

# Katherine V. Bryant

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Political Science  
Westmont College  
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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. Texas A&M University, December 2015  
Fields: International Relations (major), Political Methodology (minor)  
Dissertation: *The Benefits of Multilateral Aid: How Agency Motivation, Specialization, and Autonomy Promote Development*  
Committee: Quan Li, Ahmer Tarar (co-chairs), Hyeran Jo, and Ren Mu

B.A. University of Southern California, 2008  
Majors: Political Science (*magna cum laude*) & International Relations

## EXPERIENCE

Fall 2015-present: Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Westmont College

## PUBLICATIONS

Hyeran Jo and Katherine V. Bryant. 2013. "Taming of the Warlords: Commitment and Compliance by Armed Opposition Groups in Civil Wars." In Thomas Risse, Stephen Ropp, and Kathryn Sikkink's (eds.) *From Commitment to Compliance: The Persistent Power of Human Rights*. Cambridge University Press.

Katherine V. Bryant. Forthcoming. "Politics and Aid." In Ali Farazmand's (ed.) *Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration, Public Policy, and Governance*. Springer International Publishing.

## WORKING PAPERS

"Agency Type and Aid Effectiveness: Comparing Bilateral and Multilateral Aid Agencies." Currently under review.

"Agency and Autonomy in International Organizations: Political Control and the Effectiveness of Multilateral Aid." Currently under review.

"Funding Aid Agencies: The Political Determinants of Core v. Non-Core Funding."

"Do Specialized Aid Agencies Actually Promote Development?"

"Hegemony, Influence, and Foreign Aid: The U.S. and Multilateral Aid Policies."

"Multilateralism, Foreign Aid, and Public Preferences: An Experimental Approach."

"Does the ICC Promote Peace? An Intervention Analysis of Rebel Violence in Uganda." Co-authored with Hyeran Jo.

## **BOOK PROJECT**

*Multilateral Aid, Politics, and Development: Evaluating Autonomy's Impact on Agency Effectiveness*

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

International Development, International Political Economy, International Organizations, Political Methodology (quantitative, qualitative, and experimental), International Security, Non-State Actors, Human Rights, International Law

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

Research Assistant for Hyeran Jo, Spring 2010-Summer 2012, Summer 2013

Duties included general assistance with research efforts: data collection, data management, data analysis, qualitative research, and collaborative work. Topics of research included NGOs, rebel groups in Sudan, the use of child soldiers, international treaties, and the impact of the ICC in Uganda.

Research Assistant for Christine Lipsmeyer, Fall 2010-Summer 2012

Duties included data management, reviewing literature, and collaborative work. Topics of research included the composition of governments, welfare spending, and the effects of political ideology on foreign policy.

Research Assistant for Ahmer Tarar, Fall 2009, Fall 2012

Duties included reviewing literature on strategic troop placement.

## **RESEARCH METHODS TRAINING**

Advanced Quantitative Political Analysis

Time Series Analysis

Experimental Methods

Advanced Game Theory

Generalized Linear Models with Jeff Gill, Texas A&M University 2010 Summer Methods Workshop

Bayesian Statistical Modeling with Simon Jackman, Texas A&M University 2011 Winter Methods Workshop

Hierarchical Linear Modeling with Jeff Gill, Texas A&M University 2011 Summer Methods Workshop

Pooled Time Series Analysis with Robert Franzese, Texas A&M University 2011 Summer Methods Workshop

## **RESEARCH SKILLS**

Software and Programming Proficiencies:

LaTeX, R, SPSS, Stata, WinRATS

Certified Researcher, Texas A&M University Institutional Review Board

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

"Do Specialized Aid Agencies Actually Promote Development?" Paper to be presented at the Emerging Scholars Forum at the 2016 International Studies Association-West Conference (ISA-West), Pasadena, CA, September 23-24.

"Hegemony, Influence, and Foreign Aid: The U.S. and Multilateral Aid Policies." Paper to be presented at the 2016 International Studies Association-West Conference (ISA-West), Pasadena, CA, September 23-24.

"Do Specialized Aid Agencies Actually Promote Development?" Poster to be presented at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Philadelphia, PA, September 1-4.

“Agency and Autonomy in International Organizations: Political Control and the Effectiveness of Multilateral Aid.” Poster presented at the 2016 conference on the Political Economy of International Organizations (PEIO), Salt Lake City, UT, January 7-9.

“Multilateral Aid, Multiple Principals, and Agency Autonomy.” Paper presented at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), San Francisco, CA, September 3-6.

“Funding Aid Agencies: The Political Determinants of Core v. Non-Core Funding.” Paper presented at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), San Francisco, CA, September 3-6.

“Funding Aid Agencies: The Political Determinants of Core v. Non-Core Funding.” Paper presented at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association (ISA), New Orleans, LA, February 18-21.

“Does the ICC Promote Peace? An Intervention Analysis of Rebel Violence in Uganda.” Co-authored with Hyeran Jo. Paper presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association (ISA), San Diego, CA, April 1-4.

“Multilateralism, Foreign Aid, and Public Preferences: An Experimental Approach.” Paper presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association (ISA), San Diego, CA, April 1-4.

“Does the ICC Promote Peace? An Intervention Analysis of Rebel Violence in Uganda.” Co-authored with Hyeran Jo. Paper presented at the 2012 Texas Triangle Conference, Austin, TX, February 4.

“Delegation, Domestic Politics, and Multilateral Foreign Aid Spending.” Paper presented at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, IL, March 31-April 3.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Lecturer, Fall 2015 - present

Department of Political Science, Westmont College

POL 124: International Development

POL 150: International Conflict and Peacebuilding

Graduate Student Lecturer, Fall 2013 & Spring 2014

Department of Political Science, Texas A&M University

POLS 231: Introduction to World Politics

Teaching Assistant for Professor Michael Koch, Spring 2013

Department of Political Science, Texas A&M University

POLS 429: Domestic Institutions and International Conflict

## **TEACHING INTERESTS**

Introduction to International Relations, International Relations Theory, International Political Economy, International Organizations, International Development, International Security, Domestic Politics and International Relations, U.S. Foreign Policy, International Law, Political Methodology (quantitative, qualitative, and experimental)

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

American Political Science Association Travel Grant, 2015

Texas A&M University's Association of Former Students Graduate Merit Fellowship, 2009-2011

Texas A&M University's Regents' Graduate Fellowship, 2009-2010

Phi Beta Kappa

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association  
International Studies Association  
Midwest Political Science Association  
Western Political Science Association  
Peace Science Society  
International Political Economy Society

## REFERENCES

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## DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

The role and importance of international institutions remains staunchly debated in much of the world. Although today states are joined by these and other non-governmental actors in activities such as promoting norms, monitoring behavior, and negotiating treaties in a wide range of issue areas, many continue to question the salience and utility of these organizations. Rather than constituting important actors in their own right, critics maintain that these institutions are merely epiphenomenal to the state dominated realm of global politics. In my dissertation, I address this controversy from a development standpoint by comparing the effectiveness of bilateral aid agencies to a relatively understudied group of global development institutions: multilateral aid agencies.

The question of how to enhance the effectiveness of foreign aid has plagued researchers for over six decades. Although in some cases scholars have found positive support regarding aid's impact on economic growth in recipient countries, others have questioned these findings, and some have even demonstrated that aid has a negative impact on growth. I approach this question from a new perspective by analyzing how the organizational characteristics of aid agencies lead to differences in development policies. Specifically, I highlight how differences in agency motivation, specialization, and autonomy affect development outcomes. First, agency motivations enhance development because they determine agency focus and influence allocation patterns, both of which are critical for distributing more effective aid. Second, specialization allows the agency to provide more funding to each of their targets, to reduce transaction costs, and to implement knowledgeable and effective policies. Third, autonomy determines the ability of the agency to resist attempts by donor governments to undermine their relative neutrality and legitimacy.

I demonstrate my argument by collecting original qualitative and quantitative data on these organizational variables for over sixty aid agencies. My evidence indicates that multilateral agencies are more altruistic aid donors, and are also more likely to be specialized compared to bilateral donors. I also find a substantial amount of variation in terms of the autonomy of multilateral aid agencies. Having presented this original data, I then empirically test my arguments through a series of panel analyses of aid and economic growth rates in 128 developing countries from 1973-2012. The results strongly support my argument that organizational differences matter in terms of the outcomes they produce. Multilateral aid is particularly more effective at promoting economic growth due to differences in agency motivation. However, further examination demonstrates that this finding is conditional on organizational autonomy levels. My results not only provide strong policy prescriptions for the foreign aid community, but also lend support for the salience of international institutions more broadly.