



Capacity Building within Research Communication, Dissemination and Networking

Call for Papers

MAGAART Seminar on

Stability, Democracy and Rights

at Maseno University, 7-8 December 2015

This call for papers is especially targeting PhD-students at Maseno, Gulu and Tribhuvan universities who obtained a PhD grant through the Platform on Stability, Democracy and Rights under the former Building Stronger Universities (I) programme, as well as their supervisors and co-supervisors. In continuation of BSU-I, the independent MAGAART programme has sought to stimulate and contribute to the academic opportunities available to these PhD students through courses and workshops, as well as access to E-learning materials. The planned seminar offers an opportunity for the PhD students to share their research – which is still in progress – as well as for the supervisors from all four countries to give papers based on their own research and focusing on aspects of democracy, fragility/stability and human rights that are of particular relevance to one or more of the participating countries: Kenya, Uganda, Nepal and Denmark.

Themes: To develop a shared frame for analytically and methodologically approaching these guiding concepts, contributions will critically examine the meanings ascribed to these by different actors in specific contexts.

Papers should address one or several of the overarching concepts through a more specific thematic lens, such as – but not limited to – the following:

- Education, e.g.: What is the impact of various types of educational structures and strategies on development of democracy? What is the role of different types of pedagogy and their capacity to stimulate or suppress critical thinking in different cultural contexts? Is ELearning a useful tool to democratize and enhance access to tertiary education or merely a tool to expand business in a competitive market?

- Gender, e.g.: How are gender relations influenced by ongoing or changing discourses of power/development/social inclusion and democratization at different levels of society, from household level, through kinship structures to state level?
- Migration, e.g.: What is the relationship between large-scale migration, the economic configuration of society, and the acquisition or denial of basic rights?
- State and citizenship, e.g.: How are discussions of human rights translated into new political identities, and how are citizenship and rights in practice linked to social dimensions such as place of origin versus place of residence, social habitus, economic status or ethnicity?
- Lines of convergence or conflict, e.g.: How are post-conflict developments of state and political society being articulated through ideas of human rights, citizenship and politicized identities of different classes/ethnic groups/other group actors?

Conference deadlines

All PhDs with BSU-I grants and their supervisors are invited to participate. Participation is only possible with paper. Abstracts (max. 300 words) must be submitted by email no later than 15 October 2015 to Martin D. Larsen, coordinator of MAGAART, mdl@cas.au.dk.

Provided that a paper is presented on the basis of an approved abstract, MAGAART covers travel (cheapest reasonable economy route) and stay during the seminar for 1) BSU-I PhD-students, 2) their supervisors, and 3) resource persons who have been involved in MAGAART project activities.

Organizing Committee

Inger Lassen, Aalborg University (AAU)
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 Preben Kaarsholm, Roskilde University (RUC)
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