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Demographics and Publication Productivity of Ivy League Political Science Professors: Harvard, Princeton, University of Pennsylvania and Yale

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From September 13, 2005 to October 2005 just for the sake of my own personal understanding and book learning, I conducted an in-depth study of Ivy League Political Science professors from Harvard, Princeton, Penn and Yale. I wanted to know their scholarly publication rates, especially since their institutions were the top four, according to the 2006 *U.S. News & World Report* college rankings. These four institutions also make up 50% of the eight Ivy League institutions in the United States.

I examined their institutions of graduation, method or style of writing, how they present ideas and support their claims in articles, and frequency of publications. I also wanted to introduce their work to my students majoring in the social sciences as a model for their term papers. The publication data were drawn from Curriculum Vitae (CV) posted by almost half of the professors on their department websites. A majority of them did not post their CVs. Of the 210 Political Science professors from all four institutions, CVs were available for only 104 (49.5%) of them.

For the total 210 professors, I utilized the following variables or categories to compile and compute data on them: Name, Sex/Gender, Year of JD/Ph.D. graduation, University graduated from and academic rank (example, Lecturer, Assistant Professor, etc.). For the 104 professors who posted their CVs, I utilized the following variables to compile and compute data on them: Number of books and monographs combined, number of scholarly articles, number of book chapters, number of combined book/article

reviews and other publications, number of full-length articles in the *American Political Science Review* (APSR), number of book reviews in APSR. Also, many professors might not have included all of their publications on their CVs. Nevertheless, the available data give us a better understanding of the demographics and scholarly production of these professors. I will only provide a summary of the demographics of these professors, but it will be useful to first provide a few numbers of their scholarly production.

I identified 43 (41.3%) professors among the 104 with CVs who have published at least 1 full-length article in the *American Political Science Review*. Twelve professors had published at least 4 full-length articles in APSR. Four professors have published at least 8 full-length articles in APSR.

It is worth noting that age plays a substantial role in the total number of publications by scholars, with associate and full professors having the most number of total publications. There were 17 (16.3%) professors with 100 or more total publications, with three having 200 or more.

Three professors had at least 100 scholarly or peer-reviewed articles. There were 8 professors with at least 60 book chapters. Let us now go over their demographics.

Of the 210 professors in my study, 68 (32.3%) were at Princeton, 60 (28.6%) were at Yale, 52 (24.8%) were at Harvard, and 30 (14.3%) were at Penn. Of the 210 professors, females comprised 49 (23.3%). I identified no more than 8 Black professors. Ivy League graduates comprised a substantial proportion of the Political Science professors at those four institutions. For example, data showing university of graduation for 198 (94.3%) of the 210 professors from all four institutions, with 90 (45.4%) being Ivy League graduates:(Harvard had 35 or 17.7% out of the total of 198 professors; Yale,

28 or 14.1%; Columbia, 9 or 4.5%; Cornell, 3 or 1.5%; and Penn, 1 or .5%). Of the non-Ivy League institutions sending their Political Science graduates to these four institutions, UC Berkeley, Stanford, Oxford University, University of Chicago, University of Michigan and MIT are very visible.

Of the 198 professors for whom data for university of graduation were available, 102 (51.5%) are from institutions in the Northeast and 39 (20%) are from the West, with over 90% of them from the state of California alone (UC Berkeley with 20 or 10.1% of total; Stanford with 13 or 6.6%; and Caltech with 3 or 1.5%). Europe is the only continent apart from North America, whose universities sent graduates to teach at these four institutions, 18 (9.1%), with the majority of them from the United Kingdom (Oxford University has 7 or 3.5% of total). These three regions comprised 80.1% of the 198 professors. There were 9 (4.5%) professors from institutions in the state of Michigan alone, all from the University of Michigan, and 12 (6%) came from the state of Illinois alone, with all but one (Northwestern University) from the University of Chicago. MIT had 6 (3%). The University of Rochester (in New York) sent just as many Political Science graduates to teach at these four institutions (4 or 2%) as the entire Southern United States 4 (2%).