1. **Message from the (NEW!) Chair, Professor Gretchen M. Bauer**

Dear Friends,

At the ASA meeting in San Francisco, the African Politics Conference Group experienced its first ‘chair’ succession when I took over, based on the November election results, from John Harbeson. Also at the meeting Carrie Manning succeeded Anne Pitcher who has served as treasurer for the last couple of years. Carrie and I join Nelson Kasfir and Catherine Boone who will each serve one more year of their two year terms as vice-chair and secretary, respectively. Staffan Lindberg and Dennis Galvan will continue in their roles as newsletter editor and webmaster. We acknowledged John’s hard work and dedication to the APCG – as the founding member and chair – with a plaque presented by Cathy Boone. At this time I would like to thank, especially, Anne Pitcher for all of her hard work to establish an account for our group and to encourage our members to become dues-paying members. Finally, let me again thank Stephen Burgess and John Quinn for standing as candidates in the November election.
We had an exciting meeting with lots of ideas generated for things that we can do in the future. I would like to mention a few of those in this note. First, we should work to build our membership, preferably our dues-paying membership (only $10 per year!). If we could each encourage a couple of colleagues or graduate students to join the APCG we could rapidly build our membership. This is important because as our numbers grow so can our official standing with our national associations, the ASA, APSA and ISA, change and become more favorable. For the time being, the best way to become a member is to go to the APCG webpage, click on the APCG members’ directory and add oneself as a member: http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~dgalvan/apcg/apcg.html.

Many of the ideas involved our participation at the three annual meetings. We will continue to sponsor a total of five panels at the three meetings, but it was also suggested that members think about other possibilities such as offering short courses at APSA on topics like teaching African Politics or conducting research in Africa. It was also suggested that some members might register as a Working Group at APSA thus attending a series of panels together and discussing issues raised in the panels. Another suggestion was that some members might participate in APSA’s Teaching and Learning Conference to be held in Charlotte, NC in early February. Finally, it was suggested that we might organize informal meetings at the APSA or ASA to share experiences on a given topic, such as taking undergraduates on study abroad trips to Africa. I think we should try this at the next APSA meeting. In the meantime, anyone interested in any of the other ideas, please contact me: gbauer@udel.edu.

We typically do not hold business meetings at ISA as not enough of our members attend, but we would like to continue a practice started at last year’s meeting to organize an informal dinner of those APCG members attending the ISA meeting. Sandra Joireman promised to do that for the upcoming meeting in Chicago. Please let her know if you plan to attend: Sandra.F.Joireman@wheaton.edu.

Other ideas put forward at the meeting centered around advancing African Politics research and scholarship. It was suggested that we should think about proposing and organizing special issues of journals, for example, African Studies Review, among others. [On that note, APCG member Cathy Newbury reminded us that she and David Newbury are now the book review editors of ASR, in the event that anyone would like to help review books.] Beth Whitaker, editor of African Review of Foreign Policy, and Steve Burgess, editor of Journal of African Security, reminded us that both journals are looking for submissions.

It was also proposed that we organize bi-annual roundtables on ‘African Politics at Present, and in the Future’ at ASA’s annual conference. The idea is to stimulate a debate about our field and create more a sense of community. The task for the roundtable would be for a group of more senior scholars to make their assessment of the field and point to areas of particular need in terms of future research.

So, I feel that we are off to a good start in continuing the work of the African Politics Conference Group over the last five years. Please contact me if you are interested in following up on any of the initiatives we discussed at the ASA meeting. Best wishes for the holiday…..

Gretchen
2. Notes from the Editor

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Let me start with the submission deadlines for the coming issues of the newsletter 2007: **February 28, May 30, August 27, and, November 30.**

Make sure to include your news, calls and publications - we all want to know about them! And it is a great opportunity for you to enlarge the readership of your work.

Lahra Smith announce that the draft of the APCG-sponsored article, "Africa in the Political Science Curriculum," is almost ready to be submitted to APSA's *Journal of Political Science Education*. Our initiatives in several areas thus are starting to pay off.

We have also been doing very well with our panels at APSA and ASA with lots of excitement and attendance being high to very high in all of them. The roundtable at ASA hit what might be a record for an APCG panel so far, with an audience of about 120 (!). Proposals for the coming year are highly encouraged – see further below.

I also wish to remind all about the two upcoming APCG panels at ISA. Make sure to attend if you can - our future allocations of panels is determined by the number of people attending! Sandra F. Joireman has also taken a great initiative and will be coordinating an APCG-people dinner at a local restaurant on the Friday night of the ISA meeting. Details will follow but people can contact me if they have questions. Please, email her if you want to join the party: Sandra.F.Joireman@wheaton.edu

With Warm Greetings for the Holidays!

Kindly,

Staffan I. Lindberg
Newsletter Editor

3. APCG Awards and Calls

**The 2006 Book Award** was handed out at the ASA meeting in San Francisco. Best Book Committee chair Elke Zuern announced that the winner was Daniel Posner for *Institutions and Ethnic Politics in Africa* (Cambridge, 2005). Dan Posner was unable to attend ASA this year.

No Best Article Award was given for 2005.
The 2007 Best Book Award: The committee welcomes nominations of 2006 titles that deal with some aspect of African politics. Ideally, the committee would like to receive copies of the books at their respective addresses. Please note that the award is given to a book published in English and that edited volumes are not eligible for nomination. Deadline: March 31, 2007 and the award will be presented at the 2007 ASA meeting.

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The 2006 APCG Best Article Award: The Committee is pleased to request nominations for the best journal article in African Politics published in the calendar year 2006. You may send nominations to any committee member (Jennifer Seely, SUNY Potsdam, seelyjc@potsdam.edu; Peter Von Doepp, University of Vermont; Ngeta Kabiri, UNC Chapel Hill) until March 31, 2007. Nominated articles will be considered, as well as articles selected by committee members, and the award announced at the 2007 ASA meeting.

Call for APCG panel proposals for the 2007 African Studies Association Annual Meeting: The African Politics Conference Group ASA Program Committee is now soliciting proposals for papers to be delivered at the October 2007 meeting of ASA in New York, NY. We are happy to entertain both individual proposals and full panel proposals. We are entitled to place two panels on the program reflecting the themes members of the APCG consider to be worthy of analysis. The deadline for receipt of proposals is February 15, 2006. Please note that this deadline reflects the fact that the ASA deadline for proposal submission is two weeks earlier than usual. Proposed topics should be sent to the program committee care of Susanna Wing: swing@haverford.edu

Sincerely,
Susanna Wing
Adrienne Le Bas
Dennis Galvan
4. APCG Panels at the 2007 ISA Annual Conference

1. Panel - WB07 Wednesday 10:30 AM - 12:15 PM

Title: African International Politics and Foreign Policy

Chair: John F. Clark, Florida International University

Papers:
Seifudein Adem, Binghamton University “Democratic Peace Theory and Africa’s International Relations”
Beth Elise Whitaker, University of North Carolina at Charlotte “Reluctant Partners: The United States and Kenya in the War on Terror”
Donald Rothchild, University of California at Davis & Donna J. Nincic, California Maritime Academy, California State University “State Failure and the Re-Emergence of Maritime Piracy”

Discussant: John F. Clark, Florida International University

2. Panel - TC04 Thursday 1:45 - 3:30 PM

Panel Title: Meeting African Political and Development Challenges

Chair: Sandra F. Joireman, Wheaton College

Papers:
Amy R. Poteete, Concordia University “Building National Political Coalitions and Managing Natural Resources: Implications for Community-Based Natural Resource Management in Botswana”
Makau Mutua, State University of New York Buffalo Law School “Constitution-Making and Reform of the Kenyan State”
Sheila Bunwaree, University of Mauritius “Women in Parliament: Do They Make a Difference in the Lives of Women? The Case of Mauritius”

Discussants: Mi Yung Yoon, Hanover College and Sandra F. Joireman, Wheaton College
5. Recent Publications on African Politics


Koelble, Thomas A. and Edward LiPuma “The Effects of Circulatory Capitalism on Democratization: Observations from South Africa and Brazil” Democratization August 2006 (Volume 13, no. 4)


Lust-Okar, Ellen “Elections under Authoritarianism: Preliminary Lessons from Jordan” *Democratization* June 2006 (Volume 13, no. 3)


van Cranenburgh, Oda “Namibia: Consensus Institutions and Majoritarian Politics” *Democratization* June 2006 (Volume 13, no. 3)

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6. Members’ News

**David Leonard** has moved from Berkeley to England to assume a Professorial Fellowship on the Governance Team at the Institute of Development Studies. (Sussex). Also, from August through October he was doing field work in East Africa, including in Somaliland and Puntland. He can be reached at: d.leonard@ids.ac.uk
**David Backer** news is that I have been awarded a three-year research grant from the Human & Social Dynamics Program of the National Science Foundation to study victims' responses to the transitional justice processes in Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone and their relationship to processes of political and social development. The project entails the collection of both qualitative and quantitative data, including a panel survey planned for Liberia. The work will be done in collaboration with Anu Kulkarni (Arizona State/Stanford) and partners in each of the study countries (Ghana Center for Democratic Development [Accra], Center for Democratic Empowerment [Monrovia], Center for Democracy & Development [Lagos] and the National Forum for Human Rights [Freetown]). We're holding the first organizational meeting in December, with the field research set to launch early next year.

**Kevin Fridy** at University of Florida, is currently creating a network of scholars working on sub-national elections in African countries. These data are often quickly lost and can never be recovered. Fridy and his group are trying to remedy the situation for future generations of students. If you have data, or know where to find it, or just want to join this collective action effort, please contact Kevin Fridy at: fridy@ufl.edu

**Mamoudou Gazibo** has been promoted to associate professor and granted tenure at Université de Montréal, Département de science politique


**Staffan I. Lindberg** presented research findings on “Opposition Parties’ Strategies for Development and Democracy” at a conference organized by Electoral Institute of Southern Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa, 8-10 November 2006; and also gave a presentation on “Institutionalization of Party Systems in Africa” at a workshop organized by Danish Institute of International Studies, Nijmegen, Holland, 26-29 November, 2006.

**Ken Menkhaus** is conducting fieldwork on local security and governance structures in southern Sudan in December, part of a larger project, the Sudan Human Security baseline Assessment, executed by the Geneva-based Small Arms Survey. The final product of the Assessment will be completed and available by April 2007.

**Bob Press**, Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Southern Mississippi (and his photographer wife Betty Press) spent the summer in Liberia doing human rights research on two small grants which covered expenses. He would welcome contact with anyone doing human rights field research anywhere. He currently uses social movement theory to examine peaceful resistance movements but is open to alternative suggestions. He can be reached at bob.press@usm.edu or 601-266-4311.
CALL FOR PAPERS: CONFERENCE ON THE AFRICA ENVIRONMENT, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, UK (March 28-29, 2007)

The Centre of African Studies at the University of Edinburgh invites submissions for a conference entitled "The Power of Water: Landscape, Water and the State in Southern Africa. The conference will focus on three themes in order to explore the interrelationship between practices and discourses of water, landscape and the state in southern Africa. For more information, see (http://www.cas.ed.ac.uk).

CALL FOR ARTICLES: AFRICA AND THE NEW RESOURCE SCRAMBLE

As Africa grapples with what many have termed the "new" scramble for natural resources on the continent, there is an urgent need to put this phenomenon in perspective vis--vis the continent's development. Are we seeing a "new" scramble, or perhaps a mutation, or even a deepening, of an old scramble? What drives the "new" scramble for petroleum, gold, diamond, timber, rivers, etc? What is the character of state and (transnational and local) corporate involvement in the "scramble"? What kinds of development and security challenges have emerged or are emerging, especially for local communities and ordinary people in whose immediate ecologies these "strategic" resources are exploited? Development Southern Africa invites papers from scholars, researchers and policy analysts, for a special issue of the journal to be published during the first half of 2008 under the theme: "Africa and the 'new' Resource Scramble: Emerging Contestations and Insights". Papers must address any of the concerns raised above, or questions related thereto. Researchers who have done recent empirical work that can link primary data to broader theoretical and policy discourses and insights are particularly encouraged to send in submissions. Deadline for submissions: March 31, 2007. Please send your submissions to: [dsa@dbsa.org]. For further enquiries, please contact: Dr. Wilson Akpan, Department of Sociology, University of Fort Hare, East London E-mail: wakpan@ufh.ac.za. See also [http://www.zoominfo.com/WilsonAkpan].

CALL FOR PAPERS: CONFERENCE ON FRENCH COLONIALISM IN AFRICA

The theme of the 33rd annual conference of the French Colonial Historical Society will be "Rivers and Colonies," but papers on all aspects of the French experience overseas will be considered. The Society encourages scholars from all disciplines to send proposals. Consult the web site for the individual responsible for proposals relating to Africa. The conference will be held in in La Rochelle, France, June 6-10, 2007. See (http://www.frenchcolonial.org) for more details.
8. Announcements, Jobs, Grants and Fellowships

Indiana-Oregon-Université Cheikh Anta Diop Summer Study Abroad Program in Dakar, July 7 to August 10, 2007. The Dakar, Senegal Summer Program is a five-week opportunity for students to get to know the culture, society, politics and language of West Africa by living and studying in the most vibrant, cosmopolitan and stable city in the region. The program is especially well suited for students with no or limited experience in Africa, providing a secure, well-guided first step introduction to this often misunderstood region. At the same time, the program also provides a base for more advanced students who are looking for a way to begin a longer period of study or research on francophone Africa, the Sahel region, or Islamic Africa (all this in one remarkably representative country). The program is a partnership among Indiana University Center for African Studies, the University of Oregon International Studies Program, and Senegal's main university, the Université Cheikh Anta Diop. Full details at [http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~dgalvan/dkr-smr/dkr-smr.html](http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~dgalvan/dkr-smr/dkr-smr.html).

WHEATON COLLEGE: INTERDISCIPLINARY PROFESSOR OF TRANSNATIONAL CRIME (AFRICA)
As part of a college-wide search involving multiple departments, the History Department at Wheaton College seeks a tenure-track assistant professor with scholarly and teaching expertise in global/transnational crime. Though the college-wide search solicits applicants from many disciplines, the successful candidate will be appointed to one department within the College. The History Department is especially interested in candidates with a regional focus in Southeast Asia, South Asia, or Sub-Saharan Africa. Areas of interest may include, but are not limited to: global conflicts; terrorism and political violence; national / international policy; national / international intelligence communities; technological, biological, or chemical warfare; religion and politics. Period of specialization open. Candidate must be able to teach introductory and advanced courses on region of expertise. Send letter of interest referring to position by title and indicating possible home department, resume, a one-page statement of teaching and scholarly philosophy as it relates to the Wheaton Curriculum, and three letters of reference by December 15, 2006 to the address below. See our website for more information. AA/EOE Wheaton College seeks educational excellence through diversity and strongly encourages applications from women and men from historically underrepresented groups.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ISLAM IN AFRICA
The Center for African Studies at the University of Florida invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professor in the field of Islam and Muslim Societies in sub-Saharan Africa, to begin in August 2007. The position is open as to academic discipline We are interested in candidates with a research focus in such fields as Muslim thought, religious practice, Islamic history, social dynamics, and/or political movements. The appointment will be made jointly between the Center and a relevant disciplinary department within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.
Required qualifications include: a Ph.D. in a relevant field; significant research experience in sub-Saharan Africa; and a strong record or substantial promise of teaching and scholarly publication on Islam in Africa. Candidates should demonstrate an ability to work collaboratively across disciplinary boundaries with faculty members in various departments and colleges. Knowledge of an African language is also desirable. Please send a letter of application, CV, and any supporting materials to the address below. Three letters of reference should also be sent directly. All materials should be received by 12 January 2007. The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

**Master's Degree Program in Democratic Governance at the University of Cape Town**
The Democracy in Africa Research Unit of the University of Cape Town announces the launch of a new postgraduate Honors/M.A. program in democratic governance within the university’s department of political studies. The program will combine strong training in basic research methods and social statistics with focused courses on the empirical study of democratic politics. Visit [http://web.uct.ac.za/depts/politics/pg/pg.htm](http://web.uct.ac.za/depts/politics/pg/pg.htm) for detailed course descriptions and admission requirements. Application information is available at [http://web.uct.ac.za/depts/hum/new](http://web.uct.ac.za/depts/hum/new) or by e-mail (aweger@humanities.act.ac.za).

**Master's Degree Program in Democracy Studies at Georgetown University**
The Center for Democracy and the Civil Society and Georgetown University’s Department of Government is accepting applications for a master’s degree program in democracy studies. Created in fall 2006, the program addresses the diverse needs of a growing population working in the field of democracy promotion, with a specific focus on issues of democracy and development, and on improving the quality of democratic life around the world. Applications for fall 2007 admissions are due February 15, 2007. For additional information visit [www.georgetown.edu/centers/cdats/maprogramaims.htm](http://www.georgetown.edu/centers/cdats/maprogramaims.htm).

**Master's Degree Program in Democracy and Democratization at University College London**
The Department of Political Science and the School of Public Policy at University College London offers a master's degree program in democracy and democratization. The program focuses on the design and operation of democratic institutions in old and new democracies. Visit [www.ucl.ac.uk/spp/teaching/msc-democracy-democratisation/](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/spp/teaching/msc-democracy-democratisation/) or write to Sherrill Stroschein (s.stroschein@ucl.ac.uk) for more information.

**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](http://www.comminit.com/human-rights/newssearch.html)
Call for papers! Journal of African Policy Studies, Middle Tennessee State University. The journal is an interdisciplinary journal concerned with global, regional, and domestic policy issues relating to Africa. Its website address is: journalofafrica.org. Quality articles should be sent either via e-mail or regular mail. The e-mail address for submission is: joaps@journalofafrica.org

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: AFRICAN REVIEW OF FOREIGN POLICY
The African Review of Foreign Policy is a journal published by United States International University. To submit manuscripts and for more information, contact arfp@usiu.ac.ke

2007 Fulbright-Hays Swahili GPA in Tanzania. More details on the 2007 Swahili GPA program, including application materials, can be found online < www.uga.edu/afirstu>, then go to Study Abroad, then GPA. For more information, please contact: Dr. Lioba Moshi - Director or Loretta Davenport - Program Coordinator, African Studies Institute, University of Georgia.

JOIN THE WEST AFRICAN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (WARA).
Join now for news on the 2005-6 fellowship competition for pre-doc. fellowships, post-doc.fellowships, grad. student internships, travel grants for West Africans, and residencies for West African scholars. Go to http://www.africa.ufl.edu/WARA/ and click on "fellowships" and "membership." Membership comes with a newsletter and lots of perks at the West African Research Center in Dakar.
The APCG is served 2006/2007 by the following members:

**Steering Committee**
- Gretchen M. Bauer, Chair
- Nelson Kasfir, Vice Chair
- Catherine Boone, Secretary
- Carrie Manning, Treasurer
- Dennis Galvan, Website Manager
- Staffan Lindberg, Newsletter Ed.,

University of Delaware
Dartmouth College
University of Texas
Georgia State University
University of Oregon
University of Florida

**APSA Program**
- *Amy Poteet
- Jim Pletcher
- Dorina Bekoe

Concordia University
Denison University
U.S. Institute of Peace

**ISA Program**
- *Steve Burgess
- Mi Yung Yoon
- Jessica Piombo
- Nahomi Ichino

Maxwell AFB
Hanover College
Naval Postgraduate School
Harvard University

**ASA Program**
- *Susanna Wing
- Adrienne LeBas
- Dennis Galvan

Haverford College
Michigan State University
University of Oregon

**Best Book Award**
- *Nadia Horning
- Makau Mutua
- Sheldon Gellar

Middlebury College
SUNY Buffalo
Indiana University

**Best Article Award**
- *Jennifer Seely
- Ngeta Kabiri
- Peter Von Doepp

SUNY Potsdam
University of North Carolina Charlotte
University of Vermont

**Nominations**
- *Beth Whitaker
- Robert Fatton
- Goran Hyden

University of North Carolina Charlotte
University of Virginia
University of Florida

*convenor

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