

CURRICULUM VITAE

Jacob R. Straus

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science (2006), University of Florida

M.A., Political Science (2002), University of Florida

B.A., Government and Politics [Jewish Studies Minor] (1999), University of Maryland, College Park

RESEARCH POSITIONS

- ANALYST ON THE CONGRESS, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, Washington, DC, August 2007 - Present
 - Conduct research on Congressional operations and administration.
 - Specialist on topics including: Commemoratives (i.e., Monuments and Memorials in the District of Columbia, commemorative resolutions, federal holidays, commemorative advisory commission); Lobbying, Congressional Ethics, Congressional Operations; Electronic Voting System in Congress; Congressional Communications; and Advisory Commissions.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- American Politics – focused congressional operations and administration, lobbying and ethics, congressional communications, and presidential relations with Congress.
- Public Policy – specifically interested in administrative control of the bureaucracy and congressional intent.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- ENVISION INSTITUTE – Leadership Honors Bootcamp, Staff Development Program, April 2004
- AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION – Graduate Travel Grant 2002 and 2003
- UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA – Department of Political Science Travel Award, 2002 and 2003
- UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND – Presidential Scholars Scholarship, 1995-1999

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Political Science Association
- Legislative Studies Section of the American Political Science Association
- Midwest Political Science Association
- Southern Political Science Association

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Journal Reviewer

- Political Research Quarterly
- American Politics Research
- Legislative Studies Quarterly
- Journal of Political Marketing
- Social Science Computer Review

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

“Restricting Membership: Assessing Agency Compliance of the Ban on Federal Lobbyists on Executive Branch Advisory Committees.” *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, vol. 45, No. 2 (June 2015), pp. 310-334. (with Wendy Ginsberg, Amanda Mullan, and Jaclyn Petruzzelli)

“Use of ‘Dear Colleague’ Letters in the House of Representatives: A Study of Internal Communications.” *Journal of Legislative Studies*, Vol. 19, No. 1 (March 2013), pp. 60-75.

“Communicating in 140 Characters or Less: Member use of Twitter in the 111th Congress.” *PS: Political Science & Politics*, Vol. 46, No. 1 (January 2013), pp. 60-66. (with Colleen J. Shogan, Matthew Eric Glassman, and Susan Navarro Smelcer).

Book Chapters

“Comparing Modern Congresses: Can Productivity Be Measured?” In *The Evolving Congress*, pp. 217-241. U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, 113th Cong., 2nd sess., S.Doc. 113-30. Washington: Government Printing Office, 2014.

“Navigating Congress.” In *Party and Procedure in the United States Congress*, pp. 1-11. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2012.

“Let’s Vote: The Rise and Impact of Roll Call Votes in the Age of Electronic Voting.” In *Party and Procedure in the United States Congress*, pp. 101-123. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2012.

Book Editor

Party and Procedure in the United States Congress. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2012.

Book Reviews

“Terrorism and National Security Reform: How Commissions Can Drive Change During Crises,” by Jordan Tama. *Congress and the Presidency*, Vol. 40, No. 1 (2013), pp. 102-104.

“Summer in a Glass: The Coming of Age of Winemaking in the Finger Lakes,” by Evan Dawson. *Journal of Wine Economics*, Vol. 6, No. 1 (2011), pp. 125-127.

“Total Lobbying: What Lobbyists Want (and How They Try to Get It) by Anthony J. Nownes.” *Political Studies Review*. Vol. 8, No. 2 (2010), p. 282.

“Common Ground: Committee Politics in the US House of Representatives by John Baughman.” *Political Studies Review*. Vol. 6, No. 1 (2008), pp. 92-93.

“Washington by Meg Greenfield.” Book Review. *Perspectives on Political Science*. Vol. 31, No. 1 (2003), p. 42.

Encyclopedia Articles

“Architect of the Capitol.” In *Encyclopedia of the United States Congress*, edited by Robert E. Dewhirst, p. 22, New York: Facts on File, 2007.

“Freshmen.” In *Encyclopedia of the United States Congress*, edited by Robert E. Dewhirst, pp. 223-224. New York: Facts on File, 2007.

“James Jeffords” (with Shannon Bow). In *Encyclopedia of the United States Congress*, edited by Robert E. Dewhirst, pp. 287-289. New York: Facts on File, 2007.

“Commission on Presidential Debates.” In the *Encyclopedia of American Political Parties and Elections*, edited by Larry J. Sabato and Howard R. Ernst, pp. 73-74. New York: Facts on File, 2006.

“Presidential Election of 1976.” In the *Encyclopedia of American Political Parties and Elections*, edited by Larry J. Sabato and Howard R. Ernst, pp. 362-363. New York: Facts on File, 2006.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Working Papers

“Social Media as a Communications Tool in Congress: Evaluating Senate Usage of Twitter in the 113th Congress” (with Raymond Williams, Colleen Shogan, and Matthew Glassman).

“Amending Ethics Committee Sanctions Recommendations in the House of Representatives, 1967-2012”

“Meeting Remotely: The Fiscal Costs and Potential Impact of Teleconferences for Federal Advisory Committees” (with Wendy Ginsberg and Jaclyn Petruzzelli)

“The Five Paragraph Essay as a Model for Graduate Writing: Lessons from Teaching M.A. Thesis Writing Courses”

“Memorializing Presidents in Washington DC: An Historical Analysis of Past and Present Presidential Memorials”

RECENT CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

“Social Media as a Communications Tool in Congress: Evaluating Senate Usage of Twitter in the 113th Congress” (with Raymond Williams, Colleen Shogan, and Matthew Glassman). Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 16-19, 2015, Chicago, IL.

“Social Media as a Communications Tool in Congress: Evaluating Senate Usage of Twitter in the 113th Congress” (with Raymond Williams, Colleen Shogan, and Matthew Glassman). Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, August 28-31, 2014, Washington, DC.

“Ethics Committee Sanction Recommendations in the House of Representatives: 1967-2012.” Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, January 9-11, 2014, New Orleans, LA.

“Meeting Remotely: The Fiscal Costs and Potential Impact of Teleconferences for Federal Advisory Committees” (with Wendy Ginsberg and Jaclyn Petruzzelli). Presented at the Northeastern Conference on Public Administration Annual Meeting, November 2-3, 2012, Boston, MA.

“Ethics Sanctions in the U.S. House of Representatives: Attempts to Amend Ethics Committee Sanction Recommendations, 1967-2004.” Presented at “Scandal!: An Interdisciplinary Conference on the Consequences, Outcomes, and Significance of Political Scandals,” June 21-23, 2012, Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA.

“Restricting Membership: Assessing Agency Compliance of the Ban on Federal Lobbyists on Executive Branch Advisory Committees” (with Wendy Ginsberg and Amanda Mullan). Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 12-14, 2012, Chicago, IL.

“Influencing Governmental Decision-Making: Assessing the Ban on Federal Lobbyists on Executive Branch Advisory Committees” (with Wendy Ginsberg and Amanda Mullan). Presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, January 12-14, 2012, New Orleans, LA.

“Communicating in 140 Characters or Less: Member use of Twitter in the 111th Congress” (with Colleen Shogan and Matthew Glassman). Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 22-25, 2010, Chicago, IL.

“Dear Colleague Letters in the House of Representatives: The Tracking of Internal House Communications.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2-5, 2009, Chicago, IL.

“Is My Seat Safe?: Legislative Success of Freshmen Members of Congress.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 12-15, 2007, Chicago, IL.

“The Evolution of U.S. Governmental Attitudes and Responses to Terrorism” (with Adam L. Silverman). Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 12-15, 2007, Chicago, IL.

“Freshman Committee Assignments in the House of Representatives.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 20-23, 2006, Chicago, IL.

“Freshman in the United States House of Representatives: 1974-1994.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, January 4-7, 2006, Atlanta, GA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- ADJUNCT LECTURER, *The Johns Hopkins University*, 2010 to present
- ADJUNCT LECTURER, *University of Maryland Baltimore County—Shady Grove*, 2009 to present
- ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, *Frostburg State University*, 2006-2007
- INSTRUCTOR, *University of Florida*, 2002
- GRADUATE/TEACHING ASSISTANT, *University of Florida*, 2000-2002

COURSES TAUGHT

The Johns Hopkins University

- 470.701 – POLITICS, PARTY AND PROCEDURE
- 470.850 – RESEARCH AND THESIS I: GOVERNMENT
- 470.853 – RESEARCH AND THESIS II: GLOBAL SECURITY STUDIES

University of Maryland Baltimore County - Shady Grove

- POLI 317/HIST 317 – AMERICAN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT
- POLI 323 – THE PRESIDENCY
- POLI 324 – THE CONGRESS
- POLI 325 – POLITICAL PARTIES AND ELECTIONS
- POLI 327 – INTEREST GROUPS AND LOBBYING
- POLI 423 – PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Frostburg State University

- POSC 110 – INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN POLITICS
- POSC 112 – HONORS INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN POLITICS
- POSC 311 – RESEARCH METHODS
- POSC 352 – INTEREST GROUPS AND PUBLIC POLICY
- POSC 421 – AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE POLITICS
- POSC 427 – AMERICAN PRESIDENCY (online)

University of Florida

- POS 2041 – AMERICAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Dr. Lawrence C. Dodd, *University of Florida*

OTHER EXPERIENCE

- DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EVENT PLANNING, Envision EMI, LLC, Washington, DC, July 2003-August 2006
 - Worked with nonprofit clients to negotiate housing venue, transportation, and conference cancellation insurance contracts in multiple cities for 185 conference serving 55,000 participants annually.
 - Served as Acting Director of Leadership Honors Bootcamp and International Scholar Laureate Program, which focused on small group experiential learning about leadership and self-development.
- ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM COORDINATION, Envision EMI, Inc., Washington, DC, January-July 2003
 - Worked with nonprofit Congressional Youth Leadership Council to administer, plan and book high school leadership programs meeting space, banquets, and speakers.

REFERENCES

Available Upon Request