

ASAUK 2020

With more than 160 days to go until ASAUK 2020, we are continuing to plan on welcoming colleagues to Cardiff University for the 28th biennial conference. However, please do keep an eye on the ASAUK website and Twitter Account @ASAUK_News for travel advice and information relating to COVID-19.

Programme

The call for papers has been extended until Sunday 26th April 2020.

For purposes of programming we can only allow TWO paper or panel proposal submissions per person. In addition, you can propose a Roundtable and/or book launch for the conference (a total of FOUR ways to participate at the conference!).

The draft programme will be available in June 2020.

Keynote

We are delighted to announce that Dr Sada Mire, a world authority on the archaeology of Northeast Africa, will be the keynote speaker at our conference. Dr Mire will deliver a lecture entitled 'The Archaeological Heritage of the Somali Horn of Africa' on Tuesday 8th September 2020.

Booking for the Keynote Lecture will be via a separate Eventbrite link which will appear on the ASAUK website in due course. Booking is essential.

How to register

Registration information is available via the ASAUK website page: <http://www.asauk.net/asauk-2020/registration/>

Registration is open and can be booked directly using this link: <https://bit.ly/2TZScQL>

Bursaries

As the Cardiff organisers of ASAUK2020, we have successfully raised a number of full bursaries. In addition, we are grateful to stream organisers who are funding participation in the conference. If you are unable to obtain financial support to attend the conference and are either a Ph.D student or within a three year period of being awarded a doctorate then you may apply for an ASAUK bursary, for which we have a small amount of funding available.

Please contact us via email – ASAUK2020@cardiff.ac.uk – with Bursary Information in the subject line and we will send you further information.

Attendance grants for early career scholar-parents

There are ten grants of up to £200 each available for early career researchers (within a three-year period from the award of their doctorate) who are parents of young children and who need financial support to cover childcare to enable them to attend ASAUK 2020. Bursary funds will be released once candidates have registered for the conference.

Applicants are asked to write a short paragraph of no more than ten lines, explaining how the funds will be used. Please provide evidence of your early career status. Please send this to: toby.green@kcl.ac.uk (ASAUK Treasurer). The grants are available on a first come first serve basis.

Conference Solidarity Fund

At ASAUK 2018 in Birmingham, colleagues kindly supported the conference by contributing to a solidarity fund. We would be very grateful if delegates were able to contribute to the 2020 solidarity fund that would enable us to offer additional bursaries for colleagues at the early stage of their career to attend the conference. Contributions to this fund can be made via: <https://app.asauk.net/donate/>

Sustainability

We are working hard on the sustainability of our meeting. If you are thinking about carbon footprints, you may wish to donate to the Regrow Borneo project, Sustainable Places Research Institute, Cardiff University. For more information on the project, visit: <https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/sustainable-places/research/projects/regrow-borneo>

Accommodation

We are very pleased to be able to offer a wide range of bed and breakfast accommodation, ranging from Cardiff University Halls of Residence (less than £40 per night) to 5* discounted hotel rooms. Accommodation booking is open and the options available are at: <http://www.asauk.net/accommodation/>

Food

As part of this year's conference registration fee we will include mid-morning and mid-afternoon refreshments in addition to a 'Grab and Go' lunch. There will be a variety of diet options available and these are pre-ordered at the time of your registration. You will have lunchtime tickets as part of your registration pack as a reminder of what you have ordered, please take them along when you go to collect your lunch.

We are offering a special two course 'Taste of Wales' served lunch each day of the conference which will be in Aberdare Hall centrally located near the conference venue. This lunch is not included in the registration fee and costs £12. The menu selection is available and is shown on the bookings page.

Pre-booking is essential as we cannot accept cash payments and only credit or debit cards may be used to pay for this lunch option. Booking is on a first-come first-served basis via: <https://bit.ly/2W9A89t>

Conference dinner

A three-course silver service conference dinner will be held in the beautiful Assembly Room, Cardiff City Hall on Wednesday 9th September. Tickets for the dinner are priced at £30 for Student, Early Career Research and Africa-based scholar and £50 for ASAUK members and non-members. Tickets for the dinner are booked via the conference registration page: <https://bit.ly/2TZScQL>

Logistics

The conference will take place on the Cathays Campus, Cardiff University. Registration will be in the VJ Gallery, Main Building from 9:30am onwards on Tuesday 8th September. Please endeavour to register before lunch time at 1pm on that day and collect your lunch tickets. A luggage drop off/collection point will be available in Main building throughout the conference.

Travel/Visa information

Travel information will appear on the ASAUK webpage in due course.

Accessibility

The Cathays campus is fairly flat, but many University buildings were built in the early part of the twentieth century and some have limited accessibility. The University lecture theatres and meeting rooms being used are spread across buildings in the Civic Centre so there will be short distances to travel between them.

If you have queries about accessibility, please let us know and we will be able to provide you with relevant access information to assist you during the conference.

Prizes

Awards will be presented at the conference dinner on Wednesday 9th September in Cardiff City Hall:-

Fage and Oliver Prize

This is awarded to the author of an outstanding original scholarly work published on Africa during the preceding two years. We were delighted with the response from the publishers for their submissions to this prize and are extremely grateful to the reviewing committee as they consider 85 nominations. The short list is scheduled to be announced at the end of April.

Audrey Richards Prize

This prize is for the best doctoral thesis in African Studies which has been successfully examined in a British Institution of higher education.

Distinguished Africanist Awards

This award is for individuals who have made a significant contribution to African Studies. The award is not confined to academics. It is intended for people who have contributed largely to African Studies in the UK, or who have strengthened links between African Studies here and in Africa itself. Two awards will be made.

Publishers Passport Prize

This year we would like to encourage all attendees to visit the publishers who have kindly sponsored the conference. We have introduced a 'Publishers Passport' and for completed passports there will be a prize draw.

We hope to see you in Cardiff in September!

Conferences Future...

UNITED KINGDOM

**'Zimbabwean Migration – People, Ideas and the Arts in Motion', Britain
Zimbabwe Society Research Day 2020, Saturday, 13th June 2020.**

Postponed

'Jews in South Africa', University College London, 14-15 September 2020. For much of the twentieth century, the received history of Jews in South Africa was a rather sanitized one. In popular culture as well as mainstream historiography, Jews were most often depicted as a valued and acquiescent immigrant community, navigating a successful journey from rags to riches while contributing spiritedly to the country's development and welfare. This truthful but also congratulatory narrative has not disappeared since the end of apartheid, but now shares space and attention with accounts of Jewish involvement in the

anti-apartheid struggle. The latter has become the feature most associated with the community's history in the global Jewish imagination.

While there exists a nucleus of critical, nuanced research on Jews in South Africa, the field remains ripe for further exploration. What were the experiences of Jewish women, Sephardim, immigrants, and diverse others who did not fit into the Ashkenazi white male mould? What have been the relationships between Jews and their diverse non-Jewish neighbours across the colour spectrum, beyond the limited rubric of apartheid politics? How have South African Jewish experiences and dilemmas been manifest in literature, theatre, music, and art? How did the experiences of Jews compare with those of other minorities in South Africa? How did the choices made by South African Jews compare with those of Jews in other racialized societies? Has acculturation and assimilation followed patterns found elsewhere, or is there something distinctive about identity and identity formation among South African Jews? What more can we learn about South African Jewish religious practices, politics, languages, and identities if we open up the field of research?

This conference is intended as a springboard for a new generation of research. It will provide the first serious opportunity in many years to take stock of the field and to create a robust, forward-looking agenda. This is a conversation that must include diverse thinkers who will challenge received ideas and pioneer new areas of research, and as such, we welcome the participation of established scholars alongside younger scholars across disciplines; those whose work deals with pertinent themes such as identity, 'whiteness', and politics in a broader Jewish context; and those who explore these issues from outside the ivory tower, in film, art, public policy, and communal leadership. 300 word abstracts by 30 April 2020 to: shirli.gilbert@ucl.ac.uk.

INTERNATIONAL

'Private and Public Universities and the Future of Tertiary Education in Africa', University of Abuja, Nigeria, 8–11th July 2020. The need to train qualified manpower required in public, private and civic spaces has spurred the establishment of universities in Africa post-independent. As against the few universities that the colonialists established, post-independent African leaders considered university education to be fundamental to the project of national development to which they were committed. In the first four decades of independence, the continent witnessed massive expansion in the number of public universities established by national and sub-national governments. However, as the population continued to grow, access to universities established by the state became severely limited. To fill this gap, churches, rich individuals and in a few instances, international universities began to make in-roads to the

higher education sector on the continent. Despite the increase in the number of universities in both public and private sectors, concerns exist on the quality of graduates, research and teaching.

Against the backdrop of the increasing wave of private universities, public universities are affected by poaching of faculty members, competition for bright students, and changing perceptions by the public. In some instances, the increasing relevance of private universities is underscored by the problems associated with public universities such as frequent strikes, reduced capacity to admit students, and limited facilities and technological infrastructures. At the same time, scepticism around private universities is based on the perception that many of them lack faculty members of the requisite quality and quantity, affecting research output as well as the competence or knowledge base of graduates, low academic standards, limited programmes focused on expensive fields of study, and poor infrastructure. This is compounded by other structural challenges including prohibitive and unpredictable regulations, delays in accreditation of courses, and a general lack of support from governments. Authoritarian governance structures in some private universities also constitute a challenge to the atmosphere of academic freedom that universities are known for.

Despite these concerns, private universities have made immense contributions to different African societies. They have alleviated the burden of access placed on public universities, contributed to innovation in curricula, led to increased employability, and provided new models of educational delivery and funding. Some have outpaced and out-performed public universities. For example, The Times Higher Education World Universities ranking recognized Covenant University, a private faith-based institution, as the best university in Nigeria in 2018. Although the importance of private universities is growing, there is a paucity of research on the governance models of these universities and the additional challenges they pose to public universities. Additionally, there are concerns around lack of appropriate policies which are necessary to guide the relationship between private and public universities. Yet appropriate policies are needed to manage these two aspects of higher education on the continent in order to produce expected educational outcomes for national development both in the immediate and foreseeable future.

In the context of the ongoing challenges of development in Africa, the need to boost knowledge production, foster competitiveness of the higher education sector and respond to the fourth industrial revolution, scholars are invited to examine the intersection of private and public universities in Africa and how institutions in both sectors can contribute to meeting the demands for quality university graduates, conduct research and enhance national and continental development.

The organisers welcome papers that examine the following thematic issues: the history of private universities and Public Universities; Governance Models in private and public university education in Africa; impact of Faculty poaching on public and private universities in Africa; student development issues in African universities; curriculum issues in Higher Education in Africa; funding of private and public universities in Africa; African universities and the decolonisation movement; Higher Education and the Fourth Industrial Revolution in Africa; Sustainability of higher education in Africa; African universities and the decolonisation movement; Higher Education and the Fourth Industrial Revolution in Africa; private and public universities and the future of tertiary education in Africa; strategic roles for private and public universities in Africa's transformation; private universities and the reform of public tertiary education in Africa; Stakeholders and Partnerships in Higher Education in Africa; policy and reforms in private and public university education; partnerships between private and public universities in Africa; the instability question in African public universities; social relevance of African universities; deficit of critical infrastructure and global competitiveness of African universities; unionism and the academia in Africa; funding challenge and performance possibilities of African universities; African universities and development; future of university education in Africa; national policies on tertiary education in Africa; Government regulations and regulatory agencies and African universities; globalisation, liberalisation and universities in Africa; management of diversity and inclusion in private and public universities in Africa; comparative Case Studies of Universities in Private and Public Sectors in Africa; and innovation and Research and Development in African Universities. 300 word abstracts by 30th May 2020 to A. G. Umar Kari: umar.kari@uniabuja.edu.ng and Sam Oloruntoba: dayotoba@gmail.com

Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities

Omotola Ayisat Adeoye (2020), 'Bridging the Gap between Electricity Demand and Supply in West Africa: The Role of Renewable Energy and Interconnections', Ph.D thesis, University College London. Supervisors: Dr Catalina Spataru and Professor Neil Strachan; <https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/10089102/>

Modesta Tochi Alozie (2020), 'The Political Ecology of Oil in the Niger Delta: Understanding Youth Violence from the Perspectives of Youths', Ph.D thesis, University College London; <https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/10088778/>

Frances Cossar (2019), 'Agricultural Development, Mechanization, and Rental Markets: Theory and Empirics from Ghana', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Professor Douglas Gollin and Professor Xiaolan Fu.

Bronia Cross (2019), 'The Historical Geographies of European Childhood in Colonial Africa: Children's Lives in Nyasaland 1889-1964', Ph.D thesis, University of Hull. Supervisors: Dr Elsbeth Robson, Professor David Atkinson and Dr Rosemary Cresswell.

Goitom Gebreluel (2020), 'Strategies for Managing Regional Conflicts: Ethiopia's Foreign Policy in 1991-2018', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Devon Curtis; <https://www.repository.cam.ac.uk/handle/1810/300576>

Babou Joof (2020), 'An Examination of Science Teachers' Pedagogical Perceptions and Orientations in Relation to Student Centred Learning in Science Education in Gambian Upper Basic Schools', Ph.D thesis, University of Huddersfield. Supervisors: Dr Emma Salter and Dr Ian Rushton; <http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/id/eprint/35178/>

Kalliopi Kaparounaki (2019), 'Caregiving Children in Malawi: Children's Work Within Families Affected by Illness and Disability', Ph.D thesis, University of Hull. Supervisors: Dr Elsbeth Robson and Professor Liz Walker.

Janice Kim (2020), 'Unpacking the Role of Early Learning in Student Learning Outcomes: Evidence from National Reform of Pre-Primary Education in Ethiopia', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Ricardo Sabates; <https://www.repository.cam.ac.uk/handle/1810/299059>

Richmond O. Lamptey (2020), 'The Influence of Bank-Based and Capital Market-Based Impact Investments on SME Financing in Ghana: Governance, Strategy Change and Impacts', Ph.D thesis, Open University. Supervisors: Dr Michael Ngoasong, Dr Silvia Sachetti and Professor Richard Blundel; <http://oro.open.ac.uk/69437/>

Mayeso Lazaro (2018), 'Grandfathers Caring for Orphaned Grandchildren in Rural Southern Malawi: Invisible in Plain Sight?', Ph.D thesis, University of Hull. Supervisors: Dr Elsbeth Robson and Professor Liz Walker.

Thomas James Lowman (2020), 'Beyond Idi Amin: Causes and Drivers of Political Violence in Uganda, 1971-1979', Ph.D thesis, University of Durham. Supervisors: Professor Justin Willis and Doctor Jacob Wiebel; <http://etheses.dur.ac.uk/13439/>

Vincent Nadeau (2019), 'African Origins of the Cuban Revolution: Fidel and the Black Dove', Ph.D thesis, King's College London. Supervisors: Dr Toby Green and Professor David Treece.

Mbali Pewa (2020), 'Household Waste Management in a South African Township', Ph.D thesis, University of Hull. Supervisors: Dr Elsbeth Robson, Dr Pauline Deutz and Professor Andy Jonas.

Recent Publications

Erik Bähre (2020), *Ironies of Solidarity Insurance and Financialization in South Africa*. Zed Book, 264pp, 978-1786998583, £21.99.

Jennifer Bajorek (2020), *Unfixed: Photography and Decolonial Imagination in West Africa*. Duke University Press, 352pp, 9781478003663, £90.00 (Hardback); 9781478003922, £23.99 (Paperback).

Oluwakemi M. Balogun (2020), *Beauty Diplomacy: Embodying an Emerging Nation*. Stanford University Press, 304pp, 9781503608856, £77.00 (Hardback); 9781503610972, £22.99 (Paperback).

Mulugeta Gebrehiwot Berhe (2020), *Laying the Past to Rest: The EPRDF and the Challenges of Ethiopian State-Building*. Hurst, 376pp, 9781787382916, £55.

Gwyn Campbell (2019), *Africa and the Indian Ocean World from Early Times to Circa 1900*. Cambridge University Press, 316 pp, 978-0-521-00806-8, £21.

Darin Christensen and David D. Laitin (2019), *African States since Independence: Order, Development, and Democracy*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 978-0-300-22661-4, 416pp, £35.

Naminata Diabate (2020), *Naked Agency: Genital Cursing and Biopolitics in Africa*. Duke University Press Books, 272pp, 9781478006886, £20.99 (Paperback); 9781478006152, £83.00 (Hardback).

Odile Goerg (2020), *Tropical Dream Palaces: Cinema in Colonial West Africa*. Hurst, 201pp 9781787382053, £45.

Sarah LeFanu (2020), *Something of Themselves: Kipling, Kingsley, Conan Doyle and the Anglo-Boer War*. Hurst, 381pp, 9781787383098, £25.

Luis Martinez (2020), *The State in North Africa: After the Arab Uprisings*. Hurst, 221pp, 9781787382961, £30.

Kara Moskowitz (2019), *Seeing Like a Citizen: Decolonization, Development, and the Making of Kenya, 1945–1980*. Ohio University Press, 336pp, 9780821423950, £64.00 [Hardback]; 9780821423967, £26.99 [Paperback]

Martin J. Murray (2020), *Panic City: Crime and the Fear Industries in Johannesburg*. Stanford University Press, 392pp, 9781503610194, £77.00 [Hardback]; 9781503611269, £24.99 [Paperback]

Jane Aptekar Reeve (2019), *Plotting to Stop the British Slave Trade: James Bruce and His Secret Mission to Africa*. AuthorHouse, 708pp, 978-1-7283-9624-8, £22.95 (softcover); 978-1-7283-9625-5, £33.99 (hardcover); <https://www.authorhouse.com/en-gb/bookstore/bookdetails/698952-plotting-to-stop-the-british-slave-trade>

Megan A. Styles (2019), *Roses from Kenya: Labor, Environment, and the Global Trade in Cut Flowers*. University of Washington Press, 256pp, 9780295746517, £76.00 (Hardback); 9780295746500, £22.99 (Paperback).

T. J. Tallie (2020), *Queering Colonial Natal: Indigeneity and the Violence of Belonging in Southern Africa*. University of Minnesota Press, 240pp, 9781517905187, £19.99 (Paperback); 9781517905170, £83.00 (Hardback).

Blessing Miles Tendi (2020), *The Army and Politics in Zimbabwe: Mujuru, the Liberation Fighter and Kingmaker*. Cambridge University Press, 348pp, 978-1108472890, £90.

Lynn M. Thomas (2020), *Beneath the Surface: A Transnational History of Skin Lighteners*. Duke University Press, 368pp, 9781478005384, £90.00 (Hardback); 9781478006428, £23.99 (Paperback).

Mari K. Webel (2019), *The Politics of Disease Control: Sleeping Sickness in Eastern Africa, 1890–1920*. Ohio University Press, 272pp, 9780821423998, £64.00 (Hardback); 9780821424001, £26.99 (Paperback).

Call for Papers: The African Experience

The editors invite contributions of scholarly essays for an edited anthology focusing on the African experience since the precolonial period. This book will provide instructors and students of African history with a comprehensive and up-to-date account of Africa's cultural and political history, economic development, artistic expressiveness, religious and philosophical worldviews, among other topics. Suggested subjects include: African Geography and Environment; States and Empires in Africa; Ancient Egypt; the Trans-Saharan Slave Trade; written and oral literature in Africa; indigenous African Religions; Christianity and Islam in Africa; social institutions in Africa; women in Africa; masculinity in Africa; sport in Africa; music in Africa; African art, film and theatre; educational development in Africa; the Atlantic Slave Trade; European Expansion and the Scramble for Africa; Apartheid in South Africa; Pan-Africanism and Decolonization in Africa; colonial legacies: Neocolonialism and Nation Building in Africa; war and peace in Africa; Africa and Globalization; African Continental Unity: From OAU and AU; Africa in International Economic Relations; Human Rights in Africa; immigration and African immigrants in the United States; and the travails and triumphs of democratization in Postcolonial Africa. 300-word abstracts by 30th May 2020 to Dr Ogechi E. Anyanwu: ogechi.anyanwu@eku.edu

News

SOAS's New Director: Professor Adam Habib

Professor Adam Habib, the Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of the Witwatersrand, will serve as the Director of the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) University of London, from 1st January 2021.

The outgoing Vice-Chancellor said: "I was approached to apply for the SOAS position at the end of last year. I threw my hat into the ring and was surprised when they offered me the post. After much deliberation with my family and considerable engagement with the Wits Council and the Executive, I have agreed to accept the offer. My decision was not made lightly – I am a proud leader and champion of Wits University and South Africa, and will continue to fly these flags high." He said he would use his new role to strengthen ties between the South African and UK higher education sectors.

Isaac Shongwe, the Chairperson of Wits University's Council congratulated Habib on his new appointment. "He is a dynamic leader, who has without a doubt made a significant contribution to Wits and the higher education sector, both locally and abroad. His fearless, forthright commentary and his general robustness has left our university, and South Africa, a richer intellectual space, for which we are grateful. Wits has an impressive executive team, who are increasingly sought after to lead other universities in the higher education sector. Almost a third of all public universities in South Africa are led by Witsies, and we are confident that a suitable successor will be appointed. We will, of course, continue to develop strong leaders for all sectors of society."

Habib is in his second term as a vice-chancellor and by the end of the year would have spent eight-years at helm.

SOAS reported that it was "delighted to announce that we have appointed the outstanding academic leader, researcher and activist Professor Adam Habib as our next Director."

Amaury Talbot Prize for African Anthropology

Congratulations to Dr Jennifer Diggins of Oxford Brookes University, who has won the Amaury Talbot Prize for African Anthropology for her book, *Coastal Sierra Leone: Materiality and the Unseen in Maritime West Africa*, published by Cambridge University Press (2018).

Obituary

My long-standing friend, **Helen Kimble**, who died on December 4th, 2019, aged 94, was remarkable for her intellectual talent, applied over many years to African affairs, her deeply loving care for her four daughters and her readiness to campaign for justice. Wherever she worked, she elicited great affection.

The daughter of a Scottish doctor, Thomas Rankin and his wife, Kathleen, nee McClelland, she obtained a scholarship to Girton College, Cambridge, from where she graduated in 1945 in Economics and Literature. She then undertook the Oxford postgraduate training in Adult Education, supervised by Thomas Hodgkin, who, originally an Arabist, had become interested in African countries on the verge of regaining independence.

After a brief stint as an editor at the Bureau of Current Affairs in London, Helen married David Kimble (later to become Vice-chancellor of the University of Malawi) and in 1949 accompanied him to the new University College of the Gold Coast (now Ghana), where he was Director of Extra-mural Studies. Helen gained a deep love for Ghana, lasting all her life. For eleven years there and five more at the University of Dar es Salaam, where David was Professor of Public Administration, she worked in loyal partnership with him on many pioneering projects, particularly in publications for African audiences - also useful to Africanist scholars in Europe and the USA. Helen edited an African Current Affairs series and co-edited the African Penguins. Signally, the pair co-founded the authoritative *Journal of Modern African Studies*, now in its 58th year.

Her individual work included teaching Economics in both West and East Africa and in Dar es Salaam enlisting her students for a major study of markets as well as researching for the Tanganyika National Price Control Board.

Back in Britain and divorced from David in 1977, Helen moved to Oxford; and her sense of justice led her for the rest of her life to work with the Anti-Apartheid Movement (she was a monitor in the South African elections which brought Mandela to power) and, particularly, as one of its founders, with Asylum Welcome, dedicated to supporting the mainly African detainees in Campsfield House outside Oxford. She mobilised volunteers to assist refugees there and crusaded against the policy of locking up perfectly innocent people. Her drive, sincerity and persistence didn't endear her to the authorities, including Group Four, which ran Campsfield - and incidentally took her away her umbrella as an "offensive weapon" when she visited.

Lalage Bown

Note to Contributors

Send items for inclusion in the July *Newsletter* by 15th June 2020 to Dr Simon Heap, c/o Academic Office, Buckley 1.08, Oxford Brookes University, Gipsy Lane, Oxford, OX3 0BP or effaheap@aol.com

Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the ASAUK.

For matters relating to membership of ASAUK contact: Melmarie Laccay, 21 Russell Square, SOAS, London, WC1B 5EA; telephone: +44 (0)20-3073-8336; email: rasmembership@soas.ac.uk

Check the website: www.asauk.net