

Biography

Rogers M. Smith is the Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professor and Chair of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania. He teaches American constitutional law and American political thought, with special interests in issues of citizenship and racial, gender, and class inequalities. He has published over 90 essays in academic journals, edited volumes and public interest publications, including the American Political Science Review, the Western Political Quarterly, Studies in American Political Development, Daedalus, Social Research, Yale Law Journal, the American Prospect, the Nation, and others. He is author or co-author of five books: Stories of Peoplehood: The Politics and Morals of Political Memberships (Cambridge University Press, 2003); The Unsteady March: The Rise and Decline of Racial Equality in America (with Philip A. Klinkner, 1999); Civic Ideals: Conflicting Visions of Citizenship in U.S. History (1997); Citizenship without Consent: The Illegal Alien in the American Polity (with Peter H. Schuck, 1985); and Liberalism and American Constitutional Law (1985, rev. ed. 1990).

Civic Ideals received six "best book" awards: the Ralph J. Bunche Award of the American Political Science Association, the J. David Greenstone Prize of the APSA Politics and History Section, the David Easton Prize of the APSA Foundations of Political Theory Section, the Merle Curti Intellectual History Prize of the Organization of American Historians, the Allan Sharlin Memorial Award of the Social Science History Association, and the "Government and Political Science Award" of the Association of American Publishers. It was a CHOICE Outstanding Book in 1998 and a Finalist for the 1998 Pulitzer Prize in History. The Unsteady March received the 2000 Horace Mann Bond Book Award of the W. E. B. Du Bois Institute, Harvard University. Smith's 1988 American Political Science Review article, "Political Jurisprudence, the 'New Institutionalism,' and the Future of Public Law," also received the 2004 Wadsworth Publishing Award of the APSA's Law and Courts section as a work of enduring influence published more than 10 years ago. He has also supervised over 20 Ph.D. dissertations, four of which have won "best dissertation" prizes from the American Political Science Association in the fields of public law, racial and ethnic politics, and women and politics.

Formerly the Alfred Cowles Professor of Government at Yale University, where he taught from 1980 to 2001, Smith also received a Yale College Prize for Distinguished Teaching in the Social Sciences in 1984. He received a Carnegie Corporation of New York "Scholar's Grant" in 2001-2003 to research a book to be entitled Civic Horizons: Achieving Democratic Citizenship in Modern America. He was a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar in 2002-2003 and was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2004.

In sum, he has been a real nerd for a long, long time.