

# Diarmuid McDonnell

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## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

My research examines a number of interrelated topics concerning the nonprofit/charity sector: funding sources and networks; measuring and modelling organisational and financial risk; evaluating regulatory interventions; and estimating geographical distribution of charitable activity. I have methodological and teaching interests in the use of administrative data, quantitative methods and computational social science. I have been commissioned to deliver and develop training courses and materials for the National Centre for Research Methods, Scottish Graduate School of Social Science, and Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research and Data.

## EDUCATION

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- 2017    PhD in Sociology & Social Policy, University of Stirling  
          Thesis: *Risk and Resilience in Scottish Charities*
- 2013    MSc in Applied Social Research (Distinction), University of Stirling
- 2012    Certificate in Mathematics, Open University
- 2010    BBus in Information Systems (1<sup>st</sup> class hon), Cork Institute of Technology

## EMPLOYMENT

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- 2021 -        **Lecturer in Social Sciences**, University of the West of Scotland
- 2017-2021    **Research Fellow**, Third Sector Research Centre, University of Birmingham
- 2019-2020    **Research Associate**, Cathie Marsh Institute, University of Manchester
- 2017-2019    **Research Fellow**, AQMEN, University of Edinburgh
- 2017        **Research Data Service Assistant**, EDINA, University of Edinburgh
- 2013-2017    **Research Assistant**, University of Stirling
- 2010-2012    **KTP Associate**, University of Aberdeen

## GRANTS

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- 2023 'The ecosystem of support organisations during the Cost-of-Living crisis', *British Academy Early Career Researcher Network Seed Funding*, **Principal Investigator**. Award value: £1,380.
- 2022 – 2025 'Improving access to and use of organisation-level data on the third sector and civil society' *Economic and Social Research Council*, **Co-Investigator**. Award value: £680,919.
- 2022 'Creative and Computational Methods for Working with Digital Footprint Data', *Scottish Graduate School of Social Science and the Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities*, **Principal Investigator**. Award value: £1,000.
- 2020 'Data for Good: The Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector in Britain', *Festival of Social Science*, **Co-Investigator**. Award values: £1,500.
- 2018-2019 'Mission Accomplished? A Cross-national Examination of Charity Dissolution.' *British Academy*, **Principal Investigator**. Award value: £9,879.65.
- 2018-2019 'Voluntary Action, the State and Society: the Role of Research in Understanding and Influencing Moving Frontiers.' *ESRC IAA User Engagement Fund*, **Co-Investigator**. Award value: £7,420.
- 2018 Recipient of Award from Research Fund from the Department of Social Policy, Sociology and Criminology, University of Birmingham. Award value: £500.
- 2020 - 'Border crossings: charity and voluntarism in Britain's mixed economy of health care since 1948', **Named Researcher**.
- 2020 - 'Assessing financial vulnerability and risk in the UK's charities during and beyond the Covid-19 crisis', **Named Researcher**.

## RESEARCH OUTPUTS

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### *Journal Articles*

- Clifford, D., **McDonnell, D.**, & Mohan, J. (2023). 'Charities' income during the COVID-19 pandemic: administrative evidence for England and Wales' *Journal of Social Policy*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0047279422001015>
- Rutherford, A., **McDonnell, D.**, & Hogg, E. (2021). 'Incentivizing regulatory participation: Effectiveness of a fundraising levy' *Public Administration Review* 81(3), 532-542. <https://doi.org/10.1111/puar.13176>
- McDonnell, D.**, Mohan, J., & Norman, P. (2020). 'Charity density and social need: A longitudinal perspective' *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly* 49(5), 1082-1104.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0899764020911199>
- Bhati, A., & **McDonnell, D.** (2020). 'Success in an online giving day: The role of social media in fundraising' *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly* 49(1), 74-92. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0899764019868849>

- McDonnell, D., & Rutherford, A. C. (2019).** ‘Promoting Charity Accountability: Understanding Disclosure of Serious Incidents’ *Accounting Forum*, 43(1), 42-61.
- McDonnell, D., & Rutherford, A. C. (2018).** ‘The Determinants of Charity Misconduct’ *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 47(1), 107-125.
- McDonnell, D. (2017).** ‘Improving Charity Accountability: Lessons From the Scottish Experience’ *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 46(4), 725-746.
- McDonnell, D. (2011).** ‘Co-operative Study and E-Learning: Lessons from Nova Scotia’ *Journal of Co-operative Studies*, 44(3), 97-103.

#### *Book Chapters*

- McDonnell, D., Rutherford, A., & Mohan, J. (2022).** The impact of COVID-19 on the formation and dissolution of charitable organisations. In J. Rees, R. Macmillan, C. Dayson, C. Damm, C Bynner (Eds.). *COVID-19 and the Voluntary and Community Sector in the UK: Responses, Impacts and Adaptation*. Bristol: Policy Press.
- McDonnell, D., & Rutherford, A. C. (2022).** Researching risk in the voluntary sector: The challenges and opportunities of regulatory data. In J. Dean, E. Hogg (Eds.). *Researching Voluntary Action: Innovations and Challenges*. Bristol: Policy Press.
- Edwards, R., **McDonnell, D.**, Simpson, I. & Wilson, A. (2017). Educational backgrounds, project design and inquiry learning in citizen science. In C. Herodotou, M. Sharples, E. Scanlon (Eds.). *Citizen Inquiry: A fusion of citizen science and inquiry learning*. London: Taylor & Francis.
- McDonnell, D., & Macknight, E. (2015).** Policy, principles, and practice: co-operative studies in higher education. In T. Woodin (Ed.). *Co-operation, Learning and Co-operative Values: Contemporary Issues in Education* (pp. 142-160). London: Taylor & Francis.

#### *Books*

- McDonnell, D., Macknight, E., & Donnelly, H. (2012).** *Democratic Enterprise: Ethical business for the 21<sup>st</sup> century*. Glasgow: Co-operative Education Trust Scotland.
- McDonnell, D., & Macknight, E. (Eds.). (2012).** *The Co-operative Model in Practice: International perspectives*. Glasgow: Co-operative Education Trust Scotland.

#### *Reports*

- McDonnell et al., (2021).** *Smaller charities, SORP and issues of financial accounting and reporting*. Research report for Power to Change, Lloyds Bank Foundation, and Charities Aid Foundation.
- McDonnell, D., & Rutherford, A. (2019).** *Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIO): An Empirical Review*. Report for Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

- McDonnell, D.**, Thomson, H., McVie, S., Gayle, V., MacInnes, J., & Johnstone, S. (2018). *Data Science: Training and Capacity Building and the Industrial Strategy*. Report for Economic and Social Research Council, Award No. ES/R006334/1.
- McDonnell, D.**, Punch, S., & Small, C. (2017). *Individual Wellbeing and Bridge: An Empirical Analysis*. English Bridge Education & Development (EBED).

## TEACHING

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### University courses

- 2021            **Module Co-ordinator**, University of the West of Scotland:
- *Data Analysis for the Social Sciences [SOCY09055]*
  - *Foundations of Quantitative Research Methods [SOCY08022]*
- 2018            **Teaching Assistant**, *Longitudinal Data Analysis*, University of Edinburgh
- 2014-2017    **Teaching Assistant and Guest Lecturer**, University of Stirling
- *Quantitative Data Analysis*
  - *Research Process I – Qualitative*
  - *Research Process II – Quantitative*
  - *Contemporary Social Issues in Practice*
  - *Responsible and Participative Management*

### Short courses

I have developed and delivered a range of short courses for early career researchers, faculty and non-academic researchers in particular.

- 2022            *Creative and Computational Methods for Working with Digital Footprint Data*, Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities / Scottish Graduate School of Social Sciences
- 2021            *Social Network Analysis*, Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research and Data
- 2021            *Web scraping to build social research data*, National Centre for Research Methods
- 2020            *Longitudinal Data Analysis for Social Scientists*, Bristol Doctoral College
- 2020            [Essex Summer School course]
- 2020            UK Data Service, University of Manchester
- *Web-scraping for Social Science Research*
  - *Programming for Social Science Research*
  - *Being a Computational Social Scientist*
  - *Social media/network Data*

- 2017-2019      AQMEN, University of Edinburgh:
- *Data Wrangling - Organising and Enabling Data* [[link here](#)]
  - *Predictive Analytics* [[link here](#)]
  - *Data Visualisation* [[link here](#)]
- 2017              EDINA, University of Edinburgh
- *Handling Data Management using SPSS*
  - *Statistical Literacy*
  - *Research Data Management*

### Online learning materials

- 2021              *Web-scraping and Covid-19*, National Centre for Research Methods  
[\[https://www.ncrm.ac.uk/resources/online/all/?id=20782\]](https://www.ncrm.ac.uk/resources/online/all/?id=20782)

### RECENT AWARDS AND HONORS

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- 2017, 2018      Campbell Adamson Award for Best Paper, Voluntary Sector Studies Network Conference.
- 2016              Doctoral Fellow (\$3,000). Centre for Social Impact Strategy, University of Pennsylvania.

### ACADEMIC CITIZENSHIP

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#### *Referee / Reviewer*

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly; Voluntary Sector Review; Nonprofit Management and Leadership.  
 Reviewer for KU Leuven C2 funding proposals.

#### *Appointments*

Trustee of Voluntary Sector Studies Network.

Member of the Academy of Management's award committee for the best article in 2021 in the area of public and nonprofit management.

Member of the Outstanding Article in Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly (NVSQ) 2020 Committee.

Convenor of 'Academics and regulators and proxies for the public interest' SORP engagement strand.

#### *Faculty*

Global Opportunities Co-ordinator, Department of Social Sciences (2021 -).

PhD Representative, Faculty of Social Sciences at University of Stirling (2015).