

Ray La Raja

Professor of Political Science / Associate Director of UMass Poll at University of Massachusetts Amherst

Amherst, MA, US

Ray La Raja's research interests include political parties, interest groups, elections, campaign finance and political participation.

Biography

Ray La Raja's areas of expertise include political parties, interest groups, campaign finance, elections, political participation, American state and local politics, public policy and political reform. He is co-founder and associate director of the UMass Poll, which conducts public opinion research in Massachusetts and the United States to inform policymaking.

Expertise

Public Policy and Organizations, Elections and Polling, Political Science, Campaign Finance, American Politics

Affiliations

UMass Amherst Department of Political Science, UMass Poll

Education

University of California, Berkeley

Ph.D. Political Science

Harvard University

Master in Public Policy Kennedy School of Government

Harvard University

A.B. History and Literature

Accomplishments

Best Paper Award

Co-Winner (with Jesse Rhodes and Brian Schaffner) of the Best Paper Award, from the Class and Inequality Section of the American Political Science Association. "Understanding Inequality and Representation in Local Politics."

Virginia Gray Best Book Award

Co-Winner (with Brian Schaffner) of the 2016 Virginia Gray Best Book Award for the best political science book published on the subject of U.S. state politics or policy in the preceding three calendar years. Campaign Finance and Political Polarization: When Purists Prevail (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press: 2015).

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