

Meghan E. Wilson, Ph.D.
Michigan State University | Department of Political Science
340 South Kedzie Hall | East Lansing, MI 48824
mwilson@msu.edu
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2022- Present **MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**, East Lansing, MI
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science

2020-2022 *Dean's Research Associate, Department of Political Science*

2018-2020 **UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**, Chicago, IL
Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of Political Science

Postdoctoral Fellow, Race and Capitalism Project

EDUCATION

Ph.D. **BROWN UNIVERSITY**, Providence, RI
Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science, May 2018

- Concentration: State and Local Politics, Urban Politics, Race and Democratic Theory
- Dissertation: Monopoly Politics: The Impact of Emergency Management on Institutions and Residents in Michigan
- Committee: Katherine Tate(Chair), Marion Orr, & Wendy Schiller

A.M. **BROWN UNIVERSITY**, Providence, RI
Master of Political Science, May 2013

- Concentration: American Politics, Political Theory

B.A. **SPELMAN COLLEGE**, Atlanta, GA
Major: Political Science, May 2011

- Concentration: Human Rights and Social Justice

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

Wilson, Meghan E., Prentiss Dantzler, Jason Rivera. 2021 "Managed Racial Capitalism: Understanding the Bureaucratic State's Racialized Practices in Detroit, MI" *Forthcoming Spring 2022 in Journal of Social Policy and Public Management*

Stout, Christopher, Katherine S. Tate, and **Meghan E. Wilson**. 2021 "Does Black Representation Matter: A Review of Descriptive Representation for African Americans in Legislative Offices" *National Review of Black Politics* 2 (1). [DOI: 10.1525/nrbp.2021.2.1.2](https://doi.org/10.1525/nrbp.2021.2.1.2)

Gaynor, Tia and **Meghan E. Wilson**. 2020. "Social Vulnerability and Equity: The Disproportionate Impact of COVID-19" *Public Administration Review* 80, no. 4. [DOI: 10.1111/puar.13264](https://doi.org/10.1111/puar.13264).

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

Wilson, Meghan E. "Betting on Black: Emergency Management Hedges on the Marginalized" *Invited to Revise and Resubmit*

Wilson, Meghan E. "Race in the American City: Vestiges of the Old Racial Order in the [new] Urban City" *Under Review*

Wilson, Meghan E. “Tear Down to Build: Abolition Possibilities for Urban Budgets” *Under Review*

Collins, Jonathan E., Valdimir E. Medenica, and **Meghan E. Wilson**, “‘Berned’ by Millennials: Age, Race, and Third-Party Vote Choice in the 2016 Presidential Election.” *Invited to Revise and Resubmit*

PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

Book Manuscript

“Monopoly Politics: Local Governments Plight to Survive Emergencies” *Manuscript in Progress*

State’s centralization of local power has been a tactic for sustaining power for nearly 3 decades; however, in the last decade we have seen more state governments intervene as a way to assist in navigating financial distress. Using seventeen years of survey data, individual voter files, census data, budget data and qualitative interviews, this manuscript tracks the ways that financially distress cities shift and what the impact is on the residents in these cities. With Michigan as a case for centralizing power, the project contends with the political and social norms contested to reach financial solvency.

Articles

“Broke’n’ Cities: Understanding Racial Domination in Urban Budgeting”

Urban budgeting has taken several forms over the last half century as the population has shifted in the city center. Given the shift in the way cities are budgeting, this paper analyses the ways that city budgets reinforce articulations of domination. The paper uses the ways that some cities are able to leverage partnership and other are forced to spend cash as a point of contention in articulating racial dynamics in the sustainability of urban cities.

“Tear Down to Build: Abolition Possibilities for Urban Budgets”

“This framework prioritizes concepts of democratic engagement, energy and environmental justice, and fiscal responsibility while holding at the center the most marginalized groups in the community. The assumption is that while institutions are inherently racist, as they rebuild the institution is able to build anew with racial justice at the core. To test the viability of this framework, we examine it within the city of Detroit after undergoing Chapter IX Bankruptcy.”

“Data Transparency and Community Development” w/ Carol G. Flores

In the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, scholars, practitioners, and public administrators have been pushed to be transparent with data and outcomes from the various programs and initiatives. With full data transparency, we can see the fissures in the political, social, health, and economic systems to program toward meaningful changes. This essay considers the limitation of health research that is Eurocentric and avoids problems in the systems that create circumstances causing state violence.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

2018-2020	Charles Koch Foundation University of Chicago, Department of Political Science Research Fellowship (\$140,000)
2017	Charles Koch Foundation Brown University, Department of Political Science Dissertation Grant (\$5000)
2016	Spatial Structures in Social Science Travel Grant (\$500)
2015	Ford Foundation Dissertation Writing Fellowship

Honorable Mention

2014-2015 Belfer Family Graduate Fellowship in Public Policy
Brown University, Department of Political Science
Dissertation Fellowship

Humanities Projects
Wayne State University
Writing Fellowship

2011-2014 Graduate Student Fellowship/Assistantship Package
Brown University, Department of Political Science

TEACHING

Instructor of Record

2022 Special Topics in Political Science: Race and the City
Michigan State University, *Department of Political Science, Spring*

2021 Issues in Public Policy: Urban Wastelands & Imagination
Michigan State University, *Master's of Public Policy, Spring*

2020 Race and Capitalism w/Michael C. Dawson
University of Chicago, *Department of Political Science, Spring*

2017 Minority Political Behavior
Clark University, *Department of Political Science, Spring*
Rhode Island School of Design, *History, Philosophy and the Social Science, Winter*

2016 Minority Political Behavior
Brown University, *Department of Political Science, Spring*

Money v. People: Budgeting through Crisis
Brown University, *Summer at Brown*

Teaching Assistant

Brown University

2017 African American Politics, Professor Marion Orr, *Spring*
2015 Urban Politics and Public Policy, Professor Marion Orr, *Fall*
2014 Introduction to American Political Process, Professor Wendy Schiller, Head T.A., *Spring*
2013 Introduction to Illicit Global Economy, Professor Peter Andreas, *Fall*
Introduction to American Political Process, Professor Wendy Schiller, *Spring*
2012 Campaigns and Elections, Professor Michael Tesler, *Fall*

Pedagogical Training

Certificate IV: Teaching Consultant Program

Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University

This is a year-long program to help develop and observe effective teaching strategies. The focus of the program is to develop expertise in leadership and pedagogical development.

Certificate I: Sheridan Teaching Seminar

Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University

Yearlong seminar and workshop series focusing on fundamental principles of pedagogy and developing a reflexive teaching practice.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 **“A Reckoning: Toward an Urban Political Economy and Public Choice”**
- Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington D.C.
- “Broke’n’ Cities: Understanding Racial Domination in Urban Budgeting”**
- Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, Los Angeles, CA
 - Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, San Diego, CA
- 2017 **“Race in the American City: Vestiges of the Old Racial Order in the [new] Urban City”**
- Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL
 - Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA
- “You Still Live There: Limitations of the Social Welfare Policy in Poverty Irradiation”**
- Annual Meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Providence, RI
 - Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA
- “Bankrupt Democracy: Democratic Theory within Budgetary Constraints” w/ Kevin McGravey**
- Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL
- 2016 **“Remaking the Institution: The intersection of People Politics and the Market in Detroit”**
- Annual Meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Newport, RI
 - Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL
- 2015 **“City Auction: Municipal Response to Fiscal Distress in Detroit”**
- Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, Miami, FL
 - Annual Meeting of the National Conference of Black Political Scientist, Atlanta, GA
 - Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2018-Present DIVERSITY FIRST CONSULTING

Principal Consultant

- Responsible for designing, implementing, and driving the creation and execution of diversity and inclusion strategy across multiple organizations.
- Designed, developed, socialized, and implement the enterprise D&I strategy, including a vision for success and measurement of success.
- Partners with executives and senior leadership to engage support and champion D&I strategies and initiatives.
- Developed policies, strategies, tools, and programs to leverage diversity and inclusion to drive business outcomes.
- Developed comprehensive support for companies and community partners to communicate across platforms to effectively articulate company’s commitment to the transformative engagement.
- Lead and represented our Social Innovation efforts and manage various stakeholders, from individual contributors to executives, to effectively prioritize goals.
- Provide direction, input and general support to diversity initiatives, at a local and national level. Fostering positive relationships internally and externally for business impact, risk mitigation and building our corporate brand.

2020 - 2021 COMMONWEALTH EDISION

Senior Business Analyst-Contract

- Managed partnerships and projects investigating the impact of smart grid technologies, utility

investments, economic development initiatives, and STEM education programs on community health and economic wellbeing.

- Built assessment and evaluation tool for equitable expansion of community-based pilot programs using environmental justice metrics and qualitative data to measure community capacity.
- Specialized in technology deployment for smart energy and beneficial electrification. Leading smart grid community programmed, smart city projects and strategic partnerships.
- Consulted on process operations, nuclear safeguards, risk management and cost reduction strategies for processing facilities within the utility.

2012-2018

BUILDERS OF PROMISE

Founder and Executive Director

- Publicized and promoted the organization social and community network
- Conducted focus groups and surveys with over 100 residents to inform program design.
- Designed and implemented community-wide program to assist low-income residents with food access and land procurement.
- Led and oversaw all aspects of program administration, including program platforms and monthly tasks assigned to students.

2016-2017

BROWN UNIVERSITY

Diversity Strategist for the Graduate School

- Advise younger graduate students in their first three years of doctoral programs through research development and publications.
- Implemented university-wide recruitment and retention plan for graduate students of color meant to support long term commitment to equity across the University
- Communicated company commitment and best practices to internal and external constituencies.
- Designed and implemented communications and outreach approach to co-workers and external parties (media organizations, special interest groups, etc.) to influence Brown's strategy for equity, diversity, and inclusion.
- Training volunteers, interns, and others to facilitate nuanced and inclusive discussions on challenging topics.
- Served as advisor to the associate dean of diversity and inclusion for the graduate school.

2010-2012

DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Summer Youth Employment Coordinator

- Established skilled trade summer program providing 150 high school age summer employment and hands on training opportunities with the unions.
- Placed and developed skilled trades curriculum in partnership with A. Phillip Randolph instructors for our summer students.
- Negotiated fair compensation packages for student employees based on Michigan living wage and project labor agreements.
- Provided administrative, programming, and logistical support for Detroit Public Schools' \$500.5 million Capital Improvement Bond.

2007-2009

CITY OF DETROIT

Legislative Analyst for Councilman Kwame Kenyatta

- Responded to constituents with complaints and worked diligently to resolve each matter expeditiously 80% of assigned complaints were resolved successfully. The other 20% were escalated to higher offices.

- Served as liaison among members of city council, handled resolutions and contracts for community research and development.

SERVICE

2019-2020 SECTION CHAIR, Inequality and Social Justice
National Conference of Black Political Scientist

2016-2017 DIVERSITY ADVISORY BOARD, Chair and Member
Brown University

PERFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association

Midwest Political Science Association

National Conference of Black Political Scientist

Urban Affairs Association