

**Tara A. Blanc, Ph.D.**  
Sol Price School of Public Policy  
University of Southern California  
blanc@usc.edu

***Education***

*Doctor of Philosophy, Public Administration, Arizona State University, April 2008.*  
Dissertation: *Terms of Engagement: A Study of Attitudes Toward Civic Engagement Among Middle- and High-School Students in Arizona.*  
Chair: Robert B. Denhardt, Ph.D.

*Master of Mass Communication, Arizona State University, May 2003.*

*Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism, Arizona State University, December 1978.*

***Appointments***

*Assistant Professor (Nonresident Teaching), University of Southern California Sol Price School of Public Policy, Fall 2013-present*

*Lecturer, Arizona State University School of Public Affairs, Fall 2011-Spring 2013.*

Courses taught:  
Public Administration (PAF 503)  
Diversity, Ethics, and Leading Change (PAF 574) (online and in person)  
MPA Capstone (PAF 509) (online and in person)  
Public Service Ethics (PAF 460)  
Public Service and Public Policy (PAF 200)

*Faculty Associate, Arizona State University School of Public Affairs, Spring 2006-Summer 2011.*

Courses taught:  
Public Administration (PAF 503)  
Organizational Behavior (PAF 508)  
Diversity, Ethics, and Leading Public Change (PAF 574)  
MPA Capstone (PAF 509)  
Building Leadership Skills (PAF 494 and PAF 410)

*Associate Director, Arizona State University Cronkite/Eight Public Opinion Poll, January 2003 – December 2009.* Coordinated design and implementation of monthly public opinion polls measuring attitude toward public policy in Arizona. Aided in design of questionnaires; trained and supervised interviewers; performed data entry, coding, and computer analysis; interpreted findings; and prepared press releases. Supervised two graduate research assistants.

*Teaching Assistant, Arizona State University Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Fall 2002 – Fall 2005.* Applied Media Research (MC0 494).

## **Research**

### **Publications**

Denhardt, R.D., Denhardt, J.V., and Blanc, T.A. (2013). *Public Administration: An Action Orientation*. Seventh edition. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing.

Blanc, T. (October 2009). Learning, practice and reflection: A process for increasing leadership effectiveness. *Connections: The Newsletter of the Arizona League of Cities and Towns* (78).

Somers, S. and Blanc, T. (2005). Book review: The City at Stake: Secession, Reform and the Battle for Los Angeles by Raphael Sonenshein. *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 27 (3), 349-351.

Blanc, T., and Craft, J. (2003). The Little Papers that Could: A Study of Monthly Newspapers in the Phoenix, Arizona, Metropolitan Area. *Southwest Mass Communication Journal*, 19 (1). 12-24.

### **Refereed Presentations**

Blanc, T. (October 2010). *Getting Engaged: Levels and Characteristics of Civic and Political Behavior Among Arizona Youth*. Paper presented at the NASPAA 2010 Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Blanc, T., & McCabe, B. (March 2008). *Under Pressure: Does the Threat of Citizen Initiative Impact Local Development?* Paper presented at the American Society for Public Administration 2008 National Conference, Dallas, TX.

Blanc, T., & McCabe, B. (April 2007). *Does the Threat of Citizen Initiative Impact Local Development?* Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago, IL

Blanc, T. (March 2007). *Keeping the "Public" in Public Administration: A Social Capital Approach*. Paper presented at the American Society for Public Administration 2007 National Conference, Washington, D.C.

McCabe, B., & Blanc, T. (March 2007). *Conservation Goes to Town: Municipal Open Space Referenda*. Paper presented at the American Society for Public Administration 2007 National Conference, Washington, D.C.

Blanc, T., & McCabe, B. (April 2006). *Voters and Local Conservation: Downshifting the Growth Machine?* Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Political Science Association, Chicago, IL

Blanc, T. (April 2006). *Terms of Engagement: Reinvigorating Citizen Participation Through Partnership with the Press*. Paper presented at the American Society for Public Administration 2006 National Conference, Denver, CO.

Merrill, B., & Blanc, T. (December 2005). *Misreporting and the Impact of Public Opinion Polls in the American Media: The Problem of Sample Validation*. Presented at the International Conference on Social Science Research, Orlando, FL.

Blanc, T. (November 2002). *The Little Papers That Could: A Study of Monthly Newspapers in the Phoenix, Arizona, Metropolitan Area*. Paper presented at the Southwest Education Council for Journalism and Mass Communication 2002 Southwest Symposium, San Marcos, TX. Honorable Mention, Outstanding Academic Paper.

## **Applied Research**

*Phoenix Symphony Programs and Services Survey* (March 2013). Study conducted for the Phoenix Symphony among arts patrons in Phoenix, Arizona, to assess current levels of satisfaction with the Symphony's programs and services. Serve as associate study director.

*City of Globe Citizen Satisfaction Survey* (November 2012-February 2013). Study conducted for the City of Globe, Arizona, among city residents to assess citizens' opinions regarding the quality of life in Globe, satisfaction with city and non-city services, and the overall performance of local government. Served as study director.

*Arizona Health Survey 2010* (July 2009-present). In-depth survey conducted among Arizona residents to assess individual indicators of health status, insurance coverage, access to care, behavioral health, health-related behaviors and various demographic and social/environmental factors related to health. Serve as consultant; oversaw development of survey instrument and data collection and perform data analysis and interpretation on an as-needed basis.

*Public Perceptions of Resolution Copper Company* (January 2009). In-depth public opinion survey conducted among Arizona residents to assess current attitudes toward and support for the development of a copper mining project in Superior, Arizona. Served as associate study director and co-author.

*Employee Attitude Assessment* (June 2008). Study conducted for Resolution Copper Mining to assess current attitudes of company and contract employees toward the company and its policies and practices. Served as associate study director, presenter, and co-author.

*Civic Engagement Among Arizona Students* (2007-2008). Study conducted among high school students in Arizona in conjunction with the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education. Served as study director.

*Social Impact Assessment* (March 2007). Study conducted for Resolution Copper Mining to assess impact of proposed development of a new copper mine on social structure of local and regional communities. Served as study co-director and co-author.

*Public Perceptions of Resolution Copper Company* (Spring 2007). In-depth public opinion survey conducted among Arizona residents to assess current attitudes toward and support for the development of a copper mining project in Superior, Arizona. Served as associate study director and co-author.

*Employee Attitude Assessment* (July 2006). Study conducted for Resolution Copper Mining to establish baseline regarding attitudes of company and contract employees toward the company and its policies and practices. Served as associate study director, presenter, and co-author.

*Voter Perceptions of Growth and Growth Plans in Arizona* (October 2005). Study prepared for the Arizona Department of Commerce. Served as assistant study director and co-author.

### ***Honors and Awards***

*Faculty Associate Award 2008-2009*, School of Public Affairs, Arizona State University

*Outstanding Doctoral Paper 2005-2006*, School of Public Affairs, Arizona State University

*Outstanding Doctoral Paper 2004-2005*, School of Public Affairs, Arizona State University

*Outstanding Doctoral Paper 2003-2004*, School of Public Affairs, Arizona State University

*Outstanding Graduate Student 2002-2003*, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Arizona State University

*Honorable Mention, Outstanding Academic Paper*, November 2002, Southwest Education Council for Journalism and Mass Communication 2002 Southwest Symposium, San Marcos, Texas

### ***Academic Leadership and Service***

*Member, Master's Committee, Arizona State University School of Public Affairs*, August 2011-May 2013. Committee sets policy and direction for the Master's of Public Administration and Master's of Public Policy degrees.

*Student Representative, Doctoral Committee, Arizona State University School of Public Affairs*, September 2004 – April 2006. Review applications for doctoral program in public administration, provide input for policy decisions.

*Student Representative, New Dean Search Committee, Arizona State University College of Public Programs*, September 2004-March 2005. Served as student representative for the College of Public Programs in its search for a new dean.

*Member, Bachelor's Degree in Urban and Metropolitan Studies Development Committee, Arizona State University School of Public Affairs*, August 2004-April 2005. Member of committee that designed a bachelor's degree in Urban and Metropolitan Studies. Duties included providing support, synthesizing and writing criteria and course descriptions, and drafting documents to be submitted to the University and the Board of Regents.

*Department Representative to Graduate and Professional Student Association, Arizona State University Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication*, Fall 2001.

### ***Professional and Community Leadership and Service***

*Charter Member, Tempe Dollars for Scholars, March 2006-present.* Member of the board of directors for organization that raises and distributes funds for college scholarships for Tempe High School District students. Chair of application review and selection committee.

*Director, U.S. District 5, and Member, International Executive Board, International Association of Business Communicators, 1995-96.* Served as elected director of a region that included 14 local chapters in six states; managed a 20-member board of directors plus other regional volunteers; oversaw committees that designed and carried out an annual regional conference and awards program; served as district representative to the organization's international board of directors.

*Chapter Services Manager, U.S. District 5, International Association of Business Communicators, 1993-95.* Provided leadership training and support for local chapter boards and volunteers in six states; served as presenter for local chapter professional development events.

*Secretary, Alameda Estates Homeowners Association, 1993-94.*

*Member, Arizona State University Constituent Outreach Team, August 1992 – May 1993.* Served as the Alumni Association representative on the university's Constituent Outreach Team.

*Secretary, U.S. District 5, International Association of Business Communicators, 1992-93.*

*Membership Chair, U.S. District 5, International Association of Business Communicators, 1991-92.*

*Treasurer, U.S. District 5, International Association of Business Communicators, 1989-91.*

*Manager of District Services, U.S. District 5, International Association of Business Communicators, 1988-89.*

### ***Scholastic and Professional Associations***

*American Society of Public Administration*

*Society of Professional Journalists*

*The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, Arizona State University Chapter*

*Pi Alpha Alpha, Arizona State University Chapter*

*International Association of Business Communicators (IABC)*