Ray Block Jr.

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Education

June 2006 PhD, Political Science - **The Ohio State University**

June 2002 MA, Political Science - **The Ohio State University**

May 1999 BA, Philosophy; BA, Political Science - **Howard University**

Professional Experience

Research Residents & Specialists (RRS) Department, **RAND** (Affiliated Adjunct Staff, 2023–present)

- Inaugural Michael D. Rich Distinguished Chair for Countering **Truth Decay** (2023–present)

Department of **Political Science** and Department of **Africana Studies**, Pennsylvania State University (Associate Professor, 2019–2024; Professor, 2024–present)

- Laurence and Lynn Brown-McCourtney Endowed Career Professor in the **McCourtney Institute for Democracy** (2021–present)

Department of **Political Science** and **African American and Africana Studies** Program, University of Kentucky (Associate Professor, 2017–2019)

Department of **Political Science and Public Administration**, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse (Assistant Professor, 2010–2014; Associate Professor, 2014–2017)

Department of **Political Science**, Florida State University (Assistant Professor, 2006–2010)

Department of **Political Science and International Relations**, Middle Tennessee State University (Pre-Doctoral Fellow, 2005–2006)

Publications

Link to Ray Block's **Google Scholar** profile

Books

Interaction Approaches to Intersectionality Theory (monograph with Sona Golder, Matt Golder, and Benjamin J. Radford). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press [as part of the "Methodological Tools in the Social Sciences" series]).

Rebalancing the Information Ecosystem and Renewing Shared Societal Commitments for Information Use ("expert insights" piece with David Luckey, Dennis Murphy, Fernando Esteves, and Clay Strickland). Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation Press, 2025.

Black Networks Matter: The Role of Interracial Contact and Social Media in the 2020 Black Lives Matter Protests (monograph with Matthew Simonson, James N. Druckman, Katherine Ognyanova, and David Lazer). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press (as part of the "Cambridge Elements Series in Contentious Politics"), 2024.

Losing Power: African Americans and Racial Polarization in Tennessee Politics (monograph with Sekou M. Franklin). Athens GA: University of Georgia Press, 2020.

Edited Volumes

The Politics of Protest: Readings on the Black Lives Matter Movement [Routledge Special Issues as Books (SPIBs)] (Edited volume with Nadia Brown and Christopher Stout). Abingdon OX14 4SB: Routledge, 2021.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

"Democratic Organizing and Political Change: Toward a Research Agenda" (with Deva R. Woodly, Daniel J. Galvin, and Hahrie Han). *The Forum.* Published online: August 24, 2026.

"Is There a Policy-Identity Representation Trade-off?" (with Matt Golder). *Political Research Quarterly* 79 (September 2026): 749–764.

"The Classroom as Civic Sanctuary: Teaching, Learning, and the Emotional Labor of Democracy." *Journal of Political Science Education* 22 (January 2026): 405-413.

"'Seeing around Corners': What Oral Histories of the Founders of Black Politics Teach Us about Political Science's Reluctance to Prioritize Research on Black People" (with Harwood K. McClerking). *Politics, Groups, and Identities* (for their special issue, "Flowers for the Founders: A Contemporary Revisiting of Canonical Black Politics Scholarship?") 13(5), 1020–1047.

"Reducing Racial Asymmetries in the Survey Overestimation of Voter Turnout" (with David Barker, Marcus Johnson, and Jan Leighley). *Public Opinion Quarterly* 88 (Fall 2024): 1017–1031.

"The Relationship Between Union Membership and Self-Rated Health Among Racially Diverse U.S. Healthcare Workers: The Role of Control Over Work Schedules and Locations" (with Alein Haro-Ramos and Gabriel R. Sanchez). *Social Science & Medicine* 358 (October 2024): 117254.

"Preferred Information Source Correlates to COVID-19 Risk Misperception" (with Emilia V. Ezrina, Huamei, and Robert P. Lennon). *HLRP: Health Literacy Research and Practice* 7 (June 2023): e105–e110.

"Evaluating Claims of Intersectionality" (with Matt Golder and Sona Golder). The *Journal of Politics* 85 (July 2023): 795–811.

"Race, Employment, and the Pandemic: An Exploration of Covariate Explanations of COVID-19 Case Fatality Rate Variance" (with Christopher Griffin, Justin D. Silverman, Jason Croad, and Robert P. Lennon). *PLOS One*, 18 (February 2023): e0274470.

"Parental Vaccine Hesitancy in Diverse Communities: A National Survey" (with Annabelle de St. Maurice, Peter G. Szilagyi, Gabriel Sanchez, and the African American Research Collaborative 2021 COVID Group). *Academic Pediatrics* (November-December 2022): 1399-1406.

"Perceived Risk, Political Polarization, and Adherence to COVID-19 Mitigation Guidelines" (with Michael Burnham, Kayla Kahn, Rachel Peng, Jeremy Seeman, and Christopher Seto). *Social Science & Medicine*, 305 (July 2022): Article 115091.

"The Self Appraisal of Masking Instrument" (with Eric Plutzer). *Measurement Instruments in the Social Sciences (MISS)* 4 (Published online March 21, 2022).

"Are Americans Less Likely to Reply to Emails from Black People Relative to White People?" (with John Holbein, Charles Crabtree, and Quin Monson). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)* 118 (December 20, 2021): Article e2110347118.

- **"Reply to Mitterer: Conceptual and Empirical Issues that Arise When Using Experiments to Measure Racial Discrimination"** (with John Holbein, Charles Crabtree, and Quin Monson). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)* 119 (August 16, 2022): Article e2210695119.

"Underserved Population Acceptance of Combination Influenza-COVID-19 Booster Vaccines" (with Robert P. Lennon, Eric C. Schneider, Laurie Zephrin, Arnav Shah, and the African American Research Collaborative 2021 COVID Group). *Vaccine* 40(January 28, 2022): 562-567.

"Gender-Blind Sexism and Rape Myth Acceptance: Results from a Nationally Representative Study" (with Laurie Cooper Stoll and Terry Glenn Lilley) *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 36 (June 2021): 5838-5859 (first published online: October 25, 2018).

"Perceived Racial Discrimination, Racial Resentment, and Support for Affirmative Action and Preferential Hiring and Promotion: A Multi-Racial Analysis" (with Maruice Mangum). *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 10 (Issue 4, 2022): 674-695 (first published online: February 28, 2021).

"Americanness and the 'Other' Americans: An Examination of the American Identity and Political Behavior of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the United States" (with Stacey Greene, Gabrielle Gray, and Niambi M. Carter). *National Review of Black Politics* 1 (August 2020): 396–429.

"African American Adherence to COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations" (with Arthur Berg, Robert P. Lennon, Lauren Jodi Van Scoy, Erin L. Miller, Bethany Snyder, and Marcella Nunez-Smith). *HLRP: Health Literacy Research and Practice* 4 (August 2020): e166-e170.

"Gluttons for Punishment? African American Celebrities and the Dilemma of Signaling Pro-Black Political Stances" (with Harwood K. McClerking). *Journal of Race and Social Problems.* 12 (April 2020): 154-170.

"Set in Stone? Predicting Confederate Monument Removal" (with Andrea Benjamin, Jared Clemons, Chryl Laird, and Julian Wamble). *PS: Political Science & Politics* 52 (April 2020): 237–242.

"Fired Up, Ready to Go! The Impact of Campaign Enthusiasm, Civic Duty, and Age Differences on African American Voting (with Jonathan E. Collins)." *Political Behavior* 42 (March 2020 [published online in 2018]): 107–142.

"Role-Model-In-Chief: Understanding a Michelle Obama Effect (with Christina S. Haynes)." *Politics & Gender* 15 (September 2019): 365–402.

"The Fragility of Racial Transcendence: An Analysis of Oprah Winfrey's Endorsement of the Barack Obama 2008 Presidential Campaign" (with Harwood K. McClerking and Chryl Laird). *American Politics Research* 47 (March 2019): 304–328.

"Imagining a Better World: Rap-Music Skepticism and the Civic Activism of Young African Americans" (with Lakeyta M. Bonnette-Bailey and Harwood K. McClerking). *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race* 15 (Fall 2018): 353–385.

"Racial Attitudes and Health Insurance Policy Opinion: An Anglo-Latinx Comparison" (with Daniel Tope and Daniel Lanford) *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics* 3 (September 2018): 409–445.

"Social Identity Theory and Public Opinion towards Immigration" (with Maruice Mangum). *Social Sciences* 7 (March 2018).

"Race, Gender, and Media Coverage of Michelle Obama." *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 5 (April 2017): 161–165.

"Say Our Name (and Say It Right)! Extending Walton et al. on the Evolution of Race in Political Science Scholarship" (with Harwood K. McClerking) *Research & Politics* 3 (April-June 2016): 1–8.

"Intersectionality and Cyberbullying: A Study of Cybervictimization in a Midwestern High School." *Computers in Human Behavior* 52 (November 2015): 387–397.

"Taking to the Airwaves: Using Content Analyses of Survey Toplines and Filmographies to Test the 'Michelle Obama Image Transformation' (MOIT) Hypothesis" (with Christina S. Haynes). *National Po-*

litical Science Review 16 (September 2014): 97–114.

"Writing to Do Democracy: An Investigation of Political Science Undergraduate Writing Performance" (with Ruth Cronje, and Daniel Henke). *Global Education Review* 1 (March 2013): 1–13.

"Understanding the Complex Influence of Religiosity on the Race Gap in Support for Proposition 8" (with Richard Seltzer). *Review of European Studies* 4 (August 2012): 84–94.

"Identity, Bargaining, and Third-Party Mediation" (with David A. Siegel). *International Theory* 3 (September 2011): 416– 417.

"Backing Barack Because He's Black: Racially-Motivated Voting in the 2008 Presidential Election." *Social Science Quarterly* 92 (June 2011): 423–446.

"What about Disillusionment? Exploring the Determinants of Black Nationalism." *Political Behavior* 33 (March 2011): 27–51.

"Managing Monikers: The Role of Name Presentation in the 2008 Presidential Election" (with Chinonye Onwunli) *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 40 (September 2010): 464–481.

Book Chapters

"Back to Our Roots: The Need for More Descriptive Research in Black Politics at the Local Level" (with Andrene Z. Wright). Forthcoming in *New Directions in African American Political Psychology*, an edited volume in Palgrave Macmillan's new series on **African American Politics and Policy**, eds. Camille Burge, Jas Sullivan, and Christine Slaughter (New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan).

"The Intellectual Benefits of Diversity: How Political Science Suffers from Its Lack of Racial Diversity, and How It Can Do Better" (with Chris Clark, Frank Baumgartner, Kaneesha Johnson, and Michael Minta). *The Oxford Handbook of Engaged Methodological Pluralism*, eds. Janet Box-Steffensmeier, Dino Christenson, and Valeria Sinclair-Chapman (Oxford UK: Oxford University Press).

"The 'Obama Effect,' Revisited: A Macro-Level and Longitudinal Exploration of the Influence of Barack Obama's Media Presence on Racialized Political Party Polarization" (with Angela K. Lewis). ***After Obama: African American Politics in the Post-Obama America***, eds. Todd C. Shaw, Robert A. Brown, and Joseph P. McCormick II (New York, NY: NYU Press, 2021).

"Exploring the Oral Histories of African Americans who Support Donald Trump" (with Christina S. Haynes). ***The C-SPAN Archives, 2020: Advancing the Research Agenda***, ed. Robert X. Browning (West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Press, 2020), 67-96.

"Descriptive Representation and Black Political Involvement" (with Christopher J. Clark). ***Gaining Voice: Causes and Consequences of Black Representation in the American States***, by Christopher J. Clark (Oxford University Press, February 2019).

"'Mom-In-Chief' Rhetoric as a Lens for Understanding Policy Advocacy: A Thematic Analysis of Video Footage from Michelle Obama's Speeches" (with Christina S. Haynes). ***The C-SPAN Archives, 2015: Advancing the Research Agenda***, ed. Robert X. Browning (West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Press, 2015), 165–190.

"Some Like It Hot: Toward A Political Climate Explanation of Racial Differences in Political Interest." ***African-American Political Psychology: Identity, Opinion, and Action in the Post-Civil Rights Era***, ed. Tasha Philpot and Ismail K. White (New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), 147–156.

Encyclopedia Entries

"Racial Stereotyping in Political Decision Making." *Oxford Encyclopedia of Politics*, by Zoe Oxley and David Redlawsk, eds. (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2019).

"Urban Politics." ***International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*, 2nd ed**. (Farmington Hills, MI: Thomson Gale, 2007).

Book Reviews

Review of *The Advantage of Disadvantage: Costly Protest and Political Representation for Marginalized Groups*, by LaGina Gause (with Mia Angelica Powell). The *National Review of Black Politics* 3 (July-October 2022): 158–161.

Review of *Steadfast Democrats: How Social Forces Shape Black Political Behavior*, by Ismail K. White, Chryl N. Laird. *National Review of Black Politics* 1 (November 2020): 519–522.

Review of *The Obama Legacy*, by Bert A. Rockman and Andrew Rudalevige, eds. *American Review of Politics* 37 (January 2020): 188–191

Review of *The Obama Victory: How Media, Money, and Message Shaped the 2008 Election*, by Kate Kenski, Bruce W. Hardy, and Kathleen Hall Jamieson. *American Review of Politics* 32 (Spring–Summer 2011): 158–160.

Review of *The New White Nationalism in America: Its Challenge to Integration*, by Carol M. Swain (with Harwood K. McClerking). *National Political Science Review* 10 (2005): 205–207.

Policy Reports and Public Scholarship

"Cognitive Defense at Human Speed." forthcoming in *Small Wars Journal.*

"How My Classroom Became a Laboratory for Countering Truth Decay." *Diverse: Issues In Higher Education*, October 22, 2024.

"Influence and Impact of Unelected Black Women Political Leaders." A brief research summary contributed to the Center for American Women and Politics' *Black Women's Politics Research Spotlight* series.

"Black Americans are less likely to believe election-year falsehoods. Here's why". *The Hill*, July 25, 2024.

"Revealing Disparities: Health Care Workers' Observations of Discrimination against Patients" (with Henry Fernandez, Morenike Ayo-Vaughan, and Laurie C. Zephyrin). *The Commonwealth Fund; Advancing Health Equity/Issue Briefs*, January 18, 2024.

"Art & Activism: A Three-State Case Study" (with Prentiss Haney, Mohammed Memfis, and Tova Wang). A research report to the *Democracy, Power, and Innovation Fund*, June 16, 2023.

The End of the U.S. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency: Q&A with RAND Experts. *The RAND Blog*, May 8, 2023.

"Americans Remain Hopeful about Democracy Despite Fears of Its Demise – And Are Acting on That Hope" (with Mia Angelia Powell and Andrene Wright). *The Conversation*, March 6, 2023.

- Updated and revised (under the new title of **"Americans Still Have Hope for Democracy, Despite Everything"**) and re-published in *Greater Good Magazine.*

"The 'Identity-to-Politics' Link and the *APSR's* Research on Voting Rights." An introductory essay for the *American Political Science Review's* Special Collection on Voting Rights, October 2022.

"The Proposed Legislative Redistricting Map Complies with the Voting Rights Act | Opinion." PennLive-Patriot News, February 23, 2022.

- This op-ed was cited in a **report written by Mark A. Nordenberg** (Chair of The 2021 Pennsylvania Legislative Reapportionment Commission) regarding the Commission's final redistricting plan.

- Reprinted as part of a **"point vs. counterpoint" discussion** in the Saturday/Sunday, March 19-20, 2022 edition of the *Indiana Gazette*.

"Discrimination in the Healthcare System is Leading to Vaccination Hesitancy" (with Gabe Sanchez, Matt Barreto, Henry Fernandez and Ray Foxworth). *Brookings*, October 20, 2021.

"What Do Americans Think About Getting Vaccinated Against COVID-19? Findings from a National Poll" (with Arnav Shah, Eric C. Schneider, Laurie Zephyrin, Matt A. Barreto, Gabriel R. Sanchez, Henry Fernandez). *The Commonwealth Fund; Advancing Health Equity/Issue Briefs*, June 16, 2021.

"Race, the Health Literacy Gap, and COVID-19: Reflections from a Social Scientist Studying "Pandemic Politics." *HLRP: Health Literacy Research and Practice*, 5(May 2021): e121-e123.

"Black People Are in No Rush to Re-Open Economy Despite Financial Hits" (with Brooke Abrams). *TheGRIO*, June 20, 2020.

"How Do You Teach? Here's A Short Course on Black Lives Matter." Monkey Cage - *The Washington Post* (with Nadia Brown and Christopher Stout). June 11, 2020.

"The South Carolina Democratic Primary Will Be Decided by Black Women." *The Hill*, February 25, 2020.

"93 Percent of Confederate Monuments are Still Standing. Here's Why" (with Kathleen Tipler, Tyler Johnson, Tyler Camarillo, Andrea Benjamin, Jared Clemons, Chryl Laird, and Julian Wamble). Monkey Cage - *The Washington Post*, December 16, 2019.

Ethnically Polarized Voting in Medina County, Texas. 2011. Expert witness report to the **Southwest Workers Union** and **Advancement Project**.

"'Usually, But Not Always': A Report on the Race Gap in Political Interest, 1952–2004". NAACP Special Edition, special issue, *The Crisis*, January/February 2007, 13–17.

Unpublished Research

Revise and Resubmit

"Formal Training and Organizational Practices: Recognition of Patient-Facing Racism and Fear of Retaliation among U.S. Healthcare Workers" (with Alein Yaritza Haro-Ramos). Revise and Resubmit at *BMC Health Services Research*.

"Transparency, Institutional Support, Community: The Design and Implementation of a Midcareer Faculty Advancement Program" (with Jennifer Hamer). Revise and Resubmit at *Innovative Higher Education*.

"No Justice, No Peace: Black Political Thought and the Intellectual Foundations of Transitional Justice in the United States" (with Cyanne E. Loyle). Revise and Resubmit at *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*.

Manuscripts Under Review

"Behind and Beside the White Coat: An Analysis of Racially-Concordant Concern with Discrimination in Healthcare" (with Andrene Z. Wright)

Work in Progress

"Conceptualizing and Measuring Group Consciousness: Evidence from a Behavioral Test" (with Charles Crabtree, Kostanca Dhima, Matt Golder, and Sona Golder)

"Black Politics, Political Science, and Contested Boundaries of Knowing"

"Federal Workforce Contraction and Its Consequences for National Security and Economic Inequality" (with Jessica Welburn Paige and Jonathan Welburn)

"Witnessing Disparities: U.S. Healthcare Worker Observations of Patient Discrimination and its impact on Quality of Care" (with Sarah Christie, Sakinah Suttiratana, Laurie Zephyrin, Henry Fernandez, Noel Manu, Marcella Nunez-Smith, and Morenike Ayo-Vaughn)

"The Challenges of being Firstgen in Political Science: An Empirical Assessment and Proposed Supports" (with Charles Crabtree, Nicole D. Yadon, Jae Yeon Kim, Everett A. Vieira III, Jesse M. Crosson, Shane A. Gleason, Jonathan A. Chu, Elizabeth I. Dorssom, James Steur, Nathan Micatka, Tyler T. Reny, Logan Strother, Tom Le, Daniel J. Mallinson, Frederick Solt, Chuck Shipan, John Kane, Semra Sevi, Yoshikuni Ono, Natalie Dokken, and Valentina Gonzalez-Rostani)

Grant Activity

Funded External Grants

2025 Principal Investigator and Program Director ($90,000), **Democracy & Power Innovation Fund** (with Deva Woodly, Hahrie Han, and Daniel J. Galvin). Project: "Mixed Methods Summer Intensive for Practice-Based Researchers Understanding Belonging and Agency in Practice."

Research grant ($120,000), **Audience Insights, AARP, formerly known as American Association of Retired Persons** (with Henry Fernandez). Project: "AARP African American/Black Audience Quantitative Study of Adults Aged 50 and Over."

2022 Supplemental funding ($50,000), **Democracy & Power Innovation Fund** (with Hahrie Han, Deva Woodly, and Daniel J. Galvin). Project: "Forum for the Study of Organizing and Collective Action."

2021 Research grant ($650,000), **The Commonwealth Fund** (with Matt Barreto, Erica Bernal-Martinez, Annabelle De St. Maurice, Gayle Chacon, Ray Foxworth, Henry Fernandez, Marcella Nunez Smith, Gabriel Sanchez, Peter G. Szilagyi, and Janelle Wong). Project: "American COVID-19 Vaccine Poll."

Supplemental funding ($200,000) **The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** (with Matt Barreto, Erica Bernal-Martinez, Annabelle De St. Maurice, Gayle Chacon, Ray Foxworth, Henry Fernandez, Marcella Nunez Smith, Gabriel Sanchez, Peter G. Szilagyi, and Janelle Wong). Project: "American COVID-19 Vaccine Poll."

Supplemental funding ($200,000), **The W. K. Kellogg Foundation** (with Matt Barreto, Erica Bernal-Martinez, Annabelle De St. Maurice, Gayle Chacon, Ray Foxworth, Henry Fernandez, Marcella Nunez Smith, Gabriel Sanchez, Peter G. Szilagyi, and Janelle Wong). Project: "American COVID-19 Vaccine Poll."

Seed Grant ($155,000), **the Center for Cultural Power** (with Tova Andrea Wang and Prentiss Haney). Project: "At the Intersection of Art and Activism: Midwest Culture Lab Internal Assessment Study."

2005 **Geier Pre-Doctoral Fellowship** ($30,000), Middle Tennessee State University.

Funded Internal Grants

2026 Research in Democracy Support Grant ($4,500), sponsored by Penn State University's **McCourtney Institute for Democracy** (with Maya Kerr Coste and Sam Marks). Project: "Tracing Democratic Inequality in the Criminal Legal System: A Linked Administrative Data Approach."

2022 Large Pilot Award ($74,789), **Penn State University's Social Science Research Institute (SSRI)** (with Robert P. Lennon, Christopher Griffin, and Robbie Fraleigh, William Calo Perez, Lijiung Shen). Project: "Developing an automated system to counter health misinformation in electronic media preferred by persons who identify as Black or African American."

2020 Research Grant ($3,000), **Center for Humanities and Information Digital Humanities**, College of Liberal Arts, Pennsylvania State University.

2015 Research Grant ($2,500), C-SPAN Education Foundation Grant program, sponsored by the **Brian Lamb School of Communication Center for C-SPAN Scholarship & Engagement**. Project: "Black-Woman Stereotypes, Policy Rhetoric, and the Politics of Media Depiction: A Content Analysis of Video Footage from Michelle Obama's Speeches."

2013 Professional Development Grant ($3,750), College of Liberal Studies **Inclusive Excellence Grant**, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. Project: "Winning Tenure without Losing Your Soul: Enhancing Professional Development by Participating in the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity's Faculty Success Program."

Research Grant ($1,500), College of Liberal Studies **Small Grant**, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. Project: "The FLOTUS Project: A Database of Public Perceptions of Contemporary First Ladies."

2012 Research Grant ($7,500; with Christina S. Haynes), **Faculty Research Grant**, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. Project: "The 'Sapphire,' the 'Jezebel,' the 'Mammy,' and 'Michelle O': Issues of Race, Femininity, and the (Gendered) Politics of Media Depiction."

Research Grant ($4,000), College of Liberal Studies **Grant Writing Stipend**. Project: "The Obama Synthesis Project (OSP): Phase 1 (Search-Related Data)."

Recipient, 2012 **Faculty Recognition of Excellence Award for Scholarship/Research**, College of Liberal Studies, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse.

2011 Research Grant ($3,750), **College of Liberal Studies Small Grant**. Project: "The Obama Books Boom, Revisited: Understanding America's Fascination with Books Written by, Related to, or Endorsed by Its 44th President."

Teaching Grant ($11,400; with Jo Arney, Jeremy Arney, Stephen McDougal, Adam Van Liere, Cecilia Manrique, Christina Haynes, and Bryan Kopp), **University of Wisconsin System Grant**. Project: "Blind Peer Review: An Investigation of Student Learning."

2010 Certificate ($5,352), **Wisconsin Teaching Fellows and Scholars Award**.

2009 Research Grant ($12,000; with Betsy Jane Becker and Ariel M. Aloe), **Council on Research and Creativity Planning Grant**, Florida State University. Project: "The Impact of Survey Artifacts on the (Mis)Interpretation of Political Interest Trends."

2007 Faculty Grant ($4,000), Committee on Black Faculty Support, Office of Graduate Studies, Florida State University. Purpose: general research support and travel.

2006 Research Grant ($16,000), **First Year Assistant Professor (FYAP) Summer Award**, Council on Research and Creativity, Florida State University. Project: "Understanding Interest in Politics and Political Participation as Mutually-Reinforcing Concepts."

Grants Under Review

"Concept Note Describing an Approach to Planning and Implementing an Evaluation of Open Society-U.S.'s Power Building Programs" (with Henry Fernandez, Suman Raghunathan, Christine Slaughter, Crystal Thomas, and Jason Thompson). Submitted to the **Open Societies Foundation**.

Professional Training, Development, and Leadership

Founding Co-Director: Mixed Methods Summer Intensive for Practice-Based Researchers: Understanding Belonging and Agency in Practice Penn State University (supported by the Democracy & Power Innovation Fund), July 2026

Leadership & Performance Coaching Certification (Level 1): Brown University School of Professional Studies, Completed the ICF-accredited leadership and performance coaching certification grounded in the Awareness → Choice → Transformation (ACT) coaching framework, April 2026

Faculty Trainer: Redistricting Convening: Expert Preparation Program, NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF) & Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), June 2021

Instructor: Racially Polarized Voting Analysis Bootcamp, Southern Coalition for Social Justice, Spring/Summer 2021

Co-Facilitator: Professional Development Workshop: Racially Polarized Voting Analysis and Expert Witness Practice, National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS), April 2021

Scholarly Activity and Presentations

Editorial Service

Associate Editor: *Politics, Groups, & Identities*, 2020 – 2023

Editorial Advisory Board: *National Political Science Review* (now the *National Review of Black Politics*), 2019 – Present

Referee: *American Journal of Political Science, American Politics Research, American Political Science Review, Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy, Current Psychology, F1000 Research, Frontiers in Political Science, Geopolitics, Howard Journal of Communications, International Journal of Press-Politics, Journal of African American History, Journal of Black Studies, Journal of Politics, Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics, Journal of Race and Social Problems, The Lancet, MDPI - Publisher of Open Access Journals, Measurement Instruments for the Social Sciences, National Review of Black Politics, Perspectives on Politics, Political Behavior, Politics & Gender, Political Psychology, Political Research Quarterly, PS: Political Science & Politics, Publius, SAGE Open, Social Problems, Social Psychology Quarterly, Social Identities: Journal for the Study of Race, Nation and Culture, Social Science, Social Science & Medicine, Sociological Perspectives, Sociology of Race and Ethnicity, Women, Gender, and Families of Color*

Book Reviewer: *American Review of Politics*, Cambridge University Press, Columbia University Press, De Gruyter, Louisiana State University Press, the *National Political Science Review* (now the *National Review of Black Politics*), New York University Press, Routledge, State University of New York Press, Temple University Press

Society Memberships

Scholars Strategy Network (Co-Leader of Central Pennsylvania Chapter from 2021 to 2023)
American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association
National Conference of Black Political Scientists
Southern Political Science Association
National Council of Black Studies
Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society (inducted in 1999)
Golden Key International Honour Society (inducted in 1998)

Research and Civic Advisory Roles

Senior Research Advisor: **African American Research Collaborative** (August 2016 – Present)

Advisory Board Member: The **Civic Health and Institutions Project, a 50 States Survey (CHIP50)**, founded by Matthew Baum (Harvard University), James Druckman (Northwestern University/University of Rochester), David Lazer (Northeastern University), and Katherine Ognyanova (Rutgers University) (August 2023 – Present)

Advisory Board Member: The **Dignity Index**, a project of UNITE, founded by Tim Shriver, Chair of Special Olympics and co-founder of the movement for Social and Emotional Learning (June 2022 – Present)

Professional Association Leadership

Member: American Political Science Association's (APSA) **Hanes Walton, Jr. Career Award** Committee (2024 – 2025)

Member: American Political Science Association's (APSA) ***PS: Political Science & Politics* Editors Search Committee** (March 1, 2021 – August 30, 2022)

Member: American Political Science Association's (APSA) **Committee on the Status of Blacks in the Profession** (September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2023)

Member: American Political Science Association's (APSA) **Franklin L. Burdette Pi Sigma Alpha Award Committee** (August 2019 – June 2020)

Newsletter Editor: American Political Science Association's (APSA) **Race, Ethnicity, and Politics organized section** (August 2017 – 2019)

Member at Large: The National Conference of Black Political Scientists' (NCOBPS) **Executive Committee** (August 2018 – Present)

Invited Talks

2026 "Truth Decay and Collectivism." A virtual panel presentation at the Global Connection Forum's **2026 Global Loneliness Awareness Week**, June 17, 2026.

"Rebalancing the Information Ecosystem and Renewing Shared Societal Commitments for Information Use." A talk delivered at fourth annual convening of the **Forum for the Study of Organizing and Collective Action**, hosted at the McKnight Foundation (Minneapolis, MN) May 21–22, 2026.

"Race, Polarization, and the Information Ecosystem." A webinar co-sponsored by several institutions, including **Fisk University** and their Partnership for Southern Impact initiative, April 7, 2026.

"Epistemology, Technology, & Cognition." A fireside chat that was part of the "AI and Cognitive Competition" panel at the **NCNI Summit**, hosted at the University of Mississippi in partnership with the **National Center for Narrative Intelligence** (March 30–31, 2026).

"Building Power from the Ground Up: Black Organizing, Civic Engagement, and Political Possibilities." A talk delivered as part of Penn State's **School of International Affairs Black Student Association's** speaker series (February 12, 2026).

2025 "Information Ecosystems and Race Relations." A guest lecture delivered at Howard University's undergraduate journalism seminar (September 15, 2025).

"Research as a form of Public Service: Mutually-Beneficial Experiences across Different "Thinking Organizations." A talk delivered during the milestone event to mark the official opening of the new **Susan Welch building** as well as bring many of key volunteers and donors together to celebrate the College and the former Dean Welch (May 1, 2025).

"Research Scholarship and the Land Grant Mission: Why It Matters in Turbulent Times." A research showcase co-sponsored by Faye A. Chadwell, dean of University Libraries and Scholarly Communications; Lee Kump, John Leone Dean of the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences; Clarence Lang, Susan Welch Dean of the College of the Liberal Arts; and their respective University colleges and units (March 24, 2025).

2024 "Collective Action: What is it? And what happens when it goes wrong?" A Lunch & Learn discussion, sponsored by the **Paul Rhobeson Cultural Center** and the **Africana Research Center** at Penn State University - University Park, PA (September 19, 2024).

"Truth Decay and the (Mis)Uses of Technology." A virtual seminar hosted by the **Center for Informed Democracy and Social Cyber-security (IDeaS)**, Carnegie Mellon University's center for the study of disinformation, hate speech and extremism online (September 10, 2024).

"A private breakfast on authoritarianism information laundering and community resilience." Hosted by **USC's Annenberg Center on Communication Leadership & Policy**, Washington, DC.

"Truth Decay as a Racial Justice Issue." Invited talk co-sponsored by the **Department of Political Science** and the **Manship School of Mass Communication** at the Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA.

2023 **"I Wasn't There: Applications of Blockchain to Privacy Preserving Reality Protection."** An invitation-only convening sponsored by the Center for the Decentralization of Power Through Blockchain Technology (DeCenter) at Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.

"Truth Decay: The Diminishing Role of Facts, Analysis, and Expertise in Public Life." Invited talk delivered in the **Department of Political Science** at the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.

2022 "Descriptive vs. Substantive Representation." Invited talk delivered at the **American Government Seminar** at Georgetown University, Washington, DC.

"Racially Polarized Voting Analysis: A Tutorial." Invited talk for the **Gerrymandering Project** at Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.

"Choice, Race, and Turnout." Invited talk for the **American Politics Research Group** Weekly Speaker Series at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Durham, NC.

2021 "Race, Voter Dilution, and Polarization." Presentation delivered at the Voter Suppression Program, hosted by Penn State's **Black Law Students Association (BLSA)**.

"How Art and Culture Move Political Narratives." Presentation delivered at the **Democracy and Power Innovation (DPI)** Fund Annual Convening.

"Giving (and Receiving) Professional Feedback." A virtual community meeting sponsored by the Western Political Science Association (WPSA), as part of the association's peer-to-peer mentoring initiative of the *Politics, Groups, and Identities* journal.

"Blacks for Trump: Racial Orientation, Political Orientation, and the Gender Gap." Invited talk for the Department Speaker Series at the Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

"Police, Violence, and Public Opinion: Linking Polling Practices to Current Events." Invited talk for the American Politics Research Group Weekly Speaker Series at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Durham, NC.

2020 "The Impact of the Black Vote: Findings of the 2020 American Election Eve Poll." Invited talk for the 2020 Election Analysis at panel discussion at Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC.

"Race, Gender, and the 2020 Elections." Invited talk for the National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS) virtual panel: "African Americans and the State of Polling in the 2020 Election."

"Shared Status and New Civil Rights Agendas: Racial/Ethnic Differences in Immigration Policy Attitudes." Invited talk for the Racial and Ethnic Politics Speaker Series in UCLA's Political Science Department, Los Angeles, CA.

"Round "Tables" Session #2: Tools at Every Stage." Invited talk for the Virtual Gender and Political Psychology (VGPP) Conference.

"Race, Politics, and the Pandemic: African American Voters and the 2020 Elections." The Action Network's Open Mic Virtual Sessions on Politics and Polling.

"Race, the Literacy Gap, and the Pandemic." Plenary address delivered at the Integrated Health Literacy in Action (HLiA) and Health Literacy Annual Research Conference (HARC) Virtual Meetings.

"The Power of Art: Black Artists Respond to the Pandemic, Demands for Racial Justice, and Threats to Democracy." A panel hosted by the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation in the Kennedy School, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

"Race, Politics, and the Pandemic: Mobilizing Voters for the 2020 Elections." Liberal Arts Lunch and Learn Series, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.

"Racial Group Politics and COVID-19." COVID-19 Discussion Series Featuring Liberal Arts Faculty, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.

"Race and Public Opinion." A virtual meeting for the National Conference of Black Political Scientists titled, *#NCOBPSTownhall - African Americans & the Coronavirus: At the Intersections of Policy, Politics, & Public Health.*

"Role-Model-In-Chief: Understanding a Michelle Obama Effect." Invited talk at Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.

"Polling Research and Perceptions of Police Violence" (scheduled invited talk at Chatham University, Pittsburgh, PA).

2019 "Race, Gender, and Media Depictions of Michelle Obama." The Race and Difference Colloquium Series in the James Weldon Johnson Institute at Emory University, Atlanta, GA.

2018 "Using Dedoose to Explore the Oral Histories of African Americans who Support Donald Trump" (with Christina S. Haynes), Purdue University, West Lafeyette, IN.

"Americanness of the 'Other' Americans: An Examination of Political Behavior of Minorities in the United States" (with Niambi Carter, Stacey Greene, and Gabrielle Gray). 2018 Collaborative Multi-racial Post-election Survey (CMPS) Summer Research Workshop and Planning Meeting at UCLA, Los Angeles, CA.

2017 "Fired Up or Ready to Go? The Impact of Declining Enthusiasm on African American Political Participation in the Post-Obama Era" (with Jonathan Collins). UCLA, Los Angeles, CA.

2016 "Race, Law Enforcement, and Public Opinion." Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA.

2015 "Rap Music, Black Youth, and Political Participation." Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL.

2014 "Black-Women Stereotypes, Policy Rhetoric, and the Politics of Media Depiction: A Content Analysis of Video Footage from Michelle Obama's Speeches" (with Christina Haynes). C-SPAN Archives: Advancing the Research Agenda, conference at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN.

2013 "Taking to the Airwaves: Using Content Analyses of Survey Toplines and Filmographies to Test the 'Michelle Obama Image Transformation' (MOIT) Hypothesis" (with Christina Haynes). Gender and Political Psychology Research Workshop, Northern Illinois University, Naperville, IL.

Keynote Speaker: "Politics, Ethics, and Citizenship: (Re)Envisioning America's Future." Composition Committee, English Department, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, La Crosse, WI.

2012 "The Women of Contemporary Presidential Politics: A Panorama of Survey Reports from the iPoll Databank" (with Christina Haynes). Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies events for the Fall, sponsored by UW-L Provost's Office Visiting Scholar of Color Grant; Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department; Violence Prevention Office; and Viterbo University, La Crosse, WI.

2010 "The Obama Synthesis Project: Mastering the Literature on the 2008 Presidential Election." Politics of Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration Consortium, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM.

2009 "Understanding Black Republicans and Politically Conservative African Americans." Roundtable hosted by the Black Graduate Student Association, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL.

2008 "Managing Monikers: Name Presentation and Its Potential Impact in the 2008 Presidential Election." Obama Effect Conference, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Minneapolis, MN.

2007 "A Political Climate Model of the Race Gap in Political Interest." Toward a Transformative Agenda Around Race, a national conference and film festival sponsored by The Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

2006 "Race and Political Interest." Southern University, Baton Rouge, LA.

2005 "The Racial Gap in Political Interest." Paper presented at the Conference in African American Political Psychology, the University of Texas, Austin, TX.

Conference Activity

Annual Conference of the Organizing Forum (2024 - 2026)

Annual Meeting of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (2007)

Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (2026 – 2019, 2017, 2008 – 2007, 2005, 2002, 1998)

Annual Meeting of the American Bar Association (2026, 2025)

Annual International Campbell Collaboration Colloquium (2008)

Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (2022, 2021, 2019, 2016, 2013, 2002)

Annual Meeting of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists (2024 – 2002)

Annual Meeting of PRIEC, the Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium (2010, 2020)

Annual Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology (2005)

Annual Meetings of the Southern Political Science Association (2023, 2019, 2017, 2008, 2007, 2005)

Annual Meetings of the Southwestern Social Science Association (2008)

Annual Meetings of SPIRE, the Symposium on the Politics of Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity (2020)

Annual Meetings of the Student of Color Rakham Conference (2003, 2002)

Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association (2003)

Panels, Workshops, and Public Education

2026 "Civic Sanctuaries in Fragmented Times: Classrooms as Laboratories of Democratic Life." A talk delivered at **Moral Fragmentations and Boundaries Conference**, sponsored by the Consortium on Moral Decision-Making (April 20, 2026).

"When Facts Aren't Enough: Information, Identity, and Democratic Stability." Panel presentation at the Hubbard Conference: Misinformation/Disinformation, sponsored by the **American Bar Foundation** (April 10).

"Building Power from the Ground Up: Black Organizing, Civic Engagement, and Political Possibilities." A guest lecture delivered at Penn State University's School of International Affairs Black Student Association (February 12, 2026)

2025 "Race, Research, and Representation." A guest lecture delivered at Princeton University in LaFleur Stephens-Dougan's undergraduate course, Racial Climate and Multiracial Democracy (November 6, 2025)

Guest appearance in **The Lawn Con: A Documentary About Grass**, narrated by Chuck Nice (of Star Talk and Stand-Up Comedy) and created by Mike Fallek and Bill Moore (July 20, 2025)

"The Data for Good Roundtable: Challenges and Opportunities in an Age of Uncertainty." A conversation with leading academics and practitioners working across academia, government, and nonprofits to explore how to rebuild trust in evidence-based policy and strategies for more resilient, data-driven policymaking (April 10, 2025).

"Declining Trust in Institutions." A virtual panel discussion as part of a convening for The Center for the Study of the **Presidency and Congress (CSPC) Presidential Fellows**, a group of sharp undergraduate students interested in policy (March 24-25, 2025).

"Race, Collective Action, and the Founding of America." A talk delivered a part of Penn State University's **Dilemmas of Democracy** faculty series (January 28, 2024).

"Truth Decay, Race Relations, and the 'American Dilemma."' A virtual talk delivered at the MLK Day event sponsored by **BELIEVE: Black Employees Leading in Inclusion, Equity, Vision, and Education**, an employee resource group at RAND (January 22, 2025).

2024 "Black Liberation and the 2024 Presidential Election." A panel discussion delivered as part of the Fall 2024 Voter Education Workshops sponsored by the **National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS)** (October 19, 2024).

"Campaigns, Polls, and Truth Decay." A keynote address delivered at annual **WisPolitics.com Midwest Polling Summit** in Madison, WI (October 15, 2024).

"Welcome Remarks." The **Countering Truth Decay: A Community Dialogue** event, a community-led conversation about the impacts of misinformation on local issues and what it can be done about it in Santa Monica, CA (September 11, 2024).

"Truth Decay in the College Classroom." The **Journal of Political Science Education (JPSE)** Roundtable discussion on Teaching through Domestic Challenges and 'Culture War' (September 6, 2024).

"Race and Elections." A panel discussion convened as part of the Continuing Legal Education (CLE) seminar at the annual meetings of the **American Bar Association**, Chicago, IL (August 2, 2024).

"Allegiance & Belonging with Dr. Ray Block Jr." Season 1, episode 12 of the podcast, Cross Tabs Explaining the Polls (July 10, 2024).

"Truth Decay and Climate Center Presentations." A virtual panel discussion with the members of the 2024 cohort of the RAND's **Graduate Student Summer Associate Program** (July 1, 2024).

"The Information Ecosystem, Media Habits, and Misinformation: Research with Midlife and Older Adults." A virtual presentation (with Alice Huguet) hosted by the Aging, Disability, and Long-Term Care (ADL) Strategy Group at the RAND Corporation (May 29, 2024).

"Truth Decay and FEMA." A virtual round-table discussion (with Heather Williams and Luke Matthews) hosted by the members of the **Vanguard Executive Crisis Leaders Fellowship**, an executive network focused on disruptive changes and crisis leadership (May 15, 2024).

"Countering the Spread of Misinformation." Guest panelist on the Scholars Strategy Network's No Jargon podcast series (May 8, 2024).

"What's Missing in the Study of Collective Action?" A panel discussion (with Hahrie Han, Deva Woodly, and Daniel J. Galvin) at the annual convening of the Organizing and Collective Action Forum, Brown University, Providence, RI (May 2, 2024).

"Dreams and Realities: Some Thoughts about Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Iconic Speech." A keynote address delivered at the Inaugural MLK Commendation Program, sponsored by the College of Health and Human Development, Penn State University, University Park. PA (January 29, 2024).

2023 **"Truth Decay and Strengthening Democracy."** A speech delivered at the RAND Corporation's 75^{th} Anniversary Event, Santa Monica, CA (November 9, 2023).

"Countering Truth Decay: A Community Conversation. A discussion of how our communities can move forward together in a time of institutional mistrust and uncertainty." A convening Organized by the Santa Monica Bay Human Relations Council and hosted at Santa Monica College, Santa Monica, CA (October 30, 2023).

"RAND Experts to Discuss Surge in Misinformation/Disinformation Amid Israel-Hamas War." A virtual panel discussion hosted by the RAND Corporation's Office of External Affairs (October 19, 2023).

"Knowledge Security, Foreign Interference, and Strengthening Trust in Science and Democracy." A virtual panel discussion with Martin Polaschek, the **Federal Minister of Education, Science, and Research of Austria** (October 6, 2023).

"Impact Plenary II: Kirwan's Long Research Shadow." A panel discussion xxx as part of the Ohio State University **Kirwan Institute's 20th Anniversary Symposium**, Columbus, OH (September 29, 2023).

"How Younger Voters Will Affect the Future of American Politics." A webinar hosted by The Brookings Institution, Washington DC (September, 12, 2023).

"Truth Decay as an Infrastructure Equity Issue." A facilitated discussion offered as part of the **Infrastructure Equity, Sport, and Community** event, sponsored by **The California Endowment**, Los Angeles, CA (September 6, 2023)

"Faculty Coaching – A New Approach to Supporting Faculty." A facilitated discussion offered as part of the **Initiative for Faculty Success and Equity Workshop** at Penn State University, State College, PA (August 17, 2023).

"Evaluating Claims of Intersectionality." Guest lecture delivered in the *Race, Ethnicity, and Quantitative Methodology I* seminar at the University of Michigan's Institution for Social Research/ICPSR **Summer Program in Quantitative Methods**, Ann Arbor, MI (July 7, 2023).

"Introducing Ray Block as the Inaugural Chair for Countering Truth Decay." A talk delivered to members of the RAND Corporation's Division of **Social and Economic Well-Being** (June 20, 2023).

"Truth Decay, Disinformation, and Social Media." A talk delivered to members of **Ireland's parliamentary committee on media and culture** (June 16, 2023).

Alumni Panel: **Ralph Bunch Summer Institute** Recruitment Fair. Durham, NC: Duke University (June 15, 2023).

"How to reach new voters and boost turnout." An interview on the "All Sides with Ann Fisher" show, WOSU Public Radio (May 24, 2023).

"NCOBPS Black Politics Speaker Series featuring Dr. Sekou Franklin and Dr. Ray Block Jr. as they present their book *Losing Power: African Americans and Racial Polarization in Tennessee Politics*." A virtual author-meets-critics event hosted by the National Conference of Black Political Scientists (April 21, 2023).

"Public Scholarship in Polarized Times." A virtual panel hosted by the Scholars Strategy Network (April 28, 2023).

"Survey of Black Nevadans." A virtual briefing delivered to the **Nevada Black Legislative Caucus** and the **State Innovation Exchange** (February 15, 2023).

"PA Policy Outlook." A virtual panel presentation hosted by the **Central Pennsylvania Chapter of the Scholars Strategy Network** (January 18, 2023)

2022 "A Crash Course on the Concept of Collective Action." A mini-lecture delivered at Penn State University's College of Liberal Arts **Sparks Seminar Series** (December 1, 2022).

"Motivations for Black Voters from the 2022 Midterm Election Voter Poll." A virtual briefing delivered to **Building Back Together**, an organization tasked with advancing the policy agenda of the Biden-Harris Administration and effectively communicating the positive impacts of these policies to the American people (November 30, 2022).

"The Results Are In: Poll of Florida Voters on State's Affordable Housing Crisis." A virtual briefing delivered to the **Local Progress Impact Lab** and **Local Solutions Support Center** (November 2, 2022).

"Freedom is a Constant Struggle: African Americas at the Ballot." The Heinz History Center, Pittsburgh, PA (June 28, 2022).

Alumni Panel: **Ralph Bunch Summer Institute** Recruitment Fair. Durham, NC: Duke University (June 17, 2022).

"Possibilities and Pitfalls when Polling Subpopulations." New England Association of Public Opinion Research (NEAAPOR) (April 29, 2022).

"Racial Disparities in Communication." The *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (PNAS) Science Sessions (January 18, 2022).

2021 **"New Study Finds Racial Bias May Affect Email Responses."** CBS News (December 28, 2021).

"I'm A Fighter and An Educator." Guest panelist on The History of Being Black podcast series (November 11, 2021).

"The Fate of Voting Rights." A panel sponsored by the **National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS)** (November 8, 2021).

"Race, Voting, and Redistricting." Public testimony delivered at the virtual meeting of the **National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)** (October 17, 2021).

"Racial Polarization and Voting Rights." Public testimony delivered at the virtual hearing of the **Pennsylvania Legislative Reapportionment Commission** (August 4, 2021).

"Dr. Ray Block, a researcher with Penn State, chats with Rick Dayton about a study he completed examining vaccine hesitancy amongst several minority groups." **KDKA Pittsburgh** June 29, 2021.

"Racially Polarized Voting (RPV): Methodological Approaches & Other Evidentiary Issues concerning RPV." A workshop for the Redistricting Convening Expert Preparation Program, which was sponsored by the **National Association of the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Legal Defense and Educational Fund** and the **Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)** (June 23 – 27, 2021).

"A Deeper Dive on RPV: EI." A workshop for the Redistricting Convening Expert Preparation Program, which was sponsored by the **National Association of the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Legal Defense and Educational Fund** and the **Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)** (June 23 – 27, 2021).

"How to Use Your Expert Work for Academia." A workshop for the Redistricting Convening Expert Preparation Program, which was sponsored by the **National Association of the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Legal Defense and Educational Fund** and the **Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)** (June 23 – 27, 2021).

"Summary Deck." Presentation based on the June 2021, **American COVID-19 Vaccine Poll**.

"Preparing for the academic job market." A professional development workshop for the American Political Science Association's **Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant** awardees (May 27, 2021).

"Literacy Tests and the Modern-Day Jim Crow." A plenary address delivered at the 2021 Institute for Healthcare Advancement (IHA) **Virtual Health Literacy Conference** (May 25, 2021).

"To Be an American: Identity, Race and Justice." An Interview with Soledad O'Brien for the **Matter of Fact Listening Tour**.

"Pre-Conference Voting Rights Workshop" A training session sponsored by the **National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS)** (March 8, 2021).

"A Crash Course on Racially-Polarized Voting (RPV) Analysis." A training session sponsored by the **Southern Coalition for Social Justice (SCSJ)** (January 14 - 28, 2021).

"On the American COVID-19 Vaccine Poll." Presentation to the **Commonwealth Fund** (March 9, 2021).

2020 "African American Summary Deck." Presentation based on the November 2020, **American Election Eve Poll**

"Racism Isn't Sheltering in Place: Perceptions of Institutional Discrimination in the Coronavirus Era." Guest lecture for the Black Digital Humanities COVID-19 Maymester course taught by Professor Shirley Moody-Turner, departments of English and Africana Studies at Pennsylvania State University.

"Race, Politics, and COVID-19." Alumni-focused webinar featuring faculty members speaking about their research and how it intersects with an aspect of the COVID-19 pandemic. Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.

Press briefing of the 2020 COVID-19 Survey of African Americans, sponsored by The African American Research Collaborative (AARC), the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the the Equity Research and Innovation Center (ERIC) at the Yale University School of Medicine.

2019 "Polling Research and the 2020 Presidential Election." WisPolitics.com's inaugural Midwest Polling Summit at The Madison Club in Madison, WI.

Guest panelist on Black Public Opinion, a podcast series sponsored by the National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS).

2018 "Voter Suppression of Voter Fraud? The Current Dynamics of Electoral Politics. "University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH.

Press briefing of the 2018 American Election Eve Poll of African Americans, sponsored by The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), The Advancement Project, Latino Decisions, Asian American Decisions, and the African American Research Collaborative (AARC).

Press briefing of the July 2018 Midterm Survey, sponsored by The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Latino Decisions, and the African American Research Collaborative (AARC).

2017 Press briefing of the Virginia 2017 Election Eve Poll, sponsored by Latino Decisions and the African American Research Collaborative (AARC).

2016 Press briefing of the 2016 African American Voter Poll (with Jonathan E. Collins), sponsored by State Voices, Latino Decisions and the African American Research Collaborative (AARC).

2011 Guest discussant on *Newsmakers*, Wisconsin Public Radio/WHLA-FM/La Crosse. Topic: Congressional Redistricting.

2009 Guest discussant on *Perspectives*, Florida Public Radio/WFSU-FM. Topic: Inauguration Day 2009.

2008 Guest appearance on *ABC 27 News*, WTXL, Tallahassee. Topic: Outcome of 2008 Presidential Election.

Guest appearance on *ABC 27 News*, WTXL, Tallahassee. Topic: North Carolina Democratic Primary.

Teaching Experience

Awards and Recognition

Recipient Dignity-in-Action Award (2025), for contributions to promoting dignity-centered dialogue and civic engagement through work on the Dignity Index and PA Dignity Day (October 30 2025)

Participant: Wisconsin Teaching Fellows and Scholars (WTFS) Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Anniversary Project (April 3, 2025)

Recipient: Teaching and Learning with Technology (TLT) Distinguished Service Award (Pennsylvania State University, 2021)

Recipient: Office of Multicultural Student Services (OMSS) Outstanding Faculty Appreciation Award (University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, 2019)

Certificate ($5,352): Wisconsin Teaching Fellows and Scholars (WTFS) Award (University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, 2010-2011)

Graduate Courses

Race and American Politics (Pennsylvania State University)

Introduction to Political Analysis (Florida State University)

Undergraduate Courses

Introduction to American National Government (Middle Tennessee State University, Florida State University, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, Pennsylvania State University)

Political Science Research Methods (Middle Tennessee State University, Florida State University, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, University of Kentucky)

Race, Ethnicity, and Politics (Florida State University, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, University of Kentucky, Pennsylvania State University)

Public Opinion and Political Behavior (University of Wisconsin, La Crosse)

American Presidency (University of Wisconsin, La Crosse)

Legislative Process in the United States (University of Wisconsin, La Crosse)

American Political Parties (University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, University of Kentucky)

Interest Group Politics in the United States (University of Wisconsin, La Crosse)

Special Topics: Identity Politics (Florida State University, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse)

Special Topics: First Ladies and the American Presidency (University of Wisconsin, La Crosse)

Special Topics: Race, Gender, and Political Activism (Pennsylvania State University)

Capstone Seminar in Political Science (University of Wisconsin, La Crosse)

Introduction to African American and Africana Studies (University of Kentucky, Pennsylvania State University)

Analysis of Electoral Politics (Pennsylvania State University)

Faculty Mentoring

The Pardee RAND Graduate School's Faculty Leaders Program (FLP)

- Faculty Research Mentor (June 2023 - present)
  - A **professional development certificate program** that helps to fulfill Pardee RAND's goal of bringing a greater diversity of experience and perspective to the study and practice of public policy analysis.
  - Visiting faculty members work one-on-one with a RAND research mentor, as well as with other members of the RAND community.

President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

- Junior Faculty Mentor (August 2022 - 2023)
  - In 2021, Penn State joined in a **collaborative partnership** with the University of California and other leading universities to offer postdoctoral fellowship opportunities for promising scholars.
  - I was involved in a nationwide search to identify doctoral candidates to join Penn State's Department of Political Science, and I served as the "mentor of record" for an incoming colleague.
  - The colleagues I have mentored include Andrene Wright (currently on the faculty at the University of Wisconsin–Madison) and Michelle Irving (who joined Penn State in spring 2025).

Penn State University's Mid-career Faculty Advancement Program (MFAP)

- Peer Coach (January 2020 – May 2023)
  - A **three-year pilot program** initiated and led by Penn State's College of Liberal Arts that facilitates the advancement of associate professors to the rank of full professor.
  - Provides an opportunity to 1) acknowledge the extraordinary levels of service and other workplace and work/life balance circumstances that often present to mid-career faculty members and 2) facilitate the ability of faculty members to more swiftly move through mid-career challenges.

The National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity (NCFDD)

- Faculty Coach: The Faculty Success Program (December 2013 – December 2019)
  - An **independent center** that is dedicated to helping faculty, particularly under-represented faculty, make a successful transition from graduate student to professor.
  - NCFDD's "Faculty Success Program" is 12-week boot camp that requires daily accountability structure, weekly small-groups sessions, training workshops, and one-on-one coaching sessions that work to help members become more productive that aid in achieving career goals.

Student Mentoring

Graduate Student Dissertation Committee Chair

- Rita Bahlibi (Policy Analysis Program, with a concentration in Technology Applications and Implications, Pardee RAND Graduate School). PhD expected in 2027.

Graduate Student Dissertation Committee Member

- Christopher Saint Jean (Department of Political Science, Rutgers University). PhD in 2026. Dissertation titled: *Black Entertainment Capture: Social Identity and Political Constraint*
- Ryan Bowman (Department of Sociology, Penn State University). PhD expected in 2026. Dissertation titled: *Minority Threat and Sentencing: A Comprehensive Test of the Threat Perspective Across Different Contexts*
- Joshua Jordan (The Manship School of Mass Communication). PhD in 2025. Dissertation titled: *Breathing In Justice: Propaganda in Cancer Alley and Its Relationship to Local Black Communities*
- Nitheesha Nakka (Department of Political Science and the Center for Social Data Analytics, Penn State University). PhD in 2025. Dissertation titled: *Race, Gender, and Digital Politics: Examining Subnational Political Elites on Twitter*.
- Kellianne King (Department of History, Penn State University). PhD in 2024. Dissertation titled: *Domestic Demons and Nervous Men: An Examination of Nervousness in Nineteenth Century America*.
- Nicole Hedgecoth (Department of Psychology, Penn State University). PhD in 2024. Dissertation titled: *Cultural Appropriation in Digital Spaces: Reactions and Consequences*.
- Nathan Morse (Department of Political Science, Penn State University). PhD in 2024. Dissertation titled: *Untangling Ideology and Inequality in the United States: How Polarization Deepens Economic Inequality*.
  - Statistician, US Census Bureau
- Seth Warner (Department of Political Science, Penn State University). PhD in 2023. Dissertation titled: *Contentious Communities: Affective Polarization in America's Towns and Counties*.
  - Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Connecticut
- James P. Nelson. (Department of Political Science, Florida State University). PhD in 2011. Dissertation: *Protest Meets Process: Attitudinal, Institutional, and Contextual Indicators of Third Party Voting and Candidate Entry in U.S. Legislative Elections*.
  - Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Lamar University

Graduate Student External Dissertation Advisor

- Michael G. Strawbridge (Department of Political Science, Rutgers University). PhD in 2024. Dissertation: *In the Thick of It: Operationalizing the Relationship Between Black People, Black Spaces, and Black Political Culture*.
  - Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Washington University in St. Louis
- Najja K. Baptist (Department of Political Science, Howard University). PhD in 2020. Dissertation: *In the Spirit, In the Dark: Examining the Interface between Black Music and Black Activism*.
  - Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Arkansas
- Jordan Brown (Department of Sociology, Florida State University). PhD in 2012. Dissertation: *Creating Threat, Constructing Cooperation: Presidential Rhetoric and Foreign Policy*.
  - Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Kentucky

MA Thesis Student Advisor

- Lisa Guido (Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University). MA in 2022. Thesis: *Gender, party, and professionalism among Pennsylvania school board candidates*
  - Program Specialist of the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Geisinger Hospitals and Health Care

MA Thesis Student Committee Member

- Giovanni Castro (Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University). MA in 2020. Thesis: *The Influence of Country of Origin in the Process of Party Identification Acquisition*.
- Lee Vang (Department of Health Education & Health Promotion, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). MA in 2017. Thesis: *Assessing Racial Discrimination Experiences and Mental Health of Students of Color on A Predominantly White Campus*.

Graduate Student Qualifying Exam Advisory Committee

- Ashley C. Rodriguez (Department of Sociology, Penn State University), fall 2025
- Pheolyn Allen (Department of English, Penn State University), fall 2025
- Mia A. Powell (Department of Political Science and Department of Africana Studies, Penn State University), summer 2025
- Ryan Bowman (Department of Sociology, Penn State University), fall 2024.
- Joshua Jordan (the Manship School of Mass Communication, Louisiana State University), summer 2024
- Keon Burns (Department of History, Pennsylvania State University), spring 2023
- Nikki Hedgecoth (Department of Psychology, Pennsylvania State University), spring 2022
- Nathan Morse (Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University), fall 2021
- Yang Song (Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University), spring 2021
- Rhianna Franchini (Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University), spring 2020

Undergraduate Honors Student Thesis Advisor

- Nicole Myers (Department of Political Science, Penn State University), BA in 2024. Thesis: "The Impacts of Media Consumption of Policy Extremity."
- Ava Starks (a baccalaureate degree in Philosophy with honors in African American Studies, Penn State University), BA in 2023. Thesis: "Student Affairs Professionals Supporting Historically Minoritized Students: Principles and Practice."
- Gabriel Johnson (Department of Political Science, Penn State University), BA in 2023. Thesis: "Incumbents after Natural Disasters: Does Media Coverage Jeopardize Reelection?"
- Jaden Fields (Department of Political Science, Penn State University), BA in 2023. Thesis: "Factors explaining variance in state voting laws and disproportionately among Black and Latinx Americans."
- Noah Speitel (Department of Political Science, Penn State University), BA in 2021. Thesis: "Modern School Segregation: Local Factors Contributing to Racially Segregated School Districts."
- José Rubio-Zepeda (Department of Anthropology and Archaeology and Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse), BA in 2014. Thesis: "Coloring A Multilayered Nation: Café con Leche (Coffee with Milk)."
- Adia Brooks (Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2012. Thesis: "Black Negrophobia and Black Self-Empowerment: Afro-descendant Responses to Societal Racism in São Paulo, Brazil."
  - Published in the *UW-La Crosse Journal of Undergraduate Research*, Volume XV

Undergraduate Thesis Student Advisor

- Tiffany Fameree (Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2016. Thesis: "Party Polarization, Revisited: Explaining the Gender Gap in Political Party Preference."
  - Published in the *UW-La Crosse Journal of Undergraduate Research*, Volume XIX
- Nicholas Theis (Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2016. Thesis: "Social Characteristics and Political Identification: Determinants of Environmental Concern"
  - Published in the *UW-La Crosse Journal of Undergraduate Research*, Volume XIX
- Nedeau-Owen, Martha (Department of English and Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2015. Thesis: "The Impacts of Gendered Rhetoric in the United States Presidential Inaugural Address."
  - Published in the *UW-La Crosse Journal of Undergraduate Research*, Volume XVIII
- Sammy Xiong-Vue (Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2015. Thesis: "Finding Self-Identity and Empowerment in the Comfort of Your Own Skin: Are Women Shelters Culturally Competent to Serve Hmong Women?"
  - Published in the *UW-La Crosse Journal of Undergraduate Research*, Volume XVIII
- Jessey Unger (Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2015. Thesis: "A Qualitative Study of How Practitioner Perceive Success with Drug Policy and Programs: and Applying to Drug Programming and Policy."
  - Published in the *UW-La Crosse Journal of Undergraduate Research*, Volume XVIII
- Mariah Hensley (Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2014. Thesis: "Food Additives: Regulations and Repercussions."

  - Published in the *UW-La Crosse Journal of Undergraduate Research*, Volume XVII

- Carissa Krug (Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2014. Thesis: "Stay at Home or Travel to Rome: The Effects of Travel on Political Ideology."
  - Published in the *UW-La Crosse Journal of Undergraduate Research*, Volume XVII
- Joel McReynolds, (Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2013. Thesis: "Student Perceptions of Nonprofit Organizations."
  - Published in the *UW-La Crosse Journal of Undergraduate Research*, Volume XVI
- James Dirth (Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2013. Thesis "The Influence of Super PAC Financing on Presidential Elections through Negative Advertising."
  - Published in the *UW-La Crosse Journal of Undergraduate Research*, Volume XVI
- Alex Stoffregen (Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2013. Thesis: "Case Study: Ethiopian Commodity Exchange."
- Erick Blasing (Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2013. Thesis: "Does Candidate Appearance Impact Voter Decisions?"
- Hannah Henderson (Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2012. Thesis: "Congressional Conquest: Examining Factors Affecting Legislative Triumph."
  - Published in the *UW-La Crosse Journal of Undergraduate Research*, Volume XV
- Kate Hessefort (Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse). BA in 2011. Thesis: "Presidential Promises and Voter's Evaluations of Obama."

Service Priorities

Pennsylvania State University

Member: Africana Research Center Advisory Board (Spring 2025 – present)

Member: University Undergraduate Teaching Award Review Committee, George W. Atherton Award for Excellence in Teaching and Milton S. Eisenhower Award for Distinguished Teaching (October, 2024 – January, 2025)

Department of Africana Studies Associate Department Head (fall 2022 – spring 2023)

Department of Africana Studies Director of Undergraduate Studies (2022 – 2023)

Attendee: One of Dean Lang's faculty "guests" for "Liberal Arts (LA) Live event, which celebrated the end of Penn State's six-year, $2.1 billion fundraising campaign (April 23, 2023)

Member: Faculty Board of Advisors for the Brown Medal award, The McCourtney Institute for Democracy (2021 - present)

Proposal to the Graduate Council by the Graduate Program in Political Science to Adopt a Dual-Title Graduate Degree Program in African American Studies (proposal reviewed in the summer of 2021; implemented in the spring of 2022)

Department of Africana Studies Graduate Committee (2021 – 2022)

Department of Africana Studies AC14 Academic Administrative Evaluation Committee (formerly AD14, spring 2020)

Department of Africana Studies Committee on Promotion & Tenure (2019 – Present)

Department of Africana Studies Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (2019 – Present)

Department of Africana Studies Scholarship Committees (2019 – Present)

Department of Political Science Graduate Student Recruitment Planning Committee (2019 – 2020)

Department of Political Science Diversity and Inclusion Committee (2021 – Present)

University of Kentucky

Department of Political Science Scholarship Committees (2017 – 2019)

Organizer: Department Research Colloquium Series (Fall 2018)

Center for Graduate and Professional Diversity Initiatives Small Grant Committee (Spring 2019)

College-Level Scholarship Committees (2018 – 2019)

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (2018 – 2019)

University of Wisconsin, La Crosse

Co-Founder: Research Writing Group (2010 – 2017)

Department of Political Science and Public Administration Search & Screen Committees (2010 – 2017)

Department of Political Science and Public Administration Scholarship Committees (2011 – 2017)

Member: Campus Climate Survey Work Group (2015 – 2016)

Faculty Mentor: College of Liberal Studies New Faculty Mentoring Program (2013 – 2017)

Member: College of Liberal Studies Inclusive Excellence Task Force Committee (2013 – Present)

Chair: Department of Political Science and Public Administration Search and Screen Committee (2012 – 2013)

Faculty Advisor: Pi Sigma Alpha Honors Society (2012 – 2017)

Faculty Fellow: Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (2014 – 2015)

Reviewer: Undergraduate Research and Creativity Grant Committee (2012 – 2013)

Faculty Participant: Multicultural Leadership Summit (Spring 2012)

Panelist: New Faculty Orientation (2011)

Florida State University

Panelist: Black Graduate Student Orientation Program, Florida State University (2007 – 2008)

Faculty Participant: Meta-Analysis Working Group, hosted by the Measurement and Statistics section of the Department of Educational Psychology & Learning Systems in the College of Education at Florida State University (2007 – 2010)

Tenure and Promotion Referee

Department of Political Science, The University of Oklahoma, 2025

Department of Political Science, Spelman College, 2025

Departments of Political Science and Psychology, Louisiana State University, 2023

Department of African American Studies, Emory University, 2023

Department of African American Studies, Ohio University, 2021

Department of Political Science, Stockton University, 2019

Community Outreach

Expert Witness: The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Legal Defense and Educational Fund, New York, NY (July 2018 – August 2019)

Professional Consultant: Sparta Police Department Community Satisfaction Survey, Sparta, WI (September 2012–June 2013)

Professional Consultant: Houston County Protectors, Caledonia, MN (August 2012 – August 2013)

Expert Witness: Advancement Project, Southwest Workers Union, Medina, TX (September 2011 – January 2012)

Expert Witness: Southern Coalition for Social Justice, Durham, NC (April 2011 – May 2011)

References

Available upon request.