

John D. Wilkerson

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My most recent book is *Congress and the Politics of Problem Solving* (Cambridge 2012, with E. Scott Adler). We examine the issue agenda in Congress and find that it is problem-driven rather than preference-driven. We argue, among other things, that short term authorizations address a credible commitment problem and encourage investments in policy maintenance activities (problem-solving).

Research interests: Legislative politics, agenda setting, computational social science, health politics

Current Affiliation

- Professor of Political Science, University of Washington
 - Director, Center for American Politics and Public Policy (cappp.org)
 - Executive Committee member, Center for Statistics in the Social Sciences
 - Affiliate, eScience Institute

Education

- 1991 Ph.D. University of Rochester (American Politics, Methodology)
 - Dissertation: *The Evolution of Strategy: A Case Study of Congressional Pay Raise Politics* (Committee: Richard Fenno, Larry Bartels, Randall Calvert)
- 1988 M.A. University of Arizona (Public Policy)
- 1984 B.A. Portland State University

Previous Affiliations and Appointments

- Associate Professor, University of Washington (9/16/2000-2011)
- Visiting Scholar, University of Barcelona (9/1/2007-2/28/2008)
- Visiting Scholar, University of Aarhus, Denmark (1/31/2000-5/31/2001)

- Robert Wood Johnson Scholar, University of California, Berkeley (9/16/1994-6/30/1996)
- Assistant Professor, University of Washington (12/16/1991-9/15/2000)
- Acting Assistant Professor, University of Washington (9/16/1990-12/15/1991)

Fellowships and Awards

- 2015 Award of Excellence, *Communication Arts* Interactive, and 18 Best Infographics of 2014 from *Fast Company* for Legislative Explorer (with Christian Marc Schmidt and Nicholas Stramp).
- 2013 Exemplary Research Award, National Council of Social Studies (for “Rethinking Advanced High School Coursework”) (with Walter Parker, Susan Mosborg, John Brandsford, Nancy Vye and Robert Abbott)
- 2011 Finalist, *James D. Clowes Teaching Award for Learning Communities* (UW)
- 2007-08 *Ministerio de Educacion Y Ciencia Investigadore Extranjeros* (Government of Spain)
- 2007 *Best Educational Website*, APSA Information and Technology section [Policy Agendas Project]
- 2002 *Best Educational Website*, APSA Information and Technology section [LegSim]
- 2000 *Institute For Teaching Excellence*, University of Washington
- 1994-96 *Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research*, UC/Berkeley
- 1990 *Richard D. Irwin* Dissertation Fellowship in the Social Sciences
- 1986-89 *Rush Rhees* Doctoral Fellowship, University of Rochester
- 1986 *Best Graduate Teaching Assistant*, University of Rochester

Courses Taught

Undergraduate

Introduction to American Politics
U.S. Congress
State Politics
Legislative Research
Strategy in Politics
Undergraduate Research Fellows

Graduate

Legislative Politics
American Core
Applied Game Theory
Text as Data

Peer Review Journal Articles and Books (chronological)

- Book. *Congress and the Politics of Problem Solving*, Cambridge University Press (Dec. 2012) (with E. Scott Adler)
- “Tracing the Flow of Policy Ideas in Legislation: A Text Reuse Approach” (forthcoming) *American Journal of Political Science* (with David Smith and Nick Stramp)
- “Legislative Explorer: Data-driven discovery of lawmaking” (forthcoming) *PS: Political Science and Politics* 48:1 (with Nick Stramp)
- “Overview of the 2014 NLP Unshared Task in PolilInformatics.” In *Proceedings of the ACL 2014 Workshop on Language Technologies and Computational Social Science*, pages 5–7, Baltimore, MD, June 2014. (with Noah A. Smith, Claire Cardie, and Anne L. Washington)
- “Staying Focused: Tracing the flow of ideas from the Online Parliament to Canberra” (2013) in Lyn Carson and John Gastil eds. *The Australian Citizens’ Parliament and the Future of Deliberative Democracy*. Penn State University Press. (with John Gastil)
- “Textual Predictors of Bill Survival in Congressional Committees” 2012 (June). *Proceedings of the Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics*. (with Noah Smith and Tae Yano, Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University.)
- “Tradeoffs in Accuracy and Efficiency in Supervised Learning Methods” 2012. *Journal of Information Technology and Politics*, 9(3): 298-318. (with Loren Collingwood)
- “Rethinking Advanced High School Coursework: Tackling the Depth/Breadth Tension in the AP US Government and Politics Course.” 2011. *Journal of Curriculum Studies*, 43:4, 533-559 (with John Bransford, Susan Mosborg, Walter Parker, Nancy Vye and Robert Abbott)
- “Comparative Studies of Policy Dynamics” 2011. *Comparative Political Studies*, 44(8): 947-972. (with Frank Baumgartner and Bryan Jones).
- “Le Projet Agendas Compares: Objectifs et Contenus.” 2009. *Revue Internationale de Politique Comparee*, 16(3): 365-379. (with Frank Baumgartner, Sylvain Brouard, Laura Chaques, Christopher Green-Pedersen, Emiliano Grossman, Bryan D. Jones, Arco Timmermans, Stefaan Walgrave)
- “Comparer Les Productions Legislatives: Enjeux et Methods.” 2009. *Revue Internationale de Politique Comparee*, 16(3): 381-404. (with Sylvain Brouard, Frank Baumgartner, Arco Timmermans, Shaun Bevans, Geraard Breeman, Christian Breunig, Laura Chaques, Christopher Green-Pedersen, Will Jennings, Peter John, Bryan D. Jones, David Lowery)

- “Representation and American Governing Institutions.” 2009. *Journal of Politics*, 71: 277-290 (with Bryan Jones and Heather Larsen-Price).
- Edited Volume. *Text Annotation for Political Science*. 2008. *Journal of Information Technology and Politics*, 5(1). (with Claire Cardie, Computing and Information Sciences, Cornell)
- “Computer assisted Topic Classification for Mixed Methods Social Science Research” 2008. *Journal of Information Technology and Politics*, 4(4): 31-46 (with Dustin Hillard, UW Electrical Engineering, and Stephen Purpura, Computing and Information Sciences, Cornell)
- “Intended Consequences? Jurisdictional Reform and Issue Control in the U.S. House of Representatives.” 2008. *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 33(1): 85-114. (with E. Scott Adler)
- “Simulating A Federal Legislature” 2006. *Academic Exchange*. 10(4). (with Ruth Fruland)
- “How Agenda-setting Attributes Shape Politics: Problem Attention, Agenda Dynamics and Comparative Health Policy Developments in the U.S. and Denmark.” 2006. *Journal of European Public Policy*, 13(7): 1039-52. (with Christoffer Green-Pedersen)
- “The Political Economy of Health in the United States” 2003. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 6: 327-43.
- “Killer Amendments in Congress.” 1999. *American Political Science Review*, 93(3): 1-18.
- Edited Book. *Competitive Managed Care: The Emerging Health Care System* 1997. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass/Wiley. (with Kelly Devers and Ruth Givens)
- “Money and Medicine: The American Medical PAC’s Strategy of Giving in House Races.” 1999. *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law*, 24(2): 235-55. (with David Carrell)
- “National Health Care Reform, 103rd Congress: A Description of the Activities and Influence of Public Health Activists.” Public Policy Forum. 1997. *American Journal of Public Health*, 87(7): 1107-12. (with Helen Halpin Schauffler)
- “Local Television News Coverage of President Clinton’s Introduction of the Health Security Act.” 1996. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 275(15): 1201-1205. (with Lori Dorfman, Helen Halpin Schauffler, and Judith Feinson)
- “The Electoral Connection in the Early Congress: The Case of the Compensation Act of 1816.” 1996. *American Journal of Political Science*, 40(1): 145-171. (with William Bianco and David Spence)
- “The Analysis of Committee Power: A Critique.” 1991. *American Journal of Political Science*, 35(3): 613-23.
- “Reelection and Representation in Conflict: The Case of Agenda Manipulation.” 1990. *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 15(2): 263-282.

Invited Submissions; Chapters, and Other Published Writings

- “The Ties that Bind: Coalitions in Congress” 2011. Eric Shickler and Frances Lee, eds, *Oxford Handbook of Congress*. Oxford University Press. Chapter 27 (with Barry Pump)
- *Project-based advanced placement courses: AP U.S. Government and Politics* (Technical Report). 2009. Seattle: University of Washington LIFE Center. Mosborg, S., Bransford, J., Abbott, R., Vye, N., Parker, W., & Wilkerson, J.
- “The Biggest Problem Facing Congress? Ex-members say: Itself.” *Roll Call : The Newspaper of Capitol Hill* October 26, 2006 (with E. Scott Adler)
- “Doing the Right Thing: Collective Action and Procedural Choice in the New Legislative Process “ (Book Review). 2005. *Perspectives on Politics*. 3:893-894.
- “Social Choice: Implications for the fairness of voting methods in general and proposal evaluation methods in particular.” 2004. Prepared for Washington State Department of Public Lands/ Interagency Commission. CAPP Working Paper.
- "Studying Policy Dynamics." (with Bryan D. Jones and Frank Baumgartner) in Frank Baumgartner and Bryan D. Jones eds *Policy Dynamics* (University of Chicago, 2002)
- "Using Bills to Trace Attention in Congress: Policy Windows in Health Care Legislating." (with T. Jens Feeley, Christi Sue, and Nicole Schiereck) in Frank Baumgartner and Bryan D. Jones eds, *Policy Dynamics* (University of Chicago, 2002)
- “Que Le Bien Triomphe: Le Proces en Destitution Du President Clinton” (with Bryan D. Jones) *Pouvoirs*, Fall 1999.
- “Competing Principals: Committees, Parties and the Organization of Congress.” (Book Review) 1997. *Congress and the Presidency*, 24: 229-30
- “Contributions from the American Medical Political Action Committee to Members of Congress. (Letters)” 1994. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 330(22): 1614.
- “Congressional Procedure and Practice: A Reference, Research, and Legislative Guide.” (book review) 1991. *American Political Science Review*, 85(1): 303-4.
- “Compactness and the 1980s Districts in the Indiana State House: Evidence of Political Gerrymandering?” 1990. in *Political Gerrymandering and the Courts*. New York: Agathon Press. Pp. 255-65. (with Richard Niemi)

Published Conference and Working Papers

- Jason Chuang, Yuening Hu, Ashley Jin, John D. Wilkerson, Daniel A. McFarland, Christopher D. Manning, and Jeffrey Heer. “Document Exploration with Topic Modeling: Designing Interactive Visualizations to Support Effective Analysis Workflows.” Workshop on Topic Models, Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS). Lake Tahoe, Nevada, 2013

- “The US Policy Agendas Legislation Corpus – Volume 1: A Language Resource from 1947-1998.” Prepared for the *2008 International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC)* Marrakech, May 26-June 1. (with Stephen Purpura and Dustin Hillard)
- “A Needs Analysis for Instructional Support in LegSim.” prepared for *International Perspectives in the Learning Sciences*, Utrecht, June 24-28 2008 (with Mahesh Joshi, Xui Wang and Carolyn Penstein Rose (Dept of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon))
- “Comparing Governmental Agendas: Evolution of the Prioritization of Issues in Spain and the U.S.” 2008. IBEI Working Paper (with Laura Chaques, Luz Maria Munoz Marquez and Anna Maria Palau Roque, University of Barcelona).
- Measuring State Party Ideology (Development of the National Elections Study (NES) party ideology variable). University of Rochester Public Policy Analysis Series, #8911. 1989. (with Larry Bartels)

Awarded Grants

- EScience Incubator (University of Washington, 2014-15) Provides computer science assistance on a big data research project (with Magda Balazinski and Emily Gade)
- \$498,353 National Science Foundation, *PI-NET: Poli-Informatics Research Network* 2012-15
- \$236,422 National Science Foundation, *The Progress of Policy Ideas: Tracing Legislative Language in the Congressional Landscape*. 2012-15
- \$30, 628 UW Royalty Research Fund. 2012
- \$24,000 National Science Foundation, *Comparative Agendas Project Workshop*. 2010-11. Principal Investigator
- \$49,000 National Science Foundation, *Tools for Text Training Workshop*. 2009-10. Principal Investigator
- \$18,000 George Lucas Educational Foundation and William H. Gates Foundation. For the development and assessment of an Advanced Placement Government curriculum emphasizing informal learning environments. 2010-11. (Co-investigator; John Bransford of the UW LIFE Center is the P.I.)
- \$3, 000 Dirksen Center for Congressional Studies, *Development Support for LegSim: U.S. Senate*, Robert H. Michel Special Project Grant. Awarded March 2006. Principal Investigator
- \$49, 986, UW Technology Gap Innovation Fund (TGIF), “Desktop Democracy: Versioning Simulation Software for the American Politics Marketing.” Awarded January, 2005. Principal Investigator (with John Gastil)
- \$51,736 The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, *Development of LEGSIM: Legislative Simulation and Election Day: Election Simulation*, Awarded November, 2003. Principal Investigator (with John Gastil)

- \$750,000 National Science Foundation, *Collaborative Research: Database Development for the Study of Public Policy*. January, 2002-December 2009. Co-PI with Bryan D. Jones; Principal Investigator 2009.
- \$215,000 National Science Foundation, *Collaborative Research on Congressional Committee Jurisdictions, Gatekeeping and Agenda Setting*. July 2000-June 2002. Principal Investigator (with E. Scott Adler)
- \$18,500 National Science Foundation, REU (Research Experience for Undergraduates) Supplemental. September 2000 - August 2001. Principal Investigator
- \$19,272 UW Royalty Research Fund, "Policy Interest and Legislative Responsiveness: Bill Introductions as Indicators of Issue Responsiveness." (Awarded but declined due to NSF grant.) Principal Investigator
- \$5,000 "Design and Development of LEGSIM, an on-line legislative simulation" *UW Office of Undergraduate Education*. 2000. Principal Investigator

Databases and Technology Projects

- Legislative Explorer (www.legex.org) Data-driven visualization of congressional lawmaking (1973-present). Public, teaching, and research resource. 2015 Award of Excellence, *Communication Arts* Interactive, and 18 Best Infographics of 2014 from *Fast Company*. (with Nick Stramp and Christian Marc Schmidt)
- IdeaTracer (<http://cappp.org/ideatracer3/vis.html>) Interactive tool for exploring and labeling aligned text between laws and bills. A work in progress!
- AUTH Relational database linking provisions of laws to the U.S. Code to proposed and enacted regulations, 1995-present (with Kevin Shotwell)
- Congressional Bills Project (www.congressionalbills.org). MYSQL database archiving and sharing extensive information about the topics, progress and sponsors of over 400,000 congressional bills, 1947-present. Collaborator: E. Scott Adler (U. Colorado)
- LegSim: Legislative Simulation (www.legsim.org). An Internet-based virtual legislature platform originally developed in 2001. Used by thousands of high school and colleges students across the nation every academic year. Collaborator: Sean Kellogg
- Policy Agendas Project (www.policyagendas.org) Designed on-line analysis tools for on the fly investigations of national public policy developments from 1946 to the present. Collaborators: Bryan D. Jones (University of Texas - Austin); Frank Baumgartner (University of North Carolina) . See also Comparative Agendas Project (www.comparativeagendas.info)
- RTextTools. An R wrapper for an ensemble of supervised learning algorithms. Loren Collingwood was the developer. [A new team has taken over the project (see www.RTextTools.com)]

Service to National Political Science Organizations

- Senior Editorial Board, *Journal of Information Technology and Politics* (2006-present)
- Secretary/Treasurer, Legislative Studies Section, American Political Science Association (2005-07)
- Editorial Board, *Political Research Quarterly* (2002-06)
- Conference section coordinator, Midwest Political Science Association, Western Political Science Association
- Reviews for National Science Foundation, American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Political Research Quarterly, American Politics Quarterly, Journal of Information Technology and Politics and the National Science Foundation

Workshop and Conference Coordination

- Principal Investigator, PolInformatics.org (2012-2015)
- Co-coordinator (with Stuart Shulman), JITP Annual Conference (*The Future of Computational Social Science*), University of Washington (May 2011)
- Co-coordinator (with Daniel Diermeier), 2nd Annual *Text as Data* Conference, Northwestern University (March 2010)
- PI and co-coordinator (with Phil Schrodt), *Tools for Text* Workshop, University of Washington, June 14-15, 2010
- PI and coordinator, *Comparative Agendas Project* Conference, University of Washington, June 17-19, 2010
- Workshop Participant, Center for Advance Study in the Behavioral Sciences (Stanford), Palo Alto June 21-25, 2010
- Co-coordinator (with Daniel Diermeier), 1st Annual *Text as Data* Conference, Northwestern University (March 2009)
- Co-coordinator (with Christoffer Green-Pederson) *European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)* Workshop (Agenda Setting), Cyprus 2006

Recent Selected Talks

- eScience Institute (UW) 2014
- Northeastern University 2014
- New Directions in Text as Data – London School of Economics (2013)

C.V. – John D. Wilkerson

- Hertie School of Governance, Berlin (2013)
- University of Pennsylvania (2013)
- Center for Statistics in the Social Sciences (CSSS – UW) (2013)
- New Directions in Text as Data - Harvard (2012)
- Duke University (PIPC) (2011)