

## **HERSCHEL F. THOMAS**

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### **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

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

### **AFFILIATIONS**

US Policy Agendas Project, University of Texas at Austin, 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**

The policy process, organized interests and policy advocacy, the politics of public health, revolving door politics, research design and methods, 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.

- Featured in [Roll Call](#); reviewed in *Interest Groups & Advocacy*, *Perspectives on Politics*, and *Choice*; invited for inclusion in National Press Club Book Fair

### **PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

[13] Fagan, E.J., Zachary A. McGee, and Herschel F. Thomas. 2019 (forthcoming). Power of the Party: Conflict Expansion and the Agenda Diversity of Interest Groups. *Politics Research Quarterly*.

[12] Marchetti, Katie, Timothy M. LaPira, and Herschel F. Thomas. 2019 (forthcoming). Gender Politics in the Lobbying Profession. *Politics & Gender*.

- [11] Sledge, Daniel and Herschel F. Thomas. 2019. From Disaster Response to Community Recovery: Nongovernmental Entities, Government, and Public Health. *American Journal of Public Health*, 109(3): 437-444.
- [10] Thomas, Herschel F. 2017. Modeling Contagion in Policy Systems. *Cognitive Systems Research*, 44:74-88.
- [9] Thomas, Herschel F. and Timothy M. LaPira. 2017. How Many Lobbyists Are in Washington?: Shadow Lobbying and the Gray Market for Policy Advocacy. *Interest Groups & Advocacy*, 6(3):199-214.
- [8] 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.
- [7] 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.
- [6] Jones, Bryan D., Herschel F. Thomas, and Michelle Wolfe. 2014. Policy Bubbles. *Policy Studies Journal*, 42(1): 146-171.
- [5] LaPira, Timothy M. and Herschel F. Thomas. 2014. The Revolving Door and Interest Representation. *Interest Groups & Advocacy*, 3(1): 1-26.
- [4] 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.
- [3] Halpin, Darren R. and Herschel F. Thomas. 2012. Evaluating the Breadth of Policy Engagement by Organized Interests. *Public Administration*, 90(3): 582-599.
- [2] Halpin, Darren R. and Herschel F. Thomas. 2012. Interest Group Survival: Exploring Mortality Anxiety. *Interest Groups and Advocacy*, 1(2): 215-238.
- [1] 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.

#### **EDITED SPECIAL ISSUE**

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

#### **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

When Governments Ignore Problems: Change Blindness and Policy Responsiveness (with Derek Epp, under review)

Medically-assisted Treatment and the Impact of Medicaid Expansion (with Daniel Sledge and Bai Linh Hoang)

Intermittent Attention and Subsystem Resilience: Mapping the Politics of Disaster Policy (with Daniel Sledge and Sarah Goossens)

The Lobbying Disclosure Act at 25: Challenges and Opportunities for Analysis (with Timothy M. LaPira)  
Federal Vaccine Rulemaking and Long-term Care Facility Patient Outcomes (with Daniel Sledge)  
The Mobilization of Disease (with Daniel Sledge and Herschel Nachlis)  
Interest Group Agendas and the Demand for Advocacy (with Darren Halpin)

#### **EXTERNAL FUNDING**

- 2018 National Science Foundation: “(Award #1800302) Supplementing State Capacity: Non-State Action and Public-Private Coordination During Times of Crisis” (with Daniel Sledge; \$71,473)  
2014 The Dirksen Congressional Center (with Timothy M. LaPira; \$3,500)

#### **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 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

- 2019 President's Award for Excellence in Teaching (Untenured), University of Texas at Arlington
- 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 Lobbying" (\$1000, with Timothy M. LaPira and Kathleen Marchetti)
- 2013 UT-Austin, Dept. of Government: Departmental Nominee for UT Outstanding Graduate Research Assistant Award
- 2010 National Science Foundation, 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/LECTURES

- What Medical Residents Need to Know about the Policy Process, Apr. 10, 2018, UT-Southwestern Medical Center
- Revolving Door Lobbying. University of Texas at Austin, Dec. 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

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- LaPira, Timothy M. and Herschel F. Thomas. 2019 (forthcoming). How Big a Political Footprint?: The Interest Group as Lobbying Enterprise. In *Interest Groups Politics*, 10th ed.)
- Jones, Bryan D. and Herschel F. Thomas. 2017. The Cognitive Underpinnings of Policy Process Studies: Introduction to a Special Issue of Cognitive Systems Research. *Cognitive Systems Research*, 27(4): 285-300.
- 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.

### **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)

### **CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION AND PRESENTATIONS**

International Political Science Association, 2018

American Political Science Association, 2018, 2017 (x3), 2016, 2014, 2013, 2011

Midwest Political Science Association, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 (x2), 2015-2008

Comparative Agendas Project Annual Meeting, 2019, 2018, 2017 (x2), 2015, 2014 (x2), 2013, 2010

Southwestern Political Science Association, 2017 (x2)

Southern Political Science Association, 2019, 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 Univ. of Hamburg, 2015\*

ANZSANA, 2014

Danish Society of Political Science, 2011\*

Conference on Communication, Information and Internet Policy (TPRC), 2008

\* indicates co-author participation

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

*University of Texas at Arlington:*

Research Methods and Political Analysis (graduate cross-listed), 2019 (SP), 2018 (FA; SP), 2017 (FA; SP), 2016 (FA)

Health Politics & Advocacy (online, co-taught), 2019 (SU-I)

Introduction to Public Policy Analysis, 2018 (SP), 2015 (FA)

Interest Groups and Political Advocacy, 2017 (FA)  
Political Science Research Lab (graduate cross-listed), 2017 (SP)  
Organized Interests in America: Advocacy and Influence (graduate), 2019 (FA), 2016 (FA)  
Government of the United States, 2017 (SU-II; SP), 2016 (SU-I; SU-II; SP, honors cross-listed), 2015 (FA)  
Public Policy Analysis (graduate), 2016 (SP)

*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 MENTORED AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

*Ph.D.*

Rebecca Eissler (UT-Austin, Dissertation Committee Outside Member), 2016-2018; San Francisco State University

*Masters*

Bujamin Mustafa (Exam Committee Chair), 2019  
Trevor Owens (Thesis Committee Chair), 2017-2018  
Josue Rodriguez (Exam Committee Member & Graduate Research Assistant Supervisor), 2017-2018  
DeAnne Roark (Thesis Committee Member), 2017-2018  
Tayi Battle (Exam Committee Member), 2018  
Richard Owen (Exam Committee Member), 2018  
Michael Williams (Exam Committee Member), 2018  
Kaylyn Carew (Exam Committee Chair), 2017  
Liane Phillips (Exam Committee Chair), 2016

*Undergraduate*

Carissa O'Pry (Allan Saxe Research Fellow Supervisor), 2019-  
Bethany Clinton (Allan Saxe Research Fellow Supervisor), 2019  
Courtney Pool (Allan Saxe Research Fellow Supervisor & University of Michigan, Emerging Scholars Program Faculty Mentor), 2017  
Alyssa Hernandez (Honors College Thesis Supervisor), 2017  
Minwoo Kim (McNair Scholars Program Research Mentor), 2016-2017  
Julian Rangel; Bethany Clinton; Mimi LaMendola; Maranda Spencer; Courtney Pool; Cristian Villegas; Nikita Webb (Undergraduate Research Assistant Supervisor), 2016-

## **DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

Graduate Studies Committee, Retention Committee, Student Competency Committee, Student Grievance Committee (Chair, 2017-), Student Honors/Scholarships Committee, Technology Committee (Chair, 2017-), Co-organizer of Research Roundtable Series (2016-), American Politics Search Committee (2015-2016), Ad Hoc Committee for Exploration of Certificates (2015-2016)

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

COLA Spotlight on Student Research, Poster Judge, 2018; Organizing Committee, 2019 Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students Symposium, Oral Presentation Judge, 2016 Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students Symposium, Abstract Reviewer, 2016

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Section Chair: Public Policy, SPSA, 2019

Program Committee Member: 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Comparative Agendas Project, 2017

Reviewer: *Public Administration*; *Journal of Public Policy*; *Policy Studies Journal*; *Policy Sciences*; *Journal of European Public Policy*; *American Journal of Political Science*; *American Political Science Review*; *Journal of Politics*; *Political Communication*; *Social Science Quarterly*; *Social Networks*; *Policy & Politics*; *Nonprofit and Volunteer Sector Quarterly*; *Journal of International Organization Studies*; *Politics Research Quarterly*; *Political Studies Review*; *Congress & the Presidency*; *Regulation and Governance*; *Governance*; *Legislative Studies Quarterly*; *Comparative Political Studies*; *Interest Groups & Advocacy*

Panel/Paper Discussant: CAP, 2018-2019; MPSA, 2016; SWPSA, 2017

Panel Chair: CAP, 2018

Poster Session Discussant: MPSA, 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 Workshop, 2010

## **REFERENCES**

Bryan D. Jones

Professor of Government and J.J. “Jake” Pickle  
Regents Chair in Congressional Studies

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