

Matthew T. Pietryka

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Education

- PhD** Political Science, University of California, Davis, expected June 2012
Committee: Robert Huckfeldt (chair), Amber E. Boydstun, Erik J. Engstrom, and Walter J. Stone
Major Fields: U.S. Politics and Political Methodology
- BA** Political Science, Western Michigan University, May 2006, *Summa cum laude*

Research

INTERESTS Political behavior, Campaigns, Congress, Social networks, Research methods

DISSERTATION Due to a number of endogeneity problems, understanding a citizen's electoral behavior—or candidates' appeals to voters—requires information about the citizen, their social relations, and the candidates. My dissertation examines this dynamic relationship by exploring the link between citizens' and candidates' issue preferences (i.e., issue positions) and priorities (i.e., the importance they attach to various issues). I find that citizens' priorities influence their selection of discussion partners and thus the composition of their social network. The preferences of discussion partners then serve to shape voters' preferences. Moreover, these attitudes serve to shape the political context as issues that candidates discuss in their campaigns are strongly associated with voter priorities, nationally, but ignore priorities within the district. In contrast, the positions candidates take on issues are strongly associated with district priorities, but not national priorities.

PUBLICATIONS *JOURNALS*

Pietryka, Matthew T. and Amber E. Boydstun. Forthcoming. "Going Maverick: How Candidates Can Use Agenda-Setting to Influence Citizen Motivations and Offset Unpopular Issue Positions." *Political Behavior*.

CHAPTERS

Stone, Walter J. and Matthew T. Pietryka. 2011. "Party, Constituency, and Representation in Congress." In *The State of the Parties: The Changing Role of Contemporary American Parties*, eds. John C. Green and Daniel J. Coffey. p. 333-347.

UNDER REVIEW Pietryka, Matthew T., "The Roles of District and National Opinion in Congressional Campaign Agendas." [R&R]

Huckfeldt, Robert, Matthew T. Pietryka, and Jack Reilly, "Noise, Bias, and Expertise in Political Communication Networks."

Pietryka, Matthew T. and Randall MacIntosh, "Solving Measurement Non-Invariance as a Threat to Validity in ANES Political Knowledge Scales."

WORKING PAPERS

Networks of Mobilization: Student Involvement in a Municipal Election, with Robert Huckfeldt, Jack Reilly, Daniel M. Maliniak, Patrick Miller, and Ronald Rapoport.

Preference Heterogeneity and Candidate-Constituent Proximity.

Who Gets Represented in Congressional Elections?, with Walter J. Stone.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Dynamics, Expertise, and Influence within Political Communication Networks, with Robert Huckfeldt and Jack Reilly, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, September 2011.

Networks of Mobilization: Student Involvement in a Municipal Election, with Robert Huckfeldt, Jack Reilly, Daniel M. Maliniak, Patrick Miller, and Ronald Rapoport, Political Networks Conference and Workshops, Ann Arbor, MI, June 2011.

Issue Agendas and Policy Scope in Congressional Campaigns, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, March 2011.

Noise, Bias, and Expertise in Political Communication Networks, with Robert Huckfeldt and Jack Reilly, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, March 2011.

Preference Heterogeneity and Candidate-Constituent Proximity, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 2010.

Party Activists and Representation in the 2006 Elections, with Walter J. Stone, State of the Parties Conference, Akron, OH, October 2009.

Self-Reliance, Noisy Information, and Social Communication in Politics, with T.K. Ahn, Robert Huckfeldt and Jack Reilly, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 2009.

TRAINING

Political Networks Conference and Workshops June 2011
Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, ICPSR Summer 2007

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowship stipend from NSF grant SES-0851084 supporting the Political Networks workshop and conference at the University of Michigan, 2011. (\$720)

Institute of Governmental Affairs Graduate Dissertation Research Award, University of California, Davis, 2010. (\$1,000)

UC Davis Political Science Department Travel Grant, 2008, 2009, 2010. (\$500 x 3)

Fellowship stipend supporting the The State of the Parties: 2008 & Beyond conference at the University of Akron, 2009. (\$500)

Department of Political Science Summer Collaborative Research Fellowship, with Amber E. Boydston, University of California, Davis, 2009. (\$4,000)

Floyd and Mary Schwall Fellowship, University of California, Davis, 2006-2009. (\$93,000)

UC Davis Political Science Department ICPSR Award, 2007. (\$1,000)

Teaching

EXPERIENCE; UC DAVIS

COURSES TAUGHT (ASSOCIATE INSTRUCTOR)

POL 001 - Intro. to American Government Summer 2011
POL 051 - Political Research Methods Spring 2011
POL 051 - Political Research Methods Summer 2010

TEACHING ASSISTANT

POL 001 - Introduction to American Government Spring 2009
Winter, Spring 2010
POL 155 - Judicial Organization & Behavior Winter 2009
POL 168 - Chicano Politics Fall 2009
POL 162 - Elections and Voting Behavior Fall 2008
POL 195 - California Policy Seminar Fall 2010
Winter 2011

TRAINING

Spice Up Your Lecture with Inquiry-based Learning
ICPSR Webinar Series February 23rd, 2011.

Beyond the Basics: Course Design, Syllabus Creation, and Advanced Teaching at
the College Level.
UC Davis, Teaching Resources Center April-May, 2010.

References

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