

Department of Political Science  
Pennsylvania State University  
321 Pond Lab  
University Park, PA 16802

Phone: (814)863-8346  
Fax: (814)863-8979  
bdesmarais@psu.edu  
<https://sites.psu.edu/desmaraisgroup>

**Employment**

Associate Professor of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University. 2015 – Present.  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Massachusetts Amherst. 2010 – 2015.

**Affiliations**

Faculty Affiliate, Pennsylvania State University Institute for CyberScience, Fall 2015–Present.  
Visiting Fellow, Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (Research Triangle Park, NC), Fall 2013.  
Faculty Affiliate, UMass Amherst Computational Social Science Initiative, Fall 2010 – Spring 2015.  
Associate Director, Institute for Social Science Research, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Spring 2014 – Spring 2015.

**Education**

Ph.D. Political Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2010  
Specialties: Research Methods and American Politics  
M.A. Political Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2008  
B.A. Mathematical Economics and Public Policy, Eastern Connecticut State University, 2005,  
*Summa Cum Laude*

**Refereed Publications***Journal Articles*

24. Skyler J. Cranmer and Bruce A. Desmarais. What can we learn from predictive modeling? *Political Analysis*, Accepted
23. James D. Wilson, Matthew J. Denny, Shankar Bhamidi, Skyler J. Cranmer, and Bruce A. Desmarais. Stochastic Weighted Graphs: Flexible Model Specification and Simulation. *Social Networks*, 49:37–47, 2017
22. Abigail A. Rury, Frederick Boehmke, Bruce A. Desmarais, and Jeffrey J. Harden. The Seeds of Policy Change: Leveraging Diffusion to Disseminate Policy Innovations. *Journal of Health Policy, Politics, and Law*, Accepted
21. James ben Aaron, Matthew J. Denny, Bruce A. Desmarais, and Hanna Wallach. Transparency by Conformity: A Field Experiment Evaluating Openness in Local Governments. *Public Administration Review*, Accepted
20. Skyler J Cranmer and Bruce A Desmarais. A critique of dyadic design. *International Studies Quarterly*, page sqw007, 2016
19. Mia Costa, Bruce A Desmarais, and John A Hird. Science use in regulatory impact analysis: The effects of political attention and controversy. *Review of Policy Research*, 33(3):251–269, 2016
18. Bruce A. Desmarais, Jeffrey J. Harden, and Frederick J. Boehmke. Persistent Policy Pathways: Inferring Diffusion Networks in the American States. *American Political Science Review*, 109(2):392–406, 2015
17. Bruce A. Desmarais, Vincent G. Moscardelli, Brian F. Schaffner, and Michael S. Kowal. Measuring Legislative Collaboration: The Senate Press Events Network. *Social Networks*, 40:43–54, 2015

16. Bruce A. Desmarais, Raymond J. La Raja, and Michael S. Kowal. The Fates of Challengers in US House Elections: The Role of Extended Party Networks in Supporting Candidates and Shaping Electoral Outcomes. *American Journal of Political Science*, 59(1):194–211, 2015
15. Bruce A. Desmarais and John A. Hird. Public Policy’s Bibliography: The Use of Research in U.S. Regulatory Impact Analyses. *Regulation & Governance*, 8(4):497–510, 2014
14. Bruce A. Desmarais and Jeffrey J. Harden. An Unbiased Model Comparison Test Using Cross-Validation. *Quality & Quantity*, 48(4):2155–2173, 2014
13. Bruce A. Desmarais and Jeffrey J. Harden. Testing for Zero-Inflation in Count Models: Bias Correction for the Vuong Test. *The Stata Journal*, 13(4):810–835, 2013
12. Skyler J. Cranmer, Tobias Heinrich, and Bruce A. Desmarais. Reciprocity and the Structural Determinants of the International Sanctions Network. *Social Networks*, 36(January):5–22, 2014
11. Bruce A. Desmarais and Skyler J. Cranmer. Micro-level interpretation of exponential random graph models with application to estuary networks. *Policy Studies Journal*, 40(3):402–434, 2012.
10. Skyler J. Cranmer, Bruce A. Desmarais, and Justin H. Kirkland. Toward a Network Theory of Alliance Formation. *International Interactions*, 38(3):295–324, 2012
9. Stuart M. Benjamin and Bruce A. Desmarais. Standing the Test of Time; The Breadth of Majority Coalitions and the Fate of U.S. Supreme Court Precedents. *Journal of Legal Analysis*, 4(2):445–469, 2012.
8. Skyler J. Cranmer, Bruce A. Desmarais, and Elizabeth Menninga. Complex Dependencies in the Alliance Network. *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, 29(3):279–313, 2012.
7. Bruce A. Desmarais and Jeffrey J. Harden. Comparing partial likelihood and robust estimation methods for the cox regression model. *Political Analysis*, 20(1):113–135, 2012.
6. Bruce A. Desmarais and Skyler J. Cranmer. Statistical inference for valued-edge networks: The generalized exponential random graph model. *PLoS ONE*, 7(1):e30136, 01 2012.
5. Bruce A. Desmarais. Lessons in disguise: Multivariate predictive mistakes in collective choice models. *Public Choice*, 151(3):719–737, 2012.
4. Bruce A. Desmarais and Skyler J. Cranmer. Statistical Mechanics of Networks: Estimation and Uncertainty. *Physica A*, 391(4):1865–1876, 2012.
3. Skyler J. Cranmer and Bruce A. Desmarais. Inferential Network Analysis with Exponential Random Graph Models. *Political Analysis*, 19(1):66–86, 2011.
2. Jeffrey J. Harden and Bruce A. Desmarais. Linear Models with Outliers: Choosing Between Conditional-Mean and Conditional-Median Methods. *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, 11(4):371–389, 2011
1. Allison T. Freeman and Bruce A. Desmarais. Portfolio Adjustment to Home Equity Accumulation among CRA Borrowers. *Journal of Housing Research*, 20(2):141–160, 2011

#### *Peer Refereed Proceedings*<sup>1</sup>

3. Peter Krafft, Juston Moore, Bruce Desmarais, and Hanna Wallach. Topic-Partitioned Multinetwork Embeddings. In *Proceedings of the 26th Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems*, 2012
2. Bruce A. Desmarais and Skyler J. Cranmer. Forecasting the Locational Dynamics of Transnational Terrorism: A Network Analytic Approach. In *Proceedings of the European Intelligence and Security Informatics Conference (EISIC) 2011*. IEEE Computer Society, 2011.
1. Bruce A. Desmarais and Skyler J. Cranmer. Consistent Confidence Intervals for Maximum Pseudolikelihood Estimators. *Neural Information Processing Systems 2010 Workshop on Computational Social Science and the Wisdom of Crowds*, 2010.

---

<sup>1</sup>These publications were subjected to double or single blind peer review of a completed paper. Publication in this type of peer-reviewed conference proceedings is the primary avenue of scholarly publishing in the fields of computer and information sciences. Thus these publications are analogous to peer-reviewed journal articles in the social sciences.

## Software

2. Matthew J. Denny, James D. Wilson, Skyler Cranmer, Bruce A. Desmarais, and Shankar Bhamidi. *GERGM: Estimation and Fit Diagnostics for Generalized Exponential Random Graph Models*, 2016. R package version 0.10.5
1. Philip Leifeld, Skyler J. Cranmer, and Bruce A. Desmarais. *xergm: Extensions for Exponential Random Graph Models*, 2016. R package version 1.7.0

## Presentations

### *Invited Talks*

10. “Rountable on Federalism, Intergovernmental Affairs, and Public Administration.” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference. April 8, 2016.
9. “Campaign Finance and Primary Elections.” Meeting of the Campaign Finance Task Force, Stanford University. February, 4, 2016.
8. “Entity Ambiguity.” Big Data and Large Corporate Networks: Enhancing Data Quality Through Standards for the Research Community, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam. December 15, 2015.
7. “Communication Network Content and Structure: A Modeling Approach with Application to Gender Mixing in Local Government Internal E-Mail Communication.” Northeast Political Methodology Meeting, New York University, May 2, 2014.
6. “Reflections on the Predictive Modeling of Interstate Conflict.” ISA Working Group on Forecasting International Events, Toronto, March 25, 2014.
5. “Inferring Policy Diffusion Networks in the American States.” New Frontiers in Policy Diffusion Conference, University of Iowa, March 14-15, 2014.
4. “Topic-Specific Latent Space Modeling of Government Communication Networks.” Department of Computational Social Science, George Mason University, January 15, 2014.
3. “Inferring Policy Diffusion Networks in the American States.” Conference on Causality in Political Networks, University of Chicago, May, 10 2013.
2. “Communities in Congressional Campaign Finance Networks and the Emergence of the Establishment Challenger”. Presentation for the Boston-Cambridge Colloquium on Complexity and Social Networks at the LazerLab. Northeastern University. November 29, 2012.
1. “Standing the Test of Time; The Breadth of Majority Coalitions and the Fate of U.S. Supreme Court Precedents.” Conference on Judicial Collegiality, University of Southern California, Nov 11, 2011.

### *Conference Presentations*

14. “Models, Methods and Network Topology: Experimental Design for the Study of Interference.” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting. San Juan, PR. January 7, 2016.
13. “Modeling Interpersonal Government Communication Networks.” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. January, 2015.
12. “Learning in the Sunshine: Analysis of Local Government Email Corpora.” KDD at Bloomberg. Bloomberg LP Headquarters, New York, 2014.
11. “Inferring Policy Diffusion Networks in the American States.” Annual Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology, University of Virginia, 2013.
10. “Inferring Policy Diffusion Networks in the American States.” Political Networks Conference, Indiana University at Bloomington, 2013.
9. “Punctuated Equilibrium and Friction in Policymaking: Empirical Evidence and Theoretical Implications.” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, 2013.
8. “Topic-Specific Latent Space Modeling of Government Communication Networks.” Workshop on Information in Networks, New York University, 2012.

7. “Strategic Interdependence on the U.S. Supreme Court: The Analysis of Voting on the Merits.” Political Networks Conference, University of Colorado at Boulder, 2012.
6. “The Senate Press Events Network: Another Look at Legislative Collaboration.” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, 2012.
5. “The Generalized Exponential Random Graph Model’.” Political Networks Conference, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, 2011.
4. “Consistent Confidence Intervals for Maximum Pseudolikelihood Estimators.” Neural Information Processing Systems Workshop on Computational Social Science and the Wisdom of Crowds, Whistler, BC, 2010.
3. “The Exponential Random Configuration Model for the Empirical Analysis of Interdependent Political Choices.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, 2010.
2. “The Temporal Exponential Random Graph Model”, Political Networks Conference, Duke University, 2010.
1. “The Exponential Random Configuration Model for the Empirical Analysis of Interdependent Political Choices.” Annual Meeting for the Society of Political Methodology, University of Iowa, 2010.

#### *Invited Workshops*

7. Network Analysis: Statistical Inference with Exponential Random Graph Models (UNC Chapel Hill, Odum Institute, May 2014)
6. TERGM: Exponential Random Graph Models for Dynamic Network Data (George Mason University, January 2014)
5. Advanced Network Analysis (ICPSR Summer Program, 2012, 2013)
4. Introduction to Network Analysis (UNC Chapel Hill, Odum Institute, November 2013)
3. TERGM: Exponential Random Graph Models for Dynamic Network Data (Political Networks Conference, June 2013)
2. Advanced Bayesian Statistics (first two of four weeks) (ICPSR Summer Program, 2011)
1. Network Analysis Workshop, (The Ohio State University, May 2011)

#### **Grants**

9. NSF Award Number SES-1637089. “RIDIR: Collaborative Research: DAPPR: Diffusion Analytics for Public Policy Research” effective October 1, 2016 and expires September 30, 2019. Penn State total: \$142,425.
8. NSF Award Number SES-1558661. “Collaborative Research: An Expanded Framework for Inferring Public Policy Diffusion Networks.” Effective June 15, 2016 and expires May 31, 2018. Penn State total: \$178,953.
7. NSF Award Number SES-1357606. “Collaborative Research: Specification and Estimation of Exponential Family Random Graph Models for Weighted Networks.” effective April 15, 2014 and expires April 14, 2015. UMass Amherst total: \$78,131.
6. Russell Sage Foundation. “The Revolving Door in Financial Regulation: Elite Networks and the Consequences of Unequal Access on Policymaking.” effective January 01, 2015 and expires December 31, 2015. UMass Total: \$77,658.
5. NSF Award Number CISE-1320219. “Organizational Responsiveness to Open Outside Input: A Modeling Approach based on Statistical Text and Network Analysis.” effective September 1, 2013 and expires August 31, 2016. Co-PI with Hanna Wallach (UMass Amherst; PI). Total: \$499,326.
4. NSF Award Number SES-1360104. “Scientific Evidence in Regulation and Governance.” effective May 1, 2014 and expires May 1, 2017. PI with John Hird (UMass Amherst; Co-PI). Total: \$527,233.

3. Faculty Research Grant, University of Massachusetts Amherst Office of Research Development, 01/2013–12/2013. Total: \$14,560
2. Proposal Preparation Grant, University of Massachusetts Amherst College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, 01/2011–12/2011. Total: \$10,000
1. Research Support Grant, University of Massachusetts Amherst College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, 01/2011 – 05/2011. Total: \$4,000

## Awards

3. 2015 Jack Walker Award. Recognizes an article published in the last two calendar years that makes an outstanding contribution to research and scholarship on political organizations and parties. Awarded by the Political Organizations and Parties Section of the American Political Science Association. Co-winner with Michael Kowal and Ray La Raja for, “The Fates of Challengers in US House Elections: The Role of Extended Party Networks in Supporting Candidates and Shaping Electoral Outcomes.” Published in the *American Journal of Political Science*, 2015.
2. Best Conference Paper on Political Networks, 2013. Awarded by the Political Networks Section of the American Political Science Association. Co-winner with Jeffrey J. Harden and Frederick J. Boehmke for, “Inferring Policy Diffusion Networks in the American States.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology, University of Virginia, 2013.
1. Fellow for the Program on Computational Methods for the Social Sciences, Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute, Fall 2013.

## Teaching

### *Courses Taught*

5. Political Network Analysis (G: 2013, 2014, 2016)
4. Approaches and Issues in Social Data Analytics (G: 2015)
3. Congress and the Legislative Process (UG: 2012, 2013, 2014)
2. Introduction to Quantitative Analysis (G: 2012, 2014)
1. Official Secrecy in the United States, (UG: 2010, 2012)

## External Service

7. Editorial Board Member, *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, Spring 2011 – 2014.
6. Political Networks Conference Fellowship Committee, member 2012, chair 2013.
5. Political Networks Conference Program Committee Co-chair, 2014.
4. Program Committee Member, Workshop on Computational Social Science and the Wisdom of Crowds. Held at Neural Information Processing Systems 2011, Sierra Nevada, Spain.
3. National Science Foundation Review Panel Member, Spring 2013, Summer 2014.
2. Reviewer: *American Political Science Review*, *Science*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Political Analysis*, *Journal of Politics*, *International Organization*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*, *Social Networks*, *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, *PLoS ONE*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *American Politics Research*, *Public Choice*, *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, *The Stata Journal*, National Science Foundation
1. Member: American Political Science Association (sections on Political Methodology and Political Networks) and the Midwestern Political Science Association