
Michael Steven Latner
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Appointments

Union of Concerned Scientists

2019- Senior Fellow

2018-2019 Kendall Science Fellow

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

2019- Professor of Political Science

2014-2018 Associate Professor of Political Science

2008-2014 Asst. Professor of Political Science

2007-2008 Lecturer in Political Science

University of Southern California

2006-2007 Teaching Fellow

University of California, Irvine

2005-2007 Lecturer

Field Research Corporation

1996-2000 Project Manager, Senior Survey Supervisor

Education

Ph.D., Political Science, University of California at Irvine, 2008

M.A., Political Science, University of California at Irvine, 2004

B.A., Political Science, California State University Chico, 1995

A.A., Butte Community College, Oroville, CA, 1993

Books

Gerrymandering in America: The House of Representatives, The Supreme Court, and the Future of Popular Sovereignty with Anthony J. McGann, Charles Anthony Smith, and Alex Keena., Cambridge University Press, 2016.

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/gerrymandering-in-america/C2A9A40879A353AC7484B49834CB54E4>

Peer-Reviewed Publications

"Common Forms of Gerrymandering in the United States" *Decisions*, with Alex Keena, Anthony J. McGann, and Charles Anthony Smith (in press)

Our Unhealthy Democracy: How Voting Restrictions Harm Public Health—and What We Can Do about It, policy paper published by Union of Concerned Scientists, Center for Science and Democracy, October 2019, <https://www.ucsusa.org/resources/our-unhealthy-democracy>

“Diagnosing Electoral Integrity” chapter in *Electoral Integrity in America: Securing Democracy*, Pippa Norris, Sarah Cameron and Thomas Wynter (eds.), Oxford University Press, 2018. <https://www.electoralintegrityproject.com/electoral-integrity-in-america/>

Building a Healthier Democracy: The Link Between Voting Rights and Environmental Justice, Union of Concerned Scientists research report, September 2018
<https://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/attach/2018/09/building-a-healthier-democracy-report.pdf>

“Measuring Legislative Behavior: An Exploration of Digitaldemocracy.org” with Alexander M., Dekhtyar, Foad Khosmood, Nicole Angelini, and Andrew Voorhees, *California Journal of Politics and Policy*, vol 9, issue 3, 2017. <https://doi.org/10.5070/P2cjpp9336921>

“Darwinian Democracy? How evolutionary theory informs constitutional design” chapter in *Handbook of Biology and Politics*, Steven Peterson and Albert Somit (eds.), Edward Elgar Publishing, 2017.
<https://www.elgaronline.com/view/9781783476268.00037.xml>

“A Discernable and Manageable Standard for Partisan Gerrymandering” with Anthony J. McGann, Charles Anthony Smith, and Alex Keena. December, 2015., *Election Law Journal: Rules, Politics, and Policy*. 14(4): 295-311.
<https://doi.org/10.1089/elj.2015.0312>

“The Calculus of Consensus Democracy: Rethinking *Patterns of Democracy* without veto players” with Anthony J. McGann, *Comparative Political Studies*, 2013, Vol 46, pp. 823-850, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0010414012463883>

“Mapping the Consequences of Electoral Reform” with Kyle Roach, in *California Journal of Politics and Policy*, 2011, vol 3, issue 1. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9mv9b480>

“Geographical Representation Under Proportional Representation: The Cases of Israel and The Netherlands,” with Anthony McGann, *Electoral Studies*, 2005, vol 24, issue 4.
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0261379405000247>

Recent Technical/Research Consultation Papers

“Possible Results of Proportional-voting Systems for Seattle Port Commission Elections” with Jack Santucci, June 30th 2018, prepared for More Equitable Democracy

City of Pismo Beach Digital Engagement Strategy, 2015, prepared for the City of Pismo Beach

Fellowships, Awards, and Professional Recognition

Kendall Science Fellow (Voting Rights), Union of Concerned Scientists, 2018-2019
Faculty Scholar, Institute for Advanced Technology and Public Policy, 2015-present
Research Scholarship and Creative Activity Grant for California Redistricting Project, 2016
Common Cause Redistricting Research Competition, 3rd Place, 2015
Gold Medal, California Mid-State Fair Home Brewing Competition, Milk Stout, 2014
Wilma Rule Award, Californians for Electoral Reform, 2013
State Faculty Support Grant, 2009-10

(pre-doctoral)

2003 U.C. Regents Pre-Dissertation Fellowship

2003 Summer research award, School of Social Sciences

2001 Summer research fellowship for ICPSR, University of Michigan

2000-01 William Podlich Fellow, Center for the Study of Democracy, U.C. Irvine

1995 Charles McCall Award, California State University Social Science Research Council

Election Consulting/Management

Susan Funk for Atascadero City Council 2018

Jimmy Paulding for SLO County Supervisor 2018

Aaron Gomez for San Luis Obispo City Council 2016

Dawn Ortiz-Legg for State Assembly 2016

Eric Michielszen for SLO County Supervisor 2016

Len Colamarino for Atascadero City Council 2014

Jim Patterson for SLO County Supervisor 2012

Brian Sturtevant for Atascadero City Council 2010

John Graham for Congress, 2004

John McCain for President, 2000

Recent Non-peer reviewed professional publications/news articles/blogs

A compilation of all my publications can be found at mikelatner.com

“Don’t blame Hurricane Michael victims for voting for climate deniers” by Paola Rosa-Aquino at *Grist.org*, October 2018 <https://grist.org/article/hurricane-michael-florida-georgia-voter-suppression/>

“Can a rural California Republican survive the mid-terms?” by Christopher Palmeri, in *Bloomberg News*, October 2018 <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-10-09/california-farm-country-to-test-gop-appeal-amid-anti-trump-mood>

“The Science of Elections: If we want to protect the integrity of scientific inquiry, we must protect democracy” at *Scientific American*, October, 2018 <https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/observations/the-science-of-elections/>

“Electoral Reform: One State at a Time” at *The Equation*, October 4th, 2018 <https://michaellatner.com/2018/10/11/electoral-reform-update-one-state-at-a-time/>

“Battle for House control runs through California’s Orange County” by Christopher Palmeri, *Bloomberg News*, July 2018 <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-07-11/battle-for-house-control-runs-through-california-s-orange-county>

“In its latest decision, the Supreme Court has got it wrong when it says that partisan gerrymandering only hurts voters in specific districts” with Anthony J. McGann, Charles Anthony Smith, and Alex Keena at *London School of Economics American Politics Blog*, July 2018 <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2018/06/27/in-its-latest-decision-the-supreme-court-has-got-it-wrong-when-it-says-that-partisan-gerrymandering-only-hurts-voters-in-specific-districts/>

“How the Supreme Court Made Gerrymandering Worse” with David Daley, at *New York Daily News*, July 2018 <http://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/ny-oped-supreme-court-gerrymandering-worse-20180621-story.html>

“Supreme Court ignores science, enables voter purging, but data may have final say” at *The Equation*, June 2018 <https://blog.ucsusa.org/michael-latner/supreme-court-ignores-science-enables-voter-purging-but-data-may-have-final-say>

“Testimony reveals the real controversy over Census data and voting rights” at *The Equation*, May 2018 <https://blog.ucsusa.org/michael-latner/testimony-reveals-the-real-controversy-over-census-data-and-voting-rights>

“Maryland’s electoral maps show how proportional representation could solve the problem of gerrymandering” with Anthony J. McGann, Charles Anthony Smith, and Alex Keena at *London School of Economics American Politics Blog*, March 2018 <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2018/03/27/marylands-electoral-maps-show-how-proportional-representation-could-solve-the-problem-of-gerrymandering/>

Current Teaching Rotation

POLS 568 Democracy, Design and Public Policy
POLS 560 Quantitative Methods
POLS 445 Voting Rights and Representation
POLS 375 California Politics
POLS 317 Campaigns and Elections
POLS 316 Political Participation
POLS 112 American and California Government

Other Courses Taught

POLS 590 MPP Graduate Writing Seminar (Fall and Winter sections)
POLS 470 Evolutionary Perspectives in Political Science
Metropolitan Inequality (USC)
California Politics (UCI)
The American Political System (UCI)

University service

Quantitative Reasoning assessment committee, 2016, 2018
Academic Senate Instruction Committee, 2014-2017

CLA Assessment Committee 2018
CLA Commencement, College Marshall, 2013-2016, 2018

POLS Phi Beta Kappa Supervisor, 2018
POLS Curriculum Committee, 2011-2016
POLS MPP Committee, 2007-
POLS Assessment Committee, 2008, 2009, 2011-2016, 2018
POLS Alumni Advisory Board, 2007-

Political Science Club, 2009
POLs Paper Awards Committee, 2009, 2011, 2012
POLs Guest Speaker Committee 2007-2009

Recent invited talks/presentations and professional service

“Building a Healthier Democracy” presentation at National Advisory Board meeting, Union of Concerned Scientists, New York, New York, September 2018

Guest, Data-Driven Strategies to Promote Youth Turnout, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, August 28-29, 2018

Census Counts 2020 Taskforce <https://censuscounts.org>

Presenter, American Political Science Association annual meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, August 2018

“Feminist Messaging in the 2018 Congressional Elections” presented at the Cal Poly Alumni retreat, Lair of the Golden Bear, June 2018

Presenter and Discussant, Midwestern Political Science Association annual meeting, Chicago, Illinois, April 2018

Presenter and Discussant, Voting in 2018 and Beyond: Ensuring Access and Accountability of the Ballot in America, Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly 2018 Symposium

“Diagnosing Electoral Integrity” Electoral Integrity Project pre-APSA workshop, San Francisco, California, August 2017

Presenter, American Political Science Association annual meeting, San Francisco, California, August 2017

“Will the Revolution be Digitized?” presented at the Cal Poly Alumni retreat, Lair of the Golden Bear, June 2017

Discussant and Chair, Western Political Science Association annual meeting, San Diego, California, April 2017

Chair, Discussant, and Presenter, American Political Science Association annual meeting, San Francisco, California, August 2015

Discussant, Western Political Science Association annual meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, April 2015

Discussant and Presenter, 2014 International Political Science Association World Congress,
July 8-11, Montreal, Canada

Discussant, Western Political Science Association annual meeting, Hollywood, California,
April 2013

Discussant and panel presentation, 2013 California League of Women Voters, San Jose,
California