

## **Kira Sanbonmatsu**

Center for American Women and Politics  
Eagleton Institute of Politics  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
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New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
(848) 932-8798  
kira.sanbonmatsu@zoho.com

### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Government, Harvard University, 1998

B.A., Political Science, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 1992, Summa Cum Laude

### **EMPLOYMENT**

Professor, Department of Political Science, Rutgers University, 2010 - present

Senior Scholar, Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics,  
Rutgers University, 2006 – present

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Rutgers University, 2006 – 2010

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Ohio State University, 2004 – 2006

Visiting Professor, Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics,  
Rutgers University, 2002 – 2003

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Ohio State University, 1998 – 2004

### **RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

American politics, gender, race/ethnicity, parties, elections, public opinion, and state politics

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Books**

Carroll, Susan J., and Kira Sanbonmatsu. 2013. *More Women Can Run: Gender and Pathways to the State Legislatures*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2006. *Where Women Run: Gender and Party in the American States*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2002. *Democrats, Republicans, and the Politics of Women's Place*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

### **Peer Reviewed Articles**

- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2015. "Electing Women of Color: The Role of Campaign Trainings." *Journal of Women, Politics, & Policy*. 36 (2): 137-160.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira, and Kathleen Dolan. 2009. "Do Gender Stereotypes Transcend Party?" *Political Research Quarterly*. 62 (September): 485-494.
- Dolan, Kathleen, and Kira Sanbonmatsu. 2009. "Gender Stereotypes and Attitudes Toward Gender Balance in Government." *American Politics Research* 37 (May): 409-428.
- Nelson, Thomas E., Kira Sanbonmatsu, and Harwood K. McClerking. 2007. "Playing a Different Race Card: Examining the Limits of Elite Influence on Perceptions of Racism." *Journal of Politics* 69 (May): 416-429.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2006. "Do Parties Know that 'Women Win'? Party Leader Beliefs about Women's Electoral Chances." *Politics & Gender* 2 (December): 431-450.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2006. "The Legislative Party and Candidate Recruitment in the American States." *Party Politics* 12 (March): 233-256.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2003. "Gender-Related Political Knowledge and the Descriptive Representation of Women." *Political Behavior* 25 (December): 367 – 388.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2003. "Political Knowledge and Gender Stereotypes." *American Politics Research* 31 (November): 575 – 594.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2002. "Gender Stereotypes and Vote Choice." *American Journal of Political Science* 46 (January): 20 – 34.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2002. "Political Parties and the Recruitment of Women to State Legislatures." *Journal of Politics* 64 (August): 791 – 809.  
[Reprinted in Karen O'Connor, Sarah E. Brewer, and Michael Philip Fisher, eds. 2006. *Gendering American Politics: Perspectives from the Literature*. Longman.]

### **Editor Reviewed Articles**

- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2008. "Gender Backlash in American Politics?" *Politics & Gender* 4 (December): 634-642.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2006. "Gender Pools and Puzzles: Charting a 'Women's Path' to the Legislature." *Politics & Gender* 2 (September): 387-400.

### **Book Chapters**

- Sanbonmatsu, Kira, and Susan J. Carroll. 2016. "Women's Decisions to Run for Office: A Relationally Embedded Model." In Angela L. Bos and Monica C. Schneider eds., *The Political Psychology of Women in U.S. Politics*, New York: Routledge. 148-164.

- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2016. "Officeholding in the Fifty States: The Pathways Women of Color Take to Statewide Elective Executive Office." In Nadia E. Brown and Sarah Allen Gershon eds., *Distinct Identities: Minority Women in U.S. Politics*. New York: Routledge Press. 171-186.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2014. "Women's Election to Office in the Fifty States: Opportunities and Challenges." In *Gender and Elections: Shaping the Future of American Politics*, Third edition, Eds. Susan J. Carroll and Richard L. Fox. New York: Cambridge University Press. 265-287.
- Carroll, Susan J., and Kira Sanbonmatsu. 2012. "Entering the Mayor's Office: Women's Decisions to Run for Municipal Office." In *Women and Executive Office: Pathways and Performance*, Ed. Melody Rose. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers. 115-136.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira, and Kathleen Dolan. 2012. "Gender Stereotypes and Gender Preferences in American Politics." In *Improving Public Opinion Surveys: Interdisciplinary Innovation and the American National Election Studies*, Eds. John H. Aldrich and Kathleen M. McGraw. Princeton University Press. 260-277.
- Dolan, Kathleen, and Kira Sanbonmatsu. 2011. "Candidate Gender and Experimental Political Science." In *The Cambridge Handbook of Experimental Political Science*, Eds. Jamie N. Druckman, Donald P. Green, James H. Kuklinski and Arthur Lupia. Cambridge University Press. 289-298.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2010. "Organizing American Politics, Organizing Gender." In *Oxford Handbook of American Elections and Political Behavior*, Ed. Jan E. Leighley. Oxford University Press. 415-432.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2010. "State Elections: Why do Women Fare Differently Across States?" In *Gender and Elections: Shaping the Future of American Politics*, Second edition, Eds. Susan J. Carroll and Richard L. Fox. Cambridge University Press. 263-285.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2008. "Representation by Gender and Parties." In *Political Women and American Democracy*, Eds. Christina Wolbrecht, Karen Beckwith, and Lisa Baldez. Cambridge University Press. 96-109.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2006. "State Elections: Where Do Women Run? Where Do Women Win?" In *Gender and Elections: Shaping the Future of American Politics*, Eds. Susan J. Carroll and Richard L. Fox. Cambridge University Press. 189-214.

### **Other Publications**

- Dittmar, Kelly, Kira Sanbonmatsu, Susan J. Carroll, Debbie Walsh, and Catherine Wineinger. 2017. *Representation Matters: Women in the U.S. Congress*. Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.  
<http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/resources/representationmatters.pdf>

- Dittmar, Kelly, Kira Sanbonmatsu, and Susan J. Carroll. 2017. *Ms.blog*. 30 June. <http://msmagazine.com/blog/2017/06/30/want-something-done-elect-woman/>
- Dittmar, Kelly, Kira Sanbonmatsu, and Susan J. Carroll. 2017. *Vox.com Mischiefs of Faction blog*. 20 June. <https://www.vox.com/mischiefs-of-faction/2017/6/20/15840006/women-of-color-congress-silenced-no>
- Dittmar, Kelly, and Kira Sanbonmatsu. 2015. "Gender and Electoral Politics in the United States." Oxford Bibliographies in Political Science. [DOI: [10.1093/obo/9780199756223-0137](https://doi.org/10.1093/obo/9780199756223-0137)]
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2015. "Why Not a Woman of Color? The Candidacies of U.S. Women of Color for Statewide Executive Office." In *Oxford Handbooks Online*, ed. Desmond King. New York: Oxford University Press. [DOI: [10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199935307.013.43](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199935307.013.43)]
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira, Susan J. Carroll, and Debbie Walsh. *Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) Recruitment Studies, 2008*. ICPSR35244-v1. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 2015-05-13. <http://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR35244.v1>
- Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) and Political Parity. 2015. "Research Inventory: American Women and Politics." 1-72. <http://www.politicalparity.org/research-inventory/>
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2012. "The Quest for Women's Votes in Election 2012." Scholars Strategy Network Basic Facts. [http://www.scholarsstrategynetwork.org/sites/default/files/ssn\\_basic\\_facts\\_sanbonmatsu\\_on\\_the\\_gender\\_gap.pdf](http://www.scholarsstrategynetwork.org/sites/default/files/ssn_basic_facts_sanbonmatsu_on_the_gender_gap.pdf)
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2012. "Women's Pathways to America's State Legislatures." Scholars Strategy Network Key Findings. [http://www.scholarsstrategynetwork.org/sites/default/files/ssn\\_key\\_findings\\_sanbonmatsu\\_on\\_women\\_in\\_legislatures.pdf](http://www.scholarsstrategynetwork.org/sites/default/files/ssn_key_findings_sanbonmatsu_on_women_in_legislatures.pdf)
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2010. "Life's a Party: Do Political Parties Help or Hinder Women?" *Harvard International Review* 32 (1): 36-39.
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira, Susan J. Carroll, and Debbie Walsh. 2009. *Poised to Run: Women's Pathways to the State Legislatures*. Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. <http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/research/reports/PoisedtoRun.pdf>
- Sanbonmatsu, Kira, and Kathleen Dolan. 2007. "Gender Stereotypes and Gender Preferences on the 2006 ANES Pilot Study." A report to the ANES Board of Overseers.

<http://www.electionstudies.org/resources/papers/Pilot2006/nes011883.pdf>

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2003. "Candidate Recruitment and Women's Election to the State Legislatures." Report published electronically by the Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. <http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/research/topics/documents/CandRecruitment.pdf>

### **Book Reviews**

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2010. Review of *The Motherless State: Women's Political Leadership and American Democracy*. By Eileen McDonagh. *Political Psychology*.

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2009. Review of *Legislative Women: Getting Elected, Getting Ahead*. Ed. Beth Reingold. *California Journal of Politics and Policy*. 1:1. <http://www.bepress.com/cjpp/vol1/iss1/>

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2007. Review of *Challenging Parties, Changing Parliaments: Women and Elected Office in Contemporary Western Europe*. By Miki Caul Kittilson. *Journal of Politics* 69 (August): 877-8.

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2000. Review of *A Room at a Time: How Women Entered Party Politics*. By Jo Freeman. *Vox Pop Newsletter of Political Organizations and Parties*. Vol. 19, pp. 1-3.

### **RECENT INVITED TALKS**

Women in Politics: A Conference Commemorating the Centennial of Women Suffrage in New York States. SUNY-New Paltz, 2017.

Girls Inc., Philadelphia, PA. 2017.

West Virginia University, Williams Lecture, Department of Political Science, 2016

Queens College, City University of New York, "Women, Gender, and Politics Conference," 2016

Michigan State University, Class, Race and Ethnicity Workshop, Department of Political Science, 2016

Indiana University, Center on American Politics, Department of Political Science, 2016

University of Minnesota, American Politics Proseminar, Department of Political Science, 2016

University of Maryland, Department of Government and Politics, 2015

University of Pennsylvania, American Politics Workshop, 2015

Hartwick College Leslie G. Rude Memorial Lecture, 2014

Women and Politics Symposium, Public Policy Center, University of Iowa, 2014

Women and Public Policy Program Seminar, Harvard Kennedy School, 2014

Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Vanderbilt University, 2013

Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, 2013

## **SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Discipline**

Member, American Political Science Association Task Force on Women's Advancement in Political Science, 2016-

Chair, Marian Irish Award Committee, Southern Political Science Association, 2014

Member, American Political Science Association Committee on the Status of Asian-Pacific Americans in the Profession, 2013-2015 (Chair 2014-2015)

Chair, Midwest Political Science Association Sophonisba Breckinridge Award Committee, 2013

Member, Jewell-Loewenberg Award committee for the best article published in *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, American Political Science Association's Legislative Studies Section, 2013

Member, *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* Best Paper Award Committee, 2011

Chair, Nominations Committee, Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior Research Section of the American Political Science Association, 2011

Member, Midwest Political Science Association Sophonisba Breckinridge Award Committee, 2011

Member, Midwest Women's Caucus for Political Science Selection Committee for the Outstanding Professional Achievement Award, 2011

Member, Best Dissertation Award Committee, Women and Politics Research Section of the American Political Science Association, 2010

Member, *Politics & Gender* Editorial Selection Committee, 2010

Chair, Political Parties and Interest Groups Section of the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2009

President, Women and Politics Research Section of the American Political Science Association, 2007-2008

Chair, Jack L. Walker Outstanding Article Award Committee, Political Organizations and Parties Section of the American Political Science Association, 2007

Chair, Midwest Political Science Association Conference Committee, 2007

Member, Samuel J. Eldersveld Award Committee, Political Organizations and Parties Research Section of the American Political Science Association, 2007

Program Co-Chair, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2007

President-elect, Women and Politics Research Section of the American Political Science Association, 2006 – 2007

Executive Council Member, Political Organizations and Parties Section of the American Political Science Association, 2006 – 2008

President, Midwest Women's Caucus for Political Science, 2005 – 2006

Chair, Women and Politics Section of the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meetings, 2006

Newsletter Editor, Women and Politics Research Section of the American Political Science Association, 2002 – 2005

Chair, Midwest Political Science Association Sophonisba Breckinridge Award Committee, 2004

Member, *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* Best Paper Award Committee, 2003

Member, Midwest Political Science Association Sophonisba Breckinridge Award Committee, 2002

Chair, Gender and Politics Section of the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2002

Chair, Best Article Award Committee, Women and Politics Section of the American Political Science Association, 1999

Member, Mary Lepper Award Committee of the Women's Caucus for Political Science, 1998

### **University**

#### **Rutgers University**

#### **University Service**

Bloustein Dean Search Committee, 2016-2017

SAS Appointments and Promotions Committee, 2011-2013

Honors Mentor, 2008-2015

Aresty Program, 2013-2015

Graduate School New Brunswick Executive Council, 2011-2013

Social Sciences Area Committee, 2009-2011

Department Service

Placement Director, 2016-

Race, Ethnicity and American Politics Search Committee, 2016

Gender and Comparative/Feminist IR Search Committee, 2011-2012

Admissions and Financial Aid Committee, 2011, 2012, 2014

Democratic Political Institutions Search Committee, 2010-2011

Personnel Committee, 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2016-17

Field Chair, Women and Politics, 2009-2010, 2014-15

Peer Evaluation Committee, 2009-2010

Advisory Committee, 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2016-17

Chair, The Politics of Race, Ethnicity, and/or Gender Search Committee, 2008-2009

Race and Ethnic Politics Search Committee, 2006

Eagleton Institute of Politics

Chair, Joint Eagleton-Political Science Search Committee, 2016

Center on the American Governor (CAG), Panel of Reviewers, 2012, 2013

Convener, Eagleton Institute Workshop in American Politics (EIWAP), 2010-2011, 2011-2012

Eagleton Fellowship Selection Committee, 2009

Dissertation Adviser (chair or co-chair)

Dana Brown

Kelly Dittmar

Anna Mitchell Mahoney



Brittany Stalsburg

Dana Wittmer

**Ohio State University**

University Service

President's Council on Women's Issues, 2005 – 2006

Institutional Review Board, 2004 – 2006

Asian American Studies Committee, 2004 – 2005

Department Service

Governance Committee, 2005

Graduate Studies Committee, 2003 – 2006

Colloquium Committee, 2001 – 2002

APSA Minority Identification Project Representative, 2000 – 2002

Minority Politics Search Committee, 2000 – 2001

Co-founder and organizer, Research in American Politics (RAP) series, 1999 – 2006

Admissions and Financial Aid Committee, 1999 – 2001

Minority Affairs and Diversity Committee, 1998 – 1999; 2004 – 2006

Awards Committee, 1998 – 1999

**EDITORSHIPS**

**Book Series**

CAWP Series in Gender and American Politics, University of Michigan Press (with Susan J. Carroll)

**Editorial Boards**

*Political Research Quarterly*, 2014-2016

*Politics, Groups, and Identities*, 2012-

*State Politics & Policy Quarterly*, 2005-

*Politics & Gender*, 2005-2010

## **GRANTS**

Co-principal Investigator, “Women Representing in an Era of Polarization,” a grant to the Center for American Women and Politics from the Hunt Alternatives Fund, \$400,000, 2015-17.

Co-principal Investigator, “Recruitment of Women for Public Office,” a grant to the Center for American Women and Politics from the Barbara Lee Foundation, \$100,000 (plus \$50,000+ in matching funds from other sources), 2007-08.

[http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/research/topics/routes\\_to\\_office.php](http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/research/topics/routes_to_office.php)

Department of Political Science and College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Special Grant. The Ohio State University. October 2002. \$8,300.

Faculty Research Small Grant. Criminal Justice Research Center. The Ohio State University. July 2002. With Harwood K. McClerking and Thomas E. Nelson. \$5,500.

Summer Faculty Research Fellowship. Criminal Justice Research Center. The Ohio State University. July 2001. With Thomas E. Nelson.

CAWP Research Grant for Junior Faculty. Center for American Women and Politics. May 2001. \$4,000.

Coca Cola Grant for Research on Women and Gender. Department of Women’s Studies. The Ohio State University. June 2000. \$3,500.

University Small Grant. The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. The Ohio State University. March 2000. \$1,000.

Faculty Survey Research Fellowship. Center for Survey Research and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. The Ohio State University. March 1999. \$6,000.

Seed Grant. College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. The Ohio State University. March 1999 – February 2000. \$10,629.

## **RECENT CONFERENCE PAPERS**

Dittmar, Kelly, Kira Sanbonmatsu, and Susan J. Carroll. 2017. “The Significance of Women in Congress.” Paper presented at the European Conference on Politics and Gender (ECPG), Lausanne, Switzerland.

Dittmar, Kelly, Kira Sanbonmatsu, and Susan J. Carroll. 2016. “The Challenges of Being a Woman in the 114th Congress.” Paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2015. "Diversity and Access to Statewide Executive Office in the United States." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2015. "Women's Access to Statewide Executive Office in the United States." Paper presented at the 4th European Conference on Politics and Gender, Uppsala University, Sweden.

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2015. "Candidates, Professors, and Possibilities for Change." White Paper. Presented at the National Science Foundation Workshop on Coalition Building to Advance Diverse Leadership and Address Discrimination in Political Science and Law & Social Sciences, Arlington, VA.

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2013. "The Candidacies of U.S. Women of Color for Statewide Executive Office." Paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting, Chicago, IL.

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2013. "Running Statewide: The Candidacies of Women of Color for Statewide Executive Office." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting, Chicago, IL.

Sanbonmatsu, Kira. 2012. "Campaign Trainings for Women of Color: The Ready to Run™ Diversity Initiative." Paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meetings, Chicago, IL.

#### **OTHER RECENT CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

Panelist, 2017 Resisting Women's Political Leadership: Theories, Data, Solutions. Conference organized by Mona Lena Krook, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University. "The Center for American Women and Politics: Resisting Resistance since 1971." New Brunswick, NJ.

Panelist, 2017 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. "Roundtable: Gender and Elections: Reflections on the 2016 Elections." Chicago, IL.

Panelist, 2017 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. "Roundtable: The Future of Women in Politics After Clinton's Loss." Chicago, IL.

Discussant, 2017 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. "Gender, Representation, and Participation: Survey and Experimental Approaches." Chicago, IL.

Discussant, 2015 National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) Capitol Forum. "Who Governs? Legislator Demographics in 2015." Washington, DC.

Panelist, 2015 Annual Council on Governmental Ethics Laws (COGEL) Conference. "Stronger Parties, Stronger Democracies: Rethinking Campaign Finance Reform." Boston, MA.

Panelist, 2015 American Political Science Association annual meeting Short Course. “Teaching and Researching on Diversity, Inclusiveness, Access, and Equality: Strategies for Incorporating Diverse Approaches and Themes.” San Francisco, CA.

Discussant, 2015 American Political Science Association annual meeting. “Reconsidering the Impact of Gender Diversity in Political Institutions.” San Francisco, CA.

Participant and Mentor, 2014 Mentoring Conference for New Research on Gender and Political Psychology, College of Wooster, October 9-12. Wooster, OH.

Panelist, 2014 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. “Publishing in Women and Politics.” Chicago, IL.

Panelist, 2014 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. “Present or Absent? (Re-) Evaluating the Role of Gender Stereotyping in Contemporary U.S. Campaigns and Elections.” Chicago, IL.

Panelist, 2013 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. “Gender and Elections: 2012 and Beyond.” Chicago, IL.

Discussant, 2013 Center on the American Governor Grantee Meeting, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University. New Brunswick, NJ.

Panelist, 2012 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. “Forecasting the Role of Gender in the 2012 Election.” Chicago, IL.

Discussant, 2011 American Political Science Association annual meeting. “Recruiting Women into State and Local Politics.” Seattle, WA.

Selection Committee Member and Mentor, 2011 Gender and Political Psychology Conference, held at CAWP, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, March 4-5. Funded by the National Science Foundation. New Brunswick, NJ.

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Political Science Association, Women’s Caucus for Political Science, Midwest Women’s Caucus for Political Science, American Association of University Women, Scholars Strategy Network.

