

Geoff Allen

Department of Political Science

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Education

Ph.D. Political Science, University of California, Santa Barbara (Expected Winter 2017)

Committee: Heather Stoll (Chair), Amit Ahuja, Neil Narang, James Adams (UC Davis)

Title: The Political and Policy Implications of Reserved Minority Districts

Summary: Mounting evidence indicates that reserved seats for national minority communities are ineffective at producing substantive representation, yet there is no comprehensive theory as to why. My dissertation argues that reserved seats limit the bargaining power of minority community representatives as a logical result of the institutional design. The evidence, from both a single case study and a cross-national evaluation of Europe, shows that these seats, while undeniably creating descriptive representation for minority communities, may in fact be harming their ability to affect political change.

M.A. Political Science, University of California, Santa Barbara (2014)

B.A. Political Science/Russian and Slavic Studies, University of Arizona (2011)

Research Interests

Political Parties and Electoral Systems, Ethnic/Identity Politics and Representation, Democratic Development in Eastern Europe and the Balkans, Nationalism and State Formation

Publications and Working Papers

Articles

“The Resilience of Ethnic Minority Parties in the Face of Strategic Voting Incentives: A Research Note” (Forthcoming, *Party Politics*)

In Preparation

Political, Institutional and Social Factors in Asylum Acceptance Rates (with Joshua Dean)

Representation as a Numbers Game: The link between legislative size and the representation of minorities (with Heather Stoll)

Delivering Women’s Representation: Comparable Institutional Effectiveness (with Heather Stoll)

Conference Presentations

“Ethnic Minority Parties and Coalition Participation in Europe”

Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, 2016

“The Cross-National Measurement of Minority Inclusion: A Survey of Means and Methods”

International Studies Association Annual Convention, Atlanta, 2016

“Delivering Women’s Representation: Comparable Institutional Effectiveness” (with Heather Stoll)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, 2015

“When Defection is Not an Option: Strategic Defection and Small Ethnic Minority Parties”

Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, 2015; Seattle, 2014

Southern California Comparative Political Institutions Conference, UC Riverside, 2015

“The Impact of Domestic Political and Institutional Factors on Formal Asylum Decisions”

Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, 2015

“The Case for Minority Quotas: A skeptical look at the theoretical argument”

International Political Science Association 23rd World Congress, Montreal, Canada, 2014

“Representation as a Numbers Game: The link between legislative size and the representation of women and minorities” (with Heather Stoll)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. 2014 (poster presentation)

“Representation, Electoral Systems and Stranded Minority Parties: How electoral system choices affect representation provided by small but influential ethnic minority parties”

European Consortium on Political Research Summer School on Political Parties and Democracy, Lüneburg, Germany, 2013

Research Assistance

Research Assistant to Dr. Benjamin J. Cohen (2012-14)

Contributed as a copy editor to two book projects; participated in the organization of a small conference of contributors to an edited volume.

Research Assistant to Dr. Heather Stoll (2014-2015)

Contributed in a data collection role to a project aimed at gathering constituency-level data on social heterogeneity indicators across multiple European countries to allow for lower-level tests of major theories related to the impacts of institutional and social structures on party systems.

Teaching Interests

Identity Politics, Electoral and Party Systems, Political Parties in Comparative Context, Civil Wars and Post-Conflict State Building, Research Methods in Political Science

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record, University of California, Santa Barbara

International Politics, The Political Consequences of Electoral Laws

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Santa Barbara

Introduction to Comparative Politics, Introduction to International Relations, Politics of the Soviet Union and its Successor States, Ethnic Politics, Voting and Elections, Politics of the Third World, American Foreign Policy, Introduction to Political Philosophy, Introduction to Research Methods

Grants, Fellowships and Awards

University of California Santa Barbara Graduate Division Dissertation Fellowship - \$7500

Manzer-Wesson Award (2015), Department of Political Science, UCSB
(best dissertation prospectus)

UCSB Affiliates Graduate Dissertation Fellowship (2015), UCSB Affiliates - \$3000

Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grant (2015), Graduate Division, UCSB - \$2980

Political Science Research Grant (2015), Department of Political Science, UCSB - \$1500

Louis G. Lancaster Fellowship (2013, 2014), Department of Political Science, UCSB - \$1500

Louis G. Lancaster Scholarship (2012), Department of Political Science, UCSB - \$1200

Service

Graduate Student Representative, Department of Political Science Search Committee, UCSB, 2014

New Student Mentor, Political Science Graduate Student Association, UCSB, 2014-15

Department Representative, Graduate Student Association, UCSB, 2012

References

Heather Stoll, associate professor of Political Science - Dissertation Chair

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Amit Ahuja, assistant professor of Political Science - Dissertation Committee Member

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Neil Narang, assistant professor of Political Science - Dissertation Committee Member

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