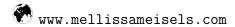
Mellissa Meisels

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Appointments & Affiliations

YALE UNIVERSITY

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science

Faculty Affiliate, Institution for Social and Policy Studies

Postdoctoral Associate, Center for the Study of American Politics

2025 –
2025 –
2024 – 2025

University of Rochester

Visiting Scholar, Democracy Center

March 2023

Education

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

Ph.D. Political Science

Fields: American Politics, Political Methodology

Committee: Josh Clinton (chair), Larry Bartels, Alan Wiseman, Danielle Thomsen

Graduate Affiliate, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions

M.A. Political Science

2019 – 2022

University of California, Los Angeles

B.A. Political Science, *magna cum laude*Advisor: John Zaller
2015 – 2018

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Mellissa Meisels, Joshua D. Clinton, and Gregory A. Huber. 2024. "Giving to the Extreme? Experimental Evidence on Donor Response to Candidate and District Characteristics." *British Journal of Political Science*. FirstView.

Working Papers

Everything in Moderation? The Effect of Candidate Extremism on Individual and Corporate PAC Fundraising

Revise and Resubmit at Political Science Research and Methods

WORKING PAPERS CONT'D

Campaign Agendas and Issue Group Strategy in Congressional Primaries
PRESENTATIONS: APSA MIP Pre-Conference 2023, APSA 2023, JAWS Fall 2023, MPSA 2024
— 2023 Political Organizations and Parties Best APSA Paper Award

Positioning in Congressional Primary Campaigns

Presentations: MPSA 2023, PolMeth 2023

— 2023 Vanderbilt Political Science Outstanding Graduate Paper Award

Competition and Free-Riding in Electoral Campaigns with Outside Spending (*with Brenton Kenkel*) Presentations: MPSA 2022, APSA MIP Pre-Conference 2022, APSA 2022, VFT 2023

Other Publications

Mellissa Meisels. 2024. "Political Donors Prefer Extreme Candidates, but the Competitiveness of the Election and their Opponent's Views Matter Too." LSE United States Politics & Policy Blog.

Awards, Grants, & Fellowships

Best APSA 2023 Paper Award, Political Organizations and Parties Section	2024
Provost's Pathbreaking Discovery Award, Vanderbilt University Graduate School	2024
Outstanding Doctoral Student Award, Vanderbilt University Graduate School	2024
Harold Stirling Vanderbilt Award, Vanderbilt University Graduate School	2022 - 2024
Russell G. Hamilton Scholar, Vanderbilt University Graduate School	2019 – 2024
Outstanding Graduate Research Paper Award, Vanderbilt Political Science	2023
Virginia Gray Graduate Student Research Award, APSA POP Section	2023
Conference Travel Grant, American Political Science Association	2023
J. Leiper Freeman Memorial Award, Vanderbilt Political Science	2021, 2023
NSF Travel and Participation Award, Society for Political Methodology	2022, 2023
Travel Grant, Vanderbilt University Graduate School	2022, 2023
University Graduate Fellowship, Vanderbilt University Graduate School	2019 – 2022
Research Assistant Funding, Vanderbilt ROCCA Lab	2022
Lew and Edie Wasserman Grant, UCLA Alumni Association	2016 – 2019
UCLA Alumni Scholarship, UCLA Alumni Association	2015 – 2019

Presentations

INVITED TALKS

Department of Government, University of Texas at Austin Department of Political Science, Syracuse University Department of Political Science, University of California, San Diego	2023	
	2023 2023	

INVITED TALKS CONT'D Department of Political Science, Yale University 2023 2023 Department of Political Science, Stanford University Department of Government, American University 2023 Department of Political Science, University of Rochester 2023 SMALL CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS UChicago Harris CEG American Politics Conference 2024 Junior Americanist Workshop Series 2023 Virtual Formal Theory Workshop 2023 Vanderbilt University Graduate Ideas Symposium 2023 Money in Politics Pre-Conference, American Political Science Association 2021 - 2023Annual Meetings Society for Political Methodology 2022 - 2023American Political Science Association 2021 - 2024Midwest Political Science Association 2021 - 2024**Teaching Assistance** PSCI 3893 — American Democracy and Dissent 2024 PSCI 3244 — The Legislative Process 2023 Guest Lecture: University of Rochester, PSCI 260 — Democratic Erosion 2023 2022 PSCI 3260 — Introduction to American Law PSCI 2260 — Constitutional Law 2022 DSCI 1000 — Data Science: How Data Shape Our World 2021 PSCI 2300 — Introduction to Data Science for Politics 2021 PSCI 1150 — U.S. Elections 2020 Service Co-President, Vanderbilt Political Science Graduate Student Association 2021 - 2023Panel Chair, Women in Legislative Studies Conference 2022 Reviewer: Party Politics, Electoral Studies, Journal of Politics