Building states and civil societies in Africa: Liberal interventions and global governmentality

Department of International Politics
Aberystwyth University, UK
26-27 January 2011

Supported by:

Journal of Intervention and State-building
Aberystwyth University Research Fund
British International Studies Association
African Studies Association (UK) / Royal African Society
Charitable Trust
Democracy of Space Network
Department of International Politics, Aberystwyth

Proposed workshop programme

Wednesday 26th January

2pm Welcome and coffee

2:30 First session:
Emmanuel Remi Aiyede (Ibadan), ‘The Political Economy of Citizenship and Civil Society in Africa’

Kudzai Matereke (New South Wales), ‘Governmentality and the fuzzy edges of African postcolonial civil society’

David Williams (City) and Tom Young (SOAS), ’“Civil Society” and the Liberal Project in Ghana and Sierra Leone’

Chair: Carl Death (Aber)
Discussant: Clive Gabay (QMUL)

4:00 Coffee

4:30 Second session:
Morten Bøås (FAFO), ‘The construction of “civil society” under the spell of autochthony informed land rights conflicts’

Marta Iniguez de Heredia (LSE), ‘Escaping statebuilding: the uncivilised actions of solidarity and grassroots networks in Congo’
Jana Honke (Freie Universität Berlin), ‘Companies, communities and local security governance: Disciplinary paternalism, participatory community engagement and indirect rule’

Chair: Clive Gabay (QMUL)
Discussant: Carl Death (Aber)

6pm Finish
8pm Dinner

Thursday 27th January

9:30am Third session:
Jan Bachmann (Gothenburg), ‘Governmentality and Counterterrorism – Doing “Peace and Security” in Kenya’

Jeremy Gould (Jyväskylä), ‘Lawyers as civil society – political legalism and state formation in Zambia’

Chair: Carl Death (Aber)
Discussant: Morten Bøås (FAFO)

10:45 Coffee

11:15 Fourth session:
Uli Beisel (LSHTM) and Rene Gerrets (UVA), ‘The public of public health: in search of “civil society” within contemporary malaria control in Africa’

Branwen Gruffydd Jones (Goldsmiths), ‘Civilising African cities: international housing policy from colonial to neoliberal times’

Chair: Clive Gabay (QMUL)
Discussant: David Williams (City)

12:30pm Lunch

1:00 Closing comments and finish