



AFRICAN POLITICS CONFERENCE GROUP (APCG)

of the
American Political Science Association (APSA),
International Studies Association (ISA),
and
African Studies Association (ASA).

APCG Newsletter No. 16 *August 2008*

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Chair's Letter

Dear APCG members,

Most of us are winding down the summer and looking forward to the start of a new school year. For those who plan to attend the American Political Science Association meeting in Boston next week, please note that we will be holding a business meeting on Friday, August 29th, from 6:15 to 7:15 pm in the Tufts Room of the Marriott Copley Plaza Hotel.

We might want to think about a dinner afterwards although that is also the time that many receptions are being held. At our meeting, we might consider other available meal times during the conference as well. In this newsletter you will find information about our APCG panel at APSA as well as other panels in which our members are presenting at APSA.

We hope that after the APSA meeting we will have a few candidates for the positions of Chair and Treasurer. We will then send out descrip-

tions of the candidates and their aspirations for the APCG and conduct an electronic ballot, as we have done in the past. Then, at the African Studies Association meeting in Chicago in mid November, we will welcome our new officeholders. Please send nominations or self-nominations to Gina Lambright at glambrig@gwu.edu.

Our Best Article and Best Book Award committees are on track to choose awardees in time for the Chicago ASA meeting. Those awards will be presented at the ASA business meeting on Thursday evening. We hope that you can attend! As usual we will have two APCG panels at the ASA meeting and many more panels in which our members are presenting. We look forward to seeing you at our business meeting there as well.

I would like to announce that we have found a new Newsletter Editor for the APCG. As you know, Staffan Lindberg has done a superb job for the last four years, keeping us all informed about

each other's activities, scholarship at our three main professional association meetings, job and conference opportunities and many more things. We owe him a great deal of gratitude for the informative and timely newsletters that he has been producing four times per year for the past four years. Fortunately, we have someone who will follow in Staffan's footsteps. Mamoudou Gazibou, of the Department of Political Science at the University of Montreal, has graciously agreed

to take on the position of Newsletter Editor. We are delighted at this news and look forward to meeting with Mamoudou at a future meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you at APSA.

All the best,
Gretchen Bauer. APCG Chair

From the Editor

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This is my last call of duty as Editor of the APCG Newsletter. It has been a rewarding four years since the start of our organization. Our dear friend John Harbeson was the one who saw the need for something like APCG, and as the wonderful person he is, invested enormous time and energy into its creation. I was happy to follow his lead and by co-incidence, became the first (and so far only) Newsletter Editor. Thanks for the opportunity Founding Father John! And thanks to all the hard-working individuals who have served on the steering committee over these first four years to make APCG such a success, and to our friend Dennis Galvan who is continuing to make the organization's website possible.

APCG has lived through its birth traumas, crawled to its feet and started running. As President Nyere said shortly after independence: "While others can walk, we must run". We have a young organization with an important mission of furthering the study of African politics by bringing us together, stimulate collaboration, inform about and reward the best contributions in our field, and strengthen our contribution to Political Science in general and to Comparative and International Politics in particular.

I am amazed at how far our organization has come in this short time. As Editor of the Newsletter, I have had the pleasure to be forced to take notice of the increasing number of publications coming out from our members, and how many collaborations are now taking place, as

well as the extra conferences, workshops, and field trips abroad coming to fruition.

It seems to me that we are also succeeding in making ourselves and the study of African politics more widely known and respected in Political Science. Naturally, many factors have played a part but it is noticeable how our colleagues from other sub-disciplines and areas now look excited when you speak about African politics and our findings.

We now need to make sure that APCG matures and solidifies as an organization, strengthen its efforts to further our mission, and become even larger and respected. It seems to me that this is a natural point for me to leave. It has been four years of great service.

I feel confident that our good friend and colleague Mamoudou Gazibou will succeed in contributing to that challenge. He will also be able to do something I could not: bring together more closely the French-speaking and English-speaking community of scholars in the study of African politics. Mamoudou, my sincerest thanks for accepting the offer to be Editor, and best wishes. I am sure you will take the Newsletter to much greater heights than I have been able to. I am looking forward to it!

Kindly,
Staffan I. Lindberg
Outgoing Newsletter Editor

APSA CONFERENCE – Boston, August 28–31, 2008

APCG Sponsored Panel - Friday 29 Aug., 10.15am

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

Gender and Social Class Variance on Press Accountability: A Multilevel Modeling of Political Interest in East Africa Minion K. C. Morrison, University of Missouri and Yusuf Kalyango, Ohio University

**APCG Business Meeting
Friday August 29, at 6.15pm
Tufts room, Marroitt Hotel.**

Some Other panels with APCG Memebers:

(I am sure there are many more of us there giving papers but these are the ones I have been notified about)

Thursday 28 Aug., 10:15am

Islam, Law, and Democracy in Sahelian Africa

Chair: Leonardo A. Villalon

Papers:

Cedric Joure (Univ of Ottawa): *"Reforming the Justice System"*

Susanna D. Wing (Haverford Coll.): *"Women's Associations, Democracy and Islam"*

Leonardo A. Villalon (Univ. of Florida): *"Negotiating Islam and Democracy"*

Susan O'Brien (Univ. of Florida): *"Shari'a Contested"*

Discussant: Ousmane Kane (Columbia Univ.)

Monica L. Malbrough (Georgia State Univ.): *"Political History and Party Institutionalization in sub-Saharan Africa"*

Monty G. Marshall (George Mason Univ.) and Benjamin R. Cole (George Mason Univ.): *"A Marco-Comparative Analysis of the Problem of Factionalism in emerging Democracies"*

Kristin A. McKie (Cornell Univ.): *"The Politics of Adopting and Contraveing Term Limits in Africa"*

Shaheen Mozaffar (Bridgewater College), Joel D. Barkan (Univ. of Iowa), Robert B. Mattes (Univ of Cape Town), and Kimberly Smiddy (Univ. of Cape Town): *"Understanding Legislatures in Africa's Emerging Democracies"*

Nic Cheeseman (Oxford Univ.): *"Political Parties and Coalition Formation in Africa"*

Discussant: Bruce Gilley (Portland State Univ.)

Friday 29 Aug., 8.00am

African Democracy and Its Challenges

Chair:

Monty G. Marshall (George Mason Univ.)

Papers:

Friday 29 Aug., 10.15am

Patronage and Service Provision in Africa.

Chair:

Dr. Thomas A. Koelble

Papers:

Sarah Gray Knoesen (UC, San Diego): "*Public Service Provision in South Africa*"

Thomas A. Koelble (Univ. of Cape Town): "*Why are We Still Waiting?*"

Petr Kopecky (Univ. of Leiden): Does electoral Competition Restrain Rent-Seeking Within the State?"

Katharine Baldwin (Columbia Univ.): "*Private and Local Goods as Different Types of Patronage*"

Discussant: Carl LeVan (American Univ.)

The Nuts and Bolts of Challenging Fieldwork

Chair: Dorian T. Warren (Columbia Univ.)

Papers:

Roselyn Hsueh (Temple Univ.): "*Conducting Research in Varying Contexts in China*"

Maiah Jaskoski (Naval Postgraduate School): "*Interviewing Mid- and Low-Ranking Officers in the Peruvian and Ecuadorian Militaries*"

Robin L. Turner (UC Berkeley): "*Embodiment, Positionality and Self-Presentation: Informant Perceptions and Fieldwork Strategies in Southern Africa.*"

Discussants: Dorian T. Warren (Columbia Univ.) and Timothy Pachirat (New School University)

Saturday 30 Aug., 4.15pm

Democracy and Dictatorship in sub-Saharan Africa after the Cold War.

Chair: Michael Bratton (Michigan State Univ.)

Papers:

John Harbeson (CUNY): "*First-past-the-Post: Divergent Trajectories Toward Democratic Stateness in Africa*"

Staffan I. Lindberg (Univ. of Florida): "*Explaining Democratic and Authoritarian Trajectories in Africa*"

Steven Levitsky (Harvard Univ.) and Lucan A. Way (Univ. of Toronto): "*Competitive Authoritarianism in Africa*"

Antoinette Handley (Univ. of Toronto): "*Ghana's Transition to Democracy in the 1990s*"

Discussants: Michael Bratton (Michigan State Univ.) and Nelson Kasfir (Dartmouth College)

Taking Agency and Contingency Seriously: Land, Identity and Institutional Change in Africa.

Chair: Dennis C. Galvan (Univ. of Oregon)

Papers:

Amy R. Poteete (Concordia Univ.): "*Path Dependency or Political Competition?*"

Dennis C. Galvan (Univ. of Oregon): "*Wolofization and Land Tenure Change in rural Senegal*"

Jacqueline Klopp (Columbia Univ.): "*Elections and Internal Displacement in Kenya*"

Amadou Camara (Univ. Cheikh Anta Diop): "*Who is the Land Holder in the Senegal River Valley?*"

Discussant: Richard Marcus (CSU, Long Beach)

Sunday, 31 Aug., 8:00am

Gender Quotas and Women's Political Representation

Chair: Richard E. Matland (Loyola Univ.)

Papers:

Petra Meier (Univ. of Antwerp): "*Do Gender Quotas have an impact?*"

Gretchen M. Bauer (Univ. of Delaware): "*Better Governors? The Impact of Women MPs on Governance in Africa*"

Jennifer M. Priscopo (UC, San Diego): "*The Framing and Articulation of Women's Rights in Argentina*"

Aparna Thomas (Cornell College): "*Formal and Informal Institutions*"

Susan Franceshet (Univ. of Calgary) and Mona L. Krook (Washington Univ.): "*Measuring the Impact of Quotas on Women's Substantive Representation*"

Discussants: Leslie A. Schwindt-Bayer (Univ. of Missouri) and Richard E. Matland (Loyola Univ.)

Revisiting the "Urban Bias" of the African State

Chair: Sandra F. Joireman (Wheaton College)

Papers:

Elliott D. Green (LSE): "*Patronage, Power and Pork in Rural Africa*"

Catherine Boone (UT Austin): "*Property Rights and Electoral Dynamics in Kenya*"

Kimuli Kasara (Columbia Univ.): "*The Effect of District Creation in Kenya, 1992-2007*"

Sandra F. Joireman (Wheaton College): "*Property Rights and Political Entrepreneurs*"

Discussant: Robert H. Bates (Harvard Univ.)

RENEW MEMBERSHIP FOR 2008!



**AFRICAN POLITICS
CONFERENCE GROUP**

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

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**Membership Dues
2008**

Name: _____

Institution: _____

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Amount Enclosed: \$10.00

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

Carrie Manning, APCG Treasurer
Department of Political Science
Georgia State University
PO Box 4069
Atlanta, GA 30303-4069

APSA Africa Workshops

The first of the three APSA Africa Workshops this summer was held in Dakar, Senegal and was very successful. Catherine Boone will brief us on the experience at our business meeting. The website for the 2008 APSA Africa Workshop is http://www.apsanet.org/~africaworkshops/section_762.cfm.

The call is also out for proposals for next year's Africa Workshop to be held in Accra, Ghana. 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, or see the website: <http://www.apsanet.org/~africaworkshops/?CFID=34903917&CFTOKEN=71690790>

Recent Publications on African Politics

Beck, Linda. 2008. *Brokering Democracy in Africa*. Palgrave.

Joireman, Sandra F. 2008. "The Mystery of Capital Formation in Sub-Saharan Africa: Women, property rights and customary law." *World Development* 36 (7):1233-46.

Kraus, Jon. ed., 2007. *Trade Unions and the Coming of Democracy in Africa*. New York: Palgrave-Macmillan.

Wing, Susanna D. 2008. *Constructing Democracy in Transitioning Societies of Africa: Constitutionalism and Deliberation in Mali*. New York: Palgrave-Macmillan.

Announcements, Jobs, Grants and Fellowships

Cultural Diplomacy in Africa: A Forum for Young Leaders Berlin, October 6-10th

2008. The Institute for Cultural Diplomacy (ICD) is now accepting applications for participants interested in taking part in the Forum. To learn more about the ICD, please visit our website: <http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org> www.culturaldiplomacy.org. *Cultural Diplomacy in Africa: A Forum for Young Leaders* addresses the urgent need for cultural diplomacy on the African continent. The CDA Forum comprises a series of high-profile seminars and workshops, including a day-long Global Integration Conference and a Panel discussion on Pan-Africanism. As a key part of the Forum, the ICD is looking for participants from the African continent, as well as the wider international community, with a strong academic background and/or professional experience. Furthermore, participants should

demonstrate leadership skills and have an active interest in international affairs with particular emphasis on the African continent. More detailed information and application forms can be found in the CDA brochure, which can be accessed via the link: http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/index.php?en_program_cda_introduction

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>

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.

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.

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:

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Best Article Award

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Kiki Edozie
Alex Scacco

Concordia University
Michigan State University
Columbia University

Nominations

Gina Lambright*
Anne Pitcher
Jessica Piombo

George Washington University
Colgate University
Naval Postgraduate School

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