

Laurel Harbridge Yong
Associate Professor, Department of Political Science
Faculty Fellow, Institute for Policy Research
Northwestern University
Scott Hall, 601 University Place
Evanston, IL 60208
(847) 467-1147 (office)
l-harbridge@northwestern.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University (Sept. 2016 – present)
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University (Sept. 2010 – August 2016)
Faculty Fellow, Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University (Sept. 2010 – present)
College Fellow, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University (Sept. 2009 – Aug. 2010)

EDUCATION

Stanford University Stanford, CA
Ph.D. in Political Science, 2009
M.A. in Political Science, 2008
Dissertation: “Bipartisanship in a Polarized Congress”
Dissertation Committee: David W. Brady (Chair), Morris P. Fiorina, Paul Sniderman

University of Colorado Boulder, CO
B.A. in Political Science, 2004
B.A. in Economics, 2004
Summa cum Laude
Phi Beta Kappa

PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

Congress	Parties	Polarization
Elections	Public Policy	Survey Research
Legislatures	Research Design	Voting

PUBLICATIONS

11. Bauer, Nichole M., Laurel Harbridge Yong, and Yanna Krupnikov. 2017. “Who is Punished? Conditions Affecting Voter Evaluations of Legislators who Do Not Compromise.” *Political Behavior* 39(2): 279-300. DOI: 10.1007/s11109-016-9356-6.

10. Harbridge, Laurel, Jon Krosnick, and Jeffrey M. Wooldridge. 2016. “Presidential Approval and Gas Prices: Sociotropic or Pocketbook Influence?” In *Political Psychology: New Explorations*. Ed. Krosnick, Jon. New York: Psychology Press (Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group).

9. Flynn, D.J. *, and Laurel Harbridge. 2016. "How Partisan Conflict in Congress Affects Public Opinion: Strategies, Outcomes, and Issue Differences." *American Politics Research*. 44(5): 875-902. DOI: 10.1177/1532673X15610425.
8. Anderson, Sarah E., Daniel M. Butler, and Laurel Harbridge. 2016. "Legislative Institutions as a Source of Party Leaders' Influence." *Legislative Studies Quarterly*. 41(3): 605-631. DOI: 10.1111/lsq.12124.
7. Harbridge, Laurel. 2015. *Is Bipartisanship Dead? Policy Agreement and Agenda-Setting in the House of Representatives*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
6. Harbridge, Laurel, Neil Malhotra and Brian F. Harrison. * 2014. "Public Preferences for Bipartisanship in the Policymaking Process." *Legislative Studies Quarterly*. 39(3): 327-355.
5. Anderson, Sarah, and Laurel Harbridge. 2014. "The Policy Consequences of Motivated Information Processing among the Partisan Elite." *American Politics Research*. 42(4): 700-728.
4. Harbridge, Laurel, and Neil Malhotra. 2011. "Electoral Incentives and Partisan Conflict in Congress: Evidence from Survey Experiments." *American Journal of Political Science*. 55(3): 494-510.
Portion reprinted in: Kollman, Ken. 2014. *Readings in American Politics: Analysis and Perspectives*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co.
3. Anderson, Sarah, and Laurel Harbridge. 2010. "Incrementalism in Appropriations: Small Aggregation, Big Changes." *Public Administration Review*. 70(3): 464-474.
2. Brady, David, Douglas Rivers, and Laurel Harbridge. 2008. "The 2008 Democratic Shift." *Policy Review*. Hoover Institution, No. 152: December 2008 & January 2009.
1. Brady, David, John Ferejohn, and Laurel Harbridge. 2008. "Polarization and Public Policy: A General Assessment." In *Red and Blue Nation? Consequences and Correction of America's Polarized Politics, Vol. II*. Ed. Pietro S. Nivola and David W. Brady. Washington D.C: Brookings Institution Press.

BOOK REVIEWS

- Harbridge, Laurel. 2017. Review of Marc J. Hetherington and Thomas J. Rudolph "Why Washington Won't Work." *Political Science Quarterly*. 132(1): 164.
- Harbridge, Laurel. 2016. Review of Nathaniel Persily (Ed.) "Solutions to Political Polarization in America." *Perspectives on Politics*. 14(1): 237-9.
- Harbridge, Laurel. 2016. Review of Craig Volden and Alan E. Wiseman "Legislative Effectiveness in the United States Congress." *Journal of Politics*. 78(1): e3-e4.
- Harbridge, Laurel. 2015. Review of Hans Noel "Political Ideologies and Political Parties in America." *Political Science Quarterly*. 130(1): 163-164.

* Starred names indicate graduate student co-authors.

Harbridge, Laurel. 2014. Review of Andrew Taylor "Congress: A Performance Appraisal." *Political Science Quarterly*. 129(2): 366-368.

Harbridge, Laurel. 2012. Review of Tracy Sulkin "The Legislative Legacy of Congressional Campaigns." *Perspectives on Politics*. 10(1): 197-198.

WORKS NOW IN PROGRESS

"Voters as Obstacles to Legislative Compromise" (with Sarah Anderson and Daniel Butler). IPR working paper (IPR-WP-14-21 under previous version "Legislative Holdouts") Even though no legislator can expect to get exactly her ideal point out of the complex political process, our original survey of state legislators shows that a large number, over a quarter, indicate that they would vote against a policy that is closer to their ideal point than the status quo. Following our pre-analysis plan, we examine a number of possible factors that could explain why these legislators hold out. Our data indicate that Republicans, legislators in the majority, and those who fear that their constituents will punish compromise are most likely to hold out. Our results show one way legislative gridlock can occur even when a supermajority of legislators could be made better off by policy change.
(Submitted for journal review)

"Passing the Buck in Congress: The Extent and Effectiveness of Blaming Others for Inaction" (with David Doherty)

IPR working paper (IPR-WP-17-14)

The health of a democracy relies on citizens holding elected officials accountable when they fail to implement policies that serve the public. However, the separation of powers embedded in the American political system can make it difficult for citizens to make sense of who is to blame when policy solutions are not reached. Strategic politicians may take advantage of this by blaming the opposing party or those in other institutions when policies supported by the public are not enacted, harming the opposing party and institutional reputations in the process. We examine the consequences of elected officials blaming other institutions in their communications with the public. We leverage a survey experiment to examine how effective these "pass the buck" strategies are at shaping public attitudes about the individual blaming others, as well as attitudes about the group being blamed. The findings have important implications for our understanding of the extent to which the separation of powers system provides representatives with a way to avoid electoral punishment by deflecting blame, and how party and institutional reputations can be affected by this type of behavior.

(Work in progress)

GRANTS, HONORS AND AWARDS

2016 *Political Research Quarterly* 2016 Outstanding Reviewer Award (PRQ Top 20)

2016 \$10,000 grant from SSRC Negotiating Agreement in Congress. "The limits of electoral accountability: passing the buck for congressional inaction." (co-PI David Doherty).

- 2016 \$10,000 grant from SSRC Negotiating Agreement in Congress. “Overcoming obstacles beyond ideological disagreement.” (co-PIs Daniel Butler and Sarah Anderson).
- 2016 R. Barry Farrell Prize for Excellence in Teaching, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University, June 2016.
- 2015 \$1,800 seed grant from the Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University. “Passing the buck in Congress: The extent and effectiveness of blaming others for inaction.”
- 2013-2014 W. Glenn Campbell and Rita Ricardo-Campbell National Fellowship at the Hoover Institution (Supported research leave with \$35,000 grant).
Research topic: Party Conflict in the U.S. Congress: Understanding the Representation and Policy Consequences
- 2013 \$3,300 research grant from the Dirksen Congressional Center (co-PI with Yanna Krupnikov). “The Role of Gender in Legislative Compromise.”
- 2011-2012 National Science Foundation, Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (equivalent of \$15,000) (co-PI with Neil Malhotra). “Public Support for Bipartisanship in Congress: Who Compromises, How Much, and Under What Conditions?”
- 2010 \$810 Visiting Scholar Grant from the Carl Albert Center (University of Oklahoma).
- 2010 \$3,500 research grant from the Dirksen Congressional Center.
“Bipartisanship in a Polarized Congress.”
- 2008 Certificate for Advanced Training in Social Science Research Methods by the Methods of Analysis Program in the Social Sciences at Stanford University
- 2003 Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

INVITED TALKS

“Passing the Buck in Congress: The Extent and Effectiveness of Blaming Others for Inaction.” Law in Motion Conference. Northwestern University. May 2017.

“Making sense of the 2016 election: politics as usual or a new era of political conflict?” Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Northwestern University. November 2016.

“Who is Punished? Conditions Affecting Voter Evaluations of Legislators Who do Not Compromise” Chicago Area Behavior Workshop, Northwestern University. May 2016.

“Who is Punished? Conditions Affecting Voter Evaluations of Legislators Who do Not Compromise” University of Wisconsin American Political Research. April 2016.

“Partisanship, Gridlock, and Governance in Contemporary Politics” Leading Edge Program of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Northwestern University. April 2016.

“Partisanship, Gridlock, and Governance in Contemporary Politics” Contemporary Club of Chicago. February 2016.

“Who is Punished? How Voters Evaluate Male and Female Legislators Who Do Not Compromise” Yale University MacMillan-CSAP Workshop on Quantitative Research Methods. New Haven, CT. December 2015.

“Legislative Holdouts.” Interdisciplinary Workshop on American Politics, University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. November 2015.

“Legislative Holdouts.” Center for the Study of American Politics Conference, Yale University. New Haven, CT. June 2015.

“How Congress Really Works.” Department of Political Science and Hinckley Institute, University of Utah. Salt Lake City, UT. March 2015.

“Bipartisanship, Partisanship, and Legislative Inaction.” Ethics of Political Dysfunction: What To Do When The System Breaks Down. Center for Ethics in Public Life. St. Louis, MO. November 2014.

“Legislative Holdouts.” American Politics Workshop, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. September 2014.

“Out of Balance: Partisanship and Governance in the Obama Era.” Texas A&M Conference on Parties and Polarization in American Government. College Station, TX. April 2014.

“Strategic Partisanship: Party Priorities, Agenda Control and the Decline of Bipartisan Cooperation in the House.” Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions. Vanderbilt University. October 2012.

“Congressional Agenda Control and the Decline of Bipartisan Cooperation.” Joint Government/Public Economics Workshop. Cornell University. August 2011.

“Roundtable on Polarization.” Chicago Area Political and Social Behavior Workshop. May 2011.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Passing the Buck in Congress: The Extent and Effectiveness of Blaming Others for Inaction” (with David Doherty). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. 2016. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association. 2016.

“State Legislative Institutions, Party Leaders, and Legislators’ Weighted Preferences” (with Sarah Anderson and Daniel Butler). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. 2015.

“How Partisan Conflict is Better *and* Worse Than Legislative Compromise” (with D.J. Flynn^{*}). Paper presented at the annual meeting of American Political Science Association. 2014. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. 2015.

“Gendered Incentives for Legislative Compromise” (with Yanna Krupnikov and Nichole Bauer). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. 2014.

“Out-of-Step but Keeping Your Office: Differences in Legislative Responsiveness Between Voting and Cosponsorship Coalitions.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association. 2013.

“Compromise vs. Compromises: Conceptions of Bipartisanship in the American Electorate (with Neil Malhotra and Brian Harrison^{*}). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association. 2012.

“Congressional Agenda Control and the Decline of Bipartisan Cooperation.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. 2011. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association. 2011.

“The Elasticity of Partisanship in Congress: An Analysis of Legislative Bipartisanship and Party Popularity.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, 2010. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, 2012.

“To Cut or Not to Cut: Spending Dynamics and Bargaining in Congress.” (with Sarah Anderson). Paper presented at the Politics of Federal Spending Conference at UC Merced. 2010. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. 2010 and 2011.

“Mass Preferences for Bipartisanship in Congress.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association. 2009.

“Bipartisanship, Polarization, and Electoral Responsiveness: Re-examining the Electoral Connection.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association 2009.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, SERVICE, AND PEER-REVIEW

Legislative Studies Section, Newsletter co-editor (2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018)

Editorial Board member of *Legislative Studies Quarterly* (2016-present)

Legislative Campaigns and Elections Section Chair, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (2015)

Discussant, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (2009-2010, 2012-2016)

Discussant, Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (2010-2014, 2016)

Member of the Midwest Political Science Association (2005-present)

Member of the American Political Science Association (2005-present)

Reviewer for the American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, Quarterly Journal of Political Science, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Political Behavior, British Journal of Political Science, American Politics Research, Political Research Quarterly, Public Opinion Quarterly, State Politics & Policy Quarterly, Environmental Politics, Policy and Society, and Journal of Public Policy.

Mentoring Faculty in Residence for the summer institute on Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) (2011)

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Areas of Teaching

Political Institutions
Congress
Polarization
Legislatures
Methodology

Professor, Linear Models

Northwestern University
Graduate lecture/seminar
Winter 2016

Professor, Theories of American Political Institutions

Northwestern University
Graduate Seminar
New course development
Winter 2011, Winter 2012, Winter 2013, Winter 2015, Winter 2017

Professor, Legislatures

Northwestern University
Graduate Seminar
Spring 2010

Professor, Research Seminar on Party Polarization

Northwestern University
10-15 person upper division research seminar
Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2017

Professor, Congress and the Legislative Process

Northwestern University
35-50 person upper division course
Winter 2010, Winter 2011, Winter 2012, Spring 2013, Winter 2015, Winter 2016,
Winter 2017

Fellow, Searle Center for Advancing Teaching and Learning

Northwestern University
2012-2013 Academic Year

Presentation of Searle Critical Account at the Teaching, Learning and Assessment Forum

October 8, 2013

Mentoring Faculty in Residence, Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM)

University of Chicago
Month long graduate program in the summer of 2011

Committee Member for Ph.D. Candidates

Michelle Christensen, Political Science, 2011
Lisa Gandy, Computer Science, 2012
Brian F. Harrison, Political Science, 2013
Sandy Shan, Political Science, current
Julia Valdes, Political Science, current
Richard Shafranek, Political Science, current

Advisor for Undergraduate Honors Thesis

Hanna Rutkowski, 2010-2011
Alix Hallen, 2010-2011
Kian Hudson, 2011-2012

Leah Patterson, 2011-2012
Alexander Smith, 2014-2015
Kobert Smith, 2015-2016
Matthew Steinberg (MMSS), 2015-2016
Benjamin Weinberg, 2017-2018
Nicolette Shender (MMSS), 2017-2018

DEPARTMENT, COLLEGE, AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Director of Undergraduate Studies (2017-2018)
Business Institutions Program Committee (2015-2016, 2016-2017)
Graduate Studies Program Committee (2015-2016)
Political Science Faculty Search Committee (2014-2015, 2016-2017)
Representative to the Northwestern Faculty Senate (2012-2014)
Member of the Educational Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate (2012-2014)
Coordinator or Co-coordinator of the American Politics Workshop (2012-2013, 2014-2015, 2016-2017)
Co-coordinator of the Applied Quantitative Methods Workshop (2016-2017)
Public Relations and Alumni Relations for the Department of Political Science (2012-2013)
Representative on Political Science Advisory Committee (2011-2013, 2016-2017)
Co-coordinator of the Political Parties Working Group (2011-2016)
Undergraduate Advising (Department of Political Science) (2010-2012, fall 2014)
Faculty Fellow of the Humanities Residential College (Northwestern University) (2010-2012)