

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the 2014 edition of *Oklahoma Politics*.

We continue our tradition to offer scholarly insights about politics in Oklahoma and beyond. In that spirit, the 2013 Oklahoma Political Science Association Annual Meeting at the University of Oklahoma featured two thought-provoking keynote speeches. On Thursday evening, Charles Bullock III from the University of Georgia offered his insights regarding the role of divided partisan control and prospects for united government at the national level. Taking into account the historical distribution of partisan power on Capitol Hill and in the White House as well as recent activities of the major political parties aimed at establishing united government, Bullock predicts that the prospect for either party to achieve majorities in Congress and also take control of the White House are slim. Furthermore, based on current demographic trajectories, the Republican Party will be increasingly older, white and male. In contrast, the Democratic Party is destined to be younger, ethnically diverse and female.

The second day of the conference featured a keynote speech by Scott Buchanan from The Citadel. Buchanan focused on the significance of the South as a political force in national politics. Political scientists acknowledge the unique history of the South and the dominant role of the Democratic Party, but they often neglect the increasingly important political role of this region. Given the region's geographic size, racial and ethnic diversity, and population growth due to mass migration, Southern influence in politics will become increasingly visible within both the United States House of Representatives and Electoral College. Hence, this region of the country *ain't your grandfather's Dixie* and so it is more important than ever to understand the South.

As for our peer-reviewed entries, we have two very interesting and engaging topics that highlight different aspects of politics in Oklahoma. Let us begin with civic engagement and motivations in Oklahoma. Jan Schlupp and Aimee Franklin from the University of Oklahoma offer an explorative study to examine citizens' motivations to participate on local government boards, councils, and committees. As they carry out this qualitative-driven research project, the scholars find that the scope of civic engagement encompasses more than service on local government entities. The findings also illustrate that personal affiliation and expectations of building social capital are important motivators to engage in civic activities. In terms of non-participation, those unwilling to serve point to the zero sum game of politics.

Finally, we are returning to a theme that has drawn considerable attention in recent years – party realignment in Oklahoma. Emily Alberty, Andrew Dowdle, and Tyler Hartney explain the delayed party realignment in Eastern Oklahoma. As we know, Oklahoma has been dominated by the Republican Party in presidential elections since 1968. This, as illustrated by the Democratic strength in Eastern Oklahoma, has not always been the case for the entire state. Recently, however, Democratic contenders have often found this part of the state as less supportive than in the past. This shift begs a simple question: Why? Based on quantitative methods and a focus on the 2000, 2008, and 2012 presidential elections, the authors suggest a significant decline in Democratic support independent of demographic controls.

The Book Review Editor of *Oklahoma Politics*, Ken Hicks, continues to bring together a series of classic informative reviews covering a range of books of interest to our readers. I encourage you to read through them.

I would like to thank all our contributors to this year's edition of *Oklahoma Politics*. I would also like to encourage all to submit their research manuscripts for consideration in future editions.

Tony Woblers
Editor, *Oklahoma Politics*

OKLAHOMA POLITICS SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

GENERAL

Oklahoma Politics invites submissions that explore the broad context of politics affecting Oklahoma and its place in the surrounding region. We are especially interested in submissions that bring to bear a variety of methodological, analytical, and disciplinary perspectives on state and local politics of the central-south region of the United States: Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana. Because “politics” cannot be thoroughly explored from only a single disciplinary point of view, trans-disciplinary and collaborative projects are encouraged. Though we are the journal of the Oklahoma Political Science Association, we encourage submissions from economists, sociologists, environmental scientists, policymakers, analysts, as well as political scientists and other scientists and practitioners whose substantive research bears on the politics and issues of the state and region.

Oklahoma Politics is a fully peer-reviewed journal. Each submission receives at least three anonymous reviews and each is reviewed by the editors before a decision is made to accept a manuscript for publication.

MANUSCRIPTS

Manuscripts should be no longer than 30 pages or more than 9,000 words, double-spaced; text, graphics, notes, and references included; no extra space between paragraphs. Do not indent paragraphs. Type font: Times New Roman; 12 point. Notes should be footnotes, not endnotes, and references should be the last part of the manuscript. Graphics (tables and figures count 300 words) submitted separately, one per page, with internal reference indicating the approximate placement in the body of the text (i.e.: “[Table 1 about here]”). Tables/figures must not be larger than a single page.

Internal note style: footnotes, sequentially numbered superscript (e.g. ¹, ², ³, ⁴...).

Internal reference style: (authorlastname year); e.g. (Jefferson 2007).

Internal reference with page number: (authorlastname year, page#); e.g. (Jefferson 2007, 32). Multiple internal references separated by semi-colon; alphabetical first, then by year: (AuthorA 2007; AuthorB1994; Author CA1 2007; Author CA2 1992).

Reference and note style:

Manuscripts and book reviews must follow the *Chicago Manual of Style* or *Style Manual of Political Science*. These format and citation styles can be found in the journals of the American Political Science Association: *American Political Science Review*, *Perspectives on Politics*, and *PS: Political Science & Politics*.

Examples:

Journals: Author last, author first or initial. Date. "Article Title." *Publication* Volume (Number): Page-Page. Example: Budge, Ian. 1973. "Recent Legislative Research: Assumptions and Strategies." *European Journal of Political Research* 1 (4): 317-330.

Books: Author last, author first or initial. Date. *Title*. Publication City: Publisher. Example: Green, Donald, and Ian Shapiro. 1994. *Pathologies of Rational Choice Theory*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

Chapters: Author last, author first or initial. Date. "Chapter Title." In *Book Title*, ed. Book Author First, Last. Publication City: Publisher. Example: Mezey, Michael L. 1991. "Studying Legislatures: Lessons for Comparing Russian Experience." In *Democratization in Russia: The Development of Legislative Institutions*, ed. W.H. Jeffrey. New York: M.E. Sharpe.

Table and Figure style:

TABLE 1
Votes Missed, of First 100, by Term Limited

	<u>Mean*</u>	<u>SD</u>
Not Term Limited (n = 72)	2.4	7.5
Term Limited (n = 28)	5.0	8.6

*Difference significant at the .10 level

Each table or figure must fit on a single page. Authors must submit tables and figures in appropriate format.

Organization/Headings:

MAJOR SECTION HEAD (BOLD CAPS & CENTERED)

SUBSECTION HEAD (CAPS & LEFT; NO PERIOD)

Sub-sub Section Head (Title Caps, Left, & Italicized; No Period)

Manuscript Submission

Manuscripts must contain: A cover page with title, author, and author affiliation and contact information; a separate cover page with title only; an abstract of no more than 150 words; and the text of the manuscript. Authors whose manuscripts are accepted for publication must submit a short biographical sketch for inclusion in the journal.

BOOK REVIEWS

Book Reviews should be no longer than 1500 words. Reviews should be of books on topics relevant to the journal as delineated above,

especially if written by Oklahoma-based authors. Review style should follow that of the journal as a whole. Full bibliographic information should be included as the lede to the review.

Manuscripts (or ideas for manuscripts) should be emailed to:

Tony Wohlers,
Editor, *Oklahoma Politics*
Cameron University
Email: awohlers@cameron.edu
Telephone: 580-581-2496

Book Reviews (or ideas for book reviews) should be emailed to:

Kenneth Hicks
Book Review Editor, *Oklahoma Politics*
Rogers State University
Email: KennethHicks@rsu.edu
Telephone: 918-343-7687

Manuscripts and book reviews must be submitted electronically, in either Microsoft Word 2003 (or later) format (.doc/.docx) or Rich Text Format (.rtf). No other forms of submission will be accepted. Manuscripts not in format compliance will be returned to authors without review.