

**Renee G. Scherlen Department of
Government & Justice Studies
Appalachian State University
Boone, North Carolina 28608**

Position

Professor, Political
Science Tenured (1998)
Appalachian State
University July 1992-
present

Co-Director, MA in Political
Science July 2010-June 2015

Director, MA in Political
Science July 2016-June 2018

Education

Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin,
Department of Government
May 1992

Dissertation: "Elites, Political Stability
and Democratization in 20th Century
Mexico"

M.A., University of Texas at Austin,
Institute of Latin American Studies
May 1986

Thesis: "Fixed Factors in Mexican Foreign
Policy"

B.S.F.S., Georgetown, University,
School of Foreign Service
May 1984

Awards, Grants and Honors

Nominated, Outstanding Teacher of the Year, Appalachian State University, 1995
University Research Council Grant, Appalachian State University, 1995
Nominated, Outstanding Teacher of the Year, Appalachian State University, 1997
University Research Council Grant, Appalachian State University, 1997
Nominated, Outstanding Teacher of the Year, Appalachian State University, 1998
Nominated, Plemmons Award for Outstanding Service, Appalachian State University, 2004
Nominated, Outstanding Advisor Award, College of Arts & Sciences, 2006-2007 & 2011-2011, 2015-2016
Nominated Global Leadership Award, 2014
Nominated Jimmy Smith Outstanding Service Award, College of Arts & Sciences, 2016
Awarded Global Leadership Award, 2018
Nominated Board of Governors Teaching Award, 2024

Research Areas

Latin American Policies and Politics
Teaching and Learning
War on Drugs

Teaching Experience

Globalization (graduate & undergraduate)
International Organizations (formerly Global Conflict & Global Mediation: The UN)
International Relations and Foreign Policy
Introduction to Comparative Politics
Latin American Politics (graduate & undergraduate)
Pro-Seminar in Comparative Politics (graduate seminar)
Scope & Methods in Political Science (graduate seminar)
U.S. Foreign Policy/America & the World (graduate & undergraduate)
War on Drugs (cross-listed with Criminal Justice)

Short-Term Study Abroad/Away Experience with Students

Costa Rica (2010)
Cuba (2002, 2003, 2004, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018)
Mexico (2012)

Washington D.C. (“Washington at Work: Women, Power & Politics”, 2019)

United Kingdom (“Human Trafficking: US and UK”, 2024)

Short-Term Abroad Experience with Faculty/Administrators

Cuba (2009, 2010, 2011, 2015)

Mexico (2013)

United Kingdom (2016)

Service (University, College, Department)

- Global Engagement Council, co-chair (University), 2016-2021
- QEP Council (University), 2013-2018
- Liberal Studies Committee – General Education (University), 2013-2015
- Historical Studies Committee – General Education (University), 2013-2015
- QEP Leadership Team, Faculty Leader (University) – 2012-2014
- Co-Chair, ACE Internationalization Laboratory Leadership Team (University) – 2006/2007
- Co-Chair, Executive Committee, International Education Council (University)
- Chair, Political Science Curriculum Committee (Departmental) - 1999-2010; 2014- 2020
- Full Member, Graduate Faculty, Appalachian State University (University)
- Member, Global Studies Curriculum Committee (University)
- Member, Global Studies Faculty (University)
- Member, Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies Faculty (University)

Other Service

- Editorial Board Member, The Latin Americanist, 2020-present
- President, SPSA Women’s Caucus, Southern Political Science Association, 2018-2019
- Officer, SPSA Women’s Caucus, Southern Political Science Association, 2016-2018
- Faculty Advisor, International Relations Association (1997-2009;2016-current)
- Expert witness, (Extradition from Mexico -Arizona District Court, U.S. v. Felipe Corona- Verbera; asylum request, Charlotte Immigration Court, US v Tony Rafael Munoz Pineda)

Publications

“Strategies to Maximize Short-Term Study Abroad Engagement and Learning for Criminal Justice Students.” Renee G. Scherlen. Journal of Criminal Justice Education. Forthcoming.

“Exaggerated Panic or Valid Concerns? Youth Drug Use After Marijuana Legalization” Renee G. Scherlen and José Antonio Cisneros Tirado, in Stoneover, Nikolay Anguelov and Jeff Moyer, eds., Lexington Books, 2022.

"Addressing the Elephant in the Room: The Rise of President Mike Pence?", con el título en español: ¿Qué hacer con el elefante en la habitación? ¿El ascenso del presidente Mike Pence? José Antonio Cisneros Tirado, Renee Scherlen, and Melva Guadalupe Navarro Sequeira. Foro Internacional Vol. LVIII, 3 (233) julio - septiembre, 2018

“El futuro de la administración Trump: dos escenarios en prospectiva.” José Antonio Cisneros Tirado, Melva Guadalupe Navarro Sequeira, and Renee Scherlen. TLA- MELAUA, año 12, número 44, abril- septiembre 2018.

Lies, Damned Lies, and Drug War Statistics, 2nd Edition. Matt Robinson and Renee Scherlen. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2014.

“The Never-Ending Drug War: Obstacles to Drug War Policy Termination” PS: Political Science & Politics, January 2012 (45:1)

“The Fog of War? A Long-Term Assessment of Mexican Counter-Narcotics Policy” The Latin Americanist, Volume 56, Number 2 (June 2012)

"¡Venceremos!" Castro's Discourse on Cuban Foreign Policy," in Foreign Policy Toward Cuba: Isolation or Engagement? Heather Nicol and Michele Zebich-Knos, eds., Lexington Books (2005)

“When the Personal is Political” NWSA, Volume 13, No. 3, Fall 2001, pg. 232-237.

"Lessons to Build on: The 1994 Mexican Presidential Election." Journal of Interamerican Studies and World Affairs. Spring 98, Vol. 40 Issue 1, pg. 19-37

"The Post-Cold War International Political Economy: The Politics of Free Trade and NAFTA" in *After The End: Making U.S. Foreign Policy in the Post-Cold War Environment*. James M. Scott, ed. Duke University Press (1998)

"The Deafening Silence: Chilean Accession to NAFTA," in *NAFTA on Second Thoughts: A Plural Evaluation*. David Davila, ed. University Press of America (1998)

"The NAFTA(ization) of Sexual Harassment: The Experience of Canada, Mexico, and the United States," co-authored with Ruth Ann Strickland, *NAFTA: Law and Business of the Americas*, Spring 1997, Vol. 3, No. 2, pgs. 96-115.

"The Accession of Chile: The First Step from NAFTA to FTAA?" in *The First Year of NAFTA: A View From Mexico*. David Davila, ed. University Press of America, 1996.

"The Mexican Legal System" in *Comparative Criminal Justice*, Charles Fields and Ritcher Moore, eds. Waveland Press, 1996, pgs. 307-320.

Conference Papers

"Femicide Legislation in Latin America and the Caribbean: The Limits of Policy Diffusion," presented at the Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Political Science Association Meeting, Raleigh, North Carolina, February 21-22, 2025.

"Ni Una Más, Ni Una Menos: Exploring the Spread of Femicide Legislation in Latin America and the Caribbean" presented at the 96th Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico, January 8, 2016-January 11, 2025.

"Dazed and Confused: The Tangled Web of US Drug Policy at Home and Abroad," presented at the 95th Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, January 10-13, 2024.

"DACA & Dreamers: Media Framing & Lived Experiences," co-authored with Jose Antonio Cisneros and Melva G. Navarro-Sequeira, presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 5-7, 2018.

"Just Saying No: Latin American Presidents & Their Opposition to the US

War on Drugs,” co-authored with Jose Antonio Cisneros, presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, January 4-6, 2018.

“No Mas! Explaining Latin American Challenges to the War on Drugs,” co-authored with Jose Antonio Cisneros and Carolina Izaguirre, presented at the SECOLAS Annual Conference, March 23-25, 2017.

“US Drug Policy Today: Peace at Home, War Abroad?” presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, Jan 12-14, 2017

“The Tweeter Revolution: Will Girls Be Allowed?” presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, September 1-4, 2016

“Seeing Cuba through Northern Eyes: A Comparison of US and Canadian Coverage of Cuba, 1985-2015” presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, Jan 7-10, 2016.

“¡No Más! Latin American Challenges to the War on Drugs” presented at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, Jan 15-17, 2015

“The Tweeter Revolution: Will Girls Be Allowed?” presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 3-6, 2014

“US Popular Media and Perceptions of Americans in the Middle East: Or, What Picture of Americans Does Watching “Oprah” Create?” co-authored with Summer Forester, presented at the International Studies Association South Conference, Elon, North Carolina, October 14-15, 2011.

“What Will Be the Next Narco State?” presented at the Southern Political Science Conference, New Orleans, LA Jan 8-10, 2011.

“The Never-ending War on Drugs: Explaining the Persistence of This Failed Policy” presented at the Southern Political Science Association Conference, New Orleans, LA Jan 7-9, 2010.

“The Colombianization of Mexico? The Evolving Mexican Drug War” presented

at the Southern Political Science Association Conference, New Orleans, LA, Jan 7-10, 2009

“Bright Beginnings, Failed Finales: The Sexenio Pattern of Mexican Drug Enforcement” presented at the Southern Political Science Association Conference, New Orleans, LA, Jan 10-13, 2008

“Rational Choice or Capricious Whim? Decision-making in Cuba” Presented at the Southern Political Science Association Conference, New Orleans, LA, Jan 4-6, 2007.

“There is No Model: Understanding Decision-Making in Cuba” presented at the Latin American Studies Annual Conference, San Juan Puerto Rico, March 15-18, 2006.

“Still Rogues After All These Years: US Relations with Cuba and Syria,” co-authored with Curtis Ryan, presented at the Latin American Studies Annual Conference, San Juan Puerto Rico, March 15-18, 2006.

“The Song Remains the Same: Cuban and Cuban-American Reactions to the ‘New’ US Government Regulations,” co-authored with G. Nelson Bass, presented at the Southwestern International Studies Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, La, March 23-26, 2005.

“Pariah States and Double-Standards: Cuba and Syria,” co-authored with Curtis Ryan, presented at the Southwestern International Studies Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, La, March 23-26, 2005.

“The Old Man and the Market,” co-authored with Cortland Bosc, presented at the Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV, October 6-October 9, 2004.

“Socialismo o muerte!” Castro’s Rhetoric on Cuba’s Economic Challenges” presented at the Southwestern International Studies Association Annual Conference, Corpus Christi, TX, March 17-March 20, 2004.

“Lies, Damn Lies, and Drug War Statistics,” presented at the Southern Criminal Justice Association Annual Conference, Nashville, TN, September 25-September 27, 2003.

“Globalization, Cuban-Style?” presented at the Latin American Studies

Association Annual Conference, Dallas, TX, March 26-March 29, 2003.

"The War on Drugs and Mexican Democracy" presented at the North Carolina Political Science Association Annual Conference, March 20 - March 23, 2002.

"Doomed Democracy? Globalization, The War on Drugs, and Mexican Democracy," presented at the Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., Sept. 6-8, 2001.

"Party Primaries and Democratization in Mexico," presented at the 1st Annual William W. Brown Conference in Latin American Studies, Institute of Latin American Studies, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, January 17, 2000 (by invitation)

"Women and Politics in North America: A Comparison of Reproductive Rights in Canada, Mexico, and the United States," presented at the Southwestern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas March 31 - April 3, 1999.

"Pushed Into Politics? Structural Adjustment and Its Impact on Women's Political Participation in Mexico," presented at the Latin American Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, September 24-26, 1998.

"The Politics of Helms-Burton: Explaining Cold War Policy Responses in the Post-Cold War Era," presented at the International Studies Association Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 17th-March 21st, 1998.

"The Diffusion of Labor Practices under NAFTA: The Case of Sexual Harassment," co-authored with Dr. Ruth Ann Strickland, presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., August 27th-August 30th, 1997 "Do Transitions Really Matter? The Cases of Argentina and Chile," co-authored with Erica McArthur, presented at the Southwestern International Studies Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, March 26-28, 1997.

"The NAFTA(ization) of Sexual Harassment: The Experiences of Canada, Mexico and the United States," co-authored with Ruth Ann Strickland, presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, August 28- September 2, 1996.

"NAFTA and Foreign Policy Coordination, Cooperation, and Conflict: The Accession of Chile" presented at Southwestern Political Science Association

Annual Conference, March 23-25, 1996, Houston, Texas.

"The Negotiations for Chilean Accession: Learning From the NAFTA Process" presented at the Forum of the Americas, The Balance Sheet of the Second Year of NAFTA, Puebla, Mexico, February 25-29, 1996.

"The More Things Change, the More They Stay the Same: The 1994 Mexican Presidential Elections and the Debate Over Mexican Democratization," presented at the Southwestern Political Science Association Conference, March 22-24, 1995.

"The Accession of Chile: The First Step From NAFTA to FTAA?" presented at the Forum of the Americas, The Balance Sheet of the First Year of NAFTA, Puebla, Mexico, February 22-24, 1995.

"State-Level Politics in Mexico: The Case of Puebla," presented at the Southwestern Political Science Association Conference, March 30-April 2, 1994.

"Recent Trends in Mexican Elections," presented at the North Carolina Political Science Association Conference, April 2, 1993.

"Mexican Democratization, NAFTA, and the Case of Spain," presented at the Southwestern Political Science Association Conference, March, 1993.

"Elites, Political Stability, and Democratization in 20th Century Mexico," doctoral dissertation, University of Texas at Austin, May 1992.

"Elections Under Salinas: Continuity and Change," presented at the Southwestern Political Science Association Conference, March 1992.

"Business, Labor, and Democratization in Mexico," presented at the Southwestern Political Science Association Conference, March 1991.

"Consensual Unity and Political Stability: The Formation of the PNR," presented at the Southwestern Political Science Association Conference, March 1990.

"Uruguay: Politics Without An Elite Settlement," presented at the Institute of Latin American Studies Student Conference, March 1988.