

CONTRIBUTORS

Reanna H. Anderson is currently employed as the Operations Assistant at the Oka' Institute at East Central University. This research is supported by the John and Kay Hargrave Scholarship from the ECU Foundation in partnership with the Oka' Institute at East Central University. Special thanks to Dr. Pappas, Department Chair of Political Science and Legal Studies, for her help with this project.

Aislinn Beak is a junior Political Science major at East Central University which is located in Ada, Oklahoma. She is a member and has served in leadership roles for the Honors Program at the university. Aislinn currently serves as a student representative on the National Council of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society and also takes part in Pi Sigma Alpha which is a political science honor society. As of the last two years, Aislinn has also been a part of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee at ECU. She has many interests and loves to read and have discussions with people from all walks of life. Currently, she lives in Ada, Oklahoma, but she was born in Columbus, Ohio, and even had the opportunity to live in Adelaide, Australia as a kid because of her parents' work.

Britney Hopkins is Professor of Mathematics at the University of Central Oklahoma. Her research interests include differential equations, mathematics undergraduate curriculum and education as well as the mathematics of gerrymandering.

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Cas Northcutt is an honors student of East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma. They are currently working on their Bachelor's Degree in History with a minor in Political Science. During summer 2022, Cas completed an internship at the Oklahoma Hall of Fame Archives, and is currently completing an internship through Fall 2023 for the National Park Service's Lewis and Clark Historical Trail. Cas is currently serving on the honors leadership team at East Central University, and they previously served as the local chapter president of Business Professionals of America at Pontotoc Technology Center (2017-18). Cas also has competed widely, and while in Business Professionals of America they placed second nationally in Presentation Management Individual in 2019.

Elizabeth S. Overman, Ph.D., is an MPA Professor of Public Policy and Administration at UCO. She teaches classes in policy analysis, program evaluation, comparative administration, and nonprofit management, as well as health policy analysis, and sustainable economic development. She directs MPA internships and advises Pi Alpha Alpha, the global honor society in public administration. Working with lead author Dr. Loren Gatch, she, together with Dr. John Hitz co-authored, “Turkish-Origin Germans: Temporarily Permanent” which appeared in *Global Equity in Public Administration* (2020) edited by Dr. Susan T. Gooden. She is on the national board of the Conference of Minority Public Administrators and serves as treasurer of the American Society for Public Administration section on Ethics and Integrity in Government. As a member of the 2022 Planning Committee for the National Academy of Public Administration Annual Social Equity Conference, she remains deeply honored to have hosted the keynote address by U.S. Congressional Delegate Designate Kim Teehee of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

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Brett S. Sharp is Professor of Political Science/Public Administration at UCO. He is the founder of UCO's MPA program and its innovative Leadership Minor. Previously he served as Employment Manager for the City of Oklahoma City and Agency Services Coordinator for the State of Oklahoma. He has published several books including *Oklahoma Government & Politics*, now in its 7th Edition and *Managing in the Public Sector*. His research also appears in *American Review of Public Administration*, *Public Integrity*, and *Review of Public Personnel Administration*. For the past few years, he has been serving as a visiting research professor at Swansea University in Wales, UK focused on political communication. His latest research is in LGBTQ+ political leadership and policy to address technological displacement by artificial intelligence. Previous research has been in the role of faith-based organizations in social welfare policy for SUNY's Rockefeller Institute for State Government. He has received numerous awards for teaching and scholarship including Oklahoma Political Science Scholar of the Year, Oklahoma Political Science Teacher of the Year, Faculty Member of the Year, the Vanderford Engagement Award for Leadership, and the ASPA Distinguished Public Service Award. He is also a graduate of the Academic Leadership Fellows Academy, Leadership Educators Institute, Outstanding Professors Academy, and the FBI Citizens Academy.

Jacintha Webster, J.D., is an assistant professor of legal studies at East Central University, focusing on Native American Legal Studies. She teaches classes in Native American Law, Tribal Politics, Wills and Estates, Administrative Law, and U.S. Government. She also serves as the Director of the Native American Legal Clinic and the ECU Pre-Law Advisor. Prior to coming to ECU, Jacintha served as a Staff Attorney for Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc., as an Adjunct Clinical Professor for the University of Oklahoma College of Law, and as a Staff Attorney for the Oklahoma House of Representatives. Jacintha also maintains a small law practice focusing on Native American Law and is the Chair of the Seminole Nation Bar Association.

John Wood, Ph.D. is a Professor of public administration and MPA co-coordinator at UCO. He has edited two books and written 18-peer-reviewed articles in the areas of teaching, transformative learning, local government, ethics, public administration, and sustainability.