Patrick Rewa McSweeney

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Academic & Research Appointments

Georgetown University, Civic Education Research Lab *2025–Present*
Research Specialist
New York University, Washington, DC *2025–Present*
Part-Time Lecturer
Georgetown University *2023–2025*
Lecturer / Adjunct Lecturer
Mesquite ISD (TX) and Norman Public Schools (OK) *2015–2018*
Seventh-Grade Social Studies Teacher

Education

Georgetown University *2018–2024*
Ph.D. in Government (American Government), 2024
M.A. in Government, 2020
University of Oklahoma *2010–2015*
B.A. in Political Science, *summa cum laude*
B.A. in Journalism (Public Relations), with Distinction
Phi Beta Kappa

Teaching

New York University, Washington, DC
The American Presidency *Fall 2025, Fall 2026*
Private Influence in Public Policy *Spring 2026*

Georgetown University
Instructor of Record
Campaigns and Elections *Fall 2025*
Analysis of Political Data *Spring 2025*
Young People in American Politics *Fall 2023, Summer 2023, Summer 2022*
Introduction to the U.S. Political System *Summer 2023*

Teaching Assistant
U.S. Political Systems, Prof. Hans Noel *Fall 2019, Fall 2020*
U.S. Political Systems, Prof. Michele Swers *Spring 2020, Spring 2021*

K–12 Teaching
7th Grade Texas History, Wilkinson Middle School, Mesquite ISD *2016–2018*
7th Grade World Geography, Longfellow Middle School, Norman Public Schools *2015–2016*

Dissertation

The Kids' Table at the Party: Age Dynamics in the Democratic Party
Committee: Hans Noel (Chair), Jamil Scott, Jonathan Ladd
Defended November 20, 2024

Peer-Reviewed Publications

McSweeney, Patrick. "Institutions of Engagement: Exploring Political Participation in University Yearbooks." *Journal of Political Science Education* 21(4): 675–688 (2025).

Book Chapters

Anlar, Brit, and **Patrick McSweeney**. "Future Forward? Youth Substantive Representation in US State Legislatures." In *Youth Political Representation: A Global Perspective on Young Adults' Presence in Political Institutions*, pp. 189–218. Springer Nature Switzerland, 2026.

Owen, Diana, Donna Paoletti Phillips, **Patrick McSweeney**, Jamie Joseph, and Naomi Rader. "Cultivating Civic Competencies through Project-Based Learning." In *Teaching Civic Engagement in Challenging Times: Global Perspectives on Democratic Education for All*. Forthcoming.

Research and Evaluation Reports

Owen, Diana, and **Patrick McSweeney**. *James Madison Legacy Project Expansion: Final Report*. Civic Education Research Lab, Georgetown University, 2026.

Owen, Diana (Principal Investigator), Jonathan A. Hanna, **Patrick McSweeney**, Arjun Chawla, Jamie Joseph, Naomi Rader, and Charlotte K. Peña. *Educating for American Democracy K–5 Pilot Projects: Evaluation Report*. Civic Education Research Lab, Georgetown University, 2026.

Owen, Diana, Naomi Rader, Jamie Joseph, and **Patrick McSweeney**. *We the People Student Literacy Analysis*. Civic Education Research Lab, Georgetown University, 2025.

Working Papers

"From Scrolling to Engagement: Media Literacy and Youth Civic Development," with Diana Owen. Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting.

"TikToking to Voters? Policy Attention During the 2024 US Presidential Election," with Ben Burnley. Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting.

"Learning Democracy Where Students Live: Project Citizen as Place-Based Civic Education."

"The Youth Agenda: Activism, Priorities, and Democratic Party Politics in 2024." Presented at the APSA–JPSA Working Group, Tokyo.

Funded Research and Evaluation Projects

Research Specialist, Civic Education Research Lab, Georgetown University *2025–Present*
Principal Investigator for Research: Diana Owen. All projects funded by the U.S. Department of Education; amounts reflect total project awards. My involvement in these projects began in 2025.

- **James Madison Legacy Project Expansion** (2022–2026), $7.4M. Expanded *We the People* instruction for English learners and students with disabilities. Analyzed teacher data, coauthored the final evaluation report, and helped organize a national research symposium.
- **Project Community** (2023–2025), $2.6M. Integrated media literacy into Project Citizen. Observed teacher professional development, analyzed evaluation data, and presented research findings at APSA.
- **Literacy for We the People, East Region** (2025–2029), $8.4M. Integrated literacy instruction into *We the People*. Contributed to evaluation measures, observed professional development, conducted teacher focus groups, and coordinated analysis of student writing samples.
- **Integrated Civic SEL** (2025–2028), $6.2M. Integrated social-emotional learning competencies into Project Citizen. Contributed to evaluation measures and data analysis, conducted teacher focus groups, observed professional development, and disseminated findings.
- **Civics Empowers All Students** (2022–2025), $11.65M. Expanded *We the People* instruction in grades 4–8. Observed teacher professional development, conducted focus groups, analyzed quantitative data, and disseminated findings.

- **Documents of Democracy: Lessons in Liberty for *We the People*** (2025–2029), $4.4M. Evaluation team member; data analysis forthcoming.

Grants & Fellowships

Political Studies Association, Research and Innovation Fund (£1,000) *2022*
Department of Government, Collaborative Research Grant ($6,500) *2022*
Jill Hopper Memorial Fellowship *2022–2024*
Georgetown Global Irish Studies Fellowship *2022–2023*
SPSA, Prestage-Cook Travel Award ($300) *2023*
APSA and Georgetown conference travel grants *2023*

Invited Talks, Panels & Moderation

"Youth Representation in Office: What We Know and Why It Matters" *2026*
Panelist, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, event on youth representation and local political action.

Wyoming Civic Literacy Institute *2026*
Invited address on civic literacy, place-based civic education, and mentorship.

Georgetown University Lecture Fund *2026*
Moderator, event with Adam Mockler.

Georgetown Bipartisan Coalition Summit *2026*
Panelist, youth politics.

JPSA/APSA Working Group, Tokyo, Japan *2025*
Participant and presenter.

Project Community Institute, Wyoming/Kansas/Nebraska *2025*
Presentation and teacher professional learning on civic education and media literacy.

CERL and Citizens & Scholars Affective Polarization Symposium *2025*
Moderator.

Project Citizen Research Program Symposium *2024*
Panelist, "Connecting K–12 and Higher Education."

Conference Presentations

American Political Science Association *2023, 2025, 2026*
Midwest Political Science Association *2023, 2025*
Southern Political Science Association *2023, 2024*
Political Studies Association (UK) *2023*
APSA Teaching and Learning Conference *2023, 2025*

Service & Mentoring

Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Research Conference *2024, 2025*
Discussant; gave feedback on undergraduate students' arguments, evidence, and research designs.

Civic Education Research Lab, Georgetown University *2025–Present*
Mentor to graduate students on research methods and public-facing research writing, including the CERL Substack.

James Madison Legacy Project Expansion National Symposium *2026*
Helped organize a national symposium presenting evaluation findings to educators and policymakers.

Georgetown Political Science Predoctoral Summer Institute, Student Ambassador *2023*
Mentored undergraduate students exploring doctoral study in political science and participated in programming on graduate-school reading, writing, and the hidden curriculum.

One Campus, One Book, University of Oklahoma *2014*
Founded and directed a campus-wide reading program on Edward Luce's *Time to Start Thinking*. Raised funding from the Office of the President, the Honors College, and the College of Arts and Sciences; organized campus discussions; and produced a video interview series with faculty.

Provost Search Committee, University of Oklahoma *2014*
Student member of the committee that advised on the selection of the university's provost.

Union Programming Board, University of Oklahoma *2012–2013*
President. Led a 12-member executive committee and coordinated approximately 50 members and volunteers to organize campus-wide programming, including concerts, film screenings, arts and crafts events, and 5K races.

Media & Public Scholarship

Civic Education Research Lab Substack *2025–Present*
Regular public-facing writing on civic education research, teaching, youth engagement, media literacy, and place-based civic learning.

The Hill *2026*
Quoted, "Melat Kiros won over Gen Z. Other campaigns may want to follow her playbook."

ABC-7 WJLA *May 2024*
Interviewed, "Biden struggles to win over young voters in 2024, a shift from 2020."

MTV Uutiset (Finland) *May 2024*
Interviewed on young voters, President Biden, and the war in Gaza.

Research Methods & Technical Skills

Quantitative methods: survey research, experimental and quasi-experimental analysis, regression, repeated-measures analysis, scale construction and reliability analysis
Qualitative methods: interviews, focus groups, archival research, content analysis
Software: SPSS, R
Research communication: data visualization, research briefs, public scholarship, teacher-facing research translation