CONFERENCE  

How Autocracies Work: Beyond the Electoral Paradigm  

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

SPONSORS  
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