

# Diana Z. O'Brien

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Political Science  
Rice University  
Department of Political Science, MS-24  
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## EMPLOYMENT

Albert Thomas Associate Professor of Political Science, Rice University, 2019-Present  
Fulbright Visiting Professor of Social Sciences, University of Vienna, 2020  
Associate Professor of Political Science, Texas A&M University, 2018-2019  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, Indiana University, 2014-2017  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Southern California, 2012-2014

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Washington University in St. Louis, 2012  
B.A., Hanover College, 2006

## PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Armstrong, Brenna, Tiffany D. Barnes, Diana Z. O'Brien, and Michelle M. Taylor-Robinson. "Corruption, Accountability, and Women's Access to Power." Accepted for publication at the *Journal of Politics*.

Betz, Timm, David Fortunato, and Diana Z. O'Brien. 2021. "Women's Descriptive Representation and Gendered Import Tax Discrimination." *American Political Science Review* 115(1): 307–315.

Dietrich, Bryce J., Matthew Hayes, and Diana Z. O'Brien. 2019. "Pitch Perfect: Vocal Pitch and the Emotional Intensity of Congressional Speech." *American Political Science Review* 113(4):941–62.

Clayton, Amanda, Jennifer M. Piscopo, and Diana Z. O'Brien. 2019. "All Male Panels? Representation and Democratic Legitimacy." *American Journal of Political Science* 63(1):113–29.

- Earlier draft awarded the Midwest Political Science Association's 2018 Sophonisba Breckinridge Award for best women and politics paper.

O'Brien, Diana Z. 2019. "Female Leaders and Citizens' Perceptions of Political Parties." *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties* 29(4):465–489.

- Winner of the *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties* 2019 Best Paper Award

Stauffer, Katelyn and Diana Z. O'Brien. 2019. "Fast Friends or Strange Bedfellows? Quantitative Methods and Gender and Politics Research." *European Journal of Politics and Gender* 2(2): 151–171.

Barnes, Tiffany D. and Diana Z. O'Brien. 2018. "Defending the Realm: The Appointment of Female Defense Ministers Worldwide." *American Journal of Political Science* 62(2): 355–68.

O'Brien, Diana Z. 2018. "Righting Conventional Wisdom: Women and Right Parties in Parliamentary Democracies." *Politics & Gender* 14(1): 27-55.

Stauffer, Katelyn and Diana Z. O'Brien. 2018. "Quantitative Methods and Feminist Political Science." In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*, ed. William R. Thompson.

O'Brien, Diana Z. and Johanna Rickne. 2016. "Gender Quotas and Women's Political Leadership." *American Political Science Review* 110(1): 112-26.

Greene, Zachary and Diana Z. O'Brien. 2016. "Diverse Parties, Diverse Agendas? The Parliamentary Party's Role in Platform Formation." *European Journal of Political Research*. 55(3): 435-53.

O'Brien, Diana Z., Matthew Mendez, Jordan Carr Peterson, and Jihyun Shin. 2015. "Letting Down the Ladder or Shutting the Door: Female Prime Ministers, Party Leaders, and Cabinet Members." *Politics & Gender* 11(4): 689-717.

O'Brien, Diana Z. 2015. "Rising to the Top: Gender, Political Performance, and Party Leadership in Parliamentary Democracies." *American Journal of Political Science* 59(4): 1022-39.

O'Brien, Diana Z. and Yael Shomer. 2013. "Legislators' Motivations, Institutional Arrangements, and Changes in Partisan Affiliation: A Cross-National Analysis of Party Switching." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 38(1): 111-41.

Krook, Mona Lena and Diana Z. O'Brien. 2012. "All the President's Men? The Numbers and Portfolio Allocations of Female Cabinet Ministers." *Journal of Politics* 74(3): 840-55.

O'Brien, Diana Z. 2012. "Gender and Select Committee Elections in the British House of Commons." *Politics & Gender* 8(2): 178-204.

Krook, Mona Lena and Diana Z. O'Brien. 2010. "The Politics of Group Representation: Quotas for Women and Minorities Worldwide." *Comparative Politics* 42 (3): 253-272.

- Earlier draft awarded the Midwest Political Science Association's 2008 Sophonisba Breckinridge Award for best women and politics paper.

Krook, Mona Lena, Diana Z. O'Brien, and Krista M. Swip. 2010. "Military Invasion and Women's Political Representation: Gender Quotas in Post-Conflict Afghanistan and Iraq." *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 12 (1): 65-78.

PAPERS UNDER  
REVIEW

"Can't We All Just Get Along? How Women MPs Can Ameliorate Affective Polarization in Western Publics" (with James Adams, David Bracken, Noam Gidron, Will Horne, and Kaitlin Senk). Invited to revise and resubmit at the *American Political Science Review*.

"Women Grab Back: Exclusion, Policy Threat, and Women's Political Ambition" (with Amanda Clayton and Jennifer M. Piscopo). Invited to revise and resubmit at the *American Political Science Review*.

"Reevaluating the Contingent Yes," in *Essays on "Should Blacks Represent Blacks and Women Represent Women?"* (with Amanda Clayton and Jennifer M. Piscopo). Invited

to revise and resubmit in a *Politics & Gender* Critical Perspectives.

“Do Women Make More Protectionist Trade Policy?” (with Timm Betz and David Fortunato).

“Founding Narratives and Men’s Political Ambition: Experimental Evidence from U.S. Civics Lessons” (with Amanda Clayton and Jennifer M. Piscopo).

“Gender and Political Representation in Times of Crisis,” *Politics & Gender* Critical Perspectives (Guest Edited with Jennifer M. Piscopo).

OTHER ACADEMIC  
WRITING

O’Brien, Diana Z. 2021. “Women Party Leaders.” In *Women, Power, and Political Representation: Canadian and Comparative Perspectives*, eds. Roosmarijn de Geus, Erin Tolley, Elizabeth Goodyear-Grant, and Peter John Loewen. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

O’Brien, Diana Z. and Catherine Reyes-Housholder. 2020. “Women and Executive Politics.” *Oxford Handbook of Political Executives*, eds. Rudy Andeweg, Robert Elgie, Ludger Helms, Juliet Kaarbo, and Ferdinand Mueller-Rommel. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

O’Brien, Diana Z. 2020. “Navigating Political Science as a Woman.” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 53 (2): 315–17.

O’Brien, Diana Z. and Jennifer Piscopo. 2019. “The Impact of Women’s Political Presence.” In *Handbook of Women’s Political Rights*, eds. Susan Franceschet, Mona Lena Krook, and Netina Tan. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 53–72.

O’Brien, Diana Z. and Jennifer Piscopo. 2018. “Electing Women to National Legislatures.” In *Measuring Women’s Political Empowerment across the Globe: Strategies, Challenges and Future Research*, eds. Amy Alexander, Catherine Bolzendahl, and Farida Jalalzai. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 139–64.

O’Brien, Diana Z. 2017. “Gender and Party Leadership: Existing Research and New Directions.” *Comparative Politics Newsletter* 27(1): 54-59.

O’Brien, Diana Z. 2017. “Review: Women in Presidential Cabinets: Power Players or Abundant Tokens?” (Maria Escobar-Lemmon and Michelle Taylor-Robinson) in *Perspectives on Politics*, 15(3): 910-11.

O’Brien, Diana Z. 2012. “Quotas and Qualifications in Uganda.” In *The Impact of Quotas on Women’s Descriptive, Substantive, and Symbolic Representation*, eds. Susan Franceschet, Mona Lena Krook, and Jennifer M. Piscopo. New York: Oxford University Press, 57–71.

O’Brien, Diana Z. 2011. “Robust Statistics.” In *International Encyclopedia of Political Science*, eds. Bertrand Badie, Dirk Berg-Schlosser, and Leonardo Morlino. Thousand Oaks: SAGE Publications, Inc.

PUBLIC FACING  
SCHOLARSHIP

Betz, Timm, David Fortunato, and Diana Z. O’Brien. “The Tax on Womanhood.” Spring 2021. *Ms.*

Barnes, Tiffany D. and Diana Z. O’Brien. “A Cabinet That Looks Like America.”

Winter 2021. *Ms.*

Betz, Timm, David Fortunato, and Diana Z. O'Brien. "The Pink Tax That's Costing Women Billions of Dollars a Year—and What We Can Do About It." 2020. *Ms.*, 23 December.

Barnes, Tiffany D. and Diana Z. O'Brien. "Future Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen Faces COVID-Induced Economic Crisis." 2020. *Ms.*, 24 November.

O'Brien, Diana Z. "Citizens (mistakenly) perceive female-led political parties as more moderate." 2019. *Democratic Audit UK*, 22 October.

Dietrich, Bryce J., Matthew Hayes, and Diana Z. O'Brien. "As you watch the Democratic debates, remember that how politicians speak is as important as what they say." 2019. *The Washington Post*, 26 June.

O'Brien, Diana Z. 2019. "Navigating Political Science as a Woman." *The Legislative Scholar* 3(2): 20-23.

Piscopo, Jennifer, Diana Z. O'Brien, and Amanda Clayton. "Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee have a problem: They're all men." 2018. *The Los Angeles Times*, 26 September.

Nugent, Mary and Diana Z. O'Brien. "Time to celebrate women's gains in the U.K. election? Not so fast." 2017. *The Washington Post*, 11 June.

Clayton, Amanda, Diana Z. O'Brien and Jennifer M. Piscopo. "Americans don't like it when men (and only men) make decisions about women." 2017. *The Washington Post*, 4 April.

Greene, Zachary and Diana Z. O'Brien. "New Women MPs shift their party leftwards - but female leaders don't." 2016. *Democratic Audit UK*, 16 November.

Beckwith, Karen and Diana Z. O'Brien. "Here's Why Theresa May Will Become Britain's First Female Leader Since Thatcher." 2016. *The Washington Post*, 12 July.

O'Brien, Diana Z. and Catherine Reyes-Housholder. 2016. "Would Clinton really appoint a cabinet that's half women and half men?" *The Washington Post*, 9 May.

#### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

National Science Foundation Grant SES-1851457. "Women as Leaders, Policy-Makers, and Symbols in the Inner Cabinet." (with Tiffany D. Barnes). \$429,845. (July 2020 – Present)

Fulbright US Scholar Grant (University of Vienna, Spring 2020)

Race and Anti-Racism Research Fund for "Media Bias in the Perceived Viability of BIPOC Candidates." (with Matthew Hayes). \$10,600 (2020)

*Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties* 2019 Best Paper Award

Sophonisba Breckinridge Award for Best Paper on Women and Politics (with Amanda Clayton and Jennifer Piscopo, Midwest Political Science Association, 2018)

Best Dissertation Award from the Women and Politics Research Section of the American Political Science Association, 2013

Center for International Studies Grant. “Representing Women: Presence, Power, and Policy.” \$5,000. (July 2012-July 2013)

Judith and John Bedrosian Center on Governance Grant. “Constructing the Policy Agenda in Advanced Industrial Democracies.” \$10,000. (May 2012-May 2013)

National Science Foundation Grant SES-1024388. “Doctoral Dissertation Research in Political Science: When Women Matter: Exploring Theoretical Links Between Women’s Descriptive and Substantive Representation.” \$11,991. (September 2010 – August 2011)

National Science Foundation funding to attend the Political Methodology Summer Meeting (2011)

Dean’s Award for Excellence in Teaching (Washington University, 2010)

Clifford C. Clogg Fellowship to attend ICPSR Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research (2008)

Sophonisba Breckinridge Award for Best Paper on Women and Politics (with Mona Lena Krook, Midwest Political Science Association, 2008)

INVITED  
CONFERENCES

2022-Mentoring Conference at Harvard University

2020-Empirical Study of Gender Research Network (EGEN) at Boston University

2019-Women in Politics, Women in Leadership (University of Toronto); Empirical Study of Gender Research Network (EGEN) Graduate Student Conference (Yale); Citrin Center Conference on Gender Politics (UC Berkeley); SGoP Summer School on Parliaments: Representation in the 21st Century; Advances in Comparative Politics Workshop (Cologne Center for Comparative Politics); International Women’s Activism—A Symposium on Social Movements and Political Leadership in the Era of #MeToo (University of Southern California)

2018-CPAC VI-Who Represents Us? (Washington University in Saint Louis); Intra-Party Politics in the Modern Era (PCRG Annual Meeting); Political Parties in Comparative Perspective Conference (Georgetown University/Villa Le Balze)

2017-Resisting Women’s Political Leadership Conference (Rutgers University); Book Conference at Portland State University; Book Conference at Vanderbilt University

2016-Johan Skytte Manuscript Workshop (Uppsala University)

2015- Measuring Women’s Political Empowerment Across the Globe (Thyssen Foundation, Cologne, Germany)

2014-Eaken Research Conference on Women in Conservative Parties (Case Western Reserve University)

INVITED  
DEPARTMENTAL  
TALKS

2021-University College London

2020-University of Vienna, University of Bath, Harvard WAPPP, Central European

University  
2019–Tel Aviv University  
2018–Texas Tech University, University of Texas  
2017–UC Merced, University of Illinois, Washington University in St. Louis  
2016–Columbia University, Texas A&M, UC Berkeley, University of Gothenburg  
2015–Pennsylvania State University  
2013–University of California-Riverside

CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS

2020–EPSA  
2019–MPSA, ECPG, APSA  
2018–MPSA, EGEN, EPSA, APSA  
2017–SPSA, MPSA, ECPG  
2016–SPSA, MPSA, APSA, EGEN  
2015–MPSA, VIM, ECPG, APSA  
2014–SC<sup>2</sup>PI, MPSA, ECPR Joint Sessions, EPSA, APSA  
2013–WPSA, MPSA, ECPG, EPSA, APSA  
2012–SC<sup>2</sup>PI  
2011–ECPG, MPSA, APSA  
2010–MPSA  
2009–MPSA, APSA  
2007–MPSA

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE

**Rice University**

- POLI 339: Gender and Politics
- POLI 461: Women and Leadership
- POLI 520: Approaches to Comparative Government

**Texas A&M University**

- POLS/WGST 367: Women in Gov. in Comparative Perspective
- POLS 689: Seminar in Political Behavior

**Indiana University**

- POLS Y107: Introduction to Comparative Politics/Real Politics Around the World
- POLS Y300: Democratic Institutions in Comparative Perspective
- POLS Y335 & EURO W301: West European Politics
- POLS Y353 & GNDR G302: Politics of Gender & Sexuality
- POLS Y657 & GNDR G701: Women in Politics in Comparative Perspective

**University of Southern California**

- POSC 120: Comparative Politics
- POSC 360: Politics of Anglo-American Political Systems
- POSC 463: European Politics
- SWMS 554: Women in Global Perspective
- POSC 640: Seminar in Problems in Comparative Politics

**Washington University in St. Louis**

- Pol Sci 357: Gender and Politics in Global Perspective
- IA 524: Methods and Research Design in International Studies

DISCIPLINARY  
SERVICE

Founding Editor, Cambridge University Press *Elements in Gender and Politics*

Associate Editor, *Politics & Gender*; *Research and Politics*

Editorial Board Member (Current and Former), *American Political Science Review*; *British Journal of Political Science*; *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties*; *Journal of Politics*; *Political Research Quarterly*; *Political Science Research and Methods*

Referee, *Acta Politica*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Austrian Platform for Surveys, Methods and Empirical Analyses (PUMA)*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Cambridge University Press*, *Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Comparative Politics*, *European Journal of Politics and Gender*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *European Political Science Review*, *European Political Studies*, *Government & Opposition*, *International Political Science Review*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties*, *Journal of Experimental Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Public Policy*, *Journal of Women, Politics & Policy*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Nature: Human Behavior*, *Oxford University Press*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Studies*, *Politics & Gender*, *Politics, Groups, and Identities*, *PNAS*, *Representation*, *SAGE Publications*, *Socius*, *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, *West European Politics*, *Women's Studies International Forum*, *World Politics*

Tenure/Promotion Reviews × 5

Social Media Co-Director, Women in Legislative Studies (2021–present)

Chair, Joseph L. Bernd Best JOP Paper Award Committee, Southern Political Science Association (2021)

President/President-Elect, Midwest Women's Caucus (2018–2020)

Chair, Latino/a Caucus Early Career Award Committee, Midwest Political Science Association (2019)

Chair, Women and Politics Section, Southern Political Science Association Meeting (2017)

Chair, Marian Irish Award Selection Committee, Southern Political Science Association (2017)

Member, Midwest Women's Caucus Lifetime Achievement Award Committee (2017)

Treasurer, Women and Politics Section of the American Political Science Association (2012-2014)

Host and Organizer, Sixth Semi-Annual Southern California Comparative Political Institutions (SC<sup>2</sup>PI) Conference (March 7, 2014 )

Member, Local Arrangements Committee for the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association (2012)

Co-Moderator, Political Methodology Electronic Mailing List (2010-2012)

DEPARTMENTAL  
& UNIVERSITY  
SERVICE

Member, Steering Committee for Rice University's Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality (2021-present)

Chair, Rice University American Politics Search Committee (2019)

Member, Undergraduate Committee for Rice Political Science Department (2021-present)

Member, Graduate Committee for Rice Political Science Department (2019-2020)

Member, Head's Advisory Committee for the TAMU Political Science Department (2018-2019)

Member, Search Committee for the TAMU Political Science Department (2018)

Member, Diversity Committee for the TAMU Political Science Department (2018-2019)

Co-Director, TAMU Ethics and Political Science Seminar Series (2017-2019)

Co-Convener, IU Political Science Department World Politics Seminar Series (2015-2017)

Member, Personnel Committee for the IU Political Science Department (2015)

Member, Graduate Committee for the IU Political Science Department (2015)

Member, Search Committee for the IU Political Science Department (2014)

Member, Executive Committee for the USC Political Science Department (2013-2014)

Department of Political Science Representative, WUSTL Graduate Student Senate (Fall 2007-Spring 2009)

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Representative, WUSTL Graduate and Professional Council (Fall 2008-Spring 2009)

WUSTL Graduate Peer Mentor (Fall 2008-Summer 2010)

GRADUATE  
ADVISING

Dissertation Committee Member, Rice University: Iris E. Acquarone(Chair), Gonzalo Di Landro (Chair), Emily Elia, Gustavo Guajardo, Andra Pascu, Kaitlin Senk

Dissertation Committee Member, Texas A&M University: Kostanca Dhima

Dissertation Committee Member, Indiana University: Yesola Kweon, Shelli Israelsen, Katelyn Stauffer, Luke Wood, Maria Waqar, Kayo Onishi (Co-Chair)

External Examiner: Tomas Turner-Zwinkels (University of Groningen)

REFERENCES

Available upon request.