Emily V. Bell

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Appointments

Associate Professor of Public Administration and Policy and MPA Director, School of Public and International Affairs, University of Georgia, 2026–*current*

Assistant Professor of Public Administration and Policy, School of Public and International Affairs, University of Georgia, 2020–2026

Faculty Fellow, Center for International Trade and Security, University of Georgia, 2021–*current*

Faculty Affiliate, River Basin Center, University of Georgia, 2020–*current*

Postdoctoral Associate, Environmental Science and Policy Division, Nicholas School for the Environment, Duke University, 2019–2020

Postdoctoral Scholar, Center for Environmental Policy and Behavior, Department of Environmental Science and Policy, University of California, Davis, 2018–2019

Education

PhD, Public Policy and Management, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, 2018
Minor focus: Natural Resource Studies

MPA, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, 2013

MA, Latin American Studies, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, 2013

BA, Latin American Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, 2008

Publications

Bell, Emily V. (2024).“Risk Perceptions, Local Conservation Strategies, and Contract Renewal Preferences: A Study of Interlocal Collaboration Among Public Water Suppliers." *Climatic Change*, 177(7), 1–21. DOI: 10.1007/s10584-024-03770-x

Bell, Emily V., Katy Hansen, and Megan Mullin. (2024).“Holistically Assessing US Drinking Water System Performance and Capacity for State Oversight." *Journal of American Water Works Association*, 116(5): 50–57.

Bell, Emily and Bruno Puga. (2024). Sustainable Water Governance in the Brazilian Pantanal Biome: Challenges and Lessons. *Blue Papers*, 3(1). https://doi.org/10.58981/bluepapers.2024.1.10

Tomczyk, Nathan, Laura Naslund, Carolyn Cummins, **Emily V. Bell**, and Amy Rosemond. (2023). “Nonpoint source pollution measures in the Clean Water Act have no detectable impact on decadal trends in nutrient concentrations in U.S. inland waters." *Ambio*, 52(9), 1475–1487.

Otero, Catherine, **Emily V. Bell**, Sarwari Das, and Megan Mullin. (2023). "Service Failures in the News: What the Public Learns about Drinking Water Disruptions from Local Newspapers." *Journal of American Water Works Association*, 115(5).

Olivier, Tomás, **Emily V. Bell**, Martín Ignacio García Asorey, and Alejandra Rodas-Gaiter. (2023). "Press, pulse, and perceptions: how does media attention signal responses to environmental crises across local governments?" *Risk, Hazards, & Crisis in Public Policy*, 14(4), 321–342. DOI: 10.1002/rhc3.12264.

Bell, Emily V., Katy Hansen, and Megan Mullin. (2023)."Multicriteria Assessment of Capacity for State Oversight of US Drinking Water Systems." *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management*, 149(1): 05022011.

Bell, Emily V., Amanda Fencl, and Megan Mullin. (2022). "Perceived climate risk and participation in collaborative regional water planning." *Policy Studies Journal*, 00:1–24.

Bell, Emily V. and Tomás Olivier. (2022)."Following the paper trail: Systematically analyzing outputs to understand collaborative governance evolution." *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, muab054. https://doi.org/10.1093/jopart/muab054.

Bell, Emily V., Adam Douglas Henry, and Gary Pivo. (2020). "An Assessment of Sectoral Heterogeneity and Leadership in Urban Water Management." *Water Policy Journal*, 22: 867–886.

Bell, Emily V. and Tyler Scott. (2020)."Common institutional design, divergent results: A comparative case study of collaborative governance platforms for regional water planning." *Environmental Science and Policy, 111*: 63–73.

Bell, Emily V. and Adam Douglas Henry. (2020). "Comparing Centrality in Policy Networks to Media Narratives." In *Networks in Water Governance*, edited by Manuel Fischer and Karin Ingold. Palgrave Macmillan.

Works in Progress

Bell, Emily V., Donald R. Nelson, Micaela Trimble, Sandra Aquino, Samiria Oliveira, Natalia Dias Tadeu, and Gabriel Cosson. "Identifying procedural inequities in collaborative planning through stakeholder-informed sentiment analysis." (under review)

Lelyne Paes Leme, Diego Mota Vieira, and Emily V. Bell. "Quem disputa a regulação da inteligência artificial no Brasil?" (under review)

Bell, Emily V. and Jesse Barnes. "Collaborative Governance and Overcoming Barriers to Consolidated Local Public Service."

Bell, Emily V., "Policy Subsystem Shocks and Representation in Collaborative Governance."

Bell, Emily V. and Tomás Olivier. "Evolving dynamics of water planning and collaborative outputs over time."

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Grants and Fellowships

Co-principal Investigator (with Don Nelson and Sechindra Vallury). National Science Foundation: NSF SRS-RN 2334272, "Collaborative Research and Education Center for Transformative Water Solutions." 2023 ($100,000)

Co-principal Investigator (with Adam Orford and Sechindra Vallury). University of Georgia Office of the Provost E-Mobility Seed Proposal Initiative, 2023 ($56,000)

Principal Investigator (with Justin Conrad). SPIA Research Seed Grant, University of Georgia, 2023 ($6,000)

Principal Investigator (with Don Nelson). University of Georgia Faculty Seed Grants in the Sciences, 2022 ($24,937)

Co-Principal Investigator (with Rhett Jackson, Seth Wenger, J. Marshall Shepherd, and Brian Bledsoe). National Science Foundation: NSF SRS-RN 2115293, "Sustainable and Equitable Urban Stream Corridors: Reimagining urban streams to provide social and ecological benefits to urban, suburban and rural communities," 2021 ($149,989)

Political Networks Conference Travel Fellowship, 2017 and 2019 ($900)

Political Networks Conference Travel Fellowship, 2015 ($700)

UA School of Government and Public Policy Summer Research Fellowship, 2015 ($2,000)

Confluencenter Graduate Fellowship, 2014–2015 ($1,768)

Tinker Field Research Grant, 2014 ($1,515)

Rombach Institute Scholarship, 2012 ($750)

Foreign Language and Area Studies Academic Fellowship, 2011–2012 ($15,000 and tuition)

UA Social and Behavioral Science Graduate Tuition Scholarship, 2010–2011 ($14,962)

UA Graduate College Fellowship, 2011 ($5,000)

Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally (HOPE) Scholarship, 2003–2006 ($15,000)

Awards and Recognition

UGA Career Center Recognition of Impact on Student Career Development, 2026

MPA Professor of the Year Award, University of Georgia, 2021, 2023, 2025

Editor's Choice Article in *Port City Futures* for October, 2024

Wiley Top Cited Article for 2022-2023 in *Policy Studies Journal*, 2024

UGA Student Career Success Influence Award, 2022

Hargis Award for excellence in technical communication, 2017 ($1,000)

Conferences

Papers

Bell, Emily V. and and Jesse Barnes. "Collaborative Governance and Overcoming Barriers to Consolidated Local Public Service." Conference on Policy Process Research, Chicago, Illinois, April 2026.

Bell, Emily V. and and Jesse Barnes. "Collaborative Governance and Overcoming Barriers to Consolidated Local Public Service." Conference on Policy Process Research, virtual, Bern, Switzerland, January 2026.

Bell, Emily V. and Tomás Olivier. "Evolving dynamics of water planning and collaborative outputs over time." American Political Science Association, virtual, Vancouver, BC, September 2025.

Bell, Emily V., "Policy Subsystem Shocks and Representation in Collaborative Governance" Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2025.

Bell, Emily V., "Focusing Events, Attention, and Representation in Collaborative Governance." Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference, Washington, D.C., November 2024.

Bell, Emily V., Sechindra Vallury, and Justin Conrad "Coalitions and Perceived Power in Collaborative Decision-Making Processes." Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2024.

Bell, Emily V. "Inter-Local Collaboration and Policy-Oriented Learning in Implementation." XXVth meeting of the Society for Human Ecology, Tucson, AZ, November 2023.

Bell, Emily V. "Inter-local Collaboration and Policy-Oriented Learning in Implementation." Southeastern Conference for Public Administration, Atlanta, GA, September 2023.

Bell, Emily V. and Tyler Scott. "How Boundary-Spanning Actors Affect Substantive Representation in Collaborative Regional Water Planning." Public Management Research Conference, Utrecht, Netherlands, June-July 2023.

Bell, Emily V., Solomon Bililign, Brian Bledsoe, Armita Davarpanah, Nirajan Dhakal, C. Rhett Jackson, Na'Taki Osborne Jelks, Manoj Jha, Toni Ramirez, J. Marshall Shepherd, and Seth Wenger. "Developing a New Paradigm: Linking Knowledge, Values, and Beliefs to Equitable Distribution of Ecosystem Services in Urban Stream Corridors." XIX Biennial International Association for the Society of the Commons Conference, Nairobi, Kenya, June 2023.

Bell, Emily V., Donald R. Nelson, Micaela Trimble, Sandra Aquino, Samiria Oliveira, Natalia Dias Tadeu, and Gabriel Cosson. "Identifying procedural inequities in collaborative planning through stakeholder-informed sentiment analysis." Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2023.

Bell, Emily V. and Tyler Scott. "Span to Plan: How Boundary-Spanning Stakeholders Affect Collaborative Regional Water Planning in Polycentric Systems." International Association for Society and Natural Resources, San José, Costa Rica, June 2022.

Bell, Emily V. "How Will Public Service Providers Collaborate? Learning from Perceived Pressures, Future, Contract Preferences, and Consolidation." Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2022.

Bell, Emily V., Amanda Fencl, and Megan Mullin. "Perceived climate risk and participation in collaborative regional water planning." Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, virtual, April 2021.

Bell, Emily V. and Megan Mullin. "Risk Perceptions and the Future of Interlocal Water Supply Contracts." Georgia Water Resources Conference, virtual, March 2021.

Bell, Emily V. and Tomás Olivier. "The right tool for the job: assessing variation in the design of collaborative outputs." Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, virtual, January 2021.

Bell, Emily V., Megan Mullin, and Katy Hansen. "Assessing Tools for State-Level Decision Making in Climate Hazard Mitigation." Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Juan, PR, January 2020.

Bell, Emily V., Elizabeth A. Albright, and Dane Bell. "Mitigating Hazard through Collaborative Policy Networks: A Study of Policy Learning in Urban Stormwater Management." Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference, Denver, CO, November 2019.

Bell, Emily V. and Tyler Scott. "Graph analysis of mandated collaboration and public participation in infrastructure planning." Political Networks Conference, Durham, NC, May-June 2019.

Scott, Tyler and Emily V. Bell. "How stakeholder participation and expert involvement shape collaborative governance outputs: A discourse network analysis." Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, April 2019.

Bell, Emily V. "Assessing the Role of Collaborative Institutions in Disaster Risk Reduction." Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, April 2019.

Bell, Emily V. and Adam Henry. "How Environmental Shocks Affect Policy-Oriented Learning." Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference, Washington, D.C., November 2018.

Bell, Emily V., Adam Henry, and Gary Pivo. "A Coding Frame to Link Policies and Beliefs." Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference, Chicago, IL, November 2017.

Bell, Emily V., Adam Henry, and Gary Pivo. "Identifying Beliefs through Policy Coordination Networks." Political Networks Conference, Columbus, OH, June 2017.

Bell, Emily V., Adam Henry, and Björn Vollan. "Effects of Institutional Design on Self-Organization of Social Networks." Political Networks Conference, Portland, OR, June 2015.

Bell, Emily V. "Reasons behind the Amendment of Brazil's Forest Code, Law 4.771/65: An Analysis of Soy Trade between China and Brazil." Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies Annual Conference, Park City, UT, March 2012.

Bell, Emily V. "A Pre-Certification Approach to Mitigate Deforestation and Environmental Degradation: Aliança da Terra and Soy Production" at the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, New York, NY, February 2012.

Other Participation

Discussant. "Community-Based Governance," Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2026.

Discussant and Chair, "Governance and Representation," Western Political Science Association, Seattle, WA, April 2025.

Discussant, "Land Management and Adaptation" and "Environmental Policy, Inequality, and Equity," Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2025.

Discussant, "Collaborative governance in complex water resources management: Studies from California and the Great Lakes," Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2022.

Panel chair, "Political Institutions, Responsiveness and Sustainability Impacts," Southern Political Science Association, San Juan, PR, January 2020.

Abstract reviewer, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference, 2019–2020.

Panel chair, "Natural Resource Management in Developing Countries," Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference, Denver, CO, November 2019.

Discussant and panel chair, "Socioenvironmental Disasters, Crises, and Management," Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, April 2019.

Invited Workshops and Presentations

Bell, Emily V. "Demistificando a colaboração e publicação internacional no campo do planejamento." (Guest Lecture). Universidade do Vale do Paraíba, São José dos Campos, São Paulo, Brazil, August, 2024.

Bell, Emily V. "Water Governance, Fragmentation, and Collaboration." (Guest Lecture). University of Denver Josef Korbel School of International Studies, Denver, CO, June 2023.

Bell, Emily V. "Regional Planning to Advance Water Conservation in the Southeastern United States." (Guest Talk). Auburn University School of Forestry and Wildlife Seminar in Auburn, AL, March 2022.

National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) Workshop *S-E Approaches to Watershed Management and Governance*. (Workshop). Annapolis, MD, February 2020.

National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine USAID-supported PEER Project *AGUA-ANDES: Ecological Infrastructure strategies for enhancing water sustainability in semi-arid Andes*. (Workshop). Ayacucho, Peru, September 2017.

Bell, Emily. "Water Security in Tucson, Arizona, USA." World Bank 2nd Technical Water Scarce Cities Workshop in Beirut. (Workshop). Beirut, Lebanon, July 2017.

Teaching Experience

Instructor

Policy Process, University of Georgia (undergraduate, in-person), spring 2026

Climate and Environmental Policy, (graduate, in-person format), 2025–2026

Public Administration and Democracy, University of Georgia (graduate, online and in-person formats, respectively), 2021–2026

Policy Process, University of Georgia (graduate, online and in-person formats, respectively), 2020–2026

Public Policy and Administration, University of Arizona (undergraduate – online), summer 2016, winter 2016–2017, summer 2017

Teaching Assistant

Criminal Justice Administration, University of Arizona (undergraduate, in person), 2015–2016

Comparative Politics, University of Arizona (undergraduate, in person), fall 2014

American Politics, University of Arizona (undergraduate, in person), 2013–2014

The American City, University of Arizona (undergraduate, in person), spring 2011

Related Experience

Consultant, US Department of Energy–Savannah River National Laboratory, 2021–2025

Consultant, World Bank–Water Scarce Cities Initiative, 2017

Research Associate, "Coupled Networks in Urbanized Landscapes: Linking Ecosystem Services and Governance for Water Sustainability," PI: Thomas Meixner, University of Arizona, (NSF Award #1518376), 2016–2018

Research Assistant, "Collaborative Research: The U.S. Environmental Risk Policy Network," PI: Adam Henry, University of Arizona, (NSF Award #1124172), summer 2014

Confluencenter Fellow, "Network Impacts on Social Enterprise Programs: Agricultural Production in Brazil's Amazon and Cerrado," Mato Grosso, Brazil, 2014

Other Publications

Bell, Emily V., Donald R. Nelson, Micaela Trimble, Natalia Dias Tadeu, Sandra Aquino, Samiria Maria Oliveira da Silva, Gabriel Cosson, and Michael Saravia. (2025). "Collaborative Regional Water Planning in the US, Brazil, and Uruguay: Insights, Needs, and Steps Forward."

Bell, Emily V., Colt Jensen, and Megan Mullin. (2021). "The State of Community Water Systems: Pressures, Goals, and Innovations in North Carolina."

Bell, Emily V. (2018). "Tucson, Arizona." World Bank publication: Water Scarce Cities Initiative.

Media Coverage

Policy Studies Journal Blog, 2024

Georgia Magazine, University of Georgia, 2023

North Carolina Water News, University of North Carolina Water Institute, November, 2022

P3: The Public Policy Podcast, recorded December, 2022

Professional Service

Reviewer

International Panel on Climate Change Working Group II for AR7.

Policy Studies Journal, Society & Natural Resources, Environment & Management, Society & Natural Resources, 2026

Policy Studies Journal, *Policy Sciences*, *Environmental Development*, *Journal of the American Water Works Association*, *American Association of Geographers*, *Society and Natural Resources*, 2025

University of Georgia Excellence in Research by Graduate Students Awards, UNESCO *Blue Papers*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Annals of the American Association of Geographers* 2024

Policy and Politics, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *Nature Partner Journals: Climate Action*, University of Georgia Presidential Graduate Fellows Competition, *State and Local Government Review*, UNESCO *Blue Papers*, 2023

Environmental Management, PLOS One, Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory, Climatic Change, Policy Sciences, National Science Foundation, 2022

Policy and Politics, Governance, *Governance*, 2021

Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory, 2020

Local Government Studies, 2019

Committee Member

Member, SPIA Scholarship Committee, 2026

Member, SPIA AI Task Force, 2026

Member, Program Review and Assessment Committee, 2026

Co-Chair, Dissertation Committee for LeLyne Leme Nunes Czeczko, 2025–*current*

Member, UGA SPIA Faculty Executive Committee, 2025–*current*

Member, PADP Online Instruction Committee, 2025

Member, University of Georgia Search Committee for SPIA PADP, 2025

Member, UGA Sustainability Certificate Advisory Board, 2024–*current*

Member, Comprehensive Examination Committee for Juan Pablo Araya, 2024

Member, Dissertation Committee for Alejandra Rodas-Gaiter, 2023–2025

Chair, UGA SPIA Faculty Executive Committee, 2023–2024

Member, University of Georgia School of Public and International Affairs Search Committee, 2023

Member, Dissertation Committee for Colt Jensen, 2023

Member, UGA SPIA Curriculum Committee, 2022–*current*

Member, Comprehensive Examination Committee for Alejandra Rodas-Gaiter, 2022–2023

Member, Dissertation Committee for Youkyoung Jeong, 2022

Member, UGA River Basin Center Advisory Board Committee, 2021–*current*

Member, Comprehensive Examination Committee for KT Truszczynski, 2021

External Member, University of Georgia Search Committee for the River Basin Center, 2021

Mentorship

Mentor for Julia Dietz, UGA Public Service Outreach Scholarship Academy, 2026

Speaking

SPIA MPA Recruitment Seminar, 2020, 2025, 2026

SPIA "Doc Talk" Discussant, University of Georgia, 2022, 2023, and 2024, 2026

Pi Sigma Alpha (SPIA Honor Society) Research Series, University of Georgia, 2023

SPIA Graduate Lunch and Professionalization Panel, University of Georgia, 2021

Community Service & Outreach

Volunteer, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper River Cleanup, 2024–2025

Volunteer, Latin American Association Latin Fever Ball (non-profit fundraiser), Atlanta, GA, 2024

Guest Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of Georgia, 2024

Guest Speaker, PPEP Tec High School, Tucson, AZ, 2022

Guest Lecturer, Ecology Conservation Seminar Series, Odum School of Ecology, University of Georgia, 2022

Guest Lecturer, ENVIRON 738 US Water Governance, Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University, 2019

Volunteer, International House English Conversation Club, Duke University, 2019

Guest Lecturer, PLG 501A Planning Theory and Practice, College of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape Architecture, University of Arizona, 2017

Guest Lecturer, CPH 606 Changing Global Health Policy through Cultural Understanding and Epidemiological Analysis, Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, University of Arizona, 2017

Workshop facilitator, League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson, "Running and Winning," 2013

Bell, Emily. "Solar Power in Northern Mexico." Solar Power 101: Tucson Community Education Series on Solar Energy, May, 2012

Professional Development

University of Georgia Rural Engagement Workshop for Academic Faculty, January–April, 2021

Political Networks Training Workshop, Portland State University, June 2015, Ohio State University, June 2017, Duke University, June, 2019

Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse University, June, 2018

Related Professional Skills

R Qualtrics ArcGIS LaTeX

Research Interests

Belief Systems	Collaborative Governance	Climate Hazards
Natural Language Processing	Leadership	Social Network Analysis

Languages

Native: English

Advanced: Portuguese

Working Knowledge: Spanish

Professional Affiliations

American Geophysical Union

Midwest Political Science Association