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ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

American University, Washington, D.C. Fall 2009-present
Assistant Professor, Department of Government

Director, Politics, Policy and Law Scholars program Spring 2014-present

Fellow, Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies May 2015-present

University Service: At-Large member, Faculty Senate (May 2015-present)
Ann Ferren conference planning committee (spring 2015-present)
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (2013-June 2015)
Term Faculty Committee (2012-13)
Faculty Adviser, Beta Psi Chapter, Pi Sigma Alpha (2009-2014)
Faculty Adviser, AU College Democrats (2012-present)

Awards: University Faculty Award—Outstanding Teaching in a Term
Appointment, 2015 (co-recipient)

SPA 80 for 80 (one of 80 people honored to commemorate 80th
anniversary for American University's School of Public Affairs)

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, J.D., 1996

Brandeis University, B.A., History, 1993, *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, National Merit Scholar.

PUBLICATIONS

Power Without Constraint: The Post 9/11 Presidency and National Security, University of Wisconsin Press (April 2016)

Libya, Syria, ISIS and the Case Against the Energetic Executive, co-authored with Donna Starr-Deelen, *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, 45, no. 3: 581-601 (September 2015)

Emergency Presidential Power: From the Drafting of the Constitution to the War on Terror, University of Wisconsin Press, with foreword by Louis Fisher (October 2013) ([winner of 2014 Crader Family Book Prize in American Values](#))

In Service to Power: Legal Scholars As Executive Branch Lawyers in the Obama Administration, Presidential Studies Quarterly 43, no. 3: 618-640 (September 2013)

Lies, Damned Lies, and Journalism: Why Journalists Are Failing to Vindicate First Amendment Values and How a New Definition of “The Press” Can Help, 91 OREGON LAW REVIEW 527, (December 2012), available at <http://law.uoregon.edu/org/olr/volumes/91/2/docs/edelson.pdf>

Judging in a Vacuum, Or, Once More, Without Feeling: How Justice Scalia’s Jurisprudential Approach Repeats Errors Made in Plessy v. Ferguson, 45 AKRON LAW REVIEW 513 (summer 2012) available at <http://www.uakron.edu/dotAsset/0d7cd7c1-2fb6-4c61-b66c-d84551d7bde2.pdf>

SHORTER WORKS

Would a President Trump Recognize Limits on His Power? National Review (online), May 6, 2016, available at <http://www.nationalreview.com/article/435062/donald-trump-strongman-what-about-checks-balances> (a similar version was also published at <http://time.com/4320105/donald-trump-u-s-constitution/>)

Congress Must Weigh in on Sending Troops to Syria, MSNBC.com, April 30, 2016, available at <http://www.msnbc.com/msnbc/analysis-congress-must-weigh-sending-troops-syria>

How a President Trump or Clinton Could Upend the Constitution, Government Executive, April 22, 2016, available at <http://www.govexec.com/oversight/2016/04/how-president-trump-or-clinton-could-upend-constitution/127719/>

Will Republicans pass the Trump litmus test? The Hill (online), March 21, 2016, available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/presidential-campaign/273714-will-republicans-pass-the-trump-litmus-test>

Could a President Trump go to war at his sole discretion? The Hill (online), March 8, 2016, available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/defense/272149-could-a-president-trump-go-to-war-at-his-sole-discretion>

Congressional Dysfunction Raises Stakes for Supreme Court Vacancy, American Constitution Society blog, February 23, 2016, available at <http://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/congressional-dysfunction-raises-stakes-for-supreme-court-vacancy>

Ted Cruz Would Bring Back Bush-Cheney-Yoo Approach to Torture, American Constitution Society blog, February 17, 2016, available at <https://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/ted-cruz-would-bring-back-bush-cheney-yoo-approach-to-torture>

Election Cycle Creates Unrealistic Expectations for the Presidency, Baltimore Sun (online and in print), February 10 and 11, 2016, available at <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/opinion/oped/bs-ed-impossible-expectations-20160210-story.html>

THE 21ST CENTURY VOTER: WHO VOTES, HOW THEY VOTE, AND WHY THEY VOTE (Guido H. Stempel III and Thomas Hargrove, eds.), ABC-CLIO, Inc.,(2016), contributed entry on separation of powers.

Thanks to Trump, Other Candidates Could Get a Pass on Extremism, The Hill (online), December 9, 2015, available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/presidential-campaign/262579-thanks-to-trump-other-candidates-could-get-a-pass-on>

Obama's Guantanamo Paradox (co-authored with Bob Spitzer), US News & World Report, November 30, 2015, available at <http://www.usnews.com/opinion/blogs/world-report/2015/11/30/obama-should-not-try-to-close-guantanamo-bay-with-an-executive-order>

Dividing People Along Religious Lines Makes Americans Less Safe, American Constitution Society blog, November 19, 2015, available at <https://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/dividing-people-along-religious-lines-makes-americans-less-safe>

Expecting Any President to Handle ISIS is a Dangerous Proposition, National Constitution Center blog, November 17, 2015, available at <http://blog.constitutioncenter.org/2015/11/expecting-any-president-to-handle-isis-is-a-dangerous-proposition/>

The Next President Could Bring Back Torture, American Constitution Society Blog, October 9, 2015, available at <https://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/the-next-president-could-bring-back-torture>

Immigration is First and Foremost About Humanity, American Constitution Society Blog, September 25, 2015, available at <http://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/immigration-is-first-and-foremost-about-humanity>

Donald Trump's Moral Cowardice, The Hill (online), September 21, 2015, available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/presidential-campaign/254331-donald-trumps-moral-cowardice>

Why Losing Gracefully Is Essential to Democracy, The Hill (online), July 7, 2015, available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/the-judiciary/247019-why-losing-gracefully-is-essential-to-democracy>

Charleston, the Confederate Flag, and the States' Rights Myth, American Constitution Society blog, June 19, 2015, available at <https://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/charleston-the-confederate-flag-and-the-states%E2%80%99-rights-myth>

Scott Walker's Tough Guy Talk Reveals Misunderstanding of Constitutional War Power, American Constitution Society blog, June 3, 2015, available at <http://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/scott-walker%E2%80%99s-tough-guy-talk-reveals-misunderstanding-of-constitutional-war-power>

Jeb Bush's Real Mistake? Hiding Behind the Troops, The Hill (online), May 22, 2015, available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/presidential-campaign/242894-jeb-bushs-real-mistake-is-hiding-behind-the-troops>

We Must Question the 2016 Candidates On Presidential Power, New Hampshire (Manchester) Union Leader, May 4, 2015, available at <http://www.unionleader.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20150505/OPINION02/150509708>

Election Coverage Shouldn't Just Be About Presidential Race, The Hill (online), April 14, 2015, available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/presidential-campaign/238701-election-coverage-shouldnt-just-be-about>

Congress Must Limit Obama's Military Adventures, USA Today (online), March 16, 2015, available at <http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2015/03/15/constitutional-powers-president-war-powers-isil-column/23507203/>

Incoherence and Condescension for Republicans on Abortion, American Constitution Society blog, February 10, 2015, available at <http://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/incoherence-and-condescension-for-republicans-on-abortion>

"How Do We Save Roe?" Is the Wrong Question, TPM Cafe, January 22, 2015, available at <http://talkingpointsmemo.com/cafe/how-to-save-roe-v-wade-is-the-wrong-question>

Sen. Lindsey Graham Attempts to Exploit Fear After Charlie Hebdo Terrorist Attacks, In These Times (web-only), January 14, 2015, available at http://inthesetimes.com/article/17521/lindsey_graham_terrorism

The Authoritarian Response to Andrew Hawkins's Call for Justice, Reason.com, December 20, 2014, available at http://reason.com/archives/2014/12/20/the-authoritarian-response-to-andrew-haw?n_play=54987827e4b0ffbc2bdee43c

There Are No Ticking Time Bombs in Torture Law, U.S. News & World Report (online), December 16, 2014, available at <http://www.usnews.com/opinion/blogs/world-report/2014/12/16/scalias-wrong-torture-law-has-no-24-jack-bauer-ticking-time-bomb-out>

Torture is What the U.S. is Right Now, But That Can Be Changed, American Constitution Society blog, December 12, 2014, available at <https://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/torture-is-what-the-us-is-right-now-but-that-can-be-changed>

Torture and the Rule of Law, American Constitution Society blog, December 10, 2014, available at <https://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/torture-and-the-rule-of-law>

Zivotofsky and the Integrity of the Supreme Court, Constitution Daily (National Constitution Center blog), November 21, 2014, available at <http://blog.constitutioncenter.org/2014/11/zivotofsky-and-the-integrity-of-the-supreme-court/>

The Curious Case of GOP Objections to Executive Action, The Hill (online), November 20, 2014, available at: <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/immigration/224887-the-curious-case-of-gop-objections->

[to-executive-action](#)

What It Means for Congress to Fail to Weigh in On Military Action Against ISIS, American Constitution Society blog, September 29, 2014, available at <https://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/what-it-means-for-congress-to-fail-to-weigh-in-on-military-action-against-isis>

On ISIL, Congress Must Act, Constitution Daily (National Constitution Center blog), September 15, 2014, available at <http://blog.constitutioncenter.org/2014/09/on-isil-congress-must-act/>

The Danger of Unilateral Presidential Action in Iraq, Reason.com, August 8, 2014, available at: <http://reason.com/archives/2014/08/08/the-danger-of-unilateral-presidential-ac>

Obama May be Playing Into Republicans' Hands By Claiming Unilateral Authority to Act on Immigration Crisis, The Hill (online), August 8, 2014, available at: <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/immigration/214655-obama-may-be-playing-into-republicans-hands-by-claiming>

Boehner Lawsuit Likely to Miss Mark With Focus on Obama's Domestic Actions, The Hill (online), July 4, 2014, available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/the-administration/211322-boehner-lawsuit-likely-to-miss-mark-with-focus-on>

Gun Regulation Is Not a 'Liberal Base' Issue, John King, The Hill (online), June 23, 2014, available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/uncategorized/210196-gun-regulation-is-not-a-liberal-base-issue-john-king>

Obama Can't Go It Alone in Iraq, U.S. News & World Report (online), June 20, 2014, available at <http://www.usnews.com/opinion/articles/2014/06/20/congress-shouldnt-let-obama-unilaterally-order-military-action-in-iraq?int=a3fa09>

Deciding Whether to Use Military Force in Iraq is Not Up to Obama Alone, The Hill (online), June 16, 2014, available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/defense/209432-deciding-whether-to-use-military-force-in-iraq-is-not-up-to-obama>

The Bergdahl Prisoner Exchange and the Problem of Defining Emergencies, The Hill (online), June 9, 2014, available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/defense/208613-the-bergdahl-prisoner-exchange-and-the-problem-of-defining>

Obama's Swap for Bergdahl: A Presidential Power Play? Los Angeles Times, June 6, 2014 (print), June 5, 2014 (on line), available at: <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-edelson-obama-bergdahl-executive-power-20140606-story.html>

Sen. Rand Paul Is Right to Oppose Targeted Killing of U.S. Citizens, Reason.com, June 3, 2014, available at <http://reason.com/archives/2014/06/03/sen-rand-paul-is-right-to-oppose-targete>

Christie's Overly Expansive View of Presidential Power, The Hill (online), June 2, 2014, available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/defense/207864-christies-overly-expansive-view-of-presidential-power>

Missing: Obama Administration Rationale for 'Kill Memos', Newsday, May 15, 2014, available at <http://www.newsday.com/opinion/oped/obama-administration-rationale-for-kill-memos-missing-chris-edelson-1.8035537>

President Obama and the Constitutional Power to Declare Peace, Constitution Daily (National Constitution Center blog), March 21, 2014, available at <http://news.yahoo.com/president-obama-constitutional-power-declare-peace-095807025--politics.html>

Ukraine Crisis Not Obama's Sole Responsibility, American Constitution Society blog, March 12, 2014, available at <http://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/ukraine-crisis-not-obama%E2%80%99s-sole-responsibility>

Obama and the Risk of Unchecked Presidential Power, Constitution Daily (National Constitution Center blog), March 6, 2014, available at <http://blog.constitutioncenter.org/2014/03/obama-and-the-risk-of-unchecked-presidential-power/>

The State of the Union Address and President Obama's Executive Orders: The Real Concern is National Security, Not Domestic Policy Measures, Political Insight, February 11, 2014, available at <http://www.psa.ac.uk/insight-plus/blog/state-union-address-and-president-obama%E2%80%99s-executive-orders-real-concern-national>

A Stronger Presidency Is Not the Solution, TPM Cafe, December 23, 2013, available at <http://talkingpointsmemo.com/cafe/book-club-a-stronger-presidency-is-not-the-solution>

Exploring the Limits of Presidential Power, American Constitution Society blog, December 2, 2013, available at <http://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/exploring-the-limits-of-presidential-power>

The Shutdown and the Case for Federal Government, Huffington Post, October 9, 2013, available at http://www.huffingtonpost.com/chris-edelson/the-shutdown-and-the-case_b_4069346.html?utm_hp_ref=politics

Lincoln Comments from 1861 Relevant to Today's Government Shutdown, Constitution Daily (National Constitution Center blog), October 2, 2013, available at <http://blog.constitutioncenter.org/2013/10/lincolns-comments-from-1861-relevant-to-todays-government-shutdown/>

Obama and the Power to Go to War, Los Angeles Times, August 30, 2013, available at <http://articles.latimes.com/2013/aug/30/opinion/la-oe-edelson-obama-syria-military-action-20130830>

Book review of ERIC A. POSNER AND ADRIAN VERMEULE, THE EXECUTIVE UNBOUND: AFTER THE MADISONIAN REPUBLIC, in 127 POLITICAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY 311 (2012), available at <http://www.psqonline.org/article.cfm?IDArticle=18935> (password required).

Missed Opportunity: What We Should Have Learned From the Kagan Hearings (Washington Lawyer, October 2010). available at:

http://www.dcbar.org/for_lawyers/resources/publications/washington_lawyer/october_2010/stan_d.cfm (cited in LOUIS FISHER, DEFENDING CONGRESS AND THE CONSTITUTION, 186 (2011)).

Justice for All: The Courts and Equal Rights, with Lara Schwartz, 2006. (Curriculum on the courts and civil rights developed for use with college and high school students).

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

*April 2007
through August 2009*

Human Rights Campaign

Washington, D.C.

State Legislative Director

Implemented state legislative strategy for largest national LGBT civil rights organization. Gave interviews to media regarding current legislative issues. Made presentations at conferences and events.

*February 2006
through April 2007*

Human Rights Campaign

Washington, D.C.

Open Society Institute Fellow

Created curriculum on courts and LGBT rights, including written guide and DVD, for use with high school and college students. Taught curriculum to classes of high school and college students.

*March 2002
through February 2006*

Chao & Edelson, L.L.C.

New York, N.Y.

Principal

Founding member of law firm with main practice area in employment discrimination litigation.

*March 2001
through March 2002*

Liddle & Robinson, L.L.P.

New York, N.Y.

Associate

Represented plaintiffs in employment litigation.

*November 2000
through March 2001
and September 1996
through October 1997*

Gebhardt & Associates, L.L.P.

Washington, D.C.

Associate

Represented plaintiffs in employment discrimination litigation.

November 1998

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld L.L.P. Washington, D.C.

through November 2000 *Associate*
Represented defendants in labor and employment litigation.

October 1997 **Collier Shannon Rill & Scott, PLLC** **Washington, D.C.**
through November 1998 *Associate*
Represented plaintiffs and defendants in employment litigation.

INVITED LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS

“Power without Constraint: The Post 9/11 Presidency and National Security,” Politics & Prose bookstore, Washington, D.C., May 14, 2016.

“Current Issues Involving the U.S. and War Power,” American University (presentation to group from Osher Institute), April 28, 2016.

“Assessing the Bush and Obama Post 9/11 Presidencies: Continuity, Change and the Future of National Security Power”, Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, American University, March 3, 2016.

“The Obama Administration and the Use of Military Force: John Yoo By Another Name?”, American Political Science Association, September 6, 2015 (San Francisco).

“The Obama Administration: Legal Issues Involving the Use of Military Force.” Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, American University, April 23, 2015.

“Immigration Reform Task Force Meeting—Reaction to U.S. District Court Decision on Executive Action Regarding Undocumented Immigrants,” National Association of Counties, February 23, 2015 (Washington, D.C.).

“Grand Illusion: Barack Obama, Presidential National Security Power, and the Rule of Law,” Southern Political Science Association annual meeting, January 15, 2015 (New Orleans).

“The Constitution, Immigration, and Executive Powers,” National Constitution Center (podcast with Lou Fisher and Jeff Rosen), November 2014 (online).

“Supreme Court Preview, 2014-15 Term”: American University (panel discussion sponsored by School of Public Affairs), October 2014.

“Presidential Policies on Terrorism: from Ronald Reagan to Barack Obama”: Residence of Belgian Ambassador, May 13, 2014 (Washington, D.C.)

“A Symposium on Privacy and Security”: UCLA Department of Political Science and School of Law, April 25, 2014.

“Emergency Presidential Power: From the Drafting of the Constitution to the War on Terror”: National Constitution Center, February 4, 2014 (Philadelphia).

“Emergency Presidential Power”: Politics & Prose, January 11, 2014 (Washington, D.C.).

“Emergency Presidential Power”: Brookings Institution, November 2013 (Washington, D.C.).

“Supreme Court Preview, 2013-14 Term”: American University (panel discussion sponsored by School of Public Affairs), October 2013.

“Emergency Presidential Power and the Constitution”: American University, Politics, Policy and Law program, October 2013.

Briefing on U.S. Constitution for members of Israeli delegation of youth activists visiting the U.S. at invitation of U.S. Department of State: Meridian International Center, June 2012 (Washington, D.C.).

Briefing on U.S. Constitution for members of Czech delegation of scientists visiting the U.S. at invitation of U.S. Department of State: Meridian International Center, April 2012 (Washington, D.C.).

Briefing on U.S. Constitution for members of Polish delegation of law enforcement officials visiting the U.S. at invitation of U.S. Department of State: Meridian International Center, February 2012 (Washington, D.C.).

“Moving Beyond Racial Blindsight? The Influence of Social Science Evidence After the North Carolina Racial Justice Act”: Michigan State University College of Law (presentation and panel discussion with other panelists), April 2011.

“Focus on Immigration: The Immigration Debate and SB 1070”: American University, (panel discussion sponsored by University Honors Program), October 2010.

“D.C. and Gay Marriage: ‘Til Congress Do Us Part”, American University, Washington College of Law (panel discussion with Prof. Nancy Polikoff), November 2009.

“Marriage Equality: An Update”, American Constitution Society (panel discussion with Ariela Dubler, Christopher Landau, Camilla Taylor), June 2009 (Washington, D.C.).

“State Same-Sex Marriage Amendments”, Howard University School of Law, March 2009.

“Hate Crimes Against Sexual Minorities: Tolerance, Legislative Policy and the Individual”, Washington and Lee University School of Law, September 2008.

“Justice for All: LGBT People and the Courts”, University of Baltimore, October 2007.

Panel Discussion Regarding Samuel Alito Supreme Confirmation Hearing, New Democratic Majority, December 2005 (New York).

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER

Cornell University Press
Congress and the Presidency

REFERENCES

1. Louis Fisher, Scholar in Residence, The Constitution Project, previously Specialist in Constitutional Law with the Library of Congress and Visiting Scholar, William and Mary Law School
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2. Michael Genovese, Professor and Director of Institute for Leadership Studies, Loyola Marymount University
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