



# NEWSLETTER

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## Conferences Future...

### UNITED KINGDOM

**'Travel, Environment and Local Knowledge', 4<sup>th</sup> Cadbury Fellows' Conference, Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham, 18-19 May 2007.** Three fellows (Mary Owusu, Ghana; Basile Ndjio, Cameroon; and Edlyne Anugwom, Nigeria) are participating in a ten-week schedule of seminars and discussion groups, culminating in this Interdisciplinary Conference, which is open to other participants. 2007's theme explores the impact of displacement and change on the nature, pace and direction of local environmental knowledge and socio-ecological practice. Topics for this conference could include: soil, water, vegetation, animal and climate/weather classifications and use; land, tree and water tenure, and resource rights; borrowings from architectural designs, adaptations of settlement plans, adoption of building materials and construction methods; innovation and experimentation in hunting, fishing and livestock rearing; mechanisms of acquisition and adaptation of knowledge of the environment which is both embedded in, and transmitted via travel as texts, poems, ritual, song, performance, material artefacts and products; health therapeutics and indigenous medicine; landscape production, typology and transformation; biotic diversity and conservation of biodiversity; food production and processing techniques; collection/gathering/processing of sylvan or 'wild' products for food and non-food uses; introduced dietary practices and cuisine. Expressions of interest in participating 30 April 2007 to Dr Reginald Cline-Cole, Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT *or* [r.e.a.cline-cole@bham.ac.uk](mailto:r.e.a.cline-cole@bham.ac.uk)

**'The Cultural Value of Oral History: A Cross-Disciplinary Perspective', Graduate School of Arts & Humanities, University of Glasgow, 24-26 July 2007.** This event is intended to establish a cross-disciplinary forum in which to assess the evidential significance of orality and oral history. Verne Harris, Project

Manager for the Centre of Memory at the Nelson Mandela Foundation, will open proceedings with a public lecture. Topics addressed might include: how does the theory and practice of oral history relate to orality, aurality and oral cultures; how does the practice of oral history interact with cultural taboos; what is the future of oral history in the digital world; how has orality and aurality shaped past and present societies; history – herstory: does oral history redress the gender balance; giving voice to the voiceless – is oral history the key to marginalized sectors of society; what are the cultural and evidential values of the oral record; how do we deal with ‘silences’ in oral history; is oral history ‘politically correct’; what is its role within the educational agenda; and how are individual and collective memories configured? 250-word abstracts and short CV by 4 May 2007 to Fiona Stewart: [oralhistory@gla.ac.uk](mailto:oralhistory@gla.ac.uk)

**‘Materialities of Medieval Ethiopia’, SOAS, University of London, 25 August 2007.** In association with the Centre of African Studies, the conference focuses explicitly upon the material culture of Ethiopia (and very adjacent areas in the Horn of Africa) during the medieval period. This is very loosely defined as the period after the decline of the Aksumite polity until the mid-seventeenth century. The meeting brings together scholars of differing methodological backgrounds (art history, archaeology and cultural historians) in order to debate and discuss their different approaches to the material culture of this period. Such themes which might be of interest include: architecture; economic and cultural aspects of the monastic system; iconography; peripatetic kingship; and economic landscapes. Abstracts by 1 May 2007 to Dr Niall Finneran: [nf16@soas.ac.uk](mailto:nf16@soas.ac.uk)

**‘War, Empire and Slavery c. 1790-1820’, University of York, 16-18 May 2008.** The conference explores the revolutionary and Napoleonic wars as the First World War, a war which touched every continent of the globe. These wars saw the fatal weakening of the Dutch and the Spanish, and eventually the French empires, yet the continuing expansion of the British, Russian and North American empires. The impact of the warfare can only be fully understood if this global dimension is given full weight, and if the experience of these wars is placed in the context of the parallel developments taking place in the political, military and economic systems of Africa and Asia, in the Mogul, Persian, Ottoman and other empires. Charting the experiences of the men and women engaged in the conflicts requires not only discussion of the conventional sources of military and political history, but critical examination of personal and autobiographical writings and their cultural and imaginative contexts. The conference also addresses the ways in which the wars were remembered, visualised and commemorated in their immediate aftermath, as new narratives of experience were constructed from different national perspectives. Among the suggested themes are ‘fighters as writers’: captivity narratives, travel narratives, and the records of war; slavery and war, in the accounts of slaves; free black men and women; white soldiers, sailors and civilians; citizen soldiers, imperial soldiers, patriotic civilians and

their observation of cultural difference; and masculinity, femininity and the experience of war on land and sea. 250-word abstracts and short CV by 30 April 2007 to Jane Rendall: jr3@york.ac.uk

#### INTERNATIONAL

**'Africa and the Transatlantic Slave Trade: Revisiting the Olaudah Equiano Legacy', Imo State University, Owerri, Nigeria, 26-27 July 2007.** The impact of Olaudah Equiano's autobiography of 1789, an account of a journey up from slavery written by one who had personally experienced the middle passage and subsequent enslavement, has been monumental. Recent interest in Equiano has been motivated by contemporary developments, such as Vincent Carretta's *Equiano, the African: Biography of a Self-Made Man*, which has raised questions of where Equiano was actually born and claimed that he "may have invented rather than reclaimed an African identity." The controversy generated by the discovery of Equiano's baptismal records has led some to question the authenticity of his place of birth and indeed other slave narratives, especially those which purport to document the middle passage experiences of African slaves aboard slave ships enroute to the New World, call for a critical re-assessment of the existing scholarship. Papers are sought on Equiano's legacy, including race, roots, and identity; migration, immigration, exile sovereignty, freedom, justice; history, culture, and ethnicity; knowledge production; and slavery abolition. Abstracts by 30 April 2007 via: [www.africaresource.com/conferences/index.php?cf=9](http://www.africaresource.com/conferences/index.php?cf=9)

**'Kanem-Borno; Continuity and Change', Maiduguri, August 2007.** The celebration of one thousand years of the existence of the Kanem-Borno Dynasty coincides with the one hundred years of the establishment of the city of Yerwa, the capital of modern Borno State of Nigeria. Though expansive and imperial, Kanem-Borno had always revolved around its capital as the fulcrum of Islamic civilisation, administration and commerce. Located in the Central Bilad-al-Sudan, the State supported a diverse and heterogeneous population, fauna and flora, and a vibrant and rich culture. Islam remained the most important focus of its successive rulers since the Sayfuwa. The local peculiarities of Kanem-Borno and the universalistic appeal of Islam have combined to produce a highly cosmopolitan world-view. The history of Kanem-Borno is therefore a history of the peopling of the Lake Chad basin and the utilisation of its resources over a long period. Conference sub-themes are the state, society, politics, governance and foreign relations; religion and inter-group relations; education and scholarship; arts and culture; economy and prospects of oil and gas in the Lake Chad Basin; health and environment; and gender relations. 250-word abstracts by 30 April 2007 to Abba Gana Shettima: agshettima@yahoo.co.uk

**'First International Conference on Child Sexual Abuse in Africa', Nairobi, Kenya, 24-26 September 2007.** Organised by the African Network for the Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN), the conference aims to advance knowledge regarding the various types of sexual abuse and their complexity in the cultural settings of Africa. The objectives of the conference are to identify the causes, nature and magnitude of child sexual abuse in Africa; create a forum to identify strategies to deal with sexual violence against children; provide an opportunity to share information and experiences with a view to enhancing partnership and networking. The organisers seek papers that address innovative prevention, intervention, and treatment of sexual abuse; networking or collaborative efforts, and research studies on the topic. 250-word abstracts by 31 May 2007 to: regional@anppcan.org

**'Peace Leadership: Africa and Her Diaspora', Los Angeles, California, USA, 3-7 October 2007.** The conference examines the question of leadership in Africa and the African Diaspora in relationship to peace education, non-violence and sustainable development. Proposed papers should reflect the theme and outline past and present solution centered research and implementation schemes designed to advance the African experience: AU and new leadership: myth or reality; how the African Diaspora can assist Africa; peace and non-violence: an African solution; war and genocide in Africa: problem and challenge; building a youth movement: educating the next level of leadership; economic and political unity in Africa: a plan of action for development; HIV and AIDS: the dual enemy of Africa; and the image of Africa: who will correct a bad image? 250 word abstracts by 30 April 2007 to Itibari M. Zulu: jpanafrican@yahoo.com *and* Adewale Aderemi: adeaderemi@yahoo.com

**'3rd Keffi International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Environment in Africa', Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nigeria, 24-27 October 2007.** The Global Africa Foundation and the Department of History invite papers on the conceptual and theoretical issues related to technology, knowledge and environment in Africa; technologies of food, clothing and health care; traditional and modern building technologies; technology and human development; environment, biodiversity and sustainable development; environmental degradation; environment and resource management in Africa; gender and environment; knowledge and social change; knowledge and the globalization process; knowledge and socio-economic development; and knowledge and political development. 250-word abstracts by 30 April 2007 to Professor Olayemi Akinwumi: conferenceoctober@yahoo.com

**'Cultural Encounters and Historical Practice', Carlsberg Akademi, Copenhagen, Denmark, 7-9 November 2007.** The third and final conference in the Nordic Network for Global Cultural History wishes to engage scholars studying cultural encounters in the context of European colonial expansion after

1500 by broaching questions of theory and methodology. The study of cultural encounters has been conducted in a variety of ways, with multiple theoretical and methodological approaches stretching from ethnohistory and microhistory to new historicism and postcolonial deconstruction, to mention but a few. The conference will discuss the limits and possibilities of different methodological and theoretical approaches to historical cultural encounters.

Sessions may include the concept of cultural encounter; cultural encounters and structural change; violent clashes and cultural confrontations; pre-colonial, colonial, postcolonial cultural encounters; economic structures and cultural encounters; legal, intimate, and mission encounters in comparative perspective; writing encounters with multiple perspectives – the problem of asymmetric sources; strategies for writing the history of peoples without written documents; Europeans abroad – non-Europeans in Europe; counting and quantification as a way of studying cultural encounters; material culture and cultural encounters; and imperial ideologies as shaping or being shaped by concrete encounters. Paper or panel proposals by 1 May 2007 to [globalkulturhistorie@hum.au.dk](mailto:globalkulturhistorie@hum.au.dk)

**‘African Film Conference’, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA, 9-10 November 2007.** Cinema has a more pronounced public dimension than some of the other arts; it creates an audience and depends on it for its survival, and filmmaking itself can be situated within the history, economy, politics, and broader cultural trends of postcolonial Africa. The organisers invite contributions on thematic and stylistic development in African filmmaking and on the way the films reflect and feed upon urban popular culture. A subset of related themes involves the connections to international filmmaking styles or to the ethnographic and documentary film traditions, including considerations of emerging regional and national styles within Africa.

Papers are welcome documenting continuity with older African verbal, dramatic, and visual arts, or of the emergence in film of new expressive manners breaking away from them. Film music and soundtracks, the use of traditional and popular musical genres in films, the influence of international film scores, and a documentation of the impetus that films give to national musical composition could be examined, as well as who the domestic audiences of these films are, the reactions of these audiences to the films, and the training and careers of African directors and actors. Of particular interest are the popular film and video industries in Nigeria (‘Nollywood’). Finally, the understanding of the subject matter and the style of African films can be deepened by an understanding of the broader political economy of the African film industries, the role of public and private financing from home and abroad, the share in revenue of domestic and export markets, the initiatives for co-production or the sharing of post-production facilities, among African countries and between them and developed countries. 250-word abstracts by 31 May 2007 to Mahir Saul: [m-saul@uiuc.edu](mailto:m-saul@uiuc.edu)

## ...Conferences Past

**'MBILI: Sharing Eastern Africa's Visual Traditions', Stevenson Lecture Theatre, British Museum, 13-14 September 2006.** Some fifty people attended the two half-day sessions of the second colloquium concerning eastern Africa's visual traditions, an informal network of museum curators, academics, artists and activists. MBILI followed (noting an ASAUK presence) and complemented the ASAUK 2006 panel 'MAVUNO: Refreshing the visual culture of eastern Africa', which had earlier introduced three new, synoptic publications. The colloquium programme offered 14 varied presentations about recent research, current projects and art works. For example, academic papers included Farouk Topan's 'Observations on Swahili Aesthetics' and Leah Neiderstadt's 'Aesthetics of moral performance in Ethiopian circuses'; talks on exhibitions included Lagat Kiprop on the Kenyan response to the British Museum-National Museums of Kenya collaboration, as well as Hazina Said el-Geithy on curating Princess Salme at the Palace Museum, Zanzibar. Videos were by Chris Spring about the ubiquitous printed fabric *kanga* (showing now in Room 25 of the African Galleries, British Museum) and an expression of Maputo's Vidas Urbanos by Berry Bickle and Luis Basto (previously screened at the 2006 Dak'art Biennial, Senegal). Jackie Guille shared several initiatives that link university textile departments in eastern and southern Africa in outreach projects that are related to health issues.

Attendance doubled for the lunch-time slide-lecture by photographers Carol Beckwith and Angela Fisher; they selected and discussed highlights from their life's work, *African Ceremonies: 30 years of Photography*. Other participants were Mohammed Abdalla, Hassan Arero, Jeremy Coote, Heidi Cutts, Rakhia Ismail, Ralph Issacs, and Sada Mire.

The diverse programme was lively, informative, and at times provocative and stimulated many discussions. A review article about MBILI is anticipated for the *Journal of Museum Ethnography*; the third colloquium TATU is scheduled for 2008 at the Pitt-Rivers Museum, Oxford.

The publication for the first colloquium is Hassan Arero and Zachary Kingdon, eds (2005) *East African Contours: Reviewing Creativity and Visual Culture*. London: Horniman Museum. The catalogue for the collaborative BM-NMK exhibition is Kiprop Lagat and Julie Hudson, eds (2006) *Hazina: Traditions, trade & transitions in Eastern Africa*. Nairobi: National Museums of Kenya, is available at the SOAS Bookshop.

Elsbeth Court: [ec6@soas.ac.uk](mailto:ec6@soas.ac.uk)

**'The Indian Ocean: Cultures in Contact', Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London, 14 July 2006.** The Indian Ocean as a site of multi-directional migration brings together the Malays, Chinese, Indians, Arabs and Africans. It is also an area where America, Britain, Denmark, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Portugal and Spain came into contact with Africa, the Middle East and the Orient. The major issues discussed were seafaring, cartography, migration, cosmopolitanism, cultural flows, cross-cultural innovations, interaction between the hinterland and the littoral. The event was organised by Shihan de Silva and Clifford Pereira, with participants from India, Sri Lanka and the UK. Papers of interest to Africanists were: 'Ethiopia and India: Historical Links' by Professor Richard Pankhurst of Addis Ababa University; 'The Western Indian Ocean through Chinese Eyes' by Clifford Pereira (Royal Geographical Society); 'Hadhramaut and the Indian Ocean' by Professor William Gervase Clarence-Smith (SOAS); 'Malay Navigators and Culture Crossings in the Indian Ocean' by Dr Shihan de Silva (King's College London); and 'Pastoralists at the Coast: The Interface Between the Hinterland and the East Coast of Kenya' by Dr Hassan Arero (Horniman Museum). The papers are being written up for publication.

Shihan de Silva: [devika.de\\_silva@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:devika.de_silva@kcl.ac.uk)

### **Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities**

Saratu Abdulwahid (2006) 'Women's Access to Extension Services in Northern Nigeria', Ph.D thesis, University of Reading. Supervisor: Dr Derek Shepherd.

Delanyo Tsidi Besah Adadevoh (2005) 'Approaches to Christianization Among the Ewe People of Ghana', Ph.D thesis, Oxford Centre for Mission Studies and University of Leeds. Supervisor: Dr Alistair McFayden.

Keven Amherd (2006) 'Reciting Ifa: Difference, Heterogeneity and Identity', Ph.D thesis, University of Birmingham. Supervisor: Professor Karin Barber.

Victoria Emily Yvonee Te Velde Ashworth (2006) 'Expansion of the Modern Commonwealth: Mozambique and Beyond', Ph.D thesis, University of London. Supervisor: Professor Timothy Shaw.

Francis Baah (2006) 'Analysis of the Cocoa Based Knowledge and Information Based System in Ghana: Implications for Technology Transfer', D.Phil. thesis, University of Reading. Supervisor: Professor Chris Garforth.

Tadesse Birhanu (2005) 'Rehabilitation of Degraded Woodlands in the Amhara Region, Ethiopia', Ph.D thesis, University of Aberdeen. Supervisor: Dr Michelle Pinard.

Brian Chase (2006) 'Late Quaternary Palaeoenvironments of the West Coast of South Africa: The Aeolian Record', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Professor David S. G. Thomas and Dr Mark Bateman.

Mwenya Diana Chimba (2006) 'Women, Media and Democracy: News Coverage of Women in the Zambian Press', Ph.D thesis, University of Wales, Cardiff. Supervisors: Dr Cindy Carter, Dr Karin Wahl-Jorgensen and Dr Narmala Halstead.

Christina R. Clark (2006) 'Beyond Borders: Political Marginalisation and Lived Experiences of Congolese Young People in Uganda', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Dr David Anderson and Dr Jo Boyden.

Anna I. Clarkson (2005) 'Courts, Councils and Citizenship: Political Culture in the Gezira Scheme in Condominium Sudan', Ph.D thesis, University of Durham. Supervisor: Dr Justin Willis.

Lawrence Stuart Flint (2006) 'Historical Constructions of Postcolonial Citizenship and Subjectivity: The case of the Lozi Peoples of Southern Central Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Birmingham. Supervisor: Dr Tom McCaskie.

Ernest G. Foli (2005) 'Silvicultural Interventions in Moist Forest in Ghana: An Assessment of Forest Responses and Stakeholder priorities', Ph.D thesis, University of Aberdeen. Supervisor: Dr Michelle Pinard.

Tobias Green (2006) 'Masters of Difference: Creolization and the Jewish Presence in Cabo Verde, 1497-1672', Ph.D thesis, University of Birmingham. Supervisor: Dr Paulo de Moreas Farias.

Emmanuelle Harambat (2006) 'Creating Places: Landscape, Memory and Identity in the Mid-Zambezi Valley', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor Wendy James.

Eugene Nicholas Isaac (2006) 'A Critical-theoretic Study of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission: With Reference to the Work of Jürgen Habermas', Ph.D thesis, University of Leeds. Supervisor: Dr Ian Varcoe and Dr Paul Bagguley.

Godius Kahyarara (2006) 'Determinants of Real Earnings and Productivity in Tanzanian Manufacturing Firms', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Francis Teal.

Edward Riak Kajivora (2005) 'The Role of Religion in Conflict: With Special Reference to its Contribution in the Civil War in Sudan from Independence to 2002', Ph.D thesis, University of Birmingham. Supervisor: Dr Sigvard von Sicard.



Donna C. Leonardi (2005) 'Knowing Authority: Colonial Governance and Local Community in Equatoria Province, Sudan, 1900-56', Ph.D thesis, University of Durham. Supervisor: Dr Justin Willis.

Ian R. G. Macpherson (2006) 'The Rights-Based Approach to Adult Education: Implications for Partnership, Participation and Empowerment in Southern Tanzania', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Ann Childs.

Jareme R. McMullin (2006) 'The Soldier and the Post-conflict State: Assessing Ex-combatant Reintegration in Namibia, Mozambique and Sierra Leone', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Jennifer Welsh.

James H. S. Milner (2006) 'The Politics of Asylum in Africa: The Cases of Kenya, Tanzania and Guinea', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Dr Matthew Gibney and Professor Neil MacFarlane.

Adam Mugame (2006) 'Essays on Macroeconomics in Uganda', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Richard Mash.

Joyce Wangui Muiruri (2006) 'The Role of Sex Education Knowledge in Shaping the Sexual Behaviour of Adolescents in Primary School in Thika District, Kenya', Ph.D thesis, University of Reading. Supervisor: Dr Kevin Waldie.

Annabel Namik Mwangi (2006) 'Refugees and the State in Kenya: The Politics of Identity, Rights and Displacement', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Dr Patricia Daley and Dr David Turton.

Oluwafunmilayo Josephine Para-Mallam (2006) 'The National Policy on Women and the Challenges of Mainstreaming Gender Issues in Nigeria, 1985-2005', Ph.D thesis, University of Leeds. Supervisors: Dr Morris Szeftel and Dr Maureen Ramsey.

Katherine Rogers (2006) 'Manufacturing Consensus from Within: Civil Society's Role in the Liberalization of Kenya's Political Economy (1990-2002)', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor David Anderson.

Christian Rogg (2006) 'Precautionary Saving and Portfolio Management in Uncertain Environments: Evidence from Rural Ethiopia', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Marcel Fafchamps.

Chizuko Sato (2006) 'Forced Removals, Land NGOs and Community Politics in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, 1953-2002', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor William Beinart.

Judith Scheele (2006) 'Village Matters: The Economy of Ideas in Kabylia (North-eastern Algeria)', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Paul Dresch.

Caroline Lydia Jane Sweetman (2005) 'Livelihood, Poverty and the Empowerment of Women: An Ethiopian Case Study', Ph.D thesis, University of Leeds. Supervisor: Professor Ruth Pearson.

Alexander Counihan Thornton (2006) 'Beyond the Metropolis: A Critical Analysis of Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture in Two Selected Small Urban Centres in the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa', D.Phil. thesis, University of Sussex. Supervisor: Dr Don Funnell.

Joanne Walker (2005) 'Uranium-Lead Dating of Hominid Fossil Sites in South Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Leeds. Supervisor: Dr Bob Cliff.

Pamela J. Welch (2005) 'Church and Settler: A Study in the History of the Anglican Diocese of Mashonaland/Southern Rhodesia, 1890-1925', Ph.D thesis, University of London. Supervisor: Professor Andrew N. Porter.

### **Recent and Forthcoming Publications**

David Maxwell (2006) *African Gifts of the Spirit: Pentecostalism & the Rise of a Zimbabwean Transnational Religious Movement*. Oxford: James Currey. 270pp. ISBN: 978-085255-965-9 (cloth), £50; 978-085255-966-6 (paper), £18.95.

John McIlwaine (2007) *Africa: A Guide to Reference Material*. Lochcarron: Hans Zell Publishing. 2<sup>nd</sup> revised and expanded edition. 672pp. ISBN: 0-9541029-3-7, £130. Contact: hanzzell@hanszell.co.uk

Cedric Pulford (2007) *Casualty of Empire: Britain's Unpaid Debt to an African Kingdom*. Woodford Halse: Ituri Publications. 146pp. ISBN: 978-095364307-3 (paperback), £11.99. Website: www.pulfordmedia.co.uk

**The Journal of Eastern African Studies** is a new international publication of the British Institute in Eastern Africa, published three times per year in both print and online formats. It aims to promote fresh scholarly enquiry on the region from within the humanities and the social sciences, and to encourage work that communicates across disciplinary boundaries. It seeks to foster inter-disciplinary analysis, strong comparative perspectives, and research employing the most significant theoretical or methodological approaches for the region. The Editors welcome submissions from all academic disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, including archaeology, anthropology, cultural studies, development studies, economics, environmental studies, geography, history, international relations, literatures and languages, political economy, politics, social policy and sociology. Subscription is £280 (online)/£295 (online and print) institutional, £57 individual. For submissions, contact: jeas@sant.ox.ac.uk

## **Appointments, Academic Links and Exchanges**

**African Studies at the Joint Services Command and Staff College (JSCSC), Defence Academy of the United Kingdom.** JSCSC is home to King's College London's Defence Studies Department, part of King's War Studies Group. JSCSC's flagship Advanced Command and Staff Course involves over 300 military officers from Britain and fifty other countries, including some from the African continent. Over 200 of the students study for the King's MA in Defence Studies, and each year a number of students work on African topics (for example, AIDS and security, the impact of small arms and light weapons, the African Union's common defence and security architecture). Lectures on African topics, primarily security-related, are a part of the course, as are class discussions and set readings.

The Defence Studies Department is home to academics with interests in African history and politics, and topics which pertain to Africa such as private military companies, the United Nations, maritime security, and Peace Support Operations. The monthly Africa Forum sees staff and students with an interest in African affairs gather for informal discussion. JSCSC also has on the staff and among the student body officers with experience of operations in Africa, and the College maintains links with various African countries. They are particularly keen to keep abreast of studies that broadly relate to African security matters, and would welcome contact from scholars in order to learn of their work. Contact Dr Ashley Jackson: [ajackson.jscsc@da.mod.uk](mailto:ajackson.jscsc@da.mod.uk)

**'Breaking the Chains: Britain and the Slave Trade', The British Empire and Commonwealth Museum, Bristol.** This exhibition opens in spring 2007 to coincide with the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade. The £1 million Heritage Lottery-funded exhibition will act as the centrepiece of the former major slave-trading port's commemoration programme. 'Breaking the Chains' will occupy an entire floor of the city's British Empire & Commonwealth Museum and has been developed in partnership with Bristol City Council's Museums, Galleries and Archives' service. Website: [www.empiremuseum.co.uk](http://www.empiremuseum.co.uk)

**Development Plans of the British Institute in Eastern Africa.** The BIEA is one of the schools and institutes supported by the British Academy. For almost fifty years, BIEA has been working to promote research in eastern Africa; and it currently supports activities across the range of humanities and social sciences. BIEA promotes research in a range of ways, and seeks always to build the local research community and to encourage research partnerships. BIEA undertakes major research projects; gives small grants to researchers who cannot access other sources of research funding; provides research experience opportunities to recent graduates from East African and British universities; holds conferences, lectures and other events intended to develop the scholarly community and to present

research knowledge to the public; and publishes an annual journal and a range of other publications. BIEA also maintains in Nairobi a scholarly library which is a unique resource in the region, and a research base which offers working space and a wide range of research equipment to scholars.

BIEA wishes to launch two linked initiatives to improve the facilities which it offers to the researchers, and particularly to enhance its work in developing the local research community. BIEA's library, office and work spaces are all in a former residential house. The library is desperately short of space and the physical space for readers in the library is extremely cramped. Working space for researchers is also increasingly limited. BIEA aims to create **a new purpose-built library and offices** next to the existing house. The new building will cost £160,000 to build, and it is anticipated that making good the site after building, together with new furniture and fittings, will cost a further £30,000. The development plan will provide 50% more library space, a dedicated seminar room, and purpose-designed work-space for staff and researchers.

East African scholars face significant challenges in maintaining any kind of research programme after completing doctoral work. Those who take up work in public universities in the region usually have little access to research funds, and face teaching burdens which anyway make research difficult. BIEA aims to create **one-year post-doctoral research fellowships**, at a competitive salary, to be based in Nairobi, which will allow younger scholars from the region the opportunity to develop their own research. The cost of the new fellowship is estimated at £20,000 per annum – exclusive of the research costs, which will be raised separately. BIEA hopes to raise at least £60,000, which will finance the fellowship for an initial three years to prove the value of these fellowships; once they are established, further funds will be sought to ensure the sustainability of the fellowship scheme.

Send donations by cheque made payable to 'British Institute in Eastern Africa' to Jeanie Moyo, The Secretary, BIEA, 10 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5AH. If you are a UK taxpayer, please use a Gift Aid Declaration Form from: [biea@britac.ac.uk](mailto:biea@britac.ac.uk)

## **Obituaries**

### **Professor Peter Malcolm Holt (28 November 1918 – 2 November 2006)**

Obituary in printed newsletter; not for electronic dissemination

**David Morgan**

### **Francis Edwin 'Frank' Speed (4 November 1918 – 16 September 2006)**

Obituary in printed newsletter; not for electronic dissemination

**Karin Barber and Doig Simmonds**

### **Note to Contributors**

The *Newsletter* solicits short reports on recent conferences, announcements of forthcoming conferences, symposia and workshops (giving topic, date, venue, themes, abstract deadline 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.

Send items for inclusion in the *Newsletter* to Dr Simon Heap, Editor, ASAUK Newsletter, c/o Plan International, Chobham House, Christchurch Way, Woking, Surrey, GU21 6JG, UK or [simon.heap@plan-international.org](mailto:simon.heap@plan-international.org) **Deadline for the next newsletter is 15 June 2007.** 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: Gemma Haxby, RAS/ASAUK, SOAS, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London, WC1H 0XG; tel: +44 (0)20 7898 4390; fax: +44 (0)20 7898 4389; email: [asa@soas.ac.uk](mailto:asa@soas.ac.uk) or [ras@soas.ac.uk](mailto:ras@soas.ac.uk)

Keep up-to-date with ASAUK! Read the *Newsletter* and check the website:

**[www.asauk.net](http://www.asauk.net)**