

LEONARD WANTCHEKON

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Citizenship: United States and Benin.

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Political Economy, Development Economics, Comparative Politics, Field Experiments

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, 1995.

M.A. Economics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, 1992

Maitrise Plan A, Economics, Laval University, Quebec, Canada 1990.

Certificate, Economic Journalism, Educatel, Rouen, France, 1990.

Baccalauréat Série C (Mathematics and Physics), Benin, 1977.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Full Professor, Department of Politics (joint with Economics), New York University, 2006-

Associate Professor, Department of Politics (joint with Economics and Africana Studies), New York University, 2001-2006

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, joint with Economic Growth Center, Yale University, 1995-2001

Visiting Fellow, Center of International Studies, Princeton University, September 2000-June 2001

Visiting Professor of Decision Sciences, Institute of Mathematics and Physics of Benin (affiliated with the Institute of Theoretical Physics of Trieste, Italy), Summer 1997 and 2000.

OTHER POSITIONS

Founder, African School of Economics, 2010

Secretary, American Political Science Association. 2008-09

Member, Advisory Group, Improving Institutions for Pro-Poor Growth, University of Manchester, UK, 2008-

Member, Advisory Council and Technical Committee, Ibrahim Index of African Governance.

Non-Resident Fellow, OECD Development Center, 2008-

Member of the Executive Committee, Afrobarometer Network, 2005-

Founder and Director, Institute for Empirical Research in Political Economy (IERPE), 2004-

Managing Editor, Journal of African Development, formally Journal of Finance and Economic Development, 2001-

Visiting Research Fellow, Department of Economics, University of Ottawa, Canada, 1994-1995.

Cofounder/Deputy Secretary of “*Front Démocratique du Bénin*”, the only opposition group in Benin during the military rule (1982-1990). Served as Editor of *Lances Intrepides* the Journal of the Front, 1982-1987.

Cofounder/President of the Student Union “*Organization de Lutte des Universitaires du Bénin*” (1978-1987)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Think Tank Initiative Grant for Institute for Empirical Research in Political Economy (Benin)

Danemark Ministry of Foreign Affairs Research Grant, 2008-2011

World Bank, Research Grant (2006)

Folke Academy, Sweden, Research Grant (2005)

Institution for Social and Policy Studies Field Experiment Grant, Yale University, 2000-2001

Visiting Fellow, Center of International Studies, Princeton University, September 2000-June 2001

Visiting Fellow, The Abdul Salaam Institute of Theoretical Physics (Trieste, Italy 2000-2002)

Yale University, Research Grant, 1996, 1997, 1998.

Northwestern University Scholarship, 1994-1995.

Program on International Cooperation in Africa Scholarship 1994-1995.

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada fellowship, 1990-1994.

Gwendolyn Carter Fellowship, Northwestern University, 1992-94.

PUBLICATIONS

1. "The Slave Trade and the Origins of Mistrust in Africa" (with Nathan Nunn), *American Economic Review* forthcoming.

2. "Clientelism and Vote Buying: Lessons from Field Experiments in West Africa" (with Pedro Vicente). *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*, 2009, 25(2), pp. 292-305.
3. "Political Rights versus Public Goods: Uncovering the Determinants of Satisfaction with Democracy in Africa (with Gwen Taylor)"; *Afrique Contemporaine* (December, 2006).
4. "The Paradox of Warlord Democracy: A Theoretical Investigation", 2004, *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 98 (February), pp. 17-33.
5. "Resource Wealth and Political Regimes in Africa", 2004, (with Nathan Jensen), *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol. 37 (September), pp. 816-841
6. "Clientelism and Voting Behavior: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Benin", 2003, *World Politics*, Vol. 55, pp.399-422.
7. "Clientelisme Electoral au Benin: Resultats d'une Etude Experimentale de Terrain", 2003, *Politique Africaine*, No 90 (June), pp. 145-160.
8. "Why do Resource Dependent Countries Have Authoritarian Governments?", 2002 *Journal of African Finance and Economic Development*, Vol 5, no 2, pp. 57-77.
9. "A Theory of Post-Civil War Democratization" (with Zvika Neeman), 2002, *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, Vol. 4, no 14.
10. "Electoral Competition Under the Threat of Political Unrest" (with Matthew Ellman), 2000, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 115, Issue 2, pp. 499-531.
11. "Credible Power-Sharing Agreements", 2000, *Constitutional Political Economy*, Vol. 11 No 4, pp. 329-352.
12. "Strategic Voting in Conditions of Political Instability: the 1994 Elections in El Salvador", 1999, *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol. 32 No 7, pp. 811-835.
13. "The Game of Torture", 1999, (with Andrew Healy) *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Vol. 43 no 5, pp. 596-609
14. "On the Nature of First Democratic Elections", 1999, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Vol. 43 no 2 , pp.230-243.
15. "Electoral Competition in Conditions of Regime Change", 1996, *Cuadernos Economicos*, Vol. 1, no 62, pp. 123-145.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. "Help Me Help You: Conducting Field Experiments with Political Elites" (with Peter John Loewen, Daniel Rubenson), in "*Field Experiments in Comparative Politics and Policy*" special issue of *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. Forthcoming
2. "Theory, External Validity and Experimental Inference: Some Conjectures (with Fernando Martel

Garcia), in “*Field Experiments in Comparative Politics and Policy*” special issue of The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science. Forthcoming

3. "Experimental Research on Democracy and Development" (with Ana de la O), in Druckman et al (eds) *Cambridge Handbook of Experimental Political Science*. Forthcoming

4. "Democracy and African Development" in Ernest Aryeetey and al eds, *Oxford Companion to the Economics of Africa*, Oxford University Press, forthcoming

5. "Information, Social Networks, and the Demand for Public Goods: Experimental Evidence from Benin" (with Christel Vermeersch). 2008. in Sina Odugbemi and Taeku Lee, editors, *Generating Genuine Demand for Accountability: Public Opinion and State Responsiveness*. World Bank Publications.

6. "Transfer Dependence and Regional Disparities in Nigerian Federalism" (with Tamar Asadurian and Emmanuel Nnadozie), 2005, in *The Dynamics of Federalism: the Political Economy Reality*, T.N. Srinivasan and Jessica Wallack, eds, Cambridge University Press.

7. "Africa: Dictatorial and Democratic Electoral Systems since 1946" 2004 (co-authored with Matt Golder) in Colomer, Josep. ed. *Handbook of Electoral System Design*. London: Palgrave.

8. *Conflict Prevention through Development Cooperation*, (A book length report written with Peter Wallenstein [team leader], Mary Anderson, Birger Heldt and Steve Stedman), 2000, OECD Publications

9. "Democratic Consolidation in Benin: Lessons from the 1996 Elections" (with Paul Ngomo), 2001, *Nordic Africa Institute Publications*, Issue No2, May 2001

WORK UNDER REVIEW AND WORKING PAPERS

1. "Echoes of the 1947 Malagasy Uprising: the Long Term Effects of Colonial Repression on Political Attitudes in Madagascar" (with Omar Garcia Ponce)

2. "Information Dissemination and Local Government's Electoral Returns; Evidence from A Field Experiment in Mexico" (with Alberto Chong, Ana de la O, and Dean Karlan)

3. "Does Ethnic Ties Facilitate Electoral Support for Nation-Building Policies?" (with Yves Atchade)

4. "Underground Insurgency and Democratic Revolution" (with Antonio Cabrales, Antoni Calvo-Armengol).

5. "Can Informed Public Deliberation Overcome Clientelism?: Experimental Evidence from Benin" Working Paper, New York University

BOOK MANUSCRIPTS

1. Democratic Peace Making: Political Development After Civil War

2. Dreaming Against the Grain: A Memoir.

COURSE TAUGHT

Graduate

Yale: Democratization, Analytical Democratic Theory, Analytical Comparative Politics, Game Theory, Positive Political Economy and Africa in the Disciplines.

New York University: Field Experiments in Political Science, Theories of Democratization, Political Economy, Comparative Politics, Comparative Democratization: Africa and Latin America.

Undergraduate

Yale University: African Politics, Democratization, Game Theory and Democracy and Markets.

New York University: Political Development in Africa, Political Economy of Development, Introduction to Comparative Politics.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

REVIEWER

American Political Science Review, American Economic Review, American Journal of Political Science, World Politics, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Comparative Political Studies, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Development Economics, European Economic Review, International Studies Quarterly, Johns Hopkins University Press, National Science Foundation.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

BREAD Conference on Development Economics, World Bank Conference on the Political Economy of Public Goods Provision, Northeastern Universities Development Conference, Stanford University Conference on Clientelism, Stanford Conference on Fiscal Federalism, MIT Conference on Vote-Buying, Cambridge University Conference on Public Economics, American Political Science Association Annual Meetings (various years), Midwest Political Science Association Meetings (various years), Public Choice Society Meetings (various years), OECD conference on Conflict Prevention Around the World, National Science Foundation World Democratization, Econometric Society Meetings.

WORKSHOPS

2008-2010: Ottawa, Princeton, LSE, Columbia, Stanford, Harvard, Yale, Georgia Tech, Manchester, NYU.

2005-2008: Oxford, LSE, Yale, Toulouse, Princeton, Berkeley, Stanford, University of Cape-Town

2002-2005. Dartmouth, Berkeley, NYU, University of Cape Town, Upsalla University, PRIO (Norway), Yale University, University of Chicago, University of Pennsylvania, MIT, UCLA, UCSD, Columbia

University, Royal Holloway (London), Delta (Paris), Universite de Toulouse, Universite Laval, the World Bank

1999-2002. Cambridge University, MIT, Stanford University, Princeton University, Ohio State University, New York University, the World Bank, Harvard University, University of Montreal, Laval University, Uppsala University (Sweden).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, American Economic Association, Econometric Society, African Finance and Economics Association.