

ISG Newsletter May-June 2025

The past two months have seen a large ISG presence at national and international conferences. If past and present members are all counted together, it comes to something like 21 papers presented at three different conferences in the space of a little over six weeks – not bad at all for our small group!

Towards the end of May, **Drs Kaluba Chama, Jennifer Chansa, and Hyden Munene** – pictured below – presented papers at the Copperbelt University.



Earlier this month, a particularly large ISG contingent attended the HASA Conference in Kimberley, where **Dr Mutale Mazimba**, **Dr Peter Uledi**, PhD students **Belinda Makare**, **Audrey Maringa**, **Bohlokoa Khanyetsi**, **Colette Mborera**, **Denice Banda**, **Saneze Tshayana**, and **Titus Chideme** all delivered papers. **Saneze**, **Bohlokoa**, and **Peter** all received external funding. They were joined by three past ISG members – **Prof Clement Masakure** (UFS), **Dr Cornelius Muller** (SPU), and **Dr Abraham Mlombo** (UP).

HASA 25



And as if these were not enough achievements, **Dr Priscillah Machinga**, **Shalot Nhete**, **Nyasha Bushu**, and **Nicola Yon** all presented papers at the Britain-Zimbabwe 25 Conference at St Antony's College, University of Oxford. They too were joined by past ISG members – in this instance, **Drs Tinashe Nyamunda** (Glasgow), **Kundai Manamere** (UZ), and **Victor Gwande** (UFS).

In other conference and workshop news, **Dr Mutale Mazimba** had a paper accepted and external funding granted to him for the 'Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Restorative Development in Africa' Conference in Entebbe. Together with **Dr Peter Uledi**, she also secured funding from the Young Scholars Initiative towards the cost of a workshop, 'Writing and Researching on the Global South: Shared Experiences and Reflections', scheduled for this coming August here at the ISG.

Books, articles, and prizes all feature in this newsletter. Congratulations to **Colette Mborera** on her first publication, 'The Role of Social Protection Programmes in Addressing Poverty

and Inequality in Rural Zimbabwe: The Case of Murehwa District, 2000-2023', in *The Political Economy of Inequality in Africa*, Spring 2025, pp. 57-61. It can be accessed [here](#).

Dr Ruhan Fourie's book, *Christian Nationalism and Anticommunism in Twentieth Century South Africa*, a revised version of his ISG PhD published internationally by Routledge and locally by Christian Literature Fund, won the Desmond Tutu-Gerrit Brand Prize for debut work – a great achievement; and **Dr Karen Horn** excelled by promptly following the imminent publication of her book, *My War: How South Africans fought the Nazis* by Helion Press, with news of a contract for another monograph, *Commanders in Chief*, to be co-authored with Tony Garcia of Edinburgh.

The *Third World Quarterly* is a leading international journal in the field of development studies, and the fact that the articles of two members of the ISG have appeared in it is testimony to their academic excellence. Well done, **Dr Unaludo Sechele**, for 'The return of husbands: of male labour returnees and women in Botswana, c.1970-2023', which can be accessed here [<https://doi.org/10.1080/01436597.2025.2499083>]; and to **Dr Priscillah Machinga**, for her forthcoming 'A history of ananyamukuta – Shona midwives: Identity, roles and development in Zimbabwe, 1880s to 1970s'.

And lastly, welcome to our six new postdoctoral fellows – **Dr Samuel Chikowero**, **Dr Philipp Hofmann**, **Emma Orchardson**, **Nicola Yon**, **Nyasha Bushu**, and **Belinda Makare** – who will assume their fellowships in September or thereabouts. I hope existing members will be of assistance to those who are new to the group wherever they can – if only to commiserate with them over the unrelenting pressure to compete and publish ... just kidding, I think?!

Prof Ian Phimister

25 June 2025