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EDUCATION:

- 2005 - present *Ph.D. Student.* Political Science, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington
Expected completion 6/2010
- 2008 *M.A.* Political Science, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington
Master's Thesis: "*Legislative Design and the Supreme Court's Agenda*"
- 2001 *M.A.* Political Science, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio
Thesis: "*Abortion and American Political Culture*"
- 2000 *B.A.* Political Science, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION:

Public law: United States Supreme Court; judicial behavior; legal mobilization; judicial review; judicial politics

American: American political institutions; separation-of-powers; inter-branch interactions

Public policy: Agenda-setting; decision-making; policy change

M.A. THESIS:

Legislative Design and the Supreme Court's Agenda

Abstract: This paper explains judicial agenda-setting and agenda change as a function, in part, of legislative design. Through the legislative design of judicial review, Congress may increase or decrease judicial attention to certain issues by expanding or foreclosing opportunities for the courts to participate in the policy-making process. Through an analysis of the legislative design of three statutes, I explore how the Supreme Court's attention may be influenced by incentives provided for private litigants to use the courts, powers granted to administrative agencies over their areas of regulation, and powers granted to the federal judiciary to oversee administrative agencies. In doing so, this paper moves beyond the recognition that members of Congress have the means and motive to manipulate judicial review by looking specifically at the effect of manipulation of judicial review on the Court's agenda. This paper adds to our understanding of judicial agenda-setting and agenda change by taking account of the ways in which opportunities for judicial participation in the policy-making process are structured by Congress.

CONFERENCE PAPERS:

- March 2009 “The Power to Decide.” Western Political Science Association 2009 Annual Meeting, Vancouver, B.C.
While the Judges Bill of 1925 expanded the Supreme Court’s ability to grant *writs of certiorari* and thus expanded the Court’s discretionary jurisdiction, through the 1980s at least 20 percent of the Court’s jurisdiction remained mandatory. This paper describes fluctuations in the Court’s mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction between 1925 and 1988, and examines the relationship between expansions and contractions of discretion and the Court’s agenda.
- March 2008 “The Supreme Court and Economic Regulation.” Western Political Science Association 2008 Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- April 2007 “Congress, the Court, and Judicial Review of Administrative Agencies.” Midwestern Political Science Association 2007 Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- March 2007 “Congress, the Court, and Judicial Review of Administrative Agencies.” Western Political Science Association 2007 Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV.

RESEARCH SUPPORT:

- 2005-2006 Donald R. Matthews Fellowship

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

University of Washington, Seattle WA

Teaching Assistant

Autumn 2006: Introduction to United States Constitutional Law. Responsible for grading and lecturing two discussion sections of 25 students each.

Winter 2007: Introduction to Labor Studies. Responsible for grading, lecturing two discussion sections of 25 students each, assisting in writing exam questions, providing guidance on student research papers.

Spring 2007: United States Courts and Civil Liberties. Responsible for grading and lecturing two discussion sections of 25 students each.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE:

- 2008 – present Comparative Law and Society Studies Center Graduate Student Assistant. Coordinate CLASS Colloquia, including reserving rooms, creating and distributing information about events, and assisting with setting up hotel and other accommodations as needed. Propose and organize graduate student events, including collaborative workshops. Assisted with preparation of grant materials and in preparation of program review materials. Maintain Center website and email list.
- 2008 Graduate student representative on faculty search committee and graduate admissions committee

2007-2008

Research Assistant for Dr. Gary Segura, Co-Principal Investigator of the Latino National Survey.

Assisted in statistical analysis of results of the Latino National Survey using STATA, working towards producing descriptive statistics to be used in a publication on Latino political behavior. Provided other research support as needed, including assisting in production of powerpoint presentations on results from the survey and creating and maintaining a listserv.

PROFESSIONAL MEMEBERSHIPS:

American Political Science Association
Midwestern Political Science Association
Western Political Science Association