

# JAKE BOWERS

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## Academic Appointments

Assistant and Associate Professor, Dept of Political Science & Statistics (August 2007–present)  
Research Scientist, National Center for Supercomputer Applications (August 2007–present)  
Fellow & Affiliate, Center for Advanced Study in the Social and Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University (August 2017–August 2020)  
Senior Scientist, The Policy Lab, Brown University (August 2019–present)  
Fellow, Office of Evaluation Sciences, GSA (August 2016–October 2020)  
Fellow, White House Social & Behavioral Science Team (August 2015–August 2016)  
University of Illinois @ Urbana-Champaign

Scholar, Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Scholars Program, (September 2005–July 2007)  
Harvard University

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science (September 2003–June 2007)  
Assistant Research Scientist, Institute for Social Research (September 2002–August 2003)  
University of Michigan

## Degrees

Ph.D. & M.A. Political Science, University of California, Berkeley, 2003 & 1995.

B.A. Ethics, Politics and Economics, Yale University, 1992.

## Honors

Co-Principal Investigator, Sage Foundation Grant, Causal Inference in Observational Studies (with Margaret Levi, Carrie Cihak, and Graham Gottlieb) (\$ 190,000) (2019–2022)

Co-Principal Investigator, Sloan Foundation Grant, Causal Inference in Observational Studies (with Margaret Levi, Carrie Cihak, and Graham Gottlieb) (\$ 125,000) (2017–2019)

Co-Principal Investigator, EGAP Metaketa II, “Collective Action and Solid Waste Collection in Zomba, Malawi” (with Lula Chen, Chris Grady, and Matt Winters) (\$180,000) (2017–2019)

Co-Principal Investigator, “Experiments in the Public Interest” (with Adam Levine and Donald Green) Sloan Foundation (\$15,000) (2016–2017)

Principal Investigator, “Evidence-Based Policymaking within the Federal Government” Arnold Foundation (\$42,000) (2015–2017)

The Miller prize for the best paper published in *Political Analysis* in 2013 (with Mark Fredrickson and Costas Panagopoulos). (2014)

Principal Investigator, “Effects of Television on Social Norms about Violence in Northern Nigeria.” (with Equal Access International, US Dept of State Grant) (2014–2017).

The Political Methodology Emerging Scholar Award for a young researcher, within ten years of their degree, who is making notable contributions to the field of political methodology (2012).

Society of Political Methodology/NSF Mini-Conference Grant “Causal Inference in Political Networks” (with Betsy Sinclair and Guanglei Hong) (\$20,000) (5/2013).

NSF Methodology, Measurement and Statistics grant for “Collaborative Research: Propensity Scores and Randomization-Based Inference, or Modeling Assignment to Treatment Conditions as Manifestly or Latently Random” (with Ben Hansen) (\$230,000) (5/2008–5/2011)

SSHRC grant for “Maps and ‘Pictures in Our Heads’: The Political Effects of Perceptions of Communities” (with Daniel Rubenson and Cara Wong) (\$74,000 CAD) (5/2011–5/2013)

Franklin L. Burdette/Pi Sigma Alpha prize for the best paper presented at the American Political Science Association national meetings in 2009 (with Ben Hansen) (2010).

RStudio, Inc. education grant (2010–2013) (providing free hosting and support for 60+ students per year).

Amazon Web Services Education Grant (2013–2014) (\$2100).

University of Illinois Campus Research Board Award (\$29,000) (8/2011–5/2013)

University of Illinois Campus Research Board Award (\$21,000) (5/2014–8/2015)

Faculty Mentor Award Award for Excellence in Graduate Education (at the University of Illinois Department of Political Science) (2009–2010).

On the “List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent” from the Center for Teaching Excellence at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2007).

University of Illinois Library Data Purchase Award (with Cara Wong) (\$3800) (2011)

Rackham Summer Faculty/Student Collaboration Grant (with Kate Gallagher) 2005 & 2006 (\$1500 × 2)

Rackham Faculty Fellowship Enhancement Award 2005 (\$3000)

Rackham Spring/Summer Research Grant 2005 (\$4000)

Rackham Interdisciplinary Institute 2004–2005 Grant Recipient (with Cara Wong): \$30,000 for Pilot Study of Racial Context Perceptions and Assessments.

National Election Study, 1997 Pilot Study proposal accepted and fielded.

National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship, 1994–1995, 1996–1997, 1998–1999.

## Publications

“The Theory and Practice of Field Experiments: An Introduction from the EGAP Learning Days” (with Nahomi Ichino and Maarten Voors). 2021. [first public release](#).

“No evidence that collective-good appeals best promote Covid-related health behaviors ” (with Nathaniel Rabb, David Glick, Attiyya Houston, David Yokum) *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* [PNAS April 6, 2021 118 \(14\) e2100662118](#)

“Causality & Design-Based Inference.” (with Thomas Leavitt), in *Sage Handbook of Research Methods in Political Science and International Relations*. eds. Curini and Franzese. 2020.

“Better government, Better Science: The Promise of and Challenges facing the Evidence-Informed Policy Movementi.” (with Paul Testa), *Annual Review of Political Science*, 2019. 22:28.1–28.22

“Maps in People’s Heads: Assessing A New Measure of Context.” (with Cara Wong, Daniel Rubenson, Mark Fredrickson, Ashlea Rundlett), *Political Science Research and Methods*, 2018.

- “Models, Methods and Network Topology: Experimental Design for the Study of Interference.” (with Bruce A. Desmarais, Mark Frederickson, Nahomi Ichino, Hsuan-Wei Lee, Simi Wang), *Social Networks*, 2018. 54:196–208.
- “Challenges to Replication and Iteration in Field Experiments: Evidence from two Direct Mail Shots.” (with Nathaniel Higgins, Dean Karlan, Sarah Tulman, and Jonathan Zinman) *American Economic Review (Papers & Proceedings)*, 2017. 107(5):1–3.
- “Six Steps to a better relationship with your future self.” (with Maarten Voors) *Revista de Ciencia Politica*. 2016. 36(3): 829–848.
- “A more powerful test statistic for reasoning about interference between units.” (with Mark Fredrickson and Peter Aronow) *Political Analysis*. 2016. 24(3):395–403.
- “Comment: ‘Method Games: Assessing Methods for Discovery’.” *Sociological Methodology*. 2014. 44:112–117.
- “Reasoning about interference in randomized studies.” (with Mark Fredrickson and Costas Panagopoulos) *Political Analysis*. 2013. 21(1):97–124.
- “Bringing the Person Back In: Boundaries, Misperceptions, and the Measurement of Racial Context” (with Cara Wong, Tarah Williams, and Katherine Drake) *The Journal of Politics*. 2012. 74(2):1153–1170.
- “Making Effects Manifest in Randomized Experiments.” in *Cambridge Handbook of Experimental Political Science*, eds. Druckman, J. N., Green, D. P., Kuklinski, J. H., and Lupia, A., New York, NY: Cambridge University Press. 2011. chap. 32.
- “Attributing Effects to A Cluster Randomized Get-Out-The-Vote Campaign.” (with Ben Hansen) *Journal of the American Statistical Association*. 2009. 104(487):873–885.
- “Politics across Generations: Family Transmission Reexamined.” (with Kent Jennings and Laura Stoker) *The Journal of Politics*. 2009. 71(3):782–799.
- “Covariate balance in simple, stratified and clustered comparative studies.” (with Ben Hansen) *Statistical Science*. 2008. 23(2):219–236.
- “Attributing Effects to A Cluster Randomized Get-Out-The-Vote Campaign.” (with Ben Hansen) University of Michigan, Dept of Statistics Technical Report # 448. October 2006.
- “EDA for HLM: Visualization when Probabilistic Inference Fails” (with Katherine Drake). *Political Analysis*. 2005. 13(4):301–326.
- “Analyzing the 2000 National Election Study” (with Nancy Burns, Michael Ensley, and Don Kinder). *Political Analysis*. 2005. 13(1):109–111.
- “Using R to Keep it Simple: Exploring Structure in Multilevel Datasets.” *The Political Methodologist*. Fall 2004.
- “Does Moving Disrupt Campaign Activity?” 2004. *Political Psychology*. 21(4):525–543.
- “Designing Multi-Level Studies: Sampling Voters and Electoral Contexts” (with Laura Stoker). 2002. *Electoral Studies*. 21(2):235–267 and Erratum in 21(3):535–536.  
Also appearing in *The Future of Election Studies*. 2002. Eds. Christopher Wlezien and Mark Franklin. Oxford:Pergamon Press.
- “Contextual Analysis and the NES” (with Laura Stoker). *The Political Psychologist*. August 1997.

“Issues in Analyzing Data from the Dual-Mode 2000 American National Election Study” (with Michael Ensley). 2003. National Election Study Technical Report #64.

“Black Threat and Christian Fundamentalist Threat: A National Election Study 1997 Pilot Study Report.” 1997. National Election Study 1997 Pilot Report.

“NES Pilot Study Efforts to Measure Values and Predispositions.” 1995. National Election Study Technical Report #18.

### Invited Presentations

2021: (Methodology & Evidence-Based Policy) Toronto Workshop on Reproducibility.

2020: (Methodology) Emory University, Quantitative Theory and Methods; Center for Social & Behavioral Science, University of Illinois. (Evidence-Based Policy) FLACSO Mexico.

2019: (Methodology & Field Experiments) UC-San Diego; Northwestern University (IPA); US Dept of State, DC; Academia Sinica, Taiwan; University of Texas, Austin; University of Michigan; (Evidence Based Policy/Philanthropy) Stanford University; (Political Behavior) UC-Berkeley

2018: (Political Behavior & Evidence-Based Policy) UCLA; University of Chicago

2017: (Field Experiments) US Dept of State, DC; Evidence in Governance and Politics, Paris; University of Copenhagen, Denmark; Universidad Católica de Uruguay; University of Michigan. (Methodology) Discussant, Polmeth 2017; Taiwan 2017 Conference, Illinois State University.

2016: (Methodology) University of Essex, UK; Yale University; Dartmouth University; Princeton University; Georgetown University; University of Minnesota; North East Political Methodology Meeting; Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research; Congreso de Ciencia Política Pucon, Chile. (Evidence-Based Policy) New York University; US Dept of State.

2015: (Methodology) Universidad Católica de Chile & El Centro de Estudios de Conflicto y Cohesión Social; University of Michigan; (Invited Discussant) Winter Experimental Social Sciences Institute Alumni Workshop, NYU; (Science Fiction/Future Politics) Francisco Manuel dos Santos Foundation, Portugal; Politics of the Future Workshop, Duke University.

2014: (Science Fiction/Future Politics) Australia National Radio *Future Tense*; (Methodology) Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI) (twice); (Experimental Design) Experiments in Governance and Politics Meeting

2013: (Methodology) University of North Carolina at Chapel-Hill; University of Texas; Causality in Political Networks Conference; Columbia University; University of Southern California; (Science Fiction/Future Politics) Symposium on Writing Another Future: Science Fiction, the Arts and Humanities

2012: (Methodology) University of Chicago; Emory University; St. Louis Area Methodology Meetings; University of Wisconsin; Polmeth 2012.

2011: (Methodology) Experiments in Governance and Politics meeting; Discussant Polmeth 2011.

2010: (Methodology) University of Maryland, College Park; Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association Methodology Section

- 2009: (Political Behavior) Northwestern University; (Methodology) Experiments in Governance and Politics meeting; Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan; Discussant Polmeth 2009
- 2008: (Methodology) Nuffield College, Oxford University; Discussant Polmeth 2008
- 2007: (Methodology) Northeastern Political Methodology Conference; Discussant Polmeth 2007
- 2004: (Methodology) University of Illinois @ Champaign-Urbana; (Political Behavior) Harvard University
- 2002: (Political Behavior) University of Minnesota

### Recent Conference Papers and Presentations

- “The Impact of Marijuana Sale at Pharmacies on Crime Victimization and Insecurity Perceptions.” (with Rosario Queirolo, Eliana Álvarez, Lorena Repetto). Presented at the American Political Science Association Meeting, August 2019. Washington, DC.
- “Many tests for discovery in a block-randomized experiment.” (with Nuole Chen). Presented at the Latin American Political Methodology Meeting, November 2018. Bogota, Colombia.
- “The effect of a new Hausa language television station on attitudes about tolerance, violence, and women’s empowerment in Northern Nigeria” (with Chris Grady). Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Political Science Association, April 2017. Chicago, IL.
- “How does politics affect perceptions of place? The effect of campaigns on perceptions about immigration” (with Cara Wong, Jane Green, and Ed Fieldhouse). Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Political Science Association, April 2017. Chicago, IL.
- “Machine Learning and Causal Inference” (with Ben Hansen and Mark Fredrickson). American Political Science Association, September 2015, San Francisco, CA.
- “A machine for principled covariance adjustment specification in experiments.” (with Ben Hansen and Mark Fredrickson). Atlantic Causal Inference Conference, May 2014, Providence, RI.
- “Explaining the Shape of Political Participation: An Integrative Explanatory Framework” (with Paul Testa) presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Political Science Association, April 2014. Chicago, IL.
- “Ethnicity and Electoral Fraud in New Democracies: Modelling Political Party Agents in Ghana” (with Nahomi Ichino and Mark Fredrickson) presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 2013. Chicago, IL.
- “Does the Context Fit the Outcome?: When (or Where) Racial Context Should Affect Politics” (with Cara Wong, Daniel Rubenson, Mark Fredrickson, and Ashlea Rundlett) presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 2013. Chicago, IL.
- “Replication, Big Data, and Causal Inference” (with Wendy Tam Cho) Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Political Methodology, July 2013. Charlottesville, VA.
- “A Modular Approach to The Analysis of (Quasi) Experimental Data: Regression without Regrets” (with Mark Fredrickson and Costas Panagopoulos). Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Political Science Association, April 2013. Chicago, IL.
- “Regression without Regrets.” Would have been presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 2012, New Orleans, LA.

“Reasoning about Interference: Models, Counterfactuals, and Statistical Inference ” (with Mark Fredrickson and Costas Panagopoulos). Presented at annual meeting of the Society for Political Methodology, July 2012. Chapel Hill, NC.

“Potential Outcomes Models for Networks and Spillover in Randomized Experiments.” Presented at the annual Joint Statistical Meetings, July 2012. San Diego, CA.

“Do You See What I See? The Political Effects of Context.” (with Cara Wong and Daniel Rubenson). Would have been presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 2012, New Orleans, LA.

“Reasoning about Interference between Units.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Political Science Association, April 2012. Chicago, IL.

“Maps and Pictures in Our Heads: The Political Effects of Perceptions of Communities” (with Cara Wong and Daniel Rubenson) Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Political Science Association, April 2012. Chicago, IL.

## Teaching Experience

Assistant and Associate Professor, University of Illinois @ Urbana-Champaign

- Statistical Inference and Linear Models (Graduate) 2010–2014, 2016–2018, 2020
- Advanced Topics in Political Methodology (Graduate) 2019
- Introduction to Applied Statistics in Political Science: Description, Comparison, Estimation, Inference (Graduate) 2016
- Introduction to Statistics for Political Research (Undergraduate) 2009–2013, 2018
- Future Politics [Science Fiction and Political Theory] (Undergraduate) 2009, 2010, 2012–2014, 2020
- The Study of Political Participation [Practical research course] (Undergraduate), 2013
- Political Experiments: Design & Analysis (with Corrine McConaughy) (iTV Graduate), 2012
- Potential Outcomes Framework for Causal Inference and Matching for Adjustment (iTV Graduate) 2007, 2011
- ICPSR Summer Course: Causal Inference for the Social Sciences (co-teaching with Ben Hansen), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 2013–2020.
- Short Course: [EGAP Learning Days](#), Santiago, Chile, May 2016; Montevideo, Uruguay, February 2018; Bogota, Colombia, April 2019.
- Short Course: Advances in Causal Inference, IPM, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, 2019.
- Short course: Matching for Statistical Adjustment, Instituto de Ciencia Política, Universidad Católica de Chile, 2013; Escuela de Invierno de Métodos, Departamento de Ciencias Sociales y Políticas, Universidad Católica de Uruguay, 2014, 2015, 2020.
- Short course: Field Experiments, Instituto de Ciencia Política, Universidad Católica de Chile, 2013; Escuela de Invierno de Métodos, Departamento de Ciencias Sociales y Políticas, Universidad Católica de Uruguay, 2014, 2015, 2017.

- Short Course: Synthetic Matching and Survey Experiments in the Escuela de Verano de Métodos Mixtos at the Instituto de Ciencia Política, Universidad Católica de Chile, 2015.
- Short course: Propensity Score Matching in R (co-teaching with Ben Hansen and Mark Fredrickson), Joint Statistical Meetings, San Diego, 2012.

Assistant Professor, University of Michigan

- Statistical Methods for Political Research (Graduate), 2003 & 2004.
- Advanced Topics in Statistical Inference: Bayesian and Robust Approaches (Graduate), 2005.
- Political Participation (Undergraduate), 2003 & 2005.
- Research Design and Data Analysis for Political Science (Undergraduate), 2004.

### Advising and Service

Co-founder of [Research4Impact](#)

Co-founder of [Causal Inference for Social Impact Lab at CASBS](#)

Dissertation committee memberships

- Gisela Sin, University of Michigan (Currently Associate Prof with Tenure at University of Illinois), Ph.D 2007
- Sheena Arackal, University of Illinois, “Not my brother’s keeper: how ethnic violence causes infighting” Ph.D 2013
- Gennady Rudkevich, University of Illinois, “Correlates of Political Alignment: Jumping off the Balancing Bandwagon” Ph.D. 2013
- Konstantinos Travlos, University of Illinois, “From Warmongers to Peace Builders: Major Power Managerial Coordination and the transformation of international relations, 1715-2001” Ph.D. 2013
- Neelanjan Sica, Columbia University, “The “Social” in Social Science: The Implications of Social Networks Theory for Political Economy and Political Methodology” (Currently Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study of India), Ph.D 2014
- Maria Soppelsa, University of Illinois, Economics, PhD 2016.
- Ashly Townsen, University of Illinois, “The Rebellious Mind: Examining aggression in rebels” (Currently Asst Prof of Political Science, Washington State University)
- Mark Fredrickson, University of Illinois, Statistics (Currently Post-Doc, University of Michigan, Dept of Statistics) (co-Chair), Ph.D. 2018
- Rodrigo Araujo Schneider, University of Illinois, Economics, (Currently Assistant Professor, Economics, Skidmore College)
- Christopher Grady, University of Illinois, Political Science, (Currently Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance; Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance; Learning Division; USAID) (Chair), Ph.D. 2020

- Nuole Chen, University of Illinois, Political Science, Ph.D. 2020
- Gustavo Diaz, University of Illinois, Political Science
- Thomas Leavitt, Columbia University, Political Science

#### Disciplinary Service

- Methods Director, Evidence in Government and Politics (EGAP) (2018–2020, 2020–2022).
- Board of Directors, Evidence in Government and Politics (EGAP) (2017–2020).
- Board of Directors, Co-Founder, Research4Impact (<http://r4impact.org>) (2017–present)
- Board, Canadian Election Study 2019–present
- Co-founder, Latin American Political Methodology Conference (co-organizer in 2017, attendee in 2018 and 2019)
- Editorial Board, *Political Analysis*
- Editorial Board, *Sociological Methodology*
- Editorial Board, Associate Editor, *Observational Studies*
- Society for Political Methodology: Long Range Planning Committee (2017–), Gosnell Award Committee 2015, Emerging Scholar Award Committee Chair 2013–2014; Political Methodology Career Award Committee 2009–2011; Program committee for the annual meeting, 2007; Graduate Student Poster award committee for the annual meeting, 2012 & 2009.
- Member, APSA Committee on Study Pre-registration, 2015.
- APSA Experimental Research Section: Council Member, 2016–2017.
- MPSA: Robert Durr Award Committee, 2012.

#### Recent Departmental Service (University of Illinois)

- Advisory Committee, 2012–2013, 2013–2014, 2016–2017
- Illinois in Washington Hiring Committee, Chair, 2016
- Website Renovation Committee, Chair, 2016
- Departmental Vision Committee, 2016
- Methods Area Chair, 2013–2014, 2019
- Graduate Affairs Committee, 2013–2014