

Christopher Witko

The Pennsylvania State University
Public Policy Program
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Faculty Positions

- The Pennsylvania State University, Professor of Public Policy and Political Science
Summer 2018-Present
- The University of South Carolina, Department of Political Science
Associate Professor, Fall 2013-Summer 2018
- Saint Louis University, Departments of Political Science and Public Policy Studies
(Secondary Appointment)
Associate Professor, Fall 2010-Spring 2013
Assistant Professor, Fall 2007-Summer 2010
- California State University Sacramento, Government Department
Assistant Professor, Fall 2003-Summer 2007

Administrative Positions

- Director, Masters of Public Administration Program
The University of South Carolina, Fall 2013-Summer 2018
- Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Political Science
Saint Louis University, Summer 2010-Spring 2013

Other Affiliations and Visiting Positions

- Research Associate, Centre for Public Management and Governance, The University of Johannesburg, June 2016-June 2017

- Visiting Professor, Chonnam National University (South Korea), Summer 2016
- Visiting Professor, Saint Louis University, Madrid, Summer 2008, 2010, 2012
- Instructor, SLU Prison Program, Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center, Bonne Terre, MO, Spring 2010

Education

- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Ph.D., Political Science, 2003
Major: American Government
Minors: Public Policy and Methodology
- State University of New York, Albany, M.A., Political Science, 1998
- State University of New York, Plattsburgh, B.A., Political Science, 1996

Research

Book

- Franko, William W. and Christopher Witko. 2017. *The New Economic Populism: How States Respond to Economic Inequality*. Oxford University Press. **Winner of the 2018 Virginia Gray Best Book Award, given by the State Politics and Policy Section of the American Political Science Association.**

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Epperly, Brad, Ryan Strickler, Paul White and Christopher Witko. “Rule by Violence, Rule by Law: Lynching, Jim Crow, and the Continuing Evolution of Voter Suppression in the U.S.” Accepted at *Perspectives on Politics*.
- Moldogaziev, Temirlan, Jamie Monogan and Christopher Witko. 2018. “Income Inequality and the Growth of Redistributive Spending in the U.S. States: Is There a Link?” *Journal of Public Policy* 38(2): 141-163.
- Miller, Susan, Christopher Witko and Neal D. Woods. 2018. “How the Unorganized Mass Public (Sometimes) Gets Represented in Regulatory Politics.” *Political Research Quarterly* 71(1): 88-101.

- Kulesza, Christopher, Michael Miller and Christopher Witko. 2017. "State Responses to U.S. Supreme Court Campaign Finance Decisions." *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 47(3): 467-490.
- Witko, Christopher. 2017. "Regulation and Upper Class Bias in Campaign Finance Systems." *Election Law Journal* 16(1): 6-20.
- Witko, Christopher. 2016. "The Politics of Financialization in the United States, 1949-2005." *British Journal of Political Science* 46(2): 349-370.
- Franko, William F., Nathan J. Kelly and Christopher Witko. 2016. "Class Bias in Voter Turnout, Representation and Inequality." *Perspectives on Politics* 14(2): 351-368.
- Kulesza, Christopher, Christopher Witko and Eric N. Waltenberg. 2016. "Reform Interrupted? State Innovation, Court Decisions and the Past and Future of Campaign Finance Reform in the States." *Election Law Journal* 15(2):143-159.
- Kelly, Nathan J. and Christopher Witko. 2014. "Government Ideology and Unemployment in the U.S. States." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 14(4): 389-413.
- Enns, Peter K., Nathan J. Kelly, Jana Morgan, Thomas Volscho, and Christopher Witko. 2014. "Conditional Status Quo Bias and Top Income Shares: How U.S. Political Institutions Have Benefited the Rich." *The Journal of Politics* 76(2): 289-303.
- Peters, Kristen E., Jin Huang, Michael G. Vaughn and Christopher Witko. 2014. "Breastfeeding and Trajectories of Children's Cognitive Development." *Developmental Science* 17(3): 452-461.
- Franko, Willam F., Caroline Tolbert and Christopher Witko. 2013. "Inequality, Self-Interest and Public Support for "Robin Hood" Tax Policies." *Political Research Quarterly* 66(4): 922-936.
- Gill, Jeff and Christopher Witko. 2013. "Bayesian Analytical Methods: A Methodological Prescription for Public Administration." *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* 23(2): 457-494.
- Witko, Christopher. 2013. "Party Government and Variation in Corporate Influence on Agency Decisionmaking: OSHA Regulation, 1981-2006." *Social Science Quarterly* 94(4): 894-911.
- Peters, Kristen E., Jin Huang, Michael G. Vaughn and Christopher Witko. 2013. "Does Breastfeeding Contribute to the Racial Gap in Reading and Math Test Scores?" *Annals of Epidemiology* 23(10): 646-651.
- Vaughn, Michael G. and Christopher Witko. 2013. "Does the Amount of School Choice Matter for Student Engagement?" *The Social Science Journal* 50(1): 23-33.
- Kelly, Nathan J. and Christopher Witko. 2012. "Federalism and American Inequality." *Journal of Politics* 74(2): 414-26.

- Witko, Christopher. 2011. "Campaign Contributions, Access and Government Contracting." *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* 21(4): 761-78.
- Witko, Christopher and Adam J. Newmark. 2010. "The Strange Disappearance of Investment in Human and Physical Capital in the U.S. States." *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* 20(1): 215-32.
- Witko, Christopher. 2009. "The Ecology of Party-Organized Interest Relationships." *Polity* 41(2): 211-34.
- Cox, James H. and Christopher Witko. 2008. "School Choice and the Creation of Social Capital Reexamined." *American Journal of Political Science* 52(1): 142-55.
- Witko, Christopher and Sally Friedman. 2008. "Business Backgrounds and Congressional Decision-making." *Congress and the Presidency* 35(1): 71-86.
- Witko, Christopher. 2007. "Explaining Increases in the Stringency of State Campaign Finance Regulation, 1992-2002." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 7(4): 370-94.
- Newmark, Adam J. and Christopher Witko. 2007. "Pollution, Politics and Preferences for Environmental Spending in the States." *Review of Policy Research* 24(4): 291-308.
- Witko, Christopher. 2006. "PACs, Issue Context and Congressional Decision-making." *Political Research Quarterly* 59(2): 283-95.
- Witko, Christopher. 2005. "Measuring the Stringency of State Campaign Finance Regulation." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 5(3): 295-310.
- Witko, Christopher and Adam J. Newmark. 2005. "Business Mobilization and Public Policy in the U.S. States." *Social Science Quarterly* 86(2): 356-367.
- Witko, Christopher. 2003. "Cold War Belligerence and U.S. Public Opinion Toward Defense Spending." *American Politics Research* 31(4): 379-403.

Book Chapters

- Witko, Christopher. 2017. "Still So Happy Together? The Relationship Between Labor Unions and the Democratic Party." In *Left-of-Centre Parties and Trade Unions in the Twenty-First Century*, Elin Allern and Tim Bale, eds. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
- Witko, Christopher. 2015. "Case Study Approaches to Studying Organization Survival and Adaptation." In *The Organizational Ecology of Interest Communities Reconsidered*, David Lowery, Darrin R. Halpin and Virginia Gray, eds. New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan.

- Witko, Christopher. 2013. “When does Money buy Votes? Campaign Contributions and Policy-making.” In *New Directions in Interest Group Politics*, Matt Grossmann, ed. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Witko, Christopher. 2013. “Regulating Interest Groups in the States.” In *CQ’s Guide to State Politics*, Joshua Dyck and Richard Niemi, eds. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly.
- Witko, Christopher. 2011. “Professional Associations”, in *CQ’s Guide to Interest Groups and Lobbying*, Peter L. Francia, Burdette Loomis and Dara Strolovitch, eds. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly.
- Witko, Christopher. 2010. “The California Legislature and Decline of Majority Rule,” in *Remaking California: Reclaiming the Public Good*, R. Jeffrey Lustig, ed. Berkeley, CA: Heyday Press.
- Friedman, Sally with Christopher Witko. 2007. “National Parties, Individual Choices,” in *Dilemmas of Representation: Local Politics, National Factors, and the Home Styles of Modern U.S. Congress Members* by Sally Friedman. Albany, N.Y.: SUNY Press.

Other Publications

- Witko, Christopher. 2017. “Upper Class Bias and Class Conflict in America.” *The Forum* 15(1): 127-149.
- Witko, Christopher. 2015 (2012). “The Impact of Campaign Contributions on Congressional Behavior.” In *Oxford Bibliographies in Political Science*. Sandy Maisel, ed. (Rick Valelly, 2012 ed.). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Witko, Christopher. 2008. “Political Action Committees,” in *The Encyclopedia of Campaigns, Elections and Electoral Behavior*, Kenneth Warren, ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Friedman, Sally, Christopher Witko, et al. 1999. “Dilemmas of Representation: The Home Styles of New York State Representatives in the 1990’s.” in *Extension of Remarks* 22: 2-4. APSA Legislative Studies Section.
- Janis Veeder, Christopher Witko et al. 1998. “Alternative Commutation by Commuter Rail: An Examination of the Reverse and Intra-suburban Commuting Programs of the Five Commuter Railroads with Recommendations for Increased Inter-modal Suburban Transit Usage.” NY State Senate Commission on Critical Transportation Choices.

Awards and Grants

- 2018 Virginia Gray Best Book Award given by the State Politics and Policy Section of the American Political Science Association for *The New Economic Populism: How States Respond to Economic Inequality*.

- Provost’s Research Award - “Technology-induced Job Loss and American Policy Preferences.” Co-principal Investigator (with Tobias Heinrich), University of South Carolina, July 2018-June 2020 (\$16,819).
- Norwegian Research Council/University of Oslo - “Party-Interest Group Relationships in Contemporary Democracies.” Core Research Team Member (Principal Investigator is Elin H. Allern, University of Oslo), 2015-2018 (Total project award =7 million NOK, approx. \$1.2 million US).
- Russell Sage Foundation - “The Power of Economic Actors and the Economic Agenda.” Co-principal Investigator (with Peter K. Enns, Nathan J. Kelly and Jana Morgan), July 2016-July 2017 (Total project award = \$70,000).
- Russell Sage Foundation - “Campaign Funding, Political Rhetoric, and the Public (Non)Response to Rising Inequality.” Co-principal Investigator (with Peter K. Enns, Nathan J. Kelly and Jana Morgan), August 2013-August 2016 (Total project award = \$192,163).
- Political Research Quarterly Outstanding Reviewer Award, 2014 and 2015
- Saint Louis University President’s Research Fund - “Evaluating Institutions and Outcomes in State Supreme Courts.” Co-principal Investigator (with Matthew Hall, Jason Windett and Michael Wolff), 2012-2013 Academic Year (\$49,636).
- Charter School Sponsorship Faculty Grant Program - “School Choice, Exit and Voice.” Saint Louis University, Summer 2012 (\$3,500).
- Provost’s Faculty Research Leave - “Corporate-Party Relationships and Public Policy, 1979-2006.” Saint Louis University, Fall 2009 (One Semester Leave with Full Pay).
- Summer Research Award - “School Choice, School Institutions and Student Achievement.” Saint Louis University, Summer 2009 (\$3,500).
- Faculty Travel Grant, Office of Research and Sponsored Projects, California State University, Sacramento, 2004 (\$1,500).
- Graduate Student Travel Grant, State Politics and Policy Section of the American Political Science Association, 2003 (\$250).
- Summer Research Grant, American Politics Research Group, University of North Carolina, 2000 and 2002. (\$3,000 each time)

Recent Research and Conference Presentations (*Invited Presentation)

- * “State Policy Responses to Economic Inequality.” 2018. Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC, March.

- * “State Policy Responses to Economic Inequality.” 2018. The University of North Texas, Denton, TX, February.
- * “The New Economic Populism.” 2017. Gothenburg University, Gothenberg, Sweden, November.
- “Electoral Competition, Confusion and Policy Responsiveness: Evidence from U.S. State Legislatures.” 2017. Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, September.
- “Using the Congressional Record to Measure Attention to Economic Problems.” 2017. Polinformatics Workshop, Bainbridge Island, WA, August.
- “Federal Inaction and State Responses to Economic Inequality: The Minimum Wage.” 2017. State Politics and Policy Conference, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO, June.
- * “The New Economic Populism: State Policy Responses to Growing Economic Inequality.” 2017. Department of Political Science, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, February.
- “Inequality, Regulation and Bias in Campaign Finance Systems.” 2016. Paper presented at the ECPR Annual Meeting, Prague, CZ, September.
- * “The Political Power of Economic Actors and the Economic Agenda.” 2016 (with Peter Enns, Nate Kelly and Jana Morgan). Paper presented at the Purchasing Power Workshop, New York, NY, June.
- * “The Political Power of Economic Actors and the Economic Agenda.” 2016 (with Peter Enns, Nate Kelly and Jana Morgan). Paper presented at the Cornell University Conference on Economic Inequality, Ithaca, NY, April.
- “Lynching and Black Disenfranchisement in the South.” 2016 (with Brad Epperly, Ryan Strickler and Paul White). Paper presented at the Citadel Symposium on Southern Politics, Charleston, SC, March.
- “The Power of Political Elites and the Congressional Economic Agenda.” 2016 (with Peter Enns, Nate Kelly and Jana Morgan). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, San Juan, PR, January.
- * “What MPA Directors at Small Programs Need to Know.” 2015. Presentation at the NASPAA Annual Meeting, Brooklyn, NY, October.
- “Money and the Supply of Political Rhetoric: Understanding the Congressional (Non-) Response to Growing Economic Inequality.” 2015 (with Peter Enns, Nate Kelly and Jana Morgan). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, April.
- “Income Inequality and Redistributive Spending in the U.S. States.” 2015 (with Tima Moldogaziev and Jamie Monogan). Paper presented at the Public Management Research Association Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN, June.

- “The Congressional (Non-) Response to Growing Economic Inequality.” 2015 (with Peter Enns, Nate Kelly and Jana Morgan). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April.
- * “The Congressional (Non-)Response to Growing Economic Inequality.” 2015. School of Public and International Affairs, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, January.
- * “The Politics of Financialization in the United States.” 2014. Politics Program, Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield, U.K., October.
- “Developing Measures of the Ideology of Congressional Rhetoric Over Time.” 2014 (with Peter Enns, Nate Kelly, Jana Morgan, and Jayce Prince). Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., August.
- “Industry Power and Electoral Incentives: How the Mass Public (Sometimes) Gets Represented in Regulatory Politics.” 2014 (with Susan Miller and Neal Woods). Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., August.
- * “Still So Happy Together? The Evolving Relationship between the Democratic Party and Labor Unions.” 2014. Parties and Trade Unions Workshop, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway, April.
- “The Ideological Content of Congressional Rhetoric Over Time.” 2014 (with Peter Enns, Nate Kelly and Jana Morgan). Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April.
- “Buying Justice? Campaign Contributions and Judicial Decisionmaking in the States.” 2013 (with Matt Hall and Jason Windett). Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL, January.
- * “Federalism, State Institutions and the Effect of Government on Employment in the United States.” 2012. Department of Political Science, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, March .
- “A Bayesian Spatio-Temporal Hierarchical Model of Partisan Effects on Deindustrialization at the State Level.” 2012. (with Jeff Gill). Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, January.
- “Accountability Reforms and the Narrowing of the Curriculum.” 2012. (with James H. Cox). Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, January.
- * “School Accountability Reforms and the Narrowing of the Curriculum.” 2011. Truman School of Public Affairs, University of Missouri, October.
- * “Exit, Voice and School Choice.” 2011. Department of Political Science, University of Georgia, September.

- “Accountability and the “Narrowing” of the Curriculum.” 2011 (with James H. Cox). Paper Presented at the State Politics and Policy Conference, Dartmouth University, June.
- “Exit, Voice and School Choice.” 2010 (with James H. Cox). Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., September.
- “Federalism and American Inequality.” 2010 (with Nathan J. Kelly). Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., September.
- “Public Opinion, Political Parties and State Budgets: A Meta-Analysis.” 2009. (with Adam J. Newmark). Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April.
- “School Choice, Institutions and Student Achievement.” 2009. (with James H. Cox). Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April.

Other Presentations

- “The Future of American Politics.” 2017. The Shepherd’s Center of St. Andrews, Irmo, SC, June.
- “The 2016 Presidential Election in the U.S.” 2016. Gwangju International Center, Gwangju, South Korea, June.
- “Let’s Play Moneyball in South Carolina.” 2016. Presentation to the SC Association of Certified Public Managers, Columbia, SC, April.
- “The New Populism.” 2010. Panel Participant at the Mid-America Press Institute, St. Louis, MO, October.

Courses Taught

Politics, Policy and Inequality in America; MPA Capstone Seminar; General Research Methods (MA and Undergrad); Quantitative Research Methods (MA and MPA); Environmental Politics and Policy (MA); Business and American Politics and Policy (MA); U.S. Institutions (MA); Intro to American Government; California State and Local Government; U.S. Labor Politics (Ind. Study); U.S. State and Local Government; Political Parties and Interest Groups (MA and Undergrad); Problems of Representation; The Legislative Process; Public Financial Administration (MPA).

University and Department Service

- Member, University of South Carolina Faculty Advisory Committee, Summer 2017-Summer 2018.
- Advisor, Masters of Public Administration Student Association (U of SC), Fall 2014-Summer 2018.
- Member, Department Faculty Annual Review Committee (U of SC), Fall 2013-Spring 2014.
- Member, Department of Political Science Advisory Committee (U of SC), Fall 2013-Summer 2018.
- Chair, Policy Analysis Faculty Search Committee, University of South Carolina, Fall 2014.
- Chair, State Politics and Policy Faculty Search Committee, Saint Louis University, Fall 2011.
- Member, Several Search Committees at U of SC, SLU and CSU, Sacramento.
- Member, College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee, Saint Louis University, 2010-2012.
- Member, College of Arts and Sciences Finance Committee, Saint Louis University, 2008.
- Member, Labor Studies Program Faculty Advisory Council, CSU, Sacramento, 2005-2007.
- Member, Outstanding Service Award Committee, College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies, CSU, Sacramento, 2005.
- Member, Government Department Curriculum Committee, CSU, Sacramento, 2003-2007.
- Graduate Student Representative, University of North Carolina, U.S. National Institutions Search Committee, 2002.

Professional Service

- Symposium Editor (with Kenneth J. Meier and Ling Zhu), *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, Methods Symposium, 2018
- Editorial Board Member, *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*, June 2015-Present
- SPSA Annual Meeting Program Committee, Bureaucratic Politics Section Chair, 2017

- APSA Annual Meeting Program Committee, State Politics and Policy Section Chair, 2013
- Member, Best Conference Paper Committee, APSA State Politics and Policy Section, 2012
- Conference Panel Chair, MPSA 2015, APSA 2013, SPSA 2012, MPSA 2008, MPSA 2009
- Conference Panel Discussant, APSA 2018, SPSA 2016, SPPC 2015, MPSA 2015, APSA 2013, SPSA 2012, SPPC 2011, APSA 2010, MPSA 2009, WPSA 2009, MPSA 2008
- Manuscript Reviewer: Policy Studies Journal, Journal of Policy History, Journal of Politics, American Sociological Review, American Journal of Political Science, American Politics Research, Social Science Quarterly, State Politics and Policy Quarterly, American Political Science Review, British Journal of Political Science (partial list)

PhD Advising

- Edward Lawson, University of South Carolina, Chair
- Chris Kulesza, Purdue University, Committee Member

Public Service and Professional Experience

- June 2016-May 2018 - Member, South Carolina Planning Education Advisory Committee (Appointed by Governor Nikki Haley)
- Summer 2000-Spring 2002 - White House 2001 Project (Nomination Forms Online), with Professor Terry Sullivan.
- Summer 2001-Spring 2002 -State Interest Group Survey, Professors David Lowery and Virginia Gray.
- Summer 1998-Summer 1999 - Youth Programs Specialist, Suffolk County Department of Labor, Hauppauge, NY.
- Summer 1996 and Summer 1997 (and part time during academic year) - Analyst, New York State Senate Legislative Commission on Critical Transportation Choices (Senator Norman J. Levy, Chair), Albany, NY.
- Spring 1996 - Intern, The Campaign for New Priorities, Washington, D.C
- Summer 1995 - Intern, The New York State Dormitory Authority, Albany, NY.