Chair’s Letter

Dear Colleagues,

We had a well attended meeting at the ASA meeting in New York at which lots of business was discussed. At the meeting we awarded our Best Book and Best Article awards for 2007. They were as follows:


Two new officers for the APCG were announced (based on our September elections): Sandra Joireman replaces Cathy Boone as Secretary – thanks again to Cathy for her tremendous work for the APCG and John F. Clark replaces Nelson Kasfir as Vice-Chair; thanks too to Nelson for his hard work. Sandra and John will serve in those positions for the next two years. Thanks to the candidates who ran: Dan Posner and Peter von Doeppe.

Many thanks again to all who served on our committees during 2007 and thanks to those who have agreed to serve during 2008. A list of new committee members and convenors is included in this newsletter.

At our meeting we discussed organizing a Working Group for APSA meeting in Boston. A Working Group is a group of conference attendees who attend a series of panels together and...
then meet (in conference provided space) to discuss those panels. The Working Group would be organized around some theme or set of themes. Peter VonDoepp agreed to take the lead on that; if you are interested please contact him at: Peter.VonDoepp@uvm.edu.

Also at our ASA meeting Cathy Boone reported on the APSA Africa Initiative. Ira Katznelson as APSA president in 2005-06, in collaboration with the APSA International Committee and with APSA Council approval, undertook to raise funds from the Mellon Foundation to fund a series of three 3-week residential workshops in Africa for young African academics. APSA received a grant from Mellon for about $900,000.

The first workshop, we hope, will be held in summer 2008. There will be a call for proposals, issued by APSA, from academicians like APCG members (or other APSA members) who would be interested in organizing sub-sequent workshops in 2009 and 2010. Each work-shop will be co-organized by 2 US-based Political Scientists and 2 Africa-based social scientists. Members suggested that APCG could play a role in helping to identify possible Africa-based co-organizers for these workshops, also in helping to identify possible participants. We discussed how we could set up a mechanism to facilitate this process. Finally, we passed a motion to express our appreciation to APSA for this initiative and to offer our good offices to facilitate it.

Finally, we had a quick report from Dennis Galvan on our website. Thanks to a generous donation from the University of Oregon African Studies Program our website will be overhauled in the near future. Please send Dennis any suggestions you might have on how to make our website more useful! dgalvan@uoregon.edu.

We have put out a first call for paper or panel proposals for our one APCG panel at APSA in Boston at the end of August 2008. Please send your proposals by January 8, 2008 to Devra Moehler at dcm37@cornell.edu.

We have two APCG panels on the program for the ISA meeting in San Francisco in March 2008. As we usually do at ISA, we will put out a call to any APCG’ers in attendance for a dinner together during the conference.

Our organization seems to be moving nicely forward. We have many new members, many paid up members and a growing participation in our activities. Please send in your dues for your 2008 membership; the form is attached in the newsletter.

All the best,

Gretchen Bauer
APCG Chair

From the Editor

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

End of the semester is near and with it comes lot of papers to grade for most of us while Christmas shopping and another form of stress lurks around the corner. I hope this issue of our APCG Newsletter can make you take a few minutes to relax and enjoy.

The ISA meeting is coming up and we have some really interesting panels there. There are new articles and books out to consider and I have also included information on some exciting new opportunities and jobs. Scroll down!

Also, don’t forget to print out the membership renewal form, and pay your dues for 2008.

Finally, submission deadline for the issues of this newsletter for 2008:
February 29 (!)
May 15
August 20
November 30

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

Kindly,
Staffan I. Lindberg
Newsletter Editor
RENEW MEMBERSHIP FOR 2008!

AFRICAN POLITICS
CONFERENCE GROUP

Membership Dues
2008

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

Name: ______________________
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Amount Enclosed: ___$10.00___

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

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Staffan I. Lindberg, Newsletter Editor
University of Florida

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

Wednesday 10:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Title: Partial Regimes in Transitional Polities

Chair: Peter Von Doepp, University of Vermont

Papers:
- Post-conflict electoral regimes and party formation: findings from a cross-regional dataset. Carrie Manning, Georgia State University.
- Stuck in Reverse: Politicians, the Military and the Vestiges of Democracy in Zimbabwe. Scott D. Taylor, Georgetown University.
- Political Violence and an Uncertain Transition: Ethiopia since the 2005 Elections. Lahra Smith, Georgetown University.
- Big Men and the Bench: Executive-Judicial Relations in New African Democracies. Peter Von Doepp, University of Vermont.

Discussants: Bruce Magnusson, Whitman College.

OTHER APCG MEMBERS ON THE PROGRAM:

Wednesday 10:30 AM -12:15 PM

Panel: Development Assistance, Poverty, and the Environment

"Tree Huggers and Tree Cutters: Aid, Development and the Environment in Africa" Nadia R. Homing, Middlebury College.

Wednesday, 3:45 PM - 5:30 PM

Panel: After Genocide: Post-Conflict State Building in Bosnia and Rwanda

Chair: Barbara J. Falk Canadian Forces College, Toronto, Canada


"Contested memories: the Bosnian genocide in Serb and Muslim minds" Paul B. Miller, McDaniel College, Westminister MD

"Parallels between the Pre- and Post-Genocide States in Rwanda and why They are Worrying." Eugenia Zorbas, London School of Economics.

"Unity in Homogeneity or Unity in Diversity? Comparative Lessons from Post-Conflict Rwanda and Bosnia-Herzegovina." Elisabeth A. King, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

Discussants: Maja Catic, Brandeis University and Susan M. Thomson, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada.
APCG Sponsored Panel II

Wednesday 1:45 - 3:30 PM

Title: Environmental and Human Security in Africa

Chair: Helen Purkitt U.S. Naval Academy

Papers:
- Environment and Human Security in the Horn of Africa  Stephen F. Burgess Air War College
  - Environmental Security as an Engagement Strategy: Recommendations for Africa Command  Shannon Beebe US Army
- The Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA) – A Bellweather Initiative for Economic Integration and Environmental Security in Southern Africa Dan Henk US Air War College

Discussants: Geoffrey D. Dabelko Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and Maxie McFarland US Army

Friday 10:30 AM - 12:15 PM

Panel: Autochthony, Citizenship and the Politics of Place in Africa

Chair: Morten Boas
- “A War of “Second Independence”? Autochthony, Citizenship and Sovereignty in Côte d’Ivoire” Richard Banegas
- “African Autochthony and IR Theory: Insights on Identity, Space, Memory and Nostalgia” Kevin Dunn
- “Whose Soil and Sons - Land(less) in Lofa County, Liberia and North Kivu, DRC” Morten Boas

Discussant: Tatiana Carayannis

Friday 1:45-3:30

Panel: Development, Conservation, and Protected Areas

“Madagascar’s Biodiversity Conservation Challenge: from Local- to National-Level Dynamics” Nadia R. Horning, Middlebury College

Friday 3:35 PM

‘Africa’s Challenge to Global Studies: new transnationalisms/regionalisms’. Timothy Shaw
Mamoudou Gazibo, associate professor of political science, University of Montreal, is hosted this semester (until December) by Cornell University as a visiting Fellow. He spoke on "China and Africa: From National Interest Perspective to a Multifaceted Explanation", Institute for African Development, Cornell University, November 8.

Scott Strauss’ *The Order of Genocide: Race, Power, and War in Rwanda* (Cornell University Press, 2006) received an Honorable Mention for the 2007 Herskovits Prize.

Recent Publications on African Politics


Mwenda, Andrew M. 2007 “Personalizing Power in Uganda” *Journal of Democracy* 18(3)


Pitcher, Anne with Aubrey Graham, "Cars are killing Luanda: Cronyism, Consumerism and other Assaults on Postwar Angola’s Capital City" in Martin Murray and Garth Myers, eds., *Cities in Contemporary Africa*, (NY: Palgrave, 2006).
Robinson, Mark and Steven Friedman. 2007. “Civil Society, Democratization, and Foreign Aid: Civic Engagement and Public Policy in South Africa and Uganda” Democratization Volume 14, no. 3
Shaw, Timothy. ‘Global and/or Regional Development at the Start of the 21st Century? China, India & (South) Africa’ with Andrew Cooper & Agata Antkiewicz Third World Quarterly 28(7), 2007: 1255-1270

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Call for Papers
Section member Andreas Schedler has issued a call for papers for the 2008 Joint Sessions of Workshops of the European Consortium for Political Research, which will be hosted in Rennes, France on April 11-16, 2008. The theme of this year’s workshop is “The Numbers We Use, The World We See: Evaluating Cross-National Datasets in Comparative Politics.”

The primary goal of the workshop is to evaluate critically, as well as constructively, some of the major cross-national datasets that are used in the field of comparative political science. Authors will assess the strengths and weaknesses of these datasets and shall discuss the empirical and theoretical implications these strengths and limitations carry for the study of politics. Proposals for papers on this topic should be submitted to both conveners: Cas Mudde (cas.mudde@ua.ac.be) and Andreas Schedler (andreas.schedler@cide.edu). For more information on the 2008 Joint Sessions of Workshops, see www.essex.ac.uk/ecpr/events/jointsessions/rennes/index.aspx.

Comparative Sociology has issued a call for papers for the quarterly international journal. Three topics are currently open for submissions: democracy and professions; rule of law and Rechtstaat; and typologies of democracy and non-democracy. (More information on each topic is available at www.brill.nl/m_catalogue_sub6_id9998.htm.)

Submissions are welcome from sociologists, political scientists, legal scholars, economists, anthropologists, and others. All submissions are peer-reviewed and decisions are typically made within less than three months.

CHINA IN AFRICA: A MOMENT OF "SECOND IMPERIALISM OR PROGRESSIVE PARTNERSHIP. DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2008. We seek for publication theoretical and empirical papers on the nature, impact, and trajectory of Chinese economic, political, and social activities in Africa, written from multidisciplinary perspectives, including history, economics, political science, sociology, media and communication, and cultural studies. Possible topics include but are not limited to the following: Comparative theoretical essays that locate Chinese involve-
ment in Africa as a moment of Second Imperialism; Changing trends: China and Africa from the late 19th century to the present; China and the forces of globalization in Africa; Critical assessment of Chinese foreign and economic policies toward African states; African initiatives and responses to the Chinese presence in Africa; African and/or non-African media and the constructions of the Chinese in Africa; Specific Chinese projects on the continent and their effects; Chinese culture and language in Africa; The implications of Chinese quest for raw materials in Africa; China and the Darfur conflict etc; Responses of Western governments etc. to Chinese expansionism in Africa. The deadline for submitting abstracts of approximately 300 words is November 15, 2007; and the deadline for the submission of completed essays is March 31, 2008. Please, note that arrangements are in the pipeline for a conference and you may be invited to present your submitted paper(s) at the conference. Please, address all submissions and queries to: kaparr@ship.edu and/or kolapo@uoguelph.ca.

DISSERTATION RESEARCH IN AFRICA The International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF) program supports distinguished graduate students in the humanities and social sciences conducting dissertation research outside the United States. Seventy-five fellowships will be awarded in 2008 with funds provided by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The IDRF program is committed to scholarship that advances knowledge about non-U.S. cultures and societies grounded in empirical and site-specific research (involving fieldwork, research in archival or manuscript collections, or quantitative data collection). The program promotes research that is situated in a specific discipline and geographical region and is engaged with interdisciplinary and cross-regional perspectives. Fellowships will provide support for nine to twelve months of dissertation research. Individual awards will be approximately $20,000. For more detailed information on application procedures and eligibility requirements, visit the IDRF website at (www.ssrc.org/programs/idrf) or contact program staff at (idrf@ssrc.org).

VOLUNTEER IN AFRICA Volunteer in Africa is an organization dedicated to disseminating information on volunteer programs in Africa. They organize a wide range of volunteering, internship and cultural exchange in Ghana. For more information, visit http://www.volunteeringinafrica.org

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

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

CODESRIA RESEARCH AND POLICY DIALOGUE PROGRAMME The program theme is: The Social Sciences and HIV/AIDS, A Political Economy of Patient Welfare and Rights. The initiative is being undertaken as part of a broader project of interventions which will involve the fostering of a networked community of African researchers with the required competence and interest in the field of health studies. Within this framework, it is envisaged that a range of research, training and dissemination activities will be carried out and several policy dialogues organized. The research and policy dialogue components of the program will be spread over the period 2003 to 2005. For more information, visit http://www.codesria.org

RELIGION IN AFRICA, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, UK, APRIL 9-10, 2008 DEADLINE: DECEMBER 10, 2007 The Centre of African Studies, the University of Edinburgh and The Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research invite submissions for a conference entitled “Exploring Religious Spaces in the African State: Development and Politics from Below.” This conference aims to understand the role of religion within development and politics and develop our understanding of the role and position of religious organizations and actors within more traditional conceptualizations of public action and its relationship to the state in Africa. For more information, see http://www.cas.ed.ac.uk
University of Leipzig: Faculty of History, Arts and Area Studies: Professorship in African Studies. The professor will represent the whole field of African Studies (Afrikanistik) in research and teaching. She / he is expected to participate in one of the University's Top-Level Research Areas within the humanities (http://www.uni-leipzig.de/profil/). Please send applications by 6 Dec. 2007 to: Dekan der Fakultät für Geschichte, Kunst- und Orientwissenschaften, Schillerstr. 6, D-04109 Leipzig. Applications should be submitted with the usual documentation, including a list of scientific publications and of academic teaching experience, as well as an authenticated copy of the certificate of the highest academic grade attained.

Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship
The Afrobarometer seeks candidates for a one-year, renewable Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, beginning August 16, 2008. The successful candidate will design and implement a program of research and publication using public opinion data from the Afrobarometer. Required qualifications are a Ph.D. in political science or related field, proven skills with advanced statistics, and excellent written communication in English. Fieldwork experience in Africa is strongly preferred as well as fluency in French or Portuguese. The closing date for applications is February 15, 2008. A link to a full description: http://www.afrobarometer.org/post%20doc%202008-2009.pdf

Please send curriculum vitae, samples of written work, and names and contacts for three referees. Please mail (no e-mails) to Prof. Michael Bratton, Department of Political Science, 323 South Kedzie Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824-1032.

Study Abroad program in Dakar, Senegal, July-August 2008
The Dakar, Senegal Summer Program is a five-week opportunity for students to get to know the culture, society, politics and language of West Africa by living and studying in the most vibrant, cosmopolitan and stable city in the region. The program's four pillars include: 1) a seminar style course that features guest lectures from leading Senegalese scholars and public figures; 2) a service learning placement in a Senegalese non-governmental organization, tailored to student interests and strengths; 3) a series of field excursions to various destinations around Senegal; 4) Senegalese university students who serve as conversation partners and cultural guides for program participants (one Senegalese student for every two program participants). The program is a partnership among Indiana University Center for African Studies, the University of Oregon International Studies Program, and Senegal's main university, the Université Cheikh Anta Diop. Webpage: http://www.uoregon.edu/~africa/dkr-smr/

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

Call for Applications: Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellowships
The Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program at the Washington, D.C.-based National Endowment for Democracy invites applications from candidates throughout the world for fellowships in 2008–2009. Established in 2001, the program enables democracy activists, practitioners, scholars, and journalists from around the world to deepen their understanding of democracy and to enhance their ability to promote democratic change. The program is intended primarily to support activists, practitioners, and scholars from new and aspiring democracies; distinguished scholars from the United States and other established democracies are also eligible to apply. Projects may focus on the political, social, economic, legal, and cultural aspects of democratic development and may include a range of methodologies and approaches. A working knowledge of English is an important prerequisite for participation in the program. The application deadline for fellowships in 2008–2009 is Thursday, November 1, 2007. For more information and application materials, visit www.ned.org/forum/fellows.html.
The APCG is served 2007/2008 by the following members:

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Kiki Edozie
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Nominations
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George Washington University
Anne Pitcher
Colgate University
Jessica Piombo
Naval Postgraduate School

*convenor

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