

International

Workshops in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

APSA's MENA Workshops program continued this spring with conferences taking place in Amman, Jordan and Tunis, Tunisia. The events are part of a multi-year initiative to support political science research and networking in the Arab Middle East and North Africa through a series of residential workshops at regional universities and research institutions. With support provided by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the MENA Workshops program is a major component of APSA's engagement with political science communities outside the United States and support for research networks linking US scholars with their colleagues overseas.

The Amman workshop was hosted in cooperation with Birzeit University, the Palestinian American Research Center (PARC), and the American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR), and held at ACOR's research and residential facilities in Amman, Jordan from May 11–15. The workshop was led by a team of faculty from the United States and Palestine. Participants included 19 political and social scientists (13 scholars from the region and 6 from Europe), who were competitively selected from a pool of over 70 applicants.

Titled "Explaining Cross National Variations in Challenges to Old Regimes during the Early Stages of the Arab Spring Move-

ments," the workshop canvassed various theoretical and methodological approaches that could be used to better understand these challenges, focusing on factors such as social movements, military and domestic security forces, economic conditions, and use of social media. Throughout their discussions, participants drew on an extensive set of readings as well as their own research. Participants also made time to visit the ancient city of Jerash and enjoy the attractions of downtown Amman. For the next several months, participants will continue to develop their research projects for presentation and peer review at a follow-up workshop in September 2014.

The Tunis workshop was organized in cooperation with Le Centre d'Etudes Maghrébines à Tunis (CEMAT) from June 3-9 and was the follow-up event to the February workshop in Cairo, Egypt. Participants included 15 political and social scientists from a wide range of universities and research institutions.



A team of faculty from the United States and Lebanon led the program, titled "The Political Economy of Economic Development." The workshop combined approaches from international relations, comparative politics, and economics to address "big questions" in the political economy of development. The program included a panel presentation on Tunisia's National Electoral Commission given by local academics and politicians, as well as significant time for participants to present and receive feedback on their own research projects. The group also visited the ancient sites of El Jem and Kairouan. Concluding their participation in the five-month workshop program, alumni were provided three years' complimentary membership to APSA and are now eligible to apply for small grants to support their further research.

For more information on the 2014 workshops or the overall program, visit www.apsanet.org/menaworkshops.

Above, workshop fellows (from left to right) Mona Farag, Chadi Abou Daher, Jinan Al Habbal, May Darwich, Abdul-Wahab Kayyali, and Guy Burton enjoy the sunset in Sidi Bousaid at the close of the workshop in Tunis, Tunisia.

Left, workshop fellows (from left to right) Ammar Maleki, Arin Ayanian, Tareq Al Taie, Ahmed Azzam, and Ayfer Erdogan during a small group discussion in the ACOR seminar room, Amman, Jordan. Photos by Andrew Stinson. (Color online.)



2014 Africa Workshop: Maputo, Mozambique

“Distributive Goods and Distributive Politics”

The seventh annual APSA Africa Workshop was held in partnership with the Higher Institute of Public Administration (ISAP) in Maputo, Mozambique, from June 30 to July 11, 2014. The event is part of a multiyear initiative to support political science research and teaching in Sub-Saharan Africa through a series of residential political science workshops at African universities and research institutions. Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Africa Workshops program is a major component of APSA's efforts to engage with political science communities outside the United States and support research networks linking US scholars with their colleagues overseas.

The 2014 workshop, “Distributive Goods and Distributive Politics,” focused on the study of how governments allocate goods and services, the role of politicians in distributive decision making, and how these allocations affect political outcomes. A team of five scholars from United States, South Africa, and Mozambique co-led the event, which was attended by 24 political and social scientists. Participants were competitively selected from a pool of more than 90 applicants and, all together, represented 23 different institutions from 10 countries.

Throughout the workshop, participants drew on an extensive set of readings as well as their own research to understand patterns and outcomes of distributive politics. The course also included access to a range of relevant datasets and hands-on statistical training in the use of R software. Local visits with the National Institute of Statistics and the National Institute of Health provided insight into some of the ways that data is collected and used by government-funded research groups. Participants also made time to appreciate Mozambican arts and crafts at the National Arts Museum and the FEIMA craft market, and enjoy a relaxing day on the beach at Macaneta.

A special word of thanks is due to Rodolfo Manhice at the Mozambique Higher Institute of Public Administration, who provided invaluable assistance in facilitating this workshop.

The event has now been held three times in West Africa (Burkina Faso, Ghana, and



Participants in the 7th APSA Africa Workshop gather on the steps of Maputo's municipal council building. Photo by Andrew Stinson. (Color online.)

Senegal), twice in East Africa (Kenya and Tanzania), and twice in Southern Africa (Botswana and Mozambique). To date, 139 Africa-based scholars from 32 countries have participated in the workshop, as well as 31 scholars from the United States and Europe. For more information on the 2014 workshop or the overall program, please visit the APSA Africa Workshop website at www.apsanet.org/africaworkps.

WORKSHOP CO-LEADERS

Mr. Rod Alence, University of the Witwatersrand; South Africa
Ms. Sylvia Croese, Stellenbosch University; South Africa
Mr. Brian Min, University of Michigan; USA
Mr. Carlos Shenga, Higher Institute of Public Administration; Mozambique
Ms. Anne Pitcher, University of Michigan; USA

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

Mr. Abdul-Gafaru Abdulai, University of Ghana; Ghana
Mr. Abubakar Abdullahi, Usmanu Danfodiyo University-Sokoto; Nigeria

Mr. Samuel Adams, Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration; Ghana
Mr. Olugbemiga Samuel Afolabi, Obafemi Awolowo University-Ile Ife; Nigeria
Mr. Adegbenga Isaac Aladegbola, Adekunle Ajasin University; Nigeria
Mr. Dominic Degraft Arthur, University for Development Studies-Wa; Ghana
Mr. Alpha Ba, Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis; Senegal
Ms. Ruth Carlitz, University of California-Los Angeles; USA
Ms. Liza Rose Cirolia, University of Cape Town; South Africa
Mr. Delidji Eric Degila, National School of Administration; Benin
Ms. Chika Ezeanya, University of Rwanda; Rwanda
Ms. Laura Freeman, University of Cape Town; South Africa
Ms. Diana Greenwald, University of Michigan; USA
Mr. Osaretin Idahosa, University of Benin; Nigeria
Mr. Michael Jana, University of Malawi-Chancellor College; Malawi

Mr. Marc Kalina, University of KwaZulu-Natal; South Africa

Ms. Itumeleng Makgetla, Yale University; USA

Mr. Celso Marcos Monjane, Higher Institute of Public Administration; Mozambique

Ms. Janet Monisola Oluwaleye, Ekiti State University-Ado Ekiti; Nigeria

Ms. Xichavo Alecia Ndlovu, University of the Witwatersrand; South Africa

Ms. Chiedo Nwankwor, University of Delaware; USA

Ms. Maryam Quadri, University of Lagos; Nigeria

Ms. Rachel Sigman, Syracuse University; USA

Ms. Erika Thomas, University of Namibia; Namibia

Calling for 2015 Leadership Teams

APSA is soliciting proposals from political scientists interested in serving as co-leaders for the 8th and final APSA Africa Workshop in July 2015. Submissions must come from a team of two US-based and two Africa-based scholars. Those applying to be co-leaders must propose a workshop theme, location, and African institutional partner. The application deadline is November 2, 2014. For more information, visit the Africa Workshop website or contact Andrew Stinson at africaworkshops@apsanet.org.

Alumni Networking Grants Available

APSA continues to accept small grant applications from Africa Workshop alumni, with the next deadline being November 2, 2014. Through funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, up to \$42,000 is available each year to support participation in professional development opportunities, facilitate networking potential, and encourage collaboration among scholars and academic institutions across Africa. Applications are now being accepted for three types of grants: professional development grants, workshop grants, and publication grants. Questions on the Alumni Networking Grants program should be directed to Andrew Stinson at afriacworkshops@apsanet.org.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

PI SIGMA ALPHA

THE NATIONAL POLITICAL SCIENCE HONOR SOCIETY

The Undergraduate Journal of Politics welcomes submissions from undergraduates of any class or major; submissions from Pi Sigma Alpha members are especially encouraged.

Submitted manuscripts must include a short abstract (roughly 150 words), and citations and references should follow the APSA Style Manual for Political Science. The maximum page length for submitted manuscripts is 35 double-spaced pages.

Please email your manuscript to psajournalou@gmail.com. Be sure to include your name, university affiliation, and contact information. Manuscripts are accepted on a rolling basis. Earlier submissions are encouraged.

DEADLINES: OCTOBER 1 (fall) and FEBRUARY 1 (spring)

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