

Rian Rinaldi Djita, Ph.D.

Ph.D. in U.S. Education Policy (Quantitative)

Department of Education Reform

College of Education and Health Professions

University of Arkansas in Fayetteville

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Education Policy at University of Arkansas	2020-2024
Master of Education in International Education Policy at Vanderbilt University	2018-2020
Global Health Certificate at Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health	2018-2020
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics Education at Corban University	2009-2013
Sarjana Pendidikan in Mathematics Education at Universitas Pelita Harapan	2009-2013

RESEARCH INTERESTS

First-generation higher education students and their outcomes particularly English Language Learners (ELLs) and immigrant students, students' civic engagement across school sectors, comparison of international education and school choice policies especially in private Christian schools, and school leadership.

WORK EXPERIENCES

Director of Research at Association of Christian Schools International HQ office	2023-now
Graduate Research Assistant in Education Reform at University of Arkansas	2020-2023
Teaching Assistant in Quantitative Methods in Education Policy 1 (Ph.D. course)	2021
Graduate Research Assistant at Tennessee Department of Education (Spring-Fall)	2019
Summer Research Assistant at BRET Office Vanderbilt School of Medicine	2019
Graduate Research Assistant at LPO Department Peabody Vanderbilt University	2019
Consultant and Program Evaluator Lwala Community Alliance Kenya	2019
Consultant and Program Evaluator Gideon's Army Nashville Tennessee	2018
Primary Math Teacher Grade 5 at Regent Primary School Bali Indonesia	2017
Math Teacher Grade 7-11 at Sekolah Dian Harapan Makassar Indonesia	2012-2017

Math Team Leader at at Sekolah Dian Harapan Makassar Indonesia	2016-2017
Student-Teacher Mentor at Sekolah Dian Harapan Makassar Indonesia	2014-2016

RESEARCH GRANTS

Association of Christian Schools International HQ Office	2024
Flourishing school Instruments Translation projects from English to Korean and Bahasa Indonesia, \$5000, Lead Investigator	
University of Arkansas Fayetteville	2024
Research dissemination on the research panel of the purpose of Christian education in the International School Choice and Reform Conference 2024 in Madrid Spain, \$3100, Lead Investigator	
Office of Education Policy at University of Arkansas	2023
Qualitative study of ELLs and their postsecondary education outcomes in urban and rural areas, \$5000, Lead investigator	
The University of Arkansas Graduate and Professional Student Congress	2023
Qualitative study of Marshallese and Hispanic ELLs and their postsecondary education outcomes in rural areas, \$1500, Lead Investigator	

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

The Best Conference Paper for College of Education & Health Professions Award 2023	
Emerging Education Policy Scholars 2023 by Fordham Institute & AEI	2023
Graduate research assistantship at University of Arkansas (Ph.D. program)	2020-2023
Research Fellow at Columbia University & Bill & Melinda Gate’s Foundation	2020
Fulbright Scholarship at Vanderbilt University	2018-2020
Scholastic Achievement Scholarship from Peabody Vanderbilt University	2018-2020
Full-Ride Scholarship Undergraduate Program at Universitas Pelita Harapan	2008-2012

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Cheng, A., & Djita, R. R. (2024). The Role of Poetry in Cultivating Attentiveness, Curiosity, and Affinity in the Science Classroom. *Principia: A Journal of Classical*

Education (Accepted, upcoming publication April 2024)

- Cheng, A., Lee, M.H. & **Djita, R.** (2022). A Cross-Sectional Analysis of the Relationship Between Sabbath Practices and US, Canadian, Indonesian, and Paraguayan Teachers' Burnout. **J Relig Health**. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10943-022-01647-w>
- **Djita, R.**, Tran, B. T. N., Nguyen, N. T. M., Wibawanta, B. (2022). The Impacts of The COVID- 19 Pandemic On First-Generation, Low-Income And Rural Students In Indonesia And Vietnam: A Cross-Cultural Comparative Study. **Journal of Comparative & International Higher Education**, 14(3 (Part 1)). [https://doi.org/10.32674/jcihe.v14i3 \(Part 1\).4636](https://doi.org/10.32674/jcihe.v14i3 (Part 1).4636)
- **Djita, Rian**; HILL, Ashley. World Policy Analysis. *Iris Journal of Scholarship*, [S.l.], v. 1, p. 37-47, May 2019. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15695/iris.v1i0.4633>
- **Djita, Rian.** (2019). Looking Through the Implementation of K-13 Through the Lens of AQEE Principle from OECD: What Should Be Improved From Our K-13 Implementation in Order to be Internationally Competitive? **Proceedings of Indonesia Focus**, [S.l.], v. 1, n. 1, nov. 2019. ISSN 2475-4005. Available at: <https://www.indonesiafocus.net/index.php/PIF/article/view/34>

PEER-REVIEWED MANUSCRIPT UNDER REVIEW

- **Djita, R. R.**, Parra-Martinez, A., Wai, J., McKenzie, S. (2024). The Role of AP & Concurrent Courses on Student Postsecondary Outcomes, Out-of-state Choice, and College Selectivity (Review and Re-submit)
- Johnson, A., **Djita, R. R.**, Swaner, L. (2024). Christian School Leaders' Perspective on Identifying and Hiring High-quality Teachers (Under Review)
- Lee, M. H., **Djita, R. R.**, Price, E. W. (2023). Spiritual Formation in College and University: Do Students in Religious Higher Education Institutions Feel Supported in Their Faith (Under Review)
- **Djita, R. R.**, Nie, O. Y. (2023). Spiritual Development as the Purpose of Christian Education and the Role of Christian University: Evidence from Indonesia (Under Review)
- Helal, A. M., **Djita, R. R.**, Parra-Martinez, A., Wai, J., McKenzie, S. (2024). Gifted students later outcomes: College going rates and selectivity. (Under Review)

- **Djita, R.**, Barnes, K., & McKenzie, S. C. (2023). English Language Learners and Their Postsecondary Education Outcomes: Evidence from Arkansas. *Education Reform Faculty and Graduate Students Publications*. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.uark.edu/edrepub/145/> (Under Review)
- **Djita, R. R.** (2023). Does Teacher Union Strength Influence Principal's Autonomy? Evidence from Nationally representative Data. (Under Review)
- Cheng, A., & **Djita, R. R.** (2021). Volunteering and Charitable Giving among Australian Young Adults and the Mediating Role of Community Service Emphasis in Secondary Schools. *Education Reform Faculty and Graduate Student Publications*. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.uark.edu/edrepub/120/> (Under Review)
- Cheng, A., **Djita, R. R.** (2022). The Role of Poetry in Cultivating Attentiveness, Curiosity, and Affinity in the Science Classroom. *Education Reform Faculty and Graduate Student Publications*. Retrieved from https://edre.uark.edu/resources/pdf/edre_wp_2022_04.pdf (Review and Re-submit)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Swaner, L., & **Djita, R. R.** (2024). Artificial Intelligence and Christian schools. *Cardus* (upcoming publication April 2024)
- Johnson, A., **Djita, R. R.**, Swaner, L. (2024). Christian School Leaders' Perspective on Identifying and Hiring High-quality Teachers. *ACSI Working Paper*. Retrieved from <https://www.acsi.org/docs/default-source/website-publishing/research/wp2024-01.pdf>
- Lee, M. H., **Djita, R. R.**, Price, E. W. (2023). Spiritual Formation in College and University: Do Students in Religious Higher Education Institutions Feel Supported in Their Faith. *ACSI Working Paper*. Retrieved from <https://www.acsi.org/docs/default-source/website-publishing/research/wp2023-03.pdf>
- **Djita, R. R.**, Nie, O. Y. (2023). Spiritual Development as the Purpose of Christian Education and the Role of Christian University: Evidence from Indonesia. *ACSI Working Paper*. Retrieved from <https://www.acsi.org/docs/default-source/website-publishing/research/wp2023-04.pdf>
- **Djita, R. R.**, Parra-Martinez, A., Wai, J., McKenzie, S. (2024). The Role of AP &

Concurrent Courses on Student Postsecondary Outcomes, Out-of-state Choice, and College Selectivity. Office for Education Policy. Retrieved from https://bpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/wordpressua.uark.edu/dist/1/555/files/2023/11/20.7-AER_AP-Concurrent.pdf

- **Djita, R. R.** (2023). Leveling the Playing Field? Retrieved from <https://oep.uark.edu/leveling-the-playing-field/>
- Cheng A., **Djita, R. R.**, Hunt, D. (2022). Many Educational Systems, A Common Good. Cardus. Retrieved from <https://www.cardus.ca/research/education/reports/many-educational-systems-a-common-good/>
- Lee, M. H., **Djita, R. R.**, Cheng, A. (2021). Sabbath Practices and Wellness in Christian Schools. Research in Brief: Association of Christian Schools International: Spring 2021. Retrieved from <https://www.acsi.org/docs/default-source/website-publishing/research/research-in-brief-spring-2021.pdf>
- **Djita, R. R.** (2021, May 25). Sabbath Practices and Well-Being in Christian Schools. ACSI. Retrieved from <https://blog.acsi.org/burnout-sabbath-practices>

CONFERENCE PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks:

Djita, R. R. (2020, June 15). Spirit Lintas Iman dalam Menjalani New Normal Pandemi COVID-19: International Webinar Empat Benua.”. Invited talk at FUAD Institute Agama Islam Negeri Pontianak: Pontianak, Indonesia

Djita, R. R. (2021, August 12). Educational Research in Christian Education. Invited talk at the Teachers College’s Faculty Professional Development at Faculty of Education at Universitas Pelita Harapan, Tangerang, Indonesia

Academic Conferences:

American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Conference 2024. Helal, A. M., **Djita, R. R.**, Parra-Martinez, A., Wai, J., McKenzie, S. College Selectivity and Postsecondary Outcomes Among Gifted and talented Students: Longitudinal Study from Arkansas, Philadelphia Pennsylvania.

Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) 49th Annual Conference 2024. **Djita, R. R.**, Parra-Martinez, A., Wai, J., McKenzie, S. (2024). The Role of AP & Concurrent Courses on Postsecondary Outcomes, Baltimore Maryland.

International School Choice and Reform Conference (ISCRC) 2024. **Djita, R. R.**, Nie, Oh Yen. Panel on the True Purpose of Christian Education. Madrid Spain

Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) 2023. **Djita, R. R.** The Power of the Dream: A longitudinal Study on Parental Expectations and Children's Educational Attainment Among Immigrant Families in the U.S. Minneapolis Minnesota.

International Christian Educator Conference (ICEC) – Asia 2023. **Djita, R. R.** The Use of Data in Christian Schools. Jakarta Indonesia

International Christian Educator Conference (ICEC) – Asia 2023. **Djita, R. R.** Flourishing School Culture Instruments. Jakarta Indonesia

American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Conference 2023. **Djita, R. R.**, Barnes, K. (2023). English language Learners' and their Postsecondary Outcomes: Evidence from Arkansas. Chicago Illinois.

Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) 48th Annual Conference. **Djita, R. R.**, Barnes, K. (2023). English language Learners' and their Postsecondary Outcomes: Evidence from Arkansas. Denver Colorado.

The International School Choice and Reform Conference (ISCRC) 2023. Cheng, A, Lee, M. H. & **Djita, R. R.** A Cross-sectional Analysis of the Relationship Between Sabbath Practices and US, Canadian, Indonesian, and Paraguayan Teachers' Burnout. Fort Lauderdale Florida.

Mid-South Educational Research Association Conference 2022. **Djita, R. R.** (2022). English Language Learners and Their Postsecondary Outcomes. Little Rock Arkansas.

Kuyers Institute/INCHE Conference 2022. **Djita, R. R.** (2022). A Cross-sectional Analysis of the Relationship Between Sabbath Practices and US, Canadian, Indonesian, and Paraguayan Teachers' Burnout. Grand Rapids Michigan.

Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) 47th Annual Conference. **Djita, R. R.** (2022). The Impacts of The COVID-19 Pandemic On First-Generation, Low-Income And Rural Students In Indonesia And Vietnam: A Cross-Cultural Comparative Study. Denver, Colorado.

American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Conference 2022. **Djita, R. R.** (2022). The Impacts of The COVID-19 Pandemic On First-Generation, Low-Income And Rural Students In Indonesia And Vietnam: A Cross-Cultural Comparative Study. San Diego, California.

Mid-South Educational Research Association Conference 2022. **Djita, R. R.** (2021). The Impacts of The COVID-19 Pandemic On First-Generation, Low Income & Rural Students In Indonesia And Vietnam: A Cross-Cultural Comparative Study. New Orleans Louisiana.

Indonesia Focus 2019 11th annual conference: University of Indiana at Bloomington. **Djita, R. R.** Looking Through the Implementation of K-13 Through the Lens of AQEE Principle from OECD: What Should Be Improved from Our K-13 Implementation in Order to Be Internationally Competitive? Bloomington: Indiana.

Leadership, Policy and Organization 2019 Symposium: Vanderbilt University. **Djita, R. R.** Vanderbilt's school of medicine: Alumni Career outcomes. Nashville, Tennessee.

OMC XXVI 2019 conference Denver Colorado. **Djita, R. R.** Overview of Indonesia's Curriculum over the years: a backward by design. Denver: Colorado.

AFFILIATIONS

Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)

2023 – PRESENT

Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)	2021 – PRESENT
American Educational Research Association (AERA)	2021 – PRESENT
Center for Public Research and Leadership at Columbia University	2020 – PRESENT
Fordham Institute & AEI	2023
Fulbright Indonesia	2021 – PRESENT
Mid-South Educational Research Association (MSERA)	2021 – PRESENT

SERVICE

Peer-reviewed Journal Reviewer

Humanities and Social Sciences Communications
 Journal of Advanced Academics
 Journal of Comparative and International Higher Education
 International Journal of Christianity and Education
 Open Education Studies
 Peabody Irish Journal Vanderbilt University

LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES

Graduate Professional Student Congress at University of Arkansas	2022-2023
Graduate Dean’s Student Advisory Board at University of Arkansas	2021-2023
Mathematics Tutor in Afterschool Program in Nashville Tennessee	2019
Community Service Coordinator at Sekolah Dian Harapan	2012-2017
Volunteer Teacher in Remote Area in Sulawesi Indonesia	2015-2016
Chief Mentor for Undergraduate student at Universitas Pelita Harapan	2010-2011

SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Bahasa Indonesia (Native), English (Fluent)
 Microsoft Office Suite (Word, PowerPoint, Excel & Publisher)
 Quantitative Study in Education Policy: STATA, Tableau, R (Basic)
 ArcGIS (Basic)

Survey Designs (Qualtrics & SurveyCTO)

Qualitative Research (Basic)

Grant writing

REFERENCES

Albert A. Cheng. Assistant Professor in Education Reform Department at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

Email: axc070@uark.edu

Jonathan Wai. Associate Professor in Education Reform Department at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

Email: jwai@uark.edu

Sarah McKenzie. Assistant Research Professor & Executive Director, Office for Education Policy in Education Reform Department at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville

Email: scmcken@uark.edu