

# Travis B. Ruddle

## Assistant Professor

Romney Institute of Public Service & Ethics  
Marriott School of Business, Brigham Young University  
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travirsruddle@byu.edu

### Faculty Affiliations

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Assistant Professor, Romney Institute of Public Service & Ethics, **2022-Present**  
Marriott School of Business

### Education

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**Ph.D., Political Science, University of Oklahoma** **2022**

Fields: Public Administration, Public Policy, and Research Methods

Dissertation: *Citizens and Sectors: An Examination of Sector Preferences and Blame Attribution During Times of Certainty and Uncertainty*

**Master of Public Administration, University of Oklahoma** **2019**

**Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, University of Oklahoma** **2013**

### Research

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Public and nonprofit management; citizen accountability; crisis management; ethics; organizational corruption and misconduct; sector differences

\* Indicates works co-authored with students | ⊕ Indicates an article with distinction

### Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

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Ruddle, T. and Fox, D. (2026). Participatory storytelling in the divisive era: Strategic framing and the ethics of equity implementation. *Administrative Theory & Praxis*. - *Forthcoming*

Ruddle, T., Gates, D., & Hart, D. (2025). Do no harm: A foundational moral ethic for public administration. *Public Administration Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/puar.70038>

Choi, J., Robinson, S., Ruddle, T., & Fister, A. (2025). Restoring public trust after a data breach crisis: Reputational response strategies for government, for-profit, and nonprofit organizations. *Risk, Hazards, & Crisis in Public Policy*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/rhc3.70026>

\* Ruddle, T., Shortle, A., Fryar, A., & Livingston, W. (2024). In the shadow of the ivory tower: An ethical exploration of citizen assessments of American university presidents' political endorsements. *Public Integrity*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10999922.2024.2398078>

⊕ Lamothe, M., Mkrтчyan, A., Ruddle, T., & Kuyon, K. (2022). Examining the efficacy of accountability systems in preventing nonprofit misconduct: A look beyond financial fraud.

*Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 52(1), 106–129. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08997640211073750>  
(Top 10 Cited Articles in 2023)

Ruddle, T., Robinson, S., & Fister, A. (2022). Fragile halos: Comparing organizational reputation across sectors. *Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management*, 31(1), 13–25.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-5973.12400>

## Books

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Ruddle, T. and Agle, Brad. (2024). *The Totality of Allegiance: Inside the Hearts and Minds of Trump Supporters*. Freedom Peak Press. ISBN: 9798991670807.

## Peer-reviewed Manuscripts Under Review

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McNair, Clint, Ruddle, Travis, Periloux, Peay. “Consequences During Disaster: An Experimental Study of Nonprofits’ Declining Trust over Time.” Submitted Manuscript to *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*. Under Revise and Resubmit.

\*Wightman, G. Breck, Ruddle, Travis, Paxton, Enoch, and Christensen, Robert. “Leaders of Integrity for All Seasons, Sectors, and Situations? Exploring Help-Seeking Behavior at Work.” Submitted Manuscript to *Public Management Review*. Under Revise and Resubmit.

Ruddle, Travis. “Citizen Preferences for Services: Does Sector Matter When an Organizational Crisis Occurs?” Submitted Manuscript.

Walls, Corbin and Ruddle, Travis. “Mind the Gap: Donor Informedness and the Reality of Pre-Donative Research.” Submitted Manuscript to *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*.

## Working Papers

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Ruddle, Travis, Allyson Shortle, Alisa Fryar, and Robbie Robichau. “Diversion Programs and Deservingness: Differing Perceptions Across Public Service Delivery Models and Characteristics of Beneficiaries.”

\*Wightman, G. Breck, Ruddle, Travis, and Santiago, Karl. “Symbolic Succession: Examining Passive and Active Representation in Response to Executive Scandals.” Submitted Manuscript to *Public Management Review*.

Witesman, Eva, Rick Morse, Chris Silvia, and Travis Ruddle. “Civic Knowledge and Engagement: Assessing the Functional Understanding of U.S. Government and the Bureaucracy.”

\*Ruddle, Travis, G. Breck Wightman, Enoch Paxton, and Robert K. Christensen. “Leadership in Limbo: Understanding Public and Donor Perceptions of Interim Succession Strategies Following Nonprofit Executive Scandals.”

\*Santiago, Karl and Travis Ruddle. “Citizen Perceptions of Corruption Across Sectors.”

McNair, Clint, Travis Ruddle, and Peay Periloux. “Disasters and Punishment: Citizen Evaluations of Organizational Failure Across Levels of Government.”

Ruddle, Travis. “Citizens’ Blame Attribution in Organizational Crises: Differences Across Sectors.”

\*Ruddle, Travis, and Neil Squire. "How Donor Feedback Affects Contributions to Charitable Organizations."

## Public Engagement Articles

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Ruddle, Travis and Brad Agle. "Why Good People Support Donald Trump." *Pittsburgh Post Gazette*. <https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/insight/2024/09/29/trump-maga-voters-supporters-bradley-agle-travis-ruddle/stories/202409290063>.

## Invited Lectures, Talks, and Presentations

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KTOK Oklahoma News Radio with Gwin Faulconer-Lippert. "*The Totality of Allegiance* Book Talk (Part 3)." February 2024.

KTOK Oklahoma News Radio with Gwin Faulconer-Lippert. "*The Totality of Allegiance* Book Talk (Part 2)." February 2024.

Faithful Politics Podcast. "Inside the Minds of Trump Supporters: Dr. Travis Ruddle Breaks Down Political Allegiance." December 16, 2024. [Link to Podcast](#).

International Humanistic Management Association Series Seminar. "Understanding the Trump Phenomenon with Travis Ruddle and Brad Agle." December 4, 2024. [Link to Presentation](#).

KTOK Oklahoma News Radio with Gwin Faulconer-Lippert. "*The Totality of Allegiance* Book Talk (Part 1)." October 2024.

Book Launch and Talk for *The Totality of Allegiance: Inside the Hearts and Minds of Trump Supporters*. Provo, Utah. September 2024.

Invited Talk, "An Overview of the Nonprofit Sector: Training Basics" for The Oklahoma Group Consultants. The Oklahoma Group. August 2021

Guest Lecture, "Nonprofits and the Bureaucracy," for Dr. Dan Brown, Public Administration, and Society. March 2021.

Guest Lecture, "Nonprofits and Public Administration," for Dr. Dan Brown, Public Administration and Society. October 2020.

Invited Talk, "An Overview of the Nonprofit Sector: Training Basics" for The Oklahoma Group. August 2020.

## Conference Presentations

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Robert Christensen and Travis Ruddle. "How Do Citizens Construct Sector Appropriateness: Insights for Nonprofits." Presented at Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Conference, November 2025.

Robert Christensen and Travis Ruddle. "How Do Citizens Construct Sector?" Presented at Public Management Research Conference, June 2025.

Ruddle, Travis, G. Breck Wightman, Robert Christensen, and Enoch Paxton. "Nonprofit Scandals, Succession, and Stability: Examining Public and Donor Expectations of Interim Executives."

Presented at Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Conference, November 2024.

Schwoerer, Kayla and Travis Ruddle. "What Do You Meme? Understanding Meme-Centric Public Communication Strategies and Citizen Responses." Presented at International Research Society for Public Management Conference, April 2024. (In absentia)

Christensen, Robert, Travis Ruddle, and Greg Porumbescu. "Developing an Inductive Model of Citizen Sector Perceptions." Presented at International Research Society for Public Management Conference, April 2024. (In absentia)

Wightman, G. Breck, Travis Ruddle, and Karl Santiago. "The Succession Solution: Examining Symbolic Representation in Response to Executive Scandals." Presented at Midwest Political Science Association Conference, April 2024.

Ruddle, Travis and Corbin Walls. "Informed and Uninformed Donor Behavior: An Experimental Survey Examining the Effect of Information on Perceptions of Overhead Spending." Presented at Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Conference, November 2023.

Ruddle, Travis, Peay Periloux, and Clint McNair. "Consequences During Disaster: An Experimental Study of Nonprofits' Declining Trust over Time" Presented at Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Conference, November 2023.

Santiago, Karl and Travis Ruddle. "Citizen Perceptions of Corruption Across Sectors." Presented at Midwest Political Science Association Conference, April 2023.

Ruddle, Travis, Shortle, Allyson, and Fryar, Alisa. "Thou Hypocrites!: Public Acceptance, Neutrality, and Objection Toward Nonprofit Political Activity." Presented at Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Conference, November 2022.

Choi, Jungwha, Ruddle, Travis, Robinson, Scott, and Fister, Aaron. "Restoring Public Trust After a Crisis." Presented at Public Management Research Conference, May 2022.

Shortle, Allyson, Ruddle, Travis, Fryar, Alisa, and Robichau, Robbie. "Diversion Programs, Deservingness, and the Dad Bias: Differing Perceptions Across Public Service Delivery Models and Characteristics of Beneficiaries." Presented at Midwest Political Science Association, April 2022, and Public Management Research Conference, May 2022.

Lamothe, Meeyoung, Ruddle, Travis Mkrtychyan, Ani, and Walls, Corbin. "Sexual Misconduct and Misbehavior in the Nonprofit Sector: A Systematic Review." Presented at Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Conference, November 2021.

Lamothe, Meeyoung, Mkrtychyan, Ani, Ruddle, Travis and Kuyon, Kayleigh. "Misconduct in the Nonprofit Sector: A Comprehensive Approach to the Study of Financial Fraud and Other Misbehaviors" Presented at Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Conference, November 2020

Ruddle, Travis, Mkrtychyan, Ani, Lamothe, Meeyoung and Kuyon, Kayleigh. "Nonprofit Corruption: Types, Occurrences and Narratives" Presented at Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Conference, November 2019.

## Research Grants

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Ballard Center Faculty Fellows Research Grant (2025) - \$3,652

Do No Harm Research Initiative. "Do No Harm in Local Government Codes of Ethics"  
Funded for Fall 2025.

Stephanie S. Sorensen Endowed Student Support Fund (2023) - \$6,000

Wightman, G. Breck and Travis Ruddle. "Leadership in Limbo: Understanding Public Perceptions of Interim Succession Strategies After Nonprofit Executive Scandals." Funded for Fall 2024.

Stephanie S. Sorensen Endowed Student Support Fund (2022) - \$10,000

Ruddle, Travis and G. Breck Wightman. "Executive Succession Following a Crisis: Comparing Active and Symbolic Responses to Reputational Repair." Funded for Fall 2023.

## Professional Experience

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Assistant to the President, President's Office, *Oklahoma City Community College* 2017

- Advised and assisted the college president
- Briefed the college president on local, state, and federal policy issues
- Networked with business, media, policymakers, and other leaders
- Facilitated community outreach and development campaigns

Coordinator of Student Life, *Oklahoma City Community College* 2015-2017

- Developed and supervised peer-to-peer mentoring program for student success
- Engaged students, faculty, staff, and the community for event development
- Served on a broad range of committees focused on student success

Cooperative Alliances Specialist, *Oklahoma City Community College* 2013-2015

- Provided recruitment services to partnership sites
- Presented at partnership sites about college admissions process and resources
- Assisted in developing new and existing cooperative agreements in compliance with procedures of the College, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE), and the Oklahoma Career and Technology Education system

## Teaching Experience

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**Brigham Young University**, Assistant Professor, Romney Institute of Public Service and Ethics

- MSB 375/MBA 692: Do Good. Better. (Fall '24, '25)
- MPA 643: Leadership in Public Administration (Winter '23, '24, '25)
- MPA 650: Nonprofit Management (Fall '22, '23, '24, '25)
- MPA 675: Local Government I (Winter '23, '24, '25)

**University of Oklahoma**, Instructor of Record

- NPNG 2033: Introduction to the Nonprofit Sector
- NPNG 3033: Nonprofit Management
- P SC 1113: American Federal Government (in-person/online)

**University of Oklahoma**, Graduate Teaching Fellow

- P SC 1113: American Federal Government – Discussion Labs

**Oklahoma City Community College, Instructor of Record**

- LM: Leadership and Mentorship
- SCL: Success in College and Life

**Professional Memberships**

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Member, American Society for Public Administration  
Member, International City/County Management Association  
Member, Utah City/County Management Association  
Member, Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action  
Member, Public Management Research Association  
Member, Academy of Management  
Member, American Political Science Association  
Member, Midwest Political Science Association  
Member, Association for Budgeting and Financial Management  
Member, Partnership for Public Service  
Member, Pi Sigma Alpha, National Political Science Honor Society

**Awards and Honors**

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Robberson Grant Award (2021)  
HV Thornton Memorial Award (2020)  
Phi Delta Theta Graduate Award (2020)  
John Halvor Leek Memorial Scholarship (2019-2020)  
John W. Wood Award, Recognition for Outstanding Research and Writing (2019-2020)  
Department of Political Science Travel Award (2019)  
Ronald M. Peters Award for Teaching (2018)  
University of Oklahoma Provost Award in Teaching (2018)  
University of Oklahoma Honors Research Assistant Program (2013)  
Emerging Leaders Award, University of Oklahoma (2011)

**Service**

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*Profession*

Reviewer for *Public Personnel Management, Review for Public Personnel Administration, Public Administration, Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly, Governance, and Public Integrity*

Elevating Ethics in the Public and Nonprofit Sectors Conference  
Co-Host and Planning Co-Chair with Robert Christensen – (April 10, 2026 – April 13, 2026)

Public Management Research Association  
Awards Committee Member – (2025-Present)

Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action  
Theories, Issues, and Boundaries Section At-Large Member (2025-Present)  
Nominations Committee Member – (2022- 2024)

Midwest Political Science Association Conference

Session Chair – (2022 - 2024)

Discussant – (2022 - 2024)

Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action Conference

Session Chair – (2022 - 2023)

Discussant – (2022 - 2023)

### ***University and Department***

Ballard Center, BYU Marriott School

Faculty Fellow – (2023 - Present)

Public and Nonprofit Ethics Lab (formerly Public Service Lab)

Faculty Advisor – (2022 – Present)

BYU-ICMA Student Organization

Advisor – (2022 - Present)

BYU MPA Local Government Alumni Group

Advisor – (2022 - Present)

Departmental Diversity, Equity, and Belonging Committee

Committee Member – (2022 - Present)

### ***Community***

The Oklahoma Group

Advisor – (2021 - 2022)

Oklahoma City Oklahoma Temple Rededication Committee

Finance Chair and Committee Member – (2018 - 2019)

Chapter Advisory Board, Phi Delta Theta, Oklahoma Alpha

Board Member – (2014 - 2017)

Oklahoma City Phi Delta Theta Alumni Club

Member – (2013 - 2022)

Pro-bono work with Oklahoma and Utah-based nonprofits and charities

Consultant – (2019 - Present)

### ***Relevant Training and Skills***

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Software: Stata, R, and SPSS

Quantitative Methodology: Experimental Surveys – Qualtrics, Lucid, Prolific, MTurk, and Conjointly

Qualitative Methodology: Interviews, Focus Groups, Content and Sentiment Analyses, MAXQDA, and Nexis Uni