

Alana McGovern

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EDUCATION

PhD, Statistics, University of Washington

Sep 2021 – Aug 2026

Research Advisor: Jon Wakefield

MS, Biostatistics, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health

Sep 2019 – May 2021

BS, Applied Mathematics, University of Rochester

Aug 2015 – May 2019

Minors: Statistics, Economics

Honors: *magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, departmental honors

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher

Oct 2021 – present

University of Washington, Department of Statistics

Advisor: Jon Wakefield

- Working on small area estimation methods for complex survey data, particularly in the context of estimating health outcomes at the subnational level in countries with disparate data sources
- Developed and led the execution of a pipeline to produce subnational under-five and neonatal morality rates estimates in over 30 LMICs, in close coordination with the United Nations Inter-agency Group for Mortality Estimation

Statistical Consultant

Fall 2024 – Spring 2025

Public Health – Seattle & King County

- Performed statistical analysis for estimating trends of overdose deaths among public housing population

Biostatistics Research Assistant

Jan 2020 – May 2021

Dana-Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center

Supervisors: Dr. Clement Ma & Dr. Wendy London

- Worked with various teams of health professionals to design and conduct individualized data analyses relevant to their research goals
- Engaged in research with Dr. Andrew Chapple to optimize his novel Phase I clinical trial dose-finding design using a Bayesian framework
- Applied Chapple's dose-finding design to present weekly dose recommendations for an active clinical trial (ID: NCT03429803)

PUBLICATIONS

McGovern A, Fuglstad GA, Wakefield J. (2026) "Sampling distributions for complex design variance estimators in a Fay-Herriot model." under review.

McGovern A, Wilson K, Wakefield J. (2025) "Direct-assisted Bayesian unit-level modeling for small area estimation of rare event prevalence." *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology*, 14. 1.

Lim-Fat MJ, et al. (2024). "A comparative analysis of the IDH-mutant glioma in pediatric, young adult and older adult patients." *Neuro-Oncology*, 26. 12.

McGovern A, Chapple AG, Ma C. (2022). "2S-Sub-TITE: An adaptive two-stage time-to toxicity model for subgroup-specific dose finding." *Pharmaceutical Statistics*, 21. 6.

Carpenter K, Scavotto M, **McGovern A**, Ma C, Kenney LB, Mack JW, Greenzang KA. (2021). "Early Parental Knowledge of Late Effect Risks in Children with Cancer." *Pediatric Blood Cancer*, e29335.

Umaretiya PJ, Li A, **McGovern A**, Ma C, Wolfe J, Bona K. (2021). "Race, ethnicity, and goal-concordance of end-of-life palliative care in pediatric oncology." *Cancer*, 127. 20.

Lim-Fat MJ, et al. (2020). "A multi institutional comparative analysis of the clinical, genomic, and survival characteristics of pediatric, young adult and older adult patients with IDH mutant glioma." *Neuro-Oncology*, 22. 2.

HONORS

Dorothy M. Gilford Teaching Award 2022: Awarded by University of Washington Department of Statistics for outstanding performance by a graduate teaching assistant

SERVICE

Organizer of Space-Time Analysis Bayes (STAB) research group Fall 2024 – Spring 2025
University of Washington

- Led weekly research meetings and scheduled visiting speakers

Statistical Consultant Spring 2024
University of Washington

- Provided statistical advice and feedback on research projects for faculty and students across the university as part of the Statistics and Biostatistics departments' consulting program

Pre-application review service (PARS) Volunteer Fall 2023 & Fall 2024
University of Washington, Department of Statistics

- Reviewed and provided feedback on materials for prospective applicants

Peer advisor Fall 2018 – Spring 2019
University of Rochester, Department of Mathematics

- Mentored underclassmen; provided guidance on course selection and career development

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Washington Seattle, WA
Teaching Assistant Sep 2021 – May 2022

- STAT 390 (Su 23): Statistical Methods in Engineering and Science
- STAT 403 (Sp 23): Introduction to Resampling Inference
- STAT 311 (Sp22): Elements of Statistical Methods
- STAT 221 (W22): Statistics Concepts and Methods for Social Sciences

- STAT 220 (F21): Statistical Reasoning

Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health

Grader

Boston, MA

Summer 2020

- BST 206 (Su20): Introductory Statistics for Medical Research

University of Rochester

Teaching Assistant

Rochester, NY

Jan 2017 – May 2019

- MTH 203 (Sp19): Mathematical Statistics
- MTH 200 (F18): Transition to Higher Mathematics
- ECO 108 (Sp18): Principles of Economics
- MTH 161/143 (Sp17, F18, Sp18): Calculus I & II