Laura Moses

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Education

The Ohio State University
Ph.D., Political Science, 2017-2023, (expected)
Presidential Fellow 2022-2023
  Dissertation: "Interests on the Internet: Interest Actors and Organizations Online and Policy Implications"
  Committee: Janet M. Box-Steffensmeier (dissertation chair), Michael Neblo, William Minozzi, Bruce Desmarais
  (Pennsylvania State University)

Brown University
Masters of Public Affairs, 2016-2017
Data-Driven Policy Concentration

The Ohio State University
B.A., History with honors and research distinction
B.A., Music with honors

Research Areas

Policy: digital democracy, information accountability, data privacy, wearable technology, representation

Scholarship: digital politics, the public sphere, social media, representation, American politics, Congressional
messaging, online political behavior, network inference, computational social science

Publications

Moses, Laura and Box-Steffensmeier, Janet. "Meaningful Messaging: Sentiment in Elite Social Media Communication with the Public on the COVID-19 Pandemic" *Science Advances,* 2021.
URL: advances.sciencemag.org/content/7/29/eabg2898

Moses, Laura and Box-Steffensmeier, Janet. "Machine Learning: A First Introduction for Political Research"
Oxford Handbook of Methodological Pluralism, ed. Janet Box-Steffensmeier, Dino P. Christenson, and Valeria
Sinclair-Chapman (2023).

Articles Under Review

Moses, Laura. "Conceptualizing and Identifying 'Interest Actors'"

Moses, Laura. "Interest Groups Sociopolitical Activities"

Moses, Laura. "Directed Information and Influence Networks for Political Research"

Selected Projects in Progress

"Anti-Elite and Populist in Rhetoric in Congressional Speech" with Janet Box-Steffensmeier, Dino Christenson
and Sahar Abi-Hassan

"Congressional Connections on Social Media" with Sean Theriault and Annelise Russell

"Interest Actors and Agendas: Impact on Members of Congress Policy Messaging on Social Media"

"Trends in Presidential Pardons" with Janet Box-Steffensmeier, Dino Christenson and Sahar Abi-Hassan

"Digital Queries and Public Opinion Formation" with Jon Green

Professional & Academic Experience

Graduate Research Assistant with Dr. Janet Box-Steffensmeier, 2017-present
Co-authored original research works and co-mentored junior graduate students and undergraduate research assistants. Edited and created slides, presentations, papers, and other materials.

Senior Scholar, Program in Statistics & Methodology, The Ohio State University, 2021-2022
Responsibilities included consulting on research projects and methodological challenges with faculty and senior graduate students, teaching workshops on specific quantitative methods, and organizing speaker series.

Fellow, Institute of Democratic Engagement & Accountability, The Ohio State University, 2017-present
Co-authored white papers and evaluated deliberation session outcomes. Managed online and in-person deliberations, designed policy documents for deliberative sessions, led organizing and planning in-person demonstrations of research and trained and mentored undergraduate research assistants.

Junior Fellow, Program in Statistics & Methodology, The Ohio State University, 2019-2020
Consulted on research projects and methodological challenges with graduate students, assisted with quantitative methods sequence and projects, led workshops on specific quantitative methods, and organized speaker series and departmental events.

Consortium Member, PAN-FAB, Greater Boston Pandemic Fabrication Team, 2020-2021
Created school reopening resources for individual school districts and produced research surveys for workshop participants to evaluate learning and feelings about COVID-19 prevention and personal protection.

Research Consultant, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (JPAL), 2017
Research assistant to Dr. Tavneet Suri, Department of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Identified outcomes on universal basic income studies and compiled findings. Conducted initial statistical investigation of mobile money experiments.

Events & Administration, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2013-2016
Administrator for the Director of the Computer Science and Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL). Developed outreach and engagement events including the White House-MIT Big Data Privacy Workshop, K-12 Code.org educational programming, a conference commemorating Project MAC, and other workshops, events, and seminars. Directed administrative activities, communicating with faculty, industry partners, donors, and alumni. Collaborated with MIT development and the Office of the President for the Director's office.

Policy Intern, Performing Arts Alliance & League of American Orchestras, 2010
Responsibilities included data collection and analysis; drafting text for reports, and memos. Advised performing arts alliance members on broadband policy and regulation changes proposed by the FCC in 2010, and provided memos on technical policy changes. Led meetings with Ohio legislators during Arts Advocacy Day.

Grants, Honors & Awards

The Presidential Fellowship, The Ohio State University, 2022

Virginia Gray Graduate Research Grant, Political Organizations and Parties APSA, 2022

William Jennings Bryan Prize, OSU Political Science Department Best Paper in American Politics, 2022

Francis R. Aumann Award, OSU Political Science Department Best Paper in Political Methodology, 2022

Annual Meeting for Society for Political Methodology, Travel Grant, 2022

American Political Science Association, Travel Grant, 2022

William Jennings Bryan Prize, OSU Political Science Department Best Paper in American Politics, 2021

American Political Science Association, Travel Grant, 2021

University Fellowship, The Ohio State University, 2020

William Jennings Bryan Prize, OSU Political Science Department Best Paper in American Politics, 2020

Francis R. Aumann Award, OSU Political Science Department Best Paper in Political Methodology, 2020

Research Grant, Department of Political Science, The Ohio State University, 2020

Summer Research Grant, Department of Political Science, The Ohio State University, 2018

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research Summer Program in Quantitative Methods and Social Research Scholarship, College of Arts and Sciences, The Ohio State University, 2018

Social and Behavioral Sciences Graduate Fellowship, The Ohio State University, 2017

Massachusetts Institute of Technology & Georgetown University Privacy Practicum, Best Project, 2015

John Glenn Washington Academic Fellowship, The Ohio State University, 2010

Teaching

Undergraduate Research Co-Advisor
The Ohio State University, AU2018-present
Mentors undergraduate research projects on Congress, the judiciary, the presidency, public opinion, and social media. Co-advises technical projects with 10-15 undergraduates who engage in data collection with web scraping, analysis with machine learning, inferential networks, natural language processing, feature engineering, and software design. Guides undergraduate research projects in computational social science.

Guest Instructor
Graduate Quantitative Political Analysis, The Ohio State University, AU2019
Supervised Machine Learning: Introduction to Support Vector Machines
Unsupervised Machine Learning: K-Means & the EM Algorithm
Instructor: Dr. William Minozzi

Teaching Assistant
Graduate Economics and Statistics for Public Policy, Brown University, 2017
Instructors: Dr. John Freidman and Dr. Emily Oster

Undergraduate Introduction to Public Policy, Brown University, 2016
Instructor: Dr. Robert Hackey

Instructor of Record
Undergraduate Introduction to Computer-Assisted Problem Solving, The Ohio State University, 2012-2013
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Additional Training

Drake Institute for Teaching and Learning at Ohio State University
Professional training on mentoring undergraduate researchers
Professional training in diversity, equity, and inclusion

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Program, 2018
Course: Empirical Modeling of Social Science Theory: Advanced Topics
Course: Bayesian Modeling for the Social Sciences II: Advanced Topics

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Advanced Study Program, 2014-2015
Graduate courses with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology & Georgetown University Privacy Practicum (2015) on privacy legislation for technology and AI and Internet policy (2014).

Conference Participation
American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2021, 2022)
Society for Political Methodology Conference (2022)
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2021, 2022, 2023)
    2020 canceled due to COVID-19
Politics and Computational Social Science (2018*, 2020, 2021)
Political Networks Conference (2017*,2021, 2022)
Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2023)

Brice Acree Text as Data Workshop (2021)
Junior Americanist Workshop Series (2021)
Translational Data Analytics Ohio State University Spring Forum (2022)
Visions in Methodology Annual Meeting (2018*)
Privacy Forum, Mobile Health and Information Privacy, *invitation only* (2015)
    * denotes attendee

Service

Women in Legislative Studies, Panel Organizer, 2021

Ohio State University Political Science Undergraduate Diversity, Co-founder & Conference Planning Committee, 2018-2022

Ohio State Social Media Research Working Group, Co-founder, 2018-2020

Parallel Graduate Studies Committee, Political Science Department, 2018-2019

Conference Discussant
Mershon 2016 Elections Conference
Panel Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association (2021, 2022)

Reviewer
American Political Science Review
Journal of Politics
American Journal of Political Science
Legislative Studies Quarterly

Skills

Programming Languages
Python, R, SQL, STATA

Statistical Computing and Software
STAN, JAGS, and BUGS for Bayesian modeling; the Tidyverse in R; Python data analysis libraries (e.g. Pandas, Numpy, Scipy, SciKit-Learn); BeautifulSoup and Selenium for web-scraping; Spacy, Pytorch

Foreign Language
French (advanced beginner)

Selected Coursework

Public Policy
Policy Design and Implementation · Program Evaluation · Management and Implementation in Public and Non-profit Organizations · Financial Administration · Public Budgeting

Methodology
Natural Language Processing · Machine Learning and Pattern Recognition · Spatiotemporal Modeling · Causal Inference · Bayesian Inference · Generalized Linear Models · Time Series · Network Inference · Game Theory

Memberships

American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association
Society for Political Methodology
Visions in Methodology
The Network for Advancing and Evaluating the Societal Impact of Science
Women in Network Science
Women in Legislative Studies