



**ATHENS INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH  
(ATINER)**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**RE:** A Workshop on "**Quantitative Methods in Evaluating the Quality of Assessments**", Monday 23 May 2016, Titania Hotel, 52 Panepistimiou Avenue, Athens, Greece.

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The Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER) has hosted a workshop on:

### ***“Quantitative Methods in Evaluating the Quality of Assessments”***

The event took place on **Monday 23 May 2016 at 17:30**, Titania Hotel, 52 Panepistimiou Avenue, Athens, Greece.

The workshop, chaired by **Dr. Thanos Patelis**, Head, Psychology Research Unit of ATINER, Research Scholar, Fordham University, USA, was attended by an international group of participants with a wide variety of scientific backgrounds. The talks were given by three distinguished scholars on the pertinent fields:

1. **Sara Finney**, Professor, James Madison University, USA.
2. **Laine Bradshaw**, Professor, University of Georgia, USA.
3. **Stephen Sireci**, Professor, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, USA.

**Professor Sara Finney** discussed on structural equation modeling (SEM) techniques. She focused on the confirmatory factor analysis in particular, but she also explained the key aspects of other methods as well including path analysis and exploratory factor analysis.

**Professor Laine Bradshaw** gave a talk on diagnostic classification models (DCMs) as a key quantitative method for measuring school students' abilities and complex knowledge structures. As Prof. Bradshaw explained, a key advantage of DCMs is the measurement of multiple dimensions/concepts with a relatively small set of survey questions.

Finally, **Professor Stephen Sireci** discussed on the validity and reliability of multidimensional scaling (MDS) as a measurement tool for various concepts and domains in education and psychology. Prof. Sireci provided a concrete definition of MDS and explained, among others, the key aspects and differences between classical and weighted MDS.

The list of events organized by the Institute is available on the Institute's website: <http://www.atiner.gr/event>.