

Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPE)
Call for Africa-Based Participants
2018 Annual Meeting

The Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPE) brings together faculty and advanced graduate students in Economics and Political Science who combine field research experience in Africa with training in political economy methods. It is co-led by Daniel Posner (Department of Political Science, UCLA), Edward Miguel (Department of Economics, UC Berkeley), Brian Dillon (Evans School of Public Policy & Governance, University of Washington), and Amanda Robinson (Department of Political Science, Ohio State). The WGAPE Annual Meeting will be held on May 18th-19th, 2018 at UCLA in Los Angeles, California. The **deadline** to submit papers to this annual meeting is:

11:59 pm U.S. Pacific Time on Sunday, March 11th, 2018

Meeting Information

The [Working Group in African Political Economy \(WGAPE\)](#) invites applications for attendance at the WGAPE Annual Meeting, to be hosted at UCLA. **This opportunity is limited to graduate students, post-docs, and junior faculty with a focus on political economy who meet one of the following three criteria: they a) currently hold a faculty or research position at an African institution, b) received or are actively pursuing a graduate degree at an African institution, or c) received an undergraduate degree from an African institution and are currently in graduate school elsewhere.**

Selected participants will spend approximately one week in Los Angeles. They will arrive in Los Angeles by May 14, participate in pre-meeting programming (workshops, networking opportunities with local faculty and graduate students, and training on research methods), and then participate in the annual WGAPE meeting on May 18-19. **All travel and registration expenses will be covered by the generous support of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.**

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groups each fall, in Abu Dhabi in January, and in a national meeting each spring. Meetings offer an exciting forum for engagement with early-stage research and networking with top scholars on African topics from around the world.

WGAPE meetings center on **research discussion sessions** rather than presentations. Papers are circulated and expected to be read in advance by all participants. Presenters provide brief, orienting comments before the floor is opened for an hour-long discussion of each paper. WGAPE accepts early work, near-complete drafts, and **research designs** (see an [archive of papers](#) from past WGAPE meetings).

PLEASE NOTE: Scholars who meet the special sessions criteria are invited and encouraged to apply for both this opportunity and to submit papers/research designs to the [2018 WGAPE Annual Meeting call for papers](#). A successful application to attend the meeting does not guarantee acceptance of a paper or research design for the workshop, and acceptance of a paper at WGAPE does not guarantee participation in the special sessions.

Desired qualifications

We seek the following qualities in meeting attendees:

- a) Experience conducting research on topics that reflect WGAPE's broad research agenda on the **political economy of African development**, including ethnic politics, civil conflict and violence, decentralization and democratization, corruption, local governance, public economics, and other related topics;
- b) Demonstrated experience in empirical social science research using experimental or quasi-experimental methods and the collection of original data;
- c) Strong desire to actively participate in in-person discussions of African research topics with top scholars from around the world.

To Apply

Applications to attend the full set of activities described above should submit the following materials:

- a) Up-to-date Curriculum Vitae or Resume with contact information, including country of current location, position title, and degree(s) held;
- b) A statement of interest that explains the reasons for the applicant's interest in attending WGAPE, the applicant's relevant research experience on WGAPE topics, how the applicant will benefit from attending WGAPE, and what contributions the applicant will be able to make to the WGAPE network;

c) The name, title, and contact information of one reference (from a current/previous collaborator or advisor) that would be able to comment on the applicant's research interests and future research trajectory;

To submit your materials:

Please submit to the following URL by **11:59pm PT on March 11, 2018:**

<https://cega.submittable.com/submit/e85ded84-cfa0-460a-b0e8-2bf4b741af52/wgape-2018-special-session-ucla>

Successful applicants will be notified by **April 1, 2018.**

Please note: All information submitted may be internally analyzed by WGAPPE and WGAPPE sponsors. No identifiable information will be published or released to other organizations or individuals. Contact information may be used to reach out to applicants in the future.

For further information, please contact Alex Dobyen (CEGA) at wgapeworkshop@gmail.com.