**KATHARINE E. MEYER**

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**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

2019 - present Postdoctoral Research Associate

Annenberg Institute, Brown University

\*Affiliate, Taubman Center for American Politics and Policy

2017 - present Research Affiliate, Nudge4 Solutions Lab, University of Virginia

**EDUCATION**

2019 PhD Education Policy; University of Virginia

*Dissertation*: “Resource and Information Gaps: Policies Affecting

Academic Trajectories”

*Dissertation Committee*: Benjamin Castleman (chair), Daphna Bassok,

Sally Hudson, James Wyckoff

2016 Master of Public Policy (MPP); University of Virginia

2014 MEd Research, Statistics, and Evaluation; University of Virginia

2010 BA Government; University of Virginia

**FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS**

2020 Emerging Education Policy Scholar

2014-2018 Institute of Education Sciences, Virginia Education Science Training

Pre-doctoral Fellowship

November 2018 Association for the Study of Higher Education,

Graduate Student Policy Seminar pre-conference workshop

Summer 2016 Harvard Business School BIG Ideas Graduate Student Workshop

**PUBLICATIONS**

Castleman, B. L., & Meyer, K. (accepted) Can Text Message Nudges Improve Academic Outcomes in College? Evidence from a West Virginia Initiative. *Review of Higher Education*

Page, L. C., Castleman, B. L., & Meyer, K. (2019). Customized nudging to improve FAFSA completion and income verification. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*

Castleman, B. L., & Meyer, K. (2019) Financial Constraints and Collegiate Student Learning: A Behavioral Economics Perspective. *Daedalus, 148*(4) [[open access](https://www.amacad.org/publication/financial-constraints-collegiate-student-learning-behavioral-economics-perspective)]

Meyer, K., & Rosinger, K. O. (2019) Applying behavioral insights to improve postsecondary outcomes: A review of Obama administration efforts and next steps under the Trump administration. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, 38*(2), 481-499.

Castleman, B. L., Meyer, K., Sullivan, Z., Hartog, W. D., & Miller, S. (2017). Nudging students beyond FAFSA: The impact of university outreach on financial aid behaviors and outcomes. *Journal of Student Financial Aid, 47*(3).

**BOOK CONTRIBUTIONS**

Castleman, B. L., & Meyer, K. (2017). Nudges, norms, and navigation: Behavioral insights to improve student success. In R. S. Feldman (Ed.), *The first year of college: Research, theory, and practice on improving the student experience and increasing retention*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

**WORKING PAPERS**

Rosinger, K. O., Meyer, K., & Wang, J. (invited special issue submission). “Leveraging Insights from Behavioral Science to Reduce Administrative Burden in Free College Policies.”

Meyer, K., Rodriguez, D., Bird, K., & Castleman, B. “Stacking the Deck for Employment Success: Labor Market Returns to Stackable Credentials.”

Castleman, B.L., Meyer, K., & Page, L. (mimeo). “Design and Implementation in Nudging: Insights from a Statewide Financial Aid Intervention.”

Meyer, K. (dissertation chapter). “The effect of school counselors on student discipline: Evidence from a regression discontinuity.”

Meyer, K. (dissertation chapter). “Do small price changes affect college enrollment? Evidence on college commitment deposits”

**GRANTS**

Brooklyn Public Library Engagement Project. Heckscher Foundation. $400,000. 2018-2020.

**CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS**

How information affects students’ interest in colleges: Results from a randomized control trial of a college search interface (with Ben Castleman and Cait Lamberton)

* Examining how small variations in the presentation of information about a college affect students’ interest in and sense of fit with that institution (~ 5,000 participants)

Reducing SNAP benefit churn (with Susanna Loeb)

* Applying behavioral science insights to reduce SNAP “churn” (temporary benefits lapse) through proactive outreach and process simplification
* Partner agencies: Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance

The effects of parental outreach on preschool attendance

* Developing pilot intervention to evaluate effectiveness of different messaging campaigns to increase preschool and early grades attendance
* Partner agencies: Urban Community Schools (Cleveland, OH)

Lessons from the library: Improving youth library engagement (with Ben Castleman and Ariel Kalil)

* Funded by Heckscher Foundation; developing and evaluating interventions to nudge book returns, fine repayment, and youth/family engagement with library services
* Partner agencies: Brooklyn Public Library

First Year Forward: The effects of virtual mentoring and timely nudges on college persistence (with Ben Castleman and Zack Mabel)

* Designed college-advising interventions for first-year students. Launched RCT of three interventions in fall 2016 and revised RCTs in fall 2017 and 2018 (~900 students per cohort)
* Partner agencies: College Summit/Peer Forward

The labor market returns to “stackable credentials” (with Daniel Rodriguez, Ben Castleman, and Kelli Bird)

* Evaluating the labor market returns to individuals who “stack” credentials in Virginia
* Partner agencies: Virginia Community College System

Design and Effect: Examining the relationship between “free college” program design and student outcomes (with Kelly Ochs Rosinger)

* Evaluating the extent to which behavioral science informs the design of free college programs and how design variation affects student outcomes

**SELECT PRESENTATIONS**

*Stacking the Deck for Employment Success: Labor Market Returns to Stackable Credentials*(with Daniel Rodriguez, Ben Castleman, and Kelli Bird)

AEFP annual conference, Dallas, TX March 2020

*How information affects students’ interest in colleges: Results from a randomized control trial of a college search interface*

AEFP annual conference, Kansas City, MO March 2019

*Lessons from the Library: Leveraging public institutions and behavioral insights to improve adolescent outcomes*

APPAM annual conference, Washington, DC Nov. 2018

*How do guidance counselors affect student outcomes? Evidence from state student/counselor ratio policies.*

AEFP annual conference, Portland, OR March 2018

AEFP annual conference, Washington, DC March 2017

*Summer Reading Connection: Engaging student learning through technology*

APPAM annual conference, Chicago, IL Nov. 2017

*Can Text Message Nudges Improve Academic Outcomes in College? Evidence from a West Virginia Initiative* (with Benjamin Castleman)

APPAM student regional conference, Washington, DC. April 2016

AEFP annual conference, Denver, CO March 2016

APPAM annual conference, Miami, FL Nov. 2015

*Nudging students beyond FAFSA: The impact of university outreach on financial aid behaviors and outcomes* (with Benjamin Castleman and Zachary Sullivan)

APPAM annual conference, Washington, DC Nov. 2016

AEFP annual conference, Denver, CO March 2016

*AP is IN: The Impact of Standardizing Postsecondary Acceptance of Advanced Placement Credit in Indiana*

APPAM student regional conference, Washington, DC April 2016

APPAM annual conference (poster), Miami, FL Nov. 2015

VERA annual conference, Charlottesville, VA Sept. 2015

**RESEARCH AND POLICY EXPERIENCE**

2014 – 2019 Research assistant to Benjamin L. Castleman, University of Virginia

Summer 2016 Research intern, Virginia Department of Education Office of Research

2009 – 2012 Research assistant to Carolyn Callahan, University of Virginia

**TEACHING – COURSES**

Spring 2018 EDLF 1200: Evaluating Social Innovation (Evaluation: 4.61/5)

Co-instructor with Daphna Bassok

Fall 2016 EDLF 2050: What the Innovators Do: Strategies to Transform the

Lives of Youth (Evaluation: 4.45/5)

Co-instructor with Benjamin Castleman

**TEACHING – WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES**

January 2019 Policy Memo Writing

*Two day workshop for IES pre-doctoral fellows; co-facilitator*

*with Virginia Deputy Secretary of Education*

July 2018 Undergraduate workshop: Resumes/CVs

July 2017 Undergraduate workshop: Quantitative Methods Overview

May 2017 Behavioral Science and Nudge Interventions in Education

*Two day conference for IES pre- and post-doctoral fellows, co-facilitator*

March 2017 Behavioral Insights to Improve Community College Success

*Workshop at Washington State Community College, co-facilitator*

July 2015, 2016 Undergraduate workshop: Communicating research in

clear and compelling ways

**SERVICE**

Journal Reviews *AERA: Open*; *Behavioural Public Policy*; *Economics of Education Review*;

*Education Evaluation and Policy Analysis*; *Educational Policy*;

*Educational Researcher*; *Studies in Higher Education*

Conference Reviews Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness Conference (2020)

Curry Research Conference (2015, 2016)

2016-2019 Member, Curry School Student Travel Committee

2015-2016 Logistics co-chair, Curry Research Conference

**SELECT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS**

2018 R; Advanced R; Missing Data

2017 Data Visualization in Stata

2016 Field Experiments; Value Added Modeling; Hierarchical Linear Modeling

2015 Statistical Mediation & Moderation

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)

Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)

Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE)

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2012-2014 External Affairs Coordinator, University of Virginia

2010-2012 Faculty Affairs Coordinator, University of Virginia

**NON-REFEREED WRITING**

Page, L. C., Castleman, B. L., & Meyer, K. “The gift of time: The opportunity and benefit of early FAFSA filing.” *The Brookings Institution Brown Center Chalkboard*, October 2016.

Meyer, K. “Studying first-generation college students.” *Sense About Science: Epistemically Challenged Series*, May 16, 2016.

**SELECT PRESS CITATIONS**

Education Week. [You Want More Students Applying for Financial Aid? Bring in Michelle Obama](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/high_school_and_beyond/2017/07/michelle_obama_visits_boost_fafsa_completion_rate.html?cmp=soc-edit-tw). July 2017.

The Atlantic. [The FAFSAs Midterm Grade: Changes intended to make filing for financial aid easier were accompanied by major structural hiccups.](https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2017/03/fafsas-midterm-grade/521523/?utm_source=atltw) April 2017.

Charleston Gazette-Mail. [Students complete more credits due to text reminders, research shows](http://www.wvgazettemail.com/news-education/20160724/students-complete-more-credits-due-to-text-reminders-research-shows). July 2016.