

KAWIKA PIERSON, Ph.D., CMA

Atkinson Graduate School of Management
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Education

- 2011 MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, SLOAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
Doctor of Philosophy in Management, focus on System Dynamics and Accounting
- 2004 NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, Cum Laude

Academic Positions

- 2017-Now Associate Professor of Accounting and Quantitative Methods, Atkinson Graduate School of Management, Willamette University
- 2020-2021 Visiting Associate Professor at the National Taiwan University, College of Management, Global MBA
- 2011-2016 Assistant Professor of Accounting and Quantitative Methods, Atkinson Graduate School of Management, Willamette University

Publications

- 2022 Pierson, K., Thompson, J., and Thompson, F. (2022) Accounting for the State Fixed Effect for Municipal Cash Reserves: The Role of Financial and Institutional Variables. *Public Finance Review*, 50,169-205 doi: <https://doi.org/10.1177/10911421221094348>
- 2022 Maltz, E., & Pierson, K. (2022) Maximizing Corporate Social Innovation to Enhance Social and Shareholder Value: A Systems Thinking Model of Industry Transformation. *Journal of Business Research*, 138, 12-25. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusres.2021.08.071>
- 2021 Pierson, K., (2021) Using Geometry to Rank Evenness Measures: Towards a Deeper Understanding of Divergence. *Journal of Theoretical Biology*, 531, 110902 doi: 10.1016/j.jtbi.2021.110902
- 2020 Pierson, K., & Thompson, J. (2020) Leveraging Quasi-Experimental Methods to Estimate Model Structure: Understanding School Funding Changes in Response to Court Orders. *Systems*, 8(3), 25. doi: 10.3390/systems8030025
- 2020 Pierson, K. (2020). Operationalizing Accounting Reporting in System Dynamics Models. *Systems*, 8(1), 9. doi: 10.3390/systems8010009

- 2017 Thompson, F., Pierson, K., Hand, M. L., & Dothan, M. (2017). Is a Good Normative Model of Public Spending Run Backward a Good Positive Model? *Public Budgeting & Finance*, 37(2), 35-57. doi: 10.1111/pbaf.12121
Winner of the 2018 Jesse Burkhead Award for the best paper published in *Public Budgeting & Finance* in the preceding year.
- 2016 Pierson, K., & Blanc, T. (2016). The Operational Determinants of Utility Pole Decay and Optimal Replacement in the Pacific Northwest. *IEEE Transactions on Power Delivery*, 31(5), 2223 - 2230. doi: 10.1109/TPWRD.2016.2517043
- 2016 Pierson, K., & Thompson, F. (2016). How You Buy Affects What You Get: Technology Acquisition by State Governments. *Government Information Quarterly*, 33(3), 494–505. doi: 10.1016/j.giq.2016.06.003
- 2016 Thompson, F., Pierson, K., Walker, R. (2016). Property Tax Fairness in Multnomah County, Oregon. *California Journal of Politics and Policy*, 8(2) doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5070/P2cjpp8230561>
- 2015 Pierson, K., Hand, M.L., & Thompson, F. (2015). The Government Finance Database: A Common Resource for Quantitative Research in Public Financial Analysis. *PLoS ONE* 10(6): e0130119. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0130119
- 2015 Hand, M. L., Pierson, K., & Thompson, F. (2015). A Replication Study of “Why Do Cities Hoard Cash?” (The Accounting Review 2009). *Public Finance Review*, 44(5), 681-687 doi: 1091142115580130.
- 2015 Claus, L., Maletz, S., Casoinic, D., & Pierson, K. (2015). Social Capital and Cultural Adjustment of International Assignees in NGOs: Do Ego Networks Really Matter? *International Journal of Human Resource Management*, 26(20), 2523-2542. doi:10.1080/09585192.2014.1003083
- 2014 Pierson, K., Addona, V., & Yates, P. (2014). A Behavioural Dynamic Model of the Relative Age Effect. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, 32(8), 776-84, doi: 10.1080/02640414.2013.855804
- 2013 Pierson, K., & Sterman, J. D. (2013). Cyclical Dynamics of Airline Industry Earnings. *System Dynamics Review*, 29(3), 129-156. doi: 10.1002/sdr.1501

Papers Under Review

Pierson, K., Thompson, J., “Documenting a Non-Monotonic Relationship Between Diversity and Development that has Strengthened Over Time” under review at *Applied Economics Letters*.

Working Papers

Pierson, K., & Maltz, E. “A Dynamic Model of Corporate Social Innovation as Strategic Advantage”

Pierson, K., “Better Understanding Variety Diversity by Defining Quantity and Evenness as Separate Constructs: Moving Beyond Blau’s Index”

Pierson, K., “The Working Capital Management Policies of Taiwanese Firms.”

Pierson, K., Thompson, J., and Thompson, F., “Do What We Did Last Year but Don’t Stray Too Far From the Pack, the Role of Behavioral Heuristics in Explaining Municipal Reserve Balances”

Research Grants

- 2021 Taiwan Fellowship Program. Principal Investigator. The Working Capital Management Practices of Taiwanese Firms. NT\$480,000
- 2016 Dean's Research Grant, Willamette University. Principal Investigator. The Impact of Governance Structure on the Kurtosis of Local Government Spending Changes. \$2,650
- 2015 National Association of State Procurement Officers Grant. Co-Principal Investigator. How Strategic Acquisition Affects Results: Contracting Out Tax Administration to Specialized Providers by State Governments (NASPO001). \$40,172
- 2014 Hewlett Grant, Willamette University. Principal Investigator. Towards a Perpetual License to Use the People Express Management Flight Simulator. \$2,774

Conference Proceedings and Presentations

Refereed Presentations

- 2019 Pierson, K., & Thompson, J. Using Quasi-Experimental Methods to Estimate Model Structure. *International Conference of the System Dynamics Society*. Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- 2015 Pierson, K., & Thompson, F. How Strategic Acquisition Influences Results: Contracting out Tax Administration to Specialized Providers By US State Governments. *Public Management Research Association (PMRA) Conference*. Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2015 Pierson, K., Hand, M., & Thompson, F. The Government Finance Database: A Common Resource for Quantitative Research in Public Financial Analysis. *Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting*. Portland, Oregon.
- 2015 Pierson, K., Hand, M., & Thompson, F. The Government Finance Database: A Common Resource for Quantitative Research in Public Financial Analysis. *Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference*. Chicago, Illinois.
- 2014 Pierson, K. Cyclical Dynamics of Airline Industry Earnings. *POMS 25th Annual Conference*, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2013 Pierson, K. & Sterman, J. Cyclical Dynamics of Airline Industry Profits. *System Dynamics Winter Camp*. Austin, Texas.
- 2013 Pierson, K. Cycles in Casualty: An Examination of Profit Cycles in the Insurance Industry. *International Conference of the System Dynamics Society*, Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- 2009 Pierson, K. Cyclical Dynamics of Airline Industry Profits. *International Conference of the System Dynamics Society*. Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- 2007 Pierson, K. Modeling Markets (Poster Presentation). *International Conference of the System Dynamics Society*. Boston, Massachusetts.

Non-Refereed Presentations

- 2010 Pierson, K. Cycles in Casualty. *MIT-UAIbany-WPI PhD Colloquium Presentation*, Albany, New York.
- 2007 Pierson, K. System Identification. *MIT-UAIbany-WPI PhD Colloquium Presentation*, Albany, New York.

Courses Taught

Accounting for Managers
Business Dynamics: Systems Thinking and Modeling for a Complex World
Business Dynamics: Simulations for Strategy
Financial Statement Analysis

Honors and Awards

2018 Jesse Burkhead Award for the best article published in *Public Budgeting & Finance*.
2017 Member of the MIT Mystery Hunt Winning Team, wrote four puzzles for the 2018 Hunt.
2015 Jerry E. Hudson Award for Excellence in Teaching. Willamette University.
2014 Erdős Number: 4. Paul Erdős ⇒ James Baumgartner ⇒ Stanley Wagon ⇒ Vittorio Addona
2013 Included in the Laya and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Award for Senior House
2012 Award for Excellence in Teaching. Atkinson Graduate School of Management.
2009 Nominated for the Goodwin Medal for Conspicuously Effective Teaching. MIT
2009 Sloan School Best Teaching Assistant. MIT Sloan School of Management.
2009 Energy Fellowship. BP/MIT.
2006 Massachusetts Institute of Technology Presidential Award. MIT.
2006 Doctoral Fellowship. MIT Sloan School of Management.

Service

To the Institution

Faculty Adviser:

2013-2020 Atkinson Accounting Association

2017 Brought John DuFrene, former CFO of the Oregon Public Employee Retirement System, to speak on campus
2015 Helped organize a talk by Carman Lapointe, Under-Secretary-General for the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services

Committee Member:

2021-2022 Faculty Search Committee: Finance
2021-2022 Curriculum Committee

2017-2022 Faculty Personnel Committee
2019-2022 Student Affairs Committee
2016-2021 Willamette University Benefit Advisory Committee
2016-2021 Willamette University Retirement Plan Administrative Committee
2019-2020 Faculty Search Committee: Data Science, Committee Chair
2016-2019 Faculty Search Committee: Finance, Committee Chair
2011-2017 Assurance of Learning Committee
2012-2016 Faculty Search Committee: Accounting
2014-2015 Assistant/Associate Dean and Director of Admission EC/CC Search Committee
2013-2014 AGSM Representative on the Senior VP for Finance and Administration Search
2011-2014 Information Technology Committee
2011-2012 Research Committee

To the Profession

2008-2022 System Dynamics Conference Reviewer
2018 Reviewer for the International Conference on eDemocracy & eGovernment
2016-2017 American Accounting Association Western Regional Meeting Reviewer
2014 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois. Chair of a panel titled "Contracting for Public Services"

Journal Reviewer: System Dynamics Review, International Journal of Intercultural Relations, International Journal of Public Policy, Sustainability, Journal of Sports Sciences, Journal of Air Transport Management, International Public Management Journal, Sage Open, Tourism Management, IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management.

To the Community

Committee Member:

2019-2020 Oregon State Department of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority Audit Governance Committee Member
2017-2020 Oregon State Department of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority Audit Committee Member

Board of Directors:

2015-2017 Institute for Modern Government, Salem, Oregon

Presentations:

- 2017 Oregon Joint Use Association, gave an invited presentation on forecasting national electrical safety code violations. Representatives from several local utilities and pole licensees were in attendance. 1/18/2017
- 2016 Institute for Modern Government, Presentation of updated research findings surrounding non-child support accounts receivable. Eleven members of the IMG board were in attendance. 5/26/2016
- 2015 Oregon Department of Justice, Presentation of research findings surrounding non-child support accounts receivable. Erin McDaniel and Catherine Webber were in attendance. 10/06/2015
- 2015 Oregon Joint Use Association, gave an invited presentation on statistical auditing of electrical safety inspections to a meeting of the Oregon Joint Use Association. Representatives from the Oregon Public Utilities Commission, as well as employees of PGE, Comcast, Tillamook PUD, CenturyLink, Frontier, and PacifiCorp were in attendance. 1/21/2015

Professional Certifications

2014-Present Certified Management Accountant

Non-Academic Work

- 2007 Summer Analyst, Canyon Capital Partners, Buy-Side Analysis, Los Angeles, California
- 2006 Cash Trading Manager, Louis Dreyfus Inc., Commodity Trading, Beijing, China
- 2004-2005 Merchandiser, Louis Dreyfus Inc., Grain Trading, Kansas City, Missouri

Consulting

- 2014 GuideStar USA, Inc, Worked on a model of Guidestar's strategic options for dealing with a planned change to how the IRS reports form 990
- 2012-2013 GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc., Developed a model that helped GZA manage a leadership transition
- 2009-2010 Haley and Aldritch, Developed a model that helped H&A manage a leadership transition

Affiliations

American Accounting Association
System Dynamics Society
Institute of Management Accountants
Public Management Research Association
Western Social Science Association
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers

Academic References

Tim Johnson

Grace and Elmer Goudy Professor of Public Management and Policy Analysis, Director, Center for Governance and Public Policy Research

Atkinson Graduate School of Management, Willamette University

tjohnson@willamette.edu

Elliot Maltz

Emeritus Professor of Marketing

Atkinson Graduate School of Management, Willamette University

emaltz@willamette.edu

Debra Ringold

JELD-WEN Professor of Free Enterprise and Dean Emeritus

Atkinson Graduate School of Management, Willamette University

dringold@willamette.edu

Fred Thompson

Emeritus Professor of Public Management and Public Policy

Atkinson Graduate School of Management, Willamette University

fthomps@willamette.edu

John Sterman

Jay W. Forrester Professor of Management

Director, MIT System Dynamics Group

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

jssterman@mit.edu

Joseph P. Weber

George Maverick Bunker Professor of Management

Professor, Accounting

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

jpweber@mit.edu