

ABBYLIN HYUN 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 August, 2003
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:
American Presidency I
American Presidency II
Congress
Equal Rights Amendment (seminar)

PUBLICATIONS

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.

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.

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 Mittlestadt. *Journal of Military History* 80, no. 3 (July 2016), 960-961.

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.

"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.

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). Preparing for 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.

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 – Koch Foundation, Frederick Douglass Fellows Program, Principal Investigator, (\$20,000)
- 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,” Principal Investigator, (\$6,000)
- 2019 – Koch Foundation, Frederick Douglass 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,” Principal Investigator, (\$6,000)
- 2018 – Koch Foundation, Frederick Douglass 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,” Principal Investigator, (\$6,000)
- 2017 – Koch Foundation, Frederick Douglass Fellows Program, Principal Investigator, (\$25,180)
- 2016 – Association for the Study of Free Institutions, Inviting speakers to campus, (\$2,500)
- 2016 – Koch Foundation, Frederick Douglass Fellows Program, Principal Investigator, (\$24,000)
- 2015 – Koch Foundation, Frederick Douglass 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

- 2020-2021 – Fellowship for Scholarly Work with Ethics and Culture Faculty Fellow, Azusa Pacific University
- 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)
- 2007 – Spotlight on Performance Award for Team Excellence, Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems
- 2006 – Spotlight on Performance Award for Team Excellence, Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems
- 2002 – Outstanding Research Award, A. Willis Robertson School of Government, Regent University
- 1999 – Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society, Westmont College Circle
- 1998-1999 – Principal Percussionist, Wind Ensemble and Orchestra, Westmont College

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 Scholarship, Regent University
- 1998-1999 – Provost Academic Scholarship, Westmont College
- 1998 – Focus on the Family Institute, Colorado Christian University
- 1997 – Rotary Club International Academic Scholar Award

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

2015 to present – Pi Sigma Alpha Faculty Adviser, Political Science Honor Society, Azusa Pacific University

- Direct the honor society through organizing and planning campus wide lectures and events. Selected events: panel discussion on Israel and Palestine; lecture on the Russian revolution. Organize meetings and the annual formal induction ceremony for new members.

2014 to present – Frederick Douglass Fellows Program Director and Faculty Adviser, Honors College, Azusa Pacific University

- Direct and administer the Fellows program annually. Responsibilities include maintaining a relationship with the foundation program director, renewing the grant annually and determining the program annual budget as principal investigator, writing the measurement report following the end of each academic year, and overseeing the operating budget for the program. The Frederick Douglass Fellows program consists of a competitive application process and selected Fellows participate in a 3-unit credit course on the Foundations of Liberty. Fellows attend three required lectures and semi-formal dinners with scholars and experts in their fields. I am responsible for all the event planning. Notable speakers have included: Jason Riley, John Yoo, Allen Guelzo, Gordon Lloyd, Steven Hayward, Father Robert Sirico, Peter Greer, Lucas Morrel, Retired Four Star General Roger Brady. Fellows also have additional reading sessions with local faculty from universities in Los Angeles County on issues related to human liberty. I organize and oversee the directed research at the presidential National Archives where Fellows complete a research based project and paper on foreign or domestic policy. I organize other academic related events for the Fellows such as reading groups or colloquiums on topics such as national security. As the program director, I select one Fellow who shows great promise in the field of public policy and travel with the student to Washington, DC to attend a policy conference or seminar at one of the top think tanks or policy organizations such as the American Enterprise Institute, the Institute of World Politics, the Brookings Institution, and the Heritage Foundation.

2012 to present – AEI Initiative on Faith & Public Life/V&C Student Executive Council Faculty Adviser, History and Political Science Department, Azusa Pacific University

- Direct and advise the student leadership for on campus programming throughout the academic year, which includes organizing campus wide events and speakers. The AEI Executive Council hosts an interdisciplinary student reading group each semester (~25-30 students) on topics related to economics, foreign policy, constitutionalism, and public policy. The Council also hosts at least two campus wide events per semester, such as lectures from scholars or policy practitioners, panel discussions, debates, or documentary screenings. Following each event, a leadership dinner is held with 30 students and faculty. As the faculty adviser, I am responsible for coordinating all aspects of the events from inception to completion, working with a specified operating budget, and delegating responsibilities to student leaders. Selected events: PovertyCure, Mama Rwanda, Poverty, Inc. documentary screenings and discussion; debate with Peter Greer (Hope International) and Shane Claiborne (Red Letter Christians); panel discussion on constitutional interpretation with constitutional law experts; foreign and domestic policy lectures with affiliates of the American Enterprise Institute such as Frederick Kagan, Henry Olsen, Michael Auslin, Tim Carney, Daniel Cox, Michael Hendrix, and Peter Greer. Other responsibilities include selecting and traveling with student leaders to Washington, DC three times a year for policy conferences at the American Enterprise Institute. I oversee and serve as the faculty mentor for undergraduate student research projects when awarded. These awards are based on a national competition among undergraduates.

2012 to present – Department Administration, History and Political Science Department, Azusa Pacific University

- Regularly recruit and mentor all political science and international relations adjunct faculty by recognizing academic talent and faith compatibility. The faculty mentor responsibilities are for a full semester per new adjunct and I meet regularly with the adjunct professor and develop a professional relationship, perform classroom observations and assessment of teaching, and provide necessary feedback. Serve as the lead on political science and international relations alumni relations by maintaining contact with alums, networking with them when in Washington, DC and by written contact, and connect them with current majors. I organize alumni events with current students, and coordinate marketing efforts (direct letter writing from alums to potential majors, desktop publish all brochures and pamphlets). Responsible for managing political science and international relations course scheduling and rotation each academic year. Review and update curricular needs, such as developing new political science courses and interdisciplinary humanities curriculum.

2013 to present – Practicum Director, History and Political Science Department, Azusa Pacific University

- Direct the internship program for the 3-unit requirement for the Political Science major. Responsibilities include being in direct contact with site supervisors; developing and maintaining relationships with federal, state, and local legislators and their staff; overseeing students to ensure they are fulfilling the requirements of the internship requirement, including assessing and grading written work.

2016 – Program Review Lead, Political Science Major, Azusa Pacific University

- Directed and led the efforts for the full program review of the political science major, which included high attention to detail and organization compiling data, metrics, and budgeting for a

comprehensive overview of the program. Advocated for a number of improvements to make the major more comprehensive to the political science discipline and competitive within the CCCU. Coordinated the entire process, including working with the external reviewer, scheduling and arranging meetings, and writing up the final program review report. I have been the leader in the political science discipline in advocating for ways to strengthen the political science major and make it one of the most comprehensive and robust in the CCCU.

2015 to 2016 – Representative for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Pathway to Vocation, Azusa Pacific University

- Selected as the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Representative to work with Associate Dean on the Pathway to Vocation initiative. This required meeting with and working closely with faculty from each department in the college to gather data and alumni success stories for Pathway to Vocation brochures for each discipline. The intent of the initiative was to provide prospective students and their parents with information on how the Liberal Arts disciplines prepare them for their future vocations. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences was the leader on this initiative for the entire university.

2013 to 2014 – General Education Council, Azusa Pacific University

- Served as a representative for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences during the end phase of a general education revision.

2007- 2011 – Research and Grants Specialist, Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA

- Assessed faculty publications from all academic departments of the university and wrote 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).

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

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.

HR Specialist (Recruitment and Onboarding for Talent Acquisition)

Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems, Goleta, CA

2005 - 2007

Roles in the staffing process for the aerospace industry in the Electronic Warfare business unit: assisted in development of job descriptions and requisition openings with hiring managers; notified and interfaced with applicants to schedule interviews, schedule travel; processed expense reports and invoices; coordinated offer process by initiating background checks and verification, process and notify applicants of offers; review offer paperwork. Sourced resumes through resume Internet databases (Monster.com, Dice, Clearance Jobs) to match technical niche skills with open requisitions; notified job seekers of positions at Raytheon; determine new recruitment strategies with Talent Acquisition team. Attended job fairs (recruited and interfaced with job seekers, determined skills that were appropriate match). College recruiting team member by coordinating and organizing carousel interviews and on-campus screens, initial contact and communication with students; versed in behavioral interviewing. Served as the Business System Liaison (Space and Airborne Systems) for Raytheon's applicant tracking system. Conducted bi-weekly and monthly audits; run and distribute weekly and monthly reports through Impromptu. Projects (metric studies – applicant and diversity tracking; applicant process improvement study; updating procedures and manuals). Facilitated and coordinated weekly New Hire Orientation; verifying I-9 forms, ITAR certification and Restricted Party Screening.

Ninth/Tenth Grade Humanities Educator

Morgan Creek Classical Christian Academy, Oxnard, CA

2004-2005

Primary teaching responsibilities for high school humanities in the following areas: Ancient Civilization, English Composition and Literature, Old Testament Theology, Speech and Rhetoric, Contemporary Issues/Current Events. Director of Music (middle school and high school choir; Director of elementary school choir; winter/spring program director for entire school).

Assistant to the Associate Pastor of Adult Education

Community Presbyterian Church, Ventura, CA

2002-2004

Administrative responsibilities provided to the Associate Pastor of Adult Education (drafting, writing, and editing documents, reports, and letters); Events coordinator and planning (workshops, retreats, seminars, weddings); Volunteer coordinator with lay leaders; Desktop publishing and computer graphics (weekly worship bulletin, promotional materials and mailers); PowerPoint presentations; Shelby Database (inputting, tracking attendance, direct mail and bulk mail, profile updating).

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 ACTIVITY

REVIEWER:

Political Psychology
Political Behavior

Sage Open – Article Editor
Ethnic and Racial Studies

Mercatus Center at George Mason University
Journal of Politics

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

American Political Science Association
Southern Political Science Association

Western Political Science Association
Christians in Political Science

Six Sigma Specialist Certification