

COLIN DOUGLAS SWEARINGEN
Curriculum Vitae

Assistant Professor of Political Science
John Carroll University
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Education

Ph.D., Political Science, University of Oklahoma, May 2011
M.A., Political Science, University of Oklahoma, May 2010
B.A., Political Science, History, Grove City College, May 2005

Professional Experience

Assistant Professor of Political Science, John Carroll University, 2012 – present

- Courses taught:
 - PO 101 – American Government
 - PO 105 – Political Analysis (QA course under the Integrative Core)
 - PO 203 – GIS 1
 - PO 295 – 2016 RNC Cleveland
 - PO 300 & 300 L – Research Methods
 - PO 301 – U.S. Congress
 - PO 319 – U.S. Elections
 - PO 395 – 2012 Elections
 - PO 410 – American Presidency

GIS Coordinator for Redistricting & Research Analyst, Oklahoma House of Representatives, 2010-2012

- Responsible for building a large database and drawing 101 State House Districts, 5 congressional districts, numerous county commissioner districts, school board districts, and career technology districts
- Worked closely with Redistricting Committee Chairman and Subcommittee Chairmen to draw regional House District plans
- Fielded research questions on topics relating to redistricting, wildlife, veterans affairs, international relations, and tourism
- Directed and supervised additional redistricting staff members
- Utilized numerous computer software programs, including ArcGIS, autoBound for Redistricting, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Professional, Photoshop, and Microsoft Office

Instructor, University of Oklahoma, Summer 2011

- PSC 3433 – Voters and Campaigns, an upper-division course

Graduate Editorial Assistant, Public Administration Review (2007-2009)

- Managed over 140 annual manuscript submissions and reviews
- Worked with journal editors, manuscript authors, and manuscript reviewers to guarantee an efficient review process

Graduate Research Assistant, OU Public Opinion Learning Laboratory (POLL) (2005-2007)

- Survey programmer, phone bank supervisor, and data analyst for the University of Oklahoma's public opinion facility
- Drafted detailed reports based on polling results on many topics, including work force studies, health care, judicial procedure, and voting behavior
- Worked extensively with VoxCo software and SPSS

Publications

"Google Insights and U.S. Senate Elections: Does Search Traffic Provide a Valid Measure of Public Attention to Political Candidates?" *Social Science Quarterly* 95, 3 (September), 2014, pp. 882-893. With Joseph T. Ripberger.

"Is Timing Everything: Retirement and Seat Maintenance in the U.S. House of Representatives", *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 36, 2 (May), 2011, pp. 309-330. With Walt Jatkowski, III.

"District of Columbia," in Donald P. Haider-Markel ed., *Political Encyclopedia of U.S. States and Regions*, CQ Press, 2008.

Papers

"Here's Looking at You: Public- Versus Elite-Driven Models of Presidential Primary Elections" With Elizabeth Stiles and Kate Finneran. *Midwest Political Science Association*, Chicago, April 7-10, 2016 (Revise & Resubmit at *Social Science Quarterly*).

"Public Attention and Political Campaigns: Is All Attention Good Attention?" With Curtis Ellis and Joseph T. Ripberger (Revise & Resubmit at *American Review of Politics*).

"The Impact of Presidential Field Offices in Ohio, 2008-2012." *Midwest Political Science Association*, Chicago, April 16-20, 2015 (about to be under review at *Electoral Studies*).

"Improving the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Medical Brigades: A Data-Driven Approach." *Jesuit University Humanitarian Action Network*, University Heights, OH, June 9-12, 2015. With Erin Johnson. (under review at the *International Journal of Health Services*)

"Public Attention and Political Campaigns: Is All Attention Good Attention?" *American Political Science Association*, Seattle, September 1-4, 2011. With Curtis Ellis and Joseph T. Ripberger.

"From Plato to Axelrod: An Examination into the Development of Campaign Professionals," *Southwest Political Science Association*, Houston, March 31-April 3, 2010.

"Timing is Everything: Retirement and Seat Maintenance in the U.S. House of Representatives," *Southwest Political Science Association*, Las Vegas, March 12-15, 2008.

Methodological Training

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan, 2007.

Courses taken: Regression Analysis II, Categorical Analysis, Matrix Algebra

The Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse University, 2009.

- Took class modules on general mixed-methods, the intersection of quantitative and qualitative methods, designing and conducting fieldwork, and historiography and archival research

Geographical Information Systems (GIS)

- Geographic Information Systems I
- Geographic Information Systems II

Research and Teaching Interests

American Politics, Elections, Voting Behavior, Congress, Public Administration, Budgeting, Public Management

Dissertation

Is Winning Everything? Why Campaign Consultants Operate in the American Political System. Chair: Ronald Keith Gaddie; Committee Members: Glen Krutz, Alisa Hicklin Fryar, Scott Lamothe, Aparna Mitra

Dissertation Abstract:

There has been a public fascination with campaign consultants for quite some time, although political scientists have paid little attention to them. Despite some extant research, the study of consultants is largely without a theory. This dissertation advances the understanding of campaign professionals by systematically examining why consultants operate in the American political system. Using new survey data, I demonstrate that there are two major motivations for why individuals become and remain consultants: financial considerations and the desire to see ideologically preferred candidates elected to public office. Theoretically, this dissertation utilizes the Behavioral Theory of the Firm (BTOF) as a way to understand how risk and performance are related. The findings indicate that consultants deal with four types of risk: potential client electability, opponent quality, potential client résumé strength, and financial considerations; BTOF does a very good job explaining the first three. After examining the determinants of risk, I test BTOF as a predictor of consultant revenue and consulting firm winning percentage, with the latter using a second new data set. The theory performs well, indicating that increased risk tends to lead to greater performance in both areas. This dissertation demonstrates the portability of BTOF into the elections literature and provides a unique look into the world of a rarely examined political group.

Service: Professional, University and Departmental

Board Member, Ohio Association of Economics and Political Science, 2014-present

Participant on JCU Honduras medical immersion, 2013-2015

- Mapping impoverished rural villages, data analysis, logistical planning

Presentation on Ohio Issue 2 (Redistricting), October 2, 2012

- Hosted by Department of Political Science

Served on the following university committees:

- Assessment Academy, 2016-present
- Great Colleges to Work For Working Group, 2015-present
- Meet the Press Fellowship, 2014-present
- Honors Program Committee, 2014-present
- Quantitative Analysis Subcommittee, 2014-present; Co-Chair, 2016-17
- Enrollment, 2014-15

Served on the following departmental committees:

- Course evaluations, 2013-present

- Methods, 2013-present

Fellowships, Grants and Awards

While at John Carroll University

2017 (Spring) Grauel Fellowship

2015 Summer Technology Fellowship

2014 Summer Research Fellowship

2013 McGregor Course Development Grant

2013-2014 McGregor Globalization Learning Community

2012-2013 McGregor Globalization Learning Community

While at University of Oklahoma

2010 OU Public Opinion Learning Laboratory Survey Grant

2009 College of Arts and Sciences Research Grant

2008-2009 Leek Memorial Scholarship

2008 Graduate Senate Travel Grant

Manuscript Reviewer

American Politics Review

Political Research Quarterly

Social Science Quarterly

Academic Associations

American Political Science Association

Midwest Political Science Association

References

Ronald Keith Gaddie

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