TRACEE SAUNDERS

https://traceesaunders.com ⋄ ts1346@georgetown.edu

APPOINTMENTS

Pennsylvania State University

- Assistant Professor, **Department of Political Science** — starting Aug 2024
- Research Faculty, **Social Science Research Institute** — starting Aug 2024

Georgetown University

- Better Government Lab Research Fellow, **McCourt School of Public Policy** — Jan 2021-July 2024

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science, University of Iowa *2024*
Fields: American Politics, Political Methodology, Health Policy (minor)

Dissertation Title: Inaccessible by Design? Administrative Burden and the Politics of Medicaid Take-up

Dissertation Committee: Frederick Boehmke (Chair), Rene Rocha, Julianna Pacheco, Bryce Dietrich (Purdue University), and Jamila Michener (Cornell University)

M.S. Health Informatics, University of Iowa *2023*

M.A. Political Science, University of Iowa *2020*

Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analytics *2019*
Advanced Machine Learning and Spatial Econometrics

B.A. Public Policy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill *2016*

AWARDS

- Paul Volcker Junior Scholar Award, American Political Science Association (APSA) — 2022

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

- **American Politics**: Institutions, Bureaucracy, State & Local Politics, Federalism, Social & Economic Inequality
- **Public Policy**: Politics of Public Policy, Policy Design, Policy Implementation, Health & Social Safety Net Policies, Administrative Burden
- **Public Health**: Access to Health Services, Medicaid, Social Determinants of Health, Health as a policy outcome
- **Statistical Methods and Analysis Tools**: Network Analysis, Machine Learning, Text Analysis, Duration Analysis, Maximum Likelihood Estimation, Multilevel Modeling, Geographic Information Systems

PUBLICATIONS

- Boehmke, F., Desmarais, B., Eastman, A., Grassel, I., Harden, J., Harper, S., Kaboli, L., Ko, H., Oster, E., & **Saunders, T.** (2023) SPRC19: A Database of State Policy Responses to COVID-19 in the United States. (alphabetical author order). *Scientific Data.* 10(1), 526.

- Kreitzer, R., Smith, C.W., Kane, K., & **Saunders, T.** (2023). O04Prevalent but not inevitable: mapping contraception deserts across the american states. *Contraception*, 116, 70. [***Awarded the Society for Family Planning's 2022 Outstanding Researcher award***]

- Kreitzer, R., Smith, C.W. Kane, K. & **Saunders, T.** (2022) Contraception Deserts: The Effects of Title X Rule Changes on Access to Reproductive Healthcare Resources. *Politics & Gender*, 18(3), 672-707.

- Kreitzer, R., Smith, C.W. Kane, K. & **Saunders, T.** (2021) Affordable, but Inaccessible: Using the Two-Step Floating Catchment Area Method to Measure Policy Accessibility in the U.S. *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law*, 46(2), 277-304. [***Selected News Coverage: Washington Post, PBS News Hour, the Economist. 2nd most downloaded paper in Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law 2021***]

ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

- Oversight from Above or Below? Legislators, Legislatures, and Political Influence on Agencies. (with Boehmke, F., Shipan, C. & Goehring, B.)

- Reducing Administrative Burdens in Social Safety Net Programs Reduces Mortality. (with Hemmeter, J., Herd, P., Jilke, S., Moynihan, & Safran, E.)

WORKING PAPERS

- Limited Bandwidth for Burdens: How Concentrated Disadvantage and Internet Access Affect Medicaid Enrollment.

- What Makes a Leader? A Role Analysis of Latent Diffusion Networks. (with Lacombe, S.)

- Reducing Administrative Burdens in Social Safety Net Programs Reduces Mortality. (with Hemmeter, J., Herd, P., Jilke, S., Moynihan, & Safran, E.)

- County-Level Healthcare Capacity, Medicaid Outlays, and Racial Disparities in Mortality (with Olvera Esquival, J. and Smith, C.)

- Do Policy Diffusion Patterns Differ by Policy Type? A Latent Diffusion Network Approach. (with Harden, J. & Boehmke, F.)

- Comparing Networks: How Methods from the Natural Sciences Can Be Applied in Public Policy and Political Science. (with Harden, J., Boehmke, F., & Desmarais, B.)

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- **Saunders, T.** (2020) A Baffled Southerner at the Caucus. *Scalawag Magazine.*

- **Saunders, T.**, Kreitzer, R., & Smith, C.W. & (2018). Variation in Title X Leads to Contraception Deserts. *The Gender Policy Report.*

- **Saunders, T.** (2016). Patients, not Consumers: Promoting research by limiting tax deduction for pharmaceutical advertising. *The Roosevelt Institute's Ten Ideas for Health Policy.*

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

External

- Co-Principal Investigator for Grant: "Does Social Security Decrease Mortality? The Downstream Health Effects of SSI Take-up," Arnold Ventures ($127,719) — 2023
- Tom Carsey Scholar Grant, APSA State Politics and Policy Section ($300) — 2020, 2022
- Travel Grant, APSA Health Politics and Policy Section ($600) — 2021
- Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation (NSF) ($138,000) — 2020
- Political Networks Fellowship, NSF ($800) — 2018

Internal (University of Iowa)

- Pomerantz Chair Professorship Dissertation Research Grant ($3,200) — 2023
- Summer Research Grant ($2,500) — 2019, 2020, 2021
- Summer Quantitative Training Scholarship ($4,000) — 2019
- Iowa Graduate College Recruitment Fellowship ($30,000) — 2018

INVITED TALKS

- University of Delaware, Biden School of Public Policy (upcoming) — November 2024
- Georgetown University, McCourt School of Public Policy — October 2023
- Russel Sage Foundation Colloquium on Reducing Administrative Burdens — July 2023
- U.S. General Service Administration's Office of Evaluation Sciences — April 2022, August 2022
- University of Wisconsin-Madison, Center for Financial Security — April 2022

CONFERENCES

- American Political Science Association Conference (2021, 2022, 2024)
- Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference (2022, 2023)
- Political Networks Online Colloquium (2023)
- Society for Family Planning Annual Meeting (2022)
- Public Management Research Meeting - DC Area (2022)
- State Politics & Policy Conference (2022)
- Southern Political Science Association Conference (2021)
- COVID-19 PHSMs Data Coverage Conference (2021)
- Political Networks Conference (2019)
- Gender and Political Psychology Conference (2018)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Courses

State and Local Politics, Instructor, The Pennsylvania State University (Fall 2024)

Undergraduate Courses

The Bureaucratic State, Instructor, The Pennsylvania State University (Fall 2024, Spring 2024)

Introduction to Political Analysis, Teaching Assistant, University of Iowa (Spring 2019)

"Hawkeye Poll," Undergraduate Public Opinion Research Supervisor, University of Iowa (Fall 2019)

Political Communication, Teaching Assistant, University of Iowa (Fall 2018)

PROGRAMMING/SOFTWARE SKILLS

Stata (8 years), R (5 years), ArcGIS (5 years) Python (3 years), Java (2 years), SQL (2 years), Bash/Linux/High-Powered Computing (3 years), SAS (working proficiency)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Undergraduate Mentor, The Roosevelt Institute's National Campus Network — 2018-present
- Graduate Student Peer Mentor, Political Science, University of Iowa — 2018-2023
- DEI Advisory Board Member, Graduate College, University of Iowa — 2020-2022
- Prospective Graduate Student Mentor, Graduate Anti-Racist Political Science Collective — 2020-2021

REFERENCES

Frederick Boehmke
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University of Iowa
frederick-boehmke@uiowa.edu

Candis Smith
Professor of Political Science
Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education
Duke University
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Pamela Herd
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