

Appointments

2013 - Assistant Professor of Political Science and African Studies, The Pennsylvania State University.

2011-2013. Postdoctoral Associate and Lecturer, Program on Democracy, MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, Yale University.

Education

2011. PhD in Political Science, UCLA.

2001. BA, Political Science and Environmental Studies, Tufts University

Awards and Honors

2012. Honorable Mention, Best Experimental Dissertation, American Political Science Association Experimental Section.

2010. Hewlett Predoctoral Fellowship, Center for Democracy, Development and Rule of Law, Stanford University.

Research and Publications

Peer-reviewed publications

2018. Forthcoming. The Perils of African Pre-Election Polls: Tense Campaigns and the Exacerbation of Bias. *Research and Politics*

2018. The Relevance of Relative Distribution: Favoritism, Information and Vote Choice in Uganda. *Comparative Political Studies*

2016. When a Null Pocketbook Effect is the Artifact: Strategically Understated Income and the Attenuation of Egotropic Voting (with Amanda Fidalgo). *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 11(3).

2016. Identifying and Interpreting the Sensitivity of Ethnic Voting in Africa. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 80(4).

2016. Finding Partisanship Where We Least Expect it: Evidence of Partisan Bias in a New African Democracy. *Political Behavior*, 38(1).

2015. Ethnic Voting and Accountability: A Stated Choice Experiment in Uganda. *World Politics* 67(2).

Submitted or solicited manuscripts

2019. Handbook of Experimental Political Science (with Jonathan Woon and Eric Dickson).
2018. Distribution or Diversion? Distributive Politics in the Presence of Clientelist Intermediaries *Under review*.
2018. Honor Among Chiefs: An Experiment on Monitoring and Aid Leakage in Malawi (with Brigitte Seim). *Under review*
2018. In Defense of a Divided Opposition: Programmatic Distribution and Minor Party Support in Africa. *Under review*.

Other publications

2015. Capturing Ethnic Salience on Surveys in Developing Countries. APSA Comparative Section Newsletter.
2014. Social Desirability Bias and Ethnic Voting on African Surveys. Afrobarometer Working Paper Series No. 144.

Research in progress

- Doubling Down: Broken Promises and Increased Political Support in Africa
- What Ethnic Politics Means When it Doesn't Mean Favoritism: A Survey Experiment among Content Non-Coethnic Voters
- Behavioral Theories and Field Experiments: Science and Ethics
- State Interventions and the Growth or Suppression of Anti-State Actions (with Margaret Foster, David Siegel, and Kaitlyn Webster)

Grants

2016. Data-Driven Development in Africa, AidData (\$10,000 conference sponsorship)
2015. "Accountability among Traditional Leaders: Monitoring and Leakage in Malawi." AidData (\$35,000)
2009. "Explaining Ethnic Voting In Africa." National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (\$12,000)

Presentations

Invited talks

2017. Uses (and Abuses) of Field Experiments for Testing New Theory. Behavior Models of Politics. Duke University.
2016. Accountability Among Traditional Leaders: An Experiment on Monitoring and Leakage in Malawi. Comparative Politics Annual Conference. Washington University in St. Louis.

2015. Improving Public Negotiation with Oil Companies in Uganda. 3ie Grantee Inception Workshop. University of London.
2015. Experiments in the Oil Sector. 3ie Grantee Inception Workshop. University of London.
2012. Ethnic Voting and Social Desirability Bias on African Surveys. Ethnic Politics Workshop IV, Arizona State University.
2012. Partisan Bias and Perceptions of Provision in Uganda. Conference on Sub-national Research in Comparative Politics. Brown University.
2011. Great Expectations: Explaining African Voters Ethnic Preferences. Northwestern University African Studies Seminar.

Conference presentations

2018. In Defense of a Divided Opposition: Programmatic Distribution and Ethnic Minor Party Support in Africa. Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago.
2017. In Defense of a Divided Opposition: Programmatic Distribution and Ethnic Minor Party Support in Africa. Behavioral Models of Politics. Duke University.
2017. Honor Among Chiefs: An Experiment on Accountability Among Traditional Leaders in Malawi. WGAPE NYU-AD. Abu Dhabi.
2016. Accountability Among Traditional Leaders: An Experiment on Monitoring and Leakage in Malawi. African Studies Association. Washington, DC.
2016. Patronage and Night Lights in Kenya (with Brian Min). Penn State Conference on Data-Driven Development in Africa. Penn State.
2015. The Relevance of Relative Distribution. Toronto Behavioral Politics Workshop. Ryerson.
2015. The Relevance of Relative Distribution. African Studies Association. San Diego.
2014. The Relevance of Relative Provision. Behavioral Models of Politics Conference. Duke.
2014. Design Workshop: The Relevance of Relative Provision. EGAP 11. Berkeley.
2013. What's the Matter with Soroti? Perceptions of Provision and Voting in Uganda. African Studies Association. Baltimore.
2013. Invisible Favoritism: Distribution and Ethnicity in Uganda. American Political Science Association. Chicago.

Teaching

Courses

2017 EITM Summer Institute

Behavioral Models and Experimental Tests in Lab and Field

Penn State

Introduction to Contemporary Africa (undergraduate)
Politics of Underdeveloped Systems (undergraduate)
Democracy and Democratization (undergraduate)
Government Corruption in Comparative Perspective (graduate)
African Politics (graduate)

Yale

Introduction to African Politics (undergraduate)
Democracy and Development in Africa (undergraduate/graduate)
Comparative Corruption (undergraduate/graduate)

Former and Current Students

Christopher Culver, Dissertation Co-Chair
Michelle Hertel, Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor
Toluwanimi Segun, Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor
Shidhara Torres, McNair Program Social Mentor
Seamus Wagner, Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor (Winner, Grand Prize, John Sr. and Kimlyn Patishnock Award for Information Literacy, 2018)

Professional service

Conference organization

Steering Committee, Behavioral Models of Politics (2017-)
Founding Organizer, Conference on Data-Driven Development in Africa (2015-)

University committee Work

African Studies Head Search Committee, College of Liberal Arts (2017-2018)
Political Science Methods Search Committee, Political Science (2016-2017)
Comprehensive Exam Committee, African Studies (2015-2016)
African Studies/Geography Joint Search Committee (2014-2015)
Comparative Comprehensive Exam Committee, Political Science (2014-2015)
African Studies/Francophone Studies Joint Search Committee (2013-2014)
Teaching Improvement Committee, Political Science (2013-2014)

Other service

Best Paper Award Committee, APSA Experimental Methods Section (2017)
Editorial Board, APSA Comparative Politics Section Newsletter (2014-)

Professional memberships

Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP)
Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPE)
African Studies Association
American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association
Society for Political Methodology