

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Program Director, Media and Democracy Reform Initiative**

*Common Cause*

September 2012 – Current

Directing former Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Commissioner Michael Copps' public interest media and telecommunications reform campaigns at Common Cause. I devise campaign strategy and represent the organization before national and state legislatures and regulators. Other tasks include ghostwriting, press release drafting, and reporter engagement.

**Wins:**

*Stop Mega Comcast*

Teamed with national Stop Mega Comcast coalition to build multi-sector opposition to Comcast's proposal to acquire Time Warner Cable. Appeared on radio, television, and in print to deliver our message against the merger. Briefed staff of both parties on the Hill and all 5 offices at FCC. Worked with consumer groups to generate more than 800,000 grassroots comments against the merger, a record. Delivered invited testimony at California Public Utilities Commission hearing on the merger. Placed anti-merger OpEds in *Washington Post*, *Time*, and *The Hill*. Under sustained pressure, Comcast withdrew its bid in April 2014.

*Open Internet*

Led winning Open Internet ("net neutrality") campaign to secure online free speech and competition guarantees at FCC through media engagement, editorial placement, and grassroots events in New York, Wisconsin, California, Wisconsin, and Texas. Regular visits to Capitol Hill, FCC, and White House. Prepared congressional testimony for Commissioner Copps for Senate Judiciary and House Energy and Commerce Committee hearings. Quoted in *New York Times*. FCC voted to reclassify broadband in February 2014.

*Community Broadband*

Drew on my dissertation research to make policy case for FCC preemption of community broadband restrictions in North Carolina and Tennessee. Engaged Hill and regulatory staff. Placed OpEd in *The Hill*. Research I co-authored cited in White House report on broadband **Community Broadband Solutions**. FCC voted for preemption in February 2014.

## **SELECTED REPORTS TESTIMONY, SPEECHES, AND PANELS**

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*Big Money, Big Deal* an online comic about net neutrality, created in partnership with *Symbolia* magazine. Set record for traffic at Common Cause website; made the front page of Reddit; generated thousands of online petition signatures.

*Preserving an Open Internet: Rules to Promote Competition and Protect Main Street Consumers* – drafted and edited testimony for former Commissioner Copps at a Senate Judiciary Committee field hearing to promote strong net neutrality policies.

*#CommActUpdate: Perspectives from Former FCC Chairmen* – contributed to research, drafting, and editing of testimony by Commissioner Copps urging Congress to preserve public interest and universal service communications policies in any rewrite of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

*National Conference for Media Reform Keynote* – scripted, revised, and rehearsed for Commissioner Copps' keynote at the 2013 National Conference for Media Reform in Denver, Colorado.

## **FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

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German, fluency in speaking, reading, writing, and listening-comprehension.

Spanish, near-fluency in speaking, reading, and listening-comprehension.

## **EDUCATION**

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- Ph.D. – Public Policy and Administration** May 2012  
Dissertation title – *Municipal Broadband in Wilson, North Carolina: A Study*  
University of Delaware  
Newark, Delaware
- Master of Social Work – Public Policy Concentration** May 2007  
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and  
University of North Carolina at Greensboro  
Greensboro, North Carolina
- Bachelor of Arts – German** May 2004  
Guilford College  
Greensboro, North Carolina