



AFRICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY NEWSLETTER ISSUE #3 AUGUST, 2012

Your bi-monthly update from the African Economic History Network

The AEHN newsletter brings you up to date with current and forthcoming events in African Economic History. It gives you a chance to publicise your new research and opportunities to the right audience.

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Do you want to become a member of the network and receive this monthly email? Send a message to the African Economic History Network at aehtnetwork@gmail.com with 'member' in the subject line.

Anything we missed? Want to publicise your own research, events or organizing a panel for an upcoming conference? Send a message to aehtnetwork@gmail.com and we will include your news in our bi-monthly round up.

Best regards,
The African Economic History Network

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

AEHN Working Papers Series

The network has launched its working paper series. Its aim will be to disseminate new and exciting research within the network and beyond. The published papers are as follows:

Jerven, Morten; Austin, Gareth; Green, Erik; Uche, Chibuiké; Frankema, Ewout; Fourie, Johan; Inikori, Joseph E.; Moradi, Alexander and Hillbom, Ellen, [“Moving Forward in African Economic History: Bridging the Gap in Methods and Sources”](#), *African Economic History Network, Working Paper No. 1*

Green, Erik [“Land concentration, institutional control and African agency: Growth and stagnation of European tobacco farming in Shire Highlands, c 1900 – 1940”](#), *African Economic History Network, Working Paper No. 2*

Jerven, Morten [“Future challenges in measuring Africa’s past: Lessons from estimating GDP for the Gold Coast, 1891-1954”](#), *African Economic History Network, Working Paper No. 3*

For submissions, please contact Erik Green at Erik.Green@ekh.lu.se

News from the World Economic History Congress 2012

The XVIth World Economic History Congress was held in Stellenbosch, South Africa 9 – 13 July 2012. Hosted by the Economic History Society of Southern Africa and The Department of Economics, the WEHC 2012 welcomed more than 750 delegates attending from 55 countries. At the conference, African economic history was very well represented. About 115 papers presented dealt with Africa’s economic and social history. The keynote address held by Professor James Robinson focused on African economic and political history. Leigh Gardner’s book *Taxing Colonial Africa* was presented at the book launch and two out of six nominated PhD theses nominated to the dissertation competition dealt with African economic history. The closing debate of the conference with Professor James Robinson and Professor Gareth Austin was titled “The Dynamics of African Development”.

In sum, it is apparent that African economic history is a growing field of research that attracts an increasing number of researchers presenting new data, methods and theories.

News from the the African Economic History Network Graduate Workshop 2012

The steering committee of the African Economic History Network organized a graduate workshop at Stellenbosch University two days before the World Economic History Congress. Eight papers were presented by graduate students from Europe, America and Africa. The papers consisted of new and innovative research ideas that stimulated constructive debates among the participants. The African Economic History Network would like to thank the presenters for sharing their ideas with us.

NEW ABSTRACTS IN AFRICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY

Articles

Chiara Cazzuffi and Alexander Moradi: Membership Size and Cooperative Performance: Evidence from Ghanaian Cocoa Producers' Societies, 1930-36

Using a complete panel of Ghanaian cocoa producers' societies in the 1930s, we investigate whether group interaction problems threatened (1) capital accumulation, (2) cocoa sales and (3) cooperative survival as membership size increased. We find evidence of group interaction problems. The net effect, however, is positive indicating gains from economies of scale as cooperatives expanded their membership.

Chiara Cazzuffi and Alexander Moradi, 2012. "[Membership Size and Cooperative Performance: Evidence from Ghanaian Cocoa Producers' Societies, 1930-36](#)", *Economic History of Developing Regions* 27 (1): 67-92.

Goodness Aye and Rangan Gupta: The Effects of Monetary Policy on Real Farm Prices in South Africa

This study provides empirical evidence of aggregate, anticipated and unanticipated and asymmetric (positive and negative) effects of monetary policy on real agricultural prices in South Africa over the monthly period of 1970:01-2010:12. For this purpose, we use the Vector Autoregressive (VAR) model coupled with the monetary misperception model to distinguish between anticipated and unanticipated monetary policy shocks. Results show that the actual, anticipated and unanticipated monetary policy had significant effect on real farm prices. These findings are robust when the shocks are modeled as recursive residuals. Moreover, the positive monetary policy was consistently significant either at specific lags or jointly. With exception of the recursive anticipated monetary policy, the negative components were consistently insignificant. Further, the hypothesis of asymmetric effect was supported for the recursive anticipated monetary policy only. The effects observed in this study are quantitatively small and accounts for only a very small percentage (1.5 percent - 6.5 percent) of the variation in real farm prices.

Goodness Aye and Rangan Gupta, 2012. "[The Effects Of Monetary Policy On Real Farm Prices In South Africa](#)", *Euro-American Association of Economic Development* 12 (1),147-158.

Joerg Baten and Julia Muschallik: The Global Status of Economic History

How many economic historians are there? In which countries or regions are they concentrated? What can we learn from the number of economic historians participating in world congresses, and which determinants encourage or limit participation? Using an e-mail questionnaire, we analyse the discipline's global status. Overall 59 countries were surveyed in this overview. Although the majority of economic historians are concentrated in rich countries, developing regions do have a substantial number of practitioners. Cross fertilisation between development studies, development economics and economic history is bearing increasing fruit. It is therefore important to strengthen the discipline of economic history in those regions where development is the core issue.

Joerg Baten & Julia Muschallik, 2012. [“The Global Status of Economic History”](#) *Economic History of Developing Regions*, 27 (1), 93-113

Johan Fourie. The Remarkable Wealth of the Dutch Cape Colony : Measurements From Eighteenth-Century Probate Inventories

How comfortable was the life of the average settler in the Dutch Cape Colony of the eighteenth century? The generally accepted view is of a poor, subsistence economy, with little progress being made in the 143 years of Dutch rule (1652–1795). This article shows that new evidence from probate inventory and auction roll records contradicts earlier historical accounts. These documents bear witness to a relatively affluent settler society, comparable to some of the most prosperous regions of eighteenth-century England and Holland. This detailed picture of the material wealth of the Colony should inspire a revision of the standard accounts. The causes and consequences of this prosperity are also considered briefly.

Johan Fourie, 2012. [“The Remarkable Wealth of the Dutch Cape Colony : Measurements From Eighteenth-Century Probate Inventories”](#), *The Economic History Review*: 1-30.

Johannes Fedderke and Charles Simkins: Economic Growth in South Africa

This paper provides an overview of South African economic growth and employs modern growth theory to structure the historical record. The recent literature on growth is large and investigates the impact of a great many variables on economic growth. Constraints of space and information confine this analysis to the following core issues: the relative contributions of employment, capital stock and technological change on growth; the determinants of investment and hence of the trajectory of capital accumulation; the contribution of the financial sector and foreign capital flows; the contribution of human capital; the impact of monetary and fiscal policy; growth consequences of governance and institutions; and the functioning of the labour market and its impact on growth.

Johannes Fedderke & Charles Simkins, 2012. [“Economic Growth in South Africa”](#), *Economic History of Developing Regions* 27 (1), 176-208.

Kojo Menyah and Yemane Wolde-Rufael: Wagner’s Law Revisited: A Note from South Africa

The aim of this note is to reassess the validity of Wagner's law for South Africa for the period 1950-2007 using cointegration and causality tests. The evidence shows causality running from income to government expenditure, thus supporting the Wagnerian proposition of an expanding public sector. Using five different long-run estimators, we found that the size of South Africa's public sector was positively and significantly related to South Africa's national income. The elasticity ranges from 1.12 to 1.57, implying that a 1% increase in income leads to a 1.12-1.57% increase in government expenditure.

Kojo Menyah and Yemane Wolde-Rufael, 2012. [“Wagner’s Law Revisited: A Note from South Africa”](#), *South African Journal of Economics* 80 (2) : 200-208.

Lionel Cliffe: Neoliberal Accumulation and Class: A Tribute to Gavin Williams

The articles in this collection emerged as presentations made at a conference in July 2010 which marked the retirement from Oxford of Gavin Williams, one of the founding editors of the *Review of African Political Economy (ROAPE)* and today a member of its International Advisory Board. Conference papers celebrated his several contributions, covering themes that resonated with his best known work, and in several cases that had been inspired by him – as some of the published articles

here make explicit. The countries they focus on are South Africa and Nigeria, which are recognised as the geographical centres of gravity of his work, but extend, characteristically, to broader issues of political economy, such as privatisation (Pitcher) and overall development trajectories in Africa as compared with East Asia (Meagher). To set the scene for these five articles and to provide an overview of the conference as a whole and to the broad sweep of Gavin's lifetime contribution, not least to this journal, the following paragraphs are based on remarks I made to launch the conference.

Lionel Cliffe, 2012. "[Neoliberal Accumulation and class: a tribute to Gavin Williams](#)", *Review of African Political Economy* 39 (132), 213–223.

Martine Mariotti: Labour Markets During Apartheid in South Africa

Anecdotal evidence shows that despite extensive restrictions on the hiring of African workers, these workers were increasingly employed in semi-skilled occupations throughout the apartheid era. This article shows that White skill acquisition throughout the apartheid era reduced the supply of White semi-skilled workers and led to the removal of job reservation, the process of reserving skilled and semi-skilled jobs for Whites. Although job reservation declined, there is little evidence of a decline in racial segregation in the labour market. It is concluded that the transformation in the labour market was driven by White economic incentives rather than any evident change in White preferences regarding racial segregation.

Martine Mariotti, 2012. "[Labour markets during apartheid in South Africa](#)", *The Economic History Review* 65 (3): 1100-1122.

Nicholas Crafts: Economic History Matters

This paper considers the future of economic history in the context of its relationship with economics. It is argued that there are strong synergies between the two disciplines and that awareness of the economic past is an important resource for today's economists. Examples are given that illustrate these points. It is clear that the past has useful economics but the potential value of economic history to economics will only be realised if economic historians are fluent in economics and organise the presentation of their research findings with a view to addressing questions that matter from a policy perspective.

Nicholas Crafts (2012), "[Economic History Matters](#)", *Economic History of Developing Regions* 27 (sup1), S3-S15.

Patrick Manning: Historical Datasets on Africa and the African Atlantic

To facilitate study of long-term economic change in African context, this research note lists and describes major existing datasets on Atlantic slave trade, general commerce, national accounts, and demography.

Patrick Manning, 2012. "[Historical datasets on Africa and the African Atlantic](#)", *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 1-4.

Rodrigo R. Soares, Juliano J. Assunção and Tomás F. Goulart: A Note on Slavery and the Roots of Inequality

We use various secondary historical sources to compile a database containing information on the number of African slaves received by each destination country between the 16th and 19th centuries. We then construct a measure of intensity of African slavery use based on the flow of slaves received divided by historical populations. We also construct a proxy for the use of native slavery. The slavery variables are highly correlated with current levels of inequality. The correlation between our slavery

use variables and inequality is stronger than that observed between inequality and development, geographic characteristics, institutional quality, and provision of public goods. The evidence suggests that use of slavery in the historical past may be an important determinant of the levels of inequality observed today across the globe.

Rodrigo R. Soares, Juliano J. Assunção and Tomás F. Goulart, 2012. "[A note on slavery and the roots of inequality](#)", *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 1-16.

Patricia Jones. History matters: New Evidence on the Long Run Impact of Colonial Rule on Institutions

This paper proposes a new instrument for institutional quality which varies across countries with historically low rates of European settlement. Using a new data set which exploits differences in the quality of colonial administration, it finds evidence that colonies with better paid colonial governors developed better institutions (and became wealthier) than colonies with lesser paid governors. Initially, the best paid governors were sent to colonies which generated the largest revenues but, since the governors' pay scale remained largely fixed for the next 40 years, the same colonies continued to receive the best governors. The data indicate that these early differences in colonial administration—and not initial differences in revenue generating capacity—had a long-run impact on economic development.

Patricia Jones, 2012. "[History matters: New evidence on the long run impact of colonial rule on institutions](#)", *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 1-20.

Thuto Bothole, John Asafu-Adjaye and Fabrizio Carmignani: Natural Resource Abundance, Institutions and Tax Revenue Mobilization in Sub-Saharan Africa

The contribution of natural resources to tax revenues has generally yielded mixed results in the literature. This study asserts that the missing link to explaining these differences is the quality of institutions. More resource revenues reduce tax revenues when institutions are poor. Using an interaction term for natural resources and institutional quality, we show that institutions are decisive for the contribution of natural resources to tax revenue mobilisation. The interaction effect is statistically significant after controlling for per capita gross domestic product (GDP), an alternative measure of quality of institutions and additional regressors. This finding is robust to different econometric specifications and the type of natural resources.

Thuto Bothole, John Asafu-Adjaye and Fabrizio Carmignani, 2012. "[Natural Resource Abundance, Institutions and Tax Revenue Mobilization in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)", *South African Journal of Economics* 80 (2): 135-156.

Timothy Sizwe Phakathi: Worker Agency in Colonial, Apartheid and Post-Apartheid Gold Mining Workplace Regimes

This paper locates the understanding of the organisation of work and worker agency on South African gold mines within the context of the racialisation and deracialisation of the economic and labour market strategies of the colonial, apartheid and post-apartheid mining regimes. It argues that as much as racial and coercive labour practices profited the gold mining companies, they were not sustainable. The mineworkers were not passive acceptors of racial and coercive forms of labour control. The post-apartheid work order led to the restructuring of the gold mining workplace towards efficiency, productivity and equity. This signalled a shift from worker coercion to consent in the day-to-day running of the production process inside the pit. The paper calls attention to workers' subjective orientation, agency and resilience to repressive and contemporary work structures – not

just as recipients but also as shapers of such work structures within the politics, limits and contradictions of capitalist production systems

Timothy Sizwe Phakathi, 2012. "[Worker agency in colonial, apartheid and postapartheid gold mining workplace regimes](#)", *Review of African Political Economy* 39 (132), 279-294.



Working Papers

Agustín S. Bénétrix, Kevin H. O'Rourke and Jeffrey G. Williamson: The Spread of Manufacturing to the Periphery 1870-2007: Eight Stylized Facts

This paper documents industrial output growth around the poor periphery (Latin America, the European periphery, the Middle East and North Africa, Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa) between 1870 and 2007. We provide answers to the following questions: When and where did rapid industrial growth begin in the periphery? When and where did peripheral growth rates exceed those in the industrial core? When was the high-point of peripheral industrial growth? When and where did it become widespread? When was the high-point of peripheral convergence on the core? How variable was the growth experience between countries? And how persistent was peripheral industrial growth?

Agustín S. Bénétrix, Kevin H. O'Rourke and Jeffrey G. Williamson, 2012. "[The Spread of Manufacturing to the Periphery 1870-2007: Eight Stylized Facts](#)" EHES Working Paper No. 21.

Duncan Hodge: The Exchange Rate, Dutch Disease and Manufacturing in South Africa: What do the Data Say?

The Dutch disease argument suggests that in commodity exporting countries "overvaluation" of the currency due to increases in commodity prices harms manufacturing even though the economy as a whole benefits, led by the booming natural resources sector. The relationship between the real exchange rate and manufacturing is studied here with regard to South Africa as a minerals-rich export-led economy. Since manufacturing is co-determined within a system of inter-related variables, a Johansen VAR/VEC cointegration approach was used to estimate these relationships. Using quarterly data for the sample period 1980 to 2010, the main findings are: world growth is the single most important determinant of domestic manufacturing; while the real exchange rate has the predicted negative sign, there is no evidence of a Dutch disease specific effect on manufacturing; large increases in unit labour costs since the early 1980s have dragged down manufacturing in South Africa over the sample period.

Duncan Hodge. "[The Exchange Rate, Dutch Disease and Manufacturing in South Africa: What do the Data Say?](#)", Economic Research Southern Africa Working Paper #281, 1-24.

Emmanuel Akyeampong and Hippolyte Fofack: The Contribution of African Women to Economic Growth and Development: Historical Perspectives and Policy Implications

Bringing together history and economics, this paper presents a historical and processual understanding of women's economic marginalization in Sub-Saharan Africa from the pre-colonial period to the end of colonial rule. It is not that women have not been economically active or productive; it is rather that they have often not been able to claim the proceeds of their labor or have it formally accounted for. The paper focuses on the pre-colonial and colonial periods and outlines three major arguments. First, it discusses the historical processes through which the labor of women was increasingly appropriated even in kinship structures in pre-colonial Africa, utilizing the concepts of "rights in persons" and "wealth in people." Reviewing the processes of production and reproduction, it explains why most slaves in pre-colonial Africa were women and discusses how slavery and slave trade intensified the exploitation of women. Second, it analyzes how the cultivation of cash crops and European missionary constructions of the individual, marriage, and family from the early decades of the 19th century sequestered female labor and made it invisible in the realm of domestic production. Third, it discusses how colonial policies from the late 19th century reinforced the "capture" of female labor and the codification of patriarchy through the nature and operation of the colonial economy and the instrumentality of customary law. The sequel to this paper focuses on

the post-colonial period. It examines the continuing relevance and impact of the historical processes this paper discusses on post-colonial economies, and suggests some policy implications.

Emmanuel Akyeampong and Hippolyte Fofack, 2012. "[The Contribution of African Women to Economic Growth and Development: Historical Perspectives and Policy Implications – Part I: The Pre-colonial and Colonial Periods](#)", The World Bank Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network. Gender and Development Unit: Working Paper No. 6051, 1-39.

Jeffrey Frankel: Mauritius: AFRICAN Success Story

Mauritius is a top performer among African countries. It developed a manufacturing sector soon after independence and has managed to respond well to new external shocks. What explains this success? This paper draws on the history of the island, the writings of foreign economists, the ideas of locals, and the results of econometric tests. Mauritius has mostly followed good policies. They include: creating a well-managed Export Processing Zone, conducting diplomacy regarding trade preferences, spending on education, avoiding currency overvaluation, and facilitating business. The good policies can in turn be traced back to good institutions. They include: forswearing an army, protecting property rights (particularly non-expropriation of sugar plantations), and creating a parliamentary structure with comprehensive participation (in the form of representation for rural districts and ethnic minorities, the "best loser system," ever-changing coalition governments, and cabinet power-sharing). But from where did the good institutions come? They were chosen around the time of independence in 1968. Why in Mauritius and not elsewhere? Luck?

Some fundamental geographic and historical determinants of trade and rule of law help explain why average income is lower in Africa than elsewhere, and trade and rule of law help explain performance within Africa just as they do worldwide. Despite these two econometric findings, the more fundamental determinants are not much help in explaining relative performance within Africa. Fundamental determinants that work worldwide but not within Africa are remoteness, tropics, size and fragmentation. (Access to the sea is the one fundamental geographic determinant of trade and income that is always important.) A case in point is the high level of ethnic diversity in Mauritius, which in many places would make for dysfunctional politics. Here, however, it brings cosmopolitan benefits. The institutions manage to balance the ethnic groups; none is excluded from the system. It is intriguing that the three African countries with the highest governance rankings (Mauritius, Seychelles and Cape Verde) are all islands that had no indigenous population. It helps that everyone came from somewhere else.

Jeffrey Frankel, 2012. "[Mauritius: African Success Story](#)", CID Working Paper No. 234.

Gerado Serra: From Scattered Data to Ideological Education: Economics, Statistics and State Building in Gold Coast/ Ghana, 1928-1966

The paper, based on archival evidence collected in British and Ghanaian archives, analyses the contribution of economists and statisticians to the task of state-building in Ghana from the late 1920s until 1966. It argues that while in the 1920s and 1930s anthropology was the most relevant among the social sciences to serve the needs of the colonial administration, since the Second World War economists and statisticians became crucial in the task of state formation. The contribution of economics and statistics to state-building was threefold. Firstly, the need for increased and better statistical information to facilitate the task of economic planning led to an expansion of state capacity through the extraction of relevant information. Secondly, the employment of new techniques of macroeconomic accounting based on internationally accepted standards allowed the state to represent the national economy as an object of policy intervention, and legitimise itself. Thirdly, during the last years of Kwame Nkrumah's rule economic science (in the form of Marxist-Leninist political economy) was employed as a tool of ideological indoctrination. What was a descriptive

science became in less than 25 years a tool for deliberately changing the values and beliefs of Ghanaian citizens.

Gerado Serra, 2012. [“From Scattered Data to Ideological Education: Economics, Statistics and State Building in Gold Coast/ Ghana, 1928-1966”](#), 1-33.

Joerg Baten and Johan Fourie: Slave Numeracy in the Cape Colony and Comparative Development in the Eighteenth Century

The lack of accurate measures of human capital formation often constrain investigations into the long-run determinants of growth and comparative economic development, especially in regions such as Africa. Using the reported age of criminals in the Courts of Justice records in the Cape Archive, this paper documents, for the first time, the levels of and trends in numeracy for inhabitants of the Cape Colony born between the seventeenth and early nineteenth centuries. Cape inhabitants included the native Khoe and San, European settlers, and imported slaves from other African regions and Asia. This hodgepodge of individuals allows a unique comparison between contemporaneous levels of 18th century development across three continents. By isolating those slaves born at the Cape, we also provide a glimpse into the dynamics of human capital transfer in colonial settings.

Joerg Baten and Johan Fourie, 2012. [“Slave numeracy in the Cape Colony and comparative development in the eighteenth century”](#), Economic Research Southern Africa Working Paper #270, 1-26.

Kenneth Harttgen, Stephan Klasen and Sebastian Vollmer: An African Growth Miracle? Or: What do Asset Indices Tell Us about Trends in Economic Performance?

Using changes in the possession of household assets over the past 20 years, several recent papers have argued that economic performance in Africa was substantially better than suggested by national income data and income poverty statistics, who suffer from well-known weaknesses. We scrutinize these claims and first argue that trends in assets provide biased proxies for trends in incomes or consumption. In particular we show that the relationship between growth in assets and growth in incomes or consumption is extremely weak; instead, we find evidence of asset drift using macro and micro data, which is consistent with the claims we make about possible biases in the use of asset indices. As a result, we find no evidence supporting the claim of an African growth miracle that extends beyond what has been reported in GDP/capita and consumption figures.

Kenneth Harttgen, Stephan Klasen & Sebastian Vollmer, 2012. [“An African Growth Miracle? Or: What do Asset Indices Tell Us about Trends in Economic Performance?”](#), Courant Research Centre: Poverty, Equity and Growth- Discussion Papers 109.

Lawrence Edwards and Neil Rankin: Is Africa Integrating? Evidence from Product Markets

Integration into the global trading environment is viewed as a key factor underlying the success of the fastest growing economies. Yet many African countries remain isolated and appear to have failed to achieve the level integration of these fast growing economies. This paper presents a price-based assessment of product market integration in Africa using disaggregated retail prices for over 200 products and 13 African cities. Product market integration is first assessed using absolute and relative measures of price dispersion. This followed by an econometric analysis to identify some of the domestic, regional and global factors that have contributed towards product market integration in Africa. Overall, we find evidence of increased product market integration in Africa. The volatility of real exchange rates between African countries has fallen over the past two and a half decades. Product price dispersion at the retail level amongst the sample of African cities also fell, although much of the decline was concentrated in North Africa during the early 1990s. The econometric estimates reveal that trade costs, as proxied by distance and MFN tariffs, are the dominant

determinant of price dispersion amongst the African cities. External forces also matter. Global trends in price dispersion contributed around 29 percent of the overall increase in integration.

Lawrence Edwards and Neil Rankin, 2012. "[Is Africa Integrating? Evidence from Product Markets](#)," Economic Research Southern Africa: Working Papers 292.

Sebastian Edwards: Is Tanzania a Success Story? A Long Term Analysis

The purpose of this paper is to provide a historical perspective on the reform process initiated in Tanzania in 1986, and deepened in 1996. In order to do this I concentrate mostly on the period spanning from 1967, when the Arusha Declaration was adopted by the official political party the TANU, and 1996, when a new approach towards foreign aid was implemented. I am particularly interested in investigating how external aid affected Tanzania during the early years, and how it contributed to the demise of the economy in the 1970s and 1980s. I also analyze the role played by foreign aid in the subsequent (after 1996) recovery of the country. I emphasize both technical as well as political economy issues related to imbalances, disequilibria, devaluation, black markets, adjustment, and reform. Because of the emphasis on foreign aid and macroeconomics, I pay special attention to three important episodes in Tanzania's economic history: (a) the exchange rate crisis of the late 1970's and early 1980s; (b) the IMF Stand-by Program and the maxi-devaluation of 1986; and (c) The serious impasse between donors and the Tanzanian authorities in the mid-1990s. At the end of the analysis I ask whether Tanzania is, as officials from the multilateral institutions have claimed repeatedly, a "success story."

Sebastian Edwards, 2012. "[Is Tanzania a Success Story? A Long Term Analysis](#)," NBER Working Paper No. 17764.

Stan Du Plessis and Kevin Kotze: Trends and Structural Changes in South African Macroeconomic Volatility

The international financial crisis that started in 2007 and the subsequent end of the long expansion in South Africa has refocused attention on the business cycle. Prior to the crisis, the economies of both developed and developing countries experienced an extended period of low and stable inflation and stable real economic growth, an episode that has been called the "great moderation". The disruption of this era by the financial crisis has highlighted the importance of understanding the nature and causes of the great moderation, to assist policy makers in facilitating its resumption. This paper considers the historical evidence for the great moderation in South Africa with the aid of a time-varying stochastic volatility model and various break-point tests.

Stan Du Plessis and Kevin Kotze, 2012. "[Trends and Structural Changes in South African Macroeconomic Volatility](#)", ERSA Working Paper No. 297.

Stelios Michalopoulos Elias Papaioannou: Pre-colonial Ethnic Institutions and Contemporary African Development

We investigate the role of deeply-rooted pre-colonial ethnic institutions in shaping comparative regional development within African countries. We combine information on the spatial distribution of ethnicities before colonization with regional variation in contemporary economic performance, as proxied by satellite images of light density at night. We document a strong association between pre-colonial ethnic political centralization and regional development. This pattern is not driven by differences in local geographic features or by other observable ethnic-specific cultural and economic variables. The strong positive association between pre-colonial political complexity and contemporary development obtains also within pairs of adjacent ethnic homelands with different legacies of pre-colonial political institutions.

Stelios Michalopoulos Elias Papaioannou. "[Pre-colonial Ethnic Institutions and Contemporary African Development](#)", NBER Working Papers No. 18224.

William Easterly and Ross Levine: The European Origins of Economic Development

A large literature suggests that European settlement outside of Europe shaped institutional, educational, technological, cultural, and economic outcomes. This literature has had a serious gap: no direct measure of colonial European settlement. In this paper, we (1) construct a new database on the European share of the population during the early stages of colonization and (2) examine its impact on the level of economic development today. We find a remarkably strong impact of colonial European settlement on development. According to one illustrative exercise, 47 percent of average global development levels today are attributable to Europeans. One of our most surprising findings is the positive effect of even a small minority European population during the colonial period on per capita income today, contradicting traditional and recent views. There is some evidence for an institutional channel, but our findings are most consistent with human capital playing a central role in the way that colonial European settlement affects development today.

William Easterly and Ross Levine. "[The European Origins of Economic Development](#)", NBER Working Papers No. 18224.



UPCOMING EVENTS IN AFRICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY

“Frontiers of AEH” Workshop

September 11th – September 12th, Geneva

Program Overview

In 2012 the annual African Economic History Workshop will be hosted by the International History Department of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, with this year's theme being “New Frontiers in Africa Economic History”. The workshop is organized by Gareth Austin.

A full programme is available at the [Website](#):

Economic History Association 2012 Annual Meeting

Revisiting the Transportation Revolution

Sept 21-23, 2012 Vancouver BC

Program Overview

Generations of economic historians have written extensively about the economic impact of the transportation improvements. Nevertheless, new tools, new data, and new techniques derived from geographic information systems, economic geography, and the like continue to offer better measures of the impact of the improvements in roads, ships, railroads, and planes (and the infrastructure which support them). They also provide new insights into the short and long term effects of these changes and how they have shaped our world by diminishing the importance of space and place. Once upon a time, distance in the form of time and money protected producers and isolated communities and cultures. Improved communications and transportation have eroded these—a process which continues to this day as these technologies evolve.

Additional Information

For further information, check <http://eh.net/eha/meetings/2012-meeting> or contact Meetings Coordinator Jari Eloranta at elorantaj@appstate.edu
Check out the EHA brochure [here](#)

ASAUK Biennial Conference 2012

The conference will run from 2pm on Thursday Sept 6th to 3pm on Saturday 8th September 2012 and is held in conjunction with Leeds University Centre for African Studies (LUCAS) at Leeds University.

Selected Streams

Deborah Johnston (SOAS) and Morten Jerven (Simon Fraser University) on the database for African economic development.

Reassessing African macro-welfare statistics: national income estimates and beyond
Convenor: Morten Jerven, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada

Monitoring Human Capital Development in Africa: Population, Education, Health and Nutrition
Convenor: Morten Jerven, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada

Measuring Poverty in Africa: Improving poverty statistics and developing alternative methods
Convenor: Deborah Johnston, SOAS, London, UK

Labour market assessment in Africa - Better surveys and better questions
Convenor: Deborah Johnston, SOAS, London, UK

Additional Information

For additional information please visit the website at <http://www.asauk.net/conferences/asauk12.shtml>

55th Annual Meeting

Research Frontiers In The Study Of Africa

November 29th to December 1st, 2012

Program Overview

The ASA Annual Meeting is the largest gathering of Africanist scholars in the world. With an attendance of almost 2,000 scholars and professionals, the conference offers more than 200 panels and roundtables, scholarly and professional plenary and institutional events, awards and prizes, as well as discussion groups, an international exhibit hall, and an on-demand film to appreciate the teaching, research, and professional results of Africanist scholars and that of their colleagues. The Annual Meeting is held in cooperation with major colleges, universities and museums in different regions of North America and attracts participants from North and South America, Africa, Asia and Europe.

Additional Information

For more information please visit the website at <http://africanstudies.org/>
If you have any question you can address them to asameeting2012@gmail.com

The 2012 preliminary program is available [here](#).

PEGNet Conference 2012

September 6-7, 2012

Dakar, Senegal

Program Overview

The Poverty Reduction, Equity, and Growth Network's (PEGNet) conference 2012 on "How to Make African Economic Lions: Tapping Africa's Growth and Poverty Reduction Potentials" will be held at Pullman Teranga Hotel Dakar, Senegal in cooperation with PEP - Partnership for Economic Policy hosted in Africa by the Consortium pour la Recherche Economique et Sociale (CRES).

The conference will provide a platform for high-level dialogue between development researchers, practitioners and policy-makers. The two conference days will feature parallel sessions based on invited and contributed papers as well as project presentations. These sessions will be complemented by a debate, a round-table discussion, and keynote speeches by renowned speakers from academia, economic policy and development practice. Confirmed speakers include Augustin K. Fosu (WIDER) for the main keynote, Hosaena Ghebru Hagos (IFPRI) for the young professional keynote and Mwangi S. Kimenyi (Brookings Institution) and Christian Wessels (Roland Berger Strategy Consultants) for the debate.

Program and Papers

The preliminary program can be found [here](#) (english) and [here](#) (french). There will be simultaneous translation English - French in all plenary sessions and selected parallel sessions.

Registration

The registration is now open. To register, please download the registration [document](#) and send it to pegnet@ifw-kiel.de

Registration deadline is on August 15. Local registration will take place on September 6 and 7 from 08:00-09:00. Conference badges and material will provided at the registration.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND VACANCIES

SOAS Governance for Development in Africa Initiative

PHD Scholarship

The Centre offers two PhD scholarships to African residents.

In order to apply for the PhD programme and the scholarship you would need to [download the SOAS PhD application form](#) Please state on the form that you wish to be considered for one of these scholarships and that admission tutors are kindly asked to liaise with the Centre of African Studies on this.

In addition to the application form, you would need to send a proposal of the intended research in 1000 words max. This should outline the research objectives, appropriate methods and research relevance. It should also make clear the relation between the proposed research and the core themes of governance and development in sub-Saharan Africa.

Deadline to apply: TBC

Additional Information:

For further details please visit <http://www.soas.ac.uk/gdai/gdai-phd-scholarships.html>

Any questions can be addressed to Angelica Baschiera at ab17@soas.ac.uk

Central Washington University, History

African History, Lecturer, 9-month non-tenure track

The History Department at Central Washington University invites applications for a full-time lecturer in African History (specialization open) beginning September 2012 through June 2013. A Ph.D. in History is preferred; applicants who are ABD nearing completion will be considered. Evidence of successful college-level teaching is preferred. The successful candidate will teach the Department's 100-level World History surveys and upper-division courses in their areas of specialization, which will be cross-listed with the Africana and Black Studies Program.

To apply complete all online application instructions for the position at <http://jobs.cwu.edu>. In addition, please have three letters of reference sent directly to: Dr. Roxanne Easley, African History Search Chair, Department of History, Central Washington University, 400 E. University Way, Ellensburg, WA 98926-7553.

Deadline to apply: Review of applications will begin on July 1 and will continue until the position is filled

Additional Information: Inquiries may be made to easleyr@cwu.edu or please visit <http://jobs.cwu.edu>

Lund University

Senior Lecturer in Economic History

Lund University announces a minimum of one position as senior lecturer in Economic History. The position is for full time employment. It is a permanent appointment that is placed at the department of Economic History, Lund University School of Economics and Management.

To be employed as senior lecturer applicants must have a PhD, a corresponding international degree or equivalent professional skills relevant to the content and tasks of the position. Applicants are required to have demonstrated pedagogical skills. They must also have completed at least five weeks of training in teaching and learning in higher education, or acquired equivalent knowledge by other means.

The position consists of both teaching and research. Administrative tasks can also be included. Teaching can be at the undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate level. Applicants who do not have Swedish as their mother tongue are expected to be able to teach in Swedish within a period of two years.

Deadline to apply: September 11, 2012

Additional Information:

For further information concerning the assessment criteria, please see General requirements profile and assessment criteria for appointments as senior lecturer at Lund University School of Economics and Management at <http://www.lunduniversity.lu.se/about-lund-university/jobs>

Yale University, Political Science

Assistant Professor, Comparative Politics-Africa

The Department of Political Science invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in the field of Comparative Politics with a focus on Sub-Saharan Africa. We seek scholars whose primary research interest is in the politics of this region, but those who place it in comparative perspective are also welcome to apply. Teaching responsibilities will be divided between courses in the politics of the region and those that contribute to the more general political science curriculum. Yale University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Yale values diversity among its students, staff, and faculty and especially encourages applications from women and underrepresented minority scholars.

Applications, including a C.V., samples of scholarship, research statement, and three letters of reference should be posted online at <https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/Yale/PLSC>.

Deadline to apply: review of applications will begin **September 15, 2012**

Additional Information: Please contact Chair's Office, Department of Political Science: Whitney.
doel@yale.edu

IMT Institute for Advanced Studies Lucca

PhD Scholarships in Economics

IMT Institute for Advanced Studies Lucca (www.imtlucca.it) is accepting applications, from extremely motivated students oriented towards dynamic and highly applicative research opportunities, for fully-funded Ph.D. positions in its 2013 Doctoral Research Program within the “**Economics**” track.

The Track in Economics, in close collaboration with the Laboratory for the Analysis of Complex Economic Systems (AXES), the Laboratory of Innovation Management and Economics (LIME) and Research Unit on Institutional Change, Economics, Society (ICES) (http://www.imtlucca.it/research/research_units.php), aims at preparing researchers, professionals and experts in political economy, applied public economics and industrial economics, with a focus on comparative institutional analysis, on the empirical analysis of real and financial markets and on macroeconomic policy. With its theoretical, quantitative and institutional approach, the program meets the increasing demand for highly qualified professionals, to analyze, plan, and manage concrete applications of political economy

Each student is invited to construct a personal study plan with Advisor, drawing from entire range of course offerings to best suit his or her background and research interests.

Deadline to apply: September 26th 2012

Additional Information : Please visit the call website (http://www.imtlucca.it/phd/call_for_applications/index.php) for more details regarding program content, the numerous benefits that students enjoy (including scholarships and room and board), and for the online application form.

Find out more, watch our interactive webinar: www.brightrecruits.com/webinar

Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

Assistant Professor in International History

Candidates must hold a PhD in History or International History, preferably with a specialization on the Global South, in the period from c. 1800 to the present. They should have the potential to develop broader intellectual interests to complement existing resources of the international history department. Candidates must have their doctoral degree in hand prior to their appointment.

The Institute is particularly interested in applications from scholars taking a historical approach to the political, cultural, social and economic causes and consequences of conflicts along national (including inter-state), ethnic, religious, gender or other lines, including over resources and power, and including displacements of population. The capacity to work with colleagues from other disciplines is an asset. The successful candidate will teach courses at both the master's and doctoral levels and supervise master's and PhD theses. The teaching language is either English or French. Prior knowledge of French is not required, but the successful candidate is expected to acquire at least a passive knowledge of it. Applications, including a motivation letter, detailed curriculum vitae and a list of publications – but excluding letters of recommendation and publication samples – must reach the Director, preferably by email (director@graduateinstitute.ch) or by post (the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, P.O. Box 136, 1211 Geneva 21, Switzerland), by

30 September 2012. Information on employment conditions can be obtained by inquiring through the same contact details.

Deadline to apply: 30 September 2012

Additional Information: Please visit http://graduateinstitute.ch/open_positions

UC Davis, African American and African Studies

Tenured or tenure-track Professor Position

Minimum qualifications are a Ph.D. or equivalent degree in relevant field. We seek a scholar with an accomplished and innovative publication profile or with a strong promise of scholarly productivity as well as the promise of or demonstrated record of intellectual distinction and interdisciplinary expertise in the field of Comparative Race and Ethnicity or African Diaspora Studies. Candidates should possess a promise of or demonstrated excellence in and commitment to departmental/university leadership and collaboration, along with proven administrative ability as appropriate to rank. Candidates should be prepared to teach undergraduate and graduate courses focusing on the cultural, political, social and economic questions in Comparative Race and Ethnicity or African Diaspora studies. Candidates seeking a tenured appointment should have experience in grant writing and outreach activities and in building and sustaining cross-disciplinary, cross-departmental connections to other programs on the campus.

View complete job ad at <http://aas.ucdavis.edu/>. Application materials, which include letter of application with statement of research interests, curriculum vita, a 20- to 30-page writing sample from recent research (published or under contract with a publisher) as PDF of MS Word compatible files, copies of syllabi and teaching evaluation summaries from 3 recent courses, and 3 letters of recommendation, are to be addressed to Professor Moradewun Adejunmobi, Chair of Search Committee in African American and African Studies, and **submitted electronically** at the following address: aasprogram@ucdavis.edu.

Deadline to apply:

Review of applications begins **September 30, 2012** and continues until position is filled

Additional Information : <http://aas.ucdavis.edu/>

Contact Professor Moradewun Adejunmobi, Chair of Search Committee in African American and African Studies

University of Cape Town

Senior Lecturer in Economic History in the Department of Historical Studies

Applications are invited for an appointment at Senior Lecturer/Lecturer level in Economic History in the Department of Historical Studies. The Department is currently engaged in developing an innovative curriculum in Economic History at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, principally but not exclusively, for Humanities students. Information on the courses currently available can be found at <https://historicalstudiesuct.wordpress.com>.

Requirements:

- A PhD in the field of Economic History for appointment at Senior Lecturer level, or near completion of said PhD for appointment at Lecturer level.
- A track record in research and publication appropriate to the level applied for.
- Successful undergraduate teaching experience.

- Willingness to contribute to building collegiality in an environment based on team-work.
- Interest in developing new areas of the Economic History curriculum and research.
- An interest in the economic history of developing regions would be advantageous.

Responsibilities:

- Contribute to the development of the Economic History curriculum including e.g. a graduate course on Methodology
- Teach at undergraduate and postgraduate levels
- Promotion of Economic History across the university
- Supervise Economic History research
- Undertake research in Economic History
- Carry out administrative responsibilities at departmental level

Application process:

To apply, please e-mail the completed [UCT Application form](#) and all other relevant documentation as indicated on the form, with the subject line “*Lecturer/Senior Lecturer: Economic History*” followed by the reference number to: *Mrs Melanie Falken, Staff Recruitment and Selection, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, 7700, South Africa.*

Deadline to apply: October 1, 2012

Additional Information:

E-mail: melanie.falken@uct.ac.za

Departmental website: <https://historicalstudiesuct.wordpress.com/>

Faculty website: www.humanities.uct.ac.za

Harvard Business School

The Business, Government and the International Economy Unit

Full-time tenure-track positions starting July 2013.

All applicants should have excellent academic credentials and a demonstrated potential for conducting outstanding research. The School is particularly interested in applicants with interdisciplinary interests and strong records of, or potential for, excellence in teaching. Successful candidates will, at the outset, teach a required first-year MBA course on the economic, political, and social environment of global business. Starting salaries will be highly competitive.

Deadlines to apply:

Applicants with a background in international political economy or comparative political economy should submit a complete application by **1 October 2012**. These candidates should select the job title option "Tenure-Track Position: Political Science" when choosing a position on the application.

Applicants with a Ph. D. in history and research interests in the political economy of development, economic history, history of economic policy and regulation, history of capitalism, or history of globalization should submit a complete application by **15 November 2012**. These candidates should select the job title option "Tenure-Track Position: History" when choosing a position on the application.

Applicants with a background in economics, especially with research interests in macroeconomics, international trade and finance, public economics, regulation, law and economics, or development should submit a complete application by **20 November 2012**. These candidates should select the job title option "Tenure-Track Position: Economics" when choosing a position on the application.

Additional Information: Please visit <http://www.hbs.edu/units/bgje/open-positions.html>

Carnegie Mellon University

Tenure-track position in World/ Global History

The Department of History at Carnegie Mellon University seeks applicants for an assistant or untenured associate level tenure-track faculty position (2/2 teaching load). The successful candidate will design and teach a large lecture general education course in world history that spans several centuries and continents. We encourage applicants to demonstrate how their research and teaching will contribute to one or more of our doctoral program's thematic strengths in environment, science, technology, and health; African American and African diaspora; culture and power; labor and politics; and gender and family. Ph.D. should be in hand by August, 2013.

Send letter of application; full CV; graduate transcript; a single writing sample the equivalent of 60 or fewer double-spaced manuscript pages; a two-page conceptualization of a world history course including major readings and themes; evidence of excellent teaching; and three letters of reference to John Soluri, Chair, Global Histories Search Committee, Department of History, Baker Hall 240, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15213-3890.

Deadline to apply: October 14, 2012

Further Information:

Please contact John Soluri, Chair, Global Histories Search Committee, Department of History, Baker Hall 240, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue

Brown University, Africana Studies and History

Assistant Professor of African History

The departments of Africana Studies and History at Brown University invite applications for a tenure-track appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor in the area of African history. Regional, thematic, and chronological specializations are open, but preference may be given to candidates whose research and teaching interests complement the strengths of the departments of Africana Studies and History. The appointment will begin on July 1, 2013, or as soon as possible thereafter. Ph.D. or equivalent is required by time of appointment.

Interested candidates should submit a letter of application, a curriculum vitae, a brief statement of current and future research and teaching interests, and three letters of recommendation online at <http://www.interfolio.com/apply/13400>. To apply through the mail, please write to African-History-Search@Brown.edu for more information.

Deadline to apply:

Review of applications will begin **October 31, 2012**, and will continue until the position is filled.

Boston College, History Department

Tenure Track Assistant Professor

The Department of History at Boston College invites applications for a historian working in precolonial, colonial, or postcolonial Sub-Saharan Africa. The appointment will be tenure-track and at the rank of assistant professor. The successful candidate will be expected to offer both broad and specialized courses in African history at the undergraduate and graduate levels, to participate in the

History Core Program, and teach courses cross-listed with African and African Diaspora Studies. Ph.D required by August 2013. Please submit a letter of application, CV, an article-length writing sample, and at least three letters of reference. Applications should be submitted electronically to: africa.search@bc.edu. They can also be sent to the Chair, African Search Committee, Dept. of History, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467. Deadline: November 1, 2012. Boston College is an AA/EEO employer and welcomes applications from women and minority candidates.

Deadline to apply: November 1, 2012

Additional Information: <http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/schools/cas/history/faculty/openings.html>

NYU Abu Dhabi

Assistant, Associate, and Full Professor Appointments in Faculty of History

The applicants should offer a special area of research and teaching dealing with any historical period concerning Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, the Indian Ocean region, Southeast Asia, or the South Pacific. We are seeking historians with a transnational, global or cross-disciplinary approach, an active research and publishing agenda, and a demonstrated commitment to undergraduate teaching. Please visit the History Program's website for a description of its innovative curriculum: <http://nyuad.nyu.edu/human.resources/open.positions.html>

Entering its third year, NYU Abu Dhabi has recruited a cohort of faculty who are at once distinguished in their research and teaching. Our students are drawn from around the world and surpass all traditional recruitment benchmarks, both US and global. NYU Abu Dhabi's highly selective liberal arts enterprise is complemented by an institute for advanced research, sponsoring cutting-edge projects across the Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Sciences, and Engineering.

The terms of employment are competitive and include housing and educational subsidies for children. Faculty may also spend time at NYU New York and other sites of the global network, engaging in both research and teaching opportunities. The appointment might begin as soon as September 1, 2013, or could be delayed until September 1, 2014

Deadlines to apply: November 1, 2012

Additional Information:

Please visit our website at <http://nyuad.nyu.edu/human.resources/open.positions.html> for instructions and other information on how to apply.

If you have any questions, please e-mail nyuad.humanities@nyu.edu.