

ABBYLIN H. SELLERS

CURRICULUM VITAE

Department of History and Political Science
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Azusa Pacific University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA December, 2012
Political Science, Fields: American Politics and Public Policy
Dissertation: “Welfare Reform: The Unintended Consequences of the Caseload Reduction Credit and the 2005 Deficit Reduction Act”

Dissertation Chair: Andrew Busch, Ph.D., Claremont McKenna College

Dissertation Committee Members: Michael Uhlmann, Ph.D., Jean Reith Schroedel, Ph.D.

M.A., Regent University, Virginia Beach, VA May, 2002
Public Policy
Thesis: “Title V: The Case for Abstinence-until-marriage Based Education”

B.A., (Cum Laude), Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA December, 1999
Political Science

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Honored Visiting Graduate Faculty
Ashland University, MA American History & Government, Ashland, OH June 2018 – present
Associate Professor
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA August 2016 – present
Assistant Professor
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA August 2012 – August 2016
Instructor
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA August 2011 – August 2012
Adjunct Professor
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA August 2008 – August 2011

Azusa Pacific University Courses:
Introduction to American Government
State and Local Government
Research and Writing
The American Presidency
Congress
Seminar on 20th Century Communism
Women in Politics
Seminar on 20th Century Welfare Policy
Practicum
Democracy (Honors College)

Ashland University Graduate Courses:
Presidency I
Presidency II
Congress
Women in History (one day seminar)

PUBLICATIONS (REFEREED)

Fowler, Derek, J., Jennifer L. Merolla, and Abbylin H. Sellers (alphabetical order). “Descriptive representation and evaluations of government.” *Politics, Groups, and Identities*, vol. 2:1 (March 2014), 66-89.

Merolla, Jennifer L., Abbylin H. Sellers and Derek J. Fowler. “Descriptive representation, political efficacy, and African Americans in the 2008 presidential election.” *Political Psychology*, vol. 34:6 (December 2013), 863-875.

BOOK REVIEWS

Sellers, Abbylin H. Review of *Refuge in the Lord: Catholics, Presidents & the Politics of Immigration, 1981-2013*, Lawrence J. McAndrews. *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 48, no. 1 (March 2018), 192–193.

Sellers, Abbylin H. Review of *The Rise of the Military Welfare State*, Jennifer Mittelstadt. *Journal of Military History* 80, no. 3 (July 2016), 960-961.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRY

King, Stephen M. and Abbylin H. Sellers. “Judeo-Christian Leadership in the Public Sector.” In the *Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration, Public Policy, and Governance*, edited by A. Farazmand. Switzerland: Springer, 2018.

ESSAY COMPILATION

Hale, Brad R. and Abbylin H. Sellers. “Preserving Liberty, Loving Neighbor,” *Visions for Christians in Public Life: Exploring Christian Engagement in Contemporary American Politics and Society*. Tyler Castle, ed. Initiative on Faith & Public Life, American Enterprise Institute, 2020.

WORKS IN PREPARATION

“ImmiGRIT: L.A.’s immigrant restaurant owners tell their story of hard work, great food, and a dream.” Book project.

“For whom does the presence of women political leaders increase political engagement? Using an experimental approach to look at the effects of descriptive representation,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla and Danielle Lemi). Under review.

“Descriptive representation and trust among women,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla and Danielle Lemi). Working experiment and paper.

“Descriptive representation and its effects on political engagement,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla, and Artour Aslanian). Working experiment and paper; preparing for review.

POLICY PAPERS, NON-REFEREED

“Full of Holes: The Truth about the Center for Sexuality and Religion,” Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family Public Policy Division, 2001.

“Dashing to Decadence: How the CDC’s Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) is promoting condom programs in public schools” (with Jerry Gramckow). Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family Public Policy Division, 2001.

“The Sexual Abstinence Message Causes Positive Change in Adolescent Behavior: A Circumstantial Review of Relevant Statistics,” Colorado Springs, CO: Focus on the Family Public Policy Division, 1998.

PRESENTATIONS

“Preserving Liberty, Loving Neighbor,” (with Brad R. Hale). Paper presented at the annual Faculty Conference of the American Enterprise Institute’s Initiative on Faith & Public Life, Houston, TX, 2020.

“Does the presence of women in elected office increase female empowerment? Using an experimental approach to look at the effects of descriptive representation,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla and Danielle Lemi). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), San Francisco, CA, 2017.

“Does the presence of women in elected office increase female empowerment? Using an experimental approach to look at the effects of descriptive representation,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla and Danielle Lemi). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association (SPSA), New Orleans, LA, 2017.

“An experimental investigation of whether the presence of women in elected office increases female empowerment,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla and Janine Kraybill). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association (WPSA), San Diego, CA, 2016.

“An experimental investigation of whether the presence of women in elected office increases female empowerment,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla and Janine Kraybill). Paper presented at the 87th annual conference of the Southern Political Science Association (SPSA), San Juan, Puerto Rico, 2016.

“Unintended consequences and the tension of policy analysis vs. political analysis: A case study of welfare reform and the caseload reduction credit.” Paper presented at the 73rd annual conference of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, IL, 2015.

“Descriptive Representation and its Effects on Political Engagement,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla, Derek J. Fowler, and Artour Aslanian). Paper presented at the biennial meeting of Christians in Political Science (CPS), Azusa CA, 2014.

“Welfare Reform and the Caseload Reduction Credit: Unintended Consequences of Policy Development and Implementation.” Paper presented at the biennial meeting of Christians in Political Science (CPS), Azusa CA, 2014.

“Descriptive Representation and its Effects on Political Engagement,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla, Derek J. Fowler, and Artour Aslanian). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association (WPSA), Seattle, CA, 2014.

“Descriptive Representation and Evaluations of Government,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla, Derek J. Fowler, and Artour Aslanian). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association (WPSA), Hollywood, CA, 2013.

“The Empowering Effects of Descriptive Representation on Minority Political Attitudes and Behaviors,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla, Derek J. Fowler). Paper presented at the bi-annual meeting of Christians in Political Science (CPS). Gordon College, Wenham, MA, 2012.

“The Effects of Descriptive Representation on Political Attitudes and Behaviors,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla, Derek J. Fowler). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association (WPSA), Portland, OR, 2012.

“Descriptive Representation, Political Efficacy, and Blacks in the 2008 Presidential Election,” (with Jennifer L. Merolla, Derek J. Fowler). Paper presented at the 24th annual meeting of the Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium (PRIEC). University of California at Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA, 2011.

GRANTS

- 2020 – Faculty Research Grant, Azusa Pacific University, “ImmiGRIT: L.A.’s immigrant restaurant owners tell their story of hard work, great food, and a dream,” (\$6,000)
- 2019 – Charles Koch Foundation, Koch Fellows Program, Principal Investigator (\$25,000)
- 2019 – Faculty Research Grant, Azusa Pacific University, “ImmiGRIT: L.A.’s immigrant restaurant owners tell their story of hard work, great food, and a dream,” (\$6,000)
- 2018 – Charles Koch Foundation, Koch Fellows Program, Principal Investigator (\$43,835)
- 2018 – Association for the Study of Free Institutions, Inviting speakers to campus (\$2,500)
- 2018 – Faculty Research Grant, Azusa Pacific University, “ImmiGRIT: L.A.’s immigrant restaurant owners tell their story of hard work, great food, and a dream,” (\$6,000)
- 2017 – Charles Koch Foundation, Koch Fellows Program, Principal Investigator (\$25,180)
- 2016 – Association for the Study of Free Institutions, Inviting speakers to campus (\$2,500)
- 2016 – Charles Koch Foundation, Koch Fellows Program, Principal Investigator (\$24,000)
- 2015 – Charles Koch Foundation, Koch Fellows Program, Principal Investigator (\$18,000)
- 2014 – Faculty Research Grant, Azusa Pacific University, “Descriptive representation and the significance of public policy priorities on political engagement,” (collaboration with Jennifer Merolla, Claremont Graduate University), (\$5,000)
- 2013 – Values & Capitalism Mini Grant, American Enterprise Institute, “Faculty-Student Reading Seminar on Free Enterprise,” Principal Investigator (\$5,010)
- 2013 – Fletcher Jones Foundation Grant (at Claremont Graduate University), “Descriptive Representation and Evaluations of Government,” (collaboration with Jennifer Merolla), (\$5,856)
- 2013 – Durrell Foundation, Free Market Economics Mini Grant for Course Development, Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, “20th Century Welfare Policy and Economic Theory,” (\$3,500)
- 2012 – Faculty Research Grant, Azusa Pacific University, “Descriptive Representation and Evaluations of Government,” (collaboration with Jennifer Merolla, Claremont Graduate University), (\$5,000)
- 2012 – Travel Grant, Claremont Graduate University School of Politics and Economics (\$250)

HONORS, RECOGNITIONS, AND AWARDS

- 2019-2020 – Center for Research, Ethics, and Values (CREV) Faculty Fellow, Azusa Pacific University
- 2018 – Leon Weaver Award, American Political Science Association 118th Annual Meeting, Best paper presented for the Representation and Electoral Systems section
- 2017 – Azusa Pacific University Teaching Excellence Award (awarded out of 465 full-time faculty) for superior teaching evaluations, student engagement, and mentoring beyond the classroom

- 2017 – Scholar-Teacher, Azusa Pacific University (three units of course release for research)
- 2016 – Scholar-Teacher, Azusa Pacific University (three units of course release for research)
- 2016 – Azusa Pacific University Uncommon Citizen Award Nominee
- 2015 – Scholar-Teacher, Azusa Pacific University (three units of course release for research)
- 2014 – Scholar-Teacher, Azusa Pacific University (six units of course release for research)
- 2013 – Emerging Scholar, Azusa Pacific University (three units of course release for research)
- 2010 – National Federation of Republican Women National Pathfinder Scholarship California State Finalist
- 2002 – Outstanding Research Award, A. Willis Robertson School of Government, Regent University
- 1999 – Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society, Westmont College Circle

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2011 – PEO International Sisterhood Chapter IU Academic Scholarship
- 2007-2009 – Claremont Graduate University Academic Fellowship
- 2007 – American Political Science Association Minority Fellowship
- 2000-2002 – Heritage Academic Scholar, Regent University
- 1998-1999 – Provost Academic Scholar, Westmont College
- 1998 – Focus on the Family Institute, Colorado Christian University
- 1997 – Rotary Club International Academic Scholar Award

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

REVIEWER:

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| <i>Political Psychology</i> | <i>Sage Open</i> – Article Editor | Mercatus Center at George Mason University |
| <i>Political Behavior</i> | <i>Ethnic and Racial Studies</i> | <i>Journal of Politics</i> |

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2015 to present – Pi Sigma Alpha Faculty Adviser, Political Science Honor Society, Azusa Pacific University
- 2014 to present – Koch Fellows Program Faculty Adviser, Honors College, Azusa Pacific University
- 2013 to present – Practicum Director, History and Political Science Department, Azusa Pacific University
- 2013 to 2014 – General Education Council, Azusa Pacific University
- 2012 to present – AEI Initiative on Faith & Public Life/V&C Student Executive Council Faculty Adviser, History and Political Science Department, Azusa Pacific University

DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

- 2016 – Election 2016 Campus Forums: The Electoral College
- 2013 – Remembering *Roe v. Wade*: Constitutional Significance of *Roe v. Wade*
- 2012 – Election 2012 Campus Forums: The Electoral College

PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research and Grants Specialist, Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA

2007-2011

Assessed faculty publications from all departments of the university and write up monthly reviews and critiques for university distribution. Researched public and private funding sources for all faculty members and departments upon request; consulted with faculty on potential funding sources

and options, application instructions, deadlines, grant proposal content, drafting letters of intent and how to navigate through the university approval process; edited grant proposals and submitted grants to funding source (federal grant submission via grants.gov and fastlane.gov, private foundation grants electronic submission).

Course Developer, Southeastern University, Lakeland, FL

2011

Develop an online Intro to American Government course for the undergraduate level online learning platform.

Manuscript Reviewer and Technology Power User, Cengage Learning, Boston, MA

2010 - 2014

Served as a manuscript reviewer for Cengage Learning's online homework solution, Aplia. Reviewed content for problem sets which accompany American government textbooks. Provided expertise and training for political science faculty on the use of Aplia through Webex demonstrations and live presentations.

Graduate Research Assistant

Claremont Graduate University, CA

2009

Researched and assisted in designing a new undergraduate public policy course for Scripps College spring 2010 with Dr. Jean Reith Schroedel.

Graduate Research Assistant, Regent University, Virginia Beach, VA

2000-2002

Conducted primary and secondary research, data analysis, and conducted interviews to assist professors with their research, manuscripts, and journal articles. Compiled an annotated bibliography of journal articles and books encompassing major social issues of our time for a manuscript under the direction of Stephen M. King, Ph.D. Researched primary sources, original documents, and provided analysis of my findings on John Witherspoon under the direction of Jeffrey M. Morrison, Ph.D.

Graduate Intern for Public Policy, Focus on the Family Public Policy, Colorado Springs, CO

2001

Researched the Center for Sexuality and Religion, and wrote a paper, "Full of Holes," and was distributed to all ATS seminaries. Conducted research on the CDC's Youth Risk "Programs that Work" and co-authored a paper, "Dashing to Decadence: How the CDC's Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) is promoting condom programs in public schools," distributed to Generated research on the House International Relations Committee's hearing on the USAID's fight against HIV-AIDS.

Intern for Public Policy, Focus on the Family Public Policy, Colorado Springs, CO

1998

Conducted primary and secondary research on the effects of the abstinence message on human sexual behavior, particularly among unmarried adolescents; collected data and performed analysis. Chartered a final thesis and analysis which articulated the possible connection between abstinence education and teen sexual behavior titled, "The Sexual Abstinence Message Causes Positive Change in Adolescent Behavior: A Circumstantial Review of Relevant Statistics," and was distributed to all members of the United States Congress, state governors, and Crisis Pregnancy Centers nationwide.

This analysis was also cited in a special report commissioned by The Consortium of State Physicians Resource Councils.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

American Political Science Association
Southern Political Science Association
Six Sigma Specialist

Western Political Science Association
Christians in Political Science