

Curriculum Vitae

NANCY SCHERER

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Wellesley College
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HIGHER EDUCATION

Ph.D.
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, Chicago, Illinois
Department of Political Science, December, 2001
National Dissertation Award for best dissertation on the subject of law and courts

J.D.
EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Atlanta, Georgia,
June, 1987
Honors Graduate

B.A.
LAFAYETTE COLLEGE, Easton, Pennsylvania
Department of Government and Law, June, 1984

WORK EXPERIENCE

Academic

WELLESLEY COLLEGE
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science
2009-present

WELLESLEY COLLEGE
Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science
2006-2009

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science
2004-2006

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science
2001-2004

Non-Academic

WEIL, GOTSHAL & MANGES, New York, New York
Associate - Litigation Department
1987-1994

Specialized areas of practice included Constitutional Law, Intellectual Property and Appellate Practice. Authored winning briefs in landmark Supreme Court tax case, *Newark Morning Ledger v. U.S.*, 507 U.S. 546 (1993).

DOW, LOHNES & ALBERTSON, Atlanta, Ga.
Associate - Litigation Department
Summer, 1997

Assisted in the defense of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* in defamation action concerning news reports on the bombing of Olympic Centennial Park during the 1996 Summer Olympic games.

DOW, LOHNES & ALBERTSON, Washington, D.C.
Summer Associate, 1986

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Scoring Points: Politicians, Political Activists and the Lower Federal Court Appointment Process, Stanford University Press, 2005.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

"Does Descriptive Race Representation Enhance Institutional Legitimacy: The Case of the U.S. Courts." *Journal of Politics*. Forthcoming, January 2010.

"The Federalist Society's Influence on the Federal Judiciary." *Political Research Quarterly*. 62: 366-378, 2009.

"Sounding The Fire Alarm: The Role of Interest Groups in the Lower Federal Court Confirmation Process," with Brandon Bartels and Amy Steigerwalt. *Journal of Politics*, 70:1026-1039, 2008

"Blacks on the Bench," *Political Science Quarterly* 119:655-672, 2004.

“The Judicial Confirmation Process: Mobilizing Elites, Mobilizing Masses,
” *Judicature* 86: 240-50, 2003.

“Who Drives the Ideological Makeup of the Federal Courts During Divided
Government,” *Law and Society Review*, 35: 191-218, 2001.

“Are Bill Clinton’s Judicial Nominees ‘Old’ Democrats or ‘New’ Democrats?”
Judicature 84: 151-54, 2000.

Solicited Book Reviews

The Next Justice, by Christopher L. Eisgruber. *Law and Courts Book Review*,
forthcoming 2008.

Advice and Consent, by Lee Epstein and Jeffrey Segal. *Journal of Politics*, 69:
1217-1219, 2007.

Other Published Articles

“The Judicial Confirmation Process,” in *Judicial Politics*, Elliot Slotnick, ed.,
Washington, DC: CQ Press, 2006.

“Why has the Lower Court Appointment Process Become so Politicized and
What can we do About it?” *JURIST*, an on-line journal of the University of
Pittsburgh Law School, available at:
<http://www.jurist.law.pitt.edu/forum/symposium-jc/scherer.php>, 2004.

Works in Progress

A book manuscript with the provisional title: Gender and Racial Diversity on the
Federal Bench: Who Benefits, Who Loses.

A journal article with the provisional title: “Does a Judge’s Race Impact the
Public’s Willingness to Accept an Adverse Legal Decision?”

A book chapter with the provisional title: “The Bush Administration and the Use
of Judicial Politics.”

PROFESSIONAL

Honors and Awards

Edwin S. Corwin Award, American Political Science Association, best
dissertation of 2001-2002 in the area of Public Law, 2002

“Making a Point: The Politicization of Lower Federal Court Appointments in the Modern Political Era.”

Morton Grodzins Prize Lectureship, University of Chicago, 2001

Andrew Mellon Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2000-2001

Congressional Quarterly Press Award, best graduate paper of 1996-1997, given by the Law and Courts section of the American Political Science Association, 1997

“Reexamining the Politics of Crime in the Federal Courts: Are Bill Clinton’s Judicial Nominees ‘Old’ Democrats or ‘New’ Democrats?”

Honors Graduate, Emory University School of Law, 1987

American Jurisprudence Award in Torts, Emory University School of Law, 1986

Professional and Honorary Organizations

New York State Bar Association, American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, Law & Society Association

Invited Talks

“Normative Aspect of the Influence of Political Science on Law,” Roundtable participant, Northwestern Law and Political Science Conference, Northwestern University School of Law, September 2009.

“Descriptive Representation and Public Support for Political Institutions: Solving the Problem of Causation,” Northwestern University School of Law, Law and Political Economy Colloquium, November 2008.

“Sounding the Fire Alarm: The Role of Interest Groups in the Lower Federal Court Confirmation Process,” Princeton University Colloquium on Public Law, October 2008.

“Are Federal Court Judges Political?” invited talk sponsored by the Institute for Justice, Policy and the Media, Syracuse University College of Law, March 2007.

"Author Meets Critics," *Scoring Points*, monograph was the subject of a panel discussion at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, January 2007.

"Judicial Recruitment and the Judicial Career," invited chair and discussant of panel, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2003.

"Picking Federal Judges," invited chair and discussant of panel, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 2003.

Selected Conference Presentations

"Does a Judge's Race Impact Citizens' Support for His Decision," with Brett Curry. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL 2009.

"Race, Ethnicity and Judging," with Banks Miller and Brett Curry. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, 2008.

"Does Gender Diversity on the Bench Impact Citizens' Perceptions of Justice?" with Brett Curry. Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, 2007.

"Descriptive Race Representation and Public Support for the U.S. Courts," with Brett Curry. Paper presented at the Law and Society Association Annual Conference, Berlin, Germany, 2007.

"Sounding The Fire Alarm: The Role of Interest Groups in the Lower Federal Court Confirmation Process." Paper presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, 2007.

"Does Diversity on the Bench Impact Citizens' Perceptions of Justice?" with Brett Curry. Paper presented at the Midwest Political Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2006.

"The Federalist Society: Debating Club or Right Wing Cabal?" with Banks Miller. Paper presented at Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2006.

"The Politics of Judicial Confirmations: How do Interest Groups Decide Which Nominees to Challenge?" Paper presented at Law and Society Association Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV, May 2005.

"The Transformation of the Lower Court Appointment Process: From Patronage to Policy." Paper presented at Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, August 2005.

"Lower Court Selection as a Campaign Issue." Paper presented at American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, August 2004.

Chair and Discussant for panel entitled "Judicial Recruitment and the Judicial Career." Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2004.

Chair and Discussant for panel entitled "Picking Federal Judges." American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, August 2003.

"Tracking Trouble: What Makes a Court of Appeals Nomination Objectionable to Interest Groups?" Paper presented at the Midwest Political Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2003.

"Political Uses of Lower Federal Court Appointments: Mobilizing Elites, Mobilizing Masses." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Boston, MA, August 2002.

"Blacks on the Bench: More Judges, Less Legitimacy." Paper presented at the Law and Society Association Annual Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia, May 2002.

"Race, Party Politics and Judicial Ideology." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, August 2001

"The Impact of Divided Government on Judicial Ideology." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, August 2000, Washington, D.C.

"The Battle Between the Republican Senate Majority and President Bill Clinton Over 'Judicial Activism.'" Paper presented at the Law and Society Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, May 1999.

"Reexamining the Politics of Crime in the Federal Courts." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Boston, MA, August 1998.

TEACHING

Teaching Specialization: Law and Social Science; Courts, Law and Politics; Constitutional Law, Gender and Law, Criminal Procedure

Courses taught: Judicial Process; Law, Courts and Politics; Politics of Crime; Gender and Law; Civil Liberties; and Constitutional Law

SERVICE

Professional Service

Section Chair, Law and Jurisprudence, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2009.

Editorial Board, Law and Courts Newsletter, an organized section of the American Political Science Association, 2007-2010.

American Judicature Society Award Committee, Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2006.

CQ Press Award Committee, Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2003.

Referee for *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *American Politics Research*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Law and Society Review*, *Judicature*, *Justice Systems Journal*, National Science Foundation

College Service

Committee on Extramural Graduate Fellowships and Scholarships, Wellesley College, 2007-2008

Pre-Law Advisor, Wellesley College, 2006-2008

Wellesley Summer Internship Award Committee, Wellesley College, 2008, 2009

Woodrow Wilson Prize Committee, Department of Political Science,
Wellesley College, 2008

Public Outreach

Interviewed by the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Associated Press*, *CQ Weekly*, *Legal Affairs*, *Hearst Newspapers*