

May 25, 2009

**MELINDA GANN HALL**  
*Professor and Distinguished Faculty*  
Department of Political Science  
Michigan State University  
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## **EDUCATION**

B.A., Southeastern Louisiana University, *summa cum laude*, 1977  
M.A., University of New Orleans, 1979  
Ph.D., University of New Orleans, 1983

## **AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Judicial Politics and Public Law: judicial politics and behavior in American appellate courts (particularly state supreme courts), judicial elections and campaigns, the politics of designing and reforming courts, constitutional law and United States Supreme Court policy making  
State Politics: elections and campaigns, the politics of institutions and elite behavior, comparative research designs and methods  
American Politics: elections and campaigns, the politics of institutions and elite behavior

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Distinguished Faculty Award, Michigan State University, 2008  
"In recognition of outstanding contributions to the intellectual development of the University"

Vice President, Midwest Political Science Association, 2006-2008

*State Politics and Policy Quarterly Award* for the Best Paper on State Politics presented at any political science conference in the previous calendar year, State Politics and Policy Section of the American Political Science Association, 2007.  
Paper: Hall, Melinda Gann. "Mobilizing Voters in State Supreme Court Elections: Competition and Other Contextual Forces as Democratic Incentives," presented at the Sixth Annual State Politics and Policy Conference, May 2006.

Meritorious Teaching Award, Department of Political Science, Michigan State University, 2007

President, State Politics and Policy Section of the American Political Science Association, 2005-2007

Outstanding Teaching in Political Science Award, American Political Science Association and Pi Sigma Alpha, 2006

Meritorious Teaching Award, Department of Political Science, Michigan State University, 2006 (One of two first recipients of the newly created award)

Outstanding Service Award, Southwestern Political Science Association, 2003

Vice President, Southwestern Political Science Association, 2002-2003

## HONORS AND AWARDS (CONTINUED)

McGraw-Hill Award for Best Journal Article on Law and Courts written by a political scientist and published in the previous calendar year, Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2002.

Article: Hall, Melinda Gann. 2001. "State Supreme Courts in American Democracy: Probing the Myths of Judicial Reform." *American Political Science Review* 95 (June): 315-330.

American Judicature Society Award for Best Paper on Law and Courts presented at the previous year's annual meetings of the American, Midwest, Northeastern, Southern, Southwestern, and Western Political Science Associations; Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 1999.

Paper: Hall, Melinda Gann. "Competition in Judicial Elections, 1980 – 1995," presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, April 1998.

UWM Top Five Professors Award (campus wide), *UWM Times*, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, 1993

Outstanding Teaching Award, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, 1992

Rated by the Associated Students of Colorado State University (ASCSU) as one of the top professors on campus (campus wide), Colorado State University, 1985

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Books**

*In Defense of Judicial Elections*. With Chris Bonneau. New York: Routledge Press. May 2009.  
ISBN 978-0-415-99132-2 (hardback) and 978-0-415-99133-9 (paperback).

### **Journal Articles and Book Chapters**

"The Controversy Over Electing Judges and Advocacy in Political Science." *Justice System Journal*, 30 (3): forthcoming 2009.

"Mobilizing Interest: The Effects of Money on Ballot Roll-Off in State Supreme Court Elections." With Chris Bonneau. *American Journal of Political Science*, 52: 457-470. July 2008.

"Courts and Judicial Politics in the American States." In *Politics in the American States: A Comparative Analysis*, Virginia Gray and Russell L. Hanson, eds. Washington, D.C: Congressional Quarterly Press. 2007.

"Voting in State Supreme Court Elections: Competition and Context as Democratic Incentives." *Journal of Politics*, 69: 1147-1159. November 2007.

"The Business of State Supreme Courts, Revisited." With Herbert M. Kritzer, Paul Brace, and Brent T. Boyea. *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*, 4: 427-439. July 2007.

"Competition as Accountability in State Supreme Court Elections." In *Running for Judge*, Matthew Streb, ed. New York: New York University Press. 2007.

"Does Quality Matter? Challengers in State Supreme Court Elections." With Chris Bonneau. *American Journal of Political Science*, 50: 20-33. January 2006.

## PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

### *Journal Articles and Book Chapters (Continued)*

"Is Judicial Federalism Essential to Democracy? State Courts in the Federal System." With Paul Brace. In *Judging Courts in American Democracy*, Kermit L. Hall and Kevin T. McGuire, eds. New York: Oxford University Press. 2005.

"The Wisconsin Judiciary." With Chris Bonneau. In *Wisconsin Government and Politics* (8<sup>th</sup> ed.), Ronald E. Weber, ed. New York: McGraw Hill. (Revised from the 7<sup>th</sup> edition.) 2004.

"Predicting Challengers in State Supreme Court Elections: Context and the Politics of Institutional Design." With Chris Bonneau. *Political Research Quarterly*, 56: 337-349. September 2003.

"'Haves' Versus 'Have Nots' in State Supreme Courts: Allocating Docket Space and Wins in Power Asymmetric Cases." With Paul Brace. *Law & Society Review*, 35: 393-417. June 2001.

"Voluntary Retirements from State Supreme Courts: Assessing Democratic Pressures to Relinquish the Bench." *Journal of Politics*, 63: 1112-1140. November 2001.

"State Supreme Courts in American Democracy: Probing the Myths of Judicial Reform." *American Political Science Review*, 95: 315-330. June 2001.

**Winner of the 2002 McGraw-Hill Award**

"Placing Courts in State Politics." With Paul Brace and Laura Langer. *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*, 1: 81-108. Spring 2001.

"Measuring the Preferences of State Supreme Court Judges." With Paul Brace and Laura Langer. *Journal of Politics*, 62: 387-413. May 2000.

Reprinted in *Courts: A Text / Reader*, Cassia Spohn and Craig Hemmens, eds. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. 2008.

"Comparing Courts Using the American States." With Paul Brace. *Judicature*, 83: 250-266. March-April 2000.

"The Wisconsin Judiciary." With Chris Bonneau. In *Wisconsin Government and Politics* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.), Ronald E. Weber, ed. New York: McGraw Hill. (Revised from the 6<sup>th</sup> edition.) 2000.

"Introduction to 'An Analysis of the Rehnquist Court's Establishment Clause Jurisprudence: A New Marriage of Legal and Social Science Approaches.'" *Law Review of Michigan State University – Detroit College of Law*, 1999: 865-868. Winter 1999.

"Judicial Choice and the Politics of Abortion: Institutions, Context, and the Autonomy of Courts." With Paul Brace and Laura Langer. *Albany Law Review*, 62: 1265-1303. April 1999.

"State Supreme Courts and Their Environments: Avenues to General Theories of Judicial Choice." With Paul Brace. In *Supreme Court Decision Making: New Institutional Approaches*, Cornell W. Clayton and Howard Gillman, eds. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 1999.

"State Judicial Politics: Rules, Structures and the Political Game." In *American State and Local Politics: Directions for the Twenty-First Century*, Ronald E. Weber and Paul Brace, eds. Chatham, New Jersey: Chatham House. 1999.

## PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

### *Journal Articles and Book Chapters (Continued)*

"The Interplay of Preferences, Case Facts, Context, and Structure in the Politics of Judicial Choice." With Paul Brace. *Journal of Politics*, 59: 1206-1231. November 1997.

"Justices' Responses to Case Facts: An Interactive Model." With Paul Brace. *American Politics Quarterly*, 24: 237-261. April 1996.

"The Wisconsin Judiciary." In *Wisconsin Government and Politics* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.), Ronald E. Weber, ed. New York: McGraw Hill. 1996.

"Justices as Representatives: Elections and Judicial Politics in the American States." *American Politics Quarterly*, 23: 485-503. October 1995.

"Studying Courts Comparatively: The View from the American States." With Paul Brace. *Political Research Quarterly*, 48: 5-29. March 1995.

"The Vicissitudes of Death by Decree: Forces Influencing Capital Punishment Decisionmaking in State Supreme Courts." With Paul Brace. *Social Science Quarterly*, 75: 136-151. March 1994.  
Reproduced in *Capital Punishment in Context*, Death Penalty Information Organization, as part of an internet course (at <http://www.ccdp.deathpenaltyinfo.org>) on research skills and critical thinking using capital punishment as a case study.

"Integrated Models of Judicial Dissent." With Paul Brace. *Journal of Politics*, 55: 914-935. November 1993.

"Electoral Politics and Strategic Voting in State Supreme Courts." *Journal of Politics*, 54: 427-446. May 1992.

"Toward an Integrated Model of Judicial Voting Behavior." With Paul Brace. *American Politics Quarterly*, 20: 147-168. April 1992.

"Neo-Institutionalism and Dissent in State Supreme Courts." With Paul Brace. *Journal of Politics*, 52: 54-70. February 1990.

"Opinion Assignment Procedures and Conference Practices in State Supreme Courts." *Judicature*, 73: 209-214. January 1990.  
Reprinted in *Appellate Practice and Procedure*, Kent Sinclair, ed. St. Paul: West Publishing. 2006.

"Order in the Courts: A Neo-Institutional Approach to Judicial Consensus." With Paul Brace. *Western Political Quarterly* (now *Political Research Quarterly*) 42: 391-407. September 1989.

"Small Group Influences in the United States Supreme Court." *Justice System Journal*, 12: 359-369. Winter 1987.

"Constituent Influence in State Supreme Courts: Conceptual Notes and a Case Study." *Journal of Politics*, 49: 1117-1124. November 1987.  
Reprinted in *Courts and Judges, International Library of Essays in Law and Society*, Lee Epstein, ed. Hampshire, UK: Ashgate Publishing Ltd. 2006.

## **PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)**

### ***Journal Articles and Book Chapters (Continued)***

"Constituent Influence in State Supreme Courts" (Continued)

Reprinted in *Courts, Judges, and Politics: An Introduction to the Judicial Process*, Walter F. Murphy, C. Herman Pritchett, and Lee Epstein, eds. New York: McGraw-Hill. 2002 edition and 2005 edition.

"An Examination of Voting Behavior in the Louisiana Supreme Court." *Judicature*, 71: 40-46. June 1987.

"Docket Control As An Influence on Judicial Voting." *Justice System Journal*, 10: 243-255. Summer 1985.

"Bloc Voting and the Freshman Justice Revisited." With Edward V. Heck. *Journal of Politics*, 43: 852-860. August 1981.

### ***Other Scholarly Publications***

"State Systems in the United States." With Paul Brace. In *Legal Systems of the World: A Political, Social, and Cultural Encyclopedia*, Herbert M. Kritzer, ed. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO. 2002.

"State and Local Courts." In *The Oxford Companion to American Law*, Kermit L. Hall, ed. New York: Oxford University Press. 2002.

"The State Supreme Court Data Project." With Paul Brace. *Law and Courts*, 9: 21-23. Spring 1999.

"A Fifty-State Supreme Court Data Base." *Law and Courts*, 7: 14-16. Spring 1997.

"Review of Jeffrey A. Segal and Harold J. Spaeth's *The Supreme Court and the Attitudinal Model*" (New York: Cambridge University Press). *Journal of Politics*, 57: 254-255. February 1995.

## **RESEARCH IN PROGRESS OR UNDER REVIEW**

"Mandatory Retirement and the Electoral Incentive in State Supreme Courts." Journal article documenting strategic voting in state supreme courts to minimize electoral opposition and how mandatory retirement rules alter the representative function. Under review.

"Going Negative: Attack Advertising in State Supreme Court Elections." With Chris Bonneau. Journal article documenting the mobilizing effects of attack advertising on voter turnout in state supreme court elections. One manuscript under review; another in preparation.

*The Changing Politics of Electing Judges: Democracy, Accountability, and the American Bench.* Book project assessing change in state supreme court elections from 1980 through 2008 within the framework of democratic theory while challenging the conventional wisdom surrounding modern court reform. Estimated completion: August 2010.

"The Cataclysm of Judicial Elections and Other Popular Anti-Democratic Myths," book chapter for an edited volume, Charles Geyh ed., Stanford University Press (contract pending).

## MAJOR RESEARCH GRANTS

### ***National Science Foundation: The State Supreme Court Data Project***

**Total project budget: \$907,891; Budget to Hall as Co-Principal Investigator: \$452,796**

"Extending the Fifty-State Supreme Court Data Project," NSF Grant SES-9911166, June 1, 2000 – September 30, 2003. Co-Principal Investigator with Paul Brace (Rice University). Michigan State University budget: \$158,497; total project budget: \$319,768. Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Supplement at MSU: \$11,500, and Rice: \$11,500.

"A Fifty-State Supreme Court Data Project," NSF Grant SBR-9617190, June 1, 1997 - May 31, 2000. Co-Principal Investigator with Paul Brace (Rice University). Michigan State University budget: \$263,759; total project budget: \$515,214.

"Planning Grant for the Development of a State Supreme Court Data Base," National Science Foundation Grant SBR-9529842, March 15, 1996 - February 28, 1997. Co-Principal Investigator with Paul Brace. University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee budget: \$19,040; total project budget: \$49,909.

### ***Michigan State University Initiative: Program for Law and Judicial Politics***

**Total current recurring funds to the Department of Political Science: \$83,035 Annually**

University Initiation Grant for the Program for Law and Judicial Politics (PLJP), 1998-2001. Co-Principal Investigator with Reginald S. Sheehan and Harold J. Spaeth. Total initial budget: \$330,000. (These resources were awarded in 1998 and now provide recurring funds to the Department for two Graduate Assistantships and secretarial salary support.)

Enhancing the PLJP Proposal, Fall 2003 - present. Principal Investigator. Received recurring funding for a third Graduate Assistantship and an annual operating budget for the Program.

## PROFESSIONAL PAPERS

"Negativity and Television Advertising in State Supreme Court Elections," to be presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Toronto, Ontario, September 2009. With Chris Bonneau.

"Going Negative: Attack Advertising in State Supreme Court Elections," presented at the Ninth Annual State Politics and Policy Conference, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, May 2009. With Chris Bonneau.

"The Cataclysm of Judicial Elections and Other Popular Anti-Democratic Myths," presented at the "What's Law Got to Do With It?" Conference at the Indiana University School of Law, Bloomington, Indiana, March 2009.

"Does Money Buy Voters? Campaign Spending and Citizen Participation in State Supreme Court Elections," presented at the Seventh Annual State Politics and Policy Conference, Austin, Texas, February 2007. With Chris Bonneau.

"Mobilizing Voters in State Supreme Court Elections: Competition and Other Contextual Forces as Democratic Incentives," presented at the Sixth Annual State Politics and Policy Conference, Lubbock, Texas, May 2006.

***Winner of the 2007 State Politics and Policy Quarterly Award***

**PROFESSIONAL PAPERS (CONTINUED)**

“Mobilizing Interest: The Effects of Money on Ballot Roll-Off in State Supreme Court Elections,” presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2006. With Chris Bonneau.

“On the Nature of Ballot Roll-Off in Contemporary State Supreme Court Elections,” presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., September 2005. With Chris Bonneau.

“Voter Participation in State Supreme Court Elections,” presented at the Fifth Annual State Politics and Policy Conference, East Lansing, Michigan, May 2005. With Chris Bonneau.

“On the Importance of Judicial Federalism” presented at the Judging Courts in American Democracy Conference, Annenberg Foundation and the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, October 2004. With Paul Brace.

“Challengers, Margins, and State Supreme Court Elections,” presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 2003. With Chris Bonneau.

“Studying Context Versus the Rule of Law: The Case of Tort Litigation in the American States,” presented at the Interim Meeting of the Research Committee on Comparative Judicial Studies, International Political Science Association, Parma, Italy, June 2003. With Paul Brace.

“Winners in State Supreme Courts: Institutions and Context in the Politics of Tort Reform,” presented at the annual meeting of the Law and Society Association, Vancouver, British Columbia, May 2002. With Paul Brace.

“Assessing the Consequences of Mandatory Retirement on State High Courts: Judicial Behavior under the Condition of the Terminal Term,” presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2002.

“Contextual and Institutional Influences on Winning and Losing in Court,” presented at the annual meeting of the Law and Society Association, Budapest, Hungary, July 2001. With Paul Brace.

“Incumbents, Challengers, and the Politics of Judicial Elections,” presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2001. With Chris Bonneau.

“Organized Interests and Judicial Decisions: Lessons From the American States,” presented at the Interim Meeting of the Research Committee on Comparative Judicial Studies, International Political Science Association, Cape Town, South Africa, January 2001. With Paul Brace.

“Courts as Agents of Continuity and Change: Winning and Losing in State Supreme Courts,” presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., September 2000. With Paul Brace.

“Placing Courts in State Politics,” presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2000. With Paul Brace and Laura Langer.

“Candidate Quality in Judicial Elections,” presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2000. With Chris Bonneau.

## PROFESSIONAL PAPERS (CONTINUED)

"Ballot Roll-off in Judicial Elections: Contextual and Institutional Influences on Voter Participation in the American States," presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Atlanta, Georgia, September 1999.

"Voluntary Retirements from State Supreme Courts: An Examination of the Electoral Vulnerability Hypothesis," presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1999.

"Competition in Judicial Elections, 1980-1995," presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, Massachusetts, August 1998.

***Winner of the 1999 American Judicature Society Award***

"Formal Models of Judicial Decision Making in Comparative Perspective," presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, Massachusetts, August 1998. With Paul Brace and Laura Langer.

"Measuring the Preferences of State Supreme Court Justices," presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1998. With Paul Brace and Laura Langer.

"Judicial Review of Legislation: Implications for Judicial Independence and the Autonomy of Courts," presented at the XVII World Congress of the International Political Science Association, Seoul, South Korea, August 1997. With Paul Brace and Laura Langer.

"Judges' Goals and the Politics of Institutions," presented at the Conference on the Scientific Study of Judicial Politics, Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, November 1996.

"Judicial Choice and the Politics of Abortion," presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, August 1996. With Paul Brace and Laura Langer.

"Contemporary Trends in Judicial Elections: More on Electoral Politics and Judicial Choice," presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1995. With Paul Brace.

"Party, Ideology, and the Death Verdict: The Interplay of Preferences, Structures, and Rules in the Politics of Judicial Choice," presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Portland, Oregon, March 1995. With Paul Brace.

"Politics and the Administration of Justice: The Death Penalty in a Western Democracy," presented at the XVI World Congress of the International Political Science Association, Berlin, Germany, August 1994. With Paul Brace.

"The Politics of Judicial Choice: State Supreme Courts and the Death Penalty," presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., September 1993. With Paul Brace.

"Elections and Judicial Politics in the American States," presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1993.

"The Vicissitudes of Death by Decree: Forces Influencing Capital Punishment Decisionmaking in State Supreme Courts," presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, September 1992. With Paul Brace.

## PROFESSIONAL PAPERS (CONTINUED)

"Deciding on Death: A Comparative Perspective on Judicial Choice in the American States," presented at the Interim Meeting of the Research Committee on Comparative Judicial Studies, International Political Science Association, Bologna, Italy, June 1992. With Paul Brace.

"Determinants of Judicial Voting: Cases, Judges, Courts and Their Environments," presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Tampa, Florida, November 1991. With Paul Brace.

"Voting Behavior in State Supreme Courts: Integrated Theory and Models," presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., August 1991. With Paul Brace.

"Can There Be a Theory of Judicial Voting Behavior? Neo-Institutionalism as an Integrative Approach," presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Seattle, Washington, March 1991. With Paul Brace.

"Integrated Models of Judicial Voting Behavior," presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, August 1990. With Paul Brace.

"Pooled Models of Dichotomous Choice: Comparing State Supreme Courts Over Time," presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, August 1990. With Paul Brace.

"Judicial Behavior in the American States: A Comparative Analysis," presented at the Interim Meeting of the Research Committee on Comparative Judicial Studies, International Political Science Association, London, England, August 1990. With Paul Brace.

"Strategic Behavior in Elected State Supreme Courts," presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1990.

"Election Strategies and Judicial Decisionmaking," presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Atlanta, Georgia, September 1989.

"Judicial Retention Methods and Dissent in State Supreme Courts," presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1989.

"Electoral Accountability and Judicial Voting Behavior: Further Examination of Constituent Influence in State Supreme Courts," presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., September 1988.

"Changing Levels of Dissent in State Supreme Courts: A Neo-Institutional Perspective," presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1988. With Paul Brace.

"Institutional Arrangements and Dissent in State Supreme Courts: A Time Series Analysis," presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, March 1988. With Paul Brace.

"A Neo-Institutional Approach to Consensus in State Supreme Courts," presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1987. With Paul Brace.

## **PROFESSIONAL PAPERS (CONTINUED)**

"Consensus in Decision Coalitions of State Courts of Last Resort: A Case Study of the Louisiana Supreme Court," presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., August 1986.

"Subgroup Formation on the U.S. Supreme Court: A Reconsideration," presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Nashville, Tennessee, November 1985.

"Docket Control As An Influence on Judicial Voting," presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Las Vegas, Nevada, March 1985.

## **OTHER RESEARCH GRANTS**

Michigan Applied State Policy Research Grant, "Policy Options for Addressing Michigan's School Segregation," July 2003-December 2004. Co-Principal Investigator with Darren Davis, Richard Hula, and Brian Silver. Total project budget: \$25,000.

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant (SES-0108906), "Money in State Supreme Court Elections," July 2001-June 2002. Co-Principal Investigator with Chris Bonneau.

Ronald E. McNair Summer Research Program (for Minority Student Mentoring), University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, 1992, 1994, and 1995

Summer Research Opportunities Program Grant (for Minority Student Mentoring), University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee, 1991

Summer Research Fellowship, University of North Texas, 1988 and 1989

Research Initiation Grant, University of North Texas, 1987

## **ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

Professor (with Tenure), Department of Political Science, Michigan State University, 1996 – present

Professor (with Tenure), Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, 1995 - 1996

Associate Professor (with Tenure), Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, 1990 - 1995

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of North Texas, 1987 - 1990  
(Teaching load of 5 courses per year; Pre-Law Advisor for the University)

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Colorado State University, 1984 - 1987  
(Teaching load of 6 courses per year; Pre-Law Advisor for the University)

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice, Southern University in New Orleans, 1983 – 1984  
(Teaching load of 10 courses per year)

Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Newcomb College of Tulane University, 1982 - 1983  
(Teaching load of 6 courses per year)

## COURSES TAUGHT

### **Graduate Level**

Research Seminar in American Politics  
Seminar in Judicial Politics and Behavior  
Seminar in State Government and Politics

### **Undergraduate Level**

American Government and Politics  
British Politics (taught during MSU Study Abroad in the United Kingdom in 2009, 2008, 2001)  
Comparative Legal Systems  
Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties  
Constitutional Law (Special Topics): Racial and Sex-Based Classifications  
Constitutional Law: Structures and Powers  
Judicial Process and Politics  
Moot Court and Legal Research in Federal Law

## TEACHING AWARDS AND RECOGNITION (NOT LISTED ABOVE UNDER HONORS)

Piper Professor Award for Excellence in Teaching Nominee (campus wide), University of North Texas, 1989  
Shelton Excellence in Teaching Award Nominee (campus wide), University of North Texas, 1988

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

### **Offices in Professional Associations (Not Listed Above Under Honors)**

Vice President-Elect, Southwestern Political Science Association, 2001-2002  
Executive Council, State Politics and Policy Section of the American Political Science Association, 2002-2003  
Executive Council, Southwestern Political Science Association, 1999-2001  
Executive Council, Midwest Political Science Association, 1995-1998

### **Advisory Boards**

Federalism and Sub-National Politics Section of the Political Science Network, a division of the Social Science Research Network, 2007-present

### **Editorial Boards**

*Albany Law Review State Constitutional Commentary*, 2000-present  
*American Journal of Political Science*, 1998-2005  
*American Politics Quarterly*, 1992-1997  
*American Review of Politics*, 1996-2002  
*Journal of Politics*, 1991-2000  
*Law and Courts*, 1996-2003  
*Political Behavior*, 2005-present  
*Political Research Quarterly*, 1994-1996  
*Research on Judicial Selection* (American Judicature Society), 1999-2002  
*State and Local Government Review*, 1998-2000  
*State Politics and Policy Quarterly* (charter member), 1999-present

### **Program Chair and Program Committees for Professional Meetings**

Section Chair, State Politics and Policy, American Political Science Association, 2004  
Section Chair, Judicial Politics and Public Law, Midwest Political Science Association, 2004  
Program Chair (for all Sections), Southwestern Political Science Association, 2003

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (CONTINUED)

### ***Program Chair and Program Committees for Professional Meetings (Continued)***

Main Theme Panel Convenor, Courts and the Justice System, International Political Science Association, 2003  
 Section Chair, Judicial Politics and Public Law, Western Political Science Association, 1999  
 Section Chair, Judicial Politics and Public Law, Midwest Political Science Association, 1998  
 Section Chair, Public Law and Judicial Politics, Southern Political Science Association, 1995  
 Section Chair, Judicial Politics and Public Law, Midwest Political Science Association, 1994  
 Section Chair, Public Law and Judicial Politics, Southern Political Science Association, 1990

### ***Other Committee Membership in Professional Associations***

Career Achievement Award Committee, State Politics and Policy Section of the American Political Science Association, 2008-09  
 Emerging Scholar Award Committee (and Chair), Midwest Political Science Association, 2008-09  
 Lifetime Achievement Award Committee (and Chair), Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2006-07  
 Wadsworth Publishing Award (for best article 10 years or older) Committee (and Chair), Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2005-06  
 Search Committee for Editor of *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*, State Politics and Policy Section of the American Political Science Association, 2005-06  
 Site Selection Committee for the Annual State Politics and Policy Conference, State Politics and Policy Section of the American Political Science Association 2005-06  
 Nominations Committee (and Chair), Midwest Political Science Association, 2004-05  
 Lifetime Achievement Award Committee, Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2003-04  
 Nominations Committee, Midwest Political Science Association, 2003-04  
 Search Committee (and Chair) for Editor of *Law and Courts*, Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2002-03  
 Lifetime Achievement Award Committee, Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2001-02  
 Marian Irish Best Paper on Women and Politics Award Committee (and Chair), Southern Political Science Association, 1998-99  
 American Judicature Society Award (for best paper) Committee, Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 1995-96  
 Legal Defense Fund Committee of the Women's Caucus for Political Science, American Political Science Association, 1992-94  
 Nominating Committee, Law, Courts, and Judicial Process Section of the American Political Science Association, 1989-90

### ***Discussant***

"Poster Session on State Politics and Policy," at the Ninth Annual State Politics and Policy Conference, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, May 2009.

"Decision Making on State Courts," panel at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, Massachusetts, August 2008,

"How State Court Selection Systems Affect Judicial Behavior," panel at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2007.

"Policy Innovation and Policy Choices" panel at the Fifth Annual State Politics and Policy Conference, East Lansing, Michigan, May 2005.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (CONTINUED)

### *Discussant (Continued)*

"Judicial Appointments," panel at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2005.

"Selecting and Not Selecting Judges: Perspectives from the Senate," panel at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 2004.

"Elections and Turnover in State Races," panel at the Third Annual State Politics and Policy Conference, Tucson, Arizona, March 2003.

"Legal Policy, Judges, and Change: A View from the States," panel at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, Massachusetts, August 2002.

"Explaining Judicial Decision Making," panel at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Las Vegas, Nevada, March 2001.

"Courts and Politics," panel at the Interim Meeting of the Research Committee on Comparative Judicial Studies, International Political Science Association, Cape Town, South Africa, January 2001.

"Courts and Inter-Institutional Politics," panel at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Seattle, Washington, March 1999.

"Graduate Student Research," panel at the Third Annual Conference on the Scientific Study of Judicial Politics, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, October 1998.

"Institutions and the Study of Judicial Politics," panel at the Second Annual Conference on the Scientific Study of Judicial Politics, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, November 1997.

"Courts and the Maintenance of Democracy," panel at the XVII World Congress of the International Political Science Association, Seoul, South Korea, August 1997.

"Evaluating State Courts," panel at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1997.

"State Courts in the American Federal System," panel at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Tucson, Arizona, March 1997.

"New Perspectives on State Judicial Research," panel at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1996.

"*Stare Indecisis: The Alteration of Precedent on the Supreme Court*," panel at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, September 1995.

"Interactions Between Courts: Institutional, Empirical, Game Theoretic, and Political Perspectives," panel at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, September 1992.

"Courts as Political Institutions - Here and Abroad," panel at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1991.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (CONTINUED)

### ***Discussant (Continued)***

"Decisionmaking in State Courts of Last Resort," panel at the annual meeting of the Southwest Political Science Association, Ft. Worth, Texas, March 1990.

"Issues in the Separation of Powers: The President, The Congress, and the Courts," panel at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, March 1988.

### ***Roundtable, Short Course, Symposium or Workshop Panelist***

"New Directions in State Court Research," roundtable at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, Massachusetts, August 2008.

"The State of Judicial Elections Research," roundtable at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2008.

#### ***Selected for podcasting by the Midwest Political Science Association***

"Studying Judicial Behavior: Saul Brenner's Contributions to the Study of Law and Courts," roundtable at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, August 2007.

"What's Troubling the American Judiciary?" roundtable at The Judiciary and American Democracy Conference, Annenberg Foundation and the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 2004.

"The State of the Discipline: State Courts," roundtable at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Political Science Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, March 2002.

"Using the State Supreme Court Database," Short Course on American State Data Resources at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, August 2001.

"The State Supreme Court Data Project," presented at the Legacy of the Common Law Conference sponsored by the Research Committee on Comparative Judicial Studies, International Political Science Association, London, England, July 1999.

"Introduction to the State Supreme Court Database," presented on the "Judicial Politics and State Courts" panel at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Los Angeles, California, March 1998.

"New Sources of Data for Judicial Research: The State Supreme Court Database Project," workshop at the Second Annual Conference on the Scientific Study of Judicial Politics, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, November 1997.

"Announcing the State Supreme Court Database Project," Short Course on Examining New and Existing Data Bases in Public Law: The U.S. Courts of Appeals, the Supreme Court, and State Supreme Courts, at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, September 1996.

"The State of Judicial Politics Research," roundtable at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Tampa, Florida, November 1995.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (CONTINUED)

### **Roundtable, Short Course, Symposium or Workshop Panelist (Continued)**

"The State of State Politics Research," roundtable at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1995.

"Methodological Issues in Comparative Judicial Studies," roundtable at the Interim Meeting of the Research Committee on Comparative Judicial Studies, International Political Science Association, Florence, Italy, August 1994.

"New Directions in Judicial Research: Theoretical and Methodological Innovations," roundtable at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Atlanta, Georgia, November 1990.

"Does the Constitution Adequately Protect Rights?" symposium sponsored by the Jefferson Foundation, Washington, D. C., October 1990.

"Rational Choice and Judicial Research: Twenty-Five Years after *Elements of Judicial Strategy*," roundtable at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1989.

### **Panel Chair**

"Judicial Politics in the American States," panel at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, August 2007.

"How State Court Selection Systems Affect Judicial Behavior," panel at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2007.

"Power and Politics in State Judicial Selection" panel at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 2006.

"Policy Innovation and Policy Choices" panel at the Fifth Annual State Politics and Policy Conference, East Lansing, Michigan, May 2005.

"Electoral Politics in the American States," panel at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, September 2004.

"Selecting and Not Selecting Judges: Perspectives from the Senate," panel at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 2004.

"Elections and Turnover in State Races," panel at the Third Annual State Politics and Policy Conference, Tucson, Arizona, March 2003.

"Legal Policy, Judges, and Change: A View from the States," panel at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, Massachusetts, August 2002.

"State Judges in the Electoral Arena," panel at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, August 2001.

"Political Influences on Judicial Power," panel at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Las Vegas, Nevada, March 2001.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (CONTINUED)

### **Panel Chair (Continued)**

"Judicial Independence on State Supreme Courts: Selection and Decision Making," panel at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2000.

"Contemporary Debates in Comparative Politics: Research Design," panel at the Fourth Annual Conference on the Scientific Study of Judicial Politics, Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas, October 1999.

"A Real Grab Bag of Research Papers," panel at the Third Annual Conference on the Scientific Study of Judicial Politics, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, October 1998.

"The Effect of Selection Systems on Judicial Decisions," panel at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., August 1997.

"State Courts in the American Federal System," panel at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Tucson, Arizona, March 1997.

"New Perspectives on State Judicial Research," panel at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1996.

"Issues in State Judicial Selection," panel at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1994.

"Behavioral Studies of the Modern Supreme Court," panel at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1992.

"Politics, Interest Groups and Judicial Policy-Making," panel at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Tampa, Florida, November 1991.

"State Supreme Courts: Innovations, Behavior, and Results," panel at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1990.

### **Manuscript / Grant Proposal Reviewer**

*American Journal of Political Science*

*American Political Science Review*

*American Politics Research (American Politics Quarterly)*

*American Review of Politics*

*Election Law Journal*

*Electoral Studies*

*Journal of Legal Studies*

*Journal of Politics*

*Judicature*

*Justice System Journal*

*Law and Society Review*

*Legislative Studies Quarterly*

National Science Foundation

*Political Behavior*

*Political Research Quarterly (Western Political Quarterly)*

*Politics and Gender*

*Polity*

*Publius*

*Social Science Journal*

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (CONTINUED)

### ***Manuscript / Grant Proposal Reviewer (Continued)***

*Social Science Quarterly*  
*Southeastern Political Review*  
*State and Local Government Review*  
*State Politics and Policy Quarterly*

## COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL OUTREACH

### ***Pro Bono Consultant for the State Supreme Court Data Project***

Designated consultant (with Paul Brace) to provide instruction to scholars, students, attorneys, judges, and other practitioners about how to use the database and access the academic literature on state courts and judicial politics. Overall, the webpage shows a total of 13,474 "visitors" as of May 25, 2009 (<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~pbrace/statecourt>).

## SELECTED SERVICE AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

### ***University Wide***

Chair (elected), University Committee on Faculty Tenure, Spring and Summer 2006

Faculty Liaison to the MSU President and Board of Trustees, Spring and Summer 2006

Member (elected), University Committee on Faculty Tenure (as representative from the College of Social Science), Fall 2004 – Summer 2006

Chair, Subcommittee of the University Committee on Faculty Tenure to Revise UCFT Policies and Procedures (including standards for exceptions to the tenure policies) in the MSU Faculty Handbook, 2004-05

### ***College Level***

Member, Search Committee for the Associate Dean of Research, College of Social Science, 2007-08

Member, Faculty Advisory Council to the Dean, College of Social Science, 2001-02 and 2000-01

### ***Department Level***

Director of Graduate Student Placement, Department of Political Science, 2008-09

Graduate Advisor for First-Year Students, Department of Political Science, 2007-08

Member (elected), Advisory Committee (a four-member executive committee), Department of Political Science, 2008-09, 2006-07, 2005-06, 1998-99, and 1997-98

Member, Graduate Studies Committee, Department of Political Science, 2006-07, 2005-06, 2004-05, and 2001-02

Chair, Task Force on Bylaws Revision, Department of Political Science, 2005-06 and 2004-05

**SELECTED SERVICE AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY*****Department Level (Continued)***

Member (elected), Faculty - Student Judiciary (for grade appeals and grievances), Department of Political Science, 2000-01, 1999-00, 1998-99, and 1997-98

Member (and in some years Chair), Recruitment Committee (for various positions in judicial politics, American politics, public policy, American political thought, and methodology), Department of Political Science, 2008-09, 2007-08, 2006-07, 2005-06, 2004-05, 1999-00, 1998-99

**OTHER EVIDENCE OF PROFESSIONAL IMPACT**

Total citations in the Social Science Citation Index: 649

Source: Web of Science, May 25, 2009

Total citations in law reviews: 163

Source: Lexis-Nexis, May 25, 2009

**REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**