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- Research Interests** Political representation; voting behavior in Latin America; electoral manipulation; ballot design; public opinion
- Dissertation** *The Causes and Representative Consequences of Invalid Voting in Latin America*
Expected August 2016
Committee: Elizabeth J. Zechmeister (Chair), Mitchell A. Seligson, Jonathan Hiskey, Zeynep Somer-Topcu, Timothy Power
- Education**
- Vanderbilt University**, Nashville, TN
Ph.D. Political Science, expected August 2016
- University of California San Diego**, La Jolla, CA
B.A. Political Science, 2009, *Cum laude*
- Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile**, undergraduate and graduate coursework, 2007, 2012
Fields: political science, Chilean studies
- Universidad de Chile**, undergraduate coursework, 2007
Fields: Spanish literature and language
- Awards, Grants, and Fellowships**
- Erwin Hargrove Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award (2015)
National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Enhancement Grant #1428326 "Doctoral Dissertation Research in Political Science: The Causes and Representative Consequences of Invalid Voting." (2014-2015)
Graduate Student Field Research Award, Latin American Public Opinion Project, Vanderbilt University (2014)
Summer Research Award, College of Arts and Sciences, Vanderbilt University (2014)
Dissertation Enhancement Award, College of Arts and Sciences, Vanderbilt University (2014)
Graduate Student Pilot Grant, Research on Individuals, Politics, and Society Lab, Vanderbilt University (2013)
Summer Graduate Education Enhancement Award, Vanderbilt University (2011)
University Graduate Fellowship, Vanderbilt University (2010-2015)
- Working Papers**
- "Protest Via the Null Ballot: A Theoretical and Empirical Assessment of The Decision to Cast an Invalid Vote in Latin America." (Revise and Resubmit at *Political Behavior*)
- "The Effects of Party Polarization and Political Competition on Invalid Voting."

“Strategic Entry Under Uncertainty: The Peruvian Case.”

“Do Authoritarians Vote for Authoritarians? Evidence from Latin America.” With Amy Erica Smith. (Under Review)

“Electoral Volatility and Political Fractionalization in Latin America.” With Facundo Salles Kobilanski and Elizabeth J. Zechmeister.

“Vote Buying and Democratic Public Opinion in the Americas.” With Elizabeth J. Zechmeister

Research Reports and Chapters

“Declining Trust in Parties Likely to Increase Already-High Invalid Voting Rates in Peru’s National Elections” *AmericasBarometer Topical Brief* No. 26 (2016)

“Who is Interested in Politics?” With Ariel Helms, Hillary Rosenjack, Kelly Schultz, and Elizabeth J. Zechmeister. *AmericasBarometer Insights* No. 126 (2016)

“Who Approves of Those Who Block Roads to Protest in the Americas?” With Christine Huang, Susan Ma, Kyle Uber, Lauren White, and Elizabeth J. Zechmeister. *AmericasBarometer Insights* No. 121 (2015)

“Low Levels of External Efficacy Can be Improved by Government efforts to Deliver Better Outcomes.” With Hannury Lee, Ginny Randall, Jackson Vaught, and Elizabeth J. Zechmeister. *AmericasBarometer Insights* No. 115 (2015)

“Effort Trumps Output in Predicting Satisfaction with Democracy.” With Kristina Bergmann, Kelly Perry, Kevin Zhang and Elizabeth J. Zechmeister. *AmericasBarometer Insights* No. 117 (2015)

“Those with darker skin report slower police response time in the Americas.” With Elizabeth J. Zechmeister and Mitchell A. Seligson, *AmericasBarometer Topical Brief* No. 16 (2015) [also published at The Monkey Cage Blog, *The Washington Post*, Feb 9, 2015]

“Explaining Support for Interethnic Marriage in Four Countries.” *AmericasBarometer Insights* No. 77 (2012)

“Double Jeopardy: How U.S. Enforcement Policies Shape Tunkaseño Migration.” With Jonathan Hicken and Jorge Narvaez, in Cornelius, Wayne A. et al. (2010). *Mexican Migration and the U.S. Economic Crisis: A Transnational Perspective*. Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, San Diego, CA.

Teaching Experience

Vanderbilt University, Instructor
The Politics of Global Inequality (Undergraduate, Fall 2015)

Vanderbilt University, Teaching Assistant
Ph.D. Level

• Introductory Statistics, Dr. Suzanne Globetti (Fall 2012-Spring 2013)

- Designed and led computing workshops (STATA and R tutorials)
- Designed and taught regular review sessions

Undergraduate Level

- Honors Seminar: Public Opinion and Democracy in Latin America, Dr. Elizabeth J. Zechmeister (Spring 2015)
 - Lectured on applied statistics, statistical software, best writing practices, substantive topics
 - Guided students through design and implementation of analyses for final papers and *Insights* Reports
- Introduction to Comparative Politics, Dr. Katherine Carroll (Spring 2011)
- Public Opinion and Democracy in Latin America, Dr. Elizabeth J. Zechmeister (Summer 2011, 2012)
 - Designed and led daily recitation sessions on substantive topics for STEM bound students

Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

Midwest Political Science Association

2016: “Electoral Volatility and Political Fractionalization in Latin America.” With Facundo Salles Kobilanski and Elizabeth J. Zechmeister.

2016: “How Political Competition Affects Invalid Voting in Latin America.”

2014: “Apathy, Political Information, and Invalid Voting.”

Southern Political Science Association

2014: “Protesting What? An Exploration of Invalid Voting.”

2012: “Reluctant vs. Content Clients?: Vote Buying in the Americas.” With Brian Faughnan and Elizabeth Zechmeister.

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Perú (Grupo de Investigación Política Subnacional)

2015: “Claridad de competencia y el voto de protesta en América Latina.”

Jurado Nacional de Elecciones (Peruvian electoral commission)

2014: “Nociones básicas de la opinión pública.”

2014: “Experimentos: obsesionados por el control”

Service and Volunteer Work

Student Liaison, Research Experience for Peruvian Undergraduates program, Vanderbilt University (2012- present)

Coordinator, Journal Club, Vanderbilt University Political Science Department (2011-2014)

Graduate Liaison to the Job Search Committee, Vanderbilt University Political Science Department (2012)

Skills

Research Skills

Empirical Tools

- Applied econometrics (introductory statistics and regression; maximum likelihood estimation; Bayesian statistics; structural equation models; simultaneous equations; formal theory)
- Qualitative data analysis (interview and focus group collection and analysis)
- Experimental methods (course work, solo authored working paper using data collected via the MTurk Platform)

Field Research

- Elite interviews (designed and implemented semi-structured interviews with sitting legislators and candidates for regional president)
- Focus group interviews (designed and oversaw implementation of 12 focus groups in Peru)
- Experience conducting surveys and/ or semi-structured interviews in English and Spanish in Mexico, Peru, USA

Survey Research

- Pretested surveys for the AmericasBarometer's 2014 round in Panama
- Trained interviewers for 2014 AmericasBarometer data collection in Ecuador and Panama
- Assisted in AmericasBarometer data collection and processing. Tasks included but were not limited to: auditing data quality once collected, contributing to and auditing regional and country-specific reports, writing *Insights* Reports
- Designed and implemented new strategy for auditing interviews for the 2016 AmericasBarometer. Managed undergraduate research assistants in this task
- Served as Production and Copy Editor on the *Insights* series (2016)

Language Skills

English (native), Spanish (near native proficiency), Portuguese (intermediate), French (intermediate)

Computing Skills

STATA, R, Qualtrics, NVivo, Python

References

Elizabeth J. Zechmeister (chair)
Political Science, Vanderbilt University
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Zeynep Somer-Topcu
Political Science, University of Texas
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Mitchell A. Seligson
Political Science, Vanderbilt University
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Ryan E. Carlin
Political Science, Georgia State University
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