

Patrick R. O'Brien

Trinity College
Public Policy Graduate Program
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Trinity College Hartford, CT
Postdoctoral Fellow in the Public Policy Graduate Program, 2018–present

EDUCATION

Yale University New Haven, CT
Ph.D., Political Science, May 2018
Dissertation—*Presidential Control and Public Finance:
The Unitary Executive as an Historical Variable*
(Approved with Distinction)
Committee—Stephen Skowronek (chair), Jacob Hacker, David Mayhew
Fields—American Politics, Quantitative Methodology, Comparative Politics

M.Phil., Political Science, 2013
M.A., Political Science, 2012

University of Illinois, Chicago Chicago, IL
M.A., Political Science, 2011

DePaul University Chicago, IL
B.S., Economics, 2004

PUBLICATIONS

“Maximizing Control: First Year Presidents and the Appointment and Agenda-Setting Powers.”
In *Crucible: The President’s First Year*, ed. Michael Nelson et al. (University of Virginia Press,
2018).

“A Theoretical Critique of the Unitary Executive Framework: Rethinking the First-Mover
Advantage, Collective-Action Advantage, and Informational Advantage.” *Presidential Studies
Quarterly* 47, No. 1 (2017): 169–185.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Presidential Control of Public Finance: Policy Preference and Administrative Constraints (Book
manuscript)

“Presidential Control and Fiscal Policy During the New Deal Era” (Journal Article)

“Presidential Control and Monetary Policy During the Modern Period” (Journal Article)

“A Review of the First Year of the Trump Administration: Presidential Control and Public Finance” (Journal Article)

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

2017 Yale University, Department of Political Science
 2017 University of Virginia, Miller Center
 2016 Syracuse University, Department of Political Science
 2016 University of Missouri, Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy
 2016 Wesleyan University, Department of Political Science
 2016 Boston College, Department of Political Science
 2016 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association
 2016 Yale University, Department of Political Science
 2015 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association
 2015 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association
 2014 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

2016–2017	Miller Center National Fellowship, University of Virginia Fellowship Mentor: Andrew Rudalevige	\$22,000
2015–2016	Dissertation Fellowship, Yale University	\$29,000
2014–2015	Institution for Social and Policy Studies Graduate Fellowship, Yale University	\$5,000
2009–2010	Ragsdale Fellowship, University of Illinois, Chicago	\$18,000

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

Teaching Fellow

Spring 2015	Politics of U.S. Public Policy	Yale University
Fall 2014	Election Rules and Campaign Strategy	Yale University
Spring 2014	Introduction to Public Opinion	Yale University
Fall 2013	The American Presidency	Yale University

Teaching Training

Spring 2015	Writing-Intensive Workshop	Yale University
Fall 2013	Fundamentals of Teaching Political Science Workshop	Yale University
Fall 2009	Teaching Political Science Course and Excellence in Teaching and Learning Certification	University of Illinois, Chicago

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Loyola University Medical Center

Graduate Department Grants Administrator, 2006–2009

Troy School District

Substitute Teacher, 2005–2006

REFERENCES

Stephen Skowronek
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Yale University
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Jacob Hacker
Stanley B. Resor Professor Political Science
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David Mayhew
Emeritus Professor of Political Science
Yale University
617-965-5157
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Andrew Rudalevige
Thomas Brackett Reed Professor of Government
Bowdoin College
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