

# Matt Motta

## EMPLOYMENT

- 2022 - Pres. **Assistant Professor of Health Law, Policy, & Management**, *Boston University School of Public Health*, Boston, MA
- 2019 - 2022 **Assistant Professor of Political Science**, *Oklahoma State University – Department of Political Science*, Stillwater, OK
- 2018 - 2019 **Gloria T. and Melvin J. Chisum Science of Science Communication Postdoctoral Fellow**, *University of Pennsylvania – Annenberg Public Policy Center*, Philadelphia, PA, (Located at Yale University, New Haven, CT.)
- 2018 - 2019 **Affiliated Postdoctoral Research Associate**, *Yale Law School – Cultural Cognition Project*, New Haven, CT

## EDUCATION

- 2013 - 2018 **PhD Political Science**, *University of Minnesota - Twin Cities*, Minneapolis, MN
- 2009 - 2013 **B.A. Government**, *Wesleyan University*, Middletown, CT

## FELLOWSHIPS & ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

- 2025 - Pres. **Co-Director**, *Politics & Health Lab*, Boston University School of Public Health
- 2025 - Pres. **Affiliated Faculty**, *Department of Political Science*, Boston University
- 2023 - Pres. **Affiliated Faculty**, *Center for Health Communication*, Harvard School of Public Health
- 2023 - Pres. **Research Fellow**, *The Policy Lab*, Brown University (2023-2024), University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2024-)
- 2017 - 2018 **Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Fellow**, *University of Minnesota*, Funded 2018
- 2014 - 2018 **Graduate Research Fellow**, *National Science Foundation*, Funded 2014 – 2017. Fellow 2014 – 2019

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Journals

- [71] Motta, Matthew P. *et al.* (2025). "Promoting RSV Vaccine Confidence Through Reversal Narrative (RN) Messaging." *Vaccine*.
- [70] Callaghan, Tim, and Matt Motta. (2025). "Runaway Polarization is Making Us Sick. Social Science Could Offer an Antidote." *The Journal of Health Politics, Policy, & Law*.
- [69] Motta, MP, *et al.* (2025). "Identifying and Mitigating the Public Health Consequences of Meta-Ignorance about "Long COVID" Risks." *Public Health*
- [68] Moghtaderi, Ali, Timothy Callaghan, Qian Luo, PhD, Matt Motta, Tina Q. Tan, Laura Hillard, Avi Dor, Allison Portnoy, Amy Winter, Bernard Black. (2024). "Evidence on Uptake of Childhood Vaccines: Declines in Some States, Heterogeneity Across States, and Association with COVID-19 Vaccination Rates." *Vaccine*
- [67] Callaghan, Timothy, Matt Motta, Michael Stein, & Kirby Goidel. (2024). "The Prevalence and Policy Consequences of Support for Regulating Off-Label Semaglutide Prescriptions." *Health Economics, Policy, & Law*.

- [66] Landrum, Asheley, Matt Motta, & Dominik Stecula. (2024). "Combating Climate-Induced Health Threats Through Co-Constitutive Risk (CCR) Communication" *PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases*
- [65] Motta, Matthew P., Gabriella Motta, & Dominik Stecula. (2024). "Conceptual Debates in the Study of Canine & Feline Vaccine Hesitancy: A Response to Haeder 2023." *Vaccine*
- [64] Cologna, Viktoria *et al.* (2024). "Trust in scientists and their role in society: a global assessment." *Nature Human Behavior*.
- [63] Motta, Matthew P., & Kathryn Haglin. (2024). Exogenous Increases in Basic Income Provisions Increase Preventative Health-Seeking Behavior: A Quasi-Experimental Study. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.
- [62] Motta, Matthew P., *et al.* (2024) "Quantifying the Prevalence and Determinants of RSV Vaccine Hesitancy in US Adults Aged 60 or Older." *Public Health*
- [61] Mede, Niels *et al.* (2024). "Perceptions of science, science communication, and climate change attitudes in 67 countries – the TISP dataset." *Nature Scientific Data*.
- [60] Motta, Matthew P. (2024). "The Promises and Pitfalls of Conjoint Experimentation for Studying Public Sentiment Toward Vaccines in Development." *Sage Research Methods*.
- [59] Pacheco, Juliana, Sarah Gollust, Timothy Callaghan, & Matt Motta. (2024). "Let's Party! A Call for the Use of Partisanship in Population Health Research." *American Journal of Public Health*
- [58] Motta, Matthew P., Yuning Liu, & Amanda Yarnell. (2024). "Influencing the Influencers: A Field Experimental Approach to Promoting Effective Mental Health Communication on TikTok." *Scientific Reports*.
- [57] Heinrich, Tobias, Yoshi Kobayashi, & Matt Motta. (2024). "Which vaccines should governments purchase in a pandemic? Evidence from a survey experiment in the United States." *Social Science & Medicine*
- [56] Callaghan, Timothy, H., Alva O. Ferdinand, Matthew Motta, Alee Lockman, Aakriti Shrestha & Krissy Lunz-Trujillo. (2023). "Public Attitudes, Inequities, & Polarization in the Launch of the 988 Lifeline." *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, & Law*
- [55] Goidel, Kirby, Timothy Callaghan, Tasmiah Nuzhath, Julia Scobee, David Washburn, & Matt Motta. (2023) Professional Partisans? How Partisan vs. Professional Identities Influence Physicians' Perceptions of COVID-19 Policy Response? *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*
- [54] Motta, Matthew P., Gabriella Motta, & Dominik Stecula. (2023). "Sick as a Dog? The Prevalence, Correlates, and Health Policy Consequences of Canine Vaccine Hesitancy (CVH)" *Vaccine*.
- [53] Motta, Matthew P., Juwon Hwang, & Dominik Stecula. (2023). "What Goes Down Must Come Up? Exploiting Natural Variation in Facebook Service Availability to Study the Demand for Misinformation Content on Other Platforms." *Health Communication*.
- [52] Webster, Steven, Adam Glynn, & Matt Motta. (2023). "Partisan Schadenfreude and the Demand for Candidate Cruelty." *Political Psychology*
- [51] Lunz-Trujillo, Kristin, Jon Green, Aluna Safarpour, David Lazer, Jennifer Lin, & Matt Motta. (2023). "Covid-19 Spillover Effects onto General Vaccine Attitudes." *Public Opinion Quarterly*
- [50] Motta, Matthew P. & Salil Benegal. (2023). How Pandemic-Related Changes in Global Attitudes Toward the Scientific Community Shape "Post-Pandemic" Environmental Opinion. *Public Understanding of Science*.
- [49] Motta, Matthew P., Kristin Lunz-Trujillo, & Timothy Callaghan. (2023). "The CDC Won't Let Me Be." The Opinion Dynamics of Support for Health Agencies' Regulatory Authority. *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, & Law*.

- [48] Motta, Matthew P., Kristin Lunz-Trujillo, Timothy Callaghan, & Alea Lockman. (2023). Erroneous Consonance. How Inaccurate Beliefs about Physician Opinion Influence COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy. *Vaccine*.
- [47] Motta, Matthew P & Dominik Stecula. (2023). "How Media Coverage Influences COVID-19 Vaccination Behavior: Assessing the Impact of Politicized COVID-19 Vaccine News on Vaccine Uptake." *Political Communication*.
- [46] Motta, Matthew P. (2023). Is Partisan Conflict Over COVID-19 Vaccination Eroding Support for Childhood Vaccine Mandates? *npj Vaccines (Nature Partner Journal)*.
- [45] Motta, MP. (2022). "Is Cancer Treatment Immune from Partisan Polarization? How Partisan Identity Motivates Opposition to Preventative Cancer Vaccination in the U.S." *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, & Parties*
- [44] Motta, MP. (2022). "The Correlates & Public Health Consequences of Prospective Vaccine Hesitancy Among Individuals who Received COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters in the U.S." *Vaccines*.
- [43] Benegal, Salil & Matt Motta. (2022). "Overconfident, Resentful, and Misinformed: How Racial Animus Motivates Confidence in False Beliefs." *Social Science Quarterly*. **Featured as Wiley's monthly "Research Headline."**
- [42] Kobayashi, Yoshiharu, Christopher Howell, Tobias Heinrich, & Matt Motta. (2022). Militarized Violence Reduces Willingness to Take a COVID-19 Vaccine: Evidence from Global Dyadic Survey. *Social Science & Medicine*.
- [41] Goidel, Kirby, Timothy Callaghan, David Washburn, Tasmiah Nuzhath, Julia Scobee, Abigail Spiegelman, & Matt Motta. (2022). "Physician Trust in the News Media & Attitudes Toward COVID-19." *The Journal of Health Politics, Policy, & Law*.
- [40] Sylvester, Steven, Matthew Motta, Kristin Lunz-Trujillo, & Timothy Callaghan. (2022). Vaccinating Across the Aisle: Using Co-Partisan Source Cues to Encourage COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake on the Ideological Right. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*.
- [39] Callaghan, Timothy, David Washburn, Kirby Goidel, Tasmiah Nuzhath, Abigail Spiegelman, Julia Scobee, Ali Mogthaderi, & Matthew Motta. (2022). Vaccine Confidence among Primary Care Physicians during the COVID-19 Pandemic in the United States. *Vaccine*.
- [38] Stecula, Dominik, Matthew Motta, Ozan Kuru, & Kathleen Hall Jamieson. (2022). "The Great and Powerful (Dr.) Oz? Alternative Medical Media Consumption & Anti-Vaccine Views in the United States." *Journal of Communication*
- [37] Motta, Matthew P. (2022). "The Pre-Political Origins & Policy Consequences of Environmental Justice Concern." *Politics and Life Sciences*
- [36] Smith, B., Emma Knapp, & Matt Motta. Complementary or Competing Frames? (2022). The Impact of Economic and Public Health Messages on COVID-19 Attitudes. With: Brianna Smith & Emma Knapp. *The Journal of Experimental Political Science*.
- [35] Jansa, Joshua, Matt Motta, & Rebekah Herrick. (2021). "Finding DORI: Using Item Response Theory to Measure Difficulty of Registration in the U.S. and Its Impact on Voters." *American Politics Research*.
- [34] Motta, Matthew P. & Dominik Stecula. (2021). "The Effect of Wakefield et al., 1998 on U.S. Skepticism about MMR Vaccine Safety" *PLOS ONE*. **Featured as The Weeds (Vox) Article of the Week: 9/3/2021.**
- [33] Motta, Matthew P. (2021). "Republicans, not Democrats, are More Likely to Endorse Anti-Vaccine Misinformation." *American Politics Research*.
- [32] Motta, Matthew P., Timothy Callaghan, Steven Sylvester, & Kristin Lunz-Trujillo. (2021). "Identifying the Prevalence, Correlates, and Policy Consequences of Anti-Vaccine Social Identity." *Politics, Groups, & Identities*. **Featured as a Top-10 Most Read Article: Taylor & Francis. 9/23/2021.**

- [31] Lunz-Trujillo, Kristin & Matthew Motta. (2021) "How Misinformation Access Drives Global Vaccine Skepticism" *International Journal of Public Opinion Research* **Leonard S. Robins Best Paper Award, APSA 2020; Robert M. Worcester Prize, WAPOR 2022.**
- [30] Motta, Matthew P, & Paul Goren. (2021). "Apolitical Values & Compliance with Government-Recommended Social Distancing Behavior" *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, & Parties*.
- [29] Wynes, Seth, Simon Donner, & Matthew Motta. (2021). "Understanding the Climate Responsibility Associated with Elections" *One Earth (Cell Press)*.
- [28] Motta, Matthew P., Steven Sylvester, Timothy Callaghan, & Kristin Lunz-Trujillo. (2021). "Encouraging COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake through Effective Health Communication." *Special Issue: Frontiers in Political Science – Politics of Technology*.
- [27] Motta, Matthew P. (2021). "Can a COVID-19 Vaccine Live up to Americans' Expectations? A Conjoint Analysis of how Vaccine Characteristics Influence Vaccination Intentions" *Social Science & Medicine*.
- [26] Callaghan, Timothy, Ali Moghtaderi, Jennifer A. Lueck, Peter Hotez, Ulrich Strych, Avi Dor, Erika Franklin Fowler, & Matt Motta. (2021). "Correlates and Disparities of COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy" *Social Science & Medicine*.
- [25] Motta, Matthew P. (2020). "Changing Minds or Changing Samples? Disentangling Micro-Level Stability and Macro-Level Growth in Anthropogenic Climate Change (ACC) Beliefs." *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*
- [24] Motta, Matthew P. (2020). "Political Scientists? The Characteristics and Performance of Congressional Candidates with STEM Backgrounds." *PS: Political Science & Politics*
- [23] Motta, Matthew P. (2020). "Could Climate Change Concern Increase Demand for a Lyme Disease Vaccine?" *Vaccine*.
- [22] Motta, Matthew P., Robert Ralston, and Jen Spindel. (2020). A Call to Arms? The opinion dynamics and policy implications of climate change concern in the US military. *Environmental Communication*.
- [21] Motta, Matthew P. & Timothy Callaghan. (2020) "The Pervasiveness and Policy Consequences of Medical Folk Wisdom in the U.S." *Scientific Reports (Nature Research)*
- [20] Goren, Paul N., Matt Motta, and Brianna Smith. (2020) "The Ideational Foundations of Symbolic Ideology" *Advances in Political Psychology*
- [19] Motta, Matthew P., Dom Stecula, & Christina Farhart. (2020). How Right-Leaning Media Coverage of COVID-19 Facilitated the Spread of Misinformation in the Early Stages of the Pandemic. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*
- [18] Ralston, Robert J., Matt Motta, & Jennifer Spindel. (2020). When OK is Not OK: Public Concern About White Nationalism in the US Military. *Armed Forces & Society*
- [17] Goren, Paul N., Brianna Smith, and Matt Motta. (2020). Basic Human Values and Sophistication Interaction Theory. *Political Behavior*
- [16] Motta, Matthew P. (2020). Applications & Critical Reflections on the VANMaN Taxonomy. *Social Science & Medicine*
- [15] Lunz-Trujillo, Kristin, Matthew Motta, Timothy Callaghan, & Steven Sylvester. (2020). "Misinformation about the MMR Vaccine: Identifying Psychological Risk Factors and Effective Corrective Communication Strategies" *Political Research Quarterly*
- [14] Motta, Matthew P, Dan Chapman, Kathryn Haglin & Dan Kahan. (2019). Reducing the Administrative Demands of the Science Curiosity Scale (SCS): A Validation Study. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*
- [13] Callaghan, Timothy H. Matthew Motta, Kristin Lunz-Trujillo, Steven Sylvester, & Christine Blackburn. (2019) "Better Safe than Sorry: How Parent Psychology Influences the Decision to Delay Childhood Vaccination." *Social Science & Medicine*

- [12] Kathryn Haglin, Dan Chapman, Matthew Motta, & Dan Kahan. (2019) "How Localized Outbreaks and Changes in Media Coverage Affect Zika Attitudes in National and Local Contexts" *Health Communication*
- [11] Motta, Matthew P. & Andrew Rohrman. (2019) "Quaking in their Boots? Seismic Risk Perceptions and Support for Preventative Public Policy." *Behavioural Public Policy*
- [10] Motta, Matthew P., Dan Chapman, Dominik Stecula, & Kathryn Haglin. (2019) "A Framework for Understanding Disparities in the Measurement of Climate Change Beliefs." *Climatic Change*
- [9] Motta, Matthew P. (2018) "The Enduring Effect of Scientific Interest on Trust in Climate Scientists in the U.S." *Nature Climate Change*. doi:10.1038/s41558-018-0126-9
- [8] Motta, Matthew P., Timothy Callaghan, & Steven Sylvester. (2018) "Knowing less but presuming more: Dunning-Kruger effects and the endorsement of anti-vaccine policy attitudes." *Social Science & Medicine* doi:socscimed.2018.06.032. **Winner: Atlas Award**
- [7] Motta, Matthew P. (2018) "The Polarizing Effects of the March for Science on Attitudes Toward Scientists." *PS: Political Science & Politics*
- [6] Motta, Matthew P. (2018) "Explaining Science Funding Attitudes in the U.S.: The Case for Science Interest" *Public Understanding of Science*
- [5] Motta, Matthew P. (2017) "The Dynamics and Implications of Anti-Intellectualism in the United States." *American Politics Research* doi: 10.1177/1532673X17719507.
- [4] Smith, Brianna, Zein Murib, Matthew Motta, Timothy Callaghan, and Marissa Theys. (2017) "Gay or Homosexual? The Implications of Social Category Labels for the Structure of Mass Attitudes." *American Politics Research*. doi: 10.1177/1532673X17706560
- [3] Luttig, Matthew & Matthew P. Motta. (2017) "President Obama on the Ballot: Referendum Voting and Racial Spillover in the 2014 Midterm Elections" *Electoral Studies*. doi: 10.1016/j.electstud.2017.09.009
- [2] Motta, Matthew P. (2016) "What Do Interviewer Intelligence Ratings Actually Measure?" *Research & Politics*. doi: 10.1177/2053168016665136
- [1] Motta, Matthew, Timothy Callaghan, and Brianna Smith. (2016) "Looking for Answers: Identifying Search Behavior & Improving Knowledge-Based Data Quality in Online Surveys." *International Journal of Public Opinion Research* doi: <https://doi.org/10.1093/ijpor/edw027> **Note: items included in 2018 ANES Pilot Study, 2020 ANES.**

#### *Invited Pieces, Special Collections, & Book Chapters*

- [9] Motta, Matthew P. (2024) "A pseudo-scientific revolution? The puzzling relationship between science deference and denial" Invited Symposium Piece *US Election Analysis*.
- [8] Motta, Matthew P. (2024) " "De-Normalizing Gossip:" Lessons Learned & Critical Reflections on Political Rumors by Adam Berinsky." Invited Book Review Symposium at *Perspectives on Politics*.
- [7] Motta, Matthew P. & Jack Ferdman (2024) "Vaccine Politics & Policymaking in the United States." Invited textbook chapter for *Health Politics & Policy, Sixth Edition (Cengage)*.
- [6] Motta, Matthew P. (2021) "Political advocacy from scientists can exacerbate political polarization. But, that doesn't mean it isn't worth doing." in *Behavioral Scientist*.
- [5] Motta, Matthew P. (2020) "Campaign Advertising & Political Representation in the United States," in *Voting & Political Representation in America: Issues and Trends*.

- [4] Goren, Paul and Matthew Motta. (2020) "Values and Political Judgment: A New Approach," in *At the Forefront of Political Psychology: Essays in Honor of John L. Sullivan*.
- [3] Motta, Matthew P. (2016) "*Uninformed: Why People Seem to Know So Little about Politics and What We Can Do about it*," by Arthur Lupia." *The Journal of Politics*, 78(4), E17-E18.
- [2] Motta, Matthew, and Erika Franklin Fowler. (2016) "The Content and Effect of Political Advertising in Campaigns," *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*.
- [1] Motta, Matthew (2016) "Air War? Campaign Advertising in the 2016 Presidential Election," in *Election Analysis - US Election 2016 Analysis*

#### *Other Publications & Outreach (Not Refereed)*

- [53] State Vaccine Policy Project Press Release 4: New SVPP Data & Preprint: Anti-Vaccine Legislating Spiked Following the COVID-19 Pandemic. *State Vaccine Policy Project*. April 2025
- [52] "RFK Jr. is Not What the Doctor Ordered" *US News & World Report*. With: Dominik Stecula, Krissy Lunz-Trujillo. January 2025
- [51] "Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s nomination signals a new era of anti-intellectualism in American politics" *The Conversation*. With: Dominik Stecula & Krissy Lunz-Trujillo. January 2025
- [50] "We Must Restore Trust in Science in "Anti-Scientific America" *Scientific American*. September 2024.
- [49] "The Public Health Benefits of Guaranteed Income Policies are Clearer than You Might Think." With: Kathryn Haglin. *Public Health Post*. August 2024.
- [48] Internal Survey Research Report Prepared for the Rhode Island Department of Public Health. *The Policy Lab at Brown University*. September-December 2024.
- [47] State Vaccine Policy Project Press Release 3: Anti-Vaccine Legislation is Taking Aim at the COVID-19 Vaccine. *State Vaccine Policy Project* October 2024
- [46] State Vaccine Policy Project Press Release 2: Anti-Vaccine Legislating was Common and Deeply Partisan in 2023 *State Vaccine Policy Project* September 2024
- [45] State Vaccine Policy Project Press Release 1: Introducing the State Vaccine Policy Project (SVPP) *State Vaccine Policy Project* October 2024
- [44] Policymakers are Entitled to their Own Opinions. But Should They be Entitled to their Own Science? *BU Today* March 2024
- [43] The 2024 Presidential Election is Making Americans Anxious (for those who are paying attention). *Public Health Post*. March 2024
- [42] Internal Survey Research Report Prepared for the Rhode Island Department of Public Health. *The Policy Lab at Brown University*. January 2024
- [41] "Vaccine hesitancy spills over to pets." *Harvard Public Health Magazine*. with: Dominik Stecula (lead) and Gabriella Motta. November 2023
- [40] "Misinformation Killed a Safe and Effective Lyme Vaccine. I want to make sure that this doesn't happen again." *Harvard Public Health Magazine*. September 2023
- [39] Internal Survey Research Report Prepared for the Rhode Island Department of Public Health. *The Policy Lab at Brown University*. September 2023
- [38] "Written Testimony in Support of MA HB604 & SB1391." *Meeting of the Joint Committee on Public Health – Massachusetts General Court*. July 2023
- [37] "GOP Politicians are "Throwing Away Their Shot"." *Public Health Post* November 2022

- [36] "Oz has promoted false health claims. What if he pushed vaccinations?" *Monkey Cage* (Washington Post). with: Dom Stecula. *October 2022*
- [35] "The 1 in 10 U.S. doctors with reservations about vaccines could be undermining the fight against COVID-19" *The Conversation*. with: Timothy Callaghan. *April 2022*
- [34] "Unverified reports of vaccine side effects in VAERS aren't the smoking guns portrayed by right-wing media outlets – they can offer insight into vaccine hesitancy" *The Conversation*. with: Dominik Stecula. *August 2021*
- [33] "1 in 4 unvaccinated people may not comply with CDC guidelines to wear masks indoors, survey suggests" *The Conversation*. *May 2021*
- [32] "Joe Rogan told his millions of listeners to not take his anti-vaccine advice seriously. Is it too late?" *The Monkey Cage* (Washington Post). With: Dom Stecula. *May 2021*
- [31] "Why the next major hurdle to ending the pandemic will be about convincing people to get vaccinated" *The Conversation*. With: Timothy Callaghan. *January 2021*
- [30] "Can a COVID-19 vaccine live up to Americans expectations?" *The Conversation*. *January 2021*
- [29] "How political leaders could persuade more Americans to get a covid-19 vaccination." *The Monkey Cage* (Washington Post). *December 2020*
- [28] "In Defense of Polling." *Tulsa World*. *November 2020*
- [27] "New Activism by Scientists Can Lead to Partisan Backlash." *Scientific American*. *October 2020*
- [26] "Election Night could become Election Month. That's OK." *Stillwater News Press*. with: Josh Jansa & Joseph Anthony. *October 2020*
- [25] "Americans aren't worried about white nationalism in the military – because they don't know it's there." *The Conversation*. with: Jen Spindel & Robert Ralston. *October 2020*
- [24] "Oklahomans may be less divided on expanding mail-in voting than state lawmakers" *Tulsa World*. Op-ed, with: Josh Jansa. *May 2020*
- [23] "A majority of vaccine skeptics plan to refuse a COVID-19 vaccine, a study suggests, and that could be a big problem" *The Conversation*. With: Krissy Lunz-Trujilo. *May 2020*
- [22] "How the Coronavirus Is Impacting the Democratic Primaries" *Pro Market Blog – Stigler Center, Booth School at the University of Chicago*. *March 2020*
- [21] "Many Republicans Are Skeptical About Coronavirus. Research Suggests That Republican Politicians Could Change That" *Pro Market Blog – Stigler Center, Booth School at the University of Chicago*. *March 2020*
- [20] "ANES 2019 Pilot Study Methodological Report: Climate Change Mitigation Policy Opinion (GW1 & GW2)" *ANES Methodological Report Available at SSRN*. *March 2020* [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=3550819](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3550819)
- [19] "Will Oklahomans Support Medicaid Expansion? We Need More Polling." *Tulsa World*. (Op-Ed). *November 2019*
- [18] "A Deep Look at Science Video Audience and Gender Disparity" *KQED (PBS – Bay Area)*. with researchers from Yale University, the University of Pennsylvania, Texas Tech University, and KQED. (Press Release). *November 2019*
- [17] "Conspiracy theories and fear of needles contribute to vaccine hesitancy for many parents" *The Conversation*. with Timothy Callaghan. (Article) *August 2019*
- [16] "Americans focus on responding to earthquake damage, not preventing it, because they're unaware of their risk" *The Conversation*. (Article). *July 2019*
- [15] "Do Most Americans Believe in Climate Change? The answer is more complicated than you might think" *Washington Post – The Monkey Cage*. (Article). *June 2019*

- [14] "Report on KQED's 2019 YouGov Survey." *KQED - Public Broadcasting Service*. (Public Report & Press Release). *April 2019*
- [13] "US Veterans are concerned about climate change. Here's why" *The Conversation*. (Article). *March 2019*
- [12] "Many Americans think that climate-change deniers 'get what they deserve' when disasters strike" *Washington Post – The Monkey Cage*. (Article). *January 2019*
- [11] "Countering Misinformation about the Flu Vaccine is Harder than it Seems" *The Conversation*. (Article). *December 2018*
- [10] "Teaching the public more science likely won't boost support for funding, but sparking their curiosity might" *The Conversation*. (Article). *August 2018*
- [9] "Why Vaccine Opponents Think They Know More than Medical Experts," *The Conversation*. With Timothy Callaghan & Steven Sylvester. (Article). *7/12/2018*
- [8] "How Interest in Science Boosts Trust in Climate Scientists" *Scholar Strategy Network* (Policy Brief). *7/10/2018*
- [7] "The Enduring Effects of Scientific Interest on Trust in Climate Scientists in the U.S." *Cultural Cognition Project at Yale Law School* (Blog Post). *5/3/2018*
- [6] "The Enduring Effects of Scientific Interest on Trust in Climate Scientists in the U.S." *International Society of Political Psychology* (Blog Post). *4/26/2018*
- [5] "'Had enough of experts?' Anti-intellectualism is linked to voters' support for movements that are skeptical of expertise." *London School of Economics US American Politics and Policy Blog* (Blog Post). *9/1/2017*
- [3] "Republicans are increasingly antagonistic toward experts. Here's why that matters." *Washington Post – Monkey Cage* (Blog Post). *8/11/2017*
- [2] "Are 'Gay' and 'Homosexual' the Same? Here's what we found" *Washington Post – Monkey Cage*. (Blog Post). *5/22/2017*
- [1] "Trumpism is just as popular in Denmark as the United States" *Washington Post – Monkey Cage* (Blog Post). *12/22/2017*

## BOOK MANUSCRIPT

*Anti-Scientific Americans: The Prevalence, Origins, and Political Consequences of Anti-Intellectualism in the U.S.* (Oxford University Press. Fall 2024).

*Anti-Scientific Americans* offers new theoretical and data-driven insights into the prevalence, origins, and policy consequences of anti-intellectualism in the U.S. Building on recent theoretical advances, the book begins by conceptualizing anti-intellectualism as the dislike and distrust of scientists, academics, and other experts. It then brings together "micro-level" survey data from cross-sectional and longitudinal surveys spanning six decades, and aggregated "macro-level" data from hundreds of opinion polls dating back to the 1940s, to show that anti-intellectualism is both a pervasive and pernicious presence in American public life. One third of Americans can be thought about as holding anti-intellectual attitudes at any given time, which have become increasingly politicized following the rise of the Tea Party in the early 2010s. Reviving often-overlooked insights from Richard Hofstadter's pioneering (1963) work on the subject, the book also shows that anti-intellectualism both shapes and is shaped by Americans' resentment of the role that experts play in the policymaking process. Correspondingly, anti-intellectualism motivates opposition to evidence-based policies in several areas, including on issues related to climate change, economic policy, and resistance to the advice of public health experts throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The book also shows that elected officials respond to increases in public ("macro-level") anti-intellectualism by curtailing experts' influence in the policymaking process. Still, *Anti-Scientific Americans* concludes on an optimistic note by

discussing how what we might learn from this book can help reduce the prevalence and pernicious impact of anti-intellectualism in American political life, and restore Americans' faith in experts.

## BOOK MANUSCRIPT (CUP ELEMENT) UNDER CONTRACT

*The Vaccine Communicator's Playbook.* (Cambridge University Press, Element Series. Contracted for Fall 2026. Co-authored with Dominik Stecula).

We aim to provide a guide for communicating scientific findings and promoting vaccine uptake for policymakers and practitioners. First, we synthesize disparate literatures from public health, communication, political science, social and cognitive psychology, and related disciplines to set the stage for a discussion of two competing models: the "Apple a Day" Model and the "Diagnosis & Treatment" Model. The first offers a series of strategies that are broad in both their messaging focus (i.e., the tactics they use to encourage people to vaccinate) and implementation (i.e., their applicability to a broad swath of the American public). The second, on the other hand, begins from the premise that strategic vaccine communication messages are most likely to inspire attitudinal (e.g., more positive attitudes toward vaccination) and/or behavioral change (e.g., intended vaccine uptake) if they first make an effort to understand why some people are more likely than others to express vaccine skepticism. It then aims to design targeted messages that both recognize and assuage those concerns, while nevertheless promoting vaccine uptake. Unlike the "Apple a Day" Model, the "Diagnosis & Treatment" Model is tailored to a very specific subset of the population. We then reconcile what we know about the effectiveness of the above models. We evaluate when one model can be considered to be more effective than the other at encouraging vaccine promotion, as well as the conditions under which each model might be comparatively more effective by assembling a broad-reaching original meta-analysis (i.e., a systematic study of many studies) where we test the comparative efficacy of each model. Our goal, in this Element, is to provide vaccine communicators with a series of evidence-based recommendations to promote vaccine uptake.

## PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

### *Selected Manuscripts in Preparation*

- R&R Motta, Matthew P. *et al.* "The Opinion Dynamics of Public Risk Perceptions & Policy Attitudes Toward Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)." *Revise & Resubmit at the Journal of Health Politics, Policy, & Law.*
- R&R Cologna, Viktoria *et al.* "The relationship between extreme weather events and support for climate policies across 68 countries." *Revise & Resubmit at Nature Climate Change.*
- Under Review Shrestha, Aakriti, *et al.*, Public Awareness of the Dobbs Decision and Its Impact on Abortion Attitudes.
- Under Review Lunz-Trujillo, Krissy, Alee Lockman, Timothy Callaghan, Matt Motta, & Alva Ferdinand. "Rugged Individualists? Rural Identity, Collectivism, and Government Attitudes"
- Under Review Xu, Meng Meng, *et al.*, "Scientists & social media 'influencers:' Seeding new approaches to health communication through a creators summit on mental health."
- Under Review Matsumura, Naoko, *et al.* "WHO, Competing Endorsements, and Vaccination Willingness"
- Under Review Motta, Matthew P. *et al.* "Quantifying the Electoral Vibe Shift. A Naturally-Occurring Experiment Surrounding President Biden's Decision to Exit the 2024 Presidential Race."
- Under Review Jansa, Joshua, Abida Sultana, Rebekah Herrick, & Matt Motta. Race and Registration Roadblocks: A Research Note.

## GRANTS

### **Awarded**

- 2025 **\$10,000**, *Disrupting Weight Loss Supplement Misinformation: An Influencer-Led Intervention*, 2022, PI: Monica Wang; Co-PI: Matt Motta  
Dean's Innovation Award – BUSPH
- 2023 **\$450,000**, *Assessing the Effectiveness of Common Health Messaging Tactics on Self-Reported and Validated Vaccine Uptake: A Multi-Method Approach.*, 2022, PI: Matt Motta  
National Science Foundation (NSF) – Science of Science: Discovery, Communication and Impact (SoS:DCI).  
**\$15,204**, *Early Career Catalyst Award to establish the "State Vaccine Policy Project."*, 2022, PI: Matt Motta  
Boston University School of Public Health.
- 2022 **\$25,000**, *Mitigating Climate & Health Risks Through Strategic Risk Communication.*, 2022, PI: Matt Motta  
Science of Science Communication Postdoctoral Fellowship Alumni Research Funds (Annenberg Public Policy Center, University of Pennsylvania)  
**\$2,825**, *Unpacking the Psychological Foundations of Vaccine "Country of Origin" Effects*, 2022, PI: Tobias Heinrich  
CAS Dean's Grant. (University of South Carolina)  
**\$2,825**, *Vaccine "Country of Origin" Effects in the UK and Pakistan*, 2022, PI: Yoshi Kobayashi  
POLIS STRATEGIC RESEARCH INVESTMENT FUND (SRIF)

## Pending Review

- 2025 **3,731,000**, *Evaluating Immunization Issues Through Rapid and Repeated Surveys of the Public and Providers Using Improved Survey Methodology*, 2025, co-PIs: Matt Motta & Timothy Callaghan  
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (U01).
- 215,000**, *Health Politicization in Clinical Settings: Navigating a Complex Bioethical Problem*, 2025, PIs: Matt Motta, Tim Callaghan  
Greenwall Foundation. *Revision*
- 950,000**, *Predicting Post-COVID Childhood Vaccination Rates and Outbreak Likelihood*, 2024, PI: Ali Moghtaderi  
National Institute of Health (R01). *Revision*
- 450,000**, *Disrupting Disparities in Diet Supplement Misinformation: A Multi-Method Approach to Counteracting Unregulated Diet Supplement Acceptance on Social Media*, 2024, co-PIs: Matt Motta & Monica Wang  
National Institute of Health (R21). *Revision*
- 10,000**, *Disrupting Weight Loss Supplement Misinformation: An Influencer-Led Intervention.*, PI: Monica Wang. CO-PI: Matt Motta  
BUSPH Dean's Innovation Challenge
- 2024 **50,000**, *Improving the Quality of Suicide-Related Information on TikTok via Public Health Creator Partnerships*, 2024, PI: Amanda Yarnell. CO-I: Matt Motta  
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

## ACCOLADES

- 2024 **Excellence in Research Innovation Award. Boston University School of Public Health.** Awarded to: “recognize a faculty member whose work shifts existing paradigms, uses novel methodologies, or applies existing methodologies in new ways toward the goal of improving public health.”
- Department of Health Law, Policy, & Management DO Award – Boston University School of Public Health.** Awarded to: “acknowledge service and community efforts within or outside the department.”
- Nominee for Supervisor of the Year Award. Boston University.** Awarded for: “appreciation and impact [nominee] had on [their] student employee(s) throughout the year.”
- 2023 **Department of Health Law, Policy, & Management TEACH Award – Boston University School of Public Health.** Awarded to: “acknowledge teaching and education efforts within the department.”
- 2022 **Robert M. Worcester Prize (Best Paper Published in IJPOR) – World Association for Public Opinion Research (WAPOR).** Awarded the Robert M. Worcester Prize for our paper *How Internet Access Drives Global Vaccine Skepticism* by the World Association for Public Opinion Research.
- Winner – General Social Survey 2022 Module Competition.** A module on vaccine hesitancy (including vaccine misinformation, behavior, and policy orientations) was selected for inclusion as a module in the 2022 General Social Survey (GSS).
- 2021 **Leonard S. Robins Award (Best Paper) – APSA: Health Politics & Policy.** Awarded the Leonard S. Robins Award Best Paper Award for our paper *How Internet Access Drives Global Vaccine Skepticism* by the Health Politics & Policy Section at APSA.
- Paper of The Week: Vox (The Weeds)** Featured in Vox's *The Weeds* 9/3 newsletter as “paper of the week” for our work on the origins of MMR vaccine hesitancy (published at PLOS ONE in August 2021).
- Finalist – General Social Survey 2022 Module Competition.** A module on vaccine hesitancy (including vaccine misinformation, behavior, and policy orientations) was selected as a finalist for inclusion in the 2022 General Social Survey (GSS). Final decision pending.
- Most All-Time Reads: Conversation US Author at Oklahoma State.** In January 2021, my OSU-authored Conversation publications passed the university's most all-time read mark at Oklahoma State (507,718 from 2019-2021; in comparison to all articles aggregated since March 2011).
- 2020 **American Political Science Association (Early Career Scholar Feature).** My work and thoughts about doing public facing scholarship were featured in APSA's January newsletter (PS Now) as part of its Career Paths series.
- Oklahoma State University.** Research featured in July's “Research at a Glance” newsletter.
- 2019 **Publons Top Reviewer Award (Top 1%, Social Sciences)** Awarded by Publons to peer reviewers who submit the most initial manuscript reviews, for September 2018 - 2019.
- American National Election Study (ANES)** Two items I designed and proposed – related to public support for climate change policy (see: non-peer-reviewed publication [20]) – were selected for inclusion in the 2019 ANES Pilot Study.
- Oklahoma State University College of Arts and Scientists.** Research featured in October's “Faculty Scholar Spotlight” for the CAS.

- 2018 **Atlas Award (Elseiver)**. Awarded to Matt Motta, Tim Callaghan, & Steven Sylvester for “Knowing less but presuming more: Dunning-Kruger effects and the endorsement of anti-vaccine policy attitudes.”

*Awarded for research that “could significantly impact people’s lives around the world, or already has done so.” Award un-gates selected research permanently.*

**American National Election Study (ANES)** Two items developed by myself, Tim Callaghan, and Brianna Smith – used to detect “search behavior” in online survey (see: peer-reviewed publication [1]) – were selected for inclusion in the 2018 ANES Pilot Study.

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES (2019 - )

**Research Methods Consultant**, *Center for Health Communication at Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health*, 2023-

I am helping to design a series of field experimental and randomized controlled trial protocols for an evidence-based health promotion research project at Harvard’s TH Chan School of Public Health.

**Research Methods Consultant**, *Policy Lab*, 2023-

I am helping to design a series of cross-sectional surveys and randomized controlled trials for a collaboration between the Policy Lab at Brown University and the Rhode Island Department of Health.

**Ad Hoc Science Communication Advising**, *Various Organizations*, 2019-

I regularly provide advice on best practices for vaccine, health, and climate communication to non-profit foundations like the United States of Care, Union of Concerned Scientists, Tulsa Area Immunization Coalition, and the Center for Public Interest Communications, as well as university research centers and colloquia.

**Survey Specialist**, *KQED (PBS - San Francisco, CA)*, 2018-2019

Assisted in the administration, design, analysis, and reporting from a nationally representative survey designed to measure Americans’ consumption of science-related content on various media.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### *Courses Taught*

- 2025 OMPH - Policy, Programs, and Public Health Communication (BUSPH, Summer)  
PM 760 - Health Law, Policy, & Policymaking (BUSPH, Spring A)  
PM 760 - Health Law, Policy, & Policymaking (BUSPH, Spring B)  
MPH ILE - Integrative Learning Experience Evaluator (BUSPH, Spring)
- 2024 PM 843 - Quantitative Methods for Health and Social Policy Research (BUSPH, Fall)  
PM 760 - Health Law, Policy, & Policymaking (BUSPH, Fall)  
PM 931 - Directed Study: Advanced Quantitative Methods (BUSPH, Fall)  
PM 760 - Health Law, Policy, & Policymaking (BUSPH, Spring A)  
PM 760 - Health Law, Policy, & Policymaking (BUSPH, Spring B)  
OMPH - Policy, Programs, and Public Health Communication (BUSPH, Spring)
- 2023 PM 843 - Quantitative Methods for Health and Social Policy Research (BUSPH, Fall)  
PM 760 - Health Law, Policy, & Policymaking (BUSPH, Fall)  
OMPH - Health Communication (25 Hour Week 8 Module Prep.; BUSPH)  
MPH ILE - Integrative Learning Experience Evaluator (BUSPH, Spring)

- PM 844 - Health Policy and Policy-making for Public Health Researchers (BUSPH, Spring)
- PM 760 - Health Law, Policy, & Policymaking (BUSPH, Spring B)
- PM 760 - Health Law, Policy, & Policymaking (BUSPH, Spring A)
- 2022 PM 760 - Health Law, Policy, & Policymaking (BUSPH, Fall)
- POLS 3013 - Introduction to Political Inquiry (Oklahoma State University, Spring)
- POLS 5013 - Graduate Quantitative Methods (Oklahoma State University, Spring)
- 2021 POLS 4993 - Honors Thesis Preparation (Oklahoma State University, Fall)
- POLS 2213 - Fundamentals of Political Science (Oklahoma State University, Fall)
- POLS 5103 - Graduate Research Design (Oklahoma State University, Fall)
- POLS 5013 - Graduate Quantitative Methods (Oklahoma State University, Spring)
- POLS 3443 - Public Opinion & Polling (Oklahoma State University, Spring)
- 2020 POLS 5000 - Graduate Seminar: Political Psychology (Oklahoma State University, Fall)
- POLS 4000 - Misinfo. & Fake News in US Elections (Oklahoma State University, Fall)
- POLS 3443 - Public Opinion & Polling (Oklahoma State University, Summer)
- POLS 3443 - Campaigns & Candidacy (Oklahoma State University, Spring)
- POLS 5013 - Graduate Quantitative Methods (Oklahoma State University, Spring)
- 2019 POLS 5103 - Graduate Research Design. (Oklahoma State University, Fall)
- 2017 POL 3766 - The Political Psychology of Mass Behavior. (University of Minnesota, Summer)

#### *PhD Advising*

- 2024-2025 Annie Buck – PhD Dissertation Committee Member
- 2023-2025 Laura Housman – DrPH Dissertation Committee Chair
- 2023-2025 Kit Man – PhD Dissertation Committee Member
- 2023-2024 Yingzhe Yuan – PhD Prospectus Reader/Discussant

#### *Practicum Advising*

- 2025- Grace Connors – MPH Research Practicum Advisor
- 2025- Rachel Ma – MPH Research Practicum Advisor
- 2024-2025 Debi Amburgey – MPH Research Practicum Advisor
- 2024-2025 Debi Amburgey – MPH Research Practicum Advisor
- 2023-2024 Riley Smith – MPH Research Practicum Advisor

#### *ILE Mentorship*

- 2023 - Boston University School of Public Health, Dept. of Health Law, Policy, & Management. I have lead an Integrative Learning Experience (ILE) cluster devoted to debating whether or not Medicare Part B should be extended to oral/vision care, and hearing aids. I give regular feedback on students' draft opinions, evaluate their final papers, and hold a mock hearing devoted to debating the merits of both sides of the issue.

#### *Pedagogical Training*

- 2020 Online Course Development Preparation (Oklahoma State University: 2 month instruction design tutorial with OSU Outreach)
- 2016 Preparing Future Faculty Course (University of Minnesota: 14-week, for-credit course)

## DISCIPLINARY SERVICE

- 2025 - pres. **Editorial Board Member**, *Journal of Health & Social Behavior*,  
Starting in 2025, I will review papers and attend annual planning meetings as an Editorial Board Member for JHSB.
- 2024 - pres. **Editorial Board Member**, *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, & Law*,  
I review papers and attend annual planning meetings as an Editorial Board Member for JHPPL.
- 2022 - pres. **Governing Council Member**, *Association for Politics & the Life Sciences*,  
I am a voting member on the APLS Council, and organize the association's "conference within a conference" at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association.

**Peer Reviewer for Various Peer-Reviewed Journals** *Ad hoc* reviewer for the following journals (N > 222 Reviews, excluding book/grant review): *Nature Climate Change*, *Nature Human Behavior*, *Nature Scientific Data*, *Science Advances*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *The Journal of Politics*, *Political Psychology*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *American Politics Research*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Research & Politics*, *Political Science Research Methods*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *Public Understanding of Science*, *Journal of Political Marketing*, *Journal of Communication*, *Review of International Organizations*, *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, *American Journal of Preventative Medicine*, *Journal of Economic Psychology*, *Risk Analysis*, *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, *Environmental Communication*, *American Sociological Review*, *Sociological Inquiry*, *PLOS ONE*, *Mobilization*, *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology*, *Environmental Science & Policy*, *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, *Climate Policy*, *Electoral Studies*, *Frontiers in Communication*, *PS: Political Science & Politics*, *Politics & Gender*, *Sociological Perspectives*, *Science Communication*, *Data in Brief*, *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, *Sociological Perspectives*, *Climatic Change*, *Big Data & Society*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Representation*, *Public Health Reports*, *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, & Law*, *Journal of Health Communication*, *Vaccine*, *Representation*, *Annals of Family Medicine*, *HKS Misinformation Review*, *Aletheia*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Science Advances*, *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*.

**Grant Reviewer**, *National Science Foundation*, 2020 -

I am an *ad hoc* grants reviewer for the National Science Foundation.

**Book Reviewer**, *Oxford University Press*, *Routledge*, 2021 -

I am an *ad hoc* book prospectus reviewer for Oxford University Press (2021), Routledge (2024), and Polity (2025).

**You can access my reviewer profile at Publons at:**

<https://publons.com/researcher/1577735/matthew-motta/peer-review/>

## DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2025 - pres. **BUSPH Practice Advisory Committee (PAC) – HLPM Representative**. Boston University School of Public Health.
- 2023 - pres. **Quantitative Methods Seminar – Organizer**. Department of Health Law, Policy, & Management. BUSPH. I organize the department's monthly research workshop/seminar series on topics related to quantitative methods.

- 2021 - 2022 **University Pandemic Cluster Hire Search Committee.** Political Science Dept. representative on a committee to hire several, interdisciplinary, pandemic-focused researchers.
- 2020 - 2022 **Methods Sequence Reorganization Committee (Chair).** Responsibilities include: developing a report – in consultation with other committee members – that will provide a series of recommendations regarding the restructuring of the department's undergraduate methods sequence.
- American Politics Tenure Track Search Committee.** Responsibilities include: Search committee meetings, application evaluations, and interviews with job candidates.
- Graduate Thesis Advisor.** Responsibilities include: Chairing and co-chairing theses submitted for fulfillment of the department's Master's degree requirement, regular meetings with graduate students, feedback on manuscript drafts, and help with data collection & coding.
- 2019 - 2022 **Research Outreach Committee (Co-Chair).** Responsibilities include: organizing department research "brown bag" series and coordinating invited speaker visits.
- Scholarship Committee.** Responsibilities include: evaluating applications for university-wide scholarships, recommending students for awards, and promoting scholarship opportunities.

## RESEARCH OUTREACH

I have written about my research in outlets like *Scientific American*, *The Washington Post* (*Monkey Cage Blog*), *The Conversation* (including republication at *Newsweek*, *Yahoo! News*, and others), and several academic outlets (e.g., Scholar Strategy Network, Cultural Cognition Blog, London School of Economics USAPP Blog; see "Non Refereed Publications" section above). My research has also appeared in outlets like *The New York Times*, *Vox*, *CBS News*, *The Atlantic*, *NPR*, the *Wall St. Journal*, *LA Times*, *CNN*, *Bloomberg*, *National Geographic*, and *FiveThirtyEight*. **For a full and regularly updated list, please visit:** <http://www.mattmotta.com/in-the-media> (abbreviated) and <https://shorturl.at/UyJos> for a full list.

Additionally, I regularly provide commentary on local politics, elections, and public health issues. I am currently a political analyst for Spectrum News 1 (Worcester, MA), and I am available for televised commentary in the Boston (e.g., I have recently done interview work with Fox 25, Boston) and Providence Media Markets. I have previously provided *ad hoc* political commentary on local news programs in the Tulsa and Oklahoma City media markets, and have contributed to campaign coverage on KOCO, KJRH, KOKI, and KTUL. For media requests, please email me at [mmotta@bu.edu](mailto:mmotta@bu.edu).

## INVITED TALKS

- 2025 Motta, Matthew. *The Prevalence & Policy Consequences of Vaccine Hesitancy in the US*. Brookline Public Health. (May 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *When Skeptics See the Light: Correcting Health Misinformation & Promoting Vaccine Confidence Through Reversal Narratives*. St. Olaf College. (April 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Translating Public Health Research Into Effective Policy Action*. BUSPH Inclusion Catalyst Grant Event. (April 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Lunch & Learn Event Panelist*. BUSPH Reproductive Justice Student Alliance. (April 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Insights Into Practice Panelist*. Public Health Communications Collaborative. Virtual. (March 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *HSPH Career Panel – Panelist*. Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health. (March 2024).

- Motta, Matthew. *Legislative Briefing in Support of HB3775 & SB 1470*. Massachusetts State Capitol. Boston, MA. (March 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Center for Health Communication Career Panelist*. Center for Health Communication at the Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health. (March 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Insights to Practice — A Conference to Inspire Public Health Communications, Panelist*. The Debeaumont Foundation. (March 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Anti-Scientific Americans: The Prevalence, Correlates, and Political Consequences of Anti-Intellectualism in the US*. La Salle Academy (February 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Anti-Scientific Americans: The Prevalence, Correlates, and Political Consequences of Anti-Intellectualism in the US*. PH 844. BUSPH (February 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Anti-Scientific Americans: The Prevalence, Correlates, and Political Consequences of Anti-Intellectualism in the US*. Ohio State University (February 2024).
- 2024 Motta, Matthew. *Anti-Scientific Americans: The Prevalence, Correlates, and Political Consequences of Anti-Intellectualism in the US*. Baylor College of Medicine (December 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Anti-Scientific Americans: The Prevalence, Correlates, and Political Consequences of Anti-Intellectualism in the US*. Wesleyan University (November 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Anti-Scientific Americans: The Prevalence, Correlates, and Political Consequences of Anti-Intellectualism in the US*. Fordham University (October 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Anti-Scientific Americans: The Prevalence, Correlates, and Political Consequences of Anti-Intellectualism in the US*. University of New Hampshire (October 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Anti-Scientific Americans: The Prevalence, Correlates, and Political Consequences of Anti-Intellectualism in the US*. University of Minnesota – Twin Cities (September 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Anti-Scientific Americans: The Prevalence, Correlates, and Political Consequences of Anti-Intellectualism in the US*. University of Minnesota – Duluth (September 2024).
- Motta, Matthew. *Beyond Incrementalism: How Early Childhood Educators Can Promote Effective Science Communication*. The Incredible Years. São Jorge. University of the Azores. (February 2024).
- 2023 Motta, Matthew. *Combating Vaccine Hesitancy Through Political Health Communication*. EP775 Class at BUSPH. Boston, MA. (October 2023).
- Yarnell, Amanda & Matt Motta. *"Influencing the Influencers:" A Field Experimental Approach to Promoting Effective Mental Health Communication on TikTok..* World Mental Health Day – Project Healthy Minds. New York, NY. (October 2023).
- Motta, Matthew. *Combating Climate-Induced Health Threats Through Co-Constitutive Risk (CCR) Communication*. Annenberg Public Policy Center. University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. (August 2023).
- Motta, Matthew. *Promoting Evidence-Based Health Policy on Politicized Health Controversies via Political Health Communication*. Department of Sociology. University of Massachusetts, Boston. Boston, MA. (March 2023).
- 2022 Motta, Matthew. *Promoting Evidence-Based Health Policy on Politicized Health Controversies via Political Health Communication*. HLPB Advisory Board Meeting. Boston University School of Public Health. Boston, MA. (December 2022).
- Motta, Matthew. *Erroneous Consonance. How Inaccurate Beliefs about Physician Opinion Influence COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy*. David K. Jones AcademyHealth Journal Club Series. Boston University School of Public Health. Boston, MA. (December 2022).

- Motta, Matthew. *Phi Sigma Alpha Lecture: New Directions in the Study of Misinformation & its Consequences*. Phi Sigma Alpha Society at Valdosta State University. Valdosta State University. Valdosta, GA. [virtual] (October 2022).
- Motta, Matthew. *Advancing the Study of Misinformation Correction Through Conjoint Experimentation*. Network Science Institute. Northeastern University. Boston, MA. (August 2022).
- Motta, Matthew. *The Origins of Parental Vaccine Decision-Making & What Clinicians Can Do About It*. Tulsa Area Immunization Coalition. Tulsa, OK. (January 2022). [virtual]
- 2021 Motta, Matthew. *The Origins of Parental Vaccine Decision-Making & What Clinicians Can Do About It*. National Register of Health Service Psychologists. Washington, DC. (December 2021). [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *The Socio-Political Origins of COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy & What We Can Do About it*. Harvard Business School. Cambridge, MA. (October 2021). [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *Communicating Uncertainty in Scientific Research* Penn Science Policy & Diplomacy Group, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. (May 2021). [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *Un-Scientific Americans? Anti-Intellectualism in American Public Life*. Association of Research Libraries. Washington, DC. (April 2021). [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *Q&A on Conducting Social Science Research During a Pandemic*. Center for the Study of Political Psychology – University of Minnesota. Minneapolis, MN. (April 2021). [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *Misinformation Nation?* University of New Hampshire – Department of Political Science. Durham, NH. (April 2021). [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *Q&A on COVID-19 Vaccine Messaging*. Center for Public Interest Communications. Gainesville, FL. (March 2021). [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *Is Climate Change Making Us Sick?* Texas A&M University – Health Policy & Politics Course. College Station, TX. (March 2021). [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *Combating Skepticism Toward COVID-19 Vaccination*. United States of Care Virtual Webinar. Washington, DC. (February 2021). [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *Combating Skepticism Toward COVID-19 Vaccination*. Environmental Studies Program – University of British Columbia. Vancouver, BC. (February 2021). [virtual]
- 2020 Motta, Matthew. *Combating Skepticism Toward a COVID-19 Vaccine* Research Group on Populism, Anti-Gender, and Diplomacy: Fringe Talk Series. University of Stavanger. Stavanger, Norway. [virtual] (November 2020).
- Motta, Matthew. *Election Misinformation Twitter Q&A* Penn Science Policy & Diplomacy Group, Union of Concerned Scientists. Cambridge, MA. [virtual]. (October 2020).
- Motta, Matthew. *Combating Skepticism Toward a COVID-19 Vaccine*. Pandemic Psychology, University of Minnesota. Minneapolis, MN. (October 2020). [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *A Call to Arms for Climate Change? How military service member concern about climate change can inform effective climate communication*. Department of Political Science (Capstone Course), US Naval Academy. Annapolis, MD. (September 2020) [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *Apolitical Values & Compliance with Government-Recommended Prosocial Health Behavior* Social Action Colloquium, University of Illinois. Urbana, IL. (August 2020). [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *Q&A: The Psychology of Climate Skepticism & Effective Climate Communication*. Department of Psychology (Psychology of Climate Change Course), University of Tennessee. Knoxville, TN. (July 2020) [virtual]

- Motta, Matthew. *A Call to Arms for Climate Change? How military service member concern about climate change can inform effective climate communication* Climate Advocacy Lab “R+E8” Conference. Washington, DC. (May 2020) [virtual]
- Motta, Matthew. *Addressing Vaccine Skepticism: An Evidence-Based Approach* Department of Political Science, University of Delaware. Newark, DE. (Feb. 2020)
- 2019 Motta, Matthew. *Anti-Scientific Americans? Reflecting on several studies about anti-expert attitudes in American public life*. Department of Psychology (PSY 1587), Harvard University. Cambridge, MA.
- 2018 Motta, Matthew. *Journal Club Meeting: Virtual Discussion of “The Case for Science Interest.”* Center for Public Engagement, American Association for the Advancement of Science. Washington, DC.
- Motta, Matthew. *Rating Our Professors: America’s Declining Trust in Higher Education (and what we can do about it)*. ExpandedED Lecture Series; University of California Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara, CA.
- Motta, Matthew. *Rating Our Professors: America’s Declining Trust in Higher Education (and what we can do about it)*. Carleton College - Northfield, MN.
- 2016 Motta, Matthew. *Political Advertising Project: Planning Meeting* Earnest Becker Foundation. Panelist at University of Illinois - Chicago. Chicago, IL.
- Motta, Matthew. *Working with Wesleyan Media Project Advertising Data* Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. Minneapolis, MN.

## RECENT CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS & SERVICE

*I regularly present research, chair, and discuss panels at the annual meetings of the Midwest Political Science Association and American Political Science Association; as well as several other regional and national conferences. For brevity, please contact me by email at [mmotta@bu.edu](mailto:mmotta@bu.edu) for a full list or additional information.*

American Political Science Association (APSA)	2015 <sup>b</sup> , 2016 <sup>ab</sup> , 2017 <sup>abc</sup> , 2018 <sup>abcd</sup> , 2019 <sup>abc</sup> , 2020 <sup>ce</sup> , 2021 <sup>abc</sup> , 2022 <sup>abc</sup> , 2023 <sup>abc</sup> , 2023 <sup>abc</sup> , 2024 <sup>abc</sup> , 2025 <sup>abc</sup>
Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)	2015 <sup>ab</sup> , 2016 <sup>ab</sup> , 2017 <sup>abc</sup> , 2018 <sup>abc</sup> , 2019 <sup>abc</sup> , 2020 <sup>abc</sup> , 2021 <sup>abc</sup> , 2022 <sup>abc</sup> , 2023 <sup>abc</sup> , 2024 <sup>abc</sup> , 2025 <sup>abc</sup>
Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)	2019 <sup>c</sup> , 2020 <sup>a</sup>
University of Miami Conspiracy Theory Conference	2020 <sup>e</sup>
Junior Americanist Workshop Series (JAWS)	2021 <sup>a</sup>
Science & Politics: Changing Attitudes and Emerging Methodologies	2021 <sup>a</sup>
Boston University Law & Economics Workshop	2022 <sup>c</sup>
International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP)	2023 <sup>ac</sup>

European Sociological Association (ESA)	2024 <sup>a</sup>
Society for Medical Decisionmaking	2024 <sup>ad</sup>
Health Politics & Policy Conference	2025 <sup>ab</sup>
Health Law Professors Conference	2025 <sup>ab</sup>

*Note.* Superscript letters refer to the following: a = presenting panelist, b = non-presenting co-author, c = panel discussant or chair, d = poster presenter, e = scheduled panel cancelled due to COVID-19