

Minutes of the 57th ASAUK AGM, 10th September 2020, 11am-12.30pm, held online

1. Members Present

Bronwen Manby, Toby Green, Ola Uduku, Marie Rodet, Simon Heap, Lindiwe Dovey, Madhu Krishnan, Elsbeth Robson, Stacey Hynd, Jonathan Fisher, Carli Coetzee, Louisa Egbunike, Alexander Letts, Geoffrey Rockliffe-King, Caroline Davis, Adriaan van Klinken, Nic Cheeseman, Nick Westcott, Liz Gunner, Reginald Cline-Cole, Lucy McCann, Lynn Taylor, Helene Neveu Kringelbach, Ambreena Manji, Madeleine Markey, Stephanie Kitchen, Toni Hastrup, Poppy Cullen, Max Bolt, Dapo Ladimeji, David Kerr.

Apologies

Portia Roelofs, Sharifah Sekalala, Phia Steyn, Rama Salla Dieng.

2. Minutes of 56th ASAUK AGM. 16 October. 2019 Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS) Common Ground Room, UCL Matters Arising

These were circulated prior to the meeting and were unanimously approved.

3. President's Report (Ambreena Manji)

Partnerships

The African Studies Association of the UK worked with the Royal Africa Society and the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Africa to produce a report on Visa Problems for African Visitors to the UK published in 2019 and we are committed to taking forward this work. We will continue to track the visa problems experienced by academic colleagues and to make a robust case for improvements in this area. We continue to work in partnership with the Royal Africa Society and are very grateful for the excellent working relationships we have fostered.

We have continued to work closely with the British Academy and have benefited enormously from partnering with it to organise the ASAUK Writing Workshops. The British Academy's interest in the model created by ASAUK and its continued funding for the work we are able to do through these workshops is gratefully acknowledged. It has been especially gratifying to see the Writing Workshop model developed by ASAUK become more universal. The writing workshops depend on a commitment to long-term relationships with authors and on the

frugal use of resources. Work over the long-term has enabled the ASAUK to develop new initiatives in response to discussion with our colleagues. The Africa Journal Work Academy is one such important example. This partnership between the African Studies Association Africa (ASAA) and the ASAUK has been developed to foster inter-generational links across African institutions. It is a response to African scholars in the humanities and social sciences expressing concerns about existing assumption about what constitutes 'international' journal publication. At a time when Africa-based journals and conferences are making significant contributions to changing the landscape of knowledge production, ASAUK has been pleased to play a role in strengthening Africa-based scholarly journals and the mentoring of the next generation of editors, peer reviewers and editorial board members through the Africa Journal Work Academy.

In 2019 the ASAUK became an institutional member of the ASAA and many Council members participated in its excellent Nairobi conference that year. This intellectual and research partnership is one of which we are proud, and we will continue to work to deepen the Association's relationships with its sister African Studies Associations in Europe and the US and on the African continent itself, recognising that we are but one Association in an important constellation of African Studies organisations, and thinking and acting with due epistemic modesty.

Policy Engagement

Reflecting the ASAUK's commitment to developing close collaborative relationships, many of our members have contributed to policy debates in the UK and beyond. This has included drafting and endorsing an ASA-US and ASAUK statement of principles for the sale of rights in African territories for non-African scholarly publishers; an intervention to express the Association's grave concerns about proposed cuts to SOAS library; a statement of solidarity with industrial action by academics in the UK which noted the disproportionate effects on our early career BAME and women colleagues of worsening terms and conditions of employment in academia; and a statement of support for the Black Lives Matter movement across the globe.

The Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lecture

The ASAUK Mary Kingsley Zochonis lecture 2019 took place on Wednesday 16th October and was delivered by Dr Pedi Obani, United Nations University Institute for Natural Resources in Africa (UNU-INRA). The lecture, entitled 'Sanitation, Human Rights and Governance: A Critical Perspective from Nigeria' explored access to adequate sanitation and argued that depends on public measures, such as the building of infrastructure, which are routinely neglected. Addressing them demands not merely infrastructural measures, Dr Obani argued, but radical legal and political reform to ensure democratic involvement in the development and running of basic services. The lecture was informed by Dr Obani's extensive fieldwork on sanitation and governance. It contextualised

these problems by drawing on public health science, environmental studies, and wider cultural and historical perspectives on the politics of waste in Africa. For this reason, it resonated with a wide range of academic audiences, as well as having potential to influence policy-makers and activists.

Cardiff Conference

It was a great personal and collective disappointment that ASAUK 2020, our much-anticipated biennial conference, was cancelled due to COVID. We took the decision to cancel the conference early, in the face of an unpredictable and evolving situation. We regret the decision but the officers of the ASAUK felt it was the only possible decision in the circumstances.

I would like to record my thanks to Cardiff University for their support for the conference in a range of ways, from the appointment of a conference administrator to the significant financial and logistical support they provided. Thanks also to the British Academy and the Guggenheim Foundation for their continued support of our work in the form of bursaries to support attendance at the conference. We are grateful to all the conference stream convenors for their vision and planning. Despite the cancellation of the conference, we have been gratified to see the continued work of these streams in various forms including in online events and forthcoming journal publications.

One small compensation for the cancellation is that it afforded us a chance to think about our work beyond the hosting of a large-scale event. For any ASAUK president, a short two-year term is dominated by the responsibility of organising the biennial conference and it was in some regards productive to think outside of this event to what else the Association should be doing for and with its members. This should in my view involve a wider remit of making the case for the work that we do across our various disciplines and, in the context of our UK members, making a robust case to defend the departments in which this work is done. The increasing strain of the coming years as the university sector faces a range of difficulties makes this a more urgent task than ever. The conditions under which we produce our scholarship – and, in particular, the terms and conditions available for our early career colleagues – should be a major concern and area of work for the Association in coming years. We reflected on the future of the large conference as officers and you can read our piece on this topic in the *Times Higher Education* here: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/opinion/world-cannot-afford-any-more-global-academic-jamborees>

ASAUK Prizes and Awards

In spite of the cancellation of the ASAUK 2020 conference, we are pleased to be able to award the Association's prizes: the Distinguished Africanist Award; the Fage & Oliver book prize; and Audrey Richards dissertation prize. The prize giving will take place on 10th September by zoom and we look forward to marking this occasion with the prize winners in a virtual ceremony. We wish to

record our gratitude to the Fage & Oliver book prize panel: Professor Ray Bush (Chair) alongside Dr Reginald Cline-Cole, Department of African Studies and Anthropology, University of Birmingham, Dr Diana Jeater, Department of History, University of Liverpool; Professor Madhu Krishnan, Department of English, University of Bristol and Dr Kate Skinner, Department of African Studies and Anthropology, University of Birmingham. Our thanks for their work to the Audrey Richards dissertation prize panel headed by Professor Ola Uduku.

ASAUK Elders

The ASAUK have invited a group of its past presidents to come together to constitute elders to guide the Associations work over the coming years. We look forward to developing the role of this advisory group in guiding the Association in turbulent times and as we seek to fulfil our mission and meet the expectations of our members.

4. Report by the Honorary Secretary (David Kerr)

Small Conference Grants

In non-conference years the ASAUK offers small grants (£500) for UK-based conferences, preferably for travel grants to bring an African scholar to attend the conference. This year no applications for funding were made. Members are urged to remind colleagues that such a grant exists.

Teaching Fellowship

ASAUK Teaching Fellowship scheme offers £9,000 to support a teaching fellowship in the Social Sciences or Humanities for a UK-based academic to work in an African university. In 2019 Council funded one fellowship for Dr Katie Young (Geography, Royal Holloway) to work in the University of Development Studies in Tamale Ghana. During her very successful fellowship Dr Young both lecture and assisted with the development of a new Arts at the University for Development Studies.

Membership

Membership numbers have decreased substantially over the last year. This has in part been in response to the Covid pandemic and its effect on academic job opportunities. ASAUK membership has halved since the last AGM, currently of the 402 joint members 144 are ASAUK members first.

There are a number of reasons for the decreasing membership including:

- Members may not have renewed membership due to problems with the new online membership system. These initial problems have now been resolved.
- Events supported by the ASAUK, in particular the Biennial Conference encourage scholars to become members. Due to Covid, ASAUK has not been able to hold events and this has had a significant effect on the recruitment of new members.

- Increases in unemployment, precarity and uncertainty particularly for early careers scholars may have influenced the number of both new members and renewals.

For several years ASAUK has not been recruiting sufficient numbers of early career members. This is due to a combination of factors including Covid, the economic downturn and many early career Africanists juggling work both inside and working outside of academia. ASAUK Council has a large cohort of ECR's among its members and is exploring how to engage with, support and represent the interest of early career scholars.

I would encourage all members to spread the word about the work that ASAUK is undertaking and the value of being a member. Members who have contact with Africanists outside of academia (such as working in the Third Sector or in business) are encouraged to ensure they know about the advantages of belonging to ASAUK/RAS.

Relationship between ASAUK and RAS

Throughout the past year, Council has continued to maintain a good close working relationship with the Royal African Society (RAS). The ASAUK and RAS officers hold a joint meeting at least once a year. Sheila Ruiz Head of Programmes, Partnerships and Operations at RAS is a co-opted member of the Council. The President of ASAUK is also committed to attending RAS Council meetings and the RAS AGM.

ASAUK would like to express its thanks sincere thanks and appreciation to the RAS/ASAUK Administrator. Council is deeply appreciative of the expertise, energy and efficiency with which she deals with the ASAUK finances, subscriptions and payments as well as maintaining the ASAUK e-mail list. This provides a convenient, fast and cheap means of communicating with the bulk of the membership. Members who change their e-mail addresses or who have not yet given us their new emails are urged to pass them on at: ras@soas.ac.uk

5. Report by the Honorary Treasurer (Toby Green)

2019-20 has of course been the most demanding of any of the years in which I have been the ASAUK's Treasurer. The enforced cancellation of the 2020 conference at Cardiff has had all kinds of consequences for the Association: the cancellation of our key biennial event, the loss of the potential income which usually is used to fund the major activities of the Association, and also the loss of an opportunity to recruit new members at the Conference. It is worth laying out the impacts of the loss of the conference. In a non-conference year we spend roughly £30,000 more than we receive. Our usual annual costs are as follows: RAS administration fee: £11,000 Conference support grants: £4,000 Teaching fellowships: £7,000 Newsletter: £2,000 Mary Kingsley Zochonis: £1,500 (£3,000 but happens only once every two years) Fage and Oliver: £1,500 (Same as above) Travel to/from meetings: £1,500 Sundry expenses: £1,500 Total: £30,000.

In the past two years, these costs were almost entirely met by the 2018 Birmingham conference, which generated over £55,000 and supported our activities. But it is no longer clear that this strategy will be possible in the near future, owing to restrictions on air travel and research expense budgets in this time of academic retrenchment. In previous years we have set out a Reserves Policy, which is to maintain an operational reserve equivalent to at least one year's non-conference unrestricted expenditure plus a £50,000 contingency for any unforeseen deficit arising on the biennial conference. At 31st December 2019 this amounts to about £90,000. The accumulated unrestricted funds at that date were £182,331 (including £80,000 reserves). Effectively, this means that we have around 2 or 3 years in which to develop new models for our organisation. It is clear that some of our annual costs could be cut: the newsletter could go digital, the teaching fellowship programme has been debated before as to its utility, and some (though not all) Council meetings could be held via Zoom -- so that could potentially save perhaps £10,000, and make a more manageable £20,000 in outgoings. Thus in spite of the headwinds, the ASAUK is in decent financial shape to weather the coming storms. The assets and reserves of the Society, in the light of its committed income, expenditures and cash flows, and also in view of potential adjustments, are adequate to support its on-going charitable activities and obligations. In order to provide a financial statement summary, it is worth noting that as of 28th August 2020, the current account balance was £66,610.41. The end Jun balance to carry forward for the reserves was £82,100, meaning that as of 28th August the ASAUK has total assets of £148,710.41.

This is my last report as ASAUK treasurer, and so finally I would like to say a few words about the last 7 years. When I took on the role I had little idea of what it entailed, and how much I would become indebted to the RAS/ASAUK Administrator, and before her to Gemma Haxby. I will never forget how the RAS/ASAUK Administrator made the impossible possible (and I am thinking here especially of Freetown!). I will miss your support and friendship very much, but I know that we are in very good hands as Louisa Egbunike takes over from me and begins working with you.

6. Election of Officers and Council Members

The following officers were approved:

President: Ola Uduku (University of Manchester)

Vice-President: Carli Coetzee (University of Oxford)

Honorary Secretary: David Kerr (University of Johannesburg)

Honorary Treasurer: Louisa Egbunike: (City, University of London)

Projects Officers: Vincent Hiribarren (King's College London) and Maxim Bolt (University of Birmingham)

ASAUK Newsletter Editor: Simon Heap

Website Officer: Poppy Cullen (Loughborough University)

The following council members were approved:

Second Term

Ini Dele Adededeji

First Term

Akin Iwilade, Chisomo Kalinga, Rama Salla Dieng, James Wan

7. Writing Workshops (Carli Coetzee, Vincent Hiribarren and Max Bolt, ASAUK Project Officers)

As has been the case over the last few years, the British Academy again supported a number of ASAUK-related workshops during the 2018-2020 cycle. Sadly none of the workshops planned for 2020 could take place in the form planned.

To read more about the principles guiding the ASAUK workshops please see: <http://www.asauk.net/asauk-writing-workshops/>

In each of the ASAUK's writing workshops, we work alongside major Africa-based conference series, and the work is often integrated with the work of the Publications Committees of these conferences and organisations. Through the writing and peer mentoring workshops, we hope to build partnerships with the many excellent mentoring schemes already existing across Africa, including the AHP fellowships, the APN fellowships, training and professionalisation sessions run by CODESRIA and the BIEA, and by conference series such as the Lagos Studies Association, Eastern African Literary and Cultural Studies Association and our sister organisation African Studies Association of Africa.

Each workshop is shaped by the needs of the particular research community, and the agendas and content are determined in collaboration with senior Africa-based scholars and colleagues. The aim of the workshops is to foster a healthy research and publication culture, and to support the establishment of networked scholarly communities across the continent. A strong emphasis is placed on the importance of mentoring and supporting women scholars, many of whom report careers blocked or hampered by inappropriate attention from senior male colleagues. We remain in touch with each participant, through our offers to read revised versions of their contributions, to help them identify appropriate journals to which to submit, and generally remain available to support personal and career development.

During the 2018-2020 cycle, ASAUK organised the following British Academy funded workshops:

In association with the Lagos Studies Association, Lagos Nigeria, 25-29 June 2019, we organised a workshop led by Louisa Egbunike and Carli Coetzee. For a full programme of the conference and workshops, as well as the inaugural meeting of the Lagos Studies Association Women's Mentoring Network, please see https://lagosstudies.wcu.edu/?page_id=98.

We organised a peer mentoring and article completion workshop alongside the Eastern African Literary and Cultural Studies Conference, held in Lalibela and Bahir Dar Ethiopia, 19-23 August 2019. The workshop was organised by Carli Coetzee and Grace Musila, in collaboration with the African Humanities Project and the *Journal of Eastern African Literary and Cultural Studies* editorial collective.

Alongside the ASAA Conference, Nairobi, Kenya, 23-26 October 2019, we held a peer mentoring workshop. It was organised by Carli Coetzee, Akosua Adomako Ampofo and Divine Fuh. The ASAA conference saw the launch of the Journal Work Academy, an ongoing partnership between the African Studies Association of Africa and the ASAUK, and which aims to foster inter-generational links across African institutions. For more on the Journal Work Academy see: <https://www.asauk.net/africa-journal-work-academy/>

In 2018 Ola Uduku worked with the team: Dr Irene Appeaning Addo, and ECRS Kuukuwa Manful and Victoria Okoye, and a number of UG and a few PG students to conduct a writing workshop where students were encouraged to visit and then write about significant buildings in downtown Accra. Located at the ArchiAfrika café, the workshop also hosted talks by Accra historians and culminated in a series of student presentations of their written work, (undertaken in teams). A final curated website was created by ECRS Manful and Okoye to showcase the writing undertaken, which was also reviewed and edited by UK architectural historians. For more on this workshop see: <https://africarchi.wordpress.com/about-us/>

In 2019 Ola Uduku worked with the same team: Dr Irene Appeaning Addo, and ECRS Kuukuwa Manful and Victoria Okoye. This workshop involved working with students from different disciplinary backgrounds including Architecture, journalism, and liberal arts from a range of Ghanaian universities. A team of three PG students from the University of Lagos also flew in to join the workshop. The theme was to identify and record historic Architecture in and around downtown Accra and also at the University of Ghana Legon campus. A webpage was created which comprised the 'op ed' writing of the participants. Furthermore the Legon analysis resulted in a chapter contribution to a book on 'Modernist Landscapes for the international conservation organisation, Docomomo. Another student member of the workshop created a series of film shoots of the 2018-19 cohort. For more on this workshop see: <https://africarchi.wordpress.com/2019-writing-workshop/>

Toby Green and Pedrito Carlos Chiposse Cambrão, the Director of the Centre of Cultural and Religious Studies of Indian Ocean (CECROI) and Scientific Director at the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences at the University of Lúrio (UniLúrio) organised a workshop at UniLúrio, the largest university in northern Mozambique.

Vincent Hiribarren also organised a workshop in Dakar, Senegal.

8. ASAUK Newsletter (Simon Heap)

I am Dr Simon Heap, Senior Timetabler at Oxford Brookes University and voluntary editor of the ASAUK newsletter. Four quarterly newsletters came out on over the past year. I hope they were interesting and useful. Printed newsletters go to all ASAUK members. Later on they are put on the ASAUK website, where all back issues can be read. It is YOUR newsletter and the newsletter relies on news on forthcoming workshops and conferences, new doctorates and publications, news of awards and fellowships, and deaths. I ask YOU to continue to send me news. I have been your editor for the past 16 years and I am happy to continue for the coming year.

9. RAS (Nick Westcott)

Nick Westcott reported that RAS was still solvent. The RAS team are working from home and events have been rescheduled or moved online. African Affairs is thriving. RAS along with ASAUK is continuing to keep up the pressure on the visa issue. African Arguments is also thriving.

10. SCOLMA (Lucy McCann)

Covid-19 pandemic

SCOLMA member libraries shut down in March and library and archives staff converted to working from home, trying to support researchers as far as possible with electronic resources and digitised material. Budgets were used to purchase more e-books and remote guidance was provided for students and academics. At the time of writing a number of libraries have reopened their reading rooms for limited numbers of readers who must book in advance and for reduced hours. Click and collect services have been established for loan material and scanning on demand for material which cannot be borrowed. SCOLMA responded to the pandemic by creating a page of free resources on the website at <https://scolma.org/resourcesscovid-19/>.

2020 conference

'Oun a ní la ní gbé l'árugẹ (It is the heritage we have that we must celebrate): Publishing, Collecting and Accessing African-language Materials. The conference had been due to take place at SOAS on 8th June with speakers from a number of countries but was cancelled due to the pandemic. We had anticipated interest from diaspora communities in the UK as well as the research and library & archives communities. We are hoping to reschedule either in person or virtually for about the same time next year, with the same programme and, as far as possible, the same speakers.

AGM

This was held on Zoom on 8th June. Marion Wallace (British Library) continues as Chair and a new member was elected to the committee, Julio Cazzasa, the new Commonwealth and Latin American Studies Librarian at Senate House Library, University of London.

A Black Lives Matter statement was discussed and adopted at the AGM, focusing on how SCOLMA can make collections more widely available and support efforts to bring greater diversity to the UK library and archive professions.

European Librarians in African Studies (ELIAS)

The ELIAS meeting this year was originally planned to be held in Bordeaux on 29 May. It was held instead on the same day on Zoom, with three SCOLMA members attending. There was good representation from across Europe (including, for the first time, Italy), as well as from the US. Most of the discussion centred around the pandemic and its effects on libraries and archives. It was encouraging and enlightening to hear how colleagues in other countries were dealing with the situation. We also discussed (without coming to any conclusion) whether annual in-person meetings should continue in future, or whether we should try to introduce a stronger element of remote meeting.

African Research and Documentation

African Research and Documentation Number 135 is a lavishly illustrated special issue on archives and collections in Ethiopian Studies, guest-edited by Sophia Thubauville (Frobenius Institute, Frankfurt) and Sayuri Yoshida (Nanzan University, Japan). Number 136 includes some of the papers from SCOLMA's 2019 conference on decolonising African Studies. As printing of this issue was delayed by the pandemic it was also made openly available as a pdf on our website (SCOLMA African Research No.136 Web).

During the year, we started to review the future of ARD again. We would like to increase access and long-term (electronic) preservation, while ensuring we do not lose the advantages of producing it in print. The journal is healthy, and fulfils an important role, but we need to bear in mind both the changing environment and the need for financial self-sufficiency. We will be continuing to discuss this in the coming months, building on the work carried out this year by Stephanie Kitchen and others.

SCOLMA continues to tweet regularly, using a rota of SCOLMA committee members to keep the information up to date. We now have 573 followers on Twitter.

African Studies Association (UK)

We continue to value our close connections with ASAUK and the ASAUK's support of SCOLMA's activities. We are particularly grateful for the input of Stephanie Kitchen as ASAUK representative at our committee meetings.

11. AOB

Thanks

The Association records its sincere thanks to the President Ambreena Manji and Treasurer Toby Green.

Conferences Future...

UNITED KINGDOM [OR VIRTUAL]

'Africa in the Eighteenth Century', Virtual Workshop Series, June 2021. Sponsored by the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), Centre for African Studies and Gonville & Caius College, University of Cambridge, this workshop asks: what did the eighteenth century look like, smell like, sound like? And how different would those answers have been for different parts of the world? Historians and theorists of globalisation have both identified a convergence of social, cultural, and political forms in the modern period. But how different would people have really found each other in the eighteenth century?

Historians have often struggled with the legacies of the nineteenth century in shaping the views of earlier African pasts. Travel writing, ethnographies, abolitionist literature, and colonial archives were as interested in painting a picture of modernity in Europe as they were in telling their readers something about Africa. As new historical research questions arising from Atlantic, economic, and global historical approaches have revived broader interest in pre-colonial African histories, the nineteenth century continues to cast a long shadow on how pre-colonial Africa is understood. The 'compression of history' problem has been identified in African economic history, but it also shapes how the imagination of an African past infuses writing about the African diaspora and slavery in the Atlantic World, or the dynamics of historical change as a development towards colonial history.

How can forms of cultural history and interdisciplinary methodologies help us to access an eighteenth century African experience? How can a grounding in a particular century change the shape of our narratives of change over time? Does a fuller picture of life emerge through a different kind of story telling? This virtual workshop series seeks to bring together scholars and students working in a wide variety of fields and geographies ranging from music history, the history of art and architecture, fashion, literature and performance, food, material culture, religion, landscape archaeology, economic and business history, historical anthropology, gender, intellectual history, and political thought working on any part of the eighteenth century African continent. Most broadly, the workshop series will ask us to think about time, narrative, and chronology as they shape how African historical change is discussed in relation to global histories. 300 word abstract and 1 page CV by 31st January 2021 to: 18thcenturyafrica@gmail.com. Questions to Bronwen Everill: bee21@cam.ac.uk

'Presidential and State Executive Power in Nigeria', Kaduna State University, Kaduna, Nigeria, 11–14 April 2021. Presidential and executive power in Nigeria is at the pinnacle of political administration in the three tiers of government in Nigeria. The extent to which presidents and governors and their cabinets control and direct affairs in Nigeria is critical to the evolution of desired national outcomes in this case, peace, security and prosperity. With the Fourth Republic into its third decade now, there is every need to appraise the role and impact of presidential and executive power in Nigeria with a view to understanding the nature of presidential and executive power in the country and consequently making the office and holders of such powers more response to the development needs of the country at all levels of governance.

Papers are sought on the following themes: theoretical issues on presidential powers; the legislative powers of the president and their utility in Nigeria; the linkage between theory and praxis: Presidential powers and Nigeria's democratic engagement; the agenda-setting power of the president; executive powers, the rule of law and the constitution in Nigeria; conflicting powers of the executive and the legislature: compromise or consensus; Presidential powers and the challenge of anticorruption crusade in Nigerian democratic dispensation; Presidential powers and national security; Presidential powers and Nigeria's national integration: Potentials and challenges; media reportage of display of presidential powers in the democratic process; Presidential powers and appointments of judicial affairs: A critical examination; Presidents and their economic and development agenda; comparative study of Nigeria and America's presidential powers and parliamentary systems; the presidency as an engine of democratic governance: Uses and misuse of executive powers; Presidential and executive effectiveness in Nigeria since 1900; the presidential and gubernatorial cabinets; the President and state governors and their bureaucracies; Presidential and state executive advisers and the kitchen cabinet; and constraints on presidential authority in Nigeria. Abstracts of 200 words by 28th February 2021 to: executivepower2021@gmail.com

'Asia and Africa in Transition', Asian Dynamics Initiative (ADI) conference, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, 28–30 June 2021. Given the uncertainty ahead, we are planning for a hybrid conference with both online and face-to-face options. The conference is organized in collaboration with a number of globally oriented networks and centres at the University of Copenhagen: Nordic Institute of Asian Studies (NIAS), School of Global Health, Sustainability Science Centre, ThinkChina and the Global Development Network.

Linkages between Asia and Africa have a transformative impact across the globe in areas ranging from economic development, climate and demography to health

care, politics and entertainment. Placing Asia-Africa engagement as a focal point, this conference will feature keynote speeches and a range of panels and roundtables across disciplines, temporalities and themes in the study of Asian and African dynamics.

Panels open for submissions: Asian partners in the transition of ports in Africa; banal democracies: beyond electoral temporality; China going global: historical trajectories, current debates, and future prospects; engendering humanity in Africa and Asia; foreign agricultural investments as driver of rural transformation; from recipients to donors: New engagement of Asian countries in humanitarian aid in Africa; health systems in transition: Human health resources as agents of change; local expressions of global ideas: negotiating modernity, aesthetics and cultural heritage in African and Asian museums; situated natalisms – familial and filial forms in Africa and Asia; sustainability strategy and Asian investments in energy in Africa: regulation, governance and investment; the geopolitics of China's rise in Africa: implications and challenges for democratisation and human rights; the making of Belt and Road Initiative projects in African states: Local actors, interests and policy link-ups; and urbanisation in rural regions of Africa and Asia. Abstracts of 250 words for papers and full panels for 3 or 4 papers, each with an abstract, by 31st January 2021 to Marie Yoshida: asia-africa-2020@ku.dk For more details: <https://asiandynamics.ku.dk/asia-and-africa-in-transition/>

Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities

Kwame Aidan Ahaligah (2020), 'Pentecostalism, Prophecy and Politics in Kenya', Ph.D thesis, University of Leeds. Supervisors: Professor Adriaan van Klinken and Dr Kevin Ward.

Bashair Ahmed (2020), 'Reasons for Giving Back?: Motivations for Engaging in Transnational Political Activism by Adult Children of Migrants from the Horn of Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Sussex. Supervisors: Professor Paul Statham and Professor Michael Collyer; <http://sro.sussex.ac.uk/id/eprint/92756/>

Feyishola O. Ayenuyo (2020), 'Collective Actions for Poverty Reduction in Nigeria and South Africa: Exploring the Perspectives of Elites and the Poor', Ph.D thesis, University of Essex.

Sinan Baran (2020), 'State-Business Relations and Economic Transition in the Modern World-System: A Comparative Study of South Africa and Zimbabwe', Ph.D thesis, Queen's University Belfast. Supervisors: Dr Stefan Andreasson and Dr Andrew Thomson.

Ronelle Nicchia Barreto (2020), 'Temporary Employment Services (Temporary Agency) Work: The South African Case', Ph.D thesis, Kingston University. Supervisors: Dr Enda Hannon and Professor Michael Wynn; <http://eprints.kingston.ac.uk/id/eprint/46755/>

Qiong Chen (2020), 'Analysing the Operational Patterns of Chinese Private Security Companies' Operations in East Africa', Ph.D thesis, King's College London, University of London. Supervisors: Dr Christopher Kinsey and Dr Xin Sun.

Gladys Chipungu (2020), 'The Effectiveness of Monetary Policy in the COMESA-EAC-SADC Region of Sub-Saharan Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Birmingham. Supervisors: Dr Joanne Ercolani and Professor Anindya Banerjee.

Max Gallien (2020), 'Smugglers and States: Illegal Trade in the Political Settlements of North Africa', Ph.D thesis, LSE, University of London. Supervisors: Professor John Sidel and Dr Kate Meagher; <http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/4116/>

Jeremiah Garsha (2020), 'The Head of Chief Mkwawa and the Transnational History of Colonial Violence, 1898-2019', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor Saul Dubow; <https://www.repository.cam.ac.uk/handle/1810/309849>

Julian Andrew Gregory (2020), 'Exploring the Governance of Private Finance for the Electricity Sector in Sub-Saharan Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Sussex. Supervisors: Professor Benjamin Sovacool and Professor Paul Nightingale; <http://sro.sussex.ac.uk/id/eprint/93069/>

Alex Nginyo Hinga (2020), 'Addressing Ethical Issues for Health and Demographic Surveillance Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa', Ph.D thesis, Open University. Supervisors: Professor Sassy Molyneux and Professor Vicki Marsh; <https://doi.org/10.21954/ou.ro.000113f1>

Chinyere Ihejieta (2020), 'Child Labour, Child Education and Poverty: A Study of Children on the Street in Nigeria', Ph.D thesis, University of Sunderland.

Sonja Klingberg (2020), 'Childhood Obesity Prevention in Soweto, South Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Esther Van Sluijs.

Stuart Mole (2020), 'The Commonwealth, South Africa and Apartheid', Ph.D thesis, University of Exeter. Supervisors: Professor David Thackeray and Dr Stacey Hynd.

Charles Nsibande (2020), 'A Phenomenological Study on Decision-Making under Uncertainty in Real Estate Investments in Sub-Saharan Africa', D.Prof thesis, University of Salford. Supervisor: Professor Min An; <http://usir.salford.ac.uk/id/eprint/58283/>

Joshua James Platzky-Miller (2020), 'Politics, Education and the Imagination in South African and Brazilian Student-led Mobilisations (2015-16)', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Maha Abdelrahman.

Jake Richards (2020), 'Liberated Africans and Law in the South Atlantic, c. 1839-1871', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor Sujit Sivasundaram.

Marybeth Rouse (2020), 'Essays on Financial Inclusion and Mobile Banking [South Africa]', Ph.D thesis, Bangor University. Supervisor: Professor Santiago Carbo-Valverde.

Douglas Scott (2020), 'Shocks and Coping Strategies in Sub-Saharan Africa [Ethiopia, Uganda and South Africa]', Ph.D thesis, University of Nottingham. Supervisors: Professor Oliver Morrissey and Dr Sarah Bridges; <http://eprints.nottingham.ac.uk/61006/>

Nicholas Tait (2020), 'Archaeological Ceramics as Chronological Indicators on Islamic Sites in Eastern Ethiopia', Ph.D thesis, University of Exeter. Supervisors: Professor Timothy Insoll and John Cooper.

Recent Publications

Herman L. Bennett (2020), *African Kings and Black Slaves: Sovereignty and Dispossession in the Early Modern Atlantic*. University of Pennsylvania Press, 240pp, 9780812224627, £17.99.

Hansjörg Dilger, Astrid Bochow, Marian Burchardt and Matthew Wilhelm-Solomon (eds.) (2020), *Affective Trajectories: Religion and Emotion in African Cityscapes*. Duke University Press, 320pp, 9781478006268, £21.99.

Daniel L. Douek (2020), *Insurgency and Counterinsurgency in South Africa*. Hurst, 256pp, 9781849048804, £30.

Bronwen Everill (2020), *Not Made by Slaves: Ethical Capitalism in the Age of Abolition*. Harvard University Press, 288pp, 978-0674240988, £28.75.

Mirco Göpfert (2020), *Policing the Frontier: An Ethnography of Two Worlds in Niger*. Cornell University Press, 192pp, 9781501747229, £19.99.

Lesley Green (2020), *Rock | Water | Life: Ecology and Humanities for a Decolonial South Africa*. Duke University Press Books, 320pp, 9781478003991, £21.99.

Abdelmajid Hannoum (2020), *Living Tangier: Migration, Race, and Illegality in a Moroccan City*. University of Pennsylvania Press, 312pp, 9780812251722, £62.

David Harris (2020), *Sierra Leone: A Political History*. New Edition: Hurst, 256pp, 9781787384125, £18.99.

Patricia Hayes and Gary Minkley (eds) (2019), *Ambivalent: Photography and Visibility in African History*. Ohio University Press, 376pp, 9780821423943, £27.99.

Sarah G. Phillips (2020), *When There Was No Aid: War and Peace in Somaliland*. Cornell University Press, 256pp, 9781501747151, £31.

Allen F. Roberts, Tom Joyce and Marla C. Berns (eds.) (2019), *Striking Iron: The Art of African Blacksmiths*. University of Washington Press, 512pp, 9780990762669, £62.

Felwine Sarr, Translated by Drew S. Burk and Sarah Jones-Boardman (2020), *Afrotopia: Univocal*. University of Minnesota Press, 128pp, 9781517906917, £19.99.

Rachel Spronk and Thomas Hendriks (eds) (2020), *Readings in Sexualities from Africa*. Indiana University Press, 380pp, 9780253047618, £41.

Lynn M. Thomas (2020), *Beneath the Surface: A Transnational History of Skin Lighteners*. Duke University Press, 368pp, 9781478006428, £22.99.

John K. Thornton (2020), *A History of West Central Africa to 1850*. Cambridge University Press, 382pp, 978-1-107-56593-7, £22.99.

Kariamou Welsh, Esailama Diouf and Yvonne Daniel (eds) (2019), *Hot Feet and Social Change: African Dance and Diaspora Communities*. University of Illinois Press, 328pp, 9780252084775, £22.99.

Nicholas Westcott (2020), *Imperialism & Development: The East African Groundnut Scheme & its Legacy*. James Currey, 260pp, 978-1-84701-259-3, £60.

Note to Contributors

Send items for inclusion in the April Newsletter by 15th March 2021 to Dr Simon Heap: effaheap@aol.com

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