

REBECCA MICHELLE EISSLER

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EDUCATION:

Ph.D. Government, University of Texas at Austin, Fall 2012-Expected May 2018

Fields: Public Policy and American Politics

M.A. Government, University of Texas at Austin, 2014

M.A. Thesis: Raising the Issue: Inter-Institutional Agenda Setting on Social Security

B.A. Political Science and Theatre, *Cum Laude*, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, 2011

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Public policy process, presidential policy making, inter-institutional agenda setting dynamics, Congress, agenda measurement analysis and methodologies.

TEACHING INTERESTS:

American political institutions, the presidency, Congress, public policy processes, agenda setting and decision-making, social policy, health policy, research design and methodology, religion and politics, and politics in popular culture.

DISSERTATION:

“The Prioritizer-In-Chief: The Role of the President in the Policy Process from Reagan to Obama” examines the communication strategies of U.S. presidents from 1981 until 2014. It offers a theory of how information processing shapes strategic choices about how to accomplish a policy goal.

Committee: Bryan D. Jones, The University of Texas at Austin, Chair

Brian Roberts, The University of Texas at Austin

Eric McDaniel, The University of Texas at Austin

Herschel F. Thomas, The University of Texas at Arlington

PUBLICATIONS:

Eissler, Rebecca, Annelise Russell, and Bryan D. Jones. 2014. “New Avenues for the Study of Agenda-Setting.” *The Policy Studies Journal* 42 (S1): S71-S86.

Eissler, Rebecca and Bryan D. Jones. Forthcoming. “The United States Policy Agendas Project.” Comparative Agendas Project Data Book. Oxford University Press.

Eissler, Rebecca, Peter B. Mortensen, and Annelise Russell. “Local government agenda setting.” *Handbook of Public Policy Agenda Setting* (2016): 297.

Eissler, Rebecca, Annelise Russell, and Bryan D. Jones. 2016. “The Transformation of Ideas: The Origin and Evolution of Punctuated Equilibrium Theory” in *Contemporary Approaches to Public Policy*. Ed. Philippe Zittoun and B. Guy Peters. London: Palgrave Macmillan UK

Eissler, Rebecca and Annelise Russell. 2016 “The Policy Agendas Project,” in *American Governance*. eds. Stephen Schechter, Thomas S. Vontz, Thomas A. Birkland, Mark A. Graber, and John J. Patrick. Vol. 4. Farmington Hills, MI: Macmillan Reference USA.

WORKS UNDER REVIEW:

McDaniel, Eric, **Rebecca Eissler**, and Annelise Russell. Minority Representation and Minority Health.

MANUSCRIPTS, WORKING PAPERS, AND PROJECTS:

- Eissler, Rebecca. Is Anyone Even Paying Attention? Inter-Institutional Agenda Setting between the President, the House of Representatives, and the Senate.
- Eissler, Rebecca. When the State of The Union isn't Enough: Measuring Presidential Agendas via Novel Policy Tools
- Eissler, Rebecca. Credit Claiming: An Examination of a Congressional Response to Bureaucratic Action.
- Individual Behavior of Danish MPs using Parliamentary Questions (With Peter Mortensen, Christoffer Green-Pedersen and Annelise Russell).

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS:

- 2017 UT-Austin, Department of Government, Graduate School Continuing Fellowship, Fall (provides one semester of tuition assistance and stipend of \$10,000)
- 2017 UT-Austin, Department of Government (J.J. Pickle Chair), Intl. Travel Grant, \$3,000
- 2017 UT-Austin, Department of Government (J.J. Pickle Chair), Conference Travel Grant, \$700
- 2017 Midwest Political Science Association, Travel Grant for COSSA Science Policy Conference & Social Science Advocacy Day, \$500
- 2016 UT-Austin, Department of Government (J.J. Pickle Chair), Intl. Travel Grant, \$3,000
- 2016 UT-Austin, Department of Government (J.J. Pickle Chair), Conference Travel Grant, \$700
- 2015 UT-Austin, Edward A. Clark Center for Australian Studies, Intl. Travel Grant, \$1,500
- 2015 Aarhus University, Department of Political Science, Visiting Researcher Grant, \$5,000
- 2014 UT-Austin, Department of Government (J.J. Pickle Chair), Intl. Travel Grant, \$3,000
- 2014 Mannheim Centre for European Social Research, Travel Grant, \$300
- 2014 UT-Austin, Department of Government, ICPSR Fellowship (Covers Tuition for one 4-week session and stipend of \$1,800)
- 2014 UT-Austin, Office of Graduate Studies, Professional Development Award, \$300
- 2013 UT-Austin, Department of Government (J.J. Pickle Chair), UT Summer Statistics Institute Award, \$250
- 2011 Phi Beta Kappa

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Project Manager, Policy Agendas Project, UT-Austin, *Fall 2015-Summer 2017*

As project manager of the Policy Agendas Project, I coordinated dataset collection and updating, overseeing a team of 6 graduate fellows and 12 undergraduate fellows. Additionally, I acted as a central coordinator for the international Comparative Agendas Project community and the dissemination of data on the Comparative Agendas website, *comparativeagendas.net*.

Graduate Fellow, Policy Agendas Project, UT-Austin, *Fall 2012-Present*

Visiting Researcher, Department of Political Science and Government, Aarhus University, *Spring 2015*

Graduate Research Fellow, Health Disparities within the African American Community, UT-Austin, *Spring 2014 to present*

Graduate Research Fellow, Australia and New Zealand Policy Agenda Project, The Edward E. Clark Center for Australia and New Zealand Studies, UT-Austin, *Fall 2014 to Summer 2015*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Lecturer, "Presidential Budget Messages and the Presidential Agenda," Jonathan Lewallen, Budget Politics, UT-Austin, Fall 2016
Teaching Assistant, Sean Theriault, Congressional Elections-Upper level, 2014
Teaching Assistant, John P. McIver, Intro. to American Government-Lower level, 2014
Teaching Assistant, Eric McDaniel, Health Politics-Upper level, 2013
Teaching Assistant, Michael Mosser, Comparative Politics-Upper level, 2013
Teaching Assistant, Adam Myers, Intro. to American Government-Lower level, 2013
Teaching Assistant, Sean Theriault, Intro. to American Government-Lower level, 2012

SERVICE:

Reviewer: *Policy Studies Journal*, *Public Administration*, *European Political Science Review*, *Political Communication*, and *Journal of Communication*

Participant in COSSA Social Science Advocacy Day, March 2017

Organizer for Admitted Student Visiting Day, March 2017

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

The Tug of War: Presidential and Media Agenda Setting in the First 100 Days (with Annelise Russell). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Comparative Agendas Project, June 15-17, 2017, in Edinburgh, UK.

From Major to Macro: An Exploration of Macro Policy Topics (with Annelise Russell). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Comparative Agendas Project, June 15-17, 2017, in Edinburgh, UK.

Reflecting the World: How Environmental Factors Shape the Presidential Agenda. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 6-9, 2017, in Chicago, IL.

The Tug of War: Presidential and Media Agenda Setting in the First 100 Days (with Annelise Russell). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 6-9, 2017, in Chicago, IL.

Database and Website Development for Public Policy: The Comparative Policy Agendas Project, a short course taught at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 30-September 3, 2016, in Philadelphia, PA

The Priorities of a President: Understanding Presidential Policy Attention and Prioritization. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Comparative Agendas Project, June 27-29, 2016, in Geneva, Switzerland.

When and Why do MPs Ask Questions to the Minister?: A Study of Opposition Behavior in the Danish Parliament (With Christoffer Green-Pedersen, Peter Mortensen, and Annelise Russell). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Comparative Agendas Project, June 27-29, 2016, in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Priorities of a President: Understanding Presidential Policy Attention and Prioritization. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 7-10, 2016, in Chicago, IL.

When and Why do MPs Ask Questions to the Minister?: A Study of Opposition Behavior in the Danish Parliament (With Christoffer Green-Pedersen, Peter Mortensen, and Annelise

Russell). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 7-10, 2016, in Chicago, IL.

Comparing High Court Policy Agendas: Australia and New Zealand (With Rhonda Evans). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the European Consortium for Political Research, August 26-29, 2015, in Montréal, Canada.

The Priorities of a President: Understanding the Presidential Agenda via Budget Messages. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Comparative Agendas Project, June 22-24, 2015, in Lisbon, Portugal.

Policy Agendas of National Courts: Australia and New Zealand Compared (With Rhonda Evans). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Comparative Agendas Project, June 22-24, 2015, in Lisbon, Portugal.

Minority Representation and Minority Health (with Eric McDaniel and Annelise Russell). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, January 15-17, 2015, in New Orleans, LA.

Raising the Issue: an Analysis of Agenda-Setting Influence Between the President and Congress on Social Security. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Comparative Agendas Project, June 12-14, 2014, in Konstanz, Germany.

Raising the Issue: an Analysis of Agenda-Setting Influence Between the President and Congress on Social Security. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 3-6, 2014, in Chicago, IL.

Minority Representation and Minority Health (with Eric McDaniel and Annelise Russell). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 3-6, 2014, in Chicago, IL.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Member, American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association
Consortium of Social Science Associations

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING:

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods in Social Research
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 2014
Courses: Empirical Modeling for Theoretical Evaluation

UT Summer Statistics Institute
University of Texas at Austin, 2013-2014
Courses: Time Series Modeling, Text as Data, Maximum Likelihood Estimation

TECHNICAL COMPETENCY:

Computer Software: R; Stata; Excel; LaTeX
Languages: English (Native); German (Intermediate); Danish (Basic)

GOVERNMENT FIELDWORK:

USDA, Rural Utility Service, 2010
Telecommunication Program Intern

REFERENCES:

Bryan D. Jones

J. J. "Jake" Pickle Regents Chair in Congressional Studies
University of Texas at Austin
E-mail: bdjones@austin.utexas.edu
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