

CURRICULUM VITAE

Tal Levy Ph.D.

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EDUCATION:

- 1999-2004 Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan
Ph.D. in Political Science
GPA: 3.87
Major: Public Policy
Minors: American Government and Public Administration
- 1994-1996 Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan
Master of Arts in Geography
GPA: 4.00
- 1987-1991 Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan
Bachelor of Science in Biology
GPA: 3.34

DISSERTATION:

“Home Schooling Legislation and Its Diffusion”

Committee: John Strate (Advisor), Richard Elling, Ronald Brown, and Leonard Kaplan

Abstract: Home schooling has become a popular alternative to public and private schools. My dissertation examines the diffusion of home schooling legislation throughout the fifty states, using event history analysis. It looks at the different political dynamics of each state in its decision to adopt or not to adopt home schooling legislation. It also examines how home schooling policy is generated, adopted, and implemented, and the long term prospects of home schooling throughout the United States.

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND HONORS:

- On March 29, 2010 I was honored with the Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) award for “Outstanding community service and service-learning by faculty and staff at our member institutions.”
- Winner of the 2005 Honorary Mention Award at the Graduate Student Research Symposium for my Ph.D. thesis titled “Home Schooling Legislation and Its Diffusion”
- Winner of the 2003-04 Stephen B. Sarasohn Dissertation Fellowship
- Winner of the 2002-03 Thomas C. Rumble University Graduate Fellowship
- Pi Alpha Alpha (public administration honorary society)
- Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) awards for the years 2000-2002
- Golden Key National Honor Society
- In 2001 won a stipend to conduct assisted research in cell biology, Washington University, St. Louis

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- Taught a freshman Political Science course at Wayne State University five times
- Taught an introductory course in geography at Schoolcraft College three times.
- Taught an introductory course in geography at the University of Western Ontario.

Assistant Professor, Marygrove College, August 2005 – 2010.

Associate Professor, Marygrove College, May 2010-present.

Courses Taught:

- American Political Systems (both in class and on-line): Freshman level class on the foundations, institutions, linkages, and public policies of American government.
- Political Reality and Public Policy: Sophomore level class on key issues on American domestic policy.
- Michigan History and Politics (both in class and on-line): Junior level course tracing the major historical developments in the state of Michigan, with heavy emphasis on central political institutions and actors.
- Ethnic and Racial Diversity (both in class and on-line): A Junior level course that examines the social, economic, and political aspects of racial/ethnic relations and the effects of diversity on various racial and ethnic groups.
- Introduction to Ethnic and Cultural Studies (both in class and on-line): This Junior level course examines the concept of race as well as the racial bias inherent in a socially stratified society. Other topics examined include ethnicity, and enculturation.
- Community and Organizational Change: This Junior level course analyzes communities and organizations as social systems, and includes examination of critical problems. The course also examines intervention and change strategies in failing communities.

- Social Justice Seminar: Government in Action: This Junior-Senior level course examines specific social justice issues as they relate to a variety of disciplines. The emphasis is on the critical thinking skills necessary for problem-solving and decision-making in our complex society. It is an interdisciplinary study of social policy combining classroom and fieldwork in the context of social justice. Students learn to apply key components of public policy to state and local government forum settings.
- Political Science Senior Research Seminar: In-depth research and writing on a political science topic related to Detroit.
- World Geography: Regions and Concepts: A Freshman level class that focuses on a geographic study of world regions with emphasis on geographic factors that contribute to development or underdevelopment of world regions.

PUBLICATIONS

- Levy, Tal. 2017. "Supranational Implementation: Peace Enforcement of Power-Sharing Agreements in Africa." *Journal for Peace and Justice Studies*. Vol. 26, No. 2, 60-91.
- Levy, Tal. 2012. "Political Geography and Grassroots Conflict Resolution." *Israel Affairs*. Vol. 18, No 1, 140-153.
- Levy, Tal. 2010 "Charter School Legislation and the Element of Race." *Western Journal of Black Studies*. Vol. 34, No. 1, 43-52.
- Levy, Tal. 2009. "Homeschooling and Racism." *Journal of Black Studies*. Vol. 39, No. 6, 905-923
- Co-authored an introductory political science textbook titled *History and Structure of the American Government* by Horizon Publishing. The text provides a detailed examination of the history and evolution of the American government as well as its structure and responsibilities. (2007)

REVIEWER

- Winter of 2013: Participated in a panel to review a new textbook by Pearson Publishing titled *Global Problems: The Search for Equity, Peace, and Sustainability*. 3e, by Scott Sernau.
- Winter 2012- present: A reviewer for the *International Journal of Education Policy and Leadership*. Reviewed manuscripts for publication in this journal titled "State Charter School Legislation: An Interactive Roadmap" and "Where are the Children? Educational Neglect across the Fifty States."
- Winter of 2011: External evaluator for the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). Evaluated Political Science and Social Studies programs at Aquinas College, Baker College, and Michigan State University.

PRESENTATIONS

- Levy, Tal. 2016. Presented on the “Judicial Configuration in Michigan” at the Judicial Forum at Marygrove College. Local District and Circuit judges from southeast Michigan were invited to discuss pressing legal issues affecting the City of Detroit and Wayne County.
- Levy, Tal. 2016: “Voter Identification Laws in Selected States.” Marygrove College, September 21.
- Levy, Tal. 2015. Marygrove College Academic Symposium. “The Oxnard Sugar Beet Worker's Strike of 1903.” March 30.
- Levy, Tal. 2014: “Right of Privacy and Government Surveillance.” Marygrove College, September 24.
- Levy, Tal. 2013: “Term Limits for Congress.” Marygrove College, September 23.
- Levy, Tal. 2012: “The Constitution and the Political Party System.” Marygrove College, September 19.
- Levy, Tal. 2009. “How a Bill Becomes a Law” Marygrove College, September 24.
- Levy, Tal. 2008. “The Pros and Cons of the Electoral College System” Marygrove College, September 25.
- Levy, Tal. 2007. “The 14th Amendment, the immigration Debate, and You: Who Wins and Who Loses?” Marygrove College, September 25.
- Levy, Tal. 2007. Acted as a moderator and a presenter for the first session of the Marygrove College Academic Symposium titled: “Marygrove and Urban Leadership: Creating a Vision for Urban Transformation”. The title of my presentation was “Urban Leadership from the Grassroots’ Level.” March 30.
- Levy, Tal, Dena Scher, Katherine Orban. 2006. “Learn about South Africa Day.” Marygrove College, January 17.
- Levy, Tal. 2006. “Cultivating a World Peace: Turning Swords into Plows and Spears into Pruning Hooks.” Martin Luther King Celebration at Marygrove, January 17.
- Levy, Tal. 2005. “In the Wake of Hurricane Katrina.” Marygrove College, October 26.
- Levy, Tal. 2005. “The Suspension of the Constitution in Times of Crisis and Times of Fear.” Marygrove College, November 11.
- Levy, Tal. 2005. “The Evolution of America with Accordance to the Bill of Rights.” Marygrove College, September 14.

CONFERENCES

- December 12, 2014, attended a second Minds of Peace Experiment (MOPE) negotiations conference at the University of Windsor. MOPE uses a grassroots approach to try to overcome stumbling blocks in the current Israeli-Palestinian peace process.
- On May 15, 2011 I participated in a round table discussion “Grassroots Negotiations: Reflections on a New and Innovative Approach to Israeli-Palestinian Peace Making.” at the University of Windsor in Windsor, Canada.

- On February 11, 2011 I attended a Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) two day service learning and civic engagement conference at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City, Michigan.
- On April 22-25, 2010, I attended the 68th annual national conference of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) in Chicago. I presented a paper titled “*Local Political Activism in Detroit: Inner City High Schools and Power Politics.*” I was also invited to be a Chair in a forum discussing New Urban Theoretical Perspectives.
- On October 15-16, 2009 attended the 41st annual meeting of the Michigan Conference of Political Scientists. Presented a paper titled “*Civic Engagement and Service Learning as Catalysts for Improving Graduation Outcomes in Inner-City High Schools.*” Also selected as board member.
- Dena Scher, Jermeey Eccles, and Tal Levy *Running to Win Curriculum: E-Tracking of Female Political Candidates* (May 22, 2009) Association for Psychological Science 21 Annual Convention in San Francisco (Poster presentation).
- On February 11-13, 2008 I was invited to present my report on the Marygrove Urban Teaching Agenda (MUTA) initiative at a Campus Compact civic engagement conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan.
- On September 07, 2007 I was invited to present my report on the Marygrove Urban Agenda initiative at an all day Campus Compact meeting in Lansing, Michigan.
- On June 22, 2007 I attended a two weeks Faculty Resource Network (FRN) enrichment program in New York City and Washington D.C. The title of the program was “Educating for Civic Engagement: Making Democracy an American Reality.” As part of the program I had to do research and present my findings to fellow faculty members from all over the country. The FRN offered hosts, lectures, symposia, and intensive seminars, all of which are designed to improve the quality of teaching and learning to selected faculty of affiliated institutions.
- On April 18, 2007 I attended a technology conference titled “Solving Instructional Issues through Technology” at Lawrence Technological University. I participated in panel discussions relating the issues of critical thinking and problem solving with on-line learning.
- In order to keep up to date with current technological developments in the field of geography, I attended a workshop provided by New Urban Research Inc. on the new uses of GIS (Geographical Information Systems) as part of my initiative to introduce basic GIS functions in my GEO 199 class. GIS is essentially a collection of computer software and geographic data for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information. The workshop was provided in Southfield on November 09, 2006.

SERVICE LEARNING & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- Since 2013 I am part of the Detroit Cristo Rey High School-Marygrove College Partnership. The purpose of the program was to "Leverage the strengths of both institutions to further enhance opportunities and pathways for youth to attain their college degree."

- Since 2005 I am working on an initiative to help raise awareness of the American political process within the college. It is called the “The Urban Agenda” or MUA project. The basis of the project is students’ activities that are based on their unified voice on an issues agenda of their choosing. A coalition is formed amongst the students and one unified voice is eventually achieved by narrowing down agenda options through voting. The agenda is then lobbied for at an Urban Agenda Convention involving students from other colleges. My students had a chance to debate with students from other colleges as well as personally meet the politicians in the convention. **For further details see attachment.**

GRANTS

- On January 2014 I was awarded \$1,500 (Building Our Leadership in Detroit) BOLD grant to purchase GIS software for Marygrove College. The software will be utilized in my new geography course that I am currently designing. The title of the course is GEO 304: “Mapping the City: An introduction to Geographic Information Systems”. Through GIS training and software, students will learn to examine the city through geospatial data analysis. GIS mapping can incorporate any information relating to the social sciences. Since the federal and state governments provide many GIS datasets public, students will use such data to analyze topics relating to voting patterns, real estate trends in the city, crime statistics, demographic assessments as well as isolate trends that can affect the city in the future. The students will also learn about gathering data for GIS data analysis themselves.
- On October 2013 I was awarded \$1,209 (Building Our Leadership in Detroit) BOLD grant to attend a three credit geography class at Central Michigan University. The purpose of the stipend is to familiarize myself with new developments relating to Geographical Information Systems (GIS) software.
- In September 15, 2008 I was awarded a second anonymous grant for the sum of \$3,600 to cover the costs associated with the MUA for the 2008-2009 school year.
- On May 30, 2008, I was awarded a Campus Compact Brighter Futures Grant for the total amount of \$4,715. The grant was needed to cover the costs associated with the Marygrove Urban Teaching Agenda (MUTA) initiative for the Fall 2008 and Winter 2009 semesters.
- On August 14, 2007 I was awarded a Campus Compact Brighter Futures Grant for the total amount of \$11,400. The grant was needed to cover the costs associated with the Marygrove Urban Agenda (MUA) initiative for the Fall 2007 and Winter 2008 semesters.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT

- I am currently the Department Chair for the Political Science, History and Economics sections of the Liberal Arts division.
- I am currently working on creating a new concentration for a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. The new degree will have a Community Leadership concentration. The program will be launched in the Fall of 2018.

- In 2016 I participated in a committee to launch a pre-law program at Marygrove College. The program incorporates the Political Science, Philosophy, and Criminal Justice departments.

RESEARCH TRAJECTORIES:

- I currently have three main areas of research interest. The first is the racial minorities and the politics of educational innovation; the second is urban politics and third is supranationalism.

1. Racial Minorities and the Politics of Educational Innovation

- The evolution of new educational innovations like charter schools, homeschooling and school vouchers present new challenges for ethnic and racial minorities. Ethnic and racial minorities in many cases have to settle for substandard and inferior inner city school systems. The new innovations in education offer new opportunities for some to avoid the reality of rundown inner-city schools. Recent data, however, suggests that educational innovations like charter schools and homeschooling are fostering racial segregation instead of reversing this historical trend. A deeper look into the politics behind homeschooling and charter schools is necessary in order to elucidate why this phenomenon is taking place.

2. Urban Politics

- America's big cities – Detroit, Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles, and others - are home to large and geographically concentrated populations of low-income children, youth, and families. People who live in low income inner-city neighborhoods experience illiteracy, violent criminal victimization, chronic unemployment, welfare dependency, sub-standard housing, homelessness, incarceration, and many other problems at rates that far exceed the relevant national averages, and that are also generally far higher than the incidence of such problems experienced by people who live less than a mile away in middle-income or upper-income urban communities or inner-ring big-city suburbs.

More research is required to assess community-serving programs and their capacity to alleviate in a reliable, sustainable, measurable, and comprehensive manner some of the negative factors that hinder their potential. Analysis of the political factors that hamper community empowerment is also needed.

- **3. Supranationalism and Peace Building in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East**

My research concentrates on the supranational political solution to help alleviate conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East. Supranationalism, like federalism, involves the surrender of governing power to a federal like polity. The powers of a supranational government are not as encompassing as in a federal polity; it involves more of a piecemeal and flexible form of governmental power.

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

- American Political Science Association
- American Society for Public Administration
- Pi Alpha Alpha (public administration honorary society)
- Association of American Geographers
- Golden Key National Honor Society
- Zonta International (not a full member yet) – Zonta International associates (who are executives in business and the professions) volunteer their time, talents and money to local and international service programs aimed at furthering women's education, leadership and youth development.