

**David E. Lewis**  
Revised December, 2025

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EMPLOYMENT:

8/20-	Rebecca Webb Wilson University Distinguished Professor, Vanderbilt University
8/20-	Professor, Department of Leadership, Policy, and Organizations, Peabody College of Education, Vanderbilt University
9/11-8/20	William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor, Vanderbilt University
9/19-8/20	Professor, Department of Leadership, Policy, and Organizations, Peabody College of Education, Vanderbilt University (secondary appointment)
7/15-7/18	Chair, Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University
8/14-7/15	Interim Chair, Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University
7/10-13	Associate Chair, Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University
7/08-	Professor, Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University. Professor, Vanderbilt University Law School (by courtesy) Co-Director, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Vanderbilt University
7/02-6/08	Assistant Professor of Politics and Public Affairs, Princeton University. Class of 1934 University Preceptor (2006-9). Faculty Affiliate, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics.
9/00-5/02	Assistant Professor, Department of Government, College of William & Mary.

EDUCATION:

2000	Ph.D., Political Science, Stanford University.
2000	M.A., Political Science, Stanford University.
1996	M.A., Political Science, University of Colorado at Boulder.
1992	B.A., Political Science with high honors and general distinction in scholarship, University of California at Berkeley.

## PUBLICATIONS:

Books: *The Politics of Presidential Appointments: Political Control and Bureaucratic Performance*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press (2008). Issued in Japanese 2009.

Winner of the 2024 Legacy Award, awarded by the Presidency and Executive Politics Section of the American Political Science Association for a living author for a book, essay, or article published at least 10 years prior to the award year, that has made a continuing contribution to the intellectual development of the fields of presidency and executive politics.

Winner of the 2009 Richard E. Neustadt Award, awarded by the Presidency Research Section of the American Political Science Association for the best book on the U.S. presidency published during the previous year.

Honorable mention for the 2009 Charles Levine Prize for the best book in Comparative Policy and Administration, International Political Science Association.

One of CHOICE Magazine's Outstanding Academic Titles, 2009

Winner of the 2008 Herbert A. Simon Best Book Award, awarded by the Public Administration Section of the American Political Science Association for the best book published in the last three to five years that has made a significant contribution to public administration scholarship.

Reviewed in *Choice*, *Congress & the Presidency*, *Democracy: A Journal of Ideas*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Perspectives on Political Science*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *Public Administration*, *Public Administration Review*, *Public Management Review*

Portions reprinted in Samuel Kernell and Steven S. Smith, eds. *Principles and Practice of American Politics: Classic and Contemporary Readings* (Washington, DC: CQ Press).

*Presidents and the Politics of Agency Design: Political Insulation in the United States Government Bureaucracy, 1946-1997*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press (2003). Issued in paperback 2004.

Reviewed in *Perspectives on Politics*, *Journal of Politics*, *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, *Congress and the Presidency*, *Public Administration Review*, *Choice*, *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*.

Articles: "Obtaining Comparable Measures of Organizational Performance: An Application to U.S. Federal Agencies, 2002-2024," (with George Krause), *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 45(1):1-20 (2026).

Summary on *LSE USAPP*: "How a new measure can tell us about how government agencies are performing, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

(<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2025/12/05/how-a-new-measure-can-tell-us-about-how-government-agencies-are-performing/>)

"Measuring the Impact of Appointee Vacancies on U.S. Federal Agency Performance," (with Mark D. Richardson and Chris Piper), *Journal of Politics* 87(2):680-95(2025).

"Presidential Investment in the Administrative State," (with Nick Bednar) *American Political Science Review* 118(1):442-57(2024).

Summary on *LSE USAPP: United States Politics and Policy Blog*, "Voters rarely care about 'good governance' until it affects them directly, meaning most federal agencies are neglected by the White House," June 15, 2023 (<https://bit.ly/43YaioI>).

Reviewed on *Jotwell: The Journal of Things We Like (Lots)* by Anne Joseph O'Connell, October 27, 2023 (<https://adlaw.jotwell.com/agency-capacity/>).

"The Independent Agency Myth," (with Neal Devins), *Cornell Law Review* 108(6):1305-74 (2023).

Reviewed on *Jotwell: The Journal of Things We Like (Lots)* by Christopher Walker, August 7, 2024 (<https://adlaw.jotwell.com/a-world-without-humphreys-executor/>).

Winner of the American Bar Association Administrative Law Section Annual Scholarship Award for best work published in the field of administrative law during 2023.

"Do Vacancies Hurt Federal Agency Performance?" (with Christopher M. Piper), *Journal of Public Administration Research & Theory* 33(2):313-28 (2023).

"Partisan Procurement: Contracting with the United States Federal Government, 2003-2015," (with Carl Dahlstrom and Mihaly Fazekas), *American Journal of Political Science* 65(3):652-69 (2021).

"Is the Failed Pandemic Response a Symptom of a Diseased Administrative State?" *Daedalus* 150(3):68-88 (Summer 2021).

"The Very Best People: President Trump and the Management of Executive Personnel," (with Mark D. Richardson) *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 51(1):51-70 (2021).

"Elections, Ideology, and Turnover in the U.S. Federal Government," (with Alexander D. Bolton and John M. de Figueiredo), *Journal of Public Administration Research & Theory* 31(2):451-66 (2021).

[Formerly, NBER Working Paper #22932]

Winner of the Herbert Kaufman Best Paper Award for the best paper presented on a panel sponsored by the Public Administration Section at the APSA annual meeting, 2016.

“Public-sector Personnel Economics: Wages, Promotions, and the Competence-Control Trade-Off,” (with Charles M. Cameron and John M. de Figueiredo) *Advances in Strategic Management* 41:111-48 (2020).

“Presidents and Turnover in Regulatory Personnel,” (with Kathleen Doherty and Scott Limbocker) *Administration & Society*, 51:1-25 (2019).

“Deconstructing the Administrative State,” *Journal of Politics*, 81(3):767-89 (2019).

[Presidential Address, 2019 annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Austin, TX, January 17-19.]

“Executive Control and Turnover in the Senior Executive Service,” (with Kathleen Doherty and Scott Limbocker) *Journal of Public Administration Research & Theory* 29(2):159-74 (2019).

[Formerly, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Working Paper # 02-2015]

Winner of the Kenneth J. Meier Award for the best paper in bureaucratic politics, public administration, or public policy at the Midwest Political Science Association meeting, 2015.

Results summarized in “Trump could dramatically reshape the civil service, if he wanted to,” *Washington Post* (Monkey Cage), November 29, 2017 (Kathleen Doherty).

“President Trump as Manager: Reflections on the First Year.” (with Patrick Bernhard and Emily H. You) *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 48(3):480-501 (2018).

“Elite Perceptions of Agency Ideology and Workforce Skill.” (with Mark D. Richardson and Joshua D. Clinton) *Journal of Politics* 80(1):303-7 (2018).

“Agency Performance Challenges and Agency Politicization.” (with Abby K. Wood) *Journal of Public Administration Research & Theory* 27(4):581-95 (2017).

[Formerly, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Working Paper # 06-2012]

“Political Control and the Forms of Agency Independence.” (with Jennifer L. Selin) *George Washington Law Review* 83(4/5):1487-1516 (2015).

“Presidents and Patronage.” (with Gary E. Hollibaugh, Jr. and Gabe Horton), *American Journal of Political Science* 58(4):1024-1042 (2014).

[Formerly, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Working Paper # 02-2010]

“Influencing the Bureaucracy: The Irony of Congressional Oversight.” (with Joshua D. Clinton and Jennifer L. Selin), *American Journal of Political Science* 58(2):387-401 (2014).



[Formerly, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Working Paper # 05-2012]

“Government Reform, Political Ideology, and Administrative Burden: The Case of Performance Management in the Bush Administration.” (with Stéphane Lavertu and Donald P. Moynihan) *Public Administration Review* 73(6):845-57 (2013).

“Policy Influence, Agency-Specific Expertise, and Exit in the Federal Service.” (with Anthony M. Bertelli) *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* 23(2):223-245 (2013).

[Formerly, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Working Paper # 02-2013]

“Politics Can Limit Policy Opportunism in Fiscal Institutions: Evidence from Official General Fund Revenue Forecasts in the American States.” (with George A. Krause and James Douglas) *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 32(2):271-95 (2013).

[Formerly, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Working Paper # 03-2009]

“The Invisible Presidential Appointments: An Examination of Appointments to the Department of Labor, 2001-2011.” (with Richard W. Waterman) *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 43 (1): 35-57 (2013).

“The Personnel Process in the Modern Presidency.” *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 42(3):577-96 (2012).

“Separated Powers in the United States.” (with Joshua D. Clinton, Anthony M. Bertelli, Christian Grose, and David C. Nixon) *American Journal of Political Science* 56(2):341-54 (2012).

[Formerly, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Working Paper # 05-2009.]

“The Consequences of Presidential Patronage for Agency Performance.” (with Nick Gallo) *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*. 22(2): 219-243 (2012).

[Formerly, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Working Paper # 01-2010.]

“Presidential Appointments and Personnel.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 14 (June):47-66 (2011).

"Measurement and Public Service Motivation: New Insights, Old Questions." *International Public Management Journal* 13(1):1-10 (2010).

“Modern Presidents and the Transformation of the Federal Personnel System.” *The Forum*, 7(4): Article 6 (2010). (<http://www.bepress.com/forum/vol7/iss4/art6>)

“Revisiting the Administrative Presidency: Policy, Patronage, and Administrative Competence.” *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 39 (1):60-73 (2009).

“Management and Leadership Performance in the Defense Department: Evidence from Surveys of Federal Employees.” (with Major Paul S. Oh, U.S. Army) *Armed Forces and Society* 34(4): 639-661 (2008).

“Not-So Independent Agencies: Party Polarization and the Limits of Institutional Design.” (with Neal Devins) *Boston University Law Review* 88(2):459-98 (2008).

“Expert Opinion, Agency Characteristics, and Agency Preferences.” (with Joshua D. Clinton) *Political Analysis* 16(1):3-16 (2008).

“Toward a Broader Understanding of Presidential Power: A Re-Evaluation of the Two Presidencies Thesis.” (with Brandice Canes-Wrone and William G. Howell) *Journal of Politics* 70(1):1-16 (2008).

“Testing Pendleton’s Premise: Do Political Appointees Make Worse Bureaucrats?” *Journal of Politics* 69(4):1073-88 (2007).

“Does Performance Budgeting Work? An Examination of OMB’s PART Scores.” (with John B. Gilmour) *Public Administration Review* 66(5):742-52 (2006).

“Political Appointments, Civil Service Systems, and Bureaucratic Competence: Organizational Balancing and Gubernatorial Revenue Forecasts in the American States.” (with George Krause and James Douglas) *American Journal of Political Science* 50(3):770-87 (2006).

“Assessing Performance Budgeting at OMB: The Influence of Politics, Performance, and Program Size.” (with John B. Gilmour) *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* 16(2):169-86 (2006).

“Political Appointees and the Competence of Federal Program Management.” (with John B. Gilmour) *American Politics Research* 34(1):22-50 (2006).

“Staffing Alone: Unilateral Action and the Politicization of the Executive Office of the President, 1988-2004.” *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 35(3):496-514 (2005). [Translated into Spanish 2011.]

“Political Learning from Rare Events: Poisson Inference, Fiscal Constraints and the Lifetime of Bureaus.” (with Daniel C. Carpenter) *Political Analysis* 12(3):201-32 (2004).

“The Adverse Consequences of the Politics of Agency Design for Presidential Management in the United States: The Relative Durability of Insulated Agencies.” *British Journal of Political Science* 34:377-404 (2004).

“The Irrational Escalation of Commitment and the Ironic Labor Politics of the Rust Belt.” (with Glenn Beamer) *Enterprise and Society* 4(4):676-306 (2003).

"Agencies by Presidential Design." (with William G. Howell) *Journal of Politics* 64(4):1095-1114 (2002). [Translated into Spanish 2011.]

"The Politics of Agency Termination: Confronting the Myth of Agency Immortality." *Journal of Politics* 64(1):89-107 (2002).

"What Time Is It? The Use of Power in Four Different Types of Presidential Time." (with James Michael Strine) *Journal of Politics* 58(3):682-706 (1996).

#### Book

##### Chapters:

"OMB in its Management Role: Evidence from Surveys of Federal Executives," (with Mark D. Richardson and Eric Rosenthal), in Meenekshi Bose and Andrew Rudalevige, eds., *Prioritizing Presidential Policies: How Does the Office of Management and Budget Influence Executive Policy Making?* (Washington, DC: Brookings, 2020).

"The Presidency and the Bureaucracy," (with Terry M. Moe) In Michael Nelson, ed. *The Presidency and the Political System*, 11 ed. (Washington, DC: CQ Press, 2018).

"Struggling Over Bureaucracy: The Levers of Control," (with Terry M. Moe) In Michael Nelson, ed. *The Presidency and the Political System*, 10<sup>th</sup> ed. Washington, DC: CQ Press (2013).

"Presidential Politicization of the Executive Branch in the United States," in Martin Lodge and Kai Wegrich, eds. *Executive Politics in Times of Crisis*. Hampshire, UK: Palgrave Macmillan (2012).

[Formerly, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Working Paper # 02-09].

"Policy Durability and Agency Design," in Jeffery A. Jenkins and Eric Patashnik, eds., *Living Legislation: Political Development and Contemporary American Politics*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press (2012).

[Formerly, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions Working Paper # 04-09].

"Presidential Appointments in the Obama Administration: An Early Evaluation." In Andrew Dowdle, Dirk van Raemdonck, Robert Maranto, eds., *The Obama Presidency: Change and Continuity*. New York: Routledge (2011).

"Struggling Over Bureaucracy: The Levers of Control," (with Terry M. Moe) In Michael Nelson, ed. *The Presidency and the Political System*, 9<sup>th</sup> ed. Washington, DC: CQ Press (2009).

"Personnel is Policy: George W. Bush's Managerial Presidency," In Colin Provost and Paul Teske, eds. *Extraordinary Times, Extraordinary Powers: President George W. Bush's Influence Over Bureaucracy and Policy*. New York: Palgrave (2009).

"The President and the Evolving Institutional Presidency: Presidential Choice,

Institutional Change, and Staff Performance.” In Bert A. Rockman and Richard Waterman, eds. *Presidential Leadership: The Vortex of Power*. New York: Oxford University Press (2008).

“The Presidency and the Bureaucracy: Management Imperatives in a Separation of Powers System.” In Michael Nelson, ed. *The Presidency and the Political System*, 8<sup>th</sup> ed. Washington, DC: CQ Press (2005).

#### Other

Publications: “Political Appointees to the Federal Bureaucracy,” Center for Effective Government, University of Chicago, Democracy Reform Primer Series, February 20, 2024.

“Do Agencies Have the Capacity to be Reasonable?” Commentary on *The Reasoning State* by Edward H. Stiglitz, *Yale Journal on Regulation*, November, 2022.

*Sourcebook of United States Executive Agencies*, rev. ed. (with Jennifer L. Selin). Report for the Administrative Conference of the United States (2018).

“Will Federal Employees Work for a President They Disagree With?” (with Alexander D. Bolton and John M. de Figueiredo) *Harvard Business Review*, February 10, 2017.

*Sourcebook of United States Executive Agencies* (with Jennifer L. Selin). Report for the Administrative Conference of the United States (2012).

“Strong Executive Branch Leadership Crucial for Policy Implementation,” (with James P. Pfiffner, Dwight Ink, and Anne Joseph O’Connell) *The Public Manager* 41(4):37-40 (2012).

“Reducing the Number of Political Appointees,” *Memos to National Leaders Project*, National Academy of Public Administration (2012). [<http://www.memostoleaders.org/reducing-number-political-appointees>].

“The White House Office of Presidential Personnel,” (with James P. Pfiffner and Bradley H. Patterson) *White House Transition Project Report 2009-27* (2008).

#### Book Reviews:

Review of Daniel Treisman, *The Architecture of Government: Rethinking Political Decentralization*, *Public Administration* 87(4):983-4 (2009).

Review of Kenneth R. Mayer, *With the Stroke of a Pen: Executive Orders and Presidential Power. Congress and the Presidency* 29(2):230-2 (2002).

#### Active Working Papers:

“President Trump and the Federal Personnel System: Theory and Practice,” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Vancouver, CA, September 11-14.

“Presidential Control and Interagency Networks,” (with Patrick Buhr), Paper presented at the 2025 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 4-6.

“Reconsidering the Politics-Administration Divide: Politics, Capacity, and Performance in U.S. Federal Agencies, 2002-2022.” Paper presented at the 2024 annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, September 5-8.

“Building Effective Bureaucracy: Career Concerns, Productivity, and Politicization in the Public Sector,” (with Mauricio Bugarin), Manuscript, Vanderbilt University.

Other  
Working  
Papers:

“When do Elections Matter? Appointments and Bureaucratic Resistance in the United States,” (with Mark D. Richardson), Paper prepared for presentation at the Public Management Research Conference, Chapel Hill, NC, June 11-14, 2019.

“Legislators and Federal Agency Performance,” (with David R. Miller) Manuscript, Vanderbilt University.

“Presidential Appointment Strategies and Management Concerns,” Paper prepared for presentation at the 2020 annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, San Juan, PR, January 8-11, 2020.

“Political Control and Presidential Spending Power,” Paper presented at the 2016 annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 31-September 4.

“Policy Making and the President’s Enforcement Power,” (with Nathan Kiker) Paper prepared for presentation at the 2017 annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, January 12-14, 2017.

“Which Agencies are Powerful?” (with Mark D. Richardson and Eric Rosenthal) Paper presented at the 2017 annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, January 12-14, 2017.

“Politicization and Compliance with the Law: The Case of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998” (with Evan Haglund) Manuscript, Vanderbilt University.

“Personnel System Under Stress: Results of the 2014 Survey on the Future of Government Service,” (with Mark D. Richardson) CSDI Working Paper 2-2017, Vanderbilt University.

“Political Control and Agency Human Capital in the Department of Homeland Security,” (with Ben Fifield) Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, January 15-17, 2015.

“Congress, Responsiveness, and Agency Performance” (with Jennifer L. Selin and Abby K. Wood) Manuscript, Vanderbilt University.

“Political Control, Responsiveness, and Expertise in the Administrative State,” (with Mark D. Richardson) Paper prepared for presentation at the 2015 SOG Conference on Accountability and Welfare State Reforms, Bergen, Norway, February 19-20.

“Campaigning for a Job: Obama for America, Patronage, and Presidential Appointments,” (with Camille D. Burge), manuscript, Vanderbilt University.

“Politicization and Federal Management Performance: Evidence from Surveys of Federal Employees,” (with Melissa Collins, Carra Glatt, and Michael Shapiro) Manuscript, Vanderbilt University.

“Parsing the Politicized Presidency: Centralization, Politicization, and Presidential Strategies for Bureaucratic Control.” (with Andrew Rudalevige) Manuscript, Dickinson College.

#### HONORS AND AWARDS:

- 2025      *Excellence in Graduate Mentoring Award*, Graduate School, Vanderbilt University.
- 2024      *Administrative Law Section Scholarship Award*, American Bar Association. Award recognizes best work published in the field of administrative law during 2023. Awarded for “The Independent Agency Myth” with Neal Devins.
- 2024      *Presidents and Executive Politics Legacy Award*. Awarded by the American Political Science Association Presidency and Executive Politics Section to a living author for a book, essay, or article published at least 10 years prior to the award year, that has made a continuing contribution to the intellectual development of the fields of presidency and executive politics.
- 2023      *Robert Birkby Award for Teaching Excellence in Political Science*
- 2017      *Herbert Kaufman Best Paper Award*. Presented by the American Political Science Association (APSA) Section on Public Administration for the best paper presented on a panel sponsored by the Public Administration Section at the APSA annual meeting.
- 2016      *Kenneth J. Meier Award*. Presented by the Midwest Political Science Association for the best paper in bureaucratic politics, public administration, or public policy at the annual meeting, 2015. “Controlling Agency Choke Points: Presidents and Regulatory Personnel Turnover,” (with Kathleen Doherty and Scott Limbocker)
- 2015      *Madison Sarratt Prize for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching*, Vanderbilt University.
- 2015      *Herbert Simon Award*. Presented by the Midwest Public Administration Caucus to honor a scholar who has made a significant contribution to the study of the public bureaucracy.
- 2014      *Robert Birkby Award for Teaching Excellence in Political Science*
- 2012      Elected to the National Academy of Public Administration.

- 2011 *Jeffrey Nordhaus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching*. Award recognizes faculty in the College of Arts and Science at Vanderbilt University who have excelled in undergraduate teaching.
- 2009 *Charles Levine Prize* (Honorable mention). Presented by the International Political Science Association's Committee on the Structure and Organization of Governance (SOG) for the best book in Comparative Policy and Administration in 2009. *The Politics of Presidential Appointments: Political Control and Bureaucratic Performance* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2008).
- 2009 *Richard E. Neustadt Award*. Presented by the Presidency Research Section of the American Political Science Association for the best book on the U.S. presidency published during the previous year. *The Politics of Presidential Appointments: Political Control and Bureaucratic Performance* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2008).
- 2008 *Herbert A. Simon Best Book Award*. Presented by the American Political Science Association Public Administration Section for the best book published in the last three to five years that has made a significant contribution to public administration scholarship. *The Politics of Presidential Appointments: Political Control and Bureaucratic Performance* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2008).
- 2006 *Class of 1934 University Preceptorship*, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University.
- 2006 *Presidency Research Group Founder's Award (in honor of Fred Greenstein) for the Best Paper Presented at the Preceding Year's Annual Meeting*. "Parsing the Politicized Presidency: Centralization and Politicization as Presidential Strategies for Bureaucratic Control." (with Andrew Rudalevige) Paper presented at the 2005 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC.
- 1999 *Presidency Research Group Founder's Award for the Best Convention Paper by a Graduate Student*, 1999. "The Presidential Advantage in the Design of Bureaucratic Agencies." Paper presented at the 1998 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, September 3-6, 1998.

#### FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS:

- 2014-16 Smith Richardson Foundation, "Developing, Managing, and Retaining Expert Human Capital in Public Agencies." \$250,000 (with Charles Cameron and John de Figueiredo)
- 2013-14 Research Scholar Fellowship, Vanderbilt University, "Effectiveness, Control, and Competence in Public Agencies." \$36,750.
- 2011-12 "Collaborative Research: Effectiveness, Control, and Competence in Public Agencies," National Science Foundation Grant (SES#1061512). \$177,616 (Vanderbilt portion \$69,662)

- 2005 “The Politicization of the U.S. Government Bureaucracy: Causes and Consequences,” Smith Richardson Foundation, Public Policy Research Program (SRF grant #2005-4928). \$60,000.
- 2005 “Political Appointees, Careerists, and What Makes a Good Manager,” University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Princeton University. \$1,390.
- 2004 “Does Performance Budgeting Work? An Examination of OMB’s PART Scores,” University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Princeton University. \$2,165.
- 2003 “Presidents, Agencies, and Personnel Systems.” University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Princeton University. \$1,590.
- 2002 Summer Research Grant. College of William and Mary. \$5,000 (Declined).
- 2001 Summer Research Grant. College of William and Mary. \$6,000.
- 1999 Institute for Social and Economic Theory and Research seed grant. Columbia University (with Kelly Chang and Nolan McCarty) \$10,000.

#### INVITED TALKS:

- 2025 Wheaton College, University of Gothenburg (Jörgen Westerståhl Lecture)
- 2024 University of Arizona, University of Michigan, University of Notre Dame
- 2023 College of William & Mary School of Law; University of Brasilia (Brazil); Georgetown University; Stanford University (Hoover Institution)
- 2022 University of Indiana, Bloomington; Murray State University (Waterfield Distinguished Lecture in Public Affairs)
- 2021 College of William & Mary; Columbia University (Law School); Seoul National University; University of Chicago; University of Pennsylvania (Law School); University of North Carolina
- 2020 Yale University; Furman University
- 2019 University of Bocconi (Milan, Italy); College of William & Mary; University of Colorado, Boulder
- 2018 Bowdoin College; University of Oklahoma (Bellmon Lecture on Public Service); University of Nottingham (2018 NICEP Conference-Keynote)
- 2017 Ohio State University
- 2016 Boston University; University of Brasilia (Brazil)
- 2015 University of Wisconsin, Madison; University of Gothenburg (Quality of Government Institute); Tongji University (Shanghai, China); East China Normal University (Shanghai, China); Renmin University (Beijing, China); Communication University of China (Beijing, China); Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (Belo Horizonte, Brazil); Institute for Applied Economic Research (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil); Trinity College (Dublin, Ireland)
- 2014 University of California, Merced; Institute of European and American Studies (Academia Sinica, Taiwan); Institute of Political Science (Academia Sinica, Taiwan)
- 2013 Nashville Public Library; Princeton University; Stanford University (Graduate School of Business); University of Virginia



2012	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
2011	University of California, Berkeley; University of Indiana; Texas A&M University; University of Exeter; London School of Economics
2010	Purdue University; University of Southern California (School of Policy, Planning, and Development); University of Wisconsin, Madison; University of Texas at Austin
2009	National Personnel Authority (Japan); Clemson University (Economics); Union University; Ohio State University; Harvard University
2008	Vanderbilt University; University of California, Berkeley (Public Policy); Brookings Institution; National Academy of Public Administration
2007	Emory University; College of William & Mary; University of California, Davis
2006	New York University; National Academy of Public Administration; University of Washington
2005	Virginia Tech University; Dartmouth College; Yale University; Princeton University (CSDP)
2004	University of Notre Dame; Columbia University; College of William & Mary
2003	Vanderbilt University; Harvard University
2002	University of South Carolina
2001	George Washington University; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

#### TEACHING AND GRADUATE ADVISING:

The Old and New Politics of Spoils—Spring 2010, Spring 2013

Government Failure—Fall 2008, Fall 2014

Introduction to American Politics—Spring 2007, Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2020, Spring 2023, Spring 2025, Spring 2026

Domestic Politics (MPA)—Fall 2007

Bureaucratic Politics—Fall 2007, Fall 2008 (PHD)

U.S. Presidency—Fall 2000, Fall 2001, Spring 2005, Fall 2005, Spring 2007, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Spring 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2024

Executive Branch Politics (MPA)—Spring 2007

Executive Branch Politics (PHD)—Fall 2012, Fall 2016, Spring 2018, Spring 2020, Spring 2022

The Politics of Public Policy (MPA)—Fall 2002, Fall 2004, Fall 2005

Introduction to Public Administration—Spring 2001, Spring 2002, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2017, Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2024

Politics of Public Policy—Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2025, Spring 2026

Public Policy Problems—Fall 2025

Presidential Transitions—Spring 2024

Public Management and Organizational Behavior (MPP)—Spring 2001, Spring 2002

Independent Study: 2000 Presidential Election—Spring 2001

Senior Seminar: Presidential Biography—Fall 2001

Independent Study: Judicial Decision Making—Spring 2001

#### PHD Student Committees (past):

Stuart V. Jordan, University of Rochester, “Essays on Institutions and Policy Choices in the Executive Branch”

Michael Cutrone, “Essays on Presidential Signing Statements”

Jordan Tama, American University, "From Crisis to Reform: The Impact of National Security Commissions"

Jeff Tessin, U.S. Government Accountability Office, "Representation and Government Performance"

David Glick, Boston University, "Learning from Others to Make Sense of the Law: Legal Response Policy Making in Higher Education"

John Hudak (Chair), Maine State Government, "The Politics of Federal Grants: Presidential Influence over the Distribution of Federal Funds"

Philip Wallach, R Street Group, "Contested Constraints: Regulatory Statutes in America's Modern Administrative State"

Gbemende Johnson (Co-Chair), University of Georgia, "Equal Before the Law? Judicial Deference to Executive Power in the Fifty States"

Evan Haglund (Chair), United States Coast Guard Academy, "Priorities, Personal Characteristics, and Performance: Presidents and their Appointees"

Jennifer L. Selin (Chair), Arizona State University, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, "Political Control, Bureaucratic Responsiveness, and Agency Structure"

Tizoc Chavez, Colby College, "Presidential Parley: Personal Diplomacy and the Modern Presidency"

Kenneth Lowande, University of Michigan, "Essays on the Political Power of Bureaucrats"

Bryan Rooney, Rand Corporation, "Emergency Powers in Democracies and the Outbreak of Conflict"

Mark D. Richardson (Chair), Georgetown University, "The Politicization of Federal Agencies and its Consequences: Agency Design, Presidential Appointments, and Policy Expertise."

Scott Limbocker, United States Military Academy, "Partisanship and Politics in the U.S. Civil Service."

Sheahan Virgin (Co-Chair), Washington and Lee University, "Extrapartisan Electoral Reform in the U.S.: The Effects of Geographic self-interest, core values, and American Exceptionalism on Electoral Rule Choice."

Andrew Manson, Chapman University, "Surviving Nixon: The Politicization of Domestic and Foreign Policy, 1969-1974"

Lt. Colonel Richard Hagner (Chair), United States Army Futures Command, "Defense Appropriations: The Process, Politics, and National Security Implications"

Christopher Piper (Chair), Partnership for Public Service, “Strategy and Consequences of the ‘Broken’ Appointments Process”

Lucas Helms (Chair), United States Marine Corps, “Committees in the Modern House of Representatives: Formation, Function, and Output”

Nick Bednar (Chair), University of Minnesota, School of Law, “Maintaining the American State”

Meredith McLain, Tufts University, “Strategic Presidential Unilateralism in the Face of Institutional and Public Sanctions”

Nathan Trimble, United States Army, “Presidential Power: Navigating Armed Primacy and Congressional Conflict in the Cold War Era, 1977-1987,” Department of History, Vanderbilt University

Spencer Hall (Chair), University of Arkansas, “Polity and Politics: How the Structures of Religious Organizations Influence Political Behaviors”

Todd Hertling (Chair), United States Army, “The Politics of Military Deployments”

Shelby Shumard, College of Charleston, “State Implementation of Federal Programs: Essays on the Effects of Electoral Incentives, Partisanship, and Special Interests on State Choices.”

PHD Student Committees (current):

Preeti Nambiar (Co-chair), Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University

Patrick Buhr, Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University

#### GOVERNMENT SERVICE:

2022-           Public Member, Administrative Conference of the United States

2011- 2015    Member, Advisory Board for the Model Agency Initiative and Walter Gellhorn Award, Administrative Conference of the United States

2011-2012    Contractor, Administrative Conference of the United States, “Federal Executive Establishment, 2012”

2011- 2014    Review Panel, National Science Foundation

2011-2012    Advisory Committee, “Chief executive succession and the performance of central government agencies,” Project sponsored by the UK Economic and Social Research Council.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

### Editorial

board: *Journal of Politics*, 2005-2006; *Public Administration*, 2011 - 2020; Palgrave Book Series “Executive Politics and Governance”; *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, 2016-present; *Journal of Public Administration Research & Theory*, 2020-present; *Public Administration Review*, 2021-present

### Contributing

Editor: [americanpresident.org](http://americanpresident.org), 2004-5

### External

Reviewer: Department of Political Science, Brigham Young University; Department of Politics and International Affairs, Wheaton College; Department of Political Science, Southern Methodist University

### Refereeing:

Books: Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Princeton University Press, University of Michigan Press, Congressional Quarterly Press, Prentice Hall

Grants: National Science Foundation

Journals: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Politics Research*, *American Review of Public Administration*, *Armed Forces & Society*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Congress & the Presidency*, *Governance*, *Humanities and Social Science Communications*, *International Public Management Journal*, *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*, *Journal of Policy History*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Public Policy*, *Korea Observer*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, *Public Administration*, *Public Administration Review*, *Public Management Review*, *Public Personnel Management*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *Regulation and Governance*, *Review of Policy Research*, *Scientific Data*, *State and Local Government Review*, *Studies in American Political Development*

### Member:

Structure of Governance Group, International Political Science Association  
American Political Science Association  
Midwest Political Science Association  
Presidency Research Group  
Southern Political Science Association  
American Society of Public Administration  
Public Management Research Association  
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management

### Leadership &

Committees: Chair, Presidents and Executive Politics Section, APSA, Legacy Award Committee, 2026  
Chair, *Public Administration Review*, Best Article Award Committee, 2026  
Emerging Scholar Award Committee, Presidency and Executive Politics Group, American Political Science Association, 2024-25

Executive Director Search Committee (Co-chair), Southern Political Science Association, 2023-2024

Emerging Scholar Award Committee (Chair), Presidency and Executive Politics Group, American Political Science Association, 2022-2023

Herbert Simon Award Committee (Chair), Midwest Public Administration Caucus, 2021

Brownlow Book Award Committee, National Academy of Public Administration, 2021

Chair, Strategic Planning Committee, Southern Political Science Association, 2020-2021

*Journal of Politics* Editorial Search Committee, Southern Political Science Association, 2019-2020

Past president, Southern Political Science Association, 2019-2020

President, Southern Political Science Association, 2018-2019

President, Midwest Public Administration Caucus, 2017-2018

President-elect, Southern Political Science Association, 2017-2018

Chair, Nominating Committee, National Academy of Public Administration, 2016-17

Executive Board, Structure and Organization of Government, International Political Science Association, 2016-

Southern Political Science Association, Program Committee Chair for the 2016 Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico (2014-2016)

Southern Political Science Association, Executive Council (2014- present)

Presidency Research Group, American Political Science Association, Best Graduate Student Paper Award Committee Chair, (2014)

Presidential Nominating Committee, Midwest Public Administration Caucus (2013)

Program Committee, American Political Science Association (2011)

Program Committee, Southern Political Science Association (2010)

Program Committee, Midwest Political Science Association (2009)

Executive Council, Presidency Research Group (2009- present)

Herbert A. Simon Book Award Committee, American Political Science Association, Public Administration Section (2009)

Midwest Political Science Association, Patrick Fett Award Committee (2007)

Southern Political Science Association, Best Paper Award Committee (2006)

Presidency Research Group (APSA), Undergraduate Paper Award Committee (2005)

Presidency Research Group (APSA) Book Award Committee (2001)

#### UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

University-  
wide:

Department of Economics Chair Search Committee, 2025

Public Policy Institute Committee, 2021-2022

Rogers Center for the Study of the Presidency Advisory Committee (Chair), 2021-2022

Project Aegis, University IT Transformation Working Group, 2021-2022

Vanderbilt Unity Project, 2020-2021

TIPs Taskforce, 2021

Faculty Senate, 2019-2022

Chair, University Library Committee, 2020-2021

Member, University Library Committee, 2019-2021

Public Policy Committee, 2019-2020

TIPS Review Committee, 2017-2018

Executive Committee, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, 2011-2013

Senior Advisory Review Committee, College of Arts & Science, Vanderbilt University, 2010-2011, 2012-2013, 2020-2022  
 Vanderbilt University Law School Dean Search Committee, 2009  
 Planning Committee, Vanderbilt Institute for Advanced Studies, 2008-9  
 Executive Committee, James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions, 2007-8, Princeton University  
 Faculty Advisor, Varsity Field Hockey, Princeton, 2006-2008  
 Faculty Fellow and Freshman and Sophomore Advisor, Mathey College, Princeton, 2004-2007.  
 Faculty Fellow and Freshman and Sophomore Advisor, Whitman College, Princeton, 2007-2008  
 University Teaching Project, College of William and Mary, 2001-2002.

Department: Department Awards Committee, 2025-2026  
 Third Year Review Committee, 2025  
 Graduate Committee, 2024-2025  
 Promotion Committee, 2024  
 Third Year Review Committee (Chair), 2024  
 Merit Rubric Review Committee, 2023  
 Third Year Review Committee (Chair), 2022-2023  
 Nominations Committee, 2022-2023  
 Personnel Review Committee, 2020-2021  
 Nominations Committee (Chair), 2020-2021  
 Undergraduate Committee, 2020-  
 American Politics Search Committee, 2020-2021  
 Chair, Tenure and Promotion Committee, 2019-2020  
 Chair, American Politics Search Committee, 2019-2020  
 Chair, 2015-2018  
 Interim Chair, 2014-2015  
 Associate Chair, 2010-2013  
 Faculty Recruitment Committee, 2012-2013  
 Second Year Review Committee (Chair), 2009-2010  
 Political Theory Search Committee, 2009  
 Formal Theory Search Committee (Chair), 2008-9  
 Fourth Year Review Committee, 2008-9  
 Methods Search Committee (Chair), 2008  
 Department of Political Science Planning Committee (Chair), 2008-9  
 Field Coordinator, Domestic Politics, Woodrow Wilson School, 2007-8  
 MPA Admissions Committee, Woodrow Wilson School 2007  
 Chair's Advisory Committee, Dept. of Politics, Princeton 2005-6; 2007-8  
 Advisor to 1<sup>st</sup> year MPA students, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton (2003).  
 Coordinator, American Politics Colloquium, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics, Princeton (with Larry Bartels, 2003).  
 Public Law Search Committee, College of William and Mary, 2001-2002.