

OSTROM WORKSHOP RESEARCH SERIES

Maria Waqar

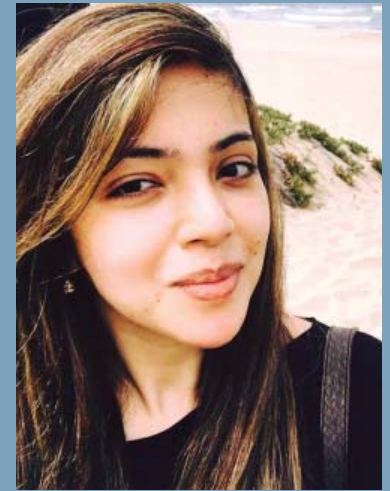
Department of Political Science, IU Bloomington

“The Politics of Reserved Seats and Substantive Representation: The Beliefs and Behavior of ‘Quota Women’ in Pakistan”

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Ostrom Workshop, 513 N. Park



How do reserved seats improve women’s substantive representation in contexts where political dynasties are pervasive? I propose a two-stage process that focuses on (i) candidate selection, and (ii) institutional incentives driving behavior of women on reserved seats. When dynastic politicians dominate political institutions, a gender quota that reserves legislative seats for women encourages political parties to recruit female relatives of male politicians. However, reserved seats also incentivize women to focus on their legislative participation to seek reappointments. The consequence of this legislative participation will be an improvement in women’s substantive representation—legislative interventions and outcomes favoring women. I also explore how the strength of dynastic advantage interacts with a quota woman’s likelihood to substantively represent women. I conceptualize dynastic advantage as the social capital a “quota woman” has in the party due to her familial relationship with a male party member.



Maria Waqar is a fourth-year PhD student in the Department of Political Science at IU. She is broadly interested in women’s political participation in developing countries. Her dissertation focuses on understanding how family ties affect recruitment and behavior of female legislators in Pakistan. She is currently teaching an undergraduate course titled Politics of Gender and Sexuality. Maria has an MA in political science from National University of Singapore.

Presentations are open to the public (see our website for papers). You are welcome to bring your lunch. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu; 812/855–3151).