asa uk NEWSLETTER

Volume 9 Number 34 January 2004

ASAUK Annual Report 2002-2003

1. SUMMARY OF THE YEAR

It is already a year since the Birmingham conference, which by all accounts was a rousing success. During the conference the distinguished Africanist Awards were presented to Professor Lionel Cliffe (Leeds), Professor and Mrs Eldred Jones (Fourah Bay College) and Professor Shula Marks (London). Also the winners of the Audrey Richards Prize were announced and the awards presented in May at a reception held at the Brunei Gallery, SOAS as part of the Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lecture on the African Union by Ambassador Salim Ahmed Salim of Tanzania. Council through the President expressed its sincere appreciation to all the publishers who contributed books and journal subscriptions. First prize went to Helen Tilley for her dissertation, Africa as a Living Laboratory: The African Research Survey and the British Colonial Empire, Consolidating Environmental, Medical, Anthropological Debates (Oxford); second prize went to Michael Taylor for Life, Land and Power: Contesting Development in Northern Botswana, (Edinburgh); Monica Bungaro of (Birmingham) was awarded the third prize for her dissertation New Cartographies in Recent African Fiction: Changing Patterns in the Representation of Female Character.

2. CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Council continued to work with funding bodies such as the AHRB and the ESRC to promote African Studies throughout the United Kingdom. We are grateful to the RAS for agreeing to continue funding for general conference activities, which has enabled the participation of members from Africa. There were a number of conferences, symposia, colloquia and workshops held throughout the year, which were supported by the association. These include:

- New Research in the Great Lakes Region Workshop, (Edinburgh, May)
- Africa: Partnership as Imperialism? (The Review of African Political Economy, September)
- Zimbabwean Diaspora, (St Antony's, June);
- Researching Africa, (St Antony's College, June)

The Newsletter continues to grow in stature as an important medium for reaching members and others interested in African affairs. Members are urged by Douglas Johnson, the editor to pass on news of promotion and appointments, publications, conferences, symposia, workshops, visiting scholars, fellowships, dissertation completions and any news items worthy of academic hearing. Each issue of African Affairs now carries an issue of the Newsletter. The Website is now up and running and members are urge to visit it at www.asauk.net.

Lindsay Allan in the ASAUK/RAS office now maintains the ASAUK e-mail list and it provides a convenient, fast and cheap means of communicating with the bulk of the membership. Members who change their e-mail addresses or who have not yet given us their email are urged to pass them on to Lindsay.

3. MEMBERSHIP

	2001	2002	2003
ASAUK Members (UK)	40	36	36
ASAUK Members Overseas	9	8	6
Joint Members (UK)	336	339	380
Joint Members (Overseas)	75	79	76
Student Members (Joint UK)	42	36	54
Students Members (Joint Overseas)	11	15	14
Honorary Life Members (UK)	4	4	4
Corporate Members (UK)	0	0	0
Corporate Members (Overseas)	1	1	1
Associate Members	0	7	7
Total	518	545	578

This year membership has gone up by 33.

4. THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2002-2003

Officers

President	Dr Nici Nelson
Vice President	Professor Graham Furniss
Hon. Secretary	Prof Alfred B. Zack-Williams
Hon. Treasurer	Prof Richard Hodder-Williams

Council Members

Retiring in 2003	Dr Charles Gore, Dr Tim Allen, Dr M. McNulty, Dr Elizabeth Watson, Dr Reginald Cline-Cole.
Retiring 2004	Dr Mario Aguilar, Dr Angela Browne, Mr James Currey*, Prof Richard Hodder-Williams, Dr Douglas Johnson*, Dr Tim Kelsall*, Dr Insa Nolte, Dr Gina Porter, Dr Mel McNulty
Retiring 2005	Dr Martin Hill, Dr David Maxwell, Dr Helen Thomas, Dr Ola Uduku.

*Indicates a co-opted member of Council

5. ADMINISTRATION

Council would once again like to convey its sincere gratitude to Lindsay for the wonderful work she continues to do on our behalf. The Association cherishes its close relationship with the Centre for African Studies University of London, Centre for African Studies, Edinburgh, Centre of West African Studies, Birmingham, and the various Centres and Units specialising in African Studies, such as Central Lancashire, Coventry, Leeds and Liverpool.

6. RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER PROFESSIONAL BODIES

RAS: Relationship between the ASAUK and the RAS continues to be mutually supportive, co-operative and cordial.

CUSA: Standing Committees on University Studies of Africa (CUSA) has now merged with ASAUK.

Alfred Zack-Williams, Hon. Secretary

Debating Africa, 13-15 September, 2004
Goldsmiths College London

Come join us for this important event on the UK African Studies calendar. The African Studies Biennial Conference is a exciting venue where high quality debate and cutting edge ideas can be exchanged a wide range of stimulating multi-disciplinary panels. This year it will be held at Goldsmiths College, an easy public transport ride from central London. Ring fence these dates in your 2004 calendar and join us, as a panel organiser, a paper giver or participant. This year the theme is 'Debating Africa', which the Council hopes will encourage thoughtful examinations of debates in a wide variety of fields. The selection of panels is nearly complete and will cover amongst other topics the following:

Clans and Conflict in Somali and Ethiopia
Writing, Self Realisation and Popular Culture
The History of Medicine in Africa
Peace Talks and Human Rights
Strikes, Social Struggles and Labour Movement
Justice, Truth and Reconciliation
Modernising Cityscapes
Construction of the Person in East Africa
Youth and Violence in Nigeria
The Social Constuction of Economic Life
Child Soliders in Africa
Postgraduate Panel

Volunteers to organise panels or to give papers are still being solicited though the programme is nearly full at the time of writing. Panel organisers are expected to organise 2-3 speakers on a given topic. All proposed papers and panels should be submitted to Nici Nelson, President of ASAUK (see address below) by 30 March 2004 at the latest. Naturally, the earlier the better to ensure that your proposal can be fitted in the programme.

Those panel organisers who wish to invite an African scholar can apply to ASAUK/RAS for travel funds. However these funds are limited and organisers would be well advised to also seek alternative sources of funding, such as the British Council or Ford Foundation.

A separate Post Graduate Workshop will take place at the Conference. This was instituted at the Birmingham Biennial and proved highly satisfactory. This year it again will be organised and run by Patrick Shanahan (email: info@streetchildafrica.org.uk). Submissions for that panel can also be makde to Nici Nelson (see below) Please encourage your post graduate students who have completed fieldwork to submit papers.

The conference costs have yet to be calculated, though the Association makes every effort to keep the costs reasonable. It will be in the region of &150-160 for the three days all-in. It is also possible to book for separate days etc. There is also an attractive subsidised conference rate for Post Graduates and African scholars

resident in Africa who come to the conference. To qualify for this rate students must be nominated by their supervisor who should write or email Nici Nelson with the request. African scholars can be nominated by a panel organiser on whose panel they may be giving a paper, or can write themselves to request the concession: n.nelson@gold.ac.uk; Anthropology Department, Goldsmiths College, London SE14 6NW; tel: 0207-919-7804

Audrey Richards Dissertation Prize 2004

SUPERVISORS TAKE NOTE!

This award is intended to recognise the best dissertation passed in a two calendar year period preceding each Biennial Conference. It is announced at the next Biennial Conference and the actual award is made in May of the following year. It is something which will enhance any graduate's CV and is accompanied by an attractive package of book and journal vouchers depending on the generosity of our publisher donors (in the past this has come to the approximate value of £200 for the winner and two runners up), a year's membership in ASAUK/RAS and a small cash award. In those years when the quality of submissions I particularly high, one or two runners up can also be chosen.

Any dissertation successfully passed in the time period 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2004, is eligible for nomination.

Supervisors must nominate the candidates. Each supervisor is asked to nominate only one candidate please. A copy of the dissertation (which will be returned in September 2004, after the winner is announced) must be sent to Lindsay Allen, Secretary of ASAUK accompanied by a short nomination letter from the supervisor) before 15 June, 2004.
The address is Mrs. Lindsay Allan, ASAUK, SOAS, Thornhaugh St. Russell Square, London, WC1H OXG

Distinguished Africanist Award

In 2000 the ASAUK Council instituted the Distinguished Africanist Award to recognise those whose work has with distinction promoted the cause of academic African Studies in the United Kingdom. The intention is to pay tribute to the African and UK scholars who have done so much, to enhance and illuminate our understanding of Africa or who have strengthened links between African Studies here and Africa itself.

In the 2001 awards were made to Basil Davidson, John Fage and Douglas Rimmer. In 2002, awards were made to Lionel Cliffe, Eldred and Marjorie Jones, and Shula Marks.

The ASAUK Council has decided that in 2004 it will once again award 3 Distinguished Africanist. The three recipients will be given their awards at the 2004 Biennial Conference at Goldsmiths College.

After 2004, the system will change to one award every biennial year.

Nominations must come from the membership. They should consist of a concise statement by the nominator, outlining why the nominee qualifies for the award (see first paragraph above) plus a short and selective CV and publication list. Nominations to Nici Nelson by the beginning of May 2004 please, to enable the Council to make the selection before the May Council meeting on the 26 of May 2004

Conferences Future. . .

Conference listings may appear twice: one short and one long, the second notice appearing in the nearest quarterly number prior to the conference date. Organizers are invited to keep the Newsletter up to date with any changes or additions to earlier notices.

United Kingdom

5-6 March: *'The letters home festival. Exiles and émigrés: South Africans writing abroad'*: School of Pythagoras, St John's College, University of Cambridge. Throughout the colonial and postcolonial history of southern Africa; before and during and after the years of Apartheid, writers have been captivated and repelled, stifled and invigorated, enthralled and tortured by their unavoidably intimate association with this land of extremes. For many, a life of exile was both a political and emotional necessity, writing their poetry, plays and novels from abroad with energy and urgency born of passionate engagement. Many, too, left Africa in search of a space in which their creative agency could flow untrammelled by the restrictive forces of colonial and apartheid discourses. The Festival is conceived as a celebration of South African writing, with readings, critical papers, interviews and informal discussion – as well as a little film, music and art. The organisers would like to include a book table, with texts available for purchase, as well as author signings. The organisers also propose to compile an anthology of poems, short stories and literary essays, for publication at a later date. The Festival will host and support Starfish Greathearts Foundation, a charity formed in response to the unfolding tragedy of children orphaned or affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic in South Africa/www.starfishcharity.org.

21-22 March: *'Growth, poverty reduction and human development in Africa'*, CSAE, St Catherine's College Oxford: As for previous conferences, all papers on economic development issues in Africa are welcome, but papers related to this year's theme are particularly encouraged. We will also consider proposals for complete sessions. A complete session is a set of four papers on a common theme. Conference email: csae.conference@economics.oxford.ac.uk. Conference address: Africa Conference 2004, CSAE, Department of Economics, Manor Road, Oxford, OX1 3UQ, UK; http://www.csae.ox.ac.uk/

5-7 April: *'The archaeology and anthropology of genocide'*, a joint meeting of The Inforce Foundation and The Centre for Forensic Science, Technology and Law, Bournemouth University, Poole, Dorset, BH12 5BB, UK. Sessions may include: 'Forensic archaeology': approaches to unusual contexts; application of new methodologies; commonality of approaches. 'Forensic anthropology': new approaches; skeletal manifestations of 'modern' disease processes; anthropology of juveniles; biomolecular applications. Common sessions: ethical considerations; standard operating procedures – Inforce's protocols; applications to mass disasters.

Registration details are posted on www.inforce.org.uk/conferences.htm or alternatively available from: Judy Geldart, Inforce Foundation, Centre for Forensic Science, Technology & Law, Bournemouth University, Talbot Campus, Poole, Dorset BH12 5BB, UK; email: jgeldart@inforce.org.uk. Closing date - 5th March 2004. Registration fee: £100; discounted fees: £50 for full-time registered students £75 for Friends of Inforce. Any surplus will support the work of Inforce Foundation (registered charity 1097435).

19-20 May: *'States, borders and nations: negotiating citizenship in Africa'*, Centre of African Studies, Edinburgh. The 2004 Centre of African Studies international conference will focus on the topic of citizenship in Africa. Since 2000, conflicts have emerged across Africa over issues of citizenship. The nation and state-building projects of the post-independence period are also challenged by local level conflicts over access to resources, especially land, which are often hinged on definitions of 'insiders' and 'outsiders'. These political crises and conflicts have common themes - the instrumental manipulation of citizenship, and the narrowing of definitions of nationhood. Yet, at the same time, in Somaliland and Sudan, national identity is being reconstructed after periods of conflict. In Ethiopia, innovative institution-building is attempting to de-link Amharan identity from that of the state. And despite expectations of the collapse of their respective states, Nigerians and the Congolese seem determined to reconceptualise their identities.

The conference seeks to bring together comparative perspectives from across the continent to investigate the meaning of 'citizenship' in African states and to query the role of state and nation-building projects in exacerbating or ameliorating the potential for conflict. We expect to attract speakers and participants from a range of disciplinary backgrounds including politics, history, anthropology education, human development and literature/cultural studies. Confirmed speakers to date include: Crawford Young, Brian Raftopoulos, Georges Nzongola-Ntalaja, Deborah James, Nico Fru Awasom, Neville Alexander, Ruth Iyob, Ned Bertz, Blair Rutherford and Will Reno.

For further information please contact the Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh, 21 George Square, Edinburgh, EH8 9LD, Scotland. Tel. +44 (0)131 650 3878; Fax: +44 (0)131 650 6535; Email: African.Studies@ed.ac.uk

27 & 28 May: *'The political economy of Kenya: past & present'*, a workshop to be held at St Antony's College, Oxford. Research on all aspects of the political economy of Kenya has blossomed over the past decade, contributing to what is currently one of the most lively and stimulating bodies of scholarly work on any part of the African continent. This workshop aims to bring academics from Kenya, North America and Europe to join with British colleagues in a review of recent research and publication of Kenya's political economy. The emphasis of the workshop will be on discussion of key issues and the setting of new research agendas, hopefully fostering closer collaboration between scholars.

The workshop is intended as a tribute to the career and scholarship of John Lonsdale, who retires from his post at the University of Cambridge in September 2004, and whose pioneering work on Kenya's history and politics has been so influential over the past 40 years.

Paper proposals are welcome on any aspect of Kenya's history, politics and economic development over the colonial and post-colonial eras, broadly defined

to include anthropological research, cultural studies and religious studies. Proposals by 30th November 2003 .

The workshop will be held under the auspices of the African Studies Committee of the University of Oxford, and will take place in St Antony's College, Oxford. A limited amount of funds has been made available to support the travel costs of participants coming to the workshop from African universities. Those attending from Europe or North America are asked to seek financial support from other sources.

During the workshop, on Thursday 27 May, Dr Lonsdale will deliver the *Annual Africa Lecture*, in the Nissan Lecture Theatre, St Antony's College.

To register for the Political Economy of Kenya workshop please complete the attached pre-registration form, and return it either by email or post, to: david.anderson@sant.ox.ac.uk; Dr David M. Anderson, St Antony's College, Oxford OX2 6JF

5-7 August: '"Traditional" accountability and "modern governance"', the University of Durham. This will be a small conference of around 50 people, with all the sessions held in plenary. A selection of the papers will comprise an edited volume. Further queries should be directed to the conference organisers: Tim Kelsall (tim.kelsall@ncl.ac.uk) and Justin Willis (justin.willis@durham.ac.uk).

29 June–3 July 2005: *AEGIS European Conference on African Studies*, 2ND CALL FOR PANELS. An initial call for panels at this conference filled well in excess of half our allocated panel sessions. While not excluding other subjects, we would now particularly welcome further proposals in the arts, history, gender, economics, development and sociology. Panels are expected to consist of four to five papers, with a chair and a discussant. Larger panels may be accommodated over more than one session. Initially, the Steering Committee invites potential panel organizers to provide a title and some of the names of participants to be considered for inclusion in the programme. A 50 word abstract and 250 word description should be included. If the panel can be accommodated, these materials – along with those from the first call for panels – will be posted on a conference website so as to issue a call for papers. Although proposals need not be wholly finalized yet, the materials should be in a form fit to be included in the call for papers. Panels may be organized in any EU language, however, plenary contributions will be in English or French. Translation facilities are not envisaged.

Graduate students interested in Africa are also encouraged by the Steering Committee to submit proposals for panels on subjects across the gamut of the humanities and social sciences applied to Africa.

The second call for panels closes 27 February 2004.

Panel proposals should be submitted to the Centre of African Studies (e-mail: cas@soas.ac.uk), Centre of African Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG. Email enquiries for further information sent to the Centre of African Studies will be forwarded to the appropriate member of the AEGIS Conference Steering Committee.

11-12 March: *'Sudan at the crossroads: transforming generations of civil war into peace and development'*, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Medford, MA, USA. See http://www.fletcher.tufts.edu/test/sudan/index.shtml

12-16 April: *'VIII African and afroamerican international culture conference'*, African Culture Center, 'Fernando Ortiz', Oriente University, Santiago, Cuba. General topics: Pre-colonial Africa - economic, political and social structure; Colonial Africa Main - European settlement, the formation of countries and nationalities in Africa, liberation war, Africa and its relationship with the rest of the world; The slave trade all over the Atlantic and its approach in present days; The African factor as a component of the national identity of the American and Caribbean people; Diacrony and synchrony in linguistic, philosophical, historical and literary studies about Africa, Afroamerican and Afrocaribbean; Genre, race and identity having in perspective the different African studies; Multiculturalism, 'transculturation', and re-africanization as modern tendencies to approach the African component in the New World; The political and cultural relationships among Africa and American people at present; African religions, its situation in the African context, evolution and 'transculturation' in the New World; Psychiatry and religion; African traditional medicine, its development and its relationship with other types of traditional medicine in the New World; Tropical Medicine in Africa and in Afroamerica; Africa in the 21st century. Different modern cultural problems of the African continent. Languages: English, French and Spanish. Fees: Reporters and delegates: $150.00 (USD); Students: $80.00 (USD). Contact: Dra. Marta E. Cordiés Jackson, Directora Centro Cultural Africano 'Fernando Ortiz', Coordinadora General de la VIII Conferencia; Ave. Manduley No. 106 esq. A 5ta; Reparto Vista Alegre, Santiago de Cuba, CP: 90400; telefax: (53-22) 642487; (53-22) 623893 (night); email: ccult.f.ortiz@cultstgo.cult.cu; mcordies@csh.uo.edu.cu; mercy@ictjam.uo.edu.cu

. . .Conferences Past

'Researching Africa' day workshop, June 2003 at St Antony's College, University of Oxford. The fourth annual 'Researching Africa' day workshop was held at St Antony's college in June, convened by Maitseo Bolaane (History) and Andrew Hurst (Geography). The purpose of these workshops is to give students and others who have recently researched in African countries an opportunity to discuss their experiences in an informal academic context. Amongst those attending are students who are planning to work on African topics.

As in earlier years, a number of short papers (16) were delivered. Panels were arranged on: Reflections on Research Methodologies; Negotiating the Politics; How the Practicalities Shape the Material; and the Personal Side of Fieldwork. Each set of presentations was followed by lively discussion. Issues that became of particular importance this year were questions of linguistic and cultural translation, relationships with research assistants, the ethics of disclosure, and personal responses to fieldwork.

The workshop was sponsored by the African Studies Committee, University of Oxford, the African Studies Association of the United Kingdom, and the Journal of Southern African Studies. About 60 students attended, roughly half from the University of Oxford, and half from other institutions. Because of the financial sponsorship, we were able to pay the fares of paper-givers from outside

Oxford, including a contribution to visitors from Europe (Berlin) and Zimbabwe, as well as meet the other costs of the workshop.

Enthusiastic feedback from those attending suggests that the workshops fulfil an important need for students, and they certainly help to develop networks amongst those studying Africa. In this sense, the Africanist community as a whole may benefit. In a concluding discussion, it was suggested that more ambitious workshops, with longer papers and lasting for a longer period, might be attempted. But this would introduce financial and organisational problems. At present, much of the work in convening the workshops is done by students at the University of Oxford and they set the intellectual agenda. As they are usually in the process of completing their doctorates, they could not do more. Thus the present format will be retained for next year. *William Beinart*

The African Studies Association of Ireland held its annual conference on 6 December 2003 in Trinity College, Dublin. Around 30 members were present. The keynote lecturers were Dr Ato Quayson of the University of Cambridge, who spoke on 'Itineraries of Globalisation: Oxford St, Accra' and Dr Donal Lowry of Oxford Brookes University, who spoke on 'Irish-Afrikaner relations from the South African War to Apartheid'. There were also papers presented on Ethiopian oral poetry, W.E.B. DuBois, The World Bank and IMF, the impact of Globalisation on Zimbabwe, West African oracles, Eritrean land reform, Yoruba cosmology and the Radharc film archive and Africa. Further details of the Association can be obtained from the Secretary, Dr Martin Lynn, m.lynn@qub.ac.uk

Peri-urban Interface of the Kumasi city-region Database

Research financed by the Natural Resources Systems Programme (NRSP) of DFID on the peri-urban interface of the Kumasi city-region since 1996 has recorded data on a variety of subjects, including:

- Natural resources production systems
- Livelihoods
- Participatory planning led by communities
- Water quality of streams and rivers
- Pilot tests of alternative, community-generated livelihood strategies for those receiving the impact of the peri-urban interface

This data has substantial potential for use in new related research activity. Moreover, there is an unusually rich history of research focussing upon the Kumasi city-region, providing an additional pool of information and findings on a wide variety of topics that can help to underpin cross-cutting studies.

Information and publications derived from NRSP research on the peri-urban interface in Kumasi, and on the peri-urban interface generally, is available on the NRSP website (www.nrsp.co.uk).

Further enquiries and requests for copies of publications should be sent to the Programme Manager at nrsp@htsdevelopment.com; or, NRSP, HTS Development Ltd., Thamesfield House, Boundary Way, Hemel Hempstead, HP2 7SR, United Kingdom; tel: +44 (0) 1442 214 369.

Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities

The Newsletter depends on supervisors and successful candidates to supply us with details of new theses.

V. R. Atta-Bafoe, 'African cultures, African church, Anglican communion: inculturation and the Church in Ghana', King's College London, 2003.

Simon Massey, 'Contextualising all-African peacekeeping: political and ethical dimensions', PhD, African Studies Centre, Coventry University, 2003 (Supervisors: Professor Roy May and Professor Oliver Furley)

Harrison Olan'g, 'The impact of spiritism on the African conception of the Holy Spirit. A case study of the Luo of Tanzania', London Bible College, Brunel University, 2003

Appointments, Academic Links and Exchanges

Dr Rebekah Lee has been appointed as a lecturer in history, Goldsmiths College, University of London.

Cheryl McEwan was appointed to a lectureship in Geography at Durham University in September 2003.

Ben Page has been appointed Lecturer in the Department of Geography, University College London.

Awards, Prizes and Fellowships

Orisha Studentships, University of Oxford: The Management Committee for African Studies invites applications for the ORISHA Studentships for research in the Humanities in Africa from persons who will be registered as graduate students of the University from October 2004. Students may be registered in any of the following disciplines: Social and cultural anthropology; Archaeology; Egyptology; History; Human geography; Politics and international relations; Sociology; Religious Studies; African literature; Development Studies

Applicants for the scholarship may be candidates for admission, or already registered as graduate students. The successful applicant, if not already a member of an Oxford college, may be offered a place at St Antony's College or St Cross College. Candidates without an existing college association should name St Antony's as their college of first choice on their graduate application form. St Cross should be named as the college of second choice.

The scholarship will cover college and university fees *at the home rate only* and a maintenance allowance for two years in the first instance with possible extension for a third. *Overseas students are encouraged to apply for an Overseas Research Studentship (ORS) award, or other sources to cover the difference between the home and overseas rates.* (Contact the International Office, University Offices, for further details.) Students may also apply for less than two years' support, and D.Phil. students who have completed their fee liability but who have run out of support to cover their other costs will also be eligible.

Application forms are available from Ulli Parkinson, St Antony's College, 70 Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 6JF; email: Ulli.Parkinson@sant.ox.ac.uk.

Applications should be sent to reach Ulli Parkinson by Friday 27 February 2004. Email applications are accepted. Candidates needing advice on research proposals and possible supervisors should, in the first instance, contact the Chair of the African Studies Committee, Professor William Beinart through Ulli Parkinson. Please note that short-listed candidates will be asked to submit written work of approximately 5,000 words by the end of March 2004. (Please *do not* send this with your initial application.) Interviews may be held towards the end of April 2004.

African Visiting Fellowships, Rhodes Chair of Race Relations & Islamic Studies Centre, University of Oxford, 2004-05: The Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies and the Rhodes Chair of Race Relations are offering two African Visiting Research Fellowships for the academic year 2004-05. Applications are invited from scholars working in African Universities or research institutions.

The Fellowships will be awarded in the fields of Modern History or the Social Sciences, including Anthropology, Human Geography and Cultural Studies. The OCIS Fellowship will be awarded for the study of any aspect of Islam, or Muslim Societies, in Africa, including North Africa and South Africa. The Rhodes Chair Fellowship can focus on any aspect of African Studies, but will exclude scholars from North Africa or South Africa.

The successful Fellows will receive a maintenance and accommodation grant of £1,000 a month, for up to nine months. Travel costs will be paid up to £800. The grant will also cover the cost of affiliation of the Rhodes Chair Fellowship to St Antony's College and of the OCIS Fellowship to the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies.

The purpose of the Fellowship is to provide an opportunity for scholars working in African universities to spend an extended research period at Oxford, and to enrich the study of Africa at the University. Fellows will be expected to reside in Oxford during Term, to give and contribute to seminars, and to participate in discussion with post-graduates, possibly through a limited amount of post-graduate seminar teaching.

Applications for both Fellowships should be sent to the Academic Secretary, Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, George Street, Oxford OX1 2AR by 27 February 2004. These should include a full CV with details of publications, and a short research proposal of 500 words. E-mail applications are welcome to islamic.studies@oxcis.ac.uk. Enquiries concerning the OCIS Fellowship should be addressed to islamic.studies@oxcis.ac.uk and for the Rhodes Chair Fellowship to ulli.parkinson@sant.ox.ac.uk.

The Claude Ake Visiting Chair, Uppsala University: A Claude Ake Visiting Chair has been set up at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, in collaboration with the Nordic Africa Institute and with funding from the Swedish Government. The Chair is to honour the memory of Professor Claude Ake, distinguished African scholar, philosopher, teacher and humanist. It is particularly intended for scholars who, like Claude Ake, combine a profound commitment to scholarship with a strong advocacy for social justice. The Chair is open to prominent social scientists working at African universities with problems related to war, peace, and conflict resolution on the African continent.

This Visiting Professorship will cover a period of up to six months and will be awarded once a year, beginning in 2003. The Visiting Professor will be offered a conducive environment to pursue his or her own research for about half the duration, while the other half will be spent on lecturing, holding seminars and contributing to ongoing research activities at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research, the Nordic Africa Institute and elsewhere.

The Chair is announced annually and awarded on a competitive basis. The Department of Peace and Conflict Research hereby invites social science departments, research institutions and institutes, in Africa and elsewhere, to propose candidates for the Claude Ake Visiting Chair for the year 2004 or for later years.

Proposed candidates should be established and internationally recognized senior scholars with professorial competence in their respective fields of expertise. Nominations are to be submitted in the form of a written text that presents the proposed researcher and his/her research and the motives for the proposal. A complete curriculum vitae, including relevant data regarding academic title, current and previous positions, research and teaching activities, publications as well as addresses, phone and fax-numbers, e-mail, etc., shall be attached to the nomination. The proposed researcher must be informed about and agree to the nomination.

Costs of travelling and housing for the holder of the position, as well as for spouse and other dependants under the age of 18, are covered by the grant. Duration of the stay, salary and other financial or practical conditions linked to the position are negotiated individually. Such conditions must comply with standard regulations pertaining to guest researchers at Swedish universities.

Proposals should be sent via ordinary mail and must arrive at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, no later than 28 February 2004. Prior notification may be sent via fax or e-mail. The Department will confirm receipt of the complete nomination proposal immediately upon arrival.

Applications should be mailed to the address below. Similarly, for further information or inquiries about the Claude Ake Visiting Chair, please contact Lotta Harbom or Thomas Ohlson at: Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, Att.: Claude Ake Visiting Chair, Box 514, SE-751 20 Uppsala, Sweden; tel: +46 18 471 23 72 or 471 71 79; fax: +46 18 69 51 02; email: Thomas.Ohlson@pcr.uu.se

Note to Contributors

The *Newsletter* solicits short reports (of around 2-300 words) on recent conferences, announcements of forthcoming conferences, symposia and workshops (giving topic, date, venue, and contact address), announcements of the awarding of grants, fellowships and prizes, news of appointments and visiting fellowships, recently completed theses, publication announcements of books by members, and brief articles or notices on matters of importance to Africanists in the UK. **Please do not send review copies of books.** All items for inclusion in the *Newsletter* should be sent to Douglas H. Johnson, Editor, ASAUK Newsletter, James Currey Publishers, 73 Botley Road, Oxford OX2 0BS (fax: (+44) (0)1865-246454), or e-mail: 106155.3441@compuserve.com (preferably as text, not as attachments). **Deadlines** are *15 December* (for the January Newsletter), *15 March* (for April), *15 June* (for July), and *15 September* (for October). Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the ASAUK.

For all matters relating to membership of either the ASAUK or RAS contact Lindsay Allan, RAS/ASAUK, SOAS, Thornhaugh St., Russell Sq, London WC1H 0XG; tel: +44 (0)20 7898 4390; fax: +44 (0)20 7898 4389; email: asa@soas.ac.uk, or ras@soas.ac.uk.

Keep up-to-date with ASAUK! Read the Newsletter *and* the website:
www.asauk.net