

Kristina M. LaPlant

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, Georgia State University (*expected December 2019*)

M.A., Political Science, Georgia State University (May 2014)

B.A., History, Valdosta State University (May 2010)

DISSERTATION

Committee: Sarah Gershon (Chair), Toby Bolsen, and Judd Thornton

Title: “The Heart of Politics: How Emotional Responses to Campaign Advertisements Influence Gender Stereotype Activation”

Abstract: As female representation continues to grow in Congress, some have questioned whether gender stereotypes still matter in American politics. I perform a content analysis on a random sample of 1,400 candidate-sponsored congressional advertisements from 2010-2016 and identify eight distinct stereotype-content messaging themes. I find evidence that female candidates are more likely to emphasize merit-based messaging and far less likely to emphasize values-based messaging, suggesting that female candidates rely on specific communication strategies to counteract gender stereotypes. To identify the implications of these gendered differences in candidate messaging, I conducted an experimental study, examining the impact of 16 different candidate ads with a sample of 2,975 subjects. Biometric data obtained from facial-recordings of participants while watching the advertisements indicate male and female respondents experienced divergent emotional reactions to the treatments which were strongly associated with candidate favorability and trait evaluation.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

1. Fridkin, Kim, Sarah Gershon, Jillian Courey, and Kristina LaPlant. 2019. “Gender Differences in Emotional Reactions to the 2016 Presidential Debates.” *Political Behavior* [Forthcoming].
2. Bolsen, Toby, Bailey Fairbanks, Eduardo Aviles, Reagan Griggs, Justin Kingsland, Kristina LaPlant, Matthew Montgomery, and Natalie Rogol. 2019. “Merging Undergraduate Teaching, Graduate Training, and Producing Research: Lessons from Three Collaborative Experiments.” *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 52(1): 117-122.

Peer-Reviewed Conference Proceedings

3. LaPlant, James and Kristina LaPlant. 2012 “‘David is Going to Beat Goliath’: An Analysis of

the 2012 T-SPLOST Referendum in Georgia.” *Proceedings of the Georgia Political Science Association*, 8(1): 1-25.

4. LaPlant, Kristina and James LaPlant. 2011. “Dixie Rising? Revisiting the Classification of Southern States in the 21st Century.” *Proceedings of the Georgia Political Science Association*, 7(1): 1-25.

Book Chapter

5. Howard, Robert with Kristina LaPlant. 2017. “The Executive Branch.” In *Politics in Georgia*. 3rd edition. Athens: University of Georgia Press

Other Publication

6. Howard, Robert and Kristina LaPlant. 2017. “The Roberts Court.” In *Encyclopedia of American Civil Rights and Liberties*. 2nd edition. ABC-CLIO Greenwood.

UNDER REVIEW & WORKING PAPERS

“Locked in a Box: How Activist Art Affects Opinions About Solitary Confinement” with Toby Bolsen and Bailey Fairbanks. [Under Review]

“Cocked, Locked, and Loaded: A Legislative and Policy Diffusion Analysis of Concealed Carry on College Campuses.” with James LaPlant, Keith Lee, and Mack Seckinger [Under review]

“Affective Competence Strategies: A Typology of Mixed-Gender-Stereotype Content in Political Campaign Advertisements” [Working Paper]

“Do the Scales Balance Both Ways? Gender Differences in Judicial Campaign Advertisements” with Bailey Fairbanks [Working Paper]

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate-level: Instructor of Record

Political Research Methods, POLS 3800, Georgia State University (Fall 2017; Fall 2018)

Voting and Elections, POLS 4155, Georgia State University (Spring 2018)

American Government, POLS 1101, Georgia State University (Fall 2015; Spring 2106)

Undergraduate-level: Teaching Assistant

Zoukis Summer Institute & Research Collaborative, Dr. Toby Bolsen POLS 4190, *Teaching Assistant & Experimental Methods Instructor*, Georgia State University (Summer(s) 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2019)

Zoukis Summer Institute & Research Collaborative, Documentary Team, Dr. Toby Bolsen POLS 4190, *Teaching Assistant & Director*, Georgia State University (Summer 2018)

American Government, POLS 1101, *Supplemental Instruction Leader*, Georgia State University (Fall 2012- Spring 2014)

Undergraduate Internship Supervision

Diamond Qualls, Internship with the CP Law Group (Spring 2019)

Tyler Lewis, Internship with the Georgia Chamber of Commerce (Fall 2018)

Graduate-level: Teaching Assistant

Seminar in Effective Teaching: Special Focus- Teaching American Citizenship, Dr. Chara Bohan POLS 8997 [online], *iCollege Digital Content Developer*, Georgia State University (Summer 2018)

Campaigns and Elections in the United States, Dr. Sarah Gershon POLS 8158 [online], *iCollege Digital Content Developer*, Georgia State University (Fall 2016)

Intermediate Statistical Methods, Dr. Susanne Schorpp POLS 8810, *Lab Instructor*, Georgia State University (Spring 2015)

Introduction to Quantitative Research, Dr. Mike Fix POLS 8805, *Lab Instructor*, Georgia State University (Fall 2014)

Advanced Quantitative Methods, Dr. Mike Fix POLS 8830, *Lab Instructor*, Georgia State University (Fall 2014)

Math Refresher Workshop: Introduction to Linear Algebra” *Workshop Leader*, Georgia State University, (Summer(s) 2014 and 2016)

GRANTS & AWARDS

External Grants

National Science Foundation RAPID Grant #1650397, Collaborator with principle investigators Kim Fridkin and Sarah Gershon: \$14,369.00 (September 1, 2016- August 31, 2016)

Southern Political Science Association Travel Grant (January 2016)

Internal Grants

Department of Political Science Doctoral Dissertation Research Fellowship, Georgia State University: \$1,260 (May 2019)

Provost’s Dissertation Fellowship, Georgia State University: \$20,000 (January-December 2019)

Georgia State University, Department of Political Science Travel Grant (Fall 2015)

Awards

Recipient of the *Best Graduate Research Paper Presented at an Academic Conference*, Georgia State University (Fall 2015)

Recipient of the *McBrayer Best Paper Award*, Georgia Political Science Association (November 2012)

Recipient of *Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* award (December 2011)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Identity and Rhetoric: Tracking Emotional Reactions to Presidential Debates.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, August 31-September 3, 2017, with Sarah Gershon, Kim Fridkin, and Jillian Courey.

“Who Feels the Squeeze of Atlanta’s New Belt? A Longitudinal Analysis of Gentrification Trends in the Atlanta Beltline Brownfield Initiative.” Prepared for delivery at the Annual Meeting of the Georgia Political Science Association in Savannah, Georgia, November 10-12, 2016.

“The Unraveling of the Union? Brexit, Scottish Independence, and the Future of the United Kingdom.” Prepared for delivery at the 48th Annual Meeting of the Georgia Political Science Association in Savannah, Georgia, November 10-12, 2016 with Carol Glen.

“Rifles, Race, and Region: An Analysis of Gun Purchases and Campus Carry Laws” Prepared for delivery at The Citadel Symposium on Southern Politics, Charleston, SC, March 3, 2016 with James LaPlant.

“Cocked, Locked, and Loaded: A Legislative and Policy Diffusion Analysis of Concealed Carry on College Campuses.” Prepared for delivery at the 86th Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in San Juan, Puerto Rico, January 7-9, 2016 with James LaPlant and Mack Seckinger.

“The Expiry of the Southern White Democrat: An Analysis of the 2014 US Senate Elections in the South.” Prepared for delivery at the 7th Annual Meeting of the Graduate Student Association of the Department of Political Science at Georgia State University in Atlanta, GA, April 10th, 2015.

“‘The Clown-Car Primary’: An Exploration of the Georgia GOP Primary in the 2014 U.S. Senate Election.” Prepared for delivery at the 46th Annual Meeting of the Georgia Political Science Association in Savannah, GA, November 13-15, 2014 with James LaPlant.

“Privatizing Education with the Public’s Purse: An Analysis of the 2012 Georgia Constitutional Amendment on Charter Schools” Prepared for delivery at the 85th Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in New Orleans, LA, January 9-11, 2014.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Invited Panelist, “Humanities Inclusivity Program Summer Enrichment Workshop” Georgia State University, Center for the Advancement of Students and Alumni (Summer 2019)

Invited Speaker, “Pedagogy Workshop for Graduate Students” Georgia State University, Political Science Graduate Student Association (Spring 2019)

Guest Lecture, “Gender Differences in Emotional Reactions to the First 2016 Presidential Debate” Valdosta State University, Political Science Department (Spring 2019)

Invited Panelist, “Confessions of a Graduate Student” Georgia State University, Center for the Advancement of Students and Alumni (Spring 2018)

Invited Speaker, “What is the Electoral College?” Community Activism Series, Highland Inn Ballroom, Atlanta, GA (Fall 2016)

Invited Speaker, “Graduate Student Research Showcase” Prospective Student Preview at Georgia State University, Political Science Department (Spring 2015)

SERVICE

Academic Conference Panel Chair

“Undergraduate Student Research Panel” at the Georgia Political Science Association in Savannah, GA, November 9-11, 2017.

“Undergraduate Student Research Panel” at the Georgia Political Science Association in Savannah, GA, November 10-12, 2016.

“Pajari Undergraduate Panel” at the Georgia Political Science Association in Savannah, GA, November 10-12, 2016.

“Exploring Georgia Politics” at The Georgia Political Science Association, Savannah, GA, November 12-14, 2015.

Academic Conference Panel Discussant

“The South in Transition: Undergraduate Research in Southern Politics” at the Southern Political Science Association in New Orleans, LA, January 12-14, 2017.

“Undergraduate Student Research Panel” at the Georgia Political Science Association in Savannah, GA, November 10-12, 2016.

“Undergraduate Research in Southern Politics” at The Citadel Symposium on Southern Politics, Charleston, SC, March 3, 2016.

“Applying Public Policy Models: A Student Panel” at The Georgia Political Science Association, Savannah, GA, November 12-14, 2015.

Sponsor of Undergraduate Research at an Academic Conference

“The Quest to Uncovering the Causes of Incarceration Disparities Among States” Presented by Diamond Qualls at the Political Science Graduate Student Association Research Conference at Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, March 2, 2018.

Georgia State University Service

Student Activity Budget Fee Committee Member, (Spring 2018)

Department Service

“Prospective Student Preview” *Downtown Atlanta Tourist Guide* (Spring 2017; Spring 2018)

“Prospective Student Preview” *Panel Moderator*, (Spring 2018)

“Prospective Student Preview” *Panelist* (Spring 2016; Spring 2017; Spring 2019)

“Graduate Research Colloquium & Professional Networking Workshop” *Panelist* (Spring 2015)

Political Science Graduate Student Association Service

Leadership:

President: (Fall 2017 – Spring 2018)

Professional Development Chair: (Fall 2015)

Conference Co-Chair, GSA Research Conference: (May 2014; May 2015)

Organized Events:

“How to Build a Professional Website” (Spring 2018)

As GSA President, I organized this professional development seminar for political science graduate students who were preparing to enter the job market. I recruited staff from GSU’s Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning to discuss how to properly build an online presence followed by a hands-on workshop in Wordpress.

“Political Science Graduate Student Association Research Conference” (Spring 2014; Spring 2015; Spring 2018)

As the GSA conference co-chair in 2014 and 2015, I recruited student presenters, organized panels, and reserved facilities and catering for the event. As GSA President in 2018, I oversaw general conference activities and also organized the conference’s first undergraduate panel which included students from throughout the state.

“Prospective Student Preview” (Spring 2018)

Each spring the Department of Political Science hosts this event for prospective graduate students. As GSA President, I worked closely with the department’s Director of Graduate Studies to organize student panels, events, and planned the annual student dinner.

“Ask Me Anything: Surviving Graduate School” (Fall 2017)

As GSA President, I organized the “Ask Me Anything” graduate student event which featured presentations from political science faculty on work-life balance, mental health, and tips for success in graduate school. I also organized a panel of senior graduate students to discuss their personal experiences in the program.

“First-Year Graduate Student Mentorship Forum” (Fall 2015)

As the GSA Professional Development Chair, I organized an off-campus meet-and-greet for first-year graduate students to collaborate with senior graduate students in their related fields.

Cosponsored Events:

“Georgia Human Rights Network Workshop Program” *Co-organizer* (Spring 2018)

As GSA President, I helped organize this one-day interdisciplinary workshop on human rights with the Department of Political Science.

Queering Reproductive Justice Symposium (Spring 2018)

As GSA President, I helped recruit participants and sponsor this event on LGBTQ+ reproductive rights with the Graduate Student Association in Sociology.

SPSA Mock Research Presentations (Fall 2017)

As GSA President, I helped organize this event for students preparing for presentations at SPSA 2018 with the Department of Political Science.

Mock Job Talks Georgia State University (Fall 2017)

As GSA President, I helped organize this even for recent Ph.D. graduates with Department of Political Science.

Working in Local Government Panel (Fall 2017)

As GSA President I created promotional materials and helped organize this panel about non-academic job opportunities with the Department of Political Science.

Southeast Latin American Behavior (SeLab) Mini Conference (Fall 2017)

As GSA President, I helped organize and recruit student volunteers for this conference with the Department of Political Science.

SOFTWARE & PROGRAMS

Statistical software packages (STATA, SPSS)

Qualitative content analysis software (NVivo)

iMotions Biometric Facial Action Coding Systems (FACS)

Video solutions and adaptive platforms for online course development (Camtasia 3, Kaltura, PlayPosit)

Experience management platforms (Qualtrics, Sonar Systems, Amazon Mechanical Turk)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association (APSA)

Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)

Georgia Political Science Association (GPSA)

REFERENCES

Sarah Allen Gershon

Associate Professor of Political Science

Georgia State University

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Judd Thornton

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