

DECEMBER 2025

OFFICE OF
ACADEMIC
SCHOLARSHIP

RESEARCH ABSTRACT



OAS Presents: Rethinking Scholarship in the AI Era

The Office of Academic Scholarship (OAS) recently held a panel discussion exploring the ways in which artificial intelligence is reshaping the research landscape, uncovering new opportunities, and challenging traditional notions of integrity and innovation.

Featuring distinguished experts, the session explored where we are in the wild, wild west of artificial intelligence as we contemplate AI's impact on academia – how we think about and conduct research and how we publish.

Our expert panel included:

- [Dr. Tracy Greene](#)
- [Dr. Kasi Guillot](#)
- [Dr. Bora Pajo](#)
- [Dr. Valerie Storey](#)

Moderated by [Dr. Kelly Renner](#)

Anyone who is interested in watching the discussion may view the video via FUSE (Franklin University Scholarly Exchange) at the following link: [Rethinking Scholarship in the AI Era](#).

The OAS is planning additional sessions on how AI is changing the academic world. We will share details of future events in the spring term.

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A Cautionary Tale for Researchers: Verify Before You Cite

Amanda Karch, Doctoral Student, EdD–Organizational Leadership
Dr. Valerie A. Storey, Ph.D., M.Ed., Adjunct Faculty

While conducting research for a paper, I reviewed an article I had located through the Franklin Library. During my reading, I came across a reference to another article that appeared particularly relevant to my topic. I copied the title and quickly found it through a general Google search. I did not think it necessary to return to the library portal, as I assumed that an article cited within a legitimate, peer-reviewed publication would be credible.

As I began reading the second article, I attempted to consult one of its cited references for further detail. To my surprise, I could not locate a reference in the bibliography that corresponded to the in-text citation I was examining. Initially, I dismissed this as a minor oversight, as occasional citation errors do occur even in reputable journals. However, when I encountered the same issue multiple times—citations with no corresponding references—I decided to verify the entire reference list. Astonishingly, while a small number of citations matched correctly, approximately 90% did not correspond to any verifiable sources.

At this point, I became highly suspicious of the article's legitimacy and reached out to my professor for guidance. Upon her suggestion, I investigated the publisher's background. The publisher's website claimed that its journal was peer-reviewed; however, it also advertised that accepted manuscripts could be published within mere days of submission—a timeline inconsistent with rigorous peer review. Furthermore, when I searched for the article through the Franklin Library, it was not found in the database.

This experience served as a critical reminder that even a reference appearing within a legitimate scholarly source does not guarantee the authenticity or credibility of the material it cites. Predatory journals and deceptive publishers continue to proliferate in the AI era, often masquerading as reputable outlets.

Why this matters

Relying on unverifiable sources can introduce false or fabricated information into your work and—even unintentionally—lead to academic misconduct such as plagiarism. We must guard the integrity of our citations and the data we rely on.

What you can do

1. Verify journal indexing (ERIC, Scopus, Web of Science, or your library catalog).
2. Review the journal's peer-review policies — be skeptical of "publish in days" claims.
3. Cross-check a sample of references before relying on a source.
4. Contact a librarian if something appears to be incorrect.

Protecting scholarly integrity starts with careful source verification.

Find Instruments for Research with APA PsycTests

What is APA PsycTests?

The [Franklin University Library](#) has added a new database, APA PsycTests, to help researchers who are looking for instruments to use in their research. APA PsycTests provides information about, and access to, instruments that can be used in research including unpublished tests, test batteries, surveys, and questionnaires.

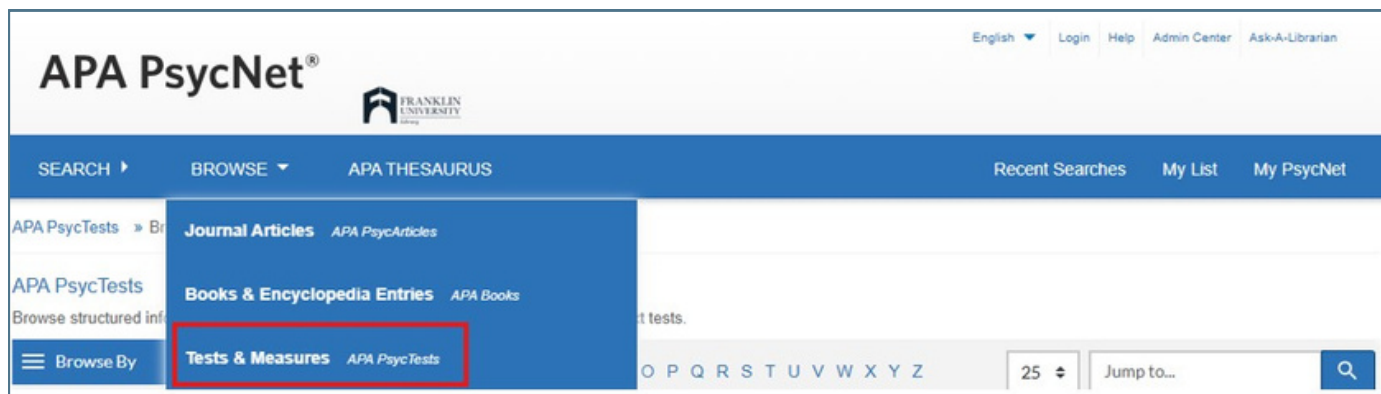
In addition to the instrument type, you can find the description and purpose of the instrument, along with permissions. APA PsycTests also provides information about the test's reliability, validity, and factor analysis.

- Many of the instruments are provided in the database, along with information about the conditions for using the instrument.
- If the instrument is available through the database, you will see a "pdf" button which you can click on to access the instrument.
- If you want to limit your search to instruments you can access through the database, be sure to select the "test available" option by clicking in the checkbox just below the search terms in the advanced search field.
- Where the instrument is not provided, contact information for the author is provided so you can contact them to request permission.
- Before using an instrument, be sure to check the permissions field to see if it says "may use for research/teaching"; otherwise, you may need to find the author/publisher contact information and request permission from the appropriate party (who needs to be contacted for permission should be listed in the permissions field).

Access APA PsycTests Through the Franklin University Library

APA PsycTests is included in the library's [APA PsycNet database](#). Once you are in APA PsycNet, you can access APA PsycTests either by the browse or search features.

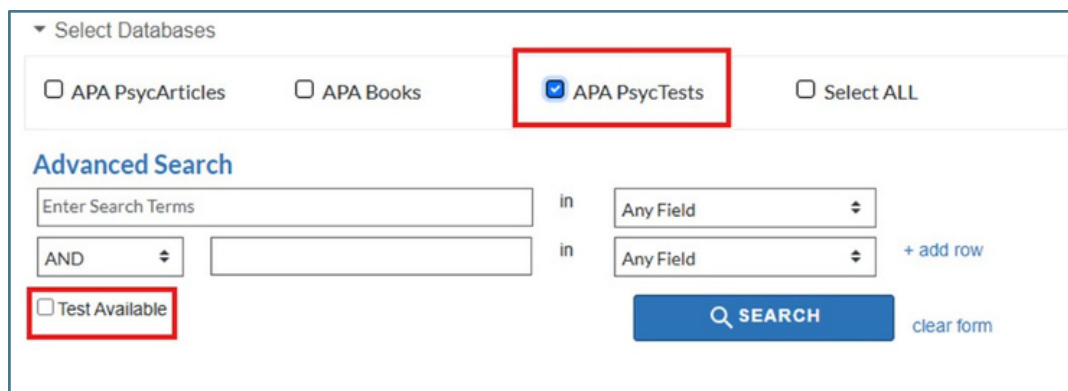
To access APA PsycTests by browse, use the "browse" link on the top menu, and select "tests & measures":



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Find Instruments for Research with APA PsycTests

Alternately, you can search for a test using the search box on the APA PsycNet home page. Before searching, click on the arrow next to "select databases" and limit your search to just APA PsycTests. You can also limit your search to items you will be able to access through APA PsycTests by selecting the checkbox next to "test available":



The screenshot shows the APA PsycNet search interface. At the top, there is a 'Select Databases' section with four options: 'APA PsycArticles', 'APA Books', 'APA PsycTests' (which is selected and highlighted with a red box), and 'Select ALL'. Below this is the 'Advanced Search' section. It includes a text input field for 'Enter Search Terms', a dropdown menu for 'in' with 'Any Field' selected, and another dropdown menu for 'in' with 'Any Field' selected. There is also a '+ add row' link. Below the search fields, there is a checkbox labeled 'Test Available' which is highlighted with a red box. To the right of the search fields is a blue 'SEARCH' button and a 'clear form' link.

Filter APA PsycNet Results

You can apply filters – either on the search screen or from the left side of the results screen. You can use the filters to narrow your search to the type of material you are interested in. For example:

- the "instrument type" filter can be used to limit to a specific instrument such as inventory/questionnaire, test, or survey;
- the "permissions" filter can be used to limit to "may use for research/teaching" or instruments requiring you to contact the author and/or publisher for permission;
- there is also a "fee" filter which can be used to select items where there is a fee, isn't a fee, or it's unknown if there is a fee -- however, this filter is only available on the initial search screen and does not appear as a filter on the search results page.

Video Tutorials

The APA has provided a number of video tutorials to help you understand and use APA PsycTests:

- [Finding Tests in APA PsycTests: Using the APA PsycNet Platform](#)
- [Explore Test Metadata \(APA PsycTests Video\)](#)
- [Filter by Instrument Type \(APA PsycTests Video\)](#)
- [Filter by Methodology \(APA PsycTests Video\)](#)
- [Finding Reliability, Validity, and Factor Analysis \(APA PsycTests Video\)](#)
- [Identify Sources Used \(APA PsycTests Video\)](#)
- [Set up a Topic Alert \(APA PsycTests Video\)](#)

Doctoral Student Association (DSA) News

SAVE THE DATE: 2026 Doctoral Student Association Conference

Research in Action: From Literature to Life – Where Will Your Research Take You?

Embarking in research means more than contributing to academic literature – it means generating insights that can shape decisions, influence practice, and create meaningful change. This year's Doctoral Student Association Conference, Research in Action: From Literature to Life, invites you to explore the powerful journey from scholarly inquiry to real-world impact. Please save the date and join us! More information will be forthcoming.

When:

- **Friday, March 6 | 5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. (ET)**
- **Saturday, March 7 | 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. (ET)**

Where:

- **Zoom – details to follow**

DSA Spring 2026 Speaker Series

The DSA will continue their speaker series in the Spring 2026 term with twice monthly speakers. The January sessions topics are below (all times are Eastern Standard). The topics for other months will be sent out later via email by the DSA.

Thursday, January 8th at 12 noon: Marc Jaffy, Franklin University Scholarly Communications & Affordable Learning Librarian, will discuss library resources available to doctoral students including the APA PsycTests database.

Thursday, January 22nd at 7 p.m.: Doctoral students who have presented at prior DSA conferences will share their experiences.

February 2nd at 12 noon

February 19th at 7 p.m.

March 12th at 12 noon

March 26th at 7 p.m.

April 9th at 12 noon

April 23rd at 7 p.m.

DSA Writers Group

The DSA Writers Group meets every Saturday morning at **10:00 a.m.**. All are welcome! Bring your writing, questions, and expertise to share. This is a peer-to-peer experience; we are here to help and support each other. Please send any questions to [REDACTED]

Join Zoom Meeting [REDACTED]

Meeting ID: [REDACTED]



Fall 2025 Doctoral Graduates!

DBA

- **Dumile Anderson**, October 14 – “Strategizing Culture for Offshoring: An Examination Through the Lens of the Trompenaars Hampden-Turner Cultural Dimensions Model and Iceberg Theory”
- **Karuna Kothapalli**, November 10 – “Motor Impulsivity and Individual Behavior in Cloud Business: Privacy as a Mediator and Openness as a Personality Trait Shaping Security Dynamics”
- **Aryan Patel**, September 30 – “An Examination of the Effectiveness of the United States Coast Guard Training Programs Effective in Preparing Leaders for e-Leadership During COVID-19”

DHA

- **Erin Lynn Beebe**, November 14 – “Health Equity of Telehealth Use for Underserved Populations”
- **Cecily Jackson**, November 13 – “An Assessment of Access to Care: Telehealth Utilization at FQHCS in Alabama During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic”
- **Tiffany Le**, October 16 – “Resilience, Self-Efficacy, and the Lived Experiences of Caregiving for Family Members with Schizophrenia”
- **Rose Lokwang**, June 26 – “Navigating the Maze of the Healthcare System in the United States: An Insight Into the Experiences of African Refugees”

DPS

- **Jill Courtney**, August 29 – “Multimedia Professional Development for Stem Equity: A Mixed Methods Evaluation of Educators' Intentions Using the Theory of Planned Behavior”

EdD-OL

- **April Marie Casperson**, November 10 – “Adaptive Leadership Behaviors of United Methodist Lead Pastors and Their Impact on Church Growth: A Study of Medium and Large Congregations”
- **Amanda Cecil**, October 29 – “Assessing the Readiness to Support Students with ASD: Perspectives of Community College Front-Line Staff”

DNP

- **Margarida Barbosa-Barreiro**, October 22 – “Reducing Fall Risk in Older Adults Through Implementation of the CDC STEADI Toolkit”
- **Elizabeth Caslin**, October 22 – “Reducing Hospital-Acquired Pressure Injuries in Critical Care Using a Preventing Pressure Ulcers Data Tool”
- **Sherman Cotton**, October 22 – “Improving Pain Assessment Through Standardized Nursing Documentation After Bedside PEG Placement in a Critical Illness Recovery Hospital”
- **Tiffany Ealy**, October 22 – “Enhancing Nursing Documentation Accuracy for Female External Urinary Collection Devices Through Structured Documentation Huddles”
- **Tanya Fitzpatrick**, October 22 – “Improving Patient Portal Messaging Workflow”
- **Amanda Fout**, October 22 – “Eat Sleep Console Care for Infants with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: A Multi-Site Program Evaluation”
- **Regina Johnson**, October 22 – “Quality Improvement Initiative to Reduce Falls Among Geriatric Patients in the Inpatient Mental Health Setting”
- **Vernita Kelley**, October 22 – “Implementing a Sepsis Questionnaire to Reduce Readmissions...A Health Plan's Experience”
- **Jennifer London**, October 22 – “Reducing Aspiration Pneumonia by Implementing an Enhanced Oral Care Toolkit”
- **Chelsea Sopo-Ngwa**, October 22 – “Implementing a Standardized SSRI Tapering Protocol in the Outpatient Setting: A Quality Improvement Initiative to Enhance Provider Practice and Patient Safety”
- **Oluremi Omodara**, October 22 – “Implementing Pain Reassessment Workflow to Improve Timely Pain Management in Hospice Patients: A QI Project”
- **Lauren Poindexter**, October 22 – “Fall Reduction Utilizing Fall Tailored Intervention for Patient Safety in Acute Care”

Presentations

Dr. Laurie Babcock and **Dr. Michael Posey** co-presented "Atomic Aesthetics: Mid-Century Design and the American Psyche in the Age of Anxiety and Optimism" at the International Network of Nineteen-Fifties Culture (INNC) 3rd Annual Symposium, September 19, 2025. The virtual conference was hosted by Lund University, Sweden.

Dr. Mary Beth Babos presented the poster "Charting the Landscape: Drug Depletion of Vitamin B12" at the Pharmacy Technician Educator Council Conference in Columbus, Ohio on July 11, 2025.

Dr. Denise Bergstrom presented "On-demand Community College Course Creation" and co-presented the workshop "Cybersecurity Policy, Trust and Advocacy" at the Colloquium for Information Systems Security Education (CISSE). She also served on the panel "Community College – AI Influence".

Dr. Bergstrom also was interviewed by Taylor Bruck from Spectrum News 1 for the segment "Is your phone listening to you? Privacy settings you need to know", which aired November 6, 2025.

Dr. Denise Bergstrom and **Prof John Fulton** presented for CPSCSE – "Staying Safe Online: More Than Just Strong Passwords".

Dr. Brenda Jones presented "Navigating Cultural Identities in Accelerated Online Learning" at the ABC conference in October and "Mind the Gap! Closing Ethical Blind Spots with Better Training" at the virtual portion of the conference.

Dr. Jones also presented in two sessions at the National Communication Association Conference in Denver, Colorado, November 20-23, including a Great Ideas for Teaching session and a panel presentation titled "Empowering Entrepreneurs: The impact of communication training in University programs".

Dr. Michael Linville was a featured presenter at the November 9, 2025 International Leadership Association's virtual "Book Buzz" webinar.

Dr. Mike Posey presented "Get the Lead Out! Be a Leader, Not a Deadweight!" to an audience of about 60 people under the auspices of the Franklin University Leadership Center, November 6.

Dr. Kelly Renner served on a panel discussion titled "Facilitated Discussion: Faculty as Transfer Champions for We Are Champions: Making Plays for Transfer Success", presented by the SOCHE Articulation Council (virtual).

Dr. Isidoro Talavera presented his paper "The Self-Contradictory Nature of Artificial Intelligence and What Makes People Human: A Call for Critical Thinking" at the 2025 International Vincentian Business Ethics Conference (IVBEC), hosted by DePaul University in October.

Publications

Dr. Alisa Blazek co-authored the article "The Valemee Visual System Helps Reduce Risk for Chronic Illness by Promoting Physical Fitness, Self-Efficacy and Independence in Adults With Intellectual Disabilities" in the Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities.

Dr. Ray Forbes published the article "Coaching Fast-Coaching Slow: Leadership Coaching and Neuroscience" in Advances In Social Sciences Research Journal.

Dr. Brenda Jones submitted a 'My Favorite Assignment' piece to Business & Professional Communication Quarterly and will be included in their issue focused on career readiness. Her contribution is titled "Mind the Gap! Closing Ethical Blind Spots with Better Training". In the assignment, students apply ethical perspectives and professional codes of ethics to create workplace training.

Dr. Denise Kinsey-Bergstrom published the fourth edition of Network Security, Firewalls, and VPNs, a technology textbook.

Dr. Kelly Renner published the textbook chapter "Learning activities to teach mental tools and skills" in Equitable and innovative teaching practices for sport, exercise, and performance psychology educators, out in 2026.

Awards & Honors

Dr. Mary Beth Babos was appointed as a Field Reviewer for the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), a professional board.

Dr. Yi Yang is serving as a Fulbright Scholar Peer Review Committee member. For the 2025–26 review period, she reviewed 29 Fulbright Scholar applications from universities across the US.

Office of Academic Scholarship (OAS)

Learn more about the OAS by going to our website.

Get in touch with your published article, presentation, or other newsworthy scholarly accomplishment to share in our next newsletter!



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