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Top Public Administration Book Prize awarded to
Frank R. Baumgartner and Bryan D. Jones’s *The Politics of Information*
*The Academy Honors Authors Today at Annual Fall Meeting*

WASHINGTON, DC -- The National Academy of Public Administration (the Academy) today awarded the 2016 Louis Brownlow Book Award to Frank R. Baumgartner and Bryan D. Jones’ *The Politics of Information* (The University of Chicago Press) at the Academy’s annual Fall Meeting. The Brownlow Award is the top book prize in the field of public administration.


In *The Politics of Information*, Baumgartner and Jones, also authors of *The Politics of Attention*, focus on government’s problem-detection process, showing how the growth or contraction of government is closely related to how it searches for information and how, as an organization, it analyzes its findings. Better search processes that incorporate more diverse viewpoints lead to more intensive policymaking activity. Similarly, limiting search processes leads to declines in policymaking. At the same time, the authors find little evidence that the factors usually thought to be responsible for government expansion—partisan control, changes in presidential leadership, and shifts in public opinion—can be systematically related to the patterns they observe.

Frank R. Baumgartner is the Richard J. Richardson Distinguished Professor of Political Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Bryan D. Jones is the J. J. “Jake” Pickle Regent’s Chair in Congressional Studies in the Department of Government at the University of Texas at Austin.

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