

Alec N. Pappas

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Clemson University
Assistant Professor, Summer 2024-Present

Washington State University
Assistant Professor, Fall 2021-Summer 2024

RESEARCH INTEREST

The effects of social dynamics (e.g., social networks, social influence, social capital) on marketing outcomes like performance and turnover, and the precision with which we analyze those outcomes.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Pappas, Alec, Elena Fumagalli, Maria Rouziou, and Willy Bolander (2023), "More than Machines: The Role of the Future Retail Salesperson in Enhancing the Customer Experience," *Journal of Retailing*, 99 (4), 518-531.

Burchett, Molly, Rhett Epler, Alec Pappas, Maria Rouziou, Tim Butler, Willy Bolander, and Bruno Lussier (2023), "Charting the Course: A Framework for Networking across the Selling Ecosystem," *European Journal of Marketing*, forthcoming.

Pappas, Alec, Charles F. Hofacker, and Willy Bolander (2023), "Using a Strobelight Analysis to Examine Relationship Inconsistency," *Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science*, 51 (5), 1184-1189.

Pappas, Alec, Wyatt Schrock, Manoshi Samaraweera, and Willy Bolander (2023), "A Competitive Path to Cohesion: Multilevel Effects of Competitiveness in the Sales Force," *Journal of Personal Selling & Sales Management*, 43 (3), 222-240.

Bolander, Willy, Nawar N. Chaker, Alec Pappas, and Daniel R. Bradbury (2021), "Operationalizing Salesperson Performance with Secondary Data: Aligning Practice, Scholarship, and Theory," *Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science*, 49 (1), 462-481.

SELECTED RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

"Not All Networks are Created Equal: An Analysis of Network Creation and Centrality Effects on Performance and Turnover," Alec Pappas, Maria Rouziou, Bruno Lussier, Willy Bolander, and Chris Plouffe, preparing for submission at the *Management Science*.

Marketing literature has begun exploring the effects of intraorganizational network centralities on performance, often finding positive relationships between the two variables. Though, little is known about how to create these centralities, what their effects are on turnover, and which centrality is optimal to create. Our research addresses these questions by examining the longitudinal quantile regression effects of salesperson network centralities on performance; and we implement a Cox proportional hazard model to assess turnover outcomes stemming from network centralities. We also test the moderating effects of two important antecedent variables on

betweenness, closeness, and eigenvector centralities to determine the most effective networking practices. Our research provides guidance for managers about how to network effectively within the organization for the most beneficial outcomes.

“Handling a Crisis: Using a Natural Experiment to Assess Effective Responses to an Organizational Crisis,” Alec Pappas, Huanhuan Shi, and Willy Bolander, data collected and analysis in progress with intent to submit to the *Journal of Marketing*.

Using a mixture of survey data and longitudinal data from a CRM system, the authors analyze the individual differences between effective and ineffective performers during an organizational crisis using a natural experiment approach.

“The Progression of Burnout in the Sales Force,” Dayle Childs, Nick Lee, Alec Pappas, Belinda Dewsnap, and Bruno Lussier, preparing for submission to the *Journal of Marketing*.

Burnout is a significant issue, particularly in the sales role. Organizations struggle with retaining quality talent, and little is known about the unfolding of this process over time, and which managerial interventions are effective in mitigating burnout effects. Using two within-person data sets, we assess burnout from a within-person perspective in sales, assessing the stages of burnout, moderating individual (active coping) and managerial variables (positive and negative feedback), and outcomes of burnout on performance and turnover. Our findings allow us to guide managers on better intervention strategies to reduce burnout from manifesting.

“Influence(r): How Salespeople Influence Customers through Social Media,” Huanhuan Shi, Alec Pappas, and Willy Bolander, data collected and writing plan in development with intent to submit to the *Journal of Marketing*.

The role of micro influencers is gaining popularity, but research is yet to understand how salespeople can play a similar role. Using a mixture of scraped social media data, objective performance, and salesperson survey data, we explore the methods of influence salespeople use to garner interest and enhance performance.

“Signal or Noise: An Assessment of Salesperson Perceptions of Buying Signals in the RFP Process,” Kevin Chase, Wyatt Schrock, Alec Pappas, and Nawar Chaker, data collection in progress with intent to submit to the *Journal of Marketing*.

Many transactions that take place in B2B sales go through an RFP process. Buying firms often struggle to gain enough responses from sellers to provide meaningful competition between providers. In this research, we will use a combination of scraped secondary data from public RFP databases, interviews, and survey data to understand the RFP process using a dyadic perspective of buyer and seller. Our goal is to determine how buyers can signal to sellers more effectively to enhance the competitiveness of this process.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Marketing, 2021

Florida State University, Department of Marketing, College of Business

B.S., Marketing and Finance, 2015 Cum Laude
Florida State University, College of Business

DISSERTATION: “TOWARD AN INTEGRATED THEORY OF SOCIAL RELATIONS”

Dissertation Chair: Willy Bolander

Internal Committee Members: Mike Brady, Colleen Harmeling, Charles Nyce

External Committee Member: Christophe Van den Bulte (University of Pennsylvania)

Defended: June 23, 2021

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Charting the Uncharted,” Alec Pappas, Lisa Beeler, and Willy Bolander, presented in 2024 at the New Horizons Sales Pre-Conference, Summer AMA in Boston.

“The Future of the Retail Salesperson,” Alec Pappas, Elena Fumagalli, Maria Rouziou, and Willy Bolander, presented at the 2023 Reimagining the Retail Store in Boston.

“Using a Strobelight Analysis to Examine Relationship Inconsistency,” Alec Pappas, Charles Hofacker, and Willy Bolander, presented at the 2023 Global Sales Science Institute in Toronto.

“Automated Influence Tactics,” Deva Rangarajan, Alec Pappas, Bryan Hochstein, and Nawar Chaker, presented at the 2021 University Sales Center Alliance Spring Sales Series, Virtual.

“The Competitive Path to Cohesion,” Alec Pappas, Wyatt Schrock, Willy Bolander, and Manoshi Samaraweera, presented at the 2021 National Conference in Sales Management, Virtual.

“It’s Complicated: A Closer Look at Marketing Relationships,” Alec Pappas, Willy Bolander, Charles Hofacker, and Yaacov Petscher, presenting at the 2020 Southeast Marketing Symposium, The University of Mississippi (Cancelled – Coronavirus).

“Salesperson Performance Operationalization with Secondary Data,” Willy Bolander, Nawar Chaker, Alec Pappas and Daniel Bradbury, presented at the 2020 Winter AMA in San Diego.

“It’s Complicated: A Closer Look at Marketing Relationships,” Alec Pappas, Willy Bolander, Charles Hofacker, and Yaacov Petscher, poster session at the 2019 Florida Marketing Camp, University of Central Florida.

“Competing Toward Cohesion,” Alec Pappas, Manoshi Samaraweera and Willy Bolander, presented at the 2019 Southeast Marketing Symposium, The University of Memphis.

HONORARY APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS

USCA Research Proposal Grant (2020) \$2000, University Sales Center Alliance.

AMA Sales SIG Global Database (2019) \$2500, AMA Sales SIG.

SEF Grant Award for “Turnover Pandemic” (2019) \$5000, Sales Education Foundation.

Harold and Muriel Berkman Scholarship (2018) \$1000, Academy of Marketing Science.

TEACHING – WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Instructor, B2B Marketing.

Spring 2022 – Present (Average Course Evaluation – 4.65/5)

Instructor, Professional Sales.

Fall 2021 – Present (Average Course Evaluation – 4.68/5)

TEACHING – FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Instructor, Professional Selling.

Spring 2021 (Course Evaluation – 4.5/5).

Instructor, Basic Marketing Concepts.

Summer 2019, (Course Evaluation – 4.76/5)

Course Manager, Basic Marketing Concepts.

Online Course, Dr. Michael Brady (Summer 2018, Fall 2019-Spring 2021, 800 students).

Teaching Assistant, Basic Marketing Concepts.

Online Course, Dr. Michael Brady (Fall 2017-present, approximately 800 students/semester).

In-Person Course, Dr. Lucas Hopkins (Fall 2017-Spring 2018, approximately 300 students).

University Outstanding Teaching Assistant Nomination, Basic Marketing Concepts (Fall 2020).

SERVICE – WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Student Engagement Director, Washington State University Center for Professional Sales (Fall 2021-2024)

This role is responsible for the development of student interest and engagement in the sales program. The Student Engagement Director will speak in introductory business courses, coordinate with the Academic Success and Career Center, advise the WSU Sales Club, and facilitate corporate engagement with students at club meetings and career fairs. Success in this role will be measured by growth and sustained student engagement in the sales club, corporate partner reviews, and student enrollment in introductory sales courses.

Faculty Advisor, Washington State University Sales Club (Spring 2022-Summer 2024)

The WSU Sales Club offers an opportunity for students and corporate partners to connect through professional development sessions. As the faculty advisor, I was responsible for writing the constitution, registering the student organization, recruiting the executive board, recruiting club members, and organizing corporate guest speakers (approximately five per semester).

SERVICE – FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Online Subject Pool Manager, Florida State University Subject Pool (Fall 2019-Summer 2021).

Research Lab Assistant, Florida State University Behavioral Lab (Fall 2018- Summer 2021).

Sales Competition Assistant, International Collegiate Sales Competition, Orlando (2019).

Conference Assistant, Transformative Consumer Research Conference, Florida State University (2019).

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Editorial Review Board, Journal of Retailing

Ad Hoc Reviewer, Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science, Journal of Personal Selling and Sales Management, Journal of Marketing, Industrial Marketing Management

Sales SIG, American Marketing Association

Board of Advisors, Traq.ai

CODING PROJECTS

Network Analysis, Online web application created in R to assist researchers with conducting and visualizing network analysis. The goal of this application is to make network analysis more broadly accessible (simplified) to marketing audiences and enable marketing researchers to utilize network analysis in a wider variety of situations. To access the application, please click the following link: <https://pappas.shinyapps.io/NetworkAnalysis/>

Relationship Operationalization, Online web application created in R to assist researchers with assessing the appropriate distribution to use in a generalized linear model. This capability is paired with various visualization and normality assessments to make the process of determining the appropriate relationship operationalization (i.e., data distribution decision) more user-friendly. To access the application, please click the following link: <https://pappas.shinyapps.io/relationshipoperationalization>

Quantile Regression Web Application, Online web application created in R to assist researchers with running quantile regression analyses without the need to code. To access the application, please click the following link: <http://strobelight.shinyapps.io/strobelight/>.

Personal Website, I coded my personal website and currently maintain it using R: alecnpappas.com.

REFERENCES

Willy Bolander, *Professor of Industrial Distribution at Texas A&M University*

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Mike Brady, *Department Chair and Bob Sasser Professor of Marketing at Florida State University*

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Email: mbrady@cob.fsu.edu

Phone: 850-212-3893

Colleen Harmeling, *Dr. Persis E. Rockwood Associate Professor of Marketing at Florida State University*

Address: 821 Academic Way Tallahassee, FL 32306-1110

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Phone: 850-644-7449

Maura Scott, *Persis E. Rockwood Professor of Marketing at Florida State University*

Address: 821 Academic Way Tallahassee, FL 32306-1110

Email: mlscott@business.fsu.edu

Phone: 602-690-4990

Christopher Plouffe, *Gary W. Rollins Endowed Chair and Professor of Sales at The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga*

Address: 418-C Fletcher Hall, Dept. 6516, 615 McCallie Avenue Chattanooga, TN 37403-2598

Email: chris-plouffe@utc.edu

Phone: 850-728-3155

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Account Manager, July 2016-July 2017

MotionPoint

Managed the relationships of various Fortune 1000 companies by uncovering business needs, handling objections, and developing partnerships.

Mortgage Closer, December 2015-July 2016

Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

Managed a pipeline of approximately 70 loans per month in the greater Philadelphia metropolitan area.