

CURRICULUM VITAE

LEE MORGENBESSER

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Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Research Fellow (2018-2020)

RESEARCH EXPERTISE

Authoritarian Politics, Democratization, Dictators, Election Observation, Southeast Asian Politics

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2019- Senior Lecturer, School of Government and International Relations, Griffith University
2014-2018 Research Fellow, Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS

2020 School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University (postponed by COVID-19)
2012 Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore

VISITING SCHOLAR

2019 Department of Government, The University of Texas at Austin, United States
Centre for Southeast Asia Research, University of British Columbia, Canada
2018 Department of Political Science, University of Oslo, Norway
V-Dem Institute, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Germany
2016 WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Germany


EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS


2014 Doctor of Philosophy

2008 Bachelor of Politics and Government with Class I Honours
2007 Bachelor of International Relations

PUBLICATIONS


Books


 *The Rise of Sophisticated Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2020)


 *Behind the Façade: Elections under Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia* (Albany: SUNY Press, 2016).


Journal Articles

 “The Menu of Autocratic Innovation,” *Democratization* (2020)


 “The APSA Journal Rankings: Popularity, Purpose and Performance,” *Australian Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 54, No. 3 (2019): 318-333 (with Duncan McDonnell).


 “Cambodia’s Transition to Hegemonic Authoritarianism,” *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 30, No. 1 (2019): 158-171.


 “Elections as Causes of Democratization: Southeast Asia in Comparative Perspective,” *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol. 52, No. 1 (2019): 3-35 (with Thomas Pepinsky).


 “Survive and Thrive: Field Research in Authoritarian Southeast Asia,” *Asian Studies Review*, Vol. 42, No. 3 (2018): 385-403 (with Meredith Weiss).


 “Misclassification on the Mekong: The Origins of Hun Sen’s Personalist Dictatorship,” *Democratization*, Vol. 25, No. 2 (2018): 192-208.


 “Out of the Shadows: Authoritarian Regimes, Flawed Elections and International Legitimation,” *Contemporary Politics*, Vol. 23, No. 3 (2017): 328-347 (with Maria Debre).


 “The Autocratic Mandate: Elections, Legitimacy and Regime Stability in Singapore,” *The Pacific Review*, Vol. 30, No. 2 (2017): 205-231.

 “The Failure of Democratisation by Elections in Cambodia,” *Contemporary Politics*, Vol. 23, No. 2 (2017): 135-155.


 “In Search of Stability: Electoral Legitimation under Authoritarianism in Myanmar,” *European Journal of East Asian Studies*, Vol. 14, No. 2 (2015): 163-188.

 “Elections in Hybrid Regimes: Conceptual Stretching Revived,” *Political Studies*, Vol. 62, No. 1 (2014): 21-36.

 “Bridging the Information Gap: A Survey of Politics and International Relations PhD Students in Australia,” *Australian Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 48, No. 4 (2013): 507-518 (with Glenn Kefford).

 “The 2012 TRIP Survey of International Relations in Australia: One Problem to Rule Us All,” *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, Vol. 62, No. 2 (2013): 222-237.

Book Chapters

 “Out of the Shadows: Authoritarian Regimes, Flawed Elections and International Legitimation.” In A. Dukalskis and J. Gerschewski (eds), *Justifying Dictatorship: Studies in Autocratic Legitimation*. New York: Routledge, 2018, 78-97 (with Maria Debre).

In Progress

“Personalist Dictatorships and Measurement Validity” *Under Review*

“Election Turnout in Authoritarian Regimes” (with Ferran Martinez i Coma) *Under Review*

Everyday Repression in Southeast Asia

“Parliaments under Fire in Autocratic Southeast Asia” (with Ben Noble)

“Autocratic Assassins” (with Sheena Greitens)

"Benevolent Dictatorships" (with Carl Henrik Knutsen and Håvard Mogleiv Nygård)

INVITED TALKS

2019 United States Agency for International Development, United States
The BiiG Network: Innovation Month, Australia

2018 Department of Political Science, University of Oslo, Norway

V-Dem Institute, University of Gothenburg, Sweden

Germany Institute of Global and Area Studies, Germany

American Enterprise Institute, United States

United States Department of State, United States

Heritage Foundation, United States

United States Agency for International Development, United States

Sydney Southeast Asia Centre, University of Sydney, Australia

Asia Research Centre, Murdoch University, Australia

ASEAN-Australia Dialogue, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Australia

Australian National University/TIFA Foundation, Australia

Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong


2017 United States Department of State, United States

2016 National Endowment for Democracy, United States
WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Germany
Department of Government and International Relations, University of Sydney, Australia


CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association	2017, 2019, 2020 (cancelled due to COVID-19)
Asian Studies Association of Australia	2018
Australian Political Studies Association	2011, 2012, 2013, 2017
European Consortium for Political Research	2015, 2016
International Studies Association	2011, 2012


COMMENTARY (WRITTEN)

 "Facing Up to Sophisticated Authoritarianism," *The Ambassador's Brief*, 2 May 2020.

 "Autocrats are Finding Democratic Facades Hard to Keep Up," *Foreign Policy*, 1 May 2020.

 "The Rise of Sophisticated Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia," *Machinery of Government*, 23 October 2019.


 "Fake Monitors Endorse Cambodia's Sham Election," *Foreign Policy*, 30 July 2018.

 "Casting a Shadow of Doubt on International Election Monitoring Norms," *National Endowment for Democracy*, 29 November 2017.


 "A Midnight Crackdown in Cambodia," *Freedom House*, 14 September 2017.

 "Cambodia's Leader Just Cracked Down on the Opposition, and the Consequences will be Dramatic," *The Monkey Cage*, 24 February 2017.

 "Lifting Myanmar's Sanctions: Right or Wrong?" *Myanmar Times*, 26 September 2016.

 "Elections without Democracy in Southeast Asia," *New Mandala*, 5 August 2016 (with Tom Pepinsky).

 "Burma Votes on Sunday. Why do Authoritarian Regimes Even Hold Elections?" *The Monkey Cage*, 7 November 2015.

 "The Theatre of Autocratic Elections: Why Myanmar is Going to the Polls," *The Conversation*, 5 November 2015.

TEACHING

Convening

2017- The Way of the Dictator
2014-2015 Global Security

Tutoring

2008-2013 American Foreign Policy, American Politics, Comparative European Politics, Human Rights in World Politics, International Relations, International Relations Theory, Media and Politics.

SERVICE

Appointments

2019- Professional Development Coordinator, School of Government and International Relations
2018- Member, Griffith Business School Research Strategy and Impact Committee
2016-2017 Early Career Representative, Griffith University Board of Graduate Research
2014-2016 Chair of Seminar Series, Centre for Governance and Public Policy
2012-2014 Postgraduate Member, APSA Standing Committee on International Relations
2012 Postgraduate Member, Griffith Business School Learning & Teaching Committee

Commentary (Selected)

2015- ABC News, Agency France-Press, Al Jazeera, Asahi Shimbun, Asia Times, Asian Correspondent, Australian Financial Review, BBC News, Bloomberg, Channel NewsAsia, Deutsche Presse-Agentur, Los Angeles Review of Books, Los Angeles Times, Myanmar Times, Newsweek, Nikkei Asian Review, Rappler, Reuters, Sky News, South China Morning Post, Straits Times, Taipei Times, The 7:30 Report, The Age, The Australian, The Economist, The Diplomat, The Guardian, The Jakarta Post, The Japan Times, The New York Times, The Seattle Times, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Washington Post, ThinkProgress, Time Magazine.

Consultancy

2019 Facebook
 United States Agency for International Development
2017- Bertelsmann Transformations Index, Bertelsmann Foundation
2016 Leadership-Security Ties Project, Pennsylvania State University
2015 Electoral Integrity Project, Harvard University/University of Sydney

Editorial Boards

2017- Contemporary Politics

Initiatives

2017- Cambodia Country Representative, Association of Mainland Southeast Asia Studies
2017 Co-Founder, Authoritarian Warning Survey

Mentoring

2019 Bridging the Academic-Policy Divide, Southeast Asia Research Group
2018 Publishing Southeast Asian Research, American Political Science Association
Early Career Researcher Day, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre
Postgraduate Day, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre
2013 Advanced Methods in Political Science, Australian Political Studies Association

Peer Reviews

2014- American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Asian Studies Review, Australian Journal of International Affairs, Australian Journal of Political Science, Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Contemporary Politics, Democratization, Electoral Studies, Government and Opposition, International Political Science Review, Journal of Contemporary Asia, Journal of Peace Research, Pacific Affairs, Peacebuilding, Policy Studies, Political Behavior, Political Studies, Political Studies Review, Politics, Politikon, PS: Political Science & Politics, South East Asia Research.

Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge

Australian Research Council

AWARDS, GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2019 Griffith University Vice Chancellor's Research Excellence Award (ECR Category), \$5,000
2018 Griffith Business School Research Excellence Award (ECR Category), \$5,000
Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Research Award, \$331,248
2017 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting Travel Grant, \$250
University of Sydney Southeast Asia Centre Travel Grant, \$750
2015 Griffith Business School New Researcher Grant, \$9,462
2013 Asian Politics, Security and Development Conference Grant, \$2,500
School of Government and International Relations Travel Grant, \$1,000
2012 Prime Minister's Australia Asia Outgoing Postgraduate Award, \$63,000
Centre for Governance and Public Policy Travel Allowance, \$6,500
Griffith Business School HDR Conference Travel Grant, \$3,000
International Studies Association Travel Grant, \$450
2011 Australian Political Studies Association Postgraduate Travel Award, \$400
2010 Griffith University Postgraduate Research Scholarship, \$24,653 p.a.
Asian Politics, Security and Development Research Scholarship, \$5,000 p.a.

PHD SUPERVISION

2020- Ibrahim Genc
2018- Daniel Szabo; Mun Vong
Completed Lucy West

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2017 Data Analysis Using Stata, ACSPRI
2016 Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse University
2015 Fundamentals of Statistics, ACSPRI

MEMBERSHIPS

2016- Asian Studies Association of Australia
2015- American Political Science Association
2011- Australian Political Studies Association

Last Updated: May 2020