

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

Terrie A. Becerra is an environmental sociologist, whose primary interest areas are natural resources and the environment, with a special focus on water, and issues of marginalized populations (race, gender, and rural populations). She completed her doctoral degree at Kansas State University and completed post-doctoral research projects at both Oklahoma State University and Kansas State University. Dr. Becerra came to East Central University in the fall of 2016. She teaches in the Department of Politics, Law and Society and in the Water Resource Policy and Management (WRPM) master's program.

Rick Farmer is the Dean of the J. Rufus Fears Fellowship at the Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of Oklahoma and tenure at the University of Akron. He returned to Oklahoma as the Director of Research at the Oklahoma House of Representatives. His 11 years in state government included service at the House and two administrative agencies.

Christine Pappas is Chair of the Department of Politics, Law, and Society at East Central University in Ada. She earned her Ph.D. at the University of Nebraska in the field of Public Law and her J.D. at the University of Nebraska College of Law. She has taught over 30 classes at ECU, but specializes in American politics, Constitutional Law, Tribal Politics, and Women in Politics. She directs the Water Resource Policy and Management (WRPM) master's program, the Native American Legal Clinic run in conjunction with Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, and three Early Settlement Mediation offices.

John David Rausch, Jr. is the Teel Bivins Professor of Political Science and faculty athletics representative at West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas. He earned his Ph.D. at the Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center at the University of Oklahoma. He is associate editor of *Encyclopedia of Congress* (Facts on File, 2007) and co-editor of *The Test of Time: Coping with Legislative Terms Limits* (Lexington Book, 2003). He has presented and published research on direct democracy, Texas local government and politics, and the European Parliament.

Mary Scanlon Rausch is the Cataloging and Periodicals Librarian at West Texas A&M University's Cornette Library. She earned her B.A. in Political Science, M.P.A., and M.L.I.S. degrees at the University of Oklahoma. She has presented and published research on state and local government and politics, the European Parliament, library collection assessment, and library systems migrations.

John Wood, Ph.D. is an associate professor of public administration in the MPA program at UCO. He teaches classes in leadership, public policy, municipal management, urban sustainability, environmental policy, and urban politics. Dr. Wood is the former council member (2009-17) of the city of Guthrie, Oklahoma and vice mayor (2013-17) chairing the finance and street committees and served as vice chair of the Garber-Wellington committee for the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG). Wood published the edited volume *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in State & Local Government*, coauthored the 7th Edition of *Oklahoma Government & Politics*, as well as 14 peer-reviewed articles in public administration and policy. He has also traveled to more than 35 countries, served in the Marines during the Gulf War (1990-91), and is married to his beautiful wife, Bonnie.

