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University of Montevallo
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science, 2016

University of Houston

Dissertation Title: *From Invisible to Visible: How American Women Transformed Representation and Equity in the American States*

Committee Chair: Ling Zhu

M.A in Political Science, University of Houston, December 2013

B.A. in Political Science and French, University of Texas at Austin, 2004

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor of Political Science, 2022-present

University of Montevallo, Montevallo, AL

Assistant Professor of Political Science, 2016-2022

University of Montevallo, Montevallo, AL

TEACHING & RESEARCH INTERESTS

Gender Politics and Policy

Identity Politics

American Government

Health Care Politics and Policy

Social Policies

Legislative Process

State and Local Politics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

At University of Montevallo (2016-present)

- Introduction to Public Policy
- Gender and Politics
- Introduction to American National Government
- Environmental Policy
- State and Local Politics
- Identity Politics
- Politics of Sin
- Public Administration
- Social Policy

- Global Ethics and Public Policy
- First Year Experience
- Gaming the Legislative Process
- The Politics of the Wire
- Introduction to Political Science
- Research Methods II

At University of Houston (2013-2016)

- The US Government: Congress, Presidency and the Courts
- The US and Texas Constitutional Politics
- The Politics of Social Policy
- Introduction to Public Policy
- Race, Gender and Ethnic Politics

PUBLISHED WORKS

"The Role of Interdisciplinary Teaching In The Honors Curriculum: Insight From A Public Liberal Arts University" with Heather Tinsley, Erin Chandler and Cathlena Martin, in *Excellence, Innovation and Ingenuity in Honors Education* (2019)

"Local Officials as Partisan Operatives: The Effect of County Officials on Early Voting Administration", with Markie McBrayer and R. Lucas Williams in *Social Science Quarterly*, 101(4), 1475-1488. (2020)

WORKING PAPERS

"Institutional Constraints and Gender Representation: A Theoretical Model"

"Strategic Cosponsorship Networks among Women & Women of Color in US Legislatures" with Markie McBrayer and Jason Casellas

"Right to Choose? Top-Down Women's Health Policy Diffusion and Partisan Politics" with Matthew Ward

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Institutional Constraints and Gender Representation: A Theoretical Model." Presented at the 95th Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association (San Juan, PR), 2025.

"Strategic Cosponsorship Networks among Women & Women of Color in US Legislatures." Presented at the 94th Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association (St. Petersburg, FL), 2023. With Markie McBrayer and Jason Casellas

"Strategic Cosponsorship Networks among Women & Women of Color in US Legislatures." Presented at the 118th Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (Montreal, Canada), 2022. With Markie McBrayer and Jason Casellas

"The Legislative Success of Cosponsorship Networks among Women and Women of Color in American Legislatures " Presented at the 93rd Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association (San Antonio, Texas), 2022. With Markie McBrayer and Jason Casellas

"The Partisan Advantage in Selecting Voting Location Types." Presented at the 91st Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association (San Juan, Puerto Rico), 2020. With Markie McBrayer and R. Lucas Williams

- "Environmental Studies as an Interdisciplinary Model at the University of Montevallo." Presented at the COPLAC Annual Meeting (Johnson, VT), 2019. With Susan Caplow, Tom Sanders, Clark Hultquist, Scott Turner and Meredith Tetloff.
- "From Invisible to Visible: How American Women Transformed Representation and Equity in the American States." Presented at the 90th Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association (Austin, TX), 2019.
- "Image Management and Campaigns: The Case of Republican Women." Presented at the 89th Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association (New Orleans, LA), 2018. With Xavier Scruggs
- "Female Constituents and Judicial Nominees: An Examination of Gender Representation in Judicial Confirmation Voting". Presented at the 88th Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association (New Orleans, LA), 2017. With Robert Ross
- "The (Dis)Enfranchisement of Poor, Minority Voters: The Case of Early Voting Site Selection in Texas." Presented at the 87th Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association (San Juan, Puerto Rico), 2016. With Markie McBrayer and R. Lucas Williams
- "Right to Choose? Top-Down Women's Health Policy Diffusion and Partisan Politics ." Presented at the 87th Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association (San Juan, Puerto Rico), 2016. With Matthew Ward
- "When Government Officials Interact: An Analysis of Gender Representation in Multiple Branches of Government." Presented at the Western Political Science Association 2015 Annual Meeting (Las Vegas, NV), 2015.
- "How Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Effect Bill Sponsorships in Congress." Presented at the Western Political Science Association 2015 Annual Meeting (Las Vegas, NV), 2015. With Jason Casellas
- "Gender Representation, Institutional Constraints, and Welfare Provision toward Women." Presented at the 110th Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (Washington, DC), 2014.
- "Measuring the Impact of Female Government Officials on State Level Reproductive Health Policy." Presented at the 72nd Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (Chicago, IL), 2013.
- "The Changing Politics of Active Gender Representation in Fifty American States." Presented at the 85th Annual Southern Political Science Conference (New Orleans, LA), 2014
- "The Changing Politics of Active Gender Representation in Fifty American States." Presented at the 2nd Annual Gender and Politics Conference (St. Louis, MO), 2013
- "The Changing Politics of Active Gender Representation in Fifty American States." Presented at the 71st Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (Chicago, IL), 2013.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- UM Faculty Senate, 2017- present
- UM Faculty Senate President (2024-2025)
- UM Faculty Senate President-Elect (2023-2024)
- UM Faculty Senate Recording Secretary (2021-2023)
- Faculty Senate Academic Policies Committee, 2020 - 2024
- Undergraduate Curriculum and Standards Committee, 2023-present
- UM 101 First Year Experience Committee, 2019 - present (currently serving as chair)

Peace and Justice Studies Committee, 2018-present
Student Publications Committee, 2020-present
Pi Sigma Alpha (POS Honor Society) Faculty Mentor, 2019-present
Environmental Studies Search Committee, 2021-2022
UM Panel Participant, "2020 Voter Forum", 2020
UM Panel Moderator, "Confronting Racism in a Divided Nation", 2019
Social Work Field Director Search Committee, 2018-2019
Academic Affairs and Student Support and Intervention Committee, 2017-2019
Transforming Academic Advising Committee, 2018-2019
Life Raft Debate Organizer, 2018-2019

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Proposal Reviewer, National Conference on the First Year Experience (2021-present)
SPSA Women, Past President, 2020-2021, 2023-2024
SPSA Women, President, 2019-2020
SPSA Women, Vice President, 2018-2019
SPSA Women, Recording Secretary, 2017-2018
Article Reviewer, Journal of Women, Political and Policy
Article Reviewer, Ralph Bunche Journal of Public Affairs

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

Freshman Move-In Volunteer
Midnight Breakfast Volunteer
American Association of University Women, Member and Co-President, 2019-present
NAACP Member, 2019-present
City of Montevallo Parks and Recreation Board Member, 2023-present
Shoal Creek Park Foundation Board Member, 2024-present
NAACP Executive Committee Member, 2019-2020
NAACP Martin Luther King Day Celebration Committee member, 2020-2021
UM Alumni Association and Junior Board Panel Discussant, 'Cultivate Change', 2020
Panel Moderator, "Criminal Justice Reform Panel", 2019
City of Montevallo Recycling Focus Group Committee Member, 2019
City of Montevallo, Non-Discrimination Ordinance Educational Panel Moderator, 2018

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

College of Arts and Sciences Teaching Award, 2022
Summer Stipend for Pre-Tenured Faculty, 2021
Course Development Grant, University of Montevallo, 2019
Artinian Travel Award, Southern Political Science Association, 2017
APSA Travel Grant, 2014
Prestage-Cook Travel Grant, Southern Political Science Association, 2014
Research/Teaching Assistantships, University of Houston, 2011-2014
Teaching Assistantship, Summer 2011
University of Houston Center for Asian American Studies Grant, Summer 2012