

Twenty-five years of experience in public affairs, managing and advising multi-faceted policy research and advocacy campaigns for prominent nonprofit organizations. Expertise in **voting rights, food insecurity, anti-poverty programs, nonprofit management, and evidence-based policy analysis (quantitative and qualitative)**. Background in mobilizing public support for policy reform, providing technical assistance to officials, advocates, and funders on policy implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, as well as in community/labor organizing. Skilled at writing and editing reports for diverse audiences that gain significant attention from media, funders, and officials. Authored articles for national and state news.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- PhD in Public Policy with work experience and studies in social and urban policy, research methods, statistics, impact evaluation, American politics, and nonprofit management.
- Served as director, senior analyst, or senior strategist for complex, multi-state and national policy campaigns that spurred changes at the USDA on summer food programs for low-income families and the Justice Department's Voting Section on enforcement of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA).
- Provided strategic advice and research for successful, ground-breaking litigation enforcing the National Voter Registration Act. Established best practices for NVRA implementation voluntarily adopted by some states and are the basis for legal settlements in more than a dozen other states. Initiated or advised planning for working with Congress, senior federal officials, and state officials.
- Co-lead NVRA project that increased voter registration by several millions from women, minorities, new citizens, and people with low incomes by providing technical assistance to state election officials, advising advocates on voting rights litigation, and designing compliance monitoring plans.
- Authored policy reports recognized for quality, accuracy, and value by federal agencies, national media, policy advocates, and academics. Reports or projects covered by *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, NPR, and others. Co-authored testimony on election policy for Congress and the National Research Council. Scholarly publications on voting rights, food insecurity, and civically engaged research. Examples of diverse publications available at <http://www.douglashess.com>.
- Built or participated in national policy coalitions. Elected to or appointed to policy committees at Grinnell College. Co-designed and team-taught student seminars and faculty workshops.
- Sparked creation of a new city-wide organization to address hunger in Alexandria, VA via a food security assessment and policy management recommendations for local health advocates and officials.

## EMPLOYMENT

- **Assistant Professor**, Department of Political Science, Grinnell College. 2013 – present.
- **Policy Research and Strategy Consultant**, freelance, 2004 – 2012. Clients and topics included: Rockefeller Family Fund (mortgage crisis), ACT for Alexandria (food security and food access), Food Research and Action Center (food deserts and access), Wellspring Advisors (civic engagement and demographic projections), and Project Vote (voting rights).
- **Senior Policy Analyst**, Food Research and Action Center. 2000 –2003.
- **Research Director**, Congress Watch. 1999.
- **Southern Regional Organizer**, Human Rights Campaign. 1996 –1997.
- **Director of NVRA Implementation Project**, Project Vote. 1994 –1996.
- **Other employment**: ACORN (1991-92), Washington Office on Haiti (1992-93), Teamsters (1993).

## EDUCATION

PhD, Public Policy, George Washington University. Social policy, urban policy, program evaluation.  
MA, Policy Studies, Johns Hopkins University. Nonprofit management, philanthropic studies, social policy.  
BA, Psychology, Grinnell College.