

VITA  
**Charles H. Backstrom**

February 1998

- ADDRESS:** 5802 Willow Lane, Shoreview, MN 55126.  
Home Telephone: (612) 792-9904
- PERSONAL DATA:** Born 1926. Valley City, North Dakota.  
Married to Barbara; four adult children (Paul, Anne, Brian, Claudia)
- EDUCATION:** Crookston (Minnesota) High School;  
South Dakota State University, 1944;  
Moorhead (Minnesota) State University, A.B., B.S. 1949, major in social studies, minors in history, French, and physical science;  
University of Wisconsin, M.A. 1953, Ph.D. 1956, major in political science, minor in economics;  
University of Michigan, statistics course, 1956-57.
- HONORS:** Bachelor's degree with Special Honor, 1949;  
University of Wisconsin Fellow, 1953;  
K.K. Knapp Fellow, 1954;  
Campbell Prize essay (co-author) on the American two-party system, 1954;  
G.G. Herfurth Award for best social science dissertation, 1956;  
Congressional Fellowship, American Political Science Association, 1957 (served with Rep. Carl Elliott and Sen. Hubert Humphrey);  
State and local government Fellowship, National Center for Education in Politics, 1965-66 (served with District of Columbia Commissioners);  
Distinguished Alumnus, Moorhead State University, 1972;  
Tate Award for Excellence in Academic Advising, University of Minnesota, 1987;  
WCCO Radio Good Neighbor Citation, 1988;  
Dedicatee, James W. Davis, *The President as Party Leader* (Greenwood, 1992).
- GRADUATE STUDY AREAS:** American Government, Politics and Public Policy, Political Theory, International Relations.  
M.A. Thesis, "Charles E. Wilson and the Labor Leaders."  
Ph.D. Dissertation, "The Progressive Party of Wisconsin, 1934-46."
- TEACHING EXPERIENCE:** Moorhead (Minnesota) High School, Social Science, Journalism, 1949-51.  
Graduate Assistant, University of Wisconsin, 1952.  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, Eastern Michigan University (Ypsilanti), 1955-59 (on leave 1957-59).  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Minnesota, 1959-63.  
Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Minnesota, 1963-70.  
Professor of Political Science, University of Minnesota, 1970-1996.  
Emeritus Professor, 1997-present.  
Adjunct Professor, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 1970-1985.
- COURSES TAUGHT:** American Government and Politics; State Government; Local Government; Minnesota Government and Politics; Political Parties; Campaigns and Elections; United States Congress; Field Work in Politics; Field Work in Legislature; Field Work in Local Government; Seminars on Legislative Process, and Local Government, and College Teaching; Public Affairs Research Seminar (Computerized Fiscal Model); Undergraduate Research Seminar; Graduate Research Module on survey research; College Honors Seminar (Reapportionment); Effective Lobbying.
- RESEARCH COMPETENCIES:** Survey research, aggregate data analysis. Computer languages: Wordstar, WordPerfect, Fortran, SPSS, Xedit, Lotus 123, LEGISLATE.

**ACTIVITIES:**

Executive Director, Minnesota Council for Education in Politics, 1959-65.  
Lecturer on Politics, Legislative Activities, and Local Government.  
Member, Citizens Committee on Metropolitan Problems (Steering Committee for Governor's Conference) 1961.  
Member, Governor's Bipartisan Commission on Legislative Reapportionment, 1964-65.  
Elections Consultant, *Minneapolis Tribune*, 1964-80, 1984-present.  
Elections Consultant, CBS News, 1969-present.  
Elections Consultant, WCCO Radio and TV, 1984-85.  
Consultant, Minnesota Attorney General, 1974-82.  
Consultant, Minnesota Secretary of State, 1975-80.  
Design Consultant, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (University of Minnesota) on RAFT (Rapid Analysis Fiscal Tool), 1967-75.  
Minnesota reporter, *Midwest Review of Public Administration*, 1976-80.  
Editorial Board, *Midwest Review of Public Administration*, 1978-80.  
Institutional Review Board, Minnesota Department of Public Welfare, 1977-81.  
Survey research consultant, Citizens for Representative Government, 1980, and other associations;  
Expert witness in court trials involving election law (1975-77), campaign practices (1980 and 1983), aggregate election results (1982), survey research methods (1983), wage equity (1985);  
Witness, Minnesota Legislative Committee on Finance (1970), Reapportionment (1979, 1991), Rules and Administration (1989).  
Sample design for caucus estimation, Minnesota Democratic Farmer-Labor party (1992 and 1994).

**OTHER EXPERIENCE:**

U.S. Army : Active duty, 1944-47; Infantry, Private to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant; Active Reserve, 1947-63, Infantry Captain.  
Participant, Citizenship Clearing House Workshop in Politics, 1956.  
Legislative Assistant, Rep. Carl Elliott of Alabama, 1958-59.

**ASSOCIATIONS:**

American Political Science Association.  
Midwest Political Science Association (Program Committee, 1964).  
Minnesota Political Science Association (Chair, Executive Committee, 1974-75).  
Minnesota Materials Committee (Chair, 1974-78; Chair, Nominating Committee, 1986).  
Minnesota Academic of Science.  
American Association of University Professors (Chair, Minnesota Chapter Legislative Affairs Committee, 1966-70).  
University of Minnesota Faculty Association.  
Citizens League (Board of Directors, 1968-70, 1972-74, Program Committee, 1976, 1978, Study Committees on Legislature, Property Taxation, AIDS).  
Prospect Park United Methodist Church (Lay Leader, 1968-70).  
Committee on Planning and Research, Minnesota United Methodist Annual Conference, 1980-87 (Vice Chair, 1981-82).

**PUBLICATIONS:**

Books:

*Tribune of the People: The Minnesota Legislature and Its Leadership* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1989) (with principal author Royce Hanson and others); sole author of Chapter 8, "Legislators at Work: How They View Their Jobs in the Legislature."  
*Survey Research* (with Gerald Hursh-Cesar), 2d ed. (New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1981); 1<sup>st</sup> ed. (Evanston: Northwestern University Press, 1963).  
*The Politics of Mental Health* (with principal author Robert H. Connery and others) (New York: Columbia University Press, 1968); sole author of Chapter 10, "Minneapolis-St. Paul."  
*Recount* (with Ronald F. Stinnett) (Washington: National Documents Publishers, Inc., 1964).

Books: (continued)

*Federal Services to Special Education and Rehabilitation*, Committee print, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1960).

Chapters in Books:

“Conducting Elections in Minnesota” in Donald Ostrom, ed., *Perspectives on Minnesota Politics and Government*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., (Minneapolis: Burgess, 1998).

“Minnesota State Government,” *Legislative Manual 1997-1998* (St. Paul: Minnesota Secretary of State, 1997), p. 4-8.

“The Politics of AIDS” (with Leonard Robins), Chapter 20 in Theodor Litman and Leonard Robins, eds., *Health Politics and Policy*, 3d ed. (Albany: Delmar, 1996).

“The Minnesota Response to AIDS” (with Leonard Robins), in Homer Williamson and Carolyn Shrewsbury, eds., *Perspectives on Minnesota Politics and Government*, 3d ed. (Minneapolis: Burgess, 1993), pp. 272-309.

“Establishing an Electoral Effects Baseline” (with Leonard Robins and Scott Eller) Chapter 3 in Bernard Grofman, ed., *Toward Fair and Effective Representation: Political Gerrymandering and the Courts* (New York: Agathon Press, 1990), pp. 145-170.

“Problems of Implementing Redistricting” in Bernard Grofman, et al., eds. *Representation and Redistricting Issues* (Lexington: Heath, 1982), pp. 43-53.

“Minnesota” in L. Hardy, ed., *Reapportionment and Redistricting: A National Survey* (Claremont: Rose Institute, 1980).

“Ballots and Election Procedure in Minnesota,” Chapter 9 in Millard Gieske and Edward Brandt, eds., *Perspectives in Minnesota Government and Politics* (Kendall Hart, 1977), pp. 149-159.

“Aggregate Election Data in the Campaign: Limitations, Pitfalls and Uses,” (with Robert Agranoff) in Agranoff, ed., *The New Style in Election Campaigns* (Boston: The Holbrook Press, 1972, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 1976).

Monographs:

“The Minnesota Response to AIDS” (with Leonard Robins), Minneapolis: Center for Urban & Regional Affairs, University of Minnesota (1992).

“The Legislature as a Place to Work: How Minnesota Legislators View Their Jobs,” Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs study on The Future of the Minnesota Legislature (Minneapolis: Humphrey Institute, 1986).

Film:

“Lawmakers” (with Richard Blue and James Morrison). University of Minnesota Media Resources. 50-minute 16mm sound film. 1976.

Articles:

“Organizational Imperatives and Policy Perspectives of AIDS Community-based Organizations: A View from the States,” *AIDS & Public Policy Journal*, Vol. 14, No.1 (Spring 1999).

“The Media and AIDS: Health Elite Perspectives of Coverage,” *Journal of Health & Social Policy*, Vol. 9, No. 3 (1998), pp. 45-69.

“State AIDS Policymaking: Perspectives of Legislative Health Committee Chairs,” *AIDS & Public Policy Journal* (1995).

“The Role of State Health Departments in Formulating Policy: A Survey on the Case of AIDS” (with Leonard Robins), *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 84, No. 6 (June 1994), pp. 905-909.

Articles: (continued)

- “Public Policy and Political Perspectives of Hospital Associations on AIDS” (with Leonard Robins), *New England Journal of Human Services*, Vol. 12, Issue 4 (1993).
- “The Minnesota Response to AIDS” (with Leonard Robins), *CURA Reporter*, Vol. 21, No.4 (October 1991).
- “The Political Elements in Policymaking on AIDS,” *New England Journal of Human Services*, Vol. 9, No. 2 (Summer 1989).
- “Reapportionment in the Post-Bandemer Era” (with Leonard Robins and Scott Eller), *Constitutional Commentary* (July 1987).
- “The Supreme Court Prohibits Gerrymandering: A Gain or a Loss for the States?” (with Leonard Robins), *Publius Annual Review of Federalism* LXXVII (1987).
- “Successful Internships,” *FOCUS on Teaching and Learning* (Minneapolis: Educational Development Program. University of Minnesota, April 1985).
- “Public Attitudes Toward Initiative and Referendum,” *The Initiative in Contemporary America: The Path to Reform* (Englewood, CO: National Center for Initiative Review, 1983).
- “The Practice and Effect of Redistricting,” *Political Geography Quarterly* I (October 1982), pp. 351-359.
- “Age Requirements for Holding Office,” Harold Chase, ed., *Guide to American Law* (St. Paul: West Publishing Company, 1984).
- “Issues in Gerrymandering: An Exploratory Measure of Partisan Gerrymandering Applied to Minnesota,” *Minnesota Law Review*, 62 (July 1978); cited in *Karcher v. Daggett* 103 S. Ct 2653 and *Davis v. Bandemer* 478 US 109.
- “Minnesota State Legislative Developments,” *Midwest Review of Public Administration*, XIII (December, 1979), pp. 274-276.
- “Congress and the Public: How Representative is the One of the Other?” *American Politics Quarterly*, 5 (October 1977), pp. 411-435.
- “Minnesota State Administrative Development,” *Midwest Review of Public Administration*, X (December 1976), pp. 239-242.
- “The Coming Erosion of Support for Block Grants” (with Leonard Robins), *Conference for Federal Studies Notebook*, VI (Fall 1976), pp. 3-12.
- “Gerrymander” (with Leonard Robins), *Dictionary of American History* (Scribners, 1976).
- “Ripper Legislation,” *Dictionary of American History* (Scribners, 1976).
- “Report of the Governor’s Bipartisan Reapportionment Commission,” *Minnesota Law Review*, XLIX (December 1964), pp. 367-446.
- “Error in the Minnesota Gubernatorial Election of 1962,” *Journal of the Minnesota Academy of Science*, XXXII (No. 3, 1965), pp. 209-215.
- “A Federal Department of Urban Affairs,” *Minnesota Municipalities*, XLVI (August 1961), pp. 233-234.

Papers:

“Legislators’ Perspectives on AIDS,” American Political Science Association, New York, NY, September 3, 1994.

“A Roadmap of Minnesota Politics,” Manitoba interns, St. Paul, MN, March 18, 1993.

“The Last Gasp of the Political Parties?” Community Lecture, Rochester, MN, October 12, 1992.

“The Role of Chief Health Officers in Formulating Policy: The Case of AIDS,” American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, September 5, 1992.

“Democratic Structures,” foreign political party visitors, Minneapolis, MN, August 20, 1992.

“Public Opinion Polling,” Mindstretch, St. Paul, MN, December 18, 1991.

“Background On Caucuses,” Democratic Leadership Council, St. Paul, MN, November 16, 1990.

“A Roadmap of Minnesota Politics,” international visitors, Minneapolis, MN, September 10, 1990.

“The New Politics of AIDS” (with Leonard Robins), American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, August 30, 1990.

“Differences Between Legislative and Executive Staffs,” Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, Program on Legislative Staff Training, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, June 19, 1990.

“Morale in the Workplace: Attitudes of Legislators Toward Their Institution,” American Political Association, Chicago, IL, September 3, 1987.

“Using the Computer for Classroom Instruction: Legi-Slate—A Data Base on Congress,” Minnesota Political Science Association, St. Cloud, MN, November 8, 1986.

“Partisan Gerrymandering in the Post-Bandemer Era” (with Leonard Robins and Scott Eller), American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., August 28, 1986.

“The American Two-Party System in Theory and Practice,” Taft Seminar for teachers, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, June 30, 1986.

“Changes in Campaign Funding in the United States,” University Research Consortium, Minneapolis, MN, February 28, 1986.

“Appropriate Measures of Partisan Gerrymandering” (with Leonard Robins and Scott Eller), Southeast Conference on Public Administration, Charleston, SC, October 24, 1985.

“What I Learned from Carl Elliott,” recognition dinner, Montgomery, AL, May 14, 1985.

“The Northstar Profile, 1984: An Analysis of the 1984 Election,” Minnesota Political Science Association, St. Paul, MN, November 17, 1984.

“Effects of the Sample Ballot in Minnesota,” Minnesota Academy of Science, St. Paul, MN, April 27, 1984.

“The State of American Political Party as an Institution,” University Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN, February 26, 1983.

“Public Attitudes Toward Initiative and Referendum,” National Seminar on the Initiative, National Center for Initiative Review, Washington, D.C., January 21, 1983.

Papers: (continued)

“The Businessman’s Running Guide to Congress,” Minnesota Executive Program, Telemark, September 17, 1982.

“Popular Vote on Populist Amendments,” American Political Science Association, Denver, CO, September 2, 1982.

“Lobbying Today’s Legislature,” University of Minnesota Faculty Association, Minneapolis, MN, June 2, 1982.

“Comments of Peter Taylor’s The Geography of Representation, Political Geography Specialty Group session, Association of American Geographers, San Antonio, TX, April 27, 1982.

“Problems of Implementing Redistricting Reform,” Midwest Political Science Association, Cincinnati, OH, April 18, 1981.

“Public Opinion Polls as a Research Source,” Minnesota Historical Society, Bloomington, MN, October 15, 1977.

“American Federalism in the Bicentennial Year: The Meaning of Recent Changes in the Intergovernmental Grant System” (with Leonard Robins), Minnesota-North Dakota Academy of Science, Fargo, ND, 1976.

“The Use and Abuse of Power – Attempts to Limit It,” Beth-el Synagogue, St. Louis Park, MN, January 22, 1974.

“Congress and the People: How Representative is One of the Other,” annual convention of the American Association for Public Opinion Research, Atlantic City, 1972.

“Social Indicators: Local Community Response to National Programs,” annual meeting, American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., 1968.

“The Minnesota State Legislature,” Minnesota-Dakotas regional session, The American Assembly on State Legislatures in American Politics, Moorhead, MN, 1967.

“The Whole Teach,” Dedication of Virginia FitzMaurice Grantham Hall, Moorhead State College, MN, 1966.

“Practical Political Research,” Iowa Center for Education in Politics Annual Conference, 1964.

“Church and State Today,” Prospect Park United Methodist Church, Minneapolis, MN, October 16, 1963.

“The Social Scientist as Policy Adviser,” annual meeting, American Political Science Association, St. Louis, MO, September 6-9, 1961.

“Politics and the Educated Individual,” commencement address, Moorhead State University, Moorhead, MN, 1960.

“Alternatives, Democracies, and the Two-Party System” (with Nick A. Masters), Campbell Prize Essay, University of Wisconsin, 1954.

Reviews:

Sandra Panem, “The AIDS Bureaucracy: Why Society Failed to Meet the AIDS Crisis and How We Might Improve Our Response” (with Leonard Robins) in *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law* (Summer 1989).

Kalman H. Silvert, “The Reason for Democracy” (with Leonard Robins), in *The Journal of Politics* (August 1978).

Reviews: (continued)

John Fenton, "Midwest Politics," in *Midwest Journal of Political Science*, XI (November 1967), pp. 530-532.

Michael Amrine, "This is Humphrey," in *Minnesota History* XXXVII (June 1960), p. 84.

Robert E. Spiller and Eric Larabee, "American Perspectives," in *American Political Science Review*.

"Education and Economic Growth," in National Society for Study of Education, *Social Forces Influencing American Education*, in *Minnesota Journal of Education* LXII (January 1962), pp. 9-11.

Media Items:

"Who Would Want to be Mayor?" Radio City News, October 1994.

"The Minnesota Caucuses in a Primary Year," Radio City News, March 1, 1992.

"How Can the Democrats Win the Presidency?" KUOM Radio, July 18, 1990.

"How Minnesota Legislators View the Legislature," *St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch*, January 25, 1987.

"Size of the Legislature," *Minneapolis Tribune*, August 1982.

"Energy Shortage: A Remarkable Opportunity to Show We Care," *United Methodist Reporter*, January 1974.

"Campaign Financing: How to Kill Our Parties" (with Leonard Robins), *The New York Times*, January 13, 1974.

"Why There Should Be No Referendum on Bond Issues," *Minneapolis Star*.

"District of Columbia Voting," *Minneapolis Star*, June 9, 1961.

**RESEARCH GRANTS:**

Center for Urban & Regional Affairs, University of Minnesota, Study of Minnesota Government's Response to AIDS.

Minnesota Legislature and others (to Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs), Study of Effectiveness of the Legislature, 1984-86.

Ford Foundation (to Upper Midwest Research and Development Council), RAFT – Rapid Analysis Fiscal Tool, 1968-70.

National Institute of Mental Health (Duke University), Local Government Organization for Mental Health Activities, 1964.

University of Minnesota, Committee on Urban Research and Planning, Attitudes Toward Metropolitan Integration, 1963.

Ford Foundation (to Upper Midwest Economic Survey), Attitudes Toward Metropolitan Integration," 1962-64.

Tozer Foundation and Stern Family Fund, Minnesota Gubernatorial Recount, 1962-63.

University of Minnesota, Graduate Research Center, Participation in Minnesota Elections, 1961-62.

**UNIVERSITY SERVICE:**

University Committee on Use of Human Subjects for Research, 1975-78.  
University Committee on Extension and Continuing Education, 1977-78.  
Social Science Research Facilities Center Advisory Committee, 1975-85.  
University Committee to Reorganize School of Public Affairs, 1968-69.  
Committee on Director Search, 1976.  
Campus Committee on Educational Services (chair), 1969-70.  
College Divisional Committee on Criteria for Admissions of Departments (chair), 1965.  
Internal Review Committee, School of Architecture, 1980.  
University Computer Committee, Long-range Planning Subcommittee, 1981-82; Fiscal Policies Subcommittee, 1981-84.  
College of Liberal Arts Committee on Student Services, 1982-84.  
Committee on Student Academic Affairs, 1990-92.  
Advisory Board, Career Development Office, Grievance Committee 1993-95.  
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Political Science, 1981-83, 1990-92.  
Director of Interns, Department of Political Science, 1971-1996.  
Wilson Library Committee, 1983-86.  
College Office of Special Learning Opportunities Committee, 1984-1986.  
University Boynton Health Services Committee, 1984-87; Chair, 1986-1987.  
Chair, Search Committee for Director, University Health Service, 1987.  
External Review Committee, Student Health Service 1992.  
Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, Minnesota Center for Survey Research Advisory Committee, 1986-92.  
University Task Force on AIDS, 1987-88.  
College Curriculum Committee 1987-88.  
Tate Award Selection Committee, 1988.  
College of Liberal Arts Advisory Board of Career Development Office, 1992-95.  
Director, Minnesota Center for Education in Politics, 1959-75.