



ERSA Economic History Research Workshop
9 - 13 July 2012
Stellenbosch

9 - 13 JULY 2012 | STELLENBOSCH | SOUTH AFRICA



STELLENBOSCH2012
XVITH WORLD ECONOMIC HISTORY CONGRESS

ERSA has great pleasure to announce its participation at the 16th World Economic History Congress (WEHC) that will take place on Stellenbosch University campus from 9 – 13 July 2012. The World Congress is the most important gathering of economic historians worldwide and only takes place every three years.

Since 2007 ERSA has funded 7 workshops for the economic history research group. These workshops were mainly aimed at disseminating new research techniques, ideas and work in progress. Up to now, the group, with the help of several invited guests, mostly relied on feedback from each other. It is now time to move the boundaries of the research group into a broader arena.

At the recent workshop, Robert Allen (Oxford) presented a framework for future economic history research. He argues that economic history falls into 6 broad research categories: the Malthusian category (fertility, death rates – the settler version vs. the native African version); production function (education, productivity); globalisation (what can prices of specific products tell us); policy (tariffs, international financial institutions); institutions (comparative work); and settler vs. native economies (why did settlers move, involuntary interaction). A large component of current research by ERSA members within the ERSA focus areas (namely Growth, International Integration, Social expenditure, Labour market analysis, Tax policy, Data quality issues, Policy analysis) fall within these boundaries.

The WEHC2012 thus provides ERSA members the opportunity to present their work to an esteemed international audience of what we hope will be 1000 participants. The conference also offers the opportunity to attend presentations by scholars who are at the frontier of economic, development and economic history research, including James Robinson, Deirdre McCloskey, David Laitin, Gareth Austin and Robert Bates.

ERSA regards this gathering as one of the two ERSA economic history workshops for 2012 (a second 2012 ERSA economic history workshop is planned for November) and provides 10 grants for scholars residing at South African universities. This conference is also a wonderful opportunity to connect with researchers in the rest of Africa, as ERSA will sponsor 5 scholars residing at African universities outside South Africa.

The grants will cover economy class airfare, airport transfers, accommodation in a university residence, access to the cultural evening and the conference registration fee. Scholars will have to cover their own meals and any extra costs.

The preliminary programme of the conference is available online at <http://www.wehc2012.org/programme.php>

Applications to the ERSA grant must be submitted online before 16 April 2012 at
<http://www.wehc2012.org/bursaries.php>

All applications must consist of: (a) a CV; (b) an abstract of the paper to be presented at the conference; (c) confirmation letter from the session organiser; and (d) proof of student status if applicable.

If you have any enquiries, please contact Sophia du Plessis (sophia@sun.ac.za).