

# Nicholas Short

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## EDUCATION

### Harvard University

PhD Candidate, Government and Social Policy

### Massachusetts Institute of Technology

MS, Technology and Policy, 2016

### U.C. Hastings College of the Law

JD, 2007

### U.C. Berkeley

BA, History; BA, Astrophysics with Honors, 2002

## DISSERTATION

Summary: The American knowledge economy (AKE) is a political construct, but it is one that emerged from the shock created by the economic crises of the 1970s and not from the shock of new technological advances in computing. Entrepreneurial politicians significantly shaped AKE development, as a neoliberal faction within the Democratic Party—the Atari Democrats—played a crucial role in shifting the Party’s attitude towards technological innovation. In designing and championing new public policies to facilitate the knowledge economy transition, these elected officials responded mostly to the demands of business managers in emerging high technology businesses, not to the appeals of middle-class “decisive” voters. In a time of divided government, the political consensus supporting AKE development converged around a set of market-oriented reforms to intellectual property laws, not increased investment in higher education. This neoliberal form of the AKE is not entirely pro-competitive and it tends to exacerbate inequality along multiple dimensions.

Committee Members: Dan Carpenter (chair), Ryan Enos, Kathleen Thelen

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

American political economy  
American political development  
Law and politics of the American knowledge economy  
Politics of economic inequality  
Social policy

Subfields: American Politics and Methods

## RESEARCH PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

“[The Distributional Consequences of the American Knowledge Economy](#)”. First draft in progress; to be completed in Sep. 2021 and workshopped in the winter.

“[Is Antitrust’s Consumer Welfare Standard Anti-Democratic? Evidence from a Survey Experiment](#),” with Jacob Brown and Sophie Hill. Second pilot study using DLABSS in progress. Full survey to be implemented in Nov. 2021.

“[The Politics of the American Knowledge Economy](#)”. Apr. 20, 2021. Under review at Studies in American Political Development.

“[Antitrust Reform in Political Perspective: A Constructive Critique for the Neo-Brandeisians](#)”. Feb. 26, 2021. Submitted to multiple law reviews in Aug. 2021.

“[Political Contributions by American Inventors](#)”. July 7, 2021. Submitted to the American Political Science Review.

“[Financial Innovation in the 21st Century: Evidence from U.S. Patents](#)”, with Josh Lerner, Amit Seru, and Yuan Sun. July 1, 2021. NBER Working Paper No. 28980.

[“Antitrust Deregulation and the Politics of the American Knowledge Economy”](#). Dec. 17, 2019. Under review at Political Research Quarterly.

[“Concentration in the Ownership of U.S. Patents”](#). Apr. 19, 2019. Workshopped in May 2019. Project on hold; main empirical results likely to be incorporated into book project.

## LAW REVIEW PUBLICATIONS

Nicholas Short. 2016. [“The Political Economy of the Research Exemption in American Patent Law.”](#) Fordham Intellectual Property, Media, and Entertainment Law Journal, 26, 3, pp. 573-623.

Nicholas Short. 2016. [“A Research Exemption for the 21st Century.”](#) Michigan Journal of Law Reform Caveat, 50, 1.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Antitrust Deregulation and the Politics of American Knowledge Economy,” Eighth Meeting of The Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Paris, France, July 3-5, 2019.

“Mergers and Acquisitions and Top Income Shares,” First Conference of the World Inequality Database, Paris, France, Dec. 15, 2017.

“IP And Access Problems in Biotechnology Research,” Synthetic Biology Center Conference, MIT, Jan. 25, 2016.

## RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Harvard Business School**

*Research Assistant*, Prof. Josh Lerner 2017-2020

- Replicated results of stock market event study estimating patent value
- Designed and coded machine learning algorithms for identifying financial technology patents

### **Harvard Department of Government**

*Research Assistant*, Prof. Jennifer Hochschild Summer 2018

- Identified all federal appellate courses dealing with collection of DNA pursuant to databank statutes
- Coded outcomes and linked to data on judicial ideology and appointing president

### **Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati P.C.**

*Associate Attorney*, Patents and Innovation Practice 2013-2014

### **Winston & Strawn LLP**

*Associate Attorney*, Intellectual Property Group 2007-2013

- Handled all aspects of litigating patent and trade secret matters in state and federal court
- First chaired a two-week jury trial involving a prisoner civil rights dispute in federal court

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

I served as a teaching fellow for each of the following courses at Harvard University:

<i>American Democracy</i> , with Roberto Unger and Cornell West	Spring 2021
<i>American Government: A New Perspective</i> , with Paul Peterson	Fall 2020
<i>The Politics of Economic Inequality</i> , with Tom Remington	Spring 2019, 2020
<i>Data</i> , with David Kane	Fall 2018

## SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

Bok Center Certificate for Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University.

James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Ph.D. Scholar in Inequality and Wealth Concentration.

Graduate study funded by the Russell Goldsmith Graduate Student Aid Fund supporting students who are examining how government can foster job creation and economic growth.

## BAR ADMISSIONS

State: California, Massachusetts

Federal: Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, Multiple Federal District Courts

## REFERENCES

### Scholarship:

#### **Daniel Carpenter**

Allie S. Freed Prof. of Government  
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#### **Kathleen Thelen**

Ford Professor of Political Science  
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#### **Ryan Enos**

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### Teaching Assistance:

#### **Thomas Remington**

Goodrich C. White Prof. (Emeritus) of Political Science  
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Visiting Professor of Government  
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#### **Roberto Unger**

Roscoe Pound Professor of Law  
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Areeda Hall, Room 226  
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### Research Assistance:

#### **Josh Lerner**

Jacob H. Schiff Prof. of Investment Banking  
Harvard Business School  
Rock Center for Entrepreneurship, Room 314  
Soldiers Field  
Boston, MA 02163  
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#### **Jennifer Hochschild**

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