
Robert John Wirth

Current Position: NRSA funded Doctoral Candidate
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
 Quantitative Psychology

Professional Address: R. J. Wirth
 L.L. Thurstone Psychometric Laboratory
 Davie 357
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
 Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3270

Electronic mail: rjwirth@unc.edu

ACADEMIC DEGREES

Present	Ph.D., Quantitative Psychology (expected Spring 2007) University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill Working Dissertation Title: <i>The effects of measurement non-invariance on latent growth models</i>
12/01	M.A., General Psychology University of North Carolina, Wilmington Masters Thesis Title: <i>The commensurability of personality and mood assessment.</i>
05/99	B.A., Psychology; Magna Cum Laude; Honors in Psychology University of North Carolina, Wilmington Honors Thesis Title: <i>Emotional rebound: Intensity and demand characteristics.</i>

FEDERAL GRANT FUNDING

10/03 – 09/06	Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award, <i>Measurement invariance in growth models of substance use</i> (F31 DA017546), awarded by National Institute on Drug Abuse, sponsored by Dr. Patrick Curran.
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PUBLICATIONS (reverse chronological order)

Hill, C. D., Edwards, M. C., Thissen, D., Langer, M. M., **Wirth, R. J.**, Burwinkle, T. M., & Varni, J. W. (under review). *Practical issues in the application of item response theory: A demonstration using the Pediatric Quality of Life Inventory™ (PedsQL™) 4.0 Generic Core Scales*. Manuscript currently under review.

Hussong, A. M., **Wirth, R. J.**, Edwards, M. C., Curran, P. J., Zucker, R. A., & Chassin, L. A. (under review). *Parent alcoholism and children's externalizing symptoms: A cross-study analysis*. Manuscript currently under review.

McMullin, D. M., **Wirth, R. J.**, & White, J. (under review). *The effects of victimization on gender role beliefs: A longitudinal study*. Manuscript currently under review.

Wirth, R. J., & Edwards, M. C. (in press). *Recent advances in item factor analysis*. Psychological Methods.

Curran, P.J., Edwards, M.E., **Wirth, R. J.**, Hussong, A.M., and Chassin, L. (in press). Alternative Categorical Measurement Models for the Analysis of Individual Growth. To appear in T. Little (Ed.), *Modeling Developmental Processes in Ecological Context*. Laurence Erlbaum, Associates.

Lecci, L., & **Wirth, R. J.** (2006). Methodological and practical issues in the experience, induction and assessment of mood states. A. Clark (Ed.). *Causes, Roles and Influences of Mood States*. New York: Nova Science Publishers, Inc.

Molina, B. S. G., Marshal, M. P., Pelham, W. E., & **Wirth, R. J.** (2005). *Coping skills and parent support mediate the association between ADHD and adolescent cigarette use*. *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*, 30, 345 – 357.

Carrig, M. M., **Wirth, R. J.**, & Curran, P. J. (2004). A SAS Macro for Estimating and Visualizing Individual Growth Curves. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 11, 132 – 149.

Curran, P. J., & **Wirth, R. J.** (2004). Inter-individual differences in intra-individual variation: Balancing internal and external validity. *Measurement: Interdisciplinary Research and Perspectives*, 2, 219 – 227.

Lecci, L., & **Wirth, R. J.** (2000). Investigating the effects of physical discomfort on the experimental induction of moods. *Journal of Behavioral Therapy and Experimental Psychiatry*, 31, 231 – 247.

MANUSCRIPTS / WORKING PAPERS / PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

Lecci, L. & **Wirth, R. J.** (in prep). *The evaluation of a new instructional set to assess moods: Refining the retrospective timeframe*. Data collection currently in progress.

Preacher, K. J., & **Wirth, R. J.** (in prep). *The impact of model complexity on tests of cross-group factorial invariance*. Manuscript being prepared for submission.

Wirth, R. J. (in prep). *Alternative methods of estimating the asymptotic covariance matrix of categorical indicators in SEM: A Monte Carlo study*. Manuscript being prepared for submission.

WEB RESOURCES

Carrig, M. M., **Wirth, R. J.**, & Curran, P. J. (2004). *Manual for Olstraj: A SAS Macro for Estimating and Visualizing Individual Growth Curves*.
www.unc.edu/~curran/OLStraj

PRESENTATIONS (reverse chronological order)

Edwards, M.C., Hill, C., Langer, M., **Wirth, R. J.**, Thissen, D., Varni, J., & Burwinkle, T. (2005, October). Lessons learned from confirmatory factor analysis of the PedsQL™ 4.0 Generic Core Scales. In H. Guess (Chair), *Measuring patient reported outcomes in children in the NIH PROMIS Network*. Symposium conducted at the 12th annual meeting of the International Society for Quality of Life Research, San Francisco, CA.

Hill, C., Edwards, M.C., Langer, M., **Wirth, R. J.**, Thissen, D., Varni, J., & Burwinkle, T. (2005, October). Lessons learned using item response theory to examine the PedsQL™ 4.0 Generic Core Scales. In H. Guess (Chair), *Measuring patient reported outcomes in children in the NIH PROMIS Network*. Symposium conducted at the 12th annual meeting of the International Society for Quality of Life Research, San Francisco, CA.

Edwards, M.C., Hill, C., Langer, M., Thissen, D., **Wirth, R. J.**, Varni, J., & Burwinkle, T. (2005, March). Using item response theory to examine the PedsQL™ 4.0 Generic Core scales. Presentation for the PROMIS Steering Committee Meeting, Durham, NC.

Edwards, M.C., Hill, C., Langer, M., Thissen, D., **Wirth, R. J.**, Varni, J., & Burwinkle, T. (2005, March). Using item response theory to examine the PEDSQL 4.0 Generic Core scales. Presentation for the PROMIS Steering Committee Meeting, Durham, NC.

Curran, P.J., **Wirth, R. J.**, Edwards, M.E., Hussong, A.M., and Chassin, L. (March, 2004). *Alternative categorical measurement models for the analysis of individual growth*. Paper presented at Modeling Developmental Processes in Ecological Context, Tempe, AZ.

Wirth, R. J., Edwards, M. C., Curran, P. J., & Hussong, A.M. (2004, June). *Categorical measurement models for the analysis of individual growth: Comparing three analytic approaches*. Poster session presented at the 7th International Summer Institute on Developmental Science, Jyväskylä, Finland.

Wirth, R. J., Edwards, M. C., & Curran, P. J. (2004, July). *Latent growth modeling with multiple dichotomous indicators: Testing measurement invariance*. Poster session presented at the 112th annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, HI.

Wirth, R. J. (2004, July). Telemetric monitoring data: Deciding on the appropriate analysis. In R. Freedman (Chair), *Leaving the lab: Telemetric monitoring in the Social and Behavioral Sciences*. Symposium conducted at the 112th annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, HI.

Edwards, M. C., **Wirth, R. J.**, & Curran, P. J. (2004, July). *Measurement issues in multilevel modeling*. Poster session presented at the 112th annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, HI.

Curran, P. J., Edwards, M. C., & **Wirth, R. J.** (2003, November). *The simultaneous analysis of multiple data sets: The challenge of metric and meaning*. Paper presented at the November meeting of the Applied Statistics Group at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Wirth, R. J., & Curran, P. J. (2003, September). *The application of hybrid latent growth models to approximate complex nonlinear functions*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology, Keystone, CO.

Wirth, R. J., & Lecci, L. (2003, May). *Testing the "Big Two" of the NEO-FFI: A short course in CFA*. Poster session presented at the 15th annual meeting of the American Psychological Society, Atlanta, GA.

McMullin, D.M., **Wirth, R. J.**, & White, J. (2003, May). *The effects of victimization on gender role beliefs: A longitudinal study*. Poster session presented at the 15th annual meeting of the American Psychological Society, Atlanta, GA.

Wirth, R. J., & Lecci, L. (2001, June). *Self-report mood and personality assessments: Quantifying and Comparing Instructional Timeframes*. Poster session presented at the 13th annual meeting of the American Psychological Society, Toronto, Canada.

Lecci, L., Myers, B.P., **Wirth, R. J.**, Alford, R.S., Snowden, J.L. (2001, June). *Development of the Pretrial Juror Bias Questionnaire (PJBQ)*. Poster session presented at the 13th annual meeting of the American Psychological Society, Toronto, Canada.

Wirth, R. J., & Lecci, L. (2000, August). *Manipulating physical discomfort: Temporal and affective specificity in mood induction*. Poster session presented at the 108th annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.

Wirth, R. J., Lecci, L., Denning, Crystal L., Little, Lindsay L., & Robertson, Andy (2000, June). *Examining the effects of priming on a mood induction procedure*. Poster session presented at the 12th annual meeting of the American Psychological Society, Miami, FL.

Wirth, R. J., Lecci, L., & Cohen, D. (1999, June). *Emotional rebound: Intensity and demand characteristics*. Poster session presented at the 11th annual meeting of the American Psychological Society, Denver, CO.

Wirth, R. J., & Lecci, L. (1999, March). *Mood assessment: Convergence of cognitive, self-report, and behavioral measures.* Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Savannah, GA.

Wirth, R. J., Davis, N., & Lecci, L. (1998, May). *The effects of physical discomfort on mood induction procedures.* Poster session presented at the 10th annual meeting of the American Psychological Society, Washington, DC.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

<i>Primary Interests</i>	<i>Substantive Interests</i>
Measurement Models	Substance use and abuse
Categorical Data Analysis	Personality & Emotion
Latent Growth Curve Modeling	Regulation
Structural Equation Modeling	Instructional Timeframe

RESEARCH POSITIONS HELD

- 2003 – present Research Associate, Cross-Studies Research Group, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Primary Investigators: Dr. Andrea Hussong & Dr. Patrick Curran

- 2001 – present Research Associate, Carolina Structural Equation Modeling Group, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Primary Investigators: Dr. Patrick Curran & Dr. Ken Bollen

- 1997 – 2001 Senior Research Assistant, Personality Lab, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Primary Investigator: Dr. Len Lecci

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- 2004 – present American Statistical Association: Social Statistics Division
- 2002 – present American Psychological Association: Division 5: Evaluation, Measurement, and Statistics.
- 2001 – present Psychometric Society
- 2001 – present American Psychological Association
- 2000 – present American Psychological Association: Division 8: Social and Personality.
- 1999 – present American Psychological Society

AD-HOC JOURNAL & CONFERENCE REVIEWING

2003 – present Psychological Methods; Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics; Journal of Assessment; Multivariate Behavioral Research; Society for Multivariate Experimental Psychology Graduate Student Conference; Representative Research in Social Psychology; Journal of Mathematical Psychology

SELECTED CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

08/04 – 05/05 Salaried Statistical Consultant, Department of Psychology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

01/01 – 05/01 Salaried SAS Consultant, Department of Psychology, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

10/00 – 11/00 Salaried Statistical Consultant, New Hanover County Schools, North Carolina

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant:

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research:

Latent Trajectory/Growth Curve Analysis:

A Structural Equation Modeling Approach	Summer 2002
Introduction to Multilevel Models Using SAS	Summer 2002, 2004

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill:

Introduction to Statistics for Psychology	Fall 2001, Spring 2002, Fall 2003
Doctoral Multivariate Statistics	Fall 2003
Quantitative Lecture Series	Fall 2003, Spring 2004

University of North Carolina at Wilmington:

Sensation & Perception	Spring 2001
Psychology Research Methods I	Fall 2000
Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	Spring 2000
Introduction to Experimental Psychology	Fall 1999
Personality Assessment II	Fall 1999
Introduction to Psychology	Summer 1998

SERVICE

- 10/04 Psi Chi Career Panel Discussant, Department Of Psychology, Wake Forest University.
- 3/04 – 05/04 UNC Organizational Committee for Factor Analysis at 100: Historical Developments and Future Directions, L.L. Thurstone Psychometric Laboratory, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Committee Head: Dr. Robert MacCallum
- 08/03 – 05/04 Seminar Series Search Committee, L.L. Thurstone Psychometric Laboratory, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Committee Head: Dr. Robert MacCallum
- 08/02 – 05/03 Seminar Series Search Committee, , L.L. Thurstone Psychometric Laboratory, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Committee Head: Dr. Patrick Curran
- 08/02 – 08/03 Seminar Committee, Applied Statistics Working Group, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Committee Head: Dr. Patrick Curran
- 11/00 Psi Chi Career Panel Discussant, Department Of Psychology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

AWARDS & HONORS

- 2004 - 2006 External Fellowship Award, Awarded by The Graduate School and the Graduate and Professional Student Federation, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina.
- 2004 Lyle V. Jones Graduate Student Excellence Award, Awarded by the L.L. Thurstone Psychometric Laboratory, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 2004 Junior Fellow, International Summer Institute on Developmental Science, Fellowship sponsored by the Center for Developmental Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

- 2004 American Psychological Association, Travel Award to support the presentation of *Latent growth modeling with multiple dichotomous indicators: Testing measurement invariance* in Honolulu, HI.
- 2003 Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology, Travel Award to support the presentation of *The application of hybrid latent growth models to approximate complex nonlinear functions* in Keystone, CO.
- 2001 University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Graduate Student Travel Award to support the presentation of *Self-report mood and personality assessments: Quantifying and comparing instructional timeframes* in Toronto, Canada.
- 2000 University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Graduate Student Travel Award to support the presentation of *Examining the effects of priming on a mood induction procedure* in Miami, FL.

SPECIAL CLASSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

- 2004 Bayesian Modeling, Inference and Prediction, Boston, MA. Presented by Dr. David Draper and sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the American Statistical Association.
- 2001 SAS Programming II: Manipulating Data with the Data Step, SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC.
- 2000 SAS Programming I: Essentials, SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC.
- 1998 Certified coder for the Facial Action Coding System (FACS).

COMPUTER SKILLS

SAS, SAS/IML, SPSS, EQS, Mplus, LISREL, HLM, AMOS, Maple, CEFA, Multilog, Bilog, Testfact, Scientific Workplace, R, S-Plus, LaTeX, HTML and basic C++.