Aneika Dickens

NC State University, SPIA, Public Administration aedicken@ncsu.edu phone: (252) 955-3815

Research Interests

Quantitative & Qualitative Analysis, Program & Performance Management

Education:

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
Ph.D. Student, Public Administration   *August 2020-Present*
Quantitative Analysis on Social Program Efficiency
North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
MPA, Public Administration   *May 2017*
   - Program Management and Evaluation
   - Quantitative/Qualitative Analysis
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
BA, Public Policy   *May 2014*
Minor, History
Additional Course work: Microeconomics, Family Economics, Industrial Economics

Professional Experience

Wake Technical Community College   *February 2022-Present*
Adjunct Professor, Continuous Learning, Power BI

School of Public and International Affairs, NC State University   *2020-Present*
Research Assistant

Center for Community and Family Engagement, NC State University   *November 2020-Present*
Research and Evaluation Graduate Assistant
Opioid Paraprofessional Workforce Expansion Program Health Resources and
Services Administration, US Department of Health and Human Services
(T97HP33390) -$898,762 (Cryer-Coupet, PI)

Wilson County DSS   *November 2017-July 2020*
Data Analyst

Administrative Office of the Courts   *August2016-October 2017*
Research Specialist

Industry Expansion Solutions, NC State University   *September 2015-July 2016*
Grants Intern
SAS Basic Skills Certification

Professional Qualifications:

Conference Presentations:

Public Management Research Conference (PMRC): "Parsing the Transaction Costs of Public, Nonprofit, and Hybrid Production" (2021) Coupet, J., **Dickens, A.**, Broussard, P.

American Society for Public Administration (ASPA): "RDT and Community Policing: Strategy for Equitable Stability" (2022) Dickens, A.

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM): " Do Social Service Vouchers Encourage Program Exit through Power Transfer?" (2022) Dickens.A

Honors and Awards:
Diversity Award
Graduate Fellowship

Thank you for considering my application,

I am Aneika Dickens, a 2nd year PhD student of Public Administration for NC State's SPIA. I have research interest in performance management and evaluation, mostly using quantitative analysis. I have a background in public policy and program evaluation in which I assist community partners with developing best practices for efficiency and quality improvements around public service. I am very interested in this position as it provides me further opportunity to delve into my research field of data science, and additionally teach students. I hope this cover letter explains my interest and experience for the Data Science Graduate Assistant position.

My strengths include interacting with stakeholders, students, and other researchers. I am open to engagement with others and significantly under collaboration. My first professional position was as a Data Analyst for Wilson County Dept. of Social Services, where I created program evaluations for each of the social programs within the department. This was continuously presented to stakeholders and board members to discuss and analyze best practices. Much of this work includes taking learned knowledge through discussion, questionnaires, and observations into data collection and manipulation. I grew in my communication skills as I worked with all people within the department. I also grew in my visualization skills by developing engaging data points for program evaluation sessions and discussion. In addition, I have been teaching research methods, PS 371, for the Spring 2022 semester, which I will continue after a year of research and paper development. This experience, in addition to my working experience as a program evaluator has made me capable of communicating and adjusting to real time circumstances and challenges. I am willing to adjust to new circumstances or challenges that often impact particular goals, objectives, or outcomes. I understand the nuances of research and difficult projects that include a variety of perspectives. I have grown to love engaging with new research ideas or tasks till completion. Furthermore, these notions help me understand the vitality of perseverance despite difficulty. As a persistent learner, I believe it is important to see a research project through.

What is also important for reviewers of this application to know about me is that I am a hard worker. I am also a caring person, who is invested in the learning of my students and the material that I produce for my field of public administration. Furthermore, I find that engagement with others from diverse backgrounds and invested interest is critical to advancing knowledge and insights. Essentially, I care about being able to work collaboratively with others as a gauge of innovation methodology and program improvement. I am still learning as a student and scholar. My research opportunities and working experiences have afforded me the capacity to actively engage in course material. Upon reviewing your work, my strengths for this position would be in statistical analysis (manipulation, aggregation, and modeling). My expertise is predominantly in Stata, and moderately in R, which is my current preference for learning.

I have presented group material using Stata, where I created dummy variables, used linear regressions, various forms of panel data, and stochastic frontier modeling. My personal work with R currently includes robust linear regressions, linear panel models, difference of difference, regression discontinuity, and probit regressions. My coursework has facilitated much of this training, but my personal research interests have developed these components along the way. Furthermore, I have taken some coursework regarding ArcGIS, though not an expert. I do believe I have a foundational understanding of files, command commands, and calculations to answer mapping questions of inquiry.

Overall, I am very excited about this opportunity. It would definitely help me improve my skills and work hand in hand with my next academic year of research and academic writing. Furthermore, I do believe I can contribute my practitioner and academic perspective to the benefit of this team. I look forward to the opportunity to meet with staff, engage in course development and training, and engage students with their research questions if chosen. Thank you for the opportunity to apply and the time allotted for reviewing my application.

Best,
Aneika Dickens