

ROBIN ROSE SAYWITZ

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Education

Texas A&M University (College Station, TX)

Expected August 2022

Ph.D. Candidate of Political Science with concentrations in American politics, public administration, and methods

Dissertation Title: It Takes Two: Gender, Governance Institutions, and Public Administration Labor Markets

Committee: Scott Cook(Chair); Manny Teodoro (co-chair); Erik Peterson; Robert Greer

Abstract: This dissertation presents a framework for understanding how bureaucratic jobs, matches between governments and bureaucrats, are formed that considers the simultaneous preferences of bureaucrats and the governments that seek to employ them. In chapters II and III I use this framework to explore the underrepresentation of women in the city management profession. In chapters IV and V, I shift the focus to local government specialization, specifically the way specialization shapes the politicians' preferences for human capital investments and executive bureaucrats' preferences for working at special districts or general purpose governments.

Indiana University - Paul O'Neil School of Public and Environmental Affairs (Bloomington, IN)

May 2016

M.P.A. with a concentration in Policy Analysis

Northwestern University - Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences (Evanston, IL)

June 2013

B.A. of Environmental Science

Honors Thesis: "Analyzing Colombian Rocks from the Cretaceous Period for a Milankovitch Beat"

Research Interests

Public Administration; Policy Implementation; Environmental Policy; Gender
Labor Markets and Human Capital; Local Government Institutions; Urban Politics

Publications

Robin Saywitz and David Switzer. Forthcoming. "Who Benefits from Special District Service Delivery?: Water Affordability in the United States." Public Administration Quarterly.

Teodoro, MP, Saywitz, RR. "Water and sewer affordability in the United States: a 2019 update." AWWA Water Science. 2020

Saywitz, RR, Teodoro, MP. "Which Drains Get Claimed? Adopt-a-Drain Programs in Three US Cities." Journal AWWA. 2021

Teodoro, MP, Saywitz, RR. "A Snapshot of Water and Sewer Affordability in the United States, 2019." Journal AWWA. 2020

Working Papers

Polycentric Service Delivery or Shadow Government?: Special Districts and Policy Implementation (with David Switzer) (Invited Revise and Resubmit at the Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory)

You have one job: Political institutions and strategic investments in human capital (under review)

Public administration labor markets and the overrepresentation of men city managers (under review)

Who voices? Potholes, 311 reports, and a theory of heterogeneous resident demand for city services (Scott Cook and Samantha Zuhlke)

A Leak in the Pipeline: Why Women do not Become City Managers

Do Water Customers Get What they Pay for?: Institutional Politics and the Price-Quality Tradeoff in Drinking Water (with Manny Teodoro)

Government Type and the Spatial Diffusion of Local Government Policy: The Case of Water Rates (with David Switzer)

Work in Progress

Where is Autonomy Best Forged? A Comparison of General Purpose and Specialized Governments

Water and sewer affordability in the United States: a 2021 update (with Manny Teodoro)

Institutions, operators, and their effect on water quality

Conferences and Presentations

Saywitz, Robin and David Switzer. 2021. Government Type and the Spatial Diffusion of Local Government Policy. American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA, Sep. 28-Oct 1.

Saywitz, Robin. 2021. Where Do the Climbers Go?: The Effect of Institutions on Personnel Quality. Duck Family Graduate Workshop (online due to covid-19), May 13-14.

Saywitz, Robin. 2021. Where Do the Climbers Go?: The Effect of Institutions on Personnel Quality. Midwest Political Science Association (online due to covid-19), April 14.

Teodoro, Manny and Robin Saywitz. 2021. Do Water Customers Get What They Pay For? Institutional Politics and the Price-Quality Tradeoff in Drinking Water. Midwest Political Science Association (online due to covid-19), April 14.

Teodoro, Manny and Robin Saywitz. 2020. Coproduction without Production: Public Engagement as Symbolic Environmental Policy. Annual Conference on Environmental Politics and Governance (online due to covid-19), June 20

Saywitz, Robin, and Lori Lovell. 2016. Slow the Flow: Improving Water Quality with Green Infrastructure. Presented at the North American Lake Management Society Conference (NALMS), Banff, Canada, Nov. 4-6.

Saywitz, Robin, and Lori Lovell. 2016. Slow the Flow: Improving Water Quality with Green Infrastructure. Presented at the Indiana Lakes Management Society Conference (ILMS). Plymouth, IN, Mar. 11.

Sulek, Dave, Athena Tang, Michael Mayer, Robin Saywitz, and Olivia Messina. 2015. Health Policy Mapping. Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences Healthcare Conference on Telehealth. Nashville, TN, July 29-31.

Robin, Saywitz, and Lori Lovell. 2015. Water Quality and Hydrologic Performance of Stormwater Control Berms. Part of the Indiana University RAIN (Restorative Adaptations for Infrastructure) Initiative. EPA Sustainable Design Expo. Alexandria, VA, Apr. 10-11

Invited Talks

"Women and the City Management." Municipal Management Association of Northern California (MMANC) Annual Conference. October 26-28, 2022, Monterey, CA

Awards and Honors

2022 Presidential Management Fellow Finalist (13% acceptance rate)

2021 Awarded AWWA Management Leadership Division Best Paper Award for "Water and Sewer Affordability in the United States: A 2019 Update"

2016 Awarded Best Student Presentation at the Indiana Lakes Management Society Conference

2015 Awarded an Honorable Mention for research presented at the EPA's Sustainable Design Expo

2014 Awarded a SPEA Fellowship scholarship, the highest merit-based award granted by Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs (O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs)

2013 Departmental Honors from the Environmental Science Department for an Outstanding Senior Thesis on paleoclimatology for "Analyzing Colombian Rocks from the Cretaceous Period for a Milankovitch Beat"

Research Experience

Texas A&M University

- RA for Manny Teodoro; Scott Cook; Hannah Simpson

Indiana University

- RA for the Limnology Lab (Melissa Laney and Sarah Powers)

Director of Restorative Adaptations for Infrastructure at Indiana University

- Won competitive grant of \$4,500 student sustainability grant from Indiana University's Office of Sustainability for designing and implementing a large-scale storm water management system (series of bioswales, berms, and rain gardens)
- Managed completion of an Environmental Protection Agency P3 (People, Prosperity, and the Planet) Design Competition grant of \$15,000

Northwestern University

- RA for Brad Sageman

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant At Texas AM

- “Politics and Policy in the United States”, Fall 2021 (undergraduate)
- “Politics and Policy in the United States”, Spring 2022 (undergraduate)

Teaching Assistant At Indiana University

- “SPEA-V 500 Quantitative Tools for Public Affairs ”, Fall 2015 (graduate)

Service

Service to Texas AM

Student Senator, Texas A&M Graduate & Professional Student Government (2020-2022)

President, Texas A&M Political Science Graduate Student Association Student Government (2020-2022), aided in the Department of Political Science’s covid response, organized talks, organized graduate student events, helped with graduate student recruitment including moderating student panels, pairing admitted students with faculty and other graduate students, and coordinated outreach to admitted students

Service to Indiana University

Treasurer, Environmental Management and Sustainable Development Association (2015-2016), maintained accounting records and receipts

Memberships

American Political Science Association (APSA), Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), American Water Works Association (AWWA)

Professional Experience

Booz Allen, Medicare Part D Error Rate (PDER) Contract Washington, DC

Aug. 2016 - Aug. 2018

Deputy Project Manager

- Coordinated the development, review, and submission of Statement of Work deliverables for the PDER Contract with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS)
- Briefed CMS contracting officers regularly via meetings and materials packages including activities trackers, status updates, meeting minutes, and agendas
- Implemented and continually evaluated new task management protocols in line with Lean Management principles to improve efficiency on the contract
- Served as a core management team member for four separate contract submissions responsible for compilation of responses, meeting internal deadlines, and drafting response sections as needed
- Analyzed over 150 federal laws, regulations, and agency strategic plans regarding telehealth to identify opportunities for federal policy making

International City/County Management Association
Washington, DC

June 2013 - July 2014

Knowledge Network Team Member

Authored five white papers on local government issues including economic development and community engagement Researched and authored weekly posts for ICMA's "In the Know" blog on a wide variety of local government issues involving economic development, local budgeting, and sustainability trackers, status updates, meeting minutes, and agendas Answered city managers' inquiries through research, direction to online resources, and provision of additional follow-up support as needed

Technical Skills and Research Methods

- Technical Skills

ArcGIS (ArcMap, ArcPro, ArcGIS Online), Stata, R, SAS, LaTeX

Research Methods

Elite experiments, Field experiments, Elite Interviewing, Causal Inference, Regression Analysis

References

MANNY TEODORO

Associate Professor at Wisconsin's La Follette
School of Public Affairs
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DAVID SWITZER

Assistant Professor at Missouri's Truman School
of Public Affairs
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ROBERT GREER

Associate Professor at Texas A&M University's
Bush School of Public Service and Administration
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