

HERSCHEL F. THOMAS

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science, University of Texas at Arlington, 2015-

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Government, University of Texas at Austin, 2015

Fields: Public Policy and American Politics

Dissertation: Contagious Agendas: The Spread of Issue Attention in the Policy Process

Committee: Bryan D. Jones (chair), Frank R. Baumgartner, Christopher Wlezien, Sean M. Theriault,
Brian E. Roberts

M.A. Government, University of Texas at Austin, 2011

M.A. Political Science, Pennsylvania State University, 2009

B.A. Political Science and B.Phil. Information Studies with honors and high distinction, Pennsylvania
State University, 2009

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Research: the policy process, agenda-setting, organized interests, lobbying, revolving door politics,
decision-making, complex systems

Teaching: American government and institutions, public policy, interest groups and policy advocacy,
policy analysis, agenda-setting, research design and political analysis, computational analysis

BOOK

LaPira, Timothy M. and **Herschel F. Thomas**. 2017. *Revolving Door Lobbying: Public Service, Private
Influence, and the Unequal Representation of Interests*. University Press of Kansas.

EDITED SPECIAL ISSUE

Jones, Bryan D. and **Herschel F. Thomas** (eds.). 2017. Special Issue on Public Policy Processes.
Cognitive Systems Research.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Thomas, Herschel F. 2017 (in press). Modeling Contagion in Policy Systems. *Cognitive Systems
Research*.

Boydston, Amber E., Shaun Bevan, and **Herschel F. Thomas**. 2014. The Importance of Attention
Diversity and How to Measure It. *Policy Studies Journal*, 42(2): 173-196.

LaPira, Timothy M., **Herschel F. Thomas**, and Frank R. Baumgartner. 2014. Washington Lobbyists in
the Core and on the Periphery. *Interest Groups & Advocacy*, 3(3): 219-245.

Jones, Bryan D., **Herschel F. Thomas**, and Michelle Wolfe. 2014. Policy Bubbles. *Policy Studies
Journal*, 42(1): 146-171.

LaPira, Timothy M. and **Herschel F. Thomas**. 2014. The Revolving Door and Interest Representation. *Interest Groups & Advocacy*, 3(1): 1-26.

Theriault, Sean M. and **Herschel F. Thomas**. 2014. The Diffusion of Support for Same-Sex Marriage in the US Senate. *PS: Political Science and Politics*, 47(4): 824-828.

Halpin, Darren R. and **Herschel F. Thomas**. 2012. Evaluating the Breadth of Policy Engagement by Organized Interests. *Public Administration*, 90(3): 582-599.

Halpin, Darren R. and **Herschel F. Thomas**. 2012. Interest Group Survival: Exploring Mortality Anxiety. *Interest Groups and Advocacy*, 1(2): 215-238.

Maitland, Carleen, **Herschel F. Thomas**, and Louis-Marie Ngamassi. 2012. Internet Censorship and the Protection of Human Rights: An Organizational Informatics Perspective. *Journal of Information Technology*, 27(4): 285-300.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Jones, Bryan D. and **Herschel F. Thomas**. 2017 (in press). The Cognitive Underpinnings of Policy Process Studies: Introduction to a Special Issue of Cognitive Systems Research. *Cognitive Systems Research*.

Lewallen, Jonathan and **Herschel F. Thomas**. 2016. Bounded Rationality. In Stephen Schecter (Ed.), *American Governance*. Macmillan Reference.

Jones, Bryan D. and **Herschel F. Thomas**. 2012. Bounded Rationality and Public Policy Decision-Making. In E. Araral, S. Fritzen, M. Howlett, M. Ramesh, and X. Wu (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Public Policy*. New York, NY: Routledge.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

How Many Lobbyists Are in Washington?: Shadow Lobbying and the Political Economy of Policy Advocacy (with Timothy M. LaPira; Revised and resubmitted, *Interest Groups & Advocacy*)

Gender and Lobbying (with Kathleen Marchetti and Timothy M. LaPira)

The Politics of Suicide Prevention: Reframing Mental Health Policy in Post-ACA America (with Daniel Sledge)

Overlapping Advocacy?: The Issue Politics of Intergovernmental Lobbying

Stasis and Punctuation in State Tax Policy (with Derek Epp and Frank Baumgartner)

The Power of the Party: Conflict Expansion and the Agenda Diversity of Interest Groups (with E.J. Fagan[^] and Zachary McGee[^])

Political Dialogue and the Great Recession: How Democratic Institutions Respond to Crises (with Robert Shaffer[^], Bryan D. Jones, JoBeth S. Shafran, and Michelle Whyman)

[^]Graduate student collaborators

OTHER WRITING

- Trump's Lobbying Ban Might Actually Make Corruption Worse, *Washington Post*, Monkey Cage. November 23, 2016 (with Timothy M. LaPira)
- So What if Congressional Staff Levels are Declining? New America/R Street Institute: Legislative Branch Capacity Working Group, June 27, 2016 (with Timothy M. LaPira)
- A Test of Nancy Pelosi's Revolving Door Hypothesis. *Washington Post*, Monkey Cage. February 7, 2014 (with Timothy M. LaPira)
- Support for Same-sex Marriage in the US Senate. London School of Economics, United States Politics and Policy Blog, November 11, 2014 (with Sean Theriault)

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2016 UT-Arlington, College of Liberal Arts (From Cure to Care: Advancing Human Well-being through Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (iC2C) Seed Grant): "Mapping the Politics of Public Health: Threat Perception, Advocacy, and Policymaking" (\$8,175, with Daniel Sledge)
- 2015 UT-Austin, Dept. of Government (J.J. Pickle Chair): Intl. Travel Grants (also 2014, 2013; \$5,900 in total)
- 2015 UT-Austin, Graduate School: Professional Development Awards (also 2013, 2012, 2011; \$2,000 in total)
- 2015 UT-Austin, Dept. of Government: Macdonald Dissertation Fellowship, Spring (provides one semester of tuition assistance and stipend of \$8,500, declined)
- 2014 UT-Austin, Dept. of Government: Macdonald Dissertation Fellowship, Fall (provides one semester of tuition assistance and stipend of \$8,500)
- 2014 The Dirksen Congressional Center: Research Grant (with Timothy M. LaPira; \$3,500)
- 2014 UT-Austin, Edward A. Clark Center for Australian Studies: Travel/Research Grant (\$4,300)
- 2014 Mannheim Centre for European Social Research: Travel Grant (\$340)
- 2013 The Australian National University, School of Sociology: Travel Grant (\$2,400)
- 2013 Southern Political Science Association: Prestige-Cook Travel Award (\$125)
- 2012 UT-Austin, Dept. of Government: Mel Hinich Fellowship (provided tuition for the Santa Fe Institute's Graduate Workshop in Computational Social Science Modeling and Complexity; \$1,900)
- 2011 NSF, c/o University of Michigan, Political Networks Conference: Travel/Reg. Award (\$750)
- 2010 NSF, c/o University of Washington, Comparative Agendas Project Annual Meeting: Travel Award (\$500)
- 2009 UT-Austin, Graduate School: Recruitment Fellowship (provided one year of tuition assistance and stipend of \$18,000)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2017 Iowa State University, Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics, Carrie Chapman Catt Prize for Research on Women and Politics (honorable mention award): "Gender and Lobby" (\$1000, with Timothy M. LaPira and Kathleen Marchetti)
- 2013 UT-Austin, Dept. of Government: Departmental Nominee for UT Outstanding Graduate Research Assistant Award
- 2010 NSF, Graduate Research Fellowship Program: Honorable Mention
- 2009 Penn State, Dept. of Political Science: Graduation Marshal for Political Science and International Relations

- 2009 Penn State, Schreyer Honors College: Reddy Mission Award (“given to the graduating Schreyer Scholar who best exemplifies the comprehensive mission of the college”)
 2008 Phi Beta Kappa

INVITED TALKS

- Revolving Door Lobbying. University of Texas at Austin, *December 8, 2016* (with Timothy M. LaPira)
 Congressional Analytic Capacity and the Political Economy of Revolving Door Lobbying. University of Oklahoma. *Nov. 4, 2016*
 Thinking Big: How to Establish a Long-Term Research Program (Ph.D. student audience). University of Oklahoma. *Nov. 3, 2016*
 Contagious Agendas: The Spread of Issue Attention in the Policy Process. University of Texas at Arlington, Department of Political Science, *Jan. 28, 2015*
 Contagious Agendas: The Spread of Issue Attention in the Policy Process. London School of Economics, Department of Government, *Jan. 14, 2015*
 The Transparency Policy Failure of Revolving Door Disclosure: Uncovering Patterns of Lobbyists’ Public Service and Private Influence (with Timothy M. LaPira). Sunlight Foundation, *Sept. 13, 2012*

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- American Political Science Association, *2017 (x2), 2016, 2014, 2013, 2012*, 2011*
 Midwest Political Science Association, *2017, 2016 (x2), 2015-2008*
 Comparative Agendas Project Annual Meeting, *2017 (x2), 2015, 2014 (x2), 2013, 2010*
 Southwestern Political Science Association, *2017 (x2)*
 Southern Political Science Association, *2013 (x2), 2012, 2009,*
 European Consortium for Political Research, *2016*
 Australian Political Science Association, *2015*
 US Policy Agendas Project Annual Meeting, *2016*
 Seminar Series of the Antwerp Centre for Institutions and Multilevel Politics (ACIM), *2015*
 Workshop on Interest Group Populations in Comparative Perspective at the University of Hamburg, *2015*
 ANZSANA, *2014*
 Danish Society of Political Science, *2011*
 Conference on Communication, Information and Internet Policy (TPRC), *2008*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Texas at Arlington:

- Interest Groups and Political Advocacy, *2017 (FA scheduled)*
 Research Methods and Political Analysis (graduate cross-listed), *2017 (FA scheduled; SP), 2016 (FA)*
 Political Science Research Lab (graduate cross-listed), *2017 (SP)*
 Organized Interests in America: Advocacy and Influence (graduate), *2016 (FA)*
 Government of the United States, *2017 (SU-II scheduled; SP), 2016 (SU-I; SU-II; SP, honors cross-listed), 2015 (FA)*
 Public Policy Analysis (graduate), *2016 (SP)*
 Introduction to Public Policy Analysis, *2015 (FA)*

University of Texas at Austin:

- Guest Instructor, Agenda-setting - Graduate, *2014 (Sept. 10)*
 Guest Instructor, Public Policy Core Seminar - Graduate, *2013 (Feb. 28)*

Teaching Assistant, Bethany Albertson, Intro. to American Government, 2011 (SP)
Teaching Assistant, Bryan D. Jones, Intro. to Public Policy, 2010 (FA)

STUDENTS ADVISED AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Ph.D.

Rebecca Eissler (UT-Austin, Dissertation Committee Outside Member), 2016-

Masters

Michael Williams (UTA, Thesis Committee Member), 2017-

DeAnne Hurtado (UTA, Thesis Committee Member), 2017-

Kaylyn Carew (UTA, Comprehensive Exam Committee Chair), 2017

Jestin Patton; Michael Williams (UTA, New Student Faculty Mentor), 2016-

Liane Phillips (UTA, Comprehensive Exam Committee Chair), 2016

Undergraduate

Alyssa Hernandez (Honors College, UTA, Thesis Supervisor), 2017-

Minwoo Kim (McNair Scholars Program, UTA, Faculty Research Mentor), 2016-

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

University of Texas at Arlington:

Department of Political Science: Graduate Studies Committee, Retention Committee, Student Competency Committee, Student Grievance Committee, Student Honors/Scholarships Committee, Technology Committee (Chair), Co-organizer of Research Roundtable Series, American Politics Search Committee (2015-2016), Ad Hoc Committee for Exploration of Certificates (2015-2016)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

University of Texas at Arlington:

Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students Symposium, Oral Presentation Judge (Sustainability Category), 2016

Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students Symposium, Abstract Reviewer, 2016

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Program Committee Member: 10th Annual Meeting of the Comparative Agendas Project, June 2017
Reviewer: *Public Administration*; *Journal of Public Policy*; *Interest Groups & Advocacy* (x2); *Policy Studies Journal*; *Journal of European Public Policy*; *Political Communication*; *Social Science Quarterly*; *Policy Sciences*; *American Journal of Political Science*; *Social Networks*; *American Politics Today* (5th Ed., Chapter on Interest Groups)

Panel Discussant: MPSA, 2016; SWPSA, 2017

Poster Session Discussant: MPSA, 2016

Affiliated Faculty: US Policy Agendas Project (UT-Austin), 2016-

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Consultant/Research Associate, The Organized Interest System in Australian Public Policy Project, Darren Halpin (Australian National University), Jan.-Aug. 2015

Manager, Policy Agendas Project and Graduate Research Assistant, Bryan D. Jones (UT-Austin), 2011-2014

Manager, Encyclopedia of Associations Project and Graduate Research Assistant, Frank R. Baumgartner (Penn State), 2008-2009

Consultant, Developing Policy-Specific Measures of Public Opinion, James A. Stimson and Frank R. Baumgartner (UNC), 2012

Research Assistant, Mobilization of Interests Project, Darren R. Halpin (Robert Gordon Univ., UK), 2008-2009

Research Assistant, Frank R. Baumgartner (Penn State), 2005-2008

ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

University of Washington, PoliInformatics Workshop, 2014

Santa Fe Institute, Workshop in Computational Social Science Modeling and Complexity, 2012

University of Surrey (UK), Summer School on Social Simulation, 2011

University of Texas at Austin, Summer Statistics Institute, 2010-2013

University of Michigan, Political Networks Conference Training Workshops, 2011

University of Washington, Tools For Text: Annotation Methods for Political Science Research Workshop, 2010

REFERENCES

Bryan D. Jones
Professor of Government and J.J. “Jake” Pickle
Regents Chair in Congressional Studies
University of Texas at Austin
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