understand their users.</li></ul>	

**Statistical Consultant**

01.2018 – 06.2018

Central Washington University

Ellensburg, Washington

- Visualized qualitative and quantitative data using R, JASP, SPSS, SAS, and Excel to see past the numbers and make informed data driven decisions.
- Briefed clients with an executive summary of key findings and implications alongside our technical analyses to promote client comprehension and convey principle findings.
- Reviewed research proposals for strengths and weaknesses in order to improve client methodology by ensuring key variables are appropriately constructed and measured.
- Managed appointment workflows and schedules using Microsoft Office 365 and other third-party applications to create efficient consultations and quick feedback for clients.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

09.2016 – 06.2018

Central Washington University

Ellensburg, Washington

- Supervised 2 teaching assistants in the development of in-person and online class activities, quizzes, and demonstrations to provide concrete examples to abstract concepts.
- Corresponded with students to clarify feedback, create study guides, and review materials to facilitate student learning and development.
- Identified materials which students struggled with to propose changes to confusing language, unclear contexts, and alternative interpretations students may have.
- Streamlined student feedback using rubrics, muting assignments, comments, and other workflows afforded by Canvas.

**Undergraduate Research Assistant**

12.2013 – 05.2014

Washington State University

Pullman, Washington

- Contributed initial manuscripts to published papers by interpreting initial results and performing extensive research on personality traits and preferred work environments.

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**PUBLICATIONS (PEER REVIEW)**

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Osiri, J. K., Kungu, K., **Ekberg, E. A.**, & Muldrow, E. (in press). Global-mindedness and employment preference: Do globally-minded people prefer self-employment or organizational employment? *Journal of International Business Research*.

Osiri, J. K., Kungu, K., & **Ekberg, E. A.** (2014). The relationship between global-mindedness and employment preference. *Proceedings of the Academy of Studies in International Business*, 14(2).

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**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (PEER REVIEW)**

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**Ekberg, E. A.**, & Buchanan, T. (2018, May). *Exam Marking: Affording student success on computer-administered tests*. Paper presented at the Symposium of University Research and Creative Expression, Ellensburg, WA.

**Ekberg, E. A.**, & Buchanan, T. (2018, April). *Impact of paper testing strategies on computer-administered tests: Item response marking and test performance*. Poster presented at the Western Psychological Association conference, Portland, OR.

**Ekberg, E. A.,** Clark, M., & Lonborg, S. (2017, May). *CWUPsych: An R package*. Paper presented at the Symposium of University Research and Creative Expression, Ellensburg, WA.

**Ekberg, E. A.,** Osiri, J. K., & Kungu, K. (2014, March). *Relationship between global mindedness and preference for employment*. Paper presented at the Showcase for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities, Pullman, WA.

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*OTHER PRESENTATIONS*

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**Ekberg, E. A.** (2017, October). *Introduction to Sway: "The digital storytelling app"*. Presentation at Alaska Airlines, SeaTac, WA.

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*CERTIFICATIONS*

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<b>Leadership Certificate</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	05.2018
<b>Communication Certificate</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	03.2018
<b>Responsible Conduct of Research</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	12.2016
<b>FERPA</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	12.2016

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*COMMITTEE WORK*

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**SAS Constitution and By-Laws** 02.2018 – 06.2018  
Central Washington University Ellensburg, Washington

- Clarified membership requirements by removing confusing language and redundant clauses.

**Graduate Council** 10.2017 – 06.2018  
Central Washington University Ellensburg, Washington

- Advocated for program development which strengthened student involvement on campus and afforded students with valuable professional development opportunities.

**Enterprise Information System Committee** 05.2017 – 06.2018  
Central Washington University Ellensburg, Washington

- Briefed committee members on the activities of the Student Technology Fee Council regarding the concept, status, and schedule of current projects and upcoming proposals.
- Identified how DocuSign, SharePoint, SAS, and other applications may be adopted by students, faculty, and staff to improve collaboration, research, and document workflows.

**Student Technology Fee Council** 05.2017 – 06.2018  
Central Washington University Ellensburg, Washington

- Reconciled the distribution of profit allocations, employee compensation, and utilities costs between Auxiliary Operations and the council for the new 24/7 Tech. Lounge.
- Investigated the types of technology students and administrators would want incorporated into the 24/7 Tech. Lounge while preserving the milieu of Bistro 1891.
- Corresponded with the Provost, Library, and ASCWU to fund technology throughout the university to meet the technological demands of modern students.
- Forged relationships with the ASCWU to promote projects and formalize feedback from the study body to improve access and experiences with innovative technology on campus.

- Educated committee members on freeware alternatives that may replace proprietary software to increase our annual budget without negatively impacting student development.
- Consulted with the Office of Undergraduate Research and the MEC about the use and access requirements of student funded technology.

#### **Academic Technology Council**

01.2017 – 05.2017

Central Washington University

Ellensburg, Washington

- Informed student government of innovative academic technology changes and how they will impact pedagogy in the classroom.
- Advocated for usability and accessibility of technology in the classroom.

#### **Student Academic Senate**

11.2016 – 06.2018

School of Graduate Studies, Central Washington University

Ellensburg, Washington

- Formalized a graduate student executive board position responsible for representing graduate students within the university decision making process.
- Publicized funding opportunities afforded by student government to support graduate student professional development.
- Revised language in the constitution to be more inclusive of graduate and professional studies students.

#### **Club Senate**

09.2016 – 06.2017

Graduate Student Association, Central Washington University

Ellensburg, Washington

- Communicated information between the student government and the Graduate Student Association.

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### *COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT*

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#### **Treasurer**

03.2018 – 06.2018

CWU Statistics Club, Central Washington University

Ellensburg, Washington

- Presented and oversaw all club budgets relevant to club travel to ensure proper allocation of funds while working with SURC Accounting and the SGSR.
- Proficient in budget management and fiscal responsibility, including cost forecasting and reconciliation, to distribute funds among club members and funding groups appropriately.

#### **President**

06.2017 – 06.2018

Graduate Student Association, Central Washington University

Ellensburg, Washington

- Created strategic roadmaps to orchestrate student involvement on campus and establish an elected branch of graduate student representatives within the student government.
- Co-authored reports and presentations on student needs and university resources, and communicated our findings to key stakeholders to improve student outcomes.
- Collaborated with Student Success to improve support and visibility of graduate studies through joint workshops, fairs, and initiatives like mentorship programs.
- Coordinated social events and experiences between students and faculty to create a sense of community outside of single graduate programs.
- Educated students on professional development and funding opportunities afforded by the

ASCWU and other groups on campus by hosting online seminars.

- Established a graduate student lounge on campus to afford graduate students a space to study, collaborate, and relax in a common space outside of their individual departments.
- Authored a SWOT analysis regarding the merging of Graduate Studies and the Library to measure the benefits and pitfalls for both current and prospective graduate students.
- Incorporated into National Association of Graduate-Professional Studies to better advocate for students on a national level with respect to legislative power and support.
- Used Microsoft Notebook and SharePoint to create guide books for graduate students to find campus resources and experiences easily.

#### **Lead Programmer**

02.2017 – 06.2017

CWUPsych R Project, Central Washington University

Ellensburg, Washington

- Programmed easy-to-use functions, outputs, and beneficial constraints in R to teach R more effectively to students.
- Forged relationships with the Departments of Biology and Economics to discover commonly used R packages and raise support for the project.

#### **Volunteer Shopping Assistant**

Whitman Senior Community, Pullman, Washington

01.2014 – 05.2014

#### **Volunteer Activities Participant**

Bishop Place Senior Living, Pullman, Washington

09.2013 – 12.2013

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#### *PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT*

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<b>Introduction to Data Wrangling</b>	Cascadia R Conference, Portland, Oregon	06.2018
<b>Introduction to Data Visualization</b>	Cascadia R Conference, Portland, Oregon	06.2018
<b>Leadership Challenge</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	05.2018
<b>Project Management for Non-PMP</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	04.2018
<b>Effective Communication</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	03.2018
<b>Applying to NSF Grants</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	03.2018
<b>Resilience &amp; Compassion</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	03.2018
<b>The Importance of Communicating</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	02.2018
<b>Grant Budgets and Narratives</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	02.2018
<b>Leading with Resilience</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	02.2018
<b>Managing Your Time and Energy</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	02.2018
<b>Getting What You Want Negotiations</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	01.2018
<b>Managing Your Research Data</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	11.2017
<b>Grant Writing and Finding</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	11.2017
<b>What Employers Want</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	09.2017
<b>Success in the Workplace</b>	Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington	09.2017
<b>Introduction to the Tidyverse</b>	Cascadia R Conference, Portland, Oregon	06.2017

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*TECHNICAL SKILLS*

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**Statistics and Modeling**

- R
- Python
- SAS
- SPSS

**Front-end Web Development**

- Vue
- JavaScript
- Tachyons
- Axios

**Back-end Web Development**

- Ruby on Rails
- Docker
- PostgreSQL
- AWS

**Collaboration Tools**

- GitHub
- ShareLatex
- Office 365
- Sway

**Document Presentations**

- Latex
- Word
- Excel
- PowerPoint

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*INTERESTS*

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**Web Development**

- Exploring new technologies and industry best practices like Golang and Tachyons to stay updated on industry trends and advancements to create exceptional web applications.
- Experimenting with D3 for dynamic information visualization in web applications.

**Board Game Design**

- Interested in game design from an usable and minimalist perspective to introduce new players through simple rules while maintaining complex strategies.
- Coached friends to play a wide range of board games by thoroughly understanding and explaining abstract rules in a concrete and structured manner.

**Competitive Video Games**

- Managed amateur teams in local and online competitions by keeping members focused and communicative as the in-game team leader.