

# GREER CAITLIN MELLON

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Brown University  
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Providence, RI 02912

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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Postdoctoral Research Associate, <b>Brown University</b> <i>Population Studies and Training Center</i> <i>Annenberg Institute for School Reform</i>	2023-Present
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## EDUCATION

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PhD	<b>Columbia University</b> , Sociology “Local Control and Educational Inequality: Three Longitudinal, Quantitative Studies of School District Governance in the United States” (Committee: Thomas A. DiPrete (Sponsor), Andreas Wimmer, Maria Abascal, Emily Rauscher, Susanna Loeb)	2023
MA	<b>Columbia University</b> , Statistics	2019
MPhil	<b>University of Oxford</b> , International Development Studies	2013
BA	<b>Columbia University</b> , History and History of Art <i>Magna Cum Laude, Departmental Honors in History</i>	2011

## PUBLICATIONS

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- 2025 **Mellon, G.** “Competence over Partisanship: Party Affiliation Does Not Affect the Selection of School District Superintendents.” *American Sociological Review*. (**Lead article**). <https://doi.org/10.1177/00031224251346993>
- Featured on *American Sociological Review* podcast
- 2025 Rauscher, E., **Mellon, G.**, Loeb, S., Abott, C. “When Money Matters Most: Unpacking the Effectiveness of School Spending”. *Sociology of Education*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/003804072513491>
- 2025 Rauscher, E., **Mellon, G.**, Hodgman, S. “School Spending and Student Achievement: Mechanisms”. *Policy Insights from the Behavioral and Brain Sciences*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23727322251353713>.
- 2024 Ciocca Eller, C., Khanna, K. & **Mellon, G.** “Intermediate Educational Transitions: A Novel Perspective on Inequality in Higher Education Outcomes”. *Sociology of Education*. 97(4): 316-341. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00380407241245392>
- 2023 **Mellon, G.**, Siegler, B. (2023). “New Experimental Evidence on Anti-Asian Bias in White Parents’ School Preferences”. *Sociology of Education*. 96(4): 255-274. (**Lead article**) <https://doi.org/10.1177/00380407231173933>

- Winner of the Sociology of Education Association best graduate student paper award
- Featured on *ASA SAGE Sociology Podcast*
- Invited Blog posts: *School Diversity Notebook*, *Contexts Blog*, *Works in Progress Blog*

### UNDER REVIEW

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Rauscher, E., **Mellon, G.**, Loeb, S., “Priceless Benefits: Effects of School Spending on Child Mortality”. *Annenberg EdWorkingPapers*. <https://edworkingpapers.com/ai24-1008> (Revise & Resubmit)

Rauscher, E., **Mellon, G.**, Loeb, S., “Do Elite Decisionmakers Differ from the Public? School District Superintendents’ Perceptions of Inequalities and Support for Progressive Resource Allocation” (Revise & Resubmit; *Russell Sage Foundation* thematic issue)

Rauscher, E., Hodgman, S., **Mellon G.** "California School Funding Elections and District Human Resources" (Under Review)

### WORKING PAPERS

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**Mellon, G.**, Rauscher, E., and Loeb, S. “Discretion Under Pressure: How Superintendents Allocate Educational Resources”

**Mellon, G.**, Elbers, B., DiPrete, T. “Beyond Tokenism: The Narrowing Gender Gap in U.S. Corporate Governance”

**Mellon, G.**, “Does School District Leadership Matter: Estimating Variation in Superintendent Effects on Achievement in the United States”.

**Mellon, G.**, “School Board Partisanship and Support for Local Educational Funding”

### ONGOING PROJECTS

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**Mellon, G.**, and Rauscher, E. “Public Library Investments and Mortality”

Rauscher, E., **Mellon, G.** Loeb, S., “Expert Knowledge on School Finance”

**Mellon, G.**, DiPrete, T., “How Does Firm-level Sorting Contribute to the Gender Pay Gap? Changes from the 1990s-Present”

**Mellon, G.**, “Pumping and Prejudice: Managers’ Perceptions of Workday Breaks for Child-Related Purposes”

### REPORTS

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Schwartz, N., Kang, H., Loeb, S., Grissom, J., Bartanen, B., Cheatham, J., Chi, O., Donaldson, M., Lemos, R.F., **Mellon, G.**, Moffitt, S., Nurshatayeva, A., Owens, J., Pinker, E.,

White, R., & Zimmerman, S. (2023). Studying the Superintendency: A Call for Research. Annenberg Institute at Brown

#### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

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2023	Inkeles Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Scholarship, Columbia University
2023	Graduate Student Best Paper Award, Sociology of Education Association
2023	RC28 Sørensen Travel Award (Paris Conference)
2019	Columbia GSAS Travel Award
2016	Paul F. Lazarsfeld Fellowship, Columbia University
2011	Euretta J. Kellett Fellowship, Columbia University
2007	John Jay Scholarship, Columbia University

#### **GRANTS AND FUNDING**

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2023	Russell Sage Foundation, "How Does Firm-level Sorting Contribute to the Gender Pay Gap? Changes from the 1990s-Present" (\$49,949), Principal Investigator (Co-PI, Thomas DiPrete)
2021	National Academy of Education/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship (\$27,500)
2021	AERA Dissertation Fellowship (Declined) (\$25,000)
2017	NSF Graduate Research Fellowship – Honorable Mention
2022	Columbia Gender, Culture and Sexuality Workshop Small Research Grant (\$1,000)
2021	Columbia Race, Ethnicity and Migration Workshop Small Research Grant (\$850)
2020	Columbia Sociology Dept. Small Research Grant (\$750)
2019	Columbia C.E.L.S.S. Experimental Research Grant (\$1,100)
2011	Euretta J. Kellett Fellowship (~\$90,000)

#### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

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"Discretion Under Pressure: How Superintendents Allocate Educational Resources", Harvard University, Economic Sociology Seminar Series (Planned), 2026

“Following the Money: New Evidence on School Funding Effectiveness”, Annenberg Institute, Brown University, 2025, Recording available: <https://edworkingpapers.com/webinar-series>

“Is the Personnel Political? The Role of Partisanship in School District Superintendent Appointments”, Yale University School of Management, 2023

Invited Researcher; Broad Center and Annenberg Institute Research Convening on the Superintendency, 2023

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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| 2026 | “Elite Educational Decisionmakers’ Funding Preferences and Educational Inequality: Results from a Novel Survey Experiment with School District Superintendents”, <i>Sociology of Education Association</i> (Planned) |
| 2026 | “Elite Educational Decisionmakers’ Funding Preferences and Educational Inequality: Results from a Novel Survey Experiment with School District Superintendents”, <i>RC-28 Educational Inequality Conference</i>      |
| 2025 | “Educational Leaders Beliefs about Achievement Inequality and Resource Allocation”, Russell Sage Foundation: “ <i>Russell Sage Foundation: Inequality in America: Beliefs, Attitudes, and Actions Conference</i> ”   |
| 2025 | “Spending Priorities: How Would District Leaders Allocate Additional School Funds?”, American Sociological Association   |
| 2025 | “Public Library Investments and Mortality”, RC-28 UCLA   |
| 2025 | “How Partisan is Public Sector Hiring? The Case of School District Superintendents”, Eastern Sociological Society: From Polarization to Solidarity Mini-Conference   |
| 2024 | “Beyond Tokenism: A Recent Shift Towards Gender Parity in U.S. Corporate Boardrooms”, American Sociological Association  |
| 2024 | “Do Educational Leaders Matter? : Measuring Variation in Superintendent Effects on Student Achievement”, RC-28 Brown   |
| 2023 | “Beyond Tokenism: A Recent Shift Towards Gender Parity in U.S. Corporate Boardrooms”, RC-28 Paris  |
| 2022 | “Is the Personnel Political? Partisanship and Superintendent Hiring”, AERA Invited Poster Session  |
| 2022 | “Is the Personnel Political? Partisanship and Superintendent Hiring”, Association for Education Finance and Policy   |

- 2019 “Trends in the Gender Gap in Reading Achievement in Early Elementary School”, American Sociological Association
- 2019 “Culture, Cognition and Choice: Field of Study Decisions among Low-SES College Students”, American Sociological Association
- 2019 “Do Educational Leaders Matter? : Measuring Variation in Superintendent Effects on Student Achievement”, Sociology of Education Association
- 2018 “Gender and Field of Study Decisions: Findings from Less-Selective Public Universities”, American Educational Research Association

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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#### **Instructor of Record**, Columbia Sociology Department

- Evaluation of Evidence (Undergraduate), 2020
- Intro to Social Data Analysis I Lab – STATA and R Programming (Graduate), 2018, 2019
- Intro to Social Data Analysis II Lab – STATA and R Programming (Graduate), 2019, 2020

#### **Section/Recitation Instructor**, Columbia Sociology Department

- Classical Social Theory (Undergraduate), 2023
- Wealth and Inequality (Advanced Undergraduate and Graduate), 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021

#### **Teaching Assistant**, Columbia Sociology Department

- Sociology of Schools, Teaching, and Learning (Undergraduate), 2017
- Advanced Quantitative Research Methods (Graduate), 2018

#### **Other Teaching Experience**

- Statistics and Coding Bootcamp, Brown Undergraduate Research Fellows Program, 2024
- Introduction to Quantitative Research and R Programming, Guest Lecture for Columbia Sociology MA Students, 2020
- R Bootcamp for Social Data Analysis (3 Day Workshop on R Programming for Columbia Sociology PhD Students), 2019
- R Bootcamp, National Endowment for the Arts, 2017
- R and Tableau Bootcamp, Legal Services Corporation, 2016

### **ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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Novacultura Consulting <i>Consultant for National Endowment for the Arts</i>	2017
Legal Services Corporation <i>Research Analyst</i>	2016

Vehicles for Change <i>Promotions and Events Coordinator</i>	2016
Digital Harbor Foundation <i>Director of Evaluation and Development</i>	2014-2015
Benenson Strategy Group <i>Political Market Research Analyst</i>	2013-2014

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## SKILLS

Programming: R (advanced), SQL, JavaScript, Python  
 Applications: STATA, Atlas.ti, NVivo, Dedoose, Tableau, Qualtrics  
 Additional Skills: web scraping, database design, survey design, data visualization, GIS  
 Nonprofit management training (2015; Management Center, Washington DC)

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## ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

### *Service to the Profession*

Reviewer for: *American Sociological Review*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *Social Forces*, *Sociological Science*, *Sociology of Education*, *Socius*, *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*

- 2025            Reviewer, AERA Division L, AERA 2026 Conference  
 2025            Presider, “From Polarization to Solidary Mini-Conference”, ESS, 2025

### *University and Departmental Service*

- 2024            Mentor and Statistical Bootcamp Instructor, Annenberg Institute’s Summer  
 Research Fellowship for Undergraduate Students  
 2017-2022    Graduate Student Coordinator, Center for the Study of Wealth and Inequality  
 (CWI) Seminar Series, Columbia University

### *Public Service and Volunteering*

- 2025            “Grassroots Champion for Child Care” 2025 Honoree, New Yorkers United for  
 Childcare  
 2025-            Upper West Side Parent Leader, New Yorkers United for Child Care  
 2017-2024    Mentor (Big Sister), Big Brothers Big Sisters NYC  
 2016            NYC Mayors’ Office of Tech and Innovation, Broadband Hackathon, First Place  
 Winner  
 2015            Vice-Chair, *First Generation Baltimore Convening* (citywide event convening nonprofits,  
 universities and school administrators to support first-generation college  
 students)

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## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association (Sociology of Education; Inequality Poverty and Mobility;  
 Political Sociology, Organizations, Occupations and Work)  
 Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)

RC28

**CLEARANCES**

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Special Sworn Status - US Census Bureau