

ASAUK Conference 2016

The ASAUK biennial conference was held at Robinson College, University of Cambridge, from Wednesday to Friday, 7th–9th September 2016. The participants used every inch of the purpose-built meetings rooms and lingered in the beautiful gardens, made even more special by some barny September weather. Robinson College proved an excellent focal point for our event, but the very large number of participants – over 620 from 96 countries – meant the conference spilled over to employ various nearby modern faculty buildings and college facilities.

There were many chances for participants to come together to share some excellent events dotted throughout the conference: a fascinating keynote lecture by Derek Peterson, a special conference dinner, as well as the ASAUK AGM and thought-provoking Presidential Lecture by David Maxwell. A very lively fair of the major Africanist book publishers provided lots of chances to browse and buy the latest publications.

ASAUK 2016 also coincided with the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Cambridge Centre for African Studies. A reception and music in Robinson College's new Wordsworth Building sponsored by Cambridge University Press celebrated the Centre's 50th anniversary on the first night of the conference.

This *newsletter* publishes reports on the three Distinguished Africanist Awards, the two inaugural Fage & Oliver Prizes, as well as a full report on the winner and two runners-up for the best doctoral thesis completed at a British university in the past two full years.

The unofficial business – the bumping into old friends and the making of new ones, as well as the academic networking and the socialising went well into the early hours of the morning for many participants, and made for a very friendly, productive and enjoyable conference.

The ASUK Council wants to thank everyone who attended, gave papers, chaired panels and organised streams across the conference, as well as the student administrators and volunteers who worked very hard to assist everyone before, during and after the conference.

Let's do all again! A date for your diaries: the next ASUK conference will be at the University of Birmingham, Tuesday to Thursday, 11th–13th September 2018. Get ready for the call for streams, panels and papers next summer!

Distinguished Africanist Awards

John Peel

So first we turn to the Distinguished Africanist Award: And we begin on a sombre note. The Council of the ASA was unanimous that this year we should break with tradition, or better still create a new one and make an award posthumously. We agreed that we wanted to mark the immense contribution that John Peel made to British African Studies.

John's scholarship was second to none. His contribution to African studies was based upon a trilogy of pioneering studies of Yoruba society, each of which defined new fields of study and was heralded for its scholarly distinction. His first book *Aladura: A religious movement* was foundational in the comparative study of African religion. His *Ijeshas and Nigerians. The incorporation of an Yoruba Kingdom* was one of the finest works of historical ethnography ever written. And his *Religious Encounter in the Making of the Yoruba* is simply the best study of religious encounter to date. For these works he twice won the Amaury Talbot Prize and twice won the Herskovits prize for the most important work in African Studies.

But more than that John was a great defender and promoter of African Studies fighting our corner in the British Academy and BIEA. And he served as President of the ASA. He was sole editor the influential periodical *Africa: Journal of the International African Institute* from 1979-86. He was also active board member of the *Journal of Religion in Africa* and more recently the *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*. As General Editor of the International African Library series he saw around 50 manuscripts into publication thus helping many young scholars establish their careers. At SOAS he did more than his fair share of public service as Head of Department and Dean.

We have been discussing and celebrating John's work during this conference but Richard Fardon from SOAS will come and receive the award on behalf of John's widow, Anne and family.

Richard Hodder-Williams

We are very pleased to announce an award of Distinguished Africanist to Richard Hodder-Williams.

Richard has played a central role in the establishment of African Studies in UK Universities. At the University of Bristol where he taught for nearly forty years from 1967, he introduced the first course on African politics. His own scholarship focused on Zimbabwe and he will be known to many of you for his writing on White Farmers in Rhodesia and on conflict in Zimbabwe.

Richard founded the *Journal of Southern African Studies* in 1974 and for a decade from 1981 he was an editor of *African Affairs*.

Between 1994 and 1996, Richard served as President of the African Studies Association of the UK and subsequently as Honorary Treasurer. He conceived of and created the invaluable *Directory of Africanists in Britain*.

Nici Nelson

If we didn't have the distinguished Africanist award we would have to invent a prize for our final distinguished recipient this evening: Professor Nici Nelson. Nici has of course served as past president of the ASA but much more important is the position of secretary, which Nici has held for over twenty years 1985-2000 and 2010-16. She *IS* the institutional memory of the ASAUK. Over a dozen presidents have depended on her wisdom, efficiency, experience and especially her good humour when things get rocky. So in some respects she has become more like a head of state than a secretary, a queen-like figure seeing off transient prime-ministers.

Her academic career is marked by a similar practical unsung service to the profession and to the continent of Africa. Since the mid-1970s she has researched and advised governments and agencies on such varied issues as gender and 'development', refugee resettlement, HIV and AIDS prevention and advice, famine relief in Tigray, wells and health in Eritrea, urban poverty (largely in Nairobi). She has in addition written 70 'expert country reports' on behalf of women and girl asylum seekers from Kenya and Uganda who have been trafficked and otherwise abused. On these matters she has written or co-written three scholarly monographs and three edited collections and numerous articles.

She qualifies so well for a Distinguished Africanist Award because her way of being an 'Africanist' is driven by a concern, not so much for REF-able academic 'outputs' as for furthering understanding and practical resolution of—immediate problems around gender relations in East Africa. Nici's work has impact and audiences well outside the traditional academy. Nici we would be lost without you.

The Fage & Oliver Prize

The Fage & Oliver Prize is a new award inaugurated this year by the ASAUK to recognise outstanding original scholarly work on Africa in monograph form. The prize will be awarded biennially, and so on this occasion submissions were of books published in 2014 and 2015.

The prize was established in honour of two of the founders of African Studies in the UK, John Donnelly Fage (1921-2002) and Roland Oliver (1923-2014), who were pioneers of British African Studies. Among their joint initiatives were the foundation of the *Journal of African History* in 1960 and the ASAUK itself in 1963.

Let me say first that I am only making this announcement today because the original chair of the prize panel, John Peel, passed away soon after the panel was set up. Greatly daunted and humbled by the magnitude of the task ahead, I also felt honour bound to accept the invitation to step in, as a last duty to a lifelong colleague, mentor and leader of African Studies. I am grateful to the other members of the panel for making the process both interesting and pleasant. They were: William Beinart, Ambreena Manji, JoAnn McGregor, Ola Oduku, and Tunde Zack-Williams.

But the task turned out to be not only interesting but massively encouraging about the health of African Studies. We had more than 50 submissions, of which a very large proportion were original, informative, thoroughly researched and stimulating. With difficulty, but with unanimity, the panel selected eight of these for the shortlist, previously announced.

In alphabetical order of author's surname, these were:

Maxim Bolt – *Zimbabwe's Migrants and South Africa's Border Farms: The Roots of Impermanence*.

Deborah James – *Money from Nothing: Indebtedness and Aspiration in South Africa*.

Matthias Krings – *African Appropriations: Cultural Difference, Mimesis, and Media*.

Terri Ochiagha – *Achebe and Friends at Umuahia: The Making of a Literary Alite*.

Carine E. Ray – *Crossing the Color Line: Race, Sex, and the Contested Politics of Colonialism in Ghana*.

Benedetta Rossi – *From Slavery to Aid: Politics, Labour, and Ecology in the Nigerien Sahel, 1800-2000*.

Alison K. Shutt – *Manners Make a Nation: Racial Etiquette in Southern Rhodesia, 1910-1963*.

Ricardo Soares de Oliveira – *Magnificent and Beggar Land: Angola Since the Civil War*.

Such a diversity of topics, approaches, regional foci – it was the variety as well as the quality that was awe-inspiring. In the course of our animated but amiable panel discussions, we came to the view that what really needed to be recognised was both present glory and future promise of the scholarly field. For this reason,

we thought that there ought to be two Fage & Oliver Prizes: one for masterworks by senior, established scholars, and one for brilliant first books by early career researchers. So we have awarded two Fage & Oliver Prizes this year.

In the category of the brilliant debut, we have: **Terri Ochiagha – *Achebe and Friends at Umuahia: The Making of a Literary Elite***. In this book, new light is shed on an iconic figure. In the last decades of colonial rule, Government College Umuahia in Eastern Nigeria produced an extraordinary cohort of creative writers – among them Chinua Achebe, doyen of African novelists. This study is an original exploration of the formation of this elite and the reasons for their adoption of fiction and poetry as their mode of expression. It traces the role of individual British teachers in their interactions with the young Nigerian writers-to-be, thus vividly illustrating the more culturally creative aspects of the colonial encounter. Terri draws on interviews, memoirs and hitherto unknown archival sources, including school magazines, photographs and letters revealing the life and ethos of this prestigious school, to trace the emergence of a new literature. Elegantly written, this is a historical sociology of literature of a kind rare in African Studies.

In the category of masterworks by established scholars, we have: **Deborah James – *Money from Nothing: Indebtedness and Aspiration in South Africa***. This timely, empirically rich, and theoretically innovative study explores the upsurge in consumer indebtedness, and its flipside, accessible credit in South Africa, following the post-1994 government's initiative to abolish "credit apartheid" and "bank the unbanked". It reveals a complex, contradictory and multi-faceted picture of ordinary people's experiences of debt, and their efforts to keep a grip on expenditure while meeting family obligations and investing in a better future through education and training. It shows the significance of debt for a growing African middle class, and the complex forms that private ownership of property amongst African families has increasingly been taking. Based on original research, it is illuminated with captivating individual case studies while speaking authoritatively to a whole domain of comparative and theoretical work on popular economies, the formal and informal sectors, and the meaning of indebtedness.

Professor Karin Barber

Audrey Richards Prizes

The Audrey Richards Prize is awarded biennially for the best doctoral thesis in African Studies which has been successfully examined in a British institute of higher education during the two calendar years immediately preceding the ASAUK Conference. So the 2016 prize was for theses examined between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2015. The prize enhances any graduate's CV and is accompanied by a certificate and an attractive package of book and journal vouchers from the generosity of our publisher donors. ASAUK gratefully

acknowledges the support of the following publishers: Boydell and Brewer (James Currey), Cambridge University Press (CUP), Hurst and Co., International African Institute (IAI), Royal African Society, Routledge (Taylor and Francis), and Zed Press. In 2016 we made the the eleventh award of the Audrey Richards Prize, which was established in 1994. We had eleven nominations for the prize, which were for doctoral dissertations supervised at the Universities of Birmingham, Cambridge, Durham, Edinburgh, Liverpool, London (SOAS), Oxford, and Sussex.

The standard of all submitted theses was very high. The judges were impressed by the rigour and attention to detail with which many authors approached their empirical work, which was often extended fieldwork, despite the pressure on doctoral students to complete their projects within limited time spans. We also appreciated the originality of many theses in terms of conception, methodology and interpretation. And it was inspiring to see how many authors were able to draw on their material to contribute to wider debates about Africa and beyond.

Given the high quality of the submissions, our shortlist consisted of seven theses, namely (in alphabetical order):

- Zoe Cormack, *The Making and Remaking of Gogrial: landscape, history and memory in south Sudan* (Durham, 2014)
- Maggie Dwyer, *Anticipating the Revolt: Trends in Military Mutinies in West and Central Africa, 1960-2012* (Edinburgh, 2014)
- Juliet Gilbert, *'Destiny is not where you are now': Fashioning New Pentecostal Subjectivities among Young Women in Calabar, Nigeria* (Oxford, 2014)
- Rebecca Jones, *Writing Domestic Travel in Yoruba and English Print Culture, Southwestern Nigeria 1914-2014* (Birmingham, 2014)
- Sara Marzagora, *Alterity, Coloniality and Modernity in Ethiopian Political Thought: The First Three Generations of 20th Century Amharic-Language Intellectuals* (SOAS, 2015)
- Anneke Newman, *Faith, Identity, Status and Schooling: An Ethnography of Educational Decision-making in Northern Senegal* (Sussex, 2015)
- Jesse A. Zink, *Christianity and Catastrophe: Sudan's Civil Wars and Religious Change Among the Dinka* (Cambridge, 2015)

From this shortlist, we agreed on one winner and two runners-up.

The runners-up are as follows (in alphabetical order):

1. Maggie Dwyer, *Anticipating the Revolt: Trends in Military Mutinies in West and Central Africa, 1960-2012*. This highly original thesis focuses on African military mutinies, a topic that has been relatively neglected compared to the study of African coups. Using an innovative methodology including political analyses, newspaper reports and interviews with former mutineers, the thesis compares coups across all ECOWAS countries, and discusses in-depth case studies from the Gambia, Sierra Leone and Burkina Faso. Emphasising the importance of

perceived unfair treatment, the author argues that situations where material grievances increase and views of acceptable treatment of soldiers by officers shift are highly conducive to mutinies. Such changes often accompanied the democratization period of the 1990s, which were also associated with increased military deployment for peacekeeping, where especially the lack of pay for veterans was perceived as a hardship. Moral appeals made by mutineers typically respect the chain of military command even as they criticize the conduct of senior officers, and especially in the wake of democratisation, mutineers have been able to exploit the private press and radio to engage with the civilian population. The author shows convincingly that democratization has made mutinies both more frequent and less risky for the mutineers and argues that mutinies are a form of communication between the lower order and officers through collective action.

2. Rebecca Jones, *Writing Domestic Travel in Yoruba and English Print Culture, Southwestern Nigeria 1914-2014*. The thesis explores a century of southwestern Nigerian travel writing in both Yoruba and English and thus establishes a literary history of writing about travel in different contexts and genres spanning the past century. Combining close readings with a book history approach, the author discusses written travelogues as well as travel in missionary accounts, diaries, autobiographies, historical and ethnographic writing, fiction, journalism, blogs, *itan* (historical narratives) and *oriki* (poetry of origins). She illustrates convincingly that rather than engaging with a Western or 'outside' gaze or producing a form of autoethnography, Nigerian travel writing illuminates specifically Yoruba understandings of travel as constitutive of civilisation, and reveals forms of cosmopolitanism that are both spatial and intellectual. Examining both English and Yoruba traditions of writing about travel, the author also offers important reflections on the importance of language, and the relationship between texts in African and colonial languages. She argues that in southwest Nigeria, the expansion of a literary culture in English did not suppress writing in Yoruba but evolved along with it. As many authors wrote and write in both languages, they have both adapted and re-created local as well as European genres of writing. Yet language continues to be central to the shaping of the text: drawing on different references and imagining different readerships who enjoy diverse forms of writing, the two literatures are not interchangeable.

The winner of the Audrey Richards prize is: Jesse A. Zink, *Christianity and Catastrophe: Sudan's Civil Wars and Religious Change Among the Dinka*. Based on detailed archival research and intensive fieldwork, the author explores the recent conversion to Christianity among the Dinka of South Sudan, which took place mostly in the context of the civil war from 1983 to 2005. Extending the study of religious change in post-colonial Africa by carrying out in-depth research in refugee camps, Zink offers an electrifying narrative of religious transformation as a collective trauma, in which the Bible became a political tool in the conflict with

Khartoum. Yet Zink also explores the rise of Christianity as a social process with its own rationality, where the church attracted converts also because it enabled the socially marginalised – especially women and young people – to take on new roles in Christian communities and in the production of new cultural forms, such as church music. The thesis's robust engagement with wider debates on conversion, its meanings and its suitability as a focus of analysis, will undoubtedly attract both attention and debate. However, acknowledging and reflecting on his own positionality as a priest, Zink demonstrates exceptional writing skills and intellectual maturity in the manner in which he fashions persuasive narratives and arguments from multiple debates and sources.

The Judges: Insa Nolte (Chair, Birmingham), Carli Coetzee (SOAS), Keith Shear (Birmingham), and Phia Steyn (Stirling).

ASAUK Writing Workshops

The ASAUK invites calls from scholars working in African studies (any discipline therein) to run workshops for early career scholars. These workshops traditionally bring early career scholars working in Africa together with international journal editors. The aim of the workshops is to promote African scholarship and representation in major Africanist journals. It is thus preferable but not essential for workshops to be held in Africa. The ASAUK will provide guidance on how to host and administer said workshops but it is expected that scholars heading them will take on the daily management of them. The ASAUK can apply for funds for scholars wishing to host these workshops. Workshops have been held, amongst others, in Birmingham, Cambridge and Oxford, as well as Johannesburg, Ife and Nairobi. If you are interested in hosting a workshop, please get in touch by 31 October 2016 with Dr Reuben Loffman: r.loffman@qmul.ac.uk and Dr George Ogola at Googola@uclan.ac.uk

Conferences Future...

UNITED KINGDOM

'Creating African Fashion Histories' Conference, The Old Court Room, 118 Church St, Brighton, 2 November 2016. This conference, hosted by Royal Pavilion and Museums (Brighton) with the Sussex Africa Centre/University of Sussex and the University of Brighton, coincides with Fashion Cities Africa, the first major UK exhibition dedicated to contemporary African fashion. It will explore the possibilities and limitations of dress and fashion history to discuss current and past narratives in African fashion. Panels will focus on the construction of African fashion histories; the role of African Diasporas in the translation of African fashions; new directions in collecting and curating African fashion and the evolution of new platforms for the dissemination of African

fashion. As well as those interested specifically in Africa this conference is also likely to be of interest to students of fashion, design, dress history, and museum collections/curating.

Speakers will be drawn from a range of backgrounds creating a lively and informative conference. Academics (Victoria Rovine, Carol Tulloch, Heather Akou, Erica de Greef, Jody Benjamin, and Christopher Richards) will speak alongside fashion journalists (Helen Jennings, Hannah Pool, and Mouna Belgrini), museum curators and bloggers. Conference fee: £65 full price, £50 concessions (including an evening reception and a chance to view the exhibition). More information and booking: <http://brightonmuseums.org.uk/discover/events/event/creating-african-fashion-histories/>

INTERNATIONAL

‘Rupturing Colonial Legacies: Colonialisms and Decolonizations in Africa and the African Diaspora’, 17th Annual Africa Conference, University of Texas at Austin, USA, 31 March–2 April 2017. While overt colonization ended with the official independence of African and Asian countries during the twentieth century, contemporary forms of imperialism and globalization perpetuate colonial inequities and structures of power, epistemology, subjectivity, and visibility. The political-economic/social/intellectual hierarchies that were first implemented through historical colonialism continue to govern the lived experiences of people of African and Afro-indigenous descent both within and across nation states. Global critiques and responses to historical and contemporary colonialisms have taken on many names and theoretical strategies, including but not limited to decolonial, anti-colonial, post-colonial, and indigenous intellectual, artistic, epistemic, political/economic, and religio-spiritual genealogies of thought and activism.

The goal of the 2017 Africa Conference is to problematize historical and contemporary colonial and neo-colonial power structures in relation to Africa and the African Diaspora, as well as to (re)imagine and map out alternative futures both within and outside of these global matrices of power and domination. The organisers invite submissions on the following sub-themes, treated in either historical or contemporary contexts.

Political and economic colonialisms: international and transnational politics and political movements; international trade agreements and their discontents; development, underdevelopment, and poverty; natural resource management and development via extractive economies; property, property rights, and land reform (including agrarian policies); education policies; urbanization and gentrification; international agencies; African political and economic relationships to the Americas, Asia, and Europe; transnationalism, immigration,

and citizenship; migration and memory; formal and informal economies (including transnational labour and remittances); reverse migrations; forms of national and transnational protest; police brutality; human rights and contemporary forms of slavery; and ongoing Black and indigenous genocide/epistemicide.

Responses to intellectual, epistemic, and cultural colonialisms: modernity/transmodernity and coloniality/decoloniality; pluriversalism in Africa and the Diaspora; national and transnational postcolonialisms; Afro-pessimisms and Afro-optimisms; Afro-futurism and the Afro-imaginative; African and Afro-Caribbean political thought; African and African Diaspora Marxisms; historical and contemporary Black nationalisms; historical and contemporary pan-Africanisms; epistemicide and epistemic resistance; linguistic colonialisms; orality, oral histories, and non-written cultural transmissions; endangered languages and language revitalization; kinship networks; and radical pedagogies.

African and African Diaspora critiques of Social Science and Humanities theories/methodologies: local and transnational networks of cultural and knowledge production; new social movements and social media; visibility, media, and cultural representations; and gastronomic and culinary cultural transmissions.

Responses to racial, gendered, and sexual colonialisms: historical formations of race and gender and their contemporary legacies; Afro-Indigeneity, Afro-Latinidad, and Afro-Asian experiences and theories; race and identity politics; women's movements in the global south; reproductive rights in Africa and the African Diaspora; blackness, sexualities, and sexual politics; gendered labour and poverty; role of colonial gender norms and sexual violence in colonization; role of gender and sexual justice in decolonization.; transnational women of colour and third world feminisms (including their relationship to first world and white feminisms); African and African Diaspora feminist, Queer, and Trans theories and epistemologies; transnational Black feminist, Queer, and Trans theorizations of the nation-state; alternatives to the heteropatriarchal nuclear family; and non-binary, ambiguity, alterity, and/or fluidity of gender identities.

Visual colonialisms and artistic and performed decolonizations: musical, literary/poetic, and dramatic expression; new media and social media; African and African Diaspora cinema and film; public art (both state-sanctioned and informal); plastic arts and artistic livelihoods; dance and popular cultures; traditional and ancestral musical and artistic expression; artistic and performed critiques of modernity and the nation-state; cultural and artistic tourism; cultural and artistic appropriations; the politics and economics of musical and artistic production; music, art, and political/social movements; music, art, and gender and sexuality' and body art and bodily modification.

Religious colonialisms and religio-spiritual decolonizations: role of Christianity, Islam, and Judaism in historical and contemporary colonialisms; challenging the narrative of secular modernity; religious political movements; indigenous and ancestral African religions; syncretic religions of the African diaspora; African, African Diaspora, and Indigenous religio-spiritual critiques of the nation-state and modernity; Islam in Africa and the Diaspora; Islamophobia; African and African Diaspora Judaisms; African and African Diaspora religions and gender/sexuality; religious and religio-spiritual art, music, and cultural production; and religious and religio-spiritual healing traditions.

Biomedical/technological colonialisms and embodied decolonizations: Western biomedicine and colonization; Western biomedicine and racial/gendered/sexual violence; forced sterilizations and scientific experimentation; historicizing and decolonizing biology; traditional and ancestral medicinal practices; embodied knowledges and bodily transmissions of knowledge; African and African Diaspora critiques of the Cartesian mind/body divide; pediatrics and infant mortality; food crises, hunger, and malnutrition; intergenerational trauma, memory, and affect; communicable disease management and public health; histories of medical violence; substance abuse; decolonizing psychological sciences.; epigenetics; and genetic ancestry testing. 250 word abstracts with 5 keywords for individual papers, or 300 word proposals for panels (3-5 presenters) with 250 word abstracts for each paper by 30 November 2016 to Farid Leonardo Suárez and Dr Kenneth E. Kalu: africconference2017@gmail.com

‘From Far and Wide: the Next 150 [Years of Canada]’, 2017 Annual Conference of the Canadian Association of African Studies (CAAS), Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada, 31 May–2 June 2017. In an effort to build this year's conference from the grassroots, and to address themes of greatest importance to its members, the organisers is asking the conference attendees to set the agenda by first proposing full panels around themes of interest to you. If you have a theme or group of scholars who wish to present on a theme or area, the organisers want to hear from you. Once they have panel proposals and potential panel contributors, they will post the themes around which these are organised on our conference website and then issue a general call for papers. Paper proposers may then select the themes/panels to which they hope to contribute (from those posted) or they can propose individual papers and allow the organisers to do the work of organizing papers into panels. If a panel theme attracts more than four papers, a series of panels to be held consecutively will be set up so that those interested in these themes can attend all panels on those themes. Panel proposals of 200 words, consisting of up to 4 papers, each with 200 word abstracts, by 31 October 2016 to: CAASACEA2017@arts.ryerson.ca

'Lagos: From the Pepperfarm to the Megacity (and Beyond): An Interdisciplinary Conference on Space, Society, and the Imagination of an African Crossroads', Faculty of Arts, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria, 15–17 June 2017. In May 2016, a conference titled 'Lagos: From the Pepperfarm to the Megacity (and Beyond): An Interdisciplinary Conference on Space, Society, and the Imagination of an African Crossroads', took place at Barnard College, New York City. Participants came from several universities in the United States, Africa, Europe, and Asia. For the conference schedule and other information, see: <https://nyclagosconference2016.wordpress.com/> The organisers, in collaboration with the Faculty of Arts, University of Lagos are planning a second edition of this interdisciplinary conference.

Talk of cities is everywhere in African Studies and talk of African cities is everywhere beyond the field. Thinking through African cities has produced critical reappraisals of how concepts such as urbanism, globalization, citizenship, migration, epistemology, infrastructure, flexibility, history and futurity, can be more productively thought to capture current, imminent, and historical realities. The city increasingly appears to compete with the nation-state as the key spatial category of analysis for Africanist social theorists. From Casablanca to Cape Town, from Kinshasa to Mogadishu, and from Lagos to Luanda, Africa is dotted with cities that constitute political, economic, social, and intellectual alternatives to the nation, while being situated within it. Perennial challenges to nation-states in Africa and beyond combined with the spectacular growth of cities on the continent and the global south more broadly, have prompted some to suggest that we may be witnessing the rise/return of the city-state as the key structuring formation of the new global order, and thus the key structure of concern for theorists of the social world.

The conference will pull scholars and practitioners working from a range of disciplinary standpoints into conversation with each other around shared questions. Through cross-disciplinary engagement, we will flesh out linkages between the pasts, presents, and speculative futures of Lagos. The organizers welcome papers and multimedia presentations from the perspective of literature, politics, dance, culture, diaspora, geography and environment, art, architecture, religion, knowledge and epistemology, economy and labour, identity formation, film, public science, popular culture and history. 250-300 word abstracts and short bio by 30 October 2016 to Charles Okafor: lagosconference2017@gmail.com

'Africa at Development Crossroads', 7th International Interdisciplinary Conference, Multimedia University of Kenya, Nairobi, Kenya on 28–30 June 2017. After the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and various strategies under NEPAD and various national development plans, Africa is still at development crossroads. Africa has been at the centre of many and sometimes competing and experimental development paradigms, both from within and

outside. African countries are not sure if they need to borrow models from the West or East. Democratic revival has created some hope in some African countries. Despite this hope, many African societies are still gripped in gender, patriarchal and regional tensions. Women, youth, children and minority groups have been marginalized in some countries. Paper presenters will be expected to look from within in order to interrogate the success and some of the challenges these development paradigms have faced in light of external influences. Some governments have created inclusive constitutions that incorporate gender mainstreaming. Researchers are expected to critically examine models and approaches presented for development in health, education, tourism, mining, agriculture, water, livestock development, roads, railway and air transport, development of arid and semi-arid lands, science and technology, engineering, environment, urban and rural development, vulnerable groups, minorities, women and children. How sound are development plans developed by African governments? In what ways have they been successful? Whose development and in whose interest? How should development in Africa proceed? Who should be involved in Africa's development and why? Are Africa's development partners genuine? What projects should Africa pursue? These are the type of questions that participants are invited to explore.

There will be a series of colloquium within the conference on the following broad themes: Africa and sectoral development; economics and management of resources in Africa; education and development in Africa; judiciary, constitutionalism and human rights; engineering, science and technology in Africa; religion, NGOs and non-State agencies in development in Africa; security, peace and conflict in Africa; library, information and communication technology; interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research in Africa; and roundtables, independent panels and association meetings. 250-500 word abstracts by 30 March 2017 to Professor Maurice N. Amutabi: africanstudiesassociation@gmail.com and mauriceamutabi@gmail.com

'The Humanities and Development in Africa', Conference Centre, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria, 6-9 July 2017. Over five decades after the independence of African countries from the colonial rule, the continent is still bedeviled with the challenges of development. The manifestations of development challenges in Africa include economic backwardness, high poverty rate, unemployment, corruption, decaying infrastructure, brain drain, environmental pollution, high mortality rate, political instability and insecurity. Numerous approaches have been attempted by development scholars to underpin and address the development challenges in Africa. Marxist, Keynesian, modernization, dependency and neo-liberal theories are typical examples. Similarly, several development conferences and initiatives have been instituted by development agencies in order to appraise the crisis and bring about development in post-colonial Africa. These included the conferences in Addis

Ababa (1963), Lagos (1975), Abuja (1991 and 2001), as well as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). These intellectual enterprises and policy-making initiatives have been dominated by the science-based disciplines. Thus, the role of the humanities in addressing Africa's development challenges seems to have been relatively underestimated or neglected.

Against this backdrop, the Department of History, University of Ibadan, organizes a two-day international conference to provide an interdisciplinary platform for academics, researchers, policy makers, activists, students and professionals in humanistic studies to reevaluate the approaches and initiatives to Africa's development, with special emphases on the humanistic perspectives. It will bring into sharp focus the historical, philosophical, cultural, religious, linguistic, economic and social dimensions to development challenges on the continent. The organisers seek papers on the following themes: theories and approaches of development; humanistic perspectives on development; conceptualising development challenges in Africa; economic backwardness and development challenges in Africa; foreign aid, foreign debts and development challenges in Africa; technology transfer debate; the effects of migration and brain drain on Africa's development; poverty, inequality and unemployment; entrepreneurship and development in Africa; the State, institutional framework and development challenges in Africa; corruption and Africa's development crisis; systems of government and underdevelopment in Africa; youth and popular culture; gender and sexualities; religion, ethnicity and challenges of development; education and development in Africa; language, communication, new media and development; literature, creative arts and development; the role of the humanities in Africa's development; and promoting humanities for development in Africa. 250 word abstracts by 10 December 2016 to Dr Olisa Godson Muojama: humanitiesconference2017@gmail.com

'African Urban Planning', Second International Conference, University of Lisbon, Portugal, 7–8 September 2017. Organized by the Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning – University of Lisbon, in collaboration with the International Planning History Society, the conference is organized around four main themes. First, the history of African urban planning; urban governance in sub-Saharan kingdoms before European colonization and in North Africa during the Ottoman period; establishment of African cities and towns in the early European colonial period; preservation of pre-colonial built environment; variegated perceptions of defining African urban heritage; African urban planning in global comparative perspective and the transnational transfer and dissemination of planning ideas in Africa during the colonial period; Anglophone, Francophone, and Lusophone colonial planning cultures in Africa; planning education, the planning profession and the practice of colonial urban planning; medical and sanitary discourses and the rationale of colonial urbanism in Africa; local government and the governance of cities during the colonial

period and the impact with previously existing forms of urban government; the role of local elites and traditional authorities in the colonial governance system; symbolism and spirituality in indigenous planning cultures; urban land policy, housing and social housing in colonial Africa; infrastructure networks in colonial Africa; ruptures and continuities in the transition to the new independent states in Africa; transfer of planning ideas from socialist countries to Africa during the Cold War; and discussion on the various forms of urban modernity beyond the colonial clichés.

Second, learning from African urban planning; alternative conceptions of planning: a Southern perspective in planning theory; planning in 'fragile democracies'; unlearning the colonial urban planning cultures; urban and regional planning: appropriateness and necessary shifts; beyond the central state: the role of local government in urban planning; incorporation of local traditional institutions in urban governance processes; the reforms of planning law; planning and governance of suburbs, metropolitan areas, capital cities, and mega-regions; informal urban settlements, slum upgrading and the clashes of rationalities; urban planning for rapidly growing informal cities; customary land tenure practices and land-use; property rights, land certification and planning in informal urban areas; building resilience and adaptive capacity in informal urban settlements; urban planning and the living conditions of informal settlements dwellers; planning and the informal economy in public spaces and residential areas; urban land markets, tenure security and housing; affordable and social housing; provision of infrastructure networks and urban services; urban mobility and planning; sanitation policy, planning and the governance of urban solid waste; the preservation of urban heritage; heritage, planning and development of rural areas; urban fantasies, fantasy plans, urban megaprojects and the role of private developers; urban environmental risks, climate change and policy challenges; Green areas and vegetation; energy transitions and energy policies; and smart cities, smart planning and urban e-planning in Africa.

Third, localizing goal 11 of the SDGs and the new urban agenda: the shift in urban planning paradigms and the building of new urban governance structures; sustainable and resilient urban development for social inclusion and poverty eradication; the planning and management of urban spatial development; unplanned town-planning: bottom-up approaches and resilient ways of planning the city of tomorrow and reinventing the city of today; insurgent urbanism; land grabbing and urban planning; urban planning in small island states; supra-national spatial planning in landlocked countries; planning in post conflict, in post disaster contexts and for internally displaced persons; and the policies of the Global North towards African cities in relation to Goal 11.

Fourth, social and economic challenges and changes in African cities: the rapidly growing middle classes and linkages with wider global economies and its effects, namely on regional disparities, gender and ethnicity; Justice and inequality and

the right to the city in Africa; urban food security and urban food systems; urban agriculture; street art, urban music, public spaces /urbanity and planning; naming the urban; place names in Africa; urban youth movements, new political visions and the city; and the representation of cities in literature and cinema. The conference is organized in panels of five papers. The working language of the conference is English. 250 word abstracts by 31 January 2017 to Carlos Nunes Silva: urbanplanningafrica2017@gmail.com

...Conference Past

'African Medicine Matters: Documenting Encounters in Medical Practice and Healthcare', SCOLMA Annual Conference, Cambridge, 6th September 2016.

The annual conference of SCOLMA (the UK Libraries and Archives Group on Africa) took place in the Alison Richard Building of the University of Cambridge on Tuesday 6th September. There were 40 participants from Africa, Europe, the US and the UK. The keynote speaker was Dr Benson Mulemi from the Catholic University of East Africa who spoke about contemporary African medicine, both traditional and western, and set out many of the themes which recurred during the day. Other speakers discussed sources for colonial medicine, particularly during World War I, how traditional medicines are being scientifically investigated, documented and made more widely available, the links between medical missionaries, development and health, public responses to sleeping sickness and Ebola, medical record keeping in Tanzania and a little-known source for education on health in Mali. Asha Ahmed Mwilu, an independent film-maker from Nairobi who has been nominated for the CNN African Journalist award, showed a half hour documentary on traditional and western medicine in Kenya. Many of the papers will be published in SCOLMA's journal, *African Research and Documentation*.

Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities

Joseph Neville Agbor Besong (2016), 'Financial Sector Development, Income Inequality and Human Welfare in Sub Saharan Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Huddersfield. Supervisors: Dr Jacinta Nwachukwu, Professor Hussein Abdou, and Professor Collins Ntim; <http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/28533/>

Kate Brennan (2014), 'The World Bank and the Rhetoric of Social Accountability in Ethiopia', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Tim Power.

Brandon Broll (2015) 'The Civil Rights League of South Africa against Apartheid: The Early Years (1948-1969)', Ph.D thesis, Birkbeck College, University of London. Supervisors: Dr Hilary Sapire and Professor Fred Anscombe.

Chux Uzoka Daniels (2016), 'Organisational Capabilities for Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Formulation in Developing Countries: The Case of Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Science and Technology', Ph.D thesis, University of Sussex. Supervisors: Dr Puay Tang, Professor Ben Martin, Professor Kevin Grant and Professor James Wilsdon; <http://sro.sussex.ac.uk/60801/>

Wilbur Karugahe (2016), 'Domestic Violence in a Post-Conflict African Setting: A Study of Gender and Role on Personality, Coping Styles, Attitudes to Coercion and Self-Reported Victimization in a Ugandan Urban Sample', Ph.D thesis, University of Huddersfield. Supervisors: Professor Adele Jones, Professor David Canter, and Dr Donna Youngs; <http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/28351/>

Sixta Kilambo (2016), 'The Black Economic Empowerment Policy and Changes in Ownership in South Africa's Mining Industry', Ph.D. thesis, University of Edinburgh. Supervisors: Dr Thomas Molony and Dr Gerhard Anders.

Emma Lochery (2015), 'Generating Power: Electricity Provision and State Formation in Somaliland', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Jonny Steinberg.

Grace Mwaura (2015), 'Educated Youth in Kenya: Negotiating Waithood by Greening Livelihoods', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Patricia Daley.

Blessed Ngwenya (2015), 'The Post-Apartheid South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) and its Crisis of "Independence"', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Dr Nicole Stremlau and Dr Bettina Lange.

Garhe Victor Osiebe (2016), 'Political Music Genres in Postcolonial Nigeria, 1960-2013', Ph.D thesis, University of Birmingham. Supervisor: Professor Karin Barber; <http://etheses.bham.ac.uk/6812/>

Grazia Pacillo (2015), 'Market Participation, Innovation Adoption and Poverty in Rural Ghana', Ph.D thesis, University of Sussex. Supervisors: Dr Julie Litchfield and Professor Andy McKay; <http://sro.sussex.ac.uk/61392/>

Franziska Rueedi (2013), 'Political Mobilisation, Violence and Control in the Townships of the Vaal Triangle, South Africa, c.1976-1986', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor William Beinart.

Marina Sharpe (2016), 'The Regional Law of Refugee Protection in Africa', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor Guy Serle Goodwin-Gill.

Beth Vale (2015), 'Of Blood and Belonging: The Practice of Antiretroviral Treatment among HIV-Positive Youth in South Africa's Eastern Cape', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford, Supervisors: Dr Lucie Cluver and Dr Jonny Steinberg.

Ana Sílvia De Matos Vaz (2014), 'Interpersonal Influence and Network Effects on Voting Behaviour: Experimental Evidence from Mozambique', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Dr Marcel Fafchamps and Dr Sabina Alkire.

Recent Publications

Olayiwola Abegunrin (2016), *Pan-Africanism in Modern Times: Challenges, Concerns and Constraints*. Lexington Books, 332pp, 978-1-4985-3509-0, £70.

Ivor Agyeman-Duah (eds) (2016), *All The Good Things Around Us: An Anthology of African Short Stories*. Ayebia, 384pp, 978-0-9928436-6-3, £12; <http://www.ayebia.co.uk/>

Ivor Agyeman-Duah and Lucy Newlyn (eds) (2016), *May Their Shadows Never Shrink: Wole Soyinka and the Oxford Professorship of Poetry*. Ayebia, 96pp, 978-0-9928436-7-0, £9.99; <http://www.ayebia.co.uk/>

Denise Bentravato (2016), *Narrating and Teaching the Nation: The Politics of Education in Pre- and Post-Genocide Rwanda*. V&R Unipress, 254pp, 978-3847105169, £30.

Iris Berger (2016), *Women in Twentieth-Century Africa*. Cambridge University Press, 244pp, 9780521741217, £19.99.

Annie Bunting, Benjamin N. Lawrance and Richard L. Roberts (eds) (2016) *Marriage by Force? Contestation over Consent and Coercion in Africa*. Ohio University Press, 320pp 9780821422007, £28.99.

Jessica Cammaert (2016), *Undesirable Practices: Women, Children, and the Politics of the Body in Northern Ghana, 1930-1972*. University of Nebraska Press, 320pp, 978-0803286801, £42.50.

Matthew Carotenuto & Katherine Luongo (2016), *Obama and Kenya: Contested Histories and the Politics of Belonging*. Ohio University Press, 240pp, 9780896803008, £18.99.

Carl Death (2016), *The Green State in Africa*. Yale University Press, 384pp, 978-0300215830, £30.

David Afriyie Donkor (2016), *Spiders of the Market*, Indiana University Press, 240pp, 978-0253021458, £22.75.

Roy Doron and Toyin Falola (2016), *Ken Saro-Wiwa*. Ohio University Press, 184pp, 9780821422014, £11.99.

Toyin Falola and Akintunde Akinyemi (eds), (2016), *Encyclopedia of the Yoruba*. Indiana University Press, 368pp, 978-0253021441, £37.90.

Axel Fleisch and Rhiannon Stephens (eds) (2016), *Doing Conceptual History in Africa*. Berghahn, 243pp, 978-1-78533-163-3, £75.

Darcie Fontaine (2016), *Decolonizing Christianity: Religion and the End of Empire in France and Algeria*. Cambridge University Press, 251pp, 9781107118171, £64.99.

Silvia Forni and Christopher Steiner (2016), *Africa in the Market*. University of Washington Press, 416pp, 978-0888545060, £26.

Ch. Didier Gondola (2016), *Tropical Cowboys: Westerns, Violence and Masculinity in Kinshasa*. Indiana University Press, 270pp, 978-0253020772, £24.99.

Andrew Hartnack (2016), *Ordered Estates: Welfare, Power and Maternalism on Zimbabwe's (Once White) Highveld*. Weaver Press, 304pp, 9781779222916, £22; available from www.africanbookscollective.com

Emma Hunter (ed) (2016), *Citizenship, Belonging, and Political Community in Africa: Dialogues between Past and Present*. Ohio University Press, 312pp 9780821422571, £28.99.

Barbara Karl (2016), *Embroidered Histories Indian Textiles for the Portuguese Market*. Böhlau, 316pp, 978-3205202097, £47.99.

Erik Kennes and Miles Larmer (2016), *The Katangese Gendarmes and War in Central Africa: Fighting Their Way Home*. Indiana University Press, 336pp, 978-0253021397, £26.50.

Martin Legassick (2016), *Hidden Histories of Gordonia: Land Dispossession and Resistance in the Northern Cape, 1800-1990*. Wits University Press, 442pp, 978-1-86814-954-4, £30.

Julie MacArthur (2016), *Cartography and the Political Imagination: Mapping Community in Colonial Kenya*. Ohio University Press, 320pp, 9780821422106, £26.

Giacomo Macola, *The Gun in Central Africa: A History of Technology and Politics*. Ohio University Press, 240pp, 978-0-8214-2212-0, £26.99; www.combinedacademic.co.uk

Haretsebe Manwa, Naomi Moswete, and Jarkko Saarinen (eds) (2016), *Cultural Tourism in Southern Africa*. Channel View Publications, 224pp, 9781845415518, £29.95.

Doug Miller and Kapote Mwakasungura (2016), *Malawi's Lost Years (1964-1994)*. Mzuni Press, 260pp, 978-9996045196, £22; available from www.africanbookscollective.com

Philip Misevich and Kristin Mann (eds) (2016), *The Rise and Demise of Slavery and the Slave Trade in the Atlantic World*. University of Rochester Press, 376pp, 978-1-58046-569, £80.

Sabelo J. Ndlovu-Gatsheni (2016), *The Decolonial Mandela: Peace, Justice and the Politics of Life*. Berghahn Books, 188pp, 978-1785332968, £17.50.

Michael Neocosmos (2016), *Thinking Freedom in Africa: Subjective Excess, Historical Sequences and Emancipatory Politics*. Wits University Press, 600pp, 978-1-86814-866-0, £43.50.

David Perfect (2016), *Historical Dictionary of The Gambia*. Rowman & Littlefield, 614pp, 978-1-4422-6522-6, £90; <https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781442265226/Historical-Dictionary-of-The-Gambia-Fifth-Edition>

Elodie Razy and Marie Rodet (eds) (2016), *Children on the Move in Africa: Past and Present Experiences of Migration*. James Currey, 255p, 978-1847011381, £45.

Kathryn A. Rhine (2016), *The Unseen Things: Women, Secrecy, and HIV in Northern Nigeria*. Indiana University Press, 218pp, 9780253021434, £24.99.

Richard Saunders and Tinashe Nyamumda (eds) (2016), *Facets of Powers: Politics, Profits and People in the Making of Zimbabwe's Blood Diamonds*. Weaver Press, Zimbabwe, 236pp, 978-1779222886, £18. Available from African Book Collective: <http://www.africanbookscollective.com/books/facets-of-power>

Theodore Trefon (2016), *Congo's Environmental Paradox: Potential and Predation in a Land of Plenty*. Zed Books, 176pp, 978-1783602438, £14.99.

Nigel Watt (2016), *Burundi: The Biography of a Small African Country* (revised and updated edition). Hurst, 279pp, 978-1849045094, £15.99.

African Sports: Past and Present: Call for Chapters

Sport, historically and presently, holds significant value and has an intricate relationship in African societies. For many Africans, sports are a way of life, a site of cultural heroes, a way out of poverty and social mobility, and/or a site for leisurely play. This volume seeks to explore how sports can render a window to unlocking complex social, political, economic, and gendered relations across Africa and the Diaspora. It will focus on the many ways in which sport uniquely reflects changing cultural trends at diverse levels of African societies. There has been a noticeable upsurge in the scholarship on African sports, and this volume will complement and expand on recent works to highlight the importance, variety, and impact of sport within the African continent and African Diaspora.

This edited book will be a collection of well-researched essays that identify and examine the various interconnections of sports, Africa, and the African Diaspora. The editors seek both theoretical and empirical submissions from scholars across

the humanities and social sciences. Topics for consideration may include, but not limited to: sport and leisure in an African context; racism and sport; colonialism; sport and ethno-cultural identity; consumption of sport; regional variations of sport; precolonial sport and sporting traditions; politicization of sport and political action; nation-building and sport; sport and labour; sport and entrepreneurship; sport and fandom; sports and the African diaspora; Africans and the Olympics/international competitions; children, youth, and sport; women, gender, and sexualities in African sport; nationalism and sport; and sport, corruption, and violence. 250 word proposals and CV by 1 November 2016 to the co-editors, Professor Michael Gennaro (Grambling State University) and Professor Saheed Aderinto (Western Carolina University): africansporthistory@gmail.com, with accepted chapters up to 10,000 words, including references, in Chicago style by 1 February 2017.

Urban Crisis in Africa: Realities, Challenges and Responses: Call for Chapters

The Institute for Peace and Strategic Studies (IPSS), University of Ibadan, wishes to publish an edited in 2017 in honour of Professor Akin Mabogunje – Africa's scion of urbanisation. Professor Mabogunje was Africa's first Professor of Geography in 1965. His seminal book '*Urbanization in Nigeria*' is still widely recommended in urban studies programmes across the globe. He is the first African president of the International Geographical Union and the first African to be elected to the United States National Academy of Sciences.

Co-edited by Professor Isaac Olawale Albert, Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies and the Director of IPSS, University of Ibadan, and Dr Taibat Lawanson, Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Lagos, this new publication is a logical follow up to the two-volume 1994 publication, *Urban Management and Urban Violence in Africa* by the Institut Francaise de Recherche en Francaise, which remains a reference point to students of crisis management in Africa.

With 40% urban dominance and a 3.5% urban growth rate, Africa is rapidly urbanizing. However, with the urban growth comes rising indices of urban poverty, inequality and vulnerability. The continent is home to 414 million poor, of which about 60% are urban dwellers, plagued with multiple vulnerabilities and uncertainties. Rising inequalities has also resulted in large scale resentments and have triggered violence and security concerns in many cases. There have been reported cases of crisis in cities and small towns across the continent, ranging from the Arab Spring, to the xenophobic attacks in South Africa propelled by economic migration, resource conflicts in the Nigerian Niger delta to the conflicts induced by drought and other climate-change induced events. The migration of African refugees to the Global North is also worthy of interest. On the local scale, the land rights issues and dominance of local gangs and

criminal networks, as well as youth, geriatric and gender concerns in city planning and administration have also triggered safety and security concerns.

This book seeks to understand the phenomenon of the African urban scale, the issues triggering crisis at that scale, as well as the responses by different actors. This will be done through a multi-disciplinary lens, with an ultimate aim to produce a body of work that will positively contribute to the pan-African narrative that seeks to achieve *Agenda 2063 of the African Union – ‘the Africa we want!’* (www.agenda2063.au.int).

The editors seek original work on the following thematic issues: epistemological, theoretical and methodological issues; understanding African city contexts: historical, geo-spatial and colonial, post-colonial and decolonization perspectives; managing the city: the role of formal and informal actors such as the police, city planners, local administrators, traditional governance systems, and crime networks; the city in crisis and contesting the right to the city: urban vulnerability, land rights, informal settlements, inequality and social exclusion; African cities and global narratives: such as international migration issues, influence of terror and fundamentalist views, social media and effects of technology; crisis occasioned by socio-economic issues: such as those caused by resource agitation and economic inequality, corruption and fraud, and informality; crisis occasioned by socio-political issues: including apartheid, xenophobia and politically motivated violence; crisis occasioned by environmental issues: including conflicts occasioned by migration due to flooding and drought; and *Towards Agenda 2063: the Africa we want*. Send 300-500 word chapter proposals and 500 word biodata by 31 October 2016 to Dr Taibat Lawanson tlawanson@unilag.edu.ng and tolawanson@gmail.com First drafts of accepted papers due by 31 March 2017.

***Journal of African Cultural Studies* Special Issue: African Embodiment**

This special issue will examine embodiment and bodily inscription in relation to contemporary African life. The focus on the body is particularly suitable for generating an interdisciplinary conversation on the topic of present-day African experiences and practices that engage, resist, and exceed scripts which persistently echo colonial conceptual frameworks. Without dismissing the value of critical engagements with African colonial afterlives in global circulation today, our invitation emerges from the contention that an understanding of our time can neither be reduced to historical causality nor be stipulated through all-encompassing theoretical formulations. It is in this spirit that we turn our attention to distinct disciplinary discussions of the body so as to illuminate the complex constellations of somatic and discursive vitalities behind contemporary African subject formations. The editors are especially interested in papers that explore how African embodiment can be read as an affective assemblage, as the basis of relational enactments, as ontological ambiguity, as material potentiality,

but also as a locus of sense-making, as a site of self and social regulation, and as the corporeal manifestation of a sociopolitical, economic, moral and historical undertaking.

The editors welcome contributions on embodiment, and ask scholars working on Africa both in and outside the continent and in the fields of political philosophy, anthropology, sociology, history, literature, and cultural studies, to contribute their insights into the processes, practices, performances and trajectories of African embodiment. Contributions from the fields of medical anthropology, ecocriticism, media studies, disability studies, queer studies, and feminism are especially welcomed. Possible areas of inquiry may include: racial and gendered materialism; rural versus urban African bodies and the capital of suffering; corporeal vs textual/rhetorical materiality; embodied citizenship and cultural recognition; biopolitics and embodied socialities; environment and consumption; the aesthetics of illness and narrative representation; and nature, agency and political economies. 200-300 word abstracts to: Dr Yianna Liatsos: yianna.liatsos@ul.ie and Dr Ashleigh Harris: ashleigh.harris@engelska.uu.se by 31 October 2016, with accepted papers due by 31 March 2017.

News

Comparing the Copperbelt: Political Culture and Knowledge Production in Central Africa

'Comparing the Copperbelt' is a new research project studying the social history of the bordering copper mining regions of Zambian Copperbelt province and Haut Katanga in the DR Congo, from the 1950s to the 1990s. The project, with funding of €1.6 million provided by the European Research Council, will run from July 2016 to June 2020 and is led by Dr Miles Larmer, Associate Professor of African History at the University of Oxford.

Comparing the Copperbelt aims to understand urban societies in Africa and the ways that the relationship between minerals, land, capital and people has shaped ideas, behaviour and outcomes within, between and about those societies. It will provide the first comparative historical analysis – local, national and transnational – of the Central African copperbelt, a globally strategic mineral region central to both countries and to wider debates about the role of mineral wealth in development.

The project has three interrelated objectives. First, it examines the copperbelt as a single region divided by a (post-)colonial border, across which flowed minerals, peoples, and ideas about the relationship between them. Second, it analyses how the distinct knowledge production process of Anglo-American and Belgian academics shaped understanding of these societies. Third, it explores the interaction between intellectual constructions of the copperbelt and the region's

political culture. It hypothesises that the resultant understanding of this region arises from a long unequal interaction of definition and determination between western observers and African participants, filtered through successive sedimentations of imagining and representation laid down over a century of urban life in central Africa.

You can hear Miles Larmer talking about Comparing the Copperbelt at: <https://sms.cam.ac.uk/media/2170730> or read about the underlying themes at: <http://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199935369.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780199935369-e-20?mediaType=Article> For further information about the project, please contact Miles Larmer: miles.larmer@history.ox.ac.uk

Ivan Karp Doctoral Research Awards, 2016

The African Critical Inquiry Programme has named Candice Jansen, Nothemba Kate Luckett, and Ajumeze Henry Obi as recipients of the 2016 Ivan Karp Doctoral Research Awards. Jansen and Luckett are both South African students at the University of the Witwatersrand. Jansen is pursuing her PhD in History of Art, while Luckett is studying Sociology. Obi is a Nigerian scholar doing his degree in African Studies and Theatre Studies through the University of Cape Town. Support from ACIP's Ivan Karp Awards will allow each of them to do significant research for their dissertations. Jansen will work on 'BINNEGOED: Coloured and South African Photography'. Luckett will pursue research on 'Hope and Utopianism in the Everyday Lives of Metalworkers and their Communities'. Obi's dissertation project will examine 'The "Theatre of the Bloody Metaphor": The Biopolitics of Violence in the Theatre of the Niger Delta'.

Founded in 2012, the African Critical Inquiry Programme (ACIP) is a partnership between the Centre for Humanities Research at University of the Western Cape in Cape Town and the Laney Graduate School of Emory University in Atlanta. Supported by donations to the Ivan Karp and Corinne Kratz Fund, the ACIP fosters thinking and working across public cultural institutions, across disciplines and fields, and across generations. It seeks to advance inquiry and debate about the roles and practice of public culture, public cultural institutions and public scholarship in shaping identities and society in Africa through an annual ACIP Workshop and through the Ivan Karp Doctoral Research Awards, which support African doctoral students in the humanities and humanistic social sciences enrolled at South African universities.

Information about the 2017 Ivan Karp Doctoral Research Awards for African Students enrolled in South African Ph.D. Programmes will be available in November 2016 at <http://www.gs.emory.edu/about/special/acip.html> The application deadline is 1 May 2017.

The New Livingstone Online

The first edition of the new version of Livingstone Online (University of Maryland Libraries, 2016; <http://livingstoneonline.org/>) has now been published. Livingstone Online is a digital museum and library that enables users to encounter the written and visual legacy of famous Victorian explorer David Livingstone (1813-1873). The site challenges reigning iconic representations of Livingstone by restoring one of the British Empire's most important figures to the many global contexts in which he worked, travelled, and is remembered.

Highlights of the new site include a dynamic, redesigned interface that combines images, critical essays, and extensive documentation to bring Livingstone's work to life for modern audiences, and access, including download access, to over 7,500 manuscript and contextual images, 3,000 metadata records, and 500 transcriptions.

The new site is the most recent outcome of a 12+ year initiative that brings together an international, interdisciplinary team of specialists with forty contributing archives and repositories, including the National Library of Scotland, the David Livingstone Centre, the Royal Geographical Society, and SOAS, University of London. LEAP (the Livingstone Online Enrichment and Access Project), the most recent development phase, has been made possible thanks to generous funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and University of Nebraska-Lincoln. To learn more about the site, contact project director Adrian S. Wisnicki, English Department, University of Nebraska-Lincoln: awisnicki@yahoo.com

Obituaries

Oliver Furley (11 July 1927–29 November 2015), who has died aged 88, had a long and distinguished career in Africa and African studies. After graduating in History at St Andrews in 1950, he took a B.Litt. at Oxford in 1952 in 17th century English History, which gave him a continuing interest in Stuart history. During his career he held posts at Edinburgh University, St Andrews University, University of the West Indies and Duke University, and the University of North Carolina. His love for Africa, however, came from his three spells at Makerere University in Uganda from 1956-60, 1963-66 and 1968-72, where he taught East African history and researched into the historiography of Mau Mau and Bugandan history. During his time at Makerere he taught a generation of Ugandan politicians, lawyers, educators and business people and was held in high regard in these communities, this being very helpful and noticeable during research and consultancy visits after his retirement. His last time in Uganda coincided with the early days of Idi Amin and as Head of the Senior Common Room at Makerere he was respected by colleagues and students alike for his stance in support of academic excellence, human rights and civil liberties for all

at Makerere during a very difficult and hostile environment at that time in Uganda. This led to a somewhat precipitous departure at the end of 1972.

Oliver joined Lanchester Polytechnic (now Coventry University) in 1973 as Head of the Department of Politics and History, the department had a diverse range of personalities and challenges though containing talented, lively and creative people. He managed these in a calm, civilised and collegiate way. There was a strong emphasis on Africa in the degree structure and it was possible to specialise fully on African topics in the final year (Oliver taught a final year course on East African History) – many students did and went on to pursue higher degrees and research in the area. It was during this time that the basis was laid for the department to become one of the leading research departments in the university and later the home of the African Studies Centre.

Oliver made an important contribution to African studies in the UK after his return from Uganda, serving on the Council of the Royal African Society, as Chairman of the Birmingham branch of the RAS from 1979-85, on the Committee of SCUSA and supporting his old friend Kenneth Ingham with the Bristol branch of the RAS. After retirement, he also kept up a vigorous research interest into Ugandan politics publishing *Democratisation in Uganda* in 1999. He also produced *Conflict in Africa* (1995) and coedited with me the following books: *Peacekeeping in Africa* (1998), *African Interventionist States* (2001) and *Ending Africa's Wars: Progressing towards Peace* (2006). After the establishment of the African Studies Centre at Coventry in 1992 he played an important role in helping to organise the many seminars, conferences and research activities of the Centre. He kept up his interest in Child Soldiers giving a number of presentations on these as well as papers on Uganda's contemporary political scene. He also produced many reports for asylum seekers from Uganda and Kenya.

Family and friends were very important to Oliver and he was supported throughout his career by Rita and he spent many happy holidays with Rita and the children in East Africa and latterly in Salcombe, where he had been evacuated during the war and where he could keep up his keen interest in sailing; he also had interests in both music and rugby.

Emeritus Professor Roy May, Coventry University

Paul Ellis Fordham (26 December 1927–10 July 2016) came into academic life with unusual attributes. His whole life was imbued by his Quaker up-bringing and faith, which burnt in him a concern for others and a whole-heartedly cooperative style of working. Secondly, he was for three years a 'Bevin Boy'; this meant he was conscripted during World War II as a miner, working underground, which gave him an indelible experience of manual working-class life and culture. Sadly, it seems also to have been the origin of the fibrositis which ultimately contributed to his death.

Paul came first to African Studies through his discipline as a geographer and later through his experiences working in East Africa. He said that while still at the Friends' School in Saffron Walden, he read Julian Huxley's *Africa View* and this impelled him to want to teach about and then work in the continent.

He started to develop the content of *The Geography of African Affairs* while teaching adult classes at the University of Nottingham's department of adult education. It was first published by Penguin in 1966 and went through four editions in English between 1965 and 1974. The main section – a general profile of Sub-Saharan Africa – was translated into Italian by Pier Giovanni Donini and published by the Istituto Italo-Africano in 1974 and again in 1975. He also collaborated with Peter Kinyanjui on a short geography of Kenya produced in 1968 by the East African Literature Bureau.

Paul came to Africa after ten years' work at Nottingham, at a time when British universities were beginning to build links with newly evolving African institutions, and when a major theme of civic education was "nation-building". He was encouraged by Professor Harold Wiltshire to join the extra-mural staff at Makerere University College and spent one year there. He was then appointed to head the newly established College of Social Studies, at Kikuyu in Kenya, working as Principal from 1962–66. It was a unique experimental institution, offering learning opportunities for mature adults of diverse backgrounds, which moulded his thinking about adult education in developing countries and which also inspired him much later to try an analogous major experiment in England, based on similar principles, when he was Director of Adult Education at the University of Southampton – with an entirely different organisation, but aiming at mature adults in a deprived community. He wrote up the Kikuyu story at a distance with John Fox and Patrick Muzaale in *A Chance to Change: Access, Citizenship and Sustainability in Open Learning* (Leicester, NIACE, 1998).

Paul spent two more years in Kenya, at the University of Nairobi, making lifelong friendships, notably with one Kenyan family, one of them being his god-daughter. For most of the rest of his full-time working life (1971–1988), he was Professor and Director of Adult Education at Southampton, with two stints as Dean of the Faculty of Education Studies. He helped to involve the university in links with several African universities, building a close relationship between his own department and the Institute of Adult Education in Tanzania and welcoming African students to postgraduate work.

From his Southampton base and alongside his leadership role in Britain in the National Institute of Adult and Continuing Education (NIACE), he became heavily involved with international policymaking about adult and community education in Africa and Asia and moved towards an interest in adult literacy and its place in development. He undertook advisory work with the then Ministry of

Overseas Development in the late 1970s and subsequently acted as consultant for the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE), based in Canada, for the Commonwealth Secretariat, UNESCO and the German Foundation for International Development (DFE). He is particularly remembered for his role in bringing UNESCO to institute International Literacy Year, in part through his powerful report: *One Billion Illiterates: One Billion Reasons for Action* (1985, ICAE, Toronto & DSE, Bonn).

After retirement in 1988, Paul became honorary visiting Professor of Continuing Education at the University of Warwick and founding director of its International Centre for Education in Development (INCED). He envisaged an international network of scholars promoting the education of adults in poorer parts of the world, but was hampered from the beginning, since the centre was one of the many soft-funded institutes without established staff being created in universities at the time. It had some success in attracting project-based research funding, organising seminars and conferences and producing occasional publications. One of the most useful outcomes of Paul's own work at Warwick was *Adult Literacy: A Handbook for Development Workers* by Paul Fordham, Deryn Holland and Juliet Millican (1995, OXFAM & VSO). I commented at the time that it was "A strikingly helpful resource book" and that it was written "with authority and common sense".

On his death, academic colleagues recalled some of the work which I have only been able to sketch. A Canadian leader of ICAE wrote: "We counted on Paul as one of the strongest voices for building capacity for adult education in African universities". Other messages brought touching comments on Paul's character and personality; a one-time Nigerian ambassador to UNESCO said he was "a good man and a top professional – a gentle spirit", while the former director of NIACE said that everyone associated with the Institute "benefited from his generosity of vision, wise counsel and encouragement". Almost everyone with professional connections mentioned Paul's mentoring and support to them in evolving their careers.

Emeritus Professor Lalage Bown

Note to Contributors

Send items for inclusion in the January 2017 *Newsletter* by 15 December 2016 to Dr Simon Heap, Academic Office, Buckley Building, Room 1.08, Oxford Brookes University, Gypsy Lane, Oxford, OX3 0BP or effaheap@aol.com

Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the ASAUK. For all matters relating to membership of ASAUK/RAS contact: Melmarie Laccay, 36 Gordon Square, London, WC1H 0PD; telephone: +44 (0)20-3073-8336; email: rasmembership@soas.ac.uk

Check the website: www.asauk.net