

# Bomi K. Lee

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## Academic Appointments

Visiting Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science, Bucknell University July 2025 -

Department of Political Science, University of Arkansas August 2024 - May 2025

National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded Post-doctoral Scholar

Department of Political Science, Washington University in St. Louis August 2022 - May 2024

Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky August 2021 - July 2022

Working with Dr. Tiffany D. Barnes and Dr. Diana Z. O'Brien in their NSF-funded research program on [Women as Leaders, Policy-Makers, and Symbols](#).

## Education

Ph.D. Political Science, University of Iowa 2021

Dissertation: *Interconnected Rivalries*

Committee: Sara McLaughlin Mitchell (chair), Kelly M. Kadera, Brian Lai, Elizabeth Menninga, and Paul F. Diehl

MA, Political Science, University of Iowa 2019

MA, International Relations, Seoul National University (South Korea) 2013

BA, Political Science, Seoul National University (South Korea) 2011

## Publications

[5] **Lee, Bomi K.** "Multiple Rivals and Leadership Approval: Evidence from Japan." *Foreign Policy Analysis*. Forthcoming.

[4] **Lee, Bomi K.**, and Sojeong Lee. 2025. "Contested Boundaries in Changing Climates: Precipitation Variability and Interstate Diplomatic Conflict." *Environment and Security*. DOI: [10.1177/27538796251333958](https://doi.org/10.1177/27538796251333958)

[3] **Lee, Bomi K.** 2023. "Triangles, Major Powers, and Rivalry Duration." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 67(6): 1128-1154. DOI: [10.1177/00220027221134781](https://doi.org/10.1177/00220027221134781)

Earlier draft awarded the John Sprague Award (the best paper on political networks presented by a graduate student), issued by the Political Networks Section of APSA (2022)

[2] **Lee, Bomi K.**, Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, Cody J. Schmidt, and Yufan Yang. 2022. "Disasters and the Dynamics of Interstate Rivalry." *Journal of Peace Research* 59(1): 12-27. DOI: [10.1177/00223433211063333](https://doi.org/10.1177/00223433211063333)

[1] Schmidt, Cody J., **Bomi K. Lee**, and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell. 2021. "Climate Bones of Contention: How Climate Variability Influences Territorial, Maritime, and River Interstate Conflicts." *Journal of Peace Research* 58(1): 132-150. DOI: [10.1177/0022343320973738](https://doi.org/10.1177/0022343320973738)

Earlier draft awarded ISA Midwest's Frank J. Klingberg Best Paper Award (2019)

## Book Chapter

[1] **Lee, Bomi K.** 2014. "North Korea's Peace Proposals in the 1970s," *Segye Jeongchi [World Politics]* 20: 323-370 [In Korean].

## Working Papers

[4] Bagwell, T. E., Dee, S. G., Luo, X., Stravato, A., Saikumar, D., Viens, F., **Lee, B. K.**, O'Brien, D., & Mankin, J. S. "El Niño and Indian Ocean Dipole hydroclimate extremes heighten the risk of armed conflict."

This paper examines how pan-tropical climate modes like El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) influence regional conflict risks. It finds that these climate patterns increase the risk of civil conflict onset by generating floods, droughts, and extreme heat that stress societies in Asia and Africa. The study uses empirical modeling to demonstrate that climate variability affects the emergence of intrastate armed conflict.

[3] **Lee, Bomi K.**, "Triangles, Mixed Alliance-Rivalry Dyads, and Conflict Propensity."

This paper examines how triangular configurations of rivalry and alliance ties influence conflict between countries. It finds that rivalries have a higher risk of militarized disputes when connected to third parties through mixed alliance-rivalry links, as rivals prioritize each other over mixed relationships. However, mixed alliance-rivalry dyads experience fewer disputes when embedded in alliance triangles that enable conflict management.

[2] Barnes, Tiffany D., **Bomi K. Lee**, and Diana Z. O'Brien, "Shattered Pathways: Women's Appointment to Interior Ministries in the Wake of Terrorism." [R&R]

Using our original data set of interior ministers covering 2,492 appointments across 192 countries between 1988 and 2018, we find that women are significantly less likely to be appointed to the interior ministry. To assess the scope conditions of our finding, we examine whether this effect holds for natural disasters. Unlike terror attacks, natural disasters do not impede women's appointments to the interior affairs portfolio.

[1] **Lee, Bomi K.**, Cody J. Schmidt, and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, "Paths to Peace in Issue Rivalries"

This paper moves beyond the dyadic rivalry context by considering how issue rivalry networks and extra-rivalry reputations influence peaceful and militarized conflict management in diplomatic issue conflicts. We capture interdependence by assessing the degree to which states are embedded in multiple rivalries using network analysis. We find that rivalry networks constrain militarization by target states in issue claims but have no effect on challengers.

## Other Publications

[1] Barnes, Tiffany D., **Bomi K. Lee**, and Diana Z. O'Brien, "[Even After Albright, Foreign Policy Leaders Are Still Mostly Men](#)," *The Washington Post, Monkey Cage* (March 28, 2022).

## Honors, Awards, and Grants

Travel Grant (\$150), American Political Science Association (2022)

The John Sprague Award (the best paper on political networks presented by a graduate student), "Triangles, Major Powers, and Rivalry Duration," Political Networks Section of APSA (2022)

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award (\$1,000), University of Iowa (2021)

Graduate College Post-Comprehensive Research Fellowship (\$10,000), Graduate College, University of Iowa (2020)

Graduate College Summer Fellowship (\$5,000), Graduate College, University of Iowa (2020)

Travel Grant (\$150), International Studies Association-Midwest (2020)

Research Grant (\$1,000), Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2020)

The Frank J. Klingberg Best Paper Award, Cody Schmidt, **Bomi Lee**, and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, "Climate Bones of Contention", International Studies Association Midwest (2019)

Research Grant (\$1,400), Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2019)

Research Grant (\$500), Graduate & Professional Student Government, University of Iowa (2019)

Travel Grant (\$200), American Political Science Association (2019)

Travel Grant (\$500), Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2019)

NSF Fellowship (\$900), Political Networks Workshops & Conference (2019)

Travel Funds Award (\$750), Graduate Student Senate (GSS), University of Iowa (2019)

Best Course Paper Award, "Dissolution of Rivalries and Formation of Warm Peace," Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2018)

Travel Grant (\$550), Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2018)

Summer Training Grant (\$3,300), Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2017)

Travel Grant (\$600), Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2017)

## Research and Teaching Interests

*International Relations:* International Conflict and Cooperation, Interstate Rivalries, Interaction between Domestic and International Politics, Environmental Issues, Regional Security (East Asia)

*Political Methodology:* Introductory Statistics, Network Analysis, Time Series Analysis, Survival Analysis, Spatial Analysis, Survey Experiments

## Research Experiences

### *University of Iowa*

Countries Facing Multiple Rivals Project (online survey experiment in Japan) August 2019 -

*Designed experiment/questionnaire and received the IRB approval (n=1,200).*

Research Assistant on Project Haystack (with GoDaddy.com) for Prof. Caroline Tolbert and Prof. Karen Mossberger January 2021 - June 2021; September 2018 - December 2019

*Cleaned raw data (n=20 million), visualized collapsed data (at the state/county/ZIP code levels), and conducted empirical analysis.*

Research Assistant for Prof. Elizabeth Menninga Summer 2019

*Combined civil war datasets (UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset, Non-State Actors in Armed Conflict Dataset, etc), and visualized networks and empirical results.*

Research Assistant on Issue Correlates of War (ICOW) Project for Prof. Sara McLaughlin Mitchell Summer 2017

*Searched news stories for identity claims in Asia via LexisNexis.*

### ***The Institute for Far Eastern Studies (South Korea)***

Research Intern for Prof. Jong-Dae Shin March 2015 - October 2015

*Searched and made a list of released governmental documents on the relationship between South Korea and North Korea.*

### ***Seoul National University (South Korea)***

Research Assistant on East Asian International Relations Theory Project for Prof. Wookhee Shin September 2012 - August 2015

## **Teaching Experiences**

### ***University of Arkansas***

Introduction to International Relations Spring 2025  
Introduction to Comparative Politics Fall 2024, Spring 2025

### ***University of Iowa***

Guest Lecturer for Advanced Methodology (Graduate-Level) Fall 2021

*Taught the concept of centrality in networks and how to use R to calculate various centrality measures.*

(Online) Teaching Assistant for Consequences of War Spring 2021

Instructor for Analyzing Political Data Spring 2020

Guest Lecturer for Introduction to International Relations Spring 2018

Teaching Assistant for Introduction to International Relations Fall 2016/2017, Spring 2018

(Online) Teaching Assistant for Introduction to International Relations Summer 2018

Teaching Assistant for Introduction to American Politics Spring 2017

### ***Iowa Social Science Research Center, University of Iowa***

Statistical Consultant Fall 2019 - Spring 2021

*Taught workshops: Introduction and Data Management Using R, Network Visualization Using R, and Network Analysis Using R*

***ICPSR Summer Program, University of Michigan***

Teaching Assistant for Time Series Analysis 1

Summer 2019

*Taught six computer lab sessions with Dr. Desmond Wallace, and graded assignments.*

***Seoul National University (South Korea)***

Teaching Assistant for Introduction to International Relations

Fall 2011

**Additional Training**

ICPSR Summer Program, University of Michigan

Summer 2017

Game Theory 1 & Rational Choice Theories of Politics and Society

ISRC Workshops, University of Iowa

Fall 2018

Python Basics

**Invited Talks and Workshops**

Journeys in World Politics, University of Iowa (2022)

Political Networks (PolNet), "Introduction to Network Analysis in R" (2022, 2023, 2024): invited as an instructor

Visions in Methodology (VIM), Claremont Graduate University (2021)

Department of Political Science, Rice University (2021)

University of Alabama's ISSR Workshop on International Conflict (2020): canceled due to the COVID-19

Minnesota Political Methodology Graduate Student Colloquium (2019)

**Conferences**

*Paper Presentations*

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2020, 2022)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (co-author) (2019, 2021)

International Studies Association Annual Conference (2021, 2022, 2023)

International Studies Association Annual Conference (co-author) (2022, 2024)

International Studies Association Midwest Annual Conference (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020)

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2018)

Peace Science Society Annual Meeting (co-author) (2019, 2020)

Political Networks (2022)

Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2022)

*Conference Within A Conference on Rethinking Disaster Politics and Policy*

### *Poster Presentations*

International Studies Association Annual Conference (2020): canceled due to the COVID-19  
Peace Science Society Annual Meeting (2019, 2023)  
Political Networks (2019)

### **Professional Affiliations**

American Political Science Association  
International Political Science Association  
International Studies Association  
Peace Science Society  
Southern Political Science Association

### **Disciplinary Service**

#### Referee

*American Political Science Review*  
*Asian Security*  
*British Journal of Political Science*  
*Conflict Management and Peace Science*  
*Foreign Policy Analysis*  
*International Interactions*  
*International Studies Quarterly*  
*Journal of Peace Research*  
*Political Geography*  
*Review of International Organizations*

#### Award Committees

John Sprague Award issued by the Political Networks Section of APSA, Chair (2024)  
John Sprague Award issued by the Political Networks Section of APSA (2023)

#### Section Service

Program Committee, Political Networks, Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2025, 2026)  
Communications Director, Political Networks Section of APSA (2023-)

### **Departmental Service**

Scholarships Committee, Department of Political Science, University of Arkansas (2025)  
Instructor, Math Camp for incoming graduate students, Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2019, 2020)