

Alexander C. Furnas

CONTACT INFORMATION	Haven Hall 6564 Department of Political Science University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI 48109 USA	<i>Voice:</i> (734) 239-5505 <i>E-mail:</i> zfurnas@umich.edu
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Congress, interest group representation, political non-profits, lobbying, campaign finance, legislative behavior, network inference, natural language processing, computational social science.	
EDUCATION	University of Michigan , Department of Political Science, Ann Arbor, Michigan USA Ph.D. student, American Politics and Quantitative Methods, 2014-2019 (expected)	
	University of Oxford , Oxford Internet Institute, Oxford, United Kingdom M.Sc. <i>with Distinction</i> , Social Science of the Internet, August, 2012 Thesis: You Are Who You Follow?: Semantic Similarity of Political Partisans' Ego-Networks on Twitter. Available <i>here</i> .	
	Wesleyan University , Middletown, Connecticut USA B.A. <i>with High Honors</i> , the College of Social Studies, May, 2011 Thesis: <i>e-Pluribus Unum: Direct Democracy through Peer Production</i>	
HONORS AND AWARDS	Prestage-Cook Travel Award, <i>SPSA</i> (\$300) Ford Fellowship, <i>University of Michigan</i> (\$23,000) New America Summer Fellowship, (\$11,000) Rackham Summer Award, <i>University of Michigan</i> (\$5,000) Summer Collaboration Grant, <i>Political Science, University of Michigan</i> (\$2,000) NSF PolNet Travel Fellowship (\$900) ISR-Rackham Summer Training Award (\$2,500) Summer Collaboration Grant, <i>Political Science, University of Michigan</i> (\$8,000) Davenport Study Grant, <i>Wesleyan University</i> (\$2,500)	2018 2017-2018 2017 2017 2016 2016 2015 2015 2010
PUBLICATIONS	Edwards, Benjamin, Alexander Furnas, Stephanie Forrest, and Robert Axelrod. "Strategic aspects of cyberattack, attribution, and blame." <i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences</i> (2017): 201700442. Furnas, Alexander and Lee Drutman. "An Introduction to Descriptive Network Analysis: interest group lobbying dynamics around immigration policy." In <i>Government, Policy and Analytics</i> , edited by Jennifer Bachner and Kathryn Wagner Hill. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2017. Furnas, Alexander. "Procurement Disclosure in the Slovak Republic." In <i>Civic Media Project</i> , edited by Eric Gordon and Paul Mihailidis. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2015.	
CONFERENCE POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS	Furnas, Alexander and Lee Drutman. "Examining Networks of Influence: Using Semantic Similarity Clustering and Affiliation Network Analysis to Reveal Lobbying Dynamics." (Prepared for the 6th	

annual meeting of the Political Networks Section of the American Political Science Association (PolNet), June 28th, 2013). http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2492568

Furnas, Alexander and Devin Gaffney. "Lobbying Strategy Diffusion in Canadian Politics: a latent network approach." (Poster prepared for the 8th annual meeting of the Political Networks Section of the American Political Science Association (PolNet), June 22, 2015).

Furnas, Alexander. "We Saved You A Seat: Interest Group Representation on Federal Advisory Committees." (Poster prepared for the 74th annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 7, 2016).

Drutman, Lee, Alexander Furnas and Brian Gunia. "Explaining High Congressional Staff Turnover." (Paper prepared for the 112th Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 3rd, 2016).

Furnas, Alexander, and Michael Heaney and Tim LaPira. "The Partisan Ties of Lobbying Firms." (Paper prepared for the 113th Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 3rd, 2017).

OTHER WORKS IN PREPARATION

Estimating Interest Group Ideal Points with Bill Positions (with *Jesse Crosson* and *Geoff Lorenz*).

Minimizing the Strangeness of Bedfellows: The Case of ISIS (with *Robert Axelrod* and *Scott Bennett*).

Using Model Legislation to Estimate Ideology Scores for State Legislators (with *Chuck Shipan*).

Text Re-use and Paraphrase Detection with a Semantically Aware Smith-Waterman Local Alignment (with *Benjamin Edwards*).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sunlight Foundation, Washington, DC, USA

Research Fellow

2012 - 2014

- Conducted interview-based qualitative research into the impacts of technology enabled transparency policy for an 18-month case study research initiative funded by google.org.
- Data collection, cleaning, manipulation, analysis and visualization in service of original research, primarily focusing on campaign finance and political influence.

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Languages: Python, R, SQL.
- Statistical Computing and Packages: the tidyverse in R, Python data analysis libraries, NLTK and genesim for text processing and topic modeling, STATA.
- Applications: Most network analysis tools (especially statnet, Pajek and Gephi), L^AT_EX, common database, spreadsheet, and presentation software.

SERVICE

Interdisciplinary Workshop on American Politics, Coordinator

2015-2016

American Institutions Search Committee, Member

2017

American Institutions Group, Coordinator

2017-2018

MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

American Political Science Association

Midwest Political Science Association

Political Network Section of APSA

World Bank Digital Engagement Evaluation Framework Advisory Board