

**Newsletter
of the
African
Politics
Conference
Group**

Contact

africanpoliticsgroup@gmail.com

Chair

Mamoudou Gazibo
Universite de Montreal
mamoudou.gazibo@umontreal.ca

Vice Chair

Lauren M. MacLean
Indiana University
macleanl@indiana.edu

Secretary

Jennifer N. Brass
Indiana University
brassj@indiana.edu

Treasurer

Adrienne LeBas
American University

Newsletter Editors

Cara E. Jones
Mary Baldwin College
cjones@mbc.edu

Stephen Marr

Malmö University
stephen.marr@mah.se

Website Manager

Nathaniel Olin
University of Wisconsin,
Madison
nolin@wisc.edu



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Chair's Report

Dear colleagues and friends,

Last fall, dues paying members of the APCG participated in regularly scheduled elections to select new officers for our group. I was elected to succeed Anne Pitcher (University of Michigan) as Chair and Adrienne LeBas (American University) became our new Treasurer, replacing Gina Lambright (George Washington University). Anne and Gina have been very dedicated officers of our organization over the past two years, and I want to express my gratitude to both of them for their contribution.

Adrienne and I will serve two-year terms. We would both like to thank our opponents and friends in those races, Suzanna Wing (Haverford College) and Lahra Smith (Georgetown University), for accepting the APCG nomination as candidates. On the steering committee, Adrienne and I join Lauren M. MacLean (Indiana University), the Vice-Chair and Jennifer Brass (Indiana University), the Secretary, who each have a year remaining on their two-year terms. Other members of the steering committee include Cara E. Jones (Mary Baldwin College) and Stephen Marr (Malmö University), our newsletter editors, and Nathaniel Olin (University of Wisconsin-Madison) our website manager.

Symposium:
**Distributive Goods and
Distributive Politics:
Applying Theoretical and
Empirical Insights from
the APSA Africa 2014
Workshop in Mozambique**

Featuring contributions from:
Abduk-Gafaru Abdulai and
Rachel Sigman, Michael Jana,
Celso Marcos Monjane, and
Xichavo Alecia Ndilovu.

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Features



Symposium: Distributive Goods and Distributive Politics: Applying Theoretical and Empirical Insights from the APSA Africa 2014 Workshop in Mozambique

In countries that are democratic and autocratic, resource rich and resource poor, ruling parties routinely pledge to distribute or allocate some set of goods to citizens. These goods may be public goods such as electricity, education, or healthcare; or they may be club goods such as higher salaries and benefits for trade unionists, or fertilizer subsidies for farmers. How governments decide to whom to allocate such goods is often referred to as “distributive politics” and the patterns and types of allocation have been the subject of much research by political scientists. Why do governments offer such goods, what kinds of goods do they deliver, and who are the intended or actual beneficiaries? Where ruling parties allocate goods, are they buying or rewarding loyalty; or are they actually responding to demands articulated by voters, their own supporters, or vocal opponents?

This symposium explores answers to some of these questions by showcasing the work of participants of the APSA Africa 2014 Workshop that was held over a two week period in Maputo, Mozambique. Twenty-nine scholars (15 men and 14 women) from 10 different countries attended the workshop, which was intended to give students a theoretical and empirical understanding of distributive politics across different regions and under different regime types.

To understand patterns and outcomes of distributive politics, the APSA 2014 Africa Workshop combined discussions of classic and contemporary theoretical and methodological research on goods provision with hands-on statistical training in the use of R to analyze public attitudes to goods provision across Africa. The discussions explored the incentives to provide goods by different regime types, distinguished between government motivations to allocate goods and citizen demands for distribution, and analyzed the effects of distribution.

The contributions to this symposium both deepen and challenge these discussions.

Firstly, the co-authored essay by Abdulai and Sigman challenges commonly held notions of the state as a unitary actor by looking at the role of brokers in the distribution of public goods and services. By combining their individual work on Ghana and Benin they also make a case for the value of comparative and collaborative research on distributive politics in Africa. The work of Ndlovu adopts a similar innovative approach by comparing different African countries in order to challenge the idea that regime type and party systems determine patterns of distribution. By combining cross-national statistical analysis and qualitative fieldwork in Ghana, Zambia, Mozambique and Namibia she argues that substantial differences in patterns of development exist among countries with the same regime type and the same type of party system. This matters for our understanding of the ways in which resource rich countries are able to translate natural resource wealth into sustainable and inclusive patterns of economic development. Monjane’s work in turn pushes our understanding of distributive politics as an instrument for electoral success. By using the example of Mozambique he argues that when goods or rents are distributed amongst powerful groups in society, this can function as a mechanism to control violence and to ensure a certain level of political stability. Similarly, Jana’s work on the Malawian parliament shows that distributive goods can represent a major contributor to the legitimacy of elected officials and of the institutions they serve.

Taken together, the richness of these contributions point to new and exciting research avenues which will contribute to expanding our understandings of the workings of distributive politics in Africa, both theoretically, empirically as well as methodologically.

- Sylvia Croese (Stellenbosch University), Anne Pitcher (University of Michigan), Rod Alence (University of the Witwatersrand), Brian Min (University of Michigan), and Carlos Shenga (Higher Institute of Public Administration Mozambique)





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Reconceptualizing Brokers in the Distribution of Public Goods and Services

Abdul-Gafaru Abdulai, PhD
University of Ghana and University of Manchester

Rachel Sigman
PhD Candidate, Syracuse University

The literature on distributive politics often assumes the existence of a unitary executive, implying that the observed distributions of goods and services reflect the distributive strategies of incumbent political leaders. At APSA's recent Africa Workshop held in Maputo, Mozambique, participants and leaders repeatedly questioned the applicability of this assumption to the African context, where positions in the state bureaucracy are themselves often used as distributive "goods" that reward powerful and politically supportive individuals for mobilizing their networks in support of incumbent presidents. In short, if bureaucrats have their own patron-client networks to which they must attend, it is unrealistic to expect unitary action on the part of the executive.

Increasing attention to the role of brokers in shaping distributive outcomes recognizes the potential influence of intermediaries in political distribution, such as through their own desire to seek rents (Stokes et. al., 2013). In African contexts specifically, recent research finds that local or traditional leaders in particular may shape the clientelistic relationships between politicians and voting blocs (Baldwin, 2013; Koter, 2013). We believe that public officials are also to serve as an important type of intermediary in processes of distribution. In African countries, for example, we know that public officials – particularly at the elite level – often reach their positions by developing their own patronage networks through which they can organize support for ruling party. Our research, including both our individual work and a future collaborative project emanating from ideas exchanged at the 2014 APSA Workshop, takes incipient steps to address this gap in the literature on distributive politics.

Abdul-Gafaru's PhD research focused on the question of how representation in the cabinet in Ghana affects the spatial distribution of public goods and services across regions, and how this underpinned socio-economic inequalities between the country's poorer Northern regions and their more prosperous counterparts in the South. The project argued that (1) a key factor that explains Ghana's stark north-south inequalities has been the exclusion of the historically poorer Northern regions from a fair share of public spending, and (2) that the socio-economic marginalization of these regions is a result of weaker representation of Northern elites in the cabinet and their corresponding weaker influence over resource allocation decisions. Consequently, even policies and programs designed with the formal objective of targeting the 'poor' often end up discriminating against the poorer Northern regions at the level of implementation. However, Northern elites' weaker influence over resource allocation decisions is not a function of their exclusion from government, but rather of their adverse incorporation into cabinet positions on relatively disempowering terms (Abdulai, 2012). This explanation differs from the distributive politics approaches that depict political distribution as the direct result of a party's electoral calculations. With support from the Effective States and Inclusive Development Research Centre (ESID) at the University of Manchester, Abdul-Gafaru is further exploring the explanatory power of these arguments through a comparative analysis of the politics of uneven regional development in Ghana and Uganda. More information on this project is available at www.effective-states.org.



Reconceptualizing Brokers (Abdulai and Sigman), *continued from page 3*

Rachel's research speaks to questions of who becomes a bureaucratic broker, and how they obtain their jobs. Focusing on the appointment and hiring practices of incumbent presidents in Benin and Ghana, two of Africa's most competitive democracies, her dissertation research finds wide variation in patronage patterns in Benin and Ghana. Using an original database of all ministerial appointments in both countries from 1993-2013 and a survey of over 500 public sector employees in each country, the research shows that in Ghana the distribution of state jobs to political allies occurs most frequently for elite-level positions such as cabinet posts, while political patronage in Benin is primarily concentrated at the civil-servant level. The project shows how these patronage patterns affect the broader developmental capacities of the state but, as we describe in more detail below, they are also likely to have consequences on the distribution of the state's resources.

As a result of the APSA Workshop, we intend to bring these two lines of research together to study how the distribution of state jobs, particularly at the cabinet level, affects the broader distribution of state resources in Ghana. From Abdul-Gafaru's work, we know that cabinet representation is likely to influence the spatial distribution of public goods and services. Yet, our knowledge remains limited as to whether cabinet members act simply as agents of the ruling party's distributive strategies or whether they possess their own distributive ambitions. Theories of clientelism would suggest that those who rise to these positions by developing their own patronage networks will face greater pressure to distribute resources to their regions, even if it does not benefit the president's political future or the economic well-being of the country. Combining Rachel's data on the political and professional backgrounds of Ghanaian ministers with data on subnational resource distribution, we can deepen our understanding of the potential influence of state officials as brokers on distributive outcomes, the challenges that presidents face in implementing their distributive strategies, as well as the inequalities that result from these processes.

Among African countries, Ghana provides a particularly suitable context for studying the role of bureaucrats in distributive politics. With its stable voter alignments, constitutionally powerful executive institutions and strong

party organizations, Ghana's Presidents should, in theory, be able to distribute resources effectively in accordance with their political goals. Recent research has shown, however, that distributive decisions in Ghana are not easily explained by either economic or political expediency (Abdulai and Hickey, 2014). That Ghana deviates from these theoretical expectations makes it a useful case in which to examine shortcomings in existing theory and the underlying causal mechanisms at work.

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On brown envelopes and green accounting: Researching the politics of resource-based development in Africa

*Xichavo Alecia Ndlovu
Wits University*

Ghana's parliament had just convened an emergency sitting to approve loan agreements, when I met a middle-aged man wearing sandals and a cap, holding a big brown envelope outside parliament. I was waiting to interview a parliamentary official as part of my fieldwork. He was waiting to ask "his" MP to give him a job. Perhaps to reassure me that there was nothing sinister about this, he said that it is not just him; others come to ask for money to pay school fees for their children. His claim mirrored the findings of a survey in which Ghanaian MPs reported spending a lot of time dealing with various personal requests from their constituents (Lindberg, 2003).

Unlike this man, if I needed a job at home in South Africa, I could not even identify one MP out of the 400 in parliament to give my brown envelope to. I could identify a specific political party that is supposed to represent me but not a specific person. In Ghana's first-past-the-post system, voters elect MPs directly within their local constituency, which facilitates a closer link between each voter and a single MP. In South Africa's closed-list proportional system, voters elect parties, parties receive parliamentary seats based on their national vote shares, and party leaders appoint loyalists to parliament -- breaking the link between any particular voter and any particular MP. Even for ordinary people with brown envelopes, institutional variation matters.

At the APSA workshop in Maputo, we probed various features of distributive politics: what goods get distributed and to whom, when, and how governments distribute goods to their constituents. My research examines how differences in political institutions and party systems affect the ability of African countries to translate natural resource wealth into sustainable and inclusive patterns of economic development. "Sustainability" is the extent to which resource revenues are saved and invested in forms of production beyond resource extraction -- measured in part using "green accounting" indicators that balance conventional economic savings against the depletion of natural assets (World Bank, 2011). "Inclusiveness" is the extent to which the benefits of mineral and oil revenues are spread broadly throughout society -- measured using indicators of human development, such as education and health (UNDP, 2014). Although the political and poli-

cy-making processes I am studying are more complicated than handing over brown envelopes, my research focuses on how diverse political institutions in Africa affect development outcomes.

Because mineral and fuel deposits are non-renewable, the development challenge in Africa's resource economies is to use revenue generated from the depletion of non-renewable resources to initiate long-term development processes that outlive the short-term proceeds of resource extraction (Barma et. al., 2012). Some governments use resource windfalls to save and invest in the future, while others enjoy a consumption boom. Sustainability in this sense is concerned with the "when" of distributive politics: do governments spend the revenue from resources as quickly as it comes in, or do they use it to initiate long-term development processes? Moreover, in some countries, the distribution of proceeds from resources has been confined to a narrow enclave, while in others revenues have helped to improve social welfare more broadly. Inclusiveness in this sense is concerned with the "to whom" of distributive politics: do governments use resource revenues to benefit broader segments of society or the select few? I want to understand better what kinds of political systems provide incentives for governments to use state power in ways that are conducive to sustainable and inclusive development.

Since the wave of political change that started in 1990, institutional diversity in Africa has increased dramatically, and this diversity extends to resource-rich countries. Perhaps the most obvious differences with implications for inclusiveness and sustainability are between democratic and authoritarian regimes. For example, governments in democratic regimes require broad support to win elections, and they might therefore be expected to pursue more socially inclusive patterns of development than authoritarian governments would (Bueno De Mesquita, 1999; Alence, 2004). At the same time, the fact that democratic governments can be voted out of power at regular intervals might be expected to tempt them to pursue short-term popularity at the expense of longer-term sustainability. Another important distinction among African democracies is between competitive democracies (those that have passed a two-turnover test) versus dom-



On brown envelopes (Ndlovu), *continued from page 5*

(those that have passed a two-turnover test) versus dominant-party democracies (those where a single party has won all elections since 1990) (Levy, 2000; Pitcher, 2012). One might hypothesize that electoral pressures push competitive democracies to adopt policies that are more inclusive but less sustainable than those adopted by their more secure dominant-party counterparts.

My preliminary cross-national statistical results suggest that the patterns are not so straightforward as these simple hypotheses would suggest. Substantial differences in patterns of development exist among countries with the same regime type and the same type of party system. To understand the “how” of distributive politics, I am tracing political and policy-making processes in four African democracies. I use a “nested” design, selecting countries based on a cross-national statistical analysis (Lieberman, 2005). All of these countries are “resource rich” in that mineral and fuel rents exceeded 2.5 per cent of GDP over the period from 2000 to 2008. They include a pair of resource-rich democracies with competitive party systems (Ghana and Zambia) and a pair of resource-rich democracies with dominant-party systems (Mozambique and Namibia). Each pair exhibits variation in development outcomes, Ghana and Namibia outperforming Zambia and Mozambique, according to my preliminary analysis.

I have completed field research in two of the countries: Ghana and Mozambique. In Ghana, the government has taken strides to address issues of inclusiveness and sustainability. The Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC), for example provides a platform for public debate on how to spend petroleum revenue for development purposes, while the Ghana Heritage Fund aims to support development for future generations. However, these mechanisms are still in their infancy and perhaps underfunded, making it difficult to assess their long-term prospects. In Mozambique, despite some new laws being introduced and institutions being established for resource governance, these institutions still lack the independence to monitor and evaluate the use of resource revenues. The government has yet to adopt a law that requires the compulsory disclosure of data in the extractive sector, for example. It also seems unwilling to use resource revenue, at least in the short-term, to set up a sovereign wealth fund, citing immediate and pressing development needs.

I will be doing field research for the remaining two cases in the first quarter of 2015. Zambia is a competitive democracy that seems not to be performing as well as Ghana in using its natural resources to promote devel-

opment, while Namibia is a dominant-party democracy that seems to be performing better than Mozambique. I do not necessarily expect to come across brown envelopes in the remaining countries, but I do expect to get a more nuanced understanding of the different ways African democracies determine patterns of distributive politics and why it matters for resource-based development.

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Rethinking the Politics of Distribution in Africa: the case of Mozambique

Celso Marcos Monjane

Higher Institute of Public Administration Mozambique

Introduction

There are now many systematic comparative studies of resource allocation in African countries. Interestingly, most of these studies are concerned with issues like cultural, ethnic and party favoritism in the allocation of revenues from resources. As Golden & Min (2013:82) describe: “these studies often draw on preexisting literatures on patronage politics, patrimonialism, clientelism, and other forms of non-programmatic linkages between political parties and voters”. According to Weitz-Shapiro (2012: 568), the literature on clientelism “has been wide-ranging, with research on what type of voters is targeted via clientelism; why politicians and voters comply with clientelism; and the implication of clientelism for democratic accountability”.

The point is that whereas most studies of distributive politics, including ones about Africa, focus on electorally relevant aspects of taxes and transfers, they pay less attention to the allocation of resources that is made in the shadow of the law not only for electoral purposes, but as a mechanism to control violence and to ensure a certain level of political stability.

Suppressing violence through informal resource allocation

There is undeniably in Africa today a high level of violence, not just in situations where law and order have broken down entirely, but also where conditions are deemed to be relatively stable (Chabal & Daloz, 1999:77).

There are diverse causes of violence across the continent, but prominent among them is the desire to access and control the state’s resources. According to North et al. (2009), it is commonly accepted that in developing countries, individuals and organizations use or threaten to use violence to gather wealth and resources.

Since the violence has to be restrained for development to occur, North et al. (2009) claim that these countries limit violence through the creation and allocation of rents by the political system to competing groups so that they find it in their interest to refrain from the use of violence.

This side of distribution has not been well addressed in many works on distributive politics. I would suggest that a better understanding of the dynamics of resource allocation requires that the political settlements of post-co-

lonial African countries be taken into account. As Khan (2003:10) puts it, “significant transfers through patron-client networks are essential for maintaining political stability in developing countries. This is because generalized and public resource allocation cannot be used to stabilize the polity simply because not enough fiscal resources are available”. In other words, “informal institutional arrangements like resource allocation and accumulation through patron-client networks are examples of arrangements through which powerful groups create economic benefits for themselves during developmental transitions” (Khan, 2010:27). As Gray and Whitfield (2014: 13) explain, informal distributions of resources, usually through clientelist networks that operate within and outside the state, then become critical in redistributing resources towards groups that hold power but who do not hold the political legitimacy to claim resources through formal state channels.

In sum, political stability in most developing countries means “accommodating powerful groups” as well as “buying off elites or acquiescing to their individual demands” (Whitfield & Buur, 2014: 129-130).

For example, in Mozambique in 1998 the state used “donor funds to give ‘loans’ to military men and party officials, with no intention that the loans would be repaid. Money was used to buy out military people and Frelimo party officials that opposed ending the war and abandoning socialism” (Hanlon, 2004:750).

In the current political settlement, “the ruling elite holds power through control over the state and maintains the ruling coalition by distributing economic benefits and strangling opposition access to resources” (Nielsen, 2014:1). With the discovery and exploration of gas and coal reserves in the north of the country, the centre of gravity of Mozambique’s economic opportunities is shifting to this part of the country as a notable number of Generals from the army have revived their business and political interests (Africa Confidential, 2013). Indeed, ever since independence new capitalists in Mozambique have “started their careers in the government and in politics and owe their economic expansion to patron-client networks” (Pitcher, 2003:807).

These kinds of arrangements present similar characteristics with the Limited Access Orders (LAO) described by North et al. (2009), because both describe the mechanisms

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Rethinking the Politics of Distribution (Monjane), *continued from page 7*

These kinds of arrangements present similar characteristics with the Limited Access Orders (LAO) described by North et al. (2009), because both describe the mechanisms by which resources can be allocated as a way of maintaining political stability and controlling violence. If powerful groups can reach an agreement to respect each other's privileges including access to resources, they have incentives to cooperate with each other rather than fight.

Returning to our example, one might say that in Mozambique the problem of violence is solved through the formation of a ruling coalition whose members have special privileges. Levy (2010) has pointed out that over the past years the Frelimo government has been able to prevent outbreak of widespread conflict, maintain and consolidate majority rule and sustain high rates of economic growth. However, "Mozambique's success and dynamism carries with it a risk: it could undermine the governance equilibrium that made it possible" (Levy, 2010: 137). In other words, as Gray and Whitfield (2014:23) put it, when a "political faction in power denies access to resources to all other factions [this could lead] to endemic instability with continual attempts to overthrow governments, to the total breakdown of civil order, and in some cases to populist revolts".

More precisely, it is well known that Renamo elites currently have very limited and most often no access to state resources. Indeed, the military hostilities that occurred nearly up to the elections of 2014 signaled an incompatibility between power and institutions with the potential of making the current political settlement unviable.

Towards a conclusion

Although corruption influences resource allocation in Sub-Saharan African countries, it does not mean that an incumbent only relies on clientelism as a mechanism to win votes during electoral process. There is much off-budget allocation that has little to do with the electoral process as such. The heavy reliance on quantitative methods in many comparative studies probably makes it harder to see these relevant aspects of resource distribution. Qualitative methods must be strongly considered and a critical starting point must be the nature of domestic politics, not only the standardized quantitative data available. Thus, the assumption that distribution is solely associated with the desire of the incumbent to win elections requires further investigation.



Photos from the APSA 2014 Workshop, Maputo, Mozambique, courtesy of Andrew Stinson



Distributive Goods, Local Government and Legitimacy in Malawi

*Michael Jana
University of Malawi*

The distribution of goods through patron-client networks is widely blamed for Africa's disappointing record of development, but my doctoral dissertation on Malawi shows that distributive goods are a major contributor to the legitimacy of elected officials and of the institutions they serve.

In my dissertation I sought to measure and to explain the legitimacy of electoral representatives in the eyes of ordinary Malawians. The importance of distributive goods in shaping perceptions of political legitimacy places it firmly within the central themes of the 2014 APSA Africa Workshop, which focused on "distributive goods and distributive politics." Legitimacy is in turn crucial in building stable and sustainable democracy (Gibson, 2004; Leftwich, 1997). Understanding the specific factors that strengthen or undermine legitimacy in emerging African democracies like Malawi contributes to the broader understanding of democratic consolidation.

Through my research in Malawi, I identified three dimensions of legitimacy: juridical, symbolic, and instrumental. Juridical legitimacy is rooted in the perceived legality of representatives. Symbolic legitimacy is rooted in people's emotional and social affinity with the representatives. Instrumental legitimacy is rooted in the perceived performance of the representatives. Not only is instrumental legitimacy the most closely related of the three dimensions to distributive politics, but my research found it to be the most important in shaping overall assessments of representatives and institutions.

My dissertation drew upon several kinds of evidence. I did extensive fieldwork in 2011 – interviewing members of parliament and civil-society organizations, and also conducting focus-group discussions with community members in several parliamentary constituencies. (Because Malawi did not yet have elected local government representatives at the time of my fieldwork, my interviews with elected representatives focused on members of the national parliament.) I supplemented this qualitative evidence with quantitative data from Afrobarometer surveys.

My central finding is that ordinary people were most likely to regard local elected representatives as legitimate when they felt that the representatives were performing effectively – often assessing effectiveness in terms of the provision of goods and services at the local level. Some confusion existed among the people about whether their

representatives in the national parliament or their local councilors deserved the credit for service delivery. In fact, members of the national parliament went as far as to pass legislation in 2010 to authorize themselves to make decisions on local development within their districts. This legislation helps them to claim credit for the distribution of goods and services to their constituents.

A related finding of my dissertation is that the link between distributive goods and the legitimacy of elected representatives also affects the legitimacy of the institutions within which they operate. For example, the satisfaction with the distribution of goods and services at the local level can enhance the legitimacy of the national parliament. But the converse is also true: local dissatisfaction threatens to undermine national legitimacy.

The APSA Africa Workshop gave me ideas about how to refine my work on Malawi and to extend it through comparative and cross-national analysis. Distributive politics is rife in Malawi, where for example the distribution of subsidized farm inputs has been directed disproportionately toward ethnic groups and regions that have supported successful presidential candidates (Chinsinga, 2012). The workshop highlighted the value of looking more systematically at the pattern of distribution at the local level, and of trying to get a clearer sense of whether distributive goods are rewarding incumbents' core voters or attracting swing voters. Meanwhile, discussions with workshop participants from other African countries and the methods training sessions encouraged me to think about Malawi in comparative perspective and to explore data available on other emerging African democracies.

The opportunity to participate in a workshop on "distributive goods and distributive politics" in Africa came at the right time for me, and it is helping me to chart my research agenda just after completing my dissertation on Malawi.

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Dataset Review

The Qualitative Data Repository: The Opportunities and Challenges of Sharing Qualitative Field Data

Carolyn Holmes

“But how do you know that?” This question, central to the social science research process, can be answered in any variety of different ways, yet it gets at issues central to the research process: replicability, transparency, and access. While for large-N/quantitative research projects, such issues are resolvable through access to datasets and well-worded methodological explanations, the question for qualitative/small-N research is more difficult to answer. Fieldwork experience and careful data collection can lend credibility and weight to the explanations they offer. Yet qualitative data collected through field research are often only accessible to the researchers who were directly involved in the data-collection process.

The Qualitative Data Repository (QDR), which launched in January 2014, is hosted by the Center for Qualitative and Multi-Method Inquiry at Syracuse University’s Maxwell School. Developed in line with the American Political Science Association’s new emphasis on research transparency, QDR seeks to provide researchers with the option of sharing their data. In an interview with QDR co-directors Colin Elman (Syracuse University) and Diana Kapiszewski (Georgetown University), they identified the three main goals of QDR as promoting “research transparency, the secondary analysis of qualitative data, and teaching using qualitative data”. Some funding organizations, including the National Science Foundation, have started to require researchers to include data management plans with grant applications. QDR hopes to be a place to which researchers can turn for best practices on sharing and managing qualitative data, in addition to serving as a repository.

QDR provides several key opportunities to Africanist scholars, including the ability to access qualitative data on field sites that are expensive, difficult or dangerous to visit. Also, given decreasing opportunities for grant funding, such a repository can serve as a valuable source of primary evidence, especially for proposal development and pre-dissertation research. For younger scholars, especially those developing projects without the benefit of prior field trips, data shared through QDR can serve as an important source of information on concept/variable or question development, as well as supplementing other published sources.

In addition, such an accessible repository could open up the possibility of digitizing information from African

universities with limited resources for independent digitization projects. Finally, the repository can fulfill requirements that many granting agencies and journals have for sharing data and making accessible qualitative sources collected from fieldwork trips.

Data shared via QDR are safely and securely preserved. The terms and conditions of use to which all QDR users must agree prior to accessing data include a series of guidelines for the responsible use of data and maintaining data confidentiality. In addition, researchers may request that access restrictions be applied to data to ensure their responsible use. QDR is also developing an initiative whereby researchers will be able to use the repository to safely store their data while they are in the field.

As with other repositories, like Qualidata or the Human Relations Area Files, metadata provided by researchers will make the projects searchable and relational. Such metadata include parameters such as the place, time period, language and funding sources of projects, as well as keywords. The QDR website (<https://qdr.syr.edu/>) offers a variety of materials outlining best practices in data management, as well as access to pilot projects. Soon QDR will also offer materials on teaching with data to help instructors utilize QDR resources in the classroom.

The ethical and legal dimensions of sharing data collected through interpersonal interaction are of obvious concern, especially to researchers working on politically sensitive or dangerous issues. In the interview, Kapiszewski said “We appreciate the basic tension between a research project participant’s right to privacy and the research community’s need for data. We encourage scholars to begin considering issues related to sharing their data early in the research process and to consult with us so we can advise them, for instance, on how to discuss data sharing with those they involve in their research.” To this end, QDR is willing to provide assistance on anonymizing and de-identifying research materials to ensure ethical and legal sharing of data while also maintaining the integrity of the information.



Dataset Review (Holmes), *continued from page 10*

However, there remain certain concerns about consent, access and understanding regarding the data stored in the repository. In the first instance, individuals or teams conducting research will need to qualify their consent forms and amend language regarding confidentiality of responses in order to comply with both IRB and QDR regulations. QDR is drafting a set of “best practices” documents regarding how to negotiate informed consent, and have offered to work with individual researchers in drafting their consent documents. Yet it would seem that the issues of informed consent in the context of a more-or-less publically accessible archive would complicate the researcher-participant relationship, especially for sensitive data collection.

The other set of issues that researchers can potentially come up against when considering depositing or utilizing data shared via QDR is context sensitivity. Because data will be stored there as the researchers record it, the data itself will often be stripped of the non-recorded contextual details that often lend richness and texture to the data themselves. In a project that is intended to be stored in a repository such as QDR, the researcher will have to consider what is documented, and what omitted, because of the use by researchers who may have no experience in the time or place in which the data are created and recorded. To what extent, then, in an interview transcript or a set of ethnographic observations, does a researcher record the nature of the place in which the data were recorded, or the news that was on the front page that day that may have conditioned responses, or the emotion contained in responses to questions? The inclusion or omission of such details may lead a research unaffiliated with the data collection process to different conclusions about the data themselves. The same could be said of archival data, which, when divorced from their context, can become disorganized or decontextualized. Additionally, the sharing of such data could ultimately lead to fewer visitors to extant archives, which might in turn put stress on those

collections. But such questions are, of course, about the nature and scope of qualitative research and sharing qualitative data more broadly, rather than of concern to QDR exclusively.

Yet it would seem important, within the qualitative Africanist research community, to begin to discuss both the advantages and challenges of sharing qualitative data, and what such data can do to supplement the resources we already have. Calls for transparency with regard to the collection and publishing of qualitative data are useful reminders to qualitative researchers about standards of rigor and utility in our research. Additionally, concerns over privacy, safety, consent and context sensitivity need to be seriously reconsidered if data will be available more widely than in the past. Such advantages and challenges need to be weighed against the benefits that can be offered by QDR and other repositories. Such conversations, however, are valuable and productive and can only serve to strengthen qualitative scholarship



2014 APSA Africa Workshop Participants, photo courtesy Andrew Stinson

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!

APCG News



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Chair's Report... *(continued from page 1)*

I am grateful to our members who elected me and to the former officers who worked hard to build an organization such as the APCG. As I wrote in my candidate statement, I believe the African Politics Conference Group to be important for several reasons: as a network, for its promotions of scholarly news and events, and for the opportunities it gives to young as well as senior colleagues to participate in panels, to receive recognition for their publications, and to be provided with information about research on African issues. This is possible because of the leadership of the previous officers and the financial contributions of the members. Those who have been involved for several years know that we have accomplished a lot. We are now well represented at many major conferences including the APSA, the ASA, and the ISA and MPSA; we award annual prizes to recognize scholarly achievement; and we have recruited members not only in North America, but also in Europe and Africa.

I have promised that if elected chair, I would do my best to continue the excellent work of my predecessors, strive to expand our group to include more colleagues from around the world and formulate more accurate and innovative ideas as our group moves forward. Therefore, my ambition for the next two years will be to deliver what I promised with the help of the other officers.

We have already set up all the new committees (ASA, APSA, ISA, Nominations and Awards) and appointed their chairs. Thanks to the colleagues who have volunteered, we will be able to organize panels as usual, conduct the next year's elections and award our best scholarly publications. We are also planning to redesign our website and in the meantime, make sure the current one is updated on a more regular basis.

Let me finally remind you to apply for the APSA Africa 2015 workshop (the deadline is March 15) and to attend our individual members' presentations at the ISA (February 18-21) and MPSA (April 16-19) conventions.

All the best,
Mamoudou Gazibo
University of Montreal





African Data Sources Sought

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

For the current list, go to:

<http://africanpoliticsgroup.org/index.php/scholars/africa-data-sources/>

To contribute a data source, send an email to Nathaniel Olin, nolin@wisc.edu



Mpoti, Mali, Summer 2014, photo courtesy of Sebastian Elischer

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the winter edition of the APCG newsletter. This issue has the distinction of ushering in the second decade of APCG publishing. In keeping – trying to keep up, anyway – with the changing times and the diversification of media production, the current issue inaugurates a new feature in the dissemination of member news and publications. The current issue thus begins to recognize the contributions of APCG members in forums across the electronic ether. We seek to acknowledge both the increasing scholastic significance of these platforms, along with the important footprint of the APCG community in contributing to the public debate about African politics and policy. Please keep us up to date on your online activities in the months ahead.

Within this issue is the typical array of member news and announcements, publication lists, and a symposium discussion arising out of the recent APSA Africa Workshop held in Mozambique. The editors would like to put out a special plea for more photographic submissions to liven up future editions. Please keep those images coming! And as always, your continued participation in the development of

the newsletter is encouraged: if you have a feature or an idea that you would like to see appear in these pages, forward your suggestions to the editors.

We look forward to hearing from you as we head towards the summer. Please keep in mind we accept submissions year round and are eager to hear your news of fellowships, awards, job changes, and publication! All the best for a healthy and happy spring,

Stephen Marr, Malmö University



Mt. Kigali, Rwanda, photo courtesy of Rachel Strohm.



Award Winners, 2013-2014

APCG Award for Best Article in 2013

Dominika Koter, Colgate University
 “Kingmakers: Local Leaders and Ethnic Politics in Africa”
World Politics 65 (2): 187-232.

Committee:

Nadia R. Horning, Middlebury College, Chair
 Melinda Adams, James Madison University
 Kate Baldwin, Yale University

Koter’s article explores why ethnic electoral blocs emerge in some countries but not in others. Focusing on two West African cases, Senegal and Benin, Koter challenges the notion that ethnic mobilization is inevitable, pointing out that politics are conducted across varied social structures and that politicians adapt their electoral strategies to these varied environments. In Koter’s analysis, electoral intermediaries (local elites) emerge as critical actors in the political process due to their social clout.

The Committee members wish to congratulate Dominika for the originality of her argument, for the rich evidence that she puts forth, and for her inclusion of African scholars’ insights. Félicitations!

APCG Award for Best Book in 2013

Rachel Beatty Riedl, *Authoritarian Origins of Democratic Party Systems in Africa* (Cambridge University Press)

Committee:

Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Michigan State University
 Daniel Posner, UCLA (chair)
 Landry Signé, University of Alaska-Anchorage

The committee reviewed 18 nominated books and has selected Rachel Beatty Riedl’s *Authoritarian Origins of Democratic Party Systems in Africa* as the winner of the 2013-2014 African Politics Conference Group Best Book Award.

Authoritarian Origins of Democratic Party Systems in Africa is a welcome and extremely important contribution to the growing literature on post-Third Wave party systems.

It steps beyond classification and attempts to explain the significant variation others have observed in Africa’s party systems, particularly with regard to the extent to which parties are institutionalized.

The central argument of Riedl’s book is wonderfully counterintuitive: stronger authoritarians in a pre-transition period actually yield party systems that are better institutionalized, and therefore more likely to foster democratic accountability, after their regimes have crumbled. What’s particularly appealing about Riedl’s book is that it takes seriously Bratton and van de Walle’s call to consider the “institutional heritage of previous regimes.” In other words, leaders’ decisions from over twenty-five years ago continue to shape the party systems that Africa’s democracies have today.

Riedl’s theory is a very elegant one: authoritarian leaders who made strong alliances with local actors—a strategy she calls “incorporation”—entered into transitional periods with much stronger hands. They used this power to limit challengers’ entry into electoral politics, which meant that only stronger opposition groups that could overcome coordination problems would survive. As a result, after the transition, the system was marked by fewer, but stronger parties.

Conversely, authoritarian leaders who attempted to build independent power bases—a strategy she calls “substitution”—found themselves with weaker grassroots ties at transition time, and thus had fewer opportunities to limit challenger entry. Consequently, new parties, many of which were small and weak, flooded the electoral arena, and systems marked by low institutionalization exist to this day.

Riedl tests her theory with careful case studies of four countries—Benin, Ghana, Senegal, and Zambia—with in-depth interviews with dozens of local and national party elites. Her exhaustive research pays off, with a well-articulated and convincing argument about an important aspect of contemporary African politics. We are confident that this book will be basis of a new wave of research, not just into the evolution of party systems in the developing world, but also into the long-term impacts of authoritarian and transitional legacies more generally.

Award Winners, 2013-2014

APCG-African Affairs Award for Best Graduate Student Paper in 2013

Milli Lake, Ph.D. (2014), University of Washington

“Organized Hypocrisy: External Actors and Building the Rule of Law in Fragile States.” Presented at 2013 annual meeting of the American Political Science Association

Committee:

Susanna Wing, Haverford College (Chair)

Fodei Batty, Quinnipiac University

James Hentz, Virginia Military Institute

The committee agreed unanimously on Lake’s paper as the most deserving of this award. She grapples with the conundrum that while the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo) is often described as an archetypal collapsed state, in recent years some of the world’s most progressive judicial decisions against perpetrators of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) have been passed in the DRC. How is it that even in a state characterized by extreme fragility certain public goods prevail? Through analysis of military and civilian judicial cases, interviews with stakeholders and victims of SGBV, she argues that the very instability of local governance structures in DRC has opened the doors for domestic and transnational actors to exert direct influence on the judicial decisions. Her work is innovative, relies on extensive fieldwork under difficult conditions and has important policy implications for an understudied topic.

APCG-Lynne Rienner Award for Best Dissertation in 2013

Matthew I. Mitchell, Queen’s University, Ph.D. Dissertation 2013

“Rethinking the Migration-Conflict Nexus: Insights from the Cocoa Regions in Cote d’Ivoire and Ghana”

Committee:

Lahra Smith, Georgetown University (chair)

Kristie Inman, National Intelligence University

Alice Kang, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Conflict Nexus: Insights from the Cocoa Regions in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana, examines under what conditions voluntary migration can and does cause violent conflict. Multiple causal mechanisms are explored, including state-society relations, land tenure regimes, variations in state capacity and exogenous shocks and varied autochthony discourses in particular contexts. Mitchell argues that whether voluntary migration spurs conflict depends on the local political economy. More precisely, he contends that closed and controlled land tenure regimes mitigate the use of divisive autochthony discourse, whereas open and laissez-faire land tenure regimes encourage the use of divisive autochthony discourse. In Ghana, integration of migrants, clear and somewhat rigid land tenure systems favoring indigenous individuals, a perception of the benefits of migrant labor economically and the relative authority of chiefs have worked to reduce the likelihood of conflict over land or belonging. In Côte d’Ivoire the reverse conditions created the context for the civil war and episodic conflict. Mitchell goes beyond this national-level analysis and also analyzes these variables in Ghana, focusing on the Ashanti and Western regions. He finds that there too the local control over land resources and the power of the chiefs in Ashanti has resulted in markedly less conflict over land and identity than in Western region. The dissertation is based on four months of fieldwork in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana involving a total of 171 interviews.

Mitchell’s dissertation makes a novel contribution to the fast-growing scholarship on conflict in Africa by focusing on how the interplay of migration and land tenure regimes influence conflict onset. International relations in particular has been too focused on ‘security’ understood in narrow geopolitical terms and on the role of natural resources (oil, gold, diamonds), and therefore unable to account for variations in local-level conflict. He also focuses on the element of voluntary migration, a type of migration often overlooked in the standard IR and comparative literature on Africa.

Not only does Mitchell’s dissertation make a novel contribution to the study of conflict, he executes an ambitious research agenda. The committee commends him for conducting a case study comparison, not only two countries but also focusing on intra-country variation. His demonstrated mastery over the technical aspects of the comparative case study method was noted by the committee to be exemplary.

Matthew Mitchell’s dissertation, *Rethinking the Migration-*



Recent and Continuing Committee Members and Chairs

Best Book in 2014 Award

* Laura Seay
Colby College

Amy Poteete
Concordia University

Kris Inman
National Intelligence University

Best Article in 2014 Award

* Zachariah Mampilly
Vassar College

Warigia Bownman
University of Arkansas

Fodei Batty
Quinnipac University

APCG-Lynne Rienner Best Dissertation in 2014 Award

* Elisabeth King
New York University

Elliott Green
London School of Economics

Dominika Koter
Colgate University

APCG-African Affairs Best Graduate Student Paper 2014/2015 Award

*Megan Hershey
Whitworth University

Matthew Mitchell
St. Paul University

George Bob-Milliar
Kwame Nkrumah University of
Science and Technology

APSA 2016 Committee

* Melinda Adams
James Madison University

*Bruce Magnusson
Whitman College

ASA 2015 Committee

* John Heilbrunn
Colorado School of Mines

Martha Johnson
Mills College

Lindsay Whitfield
Roskilde University

ISA 2015 Committee

* Kevin S. Fridy
University of Tampa

Milly Lake
Arizona State University

Joseph Yinka Fashagba
Landmark University

Nominations Committee

*Gretchen Bauer
University of Delaware

Nicholas Cheeseman
Oxford University

Peter Von Doepp
University of Vermont

***committee chair**



Now Hiring

Howard University

Department of Political Science

Comparative Politics (African Politics)

Assistant Professor

The Department of Political Science at Howard University seeks applications for a tenure-track position in Comparative Politics, specializing in African politics, at the rank of Assistant Professor beginning in August 2015. Teaching responsibilities include undergraduate and graduate courses in comparative politics, revolutions and social movements, African nationalism, and African politics.

Candidates must have Ph.D. in hand by August 2015.

Candidates should submit: (1) a letter of application that includes a statement of teaching interests, research interests, experiences, and future plans; (2) a current CV; (3) names and contact information for three references; and (4) a sample of written work. Applications should be complete by February 27, 2015 to ensure full consideration; however, the search will continue until the position is filled.

Howard University is a comprehensive, research oriented, historically Black private university. Its

Department of Political Science offers the B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees. Equal Employment

Opportunity: Howard University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin, sex, marital status, religion, or disability.

Send application to:

Search Committee Chair
Howard University
Department of Political Science
Douglass Hall, Room 144

2419 6th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20059
(202) 806-6720

The letter of application, CV, and letters of reference can also be sent via email to: polisci@howard.edu. Please use subject heading of "Position Vacancy – Comparative Politics"

Submit Online!

Submissions to the newsletter can be made via our website:

<http://africanpoliticsgroup.org/index.php/submit-news/>



General Announcements

APSA 2015 Workshop Announcement

John Clark announces that The American Political Science Association 2015 Africa Workshop will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, on July 20-31 and will focus on Conflict and Political Violence (<http://community.apsanet.org/Africa/2015workshop>). Please share the call for applications with any African colleagues and U.S. graduate students who might be interested in participating. Applications are due on March 15.

Workshop Fellows:

The workshop is targeted at university and college faculty in the social sciences residing in Africa who are in the early stages of their academic careers. APSA welcomes applications from scholars who have completed their Ph.D. as well as those who are working towards completion. Up to four advanced U.S. Ph.D. students will also be accepted. All Workshop Fellows must be actively engaged in research related to political science, with preference given to scholars working on projects related to the theme of the workshop. Applications from fellows working on the following topics are especially encouraged:

- Economic motivations for violence, including natural resources and conflict;
- Identity-based conflicts (ethnicity and religion) and modes of conflict resolution;
- Electoral violence and the resolution of electoral conflicts;
- The mobilization and organization of rebel groups;
- International peacemaking and civil conflicts; and
- The regionalization of African domestic conflicts.

Fellows should be working on a discreet manuscript, paper, book chapter, or journal article that will be brought to the workshop for presentation and improvement, and can be developed into an eventual publication. Following the workshops, alumni will be eligible to apply for small grants to facilitate further research collaboration. All instruction will be in English and all participants should command a high level of proficiency in English.



Benin, Summer 2014, photo courtesy of Claire Adida.



Member News

Catherine Boone has been blogging about her new book, *Property and Political Order in Africa* (Cambridge, 2014):

Monkey Cage Blog, The Washington Post: Land rights and conflict in Africa: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/08/15/land-rights-and-conflict-in-africa/>

LSE Connor Gearty Grilling: Hot Issues: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/newsAndMedia/news/archives/2014/05/This-weeks-Gearty-Grilling-Catherine-Boone-on-land-rights-in-Africa.aspx>

Oxford Democracy in Africa: <http://democracyinafrica.org/pre-view-property-political-order-africa/>

Graeme Blair started a post-doc with Experiments in Governance and Politics (EGAP) and the Earth Institute at Columbia University in September and will start as an Assistant Professor at UCLA in July 2016.

Jeffrey Conroy-Krutz and **Devra C. Moehler**'s article, "Mobilization by the Media? A Field Experiment on Partisan Media Effects in Africa" received the Best Paper Award from APSA's Experimental Section and honorable mention from the Sage Best Paper Award from APSA's Comparative Politics Section.

Elliot Green will be a Visiting Fellow in the Institute for African Development at Cornell University from January to July 2015.

Antoinette Handley published, with a colleague from the African Development Bank, Emanuele Santi, a piece at the end of last year on the economic fallout from the Ebola crisis in *Quadrante Futuro*, the blog associated with the Einaudi Centre,

one of Italy's leading think tanks: <http://www.quadrantefuturo.it/terra/ebola-why-we-are-worried-for-all-the-wrong-reasons.html>

In December, **Susanne Mueller** attended the International Criminal Court's (ICC) meeting of its Assembly of State Parties in New York to do research.

Joshua Rubongoya has been appointed Chair of the Department of Public Affairs at Roanoke College.

Landry Signé was bestowed the 2014 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching for his "exceptional commitment to advancing student achievement" (one of four awardees out of 1390 full-time and adjunct faculty), and the 2014 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Academic Research and Creative Activity for his "outstanding and significant impact in the field of study and to the University of Alaska Anchorage" (one of two awardees out of 680 full-time faculty). The Government of Quebec honored Landry with the Claude Masson Award to highlight the exceptional quality of his national and international engagements and contributions. He also received merit from the Governor General of Canada for "his outstanding contribution to the community". His recently published articles and op-eds on topics of development strategies, policy innovation, democratization, and governance are presented in the publication section of the newsletter. He was recently invited to discuss his research at the Wharton Business School, Cornell University, the World Policy Conference (South Korea), and Atlantic Dialogues (Morocco), and is scheduled for additional presentations at Stanford University and the Brussels Forum (Belgium) later this year. Landry joined the University of Alaska

Anchorage in the fall of 2013. Prior, he was a post-doctoral fellow at Stanford University.

Scott Pegg contributed testimony in a suit against Shell Petroleum Development Company that led to an \$83 million verdict for residents of Bodo, Nigeria. Read more about the case here: <http://news.iupui.edu/releases/2015/01/bodo-oil-settlement.shtml>.

Aili Mari Tripp (University of Wisconsin-Madison) won the ASA Public Service award for her service to the African Studies Association. She also won a Fulbright Award for research and teaching in Morocco during the 2015-16 academic year. She will be based at the Center for Women's Empowerment at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane. She delivered a keynote address at a conference on "Law Reform and Gender Justice in the Greater Middle East," at Ahfad University for Women, Omdurman, Sudan in October. She has a forthcoming book accepted by University of Cambridge Press on Women and Power in Post-conflict Africa.

Recently Published

What does it mean for black scholars to study white people's lives in Africa? As the only African American funded by a private foundation to conduct research in South Africa until the 1950s, Ralph Bunche's 1930s investigations provide a compelling departure point for answering this question—and yet even he did not attend primarily to the conditions that structured white life in Africa and the ways in which whiteness shaped antiblackness.

In the book, *Waste of a White Skin: The Carnegie Corporation and the Racial Logic of White Vulnerability* (University of California Press, 2015),



Member News, cont.

conditions facing hundreds of thousands of impoverished whites in Africa and offered policy recommendations that endorsed civilized labor, slum clearance, and committing the white urban poor to forced labor colonies—while anticipating the harsh antiblack segregationism introduced in 1948. Trafficking in the controversial literature of eugenics Carnegie research team members evinced a promiscuous belief that white racial degeneration was as much to blame for white poverty as the more accepted answers finance capital, late development, and “cheap” African labor.

Explaining race and class and the divergent origins of working class consciousness in Africa have been a distinctive pre-occupation for scholars who study racial capitalism. In this study, however, readers are compelled to think in a completely new way about the origins of white poverty and whose interests have been served by its existence. Poor whites have been and remain a defining force (and political entrepreneurs’ wet dream) in white minority-rule government; dragged out as a justification for segregation and then made to stand alone as the sole handmaidens of anti-black violence. Using black feminist analyses racial capitalism and knowledge production Willoughby-Herard convincingly reveals that some of apartheid’s staunchest allies were liberal foundations concerned with defending their

side of the global color line.

As an African American scholar, Willoughby-Herard confronted the long legacy of black Americans being banned, publicly disparaged, and outlawed when studying racial oppression in South Africa. She also had to confront the legacies of laws and practices in South Africa and the United States that literally prohibited black writers from photographing, publishing, or depicting white people and white life. De jure and de facto, material history and libidinal crisis mingle freely in this important new book in African American and African Studies.

Andrew Novak, an adjunct professor of international and comparative criminal justice at George Mason University, recently published two books. The first, *The Death Penalty in Africa: Foundations and Future Prospects* (Palgrave 2014) traces the history and practice of capital punishment in Africa from precolonial times to the present. The second, *The International Criminal Court: An Introduction* (Springer 2015) is a brief introductory text, primarily for non-lawyers, on the Court’s operations, including its tumultuous relations with the African continent.

Our resident Monkey Cage blog contributors, **Laura Seay** and **Kim Yi Dionne** lead the Monkey Cage in 2014’s most popular posts <[\[www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/12/31/the-most-popular-monkey-cage-posts-in-2014/\]\(http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/12/31/the-most-popular-monkey-cage-posts-in-2014/\)>, writing the 3rd, 4th, and 6th most popular blog posts. In addition, many APCG members have contributed posts to the blog since its inception.](http://</p></div><div data-bbox=)



Call for Nominations

The **APCG-Lynne Rienner Best Dissertation Award** Committee invites submissions for the best dissertation in African politics 2014. 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 2014 calendar year are eligible for this award. This year's selection committee includes: Elisabeth King (New York University, chair), Elliot Green (London School of Economics), and Dominika Koter (Colgate 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, 2015**.

The **APCG-African Affairs Best Graduate Student Paper Award** Committee seeks nominations for the 2014/15 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 2014 APSA, 2014 ASA, 2015 ISA, or 2015 MPSA annual meeting. The papers cannot have a co-author with a Ph.D. This year's committee consists of:

Megan Hershey (Whitworth University, chair), George Bob-Milliar (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology) and Matthew Mitchell (St. Paul University).

To nominate a paper, please send an email with the paper's author, title, and the conference name to the committee chair at: mhershey@whitworth.edu. The deadline for nominations is **April 30, 2015**.

The **APCG Best Article** Committee seeks nominations for the 2014 award. All articles published in peer-reviewed journals in 2014 are eligible. This year's committee includes:

Zachariah Mampilly (Vassar College, chair), Warigia Bowman (University of Arkansas), and Fodei Batty (Quinnipiac University).

Please send the full abstract and, if possible, a copy of the article itself to the committee chair, Zachariah Mampilly, at zamampilly@vassar.edu. The deadline for nominations is **April 30, 2015**.

The **APCG Best Book Award** Committee invites nominations for the 2014 award. To be eligible, books must have been published (i.e., with a copyright date) in English in 2014. 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 2014.

This year's committee consists of: Laura Seay (Colby College, chair), Amy Poteete (Concordia University), and Kris Inman (National Intelligence University).

Please send nominations to the committee chair, Laura Seay, at the following e-mail address: leseay@colby.edu. Copies of nominated books must then be sent to each committee member at the addresses listed below no later than **April 30, 2015**.

Laura Seay
Assistant Professor
Department of Government
Colby College
5300 Mayflower Hill
Waterville, ME 04901

Amy Poteete
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science
Concordia University
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd West
Montreal QC H3G 1M8
CANADA

Kris Inman*
Chief Africa Researcher
National Intelligence University

*Please contact Dr. Inman via email at Kristie.Inman@dodii.mil for the appropriate mailing address.

Publications



*denotes items submitted directly by members. All other references were discovered by the editors. We only include items that have already been published.

Books

Aminzade, Ronald. 2014. *Race, Nation, and Citizenship in Post-Colonial Africa: The Case of Tanzania*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Chitonge, Horman. 2015. *Economic Growth and Development in Africa: Understanding Trends and Prospects*. New York: Routledge.

Edozie, Rita Kiki and Keith Gottschalk. 2014. *The African Union's Africa New Pan-African Initiatives in Global Governance*. East Lansing: Michigan State University.

Harmon, Stephen A. 2014. *Terror and Insurgency in the Sahara-Sahel Region: Corruption, Contraband, Jihad and the Mali War of 2012-2013*. Surrey: Ashgate Publishing.

James, Deborah. 2014. *Money from Nothing: Indebtedness and Aspiration in South Africa*. Palo Alto: Stanford University Press.

Laakso, Liisa and Petri Hautaniemi. 2014. *Diasporas, Development and Peacemaking in the Horn of Africa*. London: Zed Books.

LeVan, A Carl. 2015. *Dictators and Democracy in African Development: The Political Economy of Good*

Governance in Nigeria. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

McNeill, Fraser G. 2014. *AIDS, Politics, and Music in South Africa*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Murunga, Godwin R., Duncan Okello and Anders Sjögren. 2014. *Kenya: The Struggle for a New Constitutional Order*. London: Zed Books.

Obarrio, Juan. 2014. *The Spirit of the Laws in Mozambique*. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

Picard, Louis A. and Thomas Mogale. 2014. *The Limits of Democratic Governance in South Africa*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Raeymaekers, Timothy. 2014. *Violent Capitalism and Hybrid Identity in Eastern Congo: Power to the Margins*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Salgado, Susana. 2014. *The Internet and Democracy Building in Lusophone African Countries*. Surrey: Ashgate Publishing.

*Willoughby-Herard, Tiffany. 2015. *Waste of a White Skin: The Carnegie Corporation and the Racial Logic of White Vulnerability*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Edited Books

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Burkina Faso’s Parliament, January 2015, photos courtesy of Rachel Beatty Riedl



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