

KARLA FETTICH, PHD

I am enthusiastic about using my skills, expertise and time to make a lasting positive impact in the community. Professionally, my work seeks to improve healthcare for aging individuals, and has [earned an Excellence in Technology Award for Dignity in Long-Term Care](#). Personally, I coordinate efforts to [increase diversity in the Philadelphia data science community](#), [reduce the number of homeless animals in the city](#) and [facilitate care and recovery for those experiencing opioid addiction](#).

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CONTACT

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🐦 [kfettich](https://twitter.com/kfettich)

🔗 github.com/kfettich

I speak several languages including German (native), Romanian (native), French (basic) and Spanish (basic).

SKILLS

R	
RMarkdown	
SPSS	
Shiny Dashboards	
Python	
Jupyter Notebooks	
SQL	
NoSQL	

EDUCATION

- 2016 | 2011**
 - **PhD, Psychology Neuroscience**
 - Temple University 📍 Philadelphia, PA
 - Dissertation: [Coordinated neuromorphology in the development of social information processing](#)
 - Advanced Training Institute on Exploratory Data Mining in Behavioral Research
- 2009 | 2008**
 - **MA, Social Sciences (Psychology)**
 - The University of Chicago 📍 Chicago, IL
 - Thesis: [Predictors of Suicidality: Experiences of weight-related stigma in candidates for bariatric surgery](#)
- 2005 | 2002**
 - **BA, Psychology**
 - Jacobs University Bremen 📍 Bremen, Germany
 - **Certificates**
 - Coursera 📍 Online
 - Azure Machine Learning Studio: [Predictive Modeling](#), [Machine Learning Pipelines](#), [Deep Learning Inference](#)

ANALYTICS & DATA SCIENCE

- present | 2021**
 - **Senior Data Scientist**
 - AmeriHealth Caritas 📍 Newtown Square, PA

2021
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2015

● Head of Analytics & Algorithm Development

Orchestrall, Inc.

📍 Conshohocken, PA

- Lead healthcare data science consulting projects to derive insights from clinical data and multidisciplinary teams
- Develop and test predictive models for operational implementation
- Select optimal tools for statistical modeling, including decision trees, logistic regression, conditional inference forests, multiple imputation
- Develop algorithms to power intelligent healthcare applications for the senior care market, including outcome prediction, anomaly detection, and logistics optimization
- Conduct end-to-end analyses including study design, data identification/collection, ETL, analysis, and communication of findings
- Implement analytical models into production through collaborations with the software development team



RESEARCH

2016
|
2013

● Graduate Research Assistant

Neurocognition Lab

📍 Temple University

- Introduced and applied machine learning techniques (e.g. support vector machines, multivoxel pattern analysis, graph theory, network analysis) and high performance computing tools to advance neuroimaging research
- Assessed new data sources for value creation, attracting new research opportunities through a large, multi-site research network
- Evaluated and communicated technical advantages and tradeoffs between statistical models
- Solved difficult, non-routine analysis problems using large, complex data sets
- Provided guidance with data analysis and coding to research assistants

2013
|
2011

● Graduate Clinical Research Assistant

Mechanisms of Affect Dysregulation Lab

📍 Temple University

- Supported and executed a wide range of clinical psychology studies including survey research, clinical treatment trials, neuroimaging studies, and secondary data research
- Designed and conducted a neuroimaging research study assessing affective risk factors in clinical populations
- Collaborated with the research coordinator, graduate and undergraduate students, as well as researchers from other sites to deliver high-quality peer-reviewed publications and academic conference presentations

2011
|
2009

- **Lead Clinical Research Coordinator**
Adult Eating and Weight Disorders Clinic 📍 The University of Chicago
 - Planned and conducted statistical analyses of cross-sectional, time series, epidemiological, health outcomes and clinical data
 - Optimized clinical participant recruitment and retention through data analytics
 - Coordinated recruitment, screening, intake, assessment, treatment and follow-up stages several research projects, including a large NIMH-funded clinical trial and pilot studies using psychophysiological data (fMRI, RSA)
 - Contributed to manuscript preparation for peer-reviewed publications and gave conference presentations

I have extensive experience with academic research, including clinical trials and studies using neuroimaging and psychophysiological data.



TEACHING

2014

- **Graduate Teaching Assistant and Lab Instructor**
Statistics 📍 Temple University
 - Taught weekly introductory statistics lab sections (75 undergraduate students) with positive student feedback
 - Provided one-on-one tutoring and exam preparation on an as-needed basis
 - Administered and corrected exams and liaised between students and the course instructor



LEADERSHIP

present
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2020

- **Partner Organization Liaison**
[PAWS Animal Returns & Clinic No-Shows](#) 📍 R-Ladies Philadelphia
 - Work with the Philadelphia Animal Welfare Society's Director of Operations to understand their needs and translate them into relevant analytics projects
 - Collaborate with project leader and team members and provide input on analyses and interpretations
 - Conduct ad-hoc analyses and data exploration

I enjoy learning via hands-on projects that have a real and positive impact, and I seek to create opportunities to make this type of learning available to the wider community.

present
|
2019

- **Project Leader**
[PAWS Data Pipeline with Code for Philly](#) 📍 Code for Philly
 - Lead a team to create a [360-degree view of PAWS' constituents](#) to help development and operations
 - Work closely with project management team, peer data scientists, engineers, developers and Philadelphia Animal Welfare Society representatives to build a data lake
 - Oversee team efforts in data processing, cleansing, and verifying data integrity

present
|
2018



Organizer

[R-Ladies Philadelphia](#)

📍 Philadelphia, PA

- Work to increase gender diversity in the data science community in Philadelphia
- Create learning, networking and leadership opportunities for over 1000 members via monthly meetups focused on R and collaborations with other data groups in the city

2020



Organizer

[Opioid Epidemic Data Science Collaboration](#)

📍 R-Ladies Philadelphia, Code for Philly

- Collaborated with organizing team to develop vision, strategy and infrastructure for hackathon, and ensure successful event planning
- Identify relevant data sources and preprocess data provided by partner organizations
- Oversee teams and ensure that they are on track for the project deadlines

2019
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2018



Datathon Project Leader

[2018 Volunteer Engagement](#) and [2019 Animal Adoptions](#)

📍 R-Ladies Philadelphia

- Consulted with Philadelphia Animal Welfare Society representatives to articulate business questions and translate them into viable analytics projects for volunteer data scientists
- Designed hackathon and managed the end-to-end process, from initial discussions with PAWS, recruitment of volunteers, ongoing monitoring and coordination of work, and final report editing and completion
- Ensured that statistically-derived insights were translated into clear and actionable business recommendations



VOLUNTEER WORK

present
|
2016



Volunteer, Mentor

[Philadelphia Animal Welfare Society \(PAWS\)](#)

📍 Philadelphia, PA

- Help with dog care and train new volunteers on all aspects of dog care volunteer shifts



SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

2019



[The interactive effects of peers and alcohol on functional brain connectivity in young adults](#)

NeuroImage

2017



[At risk of being risky: The relationship between “brain age” under emotional states and risk preference](#)

Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience

2016



[Amygdala hyperactivation to angry faces in intermittent explosive disorder](#)

Journal of Psychiatric Research

- 2014 ● **Emotion regulation deficits in intermittent explosive disorder**
Aggressive Behavior
- 2013 ● **Loneliness mediates the relationship between emotion dysregulation and bulimia nervosa/binge eating disorder psychopathology in a clinical sample**
Eating and Weight Disorders
- 2012 ● **Coping With Obesity Stigma Affects Depressed Mood in African-American and White Candidates for Bariatric Surgery**
Obesity
- 2012 ● **Correlates of Suicidal Ideation and/or Behavior in Bariatric-Surgery-Seeking Individuals With Severe Obesity**
Crisis
- 2012 ● **Factors Associated with Suicide Ideation in Severely Obese Bariatric Surgery-Seeking Individuals**
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior