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Current Positions

Assistant Dean of Civic Engagement, *The LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin*, 2019-present.
Chief Diversity Officer, *The LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin*, 2019-present.
Lecturer, *The LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin*, 2012-present.
Fellow, *The Center for the Science of Race and Democracy at the LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin*, 2020-present.
Affiliate, *Mexican American and Latina/o Studies, The University of Texas at Austin*, 2015-present.
Contributor, *NBCUNIVERSAL*, 2012-present.

Previous Positions

Director, Office of Civic Engagement, *The LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin*, 2018.
Director of Outreach, *Center for Mexican American Studies, The University of Texas at Austin*, 2015-2016.
Lecturer, *Mexican American and Latina/o Studies, The University of Texas at Austin*, 2013-2016.
Assistant Professor, *Department of Political Science, Northwestern University*, 2007-2011.
Fellow, *Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University*, 2007-2011.
Affiliate, *African American Studies, Northwestern University*, 2007-2011.
Post-doc, *Department of Political Science, Rutgers University*, 2006-2007.

Education

Ph.D. in Political Science, Duke University, 2007.
M.A. in Political Science, Duke University, 2003.
B.A. in Political Science and Latin American Studies, University of Arizona, 2000 (*Summa Cum Laude*).

Areas of Expertise

American Politics (campaigns and elections; immigration, race and ethnic politics, women and politics)
Civic Engagement (leadership, communication, cross-cultural competency)
Political Psychology (behavioral economics, message development and delivery; political marketing)

Current Campus Leadership

Taskforce for Developing Community Standards for Faculty, *Sub-Committee Chair – Communications*
Provost's Council for LGBTQ+AEI, *Sub-Committee Chair – Campus Climate*
Institutional Data & Equity Analysis (IDEA) Council – *LGBTQ+ Representative*
University of Texas Committee for Diversity & Inclusion
LBJ School DEI Committee Chair
LBJ School Title IX Liaison
Center for Mexican American Studies Executive Committee Member

Publications

White Paper

“America’s Recovery from the 2020 ‘Shecession’: Building a Female Future of Childcare and Work.” *YWCA USA and The LBJ School Office of Civic Engagement*. 2020.

Refereed Journal Articles

“Multiple Dimensions of Mobilization: The Effect of Direct Contact and Political Ads on Latino Turnout in the 2000 Presidential Election,” with Matt Barreto and Jennifer L. Merolla, *Journal of Political Marketing*, 10, 303-327, 2011.

“The Human Face of Economic Globalization: Mexican Migrants and their Support for Free Trade,” with John H. Aldrich and Gregory Petrow, *Journal of Latino-Latin American Studies* 3, 26-46, 2008.

“Black Americans and Latino Immigrants in a Southern City: Friendly Neighbors or Economic Competitors?” with Paula D. McClain, et al., *Du Bois Review* 4, 97-117, 2007

“Vota por tu Futuro: Partisan Mobilization of Latino Voters in the 2000 Presidential Election,” with Jennifer L. Merolla, *Political Behavior* 28, 285-304, 2006.

“Racial Distancing in a Southern City: Latino Immigrants’ Views of Black Americans,” with Paula D. McClain, et al., *Journal of Politics* 68, 757-770, 2006.

“Laser Visa Implementation: Its Effects on the Arizona-Sonora Border Region,” *Rio Bravo: A Journal of Borderlands* 1, 53-71. 2002.

Book Chapters

“Rebuilding Black Voting Rights Before the Voting Rights Act,” with Paula D. McClain, Michael Brady, Niambi M. Carter, and Efrén O. Pérez in Valelly, Richard M., ed. *The Voting Rights Act: Securing the Ballot*. 2006. Washington D.C.: CQ Press.

“Se Habla Espanol: Ethnic Campaign Strategies and Latino Voting Behavior,” with Jennifer L. Merolla in Junn, Jane and Kerry L. Haynie eds. *New Race Politics: Understanding Minority and Immigrant Voting*. 2008. New York: Cambridge University Press.

“Black and Latino Immigrant Relations in a Southern City: Do Black Elites and the Black and Latino Immigrant Masses Agree?” with Paula D. McClain et al. in Haynie, Kerry and Jane Junn, eds. *New Race Politics: Understanding Minority and Immigrant Voting*. 2008. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Book Reviews

From Inclusion to Influence: Latino Representation and Latino Political Incorporation in America. *American Review of Politics* 37, 100-102, 2020.

Expert Documentary Commentary

The River and The Wall. Dir. Ben Masters. Fin and Fur Films. 2019.

DACA and The American Dream. Dir. Gregory Kallenberg. The Rational Middle. 2018.

Willie Velasquez: Your Vote is Your Voice. Dir. Hector Galan. PBS. 2016.

Courting the Ladies... Women in the 2012 Election. University of Texas Game Changers. Longhorn Network. 2012.

Invited Keynotes & Talks (Selected)

Civic Engagement & Service Learning Across Disciplines. The University of Arizona Center for University Education Scholarship. Virtual, February 4, 2021.

Preventing a “Shecession”: The Path to Economic Resiliency for Women. The Aspen Institute’s Socrates Program. Virtual, November 6, 2020.

DACA – Hispanic Heritage Month Conversation with Indeed CEO Chris Hyams. Indeed. Virtual, October 1, 2020.

Covid-19 and the 2020 Elections. Ogletree & Deakins Workplace Strategies Conference. Virtual. May 14, 2020.

An Evening with Darren Walker – Conversation with Victoria DeFrancesco Soto. The LBJ Presidential Library. Austin, TX. March 5, 2020.

Making Democracy Work – Keynote Speaker. League of Women Voters State Gala. Austin, TX. February 4, 2019.

E Pluribus Unum? American Diversity & the Political Landscape. Butler University Diversity Lecture Series. Indianapolis, IN, October, 22, 2018.

The Power of Your Vote. Hispanic Women’s Network of Texas 32nd Annual Conference. Austin, TX, September 27, 2018

YWCA Annual Conference Closing Keynote – MissionMomentMovement. San Antonio, TX, June 8, 2018.

Year of the woman 2.0. Southern Methodist University, Tower Fellows Lecture Series. Dallas, TX, April 22, 2018.

Latinos and the 2016 Election – What We Can Expect? University of Nebraska, Omaha. Omaha, Nebraska, October 3, 2016

Inequality and the American Dream – The Role of Immigration. University of Rhode Island Honor’s Colloquium. Providence, Rhode Island, September 20, 2016.

Cultivating Campus Student Engagement – Opening Address. The National Association of Student Affairs Professionals. Indianapolis, IN. March, 13, 2016.

Immigration: Pathway to the American Dream. LBJ Presidential Library. Austin, TX, October 1, 2015.

Graduation Commencement Address. North Eastern Illinois University. Chicago, IL, May 12, 2014.

Ricochet Effect: The Unintended Consequences of Micro-targeting. Innovate to Motivate-The National Conference for Political Involvement Professionals. Charleston, S.C. December 11, 2013.

Immigration & the Obama Presidency. Obama & Democracy IV – Arizona State University, Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity. Tempe, AZ, March 7, 2013

Courting the Ladies...Women in the 2012 Election. University of Texas -- Game Changers. Austin, TX, September, 20, 2012.

Latina Action Day. Hispanas Organized for Political Equality. Sacramento, CA, April 10, 2012

The Roller Coaster Ride to the White House: The 2012 Presidential Election. U.S. State Department Lecture Series. Birmingham University (England), Essex University (England), Stirling University (Scotland), March 11-15, 2011.

Invited Panel Presentations (Past Year)

The Impact of the COVID-19 Shock on Women's Labor Market Outcomes and Equitable Policy Solutions. Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Virtual, March 22, 2021.

The Path to Racial Equity – Political Influence and Involvement. The LBJ Presidential Library and Austin PBS. Virtual, March 4, 2021.

The Latinx Vote in 2020. The Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America at Brown University. Virtual, December 4, 2020.

Texas Legislative Session and Policy Impact for BYMOC. Texas Education Consortium for Male Students of Color. Virtual, November 20, 2020.

Latinos & the 2020 Election – Reflections. Board of Hispanic Caucus Chairs. Virtual, November 18, 2020.

A Debriefing of the 2020 Election. The Headliners Club. Virtual, November 17, 2020.

The 2020 Election & The Intersection of DEI. National Public Education Support Fund. Virtual, November 16, 2020.

Election 2020: Outcomes, Surprises & Moving Forward. Leadership Austin. Virtual, November 10, 2020.

The Rainbow Wave and the 2020 Election. Pitzer College. Virtual, October 15, 2020.

Rise of the Latinx Vote: Hispanic Identity at the Polls. El Institute: Institute of Latina/o, Caribbean, and Latin American Studies at the University of Connecticut & Connecticut Democracy Center at Connecticut's Old State House. Virtual, October 7, 2020.

Why Latinx Turnout Matters. Texas Tribune Festival. Virtual, September 14, 2020.

100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage. Duke Alumni Association. Virtual, August 25, 2020.

DNC Political Convention Briefing. National Association of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials. Virtual, August 19, 2020.

Awesome Girls: Be a Citizen Changemaker. Girl Scouts of America. Virtual, August 13, 2020.

Women of Impact. Supermajority's Texas Latina Leaders Convening. Virtual, August 8, 2020.

Selected Academic Conference Activities

“Fostering Diversity in Public Policy Schools—Putting the Puzzle Pieces Together.” At the National Conference of the Network of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration, Los Angeles, CA, October 16-20, 2019.

“Scholarship and the Public Interest: The Public Intellectual,” at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, MA, August 29-September 1, 2018.

Discussant on “Voter ID Laws and Voter Suppression” at the Latinos, the Voting Rights Act, and Political Engagement Conference” at the University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, November 6, 2015.

“Public Intellectualism,” at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, August, 27-30, 2013.

Service

The University of Texas at Austin

Academy of Distinguished Teachers Selection Committee, 2020.
COACHE University Survey – Community, Engagement, and Outreach Group, 2019-2020.
UT Opioid Response Consortium 2019-present.
Archer Center Graduate Program Selection Advisory Committee 2017-present.

The LBJ School of Public Affairs

LBJ School 50th Anniversary – Scholars in the Arena planning committee, 2017-2020.
Co-lead for hosting the 2019 NASPAA-Batten Student Simulation Competition, 2019.
Graduate admissions committee, 2017-2018.
LBJ School Strategic Faculty Recruitment Committee 2017

Northwestern University

Undergraduate Advisor, Political Science, Northwestern University 2009-2011
Steering Committee Member, Center on the Science of Diversity, Northwestern University, 2008-2011
Faculty Search Committee, Political Science, Northwestern University, 2008
Davee Mentor, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Northwestern University, 2008

National Service

University Leadership Council on Diversity and Inclusion in International Affairs Education, 2019-Present
Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Fellowship Reviewer, 2019
Latino Studies Association Conference Program Committee Member, 2015
American Political Science Association Public Engagement Task Force, 2013
External Advisory Committee Member, Center for Research on Diversity and Inclusion, Purdue University, 2013
Award Committee, American Political Science Association Carey McWilliams Award Committee,
Editorial Board, Politics, Groups, and Identities 2011-present
Mentorship Roundtable Program Coordinator for the International Society of Political Psychology, 2008
Meeting Division Chair, Race and Ethnic Politics of the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, 2009
Prize Committee, Latino Caucus at Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, 2008

Selected Community Service

Advisory Committee Festival of the Diaspora
Field Team 6 Advisory Board Member, 2020-present
Saber es Poder Award (University of Arizona) –Selection Committee Member, 2018.
Con Mi Madre Mentor, 2011-2015
Hispanic Scholarship Consortium Host Committee Member, 2012
Latino Legacy Weekend Founding Co-Chair, 2010
National Urban Fellows Member of the Board - Communications Committee, 2010
National Conference on Health Disparities Planning Committee Member, 2009
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill Academic Affairs, IRB Community Member, 2004-2005
ESL Instructor at Immaculate Conception Church, Durham, NC, 2002-2004
ESL Instructor at el Centro Hispano, Durham, NC, 2000-2001

Honors

Girl Scouts of Central Texas Woman of Distinction Finalist, 2019
Selected for American Israeli Friendship League Influential Leading Women’s Delegation, 2018
Selected for Austin Monthly “Things I’ve Learned” community leader feature, 2017
The Eyes of Texas Excellence Award, University of Texas, 2016
Honorary Degree Recipient, Northeastern Illinois University, 2014
Named University of Texas-Austin “Game Changing” Faculty, 2012
Named Diverse Magazine’s top 10 Minority Academics, 2011