Chair’s Report

Dear Colleagues,

I am sending you my greetings from the snowy, cold Midwest where we are struggling with one of the harshest winters on record.

Sad news: My chair’s report is as gloomy as the Midwest winter weather, for APCG and the discipline of political science have lost several fellow colleagues recently-Aristide Zolberg, Patrick Chabal, and Joel Barkan. Each of these scholars contributed to enriching and invigorating the study of politics in Africa and we mourn the loss of their creativity and their intellectual vitality. On behalf of APCG, I would like to send condolences to their families and friends.

Aristide Zolberg:

Aristide Zolberg was the Walter A. Eberstadt Professor of Political Science and University in Exile Professor Emeritus at the New School for Social Research. Professor Zolberg’s influential publications in the 1960s on party politics in West Africa were foundational texts for understanding how parties worked in the newly independent countries of Africa. Professor Zolberg also made a lasting contribution to the study of immigrants, refugees, and the politics of exile. His 2006 book on US immigration policy received widespread acclaim. Professor Zolberg passed away April 12, 2013 at the age of 81.

continued on page 8
Using Film to Teach about International Trade Policies

Jennifer Brass, Indiana University, jbrass@indiana.edu

Film: T-Shirt Travels

I teach an introductory undergraduate course on international policy, and draw on my knowledge of Africa in that course. For example, I use the film “T-Shirt Travels” to discuss issues of international trade and international poverty. The film discusses the second-hand clothing market in Zambia, looking at how clothing donated to charity in the United States ends up being sold by entrepreneurs for profit in the Zambia. In doing so, it examines the effects that liberal trade policies, such as those supported during structural adjustment programs, have on the clothing industry and marketing in one African country (Zambia no longer has a clothing manufacturing industry). For an introductory course, this allows us to discuss in detail what it means for both the U.S. and its trade partners to have more liberal vs. more protectionist trade policies, and the range of subsidies and tariffs that various countries have as part of their trade policies. At a broader level, it allows us to grapple with some of the bigger questions of power relations within the international trade regime, and how countries like Zambia could get out of it. This relates to an earlier unit in the course on poverty and inequality policies, so it not only allows us to discuss trade issues, but also to understand how they might related to international poverty, aid, debt relief and attempts to bolster economic growth as a means of global poverty reduction. The film is easy to watch and very engaging, even for first-year college students who may have no particular interest in Africa.
Recommended Films and Videos Related to HIV/AIDS in Africa
Kim Yi Dionne, Smith College, kdionne@smith.edu

A lot of media features the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa, and it can be daunting to determine which of these would accurately and appropriately convey the lived experience of ordinary Africans navigating the AIDS epidemic, as well as governmental and non-governmental responses to HIV. In this brief note, I share a few of the films that I have used in my classes on African Politics and Comparative Responses to AIDS in Africa, with some explanation as to why I screen them.

The films listed below are all documentaries, though there is also a feature-length film in isiZulu (with English subtitles) that could also be used.¹ With the exception of the first and last film listed, the films stream online for free. I have seen more films on HIV than the average moviegoer, but I have not seen them all. If you have a recommendation you don’t see on my short list, please email me.

**State of Denial** (2003, South Africa, 83 min.) is a documentary that follows HIV-positive South Africans trying to access AIDS treatment in the period before the South African government approved the use of anti-AIDS drugs. In addition to capturing the rich stories of people living with HIV, the film documents the government’s denial that HIV caused AIDS and the social movement that demanded that treatment be made available to pregnant mothers specifically and to the public more generally.

**The Troubles in Zolokere** (2006, Malawi, 23 min.) documents the work of an American Peace Corps volunteer in the northern Malawian village where he has been posted. The filmmaker (a former Peace Corps volunteer himself) talks to people who are affected by HIV while capturing everyday life in the village. During the course of the film, you witness the filmmaker learn firsthand about the impact of HIV and the role of gender inequality in HIV’s spread. The film is an innocent treatment of a curious American trying to understand a complicated health and social problem in a context very different from his own; his perspective is very similar to that of an average American college student.

**Hans Rosling: HIV – new facts and stunning data visuals** (2009, Global/Africa, 10 min.) is a TED talk in which Swedish academic Hans Rosling uses UNAIDS data on HIV prevalence around the world to provide some nuance in understanding the relative problem across countries and within countries. The brief video provides a great introduction to UNAIDS statistics and HIV trends over time. This talk (like others by Rosling) can be particularly useful when trying to convey to students how to analyze and present data in a comparative way and by complementing data analyses with relevant substantive context.

**The Lazarus Effect** (2010, Zambia, 32 min.) is an HBO documentary that follows people sick with AIDS before and after they receive anti-AIDS drugs. The transformations are incredible and demonstrate the value of providing greater access to treatment in resource-poor countries. The Lazarus Effect was co-produced by Product (RED) and could spark an interesting conversation about global awareness campaigns for AIDS, how these campaigns are funded and implemented, and the goals and motivations of international agencies in contributing to the production of such films.

**The Carrier** (2010, Zambia, 88 min.) follows the story of a polygamous family in a rural area of Zambia as they deal with HIV’s spread within the family and with family members falling ill. A particular virtue of The Carrier compared to the other films on this list is its focus on local responses to AIDS. The film captures clinic visits, the challenges of rural farming, and discussions about responding to AIDS among the local area’s traditional leaders. Because of its only recent release online, I have not yet screened this film in a class; however, I think this film conveys better than most the everyday lives of people living with HIV and the people with whom they often come into contact when seeking care or assistance.

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¹ The film is “Yesterday” (2004), a 96-minute drama filmed in South Africa and selected to the Venice Film Festival and the Toronto International Film Festival. My only hesitation in recommending the film is its rather stereotypical (and sometimes inaccurate and unrepresentative) portrayals of the lives of black women in rural South Africa. If screened for a course, instructors might consider a discussion before/after about the somewhat simplistic narrative and its reality in contemporary South Africa.
I teach two courses with significant room for film representations of conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa, one general course on African Politics, and one on Civil Wars in the International System, which I teach with a largely Sub-Saharan African focus.

In both courses, inevitably students want to talk about media representations and their perceptions of war on the continent as explained to them by films they’ve seen: I get a lot of questions about Hotel Rwanda (2004), Blood Diamond (2006), Tears of the Sun (2003, a painful imagining of a Navy Seal rescue attempt of an American doctor during a civil war in Nigeria, starring Bruce Willis), and Lord of War (2005). While some of these films have historical accuracy and meaning behind them, I attempt to introduce students to other representations of war and peace-making in Africa through film. I hope that by doing so, I can get them to challenge some of the assumptions they and others make when viewing some of the more mainstream depictions.

Although some of their documentaries are particularly bad, the VICE documentary “Kony, the M23 and the Real Rebels of Congo” is fairly well researched and includes some of the homegrown and foreign peacebuilding programs working in the Eastern provinces. This also has the advantage of being only 55 minutes long, so it’s an easy addition to a course where it will only eat up one session. In particular, I like the de-emphasis on the easiest solutions to conflict, and the lengths that VICE reporters took to include Congolese voices in their narrative. I also like the focus on Goma as a city that has been at war for almost 2 decades—students really respond to the depiction of an African city that works despite chaotic violence. I think it’s an interesting change from the typical understanding of what a civil war looks like—its not always violence, there are often starts and stops, and some aspects of everyday life continue for citizens. In conjunction, I often assign the chapters of Zachariah Mampilly’s Rebel Rulers: Insurgent Governance and Civilian Life during War that talk about Goma during the war as an accompaniment.

Another film I enjoy teaching with is War Witch, the 2012 film from a Canadian director with Congolese actors. The film follows child soldiers in the Democratic Republic of Congo, not just the violence that becomes their lives, but also the mundane and ordinary, relationships, friendships, and the sensitivities of life that are lost in the larger discussions of child soldiers and what it means to fight. It’s a great bookend to Humphreys and Weinstein’s “Who Fights: The Determination of Participation in Civil War”. The film is 90 minutes, so while it does require a couple of class sessions, students really enjoy this film and the nuances of participation in civil wars in a way that articles and books cannot. I myself am sometimes guilty of forgetting about the human elements of wars, and War Witch and the VICE documentary can help to bridge the gap between academic study and Hollywood theatrics.

Notes on Film Availability

As many of our contributors noted, many of these films are not easily available on Amazon or Netflix, and university library collections may be limited. A great resource is www.africanfilmlibrary.com. There is also some success, albeit limited, with finding films on YouTube, although these tend to be documentaries or produced by news networks.
I’ve been teaching African Politics for a few years now, and my syllabus has acquired an ever-growing list of recommended films. I organize these thematically by week. For example, the week on legacies of colonialism recommends both Xala (Sembène, Senegal) and Sankara: an Upright Man (Shuffield, UK), while the week on democratic transitions recommends Amandla! A Revolution in Four-Part Harmony (Hirsch, South Africa).

There are a few films I love for teaching. This is either because they encapsulate a problem or topic incredibly well or because they do an excellent job showing students what Africa really looks like. In terms of the latter, nothing works so well as Abderrahmane Sissako’s beautiful La Vie Sur Terre (Mali), which chronicles daily life in a small Malian village. South Africa’s Tsotsi and the almost entirely unavailable Nairobi Half Life provide a valuable window into the complexities of urban Africa’s poorest communities. In terms of the task of illuminating a topic or problem, Raoul Peck’s justly-lauded Lumumba vividly conveys the brief period of hope and the subsequent tragedy of Africa’s early independence period. Amandla! does an equally good job as an introduction to the anti-apartheid struggle. I rarely see Djibril Diop Mambety truly weird Hyènes (Senegal) appear on lists of recommended films, but it works particularly well alongside readings on international debt and corruption. Also in the political economy vein, the documentary Darwin’s Nightmare examines the impact of international trade on fishing communities around Lake Tanganyika, and it is particularly good at including African voices.

One of the challenges I’ve encountered is that students generally don’t watch these films on their own. Realistically, foreign films and documentaries are a hard sell. One way of coping with this is to sponsor film nights to screen individual films. Another way is to suggest and recommend films, but it works particularly well along with other reading. I try to incorporate a variety of shorter-format videos in my lectures. These are a way to reengage students who may be lagging in the middle of a block class; also, once you get students talking about a video, they’ll tend to keep talking about readings as well. Advertisements and advocacy videos are particularly good prompts for discussing depictions of Africa and the amount of agency ascribed to Africans by Western media. For instance, the first class of the semester always involves a discussion of the differences between Ben Affleck’s advertisement for the UNHCR in Congo and the International Rescue Committee’s advocacy video entitled “Refugee Journeys.” Later on, we might watch Nicole Richie and John Prendergast talk about conflict minerals, or Kony 2012 could be read alongside Mamdani’s critique of Save Darfur. There is an especially rich set of possibilities when it comes to development, ranging from Jeff Sachs & Angelina Jolie pallin around in Nyanza to the controversial BBC documentary Addicted to Aid. Finally, clips from Al-Jazeera and the BBC can be used to introduce case studies or to give students a sense of how African politicians and civil society activists talk.

The film was shot during the 2008 xenophobic riots in Johannesburg, and a few interviews about South Africans’ views about Zimbabwean refugees were repurposed to serve as reactions to the arrivals of aliens. Students in my current class recently referenced the film to make a point about popular perceptions of Nigerians. Another crowd-pleaser is When We Were Kings, a 1996 documentary about the George Forman / Mohammed Ali “Rumble in the Jungle.” The documentary has great footage of Ali and Don King, but it also grapples with the nature of Mobutu’s Zaire. It’s much more likely to be watched than the 1999 Thierry Michel documentary Mobutu, Roi du Zaire.

Films are great, but they’re also a significant time investment. For this reason, I rarely use them in class; instead, I try to incorporate a variety of shorter-format videos in my lectures. These are a way to reengage students who may be lagging in the middle of a block class; also, once you get students talking about a video, they’ll tend to keep talking about readings as well. Advertisements and advocacy videos are particularly good prompts for discussing depictions of Africa and the amount of agency ascribed to Africans by Western media. For instance, the first class of the semester always involves a discussion of the differences between Ben Affleck’s advertisement for the UNHCR in Congo and the International Rescue Committee’s advocacy video entitled “Refugee Journeys.” Later on, we might watch Nicole Richie and John Prendergast talk about conflict minerals, or Kony 2012 could be read alongside Mamdani’s critique of Save Darfur. There is an especially rich set of possibilities when it comes to development, ranging from Jeff Sachs & Angelina Jolie palling around in Nyanza to the controversial BBC documentary Addicted to Aid. Finally, clips from Al-Jazeera and the BBC can be used to introduce case studies or to give students a sense of how African politicians and civil society activists talk.
La Vie sur Terre

James D. Long, University of Washington, jdlong@uw.edu

"La vie sur terre" ("Life on Earth"), directed by Abderrahmane Sissako, is my favorite African film. I first saw it at the Zanzibar International Film Festival ten years ago, screened outdoors at the Old Fort in Stone Town. The (mostly Tanzanian) audience was mesmerized, and I knew from that moment I would show it in class if I ever taught African Politics. The film portrays a few days in the life of various characters in Sokolo, Mali in the last days of 1999 before the new millennium. News of large celebrations in Paris told over a radio are contrasted with the humdrum of everyday life in Mali. Sokolo is Sissako's father's home, and they both feature as characters. I think the film provides the best treatment of rural Africa I have seen on screen, where Sissako shows us the beauty and humor of daily life, subtly forcing us to question our notions of identity, poverty, and time. Sissako's stunning images are infused with voice-overs of Aime Cesaire's poetry. I love to joke with my students before I screen the film: “There is little dialogue and almost nothing happens in terms of action but it's a great movie.” But importantly, unlike most cinematic treatments of Africa that American students may have encountered, the movie is directed by an African filmmaker and told from his perspective, rather than from those of American or European characters. Sissako is perhaps better known for his films Heremakono ("Waiting for Happiness") about a boy visiting his mother's village in Mauritania; and Bamako, an allegory about the World Bank's role in Africa. Both of these films are also excellent, but “Life on Earth” has staying power that makes me look forward to watching it again every year.

Africa Speaks

Stephen Marr, Malmö University, stephen.marr@mah.se

When teaching about images of Africa I often return to the film Africa Speaks (the full-length feature is available on YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n-F0Z9jJhP8). Released in 1930, Africa Speaks is billed as the first talkie “documentary” shot on location by the “explorer-naturalist” Paul L. Hoefler. The fifty minute movie purports to be the “strangest adventure ever filmed,” as it follows a pair of white explorers trekking across the continent. As the narrators explore the continent, the viewer is presented with depictions of the backwardness of tribal life amidst an untamed, dangerous natural environment; the film culminates in a shoot-out with lions in which one of the guides is attacked and eaten. Yes, really.

I usually include the film in a broader, introductory discussion on the evolution of stereotypes about Africa. In my experience (teaching in both American and Swedish classrooms), excerpts from the film are a powerful way to talk about how stereotypes have not only changed over time, but also to demonstrate how some images and expectations continue to persist and have power into the present. Inserting Africa Speaks into a chronology of images and primary texts has been an effective tactic: 16th century European maps of Africa, 19th century travel writing, along with more recent media representations (in this regard, films like Bruce Willis’s 2003 Tears of the Sun or Robert Kaplan’s The Coming Anarchy are especially helpful). Texts I assign in conjunction with the discussion include: Edward Said’s Orientalism, work by Mary Louise Pratt, or the opening chapters of James Ferguson’s essay collection, Global Shadows: Africa in the Neoliberal World Order.

Join the APCG Discussion Forum!

http://groups.google.com/group/discussionAPCG

A public/open forum for APCG members. APCG members who sign up can communicate with each other in an open format. Want to discuss this issue’s symposium, advertise a new book, talk about an Africa-related issue, find a conference roommate, or get info on a research location? You can do that here!
Innovations in Teaching Africa through Film
Kristin Mitchelitch, Vanderbilt University, Kristin.mitchelitch@vanderbilt.edu

Fall 2013, I took a risk and embarked on a trial run in a Freshman Seminar at Vanderbilt University. I assigned no readings and only films to portray African political development.

As a long-time film hobbyist and enthusiast of the Brooklyn Academy of Music’s annual African Film Festival, I always thought that film would provide a very different, but very rich, medium for substantive learning in an African politics class. If a picture is worth a thousand words, and a motion picture shows 24 frames per second, then viewing a 90 minute film equates to reading at least 2,160,000 words. In addition to visual frames, the sound, editing, and plot development of a film must combine to be worth far more pages. Further, students would pay much more attention to films versus readings.

A second reason to assign films depicting development in Africa – especially those written and directed by Africans – is to bring indigenous voice into the classroom. Most social science readings on Africa are written by non-Africans, and indeed many instructors of African politics are non-Africans. I reasoned that students’ learning experience would be enhanced through material created by Africans about African politics.

A third reason to use film is to connect the macro-level political events to the micro-level. How do ordinary individuals play a role in, react to, or otherwise experience colonialism, independence, military coup, structural adjustment, democratization, poor political accountability for public services, or other topics in a typical introductory course? Showing films from the perspective of individuals and families would allow students to imagine the role of ordinary individuals in the causes and consequences of major political events. The films would put a personalized face onto trials and tribulations of development.

Last, by seeing audiovisuals of Africa, students should be better equipped to understand factors that constrain or propel political developments, rather than projecting their own (mostly non-African) experience with politics onto development in Africa. Most students do not know what it means to live on under a dollar per day, have never visited an inadequate health center, and have never dealt with corrupt bureaucrats. They do not understand why things don’t change quickly to become more similar to their own experience – why don’t people just work harder and save their money? Why don’t they just avoid HIV by using condoms, get tested, and get treated? Why don’t they just refuse to give bribes to officials? The idea was to avoid such impatient questions by showing the personalization of such dilemmas through cinematic representation.

The course – save a few stragglers - was largely a success. Students were asked to respond to each week’s film on a class blog, discussing how the film’s plot, mise-en-scene, lighting, music, editing, and other features portrayed factors hindering or propelling political, economic, and social development in Africa. They were asked to do so before lecture or class discussion on the topic.

By watching and mulling over the films, students were able to contribute substantively to class discussion and lecture. By watching Adangaman, they identified the role of low population density, plentiful land, and the incentives of the external slave trade in state-building. After Lumumba, they were able to debate whether political instability was a feature of poor domestic leadership, the vestiges of colonial institutions, or foreign meddling. Rather than asking how FGM/C could possibly take place, Moolaade, led to intense discussion of factors that perpetuate village norms and the possible effects of mass media expansion on such norms.

One particularly beloved film in the class repertoire was Come Back Africa by Lionel Rogosin. Rogosin clandestinely filmed a portrait of life in apartheid South Africa for migrant workers in the 1950s. In his typical style, he hired non-actors to play themselves, and took real footage of daily life on location in Johannesburg. It was in this very film that famous singer and anti-apartheid activist, Miriam Makeba, made an appearance that would lead to her international notoriety.

In sum, introducing film into the classroom can be a wonderful thing, if not whole hog, on key topics for which film can enhance learning above and beyond readings.

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 review or dataset: Contact Vice-Chair Lauren MacLean, macleanl@indiana.edu or the Newsletter Editors.
Chair’s Report... (continued from page 1)

Patrick Chabal:

Professor Patrick Chabal was a Professor of African History and Politics at King’s College, London for 30 years before passing away in January 2014. Patrick was an enormously productive and imaginative scholar whose eclectic academic interests ranged from analyzing the particular configurations of power and politics in Africa to an interdisciplinary study of literature in Lusophone Africa. He is perhaps best known for his provocative study entitled *Africa Works: Disorder as Political Instrument* (co-authored with Jean-Pascal Daloz), which recognized and confronted the myriad and hidden ways in which African political systems “work” in spite of what looks to the uninitiated like utter disorder or chaos. Several of his other publications, including a less well known but superb edited volume called *Political Domination in Africa: Reflections on the Limits of Power,* wrestle theoretically and empirically with the applicability and generalizability of concepts such as civil society, liberty, equality, and democracy on the African context. Patrick was also a beloved teacher and mentor.

Joel Barkan:

Lastly, it is with much sadness that I report the sudden death of Joel Barkan in January. At the recent ASA meetings in Baltimore, Joel was as lively and animated as ever so his death has shocked many of us. After a prestigious career as a Professor of Political Science at the University of Iowa, Joel had been a Senior Associate with the CSIS Africa Program since 2001. There he conducted research on electoral attitudes and behavior, legislative institutions in Africa and democratic politics. He worked with policymakers in USAID, NDI, DFID and the UN, and mentored younger colleagues. He authored or co-authored, edited or co-edited many books and articles. His most recent edited book, *Legislative Power in Emerging Democracies* was described by Larry Diamond as “A major contribution to the study of democratic institution building in developing countries…” Because his loss has touched so many colleagues, we are including tributes from family, friends, and colleagues elsewhere in the newsletter. We will hold a special memorial service in honor of Joel at the ASA meetings in Indianapolis, November 20-23, 2014.

APSA and ASA Meetings

On a happier note, I’d like to express my gratitude to our APSA and ASA committees who are working hard to identify panels and papers for those upcoming conferences. We are now fully integrated into the APSA as an organized section and that is already reflected in the increased number of panel and paper submissions for the 2014 conference. Our
APSA committee consisting of Leo Arriola, Martha Johnson, and Carl LeVan is busy evaluating 7 panel proposals and 99 paper submissions for possible inclusion in the APSA 2014 conference. APCG has been officially allocated 3 panels but that may be doubled to six panels if other sections co-sponsor with us. At the same time, the ASA committee, which includes Scott Pegg, Laura Seay, and Robin Butler, has begun to solicit papers and panels for the 2014 meetings in November. If you wish to be considered for APCG sponsorship, please submit a panel or paper by February 25. The regular submission deadline for the ASA in March 15th.

Officer Transitions

At the ASA meetings, we welcomed our newly elected officers, Lauren MacLean as Vice-Chair and Jennifer Brass as secretary onto the steering committee and bid farewell to two tireless members of the steering committee Leo Arriola and Danielle Resnick.

We also announced the appointment of a transnational editorial team consisting of Steve Marr, Malmo University, Sweden and Cara Jones, Mary Baldwin College. This newsletter will be the last one edited by Mike Nelson, who has been a dedicated and conscientious editor of the APCG newsletter since the 25th edition published in December 2010. Mike literally brought color and content to APCG’s publication. He professionalized the newsletter, reproduced color pictures, and designed an attractive and easily navigable layout. We are really sorry to see him go and want to thank him so much for his service.

On behalf of APCG, please don’t forget to pay your dues! That revenue allows us to finance our awards and to host social events at the MPSA (coming up soon), the ASA, and the APSA meetings.

I hope that your research and teaching in 2014 is both rewarding and productive. If you live in a chilly Northern clime, I commiserate with you. If you reside in a warmer, sunnier place please send us your nice weather!

Anne Pitcher, Chair, APCG
APCG Award for Best Book in 2012

Leonardo Arriola, University of California, Berkeley
New York: Cambridge University Press.

Crawford Young, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Madison: University of Wisconsin Press.

Committee
Michelle Kuenzi, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Rachel Riedl, Northwestern University
Scott Straus, University of Wisconsin, Madison (chair)

In *The Postcolonial State in Africa: Fifty Years of Independence, 1960–2010,* Crawford Young performs a magisterial analysis of African states’ trajectories over the past half century. Displaying a remarkable combination of empirical nuance, Africa-wide depth, and historical perspicacity, Young provides a set of conceptual categories to define the evolution of state development and regime type. Perhaps only Young could provide this comprehensive overview; he brings to bear some five decades of close observation of the continent into a single readable, often brilliant, analysis. He identifies key stages of the postcolonial trajectory as a method of periodization, addressing the underlying similarities and contextual factors that shaped each moment. He also highlights the current era as one of “divergent pathways,” suggesting that the future of African states is open to a variety of itineraries. In this synoptic framework, Young has produced a lasting contribution to African politics that will be invaluable to students of Africa as well as students of comparative politics more generally.

In *Multiethnic Coalitions in Africa: Business Financing of Opposition Election Campaigns,* Leonardo Arriola provides enormous insight into the dynamics of political opposition in Africa’s multi-party regimes. In many African states, building multi-ethnic coalitions is essential for successful campaigning against incumbent parties. Arriola asks the smart question as to why some opposition parties are able to form such multi-ethnic coalitions while others are not. His answer is counterintuitive. Arriola argues persuasively that the financial liberalization of the economy in some African countries has allowed opposition forces to overcome ethnic divisions and build the kinds of coalitions that can unseat incumbents. Displaying terrific methodological creativity and sophistication, while rigorously examining the observable implications of his argument, Arriola presents a series of impressive empirical findings. Arriola’s elegant theory of pecuniary coalition building is likely to have a significant influence on the study of ethnic politics, democracy, and political economy in Africa and beyond.
This article discusses how specific narratives structure humanitarian intervention and outcomes in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The article notes how each of the three narratives result in policy responses among international and humanitarian non-governmental organizations. First, the article highlights how narratives of conflict over natural resources contribute to specific consequences for humanitarian and development assistance in Congo. A consequence is that the conflict leads to a second narrative of sexual violence against women. The issue with this narrative is that it fails to consider how a failure of Congo’s security system, weaknesses of the judiciary, dysfunctional gender relations, and endemic poverty converge in behaviors that destabilize society. In order to reverse these outcomes, the third narrative is that it is necessary to reconstruct Congo’s collapsed state. However, as the article emphasizes, the Congolese state has been a predatory organization by which officials, much as their leaders, amassed wealth. The article asserts that these narratives simplify the “discourse” on stabilizing Congo by using one explanation and black-boxing other important causes and consequences of the conflict. It exhorts policy makers and researchers to broaden their perspectives to consider how a convergence of variables causes unfortunate conflict outcomes.

Honorable Mention for APCG Award for Best Book in 2012

Anne Pitcher, University of Michigan


New York: Cambridge University Press.

In Party Politics and Economic Reforms in Africa’s Democracies, Anne Pitcher successfully brings together two strands of argumentation and evidence on contemporary African politics, namely democratization and economic reform. Her book demonstrates the ways in which the degree of party institutionalization and the quality of democracy shape the overall development of the private sector. Contrary to those who would claim that economic reform and democratic reform are incompatible, Pitcher delivers a more nuanced response. She shows the ways in which there can be a dynamic and ultimately reinforcing relationship between party institutionalization and commitments to democracy, on the one hand, and commitments to privatization, on the other. Combining cross-national data on 27 African countries and in-depth study of South Africa, Zambia, and Mozambique, Pitcher delivers a careful and thoughtful argument that will have a lasting contribution on African politics and beyond.
From the Editor

Dear Colleagues,

This is my last issue. My first newsletter as your editor was the December 2010 issue. Over the last several years, I have been excited to see both APCG and the newsletter transform and grow. This has been a great gig. I have learned a lot about our field and made many great contacts because of this position.

I think one of the luckiest moments in my academic life was when Don Rothchild brought me into the APCG while I was still a graduate student in the early 2000s. APCG was very small then. I still remember one of our early conference “dinners”, informally arranged, where there were less than 10 of us including APCG stalwarts such as founder John Harbeson, Will Reno, and Bruce Magnuson. A second lucky moment was when past Chair Peter VonDoepp invited me to take over as Editor and in-coming Vice Chair Staffan Lindberg provided great encouragement and suggestions. I had no real experience and probably would have not “made the cut” today, but for some reason they went with me and helped guide me. Beth Whitaker and Leo Arriola played major roles in introducing new content into the newsletter and acting as unofficial co-editors. Indeed, the members of our steering committee, including our current leader Anne Pitcher, have been integral in making this newsletter what it is. We are fortunate to have such great individuals working to guide this organization.

I can’t wait to see what our new editors, Cara Jones and Stephen Marr, do with the newsletter. We are lucky to have two very capable individuals that are coming into this position with some real experience! But I would like to stress that, at the end of the day, both APCG and this Newsletter are what we, collectively, make of them. The success of both depend directly on what members do. So I encourage all of you to keep doing whatever it is you are doing, to share that with us, and to help us move this newsletter and this organization in new directions.

Your Editor,

Mike Nelson

African Studies Association Call for Papers and Panels

APCG Deadline: February 25
ASA Deadline: March 15

Email to: apcgasaconf@gmail.com

The 2014 African Studies Association (ASA) annual meeting will be in Indianapolis, IN, from November 20-23. The ASA call for papers is open. The ASA deadline for submitting paper or panel proposals is March 15. The internal APCG deadline for submitting panel and paper proposals is February 25. This earlier deadline will allow the APCG ASA 2014 Selection Committee to review the proposals prior to ASA’s March 15 deadline. The theme for this year's conference is "Rethinking Violence, Reconstruction, and Reconciliation". Paper or panel proposals on that theme or others are welcomed. The African Politics Conference Group has been guaranteed one panel at the conference.

To submit a panel or paper proposal, please email your proposal to the APCG ASA 2014 Selection Committee. We will then review all proposals that we receive and select from them the one that will be submitted as the APCG panel by ASA's March 15 deadline. Prior to March 15, the APCG selection committee will inform all individuals who submitted proposals about their proposal’s status so that they can submit directly to ASA’s program committee should they so choose. The committee members serving this year are Scott Pegg (IUPUI), Laura Seay (Colby College) and Robin Turner (Butler University). Please send your proposal via e-mail to apcgasaconf@gmail.com where all three committee members can view it.

As per APCG rules, and consistent with other organizations, you must be a paid APCG member to submit a paper or panel proposal to be considered for the APCG designated panel. Dues are $10 per year. The committee will confirm with the treasurer, Gina Lambright (gina.lambright@gmail.com), before reviewing your proposal to be sure that you are current on your dues. Some of you may have paid your APCG dues when renewing your membership to the American Political Science Association. For information about how to pay your dues see the note from our Treasurer on the next page of this newsletter.

You can find more information on the ASA theme here:


The guidelines for normal submissions to the ASA are available here:

Award Nominations Sought

APCG Dissertation Award Nominations
The APCG-Lynne Rienner Best Dissertation Award Committee invites submissions for the best dissertation in African politics 2013. The award carries a prize and is intended to recognize outstanding scholarship in African politics. Only one dissertation may be nominated per department. Dissertations that were completed and accepted in the 2013 calendar year are eligible for this award. This year’s selection committee includes: Lahra Smith (Georgetown University, chair), Alice Kang (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), and Kris Inman (National Intelligence University).

Departments are requested to submit a letter of nomination and an electronic copy of the dissertation to apcg.prize@gmail.com. The deadline for nominations is March 1, 2014.

APCG-African Affairs Best Graduate Student Paper Award
The APCG-African Affairs Best Graduate Student Paper Award Committee seeks nominations for the 2013/14 award. The award carries a cash prize and is intended to recognize outstanding scholarship in African politics. Eligible papers must be nominated by a member of the APCG (self-nominations not allowed), written by a graduate student, and presented at the 2013 APSA, 2013 ASA, 2014 ISA, or 2014 MPSA annual meeting. The papers cannot have a co-author with a Ph.D. This year’s committee consists of: Susannah Wing (Haverford College, chair), Fodei Batty (Quinnipiac University), and James Hentz (VMI).

To nominate a paper, please send an email with the paper’s author, title, and the conference name to the committee chair at swing@haverford.edu. The deadline for nominations is April 30, 2014.

APCG Best Article Award
The APCG Best Article Committee seeks nominations for the 2013 award. All articles published in peer-reviewed journals in 2013 are eligible. This year’s committee includes: Nadia Horning (Middlebury College, chair), Melinda Adams (James Madison University), and Kate Baldwin (Yale University). Please send the full abstract and, if possible, a copy of the article itself to the committee chair, Nadia Horning, at nhorning@middlebury.edu. The deadline for nominations is April 30, 2014.

APCG Best Book Award
The APCG Best Book Award Committee invites nominations for the 2013 award. To be eligible, books must have been published in English in 2013. Books should analyze an issue related to political science or international relations with special reference to Africa. The book should employ methodological techniques regarded as appropriate by any subgroup of contemporary political scientists. Edited volumes are not eligible. Translations of books written in a foreign language qualify if the translation was published in 2013.

This year’s committee consists of: Jeff Conroy-Krutz (Michigan State University), Daniel Posner (UCLA), and Landry Signé (University of Alaska-Anchorage). Please send nominations to the committee chair, Daniel Posner, at the following e-mail address: dposner@polisci.ucla.edu. Copies of nominated books must then be sent to each committee member at the addresses listed below no later than April 30, 2014.

Jeff Conroy-Krutz
Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science
303 South Kedzie Hall
Michigan State University,
East Lansing, MI 48824

Daniel Posner
James S. Coleman Professor of International Development
UCLA Department of Political Science
4289 Bunche Hall
Box 951472
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1472

Landry Signé
Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science
Social Sciences Building, Room 367
University of Alaska at Anchorage
3211 Providence Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508

Note on Dues from Our Treasurer
As an organized section of APSA, APCG members are now able to pay dues to APCG through the APSA website when they renew their APSA membership. APCG members who are not members of APSA or who would like to pay dues to APCG without renewing their APSA membership may still pay via check. Please make checks payable to APCG and send them to the following address:

APCG
Gina Lambright
PO Box 5805
Takoma Park, MD 20913-5805
In Memoriam

Patrick Chabal

From the Department of History, King's College, London

It is with great sadness that the History Department announces the recent death of our colleague Professor Patrick Chabal.

Patrick was internationally recognised as one of the leading scholars of modern African history, politics and literature. He taught at King’s for almost thirty years. He joined the College in 1984, as Lecturer in the Politics and Modern History of Lusophone Africa, and was promoted to Reader in 1990 and to Professor in 1994. He served for more than a decade as Head of the Department of Portuguese & Brazilian Studies, and transferred to the Department of History, as Professor of African History & Politics, in 2011. He was the author or co-author of nine books and the editor or co-editor of seven. One of the initiators and most prominent exponents of the interdisciplinary study of Lusophone African literature, he was also a bold theorist with wide-ranging interests. Books such as his Africa: the Politics of Suffering and Smiling (2009) made a major impact on interdisciplinary, public and policy debates on Africa. His most recent book, The End of Conceit: Western Rationality after Postcolonialism (2012), extends beyond Africa, offering a reinterpretation of the inextricable relationship of the future of the West to that of the non-West.

Patrick was also an accomplished and committed teacher at all levels. His undergraduate modules for the History Department on modern and contemporary African history were notably popular and challenging. As well as being a deeply engaged, ambitious and inspiring scholar, he was also a great friend to many, at King’s and far beyond. His loss will be very keenly felt in many different spheres, and particularly in the King’s History Department, to which he gave so much over the past few years.

Remembering Joel Barkan, a friend of East Africa

By Professors Njuguna Ng’ethe and Karuti Kanyinga, Institute for Development Studies (IDS), University of Nairobi.

We are deeply saddened by the sudden death of Professor Joel D. Barkan, a senior associate at the US based Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). He was an internationally recognized expert on Africa, the East African region and Kenya in particular and a person who cared a great deal about the direction of things in the region.

Joel passed on January 10, 2014, from a pulmonary embolism, while on family vacation in Mexico City. We would like to extend our deep and heartfelt condolences to family – his wife Sandy, and his two children, Josh and Bronwyn.

Joel was an empathetic friend of the East African region where he carried out most of his research work since the 1960s. Throughout his academic and research life in the region, he was always keen to collaborate with locally based scholars. He would go out of his way to co-research and co-author with local academics, a characteristic that is not always in abundance among Africanists in the west.

He thrived in fieldwork combined with data-based analysis and was impatient with those claiming “African experts” status either on the basis of occasional visits or statistical data alone. The combination of field work and data-based analysis yielded envious knowledge of the East African political economies, knowledge that often found its way into policy advice reports for governments and development agencies.

Joel will be remembered for his optimism about democracy in the region, sometimes pushing the case for democracy a bit too hard in our view. Though aggressive in democracy advocacy he always respected the rights of others to disagree with him.

The more you disagreed with him, the more he dug deeper into the argument – a mark of a true democracy activist.

He transformed into an activist for democracy from 1992 when he served as the first advisor on Democracy and Governance at the US Agency for International Development (USAID). His USAID advisory role coincided with the opening up of democratic space across the region and not one to miss an opportunity, he expertly used his position to pry open the space even further. Working with some of us in local institutions such as the, Institute for Development Studies, University of Nairobi and the Institute of Policy Analysis and Research, he helped transform the hitherto benign NGO sector into an aggressive civil society with a democracy-promotion vision. This way he helped introduce a new narrative into Kenyan politics but he also knew perfectly well just how complex democracy can be and therefore, the need to avoid extreme ideological posturing.

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In Memoriam (Joel Barkan), continued from page 14

Joel will also be remembered for establishing a rich network of friends among academics, practitioners, and government policy makers which he would often use to bring together these, sometimes mutually suspicious, categories. This way he was a major catalyst for development conversation. Quite often he would consult widely with this network before making a public statement on Kenya. He would always refer to his closest friends in this network as “Chief.”

Many will remember Joel as a generous mentor, through joint research and teaching, for many young social scientists in the region. He was instrumental in establishing an exchange programme between the University of Iowa, where he taught for many decades, and the Institute for Development Studies (IDS), University of Nairobi, where he spent some of his earlier years in East Africa. Some of us owe him a debt for our internationalization as academics and consultants.

More recently, Joel debated the issue of the International Criminal Court (ICC) intervention in Kenya and its implications for Kenya’s international image and reputation. Joel argued that the matter required a candid debate because it has the potential of unraveling Kenya’s tortuous journey in democratic transition. But he also wondered whether the ICC debate was doing justice to what is Kenya’s complex political life. This way, he was more nuanced than some human rights fundamentalists and some Africanists in the West.

During recent fieldwork in Kenya, we began meditating on the role of Africanists in the West. We observed that the primary responsibility for explaining Africa to the West lies with the Africans themselves. He further observed that the governments in the West had started creating brick walls; they had become difficult to advise.

Away from public life, we shall remember Joel for making enormous efforts to get to know us as individuals and family members. He would always make a point of visiting our homes whenever he was in the region. Equally, his home in Washington DC had become the first point of call for us. We shall miss him as a scholar, an activist and a family friend. He left a big impact and presence in whatever he did and on whoever he met. And he always enjoyed a good wine! Rest in peace Chief.

In Memoriam: Joel Barkan

by

Robert Mattes
University of Cape Town
&
Shaheen Mozaffar
Bridgewater State University

Joel Barkan tragically passed away on 10 January 2014. He was on a family vacation in Mexico City with his wife Sandra, son and daughter-in-law, where he suffered a pulmonary embolism.


Joel’s scholarship linked the first generation of American scholars who applied the new methods of political science to the systematic study of Africa’s newly independent states, like his mentor Joseph Coleman, and the most recent cohort of Africanists who regularly use survey and experimental research. Joel was one of the very first scholars to carry out a representative survey of African citizens (as well as of local elites and members of parliament), in his seminal analysis of the role Kenyan MPs played in linking rural, peripheral communities to the political centre (published with Chong Lim Kim, Ilter Turan and Malcolm Jewell as The Legislative Connection: The Politics of Representation in Kenya, Korea and Turkey). At the time of his death, he was working with us to complete the African Legislatures Project, a comparative study of 17 African legislatures that used direct observation, key informant interviews, and mass and elite surveys. This project represented the culmination of his life’s work.

After receiving his PhD from UCLA in 1970, Joel taught for three years at the University of California, Irvine and then for 24 years at the University of Iowa. Following his 2005 retirement from Iowa, he was Adjunct Professor at Johns Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies, Visiting Lecturer at the Woodrow Wilson Center at Princeton University, and at the time of his passing was Senior Associate at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies. During his distinguished career, he was a Fulbright Scholar and established important relationships with university-based scholars at Makerere (Uganda), Dar Es Salaam (Tanzania), Nairobi (Kenya) and Cape Town (South Africa). He was also awarded fellowships at the National Endowment for Democracy, US Institute of Peace, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (New Delhi), Centre d’Etudes et de Recherches Internationales (Paris), and the Centre for Social Science Research at the University of Cape Town.

Joel loved to step out of the academic world into the world of policy. As the preeminent American authority on Kenyan politics, and a leading scholar of Africa, his advice was sought by government officials and elected representatives on both sides of the Atlantic. He worked in Nairobi from 1992 to 1994 as the first regional democracy advisor for the US Agency for International Development’s Eastern and Southern Africa program and regularly briefed
In Memoriam (Joel Barkan), continued from page 15

American Ambassadors to Kenya. He consulted for the US State Department, USAID, World Bank, UK Department for International Development, National Democratic Institute, and the United Nations Development Program.

After his retirement from Iowa, Joel moved to Washington DC, where he lived a life that was the envy of many of his colleagues. Freed of teaching, faculty meetings and committees, Joel's typical day began with email exchanges or Skype conversations with students and colleagues in Africa, followed by a trip downtown to a briefing or seminar at a think-tank, and then back home in the afternoon to work on an article, chapter, or consulting project. Early evening would sometimes find him back downtown to appear on Al Jazeera, BBC, CBC, CBS, CNN, France24, NPR, PBS or VOA. He was frequently invited to testify in Congress, and last year joined a team of scholars to brief Secretary of State Hillary Clinton ahead of her trip to Africa.

Joel is widely remembered by his students and peers as generous with his time and advice, and always a source of lively and thought provoking conversation and debate. Many fondly recall stimulating dinners at his Washington home off of Rock Creek Park with Joel and his wife Sandy, whom he met in a freshmen year political science course at Cornell University.

For the two of us, Joel was a colleague, mentor and friend. The three of us were usually busy working on our comparative legislatures project whenever we got together in Cape Town, with Joel prod- dding us to finish the book manuscript. But he was also the first one to suggest that we take a break from our work and enjoy South African wine and jazz, which he loved.

We will miss him deeply.

Eulogy for Joel Barkan

By Makau Mutua
SUNY Buffalo Law School
Reprinted with permission on the author,
first appeared in The Standard (Kenya), February 8, 2014.

Today I eulogise Professor Joel Barkan, whose sudden and shocking death came in January while visiting family in Mexico City. A pulmonary embolis was the culprit. Just several weeks earlier, we had been engaged — as we always did — in a never-ending debate on Kenyan political culture. He was always the pragmatic optimist to my wry agnostics. I would often tease him that “romantic wazungu” like him were an endangered species. The man first visited Kenya in the early 1960s and the bug that bit him never left. He was an American who was truly a Kenyan. This much is true — he knew more about Kenya than most Kenyans. He lived, breathed, and loved Kenya. My hands are trembling as I write this remembrance. That's because I can't believe that one of my best friends is gone — forever. For those of us in America who study Africa, life will never be the same again. Joel was the truth-teller among us. He would one day hobnob with the high and mighty of the legislature in forging democracy. He was a docking, and legislators — and then write about them revealingly in the next breath. But he was never mean. He always wrote candidly in order to forge a more open society. He was a darling of oppositionists and civil society-types. He was a saboteur of kleptocrats. He had a nose for finding and mentoring promising African scholars. But let me tell why Joel was a giant in our business. There are many serious American scholars who’ve studied Africa. But I think very few had the kind of three-sixty degree involvement that Prof Barkan cultivated. He didn't just study Africa — he lived it. He knew its sounds, smells, and dreams intimate-ly. I think Joel would have quit living if someone had taken Africa from him. He was not a detached academic fascinated by the “African jungle” as are some of his fel-low scholars. His heart pulsed with the humanity of the African continent. He saw in Africans what he saw in Americans — a people driven to live a life of dignity and respect. He was an “African”. I don't think there are many American academics that've done more to construct “Kenyan Studies” as a field of study in America more than Joel. He taught Kenyan politics at the University of Iowa for decades. He wrote about the country continuously. He spoke on Kenya at countless conferences. He was the “go to” academic whenever a Kenyan issue came up. He scoured Kenyan papers online every morning. Often, he would call me and alert me to a breaking story. He would then parse the story and often lament the lack of detail in the reporting. He was a one-man Kenyan encyclopedia. He believed in Kenya's great destiny.

He single-handedly convinced folks Kenya was an anchor state in Africa. Joel's work with African legislatures was legend. He believed that the African legislature was the pivot of democracy. That's why he worked tirelessly to build the capacities of legislatures across the continent. He organised for dozens of legislators to visit the American Congress and state legislatures throughout America to broaden their perspectives. He led and mobilised support for the training of legislators. I think his belief in the centrality of the role of the legislature in forging democracy was underscored when he ran the USAID regional governance office in Nairobi in the 1990s. But he was appalled Kenyan MPs are paid more than members of the US Congress. He often told them off — openly — about their rapacious greed. But it was in the corridors of power in Washington D.C. where Joel's influence on policy matters was most evident.

He was consulted widely by American lawmakers and members of the US Congress on matters Kenya and Africa. Many assistant secretaries of State for Africa — including Ambassador Johnnie Carson — took his advice seriously. Think tanks in Washington and New York — such as the Center for Strategic and
In Memoriam (Joel Barkan), continued from page 16

International Studies, where he was senior associate — greatly valued his academic ability and insight on Africa. His books and articles on Africa are widely used to teach around the world. He was a seasoned policy wonk with a good sense of judgment. He collaborated with several Kenyans, including me, on a number of publications.

Joel leaves behind two children — Bronwyn and Josh — and his lovely wife, Sandra Barkan of the Meridian International Center in Washington, herself an accomplished academic of African literature. The cruel hand of fate has robbed us — and them — a wonderful human being. In many ways, Joel’s life story is the story of the African post-colonial state. He grew up with it as an academic. He helped it navigate its growth pains. He was only one man, but the world needs many more like him to slay its demons.

Joel Barkan
By Nic Cheeseman
Oxford University

It was with great sadness that I learnt of the death of Prof Joel Barkan last week. Joel passed away while visiting family in Mexico City after suffering a pulmonary embolism.

He was not only one of the most influential academics working on Kenya but a good person and a good friend.

His work and his friendship will be sorely missed.

At first, I found it hard to take the news in. Joel’s work had played such an important role in shaping my own understanding of Kenya, and we had spent so long discussing different aspects of Kenyan politics, that it was hard to believe that he was no longer sitting in Washington preparing for a talk or getting reading to circulate his latest piece of research.

Joel’s knowledge of Kenya came from deep personal experience. He first visited the country in 1962 as part of Crossroads Africa, a volunteer programme that was a forerunner of the Peace Corps.

From then on he was hooked and developed a deep professional and personal interest in the country. There was nothing he liked more than to debate the latest Kenyan news – his appetite was insatiable.

Having been an undergraduate at Cornell University, Joel received a doctorate in political science from the University of California Los Angeles and he went on to play an important role in the development of “Kenya studies”.

He personally observed most Kenyan elections and wrote extensively on the country, editing two seminal collections and publishing a plethora of important journal articles.

Despite working on Africa for over 40 years, Joel’s fondness for Kenya never dimmed. As Prof Makua Mutua recently put it, “He loved Kenya as much as any Kenyan I know”. It was this dedication, combined with his keen insight and vast experience, which made Joel’s work stand out. Few others have written so consistently and so influentially about Kenyan politics.

Joel’s work was so important because he saw the importance of topics that others ignored. Much of what we know about the role of Kenyan MPs, the functioning of the legislature, and the impact of the electoral system, is as a result of his careful and innovative research. For this reason, we owe him a terrific debt.

The common thread that runs through all of Joel’s research was his optimism about Kenya. Although he was always realistic and understood the many challenges that the country faced, he believed that Kenya had the potential to become a thriving, vibrant, democracy.

Partly as a result, he went out of his way to write about the desire of the Kenyan people to participate in politics and to have a say in choosing their representatives.

Following the rise of authoritarian governments across Africa in the 1970s, many commentators argued that democracy had not worked on the continent was that voters lacked sufficient political knowledge and experience to hold their leaders to account.

In an article entitled ‘Further Reassessment of’ Conventional Wisdom’: Political Knowledge and Voting Behaviour in Rural Kenya’ Joel showed that this was not true. In fact, the vast majority of Kenyans (89%) knew the name of their MP, more than the corresponding figure in many western democracies.

Much of his work took off from this insight. In a number of articles published throughout the 1980s, Joel showed that despite the introduction of a one-party state, Kenyans placed considerable demands on their MPs. Voters’ number one expectation was to be linked in to the corridors of political and economic influence in Nairobi, and MPs who failed to deliver typically failed to secure re-election.

In contrast to more pessimistic analyses of African politics that focused on ethnicity and neo-patrimonialism, Joel argued that Kenyans evaluated their legislators in terms of how much development they had delivered. Here too, he challenged the conventional wisdom by showing that in many areas rural voters were better informed as their urban counterparts.

Over time, Joel’s fascination with elections and the role player by MPs evolved into a sustained interest in the National Assembly. Writing in the 2000s, he saw the Kenyan legislature as one of the most exciting and important on the continent. At a time when many commentators were becoming pessimistic about the prospects for democratic consolidation, he showed...
In Memoriam (Joel Barkan), continued from page 17

how a group of reform-minded MPs had successfully campaigned to strengthen the position of the Kenyan parliament against President Daniel arap Moi.

In 2008, he argued that African legislatures were “On The Rise”, inspiring a number of academics and international donors to pay greater attention to the role of parliament across the continent. At the time of his death, he continued to be a leading figure in the field of parliamentary research as part of the African Legislatures Project, a ground breaking initiative ‘to learn everything important there is to know about how African legislatures function’.

Joel was an inspiration and mentor to many students of Kenya both because his work on elections, MPs, and the legislature, broke new ground, and because he was always willing to share his knowledge and experience with others.

During the 24 years that he taught at the University of Iowa, he never missed an opportunity to offer assistance to Kenyan students and those who wanted to research the country.

As a result, his knowledge and his passion for Kenya live on, both in the articles and books that he published and in the researchers and friends that he taught, advised, and encouraged. In this way a very modest man achieved a sort of immortality; Joel is gone, but he will not be forgotten.

Now Hiring

Tenured or Tenure Track Professor in African Politics
University of Florida

Due: Review of applications will begin 21 March 2014.

The Department of Political Science at the University of Florida invites applications for a tenured or tenure track faculty appointment in the field of African Politics. The successful candidate will join a dynamic and collegial department with an active Ph.D. program and historic strengths in comparative politics of Africa. We invite applications from scholars with a demonstrated record of rigorous field research and scholarship, as well as excellence in teaching. We particularly seek candidates who can contribute immediately to the training of graduate students in comparative politics/Africa. Success in, or significant promise of, securing external grant funding is also highly desirable. Candidates should have an earned Ph.D. in a related field and a record of teaching and research on Africa as well as an ability to contribute thematically to the comparative politics subfield. Current areas of interest within the department include: religion and politics, democratization, ethnicity, state-building, political conflict, comparative institutions and elections. We are open to a wide diversity of methodological approaches as well as a range of thematic and sub-regional specializations in Africa.

The ideal applicant will also demonstrate an interest in program building and the ability to work collaboratively with faculty and students across disciplines. We are particularly interested in candidates who can engage with the broader Africanist community on campus. This search is being conducted simultaneously with two senior-level searches in the field of Public Health and Social Change in Africa, and together these hires are intended to deepen the University of Florida’s long history of internationally recognized excellence in African Studies. The University is home to one of the nation’s leading Centers for African Studies, funded in part by the U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center program. Active interdisciplinary research programs in African Studies include, among others: environmental studies and conservation, health, fine and performing arts, agriculture, development, Muslim societies, languages and linguistics, migration, gender, and social change.

Applicants should apply through the University of Florida’s GatorJobs on-line applicant tracking system at http://jobs.ufl.edu/postings/49442 and submit: a letter of interest (indicating research and teaching interests), curriculum vitae, and a list and contact information of three references who would be willing to write letters on their behalf. Candidates will be notified prior to the solicitation of reference letters. Review of applications will begin 21 March 2014, and continue until the position has been filled. The preferred starting date for the position is 15 August 2014, but is open to negotiation.

The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The selection process will be conducted in accord with the provisions of Florida “Government in the Sunshine” and Public Records laws. Search Committee meetings and interviews will be open to the public; and all applications, CV’s and other documents related to the search will be available for public inspection. All candidates for employment are subject to a pre-employment screening which includes a review of criminal records, reference checks, and verification of education.
Calls for Papers

Announcement of the National Conference of the South African Association of Political Studies (SAAPS), 9-12 September 2014 – Pretoria

Panel Proposals Due: May 31, 2014
Theme: South Africa’s democracy at 20: Diagnosis and prognosis

The purpose of this Conference is to provide an opportunity for the broad political science community in South Africa to focus its attention on analyzing the political dynamics and trends in South Africa. Participants are encouraged to propose panels or later to submit paper abstracts in any of the following sub-themes: 1) A retrospective or revisionist view of the transition in the 1990s; 2) South African constitutionalism, human rights and judicial politics; 3) South Africa’s foreign policies and international relations; 4) The state of democracy in South Africa: democratic consolidation, the quality of democracy; 5) South African elections and electoral politics; 6) Gender relations and politics; 7) South African political economy and development; 8) Party politics, party systems and elections; 9) Governance in South Africa.

In addition, the organizers wish to encourage proposals for additional caucuses. The International Relations caucus is coordinated by Dr Jo-Ansie van Wyk (vwykjak@unisa.ac.za) and Dr Costa Georgiou (costag@uj.ac.za); the African Politics caucus is coordinated by Prof Clive Napier (napiecj@unisa.ac.za) and the Gender caucus is coordinated by Prof Amanda Gouws (ag1@sun.ac.za). Proposals in these caucuses should be discussed with the convenors.

The panel proposal must include: 1) the name of the panel; 2) the name of the convenor with complete contact details; an explanation of the panel theme/topic of not more than 200 words. The deadline for proposals is May 31, 2014. Inquiries and proposals should be sent to: saaps2014@gmail.com.

Special Issue of The Extractive Industries and Society on the Legacy of Ken Saro-Wiwa
Submissions Due: November 2014

On November 10, 1995, Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other Ogoni leaders were hanged by the Abacha government in Nigeria in a process that former British Prime Minister John Major described as “judicial murder.” Saro-Wiwa was an early innovator in linking respect for the environment and human rights together and in highlighting the role that transnational corporations could play in creating or exacerbating security threats to local host communities in the oil-producing areas. His ideas on self-determination and resource control continue to animate political demands in the Niger Delta today, albeit demands that are often now put forward by armed and violent groups. To commemorate the 20th anniversary of his assassination, The Extractive Industries and Society will publish a special issue assessing Saro-Wiwa’s life, legacy and impact in Fall 2015.

This special issue of The Extractive Industries and Society seeks contributions from a variety of academic disciplines that address Saro-Wiwa’s local, regional and global impact on extractive industries, their business practices and relations with their host communities in the two decades since his assassination. Contributions could address themes Saro-Wiwa developed in his lifetime such as the role of literature in unjust societies, non-violence, political mobilization, corruption, self-determination, resource control, environmental human rights or transnational corporations and human rights. They could also address subsequent developments in areas such as Corporate Social Responsibility, the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights and other such things that are perhaps not direct results of Saro-Wiwa’s work, but which were influenced and given urgent impetus by the worldwide attention his assassination brought to the extractive industries and their host governments.

For this special issue on Ken Saro-Wiwa, the editors seek original research papers of up to 8,000 words in length, review papers of up to 12,000 words in length, opinion pieces or editorials of approximately 2,000-3,000 words in length, as well as relevant book or video reviews of 500-1,000 words in length. Submissions are to be submitted via the journal’s online submission system by November 2014.

For questions or additional information, please contact our special issue guest editor Scott Pegg (smpegg@iupui.edu).

New Journal Launched: The Extractive Industries and Society

Scott Pegg (IUPUI) writes to publicize a new journal, The Extractive Industries and Society. Published by Elsevier, the journal welcomes diverse regional and interdisciplinary perspectives drawn from academic, industrial, policy and NGO communities. The editors encourage APCG members working on topics such as the resource course, environmental management, Corporate Social Responsibility, corruption, community development, the impact of climate change or resource scarcity on industry or policy-making to consider submitting their relevant research to the journal.
General Announcements

LSE – UCT July School

Scholars from the LSE, the University of Cape Town and other universities are teaching at the second annual LSE-UCT July school, which runs from June 30th to July 11th. The school consists of a series of 10 intensive two-week courses held on the UCT campus. The courses are aimed at undergraduate students, but are available to anyone from high school graduates to professionals. More information about the school is available here: http://www.lse.ac.uk/study/summer-Schools/LSEUCTJulySchool/Home.aspx.

Rift Valley Institute Course: Summer 2014

Ken Menkhaus (Davidson College) asks colleagues to consider participating in one of three Rift Valley Institute courses this summer or to send promising graduate students on an RVI course:

Each summer, the Rift Valley Institute offers one week intensive courses on the Horn of Africa (May 31-June 6, Kenya), Sudan and South Sudan (June 14-20, Kenya), and the Great Lakes (June 28-July 4, Burundi). The 2014 field courses are now open for enrollment and a prospectus is available from the RVI website (www.riftvalley.net/key-projects/courses). Each course brings together 15 top regional experts across a wide range of disciplines (history, political science, economics, anthropology, environmental studies, etc.) and about 45 participants (including aid workers, diplomats, academic researchers, government analysts, businesspeople, and activists) for an immersive, dawn-to-dusk program of lectures and panel discussions on each sub-region. The residential nature of the courses ensures ample opportunity for informal exchanges as well. This year, Ken Menkhaus is Director of Studies of the Horn of Africa course; Jason Stearns is Director of Studies of the Great Lakes course; and Sharath Srinivasan is Director of Studies of the Sudan and South Sudan course.

The Institute encourages more academic researchers to join the courses, which are an excellent way for established Africanist scholars to get up to speed on sub-regions of Africa they may not be active in, and for graduate students to get immersion on a region in which they plan to conduct research.

The cost of each course is $4,100. The fee covers tuition, special events, local transport, advance course literature, and seven nights’ full board and accommodation. Flights to and from the course location are not included. For advice on flights and visas, please contact the Institute.

International Conference on “Africa State Legislatures”; Follow-up Conference on March 26 at the National Endowment for Democracy

Using a research grant given to Professors Carl A. LeVañ of American University and Joseph Olayinka Fashagba of the Landmark University, Omuaran, Kwara State, Nigeria, an international conference on the theme ‘Africa State Legislatures: National Politics and National Powers’ was held at Landmark University’s Nigerian campus on 7-8 January, 2014. The keynote address of the conference was presented by Professor Mohammed Gana representing the Deputy Speaker of the Kwara State House of Assembly. Presenters from the United States included Professors Carl LeVañ, Deji Olaore (World Bank), and Olufunbi Elemo. Mamogale Judas Majuda (South Africa), Solomon Gofie (Ethiopia) joined Baba Tanko Yahaya and Joseph Olayinka Fashagba (Nigeria) to present seven papers over the course of two days.

A follow-up panel to discuss the papers will organized by Professors LeVañ and Fashagba and be held at the National Endowment for Democracy in Washington DC on March 26 at 12:30pm. Seven APSA Africa workshop alumni from the 2011, 2012 and 2013 editions participated in the earlier event. We invite you to join us on March 26th at the National Endowment for Democracy.
Member News

Congratulations!

Ryan Briggs is happy to announce that he will start in Fall 2014 as an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Virginia Tech.

Stephen Brown (School of Political Studies, University of Ottawa) has been promoted to the rank of full professor.

APCG members, Danielle Carter (St. Mary’s College of Maryland), Mesharch Katusiimeh (Makerere University Business School), and Lauren MacLean (Indiana University) were recently awarded an APSA grant to conduct a writing and methodological training working at Makerere University Business School (MUBS) in Kampala, Uganda. This workshop will take place in June 2014 and will bring together nine scholars who are collaborating on a special journal issue that explores the politics of the non-state provision of public goods in Africa. The workshop will not only provide methods training and enhance opportunities for scholarly publication for all participants, but it will also strengthen collaboration and networking between U.S. and Africa-based.

Staffan I. Lindberg (PI) received a grant of SEK 37.6mn (USD 5.8mn) from Riksbankens Jubileumsfond for research on Varieties of Democracy 2014-2019 (co-PIs: Jan Teorell, Lund University, John Gerrig, Boston University, Michael Coppedge, U of Notre Dame, Svend-Erik Skaaning, Aarhus Univ., and Michael Bernhard, U of Florida). As one out of four social scientists, Lindberg was also awarded Wallenberg Academy Fellow in a national competition by the Wallenberg Foundation and the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences, which comes with a personal research grant of SEK 7.5mn (USD 1.2mn) for 2014-2018.

Lindberg was promoted to Full Professor of Political Science at University of Gothenburg, October 2013 and resigned from his position as Associate Professor at University of Florida effective January 1, 2014.

Rasel Madaha was awarded an APSA professional development grant to present at a conference. She has an article coming out soon in Africa Review: “Organized and gendered media advocacy at the centre of the feminist movement in a patriarchal Tanzania.”

Amanda L. Robinson completed her dissertation, Trust Amid Diversity: Nationalism and Interethnic Trust in Africa, in July 2013 at Stanford University. Amanda began as an assistant professor of political science at Ohio State University in the fall of 2013.

Aili Mari Tripp (University of Wisconsin-Madison) gave a talk at the Eighth Session of the General Assembly Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals in a session organized by UN Women, UNFPA and UNDP on women’s rights on February 4. She also presented at UN Department of Political Affairs and UN Women in October 2013 on women and politics in Africa. Tripp’s edited volume (with Myra Marx Ferree and Christina Ewig) was published entitled Gender, Violence and Human Security: Critical Feminist Perspectives, Edited New York University Press, 2013. She is presently involved in a collaborative project “Women’s Leadership as a Route to Greater Empowerment” with the US Agency for Development.

Leonardo A. Villalón has been named Dean of the University of Florida’s International Center.

Book and Publications


Ericka Albaugh (Bowdoin College) announces her forthcoming book, State-Building and Multilingual Education in Africa due out in April 2014.

In summary: “How do governments in Africa make decisions about language? What does language have to do with state-building, and what impact might it have on democracy? This manuscript provides a longue durée explanation for policies toward language in Africa, taking the reader through colonial, independence, and contemporary periods. It explains the growing trend toward the use of multiple languages in education as result of new opportunities and incentives. The opportunities incorporate dependent relationships with former colonizers as well as the work of language NGOs on the ground. The incentives relate to the current requirements of democratic institutions, and the strategies leaders devise to win elections within these constraints. By contrasting the environment faced by African leaders with that faced by European state-builders, it explains the weakness of education and limited spread of standard languages on the continent.”

The book contains several standalone chapters that could be used in classes on African politics, history, colonization, language, education, and state-formation. Further information can be found here: http://www.cambridge.org/us/academic/.

Jerome Bachelard has recently published a book entitled, Governance Reform in Africa: International and Domestic Pressures and Counter-Pressures (Routledge, 2014). According to Prof. Goran Hyden of the University of Florida, “This is a refreshing and bold book that treats governance as a dynamic process involving power, rather than as a condition or state that can be assessed in reference to specific numerical indicators. It breaks new ground as it analyzes the interactive role of international and domestic factors in shaping gover-
nance reforms. Together with its practical policy conclusion, this is a book that should be a must read for scholars and policy practitioners alike.”

**Elisabeth King** announces her book published by Cambridge University Press, *From Classrooms to Conflict in Rwanda*. This book questions the conventional wisdom that education builds peace by exploring the ways in which ordinary schooling can contribute to intergroup conflict. Based on fieldwork and comparative historical analysis of Rwanda, it argues that from the colonial period to the genocide, schooling was a key instrument of the state in contributing to the construction, awareness, collectivization, and inequality of ethnic groups in Rwanda – all factors that underlay conflict. The book further argues that today’s post-genocide schools are dangerously replicating past trends. This book is the first to offer an in-depth study of education in Rwanda and to analyze its role in the genesis of conflict. The book demonstrates that to build peace, we cannot simply prescribe more education, but must understand who has access to schools, how schools are set up, and what and how they teach.” Additional details about the book can be obtained here: [http://www.cambridge.org/us/academic/subjects/politics-international-relations/international-relations-and-international-organisations/classrooms-conflict-rwanda](http://www.cambridge.org/us/academic/subjects/politics-international-relations/international-relations-and-international-organisations/classrooms-conflict-rwanda).


**Other News**

**Susanne Mueller** *(Boston University)* reports that she has several new publications (see our publications section) and a working paper that is about to be released called: “The Resilience of the Past: Government and Opposition in Kenya 1919-2013,” *Working Paper, Conflict, Politics, and Human Rights in Africa, No. 2*, African Studies Center, Boston University, 2014.

**William Reno** announces that Northwestern University’s Program of African Studies (PAS) has been chosen as a host institution for the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI), an Obama administration initiative to strengthen ties between the United States and Africa and promote democratic governance.

Working with the University’s Farley Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, PAS will host 25 YALI fellows in each of five summers, beginning 2014. Fellows will participate in a six-week program in entrepreneurship and business. On completion of the Northwestern program, fellows will travel to Washington, D.C., for a summit with President Obama.

**Tom Wolf** reports the following: In its second issue of last year (Vol. 40, No. 2), *The African Review* (a product largely of the Dept. of Political Science, University of Dar-es-Salaam) published an article by a member of this Dept., Dr. A. Makulilo, ‘Poll-“Pollution”?: The politics of numbers in the 2013 elections in Kenya’. It is understood that it was widely circulated (via E-Mail) to Africanist political scientists by Dr. Makulilo. While the Editors have granted the specific target of this article, the market-survey research firm, IPSOS/Kenya office) a right-of-reply, they have stated that this will not be possible in their next (April) issue since it will be devoted entirely to a single issue (Zanzibar); it will thus appear in the following (November) issue. If anyone would like to receive this response-rebuttal sooner, please contact Tom Wolf, its author, who will be happy to send it to you: twolf@wananchi.com; he can also send the original article.

*Picture from the international conference on “Africa State Legislatures” in Nigeria.*
Recent and Continuing Committee Members and Chairs

Best Book in 2013 Award

* Daniel Posner
UCLA

Jeff Conroy-Krutz
Michigan State University

Landry Signé
University of Alaska-Anchorage

Best Article in 2013 Award

* Nadia Horning
Middlebury College

Melinda Adams
James Madison University

Kate Baldwin
Yale University

APCG-Lynne Rienner Best Dissertation in 2013 Award

* Lahra Smith
Georgetown University

Kris Inman
National Intelligence University

Alice Kang
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

APCG-African Affairs Best Graduate Student Paper 2013/2014 Award

* Susanna Wing
Haverford College

Fodei Batty
Quinnipiac University

James Hentz
VMI

APSA 2014 Committee

* Leo Arriola
University of California, Berkeley

Carl Levan
American University

Martha Johnson
Mills College

ASA 2014 Committee

* Scott Pegg
IUPUI

Robin Turner
Butler University

Laura Seay
Colby College

ISA 2015 Committee

* Kathleen Hancock
Colorado School of Mines

Fredline M’Cormack-Hale
Seton Hall

Mi Yung Yoon
Hanover College

Nominations Committee

Cathy Boone
London School of Economics

Amy Poteete
Concordia University

Dennis Galvan
University of Oregon

* Committee chair
Books


* King, Elisabeth. 2014. *From Classrooms to Conflict in Rwanda.* Cambridge University Press.


Edited Books


Journals

Africa Review


African Affairs


Srinivasan, Sharath. 2014.“Negotiating violence: Sudan’s peacemakers and the war in Darfur” *African Affairs* 113, no. 450:24-44.


African Conflict & Peacebuilding Review


* denotes items submitted directly by members. All other references were discovered by the editor. I only include items here that have already been published.
Recent Publications, continued from page 24

**African Journal of Political Science and International Relations**


**African Security**


**African Security Review**


**African Studies Quarterly**


**African Studies Review**


**Comparative Politics**


**Comparative Political Studies**

Special Issue: Political Parties and Uncertainty in Developing Democracies. Edited by Noam Lupu and Rachel Beatty Riedl.


**Other Issues**


**Development and Change**


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Recent Publications, continued from page 25


Journal of Contemporary African Studies


Journal of Modern African Studies


Review of African Political Economy


South African Journal of International Affairs


Third World Quarterly


World Development


World Politics

Recent Publications, continued from page 26

Other Journal Articles, Book Chapters, and Papers


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