

Alexandra Samuel

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Education

Ph.D. (Political Science), Harvard University, November 2004.

- Dissertation topic: Hacktivism and the Future of Political Participation.
- DAAD graduate student scholarship for study/research in Germany, winter 2003.
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow, 1996-1999.
- Research Affiliate, Center for European Studies, 1997-1998.
- Max Weber Fellow, Center for European Studies, 1995/96-1996/97.

A.M. (Political Science), Harvard University, 1998.

Bachelor of Arts (High Honors in Politics), Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, May 1992.

- Majors: Politics and Women's Studies. Minor: History.
- Winner of the John Lewis Memorial Prize for the best student in political theory.

Experience

Director of Research and Communications, Cairns Project, September 2004-present.

- Developing initial case studies for a database of best practices in online collaboration and participation.
- Providing strategic advice on the taxonomy of cases, interface design and database functionality.
- Creating communications strategy and materials for the launch of the project and recruitment of case study contributors.

Technology strategist, 1998 - present.

- Facilitated the OECD's first meeting for high-level e-government leaders.
- Created groundbreaking online advocacy campaign at <http://www.dearralph.com>.
- Advised business, government, and NGO clients on e-business strategy.
- Created workshop methodology for developing e-business strategy.
- Designed small business and academic web sites.

Contributor, CBC radio and television, 1999-2003.

- Wrote and produced stories on technology issues for national syndication.
- Offered guest commentary on a variety of political and technology stories for programs including *TodRadio*, *This Morning*, and *Counterspin*.

Columnist, The Vancouver Sun, October 2001 – December 2002.

- Wrote weekly business section column on economic issues, with special focus on topics related to new technology or political economy.
- Authored periodic op-ed columns on topics related to electronic politics, including electronic voting, the digital divide, and music piracy.

Sessional Lecturer, "The Internet and Politics," Department of Political Science, University of British Columbia, Spring 2002.

- Designed and taught a third-year course for fifty students; achieved an instructor rating of 4.2 out of 5.
- Designed an extensive course web site at <http://www.alexandrasamuel.com/netpolitics>.

Research Director, Governance in the Digital Economy, Digital 4Sight, 1998 – 2001.

- Initiated a US \$2 million international research program to address the impact of information technology on the business of government and the nature of government itself.
- Worked with senior e-government strategy leaders in more than twenty government clients worldwide.
- Adapted e-business models to the context and needs of electronic government.
- Developed research agenda and recruited research team from scholarly community, Digital 4Sight staff and external experts.
- Researched and wrote the program prospectus, background, strategic framework and summary report plus topical papers on "Citizen Engagement" and "Serving e-Citizens".
- Steered and edited additional case studies and white papers from staff and academic experts.
- Collaborated with the Harvard Information Infrastructure Project to organize a joint meeting with faculty from the John F. Kennedy School of Government.
- Planned conference agendas and presented key findings at client conferences in Boston, Switzerland, and Washington, DC.
- Developed and delivered research workshops that guided clients through the implementation of research findings.

Research Assistant, Department of Government, Harvard University, 1995-98.

- Wrote research paper on the implications of the Internet for social capital as background paper for Prof. Robert Putnam's *Bowling Alone* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2000).
- Researched and wrote paper on human rights regimes for Prof. Andrew Moravcsik.
- Researched French-language coverage of French economic performance and macroeconomic policy, for Prof. Peter Hall.

Teaching Fellow, Harvard University Department of Government, 1997-98.

- Led discussion sections for a total of forty students for "Politics of the European Union."
- Advised undergraduate thesis on "Political Campaigns and the Internet."

Special Assistant to the Premier of Ontario, April 1993 - June 1995.

- Acted as primary political support for Premier during public events and meetings with international corporate, government and NGO leaders, liaising with policy staff to provide real-time advice on emerging issues.
- Managed follow-up on Premier's activities, briefing Premier's Office and Ministers' staff on stakeholder responses and meeting outcomes.
- Gathered background information on events and communities, and channeled information and briefing materials to Premier before and during events.
- Provided timely and politically appropriate responses to inquiries from business and community groups, political offices and the public by working with ministries.
- Drafted the Premier's politically sensitive correspondence.

Research Assistant, *The Digital Economy* by Don Tapscott (McGraw-Hill, 1995), April-May 1995.

- Researched multimedia economic trends and gathered industry statistical data.
- Designed and produced statistical appendices and charts.

Executive Assistant to the Parliamentary Assistant, Ministry of Housing, June 1992 - April 1993.

- Analyzed and managed select housing policy areas for the Minister's office, including the government's response to a high-profile report on long-term care facilities.
- Coordinated passage of Bill 112 (An Act to Amend the Building Code Act); devised successful strategy for passage of potentially controversial new clause of Act.
- Briefed and advised P.A. on local and provincial issues.

Additional Publications and Presentations

"Hactivism and the Future of Democratic Discourse," in *Democracy Online: The Prospects for Democratic Renewal Through the Internet*, ed. Peter Shane, Routledge, 2004.

"Hactivism and the Rise of Transnational Politics" presented at the American Political Science Association annual meetings, August 2003.

"Digital Travail on the Way to a Dissertation," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, January 17, 2003.

"Reacting to 9/11: Electronic Consultations and Citizen Dialogue" (with Chip Hauss), presented at American Political Science Association annual meetings, September 2002.

"Using the Internet for Citizen Engagement", presentation at *New Terms of Engagement for Global Leaders* conference, Simon Fraser University, 2002.

"Technology and Teaching: Reacting to 9/11" (with Chip Hauss and Jed Miler), in *PS: Political Science and Politics*, March 2002.

"Decoding Hactivism: Purpose, Method and Identity in a New Social Movement", presented at Innovations for an e-Society Congress, Germany, October 2001.

- Winner, best paper award.
- Published in volume of selected conference proceedings (*Innovations for an e-Society*, eds. Banse et al., edition sigma, 2002).

"Digital Disobedience: Hactivism in Political Context", presented at the American Political Science Association annual meetings, September 2001.

"German Shepherds", *Business 2.0*, May 1999.

"A Global Guide to Y2K" (Canada and Germany profiles), *Business 2.0*, January 1999.

"Cookies are not so sweet" (on privacy online), *Dollars & Sense Magazine*, January 1999.

"Intercontinental Coding" presented at *Ethicomp '98*, Netherlands.

Additional Activities

Program chair, Information Technology and Politics, American Political Science Association annual meeting, 2005.

Co-founder and moderator, DO-Consult (e-mail list for researchers and practitioners in the field of online consultation), January 2002 - present.

Council member, Information Technology and Politics section, American Political Science Association, 2002-present.

Board member, Vancouver Community Network, 2000 – 2003.

- Vice-President, November 2001 - 2003.

Additional Skills

Languages:

- French (strong reading and conversational)
- German (reading and conversational)
- Spanish (comprehension)

Technology skills:

- Web, multimedia, and graphic design using Dreamweaver, Flash, Director, and Photoshop.
- Sound and video editing using Peak and Strata Videoshop.
- Academic database management and training using Filemaker Pro and Endnote.
- Cross-platform system training, maintenance, and troubleshooting.

Citizenship: U.S. & Canada