

## ALLISON DAVIS DEMERITT

Department of Sociology  
University of Washington  
Box 353340  
Seattle, WA 98195

206.979.9913  
allisone@u.washington.edu

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### EDUCATION:

#### **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON**, Seattle, WA

Ph.D., Sociology, in progress.

M.A., Sociology, 2008. Thesis: *Legitimate Authority in Mergers and Acquisitions*.

#### **PRINCETON UNIVERSITY**, Princeton, NJ

A.B., English Literature, 1997

### AREAS OF INTEREST:

Governance and management in organizations and states; public finance; institutions & their relationship to economic and political activity

### EXPERIENCE:

#### **CENTER ON REINVENTING PUBLIC EDUCATION**, Graduate Research Assistant, 2006 – pres.

- Conducting interviews, survey design, analysis and writing for the *National Study of Charter Management Organization Effectiveness*. The project seeks to understand how CMOs reproduce charter schools, how structures and practices affect student and organizational outcomes, and how policy contexts contribute to effectiveness. Project funders: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, New Schools Venture Fund.
- Conducted research and analysis and co-authored two publications for the *School Finance Redesign Project* which sought to improve understanding of public finance mechanisms in education and re-target spending to better support student performance. Project funder: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

#### **WASHINGTON POLICY CENTER**, Research Fellow, 2003-2004

- Researched, analyzed, and developed publications on government issues and programs affecting Washington State business owners and citizens.
- Authored *Reforming the Washington Workers' Compensation System*, a policy report aimed at educating legislators and citizens about problems facing the system and solutions to address them.

#### **AMAZON.COM**, Product Manager, 1999-2002

- Led product and program development & implementation across several divisions. Oversaw feature prioritization and design for the e-commerce platform, the fastest growing business unit.
- Managed company-wide customer segmentation and retention programs and marketing initiatives.

#### **SEATTLE-NORTHWEST SECURITIES CORP.**, Public Finance Analyst, 1997-1999

- Designed capital financing alternatives and provided financial consulting for municipal entities including school districts, cities, states and non-profits. Structured bond issues, assessed levy rates and tax burden.

## HONORS AND AWARDS:

Funding and stipend awarded by the Liberty Fund and the Institute for Humane Studies to participate in the conference “Advanced Topics in Liberty: Sociology and the Liberal Tradition.” Alexandria, VA., 2007

Selected to attend and training grant provided by the IHS for the Social Change Workshop: “Culture, Institutions and Beliefs.” Stanford University, 2006

Clarence and Elissa M. Schrag Graduate Fellowship, awarded annually to a student demonstrating exceptional academic promise, University of Washington, 2004.

## PUBLICATIONS:

*Performance Pressure and Resource Allocation in Washington.* 2008. Shelley DeWys, Melissa Bowen, Allison Demeritt and Jacob E. Adams, Jr., Center on Reinventing Public Education.

*Performance Pressure and Resource Allocation in Ohio.* 2008. Shelley DeWys, Melissa Bowen, Allison Demeritt and Jacob E. Adams, Jr., Center on Reinventing Public Education.

*Reforming the Washington Workers' Compensation System.* 2004. Allison Demeritt, Washington Policy Center.

## OTHER SKILLS

- Teaching experience (TA, UW): Sociological Theory, Globalization in Asia, Comparative Social Change
- Software: Microsoft Office and several data and statistical analysis packages incl. STATA, R, Atlas Ti
- Some language skills in French and German; have resided in Canada and Switzerland
- Volunteer triathlon coach for Mary Meyer Life Fitness since 2004