

Working Group in African Political Economy (WGape)

Request for Papers 2020 Regional 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. The group has met semi-annually to discuss the in-progress work of its core members and invited guests since 2002. The Spring West Coast Regional Meeting will be held on **April 24-25, 2020** at the **University of California, Riverside**. The **deadline** to submit papers and research designs for consideration is:

11:59 pm U.S. Pacific Time on Sunday, February 9, 2020

Meeting Information

The meeting will **begin on Friday mid-day, April 24th, and end mid-day on Saturday, April 25th**. There will also be a public engagement event on April 23rd, in which some attendees will participate (details on this event are forthcoming). 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 or research design. WGape accepts early working papers, near-complete drafts, and research designs (see an archive of papers from past WGape meetings [here](#)).

Submission Categories

We invite paper and research design submissions 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. Experimental research with field data will be given priority. Graduate students and junior faculty are particularly encouraged to apply. WGape meetings provide an excellent opportunity for advanced PhD candidates to work on refining their job market papers.

WGape provides full funding for the cost of airfare, accommodations and meals for presenters. **Due to the regional nature of the meeting, we will prioritize attendees based in the Western U.S. and Canada.** Potential applicants currently based outside North America are encouraged to apply to the upcoming annual WGape meeting in the summer of 2020 (additional details forthcoming).

We invite submissions in two categories:

- 1) **Paper submissions:** These submissions can be works-in-progress. Only complete drafts are given consideration. Early-stage will be prioritized for inclusion. Highly polished papers are unlikely to be selected.
- 2) **Research designs:** These submissions should describe a fully planned research study on topics relevant to WGAPE, as listed above. A suggested format for these submissions is the Pre-Analysis Plan (please find a template [here](#)). It is not necessary to reformat your Pre-Analysis Plan to fit the linked template, but a strong Pre-Analysis Plan will include the elements listed in the template.

Submit your Work

All submissions must include:

- 1) Paper submission or research design in PDF or Word format.
- 2) Latest Curriculum Vitae with contact information, including country of current location.

Please submit to the form at the following URL **by 11:59pm PT on February 9, 2020:**
<https://cega.submittable.com/submit/154752/2020-wgape-spring-meeting-uc-riverside>

Successful applicants will be notified by early March and will be expected to attend the 2-day workshop.

Participant costs and travel

WGAPE provides full funding for the cost of airfare, accommodations and meals for presenters. Due to the regional nature of the meeting, we will prioritize attendees based in the Western U.S. and Canada.

Non-presenters

Non-presenters who do not require accommodation or travel funding are welcome to attend the meeting as space permits. We ask that you please email the address listed below with your name, institution, and the days you would like to attend and we will confirm whether or not we can accommodate you.

All attendees, including non-presenters, are expected to read the papers and research designs in advance. We encourage referrals of possible future graduate student attendees by past WGAPE meeting participants. Interested UCR graduate students in the social sciences are welcome to attend, and should also email the address below.

Further Inquiries

Please contact Michelle Layvant at wgapeworkshop@gmail.com with any further questions.