

Peter McMahan

McGill University
Department of Sociology

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Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor of Sociology, McGill University	2018–
Postdoctoral Scholar, Stanford University, Departments of Computer Science, Education, and Linguistics	2017–2018

Education

PhD Sociology, University of Chicago	2017
MPP, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago	2007
BA in Mathematics, Reed College	2003

Research Interests

Social networks, status, culture, computational methods, mathematical models, statistical methods

Publications

- McMahan, Peter and Daniel A. McFarland (2021). “Creative Destruction: The Structural Consequences of Scientific Curation” *American Sociological Review* 86(2).
- Boluda, Inès Moreno, Elizabeth Patitsas, and Peter McMahan. (2021) “What Do Computer Scientists Know About Conflict Minerals?” *LIMITS Workshop on Computing within Limits*.
- McMahan, Peter, Adam Slez, and John Levi Martin (2019). “Local Network Regressions” *Socius* 5.
- McMahan, Peter and James Evans (2018). “Ambiguity and Engagement” *American Journal of Sociology* 124(2): 860–912.
- McMahan, Peter (2016). “Like Family: Network Coevolution and the Emergence of Altruism” *Journal of Mathematical Sociology* 40(2): 112:122.
- Small, Mario Luis, Vontrese Deeds Pamphile, and Peter McMahan (2015). “How Stable Is the Core Discussion Network?” *Social Networks* 40 (January): 90–102.
- Padgett, John F, Peter McMahan, and Xing Zhong. 2012. “Economic Production as Chemistry II.” In *The Emergence of Organizations and Markets*, edited by John F Padgett and Woody Powell. Princeton University Press.
- McMahan, Peter (2008). “Cohesive Blocks Algorithm”, ‘igraph’ package for R statistical environment.

Teaching

Networks and Social Structures, McGill University	2020–
Sociology of Science, McGill University	2019–
Quantitative Methods 2, McGill University	2019–
Sociological Perspectives, McGill University	2018–
Computing for Social Sciences, University of Chicago	2011–2015

Academic Appointments and Honors

Benjamin Bloom Fellowship, University of Chicago, Division of Social Sciences	2016–2017
Associate Editor, <i>American Journal of Sociology</i>	2013–2014
Manuscript Board, <i>American Journal of Sociology</i>	2012–2013
Academic Fellowship, University of Chicago, Division of Social Sciences	2009–2014
Academic Fellowship, University of Chicago, Harris School of Public Policy Studies	2005–2007

Workshops and Conferences

Sunbelt Conference (International Network for Social Network Analysis)

<i>Setting the Record Straight: The Dynamics of Public Critique and Rebuttal in Scientific Publication</i>	2023, Portland, OR
<i>Setting the Tone: How Talk Reveals Relational Structures of Power</i>	2019, Montreal, Quebec
<i>Creative Destruction: The Structure and Consequences of Scientific Curation</i>	2018, Utrecht, Netherlands
<i>Adolescent Status Hierarchies</i>	2014, Saint Petersburg Beach, FL
<i>Ambiguity and Knowledge Fragmentation</i>	2013, Hamburg, Germany
<i>Evolution of Cooperation: A Networked Model of Natural Selection</i>	2012, Redondo Beach, CA

Canadian Sociological Association annual conference

<i>Setting the Record Straight: The Dynamics of Public Critique and Rebuttal in Scientific Publication</i>	2023, Toronto, Ontario
<i>Setting the Tone: How Talk Reveals Relational Structures of Power</i>	2019, Vancouver, British Columbia

McGill Centre on Population Dynamics: Social statistics & Population Dynamics Seminar series

<i>Creative destruction: the structure and consequences of scientific curation</i>	2019, Montreal, Quebec
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McGill School of Computer Science Colloquium

<i>Discovering group status structures using conversational data</i>	2019, Montreal, Quebec
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American Sociological Association annual conference

<i>Adolescent Status Hierarchies</i>	2015, Chicago, IL
<i>Ambiguity and Knowledge Fragmentation</i>	2012, Denver, CO

Media Appearances

Interviewed in Fleerackers, Alice. 2020. "Uncertainty in Science Communication: Include It or Lose It?" *ScienceBorealis.ca Blog*. May 4, 2020. <https://blog.scienceborealis.ca/uncertainty-in-science-communication-include-it-or-lose-it/>.