

January 2015

**MELVIN C. LARACEY**

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**EDUCATION**

**Ph.D.**            **University of Michigan**, Political Science (American politics, public law, organization theory), 1997

**M.P.A.**            **Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government**, 1993

**J.D.**            **University of Michigan Law School**, *cum laude*, 1976

**B.A.**            **University of Notre Dame**, *magna cum laude*, Program of Liberal Studies, 1973

**PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

Associate Professor (early tenure in 2005), Assistant Professor, 2000-5, Department of Political Science, and Senior Faculty Associate, Institute for Law and Public Policy, University of Texas at San Antonio.

Adjunct Lecturer, University of Michigan Political Science Department, 1998-9.

Lecturer, Eastern Michigan University Political Science Department, 1997-8.

Fulbright Lecturer, University of Bucharest, Romania, 1990-91. Taught American law and government in Schools of Law, Journalism, Political Science, and Economic Studies.

Faculty Instructor, American Institute of Paralegal Studies, Southfield, Michigan, 1986-1989. Recipient of Outstanding Teacher Award.

Adjunct Professor, 1985, Jackson Community College, Jackson, Michigan, Correctional Institutions Paralegal Education Program.

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Attorney, Reading and Etter, P.C., Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1999-2000, providing legal counsel services to local governments in southeastern Michigan.

Chief Deputy Treasurer, Washtenaw County, Michigan, 1995-9.

Candidate for State Representative, Michigan Legislature, 1992.

Interim City Treasurer, City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1992.

City Attorney, City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1991; Assistant City Attorney, 1980-1990.

Acting Supervisor, City of Ann Arbor Housing Inspection Bureau, 1985.

Attorney, Consumers Power Company, Jackson, Michigan, 1976-1980, specializing in Environmental Law.

Lyndon Baynes Johnson Program Legislative Intern, U.S. Rep. Bob Traxler, Washington, D.C., 1974 and 1975.

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellowship, awarded in 2010 for 2011-2012.

Guest Lecturer and Researcher, Princeton University, March 2007, at the invitation of the Program in Leadership Studies and the Center for the Study of Democratic Politics.

President's Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching Excellence, UTSA, 2003.

Keynote Speaker, Conference on Presidential Rhetoric and Communications, sponsored by the Texas A&M University Program in Presidential Rhetoric and the George Bush School of Government and Public Service, Texas A&M University, February 28, 2002.

Dissertation, "Constitutionally Speaking: The Evolution of Going Public," nominated for 1998 Best Dissertation on the Presidency, Center for Presidential Studies, George Bush School of Government and Public Policy, Texas A & M University.

University Fellowship, University of Michigan, 1992.

Fulbright Scholar, University of Bucharest, Romania, 1990-1991.

## **RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY WORKS**

### Books

*Presidents and the People: The Partisan Story of Going Public* (Texas A&M University Press, 2002).

### Publications in Refereed Journals, Academic Books

"The Impeachment of Supreme Court Justice Samuel Chase: New Perspectives from Thomas Jefferson's Presidential Newspaper," *Journal of Supreme Court History*, vol. 40, issue 3 (November 2015).

“The Rhetorical Presidency Today: How Does It Stand Up?” *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, vol. 39, issue 4 (December 2009), 909-32.

“The Presidential Newspaper as an Engine of Early American Political Development: The Case of Thomas Jefferson and the Election of 1800,” *Rhetoric and Public Affairs*, vol. 11, no. 1 (Spring, 2008), 7-46.

“Talking without Speaking and Other Curiosities,” in Martin J. Medhurst, ed., *Before the Rhetorical Presidency* (Texas A&M University Press, 2008), p. 18-28.

“The Theory and Practice of the Rhetorical Presidency,” with Phillip Abbot, David Henry, Davis Houck, Stephen Lucas, and Shawn Parry-Giles, in James Arnt Aune and Martin J. Medhurst, eds, *The Prospect of Presidential Rhetoric* (Texas A&M University Press, 2008).

“The Presidential Newspaper: The Forgotten Way of Going Public,” in Richard J. Ellis, ed., *Speaking to the People: The Rhetorical Presidency in Historical Perspective* (University of Massachusetts Press, 1998), p. 66-86.

#### Invited Publications

“How Presidents Persuade,” *The Wilson Quarterly*, Autumn 2011, vol. 35, issue 4, 10-11 (response to David Greenberg’s article, “Beyond the Bully Pulpit.”).

“Presidents’ Public Communications and Their Parties,” *Critical Review, A Journal of Politics and Society*, vol. 19, no. 2 (2008), 360-65.

#### Reviews

Review, Stephen Skowronek’s *Presidential Leadership in Political Time, in Congress and the Presidency*, vol. 36, issue 2 (Summer 2009).

#### Commentary

“Lawbreakers Follow U.S. Tradition,” opinion commentary on the political controversy regarding the “Crossing the Border” statue on the campus of UTSA, published February 25, 2007 in the *San Antonio Express-News*.

### **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

“Presidential and Political Correctness: Behavioral Lessons from Thomas Jefferson’s Presidential Newspaper,” paper presented at the 2014 Annual Conference of the Southwestern Political Science Association in San Antonio.

“Selling the Deal(s): How the Louisiana Purchase Was ‘Reported’ in Thomas Jefferson’s Presidential Newspaper,” paper presented at the 2013 Annual Conference of the Southwestern Political Science Association in New Orleans.

“Democratic Theory in Practice: Thomas Jefferson’s Presidential Newspaper,” paper presented at the 2013 Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association in Orlando, Florida.

“Promoting Democracy: Mass Political Communication during the Presidency of Thomas Jefferson” (Paper submitted for Panel 7-3: Presidential Construction of Politics), 2012 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in New Orleans (meeting cancelled).

“The Strategic, Hidden-Hand Presidency of James Madison,” paper presented September 4, 2011 (Panel 23-14, Reconsidering Presidential Power in Time), at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Seattle.

“James Madison: The (Unknown) First Great Presidential Communicator,” paper presented April 22, 2011 (Panel 4.01, Presidential Rhetoric), at the Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association in San Antonio.

“Dear America: Public Letters as an Early Form of Presidential Mass Communication,” paper presented September 4, 2009 (Panel 23-7, Going Public and the Rhetorical Presidency), at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Toronto.

“Jeffersonian Democracy and Newspaper Popular Constitutionalism,” paper presented September 5, 2009 (Panel 27-8, Popular Constitutionalism in Global Perspective), at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Toronto.

“Thomas Jefferson, the Republican Press, and the National Elections of 1804,” paper presented August 29, 2008 (Panel 23-17: Presidential Communication Strategies), at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Boston.

“The Promotion of Republican Culture and Politics in the Jeffersonian Press,” paper presented September 1, 2007 (Panel 23-7: Rhetoric and Leadership in the American Presidency), at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Chicago.

“Power Promoted: Thomas Jefferson and the First Presidential Newspaper, 1800-1801,” presented September 3, 2006, at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Philadelphia.

“Webs of Political Communication in Nineteenth Century America,” presented April 14, 2006, at the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Political Science Association in San Antonio.

“Promoting Jeffersonian Democracy: Principles of Government from the First Presidential Newspaper, the *National Intelligencer*,” presented September 3, 2005, at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Washington, D.C.

“Who Listened? Political Media Communications by ‘Pre-Modern’ Presidents,” presented April 17, 2004 at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago.

“Just How Did the Threat Become ‘Imminent?’ The Role of Presidential Messengers in the Iraq Conflict,” presented March 18, 2004 at the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Political Science Association in Corpus Christi.

“Assessing the Impact of Presidential Communications in the Nineteenth Century: The Case of Martin Van Buren and the Washington *National Intelligencer*,” presented April 19, 2003 at the Southwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting in San Antonio.

“The Office of the San Antonio City Attorney,” manuscript accepted for publication in *The Politics and Economics of San Antonio*, Richard Gambitta and Raquel Marquez, editors, McGraw-Hill, Inc.

## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

“Barack Obama: Promise and Reality,” presented at second annual UTSA African-American Studies Symposium on “The Obama Presidency: The Last 100 Years, The First 100 Days,” April 3, 2009.

Presenter in seminar for secondary school teachers on “The Bill of Rights for Real Life: Origins and Arguments,” Midland, Texas, September 17, 2008, sponsored by the Bill of Rights Institute, Arlington, Virginia.

“The Presidential Newspaper as an Institution of Early American Political Development: The Case of Thomas Jefferson and the Election of 1800,” colloquium presentation at Princeton University, March 2007, at the invitation of the Princeton Program in Leadership Studies and the Princeton Center for the Study of Democratic Politics.

Conference Keynote Speaker, Conference on Presidential Rhetoric and Communications, sponsored by the Texas A&M University Program in Presidential Rhetoric and the George Bush School of Government and Public Service, Texas A&M University, February 28, 2002.

## **GRANTS**

UTSA Faculty Development Leave Fellowship, fall 2014. Project title: “Promoting Democracy: Political Communication during the Presidency of Thomas Jefferson.”

National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellowship, awarded in 2010 for 2011-12. Project Title: “Promoting Democracy: Political Communication during the Presidency of Thomas Jefferson.” Award amount: \$42,000.

UTSA Faculty Development Fellowship, fall 2009. Project title: "Promoting a Democratic People: Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and Mass Political Communication in the Early American Republic."

UTSA Faculty Development Fellowship (research leave), spring 2006. Project title: "Presidentially Sponsored Spheres of Public Policy Discourse in Nineteenth Century America."

College of Liberal and Fine Arts Research Grant, UTSA, summer 2001.

International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) Research Fellowship, 1996, for field research on the state of the judicial system in post-communist Romania.

### **TEACHING ACTIVITIES**

Courses taught: Administrative Law, American Political Thought, American Presidency (graduate and undergraduate), Civil Liberties, Constitutional Law, Graduate Course in Constitutional Law and Judicial Decision-Making, Graduate Survey Seminar in American Government and Politics, Introduction to American Government (regular and honors), Judicial Politics, Law and Society, Legal and Philosophical Reasoning, Legal Studies (Tort Law), Legislative Process, Special Topic Seminars in American Politics (undergraduate and graduate).

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES**

Editor (2010-2012), *PEP Report*, the communications newsletter of the Presidents and Executive Politics Section of the American Political Science Association.

Chair, Panel 7-18, Presidency, Political Development, and Rights, 2011 Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association.

Discussant, Panel 04.02, Presidential Decision-Making, 2011 Annual Meeting of Western Political Science Association.

Award Committee Member, Richard E. Neustadt Best Book Award, 2007, Presidency Research Group, American Political Science Association.

Panel Discussant, Panel Chair, 2006 Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association.

Panel Discussant, Panel Chair, 2006 Annual Meeting of Southwestern Political Science Association.

Panel Discussant, Panel Chair, 2004 Annual Meetings of Midwest Political Science Association and Southwestern Political Science Association.

Journal Manuscript Reviewer for *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, *Rhetoric and Public Affairs*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Research Quarterly*.

Book Manuscript Reviewer for Oxford University Press and Texas A&M University Press.

Member, American Political Science Association, Western Political Science Association, and APSA Sections on Presidency Research, Politics and History, Law and Courts, and Political Communication.

Member of American, Southern, and Southwestern Political Science Associations.

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES**

Faculty Senate Representative for Department, 2001-2003 and 2010-2012 terms.

Chair, Faculty Senate HOP Committee, 2010-11.

Brought production of Sterling Houston's political commentary play, *Black and Blue*, to UTSA in cooperation with *Gemini Ink* and with the sponsorship of the Department of Political Science and Geography, 2007.

Brought distinguished guest speaker Roderick P. Hart, Dean of the College of Communication, University of Texas at Austin, to UTSA to present a lecture on "Marketing Citizenship: Why Don't More Young People Vote? Why Should They?" with the sponsorship of the Department of Political Science and Geography, 2007.

Chair, 2006 African American Politics Search Committee, Department of Political Science and Geography, UTSA.

Chair, 2006 and 2005, College of Public Policy Faculty Tenure Review Advisory Committee, UTSA.

Presenter at July 21, 2005 Leadership Retreat for the City of San Antonio Mayor and City Council, hosted by UTSA President Ricardo Romo.

Chair, Department Public Law Search Committee, 2003.

Chair, Ph.D. Proposal Committee, Department of Political Science and Geography, 2003.

Department Library Liaison, 2007-present.

Department Committees: Academic Policy and Curricula, 2006-7; American Politics, 2005-present; Core Courses, 2005-6; Faculty Recruitment, 2005-8; Invited Lectures and Colloquia (ex officio), 2006-7.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

2013, Member, Main Access Citizens Group to preserve Main Street in San Antonio

2004-2010, Board Member, Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, San Antonio.

2005-2007, Board Member, King William Neighborhood Association, San Antonio.

2005-present, active in street tree planting program in King William Historic District.

December 31, 2014