Chair’s Letter

Dear APCG members,

For most of us another academic year is over and we are looking forward to the summer!

Our APCG committees are busy deciding on Our Best Book and Best Article Awards to be presented at the African Studies Association meeting in Chicago in November.

We are looking forward to one APCG panel at the American Political Science Association in Boston in late August and lots of presentations by APCG members on other panels.

Our International Studies Association committee has chosen two panels for the February 2009 ISA meeting in New York City. One looks at AFRICOM and US Africa Policy with papers by Stephen Burgess, Jessica Piombo, Ken Menkhaus, Helen Purkitt and Beth Whitaker. The other looks at Challenges of Security, Economic Development and Democratization in Africa with papers by Carl Levan, Sandra Joireman, Gina Lambright, Carrie Manning, and John Clark. Thanks to the ISA panels committee for all of their hard work in putting those two panels together.

We are still exploring the possibility of putting together one or more “working groups” for the 2008 APSA conference in Boston. As described by the APSA:

“The Working Group is, in effect, a seminar integrated with the Annual Meeting that draws on the Meeting presentations its content, focusing on a single topic or theme. A volunteer coordinator, who is expected to facilitate discussion but not lecture on it, leads the group. Participants meet at the outset of the annual meeting, collectively develop a list of panels related to them that that they will attend, convene during the meeting to discuss the panels and their own work, and meet at the end of the meeting for a wrap-up session.”

Peter VonDoepp will be coordinating efforts for the APCG in this respect. If anyone has suggestions for possible working groups or has general interest in this, please contact him at pvondoep@uvm.edu. More information can be found at: http://www.apsanet.org/section_584.cfm

For Carrie Manning, our Treasurer, and me, our two year terms are coming to an end in November. If you would like to nominate
From the Editor

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is summer! … and the APSA meeting is coming up – but let’s not think about the papers we have to write just yet… Despite the urge I am sure we all feel to take some little time off now that semesters and terms are finishing, there are new articles and books out to consider and I have also included information on some exciting new opportunities and jobs. See below. Also, don’t forget to print out the membership renewal form, and pay your dues for 2008.

I am on the last leg of my four years+ duty as editor for this newsletter and if you would consider taking up this role, please let our Chair Gretchen Bauer know.

Submission deadlines for 2008: **August 20** and **November 30**. Make sure to include your news, calls and publications - we all want to know about them! It is a great opportunity for you to enlarge the readership of your work.

Finally, I have a message from our “Founding Father” John Harbeson: His email address will not change when he move to Bethesda this August. This Fall he will be teaching a course at SAIS—"Ethnicity and Identity in African Politics", and the 4th edition of African in World Politics went to press last week. It is dedicated to Don Rothchild.

Kindly,

Staffan I. Lindberg
Newsletter Editor

APSA CONFERENCE – Boston, August 28–31, 2008

**APCG Sponsored Panel**

No date and Time - all panels are yet to be scheduled....

**Title:** Mechanisms of Accountability in New African Democracies

**Chair:** Linda Beck, University of Maine, Farmington

**Papers:**
- *Constitution Writing and Protections Against Executive Abuse of Power* Jennifer Widner, Princeton University
- *Does Privatization Limit the Exercise of Discretionary Authority by Democratic Governments in Africa?* M. Anne Pitcher, Colgate University
- *Reworking Strategic Models of Executive-Judicial Relations: Insights from New African Democracies* Peter VonDoepp, University of Vermont and Rachel Ellett, Northeastern University
- *Social Accountability and Access to Information in Africa’s Fledgling Democracies* Linda Beck, University of Maine, Farmington

**Discussant:** Cathy Boone, University of Texas at Austin

If you send information about your panel or paper presentation to the editor at *sil@ufl.edu* by August 20 at the latest, it will be included in the next newsletter!

We will conduct an electronic ballot in a couple of months.

All the best,
Gretchen Bauer. APCG Chair

someone (or self-nominate) for the position of APCG Treasurer or APCG Chair, please contact Gina Lambright, convener of the Nominations Committee, at * glambrig@gwu.edu.*
RENEW MEMBERSHIP FOR 2008!

AFRICAN POLITICS CONFERENCE GROUP

A Coordinate Group of
American Political Science Association
African Studies Association
International Studies Association

Membership Dues
2008

Name: ______________________

Institution: ______________________

Email: ______________________

Address: ______________________

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Amount Enclosed: $10.00

Please enclose this form with a check for $10, payable to:

Carrie Manning, APCG Treasurer
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Gretchen Bauer
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Florida International University

Sandra Joireman, Secretary
Wheaton College

Carrie Manning, Treasurer
Georgia State University

Dennis Galvan, Web Manager
University of Oregon

Staffan I. Lindberg, Newsletter Editor
University of Florida
The preparations for the first of the three APSA Africa Workshops this summer is well underway. The website for the 2008 APSA Africa Workshop is http://www.apsanet.org/~africaworkshops/section_762.cfm. French and English versions of the call for applications are posted there.

Calls for proposals for the 2009 and 2010 workshops will be out this summer. The proposals should come from two US-based Political Scientists who, in collaboration with two Africa-based social scientists, will propose a workshop theme, location, institutional partnership, etc. Please contact Catherine Boone (cboone@mail.utexas.edu), APCG member and member of the APSA Africa Initiative Steering Committee, with questions and for more information.

Recent Publications on African Politics

Grzymala-Busse, Anna. 2008. “Beyond Clientelism: Incumbent State Capture and State Formation” Comparative Political Studies, Vol. 41, no. 4/5, April/May


Kriger, Norma. 2007. “Liberation from Constitutional Constraints: Land Reform in Zimbabwe” by The SAIS Review of International Affairs, Vol. XXVII, no. 2, Summer/Fall


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**Announcements, Jobs, Grants and Fellowships**

**AEGIS 3rd European Conference on African Studies – CALL FOR PAPERS!** The 3rd AEGIS conference will be held at University of Leipzig on 4 to 7 June 2009. The deadline for submission of paper proposals is 1 August 2008. For more information and submissions, go to: [http://www.aegis-eu.org](http://www.aegis-eu.org)

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POLITICAL ECONOMIES OF DISPLACEMENT IN POST-2000 ZIMBABWE, WITS UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, JOHANNESBURG, 9-11 JUNE 2008.** The Conference seeks especially (but not only) empirically grounded contributions from researchers from different disciplines, whose work on post-2000 Zimbabwe (yet with linkages to other times and places), helps to address some of these issues. For further queries, please contact: Amanda Hammar (amanda.hammar@nai.uu.se) or Tania Berger (tania.berger@nai.uu.se) at the Nordic Africa Institute, and Loren Landau (Loren.Landau@wits.ac.za) at the Forced Migration Studies Programme at Wits University.

The University of Montreal is holding the first Summer School dedicated to Africa from July 7 to July 13, 2008. 12 experts will give conferences and exchange ideas, knowledge and experiences on such diverse subjects as History, democratization processes, conflicts, environment, relations with emerging powers and so on. Our ambition is to deconstruct what Georges Courtade has called “The Africa of conventional ideas” in order to decrypt and analyze in depth the important
debates, which Black Africa faces today. All the details concerning the course (syllabus, registration...) are available on our website:

AFRICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION OF THE UK BIENNIAL CONFERENCE, UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL LANCASHIRE, PRESTON, 11-13 SEPTEMBER 2008. The conference aims to bring together Africanists from all over the world and from various disciplines to discuss the past and current developments in Africa and African Studies. For more information, visit the ASAUK websites: www.asauk.net.

FULBRIGHT GRANTS TO NORTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST, 2008-2009
Applications will be accepted from well-qualified students in most fields of study, including Arabic language study in selected countries. Candidates must be U.S. citizens who will hold a bachelor’s degree or the equivalent by the beginning date of the grant, but who do not hold the Ph.D. at the time of application. Critical Language Enhancement Awards: Pre-grants of three to six months will be available to pursue additional in-country language training in conjunction with a Fulbright proposal. Pre- and post-grant testing in the language, as well as a clearly defined commitment to continuing language training after the initial training period are a requisite for consideration. The campus deadline date for applications is the third week of September.

FULBRIGHT GRANTS AVAILABLE TO AFRICA, 2009-2010. Approximately 55 grants will be available for graduating seniors, graduate students and young professionals to study or do research in the following countries: Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Grants provide maintenance for one academic year, round-trip international travel, health and accident insurance, and a research allowance. Students proposing dissertation research may apply to countries other than those listed above, except for Burundi, Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Somalia and the Sudan, but should first check with IIE to determine country availability prior to filing an application. Applications must hold a bachelor’s degree or its equivalent by the beginning date of the grant, must be U.S. citizens at the time of application, and where applicable, have language proficiency sufficient to carry out the proposed project; candidates must be in good health. The campus deadline date for applications is the third week of September.

IIE ANNOUNCES: DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS IN POPULATION, REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
The Institute of International Education (IIE) is now accepting applications for the Dissertation Fellowship in Population, Reproductive Health, and Economic Development. The two-year fellowships of up to $20,000 per year will be awarded by The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and IIE. The fellowships are open to students currently enrolled in Ph.D. programs in the U.S., Canada and sub-Saharan Africa. The objective of The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation/IIE Dissertation Fellowship is to produce sound evidence on the role of population and reproductive health in economic development that could be incorporated into national and international economic planning and decision making. For more information, please see the following links: Africa Call for applications: Deadline: April 30, 2008: www.iie.org/hewlettfoundationafrica

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT DISSERTATION WORKSHOP PROGRAM. This site has a collection of tips, samples, and links to help students. The IIS site also includes funding opportunities for Africans and Foreign Nationals. For more information, visit http://globetrotter.berkeley.edu/RADW/index.html

AFRICAN JOURNALS ONLINE (AJOL). AJOL is being re-launched on its own website. It provides free access to tables of contents and abstracts for over 175 journals published on the continent, and also provides a number of additional facilities. The service remains free to both users and participating journals (with charges only for document delivery requests from outside developing countries). For more information, visit http://www.ajol.info

AFRICA: HUMAN RIGHTS DATABASE LAUNCHED. The Communication Initiative has introduced its revamped database of global media coverage on human rights issues. This feature is part of the Communication Initiative,s Human Rights Window. It allows for a one-stop search related to media coverage for each individual article in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Articles from over 200 developing country newspapers and 10 leading global newspapers are featured in the database. For more information, visit http://www.comminit.com/human-rights/newssearch.html
The APCG is served 2008 by the following members:

### Steering Committee
- **Gretchen M. Bauer**, Chair, University of Delaware
- **John F. Clark**, Vice Chair, Florida International University
- **Sandra Joireman**, Secretary, Wheaton College
- **Carrie Manning**, Treasurer, Georgia State University
- **Dennis Galvan**, Website Manager, University of Oregon
- **Staffan I. Lindberg**, Newsletter Ed., University of Florida

### APSA Program
- **Devra Moehler***, Cornell University
- **Elliott Green**, London School of Economics
- **Dennis Galvan**, University of Oregon

### ISA Program
- **Steve Burgess***, US Air War College
- **Beth Whitaker**, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
- **Helen Purkitt**, US Naval Academy

### ASA Program
- **Mi Yung Yoon***, Hanover College
- **Carl LeVan**, American University
- **Richard Marcus**, CSU Long Beach

### Best Book Award
- **William Reno***, Northwestern University
- **Joshua Rubongoya**, Roanoke College
- **Adrienne LeBas**, Michigan State University

### Best Article Award
- **Amy Poteete***, Concordia University
- **Kiki Edozie**, Michigan State University
- **Alex Scacco**, Columbia University

### Nominations
- **Gina Lambright***, George Washington University
- **Anne Pitcher**, Colgate University
- **Jessica Piombo**, Naval Postgraduate School

*convenor

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**LIST REMOVAL** If you wish to be removed from this emailing list, please send an email to me *(sil@ufl.edu)*.