

CHRYL N. LAIRD
Curriculum Vitae
Updated August 2013

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (Expected Spring 2014).

Dissertation: *Black Like Me: How Political Communication Changes Racial Group Identification and Its Implications.*

My dissertation engages the question of what translates group memberships into politically meaningful identifications. I take up this question in the realm of Black political identification, where there is strong empirical support for the claim that Black political identification, or linked fate, is key to explaining the political decisions and behavior of Black Americans, but little understanding of the mechanisms by which Blacks see their own fates as importantly politically linked to the group. My argument is that contemporary political discourse is essential in defining who sees their interests as connected to the interests of Blacks as a group. In its dominant patterns, political communication about Black Americans and race encourages higher levels of political identification among higher SES members of the group. Through a series of experiments, I demonstrate that this pattern is significantly changed by messages that signal to Blacks who fall in the middle of the SES distribution whether or not that their interest are being considered “Black” interest.

Committee: Ismail K. White (co-chair), Corrine M. McConnaughy (co-chair), and Thomas E. Nelson.

M.A., Political Science, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, 2008.

B.A., Political Science and African American Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 2005, Phi Beta Kappa.

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

“Selling Out?: The Politics of Navigating Conflicts Between Racial Group Interest and Self-Interest.” With Ismail White and Troy Allen. *Under Review.*

“Political Awareness in Black and White: The Effect of Attention to Black Political Discourse on Black Opinion Formation.” With Ismail White and Ernest McGowen. *Revise and Resubmit.*

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

Estella Southard Scholarship, Department of Political Science, The Ohio State University, 2013 (\$6000).

Madison H. Scott Research Grant, Department of Political Science, The Ohio State University, 2012 (\$3000).

Mershon Center for International Security Studies Graduate Student Research Grant, The Ohio State University, 2011 (\$5000).

Office of Diversity and Inclusion Research Grant, The Ohio State University, 2011 (\$1000).

Lucius Barker Award, Best Paper Investigating Race or Ethnicity and Politics Presented at the 2011 Midwest Political Science Association Conference, with Corrine McConnaughy and Ismail White.

AGEP-SBES Travel Grant, College of Social and Behavioral Science, The Ohio State University, 2009 (\$750).

AGEP-SBES Graduate Student Research Grant, College of Social and Behavioral Science, The Ohio State University, 2008 (\$500).

AGEP-SBES Graduate Student Summer Research Assistantship, College of Social and Behavioral Science, The Ohio State University, 2008.

Madison H. Scott Research Grant, Department of Political Science, The Ohio State University, 2007 (\$1200).

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, Honorable Mention, 2006.

Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Honorable Mention, 2006.

Graduate Enrichment Fellowship, The Ohio State University, 2006.

APSA Minority Fellowship, American Political Science Association, 2006-2007.

Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society, University of Maryland College Park, 2005.

Ronald E. McNair Scholar, University of Maryland College Park, 2005.

Ralph Bunche Summer Institute Fellow, American Political Science Association/Duke University, 2004.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Selling Out?: The Politics of Navigating Conflicts between Racial Group Interest and Self-Interest.” With Ismail White and Troy Allen. Accepted for Presentation at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Context Matters: The Effect of Linked Fate Variability on African American Political Attitudes.” Presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Racial Politics Complicated: The Work of Gendered Race Cues in American Politics.” With Corrine McConnaughy and Ismail White. Presented at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Understanding the Black Masses: An Analysis of Race and Public Agenda Setting.” Presented at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., the 2010 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Defining the Black Agenda: An Analysis of Black Public Opinion and Agenda Setting.” Presented at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL., the 2009 Annual Meeting of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, Houston, TX.

“The Fragility of Racial Transcendence: An Analysis of Oprah Winfrey’s Endorsement of the Barack Obama Presidential Campaign.” With Harwood K. McClerking. Presented at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, Chicago, IL.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Student Director of Race, Gender and Ethnicity Lab (Faculty Directors Ismail White and Corrine McConaughy), The Ohio State University, 2012-present

- Overseeing the RGE Lab
- Coordinating workshop series
- Managing experimental lab on-site and in the field

Research Assistant for Harwood McClerking, The Ohio State University, Summer 2007-Spring 2008

- Collaborated on an investigation of the effect of Oprah Winfrey’s endorsement of Barack Obama on her favorability and her racial transcendence.
- Presented paper at National Conference of Black Political Scientists.

Research Assistant, Jessica Gordon Nembhard and Linda Williams, University of Maryland College Park, Fall 2005-Summer 2006

- Field assistant for Gordon Nembhard for research on the development of co-operatives in Post-Katrina New Orleans.
- Assisted Williams with the development of a public policy institute within the African American Studies Department.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, The Ohio State University

PS 504--Black Politics, Autumn 2011, Spring 2012

PS 505--Urban Government, Autumn 2009, Spring 2010, Spring 2011

PS 201--Political Behavior, Autumn 2010, Summer 2010, Summer 2011, Winter 2011

PS 101/1100--Introduction to American Government, Winter 2009, Winter 2010, Winter 2012, Autumn 2013

Teaching Assistant, The Ohio State University

Political Behavior (Honors), Autumn 2007

Black Politics, Autumn 2007, Spring 2008

Black Politics (Graduate Level), Spring 2008

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Speaker, "When Facebook Likes and Retweets Are Not Enough: The Relevancy of High Risk Activism in the Age of Obama," 22nd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Learning, Capital University (2013).

Panelist, "Beyond Obama: A Conversation about Race and Politics in America," Diversity Series, University Office of Diversity and Inclusion (2012).

Student Coordinator, Office of Diversity and Inclusion Prospective Student Visit, Department of Political Science (2012).

Department Recruiter, Ralph Bunche Summer Institute Recruitment Fair, Duke University (2007 and 2008).

Student Representative, Parallel Graduate Studies Committee, Department of Political Science (2006-2007).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE

Reviewer, *Political Behavior*, 2011 and 2013

Member, American Political Science Association

Member, Midwest Political Science Association

Member, National Conference of Black Political Scientists

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

American Politics, Race and Politics, Political Psychology, Political Behavior, Experimental Methods

REFERENCES

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