



SAAPS 2012—Call for Papers

Boundaries, citizenship and political contestation in the 21st Century

In 1993 Samuel P. Huntington wrote the controversial and much debated *Clash of Civilisations*. In this piece he posits that the next challenge for the 21st century will be a clash of civilisations, where the inherent root of the conflict will be cultural in nature. In the last decade we have witnessed the birth of the War on Terror, saw a global economic recession comparable to the Great Depression of 1929, and the spread

of liberal democracies in the most unlikely regions of Africa's predominantly Arab North. Internal to many states, the plight of migrants and foreigners has also come to the fore in some European and states in other regions of the world, and we have witnessed a strengthening of right-wing movements in Europe. Similarly gender contestation and gender mainstreaming has also grown. These events, amongst others, are generally underlined by political rhetoric of increased recognition, albeit for cultural identity, the growth of a patriotic nationalism in some states, discourse of fighting economic and political domination in the Latin American region, increased demands for democracy as a means to achieve prosperity, and greater gender equality, amongst others. Abstract submission in the following are wel-

Comparative Politics and Political institutions

Democracy and redistribution; conflict and peace processes; institutional innovation, electoral systems, elections, party systems, the liberal democratic peace; area studies; state building.

Gender, Religion and Identity

Gender equality, women's representation, gender based violence, National Gender Machineries, citizenship, gender, security and peace, women and militarisation, women and human rights, feminist ethics of care, issues of multi-culturalism; increased religious contestation; Islamic political development; religion and political systems.

International Political Economy

Political systems in an economic recession; future of the global economic system; recessions and the politics of bail-out programmes; sustainable economic development and COP 17; future of political economy, environmentalism as a new IPE paradigm.

International Relations

Migration, refugees, diaspora and democratisation in Africa; state failure, political instability and democracy in Africa; democratic domestic political structures and foreign policy in Africa; the transnational dimension of democracy in Africa; the political economy of democratisation in Africa; development and democracy in Africa; Sino-African relations and democracy in Africa; poverty, inequality and democracy in Africa; identity, conflict and democracy in Africa; intercontinental organizations and democracy in Africa; religion and democracy in Africa; constructing an African idea of democracy: transnational dimensions; the democratisation of global institutions, environmentalism as a new IR paradigm.

Political Behaviour

Survey research in Africa, public opinion polls, political culture, legitimacy, rule of law, perceptions of corruption and patronage, elite attitudes, perceptions of gender equality, human rights and economic policy.

Political Theory

Power, legitimacy, sovereignty and related issues; practices of terrorism, violence and anti-liberal politics; does political theory reflect current political realities; rethinking borders and power; sovereignty in the face of violence; nation-states and power configurations; new political communities; theological issues of power and resistance; Questions and theories of new war-technologies

Public Policy

Public policy-making, public policy implementation, public policy evaluation, policy change, public policy theory, public interpretations of democracy and the perspectives on the role of public policy processes, the nature of policy implementation and perceptions of democracy, the role of learning in public policy processes and the contribution of the “interpretive turn” to understanding public policy processes and other related themes, e-governance and the impact of ICT/social networking sites on governance and the democratic process.

African Politics

The liberal democratic peace in Africa; electoral contestation in African democracies; the AU and the defense of democracy in the 21st century; the role of democracy in Africa’s postconflict reconstruction efforts; democratic consolidation in Africa; political parties in Africa; appraisals of the utility of Africa’s Election Observer Missions; expanding indicators of quality assessment in African elections; citizenship in Africa’s democratisation processes; the political opposition in Africa; the dominant party system in Southern Africa; assessing the causes of failed states in Africa; the politics of lucrative international incentives for democratisation in Africa.

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University is proud to host the 2012 SAAPS Biennial Conference. Nestled in a nature reserve surrounded by the Indian Ocean, the NMMU will provide a rustic and peaceful environment for our conference. The conference will take place from 28 August—31 August 2012 at the NMMU Conference Centre, North Campus.

The 2012 Conference will also mark the 40 years of the former South African Political Studies Association (SAPSA). We will host a special panel on **Looking back—Looking forward** panel. Interested participants are invited to contact Prof. Clive Napier at [Napiej@unisa.ac.za](mailto:Napiecj@unisa.ac.za).

Abstracts are due on 31 March 2012. Submission may be made to saaps2012@gmail.com

For further information please contact Dr. Joleen Steyn Kotze at joleen.steynkotze@nmmu.ac.za.