

## **Rolfe Daus Peterson**

Department of Political Science, UC Davis, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616

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### **EDUCATION**

**University of California, Davis** Ph.D. candidate in Political Science (Ph.D. expected January 2010)

Primary Field: American Politics

Secondary Fields: Comparative Politics, Political Methodology

**University of California, Davis** M.A. Political Science 2009

**University of Idaho** B.A. Political Science 2003

### **TEACHING AWARDS**

Marvin F. Zetterbaum Teaching Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Instruction (Spring 2007)

### **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

#### **Teaching Appointments**

California State University, Stanislaus: Introduction to American Government (Fall 2008)

University Of California, Davis: Contemporary Problems in American Politics (Winter/Spring/Fall 2009)

#### **Teaching Assistant, UC Davis, Undergraduate Courses:**

Introduction to International Relations (Winter 2004), Introduction to Comparative Politics (Spring 2004), Introduction to American Politics (Summer 2004, Fall 2004, Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Spring 2007), Russian Politics (Winter 2005), Public Opinion (Spring 2005), Elections and Voting Behavior (Winter 2006), Political Parties (Winter 2007), Legislative Process (Summer 2007), Political Internship seminar (Fall 2007, Winter 2008, Spring 2008), Environmental Politics (Summer 2008), The Presidency (Fall 2008), Constitutional Law and the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment (Summer 2009)

### **DISSERTATION**

Title: "Putting Voters in Context: Social and Cognitive Activation in Political Campaigns"

Committee: Robert Huckfeldt (chair), Walter Stone, Benjamin Highton

My dissertation explores the unique effect vibrant a campaign context has on citizens in democratic politics. Specifically, I am interested in examining how campaigns and social networks alter individual attitudes and, in turn, subsequent political behavior. I seek to extend insights and measurement from psychology to large-sample survey data to help students of political behavior better understand the cognitive changes that underlie campaign effects. Ultimately, the research seeks to understand the way the campaign context changes the way people think about politics. The empirical findings center on the shifts in attitude activation during competitive campaigns and the influence of social networks on mobilization and engagement.

### **RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Book Chapters**

Stone, Walter J., Nathan Hadley, Rolfe Peterson, Cherie Maestas, Sandy Maisel. 2009. "Candidate Entry, Voter Response and Partisan Tides in the 2002 and 2006 Elections." In *Fault Lines: Why the Republicans Lost Congress*. Eds. Jeffrey Mondak and Dona-Gene Mitchell. Routledge.

### **Conference Papers & Presentations**

Peterson, Rolfe Daus and Nathan Hadley. 2006. "Candidate Quality and Voter Response in U.S. House Elections" *Paper presented at the annual meeting of The Midwest Political Science Association* in Chicago

Stone, Walter J., Rolfe Daus Peterson, Nathan Hadley, Cherie Maestas, Sandy Maisel. 2006. "Candidate Quality and Voter Response in U.S. House Elections." *Paper presented at the American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting* in Philadelphia

Peterson, Rolfe Daus. 2007. "Total Recall: The Influence of Contact on Vote Attitude Accessibility." *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association* in Chicago

Stone, Walter J., Rolfe Daus Peterson, Nathan Hadley, Cherie Maestas, Sandy Maisel. 2007 "All Politics is National? Candidate Entry, Voter Response and Partisan Tides in the 2002 and 2006 Elections." *Paper presented at the American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting* in Chicago

Peterson, Rolfe Daus. 2008. "Wearing it on Their Sleeves: Campaigns and the Accessibility of Partisanship." *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association* in San Diego

Palmer, Carl and Rolfe D. Peterson. 2009. "The Shoe That Didn't Drop: Race, Priming, and the 2008 Presidential Election." *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association* in Vancouver, B.C. and *the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association* in Chicago.

### **Working Papers**

"The Personal Touch: Testing Voter Responsiveness to Incumbent Personal Quality in the 1998 Midterms" with Walter J. Stone and Nathan Hadley.

"To Tweet or not to Tweet: The Electoral Determinants of Congressional Adoption of the New Technology of Name Recognition."

"From Dominion to Defender: The Shifting Opinion of Evangelicals on the Environment." with Ronni M. Abney.

"Should I Stay or Go: Uncovering the Determinants of Retirement in the Face of Scandal in U.S. Senate" with Stephen R. Routh.

"The Shoe That Didn't Drop: Race, Priming, and the 2008 Presidential Election." with Carl L. Palmer.

### **Research Assistant, UC Davis**

Winter 2005: Graduate Research Assistant for Professor James Spriggs

Summer 2005: Graduate Research Assistant for Professor Walter Stone

Fall 2005: Graduate Research Assistant for Professor Brian Sala

Summer & Fall 2006: Research Assistant for Professor Walt Stone

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society: inducted 2003

Pi Sigma Alpha (National Political Science Honor Society): inducted 2003

Department Fellowship to attend the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) in Ann Arbor, Michigan (Summer 2006)

Summer Collaborative Research Fellowship with Walt Stone (Summer 2006)

Political Science Department Conference Travel Award Spring (2006, 2007 & 2009)

### **ACADEMIC REFERENCES**

Robert Huckfeldt, Professor and Chair, Department of Political Science, UC Davis  
(530) 752-0975, [rhuckfeldt@ucdavis.edu](mailto:rhuckfeldt@ucdavis.edu)

Walter Stone, Professor, Department of Political Science, UC Davis  
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Larry Berman, Professor, Department of Political Science, UC Davis  
(530) 752-3076, [lsberman@ucdavis.edu](mailto:lsberman@ucdavis.edu)

Benjamin Highton, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, UC Davis  
(530) 752-0970 , [bhighton@ucdavis.edu](mailto:bhighton@ucdavis.edu)

Steven R. Routh, Associate Professor, Department of Politics and Public Administration, California State University, Stanislaus (209) 667-3363, [srouth@csustan.edu](mailto:srouth@csustan.edu)