

## GARETH AUSTIN: SUMMARY C.V., June 2022

### Personal

Born: Ibadan, 20 May 1956

Nationality: British

### Present position and contact details

Professor of Economic History, University of Cambridge (since 1 January 2016)

Fellow of King's College, Cambridge (since 1 October 2016)

<https://www.hist.cam.ac.uk/directory/professor-gareth-austin>

[gma31@cam.ac.uk](mailto:gma31@cam.ac.uk)

### Research and teaching interests: African and comparative economic history & development

- (1) Core interest: economic history of Sub-Saharan Africa, especially West Africa from c.1450 to the present, including contemporary development issues in historical perspective.
- (2) Specialist research: economic history of Ghana, especially indigenous capitalism and the economics and politics of post-colonial development.
- (3) Comparative and global economic history, especially economic development, industrialization, empires, slavery, culture and economic behaviour.
- (4) Methodology of economic history.

**Degrees:** BA History, Cambridge 1978; PhD Economic History, Birmingham 1984.

**Previous employers:** Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, 2010-16; London School of Economics & Political Science, 1988-2010; Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London (ESSRC postdoctoral fellow), 1986-88; University of Ghana, 1982-85; University of Birmingham, 1981-82; Kiamuya Secondary School, Othaya, Nyeri, Kenya, Jan-August 1975.

**Visiting positions since 2005** (for 1 week to 1 month): Mostly history or economics departments/centres at: Kyoto University, 2006; Jawaharlal Nehru University, 2008; Graduate Institute of Development and International Studies, Geneva, 2008; Kansai University, 2009; Macquarie University, 2010; Paris School of Economics/Ecole d'économie de Paris, 2014; University of Ghana, Department of History, 2015; Universidad de la República, Montevideo, 2015; University of the Witwatersrand, International Relations, 2015.

**Consultancies:** include World Bank, Oxford Analytica, IEA Ghana, UN Economic Commission on Africa.

**External research funding awards:** include Swiss National Science Foundation, CHF 503,830 [£377,872] for project 'Coop Entanglements and Connections: Towards a Global History of the Cooperative Movement, 1890-1970', 2015-19; AHRC-DRG (with A. Eckert, Humboldt), UK part £330,000, for 'Labour and Work in Ghana, 1951-2011', 2022-24.

**Supervision Experience:** at LSE, sole or main supervisor of 10 completed PhD dissertations; (also supervised c. 200 master's & 100 final-year undergraduate theses there alone). Supervised 2 PhDs at the Graduate Institute in Geneva, and took over supervision to see another to completion. First 5 Cambridge PhD students graduated in 2020-early 2022. Co-convene research seminars in African Economic History & in Global Economic History, plus an informal research discussion group & a joint PhD workshop with LSE.

**External Examining:** including 36 PhDs, in 6 disciplines and 7 countries.

### Main administrative and leadership roles

At Cambridge: served as Research Director-Projects for History, 2019-21, REF lead for

History, 2021-22; as a Director of Studies in History at King's College. Economics Faculty Board (ex officio), History Faculty Board; many other committees (peak of 20 faculty, university or college committees, 4 as chair).

At the Graduate Institute: Head of International History Department, 2011-14.

President of the *European Network in Universal and Global History* (ENIUGH), 2008-2012.

**Work with journals and book series:** General editor, *Journal of African History*, 1/1/2001-31/1/2005. Co-proposer of new *Journal of Global History*, first published in 2006. Currently serve on editorial advisory boards of 6 journals and 2 book series.

**Peer reviewing of manuscripts and applications:** including for 29 journals, 13 book publishers (including Cambridge, Oxford and Princeton UPs), and 14 funding agencies (in 8 countries); advised on promotion and/or professorial appointments for 19 external universities (in 7 countries); external reviewer of institutions in 3 countries.

### **Selected Publications (since 2005 only)**

#### **Books**

*Labour, Land and Capital in Ghana: From Slavery to Free Labour in Asante, 1807-1956* (University of Rochester Press: Rochester, NY, 2005; paperback 2008). 600+ pages.

*Markets, Slavery and the State in West Africa, c. 1500 to the Present* (Cambridge University Press; accepted subject to one confirmatory review of final manuscript, due 10/2022).

#### **Selected edited or co-edited volumes/special issues**

*Development and Environmental History in the Anthropocene: Perspectives on Asia and Africa* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2017)

*The Renaissance of African Economic History*, special issue of the *Economic History Review*, 67:4 (2014), guest-edited with Stephen Broadberry.

With Kaoru Sugihara, *Labour-Intensive Industrialization in Global History* (Routledge, 2013).

#### **Selected journal articles and chapters in edited volumes**

“More and more one cog in the world economic machine”: globalization, development, and African agency in British West Africa’, in J.E. Inikori (ed.), *British Imperialism and Globalization* (Boydell & Brewer, 2022), 135-69. ‘

‘Global history in (Northwestern) Europe: explorations and debates’, in S. Beckett and D. Sachsenmaier (eds), *Global History, Globally* (Bloomsbury, 2018), 21-44.

(with Carlos Dávila and Geoffrey Jones), ‘The alternative business history: business in emerging markets’, *Business History Review*, 91:3 (2017), 537-69.

‘Is Africa too late for “late development”? Gerschenkron south of the Sahara’, in *Diverse Development Paths and Structural Transformation in the Escape from Poverty*, ed. M. Andersson & T. Axelsson (Oxford University Press, 2016), 206-35.

‘Vent for surplus or productivity breakthrough? The Ghanaian cocoa take-off, c.1890-1936’, *Economic History Review*, 67:4 (2014), 1035-64.

‘Capitalism and the colonies’, in J.G. Williamson & L. Neal (eds), *The Cambridge History of Capitalism*, II, *The Spread of Capitalism: from 1848 to the Present* (2014), 301-47.

‘African economic development and colonial legacies’, *International Development Policy* 1 (2010), 11-32.

‘Cash crops and freedom: export agriculture and the decline of slavery in colonial West Africa’, *International Review of Social History*, 54:1 (2009), 1-37.

‘The “reversal of fortune” thesis and the compression of history: perspectives from African and comparative economic history’, *Journal of International Development* 20:8 (2008), 996-1027.

‘Resources, techniques and strategies south of the Sahara: revising the factor endowments perspective on African economic development, 1500-2000’, *Economic History Review*, 61:3 (2008), 587-624.

‘Reciprocal comparison and African history: tackling conceptual euro-centrism in the study of Africa’s economic past’, *African Studies Review*, 50:3 (2007), 1-28.