

Christina Sara Barsky (she, her)

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Associate Professor

Director, Master of Public Administration

Community Development and Applied Economics, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
University of Vermont

Education

MAY 2020

Ph.D. in Political Science, *with distinction*/Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

Fields of study: public policy, public administration, American politics

Dissertation title: "Administrators of Democracy: Implementing and Innovating in Election Administration"

Committee: Frederic Solop (Chair), Glenn Phelps, Eric Otenyo, Sara Rinfret

MAY 2016

Master of Public Administration, *with distinction*/University of Montana, Missoula, MT

MAY 2006

Bachelor of Arts in Government and English/Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

Academic Experience

2024-PRESENT

Associate Professor and MPA Director/Department of Community Development and Applied Economics, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Vermont

Affiliate Faculty/School of Community and Public Health Sciences, University of Montana

Director of Internal Evaluation (2020-present): Montana American Indians in Math and Science (MT-AIMS), U.S. Department of Education, Innovation and Research Program (Aaron Thomas, PI)

2024

Associate Professor/Department of Public Administration & Policy, Alexander Blewett III
School of Law, University of Montana

Tenure: Upon the start of the 2024-25 Academic Year

2019-2024

Assistant Professor/Department of Public Administration & Policy, Alexander Blewett III
School of Law, University of Montana

Affiliated faculty: American Indian Governance and Policy Institute, Montana University System

Affiliated faculty: Max S. Baucus Institute, University of Montana

2018-2019

Visiting Assistant Professor of Public Administration/Department of Political Science,
College of Humanities & Sciences, University of Montana

2018-2020

Field Director & Quality Improvement/Quality Control/Golden Gate National Recreation
Area Visitor Study (Frederic Solop, PI)
National Park Service, The Presidio Trust, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

2017

Faculty in Residence/Montana NEW Leadership
University of Montana Mansfield Center, Rutgers Center for American Women and Politics

2016-2018

Instructor/Department of Public Health, School of Public & Community Health Sciences
Department of Political Science, College of Humanities & Sciences
University of Montana

2016-2018

Teaching Assistant/Department of Politics & International Affairs, College of Social &
Behavioral Sciences
Northern Arizona University

2015-2016

Teaching Assistant/Department of Political Science, College of Humanities & Sciences
University of Montana

2015-2016

Research Assistant/Department of Political Science, College of Humanities & Sciences
University of Montana

Publications

Peer Reviewed Articles

McDonald, Bruce D., et al. (2024). Establishing an Agenda for Public Budgeting and Finance Research.
Public Finance Journal, 1, 9-29.

Camarillo, Earlene & **Barsky, Christina S.** Front-Line Public Health Workers' Perceptions of Government COVID-19 Response: Burnout in Montana and Oregon. *Journal of Health and Human Services Administration*, 46(3-4), 199-222.

Barsky, Christina S., & Camarillo, Earlene. (2023). The impacts of politicization on public health workers: The COVID-19 pandemic in Oregon and Montana. *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law*, 48(6), 859-888.

Barsky, Christina S. (2022). Volunteers, Civil Servants, and Street-Level Bureaucrats: What Motivates Poll Workers to Serve on the Front-Lines of Elections? *Public Administration Quarterly*, 48(1), 25-36.

Clark, Amanda D., **Barsky, Christina S.**, Bustinza, Monica A. (2022). Heavy Lifting: Emotional Labor and Election Administration. *Administration & Society*, 55(2), 308-325.

Solop, Frederic I., Anderson, Haley N., **Barsky, Christina S.**, Schnurr, Emily, & Witlacil, M. (2022) Introducing Client-Focused Research (CFR) Projects into the Research Methods Curriculum: Key Considerations for Political Science Instructors. *Journal of Political Science Education*, 18(3), 284-300.

Harsell, Dana Michael, **Barsky, Christina S.**, & Golas, Supriya. (2022). Simulation Efficacy and Applicability: Reported Learning from a Virtual Computer-Based Pandemic Simulation on Skill-Based Competencies Among Public Affairs Students. *Journal of Public Affairs Education*, 28(2), 182-210.

Rinfret, Sara & **Barsky, Christina S.** (2020). The Gatekeepers of U.S. Elections: Exploring Street Level Bureaucrats in Montana. *International Journal of Public Administration*, 43(16), 1357-1365.

Rinfret, Sara, **Barsky, Christina S.**, & Scott, Sam (2018). Public Perceptions, Elections Administration, and the Role of Street Level Bureaucrats. *Public Administration Quarterly*, 42(4), 493-515.

Greene, Jeffrey D. & **Barsky, Christina S.** (2017). Montana: Budgeting and Policy in the Treasure State. *California Journal of Politics and Policy*, 9(4).

Greene, Jeffrey D. & **Barsky, Christina S.** (2016). Montana's 2017 Biennium: Budgeting and Policy in the Treasure State. *California Journal of Politics and Policy*, 9(1).

Cline, Sarah & **Barsky, Christina S.** (2011). Leveraging Partnerships for Rural Development: A Case Study of Horizons and the Northern Plains Initiative. *Montana Policy Review*, 15(1), 13-17.

Other Peer-Reviewed Publications

Barsky, Christina S., McKeague, Lauren, Emidy, M. Blake, Walters, Maysa, Beck, Adriane, & Chase-Begay, Damian. "Public Health Implications of 911 Calls During Heat and Smoke Events" (PH42) <https://hazards.colorado.edu/public-health-disaster-research/public-health-implications-of-911-calls-during-heat-and-smoke-events>

McKeague, Lauren, **Barsky, Christina S.**, Hazelton-Boyle, Josephine, & Emidy, M. Blake. "Making Us Whole Again? Lessons from Montana Disaster Recovery" (QR359) <https://hazards.colorado.edu/quick-response-report/making-us-whole-again>

Refereed Book Chapters

Barsky, Christina S., Bustinza, Monica, Clark, Amanda, & Emidy, M. Blake. (2024). Ain't No Mountain High Enough: What Motivates Poll Workers to Serve During a Pandemic Emergency and Political Unrest.

In Joseph A. Coll & Joseph Anthony (Eds.), *Hindsight is 2020: Lessons Learned from the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election* (pp. 14-25). Palgrave MacMillan. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-44549-1_2

Barsky, Christina S., Clark, Amanda, & Bustinza, Monica. (2023). Swing State? The Impact of Twenty Years of Florida Election Law Post-HAVA. In Walter Clark Wilson, Sean D. Foreman, & Marcia L. Godwin (Eds.), *The Roads to Congress 2022* (pp.127-143). Palgrave MacMillan. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-42749-7_7

Case Studies

Barsky, Christina S., & Reichelt, Jennifer. Case Study: How a Mother’s Meddling led to an HR Meltdown. *ICMA-NASPA Local Government Case Studies* (forthcoming)

Under Review

Barsky, Christina S. “Are Voter Satisfied? Exploring Perceptions of the Electoral Process in Montana”
Revise and resubmit

Emidy, M. Blake, McKeague, Lauren K., **Barsky, Christina S.**, & Hazelton-Boyle, Josephine K., “Does Raising the Ceiling Raise the Floor? Management Representativeness and Subordinate Equity, Inclusion, and Justice in U.S. Federal Agencies”

Barsky, Christina S., Clark, Amanda, D., & Bustinza, Monica, A. “It’s Not Just Over There: Combating Violence Against Women in Elections (VAWE) in 2024”

Clark, Amanda & **Barsky, Christina S.** “Public Administration’s Role in Building Resilient Election Administration”

In Progress

McKeague, Lauren K., **Barsky, Christina S.**, Emidy, M. Blake, & Weddell, Melissa. “Administrative Insult to Injury: Experiences of Burden Among Small Business Owners Impacted by the 2022 Yellowstone Flood?”

Barsky, Christina S. “Montana’s 2024 U.S. Senate Race” (book chapter)

Barsky, Christina S., Clark, Amanda, Bustinza, Monica, & Emidy, M. Blake. “Helping My Fellow Americans to Vote is “My Civic Duty:” Exploring Poll Worker Motivations in Recent U.S. Elections”

Barsky, Christina S., Clark, Amanda, & Bustinza, Monica. “Where it All Began: Exploring the Political Ramifications of Election Reforms in Florida from 2002-2022

Barsky, Christina S. “Redefining Street-Level Bureaucrats”

Barsky, Christina S. “Simulations as Tools for Advancing Equity in the Public Budgeting Classroom”

Barsky, Christina S., & Harsell, Dana. “At the Intersection of Policy and Equity: Student Experiences of a Wildfire Simulation”

Select Public and Governmental Research Reports

2022, Missoula County Voter Survey Findings and Recommendations

2021-present, Montana State Parks AmeriCorps Nature- and Cultural-Based Park Program Evaluation, Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, Corporation for National and Community Service

2020-2021, Setting the Baseline: Understanding Housing Needs in Missoula, Montana (with Sara Rinfret, Shane St. Onge, and Samantha Hilliard)

2020-2021, New Approaches: Measuring Employee Performance, Report for the City of Missoula (with Sara Rinfret)

2020-2021, Performance Evaluation Cycle and Procedure, City of Missoula Planners (with Sara Rinfret)

2020-2021, Performance Evaluation Cycle and Procedure, City of Missoula Inspectors (with Sara Rinfret)

2020, Missoula County November 2022 General Election Experience (with Sara Rinfret and Shane St. Onge)

2017, Seeded Savings: A 21st Century to Affording Higher Education (Update), Reach Higher Montana (formerly Montana Student Assistance Foundation)

2016-2017, Montana State Parks AmeriCorps Grant Evaluation, Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, Corporation for National and Community Service

2016-2017, Statewide Voter Confidence in Montana (with Sara Rinfret)

2016-2017, Department of Public Health and Safety Training Plan, Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Public Health Accreditation Board (with Kari Harris and Sara Rinfret)

2016-2017, Department of Public Health and Safety Workforce Assessment, Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Public Health Accreditation Board (with Kari Harris and Sara Rinfret)

2015-2016, Perceptions of Missoula County Voters (with Sara Rinfret, Sam Scott, and Hailey Duffin)

2015, Seeded Savings: A 21st Century Solution to Affording Higher Education, Montana Student Assistance Foundation

2012-2013, North Dakota State Tribal Relations Policy Report, North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission, Northern Plains Initiative (with Sarah Cline Pytalksi)

2012-2013, Browning Youth Roundtable Report, Browning Community Development Center, Northern Plains Initiative (with Sarah Cline Pytalksi)

2010, South Dakota American Indian and Advocacy Roundtable Report, Wellstone Action Alliance, South Dakota Indian Business Alliance, Northern Plains Initiative (with Sarah Cline Pytalksi)

2010, South Dakota Youth Roundtable Report, South Dakota Extension, Northern Plains Initiative (with Sarah Cline Pytalksi)

2009-2010, North Dakota Consumer and Provider Policy Review and Report, North Dakota Consensus Council, North Dakota Budget Center, North Dakota Economic Security and Prosperity Alliance, Northern Plains Initiative (with Sarah Cline Pytalksi)

2009, Montana Urban Indian Policy Report and Recommendations, Montana Office of Indian Affairs, War Shield Consulting, Northern Plains Initiative (with Sarah Cline Pytalksi)

2009, Montana Asset Building Coalition, Corporation for Enterprise Development, Rural Dynamics, Inc.

Advisor

Chau, Michelle (2011). Making Work Pay in Montana. National Center for Children in Poverty

Deweese, Sarah and Foxworth, Raymond (2011). Building Trust: Consumer Protection in Native Communities. First Nations Development Institute

Chief Dull Knife College (2010-2011). Northern Cheyenne Resource Library

Recent Media Contributions

Aug. 7, 2024, **National Public Radio**. [In Montana, 911 calls reveal hidden impact of heat waves on rural seniors](#)

Apr. 22, 2024, **The Daily Montanan**. [University of Montana study: Public service motivates poll workers, but so does money.](#)

Apr. 2, 2024, **Bozeman Daily Chronicle**. [Montana researchers seeking resident input about 2022 flood recovery](#)

Mar. 21, 2024, **Billings Gazette**. [Survey seeks input from Yellowstone-area flood victims](#)

Oct. 31, 2023, **NBC Montana**. [Missoula municipal election 1 week away, ballot returns low](#)

Aug. 22, 2023, **The Daily Montanan**. [Polling experts weigh in on contested Realtors' survey](#)

Feb. 17, 2023, **KTVQ**. [Carbon County resident says video shows ballot shredding: state investigating](#)

Nov. 11, 2022, **Politico**. [Supreme Court races offer anti-abortion groups a win on a tough night](#)

Nov. 11, 2022, **E&E Daily**. [Zinke returns to face old Capitol Hill friends and foes](#)

Nov. 9, 2022, **Montana Public Radio**. [Professor: Growth in mail voting means longer waits for election results](#)

Nov. 9, 2022, **Montana Public Radio**. [Voter turnout in Montana was around 56%, down from 72% in 2018](#)

Nov. 8, 2022, **Montana PBS**. Montana Election Night Coverage

Nov. 8, 2022, **The Drop, OZY**. [The election deniers who could overturn your vote](#)

Oct. 20, 2022, **The Arizona Republic**. [Arizona governor candidates Kari Lake, Katie Hobbs on election proposals](#)

Oct. 7, 2022, **The Daily Montanan**. [Montana House candidates split on abortion, but debate shifts following Dobbs](#)

Oct. 4, 2022, **The Daily Montanan**. [All Montana's U.S. House of Representatives' candidates want your vote – one asks directly](#)

Sept. 30, 2022, **The Daily Montanan**. [Zinke attacks Libertarian Lamb, Tarnel points to GOP opponent's 'lies'](#)

Aug. 26, 2022, **The Daily Montanan**. [Zinke still pegged as winner, but analysts see 'vulnerabilities'](#)

Aug. 8, 2022, **Montana Public Radio**. [Audit shows Montana primary election was accurate and secure](#)

June 8, 2022, **The Washington Post/AP**. [Wrong-sized ballots delay results in Montana U.S. House Race](#)

June 6, 2022, **National Public Radio**. [Montana Democrats hustle for a spot in the U.S. House](#)

May 22, 2022, **The Missoulian**. [More American than apple pie](#)

Feb. 24, 2022, **Montana Public Radio**. [Federal judge may end up redrawing Montana's utility regulator districts](#)

Oct. 24, 2021, **The Daily Montanan**. [Study: In Missoula County, confidence in elections is high](#)

Oct. 19, 2021, **Montana Public Radio**. [Montana Democrats push for 'competitive' congressional districts, Republicans call it 'gerrymandering'](#)

Oct. 18, 2021, **Montana Public Radio**. [One line, two districts, nine maps: Montana Districting Commission inches toward final congressional map](#)

May 17, 2021, **Yellowstone Public Radio**. [New Montana ballot collection law raises concerns over voting access](#)

Feb. 5, 2021, **The Missoulian**. [Why paid leave matters for Montanans](#) (with Sara Rinfret)

Jan. 8, 2021, **The Missoula Current**. [Poll finds confidence among Missoula voters in the election, balloting process](#)

Nov. 6, 2020, **Montana PBS**. How Montanans Voted: Analyzing the 2020 Election

Nov. 3, 2020, **Montana PBS**. Montana Election Night Coverage

Sept. 25, 2020, **The Good Trade**. [What will it take to get more women in politics?](#)

Sept. 8, 2020, **The Billings Gazette**. [Trial begins in Montana tribes' lawsuit over ballot collection laws](#)

Jan. 23, 2019, **The Missoulian**. [UM professors discuss how law and policies play into government shutdown](#)

Nov. 8, 2018, **Montana PBS**. How Montanans Voted: Analyzing the 2018 Election

Nov. 6, 2018, **Montana PBS**. Montana Election Night Coverage

Presentations

Convener

Barsky, Christina S., Albers, Liz, Seaman, Bradley, and Vernon, Andrea. “It takes a village: Reimagining the civic square through town-gown partnerships” Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Annual Conference, October 2021. Virtual

Barsky, Christina S., McDonald, Bruce, Maher, Craig, and Willoughby, Katherine. “The dollars and cents of the new civic education: Linking the public budgeting and finance classroom to community” Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Annual Conference, October 2020. Virtual

Barsky, Christina S., Barret, Dick, Bickel, Dale, and O’Loughlin, Heather. “Innovative revenue options” Montana Public Service Academy, August 2020. Virtual

Barsky, Christina S. “What can you do with a public service degree” University of Montana, January 2020. Missoula, MT

Barsky, Christina S., Pace, Gordy, and Mercer, Bill. “Innovative thinking for the public sector’s future” Montana Public Service Academy, August 2019. Missoula, MT

Barsky, Christina S., Weatherby, Beth, and DuMontier, Deb. “The inside story: Women and leadership” Montana NEW Leadership, June 2019. Missoula, MT

Presenter

Barsky, Christina S., McKeague, Lauren K., Emidy, M. Blake, Walters, Maysa, Chase-Begay, Damian, & Beck, Adriane. “Public Health Implications of 911 Calls during Heat and Smoke Events” Public Health Disaster Research Award Webinar, August 2024. Remote

Barsky, Christina S., McKeague, Lauren K., & Sindelar, Hugo. “Centering Local Experience: Pioneering Visual Storytelling in Disaster Research” FEMA Annual Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium, June 2024. Emmitsburg, MD

Sindelar, Hugo, **Barsky, Christina S.**, & McKeague Lauren K. “One in Five Hundred Film Screening” FEMA Annual Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium, June 2024. Emmitsburg, MD

Rushforth, Richard, Buchanan, Paula, Purba, Denissa, **Barsky, Christina S.**, McKeague, Lauren K. “FEMA IHE Research Projects: Data Insights for Community Empowerment” FEMA Annual Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium, June 2024. Emmitsburg, MD

Barsky, Christina S., McKeague, Lauren K., & Emidy, M. Blake. “Understanding rural public health disaster needs: Analyzing 911 calls during climatic hazards” Internal meeting, Public Health Disaster Research Award Program, Natural Hazards Center, May 2024. Remote

Barsky, Christina S. & Camarillo, Earlene. “Local public health departments during a global pandemic” American Society of Public Administration Annual Conference, April 2024. Minneapolis, MN

Clark, Amanda, **Barsky, Christina S.**, & Bustinza, Monica. “Resilient democracy administration” American Society of Public Administration Annual Conference, April 2024. Minneapolis, MN

McKeague, Lauren, **Barsky, Christina S.**, Emidy, M. Blake, & Hazelton-Boyle, Josephine. “We were prepared for fire, not flood: Perceptions of rural community resiliency in a changing disaster landscape” American Society of Public Administration Annual Conference, April 2024. Minneapolis, MN

Emidy, M. Blake, Hazelton-Boyle, Josephine, McKeague, Lauren, & **Barsky, Christina S.** “Does raising the ceiling raise the floor? Management representativeness and subordinate equity and inclusion in U.S. federal agencies” International Research Society for Public Administration Annual Conference, April 2024. Tampere, Finland

Barsky, Christina S., Clark, Amanda, and Bustinza, Monica. “It’s not just over there: Combatting violence against women in elections (VAWE) in 2024” Southern Political Science Association Conference, January 2024. New Orleans, LA

McKeague, Lauren, Emidy, M. Blake, **Barsky, Christina S.**, and Hazelton-Boyle, Josephine. “Administrative insult to injury: Experiences of burden among small business owners impacted by the 2022 Yellowstone Flood” Public Management Research Conference, June 2023. Utrecht, Netherlands

Barsky, Christina S. and Clark, Amanda. “Election administration as public service” Public Administration Theory Network Annual Conference, June 2023. Portland, OR

Barsky, Christina S., Clark, Amanda, and Bustinza, Monica. “Electoral violence during democratic crisis” Election Reform, Science, and Administration Annual Conference, May 2023. Athens, GA

Barsky, Christina S. and Clark, Amanda. “Where it all began: Exploring the political ramifications of election reforms in Florida from 2002-2022” Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, January 2023. St. Pete Beach, FL

Harsell, Dana, **Barsky, Christina S.**, Luna-Reyes, Luis, and Minkoff, Alex. “The benefits of computer-based policy simulations in public affairs programs” Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Annual Conference, October 2022. Chicago, IL

Barsky, Christina S. and Camarillo, Earlene. “COVID-19 and the politicization of public health workers in Montana and Oregon” American Political Science Association Annual Conference, September 2022. Montreal, QC

Bustinza, Monica, **Barsky, Christina S.**, and Clark, Amanda. “Helping my fellow Americans to vote” is “my civic duty”: Exploring poll worker motivations in recent U.S. elections. Election Reform, Science, and Administration Annual Conference, July 2022. Charlotte, NC

Bustinza, Monica, Clark, Amanda, and **Barsky, Christina S.** “Heavy lifting: Emotional labor and election administration” American Society of Public Administration Annual Conference, March 2022. Jacksonville, FL

Bustinza, Monica, **Barsky, Christina S.**, and Clark, Amanda. “Dismantling democracy? The impact of a violently contested election on election administrators” Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, January 2022. San Antonio, TX

Barsky, Christina S. and Emidy, M. Blake. “Democracy in crisis: The American poll worker aging out and under attack” Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, January 2022. San Antonio, TX

Camarillo, Earlene and **Barsky, Christina S.** “Local health departments’ response to COVID-19” American Political Science Association Annual Conference, September 2021. Virtual

Blessett, Brandi, McCandless, Sean, **Barsky, Christina S.**, and Rinfret, S. “A critical review of the frontlines of bureaucracy” Public Administration Theory Network Annual Conference, June 2021. Virtual

Miller, Hugh, Alexander, Jennifer, **Barsky, Christina S.** “Narrative politics in public policy: Legalizing cannabis” Public Administration Theory Network Annual Conference, June 2021. Virtual

Barsky, Christina S. “Kindly volunteers, civil servants, or street-level bureaucrats: What motivates Election Day workers to serve on the front-lines of democracy?” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 2021. Virtual

Harsell, Dana, **Barsky, Christina S.**, and Golas, Supriya. “Simulation efficacy and applicability: The effects of a computer-based pandemic simulation on skill-based competencies and student attitudes toward COVID-19 mitigation policies. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 2021. Virtual

Barsky, Christina S. “Administrators of Democracy: Implementing and innovating in election administration” Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, January 2021. Virtual

Barsky, Christina S. “Playing with Money: Teaching public budgeting in the graduate classroom” American Political Science Association Teaching and Learning Conference, February 2020. Albuquerque, NM

Rinfret, Sara, **Barsky, Christina S.**, Brewer, Adam, Vernon, Andrea, and Benavides, Abraham. “Robots, VR, and flexible course delivery: Training the next generation of public and nonprofit sector professionals. Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Annual Conference, October 2019. Los Angeles, CA

Barsky, Christina S. “Reframing street-level bureaucrats: From porta potties to DEF CON – Lessons from Arizona” Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 2019. San Diego, CA

Barsky, Christina S. and Solop, Frederic. “Election administration in the Post-HAVA era: Lessons from Arizona” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 2018. Chicago, IL

Barsky, Christina S. and Rinfret, Sara. “The gatekeepers of U.S. elections” Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, March 2018. San Francisco, CA

Barsky, Christina S. “Montana’s biennium budget update” Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, March 2018. San Francisco, CA

Barsky, Christina S. and Rinfret, Sara. “Public perceptions, elections administration, and the role of street-level bureaucrats” Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 2017. Vancouver, BC

Barsky, Christina S. “The year of fiscal saliency: Montana’s 2019 biennium budget” Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 2017. Vancouver, BC

Barsky, Christina S., Ayers, Jess, and Bourque, Scott. “They spoke in offense: Gaffes in the 2017 Republican Primary” Southwest Communications Association Annual Conference, April 2017. Flagstaff, AZ

Barsky, Christina S. “Montana’s biennium budget update” Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, March 2016. San Diego, CA

Invited Speaker/Invited Workshop

“Administering Democracy: Elections and the Electoral Process in the United States” U.S. Embassy Manama, Bahrian and Mohamed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa Academy for Diplomatic Studies, August 2024. Virtual

“American Democracy, Governance, and Citizen Participation” Mansfield Center U.S. Department of State Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative Professional Fellows Program, April 2024. Missoula, MT

“We Were Ready for Fire, but Not Flood: Exploring Whole-Community Recovery and Resiliency in the Rural Intermountain West” W. A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation Society and Conservation Seminar, April 2024. Missoula, MT

“Does it Matter how we Count Votes?” University of Montana Democracy Summit, March 2024. Missoula, MT and Virtual

“Promoting STEM in Tribal Communities” with Aaron Thomas and Stephan Chase, 2023-24 EIR Project Directors & Evaluators TA Meeting, February 2024. Washington, DC

“NASPAA Wildfire Simulation Workshop” with Dana Harsell, NASPAA Annual Conference, October 2023. Pittsburgh, PA

“Midwest Public Finance Workshop” University of Nebraska at Omaha, August 2023. Omaha, NE

“Retaining and Recruiting Diverse Volunteers” Montana Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Summit, September 2023. Great Falls, MT

“Strategies for impact and growth of Pi Alpha Alpha chapters” Pi Alpha Alpha Summit, October 2021. Virtual

“Resilience in election administration” with Anthony Johnstone, Montana Public Service Academy, August 2021. Missoula, MT

“Developing leadership and empowering women” with Beth Weatherby, Julie Dooling, and Julie Clayton, Montana NEW Leadership, June 2021. Missoula, MT

Discussant

“The Roads to Congress: Retrospective views of 2022 and prospects for 2024” with Amanda Clark. Southern Political Science Association Conference, January 2024. New Orleans, LA

“Western States Budget Roundtable” Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 2019. San Diego, CA

Community and Public Education

“Recent nonprofit administration graduates and careers in the field” University of Montana Nonprofit Administration Minor, April 2024. Missoula, MT

“Finding a rewarding job in public and nonprofit organizations” University of Montana Chapter of Pi Alpha Alpha, March 2020. Missoula, MT and Virtual

“Anti-poverty policy and the racial wealth gap” Liberation in a Generation, University of Montana Chapter of Pi Alpha Alpha, February 2020. Missoula, MT and Virtual

“What’s going on with...the election 2.0 redux!” University of Montana Alexander Blewett III School of Law, November 2020. Missoula, MT and Virtual

“What’s going on with...the election!” University of Montana Alexander Blewett III School of Law, November 2020. Missoula, MT and Virtual

“Communicating effectively with the public” University of Montana Chapter of Pi Alpha Alpha, September 2020. Missoula, MT and Virtual

“The art of grantwriting” University of Montana Chapter of Pi Alpha Alpha, April 2020. Missoula, MT and Virtual

“Fundamentals of public sector negotiation” University of Montana Chapter of Pi Alpha Alpha, February 2020. Missoula, MT and Virtual

“What’s going on with...the government shutdown!” University of Montana Alexander Blewett III School of Law, January 2019. Missoula, MT

“The popular and elite roots of Republican Extremism in the United States” by Theda Skocpol, Northern Arizona University, March 2018. Flagstaff, AZ

“Democracy in Chains” by Nancy McLean, American Association of University Women, March 2018. Flagstaff, AZ

“Public Service and Discourse” by Tom O’Halloran, Northern Arizona University, November 2017. Flagstaff, AZ

“Flagstaff Independents Day” American Association of University Women, League of Women Voters, September 2017. Flagstaff, AZ

“What to do with a degree in political science” Davidson Honors College, University of Montana, April 2016. Missoula, MT

“Graduate and law school” University of Montana, October 2015. Missoula, MT

“Local and state policy concerns in asset building coalitions” Corporation for Enterprise Development Leadership Intensive, September 2014. Washington, DC

“Creating a strong economic future for Montana families” Montana Budget and Policy Center Building Opportunities and Defending our Ground in 2013, December 2012. Helena, MT

“Getting comfortable talking to policymakers” Corporation for Enterprise Development, Assets Learning Conference, September 2012. Washington, DC

“Responding, reacting, and relating to the needs of rural tax preparation sites” National Community Tax Coalition webseries, August 2012. Virtual

“How assets coalitions help families achieve financial security” Northwest Area Foundation Grassroots and Groundworks Conference, June 2012. Prior Lake, MN

“Why ASSETs matter” Montana Dietetics Association Food and Nutrition Conference, May 2012. Kalispell, MT

“A seat at the table: The youth voice in rural community visioning” National Rural Assembly, June 2011. St. Paul, MN

“Taking an offensive stance on payday lending” South Dakota Indian Business Alliance Building a New Native America Conference, May 2011. Rapid City, SD

Guest Speaking and Teaching

“Survey research, design, and use” University of Montana, November 2023.

“Communicating in the ‘real world,’ three-part series” Northern Arizona University, March 2018. Flagstaff, AZ

“Sampling and research methodology” Northern Arizona University, October 2017. Flagstaff, AZ

“Professional writing, two-part series” Northern Arizona University, April 2017. Flagstaff, AZ

“Qualitative research methods” University of Montana Social Science Research Lab, April 2016. Missoula, MT

“Qualitative research tool basics: NVivo” University of Montana Social Science Research Lab, December 2015. Missoula, MT

“Qualitative and quantitative community learning” University of Montana Social Science Research Lab, December 2015

Courses Taught

Graduate Courses

Applied Research Methods • Foundations of Public Administration • Issues in State and Local Government • Poverty Policy • Program Evaluation • Public Budgeting and Finance • Public Health Administration and Management • Public Policymaking and Implementation in Indian Country

Undergraduate Courses

Advanced Nonprofit Administration • Introduction to American Government • Introduction to American Politics • Social Science Research • Presidential Greatness

Modalities

Synchronous in-person • Asynchronous online • Synchronous online • Robot • Hybrid/HyFlex

Independent Studies, Capstones, Portfolios, and Theses

Graduate Independent Studies

Courtney McKee (2024) "Designing Leadership Montana's Performance Review Scheme"

Eli Bowe (2024) "Strengthening Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis Skills"

Denver Henderson (2023-24) "Public Administration, Policies, and Politics in Local Mayoral Races"

Jeffrey McDonald (2023-24) "Investigating Rhetoric and Rural Disaster Tropes"

Michael Gruber (2022-23) "Critical Political Theory: Intersectional Feminism and Critical Race Theory"

Ashley Brittner Wells (2022-23) "Innovative Community Engagement and How to Localize It"

Melissa Nelson (2022) "Ed.D. Directed Field Study" (Arizona State University)

Autumn Tigart (2020-21) "Resident Owned Communities (ROC) Program, Participant Needs, and Fundraising Plan"

Andrew Meyers (2020-21) "AM Theoretical Mission and Vision, Evaluation Plan, Board Inception and Governance, Financial and Grant Management, and Communication Campaign"

Connor Timpone (2020-21) Baucus Leaders Program "Helping the Montana Nonprofit Association Understand What Constitutes Successful Service Learning"

Gabrielle Broere (2020-21) "Applied Research Methods and the American Voter in 2016"

Mackenzie Johnson (2020) "Human Resources, Volunteer Management, and Performance Evaluation for the Big Sky MT Community Organization"

Melissa England (2020) "Proposal, Research, Program Design, and Stakeholder Analysis for Zero Waste, Denver"

denise rose (2019) "Diving Deep into the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program"

Lisa Smith (2019) "Fiscal Condition Analysis and Recommendations"

Kinsey Anderson (2018-19) "Budget Analysis, Report, and Presentation, Institutional Information Technology"

Undergraduate Independent Studies

Lauren Sullivan (2020) Global Leadership Initiative, "Butte, MT History and Culture"

Master of Public Health Integrative Learning and Applied Learning Experiences, Portfolios

Maysa Walters (2023-24), "Climatic Events and the Impacts Relating to Public Health, Emergency Response, and Geographic Location: Review of the Literature" Advisor and Committee Member

Lisa Dworak (2019-20), "Workforce Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Framework, Missoula City-County Health Department" Advisor and Committee Member

Anna Andrechack (2017-18), “Gallatin City-County Health Department Provider Perceptions of the Montana Tobacco Quit Line and Other Tobacco Cessation Interventions” Advisor and Committee Member

Rebekah King (2017-18), “Visual Design in Health Communications: A Case Study” Advisor and Committee Member

Amoy Jaques (2018), “2015 Mother Friendly Childbirth Initiative Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation in Los Angeles” and “Racialized Motherhood” Committee Member

Trainings

“Human dynamics and organizational communication” (4 hours) City of Missoula Leadership Training Series, March 2021. Virtual

“Practical data collection for public health professionals” (12 hours) Montana Public Health Training Center, June 2020. Virtual

Honors and Awards

International Research Society for Public Management Best Paper Award Nominee (with M. Blake Emidy, Lauren K. McKeague, and Josephine K. Hazelton-Boyle) (2024)

Invited U.S. Speakers Program, U.S. Department of State (Democracy and Elections) (2024)

Department of Public Administration & Policy Excellence in Community Engaged Scholarship Award (2023)

University of Montana Merit and Outstanding Performance Award (2022-23)

University of Montana Davison Honors College, Excellence in the Education and Mentorship of Honors Students (2022)

University of Montana Women’s Leadership Initiative Fellow (2021-22)

University of Montana Merit and Outstanding Performance Award (2021-22)

Pi Alpha Alpha Chapter Advisor Award of Excellence (2021)

Outstanding Teaching Assistant, University of Montana (2016)

Grants and Funding

2024

FEMA Higher Education Program (\$9,957, with Lauren McKeague and Hugo Sindelar)

2023

[Natural Hazards Center, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Science Foundation](#) (\$43,975, with Lauren McKeague, M. Blake Emidy, Damien Chase-Begay, and Adriane Beck)

[FEMA Higher Education Program](#) (\$10,000, with Lauren McKeague)

[Natural Hazards Center](#) (\$4,000, with Lauren McKeague, M. Blake Emidy, and Josephine Hazelton-Boyle)

[University of Montana Small Grant Program](#) (\$4,999)

2022

[Scholar Strategy Network \(SSN\)](#) (\$13,000, with Amanda Clark and Monica Bustinza)

2021

[Montana American Indians in Math and Science \(MT-AIMS\)](#) (\$71,950 over five years)

2020

[University of Montana Small Grant Program](#) (\$4,993)

[City of Missoula](#) (\$6,900)

[Missoula County](#) (\$19,995)

[Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Mini-Grant](#) (\$200)

2019

[Montana Healthcare Foundation](#) (\$2,500)

2018

[Hybel Fellowship](#) (\$5,000, *declined*)

2017

[Northern Arizona University Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences](#) (\$1,000)

2016

[Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services](#) (\$40,000, with Kari Harris and Sara Rinfret)

[More than \\$4.5 million secured.](#) Additional details concerning grants and funding secured during previous professional career available upon request.

Professional Experience

2014-PRESENT

[President/SkyBar Solutions, LLC](#)

Actionable research and strategy consulting for the public, nonprofit, and private sectors.

2020-2024

[Co-Founder/Electable Women](#)

A community that provides tools and resources to women who want to run, win, and lead in local elected office.

2013-2014

Director of Montana Operations/Strategies 360

A national leader in public affairs and government relations consulting.

2007-2013

Director of the Northern Plains Initiative/Assistant Director/Rural Dynamics, Inc. (formerly Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Montana and Wyoming)

Leveraging community development and social policy across the northern plains, providing technical assistance and on-the-ground programming for a better future.

2006-2007

AmeriCorps VISTA/Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Montana and Wyoming

National service member.

Leadership, Service, and Affiliations

Institutional Leadership

2020-2023

Co-Chair/University of Montana Voter and Civic Engagement Committee (member 2020; co-chair 2021-2023)

2018-2023

Faculty Advisor/University of Montana Chapter of Pi Alpha Alpha (co-advisor 2018-20 & 2022-23)

Institutional Service

2022-2023

Member/Max S. Baucus Institute, Alexander Blewett III School of Law Native American Student Support Specialist Search

Member/Max S. Baucus Institute Baucus Leaders Montana Selection Committee

2021-2022

Member/Alexander Blewett III School of Law Dean Search

Member/University of Montana Graduate Council

Member/Alexander Blewett III School of Law Deans Advisory Council

2020-2024

Member/University of Montana Budget Committee

2019

Member/AID in Dying Conference Planning Committee, University of Montana

Departmental Service

2021-2022

Member/Department of Public Administration & Policy Search Committee I

Member/Department of Public Administration & Policy Search Committee II

2020-2021

Member/Department of Public Administration & Policy Search Committee

2019-PRESENT

Member/Professional Programs Online Pedagogy Working Group

2018-PRESENT

Member/Department of Public Administration & Policy Admissions Committee

Member/Department of Public Administration & Policy Scholarship Committee

Member/Department of Public Administration & Policy Exit Interview and Portfolio Review Committee

Member/Department of Public Administration & Policy Assessment Committee

2017-2018

Member/Department of Politics and International Affairs Lecturer Search Committee, Northern Arizona University

Graduate Student Liaison/Northern Arizona University Department of Politics and International Affairs

2016-2018

Co-President/Northern Arizona University Graduate Association of Political Science

Service to the Field (current)

Member/Student Simulation Committee, Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration

Member/Election Administration and Leadership Section, Network of schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration

Member/Scholar Strategy Network

Member/Trusted Elections Expert Network Elections SOS and American Press Institute

Member/American Political Science Association Election Assistance Taskforce

Recent External Leadership Roles

2021-2024

Chair/Missoula County Election Advisory Committee

2017-2019

Communications Chair/Flagstaff Chapter American Association of University Women

2015-2016

Co-Chair/Women's Foundation of Montana

2014-2015

Chair/Education Policy Working Group, Corporation for Enterprise Development Assets and Opportunity Network

Chair/Federal Policy Working Group, Corporation for Enterprise Development Assets and Opportunity Network

2010-2015

National Steering Committee Member/Corporation for Enterprise Development Assets and Opportunity Network

Recent External Service

2020-2024

Member/Missoula County Election Advisory Committee

2020-2021

Project Reviewer/Montana Continuum of Care Coalition, HUD Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project

2019-2020

Advisor/Fundors for Montana's Children

2013-2015

Member/Women's Foundation of Montana Board of Directors

2012-2013

Member/Education Policy Working Group, Corporation for Enterprise Development Assets and Opportunity Network

Member/Federal Policy Working Group, Corporation for Enterprise Development Assets and Opportunity Network

Member/Montana Women Vote Great Falls Steering Committee

2009-2013

Member/Paris Gibson Museum of Art Board of Directors

2009-2010

Site Study Director/Dorways2Dreams U.S. Savings Bond Pilot

2008-2014

Commissioner/Great Falls City Commission on International Relationships

2007-2010

Regional Study Site Coordinator/Center for Social Development and Buder Center for American Indian Studies, Washington University

2006-2016

Class Chair/Skidmore College President's Society

Reviewer

MIT-Election Data & Science Lab

Public Administration Review

Election Law Journal

Public Administration Quarterly

Social Science Quarterly

Routledge Public Administration

Routledge Politics

Palgrave Macmillan Public **Policy**

Affiliations (current)

League of Women Voters Montana, Missoula

American Association of University Women, Montana

American Society of Public Administration

American Political Science Association

Southern Political Science Association

Public Administration Theory Network
Public Management Research Association
ServeMontana Technical Assistance