

Joshua Sapotichne

Political Science Department
Michigan State University
South Kedzie Hall
368 Farm Lane, S 324B
East Lansing, MI 48824

Phone (W): 517.355.4859
Phone (M): 206.992.0095
Fax: 517.432.1091
Email: sapotich@msu.edu

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Director, Master of Public Policy Program, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI (2017-current)

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI (2017-current)

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI (2009-2016)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Department of Political Science, University of Washington, Seattle, WA (2009)
Dissertation Title: "Reconstructing National Urban Policy: Agenda-Setting in a Complex Policy Area".

[Winner of 2010 Best Dissertation Award, Urban Politics Section, American Political Science Association]

M.A. Department of Political Science, University of Washington, Seattle, WA (2006)

B.A. Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg, PA (2001), *Magna Cum Laude*

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Urban politics and policy, American public policy

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

"Governing without Government: Nonprofit Governance in Detroit and Flint." 2019. With Sarah Reckhow and Davia Downey. *Urban Affairs Review*. DOI: 10.1177/1078087419847531

"Punctuated Equilibrium and Bureaucratic Autonomy in American City Governments." 2019. With Young Shin Park. *Policy Studies Journal*. DOI: 10.1111/psj.12333.

"Won't You Be My Neighbor? An Integrated Model of Urban Policy Interdependence." 2017. With Laura Reese and Minting Ye. *Urban Affairs Review* 55(1): 108–147.

"Stability and Change in U.S. Urban Policymaking: Evidence and a Path Forward." 2013. With Megan Johnson and Young-Shin Park. *Urban Research and Practice* 6(3): 255-275.

"Rhetorical Strategy in Stadium Development Politics." 2012. *City, Culture, and Society* 3(3): 169-180.

- “Setting City Agendas: Power and Policy Change.” 2012. With Bryan D. Jones. In *Oxford Handbook of Urban Politics*, Karen Mossberger, Susan E. Clarke, and Peter John, eds. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- “Venue Shopping and the Politics of Urban Development: Lessons from Chicago and Seattle.” 2012. With James M. Smith. *Urban Affairs Review* 48(1): 86-110.
- “Constructing Homeland Security: An Anemic Policy Regime.” 2011. With Peter J. May and Ashley E. Jochim. *Policy Studies Journal* 39(2): 285-307. [Winner of 2012 Theodore Lowi Prize for Best Article in *Policy Studies Journal*]
- “Widespread Policy Disruption and Interest Mobilization.” 2009. With Peter J. May and Samuel Workman. *Policy Studies Journal* 37(4): 793-815.
- “Widespread Policy Disruption: Terrorism, Public Risks, and Homeland Security.” 2009. With Peter J. May and Samuel Workman. *Policy Studies Journal* 37(2): 171-194.
- “Is Urban Politics a Black Hole? Analyzing the Boundary Between Political Science and Urban Politics.” 2007. With Bryan D. Jones and Michelle Wolfe. *Urban Affairs Review* 43(1): 76-106.
- “Policy Coherence and Policy Domains.” 2006. With Peter J. May and Samuel Workman. *Policy Studies Journal* 34(3): 381-403.

RESEARCH GRANTS

External

- Principal Investigator (Co-Principal Investigator: Erika Rosebrook). 2017-2020. “Finding a Path Forward for Fiscally Sustainable Cities in Michigan”. Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. \$261,949.
- Principal Investigator (Co-Principal Investigator: Eric Scorsone). 2015-2016. “Confronting the City of Flint's Financial Future: Local and Regional Strategies for Long Term Solvency”. Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. \$120,488.
- Principal Investigator (Co-Principal Investigator: Eric Scorsone). 2014-2015. “Assessing the Implications of Flint’s Fiscal Playbook for Fiscal Solvency and Service Effectiveness: Lessons for Flint and other Financially Troubled Communities”. Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. \$139,993.

Internal

- Principal Investigator (Co-Principal Investigator: Laura A. Reese). 2016-2017. “Comparison of Citizen and Local Elected Official Attitudes in Michigan Using SOSS and CLOSUP Surveys”. Michigan Applied Public Policy Research Grant, Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. \$17,000.

PUBLISHED RESEARCH REPORTS

- “Beyond State Takeovers: Reconsidering the Role of State Government in Local Financial Distress, with Important Lessons for Michigan and its Embattled Cities.” 2015. With Erika Rosebrook, Eric A. Scorsone, Danielle Kaminski, Mary Doidge, and Traci Taylor. *Michigan State University Extension: White Paper Series*. 1-29.

“The Flint Fiscal Playbook: An Assessment of the Emergency Manager Years (2011-2015).” 2015. With Mary Doidge, Eric A. Scorsone, Traci Taylor, Erika Rosebrook, and Danielle Kaminski. *Michigan State University Extension: White Paper Series*. 1-36.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

“National Urban Policy Paradox: Congressional Agendas, Presidential Power, Public Opinion, and the Death and Life of Urban Issues in American Politics.” *Book Manuscript Under Revision* at University Press of Kansas.

“The Death and Life of Urban Issues in American Politics.” *Journal Article Under Revision*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

“Putting Cities in Their Place: How State Institutions Stifle Urban Policy Innovation.” With Matt Zalewski and Erika Rosebrook. *Journal Article in Progress*.

“Form of Government, Institutional Costs, and Policy Change Dynamics in American Cities.” *Journal Article in Progress*.

Designed to Fail: State Policies, State Politics, and the Origins of the New Urban Fiscal Crisis.” With Erika Rosebrook. *Book Manuscript in Progress*.

“The Emergency Manager Life Cycle: What EMs Do, When They Do It, And Why It Matters.” With Erika Rosebrook and Eric Scorsone. *Journal Article in Progress*.

“The Evolving Dimensional Structure of Federal Attention to Urban Problems ... Or How to Talk About Cities When You Really Need to Talk About Cities.” With Samuel Workman. *Journal Article in Progress*.

“The Determinants of Policy Punctuations: Executive Power and Institutional Friction in U.S. City Governments.” *Journal Article in Progress*.

OTHER WRITING

“InnovateGov in Detroit: Connecting the University’s Most Vital Resource to a City’s Most Urgent Challenges.” 2020. With Kesicia Dickinson, Marty Jordan, and Sarah Reckhow. *Urban Affairs Forum*. January 8.

<https://urbanaffairsreview.com/2020/01/08/innovategov-in-detroit-connecting-the-universitys-most-vital-resource-to-a-citys-most-urgent-challenges/>

“Detroit and Flint Keep Relying on Private Money to Solve Public Problems. Why?” 2018. With Sarah Reckhow and Davia Downey. *Washington Post Monkey Cage*. November 27.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2018/11/27/detroit-and-flint-keep-relying-on-private-money-to-solve-public-problems-why/>

“State Takeovers Do Little to Help Cash-Strapped Cities Like Flint.” 2016. With Eric Scorsone. *The Conversation*. January 29. <https://theconversation.com/state-takeovers-do-little-to-help-cash-strapped-cities-like-flint-53482>

“Hard out There for Michigan Cities: A View From the Revenue Side.” 2016. With Daniel Casey-Dunn and Eric Scorsone. *Michigan Policy Wonk*. March 10.

<https://ippsr.msu.edu/public-policy/michigan-wonk-blog/hard-out-there-michigan-cities-view-revenue-side>

“Subprime Cities: The Political Economy of Mortgage Markets.” 2013. Edited by Manuel B. Aalbers. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012. 360p. *Perspectives on Politics* 11 (03): 964-966.

“Response to the ‘Black Hole’ Debate.” 2008. With Bryan D. Jones and Michelle Wolfe. *Urban News: Newsletter of the Urban Politics Section of the American Political Science Association* 22(1): 16-19.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Service-Learning and Civic Engagement Award. 2017. Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement, Michigan State University.

Provosts’ Undergraduate Research Initiative (Undergraduate Recipient: Daniel Casey-Dunn). 2014-2015. College of Social Science, Michigan State University. \$2,000.

Provosts’ Undergraduate Research Initiative (Undergraduate Recipient: Sean Fitzpatrick). 2013-2014. College of Social Science, Michigan State University. \$2,000.

Theodore Lowi Prize for Best Article in *Policy Studies Journal*. 2012. For “Constructing Homeland Security: An Anemic Policy Regime.” With Peter J. May and Ashley E. Jochim. Public Policy Section, American Political Science Association.

Norton Long Young Scholars Award. 2011. Urban Politics Section, American Political Science Association.

Provosts’ Undergraduate Research Initiative (Undergraduate Recipient: Brittany Albaugh). 2010-2011. College of Social Science, Michigan State University. \$2,000.

Best Dissertation Award. 2010. Urban Politics Section, American Political Science Association.

Stone Scholar Award. 2010. Urban Politics Section, American Political Science Association.

Graduate Student Teaching Prize. 2006. Awarded to Graduate Teaching Assistant with Highest Teaching Evaluations for the Academic Year. Department of Political Science, University of Washington.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

MDE Conscious Practitioner Summer Institute. “Policy Mapping: A Useful Tool to Help Raise Your (Political) Consciousness.” Kellogg Conference Center, MSU, East Lansing, Michigan. 2018.

MSU Alumni Association Club Leader Summit/Alumni University. “Cultivating Governance in Detroit: MSU’s InnovateGov Program.” Abrams Planetarium, East Lansing, Michigan. 2018.

Coffee with the Profs. “InnovateGov: Cultivating the Next Generation of Community Leaders.” Madison Building – Bedrock Detroit, Detroit, Michigan, 2018.

Mackinac Policy Conference. “Designed To Fail: The Origins of Michigan’s Urban Crisis.” Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, Michigan, 2017.

Faculty Emeriti Lecture Speaker Series. “The Flint Water Crisis: A Journey for Justice.” (with Mona Hanna-Attisha). Michigan State University. East Lansing, Michigan, 2017.

Council of Michigan Foundations Annual Conference: Big Thoughts, Quick Talks. “Designed To Fail: State Politics, State Policies, and the Origins of the New Urban Crisis”. Ypsilanti, Michigan, 2016.

Michigan Municipal League Conference: “Michigan’s Great Disinvestment: How State Policies Have Forced Our Communities into Fiscal Crisis” Michigan Municipal League Capital Office, Lansing, Michigan, 2016.

Institute for Public Policy and Social Research-Public Policy Forum: “Flint Water Crisis: Health, Governance, and Infrastructure.” Michigan State University. Anderson House Office Building, Lansing, Michigan, 2016.

Innovative Governance Of Large Urban Systems [IGLUS], The Economic Challenge: Decline, Renewal, and Sustainability, “The Rules of the Game: Government Form, Intergovernmental Context, and the Governance of Large Urban Systems.” Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, 2015.

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Congress Project-Comparative Urban Studies Project Seminar, “National Urban Policy: Is a New Day Dawning?” Washington, DC, 2010.

Seattle University, “Sports and the City (of Seattle): How to Frame the Public Subsidization of Private Stadiums.” Seattle, Washington, 2005.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

“Policy Punctuations in American Cities.” 2016. Paper Prepared for Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL

“Determinants of Punctuated Policy Change: Evidence from City Governments.” 2014. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 28-31, Washington, DC.

“Putting Financially Distressed Cities in Their Place: Exploring How State Governments Structure the Fiscal Conditions of City Governments.” 2014. With Danielle Kaminski, Eric Scorsone, Mary Doidge, Erika Rosebrook, Traci Taylor. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management, October 2-4, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

“The Institutional Determinants of Policy Punctuations.” 2013. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 30 – September 2, Chicago, IL.

“Institutional Design and Fiscal Policy Interdependence.” 2012. With Laura A. Reese and Minting Ye. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, April 18-21, Pittsburgh, PA.

“Mayoral Power and City Policy Change.” 2012. With Megan Johnson and Young-Shin Park. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 12-15, Chicago, IL.

“Dimensionality, Issue Attention, and Agenda Dynamics: The Case of Federal Urban Policy.” 2011. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 1-4, Seattle, WA.

“Why Some Institutions Produce More Punctuated Outputs Than Others: Institutional Costs and Urban Policy Agendas.” 2011. Paper Presented at the Annual Comparative Agendas Conference, University of Catania, Catania, Italy, June 23-25, 2011.

“Reconsidering the Life and Alleged Death of Federal Urban Policy.” 2010. Paper Presented at the Fall Meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, November 4-6, Washington, DC.

- “Structured Complexity in Policy Agendas.” 2010. With Samuel Workman. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2-5, Washington, DC.
- “How Issue Dimensions Structure Policy Attention.” 2010. With Samuel Workman. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 22-25, Chicago, IL.
- “The Evolution of National Urban Policy: Congressional Agendas, Presidential Power, and Public Opinion.” 2009. Paper Presented at the Fall Meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, November 5-7, Washington, DC.
- “Reconstructing National Urban Policy: Why Policy Agendas Matter.” 2009. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 3-6, Toronto, ON, Canada.
- “Urban Development, Urban Venues: Does Theory Match Institutional Reality?” 2009. With James M. Smith. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, March 4-7, Chicago, IL.
- “The Contours of Homeland Security Policy.” 2008. With Peter J. May and Ashley E. Jochim. Paper Presented at the Fall Meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, November 6-8, Los Angeles, CA.
- “Policy Disruption and Interest Mobilization: The Terrorism Bugaboo.” 2008. With Peter J. May and Samuel Workman. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 28-31, Boston, MA.
- “Venue Shopping and Institutional Formation in Urban Governance.” 2008. With James M. Smith. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, April 23-26, Baltimore, MD.
- “Taking it to the State: Creating Capacity or Containing Conflict?” 2008. With James M. Smith. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 3-6, Chicago, IL.
- “Policy Disruption Across Subsystems: Terrorism, Public Risks, and Homeland Security.” 2007. With Peter J. May and Samuel Workman. Paper Presented at the Fall Meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, November 8-10, Washington, DC.
- “Homeland Security: More or Less Coherent?” 2007. With Peter J. May and Samuel Workman. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 28-September 2, Chicago, IL.
- “Developing Urban Regime Capacity.” 2007. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, April 25-28, Seattle, WA.
- “Rhetorical Strategy in Seattle’s Sports Stadium Debates.” 2007. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 12-15, Chicago, IL.
- “Organizing Attention: Federal Preparedness Agendas and Organizational Change.” 2006. With Samuel Workman, Peter J. May, and Bryan D. Jones. Presented at the National Science Foundation Human and Social Dynamics Investigator Meeting, Washington DC.
- “Is Urban Politics a Black Hole?” 2006. With Bryan D. Jones and Michelle A. Wolfe. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 30-September 2, Philadelphia, PA.

“Framing the Initiative: Strategic Rhetoric in State Initiative Campaigns.” 2006. With Graeme Boushey. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 30-September 2, Philadelphia, PA.

“Policy Coherence and Policy Design.” 2005. With Peter J. May and Samuel Workman. Paper Presented at the Fall Meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, November 3-5, Washington, D.C.

“Assessing Policy Coherence.” 2005. With Peter J. May and Samuel Workman. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 1-4, Washington, D.C.

“Reaching Out to Society: Lessons from Green Building.” 2005. With Peter J. May and Chris Koski. Poster Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center, April 27, Berkeley, CA.

TEACHING

Michigan State University

InnovateGov: Overcoming Governance Challenges in Detroit: PLS 422 & PLS 494 (Summer 2015, Summer 2016, Summer 2017, Summer 2018, Summer 2019)

Public Policy: PPL 807 (Fall 2009, Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Fall 2018)

American Public Policy: PLS 313 (Spring 2010, Fall 2013, Spring 2015, Fall 2015)

Policy Innovation in American Cities: PLS 422 (Fall 2015)

Research Seminar on Policy Innovation and US Federalism: PLS 481H (Fall 2017)

Honors American Public Policy: PLS 313h (Fall 2011, Fall 2016,)

Policy Workshop: PPL 890 (Spring 2012, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018)

Agenda-Setting: PLS 910 (Spring 2011)

Political Institutions and Policy Change: PLS 920 (Fall 2012)

University of Washington

Center for Instructional Development and Research Workshops: Planning and Facilitating Discussions; Presenting Information Effectively (September 2006)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Michigan State University

Chair, Political Science Advisory Committee, 2018-present. Department of Political Science, Michigan State University.

Chair, Public Policy Task Force, 2018-present. College of Social Science, Michigan State University.

Member, Detroit Impact Team, 2017-present. Michigan State University.

Chair, Internship Coordinating Committee. 2015-2017. Department of Political Science, Michigan State University.

Member, MSU Thrive Local Advisory Council. 2015-present.

Chair, Development Committee. 2014-2015. Department of Political Science, Michigan State University.

Member, Political Science Advisory Committee. 2013-2014. Department of Political Science, Michigan State University.

Co-Chair, External Review Task Force. 2013. Department of Political Science, Michigan State University.

Placement Coordinator. 2011-2013. Department of Political Science, Michigan State University.

Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2015-present. Department of Political Science, Michigan State University.

Graduate Studies Committee. 2012-2015. Department of Political Science, Michigan State University.

Graduate Professionalization Committee. 2010-2012. Department of Political Science, Michigan State University.

Public Policy Field Committee. 2009-present. Department of Political Science, Michigan State University.

Master of Public Policy Advisory Committee. 2009-2013; 2015-2016; 2018-present. Department of Political Science, Michigan State University.

Faculty Advisor, Masters of Public Policy Student Society, 2011-2013, Department of Political Science, Michigan State University.

University of Washington

Focus Group on Student Learning. 2009. Office of Educational Assessment, University of Washington.

Political Science Graduate Student Association President. 2006-2007. Department of Political Science, University of Washington.

Center for American Politics and Public Policy Research Colloquium Director. 2006-2007. Department of Political Science, University of Washington.

Undergraduate Program Committee. 2005-2006. Department of Political Science, University of Washington.

PHD STUDENT ADVISING

Erika Rosebrook. Chait. Assistant Professor, Michigan State University.

Michael Thom. Committee member. Assistant Professor (Fixed term), Price School of Public Policy, University of Southern California.

Twyla Blackmond-Larnell. Committee member. Assistant Professor, Loyola University, Chicago.

Erin Krcatovich. Committee member. Assistant Professor, Indiana University South Bend.

Jason Kalmbach. Committee member. Postdoctoral Fellow, North Carolina State University.

Melanie Bowers. Committee member. Assistant Professor, Rutgers University, Camden.

Jerry Lavery. Committee member. Democracy Fellow, USAID Office of Policy, Washington, DC.

Brian Kennedy. Committee member. Researcher, Pew Research Center, Washington, DC.

Ji Young Jang. Committee member. In progress.

Erica Briggs. Committee member. In progress.

Jonathan King. Committee member. In progress.

Aliyah McIlwain. Committee member. In progress.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Service

Mini Conference Speaker. "Is Urban Politics *Still* a Black Hole?" Urban and Local Politics. 2017. American Political Science Association.

Short Course Speaker, Short Course #30: Of Cities and Governance: New Theoretical Approaches to Urban Governance, Urban and Local Politics. 2016. American Political Science Association.

Best Dissertation Award Committee, Urban and Local Politics. 2016. American Political Science Association.

Section Chair, Graduate Student Research and Career Development. 2014. Southern Political Science Association.

Best Paper Award Committee, Comparative Public Policy. 2012. Midwest Political Science Association.

Best Book Award Committee, Urban and Local Politics. 2012. American Political Science Association.

Best Dissertation Award Committee, Urban and Local Politics. 2011. American Political Science Association.

Section Chair, Public Policy. 2011. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting.

Reviewer

American Journal of Political Science; Journal of Politics; Perspective on Politics; Policy Studies Journal; Political Research Quarterly; Journal of Public Policy; Urban Affairs Review; Journal of Urban Affairs; Polity; State and Local Government Review; Publius: The Journal of Federalism; Policy Sciences

Membership

American Political Science Association (APSA) – Sections: Public Policy, Urban Politics, State and Local Politics, Political Methodology; Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA); Urban Affairs Association (UAA); Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM); Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)