

# THOMAS JOEL FARRAR

Work Tel: +27 (0)21 959 5804 / Mobile: +27 (0)84 859 6809 / Email: farrart@cput.ac.za

---

## OBJECTIVE

Acceptance into a PhD programme in Applied Statistics or a similar field, with a research project looking at innovative applications of text mining particularly in biblical studies

## PERSONAL PROFILE

I am an experienced academic committed to methodologically innovative research at the confluence of statistics, computing and biblical literature. I have published in peer reviewed journals spanning several disciplines, and hold qualifications in Statistics (Masters), Mathematics Integrated with Computer Applications (Honours) and Theology (Honours). I am a Canadian national with permanent residence status in South Africa.

## EDUCATION

2012 – 2017, Bachelor of Theology (Hons.), University of Chester, United Kingdom

2006 – 2007, Master of Mathematics in Statistics, University of Waterloo, Canada

Research paper title: *A two-sample nonparametric multivariate dispersion test based on data depth*

2002 – 2006, Bachelor of Science (Hons.), Mathematics integrated with Computer Applications, Brock University, Canada

## EMPLOYMENT

2012 – present      Lecturer – Statistics  
Department of Mathematics and Physics  
Cape Peninsula University of Technology, Bellville, South Africa

- Responsible for teaching various statistics courses up to third-year level in a three-year Diploma programme
- No formal postgraduate supervision experience yet but have played a consultative role in statistical aspects of Masters and Doctoral research in Chemistry and Emergency Medical Sciences
- Project coordinator and technical report author for a biannual customer satisfaction survey for a major metropolitan bus company (2014, 2016)
- Coordinator for third-year students' Work Integrated Learning in-service projects in industry
- Secretary of Advisory Committee for the Diploma in Mathematical Sciences
- Participated in curriculum development for academic programmes

2008 – 2012

Monitoring and Evaluation Officer  
The Africaid Trust, Durban, South Africa

- Designed and implemented a monitoring and evaluation system for the WhizzKids United HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment and support programme
- Engaged with external partners to improve the quality of data and research on this programme
- Wrote technical reports for internal use (quality improvement) and for external stakeholders such as donors and partner organisations

## SKILLS

Analytical skills include proficiency with various statistical models and methods and proficiency in coding. Statistical software packages with which I am competent include R, SAS, SPSS and Minitab. Programming languages with which I have past experience include R, MATLAB, Maple, C++, VisualBasic.NET, FORTRAN, Java and HTML. I am particularly proficient at coding in R which is my preferred language for use in research. For academic writing I am able to code in LaTeX at an advanced level. I am also proficient with the Microsoft Office suite (Word, Excel and Powerpoint).

Interpersonal and communication skills include public speaking, teaching, academic and technical writing. Language competencies include English (native speaker), French (good working knowledge) and isiZulu (good working knowledge). Other professional skills include teamwork, time management, project management.

## RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Wai Kong Yuen, Thomas J. Farrar and Stuart M. Rothstein, "No-compromise reputation quantum Monte Carlo," *Journal of Physics A: Mathematical and Theoretical* 40 (2007): F639.

Shoja'eddin Chenouri, Christopher G. Small and Thomas J. Farrar, "Data depth-based nonparametric scale tests," *Canadian Journal of Statistics* 39 (2011): 356-369.

Louise Balfour, Thomas Farrar, Marcus McGilvray, Douglas Wilson, Giorgio A Tasca, Johanna N. Spaans, Catherine Mathews, Lungile Maziya, Siphosihle Khanyile, Tracy L. Dalgleish and William D. Cameron, "HIV prevention in action on the football field: the WhizzKids United program in South Africa," *AIDS and Behavior* 17 (2013): 2045-2052.

Thomas J. Farrar and Guy J. Williams, "Diabolical Data: A critical inventory of New Testament Satanology," *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 39 (2016): 40-71.

Thomas J. Farrar and Guy J. Williams, "Talk of the Devil: Unpacking the language of New Testament Satanology," *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 39 (2016): 72-96.

Thomas J. Farrar, "Today in Paradise? Ambiguous adverb attachment and the meaning of Luke 23:43," *Neotestamentica* (forthcoming).

Thomas J. Farrar, "The Intimate and Ultimate Adversary: Satanology in Early Second-Century Christian Literature," *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 26 (forthcoming).

Thomas J. Farrar, "New Testament Satanology and leading suprahuman opponents in Second Temple Jewish Literature: A religion-historical analysis," *Journal of Theological Studies* (forthcoming).

## **CURRENT AND FUTURE RESEARCH INTERESTS**

I am interested in exploring innovative applications of text mining methodologies, especially applications involving biblical and other ancient texts, which I hope to make the subject of my doctoral research. I also have several ongoing research studies in the area of biblical studies and early Christian studies. I hope also to publish research on measuring customer satisfaction in a public transport context based on past experience coordinating a customer satisfaction survey.

## **REFEREES**

Dr. Guy J. Williams, Head of Upper School  
Wellington College, Duke's Ride, Crowthorne, Berkshire, RG45 7PU, United Kingdom  
Telephone: +44 (0)1344 444000  
Email: [GJW@wellingtoncollege.org.uk](mailto:GJW@wellingtoncollege.org.uk)  
Relationship: biblical studies research co-author

Dr. Navin Naidoo, Senior Lecturer  
Cape Peninsula University of Technology, Symphony Way, Bellville, 7530, South Africa  
Telephone: +27 (0)21 959 6534  
Email: [naidoo@cput.ac.za](mailto:naidoo@cput.ac.za)  
Relationship: research collaborator; I assisted him with statistical analysis in his doctoral research

Mr. John Dammert, Corporate Affairs Executive  
Golden Arrow Bus Services Ltd., 103 Bofors Circle, Epping Industria, 8000, South Africa  
Telephone: +27 (0)21 507 8801  
Email: [johndammert@gabs.co.za](mailto:johndammert@gabs.co.za)  
Relationship: He has been our Department's main liaison at Golden Arrow Bus Services concerning the biannual customer satisfaction survey that I coordinated in 2014 and 2016.