

ZACHARY A. MCGEE

PERSONAL

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RESEARCH INTERESTS: U.S. Congress, political parties, intraparty factions, agenda setting, policy process, social network analysis

EDUCATION

EXPECTED 2021 Ph.D. Candidate, Government, *The University of Texas at Austin*
Committee: Sean M. Theriault (chair), Alison W. Craig, Bryan D. Jones,
and David W. Rohde
Fields: American Politics & Public Policy

2017 M.A., Government, *The University of Texas at Austin*
Thesis: Keeping Your Friends Close: How the House Freedom Caucus
Organized for Survival

2015 B.S., Political Science, *Towson University*

DISSERTATION

“AGENDA
SETTING BY
INTRAPARTY
FACTIONS IN
THE U.S.
CONGRESS” My dissertation focuses on the role of intraparty factions, like the House
Freedom Caucus or the New Democrat Coalition, in Congress. I ask, to
what extent do intraparty factions have systematic effects on the con-
gressional agenda? To address this question I collect and code the policy
agendas of every intraparty faction from 2001-2018, producing an origi-
nal data set of over 15,000 agenda items. These data reveal the asymmet-
ric nature of the legislative parties with Republican intraparty factions
battling over a small set of ideologically charged issues and Democratic
intraparty factions engaging in diverse agendas consistent with their “big
tent” coalition. I argue—and find evidence—that intraparty factions
provide a vital avenue for rank-and-file members to extract policy con-
cessions from party leaders in a highly centralized power structure.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

2021 Fagan, E.J. and **Zachary A. McGee**. “Problem Solving and the De-
mand for Expert Information in Congress.” *Legislative Studies Quarterly*.
Forthcoming.

- 2019 Fagan, E.J., **Zachary A. McGee**, and Herschel F. Thomas III. "The Power of the Party: Conflict Expansion and the Agenda Diversity of Interest Groups." *Political Research Quarterly*. Forthcoming. DOI: [10.1177/1065912919867142](https://doi.org/10.1177/1065912919867142)
- 2019 **McGee, Zachary A.** and Bryan D. Jones. "Reconceptualizing the Policy Subsystem: Integration with Complexity Theory and Social Network Analysis." *Policy Studies Journal*. 47(S1): S138-58. DOI: [10.1111/psj.12319](https://doi.org/10.1111/psj.12319)

CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

- 2020 **McGee, Zachary A.**, Brooke N. Shannon, and Bryan D. Jones. "Bounded Rationality in Political Science." In *Routledge Handbook on Bounded Rationality*, eds. Riccardo Viale and Konstantinos Katzikopoulos. New York: Routledge.
- 2019 Shannon, Brooke N., **Zachary A. McGee**, and Bryan D. Jones. "Bounded Rationality and Cognitive Limits in Political Decision Making." In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*, New York: Oxford University Press. DOI: [10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.961](https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.961)
- 2018 Jones, Bryan D. and **Zachary A. McGee**. 2018. "Agenda Setting and Bounded Rationality." In *The Oxford Handbook of Behavioral Political Science*, eds. Alex Mintz and Lesley Terris. New York: Oxford University Press. DOI: [10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190634131.013.19](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190634131.013.19)

WORKING PAPERS

- UNDER REVIEW "Gift Travel in the U.S. House of Representatives" (with Philip R. Moniz)
- IN PROGRESS "Differential Electoral Coordination of House Republican Intraparty Organizations"
- IN PROGRESS "Congress and the Federalist Society" (with Christine C. Bird)
- IN PROGRESS "Partisanship in Congressional Travels Abroad" (with Sean M. Theriault)
- IN PROGRESS "Congressional Distribution of Power and the Reach of the Federal Government, 1865-1946" (with Derek A. Epp and Sean M. Theriault)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- CAP 2020, APSA 2020 "Agenda Setting by Intraparty Factions in the U.S. Congress" (*Presented virtually due to COVID-19*)
- MPSA 2020 "Agenda Setting by Intraparty Factions in the U.S. Congress" (*Cancelled due to COVID-19*)
- CAP 2019 "The Demand for Information in Congress: Agenda Setting and the Congressional Research Service" (with E.J. Fagan)

SPSA 2019, MPSA 2018/2019, CAP 2018/2019	“Adjusting the Agenda: Effects of Intraparty Organizations on the U.S. House Policy Agenda”
MPSA 2017, SWPSA 2017, CAP 2017	“Keeping Your Friends Close: A Study of Punishment and Intraparty Insurgency”
SWPSA 2017	“The Power of the Party: Conflict Expansion and the Agenda Diversity of Interest Groups” (with E.J. Fagan and Herschel F. Thomas III)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2016-PRESENT	Graduate Research Fellow, <i>Policy Agendas Project</i>
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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

FALL 2019	Assistant Instructor (<i>Instructor of Record</i>), Introduction to American Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course evaluation for overall performance: 4.4/5.0
SPRING 2019	Teaching Assistant, The Politics of Health, <i>with Eric McDaniel</i>
FALL 2018	Contributor (Ancillary Materials), Theriault, Sean M. and Mickey Edwards. 2019. <i>Congress: The First Branch</i> . New York: Oxford University Press. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared instructor’s manual for each of ten chapters. • Materials include (per chapter): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 80 questions (multiple choice, short answer, and essay) – Lecture slides – Class activities and lecture suggestions – Supporting online materials
FALL 2018	Teaching Assistant, Congressional Elections, <i>with Sean Theriault</i>
SPRING 2018, FALL 2017	Head Teaching Assistant, Online: Introduction to American Government, <i>with Bethany Albertson & Sean Theriault</i>
FALL 2017	Personal Tutor, Introduction to American Government
SPRING 2017, FALL 2016	Head Teaching Assistant, Online: Introduction to American Government, <i>with Eric McDaniel & Daron Shaw</i>
SUMMER 2016	Teaching Assistant, Online: Introduction to American Government, <i>with Eric McDaniel & Daron Shaw</i>
SPRING 2016	Teaching Assistant, Introduction to American Government, <i>with Daron Shaw</i>

FALL 2015	Teaching Assistant, Introduction to American Government, <i>with David Leal</i>
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FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2020	UT Graduate School Fellowship (\$20,000)
2020	UT Austin Dept. of Government Summer Research Fellowship (\$5,000)
2019	Center for Effective Lawmaking Research Grant (\$1,500)
2019	Texas Politics Project Research Grant (\$1,500)
2019	UT Graduate School Summer Dissertation Fellowship (\$6,000)
2019	Dirksen Congressional Center Congressional Research Grant (\$2,660)
2019	Dwight D. Eisenhower/Clifford Roberts Graduate Fellowship (<i>Finalist</i>)
2018	Patricia Witherspoon Research Award (\$2,000)
2018	UT Austin Dept. of Government Summer Research Fellowship (\$5,000)
2018	Political Networks Conference Travel Grant - via NSF #1558713 (\$900)
2017-2019	J.J. Pickle Chair, International Travel Grant (\$6,000 total)
2017-2019	UT Graduate School Professional Development Award (\$1,275 total)
2017	MPSA Best Paper Delivered by a Graduate Student - Awarded for "Keeping Your Friends Close: A Study of Punishment and Intraparty Insurgency"(\$250)
2017	UT Austin Dept. of Government Pre-Dissertation Fellowship (\$2,000)
2017	UT Summer Statistics Institute Award (\$100)
2015-2019	UT Austin Dept. of Government Recruitment Fellowship (\$20,000 total)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

SINCE 2019	Reviewer, <i>Policy Studies Journal</i>
SINCE 2018	Reviewer, <i>Political Research Quarterly</i>

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

SPRING 2020	Founding Member, Queer in Political Science Group
2018-2019	Co-President, Graduate Student Organization

SPRING 2017 Co-Organizer, [Network Analysis Reading Group](#), *The University of Texas at Austin, Department of Government*

SKILLS

DATA ANALYSIS: R, Stata, Python

OTHER: \LaTeX

ADDITIONAL
TRAINING: Political Networks Conference - Advanced Workshop (*Summer 2018*)

UT Summer Statistics Institute: Introduction to Data Science in Python
(*Summer 2017*)

MEMBERSHIPS

SINCE 2018 Southern Political Science Association

SINCE 2016 Midwest Political Science Association

SINCE 2015 American Political Science Association

REFERENCES

Referee 1 Sean M. Theriault
The University of Texas at Austin
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Referee 2 Bryan D. Jones
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Referee 3 Alison W. Craig
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Referee 4 David W. Rohde
Duke University
408B Old Chemistry
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Referee 5 Christopher Wlezien
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Referee 6 Eric L. McDaniel
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