CONFERENCE

*How Autocracies Work: Beyond the Electoral Paradigm*

April 15-16, 2011
1636 International Institute, 1080 S. University Avenue
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

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Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies
Weiser Center for Europe and Eurasia
Department of Political Science

The conference will focus on the pillars of modern authoritarian rule: repression, formal political institutions, and society’s economic dependence on the autocratic regime. It is organized by Anna Grzymala-Busse, Ronald and Eileen Professor of Europe and Eurasia and Professor of Political Science.

**Friday, April 15**

8:30
Opening Remarks

8:45-10:45
Panel I: Regime Type and Authoritarian Durability
Chair: Anna Grzymala-Busse, U-M
**Barbara Geddes**, University of California Los Angeles
  *How the Military Shapes “Democratic” Institutions in Dictatorships*
**Milan Svolík**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
  *The Regime Party as an Instrument of Authoritarian Co-optation and Control*
**Lucan Way**, University of Toronto
  *Beyond Patronage: Party Cohesion, Violent Struggle, and Authoritarian Durability*
Discussant: Carles Boix, Princeton University

11:00-1:00
Panel II: Economic Dependence: Public and Private Goods
Chair: Mark Tessler, U-M
**Yuen Yuen Ang**, Columbia University
  *Patronage Distribution in One-Party Regimes: Evidence from China’s Public Employment*
**Bill Clark** and **Paul Poast**, University of Michigan
  *Why Do Some Autocrats Overachieve? Political Competition and Material Well-being in Comparative Perspective*
**Ben Smith**, University of Florida
  *Rethinking Rentierism: Toward More Meaningful Theories and Measures of Oil Politics*
Discussant: Brian Min, U-M

1:00-2:30
Break
2:30-4:30
Panel III: Repression and Rule by Law
Chair: Rob Mickey, U-M
Dan Brinks and Abby Blass, University of Texas at Austin
   *Dictators and Their Courts: Judicial Institutions in Latin America from 1975 to 2009*
Dan Slater and Sofia Fenner, University of Chicago
   *State Power and Staying Power: Inherited Infrastructure and the Coalitional Dynamics of Authoritarian Durability*
Beatriz Magaloni, Stanford University
   *Repressing the Masses: Theory and Evidence on Autocrats’ Reaction to Civil Protest*
Discussant: Mary Gallagher, U-M

4:30
Graduate Student Poster Session
Trevor Johnston, University of Michigan
   *Public Jobs as Private Goods: Credible Commitment without Institutional Change*
Andrea Jones-Rooy, University of Michigan
   *The Strategic Coverage of International Affairs by Autocracies*
Nam Kyu Kim, University of Michigan
   *Economic Shocks and Coups*
Shaun McGirr, University of Michigan
   *Bureaucratic Politics as a Substitute for Electoral Competition*
Michael Miller, Princeton University
   *Elections, Information, and Policy Responsiveness in Hybrid Regimes*
Dominic Nardi, University of Michigan
   *Judicial Empowerment under Authoritarian Regimes: Preliminary Cross-National Tests and Comparisons*
Michael Robbins, University of Michigan
   *Opposition Party Success under Electoral Authoritarianism: Is Islam the Solution?*
Hesham Sallam, Georgetown University
   *Indispensable Arbiters: Islamists, Economic Reform and Authoritarian Renewal*
Kharis Templeman, University of Michigan
   *Executive Selection in Competitive Autocracies: Do Parliamentary CAs Last Longer?*
Manuel Viedma, University of Chicago
   *Factionalism and Cohesion under Military Rule: Evidence from Egypt, Brazil, and Argentina*
Keith Weghorst, University of Florida
   *Structuring Electoral Outcomes in Dominant Party Systems: Opposition and Incumbent Party Strategies in Tanzania*
Saturday, April 16

9:00-11:00
Panel IV: Leaders and Institutions
Chair: Kenneth McElwain, U-M
Lisa Blaydes, Stanford University
  The Feudal Revolution and Europe’s Rise: Institutional Divergence in the Muslim and
  Christian Worlds before 1500 CE
Mario Chacón, New York University Abu Dhabi
  Repression, Electoral Competition and Political Change: A Cross-National Analysis
Tom Pepinsky, Cornell University
  Rochester and Murdoch in Kuala Lumpur
Discussant: Allen Hicken, U-M