

# V I T A E

## Corliss Lentz

Department of Political Science  
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U.S.A.

**DATE:** July, 2008

**RANK:**

Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies  
Department of Political Science  
Sam Houston State University  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
(936) 294-1459

**EDUCATION:**

Ph. D. Political Science (Public Administration, Public Policy, Gerontology), Northern Illinois University, 1995.

Dissertation title: "Citizen Decision Making in the Context of School Financial Referenda: The Illinois Experience," nominated for the 1995 NASPAA (National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration) Annual Dissertation Award.

M.P.A. Public Administration (Human Services Administration), Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, 1987.

B.A. History, University of Charleston, Charleston, W VA, 1969.

**GRANTS AWARDED:**

Principal Investigator: "Why Some Communities Pay More Than Others: Comparison of Teacher Salaries in Illinois and Texas," \$5,000 Research Enhancement Grant from Sam Houston State University, December, 1998.

Principal Investigator: "Predicting School Referenda Outcomes in Illinois: A Reanalysis," \$5,000 Research Enhancement Grant from Sam Houston State University, December, 1995.

**AWARDS RECEIVED:**

Special Achievement Award, College of Arts and Sciences, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, 2002.

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:**

Research interests include health and social issues associated with the HIV/AIDS pandemic, , public finance, public administration, and education and social policy.

**HONORS:**

Member of Pi Alpha, the National Honor Society of Public Affairs and Administration, 1987.

Member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Honor Society for Political Science, 1997.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

1995-to date.

I teach political science and public administration graduate and undergraduate courses at Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas.

1990-95

I taught at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois; Saint Xavier University, Chicago, Illinois; and Joliet Junior College, Joliet, Illinois as temporary full or part time faculty.

**DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

1998-Present

As Director of Graduate Studies I recruit students, review applications for admission, and supervise all graduate students and Graduate Assistants. In addition, I serve as Chairperson of the Department of Political Science Graduate Committee.

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:**

1987 - 1992

I worked as a Graduate Research Assistant (1987-89) and Research Associate (1989-1991) in the Public Opinion Laboratory at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois, on a grant funded by the National Science Foundation developing codebooks, providing data analysis, and creating SPSS programs. Also worked as a graduate research assistant for the Center for Governmental Studies (1991-2) at NIU on a study funded by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP:**

American Society for Public Administration  
 Section on Budgeting and Financial Management  
 Section on Public Administration Education  
 Texas Association of College Teachers

**CURRENT RESEARCH**

I completed a one research month trip to Zambia in May/June 2008 to conduct research on the attitudes of people with HIV/AIDS. The research on people with HIV/AIDS took place during a two-week period in and near a town bordering Zimbabwe. The interviews examined respondent attitudes toward medical treatment, cultural issues, family problems, and HIV education through home, church, and schools. The major

preliminary finding is that most of the respondents are educating their families and children about the perils of unprotected sexual activity. They believe that they, and the churches and schools, have an obligation to teach children how to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS. This attitude appears to be a change among Zambians and may explain why the HIV/AIDS infection rate has recently (May 2008) been reduced from 16.5% of the population to 14.3%.

#### **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

“Partnerships in Zambia: Healthcare Delivery by Indigenous FBOs” \$18,000, submitted for the Enhancement Grant for Research 2008, Research and Special Programs, at Sam Houston State University, 1 October 2007, Primary Investigator: Corliss Lentz, not funded.

2008-9 Lecturing/Research Fulbright Scholarship for the University of Zambia, \$52-61,000, submitted to Council for International Exchange of Scholars, 1 August 2007, not funded.

“Providing Social Services: Identifying the Best Practices of Faith-Based Organizations in Combating the HIV/AIDS Pandemic in Zambia,” \$20,000, submitted to the IBM Center for The Business of Government, Social Services, 1 November 2006, Primary Investigator: Corliss Lentz, not funded.

“Saving Lives: Identifying the Best Practices of Faith-Based Organizations in Combating the HIV/AIDS Pandemic in Zambia,” \$20,000, presented to the IBM Center for Global Issues - Healthcare, 1 March 2006, Primary Investigator: Corliss Lentz, not funded.

#### **PUBLICATIONS IN REFEREED JOURNALS:**

“Strengthening Community Involvement: Partnering with Indigenous Faith-Based Organizations to Develop Sustainable Partnerships in Zambia” submitted to *Journal of HIV/AIDS & Social Services*, April, 2007. The paper has been conditionally accepted and is currently being re-reviewed.

“Taxpayer Supported Local Events Designed to Promote Economic Development and Enhance Quality of Life: Measuring the Perception of Public Benefit” coauthored with Frank Robinson (primary author), submitted to *The Journal of Economic Development*, January, 2008.

“Mining the Knowledge Base: How Principals Provide Innovations to Improve the Life Chances of Hispanic Students in Texas,” a paper resubmitted to *Education Leadership Review*, January, 2008.

"Predicting School Referenda Outcomes: Answers from Illinois," *The Journal of Education Finance* (Spring 1999) 24: 459-482.

"Where You Work Does Make a Difference: The Intrastate Differences in Teacher Salary," *The Journal of School Business Management* (Number 1 1999) 11:15-25.

"The Effects of Collective Bargaining on Teacher Compensation: Lessons From Illinois," *Journal of Collective Negotiations in the Public Sector* (Number 2 1998) 27:93-106.

"Determinants of Voter Turnout in Illinois School Referenda," *Southeastern Political Review* (June 1998) 26:313-335.

"Why Some Communities Pay More Than Others: The Example of Illinois Teachers," *Public Administration Review* (March/April 1998) 58: 137-144.

"Dispelling Myth: Referenda Can Succeed During General Elections," *Illinois School Board Journal*, (September/October 1997) 65:19-20.

"The Role of Community Homogeneity in School Referenda Outcomes: the Illinois Experience," *The Journal of School Business Management* (April 1996) 8:6-18.

"Citizen Decisionmaking in Illinois: The Role of Affordability and Community Homogeneity in School Referenda Outcomes," *The Journal of School Business Management* (April 1995) 7: 6-19.

#### **NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS:**

"Atypical Pneumonia, A Typical Chinese Response: Why the Chinese Government Concealed the Outbreak of the SARS Epidemic," p. 1370-1395, in *Harnessing the Future by Studying the Past, 2004 Monograph Series, part 2*, included as select presentations from the 2004 Joint Conference of the National Association of African American Studies, National Association of Hispanic & Latino Studies, National Association of Native American Studies, and the International Association of Asian Studies, Houston. Co-authored with Xiaoyong Lai.

"HIV/AIDS in Central and South America: The Impact on the Orphans," p. 1491-1512 in *Harnessing the Future by Studying the Past, 2004 Monograph Series, part 2*, included as select presentations from the 2004 Joint Conference of the National Association of African American Studies, National Association of Hispanic & Latino Studies, National Association of Native American Studies, and the International Association of Asian Studies, Houston. Co-authored with Rogerio J. Zapata.

"The Rise of Professional Government: Evidence from large Scale Public Works Projects," *Public Administration Review* (January/February 2001) 61: 121-126.

"Communities Under Stress: The Role of Homogeneity in School Referenda Outcomes," pp. 307-316 in *The Small City and Regional Community: Proceedings of the 1996 Conference, University of Louisville, vol. 12*, (eds). Peter B. Meyer and Thomas S. Lyons. Stevens Point, WI: University of Wisconsin, Center for the Small City, 1997.

"Cutting Class: More Excuses," *Sam Houston State University Across the University Writing Program Newsletter*, (May 1997) 16: 6-7.

"Cutting Class: Excuses, Excuses, Excuses," *Sam Houston State University Across the University Writing Program Newsletter*, (December 1996) 15: 8-9.

"Program Evaluation of the Silver Harvest Senior Nutrition Program" produced for the Silver Harvest Senior Nutrition Program, Joliet, Illinois. July, 1987.

#### **PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS:**

"Using POSDCORB<sup>1</sup> as a tool for Innovation: Improving Hispanic Student Achievement in Texas," for submission to *Journal of Research on Leadership Education*, March, 2008.

"Barriers to Building a Sustainable Middle Class in Zambia." this is being prepared for submission to an African policy journal.

"Can High Gasoline Prices Pave the Way for Public Transit in the Peripheral Hinges of a Metropolitan City? A Case Study." coauthored with Sarmistha Majumdar. This study is under preparation to be submitted to a public administration journal.

"The Impact of Parks on Residential Property Values: An Analysis of Two New Parks in The Woodlands, Texas," for submission to *State and Local Government Review*, Spring 2007, coauthored with Jonathan Loewer (Primary author).

"Implementation of No Child Left Behind (2001): The Problems with Achieving Teacher Excellence Goals in Texas."

#### **CONFERENCE PAPERS and PRESENTATIONS:**

"Improving Education Opportunities: Innovative Government/NGO Partnerships to Build a Sustainable Middle Class in Zambia" presented at the American Society for Public Administration annual conference, March, 2008, Dallas.

"Providing Services for People Affected with HIV/AIDS: Developing Sustainable International Partnerships with Indigenous Faith-Based Organizations in Zambia," presented at the Association of Budgeting and Management, October, 2007, Washington, D.C.

"Measuring the Performance of Taxpayer Supported Local Events Designed to Promote Economic Development and Enhance Quality of Life: Does Anyone Really Care?" coauthored with Frank Robinson (primary author), presented at the 2007 American Society for Public Administration, March 23-27, 2007, Washington, D.C.

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<sup>1</sup> Gulick, Luther. 1978. "Notes on the Theory of Organization," p. 38-47 in *Classics of Public Administration* 1<sup>st</sup> edition, Jay M. Shafritz and Albert C. Hyde (eds.) Oak Park, Illinois: Moore Publishing Company, Inc.

“Assessing Amenities: Creating a Destination through Economic Development and Improved Intergovernmental Partnerships,” coauthored with B. D. Marshall (primary author), presented at the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management meeting (a section of the American Society for Public Administration,) October, 2006, Atlanta.

“The Impact of Parks on Residential Property Values: An Analysis of Two New Parks in The Woodlands, Texas,” coauthored with Jonathan Loewer (primary author), presented at the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management meeting (a section of the American Society for Public Administration,) October, 2006, Atlanta.

“Service Learning: Models of How to Incorporate It Into Courses and How to Assess It,” Coauthored with Stephanie Frogg and John Newbold, presented at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences Fall 2006 Teaching Conference, August 2006, Huntsville, Texas.

“Using POSDCORB as a Tool for Innovation: Improving Hispanic Student Achievement,” presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Public Administrators, March 31- April 4, 2006, Denver.

“Zambia: Nurturing Faith Through Partnerships,” presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the Southern African Partnership Network of the Presbyterian Church USA, January 2006, Louisville.

“Service Learning: Models of How to Incorporate it into Courses and How to Assess It” coauthored with Stephanie Frogg and John Newbold, presented at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences 2nd Annual Teaching Conference, August 2005, Huntsville, Texas.

“Lessons from the Front: Improving the Achievement of Hispanic Students in Texas” presented at the 85<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association, April 2005, New Orleans.

“Transforming Schools with Scarce Resources: The Effects of Texas’ “Slash and Burn” Budgetary Techniques on the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001,” presented at the 62<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April, 2004, Chicago.

“HIV/AIDS in Central and South America: The Impact on Family Structure” co-authored with Rogerio Zapata, a paper presented at the National Association of African American Studies Annual Meeting, February, 2004, Houston.

“Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) with a Typical Chinese Response: Why the Chinese Government Concealed the Problem” coauthored with Xiaoyong Lai, a paper presented at the National Association of Asian Studies annual meeting, February, 2004, Houston.

“Improving Student Achievement in Texas: Exploring Determinants of Ethnic Disparity”, a paper presented at the National Association of African American Studies annual meeting, February, 2003, Houston.

“Student Achievement: Tracking Ethnic Disparity of TAAS Passage Rates in Texas”, a paper presented at the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 25-28, 2002, Chicago.

“Tracking the Ethnic Disparity of TAAS Passage Rates in Texas: Are Minority Student Scores Improving,” a paper presented at The National Association of African American Studies annual meeting, February 11-16, 2002, Houston.

“Would Increased State Funding Improve Student Performance? An Example from Texas,” a paper presented at the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 19-22, 2001, Chicago.

“Tracking Student Achievement: The Troubling Ethnic Disparity of TAAS Passage Rates in Texas,” presented at The National Association of African American Studies annual meeting, February 12-17, 2001, Houston.

“The Effects of Administrative Decision-making on Student Achievement: The Texas Example,” a paper presented at the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 27-29, 2000, Chicago.

“The Relationship Between School District Revenue and Student Achievement: the Texas Example,” a paper presented at the 1999 Annual Conference on Public Budgeting and Financial Management, Washington D.C., October, co-authored with John Spangler.

“Equalizing Education Funding: The Relationship Between School District Finances and the Property Tax Base,” a paper presented at the American Society for Public Administration’s 60<sup>th</sup> National Conference, Orlando, April, 1999..

"The Effects of Intergovernmental Transfers on Public Sector Salaries," a paper presented at the 1998 Association for Budgeting and Financial Management Annual Conference, Washington D.C., November.

"Evaluating Teacher Merit: Reliability and Validity Problems with Using TAAS to Evaluate Teachers," a paper presented at the 1998 Southwestern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Corpus Christi, Texas, March, coauthored with Mark Spangler.

"Analysis of Flat Tax Proposals," a paper presented at the 1997 Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Norfolk, Va, November, coauthored with Shirley De Voll.

"Communities Under Stress: The Role of Homogeneity in School Referenda Outcomes," paper presented at the Twelfth Conference on the Small City and Regional Community, October 22-23, 1996, Louisville, KY.

"The Role of Voter Turnout in Illinois School Referenda," presented April 18-20, 1996 at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

Invited lecture on "Citizen Decision Making in Illinois: The Role of Affordability and Community Homogeneity in School Referenda Outcomes" presented May 2-3, 1995 at the Illinois Council of Professors of Educational Administration Spring Conference, Springfield, Illinois.

"Community Typology: Predictor of Tax Protest in Education Referenda" presented October 14-16, 1993 at the American Society for Public Administration 1993 Annual Conference on Public Budgeting and Finance, Arlington, VA.

"Citizen Decision Making in the Context of School Financing Referenda: The Illinois Experience" presented July 17-21, 1993 at the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) National Training Conference, San Francisco.

"Economic Conditions In Illinois: A Predictor of Local Government Crisis" presented April 15-17, 1993, at the Midwest Political Science Association National Conference, Chicago.

#### **CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Discussant, "Issues in City Council Representation" panel at the 1998 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 23-25, Chicago, IL.

Discussant, "Assessing Effectiveness of Local Government" panel at the 1996 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 18-20, Chicago, IL.

Discussant, "Raising Money/Spending Money" panel at the 1995 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 6-8, Chicago, IL.

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

Serve on the Temporary Executive Committee that will develop this new section, Democracy and Social Justice, a section for Public Administration (ASPA), at the next ASPS meeting in 2008.

**DEPARTMENT SERVICE:**

I am currently working on a proposal to expand the Masters Degree in Public Administration with an on-line concentration in National Security Administration. It should be submitted in July, 2008.

I worked on developing a Masters Degree in Public Administration for the Political Science Department at Sam Houston State University, Fall, 2002, which was approved in March, 2004.

I served as the Political Science Field School Coordinator for the Italian field School. I developed the program for teaching students in Italy and recruited students for the 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003 programs. I took SHSU students to Italy, June, 2000, May 2001, and May 2002.

I developed an Internship Program for the Department of Political Science to recruit, select, place and supervise internship students in local government.

**DEVELOPMENT:**

Seminar participant in "Germany: Adapting to the Challenges of the 21st Century, sponsored by Council on International Educational Exchange, June 13-20, 1998, Berlin, Germany.

Participant in "Categorical Data Analysis: Introduction" sponsored by the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, June 9-13, 1997, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Participant in "Writing for Publication," sponsored by the Sam Houston State University Writing Across the University Program and Research and Sponsored Projects, October 16-17, 1996, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas.

Participant in "Portfolios in the University Classroom," sponsored by the Sam Houston State University Writing Across the University Program, February 21, 1996, Huntsville, Texas.

Participant in "Writing Across the University Retreat" sponsored by Sam Houston State University Writing Across the University Program, November 10-11, 1995, Waterwood Resort, Huntsville, Texas.