

KAI OSTWALD

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of British Columbia

- 2017 – **Assistant Professor**, School of Public Policy and Global Affairs | Department of Political Science
Faculty Associate, Institute of Asian Research
- 2014 – 2017 **Assistant Professor**, Institute of Asian Research | Department of Political Science

EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego, Ph.D. *with distinction* in Political Science, 2014

- Committee: Edmund Malesky (chair), Claire Adida, Karen Ferree, Stephan Haggard, Phil Roeder

National University of Singapore, MA, Political Science, 2008

Rutgers University, BA, Political Science, *magna cum laude* and highest departmental honors, 2001

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS AND AFFILIATIONS

- 2018 – **Director**, Centre for Southeast Asia Research (CSEAR), UBC
- 2014 – 2016 **Director**, Centre for Southeast Asia Research (CSEAR), UBC
- 2019 – **Associate Fellow**, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore
- 2018 – **Associate Editor** (Southeast Asia), *Pacific Affairs*
- 2018 – **Chair**, American Political Science Association, Southeast Asia Politics Related Group
- 2017 – **Executive Committee**, Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies
- 2012 – 2013 **Visiting Associate**, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore
- 2012 – 2014 **Associate-in** (lecturer), Graduate School of Int'l Relations and Pacific Studies, UCSD

AWARDS

- Best Paper Award (Explaining Elections in Singapore), *APSA Southeast Asia Politics Group*, 2016
- Fellow, Inaugural Class, *Southeast Asia Research Group* (SEAREG), 2013
- Distinction in comprehensive exams, UCSD, 2010

GRANTS

- SSHRC Insight Development Grant (49k), 2019
- SSHRC bridging fund (5k), 2018

- International Development Research Centre (IDRC) (PI), (214k), 2018-20
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC) (PI), (104k), 2017
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC) (PI), (124k), 2016
- Hampton Grant (10k), 2015
- Startup fund, UBC (20k), 2014/15
- National Science Foundation, DDIG (12k), 2012/13
- UC Pacific Rim Research Institute grant (19k), 2012/13
- Emerging Pacific Economies (EmPac) research grant (3.5k), 2012/13
- UCSD Department of Political Science Fellowship, 2013
- Sanford Lakoff Research Fellowship, 2013
- IICAS Travel Grant, 2013, 2011
- Emerging Pacific Economies (EmPac) research grant, 2011

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed:

- “Malapportionment in Myanmar’s Elections: A Slumbering Menace” (with Constant Courtin) – *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, 42(2) *forthcoming* August 2020.
- “Placebo Statements in List Experiments” (with Guillem Riambau) – FirstView in *Political Science Research and Methods*, 2020.
- “Four Arenas: Malaysia’s 2018 Election, Reform, and Democratization” (with Steven Oliver) – *Democratization*, 27(4): 662-680, 2020.
- “Language Politics, Education, and Ethnic Integration: The pluralist dilemma in Singapore” (with Elvin Ong and Dimitar Gueorguiev) – *Politics, Groups, and Identities*, 7(1): 89-108, 2019.
- “Rematch: Islamic Politics, Mobilisation, and the Indonesian Presidential Election” (with Dimitar Gueorguiev and Paul Schuler) – *Political Science*, 70(3): 240-252, 2018.
- “Triple Duel: The Impact of Coalition Fragmentation and Three-Corner Fights on the 2018 Malaysian Election” (with Paul Schuler and Jie Ming Chong) – *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*, 37(3): 31-55, 2018.
- “Canada’s Foreign Policy and Bureaucratic (Un)Responsiveness: Public Diplomacy in the Digital Domain” (with Julian Dierkes) – *Canadian Foreign Policy Journal*, 24(2): 202-222, 2018.
- “Ethnic Segregation and Public Goods: Evidence from Indonesia” (with Yuhki Tajima and Krislert Samphantharak) – *American Political Science Review*, 112(3): 637-653, 2018.
- “Explaining Elections in Singapore: Dominant Party Resilience and Valence Politics” (with Steven Oliver) – *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 18(2): 129-156, 2018.
- “Federalism without Decentralization: Power Consolidation in Malaysia” – *Journal of Southeast Asian Economies*, 34(3): 488-506, 2017.
- “Indonesia’s Decentralization Experiment: Motivations, successes, and unintended consequences” (with Yuhki Tajima and Krislert Samphantharak) – *Journal of Southeast Asian Economies*, 33(2): 139-156, 2016.

- “Context and Comparison in Southeast Asia: the Practical Side of the Area Studies – Discipline Debate” (with Paul Schuler) – *Pacific Affairs*, 88(4): 871-888, 2015.
- “How to Win a Lost Election: Malapportionment and Malaysia’s 2013 General Election” – *The Round Table: Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs*, 102(6): 521-532, 2013.

Chapters:

- “Myanmar: Pandemic in a Time of Transition” (with Tun Myint) *forthcoming* in Victor Ramraj (ed), *Covid-19 in Asia: Law and Policy Contexts*. Oxford University Press.
- “When the Whole Menu is Not Enough: Electoral Manipulation, Malpractice, and Turnover in Malaysia” *forthcoming* in Netina Tan and Kharis Templeman (eds), *Electoral Malpractice in East and Southeast Asia: Patterns and Consequences*. Lynne Reinner.
- “Ethnic and National Identity: Origins, Contestation, and Polarization in Malaysia and Singapore” (with Isabel Chew) *forthcoming* in Michael Weiner (ed), *The Routledge Handbook on Race and Ethnicity in Asia*. Routledge.
- “Against the Odds: Malaysia’s Electoral Process and Pakatan Harapan’s Unlikely Victory” in Francis E. Hutchinson and Lee Hwok Aun (eds) *The Defeat of Barisan Nasional: Missed Signs or Late Surge?*, Singapore: ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, 2019.
- “Local Elections, Decentralization, and Institutional Reform in Malaysia” in Sophie Lemiere (ed) *Minorities Matter: Malaysian Politics and People*, Kuala Lumpur: SIRD & Singapore: ISEAS-Yusof Ishak, 2019 [peer-reviewed].
- “Electoral boundaries in Malaysia’s 2018 Election: Malapportionment, Gerrymandering and UMNO’s Fall” in Edmund Terence Gomez and Mohamed Nawab Mohamed Osman (eds) *Malaysia’s 14th General Election and UMNO’s Fall: Intra-Elite Feuding in the Pursuit of Power?*, Routledge, 2019.
- “Canada’s foreign policy and bureaucratic (un)responsiveness: Public diplomacy in the digital domain” (with Julian Dierkes) in Richard Nimjean and David Carament (eds), *Canada, Nation Branding and Domestic Politics*. Routledge, 2019 [chapter is reprint of journal article]
- “National Service and Nation Building: Successes and Limitations of the Singaporean Model” in Ho Shu Huang and Graham Ong-Webb (eds), *National Service in Singapore*. 2019.
- “Democratic Crossroads and Political Transitions in Southeast Asia: Domestic and International Factors” in *Southeast Asia in an Evolving Global Landscape*, proceedings from the Global Affairs Canada conference on Southeast Asia, 2017.

Editor Reviewed:

- “Malaysia 2020: The Impasse of Two-Coalition Politics” – *ISEAS Perspective*, #25, 2020.
- “Power Distribution and Decentralisation in New Malaysia” – *ISEAS Perspective*, #66, 2019.
- “Malaysia’s Electoral Process: The Methods and Costs of Perpetuating UMNO Rule” – *ISEAS Trends*, no. 19, 2017.

- “Fieldwork and the Academic Job Market as a Southeast Asianist” – *APSA Comparative Democratization newsletter*, vol. 15, 2017.
- “Delayed Transition: The end of consensus leadership in Vietnam?” – *ISEAS Perspective*, #2, 2016 (with Paul Schuler).
- “Myanmar’s landmark elections: unresolved questions” – *ISEAS Perspectives*, #68, 2015 (with Paul Schuler).
- “Ebola, SARS, and the Economies of Southeast Asia” – *ISEAS Perspective*, #63, 2014.

Other Publications:

- “Singapore’s PAP has little to fear from Malaysia’s political transition” – *East Asia Forum*, 2018 (with Steven Oliver)
- “Ethnic diversity matters for decentralisation and development” – *East Asia Forum*, 2018 (with Yuhki Tajima and Krislert Samphantharak)
- “Centralisation not reconciliation under Najib Razak” – *East Asia Forum*, 2018
- “Legitimacy and Longevity in Singapore’s Reserved Presidency” – *East Asia Forum*, 2017 (with Isabel Chew).
- “China’s Ambitions Welcomed in Kuala Lumpur?” – *Asia Pacific Memo*, #388, 2016 (with Phuong Nguyen).
- “Has Chinese foreign policy in Southeast Asia entered a bolder and more assertive phase?” – *Asia Pacific Memo*, #342, 2015.
- “LNG in British Columbia, scandals in Malaysia, and the complexity of policy decisions” – *Asia Pacific Memo*, #340, 2015.
- “The many implications of cheap oil in Southeast Asia” – *Asia Pacific Foundation*, 2015.
- “Will the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) transform Southeast Asian economies in 2015?” – *Asia Pacific Memo*, #322, 2015 (with Krislert Samphantharak)
- “The Perilous Start and Uncertain Future of the Jokowi Era in Indonesia” – *Asia Pacific Memo*, #311, 2014.
- “The Year in Malaysian Politics: Democracy’s Crooked Trajectory” – *Asia Pacific Memo*, #310, 2014.
- “Malaysian elections, malapportionment, and redelineation” – *New Mandala*, 2013.

Policy Reports:

- “2019 Canada-ASEAN Business Outlook” Survey and report prepared in conjunction with the Canada-ASEAN Business Council, 2019.

- “The Canada Advantage”, contributed analysis with UBC’s MPPGA research team in conjunction with the Canada-ASEAN Business Council and the National University of Singapore, 2018.
- “The ASEAN Advantage: Exploring Canada’s Trade Potential”, contributed analysis with UBC’s MPPGA research team in conjunction with the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, the Business Council of Canada, and the Canada-ASEAN Business Council, 2017.
- “2016 Canada-ASEAN Business Outlook”, prepared for the Canada-ASEAN Business Council, the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, and the International Development Research Centre (with UBC’s MPPGA research team), 2016.

Book Reviews:

- *Secrets and Power in Myanmar: Intelligence and the Fall of General Khin Nyunt*, by Andrew Selth – in *Pacific Affairs*, 2020.
- *Singapore: Identity, Brand, Power*, by Kenneth Paul Tan – in *Pacific Affairs*, 2019.
- *Participation without Democracy: Containing Conflict in Southeast Asia*, by Garry Rodan – in *Pacific Affairs*, 2019.
- *Hard Choices: Challenging the Singapore Consensus*, by Donald Low and Sudhir Vadaketh (eds) – in *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 2016.
- *Political Change in Southeast Asia*, by Jacques Bertrand – in *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 2015.
- *Southeast Asia in the New International Era*, by Dayley, R. and Neher, C. – in *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 2014.

WORKING PAPERS

Preparing for Submission:

- “Malapportionment in Malaysia’s 2018 General Election” (with Steven Oliver)
- “Engineering Identity: How Singapore’s National Service shapes civic and ethnic identities”
- “A Tale of Two Islands: How policy shapes national identity and interethnic relationships in Singapore and Penang.”
- “Economic Integration and Economic Nationalism in the ASEAN Region: The Signaling and Reality of the ASEAN Economic Community” (with Tommy Koh)
- “Political Affiliation and Ethnic Classification in the Malay Identity” (with Isabel Chew)
- “Corridors, Contact, and Social Capital in Singapore’s Public Housing” (with Guillem Riambau)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate (MA) level:

- *Measurement and Data Analysis for Policy*, MPPGA, UBC, 2017, 2018, 2019
- *Research Design and Quantitative Methods*, Yangon University of Economics [Myanmar], 2017, 2018, 2019
- *Domestic and Global Policy Process*, MPPGA, UBC, 2016 (with Yves Tiberghien)
- *Quantitative Analysis for Policy*, MPPGA, UBC, 2015 (with Cesi Cruz)
- *Policy Making Process*, IAR, UBC, 2015
- *Perspectives and Methods of Asia Pacific Policy Studies*, IAR, UBC, 2014 (with Julian Dierkes)

- *Political Economy of Southeast Asia*, IRPS, UCSD, 2013 & 2014 (with Paul Schuler)
- *Economic Development of Southeast Asia*, IRPS, UCSD, 2012 & 2014 (with Krislert Samphantharak)

Undergraduate (BA) level:

- *Southeast Asian Government and Politics*, UBC, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019
- *Politics of Southeast Asia*, UCSD, 2012 (with Paul Schuler)
- *Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict*, UCSD, 2012
- *Politics of Multiculturalism*, UCSD, 2012

CONSULTING AND OTHER PROJECTS

- *Consultant and contributing author*, Malaysia's transition to a high-income country, World Bank, 2019-20.
- *Project Lead*, Building Capacity for Policy Research in Myanmar (2017-20): Capacity building project with the Yangon University of Economics in Myanmar (IDRC sponsored).
- *Project Lead*, Canada-ASEAN Business Outlook 2016: A study with the Canada-ASEAN Business Council (CABC) on market conditions facing the Canadian private sector in the ASEAN region (IDRC sponsored).
- *Contributor*, Canada-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement feasibility study, with the Business Council of Canada, the Canada-ASEAN Business Council, and the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada.
- *Contributor*, V-Dem project and Freedom House, country expert.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Affiliations

- American Political Science Association
- Association for Asian Studies
- Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies
- Western Political Science Association

Editorial Board

- *Pacific Affairs*

Board of Advisors

- Southeast Asia Research Group (SEAREG)

Referee Services

- | | |
|---|---|
| - <i>American Journal of Political Science</i> (AJPS) | - <i>International Association for Energy Economics</i> |
| - <i>American Political Science Review</i> (APSR) | - <i>International Journal of Intercultural Relations</i> |
| - <i>Asian Studies Review</i> | - <i>ISEAS Trends</i> |
| - <i>Comparative Politics</i> | - <i>Journal of East Asian Studies</i> |
| - <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> | - <i>Journal of Southeast Asian Economies</i> |
| - <i>Contemporary Southeast Asia</i> | - <i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> |
| - <i>Current Southeast Asian Affairs</i> | - <i>Pacific Affairs</i> |
| - <i>Democratization</i> | - <i>Politics and Religion</i> |
| - <i>East Asia</i> | - <i>Social Science Quarterly</i> |
| - <i>Electoral Studies</i> | - <i>Social Sciences</i> |
| - <i>European Journal of Development Research</i> | - <i>Taiwan Journal of Democracy</i> |

Invited Talks

- *Malaysia 2020: Impasse of ethnic and regional politics*, Penang Institute (Malaysia), 2020

- *Democratization and Political Islam in Malaysia*, German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA), Hamburg (Germany), 2019
- *Stalled transition and crisis in Myanmar? The complex politics of identity, conflict, and refugees*, Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), 2019
- *Stalled transition and crisis in Myanmar? The complex politics of identity, conflict, and refugees*, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, 2019
- *Four Arenas in Malaysian Politics*, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute (Singapore), 2019
- *Four Arenas in Malaysian Politics*, Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University (Singapore), 2019
- *Four Arenas in Malaysian Politics*, IKMAS, National University of Malaysia (UKM), 2019
- *Elections and Political Islam in Southeast*, UC San Diego, 2019
- *The theory and practice of decentralizing policy making*, Yangon University of Economics (Myanmar), 2018
- *Decentralization in Myanmar: Yangon Region Parliament (Myanmar)*, 2017
- *Decentralization in Myanmar: Shan State Parliament (Myanmar)*, 2017
- *Myanmar, Decentralization, and Capacity Shortages*, IDRC, Ottawa, 2017
- *Contentious politics in Southeast Asia and the role of China*, UC San Diego Osher Institute, 2017
- *Decentralization in Myanmar: Lessons from Southeast Asia*, IDRC Seminar, Yangon University of Economics (Myanmar), 2017
- *Elections and other developments in Southeast Asia*, Southeast Asia Link, UC San Diego, 2016
- *Minorities in a Muslim Majority State: Examining Indonesia's 2014 Presidential Election*, Yale-NUS (Singapore), 2016
- *Public Policy and Identity in Penang and Singapore*, Southeast Asia Lecture Series, McGill University, 2016
- *Ethnic Politics and Political Crisis in Malaysia*, University of Washington (Seattle), 2015
- *Limits of Economic Integration in ASEAN*, UC San Diego Osher Institute, 2015
- *A Tale of Two Islands: Public Policy and Identity in Penang and Singapore*, Cornell University, 2014
- *Indonesia's Tenuous March Ahead*, UC San Diego Osher Institute, 2014

Invited Conferences, Seminars, and Workshops

- *How is Myanmar Responding to Covid-19: Insights for Policy Makers*, IDRC Knowledge for Democracy Myanmar [online due to COVID], 2020
- *Malapportionment in Myanmar: Inclusivity and the 2020 Elections*, IDRC Myanmar Speaker Series [online due to COVID], 2020
- *Canada-ASEAN in Making Trade Work For All*, IDRC forum [online due to COVID], 2020
- *Electoral reform in Malaysia*, IKMAS, National University of Malaysia (UKM), 2020
- *Southeast Asia: Trends and Perspectives*, Centre for International Policy Studies, University of Ottawa, 2019
- *Myanmar's Democracy at a Crossroads*, Human Rights Research and Education Centre, University of Ottawa, 2019
- *Canada-ASEAN 2019 economic integration and business outlook*, Canada-ASEAN Business Council, Bangkok (Thailand), 2019
- *South China Sea*, US Army War College crisis negotiation simulation at University of Washington, 2019
- *Human rights and politics in Myanmar*, McGill University, 2019
- *Myanmar in transition*, International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, 2018
- *Ethno-Religious Nationalism and Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia*, University of Victoria, 2018
- *ASEAN, China, and the South China Sea*, Harvard Project on Asia and International Relations (HPAIR, Malaysia), 2018
- *Border security and decentralization in Myanmar*, keynote address: Payap University, Chiang Mai (Thailand), 2018
- *Canada-Thailand political relations*: co-sponsored by University of Victoria and UBC, with the Canada-ASEAN Business Council and Global Affairs Canada, Vancouver, 2018
- *NTBs and other obstacles to ASEAN-Canada trade*, National University of Singapore Business School, 2018

- *Connectivity and Borders in Southeast Asia*, University of Victoria, 2018
- *Canada and Southeast Asia*, University of Victoria, 2017
- *Voting behavior under doubts of ballot secrecy*, National Chengchi University (Taiwan), 2017
- *Democratization and Political Transitions in Southeast Asia*, Global Affairs Canada, Ottawa, 2017
- *China's expanding backyard: the demand side in Southeast Asia*, Freie Universität Berlin, 2017
- *Canadian private sector and economic integration in Southeast Asia*, Canada-ASEAN Business Council forum, Jakarta (Indonesia), 2016
- *Security in Southeast Asia*, University of Washington, 2016
- *Human Capacity Development in Myanmar: the identity component*, Payap University, Chiang Mai (Thailand), 2015
- *Domestic political obstacles to the TPP and RCEP in Southeast Asia*, Canada-ASEAN Business Council forum, Bangkok (Thailand), 2015.
- *Contentious Politics in SE Asia: political developments in Indonesia and Malaysia*, USMC 3rd Battalion 5th Marines, Pre-Deployment Briefing, 2014
- *Contentious Politics in SE Asia: the Philippines and Thailand at critical junctures*, USMC 3rd Battalion 5th Marines, Pre-Deployment Briefing. 2014

Panels

- *China's Belt and Road Initiative: The View from Southeast Asia*, UBC, 2019
- *The Rohingya Refugees in Limbo: Repatriation and Resettlement*, Canadian Association for the Study of International Development, 2019.
- *Education and exchange in Asia*, Asia Pacific Foundation (Youth Council), 2019
- *Diplomacy in Southeast Asia*, UBC, 2019
- *Thai elections during political instability*, UBC, 2019
- *Roundtable on Xinjiang: the Rohingya*, UBC, 2018
- *Fragile States*, Asia Pacific Foundation, 2018
- *ASEAN-Canada economic engagement*, CABC Singapore, 2018
- *Southeast Asia Ascendant? Implications for Canada*, UBC, 2018
- *The Rohingya Crisis in Myanmar*, UBC, 2018
- *Cultural Entrepreneurs in East and Southeast Asia*, UBC, 2016
- *Myanmar's elections: open questions*, UBC, 2015
- *Return to Normal? Singapore's 2015 General Election*, UBC, 2015
- *Discussion with Singapore's High Commissioner to Canada*, UBC, 2015
- *Singapore after Lee Kuan Yew*, UBC, 2015
- *The implications of cheap oil in Southeast Asia*, Asia Pacific Forum, UBC, 2015
- *Charlie Hebdo and Freedom of Speech in the Asia Pacific*, Asia Pacific Forum, UBC, 2015
- *Malaysia's road ahead: political and economic turmoil*, UBC, 2015
- *Is Ebola the New SARS?*, Asia Pacific Forum, UBC, 2014
- *Ethnic Diversity and Politics in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore*, Southeast Asia Link (SEAL), IRPS, UCSD, 2010

Guest Lectures

- *Development strategies in Southeast Asia*, UBC, 2019
- *Myanmar's Political Quagmire and the Rohingya Crisis*, UBC SPPGA, 2018
- *Myanmar's Political Quagmire and the Rohingya Crisis*, UBC Extended Learning, 2018
- *Development strategies in Southeast Asia*, UBC, 2018
- *Communicating Policy*, Myanmar Development Institute, Naypyidaw (Myanmar), 2017
- *Myanmar's Triple Transition*, UBC, 2016
- *School diversity and social networks*, Yale-NUS, Singapore, 2016
- *Perfect markets and the ASEAN Economic Community*, Yale-NUS, Singapore, 2016
- *The discipline - area studies debate*, Southeast Asia Program at University of Washington, Seattle, 2015

- *Multiple Regression*, IAR at UBC, 2015
- *National Service as a tool for integration*, Singapore Management University, Singapore, 2015
- *ASEAN's integration aspirations: a reality check*, Thammasat University, Thailand, 2015
- *Malaysia: Colonial Origins of Contemporary Politics*, UBC, 2015
- *Overseas Chinese in Southeast Asia*, UCSD, 2014
- *The Development of Modern Malaysia*, San Diego State University, 2013
- *Experimental Research Design*, National University of Singapore, 2012
- *Survey Methods*, National University of Singapore, 2012
- *Economic and Political Development of Southeast Asia*, UCSD, 2011
- *Politics of Multiculturalism in Germany and Switzerland*, UCSD, 2010

Conference Participation and Presentations

- **APSA** 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019; **AAS** 2013, 2014, 2017, 2019; **SEAREG** 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019; **SEAREG-East** 2017, 2018; **CCSEAS** 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019; **WPSA** 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
- *Malapportionment in Myanmar's Elections*, WPSA 2020 (covid-online)
- *Power and Democracy in Southeast Asia* [moderator], CCSEAS 2019, Montreal
- *Myanmar's Transition and the Role of Canada* [moderator], CCSEAS 2019, Montreal
- *Regionalism without Secessionism in Malaysia*, APSA 2019, Washington DC
- *Four Arenas: Malaysia's 2018 Election and Prospects for Reform*, WPSA 2019, San Diego
- *Four Arenas: Malaysia's 2018 Election and Prospects for Reform*, AAS 2019, Denver
- *Language politics in Malaysia*, APSA 2018, Boston
- *Blood, Beliefs, or Status: Microfoundations of integration in Singapore*, WPSA 2018, San Francisco
- *Decentralizing Myanmar*, CCSEAS 2017, York University
- *Blood or Beliefs: Microfoundations of Integration in Singapore*, APSA 2017, San Francisco
- *Electoral Malpractice in Malaysia*, APSA 2017, San Francisco
- *SEAREG Fellow Roundtable*, SEAREG 2017, UT Austin
- *Ballot Secrecy and Voting Behavior in Singapore*, WPSA 2017, Vancouver
- *Explaining Elections in Singapore: Party Credibility and Valence Voting*, WPSA 2017, Vancouver
- *Ballot Secrecy and Voting Behavior in Singapore*, AAS 2017, Toronto
- *A Tale of Two Islands: Ethnic Salience in Singapore and Penang*, AAS 2017, Toronto
- *Explaining Elections in Singapore: Party Credibility and Valence Voting*, APSA 2016, Philadelphia
- *Political Science fieldwork and the academic job market*, APSA 2016 mini-course, Philadelphia
- *Vernacular Education, Segregated Classrooms, and Ethnic Diversity: A comparison of SAP and non-SAP schools in Singapore*, CCSEAS 2015, Ottawa
- *Indonesia's 2014 Presidential Election: An Empirical Assessment*, APSA 2015, San Francisco
- *Vernacular Education, Segregated Classrooms, and Ethnic Diversity: A comparison of SAP and non-SAP schools in Singapore*, APSA 2015, San Francisco
- *Modes of Accommodating Diversity in Singapore and Penang*, APSA 2014, Washington DC
- *The Effects of Politicizing Ethnicity: the Malay Identity*, AAS 2014, Philadelphia
- *Public Policy and Nation Building: Singapore*, CCSEAS 2013, University of Montreal
- *Nation Building in Singapore through the National Service*, SEAREG 2013, Duke University

Selected Media Coverage

- The Diplomat: extended interview on challenges facing Malaysia's new government (Apr 2020)
- South China Morning Post: interview on Malaysia's political crisis (Mar 2020)
- The Guardian: on economic contagion from virus (Mar 2020)
- Bloomberg: coverage of Malaysian government's collapse (Feb 2020)
- Asia Pacific Foundation Election Focus 2019: interview on ASEAN (Oct 2019)

- World Politics Review: interview on politics in Singapore (Mar 2019)
- South China Morning Post: interviewed on Mahathir's trip to China (Aug 2018)
- Los Angeles Times: interviewed on Malaysian politics (May 2018)
- Because Freedom Matters (Malaysian current affairs radio station): interviewed on Malaysian politics (2018)
- Nikkei Asian Review: interviewed on Malaysian politics (Jan 2018)
- Malaysian Insight, Malaysiakini, Free Malaysia Today, Asia Times, and Today (Singapore): coverage of paper on electoral manipulations in Malaysia (Dec 2017)
- CGTN: interviewed on the ASEAN Summit, (Nov 2017)
- The Atlantic: interviewed on urban/rural divide in Malaysian and US politics (Jan 4, 2017)
- Today (Singapore daily newspaper): feature analysis on Myanmar's election (Dec. 18, 2015)
- Vancouver Sun: interviewed on Petronas and LNG production in British Columbia (Sept. 10-11, 2015)
- CTV News: interviewed on bombing in Bangkok, Thailand (Aug. 18, 2015)
- Myanmar National Television: interviewed on Myanmar's triple transition (Aug. 2015)
- Canada Broadcasting Corporation: interviewed on Malaysia's 1MDB scandal (July 2015)
- Globe and Mail: interviewed on political instability in Malaysia (June 2015)
- Globe and Mail: interviewed on death of Lee Kuan Yew (Mar. 2015)
- Globe and Mail: interviewed on persecution of Anwar Ibrahim (Feb. 2015)

LANGUAGES

English (bilingual)
 German (bilingual)

Malay/Indonesian (intermediate)
 French (intermediate)