

MetaMetrics Executive Team



Linking Assessment with Instruction



A. Jackson Stenner, Ph.D., Chairman, CEO and Co-founder

Dr. Jack Stenner and Malbert Smith III, Ph.D. founded MetaMetrics® with the first of five Small Business Innovation Research grants from the National Institutes of Health. Dating back to its founding in 1984, MetaMetrics has focused on developing new ways of matching students with targeted material in order to foster better educational practices and improve learning. The organization's more than 15 years of research in reading culminated in The Lexile Framework® for Reading, a common developmental scale for measuring reader ability and text difficulty. In 2004, MetaMetrics introduced The Quantile Framework® for Mathematics, which measures mathematics achievement and the difficulty of mathematical skills and tasks similar to the way The Lexile Framework for Reading measures reading ability and text demand. The organization recently launched The Lexile Framework for Writing, which expresses student writing ability on the same Lexile® scale as reading ability. Today, Drs. Stenner and Smith lead MetaMetrics as Lexile measures become the global standard for matching readers with text, and Quantile® measures gain momentum in measuring student performance in mathematics.

Recognized worldwide for his work in testing and evaluation methodology, Dr. Stenner has published more than 60 papers, monographs and books, primarily on statistical and evaluation methodology. He was a co-principal investigator, with Eleanor E. Sanford-Moore, Ph.D., MetaMetrics' senior vice president of research and development, on the Quantile Framework. Under Dr. Stenner's direction, MetaMetrics launched The Lexile Framework for Writing in 2007.

Outside of MetaMetrics, Dr. Stenner is president of the Institute for Objective Measurement and past president of the Professional Billiard Tour Association. He is a board member for the National Institute for Statistical Sciences and a past board member for Duke Children's Hospital and the North Carolina Electronics and Information Technologies Association. He also is a member of, and presents to, various national and international educational research and measurement associations.

Dr. Stenner received his Ph.D. in educational psychology, with an emphasis in measurement, research design and evaluation methodology, from Duke University, and dual undergraduate degrees in psychology and education from the University of Missouri–Saint Louis. He has taught graduate seminars at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and guest lectured at many universities.



Malbert Smith III, Ph.D., President and Co-founder

Dr. Malbert Smith and A. Jackson Stenner, Ph.D. founded MetaMetrics with the first of five Small Business Innovation Research grants from the National Institutes of Health. Dating back to its founding in 1984, MetaMetrics has focused on developing new ways of matching students with targeted material in order to foster better educational practices and improve learning. The organization's more than 15 years of research in reading culminated in The Lexile Framework for Reading, a common, developmental scale for measuring reader ability and text difficulty. In 2004, MetaMetrics introduced The Quantile Framework for Mathematics, which measures mathematics achievement and the difficulty of mathematical skills and tasks similar to the way The Lexile Framework for Reading measures reading ability and text readability. The organization recently launched The Lexile Framework for Writing, which expresses student writing ability on the same Lexile scale as reading ability. Today, Drs. Smith and Stenner lead MetaMetrics as Lexile measures become the global standard for matching readers with text, and Quantile measures gain momentum in measuring student performance in mathematics.

Dr. Smith has served on the Computer Advisory Board for "Inc. Magazine" and the North Carolina Council for Economic Development. In 1997, North Carolina Governor Jim Hunt awarded Dr. Smith the prestigious Order of the Longleaf Pine, the state's highest civilian honor. He is chairman emeritus of the Duke Children's Classic and The Teddy Bear Ball for Duke Children's Hospital. Dr. Smith has served on the boards of The Hill Center in Durham, N.C., the National Alopecia Arecata Foundation and Durham's Child Guidance Clinic. He also is a member of, and presents to, various state and national educational research and measurement associations.

Dr. Smith received his Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his undergraduate degree in psychology from Duke University. He has published and presented numerous papers in the field of educational assessment and measurement, and has taught graduate seminars at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Smith also is a member of, and presents to, various state and national educational research and measurement associations.

Timothy J. Klasson, Chief Operating Officer

Tim Klasson joined MetaMetrics in 2002 and is responsible for all aspects of the organization's operations. Formerly vice president of learning services at Tech Resource Group in Raleigh, N.C., Klasson brought over 22 years of experience in sales, marketing, business development and management to MetaMetrics. He is a former president of a medical education firm; vice president of corporate development for InfoSource, a corporate e-learning firm; product marketing manager for both Ryder Logistics and Cordis, now a division of Johnson & Johnson; and consulting manager with Deloitte & Touche. He holds a bachelor's degree in professional management from Nova Southeastern University, and a master's in business administration from the University of Miami.

Otis Fulton, Senior Vice President, Business Development

Otis Fulton joined MetaMetrics in 2000 and is responsible for state government partnerships. Fulton has a broad background in education, including classroom teaching experience at the middle school and university levels. He consulted with the Virginia Department of Education as a measurement specialist on the development of the Standards of Learning assessments. For 10 years, Fulton was director of the Developmental Skills Institute (DSI), a nonprofit educational research and training organization in Richmond, Va. Through DSI, he worked with hundreds of U.S. school districts, and was a national speaker for Phi Delta Kappa's Teaching and Learning for the 21st Century lecture series. Fulton earned his undergraduate degree in psychology and religion from the University of Virginia. He holds a graduate degree in experimental psychology, with an emphasis in neuropsychology, from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Eleanor E. Sanford-Moore, Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Research and Development

Dr. Ellie Sanford-Moore oversees the organization's research and development projects and other external consulting engagements. Prior to joining MetaMetrics in 1998, she was senior testing consultant for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Dr. Sanford-Moore was responsible for developing the North Carolina End-of-Grade Tests of reading and mathematics for grades three through eight, and the North Carolina End-of-Course Tests for 10 high school subjects. She has written test reviews for "Buro's Mental Measurements Yearbook," and served on various national committees related to large-scale assessment. Dr. Sanford-Moore earned her undergraduate degree in statistics from North Carolina State University, a teaching certificate in mathematics and general sciences from Montana State University, and both her master's and doctorate of philosophy in psychology from North Carolina State University.



MetaMetrics, an educational measurement and research organization, develops scientific measures of student achievement that link assessment with targeted instruction to improve learning. The organization's psychometric team developed the widely used Lexile Framework for Reading; El Sistema Lexile para Leer, the Spanish-language version of the reading framework; The Quantile Framework for Mathematics; and The Lexile Framework for Writing. In addition to licensing Lexile and Quantile measures to state departments of education, testing and instructional companies, and publishers, MetaMetrics offers professional development, resource measurement and customized consulting services.



1000 Park Forty Plaza Drive, Suite 120
Durham, North Carolina 27713
919-547-3400/1-888-LEXILES
www.Lexile.com/www.Quantiles.com

MetaMetrics®, the MetaMetrics logo and tagline, Lexile®, Lexile Framework®, the Lexile logo, Quantile®, Quantile Framework® and the Quantile logo are trademarks of MetaMetrics, Inc., and are registered in the United States and abroad. The trademarks and names of other companies and products mentioned herein are the property of their respective owners. Copyright © 2009 MetaMetrics, Inc. All rights reserved.