

## ISG NEWSLETTER

### May – June 2024

This is the second newsletter for the 2024 academic calendar. The newsletter covers the months of May to June. The achievements listed below encompass fellowship awards, securing of funds to host workshops, appointments to the Advisory Board, appointment as Reviews Editor and Research Associate, invitations to attend workshops, publications, seminar presentations, and conference attendance.

Congratulations, then, to Dr Innocent Dande and Nyasha Bushu for securing fellowship awards. Dr Innocent Dande secured a six-month writer-in-residence fellowship at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig Maximilian University, Germany. The residence will start in October 2024 and end in March 2025. Nyasha Bushu secured an 8-month fellowship with the Africa Peace Network and the Next Generation Social Sciences in Africa.

Congratulations to Dr Geraldine Sibanda for securing the Young Scholars Initiative Funding that will be used towards organizing a workshop to be held at the University of Nairobi, Kenya from 5 - 6 September 2024. The theme of the workshop will be: 'Economic Thinking and Economic Development in Africa – Past, Present and Prospects for the Future'. Further congratulations to Dr Geraldine Sibanda for securing funding to present at the Business of Worldmaking: New Perspectives on Liminal Actors in Postcolonial Development Cooperation workshop to be held in Koper, Slovenia, from 19-21 September 2024. Dr Geraldine Sibanda and Dr Unaludo Sechele also secured funding to attend and present at the South African Network of Economic Historians (SANEH) in early July 2024. Congratulations to Belinda Makare for securing funding to attend the 17th Annual Meeting of the African Economic and History Network (AEHN) and YSI workshop to be held in Rome, Italy from 25 – 27 September 2024.

Achievements also included appointments to serve on an Advisory Board, act as Reviews Editor, be a Research Associate, and be a mentor at a workshop. Congratulations, then, to Dr Unaludo Sechele for being appointed to the Botswana Notes and Records International Advisory Board. Botswana Notes and Records is a journal housed at the University of Botswana. Dr Sechele was also invited to be a mentor at the British Academy-funded International Writing Workshop to be hosted by the National University of Lesotho on a date to be announced. This is part of a mentorship program called the Southern African Writing and Publishing Workshop (SAWPWO). In addition, congratulations to Dr Geraldine Sibanda, appointed as H-Diplo Review Editor and a Research Associate of the Twentieth Century International Economic Thinking and the Complex History of Globalisation (ECOINT) project of the Department of History and Civilisation at the European University Institute, Florence, Italy.

Congratulations to Dr Kaluba Chama and Dr Priscillah Machinga, whose paper proposals were accepted for presentation at conferences in Italy. Dr Kaluba Chama's paper proposal was accepted for the 17th African Economic History Network Annual Meeting to be held in September 2024 in Rome and Dr Priscillah Machinga's paper was accepted for the conference: '1974-2020: 50 Years of Transitions in Southern Africa and the Development Challenges Ahead', to be held from 21 to 22 October 2024, at the University of Bologna.

As per tradition, ISG postdoctoral fellows and research fellows have publications either accepted for publication or published recently. Congratulations, then, to Dr Karen Horn and Dr Kundai Manamere (Research Fellows) for their monographs. Dr Karen Horn's book *Prisoners of Jan Smuts: Italian Prisoners of War in South Africa in WWII* was published in April by Jonathan Ball. Congratulations to Dr Kundai Manamere for her book *Malaria on the Move: Rural Communities and Public Health in Zimbabwe, 1890-2015*, published by Ohio University Press. The book will come out in January 2025. Also, congratulations to Dr Honest Koke (Research Fellow) and Dr Sibannengi Ncube for their article: 'The Political Economy of Farmland Taxation in Colonial and Postcolonial Zimbabwe, 1914–32 and 1980–c. 2018' in *African Historical Review*, (2024), pp.1-27. (<https://doi.org/10.1080/17532523.2024.2322872>); Dr Kaluba Chama for a book chapter: 'Teaching History in Zambia: The Use of Project Method in Reviving the Value of History Education', which will come out in an edited collection, *History Education in Africa* to be published by Palgrave MacMillan; Dr Kaluba Chama also has an article that was accepted for publication by *African Economic History*; Dr George Bishi for his article: "A fictitious referendum and a European affair": African Perspectives of the 1922 Referendum and the 1923 Responsible Government in Southern Rhodesia', being accepted for publication in the *South African Historical Journal*, and Dr Priscillah Machinga for her article on Winnie Madikizela-Mandela's political activism against apartheid in South Africa to be included in the *South African Historical Journal* Special Edition: 'You Strike a Woman You Strike a Rock'.

ISG members have presented their ongoing work in different forums for the past two months. Dr Unaludo Sechele presented at the Stanley Trapido Seminar Series. Aply chaired by Dr Priscillah Machinga the seminar focussed on the effects of labor migration on the family unit in post-colonial Botswana; Audrey Maringa presented her on going work on drug smuggling and the pharmaceutical industry in Zimbabwe at the Ramblers Seminar Series; Dr Innocent Dande presented a paper titled: 'A canine bio-semiotic history of Harare, 1950s-1970s', at the 24th Gathering of Biosemiotics that was held at the University of the Free State n from 17 to 21 June 2024, and Nicola Yon presented on Zimbabwean social protection systems at a conference that was held in Kigali, Rwanda from 4-7 March 2024. The conference was titled: 'Social Protection for Sustainable Development'. Nicola Yon participated in the conference based on the invitation by the Swedish government.

Last but not least, a total of 22 papers were presented by ISG PhD students, post-doctoral fellows, and alumni at the Southern African Historical Association Conference at the University of Johannesburg from 26-28 June 2024. Below is the list and the titles of the papers presented:-

### **ISG PhD students**

- Nyasha Bushu, 'African cosmology, Superstition and Justice in Southern Rhodesia c.1890-1937'.
- Audrey Kudzai Maringa, 'Beyond Borders: An Unsettled Wave of Pharmaceuticals in Zimbabwe (2008-2009)'.
- Nicola Yon, 'Social Protection, Inequality, and unemployment in Zimbabwe, 2000-2015'.
- Shalot Nhete, 'Legislation and Preventive healthcare in Southern Rhodesia from 1923 to 1963.'
- Belinda Makare, 'The colonial state and the African peasantry: A socio-environmental history of soil conservation and agrarian change in Lesotho's Leribe district, 1938-1966'.

### **ISG Postdoctoral Fellows**

- Geraldine Sibanda, 'Chakachenjedza Ndochakatanga (Once Beaten Twice Shy)!': Zimbabwe and the Economics of Mistrust'.
- Geraldine Sibanda, 'Technocrat, International Civil Servant, Liberation War Hero, and Politician - The Many Faces of Bernard Thomas Gibson Chidzero'.
- Priscillah Machinga, 'A Pathetic State of Affairs: Public Maternity Health Care and Indigenous Midwifery in Postcolonial Zimbabwe, 1990–2023'.
- Sibanengi Ncube, 'There are far worse things a man can do than smoke': Tobacco politics and the framing of the smoking-lung cancer debate in Southern Rhodesia, 1950s-1970s'.
- Unaludo Sechele, 'United or Broken Family: Of Labour migrant Returnees and the Family Unit in Botswana, c.1970 to the Present'.

### **ISG Alumni**

- Abraham Mlombo, 'Fighting sub-imperialism in Southern Africa? Zimbabwe and regional unity against South Africa power'.
- Admire Mseba, 'Locusts: An International Challenge over the Long Twentieth Century'.
- Bryson Nkhoma, 'My People are Well-Fed': The Political Economy of the Fight Against Malnutrition in Early Post-Colonial Malawi, 1964-1994'.
- Chris Holdridge, 'Reading for Rocks: Convict Labour and Deep Time in the Cape Colony'.
- Chris Holdridge, 'Worlds of Paper, Oceans of Protest: Speech Acts and the Politics of Reading in Colonial South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand'.
- Clement Masakure, 'From a private to a state institution: Towards a history of Lady Chancellor Maternity'.
- Duncan Money, 'Losing the Lustre: The End of Gold in South Africa'.
- Lazlo Passemiers, 'Writing a Transnational Biography of Manelisi Ndibongo's Role in Southern Africa's Liberation Struggles'.
- Lotti Nkomo, 'Hustlers, politics and society: Masango Matambanadzo and Zimbabwe's chronic crisis'.

- Rebecca Swartz, 'Freedom, agency and childhood in the post-emancipation Cape colony'.
- Tinashe Nyamunda, 'The Costs of Relocation: Certificates of Sponsorship and Care Worker immigrants from Zimbabwe to the United Kingdom, 2016 – 2024'.
- Victor Muchineripi Gwande, "Politics of rational disputation': The political life of Douglas Mwonzora in Zimbabwe's democratisation struggle'.

Well done to all!

Clement Masakure

1 July 2024