NETWORK ANALYSIS OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO KOOTENAI ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

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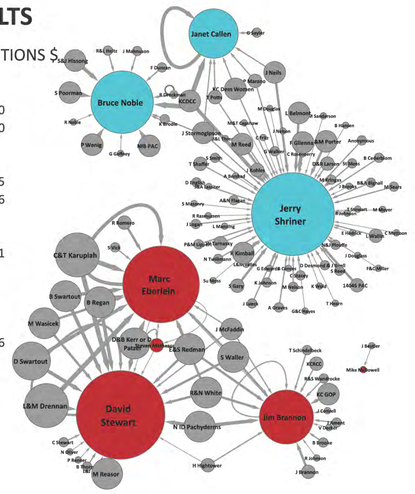
POLITICAL NETWORKS FOR SOCIAL CHARACTERIZATION

The Kootenai County campaign contribution networks use data gathered from financial disclosure reports for the 2014 Kootenai County primary and general elections. Each candidate and campaign contributor is represented as a node. Lines between nodes represents campaign contributions made during the election cycle. Nodes are scaled by the total amount of contributions donated or received during a given election or over the course of the election cycle. Line weights are scaled by the amount contributed by a given contributor to a candidate during either the primary or general election.

Network analysis assesses the relational patterns across actors within a system to understanding how individual interactions, give rise to emergent behaviors that characterize the network as a whole. Within network analysis a class of measurements known as centrality provide methods of characterizing nodes based in its relational position within the network. When looking at the full election cycle a clustering pattern, or clique, emerges among nodes representing candidates who were elected to office. These nodes have significantly higher triad counts (sets of three nodes all of whom are connected to one another) than other candidates Indicating that not only did these elected candidates contribute to each other's campaigns, but many of their supporters made contributions to multiple elected candidates. This work remains in progress, and additional data is being gathered to further characterize the network and its emergent structure.

2014 GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS

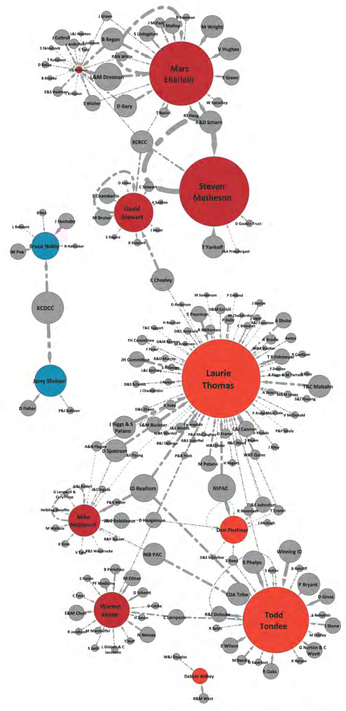
CANDIDATE	VOTES	%		CONTRIBUTIONS $
COUNTY COMMISSIONER 1ST DISTRICT				
MARC EBERLEIN (REP)	24,122	66%	14	$6,302.20
BRUCE NOBLE (DEM)	12,198	34%	14	$4,500.00
COUNTY COMMISSIONER 2ND DISTRICT				
DAVID STEWART (REP)	24,085	67%	22	$7,755.95
JERRY SCHRINER (DEM)	12,125	37%	67	$6,952.96
CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT				
JIM BRANNON (REP)	24,507	68%	18	$2,895.71
LARRY BELMONT (DEM	11,642	32%	0	$0.00
COUNTY TREASURER				
STEVEN MATHESON (REP)	24,401	67%	2	$238.21
JANET CALLEN (DEM)	11,748	33%	8	$2,479.86
COUNTY ASSESSOR				
MICHAEL MCDOWELL (REP)	26,653	73%	1	$50.00
SHIRLEY MCFADDAN (DEM)	9,847	27%	0	$0.00
COUNTY CORONER				
WARREN KEENE (REP)	30,038	100%	0	$0.00



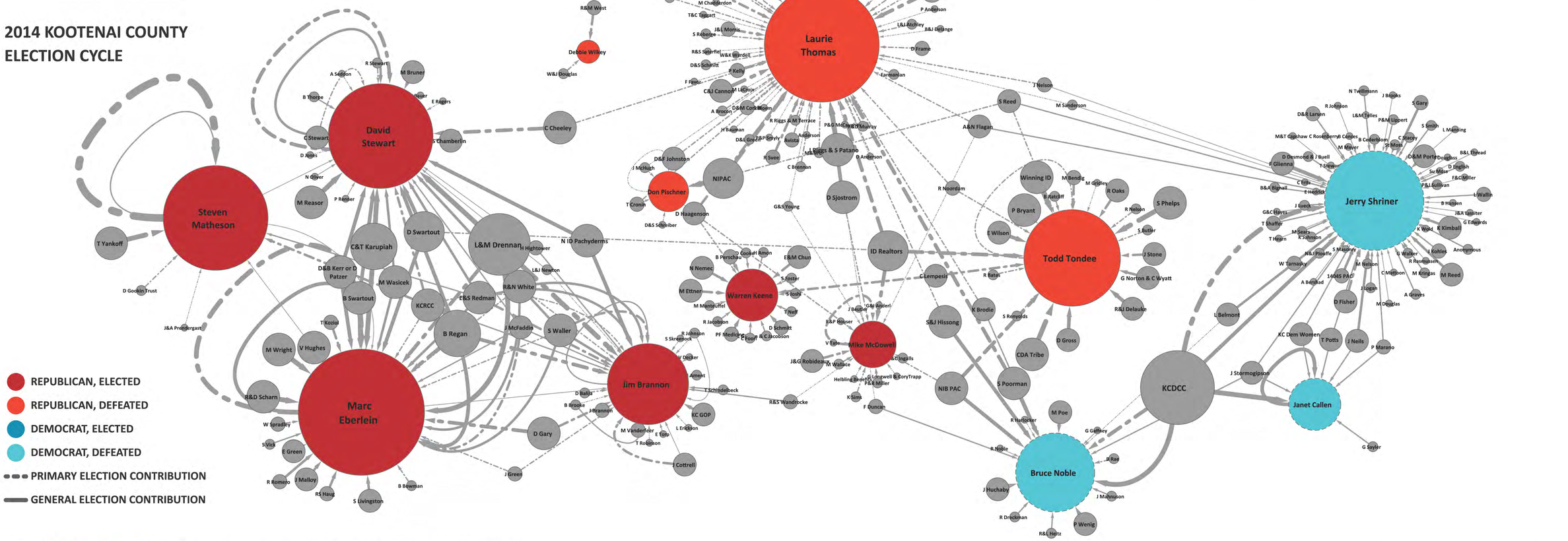
2014 PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

REPUBLICAN	VOTES	%		CONTRIBUTORS $
COUNTY COMMISSIONER 1ST DISTRICT				
MARC EBERLEIN	6,038 *	52%	19	$8,357.68
TODD TONDEE	3813	33%	24	$8,589.00
TIM HERZOG	1,767	15%	0	$0.00
COUNTY COMMISSIONER 2ND DISTRICT				
DAVID STEWART	9,747	100%	11	$3,086.28
CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT				
JIM BRANNON	7304	65%	18	$3,241.70
DON PISCHNER	3,976	35%	8	$1,540.00
COUNTY TREASURER				
STEVEN MATHESON	5,765	52%	5	$9,502.23
LAURIE THOMAS	5,274	48%	75	$12,144.84
COUNTY ASSESSOR				
MICHAEL MCDOWELL	9,680	85%	18	$1,974.99
PATRICK GALLES	4,578	42%	0	$300.00
COUNTY CORONER				
WARREN KEENE	6,388	58%	17	$2,568.75
DEBBIE WILKEY	4,578	42%	2	$300.00

DEMOCRATIC	VOTES	%		CONTRIBUTORS $
COUNTY COMMISSIONER 1ST DISTRICT				
BRUCE NOBLE	1,560	78%	5	$1,200.00
TAMRA DALE	433	22%	0	$0.00
COUNTY COMMISSIONER 2ND DISTRICT				
JERRY SHRINER	984	100%	3	$2,080.00
CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT				
LARRY BELMONT	1,447	72%	0	$0.00
ALANNA BROOKS	564	28%	0	$0.00
COUNTY TREASURER				
JANET CALLEN	1,761	89%	0	$0.00
GORDY ORMESHER	227	11%	0	$0.00
COUNTY ASSESSOR				
SHIRLEY MCFADDAN	997	53%	0	$0.00
LARRY SPENCER	875	47%	0	$0.00



2014 KOOTENAI COUNTY ELECTION CYCLE



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