

**R. Sam Garrett**  
**samg@american.edu**

**Education**

- Ph.D., Political Science. 2005.  
School of Public Affairs, American University. Washington, D.C.  
Fields: American Politics, Public Administration, Research Methodology.

Dissertation: “‘Adrenalized Fear:’ Crisis-Management in U.S. House and Senate Campaigns.”

Committee: James A. Thurber (chair), Candice J. Nelson and Paul S. Herrnson

- M.P.A. 2003.  
School of Public Affairs, American University. Washington, D.C.
- Greenberg Teaching Seminar. 2000-2002.  
American University. Washington, D.C.
- B.A. *summa cum laude*. 2000.  
School of Public Affairs, American University. Washington, D.C.  
Interdisciplinary Studies: Communication, Legal Institutions, Economics and Government (CLEG);  
Political Science (double major).

**Current Research and Teaching Positions**

**Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Washington, D.C.**

*Specialist in American National Government*. April 2011-Present.

*Acting Section Research Manager, Congress and Judiciary*. April 2013-Aug. 2013; Sept.-Nov. 2014.

*Analyst in American National Government*. August 2005-April 2011.

- Provide policy analysis on campaign finance, campaigns and elections, U.S. territories, the judiciary and other issues to Members and staff of the United States Congress.
- As Acting Section Research Manager, supervised research and performed product review for 11-analyst section covering congressional operations, federal elections, judiciary and census policy.
- Completed East-West Center inaugural Congressional Staff Program on the Pacific, May 2022.
- Presidential Management Fellow, class of 2005.

**American University, Washington, D.C.**

*Research Fellow* (unpaid position). August 2005-Present.

Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies.

- Conduct research on political consulting, political parties and campaigns and elections.

*Adjunct Professorial Lecturer*. August 2005-Present.

Department of Government.

- Designed and taught Campaign Finance in American Elections and Public Policy (GOVT 496/696).
- Additional teaching: American Political Parties and internship courses (GOVT 321 and GOVT 391).

## **University of Georgia, Washington Semester Program, Washington, D.C.**

*Adjunct Faculty Member.* 2016–Present

- Designed and taught courses in applied American politics

### **Previous Academic Positions**

#### **Boston University Washington, D.C., Program**

*Adjunct Faculty Member,* 2015

#### **American University, Washington, D.C.**

*Instructor.* August 2004–May 2005.

Department of Government.

- Fall 2004 courses: Politics in the United States (GOVT 110), Political Power and American Public Policy (GOVT 210) and Political and Organizational Leadership (GOVT 360).
- Spring 2005 courses: Political Parties (GOVT 322, 2 sections) and Introduction to Political Research (GOVT 310).
- Supervised two graduate teaching/research assistants.

*Assistant Director for Research* (part-time position). September 2003–August 2005.

Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies.

- Developed survey methodology and collected and analyzed data for the Improving Campaign Conduct Project (sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts).
- Oversaw field implementation and data collection for a national survey of campaign training programs.
- Supervised graduate assistants and a work-study student on data collection and other Improving Campaign Conduct research.
- Responded to public and academic inquiries about Center research and represented the Center at academic and professional conferences.

*Lecturer.* August 2003–December 2003.

Department of Government.

- Designed and taught undergraduate course on political and organizational leadership (GOVT 360).

*Graduate Assistant.* August 2000–August 2003.

Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies.

- Research assistant to Dr. James A. Thurber for the Improving Campaign Conduct Project and other academic projects.
- Coordinated various Improving Campaign Conduct events, including CCPS short course, “Teaching About Campaigns and Elections,” associated with the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, MA, 2002.

*Research Assistant.* Summer 2000.

Dr. Milton Greenberg, professor emeritus and former provost.

- Researched and wrote on a variety of subjects for the *American Political Dictionary* (Jack C. Plano and Milton Greenberg, 11th ed., Harcourt Brace).

### **Book Publication**

R. Sam Garrett. 2010. *Campaign Crises: Detours on the Road to Congress*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

- Named a *Choice* “Outstanding Academic Title,” 2010.
- Reviewed in *Choice, Congress & the Presidency, Political Science Quarterly*, APSA Legislative Studies section newsletter.

### **Journal Articles**

R. Sam Garrett. 2016. “Administering Politics: Rediscovering Campaign Finance and Public Administration.” *Administrative Theory & Praxis* 38(3): 188-205.

R. Sam Garrett. 2012. “Seriously Funny: Understanding Campaign Finance Policy Through the Colbert Super PAC.” *Saint Louis University Law Journal* 56(3): 711-723.

Kevin M. Scott and R. Sam Garrett. 2011. “Assessing Changes in State Representation on the U.S. Courts of Appeals.” *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 41(4): 777-792.

R. Sam Garrett. 2006. “Concepts, Crises and Campaigns: How Political Professionals Define Electoral ‘Crisis.’” *Journal of Political Marketing* 5(1/2): 127-148. [Co-published in Wayne P. Steger, Sean Q. Kelly and J. Mark Wrighton, eds., *Campaigns and Political Marketing*. New York: Haworth Press, 2006, pp. 127-148.]

R. Sam Garrett, James A. Thurber, A. Lee Fritschler and David H. Rosenbloom. 2006. “Assessing the Impact of Bureaucracy Bashing by Electoral Campaigns.” *Public Administration Review* 66(2): 228-240.

### **Book Chapters**

R. Sam Garrett. 2024. “Outside Money and Inside Policy: Campaign Finance in Federal Elections.” In James A. Thurber, Candice J. Nelson, and David A. Dulio eds. *Campaigns and Elections American Style: The Changing Landscape of Political Campaigns, 6<sup>th</sup> ed.* New York: Routledge, 76-106.

R. Sam Garrett. 2023. “The Regulatory Environment of the 2020 Elections.” In Molly E. Reynolds and John C. Green, eds. *Financing the 2020 Election*. Washington: Brookings Institution Press, 21-49.

R. Sam Garrett. 2019. “Outside Money and Inside Policy: Campaign Finance Before and After *Citizens United*.” In James A. Thurber and Candice J. Nelson, eds. *Campaigns and Elections American Style: The Changing Landscape of Political Campaigns, 5<sup>th</sup> ed.* New York: Routledge, 304-328.

R. Sam Garrett. 2014. “Crisis-Management, Marketing and Money in U.S. Campaigns.” In Jennifer Lees-Marshment, Brian M. Conley and Kenneth M. Cosgrove, eds. *Political Marketing in the United States*. New York: Routledge, pp. 236-252.

R. Sam Garrett. 2014. “Money, Politics, and Policy: Campaign Finance Before and After *Citizens United*.” In James A. Thurber and Candice J. Nelson, eds. *Campaigns and Elections American Style, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.* Boulder: Westview, pp. 77-99.

R. Sam Garrett. 2011. “Back to the Future? The Quest for Congressional Public Financing Legislation.” In Costas Panagopoulos, ed. *Public Financing in American Elections*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, pp. 11-35.

David A. Dulio and R. Sam Garrett. 2007. “State Party Organizational Strength and Campaign Professionalism.” In John C. Green and Daniel Coffey, eds. *The State of the Parties, 5<sup>th</sup> ed.* Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, pp. 199-216.

R. Sam Garrett. 2007. "Lights, Camera, Chaos? The Evolution Convention 'Crises.'" In Costas Panagopoulos, ed. *Reviring Politics: Presidential Nominating Conventions in the Media Age*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, pp. 113-132.

R. Sam Garrett, Paul S. Herrnson and James A. Thurber. 2006. "Perspectives on Campaign Ethics." In Stephen C. Craig, ed., *The Electoral Challenge: Theory Meets Practice*. Washington: CQ Press, pp. 203-224.

### **Other Scholarly Publications**

R. Sam Garrett. 2020. "Public Knowledge, Public Servants and Public Administrators: Election Administration and COVID-19." *PA Times* magazine, American Society for Pubic Administration 6(2): 5-6.

R. Sam Garrett. 2018. "Policy Subsystems and Practical Politics: Jim Thurber's Teaching and Research Legacy." *Congress & the Presidency*, 45(1): 4-5.

R. Sam Garrett. 2016. "PACs, Super PACs, and Politically Active Organizations in American Campaigns." William Benoit, ed. *The Praeger Handbook of Political Campaigning in the United States, vol. 2* (Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger), pp. 137-144.

R. Sam Garrett. 2012. "Campaign Finance." In Donald T. Chritchlow and Philip R. VanderMeer, eds. *The Oxford University Encyclopedia of American Political, Policy, and Legal History* (New York: Oxford University Press), pp. 102-105.

R. Sam Garrett. 2005. "Pro: Traditional-Age (18-22) College Students are Political 'Slackers.'" In Robert P. Watson, ed. *Debating the Issues: American Government and Politics*. Dubuque, Ia: Kendall/Hunt, pp. 32-35.

R. Sam Garrett. 2005. "Con: The Federal Bureaucracy is Plagued by Inefficiency and Red Tape." In Robert P. Watson, ed. *Debating the Issues: American Government and Politics*. Dubuque, Ia: Kendall/Hunt, pp. 134, 138-141.

Robin Kolodny, R. Sam Garrett, James A. Thurber and Candice J. Nelson. "What Political Management Students Think About Campaign Ethics." *Campaigns & Elections* (May 2003): 9.

R. Sam Garrett and James A. Thurber. 2002. "2002 National Student/Parent Mock Election Issues Forum." Curriculum guide published by the National Student/Parent Mock Election. Online publication.

### **Book Reviews**

R. Sam Garrett. 2014. Review of *The Influence of Campaign Contributions in State Legislatures* (The University of Michigan Press, 2012) by Lynda W. Powell. *Party Politics* 20(4): 655-657.

R. Sam Garrett. 2009. Review of *Small Change: Money, Political Parties, and Campaign Finance Reform*, by Raymond J. La Raja (University of Michigan Press, 2008). *The Cato Journal* 29(2): 369-373.

R. Sam Garrett. 2004. Review of *Choosing a President: The Electoral College and Beyond*, edited by Paul Schumaker and Burdett A. Loomis (Chatham House Publishers/Seven Bridges Press, 2002). *White House Studies* 4(3): 425-427.

R. Sam Garrett. 2001. Review of *Parlor Politics: In Which the Ladies of Washington Help Build a City and a Government*, by Katherine Allgor (University of Virginia Press, 2000). *White House Studies* 1(3): 433-435.

**Selected Congressional Research Service Reports (excludes confidential products and non-report products)**

Keith Bea and R. Sam Garrett. “Political Status of Puerto Rico: Options for Congress.”

Joseph E. Cantor and R. Sam Garrett. “Campaign Finance Legislation and Activity in the 109th Congress.”

Kevin J. Coleman and R. Sam Garrett, “The Unchanging Nature of Congressional Elections,” in U.S. Congress, Committee on Senate Rules and Administration, *The Evolving Congress*, committee print, prepared by Congressional Research Service, 113th Cong., 2nd sess., December 2014, S. Prt. 113-30 (Washington: GPO, 2014), pp. 163-187.

Kevin J. Coleman, R. Sam Garrett and Thomas H. Neale. “Contemporary Developments in Presidential Elections.”

Sarah J. Eckman, R. Sam Garrett and Karen L. Shanton. “Federal Election Results: Frequently Asked Questions.”

R. Sam Garrett (originally co-authored with Joseph E. Cantor). “Public Financing of Congressional Elections: Background and Analysis.”

R. Sam Garrett (later versions co-authored with Kathleen A. Ruane). “Automated Political Telephone Calls (“Robo Calls”) in Federal Campaigns: Overview and Policy Options.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Campaign Contribution Limits: Selected Questions About *McCutcheon* and Policy Issues for Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Campaign Finance: Developments in the 110th Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Campaign Finance: Legislative and Policy Developments in the 110th Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Campaign Finance: Potential Legislative and Policy Issues for the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Campaign Finance Policy After *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*: Options for Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Deadlocked Votes Among Members of the Federal Election Commission (FEC): Overview and Potential Considerations for Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Federal Election Commission: Membership and Policymaking Quorum, In Brief.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Federal Role in U.S. Campaigns and Elections: An Overview.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Fundraising for Presidential Libraries: Legislative and Policy Issues for the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Increased Contribution Limits in the FY2015 Omnibus Appropriations Law: Frequently Asked Questions.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Permissible and Prohibited Uses of Campaign Funds: Frequently Asked Questions and Policy Overview.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Political Status of Puerto Rico: Brief Background and Recent Developments for Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Proposals in the 109th Congress to Split the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Proposals to Eliminate Public Financing of Presidential Campaigns.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Public Financing of Presidential Campaigns: Overview and Analysis.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Puerto Rico’s Political Status and the 2012 Plebiscite: Background and Key Questions.”

R. Sam Garrett. “Super PACs in Federal Elections: Overview and Issues for Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett. “The Federal Election Commission: Enforcement Process and Selected Issues for Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett. “The Federal Election Commission: Overview and Selected Issues for Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett. “The Federal Election Commission (FEC) with Fewer than Four Members: Overview of Policy Implications.”

R. Sam Garrett. “The Voting Rights Act: Historical Development and Policy Background.”

R. Sam Garrett, Sarah J. Eckman and Karen L. Shanton. “Campaign and Election Security Policy: Overview and Recent Developments for Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett, Sarah J. Eckman and Karen L. Shanton. “COVID-19 and Other Election Emergencies: Frequently Asked Questions and Recent Policy Developments.”

R. Sam Garrett, Sarah J. Eckman and Karen L. Shanton. “Disrupted Federal Elections: Policy Issues for Congress.”

R. Sam Garrett and Shawn Reese. “Federal Funding of Presidential Nominating Conventions: Overview and Policy Options.”

R. Sam Garrett, Denis Steven Rutkus and Curtis W. Copeland. “Speed of Presidential and Senate Actions on Supreme Court Nominations, 1900-2009.”

R. Sam Garrett and Kevin M. Scott (later versions co-authored with Susan Navarro Smelcer). “‘State Representation’ in Appointments to Federal Courts of Appeals.”

R. Sam Garrett and L. Paige Whitaker. “Coordinated Party Expenditures in Federal Elections: An Overview.”

R. Sam Garrett, L. Paige Whitaker and Erika Lunder. “The DISCLOSE Act: Overview and Analysis.”

R. Sam Garrett. "The State of Campaign Finance Policy: Recent Developments and Issues for Congress."

### **Conference Papers**

R. Sam Garrett. "Debating Campaign Finance Legislation: Is Public Administration Relevant?" Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Midwest Public Affairs Conference, Omaha, May 31-June 2, 2017.

R. Sam Garrett. "The Money Fight: Themes in Congressional Campaign Finance Policy." Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, January 6-8, 2011.

R. Sam Garrett. "Campaign Finance Theory and Congressional Practice: Comparing the Legislative Development of 527s and Political Action Committees." Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Atlanta, January 7-9, 2010.

Kevin M. Scott and R. Sam Garrett. "Assessing Changes in State Representation on the U.S. Courts of Appeals." Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 12-15, 2007.

R. Sam Garrett. "Reconsidering Campaign Leadership, Political Professionals and Campaign Crises." Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Atlanta, January 5-7, 2006.

David A. Dulio and R. Sam Garrett. "Campaign Professionalism and Organizational Strength in the State Parties." Prepared for presentation at the "State of the Parties" conference, University of Akron. October 6-8, 2005.

R. Sam Garrett. "Crisis-Management in Congressional Campaigns: Strategy and Tactics." Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 7-9, 2005.

R. Sam Garrett, Paul S. Herrnson and James A. Thurber. "Fair Fights or Foul Territory? Comparing Professional and Public Attitudes on Campaign Ethics." Prepared for presentation at the "Studying Politics: What We Know and Don't Know About Campaigns and Elections" conference, University of Florida, February 24-25, 2005.

R. Sam Garrett. "Understanding Crises and Crisis-Management in House and Senate Campaigns." Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association (poster session), Chicago, September 2-5, 2004.

R. Sam Garrett. "Congressional Campaign Crises and the Candidate-Centered Campaign." Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, January 8-11, 2004.

R. Sam Garrett. "Concepts, Crises and Campaigns: How Political Professionals Conceptualize and Define Electoral Crisis." Prepared for presentation at the special symposium on "Political Campaigning and Elections: Organization, Consultants and Issues," held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, November 6-8, 2003.

James A. Thurber and R. Sam Garrett. "Consultants, BCRA and Coordination." Discussion paper prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 3-6, 2003.

R. Sam Garrett, James A. Thurber and A. Lee Fritschler. "'Playing Piano in a Whorehouse': Bureaucracy-Bashing and its Affect on Career Civil Servants." Discussion paper prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the American Society for Public Administration, Washington, D.C., March 16, 2003.

Christine A. DeGregorio and R. Sam Garrett. "The Politics of Fear and Promise: Interest Group Mobilization via Communications Outreach." Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Savannah, November 6-9, 2002.

R. Sam Garrett. "Congress and the Digital Divide: Are Minorities and Rural Americans Under-Served by Congressional Web Sites?" Prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, Atlanta, November 8-10, 2001.

**Selected Invited and Other Presentations (excludes CRS presentations and briefings)**

Presenter. "Campaign Finance Policy Overview." Guest lectures at University of Texas-Dallas Alliance for Physician Leadership MS/MBA Program, March-April 2022.

Organizer and moderator. "Studying U.S. Territories." Roundtable sessions at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, San Juan, 2020 and 2016.

Co-organizer and co-chair (with David A. Dulio). "The State of the Discipline in Applied Politics." Roundtable session at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, January 12-14, 2017.

Panelist. "What Happened and Why? AU Experts Analyze the 2016 Elections." Panel discussion co-sponsored by the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies and the Women & Politics Institute, American University, November 10, 2016.

Keynote speaker. "Campaign Finance Policy and Why it Matters for Political Science." Michigan Political Science Association, Oakland University, October 23, 2014.

Panelist. "PAC Balance: How the Balance has Shifted Post-*Citizens United*." Panel discussion at the Women in Government Relations PACs, Politics & Grassroots Conference, Washington, D.C., December 3, 2012.

Panelist. "What Can Money Buy in the 2012 Election? The Role of Superpacs and Other Outside Groups." Panel discussion at Kay Spiritual Life Center, American University, October 10, 2012.

Presenter. "Money in Politics: Issues for Advocacy, Business and Public Policy." Guest lecture at Arizona State University Executive MBA Program, The Washington Campus, July 23, 2012.

Presenter. "Campaign Finance in U.S. Elections." Briefing at Foreign Press Center, U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C., March 16, 2012.

Presenter. "Elections, Issues and Money: Campaign Finance in Lobbying and Public Policy." Guest lecture at Public Affairs and Advocacy Institute, American University, January 2012; May 2012.

Presenter. "Super PACs and the Future of Campaign Spending." Guest lecture at Campaign Management Institute one-credit course on independent expenditure campaigns, American University, October 8, 2011.

Organizer and chair. "Exploring Money and Advertising in the 2010 Congressional Elections." Roundtable session at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, January 6-8, 2011.

Panelists included Bob Biersack (Federal Election Commission), Victoria Farrar-Myers (University of Texas, Arlington), Paul Herrson (University of Maryland), Raymond La Raja (University of Massachusetts, Amherst), John Samples (Cato Institute) and Evan Tracey (Kantar Media/CMAG).

Panelist. Preparation session for PMF nominees, American University, Washington, D.C., November 10, 2010.

Presenter. "The 2010 Congressional Elections." UGRAD online discussion for international college students, IREX, Washington, D.C., September 30, 2010.

Presenter. "Campaign Crises: Detours on the Road to Congress." Staff "brown bag" seminar, Congressional Research Service, Washington, D.C., May 27, 2010.

Panelist. Ph.D. alumni author event, School of Public Affairs, American University, Washington, D.C., November 12, 2009.

Presenter. "George W. Bush's Second Term: What's in Store for Congress?" Presented at the "Congress in the Classroom" workshop for secondary teachers. The Dirksen Congressional Center, Peoria, July 26, 2005.

Panelist. "Political Consulting and Campaign Ethics" panel at the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies "Campaign Consulting and American Elections" conference. American University, Washington, D.C., June 5, 2004.

Presenter. U.S. Department of State International Visitors Program (Meridian International Center), Washington, D.C. Delivered briefings on American campaign strategy and tactics, campaign organizations and political parties to international political consultants, party officials, members of parliaments and journalists, 2004.

### **Honors, Awards and Grants (excludes CRS recognition)**

McCluer High School (Florissant, Mo.) "Wall of Fame" honoree, 2007.

Congressional Research Award, Dirksen Congressional Center (\$3,500), 2004.

School of Public Affairs dissertation fellowship, American University, 2003-2004.

School of Public Affairs graduate assistantship and tuition funding, American University, 2000-2003.

Hurst scholar assistantship award, American University, 2000-2003.

Passed American politics Ph.D. comprehensive exam with distinction, 2002.

Summer research funding, Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies/Improving Campaign Conduct Project, sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts, 2001, 2002, 2003.

School of Public Affairs merit award (summer tuition funding), 2001.

American Radio Relay League (ARRL) General Fund scholarship, 2000-2001.

### **Academic Professional Service**

Moderator. American Society for Public Administration online “book talk,” *Public Policymaking by Private Organizations*, Catherine E. Rudder, A. Lee Fritschler and Yon Jung Choi (Brookings, 2016), 2017.

Chair and discussant. Southern Political Science Association annual meetings, 2011, 2016, 2017, 2020.

Manuscript reviewer. *American Politics Research*, Brookings Institution Press, *Congress & The Presidency*, *Election Law Journal*, *Party Politics*, *PS: Political Science and Politics*, *Public Administration Review*, *The Journal of Politics*.

Consulting Editor. “USA Elections in Brief,” Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State, 2007.

Member. Selection Committee. American Association of Political Consultants “Pollie Awards,” 2004.

Member. American Politics senior faculty search committee. Department of Government, School of Public Affairs, American University, 2003-2004.

Member. American Politics faculty search committee. Department of Government, School of Public Affairs, American University, 2001-2002.

### **Personal**

Elected board member, 141-unit cooperative apartment building, Washington, D.C., 2015-2018.

Vice president, secretary and at-large member for board responsible for supervising all aspects of financial management, staff management and corporate policy.

Eagle Scout (life member, National Eagle Scout Association)

Amateur Extra class amateur radio licensee (life member, American Radio Relay League)