

## MERIKE BLOFIELD CV (July, 2009)

### **PERSONAL**

Merike H. Blofield  
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science  
University of Miami  
Coral Gables, Florida  
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Permanent Resident of the United States

### **HIGHER EDUCATION**

Ph.D  
UNC-Chapel Hill, Political Science, August 2003  
Master of Arts  
York University, Political Science, January 1996  
Honors Bachelor of Arts  
York University, Political Science, June 1994

### **EXPERIENCE**

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science  
University of Miami, 2006-  
  
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science  
Grand Valley State University, 2003-2006

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Books**

Forthcoming  
*Feudal Enclaves and Political Reforms: Domestic Workers in Latin America*. Under contract with Pennsylvania State University Press.

2006 *The Politics of Moral Sin: Abortion and Divorce in Spain, Chile and Argentina*. New York: Routledge. 245 pages.

[Reviewed by Susan Franceschet in *Latin American Politics and Society*, 2009: 51,2; Candice D. Ortals in *South European Society & Politics*, 2007:12, 2, 257-259; and Margarita Palacios, *Journal of Latin American Studies*, 2007: 39, 892-894].

#### **Book under review**

*The Great Gap: The Politics of Inequality and Redistribution in Latin America*. Editor. Author of Introduction, Conclusion, co-author of a chapter on public opinion in Latin America, and co-author (one of three) of a chapter on gender, inequality and redistribution in Latin America.  
Under review at Pennsylvania State University Press.

## Refereed articles

- 2009 "Feudal Enclaves and Political Reforms: Domestic Workers in Latin America", *Latin American Research Review*, 44:1, pp.158-190.
- 2008 "Parental Leave and Childcare Policy and the Fertility Crisis in Familial Welfare States: A Comparison of Italy, Spain, and Japan". Co-authored with Priscilla Lambert. *US-Japan Women's Journal*, 34, pp.43-67.
- 2008 "Women's Choices in Comparative Perspective: Abortion Policies in Late-developing Catholic Countries", *Comparative Politics*, 41:4, pp.399-419.
- 2005 "Defining a Democracy: Reforming the Laws on Women's Rights in Chile, 1990-2002". Co-authored with Liesl Haas. *Latin American Politics and Society*, 47:3, pp.35-68.

## Book chapters and other publications

- 2009 "Social Development Challenges", *Social Development Task Force Policy Paper*, Center for Hemispheric Policy, University of Miami. 8 pages. (under revision, forthcoming).
- 2003 "Guerra Santa. La izquierda y la derecha frente a los temas valóricos en Chile democrático". In Mireya Dávila and Claudio A. Fuentes, *Promesas de cambio: La izquierda y la derecha en el Chile contemporáneo*. Santiago: Editorial Universitaria.
- 2001 *The Politics of 'Moral Sin': A Study of Abortion and Divorce in Catholic Chile since 1990*. Nueva Serie. Santiago: Flacso-Chile.
- 1995 With co-author Yasmine Shamsie. *Issues and Challenges Facing the Canadian and South American Systems of Higher Education: A Report on the Institute of University Management and Leadership (IGLU)*. Center for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean, York University.

## PROFESSIONAL

### Awards

- 2007 Best Conference Paper (2<sup>nd</sup> prize). *Feudal Enclaves and Political Reforms: Domestic Workers in Latin America*. Latin American Studies Association Gender Section.

### Fellowships (Principal Investigator)

- 2007-10 Project Director, Observatory on Inequality in Latin America, at the University of Miami, funded by the Ford Foundation, \$300,000 (see [www.observatoryla.org](http://www.observatoryla.org))
- 2007 General Research Support Award, University of Miami, \$4,720
- 2005 Summer Research Grant, (Italy and Spain), Grand Valley State University, \$5,000
- 2001 Dissertation Field Research Fellowship (Argentina), The Graduate School, UNC-Chapel Hill, \$7000

- 2000 Doctoral Field Research Grant (Spain, Chile and Argentina), Institute for the Study of World Politics, \$10,000
- 2000 Doctoral Field Research Grant (Chile), UNC-Duke Flacso-Chile Exchange Program Ford Foundation, \$7,000
- 1997-2000 Doctoral fellowship, The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, \$ 36,000 Cdn

**Invited speaker at conferences and workshops**

- 2009 Guest Speaker, “Public opinion on inequality in Latin America”, Instituto de Ensino e Pesquisa (INSPER), Sao Paolo, June 9.
- 2009 Panelist, “Social development challenges”, Development Challenges in the Hemisphere, Center for Hemispheric Policy, University of Miami, Feb.5-6.
- 2008 Guest Speaker, “Aborto y trabajo doméstico en América Latina”, Sexo, género y democracia, Conference at Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile, Nov.24.
- 2008 Guest Speaker, “Las trabajadoras domésticas en perspectiva comparada”, Workshop with academics, politicians and practitioners, held at Universidad de Costa Rica, San José, Costa Rica, October 6.
- 2008 Keynote speaker, “Las trabajadoras del hogar en Bolivia y América Latina”, Workshop with the Defensoría del Pueblo and the Domestic Workers’ Union, La Paz, Bolivia October 22.
- 2008 Discussant, Workshop on Poverty and Social Exclusion in Southern Europe and Latin America. Invited participant, March 29- 30, UNC-Chapel Hill.

**Conference presentations**

- 2009 Discussant, Explaining Sex Equality Policy panel; Chair, Symbolic and Substantive Representation of Women panel, American Political Science Association Conference, Sept. 3-6, Toronto.
- 2009 Presenter and Chair, Inequality and Politics panel, Latin American Studies Association, Rio de Janeiro, June 13. Discussant for two other panels.
- 2008 Presenter, The Social Bases of Polarization: Public Opinion on Redistribution in Latin America, with co-author Juan Pablo Luna, American Political Science Association Conference, Aug.30-Sept.2, Boston.
- 2008 Organizer and Presenter, Workshop on the Political Effects of Socio-economic Inequality in Latin America. May 14-16, Miami.
- 2007 Organizer and Presenter, Workshop on the Political Effects of Socio-economic Inequality in Latin America. November 2-3, Miami.

- 2007 Organizer of Roundtable on Domestic Workers in Latin America, Latin American Studies Association, Montreal, Sept.5-8.
- 2007 Presenter, Feudal Enclaves and Political Reforms: Domestic Workers' Rights in Latin America, American Political Science Association, Chicago, Aug.30-Sept.2.
- 2006 Presenter. Women's Choices in Comparative Perspective: Abortion Reform in Late-developing Catholic Countries, International Studies Association, San Diego, March 23-26.
- 2006 Presenter (with Jennifer Pribble and Priscilla Lambert), Policies on Working Mothers in the Southern Cone and Southern Europe. Latin American Studies Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico, March 14-18.
- 2005 Presenter (with Jennifer Pribble), Policies toward Lone Mothers in Southern Europe and the Southern Cone: Internal and External Constraints. American Political Science Association Conference, Washington DC, September 2
- 2005 Presenter (with Priscilla Lambert), Family Policies in Conservative Welfare States: A Study of Italy, Spain and Japan. Midwest political Science Association Conference, April 7-10, Chicago.
- 2004 Presenter, Abortion, Family-friendly Policies and Lone Motherhood in Southern Europe and the Southern Cone. American Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, September 1.
- 2004 Presenter, A Woman's "Right to Choose": Abortion and Lone Motherhood in Southern Europe and the Southern Cone. Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, April 2004.
- 2002 Poster session. The Impact of Inequality on Democratic Politics: Policy Reform on Abortion and Divorce in Catholic Countries. American Political Science Association Conference, Boston, August 29-Sept.1.
- 2000 Panel Chair on *Cleavages, Political Parties & Executive-Legislative Relations in South America*.  
Presenter (with Liesl Haas), Legislative Dynamics in Chile: Exploring Left Influence on Policy, 1990-1998, on the same panel. Latin American Studies Association, Miami, March 16-18.
- 1998 Presenter, The Politics of Abortion in Chile and Argentina. Latin American Studies Association, Chicago, September 24-26.
- 1996 Presenter, The Urban Popular Movements and the Significance of Gender: A Case Study of Chile During Democratization. Canadian Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Toronto, November 1-3.

## **TEACHING**

Courses taught: Latin American Politics, Contemporary Latin American Politics seminar, Gender and Politics in Comparative Perspective, Politics of Developing Countries, World Politics, Model Organization of American States, Political Development and Modernization

## **SERVICE (at the University of Miami)**

2009 Presentation on Inequality and Democratic Politics in Latin America, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, April 22

2009 Member of Political Science –International Studies merger revision committee

2007-present

Member of Executive Board of the Center for Latin American Studies

2008 Member of Ad Hoc Committee to plan the future of Latin American Studies at UM ,

2007 Member of search committee, Political Science

2007 Member of comparative politics textbook selection committee, Political Science

## **SERVICE (professional)**

2007-present

Editorial Board Member, *Latin American Politics and Society*

2009- Board Member, International Development Research Centre (Government of Canada) research project on abortion and politics in Latin America, \$ Cdn 500,000

2009- Reviewer for grant application(s) for the Norwegian Research Council and for Fulbright fellowships

Reviewer for *Comparative Politics, Politics and Gender, Social Politics, Latin American Politics and Society, Public Integrity, Comparative Political Studies, Revista de Ciencias Sociales*.

## **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Fluent            English, Spanish, Finnish  
Satisfactory    French, Swedish

## **MEDIA**

I have been interviewed or quoted by the following media or press on Latin America:

*Oppenheimer presenta* (United States, Latin America, Europe)

*Reuters*

*El Nuevo Herald* (the Spanish version of the *Miami Herald*)

*The Sun-Sentinel* (Florida)

*Der Spiegel* (Germany)  
*El Panamá América* (Panama)  
*La Tercera* (Chile)  
*El Mercurio* (Chile)  
*El Mostrador* (Chile)

**RELATED ACTIVITIES**

Feb-Aug 1996 Volunteer, Women's Program of *Servicio Paz y Justicia* (NGO). Santiago, Chile.