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# MELLISSA MEISELS

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Department of Political Science  
301 Commons Center  
Nashville, TN 37203

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🌐 www.mellissameisels.com

## EDUCATION

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### **Vanderbilt University**

Ph.D Political Science

Fields: American Politics, Political Methodology

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

Nashville, TN

2019 –

### **University of California, Los Angeles**

B.A. Political Science, *Magna Cum Laude*

Advisor: John Zaller

Los Angeles, CA

2015 – 2018

## ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

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### **Democracy Center**

Visiting Scholar

University of Rochester

March 2023

### **Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions**

Graduate Student Affiliate

Vanderbilt University

2019 –

## UNDER REVIEW

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

- Presentations: APSA 2021

Mellissa Meisels. "Positioning in Congressional Primary Campaigns."

- Presentations: Rochester Political Science Brown Bag, MPSA 2023, PolMeth 2023

Mellissa Meisels. "Everything in Moderation? The Effect of Candidate Extremism on Individual and Corporate PAC Fundraising."

- Presentations: MPSA 2021, PolMeth 2022

## WORKING PAPERS

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Brenton Kenkel and Mellissa Meisels. "Competition and Free-Riding in Electoral Campaigns with Outside Spending."

- Presentations: MPSA 2022, APSA Money in Politics Pre-Conference 2022, APSA 2022, Rochester Democracy Center Working Group, Virtual Formal Theory Workshop 2023

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Melissa Meisels. "More Attention, More Money? Issue Priority and Issue PAC Fundraising in House Campaigns"

- Presentations: APSA Money in Politics Pre-Conference 2023, APSA 2023

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

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<b>Harold Stirling Vanderbilt Award</b> – \$5,000/year Vanderbilt University Graduate School	2022 – 2024
<b>Russell G. Hamilton Scholar</b> Vanderbilt University Graduate School	2019 – 2024
<b>Conference Travel Grant</b> – \$150 American Political Science Association	2023
<b>J. Leiper Freeman Memorial Award</b> – \$1,800 Vanderbilt University Department of Political Science	2023
<b>National Science Foundation Travel and Participation Award</b> – \$1,650 Society for Political Methodology	2023
<b>Travel Grant</b> – \$1,000 Vanderbilt University Graduate School	2023
<b>University Graduate Fellowship</b> – \$5,000/year Vanderbilt University Graduate School	2019 – 2022
<b>Travel Grant</b> – \$500 Vanderbilt University Graduate School	2022
<b>National Science Foundation Travel and Participation Award</b> – \$1,350 Society for Political Methodology	2022
<b>Research Assistant Funding</b> – \$5,000 Vanderbilt Research on Conflict and Collective Action (ROCCA) Lab	2022
<b>J. Leiper Freeman Memorial Award</b> – \$1,300 Vanderbilt University Department of Political Science	2021
<b>Lew and Edie Wasserman Grant</b> – \$5,000 UCLA Alumni Association	2016 – 2019
<b>UCLA Alumni Scholarship</b> – \$1,000 UCLA Alumni Association	2015 – 2019

## INVITED TALKS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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University of Rochester, Department of Political Science, Brown Bag Seminar	2023
University of Rochester, Democracy Center Working Group	2023
Virtual Formal Theory Workshop	2023

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Society for Political Methodology Meeting	2022, 2023
Money in Politics Pre-Conference, American Political Science Association	2022, 2023
American Political Science Association Meeting	2021, 2022, 2023
Midwest Political Science Association Meeting	2021, 2022, 2023

## TEACHING ASSISTANCE

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PSCI 3260 - Introduction to American Law	2022
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

## OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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“AAPOR Task Force on 2020 Pre-Election Polls: Performance of the Polls in the Democratic Primaries.”	Research Assistant, 2020
<i>The Engagement</i> by Sasha Issenberg	Fact Checker, 2019
<i>Parties on the Ground</i> by John Zaller et al.	Research Assistant, 2017 – 2018
<i>Identity Crisis</i> by John Sides, Michael Tesler, and Lynn Vavreck	Research Assistant, 2016

## SERVICE

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<b>Department</b>	
Co-President, Vanderbilt Political Science Graduate Student Association	2021 – 2023
<b>Discussant</b>	
Vanderbilt Graduate Ideas Symposium	2023
APSA Money in Politics Pre-Conference	2021
<b>Panel Chair</b>	
Women in Legislative Studies Conference	2022
<b>Reviewer</b>	
<i>Party Politics</i>	