Contents

Introduction 1

Part I: Who Runs?

1 What If Women Won’t Run? Exploring Gender Gaps in Elite Political Ambition | Karen O’Connor and Alixandra B. Yanus 19

2 Who Runs? Data from Women Trained as Candidates | Rachel I. Bernhard, Shauna L. Shames, Rachel Silbermann, and Dawn Langan Teele 30

3 Political Ambition, Structural Obstacles, and the Fate of Republican Women | Malliga Och 41

4 Who Is Stacey Abrams? An Examination of Gender and Race Dynamics in State-Level Candidacy | Jamil Scott, Kesicia Dickinson, and Pearl K. Dowe 56

Part II: Why Run?

5 Ambition for Office: Women and Policy-making | Sue Thomas and Catherine Wineinger 75

6 From Civic Mindedness to Electoral Politics: Citizen Advisory Committees and the Decision to Run for School Board | Rebecca E. Deen and Beth Anne Shelton 93
Contents

7 Youth National Service and Women’s Political Ambition: The Case of Teach For America
   | Cecilia Hyunjung Mo and Georgia Anderson-Nilsson 108

Part III: Why Not Run?

8 The Uneven Geography of Candidate Emergence: How the Expectation of Winning Influences Candidate Emergence
   | Heather L. Ondercin 129

9 How Political Parties Can Diversify Their Leadership
   | Alejandra Gimenez Aldridge, Christopher F. Karpowitz, J. Quin Monson, and Jessica Robinson Preece 138

10 Late to the Party: Black Women’s Inconsistent Support from Political Parties | Nadia E. Brown and Pearl K. Dowe 153

11 Women’s Political Ambition and the 2016 Election
   | Chris W. Bonneau and Kristin Kanthak 167

Part IV: How Nonprofits Help Women Run for Office

12 Women Candidate Recruitment Groups in the States
   | Rebecca Kreitzer and Tracy Osborn 183

13 Are You Ready to Run®? Campaign Trainings and Women’s Candidacies in New Jersey
   | Kira Sanbonmatsu and Kelly Dittmar 193

14 Pieces of Women’s Political Ambition Puzzle: Changing Perceptions of a Political Career with Campaign Training
   | Monica C. Schneider and Jennie Sweet-Cushman 203

15 Women Running in the World: Candidate Training Programs in Comparative Perspective | Jennifer M. Piscopo 215

Part V: The Special Role of Money

16 Building a Campaign Donor Network: How Candidate Gender and Partisanship Impact the Campaign Money Chase
   | Michele L. Swers and Danielle M. Thomsen 239

17 Training Women to Run in an African Democracy: The Case of Benin | Martha C. Johnson 258
Contents

18  Paying It Forward: Candidate Contributions and Support for Diverse Candidates | Jaclyn J. Kettler 273

Conclusion: A Reason and a Season to Run 289

Bibliography 297

Contributors 305

Index 311