

Matthew M. Dull

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Research and Teaching Interests

American political institutions, Public administration, Public policy, Government reform, Congressional oversight, Presidential appointees, Evidence and inference

Education

Ph.D., Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2006
M.A., Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2001
B.A., Government, University of Notre Dame, 1997

Professional Appointments

Associate Professor, Center for Public Administration and Policy, School of International and Public Affairs, Virginia Tech, 2013-present
Assistant Professor, Center for Public Administration and Policy, School of International and Public Affairs, Virginia Tech, 2006-2013

Refereed Journal Articles

- Parker, David CW, and Matthew Dull. 2013. "Rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse: The politics of House committee investigations, 1947 to 2004." *Political Research Quarterly*. 66 (3): 630-644.
- Roberts, Patrick S. and Matthew Dull. 2013. "Guarding the Guardians: Oversight Appointees and the Search for Accountability in U.S. Federal Agencies," *Journal of Policy History*, 25 (2): 207-239.
- Dull, Matthew, Patrick S. Roberts, Michael S. Keeney, and Sang Ok Choi. 2012. "Appointee confirmation and tenure: The succession of US federal agency appointees, 1989–2009." *Public Administration Review*. 72 (6): 902-913.
- Dull, Matthew. 2010. "Leadership and organizational culture: Sustaining dialogue between practitioners and scholars." *Public Administration Review*. 70 (6): 857-866.

- Dull, Matthew and Kris Wernstedt. 2010. "Land Recycling, Community Revitalization, and Distributive Politics: An Analysis of EPA Brownfields Program Support." *Policy Studies Journal*. 38 (1): 119-142.
- Dull, Matthew and Patrick S. Roberts. 2009. "Continuity, Competence, and the Succession of Senate-Confirmed Agency Appointees, 1989-2009." *Presidential Studies Quarterly*. 39 (3): 432-453.
- Wernstedt, Kris, Patrick S. Roberts, and Matthew Dull. 2009. "Can Climate Signals Inform Emergency Management? Preliminary Evidence." *Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*: (6) 1: 54.
- Parker, David C.W. and Matthew Dull. 2009. "Divided We Quarrel: The Politics of Congressional Investigations, 1947-2004." *Legislative Studies Quarterly*. 34(3) (August): 319-345.
- Dull, Matthew. 2009. "Results-Model Reform Leadership: Questions of Credible Commitment." *Journal of Public Administration Research & Theory*. 19 (April): 255-84.
- Dull, Matthew. 2006. "Why PART? The Institutional Politics of Presidential Budget Reform." *Journal of Public Administration Research & Theory*. 16 (August): 187-215.

Book Chapters and Other Publications

- Dull, Matthew. 2017. "Beware the Agency Leadership Void: The Trump administration's appointments strategy is a slow moving disaster." *Government Executive*. June 28.
- Parker, David C.W., Dull, Matthew. 2013. "The Weaponization of Congressional Oversight." In: Frisch S.A., Kelly S.Q. (eds) *Politics to the Extreme*. Palgrave Macmillan, New York.
- Dull, Matthew and David C.W. Parker. 2012. "Congressional Oversight: Overlooked or Unhinged?" Extension of Remarks, APSA Legislative Studies Section Newsletter (July).
- Wernstedt, Kris, Patrick Roberts, and Matthew Dull. 2009. "Do Long-Term Climate Forecasts Have a Role in Local Emergency Management?" in *Ideas from an Emerging Field: Teaching Emergency Management in Higher Education*, Jessica Hubbard, ed., (Fairfax, Va.: Public Entity Risk Institute), 169-196.
- Roberts, Patrick and Matthew Dull, 2009. "Fix the Vacancies Act." *The Hill*. January.
- Roberts, Patrick and Matthew Dull. 2009. "Is Obama using his appointment power effectively?" *Roll Call*. September 29.
- Dull, Matthew and Alison Lebwohl. 2003. "So We're a 7.0, But What Does That Tell Me?: Collecting and Analyzing Managerially Relevant Customer Data," [Transportation Research Circular. E-C052. July.](#)

Work in Progress

- Dull, Matthew. "Congressional Oversight Out of Sight: The House Appropriations Committee Surveys and Investigations Staff, 1943 to 2013."
- Resh, William, Matthew Dull, Gary Hollibaugh, Jr. and Patrick S. Roberts, "Who Isn't Running American Government: Appointee Vacancies in U.S. Executive Agencies."
- Dull, Matthew. "A Century in Search of Results: Measurement and Reform in American Government."

Selected Papers and Presentations

- "An Era of Empty Offices: Appointee Vacancies and the Separation of Powers." Midwest Political Science Association, April 2020.
- "What's the matter with Congressional Oversight?" Lawrence University Public Affairs Lecture Series, Appleton, WI, April 2, 2019.
- "Presidential Appointments and Vacancies Across Federal Government Agencies: Trends and Challenges." Washington, DC Bar Association. April 5, 2018.
- "Who Isn't Running Government: Appointee Vacancies in American Government: Appointee Vacancies in Government Agencies, 1989-2014." with Bill Resh and Patrick Roberts, Public Management Research Conference, June 9, 2017.
- "Congressional Oversight Out of Sight: The House Appropriations Committee Surveys and Investigations Staff, 1943 to 2013." Midwest Political Science Association, April 8, 2017.
- "Constructing Community Indicators: Public Narratives of Quality of Life." with Fatima Sharif. Public Management Research Conference. June 11, 2015.
- "Who Isn't Running Government: Appointee Vacancies in American Government, 1989-2009." American University Department of Public Administration and Policy Research Seminar. September 20, 2012.
- "Appointee Vacancies in American Government," Annual Meeting of the American Society for Public Administration, Las Vegas, NV. March 4, 2012.
- "Leadership, Organizational Characteristics, and Diversity Management in Federal Agencies: Analyzing the Causes of EEO Discrimination Complaints." With Zachary Oberfield. Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. April 2011.
- "Missing Something Important?: Using the Heckman Selection Model in Policy Research" Policy Research Methods Workshop. George Washington University Institute of Public Policy. March 3, 2010.
- "A Century in Search of Results: Publicity, Professionalism, and Reform in the Progressive Era." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association. September 1, 2010.

- “Context, Capacity, and the Diffusion of EPA Brownfields Program Projects among U.S. Counties.” With Kris Wernstedt. Annual Meeting of the Association for Policy Analysis and Management, Boston, MA. November 4-6, 2010.
- “Senate-Confirmed Presidential Appointees in Security and Foreign Affairs Agencies.” With Patrick Roberts and Sang Ok Choi. Government Accountability Office International Affairs and Trade - Lecture Series. April 2010.
- “Rooting Out Waste, Fraud, and Abuse: House Committee Investigations, 1947-2004.” With David C.W. Parker. Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL. April 22-25, 2010.
- “Appointee Confirmation and Tenure: Politics, Policy, and Professionalism in Federal Agency Leadership, 1989-2009.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, September 2, 2009. With Sang Ok Choi, Patrick S. Roberts, and Michael Keeney.
- “De-PART: Assessing the Legacies of the Program Assessment Rating Tool for Management and Budgeting.” Association for Policy Analysis and Management, Washington, DC, November 5, 2009.
- “Performance Measurement in the Public Sector,” Strategy & Integration Directorate, Army Corps of Engineers. May 15, 2008.
- “Climate Signals, Emergency Management, and the Use of Science in Public Policy Decision-making.” With Kris Wernstedt and Patrick Roberts. FEMA Emergency Management Institute. June 4, 2008.
- “An Empirical Analysis of EPA Brownfields Program Support: Land Recycling, Community Revitalization, and Distributive Politics” Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, November, 2008.
- “Shifting Politics, Enduring Tensions, and the Tenure of Senate-Confirmed Agency Appointees,” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2008.
- “Truncated Transformations: Strategy and Competence in the Social Security Administration and Internal Revenue Service,” American Society for Public Administration, Washington, DC. March 2007.
- “Information, Capacity, and Control: Delegation and the Government Performance and Results Act,” American Political Science Association, Washington, DC August 2005.
- “The Politics of Results: The Dilemmas of Performance in the Social Security Administration” Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Atlanta, GA, October 2004.
- “Why PART? The Institutional Politics of Presidential Budget Reform” American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, September 2004.

“Strategic Managers, Credible Commitment and the Politics of Performance” Western Political Science Association, Portland, OR, March 2004.

“Divided We Quarrel: Institutional Conflict Beyond the Legislative Arena” American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 2003. With David C.W. Parker.

“So We’re a 7.0, But What Does That Tell Me?: Collecting and Analyzing Managerially Relevant Customer Data,” Transportation Research Board/AASHTO Management Conference, Duluth, MN, July 2003. With Alison Lebwohl.

<http://gulliver.trb.org/publications/circulars/ec052.pdf>

“The Politics of Performance Measurement: Implementing the Government Performance and Results Act, 1993” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2002.

Teaching (courses taught at Virginia Tech unless otherwise listed)

Washington Experience: US Congressional Oversight in Action

Design and Evaluation of Public Policies

Complex Public Organizations

Public Administration Theory and Context

Concepts and Approaches in Public Administration

Public Administration and Policy Inquiry

Public Policy Processes and Analytical Approaches

Presidency and Public Administration

Observing Public Organizations

PS 530/PA 530, Ethics and Values in Policy Making, Spring 2006

Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

PSc 116, The American Presidency, Spring 2005

Department of Political Science, George Washington University, Washington, DC

Externally Funded Research and Outreach

Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Rehabilitation Services, 2018-2019. “Strategic Planning” Research Director with project PI Leisha LaRiviere

City of Alexandria, VA and ACT for Alexandria, 2011. “Alexandria Community Indicators.” Principal Investigator.

Rappahannock United Way, 2010. “Community Engagement Initiative.” Co-Principal Investigator (PI) with Susan Willis-Walton.

Institute for Society, Culture, and the Environment, Virginia Tech, 2008. "Climate Signals and the Use of Science in Emergency Management Decision-making." With Kris Wernstedt and Patrick Roberts.

Brookings Research Fellowship, Governance Studies, 2004-5.

University of Wisconsin, Madison - Vilas Travel Grant, 2004.

Dirksen Congressional Research Grant, 2003. "Information and Delegation: The Government Performance and Results Act, 1993."

IBM Center Research Grant, 2003. "Politics of Performance Measurement: Implementing the Government Performance and Results Act, 1993."

Awards and Honors

Virginia Tech College of Architecture and Urban Studies Diversity Recognition Award, 2012.

American Political Science Association Leonard D. White Award for best dissertation in the field of public administration, 2008.

Teaching Assistant Award, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Fall 2002.

Other Professional Experience

Senior Analyst/Research Associate, Health Care Advisory Board, Washington, DC, 1997-2000. Developed research reports for membership of health care industry executives. Reports "Inpatient Hospice" (December 1998), "The Medicare Risk Market" (November 1998), "Models of Academic Medical Centers" (September 1998).