Letter from the Chair

Dear APCG colleagues:

Welcome to a new academic year! With the recent cancellation of APSA due to Hurricane Isaac, we are using this newsletter to cover much of the business that we would have covered in the APCG business meeting. In particular, please look for these items on the following pages:

• Announcement of the winners of APCG graduate student awards (page 15)
• Announcement of the candidates for APCG chair and treasurer (pages 16-18)
• Call for volunteers to serve on APCG committees in 2012-13 (page 26)
• Call for proposals for APSA Africa Workshop 2013 (page 20)
• Request for a graduate student to assist with the APCG website (page 21)

We introduce another exciting new feature in this newsletter: a symposium of short essays by emerging Africanist scholars. We are very grateful to Gretchen Bauer & Aili Tripp.

This new addition to our newsletter includes contributions from Gretchen Bauer, Aili Tripp, Kara Ellerby, Chiseche Mibenge, Peace A. Medie, Olajumoke Yacob-Haliso, Alice Kang, and Josephine Ahikire.

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New Directions in Scholarship on Gender and Politics in Africa
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Research on women and politics in Africa has made important contributions to both scholarship on African politics and the more general literature on women/gender and politics in comparative politics and international relations. The subfield is fast evolving and has made key advances, particularly in explaining increasing rates of female legislative representation; the role of women in conflict; state policies and processes regarding women's rights; women and patronage politics; and the role of traditional authorities with respect to women's leadership and rights.

Most of these studies have been carried out by scholars focusing on women/gender and politics. With a few exceptions, very little effort had been made to incorporate women's experiences into the broader study of parties, legislatures, elections, the military, and other key institutions, not to mention the study of the state, patronage, conflict, ethnicity, religion, political liberalization, and many other aspects of African politics. This is somewhat surprising, given the impact women — making up over half the population — have had on politics in Africa, especially during the last two decades, as voters, leaders, and activists within civil society. Women, as a group, have long been excluded from the highest levels of power, particularly with the onset of colonialism, the spread of Islam and Christianity, and the turn to single party and military rule after independence.

The gender and politics subfield has yet to be fully engaged in the way that studies of ethnicity have been incorporated into the study of African politics. Moreover, it still focuses largely on women's roles, with less written on the gendered nature of various institutions and political practices.

Prior to the 1990s, scholarly work on women and politics in Africa was dominated by sociologists, anthropologists, and historians. They dealt with topics having to do with women in pre-colonial and colonial Africa; women's roles in nationalist movements and liberation struggles; women's relegation in the one-party era to women's wings and state-sanctioned national women's associations; women, religion and politics; and women and the state, which was especially popular in the 1980s. Historians wrote biographies on key women leaders like Tanzania's Bibi Titi Mohammed (Geiger 1997), Ghana's Hannah Kudjoe (Allman 2009) and Nigeria's Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti (Johnson-Odim and Mba 1997). Some women leaders wrote their own autobiographies, e.g., Wambui Waiyaki

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Otieno together with Cora Ann Presley (1998), and later Wangari Maathai (2007) and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (2010). However, there were only a handful of political scientists incorporating women into their work in this earlier period, e.g., Naomi Chazan, Catharine Newbury, Kathleen Staudt, and Barbara Callaway.

In the 1990s, increasing attention was paid to the ways in which women were incorporated into patronage networks through women's wings, grassroots women's organizations like the *harambee* groups in Kenya, and other organizations led by first ladies or what Amina Mama termed “femocracy”, e.g., Maryam Babangida’s Better Life Movement in Nigeria and Nana Rawling’s 31st December Women’s Movement (Abdullah 1995, Beck 2003, Geisler 1987, Mama 1995, Nzomo and Staudt 1994, Tsikata 1989, Udvardy 1988). Out of this grew a literature that showed how autonomous women’s movements, starting in the 1990s, emerged with their own leaders, agendas, and a determination to challenge the politics of patronage (Kabira and Nzioki 1993, Nzomo and Kibwana 1993, Tripp 2001).

In the 1990s, and especially after 2000, women were active in shaping the democratizing trends in Africa and were forming new organizations and movements independent of ruling parties. These trends were documented in books by scholars like Jennifer Disney (2009) on Mozambique, Aili Tripp (2000) on Uganda, Gisela Geisler (2004) on southern Africa and Stephen Ndewa (1996) on Kenya, although the scholarship was not nearly commensurate with the extent of women’s involvement in these trends. Some scholars focused on women’s movements, like Shireen Hassim (2006) writing on South Africa, Kathleen Fallon (2008) on Ghana, Agnes Ngoma Leslie (2006) on Botswana, and Aili Tripp, Alice Mungwa, Joy Kwasiga and Isabel Casimiro (2009), working comparatively, while others examined particular processes, like women’s roles in constitution making in Kenya (Kabira 2012) or gender machineries in South Africa (Waylen 2007).

A few works examined the role of transnational and regional pressures around women’s rights (Adams 2004, Adams and Kang 2007, Wanyeki 2005). The change in international norms regarding women’s rights in the 1990s provided an important impetus for the UN, African regional associations, and other multilateral and bilateral donors to press governments to adopt more women friendly legislation. As much as African women’s movements have taken advantage of changing international gender norms and transnational feminist movements to advance their own agendas domestically, they themselves have in turn influenced international women's movements in areas like the political representation of women, gender budgeting, micro-credit, peace and conflict, and dealing with cultural constraints on women's rights (Tripp et al. 2009).

The literature on third wave democratization has shown that its impacts on gender equality were initially rather disappointing in Latin America and East Europe. In some of these countries, women’s movements declined and women’s organizations and their leaders were coopted by political parties and governments as political processes became institutionalized. In contrast, in Africa (and East Asia), democratization was accompanied by an expansion of women’s rights, however limited, as political transitions opened up political space that gave women new possibilities for mobilizing to demand political rights. We may now be seeing the limits of this change in opportunity structures for women in countries like South Africa (Hassim 2012).

In Africa, the rates of women in parliament tripled between 1990 and 2010. There has been extensive scholarship explaining how women have been able to successfully access parliaments in several countries in Africa (Bauer and Britton 2006, Britton 2005, Lindberg 2004, Tamale 1999, Yoon 2004) and some early assessments of their substantive and symbolic representation effects (see Bauer 2012b), but there are still major gaps in the literature concerning women legislators’ larger impacts. Up until the 2000s, much of the literature on women’s representation focused on industrialized countries, particularly in Europe. The factors that had traditionally been drawn upon to explain rates of female legislative representation included type of electoral system (with proportional representation being more favorable to women), party and district magnitude, levels of socioeconomic development, women’s education and workforce participation, party ideology, religion and culture.

In Africa, by contrast, over the last 25 years, there has been a steady increase of women in parliaments as a result of the implementation of various forms of electoral gender quotas (voluntary party quotas, reserved or special seats, and legislative quotas) (see Bauer 2008). Africa has some of the highest rates of representation of women in the world as a result of the use of electoral gender quotas, with
those quotas often adopted in the course of a political or post-conflict transition. Rwanda has the highest rate of female parliamentary representation in the world (56%). In Senegal, Seychelles and South Africa, more than 40% of seats are held by women, while in Mozambique, Angola, Tanzania and Uganda more than 35% of seats are occupied by women. The African cases illustrate the importance not only of quotas, but also of post-conflict influences on their adoption. Other influences include the increased salience of changing international norms regarding women’s rights (evident, for example, in outcomes of the United Nations conferences on women), the influence of foreign donors, and the ways in which the democratic transitions in the 1990s and 2000s created space for women’s mobilization to influence later changes in representation (Tripp et al. 2009, Tripp and Hughes 2010).

Scholars working on gender in Africa have also contributed to the literature on conflict. Scholars have looked at patterns of sexual violence during armed conflict (e.g., Cohen 2011); the role of women as fighters in civil wars (e.g., Denov and Gervais 2007); and the limits of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 that obligates governments to include women in all peacemaking activities. An unusually large literature on female ex-combatants has sprung up examining how they relate to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration efforts. These studies have focused almost entirely on African cases, particularly Sierra Leone and Liberia. There is also considerable attention to the role of women in peacebuilding, particularly on transitional justice in countries like South Africa, where considerable work has focused on women’s testimonies in Truth and Reconciliation Commissions (e.g., Sheila Meintjes, Beth Goldblatt, Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, Fiona Ross, Elizabeth Mills).

Scholarship from the continent has focused not only on women’s movements and mobilization, but also on the state, especially as it relates to state feminism. There has been some focus on the anemic role of gender ministries, which have been largely underfunded and fairly ineffective; decentralization, gender mainstreaming in ministries; gender budgeting; the provision of microcredit to women; and more generally, the role of femocrats within the state (see, e.g., Ahikire 2007b, Gouws 2006, Kwesiga 2003, Tsikata 2001).

Finally, the role of traditional authorities has expanded as a byproduct of democratization and decentralization, resulting in renewed scholarly interest in traditional leaders (Logan 2009, Ubink 2008). While much of the literature has regarded their role as undermining women’s rights, particularly in the area of customary law (Banda 2005, Chanock 1989), some scholars believe they have played more positive roles in influencing societal attitudes in combating HIV/AIDS and gender based violence, in part, because chieftaincy itself has been transformed by the influence of global and national gender discourses (Becker 2006). New work also is emerging that examines the role of women as traditional leaders (Bauer 2012a, Matemba 2005, Steegstra 2009, Stoeltje 2003).

The study of gender/women and politics literature relating to Africa is already making its mark on political science and on the gender and political literature more generally. In the essays that follow, this symposium provides a brief glimpse into the work of a new generation of political scientists highlighting African women’s roles in ending conflicts and building peace, the limitations of certain remedies to gender based violence, the study of women and Islam in Africa, and finally the political impacts of African feminisms. We are particularly pleased to feature scholars, all but one of whom participated in the 2010 American Political Science Association Africa Workshop on Politics and Gender held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in collaboration with the Gender Centre at the University of Dar es Salaam in 2010.

References for all symposium articles begin on Page 35.
African Women as Peacebuilders: (Re)thinking Conflict Resolution
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“Peace doesn’t come in a matter of weeks or a year.”
- Imelda Nzirorera, Burundi (quoted in de Silva 2001)

As many major conflicts have been ending in Sub-Saharan Africa (Straus 2012, Tripp et al. 2009), the question emerges, “well then, what now?” For African women in postconflict contexts, peace is not just a declaration of cessation of armed violence between warring parties and a return to the ways things were. As armed conflict is disruptive of social norms, including gender roles, many of today’s women peacebuilders capitalize on these windows of opportunity to participate in decision-making and build peace that will sustain their vision of equality, security and development. Women’s peacebuilding includes: organizing to have women’s demands included in formal peace processes; engaging international law to address war-related crimes and historical inequalities; changing the cultural status quo of women; and challenging the binary thinking about women’s identities in war and peace.

When women organize to demand change, they often do so from the peripheries of formal peacebuilding activities as women’s groups are often excluded from or only permitted to “observe” negotiations. However, in spite of this, women’s groups pursue various means to make their voices heard, including working across ethnic “difference” to lobby negotiators, belligerents, international organizations and donors to get their demands on the agenda. For example, in Liberia, after the Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET) was no longer satisfied with “observing” the 2003 Accra talks, they held their own meeting and produced the “Golden Tulip Declaration” outlining their demands and recognizing United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 in calling for more women’s participation in the peace process (Alaga 2011, 81; UN 2003). During the Inter-Congolese Dialogue (ICD) women demanded access to the meetings which resulted in women accounting for 25% of the civil society delegation. This small number of women was highly organized, meeting before the ICD to create a ‘Plan of Action’ and organizing caucuses so gender issues were included in all five ICD commissions (Whitman 2006).

In Burundi, women held an All-Party Burundi Women’s Conference in 2000 that organized women to critique, research and outline the peace process for all Burundians (de Silva 2001; Tripp et al. 2009, 211), resulting in one of the most women-aware peace agreements in the world. In Sudan, after women were excluded and silenced during negotiations surrounding the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (Itto 2006), they worked with UNIFEM and women’s groups in Darfur to produce the document, “Women’s Priorities in the Peace Process and Reconstruction in Darfur” (UNICEF 2007), resulting in a much more gender-conscious Darfur Peace Agreement (Ellerby 2011). In Uganda, after initially being excluded from formal peace negotiations in Juba (2007-08), local women’s NGOs formed the Uganda Women’s Coalition for Peace (UWCP) to document women’s contributions to the peace process, lobby the government and Lord’s Resistance Army to address inequalities, promote women’s capacity-building, and pressure international organizations to promote women’s interests (Nabukeera-Musoke 2009). Women ended up representing 9% of the negotiators and 20% of the observers, which was not enough to have much of an impact. In the wake of Kenya’s post-election violence in 2007, women’s groups, working under the auspices of the Gender is My Agenda Campaign (GEMAC), urged mediators to meet with women’s groups and sent their own mission to document gender-based violence during the crisis (Juma 2009).

Women have strategically utilized international and regional human rights platforms to push their priorities for peace. International women’s movements commandeered the UN General Assembly’s “Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law…” (2005) to produce the “Nairobi Declaration on Women’s and Girls’ Right to Remedy and Reparation” (2007). The Nairobi Declaration enunciated ‘the gender differentiated impact of armed conflict on the lives and livelihoods of women and girls’ and succinctly condemned ‘discriminatory interpretations of culture and religion’ used to justify women’s exclusion from fully participating in peacebuilding. The International Criminal Court’s Trust Fund for Victims has integrated the Nairobi Principles into its programming for mainstreaming gender into its work with victims and witnesses. At the regional level, the African Union adopted the “Maputo Protocol to the African

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Charter on Human and Peoples” “Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa” (2007) in which women’s participation in decision-making is a recurring theme. Thus, women have both a human right to peace and a right to participate in planning, formulating and implementing post-conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation (art. 2 (e)).

Both the Nairobi Declaration and Maputo Protocol emphasize inequalities predating armed conflict that exacerbate the experience of war and jeopardize women’s role as decision-makers. Similarly, mechanisms of accountability, such as Sierra Leone’s Truth Commission, described the country’s historical record of gender inequality and discrimination and its bearing on understanding gender-based violence in armed conflict. In this way, Truth Commissioners avoided categorizing history into peacetime and wartime and illustrated the continuum of discrimination against women and its institutionalization after the conflict (Mibenge forthcoming).

In the aftermath of armed conflict, women peacebuilders spearheaded human rights campaigns and negotiation over the (mis)interpretation of culture through legislation and litigation. The mandatory representation of women in parliaments through the use of electoral gender quotas in both Uganda and Rwanda for example, can be attributed to the (sometimes fleeting) commitment of postwar transitional governments to fulfill the priorities of women activists. In post-apartheid South Africa women have presented legal challenges before that country’s Constitutional Court, including challenges to discriminatory customs of inheritance and political participation in traditional communities, and unequal access to housing and health care. In several postconflict societies, women peacebuilders have provoked critical discussion regarding interpretation of cultural practices such as polygamy and early marriage.

Women peacebuilders occupied various roles during armed conflict: some were victims as well as fighters; others were strong supporters of regime change through violence. Women were also pacifists; heads-of-households, traders and smugglers across conflict zones, and they played many other roles. A limiting feature of the human rights discourse and the pervasive ways of thinking that generate such discourses is its heavy emphasis on women’s role as peacebuilders and/or as victims of gender based violence, particularly rape. Security Council Resolution 1980’s recognition of sexual violence as a weapon of war was momentous in declaring a zero tolerance policy on sexual exploitation of women by UN peacekeeping personnel and encouraging UN agencies to consult with “local women and women-led agencies” to develop peacebuilding programs and protect women from sexual violence (S/RES/1820). This and subsequent resolutions, however, reinforce the image of (sexually) victimized women and pacifist mothers. This reductionist perspective of women and their experience(s) of armed conflict and its aftermath contribute to egregious outcomes for women whose peacebuilding priorities are complex. For example, disarmament, demobilization and repatriation programs have wrongly categorized women fighters only as camp followers, concubines or wives of belligerents (Mazurana and McKay, 2004); reparation programs have ignored women’s economic rights, such as a right to vocational training; and have pursued policies that result in the wholesale alienation of women from indigenous cultural practices deemed “bad” or “irrelevant” to African women’s physical, psychological and economic recovery.

Peacebuilding is a key priority of development and governance organizations, and the role of women is particularly important in promoting more inclusive security in peace processes. Even when explicitly excluded from negotiations, African women still find ways to participate and promote their interests. It is imperative that women peace activists have better access to the legal tools and capacity-building resources they need to engender their security and promote their interests and demands in challenging the status quo.

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The Limits of Theorizing Legislation as Primary Panacea to Gender-Based Violence in Africa
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There is a growing body of feminist and gender studies literature that addresses the causes and consequences of gender-based violence (GBV) in both conflict and “peace-time” and proposes solutions to the problem. Although this literature focuses overwhelmingly on sexual violence to the neglect of other forms of GBV, it has been pertinent to understanding and addressing all forms of GBV in Africa.

The explanations offered for GBV are diverse and issue-and context-specific. Dara Cohen (2011), in a study of the causes of wartime rape in 86 civil conflicts, including the Sierra Leonean civil war, has concluded that certain types of rape are more widespread in conflicts where warring factions rely on it as a tool to build social cohesion among forcibly conscripted fighters. This corroborates Seifert (1995) who submitted that gang rape and systematic rape is permitted by commanders to subordinates because it promotes soldierly solidarity (Cockburn 2001, Maedl 2011). The risk factors of GBV outside of civil wars are numerous and underscore the intersecting influences of political and socioeconomic variables. Widespread poverty, a weak rule of law, and norms that sanction the transportation and exploitation of people, especially young girls, have led to increased trafficking in girls and women in many African countries, including Liberia and Nigeria (Medie 2012b, Okojie 2009). Gays, lesbians and transgender people all over Africa face physical, sexual, and psychological abuse and even death for not conforming to gender norms and expectations (Currier 2012, Human Rights Watch 2011). Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) in Africa is usually carried out for “cultural” reasons (Dustin 2010). And in studies of domestic and intimate partner violence in countries like South Africa, race, class, gender, sexuality, and structural inequalities in society have been implicated as explanatory factors (Boonzaier and De la Rey 2003, Sokoloff and Dupont 2005). Undeniably, the literature on GBV focuses overwhelmingly on women as victims: men as victims of GBV are, on one hand, underrepresented in the hegemonically heteronormative literature (Zarkov 2001) and, on the other hand, their inclusion as victims is critiqued as “losing the ‘gender’ in GBV” (Reed et al. 2010).

The far-reaching consequences of the various forms of GBV range from personal injury, trauma and stigma to family, communal, and national losses; public health issues created by HIV/AIDS and other diseases (Jewkes et al. 2011); heightened insecurity in the immediate postwar period (Yacob-Haliso 2008, 2011; Ibeanu 2001); loss of productivity (Bangura 2011); and even significant demographic alterations.

Both state and non-state actors have responded to the problem in a variety of ways. Governments have enacted a flurry of anti-GBV legislation, particularly in post-war states where GBV was used a weapon of war. Internationally, various actors have mobilized, organized, lobbied, and achieved regulations/guidelines that modify the behavior of local, state, and intergovernmental actors like the United Nations. Aili Tripp (2010) has argued that these changing norms and practices of international organizations, combined with the mobilization of women’s movements and the changing opportunity structures in the post-conflict phase, account for the higher level of anti-GBV policy adoption by post-conflict states. Yaliwe Clarke (2008) observes that states that have yielded to feminist efforts to re-define traditional African conceptions of security in terms of human security have done so partly as a result of pressure from the United Nations particularly. Buss (2010) notes that the definition of “rape as a weapon of war” was a direct result of feminist mobilization in response to reports of mass rapes in the Yugoslav wars. Fuest (2008) highlights the proliferation of women’s organization in postwar Liberia which was based on “extended shared experiences of gendered suffering” furthered by foreign aid directed at female war victims.

At the same time, policy responses often do not translate into positive changes in the lives of those who are vulnerable to, and affected by, GBV (Ni Aolain et al. 2011). A lack of political will, inadequate resources, weak institutions, endemic structural deficiencies and inequalities, and oppressive gender norms, prevent the actualization of many policy objectives (Medie 2012a) thereby minimizing the transformative potentials of such policies. Consequently, many anti-GBV initiatives appear strong on paper but are weak in practice, underscoring the need for
The study of women, Islam, and politics contributes to our understanding of African politics more broadly. In this essay, I will highlight two recent works that enhance our understanding of state building (Charrad’s States and Women’s Rights) and of collective action (Salime’s Between Feminism and Islam) in Africa, central concerns in the study of politics. I conclude by suggesting what political scientists can add to the study of women, politics, and Islam in Africa.

Of 10 countries with the most Muslims in the world, four are in Africa: Egypt, Nigeria, Algeria, and Morocco. More than 240 million Muslims live in sub-Saharan Africa alone; about one in three individuals below the Sahara are Muslim (Pew Research Center 2009). Accordingly, the study of Muslim women and women living in Muslim-majority countries in Africa is of no small importance. In this essay, I will not be able to address important, older works on women, Islam, and politics (e.g., Brand 1998, Callaway 1987a and 1987b, Callaway and Creevey 1994, Hale 1996, MacLeod 1991, Mbow 1997). Nor will I be able to discuss contributions of anthropologists (e.g., Hirsch 1998, Masquelier 2009, van Santen 2010), geographers (e.g., Nast 2005), historians (e.g., Bivins 2007; Cooper 1995, 1997, 1998; O’Brien 1999; Roberts 2005), and scholars of literature (e.g., Alidou 2005, Mack 2000, Tidjani Alou 2009) to the study of women, Islam, and politics.

I do, however, include research on women, Islam, and politics in North Africa in this essay, operating under the assumption that theories based on North African polities can travel to sub-Saharan countries. Though certainly differences across countries, regions, and time remain, Lydon (2009) and the West African Research Association (WARA)/ American Institute of Maghrib Studies (AIMS) Saharan Crossroads Conferences point to many long-standing and deep connections across the Sahara.

Women, Islam, and State Building

A central concern in the study of African politics is state formation. What explains different patterns of state building in postcolonial Africa? In his widely read and frequently assigned book, Jeffrey Herbst (2000) examines how unfavorable political geography, combined with a lack of war in precolonial and colonial Africa, hampered the construction of a viable postcolonial state.

Less often cited by scholars of state building is Mounira Charrad’s States and Women’s Rights (2001). Charrad argues that intra-elite struggles between kin-groups and nationalist leaders influenced state formation in North Africa. Charrad arrives at this argument by comparing the post-colonial making of family law, a key women’s rights issue, in Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia. Using a structuralist, historical perspective, Charrad finds that the relationship between independence-era leaders and kin-groups were shaped by three factors: whether kin-groups had the potential to fight against French colonial authorities;
Women, Islam... (Kang), continued from page 8

how much the leaders used kin-groups in their nationalist struggles; and the extent of bureaucratic centralization in the country, a legacy of precolonial and colonial eras (10).

According to Charrad’s analytic framework, Tunisia’s national leaders enjoyed relative autonomy from kin-groups. State autonomy in Tunisia, combined with a modernization ideology and France’s support, facilitated the adoption in 1965 of a secular family law that outlawed polygamy, abolished repudiation, and expanded inheritance rights for daughters and granddaughters. In contrast, kin-groups and the state were divided in Algeria, which resulted in gridlock over family law until 1984. In Morocco, a close alliance between the state and kin groups in the pre-independence period held in early, postcolonial Morocco, which helps explain the state’s decision to codify conservative polygamy, repudiation, and inheritance laws in 1957-58.

Charrad shows that three ostensibly similar Muslim countries took different paths towards building a postcolonial state, not because of religious or class division, but because of intra-elite politics. Charrad further points out that in creating the postcolonial state, rulers adopted policies that had important gendered consequences for women’s relations with men and their extended families: “[Women] become the outcome and sometimes a tool of struggles among social and political groups fighting over state power” (241).

Women, Islam, and Collective Action

While Charrad’s research examines how elite struggles for power shape women’s lives, new research highlights women’s collective action for political change, which should be considered as part of a broader phenomenon of protest movements in Africa (e.g., Bratton and van de Walle 1997). Women have mobilized to demand democracy, peace, and equitable treatment (Fallon 2008, Steady 2005, Tripp et al. 2009). Yet, the same can be said of religious groups, who at times clash with women’s activists (Adamu 1999, Razavi and Jenichen 2010, Schulz 2003, Sow 2005, Villalón 1996).

In Between Feminism and Islam (2011), Zakia Salime makes a novel contribution to the study of collective action in Africa by examining the relationships between women’s movements and countermovements. Salime contends that, in Morocco, feminist and Islamist organizing have had “interdependent trajectories.” Salime shows that there has been a feminization of Islamist movements and Islamization of feminist movements in Morocco, challenging the conventional dichotomization of feminism and Islamism.

Salime, like Charrad, provides a nuanced analysis of the intersection of women, Islam, and politics over time. Salime’s attention to changes in movements in Muslim contexts and Charrad’s attention to shifts in alliances is important because much of the recent comparative scholarship on Islam and politics draws on snapshots of Muslim public opinion (e.g., Fish 2011). These snapshots are useful, but they do not tell us much about the causes of political stasis and change in Africa, as do Charrad and Salime.

Where are Political Scientists in the Study of Women, Islam, and Politics?

The irony is that neither of these two recent books were written by political scientists; they were written by sociologists. Since Arlene MacLeod’s (1991) study of women, Islam, and class identity in Cairo and Sondra Hale’s (1996) study of gender politics in Sudan, political scientists have written few book-length studies of politics in Africa through the lens of women and Islam. Yet, there are many fruitful directions for future research. Emerging scholarship can follow Lisa Blaydes’ (2010) lead and examine whether Islamist parties change women’s lives by improving public goods delivery. Or it can follow Linda Beck (2003) and Lucy Creevey (2006) and investigate the factors that promote and hinder women’s substantive representation in Muslim countries. The gap is wide, and so is the need for nuanced research on women, Islam, and politics in Africa.

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African Feminism in the 21st Century: A Reflection on Initial Victories
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African feminism in its totality has been a boiling pot of diverse discourses and courses of action. Far from being one postulation in opposition to western feminism as it is often portrayed, African feminism is constitutive of a myriad of heterogeneous experiences, theoretical narratives and points of departure, including the increasing challenges to heteronormativity (Tamale 2006, 2009). In this sense I depart from definitions of African feminism that spring from the viewpoint of what it is not.

In the last three decades or so, African feminism has seen waves of scholarship and activism and enormous strides have been made in the political, economic and social cultural spheres. Perhaps, much more than many other social struggles, feminist engagement has been able to lodge a claim within the global political and development discourse (Ahikire 2008). In particular, the 1990s opened a wave of rapid change with women's movement across the continent registering gains in various fields including governance, education and domestic relations. In several countries across the continent, women's scholarship and activism made inroads, for example, into constitution making processes and broadening the public agenda, making the gender question a remarkably public issue and, in a way, giving substantive content to the famous feminist slogan - the personal is political. This essay recounts some of the gains of African feminism; space constraints preclude an analysis of the threats and reversals that face feminist engagement in Africa today.

The victories of African feminism can be seen at two major levels: of knowledge and practice. At the level of feminist theorization and knowledge production, in the mid-1990s Amina Mama (1996) documented that women's studies in Africa had steadily gained strength as a growing number of indigenous scholars, women in particular, got involved in studies of gender relations. Mama indicated that despite the fact that the study of gender relations was still largely dominated by philosophical, theoretical and methodological concerns emanating from western constructions, there was a growing body of thought that could be seen to constitute African feminism. This observation indicated relative progress in the building of feminist knowledge by and for Africa. There is increasing feminist research in the context of Africa's realities, histories and trajectories. There have been efforts at various levels to document women's lives and the impact of different institutional realities on African women, thereby engendering a relatively robust debate and engagement with questions relating to feminist methodology and the meaning of feminist research in Africa.

The creation of various institutional spaces for teaching and research on Women and Gender Studies has been a boost for African feminism. Several academic units specifically created to advance women's studies, in countries such as Uganda, Cameroon, Ghana, and South Africa, have been at the forefront of raising the bar on feminist scholarship on the continent. The African Gender Institute (AGI) in particular has attempted to facilitate a continent wide space for African feminism through establishment of the journal Feminist Africa and other online spaces for debate.

Without a doubt, social research has today embraced the concept of gender as an important concept for social analysis. Indeed the feminist challenge in the field of knowledge production has gained momentum on a global scale generally and in Africa specifically. In contrast to the previous two decades or so where social science discourse was overtly blind to gender, the current period shows that there is, in general, a tacit agreement that gender can no longer be ignored. Much as there is still resistance and hostility to feminist inspired work, there is at the same time increased legitimacy for a feminist critique.

At the level of practice, the starting point is that women now constitute a political constituency. What does this mean? To be a political constituency simply refers to broad legitimacy through which the rights of a specific collectivity or group are articulated or, that the potential exists to do so. During the last 25 years or so, issues of women's rights have gained visibility. The women's movement has succeeded in making their issues part and parcel of public debate – they are not merely private matters. And even when there is resistance, women have succeeded in making their issues part and parcel of public debate – they are not merely private matters. Indeed resistance means that society is being forced to engage, moving the patriarchal order from the status of orthodoxy to the realm of heterodoxy.

Partly because of the work of women's movements across the continent, women have increased their presence in decision-making spaces. According to Aili Tripp et al. (2009), women have now become visible in African politics in unexpected ways and setting new precedents. Accordingly,
African Feminism... (Ahikire), continued from page 10

African has some of the highest rates of female legislative representation in the world. Rwanda tops the world with slightly over 56% women in its Chamber of Deputies. In several countries such as South Africa, Senegal, Uganda, Tanzania, Angola and Mozambique, women claim over 30% of parliamentary seats and scholars have identified a range of substantive and symbolic representation effects of their presence (Bauer 2012b). Even in cases where there is no legal requirement for the inclusion of women, there is an institutionalization of the logic of gender balance. In other words, women have put the issue of inclusiveness on the agenda, whatever the weakness and loopholes of that inclusion.

In many African countries, African women were able to accomplish key gains when they seized moments of opportunity presented by regime changes, political transitions and constitutional revisions. In relation to conflict end and regime change, women captured transition politics to articulate issues of inclusion as well as those related to the substantive rights of women in the private and public spheres. In particular the processes of re-writing constitutions and reconstituting the political order in post conflict countries accorded a handle for women’s articulation and their insertion into the polity in new ways (Tripp et al. 2009). In Uganda, women’s participation in the Constituent Assembly was a strategic opportunity, putting women’s voice on the agenda in very dramatic ways. In the process, a synergy was created between civil society, women delegates, the Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development and women academics.

Organizing has also been one of the major gains of Africa feminism. Women across the continent have created platforms — networks, forums, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and community based organizations (CBOs) — through which their concerns are voiced. The visibility of gender in the development arena in fields such as education, agriculture and health can to some extent be attributed to the ability of women’s organizations to highlight salient issues.

Additionally, there is a silent revolution in the African social fabric as feminism makes inroads into critical discursive processes. Whereas African feminists have been accused of being elitist, we see more and more society wide engagement with feminism albeit with different levels of success. At the level of practice, it is very clear that the feminist practice and discourse has been imbued into the societal discursive processes. In general, more and more people in rural and urban Africa have been exposed to basic concepts of gender - and the language of women’s rights, gender balance and the girl child is part and parcel of the local discourse. There is more talk and more contestation around gender identity, in urban and rural areas alike, to the point that we are now compelled to deal with the question of masculinities in crisis, as men wrestle with new realities where femininity is no longer synonymous with dependency and subordination.

The multiplicity of women’s daily struggles and organizational spaces at local, national and international levels have in a way pushed the social boundaries. The moral panic as demonstrated by worries about the family and about women who want to rule their husbands testifies to this social milieu (see Burnet 2011). But even in the case where gender equality is ridiculed or seen as a threat to society (especially to the institution of the family), it remains a fact that there is great potential in the increased visibility of the gender question. In my view, the moral panic has a direct linkage to the ways in which African feminism has made relative cracks in the dominant discourse. The visibility of gender equality as a public issue has had the effect of placing patriarchal norms and values under relative stress: relative stress in a sense that the patriarchal order is compelled to move from the realm of “orthodoxy” to that of “heterodoxy” (Agarwal 1997), as larger numbers of people are likely to bump into the question of gender equality. Indeed resistance means that society is being forced to engage. As a result, the seeds for greater social transformation have been sown and could be nurtured.

Furthermore, the African voices of feminist struggle have been able to lodge a claim within the global development discourse. As part of the voices from the South generally, African feminism has given more impetus to the question of development in the context of post coloniality and the predicaments that face Africa as a continent. Even when we say that bureaucrats and development actors merely pay lip service to gender equality, they are at least talking about it, rather than being completely silent or even negating women. Lip service in many African countries takes the form of governments signing international agreements on women’s rights and adopting national gender policies that pledge commitment to gender equality, but with very little in terms of concrete operationalization, namely, policy implementation or commitment of resources (Ahikire 2007a, Kwasiga 2003). Yet this I see as a major success of and/or for feminism: that of commanding a presence of...
the gender equality question in the development discourse and in processes of legitimation generally. Even the lip service is an indication of norms under reconstruction. In general, African feminism has been able to articulate the complexities of the problem of development in the African context into international norms. This success provides a platform through which greater engagement can be fostered.

African feminism seems to have made a breakthrough in terms of commanding a presence in social legitimation processes. Yet we risk yet another dilemma. Everybody seems to agree with everybody else; a conspicuous agreement among state actors, academics, donors and civil society. At the level of knowledge creation, the very starting point is to re-invigorate gender studies and feminist theorization. There is need for more debate and problematization of gender relations. This requires a re-birth of language, for instance to reverse the tendency of reducing fundamental concepts into buzz words. For example, to avoid the situation where the concept of gender can be appended to practically anything, there can be a conscious effort to repopularize the use of the concept of gender relations. Terms such as engendering, gender mainstreaming, empowerment, and gender sensitive all have to be re-problematized. Feminism as an ideological handle must of necessity be repositioned. Efforts in this direction include the African Feminist Forum, which has country chapters.

The first forum held in Accra in 2006 came out with the Charter of Feminist Principles, which read in part:

We define and name ourselves publicly as feminists because we celebrate our feminist identities and politics. We recognize that the work of fighting for women’s rights is deeply political, and the process of naming is political too. Choosing to name ourselves feminists places us in a clear ideological position. By naming ourselves as feminists we politicize the struggle for women’s rights, we question the legitimacy of the structures that keep women subjugated, and we develop tools for transformational analysis and action. We have multiple and varied identities as African feminists. We are African women – we live here in Africa and even when we live elsewhere, our focus is on the lives of African women on the continent. Our feminist identity is not qualified with “ifs,” “buts,” or “however.” We are Feminists. Full stop. (Wanyeki 2007)

Such reaffirmation is critical. It is energizing. It is not merely about bringing politics back in, since even depoliticization is itself a political reality. It is a realization that African feminism requires a re-steering of sorts, to “bring the right politics back in” and in a way that draws on firm self-organization and women’s agency. What is required is for such a reaffirmation to consciously take on an inclusive, as opposed to an exclusive, approach, to avoid “othering” discourses of “us” and “them.”

References for all symposium articles begin on Page 35.

Ashley E. Leinweber (Missouri State University) shares this recent photo from her fieldwork in the DRC. She also has two new publications listed in our publications section.
Dataset Review: Ethnic Power Relations

Paul Zachary, PhD Student, Department of Political Science, The George Washington University, pzachary@gwmail.gwu.edu

First published in 2010, the Ethnic Power Relations (EPR) dataset by Lars-Erik Cederman, Brian Min, and Andreas Wimmer represents a new frontier in empirical research on ethnic politics. Following the call made by Posner (2004) for time-varying ethnic fractionalization indices, Cederman, et al. measure the distribution of an ethnic group's power and how this changes over time. The dataset contains entries for 733 separate ethnic groups from 1946 to 2005 in all countries in the world with populations over 500,000 (Cederman, Min, and Wimmer 2009: 1-4). The accumulated data make three substantial improvements upon prior datasets about ethnic relations. First, measuring changes in the way ethnic groups relate with each other — rather than the number of groups — is a better representation of the dynamics of ethnic politics (Cederman, Wimmer, and Min 2010). Second, data on ethnic power is useful for game theoreticians to test the implications of their models of ethnic behavior in a wide range of cases (Christia 2008). Finally, the EPR dataset offers scholars new opportunities to explain variation in groups' access to state power and how this changes over time.

Despite these opportunities, this review advances two critiques of the EPR dataset within the African context. The first is Cederman, et al.'s definition of politically salient ethnic groups as those who are able to influence decision-making at the executive level (Cederman, Min, and Wimmer 2009: 2-3). As Jeffrey Herbst (2000) shows, a defining feature of African states is their failure to extend their control beyond urban areas. Groups concentrated in the hinterlands, therefore, have not historically been as politically active as their urban counterparts (Hebrst 2000: 18). This does not mean, however, that these groups are irrelevant (Gugler 2002; Scarritt and Mozaffar 1999; Boone 2003). A second issue arises from the exclusive focus on executive politics. Africa has several ethnic groups whose economic sway greatly outweighs their political influence. As an example, South Asians in Kenya owned over “86 percent of [Kenyan] firms valued over Ksh. 100 million” in 1990. Yet, they are completely excluded from the EPR dataset (Herzig 2006: 130). While this decision follows the letter of the EPR’s definition of ethnic power, the exclusion of economically dominant groups does not give a full picture of a country’s ethnic relations.

The second critique is the dataset’s inconsistent operationalization of ethnicity. While the EPR’s codebook defines an ethnic group as consisting of individuals who share a common ancestry and culture, the data often treat ethnicity as indistinguishable from nationality and religion. The first instance when this occurs is when the dataset creates artificial ethnic groups based upon geography and nationality. For example, most studies agree that Mainland Tanzania has five primary ethnic groups (Scarritt and Mozaffar 1999: 94). However, the EPR data for Tanzania only distinguishes between the artificial category of Mainland Africans, Zanzibaris, and Maasai. The second instance is treating religion like an ethnic group. Not only does this violate the codebook’s definition of ethnicity (religion does not require a common ancestry), it compares unlike elements. For instance, EPR data for Eritrea is between two religious groups (Christians and Other Muslims) and two ethnic groups (Kunama and Afar). As the Kunama and Afar also have religious identities, Christian and Other Muslim are not exclusive categories. These examples demonstrate the need for a consistent definition of ethnicity to be used throughout a dataset.

Given that cross-national datasets require users to trust the coding decisions made by others, counterintuitive data is often explained in the codebook and its citations. In this case, the amount of secondary information is scant because the coding process relies upon regional and local experts for all information (Cederman, Min, and Wimmer 2009: 1). Future revisions to the EPR can address the two critiques advanced in this review. First, Cederman, et al. should allow their coders to consider economic position when measuring ethnic power. Such an expanded definition will not exclude groups presently in the dataset, but it will give a fuller picture of a country’s ethnic relations. Second, the codebook should explain and justify instances when religion and artificial groups are used as proxies for ethnic identities.

References on Page 38.
Chair’s Letter (continued from page 1)

Bauer and Aili Mari Tripp for editing the inaugural symposium on gender and politics in Africa. It features pieces by several scholars who participated in their APSA Africa Workshop in Tanzania in 2010. We look forward to including similar symposia in subsequent newsletters. If you are interested in serving as guest editor for a symposium or have a topic you would like to see covered, please contact Leonardo Arriola (larriola@berkeley.edu) or Mike Nelson (mbnelson@wesleyan.edu).

Finally, on a personal note, this is the last newsletter before I step down as chair in November. Over these past two years, APCG has grown to more than 590 members, redesigned its website (www.africanpoliticsgroup.org), obtained publisher sponsorship for awards, developed new features for the newsletter, and continued to put together outstanding panels for major conferences in our field. None of this would be possible without the long list of people who serve on APCG’s many committees, often with little recognition from their colleagues. I am grateful to have gotten to know many of you during my time as chair and look forward to continuing to be a member of the organization long into its promising future!

Beth Whitaker
APCG Chair

From the Editor

Dear Colleagues,

This is my sixth newsletter as your editor and it is definitely our biggest and most exciting issue yet! In my first note as your editor, I mentioned that “the best issues of this newsletter will always be those that include the greatest amount of member-generated content”. With our symposium, dataset review, and the increasing submissions I receive from all of you, I think we are achieving that. Of course, I don’t put these newsletters together in a vacuum. I especially thank our great guest editors for this issue’s symposium, Gretchen Bauer and Aili Tripp, who made it incredibly easy for me to simply insert those contributions. Leo Arriola also deserves praise for his role in coordinating the dataset review and helping with future symposia. I will miss our departing Chair, Beth Whitaker. Her eagle eyes were always helpful when I circulated drafts.

The other officers and myself have been discussing a few changes to the schedule for the newsletter—possibly changing it to two issues per year with releases at the beginning of each term. We had hoped to discuss this during APSA, but I believe it will now be on our agenda for ASA. As always, I am always eager to hear your ideas and feedback.

Until ASA,

Mike
Treasurer’s Report

APCG has $4,744.60 in its bank account, and $1,122.40 in its PayPal account. This includes a recent payment of $750 for three years of dues from the American Political Science Association on behalf of the 25 Africa-based scholars who participated in the Africa Workshop in Botswana in summer 2012. This is the second year that APSA has generously agreed to support APCG. Due to the cancellation of the APSA annual meeting, we did not spend budgeted money for our reception. It has been a great pleasure serving as APCG treasurer during this period of growth and expansion – my term is up in November.

Sincerely,

Carl LeVan

APCG-Lynne Rienner Award for Best Dissertation in African Politics

Jaime Bleck, Cornell University, “Schooling Citizens: Education, Citizenship, and Democracy in Mali”

Committee:
Devra C. Moehler, University of Pennsylvania (chair)
Ato Kwamena Onoma, Yale University
Desha M. Girod, Georgetown University

Bleck examines the political effect of education in the West African country of Mali using a mixture of qualitative interviews and a survey of over 1000 respondents. In a low-income country like Mali, there are multiple types of public and private education providers, and a large proportion of the population receives only limited education in Islamic schools, or no formal education at all. The dissertation addresses two key tenants in comparative politics by evaluating citizenship among school-age cohorts and parents. First, Bleck tests the conventional wisdom that education enhances the democratic values and political participation of students. She finds that any level of education, even informal and Islamic education, is positively and significantly correlated with higher levels of political knowledge as compared to having attended no school at all. She also finds that formal education, particularly at the secondary and university level, is significantly correlated with higher levels of political participation in more onerous activities. Second, Bleck addresses the question of how non-state provision of basic services affects the political behavior of service recipients. She finds a significant positive correlation between parents who enroll(ed) their children in public school, and certain forms of electoral participation, as compared to other Malian citizens. In short, all forms of schooling appear to have a positive impact on attitudes of those who receive education, but public education provides the additional benefit of increasing democratic citizenship among parents. Bleck’s dissertation is based on over a year of field work, informed by a deep knowledge of contemporary Mali, methodologically sound, and makes a significant contribution to our understanding of the links between education, state service provision, and democracy.

APCG-African Affairs Award for Best Graduate Student Paper

Robin Harding, New York University, “One for the Road: Voting for Public Goods in Ghana” Presented at the 2011 annual meeting of the American Political Science Association

Committee
Nahomi Ichino, Harvard University (chair)
Deborah Brautigam, American University
Jennifer Brass, Indiana University

The Committee considered five very strong papers, but it was ultimately unanimous in its selection of Harding’s paper. In an important contribution to lively debates on voter behavior in Africa that have focused on clientelism and ethnicity, Harding investigates whether voters hold politicians accountable for the provision of public goods. Harding constructs an original panel dataset of road conditions and polling station-level electoral returns in Ghana and shows that presidential vote shares increase with improvements in local road conditions, which voters can attribute to political action by the executive. He further shows that presidential vote shares are related to education inputs that can be attributed to the executive but not to other inputs that are provided more locally. By bringing original data to a widely used model of information and accountability, Harding’s work advances the current scholarship on a fundamental question in political behavior in Africa.
Candidates for Chair of APCG

M. Anne Pitcher
University of Michigan

Biographical Statement
I have an A.B. in Political Science and History from Duke and an M.Phil. and D. Phil. in Politics from Oxford University. Presently, I am a Professor of African Studies and Political Science at the University of Michigan. I also serve as the associate chair for African Studies in the Department of Afroamerican and African Studies.

My research has explored the political economy of colonialism in Lusophone Africa; the legacy of socialism and the transition to capitalism in post-war Mozambique; and the creation of credible commitments to economic reform across Sub-Saharan Africa.


My articles have appeared in Comparative Politics, the Journal of Modern African Studies, African Studies Review, and Politique Africaine, among other publications. In 2003-2004, I was a fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C. I have received grants to conduct research in Mozambique, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, Angola and Kenya, including a Fulbright award and an APSA small grants award.

Statement of Candidacy
APCG has been blessed with a committed leadership and an engaged membership. As President, I would seek to enhance the APCG’s current organizational strength. First, my academic training and my scholarly work have prepared me to represent well the diverse methodological approaches of APCG members. Like many members, I value the precision of quantitative approaches and yet, I understand the explanatory power offered by fieldwork. I believe that we can take advantage of our diverse interests to build a stronger community of scholars within the discipline of political science.

Amy R. Poteete
Concordia University

Biographical Statement
I am an Associate Professor of Political Science at Concordia University in Montreal. My research examines interactions between political competition, policies for natural resource management and decentralization, and political development and change. I am currently investigating whether and how spatial and temporal variation in electoral competition influences policy dynamics in Botswana, Senegal, and Tanzania. Another strand of writing, on methodological practices, is informed by field research in Botswana and work with the International Forestry Resources and Institutions (IFRI) research program. My publications include Working Together: Collective Action, the Commons, and Multiple Methods in Practice (Princeton University Press), with Marco A. Janssen and Elinor Ostrom, chapters in edited volumes, and articles in Development and Change, International Journal of the Commons, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Modern African Studies, Journal of Southern African Studies, and World Development.

I received the Dudley Seers Memorial Price for the best article in volume 45 of the Journal of Development Studies for my article entitled “Is Development Path Dependent or Political? A Reinterpretation of Mineral-Dependent Development in Botswana.” I have participated in policy seminars organized by the US State Department and the Botswana Ministry of Agriculture, and conducted a consultancy for USAID. I received my Ph.D. in 1999 from Duke University and held a post-doctoral fellowship at Indiana University (2000 – 2003). I served on the faculty at the University of New Orleans before relocating to Concordia University.

Statement of Candidacy
The African Politics Conference Group is without a doubt the professional association with which I identify the most. By virtue of being at the right place at the right time, I had the honor of serving on the initial APCG steering committee from 2001 through 2004. Since then, I have served on the Best Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, 2010-11; the APSA Program Committee, 2006-07, 2003-04, and 2001-02; and the Best Article Award Committee, 2007-08. It would be an honor - and a pleasure - to serve as chair of the APCG.

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continued on page 17
Chair Candidate Amy R. Poteete, continued from page 16

In my view, this organization has done wonders in terms of building a sense of community among Africanist political scientists, facilitating intellectual and social exchange, and raising the profile of our scholarship. The previous chairs and steering committee members have made substantial progress toward institutionalizing our still youthful organization. We now have a rich array of activities and programs, ranging from the group’s panels and social events at various conferences to the publisher sponsorships of our Best Graduate Student Paper and Best Dissertation Awards and the use of various forms of social media to share information about opportunities and to facilitate less formal exchange among members. If I should be elected chair, my first priority will be to maintain and enhance these activities and services. I suspect that APCG can do even more to connect with and support graduate students, facilitate and support collaboration in research, and make use of social media. Thus, if elected, I will work closely with other members of the steering committee to develop and implement strategies to strengthen our outreach to graduate students and foster collaboration. I will also actively solicit input from the general membership to identify other things that APCG can do to support our members.

Chair Candidate M. Anne Pitcher, continued from page 16

Second, I have been a dedicated member of both the APSA and the ASA for over twenty years. I helped to found the Luso-African Studies Organization, a coordinate organization of the ASA and I served as the APCG’s first treasurer when it was founded nearly a decade ago. In 2008, I was elected to the Board of the ASA, where I chaired the Finance and the Publications Committees. I would rely on these associational networks to promote more effective collaboration between the APCG and the broader community of scholars and to advocate effectively for the interests of the APCG.

Third, I would rely on my administrative experience to build bridges beyond the APCG. From 1990 to 2009, I was a professor in the political science department at Colgate University, but I was also active in the Africana and Latin American Studies Program as a member of the steering committee and as coordinator of African Studies. Since joining the faculty at the University of Michigan in 2009, I have helped to create a network of scholars who employ multi-method approaches to social science research on Africa. I am the coordinator for the African Social Research Initiative, a partnership designed to foster collaborative social research between UM and universities in Ghana and South Africa. One of our principal accomplishments has been to improve capacity in quantitative analysis through the development of training courses and to encourage the cross-fertilization of ideas by sponsoring inter-disciplinary conferences.

These experiences have provided me with the requisite skills to sustain the intellectual and organizational momentum that APCG has demonstrated since its founding. As President, I would build on that momentum by increasing the representation within APCG of political scientists who are resident in Africa and by fostering stronger institutional linkages with African universities. These alliances would give us additional opportunities to emphasize the importance of studying politics in Africa.

Help Wanted for the APCG Website

We are looking for a graduate student to assist web manager Jeff Paller (who is currently doing field research for his dissertation), and to eventually take over his responsibilities. The ideal candidate would be someone who is early in their graduate school career and could serve in this capacity for several years. The person should have experience using WordPress. Duties include updating time sensitive materials (calls for papers, job postings, etc.), maintaining the online membership directory, and soliciting additional content for the site (especially the teaching and research sections). APCG provides modest compensation ($10/hour). Interested graduate students should contact Beth Whitaker (bwhitaker@uncc.edu) by October 15, 2012.
Candidates for APCG Treasurer

Ngoni Munemo  
Williams College

Statement
I have enjoyed being a member of APCG for the last five years. I had the opportunity to chair the APCG committee that reviewed paper and panel proposals for the 2010 African Studies Association conference in Washington, D.C. I am honored to have been nominated to run for APCG treasurer. I see the role of treasurer as continuing the strong and transparent management of the conference group’s dues and supporting its programs and activities. I would be happy to serve.

Bio
Ngoni Munemo is Assistant Professor of Political Science at Williams College, where he teaches comparative politics with a primary focus on Africa. His research has dealt with drought and famine relief in Africa, exploring why domestic relief programs vary across countries and within them over time. He is author of *Domestic Politics and Drought Relief in Africa: Explaining Choices* (First Forum Press 2012). For this project he conducted field research in Botswana, Kenya and Zimbabwe. His current research is a cross-national examination of executive succession in Africa between 1960 and 2010. It considers why successions are orderly and constitutionally regulated in some countries, but unregulated and coercive in others.

Gina Lambright  
George Washington University

Statement
I have been active in the APCG for several years, previously serving on the nominations committee in 2008, the book award committee in 2011, and even helping to organize the APCG happy hour at this year’s Midwest conference. As APCG treasurer, I would continue the work of my predecessors to help the organization grow and expand its relationships, membership, outreach to scholars both in the US and Africa. I have always enjoyed participating in the organization, especially the opportunities for social and professional networking with others in the African politics research community. It would be an honor to serve as treasurer and contribute in some way to extend these opportunities to others.

Bio
I earned my PhD from Michigan State University in 2003 and have been at George Washington University since 2004. My research interests focus broadly on the politics of political reform and the politics of development in Africa. I have conducted research on African politics since 1995, including research on decentralization in Uganda and an ongoing project with co-author Michelle Kuenzi that explores the nature and consequences of elections in Africa’s multiparty regimes. My work has appeared in disciplinary and African studies journals, including *Comparative Political Studies, African Affairs*, and *Party Politics*. I am also the author of *Decentralization in Uganda: Explaining Successes and Failures* (First Forum Press, 2010).

Lauren MacLean (Indiana University) and Jennifer Brass (Indiana University), conducting field research in Kenya for their “Power for development” research on electricity provision, June 2012.
Invitations to Submit Papers

African Data Sources and Reviews Sought

We are in the process of compiling a list of data sources for our group.

For the current list, go to: http://africanpoliticsgroup.org/index.php/scholars/africa-data-sources/

To contribute a data source, send an email to Jeff Paller, paller@wisc.edu.

To contribute a review: If you are a graduate student and would like to write such a review, send an email to Leonardo Arriola, larriola@berkeley.edu.

Invitation to Contribute to Book Project: “The Legislatures in Africa”

From Joseph Yinka Fashagba:
We invite interested political scientists working on legislative studies to submit well researched papers for publication in a book project on ‘The legislatures in Africa’. We seek contributions on Sierra Leone, Kenya, South Africa, Malawi, Uganda, Mauritius and other democratic countries in Africa. Nigeria, Ghana and Botswana are excepted because we already have contributors from them. All correspondence to yinkafash2005@yahoo.co.uk.

Invitation to Contribute to Special Issue of Politique africaine: Crises and whispers in the Sahel.
Abstracts Due Sept. 30th.

From Mamoudou Gazibo:
The journal Politique africaine (www.politique-africaine.com) is preparing a special issue on crises in the Sahel: Crises and whispers in the Sahel.

There is little doubt today that Sahelian Africa is a “crisis” area. Nonetheless, it is important to question to what extent this assessment is really new. The notion of “Crisis” seems to have become a permanent feature of talk about Sahel, ever since the notion of the “Sahel” itself took on its geopolitical meaning, during the famine of 1972-1973, to designate a group of African countries mainly characterized by drought, starvation and poverty. Hence, the Sahel as a region appeared directly as an area of crisis on the international scene. Since then, its history is seen as one of a series of disasters touching different aspects: politics, food, security, environment, migration and religion. Recently, these problems seem to have become more important for the rest of the world as the Sahel is no longer considered marginal, but as a contested space whose destabilization could have widespread effects, in particular in Europe.

We are hoping to range as broadly as possible in the topics treated. The following is an indicative but not comprehensive list of suggestions:
- Political crises, coups d’État, social mobilizations; policies of return to the institutional order, democracy enhancement policies.
- Food crises and famine, environmental crises, demographic crises; food aid and rural development policies, refugee aid policies, family policies.
- Security crises, terrorism, human and goods smuggling; military, police and custom cooperation policies, counter-terrorism policies.

Deadlines:
- Abstracts (maximum one page) should be sent to Vincent Bonnecase (CNRS) and Julien Brachet (IRD) by September 30th, 2012.
- Selected articles (8000 words) are expected on 30th December 2012.
- After the peer review conducted by Politique africaine, accepted articles will be published in the June 2013 issue.

Contacts: vincentbonnecase@yahoo.fr and Julien.Brachet@ird.fr

Afrobarometer is looking for scholarship that uses AB data. See page 23 for more information.

Midwestern Political Science Association Annual Meeting
Panel Submission Deadline: Sept. 21
Paper Submission Deadline: Oct. 5

From Kate Baldwin:

Fellow Africanists, please consider submitting a paper or - better yet - a panel to the African Politics section at MPSA. I am the chair of the section this year, and I look forward to increasing the profile of research on Africa at the conference. The deadline for panel submissions is fast approaching. You can submit your panels and papers at the following link: http://www.mpsanet.org/Conference/Submit2013/tabid/701/Default.aspx
2013 Africa Workshop: Call for Leadership Proposals!

It is with great pleasure that I write to inform you that APSA is now accepting proposals from political scientists interested in serving as co-leaders for the 6th annual APSA Africa Workshop. This two-week political science workshop will take place in the summer of 2013. Submissions must come from a team of two US-based and two Africa-based scholars. Those applying to be co-leaders must propose a workshop theme, location, and African institutional partner.

Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the 2013 workshop is part of an ongoing multi-year effort to support political science research and teaching in Sub-Saharan Africa through a series of residential political science workshops. Previous workshops were held in Gaborone, Botswana (2012); Nairobi, Kenya (2011); Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (2010); Accra, Ghana (2009); and Dakar, Senegal (2008). Each year, the program is hosted by a university or research institute in Africa and brings together up to 22 Africa-based scholars, as well as four advanced PhD students from US-based universities.

Workshop leaders will serve as academic directors of the project who will be responsible for all substantive content. A modest honorarium will be provided and related expenses (meals, transportation, lodging, incidentals) will be covered. Workshop administration and logistics will be led by APSA staff in conjunction with the local partners in Africa.

Please feel free to forward this information and share news of this opportunity as appropriate. The application deadline is November 1, 2012. Click here for more information or contact Andrew Stinson (astinson@apsanet.org) if you have questions about the program.
Now Hiring

Research Assistant, Terrorism and Counter-terrorism in Africa
Applications Due: As soon as possible

From Carolyn Holmes (Indiana): I wanted to pass along some information on a new position for post-docs for Poli Sci doctoral students and doctoral students. Hussein Solomon (A professor at my department at the University of the Free State) was just given the opportunity to hire a few research assistants for research on Terrorism and Counter-terrorism in Africa. He said that he would be willing to consider anyone with expertise on Somalia, Nigeria, Egypt or Tunisia. It is a position that is renewable for up to 3 years, based in Bloemfontein, in South Africa. The basic requirement is that the research publish 2 journal articles per year while they are appointed. Researchers would have to start in January 2013. So, he’s looking for people to send in CV’s (and possibly brief research statements) as soon as possible. His email address is SolomonH@ufs.ac.za


The Department of National Security Affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School seeks applications for a tenure-track appointment at any rank (assistant, associate, or full professor) in the history or politics of Sub-Saharan Africa. Applications are welcomed from candidates with a wide range of thematic and sub-regional specialties, and from diverse academic fields. The successful candidate must also be prepared to teach a general graduate-level course on international relations, comparative politics, or modern history. The Naval Postgraduate School is a fully-accredited graduate school whose students are drawn from the armed forces and civilian agencies of the United States and many other countries. National Security Affairs is a multi-disciplinary department with curricula based on comparative politics, international relations, history, and economics.

Interested parties should send a letter of application, c.v., and writing samples. Applicants for appointment as assistant professor should also have at least three letters of recommendation sent. Applicants for appointment as associate or full professor should submit a list of at least three references with e-mail addresses. Address applications and supporting materials electronically to Professor Robert Springborg, Chair, Africa Search, Department of National Security Affairs, rdspring@nps.edu. The search committee will begin reviewing applications October 1. The search will continue until the position is filled. The Naval Postgraduate School is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Hampshire College Application Review Begins Oct. 15

Hampshire College, an independent, innovative liberal arts institution and member of the Five Colleges consortium, is accepting applications for an Assistant Professor of African Studies, to begin fall 2013.

This position is located in the interdisciplinary School of Critical Social Inquiry. Discipline open. Candidates must have substantial fieldwork experience in sub-Saharan Africa, with research and teaching interests that engage one or more of the following themes: broader processes of inclusion and exclusion, rural life and development, politics and power, youth, popular culture, gender and social movements.

Hampshire faculty must be able to work successfully with people from diverse backgrounds. Hampshire College is an institution where teaching is emphasized, along with intensive individual instruction and collaborative interdisciplinary work. Teaching load is two courses per semester. Faculty are expected to maintain an active scholarly life, and contribute to the college community. Faculty will also have opportunity to participate in the Five College African Studies Council; a vibrant scholarly community with nearly thirty faculty members whose teaching and research interests are in sub-Saharan Africa.

Hampshire College is committed to building a culturally diverse intellectual community and strongly encourages applications from women and minority candidates.

Ph.D. by time of appointment required. Review of applications will begin October 15, 2012. We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits program. Please submit a cover letter describing teaching and research interests as well as educational philosophy, curriculum vitae, one sample of written work, and three letters of recommendation via our website at http://jobs.hampshire.edu/

Hampshire College is an equal opportunity institution, committed to diversity in education and employment.

Smith College Application Review Begins Oct. 15

The Department of Government at Smith College invites applications for continued on page 21
Now Hiring, continued from page 21

a full-time, tenure-track position as Five College Assistant Professor in African Politics, beginning in September 2013. The position is based at Smith with responsibilities at Mount Holyoke and Amherst Colleges and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. The normal teaching load is two courses per semester, with two courses per year at Smith, one course per year at Mount Holyoke, and the remaining course rotated among the other participating colleges of the Five College Consortium (Amherst College and the University of Massachusetts Amherst). We seek candidates with expertise in Sub-Saharan Africa. Beyond this, we are open to a variety of approaches and specializations, including African political economy, security issues, human rights, politics of gender and sexuality, and religion and politics. Candidates should be prepared to teach a course regularly in Contemporary African Politics, as well as a general course in Comparative Politics, and to participate actively in the Five College African Studies program, as well as other Five College programs relevant to the candidate’s area of expertise. Ph.D. in political science required; teaching experience preferred. Apply at http://www.smith.edu/deanoffaculty/facultypositions.html with a cover letter describing teaching and research interests, a C.V., writing sample, graduate school transcript, teaching evaluations (if available) and other supporting materials, and three confidential letters of reference. Review of applications will begin on October 15, 2012. Smith College is an equal opportunity employer encouraging excellence through diversity.

Afrobarometer
Applications Due Sept. 25
Communications Manager (Ghana)  
[Link to Job Description]
Network Capacity Building Manager (South Africa)  
[Link to Job Description]
See Page 23.

General Announcements

The African Author Prize

Are you an African PhD student? Or an early career African scholar? If so, consider submitting your best article to African Affairs and you could be considered for the African Author Prize. The Prize is awarded every second year, and African Phd students in overseas universities and African-based authors at the beginning of their career are eligible. The Prize is awarded for the best article published in African Affairs over the two year period, and the winner receives £500.00, a trip to the ASAUK and a year’s free subscription to African Affairs. For more information on the Prize, please see: http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/afraf/authorprize.html The first winning article can be accessed here: http://afraf.oxfordjournals.org/content/107/428/433.full

Official launch of the Online Portal for Social Science Education in Methods (OPOSSEM).

OPOSSEM is an online portal to facilitate the sharing of various resources for teaching social science research methods among educators in secondary, undergraduate, and postgraduate settings. The vision for the OPOSSEM Portal was a result of ongoing discussions at multiple APSA TLC conferences and the recommendations of the Undergraduate and Graduate Methods Committee of the Society for Political Methodology. The development of the portal was supported by grant funding from the National Science Foundation and the Social Science and Humanities Research Council. The portal is designed to be a one stop shop of pedagogical resources for those teaching research methods including lecture slides, problem sets, datasets, syllabi, and in-class activities that are ready to be downloaded, customized if desired, and used in the classroom. It is also designed to be a community of members that can answer questions, discuss ideas, post resources and share pedagogical or technological innovations to improve teaching outcomes or simply make the task of teaching research methods slightly less daunting. Everything in the portal is free and made available through creative commons licenses.

We encourage you to visit and explore the portal. Specifically, you should check out the instruction materials available at http://opossem.org/instructional-materials to find resources that might be useful for your own classes or to find areas where you could contribute original content for the community. We also encourage you to utilize the discussion forums for all of your methods questions or ideas that relate specifically to teaching research methods. Thinking about using a new

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News from Afrobarometer

Afrobarometer is currently conducting its Round 5 surveys, expanding into more than 30 countries. New countries confirmed for Round 5 include Burundi, Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, Guinea, Mauritius, Niger, Sierra Leone and Togo, and we will also be collaborating with the Arab Barometer to implement the Afrobarometer questionnaire in several North African countries, including Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia. We expect to complete Round 5 surveys by the end of 2012 or early 2013. New results from Ghana, Malawi and Zimbabwe have just been posted on our website, and lots more will be coming over the next few months.

You can now follow Afrobarometer on Twitter to get the latest updates on new results and publications. Visit our website at www.afrobarometer.org.

Wanted: Scholarship using AB data

Afrobarometer also has a request for members of the APCG. We are always on the lookout for new scholarship that uses AB data to publish in the Afrobarometer Working Paper series. If you have a paper that uses Afrobarometer data that you would like to have considered for publication in this series, please send it to Michael Bratton, mbratton@msu.edu. You will get the benefit of valuable feedback on your work and early publication (which does not preclude subsequent publication in a scholarly journal), and you will benefit the Afrobarometer and help us to continue to raise funds for conducting more surveys by helping us to demonstrate the value of the data to scholars and other audiences. In addition, if in the course of your work you come across examples of ways in which Afrobarometer data is being used outside of academia, e.g., among NGOs, policy makers or others, especially in Africa, it is very helpful for us to know about these. Please send an e-mail about it to Sharon Parku, our Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, at Sharon@cddghana.org. We’re interested in tracking government or NGO reports that cite AB data, references in public debates or presentations, and even anecdotal evidence that the data is being used in policy making and advocacy in Africa.

NOW HIRING

Finally, the Afrobarometer is currently recruiting both a Network Communications Manager based at CDD in Accra, Ghana, and a Network Capacity Building Manager based at University of Cape Town. If you know of suitable candidates who might be interested in these positions, please ask them to visit our website for further information. Closing date for applications for both positions is Sept. 28th.

Rift Valley Institute Courses for Faculty, Graduate Students and Others

Ken Menkhaus writes: I want to alert colleagues to the Rift Valley Institute’s annual one week intensive courses on the Sudans, Horn of Africa, and Great Lakes, offered each summer in East Africa. I’ve been director of studies for the Horn of Africa course each year since we started in 2008 and I’ve been a participant in the Sudan course, and can tell you it’s a phenomenal education. We assemble 15 or so top experts on the regions as lecturers in politics, history, environment, livelihoods, culture and more, and go at it from morning to night for six straight days. The participants in these courses (usually capped at 45 people) are a great mix of aid workers, diplomats, government analysts, UN officials, human rights monitors, military, and private sector investors. We usually attract four or five academics and graduate students too but would love to have more. Please consider joining us in 2013 if you’d like a crash course on any of these regions, and let you graduate students know about it too. Information of the courses can be found at the Rift Valley Institute website: http://riftvalley.net/

General Announcements, continued from page 22

stat platform or textbook next year and want to find out about others’ experiences in doing the same? Start a new discussion thread here http://opossem.org/forum.

We hope you will join and find useful our community of collaboration. The project team includes Shane Nordyke (shane.nordyke@usd.edu), Jan Box-Steefensmeier (steefensmeier.2@polisci.osu.edu), Michelle Dion (dionm@mcmaster.ca), Bill Jacoby (jacob@msu.edu), and Phil Schrodt (schrodt@psu.edu). If you have any questions or would like further information you can also contact Shane Nordyke at Shane.Nordyke@usd.edu.

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General Announcements, continued from page 23

For Our Students

International Human Rights Exchange Johannesburg, South Africa

The International Human Rights Exchange (IHRE) is the world’s only full-semester, multidisciplinary program in human rights for undergraduate students. The program is based at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa and is a joint venture with Bard College. Each semester students and faculty from Africa and North America come together to participate in a deep and multifaceted intellectual engagement in human rights. In addition to a required core course, students choose from 12 or more electives exploring human rights from the perspective of a variety of academic disciplines. IHRE also opens up possibilities for substantive participation in human rights work. Students enrolled in the Engagement with Human Rights course intern with an NGO working on contemporary rights in post-apartheid South Africa. Students also explore human rights challenges in rural South Africa through a Community Human Rights Workshop, visit the Apartheid Museum and other relevant sites, and attend guest lectures from human rights experts from South Africa and around the world. Application Deadlines: October 15th for Spring Semester; March 1st for Fall Semester. For more information on the International Human Rights Exchange: http://www.ihre.org

Member News

Professor Yvonne Captain was featured in an “Interview on the Democratic Republic of Congo”, published at http://jatukikprovidence.blogspot.com/ on June 20, 2012. Professor Captain also had an award renamed in her honor. The Faculty Award for the organization Phi Beta Delta Honor Society has been renamed the Yvonne Captain Faculty Award for Outstanding Contributions to International Education: http://www.phibetadelta.org/index.php

Christopher Clapham is retiring after 15 years as editor The Journal of Modern African Studies from 1 September 2012. The new editors are Paul Nugent (University of Edinburgh) and Leonardo Villalón (University of Florida). The new editorial address is: The Journal of Modern African Studies, Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh, Chrystal Macmillan Building, 15A George Square, Edinburgh. EH8 9LD, United Kingdom. The new email address is: jmas@cambridge.org. All correspondence and submissions should be sent to this email, and not to the personal email addresses of the individual editors.

Daniel Esser, assistant professor of international development at American University, recently won an SSRC Fellowship on Drugs, Security and Democracy. He is currently collecting data on neighborhood-level non-violent collective action in Ciudad Juarez and hopes to conduct similar research in Cape Town for a comparative project in the near future.

Elliott Green has become the Book Reviews Editor at the Journal of Modern African Studies for a five-year commitment. He welcomes review copies of books by APCG members sent to his LSE work address (e.d.green@lse.ac.uk).

Andy Harris started a position at Nuffield College, Oxford University as a Post-Doctoral Prize Research Fellow.

Catherine Lena Kelly (Harvard) notes that her recent Journal of Democracy article, “Senegal: What Will Turnover Bring” is based on her research in Senegal during the 2012 presidential elections.

David K. Leonard announces that at the end of September he will be leaving the UK and moving back to the US at: 275 Kendal Drive, Kennett Square, PA 19348. He will continue to be a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies and an Emeritus Professor at UC Berkeley.

Staffan I. Lindberg has received a grant of € 475,000 from the European Commission and a grant at $ 200,000 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark for data collection and management as part funding for the new Varieties of Democracy Institute (V-Dem) at University of Gothenburg, Sweden. The V-Dem project is collecting data on 329 indicators of a variety of models of democracy for all countries in the world from 1900 to the present. 32 African countries are part of the first wave of data collection. For more info, see www.v-dem.net.

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Richard R. Marcus, Associate Professor and Director of International Studies at California State University Long Beach, was named Founding Director of the Global Studies Institute and the Haglund Global Studies Endowment. He also recently received an award from the National Science Foundation EaSM program for work on agricultural coping strategies in the face of drought. While his collaborators on this award are in the life sciences and engineering, Richard's role is to continue work on water politics and policy-making. In particular, these funds will facilitate farmer surveys and focus groups to enhance the role of expressed water needs and preferences in the policy process. This project starts too late for his current sabbatical semester but the time is being used to travel, finish current projects left undone, and work on more language skills.

Ken Menkhaus (Political Science, Davidson College) completed field research in eastern Ethiopia in May and in August conducted research for and co-authored a political economy risk assessment on Kenya as it approaches elections in March 2013. He also published several articles (all listed in our Publications).

Chiseche Mibenge was awarded a travel grant of $3000 through the Lehman College George N. Shuster Fellowship in Spring 2012. The award will supports a 5 week field visit to Freetown, and research project titled ‘Gender Justice in Africa: An Inquiry into The Inquiry into Allegations of Sexual Violence in Sierra Leone’.

Kristin Michelitch has several updates. She received her doctorate from NYU and is spending academic year 2012-2013 as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Kellogg Institute of Notre Dame. Guy Grossman and Kristin Michelitch received over $500,000 in grants to pursue a project in Uganda on political accountability of local government for providing public services such as healthcare, education, and water. Jaimie Bleck and Kristin Michelitch received an NSF Seed grant for their project in Mali on whether access to water is an ordinary citizens from the influence of traditional elites.

Clive J. Napier reports that the South African Association of Political Studies (SAAPS) held its biennial conference at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth, South Africa from 28 to 31 August 2012. The theme of the conference was Boundaries, Citizenship and Political Contestation in the 21st century. A little over fifty percent of the eighty papers presented had their roots in an aspect of the politics of Africa. The African Politics caucus group as a component of the larger SAAPS conference, shared a number of ideas on research collaboration, teaching issues, and participation in international conferences and study groups. At the ensuing SAAPS Council meeting, Prof Clive Napier was elected for a two year period as President, Dr Joleen Steyn Kotze as Vice-president and Prof Dirk Kotze as General Secretary. A number of additional council members were also elected. The conference demonstrated that the study of the politics of Africa is alive and well in South Africa.

Bob Press, Associate Professor of Political Science at the U. of Southern Mississippi, comments on two recent publications (see recent publications). His article in the Journal of Contemporary African Studies. is based on (1) repeat interviews in Kenya by the author from 2002 to 2012 with key youth activists, and (2) other political interviews and archival research updating Kenya’s ‘transition’. This was the lead article in the journal and was first published online July 2012. His article in African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review is based on some 50 interviews in Sierra Leone analyzing three, non-violent social movements in Sierra Leone between 1977 and 2002. It argues for a revision of traditional social movement theory, offering alternative explanations to explain the resistance by individuals as well as organizations. Also, transcripts of Bob’s original Kenya interviews (2002) are now available at the Library of Congress and are scheduled to be released online in September. Contact Bob (bob.press@usm.edu) for the link when it is available. The LOC may be interested in your transcripts if you care to share them. The contact there is Mary Jane Deeb mdee@loc.gov. Bob's wife, Betty Press, has received a $4000 grant for her photography based on her previous work in Africa.

Laura Seay reports that she testified about her research on conflict minerals in the DRC before Congress in May.

Tim Shaw reports that he becomes the Graduate Program Director for the new PhD in Global Governance & Human Security at UMass Boston from Labor Day.

Landry Signé (Banting Fellow, Stanford University) has been appointed Visiting Research Associate at Oxford University's Center for the Study of African Economies, hosted by Prof. Paul Collier and Dr. Anke

**Aili Tripp** (Professor of Political Science and Gender & Women’s Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison and ASA President) gave a keynote presentation in August in Nairobi at the UNDP conference, Championing Women’s Political Leadership: Delivering the One-third Promise in Kenya. She also participated this summer in workshops for the American Council on Learned Societies African Humanities Program at the universities of Dar es Salaam, Makerere, Ghana, Calabar and Ibadan. She delivered her ASA Presidential Address at the Center for African Studies, Rutgers University, and gave the Iris Marion Young Lecture at University of Pittsburgh in February in addition to other talks. Tripp spent a month in Liberia conducting a Democracy Governance Assessment for USAID.

**Peter Van der Windt** reports that he, Macartan Humphreys, and Raul Sanchez de la Sierra recently finished the evaluation of a large community-driven development (CDD) project in Eastern Congo -- an evaluation that started in 2006. The evaluation is interesting for a number of reasons: 1. It joins a group of RCTs evaluating the causal impact of CDD programs, and also finds no evidence of a positive impact; 2. The design of the evaluation was registered before the analysis took place (more about this [here](#)); 3. The evaluation made use of a behavioral measure; 4. The evaluation was large and particularly challenging given that it was Eastern Congo; the final part of the evaluation employed almost 100 people for 1.5 years.

The final report can be found [here](#).

**Theodore M. Vestal** reports that during the Ethiopian Diaspora’s annual cultural conference and soccer tournament held in Dallas this year during the 4th of July weekend, he received the Lifetime Commitment and Dedication to Democracy and Development in Ethiopia Award from the Global Civic Movement for Change in Ethiopia.

**Keith R. Weghorst** received a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad grant for the 2012-2013 academic year. The grant will support field research on opposition parties and legislative candidates in Tanzania.

**Olajumoke Yacob-Haliso** will be spending the fall semester (September-January) 2012 at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva Switzerland, as a postdoctoral scholar under the Global South Scholar-in-Residence program. Her research will be on the UNHCR and the politics of refugee repatriation in Africa.
Committees 2011 - 2012, & Other Officials

**Best Book in 2011 Award**
Terrence Lyons
George Mason University
tlyons1@gmu.edu

Lise Rakner
University of Bergen
Lise.Rakner@isp.uib.no

Catherine Boone
University of Texas-Austin
cboone@mail.utexas.edu

**Best Article in 2011 Award**
John F. Clark
Florida International University
clarkj@fiu.edu

Jaimie Bleck
University of Notre Dame
jbleck@nd.edu

Karen Ferree
University of California, San Diego
keferree@mail.ucsd.edu

**Best Dissertation in 2011 Award**
Devra Moehler
University of Pennsylvania
dmoehler@asc.upenn.edu

Ato Anoma
Yale University
ato.onoma@yale.edu

Desha Girod
Georgetown University
dmg78@georgetown.edu

**Best Graduate Student Paper 2011/2012 Award**
Jennifer Brass
Indiana University
brassj@indiana.edu

Nahomi Ichino
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nichino@wcia.harvard.edu

Deborah Brautigam
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Publications

Books


Edited Books


Recent Publications, continued from page 28


Journals

**Africa Spectrum**


**African Affairs**


**African Conflict & Peacebuilding Review**


**African Security**


**African Security Review**


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Recent Publications, continued from page 29


African Studies Quarterly


African Studies Review


American Political Science Review


Democratization

Bob-Milliar, George M. 2012. Political party activism in Ghana: factors influencing the decision of the politically active to join a political party. Democratization, 19(4), 668–689.

**Recent Publications, continued from page 30**


**Human Rights Quarterly**


**Journal of Contemporary African Studies**


**Journal of Democracy**


**Perspectives on Politics**


Recent Publications, continued from page 31


**Review of African Political Economy**


**South African Journal of International Affairs**


**The Journal of Modern African Studies**


Vorholter, Julia. 2012. Negotiating social change: Ugandan discourses on Westernisation and neo-colonialism as continued on page 33
Recent Publications, continued from page 32


World Development


Hilson, Gavin. 2012. Family Hardship and Cultural Values: Child Labor in Malian Small-Scale Gold Mining Communities. World Development, 40(8), 1663 - 1674.


Other Journal Articles, Book Chapters, and Papers


Art, David. 2012. What Do We Know About Authoritarianism After Ten Years? Comparative Politics, 44(3), 351-373.


Escribà-Folch, Abel. 2012. Authoritarian Responses to Foreign Pressure. Comparative Political Studies, 45(6), 683-713.


continued on page 34
Recent Publications, continued from page 33


John F. Clark (Florida International University) shares these pictures taken near Kinkala, Republic of Congo. He has this to say: “I include two recent field experience photos, from February 2012. The first depicts my efforts to spread a message of unity, and racial and ethnic harmony in Congo. The second shows me in action, implementing these high ideals.”
Bibliography - Symposium


Creevey, Lucy. 2006. “Senegal: continued on page 36


Mazurana, Dyan, and Susan McKay. 2004. “Where are the Girls?” Girls in Fighting Forces in continued on page 37
Northern Uganda, Sierra Leone and Mozambique: Their Lives during and After War. Montreal: Rights and Democracy.


Ubink, Janine. 2008. Tradition-


APCG Treasurer Carl Levan on a recent research trip to Uganda, (right photo) and with Fred Ssempebwa, Chair of the 2005 constitutional reform commission (left photo).

Photos (above and left) from Peter Van Der Windt, Macartan Humphreys and Raul Sanchez de la Sierra’s recent evaluation of a large community-driven development (CDD) project in Eastern Congo.
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