

P.O. Box 7568
Winston-Salem, NC 27109

Phone: 336.758.3364
E-mail: dahillse@wfu.edu

Academic Appointments

Associate Professor, Wake Forest University, July 2018-*present*
Assistant Professor, Wake Forest University, July 2012-June 2018

Education

Ph.D. Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, December 2012
M.A. Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, May 2007

- Major fields: American Politics, Political Methodology
- Minor field: Comparative Education
- Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR),
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Summer 2007

B.A. Political Science and Sociology, Trinity University, 2004

- SUNY Brockport, Viet Nam, 2002

Research and Teaching Interests

public policy, education, inequality, state and local government, democratic accountability,
political participation, program evaluation, research design.

Book

Dahill-Brown, Sara E. 2019. *Education, Equity, and the States: How Variations in State Governance Make or Break Reform*. Harvard Education Press

Peer Reviewed Articles

Bradley, Dominique, Evan P. Crawford, and Sara E. Dahill-Brown. 2016. "Defining and Assessing FoI in a Large-Scale Randomized Trial: Core Components of Values Affirmation," *Studies in Educational Evaluation*, Vol. 49, June, pp. 51-65.

Dahill-Brown, Sara E., John F. Witte, and Barbara Wolfe. 2016. "Income and Access to Higher Education: Are High Quality Universities Becoming More or Less Elite? A Longitudinal Analysis of Admissions at UW-Madison," *Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*, edited by Charles Clotfelter and Steven Brint, Vol. 2, Issue 1, pp. 69-89.

Dahill-Brown, Sara and Lesley Lavery. 2012. "Implementing Federal Policy: Confronting State Capacity and Will," in *Politics and Policy*, Vol. 40, No. 4, pp. 557-592.

Book Chapters

Walldorf, Charles, Sara Dahill-Brown, Betina Wilkinson, and Sandeep Mazumder. 2019. "The Broad Patterns: Master Narratives and Forceful Regime Change," Chapter 2 in Walldorf, Charles *To Shape Our World for Good: Master Narratives and Forceful Regime Change in United States Foreign Policy, 1900-2011* Cornell University Press

Dahill-Brown, Sara E. and Ashley Jochim. 2018. "The Power of Place: Rural Identity and the Politics of Rural School Reform," in *No Longer Forgotten: The Triumphs and Struggles of Rural Education*, edited by Michael Q. McShane and Andy Smarick. Rowman & Littlefield. *forthcoming October 2018*

Dahill-Brown, Sara E. 2018. "Challenging, Building, and Changing Capacity in State Education Agencies," in *Bush-Obama School Reform: Lessons Learned*, edited by Frederick M. Hess and Michael Q. McShane, pp. 145-165. Harvard Education Press. *forthcoming September 2018*.

Dahill-Brown, Sara E. and Eranda Jayawickreme. 2016. "What Constitutes Indices of Well-Being Among College Students?" in *Well-Being and Higher Education: A Strategy for Change and the Realization of Education's Great Purposes*, edited by Donald W. Harward, pp. 123-134. Bringing Theory to Practice.

Jayawickreme, Eranda and Sara Dahill-Brown. 2016. "Well-Being as a Goal of Higher Education: A Thought Piece on Educating the Whole Student," in *Handbook of Eudaimonic Well-Being*, edited by Joar Vitterso, pp. 473-484. Springer

Essays, Book Reviews, & Blog Posts

Dahill-Brown, Sara E. 2018. "Why the Path Ahead is Uncertain for State Education Agencies," *Rick Hess Straight Up — Education Week*, November 16.

Dahill-Brown, Sara E. 2018. "Local Stakeholders Used the Boomerang Effect to Magnify Their Influence," *Rick Hess Straight Up — Education Week*, November 14.

Dahill-Brown, Sara E. 2018. "Where the Bush-Obama Education Era Veered into Magical Thinking," *Rick Hess Straight Up — Education Week*, November 12.

Dahill-Brown, Sara and Ashley Jochim. 2018. "The Power of Place in Rural Schooling," *School Administrator Magazine*, published by AASA: The School Superintendents Association, edited by Jay Goldman. October

Dahill-Brown, Sara E. 2017. Review of Eva Bertram's *The Workfare State: Public Assistance Politics from the New Deal to the New Democrats*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. *Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. 132, Issue 1, pp. 168-170.

Dahill-Brown, Sara E. 2016. "Trump, DeVos, and an Uncertain Road Ahead in Education," *Rick Hess Straight Up — Education Week*, December 19.

Essays, Book Reviews, & Blog Posts, *cont.*

Dahill-Brown, Sara E. 2016. “Embracing Nuance and Diversity in State Ed. Reform,” *Rick Hess Straight Up* — *Education Week*, December 21.

Dahill-Brown, Sara E. 2016. “Education, Polarization, and Protest,” *Rick Hess Straight Up* — *Education Week*, December 23.

Articles, Chapters, & Essays in Preparation

“Collectively Confronting COVID-19: American Teachers’ Unions’ Responses to a Global Pandemic.” *Manuscript in preparation w/Lesley Lavery*

“The Politics of Efficiency and Integration: School District Consolidation from 1931-2012 and the Chilling Effect of *Milliken v. Bradley*.” *Article in preparation*

Doctoral Thesis

“The State of American School Governance: Who’s in Charge, and Does it Matter?”
Committee Members: John F. Witte (Chair), Kenneth M. Goldstein, David L. Weimer,
Geoffrey D. Borman, Barbara L. Wolfe

In Media

Sawchuk, Stephen. 2021. “Masks or No Masks: School Leaders Say They Can’t Make Anyone Happy,” *Education Week*, April 29.

Brown, Keri. 2021. “Public Schools And The Pandemic: Lessons Learned, Scars Remain,” *WFDD*, March 15.

Lavery, Lesley. 2020. “The pandemic is causing teachers to flee the profession,” *Salon*, September 19.

Heller, Rafael. 2019. “Making sense of education policy at the state level: A conversation with Sara Dahill-Brown,” *Phi Delta Kappan: The Professional Journal for Educators*, September 23.

Dahill-Brown, Sara. 2019. “Understanding State Governance,” *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, April 30.

McShane, Michael. 2018. “Want To Improve Rural Schools? Here Are Two Tips,” *Forbes*, November 8.

Brown, Keri. 2016. “Fact Checking North Carolina Political Ads Touting Teacher Pay Raises,” *WFDD*, August 15.

Grants, Awards, & Honors

Research Fellowship, Samia Renzi, The Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Center ([URECA](#)), Wake Forest University, Summer 2021 (\$4,000)

Innovative Teaching Award, Teaching and Learning Center ([TLC](#)), Wake Forest University, 2016-2017 (\$1,000)

Fellow, Academic and Community Engagement Program ([ACE Fellowship Program](#)), Wake Forest University, 2015-2016 (\$1,000) and 2016-2018 (\$1,500)

Pilot Research Grant ([PRG](#)), Wake Forest University, 2014-2015. (\$8,253)

Named as an Emerging Education Policy Scholar ([EEPS](#)) by the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, 2013-2014.

Fellow, Creative and Research Activities Development and Enrichment ([CRADLE](#)), Wake Forest University, 2013-2015. (\$5,000)

Fellow, Interdisciplinary Training Program in the Educational Sciences ([ITP](#)), Wisconsin Center for Education Research, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2009-2012.

Selected Conference Presentations

“The Power of Place: Rural Identity and the Politics of Rural School Reform.” Presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association in Boston, MA, August 2018.

“Building Capacity in State Education Agencies Under Bush and Obama: Big Goals, Uneven Progress, and Ongoing Challenges.” Presented at a conference on *Bush-Obama School Reform: Lessons Learned*, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C., January 2018.

“The Power of Place: The Politics of Rural School Reform,” with Ashley Jochim. Presented at a conference on *Rural Education in America*, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C., December 2017.

“Win Win: Balancing Merit and Equity in a Politicized Federal Grant Competition.” Presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association in San Francisco, CA, September 2015.

“The Politics of Efficiency and Integration: State Policy and School District Consolidation: 1968-2012.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago, IL, April 2015.

“Fidelity of Implementation in a Large Scale, Randomized Field Trial: Identifying the Critical Components of Values Affirmation,” with Dominique Bradley and Evan Crawford. Presented at the spring meeting of the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness in Washington, D.C., March 2015.

Selected Conference Presentations, *cont.*

“Income and Access to Higher Education: Are High Quality Universities Becoming More or Less Elite? A Longitudinal Analysis of Admissions at UW-Madison?” with Barbara L. Wolfe and John F. Witte. Presented at the Russell Sage Foundation Conference on Higher Education’s Effectiveness. December, 2014.

“Identifying the Critical Components of Values Affirmation: Fidelity of Implementation in a Large-Scale Randomized Controlled Trial,” with Dominique Bradley and Evan Crawford. Presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association in Philadelphia, PA, April 2014.

“Politics, Capacity, and Distributional Equity in the Administration of Competitive Grants,” with Dominique Bradley, Jared Knowles, and Kathryn Norcross. Presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management in Washington, D.C., November 2013.

“Is the University of Wisconsin Becoming More Elite?” with Barbara L. Wolfe and John F. Witte. Presented at Issues for Universities in the 21st Century, sponsored by La Follette School of Public Affairs at University of Wisconsin - Madison, Invited. June, 2012.

“The Problem of Men: the University Gender Gap,” with Lesley Lavery and John F. Witte. Issues for Universities in the 21st Century, sponsored by La Follette School of Public Affairs at University of Wisconsin - Madison, Invited. June, 2012.

“School Governance: Who’s in Charge and Does it Matter?” Presented at annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association in Vancouver, B.C., Canada, April 2012.

“Changing School Governance, Improving Outcomes?” Presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association in Seattle, WA, September 2011.

“Income and Higher Education: Application, Admission, Enrollment, and Graduation at the University of Wisconsin - Madison” with Barbara L. Wolfe and John F. Witte. Presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management in Boston, MA, November 2010.”

Courses and Teaching Experience

Instructor, “Senior Seminar Social Identity in the Policy Process,” Department of Politics and International Affairs, Wake Forest University, 2020 & 2021.

Instructor, “Research Methods in Political Science,” Department of Politics and International Affairs, Wake Forest University, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, & 2020.

Instructor, “Educational Politics & Policy,” Department of Politics and International Affairs, Wake Forest University, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2020, & 2021.

Courses and Teaching Experience *cont.*

Instructor, “Politics of Inequality,” Department of Politics and International Affairs, Wake Forest University, 2013, 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019.

Instructor, “U.S. Policy-Making in the 21st Century,” Department of Politics and International Affairs, Wake Forest University, 2012, 2013, 2015, & 2018.

Instructor, “Qualitative Political Analysis,” Department of Politics and International Affairs, Wake Forest University, 2013 & 2014.

Instructor, “Quantitative Political Analysis,” Department of Politics and International Affairs, Wake Forest University, 2012, 2013, & 2014.

Instructor, “Introduction to Statistical Computing,” Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2009 & 2011.

Teaching Assistant, “Introduction to Public Policy,” Professor John F. Witte, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2008.

Teaching Assistant, “Introduction to American Politics,” Professor Kenneth Mayer, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2007.

Teacher, Special Education Reading, Teach for America, Ringgold Middle School, Rio Grande City, TX, 2004-2006.

Additional Research Experience

Project Assistant & Research Affiliate, Madison Writing and Achievement Project, P.I. Professor Geoffrey D. Borman, Wisconsin Center for Education Research, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2011-2016.

Fellow, Interdisciplinary Training Program for Educational Sciences, Professor Adam Gamoran, Wisconsin Center for Education Research, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2009-2012.

Project Assistant, Professor John F. Witte and Barbara Wolfe, La Follette School of Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2008-2012.

Project Assistant, Andrew Coan, School of Law, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2009.

Project Assistant, Professor Scott Straus, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Spring 2008.

Professional Service

Peer Reviewer, *American Education Research Journal*([EPAA](#)), Summer 2021.

Peer Reviewer, *American Education Research Association Annual Conference 2021, Politics of Education Section and Educational Policies and Politics / Division L*, Summer 2020.

Professional Service, *cont.*

Peer Reviewer, *Education Policy Analysis Archives*([EPAA](#)), Spring 2020.

Discussant, Anna Julia Cooper Center Faculty Research Seminar, October 2017.

Peer Reviewer, *Education Policy Analysis Archives*([EPAA](#)), Fall 2016.

Peer Reviewer, *Perspectives on Politics*([PSP](#)), Fall 2016.

Peer Reviewer, *Policy Studies Journal*([PSJ](#)), Spring 2016.

Discussant, Anna Julia Cooper Center Faculty Research Seminar, September 2015.

Discussant & Committee Chair, Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, Fall 2015.

Participant, American Enterprise Institute Working K-12 Working Group, Washington D.C., Fall 2015

Committee Chair, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, Spring 2015.

Peer Reviewer, *American Education Research Association Annual Conference 2015, Politics of Education Section*, Summer 2014.

Participant, American Enterprise Institute Working K-12 Working Group, Washington D.C., Spring 2014

Peer Reviewer, *Regulation and Governance* ([R&G](#)), Fall 2013

Discussant, American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA, Spring 2013.

Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, Spring 2013.

Peer Reviewer, *American Journal of Political Science* ([AJPS](#)), Summer 2012

Discussant, Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., Fall 2010.

Education Policy Consultant, Office of Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle, 2009-2010.

University and Community Service

Member, [Race, Inequality, and Policy Initiative, Steering Committee](#), 2020-*present*

Faculty Adviser, Phi Alpha Delta, Undergraduate Pre-Law Chapter at Wake Forest University, Spring 2019-*present*.

July 2021

University and Community Service, *cont.*

Member, [Committee on the Intersection of Incidents of Bias, Expression, and Conduct](#), Wake Forest University, 2019-21

Organizer of panel , [“Student Assignment, Desegregation, & Justice in Public School Systems”](#) April 2021.

Member, Wake Forest University Scholarship Committee, Spring 2019.

Co-organizer of lecture event featuring Associate Professor Zachary Oberfield, [“Teaching Climates and Publicness?”](#) along with Alan Brown, October 2017.

Member, Anna Julia Cooper Project Steering Committee, Fall 2014-*present*.

Member, Community Leadership Council for The Forsyth Promise Partnership, Spring 2014-*present*.

Co-organizer of lecture event featuring Journalist Lewis Wallace, [“Is Objectivity Dead?”](#) along with Angela Mazaris, April 2017.

Co-organizer of education panel for election conference, [“Debating the Issues”](#) along with Alan Brown, October 2016.

Discussion Leader, Project Wake, with Kaylan Baxter, Spring 2016.

Faculty Advisor, Richter Fellowship, Tatiana Ostwalt, Summer 2016.

Faculty Advisor, Honors Thesis, Brittany Vasquez, Spring 2015

Faculty Co-Leader, with Marianne Magjuka, Short Term Study Abroad in Rwanda, Wake Forest University, May 2015.

Faculty participant, President’s Leadership Conference, Wake Forest University, Asheville, NC, September 2013, November 2014, and November 2015.

Member, Action Team on Curriculum and Faculty Development for Diversity and Inclusion, Spring 2015.

Moderator, Deliberative Dialogue on Community, Wake Forest University, November 2014.

Member, Office of Diversity and Inclusion Working Group on Campus Climate, Fall 2014.

Judge, Wake Forest Battle of the Beltway (Sponsored by Deloitte), October 2014.

Advisor, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School Board Voting Guide, Forsyth Education Partnership, Fall 2014.

July 2021

University and Community Service, *cont.*

Faculty Advisor, Well-Being Initiative, Wake Forest University, Spring 2013-Fall 2014.

Mentor, WS Chamber of Commerce Senior Academy, Reynolds High School, Fall 2013-2014.

Departmental Service

Search Committee Co-Chair, American Politics, Wake Forest University, 2020

Committee Chair, Diversity Planning, Wake Forest University, 2018-*present*

Major Advisor, Wake Forest University, Spring 2014-*present*

Committee Member, Diversity Planning, Wake Forest University, 2016-2018

Committee Member, Awards and Conferences, Wake Forest University, 2017-2018

Committee Member, Program Assessment, Wake Forest University, 2016-2017

Committee Member, Curriculum, Wake Forest University, 2015-2016

Committee Member, Jack D. Fleer Scholarship Fund, Wake Forest University, 2014

Committee Member, Speakers Fund, Wake Forest University, 2013-2014

Committee Member, Methods Curriculum for Majors, Wake Forest University, 2013-2014

Committee Member, Masters Social Science Statistics, Wake Forest University, 2013-2014

Committee Member, Chair Evaluation, Wake Forest University, Spring 2013

Co-cordinator, Political Behavior Group, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2009-2010

Elected Representative, Political Science Graduate Program Committee, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2008-2009

Selected Invited Talks, Guest Lectures, & Presentations

Guest lecture on field experiments for "Research Methods," Professor Arne Shober, Lawrence University, April 2021.

Invited Speaker, "Understanding School Choice," Appalachian Community of Education Schools, February 2021.

Invited Speaker, "Collectively Confronting COVID-19: Teachers' Unions Respond to a Global Pandemic," Interdisciplinary Training Program in Educational Sciences at the University of Wisconsin Madison, December 2020, with Associate Professor Lesley Lavery, Macalester College.

Selected Invited Talks, Guest Lectures, & Presentations, *cont.*

Guest lecture on COVID slide for “Educational Leadership,” Associate Professor Alan Brown, Department of Education, Wake Forest University, Summer 2020.

Guest lecture on school choice policies and segregation for “Educational Leadership,” Professor Alan Brown, Department of Education, Wake Forest University, Summer 2018.

Invited Speaker, “Vicious Circles or Virtuous Cycles? How Inequality Shapes Schools and How Schools Reshape Inequality,” at Linfield College, May 2017.

Guest, [Podcast@WFU](#) on Education along with Provost Rogan Kersh, April 2017.

Panelist, “[The First 100 Days: Analyzing the Trump Presidency](#),” sponsored by Wake Forest University’s Pi Sigma Alpha, political science honor society, April 2017.

Moderator, Student Discussion on college affordability, Up To Us and Wake the Vote, Pro Humanitate Institute, Wake Forest University, October 2016.

Guest lecture on value-added models, teacher evaluations, and performance pay for “Educational Leadership,” Professor Alan Brown, Department of Education, Wake Forest University, Summer 2016.

Paper Presenter, “Making Choice Work for All Families in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools,” Anna Julia Cooper Center, Faculty Research Seminar, October 2015.

Panelist on higher education at the 2015 North Carolina Women’s Summit, hosted by Women AdvanCe, the Southern Oral History Program at UNC-CH, Scholars for North Carolina’s Future, and the Women’s Center at WFU, September 2015.

Guest speaker with Assistant Professor of Education Alan Brown on Educational Politics and Policy Change in North Carolina at chapter meeting of *Delta Kappa Gamma*, International Society for Key Women Educators, January 2015.

Moderator, Community Screening and Discussion of *American Teacher*, Democracy NC, Forsyth County Association of Educators, Ministers’ Conference of Winston-Salem, Winston-Salem NCAACP, Scholars for North Carolina’s Future, May 2014.

Panelist, “Community Forum on School Choice, Charters, and Vouchers,” with Darrell Allison, Rodney Ellis, Robin Hollis, and Don Martin. Co-sponsored by the Forsyth Education Partnership, Wake Forest University Department of Politics & International Affairs, and WFDD Public Radio for the Piedmont Triad, Fall 2013.

Guest lecture on the federal Race to the Top program for “Sociology of Education,” Professor Joseph Soares, Department of Sociology, Wake Forest University, Spring 2013.

Selected Invited Talks, Guest Lectures, & Presentations, *cont.*

Panelist, “Serving and Supporting our Public Schools,” with Alan Brown, Assistant Professor of Education and Superintendent of WS/FC Schools, Dr. Beverly Emory. Sponsored by the Wake Forest University Institute for Public Engagement, September 2013.

Guest lecture with Dominique Bradley on small-scale impact evaluations for “Evaluation for Administrative Decision Making,” Professor Geoffrey Borman, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Spring 2012.

Panelist, “Education Policy and the 2012 Presidential Election,” with Joseph Soares and Scott F. Baker. Sponsored by the Wake Forest University Chapter of Students for Education Reform (SFER), October 2012.

Presentation, “Education Policy.” Presented at monthly meeting for The Madison Altrusans, a women’s community group. Madison, WI, Fall 2011.

Presentation, “Is the University of Wisconsin Becoming More Elite? A Partial Answer,” with Barbara Wolfe and John F. Witte. Presented at Affordability and College Attainment in Wisconsin Public Higher Education: A Research, Policy, and Practice Conference, Madison, WI, Summer 2011.

Continuing Professional Development

Summer Book Discussion Group: *Promoting Inclusive Classroom Dynamics in Higher Education* by Kathryn C. Oleson, Center for the Advancement of Teaching, Wake Forest University, June 2021.

Professional Learning Community on Intersectional Online Pedagogy, Wake Forest University, July-August 2020.

Designing Student Multimedia Projects, Information Systems, Wake Forest University, July 2020.

Introduction to Canvas, Systems, Wake Forest University, February 2020.

Racial Equity Institute, Groundwater Approach Framework, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Wake Forest University, January 2020.

People’s History of Winston-Salem, Office of Civic and Community Engagement, Wake Forest University, October 2019.

Project Based Learning, Workshop at the Teaching and Learning Center, Wake Forest University, February 2019.

Revised Safe Zone Training, LGBTQ Center, Wake Forest University, May 2017.

Title IX Hearing Board Training, Wake Forest University, October 2016.

Continuing Professional Development, *cont.*

Team Building, PDC, Wake Forest University, September 2016.

Building a Student Culture of Academic Integrity: The Role of Anti-Plagiarism Software, Wake Forest University, February 2016.

Working with International, Multilingual Readers and Writers, Workshop at the Teaching and Learning Center, Wake Forest University, January 2015.

Facilitating Difficult Discussions in the Classroom, Workshop at the Teaching and Learning Center, Wake Forest University, January 2015.

Exploring the Inclusive Syllabus, Workshop at the Teaching and Learning Center, Wake Forest University, January 2015.

Teaching Inclusively: A Pedagogical Exploration, Workshop at the Teaching and Learning Center, Wake Forest University, January 2015.

Engaged Teaching Luncheons, Pro-Humanitate Institute, Wake Forest University, March and April 2013, October and November 2014.

Teaching Poverty 101, Workshop at the Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin-Madison, June 1st - 5th 2013.

Motivating Students: What You Need to Know, Workshop at the Teaching and Learning Center, Wake Forest University, February 2013.

Safe Zone Training, LGBTQ Center, Wake Forest University, November 2012.

New Faculty Learning Community, Teaching and Learning Center, Wake Forest University, September - November 2012.

Popular Myths about Teaching and Learning, Teaching and Learning Center, Wake Forest University, September 2012.