

Patrick S. Forscher, PhD

Nairobi, Kenya · patrick.forscher@busara.global · <https://patrickforscher.com/> · @psforscher.bluesky.social

Employment and professional experience

Senior Behavioral Scientist, Busara, Nairobi, Kenya, 2026 – Present

- Safeguarded and innovated in Busara’s quantitative and qualitative methods, innovating methods to ensure that new projects are responsive to beneficiary concerns, introducing workflows for meta-analyses and other types of systematic review, and establishing systems to ensure the quality of new and ongoing quantitative and qualitative projects
- Helped develop Busara’s 2026-2028 organizational strategy, which aims to respond to the changes in the development sector by positioning Busara as a thought leader in locally-led development
- Created “lighthouse projects” to showcase the value of quantitative and qualitative behavioral science in development for such topics as public health system strengthening
- Owned relationships between such partners as UNICEF, the WHO Behavioural Insights Unit, the Gates Foundation Immunization Team, and Busara’s Scientific Committee

Director, Busara, Nairobi, Kenya, 2023 – Present

- Refocused the team on a portfolio focused on using research to improve the generation and use of evidence in global development
- Developed and executed a team strategy to develop and grow internal and external audiences for its portfolio through internal and external engagements, including a keynote at one of the main scientific societies for the team’s focus area (AIMOS), an investigative article on RCTs in Kenya in *The Economist*, two conferences co-hosted by Busara (SIPS 2024 and ESA 2025), and a 20-chapter, 75,000+ word edited book
- Oversaw the development of new tools and frameworks to improve research in Busara, including the development of uniform data management policies and the creation of a dedicated Busara ethics review board
- Served as the final holder of responsibility for portfolio sales and revenue, growing the portfolio from \$146K in sales on 15 submissions and a 33% win-rate in 2023 to \$467K in sales on 13 submissions and a 54% win-rate in 2024

Associate Director, Busara, Nairobi, Kenya, 2021 – 2023

- Managed a portfolio of projects related to improving functions and operations of the Busara Lab, the largest behavioral science lab in Africa, including one project that became the cornerstone of an ongoing initiative to improve participant experience
- Developed and executed a team strategy focused on merging my personal networks in quantitative psychology with existing Busara networks
- Managed a team of between one and three Research Specialists by overseeing their projects, mentoring them on quantitative research methods, public engagements, and business development, and completing all hiring and performance management processes
- Successfully navigated the team through an organizational transition from separate research and advisory divisions to a single portfolio-based division

Research Scientist, Université Grenoble Alpes, Grenoble, France, 2019 – 2021

- Wrote the definitive article on the style of project known as “big team science” in psychology (Forscher, Wagenmakers, et al., 2023). The article became a guidepost for big team science organizations such as the PSA, ManyBabies, and ManyDogs
- Planned and executed the first funding strategy for the non-profit, the Psychological Science Accelerator, securing \$220k+ in funding and successfully funding four “big team science” projects
- Interfaced with leading science, securing major international coverage for the Psychological Science Accelerator in *Vox* and *Buzzfeed News*
- Served as technical lead on two large-scale quantitative “big team science” projects, including one involving 400+ collaborators (see Buchanan et al., 2023)

Assistant Professor, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, US, 2017 – 2019

- Founded the Forscher Group Disparities Lab, a research lab that conducted quantitative research to understand and reduce disparities between social groups
- Completed six quantitative academic outputs, one of which (Forscher & Kteily, 2020) received major international news coverage
- Developed and taught three different quantitative research methods courses, including a modernization of the mandatory graduate statistics sequence
- Consulted on diversity issues to organizations such as the Washtenaw County Sheriff’s Office and the Delaware Subcommittee to the US Commission on Civil Rights

Postdoctoral Researcher, Devine Lab, Madison, US, 2016 – 2017**Graduate Researcher, Devine Lab, Madison, US, 2008 – 2016****Teaching Assistant, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Madison, US, 2009 – 2013****Skills**

- **Quantitative research methods**, including RCT design and analysis, longitudinal design and analysis, scale development and assessment, and quantitative research synthesis
- **Organizational leadership**, including strategy development, team development, organizational process design, and sustainability planning
- **Technical leadership**, including setting and maintaining technical standards, technical mentorship, and internal technical consulting
- **Public engagement**, including interfacing with the media, public writing (academic and non-academic), and public speaking

Education

2008 – 2016	PhD, Social Psychology University of Wisconsin – Madison Advisor: Patricia G. Devine
2004 – 2008	BA, Psychology and Asian Studies <i>summa cum laude</i> Macalester College

Writing

Selected academic publications (full list [here](#))

Singh, J., Mody, F., Schmidt, M., Shari, S., Wambua, J., Wilkinson, D., & **Forscher, P. S.** (2025). Comparing expert assessments of research quality between the Global North and East Africa. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 380, 20240275. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2024.0275>

McNamee, B., **Forscher, P. S.**, & Lenczner, M. (2025). Open science in impact evaluation: What impact evaluators can learn from the replication crisis in social psychology. *New Directions for Evaluation*, 184, 29-34. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ev.20624>

Forscher, P. S. & Schmidt, M. (Eds). (2024). *A better how: notes on developmental meta-research*. Busara. <https://www.busara.global/our-works/a-better-how-notes-on-developmental-meta-research/>

Forscher, P. S., Wagenmakers, E.-J., Coles, N. A., Silan, M. A., Dutra, N., Basnight-Brown, D., & IJzerman, H. The Benefits, Barriers, and Risks of Big Team Science. (2023). *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 18, 607-623. Preprint: <https://psyarxiv.com/2mdxh>

IJzerman, H., Lewis Jr., N., Weinstein, N., DeBruine, L., Ritchie, S. J., Vazire, S., **Forscher, P. S.**, Morey, R. D., Ivory, J. D., Anvari, F. & Przybylski, A. (2020). Use Caution When Applying Behavioral Science to Policy. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 4, 1092-1094. Preprint: <https://psyarxiv.com/whds4/>

Forscher, P. S., & Kteily, N. (2020). A psychological profile of the alt-right. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 15, 91-116. Preprint: <https://psyarxiv.com/c9uvw/>

Forscher, P. S.*, Lai, C. K.*, Ebersole, C., Axt, J., Herman, M., Devine, P. G., & Nosek, B. A. (2019). A Meta-Analysis of Procedures to Change Implicit Measures. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 117, 522-559. Preprint: <https://psyarxiv.com/dv8tu/>

Forscher, P. S., Cox, W. T. L., Brauer, M., & Devine, P. G. (2019). Little race or gender bias in an experiment of initial review of NIH R01 grant proposals. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 3, 257-264. Preprint: <https://psyarxiv.com/r2xvb>

Selected public writing

Silan, M., Zelkowitz, A., Titus, B., **Forscher, P. S.**, Gennari, F., Hickler, B., & Terer, M. Behavioral Insights in the Global South. *Psychology Observer*. <https://www.psychologicalscience.org/observer/gs-behavioral-insights-global-south>

Forscher, P. S., Basnight-Brown, D. M., Dutra, N., Adetula, A., Silan, M., & IJzerman, H. (2021, Dec 29). Psychological Science Needs the Entire Globe, Part 3: Does Psychological Science Deserve Brilliant Researchers From Outside North America and Europe? *Psychology Observer*. <https://www.psychologicalscience.org/observer/entire-globe-part-3>