

Joe Soss
University of Minnesota
<http://umn.edu/~jbsoss>

Office

Hubert H. Humphrey Institute
301 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455
Phone: 612-626-9865
Email: jbsoss@umn.edu

Home

1340 Lincoln Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105
Phone. 651-207-5876

Education

- Ph.D. Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1996.
Dissertation: *Unwanted Claims: Politics, Participation, and the U.S. Welfare System*
- M.A. Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1991.
- Summer Institute in Political Psychology, Ohio State University, 1993.
- B.A. Government, University of Texas-Austin, 1989

Academic Positions

- Cowles Professor for the Study of Public Service with faculty positions in the Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs, the Department of Political Science, and the Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota, 2007-present.
- Dale T. Mortensen Senior Fellow at the Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies, Aarhus University, Denmark, 2013-present.
- Professor of Political Science and Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2006-2007.
- Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2003-2006.
- Associate Professor of Government, American University, 2000-2003.
- Assistant Professor of Government, American University, 1997-2000.

Books

Disciplining the Poor: Neoliberal Paternalism and the Persistent Power of Race. with Richard C. Fording and Sanford F. Schram. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press (2011). ***Winner of the 2012 Michael Harrington Award (APSA, Caucus for a New Political Science), the 2012 Oliver Cromwell Cox Award (ASA, Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities), the 2012 CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title Award (American Library Association), and the 2015 Herbert Simon Award (APSA, Section on Public Administration).

Remaking America: Democracy and Public Policy in an Age of Inequality. Co-edited with Jacob S. Hacker, and Suzanne Mettler. New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation. (2007, paperback 2010).

Race and the Politics of Welfare Reform. Co-edited with Sanford Schram and Richard Fording. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press (2003, paperback 2003).

Unwanted Claims: The Politics of Participation in the U.S. Welfare System. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press (2000, paperback 2002).

Journal Articles

“A Debt of Care: Commercial Bail and the Gendered Logic of Criminal Justice Predation.” with Joshua Page and Victoria Piehowski. 2019. *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*. 5(1): 150–72.

“On Casing a Study versus Studying a Case.” 2018. *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research*. 16(1) 21-27.

“Schooling as a Formative Political Experience: Authority Relations and the Education of Citizens.” With Sarah K. Bruch. 2018. *Perspectives on Politics*. 16(1): 36-57.

"Unequal Positions: A Relational Approach to Racial Inequality Trends in the U.S. States, 1940-2010." with Sarah K. Bruch and Aaron J. Rosenthal. 2018. *Social Science History*. doi:10.1017/ssh.2018.36.

“Police Are Our Government: Politics, Political Science, and the Policing of Race-Class Subjugated Communities.” with Vesla Weaver. 2017. *Annual Review of Political Science*. 20: 565-91.

“On the Varied Uses of Concepts in Interpretive Research.” 2017. *European Political Science*. April.

“Intersectionality as an Assembly of Analytic Practices: Subjects, Relations, and Situated Comparisons.” With Zein Murib. 2015. *New Political Science*. 37(4): 649-56.

“Neoliberalism for the Common Good? Public Value Governance and the Downsizing of Democracy.” With Adam J. Dahl. 2014. *Public Administration Review*. 74(4): 496-504.

“Policy Feedback and the Politics of Administration.” With Donald P. Moynihan. 2014. *Public Administration Review*. 74(3): 320-32.

“From Work Support to Work Motivator: Child Care Subsidies and Caseworker Discretion in the Post-Welfare Reform Era.” With Linda Houser, Sanford F. Schram, and Richard C. Fording. 2014. *Journal of Women, Politics, and Policy*. 35(2): 174-93.

“Classes, Races, and Marginalized Places: Notes on the Study of Democracy’s Demise.” 2014. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. 651(January): 250-54.

“Do Welfare Sanctions Help or Hurt the Poor? Estimating the Causal Effect of Sanctioning on Client Earnings.” With Richard C. Fording and Sanford F. Schram. 2013. *Social Service Review*. 87(4): 641-76.

“Race and the Local Politics of Punishment in the New World of Welfare.” with Richard C. Fording and Sanford F. Schram. 2011. *American Journal of Sociology*. 116(5): 1610-57.

“The Organization of Discipline: From Performance Management to Perversity and Punishment” with Richard C. Fording and Sanford F. Schram. 2011. *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*. 21(1): 203-32. ***Winner of the Beryl Radin Award for the best article published in JPART in 2011 (Public Management Research Association).

“The Third Level of U.S. Welfare Reform: Governmentality under Neoliberal Paternalism.” With Sanford F. Schram, Richard C. Fording, and Linda Houser. 2010. *Citizenship Studies*. 14(6): 739-54.

“The Politics of Inequality in America: A Political Economy Framework.” with Lawrence R. Jacobs. 2010. *Annual Review of Political Science*. 13: 341-64

“From Policy to Polity: Democracy, Paternalism and the Incorporation of Disadvantaged Citizens.” With Sarah K. Bruch and Myra Marx Ferree. 2010. *American Sociological Review*. 75(2): 205-26.

“Deciding to Discipline: Race, Choice, and Punishment at the Frontlines of Welfare Reform.” with Sanford Schram, Richard Fording, and Linda Houser. 2009. *American Sociological Review*. 74(3): 398-422.

“Public Responses to Health Disparities: How Group Cues Influence Support for Government Intervention.” with Elizabeth Rigby, Bridget Booske, Angela Kempf, and Stephanie Robert. 2009. *Social Science Quarterly*. 90(5): 1321-40.

“The Place of Inequality: Contexts, Individuals, and Class Biases in the American Polity.” with Lawrence R. Jacobs. 2009. *Political Science Quarterly*. 124(1): 95-125.

“The Color of Devolution: Race, Federalism, and the Politics of Social Control.” with Richard C. Fording and Sanford F. Schram. 2008. *American Journal of Political Science*. 52(3): 536-53.

“Neoliberal Poverty Governance: Race, Place and the Punitive Turn in U.S. Welfare Policy.” with Sanford F. Schram, Richard C. Fording. 2008. *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*. 1(1): 17-36.

“A Public Transformed? Welfare Reform as Policy Feedback.” with Sanford F. Schram. 2007. *American Political Science Review*. 101(1): 111-27.

“Devolution, Discretion, and the Effect of Local Political Values on TANF Sanctioning.” with Richard C. Fording and Sanford F. Schram. 2007. *Social Service Review*. 81(2): 285-316.

“The Illusion of Technique: How Method-Driven Research Leads Welfare Scholarship Astray.” with Meghan Condon, Matthew Holleque, and Amber Wichowsky. 2006. *Social Science Quarterly*. 87(4): 798-807.

“The Political Roots of Disability Claims: How State Environments and Policies Shape Citizen Demands.” with Lael Keiser. 2006. *Political Research Quarterly*. 59(1): 133-48.

“The Consequences of Public Policy for Democratic Citizenship: Bridging Policy Studies and Mass Politics.” with Suzanne Mettler. 2004. *Perspectives on Politics*. 2(1): 1-19.

“Why Do White Americans Support the Death Penalty?” with Laura Langbein and Alan Metelko. 2003. *Journal of Politics*. 65(2): 397-421.

“Setting the Terms of Relief: Explaining State Policy Choices in the Devolution Revolution.” with Sanford Schram, Thomas Vartanian, and Erin O’Brien. 2001. *American Journal of Political Science*. 45(2): 378-95.

“Success Stories: Welfare Reform, Policy Discourse, and the Politics of Research.” with Sanford Schram. 2001. *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. 557(September): 49-65. reprinted in the Finnish journal, *Tiedotustutkimus*. 2001, Issue 4: 94-108.

“Lessons of Welfare: Policy Design, Political Learning, and Political Action.” 1999. *American Political Science Review*. 93(2): 363-80.

“Welfare Application Encounters: Subordination, Satisfaction, and the Puzzle of Client Evaluations.” 1999. *Administration & Society*. 31(1): 50-94.

“The Real Value of Welfare: Why There Is No Welfare Migration.” with Sanford Schram. 1999. *Politics & Society*. 27(1): 39-66.

“Spectacular Politics, Dramatic Interpretations: Multiple Meanings in the Thomas/Hill Hearings.” with Virginia Sapiro. 1999. *Political Communication*. 16: 285-314.

“Already Hit Bottom: General Assistance, Welfare Retrenchment, and Single Male Migration.” with Thomas Vartanian, Sanford Schram, and Jim Baumohl. 1999. *American Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare*. 26(2): 151-74.

“With Good Cause: Bureaucratic Discretion and the Politics of Child Support Enforcement.” with Lael Keiser. 1998. *American Journal of Political Science*. 42(4): 1133-56.

“Making Something Out of Nothing: Welfare Reform and a New Race to the Bottom.” with Sanford Schram. 1998. *Publius*. 28(3): 67-88.

“Reading Public Opinion: The Influence of News Coverage on Perceptions of Public Sentiment.” with Diana Mutz. 1997. *Public Opinion Quarterly*. 61(3): 431-51.

“Partisan Divisions and Voting Decisions: U.S. Senators, Governors, and the Rise of a Divided Federal Government.” with David Canon. 1995. *Political Research Quarterly*. 48(2): 253-274.

Book Chapters

“Neoliberalism for the Common Good? Public Value Governance and the Downsizing of Democracy.” with Adam Dahl. In A. Yeatman and B. Costea, eds. 2018. *The Triumph of Managerialism: New Technologies of Governance and their Implications for Value*. Rowman & Littlefield.

“Criminal Justice Predation and Neoliberal Governance.” With Joshua Page. In S.F. Schram and M. Pavlovskaya, eds. 2017. *Rethinking Neoliberalism*. New York, NY: Routledge. Pp.141-61.

“Welfare and Welfare Reform in the Age of Neoliberal Paternalism.” with Sanford F. Schram and Richard C. Fording in M. Reisch, ed. 2017. *Social Policy and Social Justice*. 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. Pp.383-408.

“Learning from Ferguson: Welfare, Criminal Justice, and the Political Science of Race and Class.” With Vesla Weaver. In Juliet Hooker and Alvin B. Tillery, eds. 2016. *American Political Science Association Task Report on Racial and Class Inequalities Across the Americas*. Washington, DC: American Political Science Association.

“It Can’t Be a Lie: The Wire as Breaching Experiment.” with Joshua Page. In S. Deylami and J. Havercroft, eds. 2015. *The Politics of HBO’s The Wire: Everything Is Connected*. New York, NY: Routledge. Pp.11-40.

“Babies as Barriers: Welfare Policy Discourse in an Era of Neoliberalism.” With Linda Houser, Sanford F. Schram, and Richard C. Fording in S. Haymes, M. Vidal de Haymes, and R. Miller, eds. 2015. *Routledge Handbook of Poverty and the United States*. New York, NY: Routledge. pp.143-60.

“Guardianship and the New Gilded Age: Insular Politics and the Perils of Elite Rule.” With Lawrence R. Jacobs in M.G. Crain and M. Sherraden, eds. 2014. *Working and Living in the Shadow of Economic Fragility*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

“Performance Management as a Disciplinary Regime: Street-Level Organizations in a Neoliberal Era of Poverty Governance” with Sanford F. Schram and Richard C. Fording in E. Brodtkin and G. Marston, eds. 2013. *Work and the Welfare State: The Politics and Management of Policy Change*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press. Pp125-40.

“Neoliberal Paternalism: Race and the New Poverty Governance.” with Sanford F. Schram and Richard C. Fording in Moon-Kie Jung, João Costa Vargas and Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, eds. 2011. *State of White Supremacy: Racism, Governance, and the United States*. Palo Alto, CA: Stanford University Press. Pp.130-57.

“Coloring the Terms of Membership: Reinventing the Divided Citizenry in an Era of Neoliberal Paternalism.” with Sanford F. Schram in D. Harris and A.C. Lin, eds. 2008. *The Colors of Poverty: Why Racial and Ethnic Disparities Persist*. New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation. Pp.293-322.

“The New Politics of Inequality: A Policy-Centered Perspective.” with Jacob S. Hacker and Suzanne Mettler in J. Soss, J.S. Hacker, and S. Mettler, eds. 2007. *Remaking America: Democracy and Public Policy in an Age of Inequality*. New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation.

“A Public Transformed? Welfare Reform as Policy Feedback.” with Sanford Schram in J. Soss, J.S. Hacker, and S. Mettler, eds. 2007. *Remaking America: Democracy and Public Policy in an Age of Inequality*. New York, NY: Russell Sage.

“Talking Our Way to Meaningful Explanations: A Practice-Centered Approach to In-Depth Interviews for Interpretive Research.” In D. Yanow and P. Schwartz-Shea, eds. 2006. *Interpretation and Method*. New York: M.E. Sharpe. Pp.127-49. Reprinted in 2nd edition, 2013.

“Making Clients and Citizens: Welfare Policy as a Source of Status, Belief, and Action.” In Anne Schneider and Helen Ingram, eds. 2005. *Deserving and Entitled: Social Constructions and Public Policy*. State University of New York Press. pp.291-328.

“Contemporary Public Opinion: Poverty and Welfare.” with Erin O’Brien. In Gwendolyn Mink and Alice O’Connor, eds. 2004. *Poverty in the United States: An Encyclopedia of History, Politics, and Policy*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO.

“Introduction” with Sanford Schram and Richard Fording. In S.F. Schram, J. Soss, and R.C. Fording, eds. 2003. *Race and the Politics of Welfare Reform*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.

“The Hard Line and the Color Line: Race, Welfare, and the Roots of Get-Tough Reform.” with Sanford Schram, Thomas Vartanian, and Erin O’Brien. In S.F. Schram, J. Soss, and R.C. Fording, eds. 2003. *Race and the Politics of Welfare Reform*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.

“Success Stories: Welfare Reform, Policy Discourse, and the Politics of Research.” with Sanford Schram. In R. Albelda and A. Withorn, eds. 2002. *Lost Ground: Welfare Reform, Poverty, and Beyond*.

Boston, MA: South End Press. pp.57-78. (reprinted from *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*).

“Making Something Out of Nothing: Welfare Reform and a New Race to the Bottom.” with Sanford Schram. In Sanford F. Schram, ed. 1999. *Welfare Reform: A Race to the Bottom?* Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press. pp.83-104 (reprinted from *Publius*).

“Already Hit Bottom: General Assistance, Welfare Retrenchment, and Single Male Migration.” with Thomas Vartanian, Sanford Schram, and Jim Baumohl. In Sanford Schram, ed. 1999. *Welfare Reform: A Race to the Bottom?* Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press. pp.111-28 (reprinted from *American Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare*).

Works in Progress

“The Predator State: Race, Class, and the New Era of Indentured Citizenship.” Book manuscript with Joshua Page. Prospectus under review at University of Chicago Press.

“Learning Where We Stand: How School Experiences Matter for Civic Marginalization and Political Inequality.” With Sarah K. Bruch. Under review.

“Marginalization Matters: Rethinking Race in the Analysis of State Politics and Policy.” With Sarah K. Bruch. Under revision.

“Learning from Ferguson: Welfare, Criminal Justice, and the Political Science of Race and Class.” With Vesla M. Weaver. Under revision.

Book Reviews and Popular Publications

“The Lessons Students Learn.” With Sarah K. Bruch. *Jacobin*. 2018.

“Food Stamp Fables.” 2017. *Jacobin*. January 16.

“Demonizing the Poor.” with Sanford F. Schram. 2015. *Jacobin*. September 3. Reprinted by *Salon*.

“The Racial Biases of the Welfare System.” 2014. *Spotlight on Poverty and Opportunity*. April 28.

Book Review: “*Progress for the Poor* by Lane Kenworthy.” 2013. *Perspectives on Politics*. 11(2): 652-53.

“Penalties Will Hurt Students, Families.” 2013. *Knoxville News-Sentinel*. April 4.

“The Poverty Fight.” 2011. *Contexts*. 10(2). Nominated for the Claude S. Fischer Award for Excellence in *Contexts*.

“Double Book Review: *Because of Race: How Americans Debate Harm and Opportunity in Our Schools* by Mica Pollock and *Dangerous Frames: How ideas about Race and Gender Shape Public Opinion* by Nicholas J.G. Winter.” 2009. *Perspectives on Politics*. 7(3): 671-73.

“Welfare Reform as a Failed Political Strategy: Evidence and Explanations for the Stability of Public Opinion.” *Focus*. 24(3): 17-23.

“Devolution, Discretion, and Variation in Local TANF Sanctioning.” with Richard C. Fording and Sanford F. Schram. 2006. *Insights on Southern Poverty*. 4(1): 1-4.

“The Political Roots of Disability Claims: How State Environments and Policies Shape Citizen Demands.” with Lael Keiser. 2006. *La Follette Policy Report*. 16(1): 9-17.

“Welfare Policy Choices in the States: Does the Hard Line Follow the Color Line?” with Sanford F. Schram, Thomas P. Vartanian, and Erin O’Brien. 2004. *Focus*. 23(1): 9-15.

Book Review: “*The Divided Welfare State: The Battle over Public and Private Benefits Social Benefits in the United States* by Jacob S. Hacker.” 2003. *Perspectives on Politics*. 1(4): 782-83.

“Has Welfare Reform Reduced Poverty?” with Sanford Schram. published by *Women’s Enews*, August 1, 2001, as “New Report Sows Confusion About Welfare, Poverty” and by *The Chicago Tribune*, August 8, 2001, as “Report Clouds Welfare, Poverty Picture.”

Book Review: “*Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy* by Martin Gilens.” 2000. *American Political Science Review*. 94(4): 944-45.

Grants, Honors, and Awards

- 2017 University of Minnesota Council of Graduate Students (COGS) Campus-Wide Outstanding Faculty Award (given to a faculty member “who graduate students feel go above and beyond expectations to ensure the success of graduate students, both as students and as the next generation of scholars and researchers”).
- 2015 Herbert Simon Award, for *Disciplining the Poor: Neoliberal Paternalism and the Persistent Power of Race*. The Herbert Simon Award is given by the American Political Science Association’s Section on Public Administration is given for significant contributions to public administration scholarship.
- Russell Sage Foundation Grant (Social Inequality Program). Awarded 2013. “Integrating Racial Relations in Understandings of the Politics of Inequality.” With Sarah K. Bruch. (\$143,578).
- 2012 Michael Harrington Book Award, for *Disciplining the Poor: Neoliberal Paternalism and the Persistent Power of Race*. The Harrington Book Award is given by the American Political Science Association’s Caucus for a New Political Science, and is awarded to the book published in the past year that best demonstrates how outstanding scholarship can be put in the service of struggle for a better, more just, world.
- 2012 Oliver Cromwell Cox Award, for *Disciplining the Poor: Neoliberal Paternalism and the Persistent Power of Race*. The Cox Book Award is given by the American Sociological Association’s Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities and is awarded to the book published in the past two years that best advances the sociological study of race and ethnicity and makes “a distinguished and significant contribution to the eradication of racism.”
- 2012 CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title Award, for for *Disciplining the Poor: Neoliberal Paternalism and the Persistent Power of Race*. The CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title Award is given by the American Library Association to “the best in scholarly titles reviewed by *Choice* [in the preceding year] and brings with it the extraordinary recognition of the academic library community.”
- 2012 Beryl Radin Award for “The Organization of Discipline: From Performance Management to Perversity and Punishment” with Richard C. Fording and Sanford F. Schram. 2011. *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*. 21(1): 203-32. The Radin Award is given by the Public

Management Research Association and is awarded for the best article published in JPART in the past year.

- 2010 University of Minnesota Council of Graduate Students (COGS) Campus-Wide Outstanding Faculty Award (given to a faculty member “who graduate students feel go above and beyond expectations to ensure the success of graduate students, both as students and as the next generation of scholars and researchers”).
- 2008 Award for the Best Paper on Public Policy presented at the 2007 annual conference of the American Political Science Association (APSA), “Deciding to Discipline: A Multi-Method Study of Race, Choice, and Punishment at the Frontlines of Welfare Reform,” awarded by the APSA’s Public Policy Section.
- 2006 Award for the Best Paper on Public Policy presented at the 2005 annual conference of the American Political Science Association (APSA), “The Color of Devolution: The Politics of Local Punishment in the New World of Welfare,” awarded by the APSA’s Public Policy Section.
- Annie E. Casey Foundation Research Award (2006-7) for multi-method study of welfare implementation in the state of Florida (\$35,000).
- Russell Sage Foundation Presidential Grant (2004) to support a conference and edited volume, “Making the Politics of Poverty and Inequality: How Public Policies are Reshaping American Democracy” (\$37,500).
- Annie E. Casey Foundation Research Award (2005) for multi-method study of welfare implementation in the state of Florida (\$25,000).
- Institute for Research on Poverty Small Research Grant, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2004) for multi-method study of welfare implementation in the state of Florida (\$20,000).
- Graduate School Research Grant, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2004) for multi-method study of welfare implementation in the state of Florida (\$7,489).
- American Political Science Association and Pi Sigma Alpha Award for Outstanding Teaching in Political Science, 2002.
- Campus-Wide Outstanding Teacher Award, American University, 2002.
- School of Public Affairs Outstanding Teacher Award, American University, 2002.
- Elmer Plischke Award for Outstanding Research in Political Science, American University, 2002.
- Selected for the Executive Council of the Public Administration Caucus for the Midwest Political Science Association, 2002-2003.
- Nominated for the Robert H. Durr Award for the best paper applying quantitative methods to a substantive problem in political science, 2001 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (paper co-authored with Lael Keiser).
- American University School of Public Affairs Outstanding Teacher Award, 1998.
- American Political Science Association and Pi Sigma Alpha Award for Outstanding Teaching in Political Science, 1998.
- American University School of Public Affairs Outstanding Teacher Award, 1997.
- Summer Research Grants, School of Public Affairs, American University, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001.
- Dissertation nominated by the Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, for the American Political Science Association’s Harold Lasswell Award for the top dissertation in the field of Public Policy, 1997.
- Dissertation nominated by the Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, for the American Political Science Association’s E.E. Schattschneider Award for the top dissertation in the field of American Politics, 1996.
- University of Wisconsin-Madison Genevieve Gorst Herfurth Award for Outstanding Paper by a Graduate Student, 1992-93.

- University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Political Science, Teaching Assistant Mentor Award, 1992, 1993 and Teaching Assistant Excellence Award, 1992.
- University of Texas-Austin, National Merit Scholarship, 1985-1989.

Selected Conference Papers

- “Governing the Poor: The Rise of the Neoliberal Paternalist State” with Richard C. Fording and Sanford F. Schram. Paper prepared for presentation at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Toronto, Canada.
- “The Recovery Model Comes to Welfare: Success Stories, Oblates, and the Medicalization of Welfare Reform” with Sanford F. Schram, Linda Houser, Richard C. Fording, Paul Rosenstein, and Tatiana Winterbottom. .” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 2009.
- “The Organization of Discipline: Performance Management and Sanctioning Behavior at the Frontlines of Welfare Reform” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, November 2008. (with Richard C. Fording and Sanford F. Schram).
- “Marginalization Matters: Rethinking Race in the Analysis of State Politics and Policy.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 2008, and the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, August, 2009 (with Sarah K. Bruch).
- “Distributing Discipline: Race, Politics, and Punishment at the Frontlines of Welfare Reform.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2008. (with Richard C. Fording and Sanford F. Schram)
- “Deciding to Discipline: A Multi-Method Study of Race, Choice, and Punishment at the Frontlines of Welfare Reform.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2007 (with Sanford Schram, Richard Fording, and Linda Houser).
- “Race, Class, and the Policy Process: Social Groups as Actors and Objects in the Policy Process.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2007 (with Elizabeth Rigby and Sarah K. Bruch).
- “The Politics of Performance and Punishment: Administrative Feedback and the Dynamics of Welfare Sanctioning” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Public Policy and Management, November 2006 (with Richard Fording and Sanford Schram).
- “The Bottom Line, the Business Model and the Bogey: Performance Management, Sanctions and the Brave New World of Welfare-to-Work in Florida” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2006 (with Richard Fording and Sanford Schram).
- “Race and Devolution: The Politics of Local Punishment in the New World of Welfare.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2005 (with Richard Fording and Sanford Schram).
- “Putting Sanctions into Practice: Devolution, Implementation, and Local Variation in the Florida TANF Program.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2005 (with Richard Fording and Sanford Schram).
- “Race, Sex, and the Implicit Politics of Welfare Reform.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 2004. (with Danielle LeClair)
- “Beyond Representation: Policy Feedback and the Political Construction of Citizenship.” Paper prepared for the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2003 (with Suzanne Mettler).

- “Policy Discourse and Public Management: How Therapeutic Frames Organize the Politics of Administration.” Paper presented at the Workshop on the Empirical Study of Governance, Management, and Performance, College Station, TX, February 2002 (with Ann Chih Lin).
- “The Racial Basis of Welfare Reform.” Paper presented at the 2001 Meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management. Washington, DC.
- “Why Do White Americans Support the Death Penalty?” Paper presented at the 2001 meeting of the International Society for Political Psychology. (with Laura Langbein and Alan Metelko).
- “The Political Roots of Disability Claims: How State Environments and Policies Shape Citizen Demands.” Paper presented at the 2001 meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2001 (with Lael Keiser), nominated for the Robert H. Durr Award.
- “Setting the Terms of Relief: Political Explanations for State Policy Choices in the Devolution Revolution.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2000 (with, Sanford Schram, Tom Vartanian, and Erin O’Brien).
- “Spoiled Identity and Collective Action: Political Consequences of Welfare Stigma” Paper delivered at the 1999 Annual Meeting of the International Society for Political Psychology.
- “Challenged Bureaucracies: Disability Determinations and the Politics of Administrative Appeals.” Paper delivered at the 1999 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. (with Lael R. Keiser).
- “Social Processes and Political Demands: Welfare Claiming as a Collective Accomplishment” Paper delivered at the 55th Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, IL (April, 1998).
- “The Real Value of Welfare: Why There Is No Welfare Migration.” Paper delivered at the Meeting, “Welfare Reform: A Race to the Bottom?” Washington, D.C.: Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars (with Sanford Schram, March, 1998).
- “With Good Cause: Bureaucratic Discretion and Child Support Enforcement.” Paper delivered at the 55th Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, IL. (with Lael Keiser, April, 1997).
- “What’s the Issue? Evaluations of Clarence Thomas and Anita Hill.” delivered at the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, IL (with Virginia Sapiro, April, 1995).
- “The Political Construction of Welfare Citizenship: Reconceptualizing Welfare Seeking as Political Participation.” Paper delivered at the 90th Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. New York, NY (September, 1994).
- “Reading Public Opinion: The Influence of News Coverage on Perceptions of Public Sentiment.” Paper delivered at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, IL (with Diana C. Mutz, April, 1994).
- “Partisan Divisions and Voting Decisions: U.S. Senators, Governors, and the Rise of a Divided Federal Government.” Paper delivered at the 89th Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. Washington, D.C. (with David T. Canon, September, 1993).
- “Social Influences on Political Attitudes: The Role of Imagined Communities.” Paper delivered at the 89th Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. Washington, D.C. (with Diana C. Mutz, September, 1993).

Invited Lectures & Public Speaking

- “Disciplining the Poor: Neoliberal Paternalism and the Persistent Power of Race.” Invited Seminars:
 - Harvard University, October 2008
 - Gotheborg University, December 2008
- “The Comparative Sociology of the Welfare State.” Umea University, December 2008.

- “Poverty Politics and Policy” panel presentation at the Institute for Research on Poverty conference, Changing Poverty, May 2008.
- "Assessing the Faith Factor in Social Service Provision." panel presentation at the Institute for Research on Poverty conference, Measuring the Role of Faith in Program Outcomes, April 2008.
- “Devolution and Discipline: Race, Place, and Performance in the Politics of Social Control.” Invited Seminars at
 - Georgetown University, September 2006.
 - University of Washington, November 2006
- “Reflections on *The Autonomy Myth*: Explanations, Justifications, and Vulnerabilities." Institute for Research on Poverty, October 2006.
- “A Public Transformed? Welfare as Policy Feedback.” Invited Seminars at
 - Institute for Research on Poverty Seminar Series, April 2006
 - University of Wisconsin-Madison, Political Science Department. October 2005
 - Yale University, Institution for Social and Policy Studies. October 2005
 - Bryn Mawr College, Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. October 2005
- “Pictures in Our Heads, Politics around Us: Welfare Stereotypes and the Interplay of Mind and Polity.” Invited presentation at the Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, November 2005.
- “The Color of Devolution, the Place of Punishment: Race and Poverty Governance in an Era of Neoliberal Paternalism.” Invited presentation at the Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin-Madison, September 2005.
- “The Client Role, Client-Worker Interactions, and Citizenship.” Invited presentation at the National Poverty Center Conference, “New Directions for Research on Social Policy and Organizational Practices.” Ann Arbor, Michigan, July 2005.
- “Welfare Claiming through a Political Lens” Invited Presentation at the Conference on Public Policy, Choice, and Program Participation. Institute on Inequality and Social Structures, University of Washington, January 2004.
- “The Color of Capital Punishment: Racial Context, Racial Prejudice, and the Dynamics of White Support for the Death Penalty.” Invited Presentation for the Institute for Research on Poverty Speaker Series, UW-Madison, December 2003.
- “Making Clients and Citizens” Invited Presentation for the Department of Sociology (Politics, Culture, and Society Seminar Series), University of Wisconsin-Madison, April 2003.
- “Race and the Politics of Welfare Reform” Invited Presentation to the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, Bryn Mawr College, January 2003.
- “Policy Feedback and the Construction of Citizenship” Invited Presentation to the Maxwell School at Syracuse University, November 2003
- “Economic Inequity, Democratic Participation, and Political Empowerment.” Invited Presentation to Demos USA, New York, NY, April 2002.
- “Race and Welfare in the United States.” Invited Presentation to The Coalition on Human Needs, Welfare Advocates Meeting, Washington, DC, January 2002.
- “Research Methods in Graduate Education.” Invited Presentation to the NASPA national conference on core competencies in Ph.D. education. Washington, DC, 1999.

Selected Service to the Profession

- Executive Committee: Interpretive Methodologies and Methods (IMM) Group, American Political Science Association, 2013-present.
- Editorial Boards: *Perspectives on Politics*, 2013-present.
- Editorial Board: *Journal of Public Administration Research & Theory*, 2013-present.

- Editorial Board: *Political Research Quarterly*, 2006-2014.
- Editorial Board: *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*, 2004-2008.
- Editorial Board: *Women & Politics*, 2000-2003.
- Chair: American Political Science Association, Committee on the Annual Meeting, 2005-2008.
- Executive Council: Public Policy Section, American Political Science Association, 2008-2011.
- Executive Council: Public Administration Caucus, Midwest Political Science Association, 2002-2003.
- Manuscript Referee: *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *American Sociological Review*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *Social Problems*, *Social Forces*, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *Public Administration Review*, *American Politics Quarterly*, *Law & Society Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Governance*, *Milbank Quarterly*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Psychology*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*, *Women & Politics*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Publius*, *Social Service Review*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *American Review of Politics*.