



NEWSLETTER

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ASAUK PRESIDENTS SWEEP HERSKOVITS

UK Africanists swept the 2001 publication awards at the US African Studies Association meeting in Houston in November. Past ASAUK president J.D.Y. Peel, and current ASAUK president Karin Barber were joint winners of the Herskovits prize for their books, both about the Yoruba. J.D.Y. Peel's *Religious Encounters and the Making of the Yoruba*, which had already won the Amaury Talbot Prize in African Anthropology, was cited as 'an impressively penetrating and nuanced account' of religious conversion in a book that 'is at once sociology, anthropology, and history'. Karin Barber's *The Generation of Plays: Yoruba Popular Life in Theatre*, was described as a 'provocative account of popular Yoruba theatre, which 'demonstrates the complexity, novelty, and depth of interpretation possible in taking real life not only as a point of departure, but also as the basis of close inquiry.' In accepting their awards, each author paid tribute to Indiana University Press, publishers of both books.

The ASA Text Prize was won by John Hunwick, for his edited text, *Timbuktu and the Songhay Empire: Al-Sa'di's Ta'rikh al-Sudan Down to 1613 and Other Contemporary Documents* (Brill), a translation of part of al-Sa'di's seventeenth century Arabic history of Timbuktu, and selections from Leo Africanus and al-Ifrani. *Al-Sa'di's Ta'rikh al-Sudan* is described as 'unquestionably the single most important source for the history of the Songhay Empire, and it is impossible to exaggerate the importance of an accurate English translation' of the chronicle.

QUEEN HONOURS AFRICANISTS

Two British Africanists have been awarded honours by the Queen. Anthony Kirk-Greene, a past president of ASAUK, creator of the Kirk-Greene Junior Research Fellowships in Tropical Africa at St Antony's College, Oxford, and emeritus fellow at St Antony's, was awarded a CMG for services to the history of Africa in the Birthday Honours List, 2001. Patricia Holden, senior Social Development Adviser in the Department for International Development, was awarded an OBE in the New Years Honour List, 2002. She was formerly a

student at the Institute of Social Anthropology, Oxford University where she received an M.Litt.

African Studies Association of the UK ANNUAL REPORT, 2000-2001

1. SUMMARY OF THE YEAR

It seems only a few weeks ago since I took over from our long serving Honorary Secretary Nici Nelson. The year since the Cambridge conference has been a busy one for Council: winners of the Audrey Richard Prize for the best dissertation received their awards at a well attended ceremony at SOAS May 2001. Arrangements for the Distinguished Africanist Award were finalised during the year and the winners will be announced at a special reception during the Preston conference. The Newsletter continues to grow in stature as an important medium for reaching members and others interested in African affairs. Douglas Johnson, the indefatigable editor continues to plea for ASAUK members to pass on news of promotion and appointments, publications, conferences, symposia, workshops visiting scholars, fellowships dissertation completions and any news items worthy of academic hearing. Each issue of *African Affairs* now carries an issue of the *Newsletter*. Still on the theme of improving communication, a members' e-mail list is being set up for ASAUK business. After two mailings to the membership requesting e-mail addresses, the list is 80% complete and more addresses are still coming in. We would like to thank all those who responded, and urge the others to get in touch soon. A working party is actively exploring the feasibility of a new ASAUK Website that will carry information about the Association and its activities, including conferences, workshops and other events.

2. MEMBERSHIP

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
ASAUK Members (UK)	50	41	40
ASAUK Members Overseas	11	9	9
Joint Members (UK)	305	324	336
Joint Members (Overseas)	67	74	75
Student Members (Joint UK)	43	21	42
Students Members (Joint Overseas)	5	0	11
Honorary Life Members (UK)	4	4	4
Corporate Members (UK)	0	0	0
Corporate Members (Overseas)	1	1	1
Associate Members	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
	491	478	518

This year membership has gone up by 40

3. THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2000-2001

Officers

President	Prof. Karin Barber
Vice President	Dr Nici Nelson
Hon. Secretary	Prof. Alfred B. Zack-Williams
Hon. Treasurer	Prof. Richard Hodder-Williams

Council Members

Retiring in 2001 Dr Mario Aguilar, Dr Angela Browne, Mr James Currey*, Dr Douglas Johnson*, Prof Richard Hodder-Williams*, Dr Stephanie Newell, Dr Ato Quayson, Prof David Killingray*, Prof David Simon*

*Indicates a co-opted member of Council

Retiring in 2002 Dr Martin Hill, Dr David Maxwell, Dr Helen Thomas, Dr Ola Uduku.

Retiring in 2003 Dr Charles Gore, Dr Tim Allen, Dr M. McNulty, Dr Elizabeth Watson, Dr Reginald Cline-Cole, Prof Graham Furniss, Prof Alfred Zack-Williams

4. ADMINISTRATION

Administration was smooth this year but for the virus caught on Lindsay's computer, which created serious problem and which has alerted us to the need for a new computer. Council will like to convey its sincere gratitude to Lindsay for the wonderful work she continues to do on our behalf. The Association cherishes its close relationship with the Centre for African Studies University of London, Centre for African Studies, Edinburgh, Centre of West African Studies, Birmingham, and the various Centres and Units specialising in African Studies, such as Coventry, Leeds and Central Lancashire.

5. CONFERENCE AND SYMPOSIA

Council continued to work with funding bodies such as the AHRB and the ESRC to promote African Studies throughout the United Kingdom. Thanks to the continued generosity of the RAS, which again made £2000 available from its First Charitable Trust for the support of academic activities this year, Council was able to support a full range of lectures, conferences, symposia and workshops. We were particularly pleased to be able to support events organised by postgraduate students and young scholars whose work is so vital to the future of African Studies. Events supported include:

- The Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lecture awarded to Thokozani Xaba, of the Centre for Social Development Studies, University of Natal Durban.
- Engaging with Law in Africa, SOAS, 9 March 2001.
- Africa's Young Majority, at CAS Edinburgh 4 May 2001.
- Researching Africa Day, St Antony's College, Oxford, 12 May 2001.
- Workshop on Chieftaincy in Africa, Oxford, 9 June 2001.
- Zimbabwe-Whose Development? St Antony's College, Oxford, 16 June 2001.
- Human Rights in Africa in the Millennium, Preston, 14-16 September 2001.

6. RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER PROFESSIONAL BODIES

Royal African Society

Relationship between the two associations continues to be mutually supportive, co-operative and cordial. Council would like to recognise and express its gratitude to the Royal African Society for its financial support. The RAS has not only continued its generous support of conferences and workshops (see above), but also topped up the Audrey Richards Prize with a cash donation of £200,

divided between the winner and two runners up. It was agreed that in view of our shared activities and interests, it would be appropriate for each association to always to have a representative on each other's Council; at present Graham Furniss has agreed to represent the RAS on our Council and Karin Barber represents us on the RAS.

Standing Committees on University Studies of Africa (CUSA). Discussion is ongoing as to the mode of incorporating CUSA into ASAUK.

Alfred B. Zack-Williams
Honorary Secretary

Note: The full text of the AGM minutes will appear in the April number.

Conferences Future. . .

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

UNITED KINGDOM

22-3 May: The Edinburgh International Conference on African Studies 2002, Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh, 'A new approach to African development? internal and external visions'. The conference will seek to bring together government and agency officials, North and South, with NGO staff and researchers. The concern will be with ensuring a discussion of modalities and strategies for development, but at the same time maintaining a concern with broader philosophical issues and an understanding of historical experiences. The latter is particularly pertinent as this conference also celebrates the fortieth anniversary of the Centre of African Studies at the University of Edinburgh.

Conference themes: assessing African development 40 years after independence; new approaches to African development: initiatives of African states; new approaches to African development: initiatives of donors; beyond the state: civil society and private sector; ownership, partnership or domination: the future of African development. The conference will also include a keynote Royal African Society lecture on Wednesday evening by a leading African academic and a final session on 'Edinburgh, Africa and Development' with contributions from past and present CAS staff.

For further information and registration please contact: P.King@ed.ac.uk; The Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh, 21 George Square, Edinburgh EH8 9LD, Scotland, UK; tel: +44 (0)131 650 3878; fax: +44 (0)131 6506535.

4-6 July: 'Towards a New Political Economy of Development: Globalisation and Governance', Political Economy Research Centre, University of Sheffield with support from the Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation, University of Warwick. Plenary speakers: Graham Harrison, Ben Fine, SOAS, Brigitte Young, WWU-Muenster, Frans Schuurman, University of Nijmegen, Mick Moore, IDS, Robert Wade, LSE. Call for Papers. Indicative panel themes are: a) Global Governance and Development; b) Enduring States and Globalised

Development: towards a Reconciliation; c) 'Top-down Development' and Societies' Responses; d) Regions, States and Global Order. Possible topics: emerging market economies; micro states; towards a 'fourth world?'; regionalism/regionalisation and development; the legacy and prospects of the NIC; poverty and development in the First World.

Schedule: period for submission of abstracts: until 30th April. Deadline for completion of paper acceptance/rejection and panel creation: 31st May. Deadline for papers/abstracts to be with conference organisers: 21st June. Contact: Dr. Graham Harrison Department of Politics, University of Sheffield S10 2TU, Room G51; tel: +44 (0)114 222 1686; fax: +44 (0)114 273 9769; email: g.harrison@sheffield.ac.uk.

INTERNATIONAL

21-24 March: The 2002 Gwendolen M. Carter Lectures on Africa, '*Zimbabwe in transition: resolving land and constitutional crises*', sponsored by the Center for African Studies at the University of Florida, USA. This is a call for papers to be presented at an international conference on the current situation in Zimbabwe, with a focus on the continued relationship between land and national politics. The 2002 conference will take place during the run-up to the tentatively scheduled presidential elections. 2002 Carter Lecture participants will examine various facets of Zimbabwean politics, economy, and society in an effort to foster dialogue on the challenges that lie ahead. Contact: Todd H. Leedy, Ph.D., Assistant Director Center for African Studies University of Florida, 427 Grinter Hall, P.O. Box 115560, Gainesville, FL 32611-5560; tel: +1 (352) 392-2183; fax: +1 (352) 392-2435; email: tleedy@africa.ufl.edu.

15 April-15 May: '*Extended workshop for young historians*', to be held in Dakar, for young PhD students in the field of social history, focusing on Latin America, Asia, Africa and the Caribbean; organised by CODESRIA and SEPHIS. Contact: <http://www.iisg.nl/~sephis> or <http://www.sas.upenn.edu/AfricanStudies/codesria/codesMenu.html>.

19-20 April: '*Images of Africa in Europe*', sponsored by the University of Trieste, University of Genoa, ILUM of Milan, the French Cultural Centre (Milan), the WWF Lombardia. The conference aims to create awareness of Africa in Europe; to highlight Italy's role as a geographical and intellectual 'bridge' between Europe and Africa and to contribute positively to the current debate on North-South relations and globalisation. Contact Dr El Hadj Alioune N'Diaye, African-Asian Studies, University of Siena, Italy; email: Baye.Ndiaye@elvia.it

21-3 May: '*Africa in the context of North-South relations*' (9th Conference of Africanists), to be convened by the Academic Council on Problems of African Countries, and the Institute of African Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences. Contact: the Conference Organising Committee, Institute for African Studies, 103001, 30/1 Spiridonovka Street, Moscow, Russia; tel: 290 27 52, 290 63 85; fax: 202 07 86; email: in+ter@inafr.ru, copy to vladimir.shubi@inafr.ru.

22-5 May: '*The governance of daily life in Africa. Public collective services and their users*', organised jointly by the Euro-African Association for the Anthropology of Social Change and Development (APAD) and the Afrika Studiecentrum, Leiden, the Netherlands. See website: <http://asc.leidenuniv.nl>.

25-27 May: 'Horn of Africa between history and politics', sponsored by the University of Bologna, the University of Roma Tor Vergata, the University of Roma Tre, the University of Dalarna (Sweden) and the Centre d'Etudes et Recherches Internationales (CERI) Paris. Contact: Irma Taddia, Dipartimento di Discipline Storiche, Piazza S Giovanni in Monte 2, 40124 Bologna, Italy; tel: 051 209 76 74; fax 051 209 76 20; email: tadia_I@mail.cib.unibo.it.

4-7 July: Second international conference, 'Hierarchy and power in the history of civilisations', Institute of Oriental Studies, St Petersburg Branch (see Newsletter 6/22). The working languages of the Conference are Russian, English, and French. Registration fee (\$100 or its equivalent in euros, but not less than 100 euros which covers the expenses for the culture program, conference book of abstracts, reception, coffee-breaks, &c.) is to be paid on the spot. Accommodation is about \$ 30 per night (single room in a three star hotel). Estimated meal and other daily expenses are c. \$15. Contact: Dr Serguei A. Frantsouzoff, Institute of Oriental Studies (St. Petersburg Branch), 18, Dvortsovaya nab., 191186 St. Petersburg, Russia; tel: +7-812-315 84 90; fax: +7-812-312 14 65; email: invost@mail.convey.ru.

14-18 July 2003: 15th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies will be held at the Asia-Africa Institute of Hamburg University. The conference will focus on the humanities. Contact: Ethiopian Studies, ICES office, Hamburg University, Asia-Africa Institute, Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, D-201546 Hamburg, Germany; tel: +49-40-42838-7474; fax: +49-40-42838-5675; email: ices2003@uni-hamburg.de; web site: www.rrz.uni-hamburg.de/ICES2003.

South African Politics on the Internet

Allison Drew, Department of Politics, University of York has designed an internet course on 'South African politics - an introduction using internet resources'. This course introduces students to South African politics and political history using internet-based resources. Students can develop research skills using the web through simple web-based exercises. The address is: <http://www-users.york.ac.uk/~ad15/SAPolitics.htm>.

Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities

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

Helen Cousins, 'Conjugal Wrongs: Gender Violence in African Women's Fiction', Centre for West African Studies, University of Birmingham (November 2001).

Jérôme Destombes, 'Nutrition and Chronic Deprivation in the West African Savanna: North-eastern Ghana, c.1930-2000', Ph.D, Department of Economic History, London School of Economics (October 2001; supervisor Gareth Austin).

Michael Anthony Perry, 'Kanga-Kangula-Kangila. The Constitution of Socio-Cultural and Religious Identity among the Mbandimbu of Mbanza-Ngungu (Democratic Republic of Congo)', Centre for West African Studies, University of Birmingham (December 2001).

Recent and Forthcoming Publications

Listings of recently published or forthcoming books by ASAUk/RAS members. Members are invited to send in details, including number of pages, ISBN numbers, price and publication date (where known).

John Ainley, *Pink Stripes & Obedient Servants: An Agriculturalist in Tanganyika* (Driffield: J.M. Ainley/Ridings Publishing Co.), 25pp. ISBN 0-9540944-0-9 [available from the author, 4, Station Road, Cranswick, Driffield, E. Yorks YO25 9QZ]

Hans Zell (ed.), *The African Publishing Companion: A Resource Guide*. (Glais Bheinn, Lochcarron, Ross-shire, IV54 8YB, Scotland: Hans Zell), 256pp. ISBN 0-9541029-0-8, £80/\$130 (combined print and online version) [available through hzell@dial.pipex.com]

The Adrian Hastings Africa Scholarship

The School of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Leeds, is establishing a scholarship fund in memory of Adrian Hastings, who died last year. The fund will grant significant annual scholarships towards the tuition/or living costs of doctoral students from Africa researching any aspect of religion at the University of Leeds. Patrons of the fund include the Most Reverend Desmond Tutu, Revd Dr John Mary Waliggo (Uganda Human Rights Commissioner), the Most Revd George Carey, the Honourable Peter Jay and Mildred Nevile (former Director of the Catholic Institute for International Relations). Those wishing to contribute to the fund should write to The Adrian Hastings Africa Scholarship, School of Theology & Religious Studies, University of Leeds, LS2 9JT; tel: +44 (0)113-233-3640; or e-mail: ahas@leeds.ac.uk; further details can be found on the web site: www.leeds.ac.uk/trs/hastings.

African History, Carleton University, Canada

Subject to budgetary approval, the Department of History at Carleton University invites applications for a tenure-track appointment in African history at the Assistant Professor level, effective July 1, 2002. The Department is seeking candidates whose work demonstrates scholarly promise plus a strong commitment to undergraduate teaching. An interest in Africa's historical participation in the Atlantic world and the African diaspora in the Americas would be an asset. The minimum qualification is a completed Ph.D. Applications including a curriculum vitae, graduate transcripts, and a sample of written work should be sent to: E. Peter Fitzgerald, Chair, Department of History, Carleton University, 1125 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa, ON K1S 5B6, Canada; email: peter_fitzgerald@carleton.ca. Applicants should arrange to have three referees familiar with their work forward letters of recommendation to the same address. The deadline for receipt of applications, letters of recommendation, and other supporting material is March 1, 2002.

Awards, Prizes and Fellowships

Amaury Talbot Prize for African Anthropology: The 2000 RAI Amaury Talbot Prize for African Anthropology was awarded to J.D.Y. Peel, for his *Religious Encounters*

and the Making of the Yoruba (see above, p.1). The 2001 Prize, worth £500, will be awarded to the author or authors of the work which, in the opinion of the judges, is the most valuable work of African anthropology. Works published during the calendar year of 2001 are eligible, relating to any region of Africa, but preference will be given in the first place to Nigeria, and in the second place to any other part of West Africa, or to West Africa in general. All applications, together with two copies of the book, article or work in question, should be sent by 31 March 2002 to Amaury Talbot Prize Co-ordinator, Royal Anthropological Institute, 50 Fitzroy St., London W1T 5BT.

Kirk-Greene Fellowship: Abdul Raufu Mustapha, currently a University Lecturer in African Politics at Oxford University, is the Kirk-Green Fellow in Tropical Africa at St Antony's College, Oxford, for the academic year 2001-2002.

ORISHA Studentship, Oxford University: The Management Committee for African Studies invites applications for the ORISHA Studentship, from persons who will be registered as graduate students of the University of Oxford from October 2002 in the fields of social and cultural anthropology, archaeology, Egyptology, history, human geography, politics and international relations, sociology, or African literature. Application forms are available from Mrs M. Smith, Social Sciences Divisional Offices, 34 St Giles', Oxford OX1 2LH, and should be returned to Mrs Smith no later than 22 February 2002. Candidates needing advice on research proposals should, in the first instance, contact the chair of the African Studies Management Committee, professor Megan Vaughan, email: megan.vaughan@nuffield.ox.ac.uk.

Note to Contributors

The *Newsletter* solicits short reports (of around 2-300 words) on recent conferences, announcements of forthcoming conferences, symposia and workshops (giving topic, date, venue, and contact address), announcements of the awarding of grants, fellowships and prizes, news of appointments and visiting fellowships, recently completed theses, publication announcements of books by members, and brief articles or notices on matters of importance to Africanists in the UK. All items for inclusion in the *Newsletter* should be sent to Douglas H. Johnson, Editor, ASAUK Newsletter, James Currey Publishers, 73 Botley Road, Oxford OX2 0BS (fax: (+44) (0)1865-246454), or e-mail: 106155.3441@compuserve.com (please send as text, not as attachments). Deadlines are 31 December (for the January Newsletter), 25 March (for April), 25 June (for July), and 30 September (for October). Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the ASAUK.

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