

# STEVEN SAMFORD

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Organizational Studies Program  
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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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|              | University of Michigan, Organizational Studies Program   |
| 2024-Present | Associate Professor  |
| 2017-2024    | Assistant Professor  |
| 2014-2017    | University of Toronto, Munk School of Global Affairs<br>Research Fellow, Innovation Policy Lab             |
| 2013-14      | Scripps College (Claremont, CA), Department of Politics and Int. Relations<br>Visiting Assistant Professor |
| 2012-13      | University of Notre Dame, Kellogg Institute for International Studies<br>Post-Doctoral Fellow              |

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## EDUCATION

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| 2012 | Ph.D., Political Science, University of New Mexico<br>Primary Advisor: Andrew Schrank<br>Subfields: Comparative Politics, International Relations (with distinction) |
| 2006 | M.A., Latin American Studies, University of New Mexico<br>Subfields: Political Science and History (with distinction)  |
| 1997 | B.A., Reed College (Portland, OR)  |

### Additional Training

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| 2011 | Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research. University of Michigan |
| 2009 | Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research. Syracuse University              |

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## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-Reviewed

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| 2022 | Samford, Steven. "Decentralization and Local Industrial Policy in Mexico." <i>World Development</i> 158.   |
| 2022 | Samford, Steven. "Strength in Numbers or Collective Failure? The Organizational Capacity of Microenterprises." <i>Sociology of Development</i> 8(1): 85-110.                     |
| 2021 | Samford, Steven and Dan Breznitz. "Mending the Net: Public Strategies for the Remediation of Network Failures." <i>Social Forces</i> 100(3): 1333-1356.                          |
| 2018 | Breznitz, Dan, Darius Orston, and Steven Samford. "Mission Critical: The Ends, Means, and Design of Innovation Agencies." <i>Industrial and Corporate Change</i> 27(5): 883-896. |
| 2017 | Samford, Steven. "Networks, Brokerage, and State-Led Technology Diffusion in Small Industry." <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> 122 (5): 1339-70.                             |

- 2017 Samford, Steven, Peter Warrian, & Elena Goracinova. "Public and Private Goods in Developing Advanced Manufacturing Capacity." *Business and Politics* 19(3): 482-905.
- 2015 Samford, Steven. "Innovation and Public Space: The Developmental Possibilities of Regulation in the Global South." *Regulation and Governance* 9(3): 294-312.
- 2014 Samford, Steven and Priscila Ortega Gómez. "Subnational Politics and Foreign Direct Investment in Mexico." *Review of International Political Economy*. 21(2): 467-496.
- 2013 Adhikari, Prakash and Steven Samford. "The Nepali State and the Dynamics of Maoist Insurgency." *Studies in Comparative International Development*. 48 (4): 457-481.
- 2010 Samford, Steven. 2010. "Averting 'Disruption and Reversal': The Logic of Rapid Trade Reform in Latin America." *Politics and Society* 38 (3): 373-407.

### **Other Writing**

- 2024 Samford Steven and Samantha Feldman\*. "Getting the Lead Out of Mexican Ceramics: The Challenges of Diffusing Safe Technologies to Microenterprises." William Davidson Institute, Case 8-886-462.
- 2022 Samford, Steven, Elena Afendoulis\*, Catherine Coffman\*, Aliya Hakim\*, Samara Kamal\*, Maryam Masood\*, and Runlin Wang\*. "Micro-mill or Mass Market: Organizational Crossroads in Costa Rican Coffee Cooperatives." William Davidson Institute, Case 6-199-214.
- 2017 Breznitz, Dan and Steven Samford. "Analysis of Innovation Agencies: Case Study: Canada's Industrial Research Assistance Program." Inter-American Development Bank.
- 2016 Breznitz, Dan and Steven Samford. "Innovation Agencies: The Road Ahead." Inter-American Development Bank.
- 2016 Samford, Steven. "Small Enterprise and the Low-Innovation Trap: Evidence from Environmental Regulation of Industry in Mexico." Kellogg Institute *Working Paper Series* #409.
- 2015 Samford, Steven. "Structure, Meaning, and Network Causality." *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research* 13(2): 9-13.
- 2012 Samford, Steven. "Review: John A. Donaldson, Small Works: Poverty and Economic Development in Southwestern China (Cornell UP, 2011)." *Journal of Politics* 74(4).
- 2011 Samford, Steven. 2011. "From Tradition to Trade: The Challenges of Upgrading Mexican Ceramics of World Markets." *Americas Quarterly: The Policy Journal for Our Hemisphere* 5(1).

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### **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

#### **Manuscripts under Review, in Revision, in Press**

Breznitz, Dan and Steven Samford. "Public Agencies for Innovation-Led Growth and Transformation." *The New Role of the State for Innovation Led Growth* (eds. Dirk Fornahl, Uwe Cantner, and Stefan Kuhlman). Edward Elgar Publishing. (In Press)

Samford, Steven, Dan Breznitz, & Michael Murphree. "Missed Connections: Exclusionary Network Dynamics and Enclave Formation among Foreign Investors" (Under Revision)

Brian Palmer-Rubin and Steven Samford. “Embedded Multinationals: When MNCs Choose Voice over Exit” (Under Review)

Samford, Steven. “The Political Logic of Low Salience Public Goods: The Case of Science and Technology Agencies in Mexico” (Under Revision)

### **Projects in Development**

“Business Embeddedness in the North American Economic Community” (Grant proposal, gathering and coding data )

“Models of Cooperation among Small Enterprises” (Seed grant, gathering data, planning field work)

### **GRANTS**

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- 2022-3 C.K. Prahalad Research Initiative (Ross School of Business, University of Michigan)  
Seed grant for “Cooperative Enterprises and Technology Use in a Changing Global Economy”
- 2015 Mexican Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AMEXCID),  
Excellence Grant for Foreign Scholars
- 2010-12 National Science Foundation,  
Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant
- 2010-11 Social Science Research Council,  
International Dissertation Research Fellowship
- 2010-11 Fulbright US Student Program,  
Fulbright-García Robles Grant – Mexico
- 2010 Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies,  
Dissertation Fellowship (Declined)

### **AWARDS**

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- 2013 Virginia M. Walsh Dissertation Award American Political Science Assoc., STEP Section
- 2013 Best Dissertation Award, Latin American Studies Association, Mexico Section
- 2013 Early Career Paper Award, Latin American Studies Assoc., Economics & Politics Section
- 1994-7 Commendation for Excellence in Scholarship, Reed College

### **PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)**

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- 2024 “Provision of Low Salience Public Goods: Evidence from Mexico”  
Midwest Political Science Association (Chicago, IL)
- 2023 “Subnational Formation of Science and Technology Agencies in Mexico”  
American Political Science Association (Los Angeles, CA)
- 2023 “Internationalized Industry Associations and Industrial Upgrading in Mexico”  
REPAL Annual Conference (Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar, Quito, Ecuador)

- 2023 “Politicians, Technocrats, and the Formation of Science and Technology Agencies”  
LASA Congress (Vancouver, Canada)
- 2022 “Public Agencies for Innovation-Led Growth.”  
Conference on *The New Role of the State for Transformative Innovation* (Hannover, Germany)
- 2022 Discussant: “Business Power and Economic Policy”  
Latin American Studies Association Congress (Virtual)
- 2021 “Decentralization and Local Industrial Policy”  
American Political Science Association Meeting (Seattle, WA)
- 2019 “Strength in Numbers of Failure? The Politics of Regulation and Upgrading in Microenterprises”  
REPAL Annual Conference (Tulane University)
- 2018 “The Politics Non-Innovation in Microenterprises”  
University of Michigan Sustainability and Development Conference (Ann Arbor, MI)
- 2018 “Mending the Net: Public Remediation of Network Failures.”  
American Sociological Association Meeting (Philadelphia, PA)
- 2016 “Business Networks and the Failure of the Maquiladora Model in Jalisco, Mexico”  
REPAL Annual Conference (MIT)
- 2016 Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University (February 2016)
- 2016 “The Development of Local Industrial Policy in Mexico”  
Latin American Studies Association Meeting (New York, NY)
- 2015 Ministry of Innovation, Science, & Technology, State of Jalisco (Mexico)
- 2014 “The Failure of the Assembly Model in Latin America”  
Cardiff Business School, Workshop Comparing Latin American and Asian Political Economy (Cardiff, Wales)
- 2014 “Technological Innovation and Social Regulation in Developing Economies”  
American Political Science Association Meeting (Washington, D.C.)
- 2014 “Small Enterprises as Shapers of Environmental Regulation”  
“Economics and Politics Section Panel: Latin American Political Economy”  
Latin American Studies Association Meeting (Chicago, IL)
- 2014 “Collective Action and the Regulation of Microenterprises”  
International Studies Association Meeting (Toronto, ON)
- 2013 University of Notre Dame, Kellogg Institute for International Studies
- 2013 Panel Discussant: Immigration, Political Economy  
“Indigenous Production in the Era Market Integration: Evidence from Mexico”  
Midwest Political Science Association Meeting (Chicago, IL)
- 2012 Cornell University, Latin American Studies Program
- 2012 “Embedded Autonomy Revisited: Brokering Technology Diffusion”  
American Sociological Association Meeting (Denver, CO)
- 2012 “Getting the Lead Out: Facilitating Compliance in the Mexican Ceramics Sector”

Latin American Studies Association (San Francisco, CA)

- 2012 “State-Led Brokerage and Technology Diffusion in Small Industry”  
Ford Foundation/LASA Conference on Rewarding Regulation (Albuquerque, NM)
- 2012 “Co-Producing Innovation: The Politics of Productive Ideas”  
Social Science Research Council IDRF Conference (Savannah, GA)
- 2011 Fulbright-Garcia Robles Conference (Mexico City, Mexico)
- 2011 “The Subnational Politics of Foreign Direct Investment in Mexico” (with Priscila Ortega)  
“Networks and Innovation in the Mexican Ceramics Sector”  
American Political Science Association Meeting (Seattle, WA)
- 2011 “Public-Private Dynamics and Upgrading Work Conditions”  
UCLA conference on Labor in the Global South (Los Angeles, CA)

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### **POLICY CONSULTING**

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- 2020 Instituto del Café de Costa Rica  
“Organizational form among Cooperatives of Small Coffee Producers”
- 2016 Inter-American Development Bank, Competitiveness and Innovation Division  
“Innovation Agencies: The Road Ahead”
- 2015 State of Jalisco (Mexico), Ministry of Innovation, Science, & Technology  
“Cultivating Technology in Jalisco’s Tech Hub”

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### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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#### **National Science Foundation**

Grant Proposal Reviewer – Future Manufacturing Research Grants (2023)

#### **Israeli Science Foundation**

Grant Proposal Reviewer (2024)

#### **Manuscript Reviewer**

*American Political Science Review, American Sociological Review, American Journal of Sociology, Social Forces, World Development, Journal of International Development, Journal of Development Studies, Sociology of Development, Latin American Politics and Society, Review of International Political Economy, Economics and Politics, Journal of Politics in Latin America, International Studies Quarterly, Studies in Comparative International Development, and Regulation and Governance.*

#### **Professional Associations**

American Political Science Association

Science, Technology, and Environmental Politics Award Committee (2015)

American Sociological Association

Development Sociology Awards Committee (2013, 2018, 2022)

Latin American Studies Association

Economics and Politics Executive Council / Secretary-Treasurer (2013-2018)

Economics and Politics Early Career Award Committee (2014)

**MISCELLANEOUS**

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**Languages**

Spanish – Advanced

Portuguese – Basic

**International Experience**

Mexico (research, fieldwork): 2010-2011, 2012, 2015; Costa Rica (research, fieldwork): 2020;

Ecuador (teaching): 2003-2004; El Salvador (teaching): 2001-2003

Updated: February, 2025