

Mark Dynarski

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Positions

Pemberton Research

2010- President

Brookings Institution

2014- Senior Fellow (nonresident)

Bush Institute

2014- Research Fellow

Mathematica Policy Research

2008 - 2010 Vice President
2008 - 2010 Director, Center for Improving Research Evidence
2002 - 2008 Senior Fellow
1999 - 2009 Education Area Leader
1997 - 2008 Associate Director of Research
1988 - 1997 Senior Researcher

University of California, Davis

1987 - 1988 Associate Professor, Economics
1981 - 1987 Assistant Professor, Economics

Education

1982 Ph.D., Economics, The Johns Hopkins University
1980 M.A., Economics, The Johns Hopkins University
1977 B.A., Economics, State University of New York at Geneseo

Sketch of Experience

Directed and designed rigorous evaluations at the national level for 28 years. As education area leader at Mathematica, oversaw or directed more than \$100 million of winning proposals for education studies. Member of the senior team that designed standards, wrote reports, and created practice guides for the What Works Clearinghouse. First director of a new center at Mathematica to promote use of research evidence for policymaking. Experience as a tenured professor of economics, teaching theory, statistics, and econometrics. Experience on editorial boards of journals (currently, *Effective Education* and *The Elementary School Journal*), on the National Research Council Board on Testing and Assessment, on National Academy of Sciences committees for teacher assessment, STEM education, and indicators development, and the evaluation of DC education reforms, and on advisory panels for foundations and for the Institute of Education Sciences. Published in a range of academic and policy journals.

Recent Experience

Principal Investigator, Evaluation of the DC Choice program (2012-). Responsible for development of random assignment procedures, analysis approaches, and support for instrument development as a subcontractor to Westat, who is the prime contractor for the Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences.

Principal Investigator, A Study of Promising Features of Teacher Preparation Programs (2011-). Principal investigator of a 3-year study for the Institute of Education Sciences to measure effects of different teacher preparation program features. Responsible for analysis design, random assignment system, and supporting school and district recruitment. Subcontractor to Abt Associates.

Senior Researcher, Analytic and Technical Assistance and Development (2012-). Tasked with quality assurance for products, which include workshops and presentations, technical reports, and technical assistance guidelines and standards. Subcontractor to Decision Information Resources, the prime contractor to the Institute of Education Sciences.

Director, What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) (2005 - 2010). Oversaw technical and business management of WWC, funded by the U.S. Department of Education (ED), Institute of Education Sciences (IES). Develop and supervise technical review areas, oversee quality assurance, manage web site, manage work flows and costs, and respond to media inquiries. Principal investigator for the dropout prevention area from 2005 to 2007.

Senior researcher, Middle School Matters (The Bush Institute, 2010-). Member of design team creating a middle-school model based on research and evidence of effective practice.

Senior researcher, Regional Labs (2012-). Providing methodological and analytic support and quality assurance for labs in the Southwest, Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Pacific regions, supporting development of analysis plans and research products, and reviewing research products. Subcontractor to Chesapeake Research Associates.

Director, Evaluation Assistance to The Atlantic Philanthropies (2006 -). Provide methodology and analytic support to a joint initiative of the Atlantic Philanthropies and the governments of Ireland and Northern Ireland to improve services for disadvantaged children and youth. Comment on designs and statistical approaches for evaluations of grants intended to test innovative services for children and youth, review analysis plans, and advise the foundation on long-term and cross-cutting strategic issues affecting the evaluations.

Director, Center for Improving Research Evidence (2008 - 2010). Oversaw center activities including conducting public forums, preparing policy briefs, and working with organizations to plan and develop robust evaluation designs and analyses.

Senior Adviser, Analytic and Technical Support for Advancing Education Evaluation (2006 - 2012). Provide reviews and technical support for IES, National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance (NCEE). Review design and analysis plans for proposed regional educational laboratory studies, serve as member of IES Standards and Methods Group.

Director and Principal Investigator, Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Educational Technology (2003 - 2009). Directed the Congressionally mandated study of educational technology. Forty districts and 120 schools participated in the study, which used random assignment of selected educational technology products to classrooms to measure effects on student learning. The evaluation also observed trainings and classrooms to assess implementation.

Director and Principal Investigator, Evaluation of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Program (1999 - 2005). Director of planning and implementation for four-year evaluation of ED's 21st CCLC program, which supports after-school, Saturday, and summer programs. The evaluation used random-assignment designs to measure the effects of programs on elementary school students, and comparison-student designs to measure the effects of programs on middle school students. The impact study was complemented by an implementation and process study.

Director and Principal Investigator, Are Experiments the Only Option? (2000 - 2002). Directed a study, under a grant from the Smith Richardson Foundation, to examine whether the propensity score method replicated experimental impacts of dropout prevention programs.

Deputy Director and Principal Investigator, Evaluation of Youth Fair Chance (1994-1998). The research included qualitative and quantitative investigations of 16 programs in defined geographic areas to bolster education and training services for youth residing in the areas. . The research included process and impact analyses using comparison-area designs. Worked with sites to set up the evaluation design, developed survey instruments, oversaw data collection, and prepared reports to Congress on program implementation and impacts.

Director and Principal Investigator, National Evaluation of Dropout Prevention Programs (1991 1998). Directed an evaluation of ED's School Dropout Demonstration Assistance Program. The research included process and impact analyses of 20 dropout prevention projects using both random-assignment and comparison-group designs. Worked with sites to set up the evaluation design, developed survey instruments, oversaw data collection, and prepared impact analysis reports.

Director and Principal Investigator, Alternative High Schools Random Assignment Evaluation, (1990-1996). . The research included process and impact analyses of 6 alternative high schools set up by USDOL in partnership between school districts and JTPA organizations. Worked with school districts to set up the evaluation design, developed survey instruments, oversaw data collection, and prepared impact analysis reports.

Recent Publications and Reports

Dynarski, Mark and Ellen Kisker. "Going Public: Writing about research in everyday language." Washington, DC: Institute of Education Sciences, June 2014.

Dynarski, Mark. Connecting Education Research to Practitioners -- and Practitioners to Education Research. *Phi Delta Kappan*, Sep 2010, Vol. 91 Issue 9, pp. 61-65.

Dynarski, Mark, Roberto Agodini, and Larissa Campuzano. "An Experimental Assessment of the Effects of Reading Software Products on Reading Test Scores." *Effective Education*, vol. 2, no. 1, March 2010, pp. 1-26.

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- Campuzano, Larissa, Mark Dynarski, Roberto Agodini, Kristina Rall, and Audrey Pendleton. "Effectiveness of Reading and Mathematics Software Products." Report to Congress. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, February 2009.
- Paulsell, Diane, Patricia Del Grosso, and Mark Dynarski. "The Atlantic Philanthropies' Disadvantaged Children & Youth Program in Ireland and Northern Ireland: Overview of Program Evaluation Findings." Report to the Atlantic Philanthropies. Princeton, NJ: Mathematica Policy Research, January 30, 2009.
- Dynarski, Mark. Researchers and Educators: Allies in Learning. *Educational Leadership*, Dec 2008, Vol. 66 Issue 4, p48-53.
- James-Burdumy, Susanne, Mark Dynarski, and John Deke. After-School Program Effects on Behavior. *Economic Inquiry*, Jan 2008, Vol. 46 Issue 1, p13-18.
- Dynarski, Mark. Bringing Answers to Educators: Guiding Principles for Research Syntheses. *Educational Researcher*, 2008 vol. 37 no. 1 27-29.
- Dynarski, Mark, Roberto Agodini, Sheila Cabrero-Heaviside, Timothy J. Novak, Nancy L. Carey, Larissa Campuzano, Barbara Means, Robert S. Murphy, William Penuel, Hal Javitz, Deborah Emery, and Willow Sussex. "Effectiveness of Reading and Mathematics Software Products: Findings from the First Student Cohort." Report to Congress. Publication NCEE 2007-4005. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, March 2007.
- Dynarski, Mark. Advancing the use of scientifically based research in forming policy: A response to Mahoney and Zigler. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*; Jul 2006, Vol. 27 Issue 4, p295-297.
- Dynarski, Mark, Susanne N. James-Burdumy, Mary T. Moore, Linda C. Rosenberg, John G. Deke, and Wendy M. Mansfield. "When Schools Stay Open Late: The National Evaluation of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program, New Findings." Final report submitted to the U.S. Department of Education. Princeton, NJ: Mathematica Policy Research, October 2004.
- Dynarski, Mark; Gleason, Philip. How Can We Help? What We Have Learned From Federal Dropout Prevention Studies. *Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk*, Jan 2002, Vol. 7 Issue 1, p43-69.
- Gleason, Philip; Dynarski, Mark. Do We Know Whom To Serve: Issues in Using Risk Factors To Identify Dropouts, *Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk*, Jan 2002, Vol. 7 Issue 1, p25-41.
- Agodini, R., & M. Dynarski (2001). "Are Experiments the Only Option? A Look at Dropout Prevention Programs." *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 86(1), 190-194.

National Research Council committee monographs:

- An Evaluation of the Public Schools of the District of Columbia: Reform in a Changing Landscape (2015)
- Monitoring Progress Toward Successful K-12 STEM Education: A Nation Advancing? (2013)
- Assessing Accomplished Teaching: Advanced-Level Certification Programs (2008)

Recent Presentations

- Dynarski, Mark, "Emerging Standards for Effectiveness Research." Frank Porter Graham Center, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, December 6, 2014.
- Dynarski, Mark, 'Using Research to Help Practice,' Keynote talk at Middle School Matters conference, June 2015, University of Texas-Austin.

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Dynarski, Mark, "Remarks at the Launch of the *Time to Read* Findings," Ulster Museum, Belfast, NI, January 26, 2011.

Dynarski, Mark, "Research Evidence to Support Policy: Reflections on Study Findings for the *Respecting Differences* Programme," Ulster Hall, Belfast, Northern Ireland, October 13, 2010.

Dynarski, Mark. "Research-Based Strategies for Dropout Prevention." Mid-Atlantic Regional Education Laboratory conference, Rutgers University, Center for Effective School Practices. August 2010, November 2010, February 2011, May 2013.

Dynarski, Mark. "Improving Engagement of Middle School Students." Presentation at the Bush Institute Conference on Middle School Reform, Dallas, June 2010.

Dynarski, Mark. "What Works Clearinghouse Practice Guides—Bringing Research to Practice." Presentation at the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, March 2010.

Dynarski, Mark. "Connecting Education Research to the Classroom." Presentation at the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Annual Meeting, San Antonio, March 2010.

Dynarski, Mark. "What Works: Dropout Prevention Strategies." Presentation at the National Association of Secondary School Principals Annual Conference, Phoenix, March 2010.

Recent Professional Activities

2014-2015	Peer Review Panel, Statistics and Methodology, Institute of Education Sciences
2012-	Member, Advisory Board, Middle Schools Matters, The George Bush Institute.
2013-	Member, National Research Council Committee to Evaluate DC School Reforms
2012-	Member, National Research Council Board on Testing and Assessment
2012-	Editorial Board, <i>The Elementary School Journal</i>
2012-	Member, National Research Council committee, An Evaluation Framework for K-12 STEM Education
2006 -	Associate Editor, <i>Effective Education</i>
2005 - 2008	Member, National Research Council committee, Evaluating Effectiveness of the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards certification program
2004 - 2008	Editorial Board, <i>Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis</i>
2004 - 2007	Associate Editor, <i>Economics of Education Review</i>

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