

Michael J. Ensley

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P.O. Box 5190
Kent, OH 44242-0001

Education Ph.D., Political Science, Duke University, 2002
FIELDS: American Politics, Methodology
DISSERTATION: *The Good, the Bad, and the Wealthy: Mobilization and Ideological Campaign Contributions in Congressional Elections*
(Michael C. Munger, Chair)

B.A., History and Political Science (Honors with High Distinction),
Magna cum Laude, University of California at San Diego, 1997

Academic Employment Associate Professor and Graduate Coordinator, Department of
Political Science, Kent State University, 2012-present

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Kent State
University, 2009-2012

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Indiana
University and Affiliated Faculty Member in the Workshop in Political
Theory and Policy Analysis, 2002-2009

Research Interests AMERICAN POLITICS
Congress, Elections and Voting, Political Parties, Ideology, Business
and Politics

METHODOLOGY
Statistical Applications, Experiments, Computational Modeling

Teaching Interests GRADUATE
U.S. Congress, American National Institutions, Statistical Analysis

UNDERGRADUATE
U.S. Congress, U.S. Presidency, Research Design, American Political
Parties, Business and Politics

Awards and Honors

The Gordon Tullock Prize (Best paper published in *Public Choice* by a Younger Scholar), 2012

Robert J. Dole, Archive Travel Grant (\$700), The University of Kansas, 2011

National Election Studies Fellowship, 2001-2002

Clogg Scholarship to attend ICPSR Summer Program, 2001

National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship, 1998-2001

Books

Beyond the Left-Right Divide (with Edward Carmines and Michael Wagner), Under Contract with the University of Chicago Press

Journal Articles

Carmines, Edward C., Michael J. Ensley, and Heather Evans. 2014. "The Enduring Effects of Competitive Elections." *Journal of Election, Public Opinion, & Parties* 24(4): 455-472.

Carmines, Edward G., Michael J. Ensley, and Michael W. Wagner. 2012. "Political Ideology in the American Politics: One, Two, or None?" *The Forum* 10(3), Article 4.

Carmines, Edward C., Michael J. Ensley, and Michael Wagner. 2012. "Who Fits the Left-Right Divide? Partisan Polarization in the American Electorate." *American Behavioral Scientist* 56(12): 1631-1653.

Ensley, Michael J. 2012. "Incumbent Positioning, Ideological Heterogeneity and Mobilization in U.S. House Elections." *Public Choice* 151(1-2): 43-61.

- Awarded the Gordon Tullock Prize

Basinger, Scott J., Damon C. Cann, and Michael J. Ensley. 2012. "Voter Response to Congressional Campaigns: New Techniques for Analyzing Aggregate Electoral Behavior." *Public Choice* 150(3-4): 771-792.

Ensley, Michael J. and Erik P. Bucy. 2010. "Do Candidate Positions Matter? The Effect of the Gay Marriage Question on Gubernatorial Elections." *American Politics Research* 38: 142-164.

Ensley, Michael J., Michael W. Tofias, and Scott de Marchi. 2009. "District Complexity as an Advantage in Congressional Elections." *American Journal of Political Science* 53(4): 990-1005.

Bucy, Erik P., and Michael J. Ensley. 2009. "Issue Benefactors or

Issue Victims? Ballot Initiative Influence on the Vote for California Governor, 1982-1998." *California Journal of Politics and Policy* 1(2): Article 12.

Ensley, Michael J. 2009. "Individual Campaign Contributions and Candidate Ideology." *Public Choice* 138(1): 221-238.

Ensley, Michael J., Scott de Marchi, and Michael C. Munger. 2007. "Candidate Uncertainty, Mental Models, and Complexity: Some Experimental Results." *Public Choice* 132 (1-2): 231-246.

Basinger, Scott J., and Michael J. Ensley. 2007. "Candidates, Campaigns, or Partisan Conditions? Reevaluating Strategic Politicians Theory." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 32(3): 361-394.

Ensley, Michael J. 2007. "Candidate Divergence, Ideology, and Vote Choice in U.S. Senate Elections" *American Politics Research* 35(1): 103-122.

Bowers, Jake, Nancy Burns, Michael J. Ensley, and Donald R. Kinder. 2005. "Analyzing the 2000 National Election Study." *Political Analysis* 13(1): 109-111.

Book Chapters

"Why American Political Parties Can't Get Beyond the Left-Right Divide," 2014 (with Edward G. Carmines and Michael W. Wagner), in *The State of the Parties*, 7th ed. by Daniel J. Coffey, David B. Cohen, and John C. Green, Rowman & Littlefield.

"Are These Boots Made for Walking? Polarization and Ideological Change among U.S. House Members," 2014 (with Michael W. Tofias and Scott de Marchi), in *The State of the Parties*, 7th ed. by Daniel J. Coffey, David B. Cohen, and John C. Green, Rowman & Littlefield.

"Congressional Approval and Incumbent Accountability," 2013 (with E. Scott Adler and John Wilkerson), in *Congress and the Politics of Problem Solving*, by E. Scott Adler and John Wilkerson, Cambridge University Press.

"Issue Preferences, Civic Engagement, and the Transformation of American Politics," 2011 (with Edward Carmines and Michael Wagner), in *Advances in Public Opinion and Voting*, edited by Ben Highton and Paul Sniderman, Princeton University Press.

"Ideological Competition and Institutions: Why 'Cultural' Explanations of Development Patterns are not Nonsense," 2001 (with Michael Munger), in *Rules and Reason: Perspective on Constitutional Political*

Economy, edited by Ram Mudambi, et al, Cambridge University Press.

Book Reviews *Cycles of Spin: Strategic Communication in the U.S. Congress* by Patrick Sellers, in *Perspectives on Politics* March 2012

Selected Works in Progress “Motivated Reasoning and Yard-Sign-Stealing Partisans” (with Ryan Claassen)

“Ideology or Economic Reality? Local effects of the 2007-2010 Housing Crisis and Roll-call Voting Behavior in the House” (with Edward Burmila)

“State-level Congressional Approval and Incumbent Senators’ Electoral Success” (with William Jaeger, E. Scott Adler, and John Wilkerson)

“Partisan Defection and Loyalty among U.S. Senators” (with Scott de Marchi and Michael Tofias)

“Endogeneity Problems with Binary Treatments: A Comparison of Models” (with Scott Basinger)

“Interests, Dissonance and Politics: A Conditional Process Model of Support for Health Care Reform” (with Eileen Braman)

“Costly Search and the Incumbency Advantage” (with Scott de Marchi and Michael Munger)

“Partisan Influence in Congress and Institutional Change” (with Scott de Marchi and Michael Tofias)

Invited Presentations "Are These Boots Made for Walking? Ideological Change among U.S. House Members," SSRI/PARISS Seminar Series, Duke University, May 6, 2010.

“Electoral Landscapes in Congressional Elections,” Political Science Colloquium, Kent State University, October 28, 2009.

"Electoral Landscapes in Congressional Elections: An Assessment of District Complexity," Conference on New Directions in Research on Congressional Elections at Texas A&M University, September 21-23, 2007.

“Strengthening and Weakening Mass Partisanship: Issue Preferences and Partisan Attitudes in an Increasingly Polarized Party System,” Colloquium on Political Communication Research, Indiana University.

“Mass Partisan Identification in the United States, 1972-2000,” Faculty Colloquium, Department of Political Science, Indiana University.

“Social Choice, Agenda Control, and Party Discipline in the Legislatures,” at the Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, Bloomington, IN, February 2, 2004.

“Endogeneity Problems in Congressional Elections Research: District Competitiveness, Candidate Quality, & Campaign Spending,” at the American Politics Colloquium, Indiana University, October 10, 2003.

“Why Gridlock? The Institutional Causes of Party Discipline in the U.S. House,” at the Political Economy Workshop at the Harris School, University of Chicago, February 4, 2003.

“Ideological Campaign Contributions in Congressional Elections,” at the Department of Political Science, University of California at San Diego February, 2002.

**Undergraduate
Courses
Taught**

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
U.S Congress
U.S. Presidency
Political Research Methods

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON
U.S. Congress
Business and Politics
Political Research Methods

DUKE UNIVERSITY
American Political Parties

**Graduate
Courses
Taught**

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
Proseminar in American Politics and Policy
American Policy Process
Business and Politics in the U.S.
Quantitative Methods II (Regression Analysis)
Quantitative Methods III (Limited and Categorical Dependent Variables)

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON
Legislative Politics
New Institutionalism in American Politics
Political Analysis II (Regression Analysis)
Political Analysis III (Limited and Categorical Dependent Variables)

**Doctoral
Advising**

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Ann Coleman (Ph.D., 2013), *Similar Situations, Different Decisions: Explaining Energy Deregulation Policy in the States*, Co-Chair
Doug McKenzie (ABD), *What Makes Neighborhood Associations Effective Lobbying City Government?*, Chair
Kristen Traynor (ABD), Committee Member
Lisa Hager (ABD), Committee Member
Seth Bordner (ABD), Committee Member
Joshua Testa, Committee Member
Jong Sun Lee, Committee Member

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON

Nate Birkhead (PhD, 2012), Committee Member
Joice Chang (Ph.D. 2011), Committee Member
Robert Holahan (Ph.D. 2011), Committee Member
Edward Burmila (Ph.D. 2009), Committee Member
Jennifer Clark (Ph.D. 2007), Committee Member
Jessica Gerrity (Ph.D. 2006), Committee Member
Eduardo K. Araral, Jr. (Ph.D. 2006), Committee Member
Derekh Cornwell (Ph.D. 2006), Committee Member
Jas Sullivan (Ph.D. 2005), Committee Member
Jonathan Winburn (Ph.D. 2005), Committee Member

**Departmental
Service**

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate Coordinator (2012-present)
Organizer of Departmental Speaker Series (2010-present)
Graduate Studies Committee (2010-present)
Undergraduate Studies Committee (2009-2010)

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON

American Politics Search Committee (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006)
Chair of Theory and Methods Field Exam Committee (2003-2006)
Representative, Ralph Bunche Summer Institute Recruitment Fair,
Duke University (2003, 2004, 2006)
Personnel Committee (2003)

**University
Service**

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Faculty Advisor for KSU Student Liberty Alliance (2010-present)
Faculty Advisor for KSU Libertarian Club (2009-2010)

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON

Faculty Advisor for IU College Democrats (2007-2009)
Mini-University (2004)
Interdisciplinary Experimental Lab Committee (2003-2004)

Committee on Applied Statistics (2003)

**Professional
Activities**

REFEREE

American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, American Politics Research, Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, & Parties, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Political Behavior, Public Choice, India Review, Public Opinion Quarterly, Political Research Quarterly, The Social Science Journal, Journal of Political Marketing, State Politics & Policy Quarterly, Economics & Politics, Politics & Policy

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association (Political Methodology section, Legislative Studies section), Midwest Political Science Association

References

Available upon request

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