

Curriculum Vitae
Christina L. Boyd
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Contact Information

Department of Political Science
University at Buffalo, SUNY
520 Park Hall
Buffalo, NY 14260

Office: 422 Park Hall
Voice: (716) 645-8439
E-mail: cLboyd@buffalo.edu
Web: <http://cLboyd.net>

Current Appointment

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University at Buffalo, SUNY. 2009-

Education

Ph.D., Washington University in St. Louis (2009), Political Science

Dissertation: Placing Federal District Courts in the Judicial Hierarchy

Committee: Andrew D. Martin (chair), James F. Spriggs, Pauline Kim, & Margo Schlanger.

Field Exams: American Politics (major field); Quantitative Methods (secondary field)

A.M., Washington University in St. Louis (2006), Political Science

J.D., Wake Forest University School of Law (2004)

B.A., University of Florida (2001), Political Science (with honors)

Publications

Articles

Boyd, Christina L. and David A. Hoffman. N.d. "Litigating Toward Settlement." Accepted for Publication in *Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization*.

Black, Ryan C. and Christina L. Boyd. N.d. "Selecting the Select Few: The Discuss List and the U.S. Supreme Court's Agenda-Setting Process." Accepted for Publication in *Social Science Quarterly*.

Black, Ryan C. and Christina L. Boyd. 2012. "The Role of Law Clerks in the U.S. Supreme Court's Agenda-Setting Process." *American Politics Research* 40: 147-173.

Black, Ryan C. and Christina L. Boyd. *Forthcoming* 2012. "U.S. Supreme Court Agenda Setting and the Role of Litigant Status." *Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization*. 28(1) (Spring). *Advance online access at <http://jleo.oxfordjournals.org>*

Boyd, Christina L., Lee Epstein, and Andrew D. Martin. 2010. "Untangling the Causal Effects of Sex on Judging." *American Journal of Political Science*. 54(2): 389-411.
Winner of the 2008 Midwest Political Science Association Pi Sigma Alpha Award

Discussed in April 2009 Newsweek article ("Women: Truly the Fairer Sex"); May 2009 Washington Post op-ed ("When Women Rule, It Makes a Difference"); June 2009 New York Times article ("Debate on Whether Female Judges Decide Differently Arises Anew"); June 2009 Washington Post article ("Court Watch: Wise Women, Impacting the Courts?"); July 2009 National Journal Magazine article ("Do Gender And Race Mean Greater Empathy?"); August 2010 Associated Press article ("3 Women on High Court"); Interviewed about

for “Who Should Be Next on the US Supreme Court?” on NPR affiliate program *To The Point* hosted by Warren Olney.

Boyd, Christina L. and David A. Hoffman. 2010. “Disputing Limited Liability.” *Northwestern University Law Review*. 104(3): 853-916.

Boyd, Christina L. and James F. Spriggs, II. 2009. “An Examination of Strategic Anticipation of Appellate Court Preferences by Federal District Court Judges.” *Washington University Journal of Law and Policy*. 29: 37-80.

Kim, Pauline, Margo Schlanger, Christina L. Boyd, and Andrew D. Martin. 2009. “Studying District Court Decision Making.” *Washington University Journal of Law and Policy*. 29: 83-112.

Epstein, Lee, Andrew D. Martin, and Christina L. Boyd. 2007. “On the Effective Communication of the Results of Empirical Studies, Part II.” *Vanderbilt Law Review*. 60: 798-846.

Short Pieces

Christina L. Boyd and Lee Epstein. May 3, 2009. “When Women Rule, It Makes a Difference.” *Washington Post*. (Also published in *Chapel Hill Herald*, May 3, 2009; *The China Post*, May 4, 2009; *Dallas Morning News*, May 4, 2009; *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, May 5, 2009; *Miami Herald*, May 5, 2009; *Virginian-Pilot*, May 5, 2009; May 10, 2009; *San Mateo County Times*, May 10, 2009; *Contra Costa Times*, May 10, 2009; *Alameda Times-Star*, May 10, 2009; *Oakland Tribute*, May 10, 2009.)

Lee Epstein, Christina L. Boyd, and Andrew D. Martin. 2008. “The Court(s) and the Election.” *Miller-McCune Magazine*. 1(5).

Christina L. Boyd. 2008. “Sedition Act of 1918” & “National Prayer Breakfast” In *Encyclopedia of the First Amendment*, ed. David L. Hudson, David A. Schultz, & John R. Vile. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press.

Under Review

“Unaccountable Justice? The Decision Making of Magistrate Judges in the Federal District Courts” (with Jacqueline Sievert). Invited to Revise & Resubmit to *Justice System Journal*.

Through the lens of principal-agency theory, this study uses original district court data to empirically examine U.S. magistrates’ decision making in federal district courts. Our results support our expectations that magistrates are often constrained by the preferences of the district judges in and the institutional characteristics of their district while issuing reports and recommendations and serving as assigned judges.

“The Politics of Adjudicatory Oversight in Executive Branch Agencies” (with Amanda Driscoll). Invited to Revise & Resubmit to *American Politics Research*.

We argue that executive branch agency heads use adjudication oversight to forward their agency’s goals in response to the political environment. Relying on a new dataset containing adjudications appealed to the USDA’s agency head adjudication delegee, our results indicate an increase in the probability that the agency head will reverse an administrative law judge in key situations including when that lower court judge makes an anti-agency decision.

“She’ll Settle It?”

Relying on research that posits that female leaders and managers will be more likely than men to adopt a management style that favors collaboration and consensus-building, this study argues that female district court judges should be more likely than their male colleagues to successfully foster intra-court case settlements. Through matching methods and an analysis of district court data, this expectation is confirmed.

Other Research in Progress

“Decision Selection in the Federal District Courts”

Using data that span published and unpublished district court outcomes, I conduct a broad analysis of the statistical effect of our traditional, publication-only methods of studying federal trial courts. The results indicate that a number of judicial, litigant, and case specific characteristics lead to an increase in the likelihood of opinion publication and that published opinions are far more likely to lead to appeals.

“Building a Taxonomy of Litigation: Clusters of Causes of Action in Federal Civil Complaints” (with David A. Hoffman, Zoran Obradovic, & Kosta Ristovski)

This project utilizes spectral cluster analysis of newly collected federal district court cause of action complaint data to illustrate the relationship of legal claims to one another and the broader composition of lawsuits in federal trial courts.

“Pitting Hierarchical Constraints against Ideological and Strategic Constraints in Federal Trial Court Judging”

I assess what constrains federal district judges when deciding cases remanded back to them by the federal courts of appeals. The findings reveal that district judges are constrained neither by ideological (attitudinal) nor strategic considerations. Rather, district judges, regardless of their ideologies, are mindful of the preferences of their hierarchical superiors on the courts of appeals

“Integrating Process, Policy, and Outcomes in Judicial Studies”

Within federal courts, litigants and judges are well-positioned to influence the development and outcome of cases in a variety of ways. To help rectify this, I examine here the impact that judges and litigants have on the methods of termination and who wins in cases in federal trial courts.

“Quantifying Appeals”

Litigants, through their power to decide whether to appeal, hold the key to shaping the institutional agenda. The results of this project indicate that strategy and procedural fairness are the two most persuasive considerations in the decision of a litigant to appeal.

“Diversity in the U.S. Courts of Appeals” (with Lee Epstein & Andrew Martin)

Book manuscript in progress on sex, racial, religious, political, and career judicial diversity; analysis complete, proposal in progress

Fellowships, Honors, & Awards

Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy, Annual Research Grant. 2011-2012 (\$5,000); 2010-2011 (\$2,500); 2009-2010. (\$4,000)

National Science Foundation Grant SES-0818751. “Doctoral Dissertation Research: Placing Federal District Courts in the Judicial Hierarchy.” July 2008-June 2009. \$11,154.

2008 Pi Sigma Alpha Award for the best paper delivered at the 2007 meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association for “Untangling the Causal Effects of Sex on Judging.”

Association of Women Faculty of Washington University 2007-2008 Graduate Student Award

Antoinette Dames Prize for Outstanding Graduate Level Class Paper, 2008. Department of Political Science, Washington University.

Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship, Washington University (2008-2009)

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, Honorable Mention (2006)

Washington University Graduate Fellowship (2004-2008)

Center for Empirical Research in the Law, Graduate Student Associate (2006-2009)

Washington University Summer Research Grant (2004-2008)

Wake Forest Moot Court Board

Wake Forest Law Scholastic Honors List

Law Alumni Council Scholar (Wake Forest)

Florida Bright Future Scholar

University of Florida Dean's List

Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

“Litigating Toward Settlement” (with David A. Hoffman) 2012 New Voices in Civil Justice Scholarship Workshop, Vanderbilt University. May 2012.

“Building a Taxonomy of Litigation: Clusters of Causes of Action in Federal Civil Complaints” (with David A. Hoffman, Zoran Obradovic, & Kosta Ristovski) 2012 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

“She’ll Settle It?” Empirical Studies Seminar Lecture. University of Toronto, Faculty of Law. March 2012.

“She’ll Settle It?” Faculty Colloquium. Syracuse University College of Law. February 2012.

“Unaccountable Justice? The Decision Making of Magistrate Judges in Federal District Courts” (with Jacqueline Sievert) 2011 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association.

“Decision Selection in the Federal District Courts” Princeton University Faculty Colloquium in Public Law. October 2010.

“Litigating Toward Settlement” (with David A. Hoffman) 2010 Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (Yale).

“Selection Effects in the Study of Federal District Courts” 2010 Meeting of the American Political Science Association (Washington, D.C.).

“Decision Selection in the Federal District Courts” 2010 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association.

“Disputing Limited Liability” (with David A. Hoffman) 10th Annual Law & Business Conference, Vanderbilt University. Nov 6th, 2009.

“Litigation in Action: Modeling the Decision to Appeal & the Outcome on Appeal” 2009 Meeting of the American Political Science Association (Toronto).

“The Impact of Courts of Appeals on Substantive and Procedural Success in the Federal District Courts” 2009 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association.

“Empirical Insights into Agency Adjudications” (with Amanda Driscoll) 2008 Meeting of the American Political Science Association (Boston).

“Judicial Impact and Hierarchy: The Influence of U.S. Courts of Appeals on District Court Decision Making” 2008 Meeting of the American Political Science Association (Boston).

“Judicial Impact Revisited” 2008 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association.

- “Untangling the Causal Effects of Sex on Judging” (with Lee Epstein and Andrew D. Martin) 2007 Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (New York).
- “Looking Beyond the Outcome: Decision Making in Federal District Courts” 2007 Meeting of the American Political Science Association (Chicago).
- “Untangling the Causal Effects of Sex on Judging” (with Lee Epstein and Andrew D. Martin) 2007 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association.
- “Litigant Status and Agenda Setting on the U.S. Supreme Court.” (with Ryan C. Black) 2007 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association.
- “The Role of Litigants and Judges in Explaining Case Dispositions in Federal District Courts.” 2007 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association.
- “The Ideological Influence of Law Clerks in the U.S. Supreme Court’s Certiorari Process.” (with Ryan C. Black) 2007 Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association.
- “Agenda Setting in Federal District Courts: The Effect of Judge Sex and Ideology.” 2007 Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association.
- “The Effect of Judge Sex on Case Disposition Method in Federal District Courts.” (poster) 2006 Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (Austin).

Professional Experience & Development

Research Supervisor

“The Litigation Process in Government-Initiated Employment Discrimination Suits” Under NSF grant held by Pauline Kim, Andrew Martin, & Margo Schlanger. (2007-2009)

Coordinator

EEOC Litigation, The Civil Rights Litigation Clearinghouse at Washington University School of Law. (2007-2009)

Research Assistant

Melanie J. Springer: Researching state legislative elections. (2006-2007)

James L. Gibson: Researching state judicial elections. (2006)

Lee Epstein: Researching Blackmun Papers (certiorari memoranda and docket sheets) at the Library of Congress. (2005) Under NSF grant held by Lee Epstein and Harold Spaeth.

Lee Epstein: Researching the politics of judicial appointments. (2005)

Christine Coughlin, Wake Forest: Identifying a legal classification for research embryos based on legal and medical research and case law. (2003)

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor: University at Buffalo, SUNY

Constitutional Law (Institutional Powers and Constraints) (undergraduate) (Fall 2009, Fall 2010, Fall 2011)

Judicial Politics (undergraduate) (Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Fall 2011)

Judicial Process (graduate) (Spring 2010)

Supreme Court Seminar (undergraduate) (Fall 2010)

Empirical & Theoretical Perspectives on Litigation (graduate and law; co-taught with Lynn Mather) (Spring 2011)

Instructor: Washington University in St. Louis, University College

Constitutional Law (Summer 2006)

Administrative Law & Politics (Fall 2006)

Teaching Assistant

The Supreme Court (Spring 2008)

Social Scientific Research for Lawyers (Fall 2007)

Law, Politics, & Society (Spring 2006)

Courts & Civil Liberties (Fall 2005)

National Security, Civil Liberties, & the Law (Fall 2005)

Legislation & Administrative Law (Spring 2004, Wake Forest Law)

Department & Discipline Service

Public Law Field Examination Committee Chair (2011-2012)

Graduate Admissions Committee (2009-)

APSA's Law and Courts section: Best Journal Article Award (committee member 2012)

Dissertation Advising: Kristen Ng (Ph.D. dissertation committee chair; ongoing); Joshua Meddaugh (Ph.D. dissertation committee member; ongoing); Tasha Lavey (Ph.D. dissertation committee member; ongoing); Jenny Kahl (Ph.D. dissertation committee member; ongoing); Benjamin Carlson (Ph.D. dissertation committee member; ongoing)

Discussant: Conference for Empirical Legal Studies (2008, 2010); Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2010, 2011, 2012).

Reviewer: American Journal of Political Science; American Politics Research; British Journal of Political Science; Canadian Journal of Political Science; Journal of Church and State; Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization; Journal of Legal Studies; Journal of Politics; Law & Society Review; National Science Foundation; Political Research Quarterly; Politics & Policy; Social Science Quarterly

Political Science Representative: New Teaching Assistant Orientation (Fall 2007)

American Politics Faculty Search Committee Graduate Representative (Fall 2006)

Graduate Student Mentor (2006-2008)

Social Science Computing Facility Statistical Consultant (2006-2007)

Professional Organization Membership

North Carolina Bar (inactive)

References

Available upon request