

JESSICA C. TEETS
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Contact Information

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Department Address

Department of Political Science
UCB 333
Boulder, CO 80309

Education

University of Colorado, Boulder
PhD Political Science, May 2009 (successfully defended December 2008)
MA Political Science 2004

University of Chicago
MA International Relations 1998

University of Maryland
BA Government and Politics 1997
BA Chinese Studies 1997

Dissertation Research

“Effective Governance in Non-Democracies: The Role of Informal Social Groups in Increasing Pluralism and Accountability in Local Public Policy.” completion expected June 2008.

This research seeks to answer the puzzle of how non-democracies achieve good governance without formal channels of interest articulation and electoral mechanism of accountability. I argue that social groups—NGOs, ethno-linguistic or business associations—use informal and personal channels to access the policy-making process. While use of these channels increases pluralism and accountability leading to more effective governance, the informal and personal nature of these channels means that they cannot distinguish easily between groups with private versus public interests. Therefore, while these channels improve governance in non-democracies, they also can lead to the promotion of private interests through the public policy process. Through the use of a cross-national dataset and field work at four sites in China, I provide evidence that social groups do influence the policy process and welfare outcomes. The 75 interviews, statistical and archive research I completed in 2006-2007, with support from a NSF grant, indicated that in China, social groups play a role in increasing pluralism in the policy-making process and accountability among local officials, which is similar to the outcomes documented by Robert Putnam and others in democracies. Therefore, this research is vital for understanding the *mechanisms* by which social groups encourage good governance across all regimes, not just liberal democracies.

Publications

Teets, Jessica. “Book Review: Pranab Bardhan and Dilip Mookherjee’s Decentralization and Local Governance in Developing Countries.” *Journal of Chinese Political Science* 13. March 2008.

Lewis, Orion and Jessica Teets. “Chinese Nationalism 1949-1980.” *Nations and Nationalism in Global Perspective: An Encyclopedia of Origins, Development, and Contemporary Transition*. ABC-CLIO. June 2008.

Teets, Jessica. "Post-Earthquake Relief and Reconstruction Efforts: The Emergence of Civil Society in China?" *The China Quarterly* (forthcoming).

Chenoweth, Erica and Jessica Teets. "To Bribe or Bomb: An Empirical Analysis into the Relationship between Corruption and Terrorism." *Intrastate Conflict and Corruption*. Robert Rotberg, ed. (forthcoming spring 2009).

Current Projects

Leblang, David, Jennifer Fitzgerald, and Jessica Teets. "Defying the Law of Gravity: The Political Economy of International Migration."

Leblang, David and Jessica Teets. "The Social Determinants of Cross-Border Portfolio Investment in Transition Economies."

Teets, Jessica. "Governance and Informal Civil Society in China." currently under review at the *Journal of Comparative Politics*.

Teets, Jessica. "Analyzing the Decline of Coups: the Substitution of Election Violence in Competitive Authoritarian Regimes."

Research Grants

National Science Foundation \$12,000
Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, September 2007-August 2008
Boulder, Colorado

University of Colorado \$1000
Language Immersion Summer Grant, June 2006-August 2006
Beijing, China

University of Colorado \$3000
Language Immersion Summer Grant, June 2005-August 2005
Beijing, China

United Government of Graduate Students \$1000
Conference Travel Grant
Boulder, Colorado

University of Colorado \$6,000
Research Fellowship, January 2004-May 2004
Boulder, Colorado

Employment

Middlebury College
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science
July 2009 - present
Middlebury, Vermont

University of Colorado, Boulder
Instructor for Chinese Politics, Department of Political Science
September 2007 – December 2008
Boulder, Colorado

Peking University, School of International Studies
Visiting Fellow
September 2006 – June 2007
Beijing, China

University of Colorado, Boulder
Instructor for Global Development, Department of Political Science
September 2005 – May 2006
Boulder, Colorado

University of Colorado, Boulder Teaching Assistant for Political Theory, Department of Political Science TA for Comparative Politics, Department of Political Science TA for International Relations, Department of Political Science Research Assistant for David Leblang, Department of Political Science September 2002 – August 2005	Boulder, Colorado
Corporate Executive Board Acting Director, Corporate Strategy Board Associate Director, Corporate Strategy Board July 2001 – August 2002	Washington, D.C.
Corporate Executive Board Senior Research Manager, Corporate Strategy Board Research Manager, Corporate Strategy Board September 2000 – June 2001	Washington, D.C.
Corporate Executive Board Senior Research Associate, Corporate Strategy Board Research Associate, Corporate Leadership Council July 1999 – August 2000	Washington, D.C.
Department of Justice, Antitrust Division Research Specialist and Paralegal July 1998 – July 1999	Washington, D.C.
CNA Insurance and Marvin Zonis Associates Political Risk Analyst—Poland and Czech Republic November 1997 – May 1998	Chicago, Illinois

Awards

Association of Chinese Political Studies
Doctoral Student Best Paper Prize, 2008

Midwest Political Science Association
Nomination for the best graduate student paper, 2004

University of Colorado
Fellowship for Teaching Excellence, 2004

Corporate Executive Board
Manager of the Year award, 2002

University of Maryland
Phi Beta Kappa, 1997

Invited Talks

“Governance Reforms in China.” Program for Teaching East Asia. China Summer Institute. July 2008.

“Democracy in China.” Guest Panelist on PBS series “Vote for Me.” Denver, Colorado. 2007.

“Constructivist Explanations for Conflict.” Guest Lecture at Peking University. 2006

Teaching Interests

Comparative Politics: Chinese Politics, Global Development, Introduction to Comparative Politics

International Relations: International Political Economy, Introduction to International Relations, Constructivist Approach to Nuclear Proliferation

Political Theory: Western Political Thought, Theories of Democracy

Conference Presentations

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago IL (April 2008), “Improving Governance in China: The Role of Civil Society in Local Public Policy.”

Peking University’s Center for International & Strategic Studies, Beijing and Dandong (June 2007), Roundtable on “Nuclear North Korea, Security Dynamics and Regional Transition in the Future.”

Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago IL (April 2006), “Social Networks and Autocracies: How the Type of Network Affects The Pattern of Government Expenditures.”

Association of Chinese Political Studies, Louisville KY (April 2006), “The Role of Social Networks on Public Goods Spending in China.”

International Studies Association, San Diego CA (March 2006), “Social Networks and Public Goods: How the Type of Network Affects The Pattern of Government Expenditures.”

Association for Asian Studies Western Regional Conference, Denver CO (September 2005), “Using the Back Door: Origins of Informal Finance in Chinese Local Government.”

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago IL (April 2004), “The Institutional and Social Origins of Corruption in China and Indonesia.”

Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, Portland, OR (March 2004), “Constraining U.S. Policy: Adherence to International Norms” written with Erica Chenoweth.

University and Department Service

University of Colorado

- Mentor and Conference Judge, McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program, 2003-present
 - Graduate Student Representative, International Relations Search Committee, 2007
 - Lecturer, ONE Campaign against Poverty, 2006
 - Head of Graduate Education and Mentoring, Graduate Students in Political Science, 2004-2005
 - President, Graduate Students in Political Science, 2003-2004
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Service to the Field of Political Science

- Reviewer, *Asian Politics and Policies*, November 2008.
- Chair and discussant, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago IL (April 2008).
- Chair, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago IL (April 2004).

- Reviewer, *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*, June 2006.