



# NEWSLETTER

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## President's Report

Since becoming ASAUK President, I have become more aware of the extraordinary range of institutions, Centres, Journals, research groups and NGOs connected with Africa Studies in the UK. A growing number of universities have centres, degrees or networks linked to many different disciplines. The scale of seminars and conferences, and the number of submissions to journals, seems to be increasing. In addition to the RAS, Chatham House runs a regular programme of speakers in London. The British Academy Africa Panel, International Africa Institute, the ACU, the Africa Unit, British Council, INASP, DFID and others all have ideas and aims which in some part run in parallel to ours: to promote African Studies in the UK; to expand scholarships, research and training possibilities; to develop partnerships with African institutions and academics. ASAUK office-holders are trying to meet these key organisations, and we are incorporating representatives from some of them onto the ASAUK Council. Co-ordinating all of this exciting, decentralised activity is impossible, and many others have far larger resources. But we can, as a national organisation, play some role in facilitating connections and working around a few concrete aims. The Newsletter provides some nationwide information and Website, when fully operational, will expand our capacity on this front. My energies are going into partnership research schemes (pioneered and funded by the British Academy Africa Panel), Teaching Fellowships, and the Journal Writing Workshops.

Since the last newsletter, we have held two Council meetings. The first, in October 2009, preceded the AGM at the British Academy. We had a detailed financial discussion, led by Treasurer Ben Knighton. Finances look healthy, for the present, but the British Academy has indicated that our next bid should be for a reduced amount and funding from this source, so valuable over the last couple of years, is unlikely to continue for much longer.

Our main task involved selecting the African teaching fellows. On this occasion, we offered two six month fellowship. There was an outstanding field and all 11 candidates offered interesting proposals and valuable linkages in a number of

different countries. After considerable debate we chose Marie Gibert (SOAS) who will teach African Politics and International Relations at University Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal, and Winnie Eckhardt (University of Chester) who will teach Conservation and Ecology at the National University of Rwanda.

We also debated, and agreed on, increasing co-opted members of Council to 8. The major reason for this is to increase formal links with a range of other Africanist associations and to increase the diversity of interests and backgrounds on the Council (*See the AGM's minutes in this newsletter's report for the new co-optees.*)

A highlight of the well-attended meeting in Oxford on 3rd December was a series of brief introductory talks by new members of Council. Office-holders are exploring ways in which we can work more effectively with the many institutions concerned with Africa, as well as facilitating linkages between academics Centres and Journals. Some excellent ideas emerged, including possible collaboration with a new exhibition planned at the British Museum in 2010, with the Africa Unit, and with the International Africa Institute's programme. ASAUK is already offering a reduced rate on the latter's journal, *Africa*, to our members.

Reports on the Cambridge Writing Workshop suggested that some of the papers had not been sufficiently well developed to benefit from inclusion. We resolved to call for draft papers, rather than abstracts, at the next workshops in Nairobi and Birmingham. One unexpected benefit of the Writing Workshops has been an increased level of communication between journal editors in the UK.

Small conference grants were made to the *Workshop on Punishment and Prisons in Southern Africa* (organised by Jocelyn Alexander), and the *Annual Researching Africa Day* for postgraduate students to be held in Oxford during the first half of 2010 (contact: Michelle.Osborne@anthro.ox.ac.uk). We are saving our major conference budget for the ASAUK biennial conference in Oxford, 16-19th September 2010.

In a discussion on the Research Excellent Framework consultation paper, Council agreed that there was not a strong argument for a separate Africa panel. Few universities were likely to submit returns on this basis, and the overall submission was thus likely to appear weak. There was, however, a strong feeling that ASAUK should recommend Africanists for subject panels, as well as the Middle East and Africa panel, should that survive for the next exercise. Council members also supported the general unease about the proposed weight being given to 'impact' in assessing research, and the rather narrow definition of 'impact' that is being used.

ASAUK hosted Kasaija Philip Apuuli, the Mary Kingsley Zochonis lecturer from Makerere University, at a series of talks in London, Oxford and Sussex. He spoke

about the ICC and conflicts in the north-eastern region of Africa and, despite some qualifications, generally saw long term potential in the ICC's engagement in the region. He faced some tough questioning from Africanists on these issues. It was a particularly productive and enjoyable visit and we are seeking a new lecturer for the ASAUK conference in Oxford for 2010.

Professor William Beinart, President, ASAUK  
For correspondence, contact David Kerr: d.kerr@bham.ac.uk

## **Minutes of the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of ASAUK, held at the British Academy, London, 8 October 2009**

**Present:** William Beinart (President), Megan Vaughan (Vice-President), Ben Knighton (Honorary Treasurer), June Bam-Hutchison (Honorary Secretary), Phillip Apuuli, Cedric Barnes, Karen Brown, James Currey, Shihan de Silva, Sara Dorman, Elizabeth Drew, Saul Dubow, Martin Evans, Jonathan Harle, Gemma Haxby, Simon Heap, Lotte Hughes, Plus Zahra Hussein, Eric Jeanpierre, Alistair Kerr, Stephanie Kitchen, Miles Larmer, Mark Leopold, Merle Lipton, Gabrielle Lynch, JoAnn McGregor, Annabel Martin-Bah, Claire Mercer, Ben Page, Rachel Paniagua, Deborah Potts, Barbara Spina, Pieter Tesch and Michael Twaddle.

**Apologies:** René Carayol, Ron Fennell, Anthony Green, Mpalive Msiska, Insa Nolte, Radha Upadhyaya, and Tunde Zack-Williams.

### **1. Minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> ASAUK Annual General Meeting**

The minutes were accepted and signed by the President.

### **2. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **3. Report by the Honorary Secretary (Dr June Bam-Hutchison)**

#### **a) General**

The Secretary summarised her written report which had been circulated to the AGM, which also included the Research Report submitted by David Kerr. Throughout the past year, Council has consolidated its working relationship with the Royal African Society (RAS) on two levels: in terms of continued support for Africanist research and to widen its remit in terms of forming new strategic interdisciplinary (including also non-academic) African-UK knowledge partnerships. The work of a part-time Research Administrator (made possible through the award of a British Academy grant of £30,000 for the past two financial years), in the person of David Kerr, has added immense value to the work of the ASAUK in its status as a recognised Learned Society and as part of the BASIS group. Based for his doctoral research at the Centre of West African Studies in Birmingham, David has been instrumental in setting up co-operation with other BASIS institutions and servicing a Research Committee. In June this year, David relocated temporarily to Dar es Salaam where he continues to work

for ASAUK. David has been in contact with Africanist journal editors in the UK, Europe and USA, and he has met with UK Africanist publishers and several African scholarly publishers. While based in Dar es Salaam he has met with African publishers and scholars. Work is progressing on a joint website managed by the ASAUK and British Academy, which will host the Directory of Africanists and a directory of African scholars to have visited the UK. Other activities undertaken by the Research Administrator include support for the ASAUK Conference, Journal Writing Workshop, Teaching Fellowships and supporting the Association's ongoing recognition by BASIS.

Dr Kasaija Apuuli of Makerere University is the Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lecturer for 2009 and will speak on *The International Criminal Court (ICC) and Implications for Conflicts in the Horn of Africa Region* here at the British Academy, following this AGM, as well as at three other venues.

Council is grateful to the RAS for increasing the amount it provides to the ASAUK for the support of general conference activities, which has enabled the participation of members from Africa. In the non-ASAUK conference year of 2007 the grant was £4,000, and in the conference year 2008 it increased to £5,000. The conferences, symposia, colloquia and workshops held throughout the year and supported by the ASAUK include: *Images of Africa and Ideas of Beauty* (Museum of London), *Egypt in its African Context* (Manchester); *Gendered and Generational Strategies for Negotiating Ageing in Africa* (Kings College London); *Brokers of Change: Atlantic Commerce and Cultures in Pre-colonial Guinea of Cape Verde* (Birmingham).

<b>Membership</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Ordinary	759	794
Overseas	132	139
Corporate and Institutional	21	12
Student	129	138
Honorary and Life	49	49
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,090</b>	<b>1,132</b>

Membership increased slightly in 2009. Membership numbers were kindly supplied by Gemma Haxby and Pat Jensen.

#### **b) ASAUK newsletter, website and e-mail list**

Under Simon Heap's editorship, the ASAUK Newsletter has continued to act as an important medium for reaching members and others interested in African affairs. Each issue of *African Affairs* carries an issue of the Newsletter. Members are encouraged to pass on news of conferences, symposia, workshops, appointments and promotions, publications, visiting scholars, fellowships, dissertation completions and any news items worthy of academic hearing to the editor at: [simon.heap@plan-international.org](mailto:simon.heap@plan-international.org) Council would like to thank Simon

for his work as editor, and for maintaining its role as a major organ of communication among members.

The Website at <http://www.asauk.net> has been maintained by Rohan Jackson. The website has been redesigned and the information held upon the website updated to reflect the greater range of ASAUK activities following recognition as a Learned Society. ASAUK members are encouraged to visit the website and to contact Rohan with suggestions at: [webweaver@asauk.net](mailto:webweaver@asauk.net) Rohan is also working on the ASAUK directory of excellence, which will be linked to the website.

Gemma Haxby in the ASAUK/RAS office maintains the ASAUK e-mail list for announcements and communications. Members who change their e-mail addresses are urged to pass them on to Gemma at: [ras@soas.ac.uk](mailto:ras@soas.ac.uk).

#### **c) Other Centres of African Studies**

ASAUK 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 Central Lancashire, Coventry, Leeds and Liverpool. To further co-operation with Africanist studies centres within the UK, Council continues to invite representatives of these centres to meet in conjunction with council meetings.

#### **d) Membership Recruitment Drive**

The Honorary Secretary will be travelling with Lili Liu (RAS staff) to Leeds, Bradford, Coventry and Aberystwyth Universities in late October. The purpose of these visits is to speak to those students and academics interested in African studies, and to recruit them as RAS/ASAUK members, thus extending the association's national reach. Richard Dowden, Director of the RAS, will be visiting Birmingham and Liverpool in November and William Beinart, President of the ASAUK, will be recruiting at conferences in 2009-10

#### **e) Funding Bodies and Partnerships**

Council has developed improving links with the British Academy, Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) and Africa Unit, the International Africa Institute, as well as many university centres. Representatives of these organisations are being included on Council. ASAUK is recognised as a Learned Society by the British Academy and is a member of its BASIS group (see Summary of the Year). New links are being formed with the UK national museums sector and with the London, Manchester and Oxford African Diaspora community networks. For example, the Interpretation of African Images Workshop with the Museum of London in Docklands attracted participation of a range of Africanist community organisations, activists, artists, musicians, the Mayor's Commission on African and Asian Heritage, as well as academics. This is being further consolidated by exciting work carried out by Council members

such as the three-year collaborative interdisciplinary project, 'Managing Heritage, Building Peace: Museums, Memory and Memorialisation in Kenya,' led by Dr Lotte Hughes of the Open University, who has won major funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council. It will run in parallel with a similar project funded by the British Academy, which places special emphasis on UK-Africa partnerships.

As the Programme Secretary of the Standing Conference on Library Materials on Africa (SCOLMA), Barbara Spina has been co-opted into the ASAUK council since 2006. ASAUK supports SCOLMA's efforts towards establishing and developing institutional links at European level that resemble those of the Africana Libraries in the USA by linking its meetings to AEGIS conferences through the organisation European Librarians in African Studies (ELIAS).

In conclusion, the Honorary Secretary should kindly wish to thank David Kerr and Gemma Haxby for generously assisting with compiling this report and for their valuable administrative input.

#### **4. Report by the Honorary Treasurer (Dr Ben Knighton)**

Accounts were approved as tabled.

There has not been an increase in subscriptions in 2008.

#### **5. President's Report (Professor William Beinart)**

ASAUK seeks to provide something of an organisational framework for those interested in African studies in the UK. We try to promote African studies in universities and beyond. We also seek, as a priority, to help build partnerships and linkages with African academics and institutions. While we are the only national academic association for Africanists, there are a number of other organisations involved in parallel enterprises. ASAUK officers are working to develop better links and joint activities with them. In particular we have close links with the Royal African Society, share membership with them and also some administration; *African Affairs*, which comes free with membership, is formally the journal of the RAS but we seek equally to promote it and assist it when we can. RAS focuses especially on events, mostly in London, and on outreach beyond the academic community. It has started a number of new initiatives, especially web-based. We are also working with the British Academy Africa panel which has sponsored research partnerships with African institutions over the last few years and with AEGIS, the European society, where Professor Paul Nugent of Edinburgh University is the current president.

ASAUK has always battled to expand its activities because of the fact that our officers are all voluntary working academics and our funds very limited. We have prioritised a few high profile events, such as the biennial conference, the Audrey Richards thesis prize, and the Mary Kingsley Zochonis lecture. We have been able to give small amounts of money for workshops and conferences. The

British Academy's BASIS grant has enabled us to develop a number of new and exciting initiatives. David Kerr has been researching on journal and book publishing in and on Africa. A central issue for African Studies more broadly has been the problems experienced by publishers and journals based in Africa (many of the leading journals are published in the UK) and also of African-based academics getting material into international journals. We have set up a couple of very interesting meetings with African publishers in Oxford.

Discussions around these issues has led us to initiate a series of writing workshops. These are designed to facilitate publication in leading Africanist journals by young scholars, especially those from African countries. The first experimental workshop was held in Oxford in March with editors or representatives from *African Affairs* (Sara Rich Dorman), *Africa* (Karin Barber) and the *Journal of Southern African Studies* (Saul Dubow). ASAUK received an overwhelming response to its call for papers – 42 were offered. I participated in a second workshop at the South African Historical Society conference in June in Pretoria with four South African based journals – these are now increasingly providing an outlet for work from all over the continent. In thinking about the workshops from ASAUK's point of view, we were also mindful that the journals are a source of tremendous energy and influence in UK African Studies, and we are keen to work with them more generally. Further workshops are planned with other journals in Cambridge this month, in Birmingham, Edinburgh and Nairobi with the British Institute in East Africa. I believe that this idea has now taken off and various types of writing workshops will be developed by the journals, attached to conferences, and sponsored by other institutions. ASAUK has also negotiated discounted individual subscriptions with *Africa* (£20) and *Journal of Southern African Studies* (£40).

A second major project, particularly close to my heart, is the ASAUK teaching fellowships which sponsor a postdoc or doctoral student to spend time teaching in an African university. DFID and the British Academy have generously supplemented our resources but we are still working on a shoe string. We were able to finance four short term teaching fellowships during 2009-10 to Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya and South Africa and we will be sponsoring two more for 2010. We hope that all of these fellowships will lead to stronger linkages between British and African universities. I believe that this initiative has great potential but we are seeking longer term and more generous funding – any ideas would be very welcome.

Thanks to the RAS, and our increasing membership, which has grown from about 600 to over a 1,100 in the last few years, we have put a little more money into conferences, and have focussed especially on a few bigger events, rather than a scattering of smaller grants. The increase in membership, together with other sources of income has restored ASAUK to a healthy financial position, despite our increased expenditure.

Most of my efforts over the next year are going to focus on the biennial ASAUK conference to be held in Oxford on 16-19<sup>th</sup> September 2010, as well as the two key programmes outlined, the writing workshops and teaching fellowships. I am also hoping to cement relationships further with some of the many other British-based institutions concerned with African Studies, as well as some of the journals and African Studies Centres, and organisations beyond the UK, such as the US ASA. We also have the task of completing our annual report and application for further funding from the British Academy.

#### **6. Call for nominations for 2010 ASAUK awards (Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lecture, Audrey Richards Prize, and the Distinguished Africanist Awards)**

All ASAUK members are reminded that the ASAUK seeks nominations for the Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lecture for 2010, the Audrey Richard Prizes and the Distinguished Africanist Awards. Professor Megan Vaughan called the AGM to arrange for as many submissions as possible. *See this newsletter for details.*

#### **7. Election of Officers and Council Members**

The AGM voted for the election of the following members to Council: Dr Hassan Arero, Dr Ama de-Graft Aikins, Professor Saul Dubow, Dr Martin Evans, Dr Francesca Locatelli, Dr Gabrielle Lynch and honorary status for Professor Thandika Mkandawire.

#### **ASAUK Extraordinary General Meeting, African Studies Centre, Oxford University, 3 December 2009**

**Present:** William Beinart (President), Megan Vaughan (Vice-President), June Bam-Hutchison (Honorary Secretary), Hassan Arero, Karen Brown, Ama de Graft Aikins, Saul Dubow, Martin Evans, Jonathan Harle, Simon Heap, Sarah Hinz, Lotte Hughes, Stephanie Kitchen, Jason Mosley, Eugene Nizeyimana, David Pratten and Marcia Schenck.

**Apologies:** Jesmond Blumenfeld, Ray Bush, James Currey, Harri Englund, Diane Frost, Graham Furniss, Insa Nolte, Joan Kentworthy, Francesca Locatelli, Gabrielle Lynch, Roy May, JoAnn McGregor, Nici Nelson, Ben Page, Terrence Ranger, Barbara Spina, Pieter Tesch, Myles Wickstead and Tunde Zack-Williams.

Amendment of Statute 6 of the Statutes of the Association approved: that the co-opted membership to Council should increase from 5 to 8 over a period of three years. This amendment to the Constitution as moved by Council on 8 October and was unanimously accepted by the EGM on 3 December 2009. Consequently, the following nominees were unanimously elected to Council: Dr Harri Englund and Dr Claire Mercer. Also, the following nominees were unanimously voted to be co-opted onto Council: James Currey (publisher), Jonathan Harle (ACU), Dr Simon Heap (newsletter editor), Dr Stephanie Kitchen (IAI), Dr Nici Nelson, Dr Ben Page (*African Affairs*), Barbara Spina (SCOLMA) and Sarah Hinz (or alternative) from the Africa Unit.



## Conferences Future...

UNITED KINGDOM

### **ASAUK Biennial Conference 2010**

To be held at the University of Oxford from afternoon of Thursday 16 September to lunchtime on Sunday 19 September 2010. The conference does not have an overall single theme. However, the organisers are encouraging individuals networks, centres and journals to offer panels, or a series of panels, on particular topics so that there can be sequential debate through the conference. The organisers hope in this way to attract linked papers that will facilitate discussion and which may form the basis for a variety of conference publications. To submit a paper or panel for the conference by 30 April 2010, follow the link from [www.asauk.net/conferences/asauk10.html](http://www.asauk.net/conferences/asauk10.html) If you would like to suggest a panel or series of panels or a theme, contact David Kerr: [d.kerr@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.kerr@bham.ac.uk) Registration for the conference will use the same online system and be available from January 2010.

### **'Preventing Witchcraft Related Abuse Conference', London, 17–18 April 2010.**

Stepping Stones Nigeria established the Witchcraft and Human Rights Information Network (WHRIN) in 2009 in response to the widespread torture and killings of (mainly) children, women and elderly people that take place around the world due to the belief in witchcraft. Witchcraft means different things to different people. WHRIN defines it as "the exercise or invocation of alleged supernatural powers to control people or events, typically involving sorcery or magic". WHRIN is the only international network of groups and individuals that is committed to sharing knowledge and expertise on these complex issues and acts as a platform for those working on to protect basic human rights. Through advocating for the rights of people affected by the belief in witchcraft it hopes to contribute to the development of long-term solutions to prevent further abuses from taking place.

WHRIN invites proposals for papers, films, performances and workshops. Topics of interest include, but are not restricted to, the role of legislation in preventing witchcraft related abuse; advocacy strategies for victims of witchcraft related abuse; the role of the media in preventing witchcraft related abuse; inter-agency approaches to witchcraft; witchcraft and mental health; witchcraft and human trafficking; rights-based approaches to witchcraft related abuse; and the role of religious and spiritual leaders in preventing witchcraft related abuse. 300-word abstracts by 31 January 2010 to Christopher Kimberley: [conference@whrin.org.uk](mailto:conference@whrin.org.uk) Announcements about the venue and programme will be made on the WHRIN website: [www.whrin.org.uk](http://www.whrin.org.uk)

**'Tuning in to African Cities: Popular Culture and Urban Experience in sub-Saharan Africa', Centre of West African Studies (CWAS), University of Birmingham, 6–8 May 2010.** CWAS and the Institute of Anthropological Research in Africa at the Catholic University of Leuven invite contributions to an AEGIS thematic conference focusing on popular culture in contemporary urban Africa. The conference explores four themes. First, space, infrastructure and zones of entertainment: how do zones of entertainment shape urban life worlds? How do music and media events fashion cityscapes in temporary or permanent ways? How do local, transnational and international celebrities move around African cities, towns and villages, whether physically or in the imagination? Where and when do people flock to witness musicians and media celebrities, and how are these events controlled by state officials, ethnic and religious leaders? Second, power and popular culture: what is the place of music and broadcasting in actions of resistance, propaganda and censorship programmes? And how do producers, brokers and audiences adapt to it? How and when do politicians and religious leaders become celebrities? Where are musicians and media producers positioned on the various axes of power and authority? What kind of new social categories emerge in the margins of music and media, like journalists, dubbers and translators, shopkeepers? Third, time and music/media: do music and media genres structure the rhythms of city life? What do songs and media productions reveal about memory, nostalgia and hope? How are past, present, and future imagined, expressed and brought about via popular culture? How do genres, content and celebrities produce a rift between the generations? And, conversely, in what ways do young and old collectively engage with music and media? Fourth, visceral aesthetics and the city: how does popular culture contribute to 'the urban feel' and the imagination of urbanism? How 'urban' are the aesthetics of music and media found in African cities and towns? How do the visceral aesthetics of certain music and media genres tie in with larger, more encompassing symbolic worlds such as religion, politics, and/or the market? What kind of experiences do music and media producers and audiences yearn for, appreciate, or jettison? The organisers encourage contributors to include audio-visual material. 250-word abstracts by 1 February 2010 to David Kerr: [d.kerr@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.kerr@bham.ac.uk) and Filip De Boeck: [Filip.DeBoeck@soc.kuleuven.be](mailto:Filip.DeBoeck@soc.kuleuven.be)

**'Transcending Boundaries: Biographical Research in Colonial and Postcolonial African History', German Historical Institute London, London, 7–8 May 2010.** Biographical research is especially suited to producing such a dialectic and dialogic treatment of colonial and postcolonial history. Careers and life stories of individuals and generations show particularly clearly the disruptions and constraints that were caused by colonial and postcolonial rule and the boundaries imposed by it. At the same time, life stories show how in everyday life these boundaries became porous or fluid, even producing new mobilities and continuities that transcended them, and how in this field new individual and collective identities were formed. This applies to politico-spatial boundaries of all

kinds, which particularly in Africa conflict with deeply rooted mobilities that have always transcended even the boundaries of the continent in all directions. However, it also applies to borderlines between social and cultural spaces and, not least, to the delineations of historical periods, which in colonial and postcolonial contexts were often given a mythologizing absoluteness (pre-colonial/colonial/postcolonial, traditional/modern). For these reasons, Africa appears to be particularly suited to biographical studies which transcend continental, politico-spatial, social and cultural and epochal boundaries. At the same time, this offers an opportunity to examine a part of the world which so far has been largely neglected by biographical research. Biographical research in Africa is still limited largely to biographies of outstanding politicians from the periods of colonialism and independence and to anthropological biographies of 'typical' representatives of particular groups. There are only a few social-historical studies of individuals or cohorts –produced mainly by European authors – and hardly any biographies of women which grant their subjects sufficient individuality.

For this workshop the organisers are looking for empirical case studies dealing with the life stories or careers of individuals or groups. In line with the reflections detailed above, a wide spectrum of potential case studies comes into consideration, including Africans but also Europeans, 'Asians' and 'Americans' from the mid-nineteenth to the end of the twentieth centuries. Of particular interest are the entanglements and crossings, but also boundaries and disruptions which become visible from a biographical perspective. In this way, the organisers also aim to contribute to a fundamental question of historical biography, asking how far the perspective of the individual can throw new light on larger historical processes. The organisers envisage intensive discussions that will bring together a limited number of historians and other scholars working with historical biographies, both at senior and junior levels. One page abstracts and short CV by 29 January 2010 to Achim von Oppen: [Achim.vonOppen@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:Achim.vonOppen@uni-bayreuth.de) and Silke Strickrodt: [strickrodt@ghil.ac.uk](mailto:strickrodt@ghil.ac.uk)

**'4th ESRC Research Methods Festival 2010', St Catherine's College, University of Oxford, 5–8 July 2010.** The National Centre for Research Methods based at the University of Southampton is a Hub-Node network of research groups conducting research, training and capacity building activities in social science research methods. The festival aims to engage social scientists across a wide range of disciplines and sectors and at different points in their research careers. The organisers are aiming to stimulate interest, raise issues, highlight opportunities and showcase new developments. The festival is of relevance to anyone interested in social science research methods: Ph.D students, anthropologists, ethnographers, geographers, sociologists, economists, statisticians/survey researchers, policy researchers and social researchers.

Themes running through the festival include: resources for research, research impact, substantive themes, ethical and philosophical issues, survey methods, development in qualitative methods, developments in quantitative methods and 'what is?' sessions. Bookings commence on 1 March 2010. The draft festival programme is online at: [www.ncrm.ac.uk/TandE/other/RMF2010/](http://www.ncrm.ac.uk/TandE/other/RMF2010/)

**'Post-slavery, Post-imperial, Post-colonial? Contesting Historical Divides in Francophone Africa', University of Chester, 15–16 July 2010.** This interdisciplinary research colloquium marks the 50th anniversary of political independence in francophone West Africa, organised by the Department of Modern Languages and the Department of Geography and Development Studies at the University of Chester. The organisers seek panels and papers on developments in critical approaches to francophone African development studies.

Key issues for debate at the colloquium include how the contemporary processes of development in the former French colonies of West Africa operate within conceptual and operational paradigms inherited from the colonial past. It has been argued that a historical timeline imposed by the coloniser's relation with the colonised continues to dictate the focus of academic discourse and research in the region, undermining alternative approaches to research design and methodology and limiting the potential to accelerate development in the region. New interdisciplinary research synergies are required to break the ties that bind research and development to its colonial past. The intention is to maximise the opportunity for debate and development of future research synergies at the colloquium and consequently numbers will be restricted.

Participants whose papers are accepted for the colloquium will have the opportunity to publish their contribution in a Francophone Africa series of the University's new electronic research journal *Chester Research Online*. Scholars unable to attend the colloquium in person can submit electronic contributions to the organising panel for consideration for inclusion in this series. Abstracts for papers and panels with the subject line 'Francophone Africa Colloquium' by 1 March 2010 to: Professor Claire Griffiths: [c.griffiths@chester.ac.uk](mailto:c.griffiths@chester.ac.uk) and Dr Brenda Garvey: [b.garvey@chester.ac.uk](mailto:b.garvey@chester.ac.uk) and Dr Martin Evans: [m.evans@chester.ac.uk](mailto:m.evans@chester.ac.uk)

**'Atlantic Sounds: Music, Seafaring and Seaport Cities in History', Colloquium by the University of Liverpool, Souled Out Films, and Merseyside Maritime Museum, Liverpool, 17–18 September 2010.** Researchers have long been aware of the role of music in connecting cultures, and much work has been done on the diverse diasporic musical heritage of the Americas, whether rooted in Africa, Ireland, Britain, Continental Europe, or America itself. In addition, sea-songs devised to aid the hard physical labour of work on sailing ships often emerged from experiences onshore, with many recalling the dangers and pleasures of life

in port. The processes and mechanisms that established such connections are less clear, however, and the organisers are interested in papers that analyse ways in which seafarers, migrants, workers and the residents of ports around the Atlantic influenced each other and the development of a broader musical heritage. Most of the colloquium will consist of pre-circulated papers from any period from the mid-18th century to the late 20th century, but there will be a public lecture and performance at the Merseyside Maritime Museum to open the event to a wider audience. As well as encouraging academic networking and publication, the organisers are interested in exploring multi-media outputs including documentary film-making and museum exhibitions. 200-word abstracts and one page CV by 1 February 2010 to Dr Graeme Milne: g.j.milne@liv.ac.uk

#### INTERNATIONAL

**'Harmonizing Relationships between the African-diaspora and Africans during the Obama Era', Southern Interdisciplinary Roundtable on African Studies (SIRAS), Kentucky State University, Frankfort, USA, 25–28 March 2010.** Blacks born in the Diaspora and African-born immigrants have had a fairly good relationship, but there are instances where these associations are marked with latent hostile feelings. Significant collaborations have not been achieved, making one wonder whether the existing peace and harmony are not simply the "peace of the graveyard." In light of the recent positive developments in America and the world, the roundtable invites papers and debates that would address these issues and challenges. It invites discussions on the overt and covert reasons for seemingly negative and hostile associations between the Africans and African-Diaspora in general and Africans and African-Americans in particular at the personal and professional levels. It is entirely appropriate at this juncture of our global history to rethink and re-conceptualize relations at all levels of analysis. In this globalized world where no one walks alone, the conference is also interested in peace issues as they affect relationships of blacks to other peoples. The organisers seek papers from all perspectives and disciplines so long as they elicit principles and patterns of relationships and peaceful coexistence, the aim being to harmonize relationships between peoples. 250-word abstracts by 28 February 2010 to Dr Egbunam Amadife: egbunam.amadife@kysu.edu

**'Faith, Culture, and the Politics of Belonging in Africa', University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA, 23–24 April 2010.** The joint organisers, the South Eastern Regional Seminar on African Studies (SERSAS) and the South East Africa Network (SEAN), seek papers on any aspect and region of Africa. Multi-media presentations are welcome. SERSAS also awards the Jim Brown Prize for the best paper presented by a graduate student. 250-word abstracts by 15 February 2010 to Kea Gordon: GordenK@cofc.edu *or* Christopher Lee: cjee1@email.unc.edu

**“Africa Matters”: Celebrating 40 years of the Canadian Association of African Studies (CAAS), Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada, 5–7 May 2010.** In celebration of its 40th anniversary, CAAS extends a special welcome to scholars working on all aspects of African studies at its next annual conference hosted by the Institute of African Studies at Carleton University with support from the African Studies Research Laboratory at the University of Ottawa. The Ottawa area, of course, is bilingual. Our aim is to attract both Anglophone and Francophone scholars from Canada as well as an international group of specialists and, in so doing, facilitate discussion and dialogue across disciplines and among scholars based in both the North and South. The conference intends to provide a forum for addressing and presenting academic research and policy proposals that examine the histories, debates, policy issues, and current practices related to African matters.

CAAS contributes expertise, research, and informed debate concerning a wide range of African ‘matter’ related to sociocultural issues, the arts, political economy, the environment and transnationalism, among others. Since 1970, CAAS has demonstrated how African issues matter to a wide range of Canadian and international publics in academic, policy-making, programming, and many other circles. Although the interest of these different publics in African matters has waxed and waned over time, the expanding recognition of African contexts and initiatives to a growing range of transnational practices (from humanitarianism to peace-building; markets to social movements; climate change to food security; religious dynamism to health and education policies; sports to music and cinema; migration and diasporas to the forging of the Atlantic world) means that the continent is becoming more prominent in the attention, imagination, and actions of more and more publics.

Beyond the growing interest in Africa in Canada, however, this conference welcomes discussion on the vast array of other topics of interest in African Studies. For example, it provides participants with the opportunity for sharing research and debate concerning the study of issues related to Africa and African diaspora from events as wide-reaching as the slave trade, the HIV and AIDS pandemic, and current conflicts to the minutiae of everyday life, such as schooling practices, religiosity, and media consumption. Paper and panel abstracts in English or French by 31 January 2010 via CAAS website: [http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/~caas/en/2010call\\_for\\_papers.htm](http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/~caas/en/2010call_for_papers.htm)

**‘Conference on Edo Language, Literature and Folklore’, Institute for Benin Studies, Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria, 23–24 June 2010.** The organisers seek insightful, theoretical, and critical papers that address any aspect of the literature and folk tradition of the Edo people. It has been observed that not much work has been done on the literary and overall folkloric essence of Benin. The intention here is to create a forum for the emergence of a critical source book on the

language, literature and folklore of the Edo (Benin) society. The organisers want to know how the language and literature have developed over time; they are also interested in the transformation or sustainability of the Edo traditional values in the global village. Possible topics include: Edo language and sustainable development in Africa; the transformation of Edo language; the major genres of Edo literature; the poetry of Edo songs; historicizing Edo literature; the concept of performance; orality and literacy; Edo media and technology; current trends in storytelling; religion and literature; preservation and continuity; and the globalization of Edo folklore. 300-word abstracts by 25 January 2010 to Aikoriegie Obobaifo: [insbeninst@gmail.com](mailto:insbeninst@gmail.com) and [aiko\\_aifo@yahoo.com](mailto:aiko_aifo@yahoo.com)

**'Bamako Symposium on the Arts: Tapping Local Resources for Sustainable Development in the 21st century, Second Bamako Summer School, Université de Bamako, Bamako, Mali, 22–30 July 2010.** The symposium is organized by the African Community of Arts Educators (AfriCOAE) and Balani's Association in conjunction with L'Université de Bamako, National Museum, and Ministry of Culture Mali, and the Conservatory of Arts and Craft. A call is made to arts professionals, researchers and interested others for contributions addressing one or more of the symposium strands: Arts Education Practice, Studio Practice, Curatorial/Museum/Community Arts Practice, Arts History/Criticism, Arts Administration/Management/Marketing Practice, and Open Session. The symposium entails paper presentations and practical activities such as workshops sessions, mini-projects, and artistic interventions that would result to an exhibition or public performance. With the practical acts and theoretical presentations we aim to promote critical dialogues on the best practices around the world on how the arts as resource feed civilizations in the hope that it will generate new initiatives to boost human capital development in Mali in the 21st century. Thus, the symposium asks: How are the arts worldwide feeding civilizations? What are the implications for tapping the abundant local resources in Mali in the 21st century? The symposium reckons a major issue is sustainability. Through the years, many developmental initiatives have continued to emerge, but failed to be sustained. Interestingly, the symposium coincides with the celebration of the fifty year of independence of Mali.

The working languages of the conference will be French and English. Applications for individual and team presentations will be reviewed until the space is filled. For paper presentations (3,000 words), send 100-150 word abstracts and short CV by 31 March 2010 to [africoae@gmail.com](mailto:africoae@gmail.com) For workshops and artistic interventions (visual arts, music and theatre), proposals should be submitted to the Balani's Association at Bamako by 31 March 2010: [balanise@yahoo.fr](mailto:balanise@yahoo.fr)

**'Negotiating the African Presence: Rastafari Livity and Scholarship', Rastafari Conference 2010, University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston, Jamaica, 17–20 August 2010.** 2010 will mark 50 years since the *Report on the Rastafari Movement in Kingston, Jamaica* was first published by the then University College of the West Indies. The Report, authored by M.G. Smith, Roy Augier and Rex Nettleford, validated the University's sense of its social responsibility and remains one its most successful monographs, having gone through eight reproductions without change in form or content, becoming a most highly referenced document on the Movement. 2010 also marks the 80th anniversary of the Rastafari Movement itself, which has grown from a few visionaries struck by the coronation of the Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie I in November 1930, into a vital force in reconstructing and elevating the African Presence in the Western landscape. In recognition of these two anniversaries, and on the birthday of Pan-African champion, the Honourable Marcus Mosiah Garvey, the Institute of Caribbean Studies announces this conference under the Joint Chairmanship of Vice-Chancellor Emeritus, Professor Rex Nettleford and Professor Emeritus Sir Roy Augier.

Conference themes include: 'reasoning' and articulating African 'freedom'; Rastafari thought and philosophy; Rastafari and the city; historicising Rastafari and the State; Rastafari reflections: the visit of Emperor Haile Selassie I to Jamaica; theocracy, resistance and the elaboration of Black Religion; interrogating Rastafari icons and iconographies; Rastafari Studies and institutions of higher learning; Rastafari communities and sustainable development; Rastafari and the Black intellectual tradition; Rastafari tributes and testimonies; repatriation to Africa as Practice: Case Studies; Rastafari geographies and demographics; regional and global reach of Rastafari; family, gender and power in Rastafari; staging/representing Rastafari: literature, film, media and reggae festivals; Rastafari drumming rituals; and health and healing: Rastafari Ministries. The organisers welcome creative and non-academic contributions through workshops, video presentations, artistic displays and other forms of expression. 150-200 word abstracts by 21 April 2010 to: [rastafaristudies2010@yahoo.com](mailto:rastafaristudies2010@yahoo.com)

**'From Colonization to Globalization: The Intellectual and Political Legacies of Dr Kwame Nkrumah and Africa's Future', Kwantlen Polytechnic University, British Columbia, Canada, 19–21 August 2010.** The conference commemorates the centenary of the birthday of Dr Kwame Nkrumah, Africa's Man of the Millennium, and bring scholars and students from Canada and from the around the world to share research and ideas on Africa's place in the global community, and to discuss the life, achievements and shortcomings of Africa's foremost Pan-Africanist. Topics to be discussed include: perspectives on African Decolonization and Development; African Intellectuals and Decolonization and Development; Leadership, Democracy, Citizenry, and African Development; Armed Struggle and Decolonization in Africa and the 'International War' on



Terrorism; Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on Pan-Africanism; the Intellectual Traditions and the Many Stands of Pan-Africanism; The 5th Pan-African Congress and the First All-African Peoples Conference: Continuity and Change; the architects and pioneers of Pan-Africanism and Global (Pan) African Unity; liberation wars and contemporary forms of armed resistance and the US-led 'War on Terror'; AFRICOM, militarization and African security; Darfur and other internecine conflicts as a test for the African Union's Trans-Saharan unity; African unity in the age of globalization: Strategies and Tactics; Fifty years of Political Independence in Africa: Independent Africa in the global context; the Obama Presidency and Africa's destiny; African youth, African women, and Africa's future; the African personality and identity in continental and trans-continental/diasporic Contexts'; Global African Dialogues: factionalism as a source of strength; and Globalization to break Africa's cycle of underdevelopment. Three person panels or individual paper via 250 word abstract, 50 word bio-note and 3 keywords by 15 March 2010 to Dr Charles Quist-Adade: knic@kwantlen.ca

### ...Conferences Past

**'Gendered and Generational Strategies for Negotiating Ageing in Africa', Joint ASUK, Goldsmiths College, Kings College, London and Oxford Institute of Ageing Workshop, Kings College, University of London, 14 September 2009.** Nici Nelson (Goldsmiths College), Deborah Potts (Kings College) and Jaco Hoffman (Oxford Institute of Ageing, AFRAN) convened this small, but very lively, workshop. There were six excellent papers: Jaco Hoffman *"Between God and the Grant" – Parenting Grandmothers in South Africa*; Mark Lamont (Goldsmiths) *Those Who Wait: Marriage in Late Life, the Death of Spouses, and Generational Succession within Meru and Kamba Families*; Emily Freeman (Postgraduate in Population Studies, LSE) *"The Medicine for Problems is Hard Work": Older Malawians' Strategies for Negotiating Ageing*; Debby Potts (Kings) *Ageing in Africa: the Influence of Urban Economic and Demographic Trends*; Rebekah Lee (Goldsmiths), *Mobility Strategies, Inter-generational Relations and New Histories of Urban Apartheid*; and Doris Bohman (Blekinge Institute of Technology, Karlskrona, Sweden) *Older South Africans in Transition*. Workshop participants provided differing interdisciplinary perspectives: sociology, anthropology, population studies, social geography, history, medical science and gerontology.

In the last decades of drastic change, there has been a dramatic increase of the absolute numbers of Africans aged over 60 years. African state and civil society has depended for old age care on 'the myth of the extended family'. However, ageing in Africa has been relatively little researched. There is a need to explore ageing, especially with respect to gender and its generational dynamics. The workshop addressed the related questions: How do older African men and women assert their older gendered identity? What are the inter-generational

perceptions of these? How do the positions of older women and men in their families, kin groups and communities compare in terms of their respective entitlements, empowerment, political and economic relations and vulnerabilities? What impacts have the intersection of global and local histories on older men and women? What existing old age care policies and what might be the future directions for those policies.

A number of cross-cutting themes and ideas emerged. Relative economic prosperity, availability of land and of health care, and housing issues, were important factors in determining the trajectory of the lives of older people, creating great diversities. There were lively discussions of the different gendered and generational access to and struggles over resources (the old age pension in South Africa and five other Sub Saharan African countries as well as land in most of rural Africa) and the differing gendered and generational survival mechanisms. Urban and rural differences were highlighted as well as the significance of migration patterns, the impact of HIV and AIDS and the emerging middle classes, and local versus State definitions of elderliness. In a lively and productive plenary the participants discussed national policy; African countries' commitment to the 2002 *Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing*; the African Union's Policy Framework and Plan of Action; gaps in the social protection; the limitations of African economies; the pros and cons of universal versus means-tested cover for an old age pension; gaps in caring; and the lack of relevant NGOs.

Jaco Hoffman invited the participants to sign up for the African Research on Ageing Network (AFRAN) Oxford Institute of Ageing – [www.ageing.ox.ac.uk](http://www.ageing.ox.ac.uk) – to find further forums to address further the issues and questions. Appreciation was expressed for ASAUK's financial support for the day.

**'Migrants and Diversity: Understanding Trends and Traditions', Institute of Commonwealth Studies, London, 23 September 2009.** Professor Philip Murphy (Director, Institute of Commonwealth Studies) welcomed the delegates. Dr Shihan de Silva Jayasuriya, Senior Fellow (Institute of Commonwealth Studies and Rapporteur UNESCO Slave Route Project, Paris) gave an Introduction to the conference. In the first paper, *Imperial Slave Soldiers: British and French Enlistment of Africans during the Napoleonic Wars 1795-1815*, Bryan Claxton (Institute of Historical Research) called attention to the diverse forms of slavery, lesser known than plantation slavery of the Atlantic world. In *African Migrants in Asia: Displacement and Diversity*, Dr Jayasuriya considered how forced African migrants were sought after as soldiers in the Indian Ocean World, with reference to case studies from South Asia and Southeast Asia.

Whilst some descendants of these African soldiers live in Asia, others became European citizens. Dr Rosie Llewellyn-Jones (Fellow, Royal Asiatic Society) compared *The colonial response to African slaves in British India – two contrasting*

cases. She demonstrated that even African women were part of the armies that fought during the Indian Mutiny. Descendants of these African soldiers live in Uttar Pradesh (India). Dr Faaeza Jasdanwalla (University of Aberystwyth), whose ancestors ruled Janjira until the political changes that occurred after India's independence, considered some aspects of family history in *African Settlers on the West Coast of India: the Sidi Elite of Janjira*.

A film, *We're Indian and African: Voices of the Sidis*, by Dr Beheroze Shroff (University of California, Irvine) was shown during the lunch break. The doyen of Ethiopian Studies, Professor Richard Pankhurst (Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia) considered *The Emancipation of Slaves in Traditional Ethiopia as decreed in the Fetha Nagast, or Law of the Kings*. In 'Diversity and Collaborative Advantage', Professor Richard Ennals (Kingston University) drew attention to the gap in public knowledge and historical facts. The final paper, *Understanding Diversity through Traditional Arts of India*, by Saurabh Gupta (London Metropolitan University) concerned the Gond tribe of India who are believed to be of African descent. The conference concluded with a Round Table, chaired by Dr Jayasuriya, where Dr Parvati Raman (SOAS), Dr Hassan Arero (British Museum), Tajender Sagoo (Pop Samiti) and Dr Leon Wainwright (Manchester Metropolitan University) orchestrated a general discussion of the papers presented and the theme of the conference.

Dr Shihan de Silva Jayasuriya: [shihan.desilva@sas.ac.uk](mailto:shihan.desilva@sas.ac.uk)

**'Egypt in its African Context', The Manchester Museum, University of Manchester, 3-4 October 2009.** Egypt has traditionally been appropriated as part of Western history, or as representing the 'other', an exotic contrast to classical civilisations. The African elements of the ancient Egyptian culture, and indeed its physical location in Africa, have frequently been ignored, and there exists a level of prejudice against suggestions that Egyptian culture can be situated within an African cultural context. The aim of the conference was to address perceptions of ancient Egypt in the West, in scholarly writing and public understanding; to present the work of scholars working on African-centred Egyptology, discussing topics such as the African aspects of the ancient culture, historical and contemporary African perceptions of ancient Egypt, the contested nature of ancient Egypt, and the biases inherent in presentation of Egypt in the West; to present a scholarly approach to the subject of Egypt in Africa that will counterbalance the extreme Afrocentric views within which such a debate is often contextualised, and as a result dismissed; and to disseminate the debate to academic and public audiences, with a formal day of papers and a less formal public community engagement day – as a university museum, the Manchester Museum has a long experience in disseminating academic work to a public audience.

To this end, two keynote speakers were invited: Dr Shomarka Keita (Research Associate, National Human Genome Center, Howard University and the

Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution, USA), a biological anthropologist whose work has focused on the genetic make-up of African peoples, and Professor Bayo Folorunso (Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of Ibadan, Nigeria), who has addressed the issues and rhetoric surrounding the discussion of Egypt as an African culture. The funding from ASUK allowed Professor Folorunso to attend the conference, for which the organisers are grateful. His keynote address, *Contesting Egypt: Facts, Rhetorics or Sentiments*, was an excellent summation of the first day's discussions.

In addition, the conference included sessions on *The 'African-ness' of ancient Egyptian culture*, chaired by Dr Kimani Nehusi (University of East London), *Egypt from an African perspective*, chaired by Dr José Lingna-Nafafé (University of Birmingham), and *Interpretations of Egypt in the West*, chaired by Dr Sally-Ann Ashton (Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge). Speakers from the UK, USA, Spain and Nigeria gave papers that sparked extensive discussions covering everything from the earliest people living in the Nile Valley to the development of the ancient Egyptian language, and the teaching of ancient Egypt in universities today. On Sunday morning the two keynote speakers and the session chairs took part in a lively panel debate, and the afternoon saw a screening of Louis Buckley's documentary film, *Nubian Spirit: The African Legacy of the Nile Valley*.

There will be a conference proceedings, and the key speakers and the debate were filmed, and the footage will be made available in due course. We hope that this event will be the first of a series, something which the delegates and speakers were very keen on.

Dr Karen Exell, Curator, Egypt and the Sudan, The Manchester Museum,  
University of Manchester: Karen.Exell@manchester.ac.uk

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

Shah Jamal Alam (2008) 'Understanding Social Complexity in the Context of HIV/AIDS: A Case Study in Rural South Africa', Ph.D thesis, Manchester Metropolitan University. Supervisor: Professor Scott Moss and Dr Scott Moss.

Dean Allen (2008) "'Logan's Golden Age": Cricket, Politics and Empire, South Africa, 1888-1910', Ph.D thesis, University of Brighton. Supervisors: Professor Jennifer Hargreaves and Dr Marc Keech.

Simon Baptist (2009) 'Technology, Human Capital and Efficiency in Manufacturing Firms [South Korea and Ghana]', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Francis Teal.

Matthew Charles Benwell (2008) 'Social Geographies of Childhood: Outdoor Spaces, Mobility and "Growing Up" in Post-Apartheid Suburban Cape Town, South Africa', Ph.D thesis, Royal Holloway, University of London. Supervisor: Professor Klaus Dodds.

Susan Jane Bull (2007) 'Consent to Research in a Gambian Context: Legal, Social and Ethical Issues', Ph.D thesis, King's College London.

Kristina I. Duffin (2008) 'The Interpretation of Palaeoecological Records and their Relevance to Landscape Management in the Savannas of the Kruger National Park, South Africa', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Professor Katherine J. Willis and Dr Lindsey Gillson.

Justina Eyram Dugbazah (2008) 'Gender, Migration and Rural Livelihoods in Ghana: A case of the Ho District', Ph.D thesis, University of Birmingham. Supervisors: Dr Lynne Brydon and Dr Insa Nolte.

Gertrude Magdalena Nethania Fester (2008) 'Women and Citizenship Struggles: A Case of the Western Cape, South Africa 1980-2004', Ph.D thesis, LSE, London. Supervisor: Professor Henrietta Moore.

Hélène Gandois (2009) 'The Emergence of Regional Security Organisations in Africa: A Comparative Study on ECOWAS and SADC', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Louise Fawcett.

Christopher Gibbons (2007) 'Modelling the Distribution of Elephants and Associated Conflict with Humans in Northern Botswana', Ph.D thesis, King's College London. Supervisor: Dr Nick Drake.

Nick C. J. Godfrey (2009) 'Understanding Genocide: The Experience of Anglicans in Rwanda, c.1921-2008', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisors: Dr Derek R. Peterson and Professor David Thompson.

Gareth M. Johnstone (2008) 'The Effects of Social Capital on Property Rights: The Case of Tourism and Artisanal Fisheries in Mozambique', Ph.D thesis, King's College London. Supervisor: Professor Michael Redcliffe.

Susan W. Kiragu (2009) 'Exploring Young People's Sexuality in a Poor community in Kenya: a case study', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Colleen McLaughlin.

Hinne Kusi (2008) 'Managing Junior Secondary Schools in Sunyani Municipality (Ghana): The Challenges for Headteachers and their Professional Development Needs', Ph.D thesis, University of Leicester. Supervisor: Dr Saeeda Shah.

Matthew LeRiche (2008) 'How Humanitarianism Affected the Conduct and Outcome of War in South Sudan', Ph.D thesis, King's College London. Supervisor: Professor Mervyn Frost.

Llewellyn Leonard (2009) 'Civil Society Reflexiveness in an Industrial Risk Society: The Case of Durban, South Africa', Ph.D thesis, King's College London. Supervisor: Dr Mark Pelling.

Jeremy Lind (2007) 'Fortune and Loss in an Environment of Violence: Living with Chronic Instability in South Turkana, Kenya', Ph.D thesis, King's College London. Supervisors: Dr Debby Potts and Dr Kathy Baker.

Chinwe Madubuike (2008) 'The Politics of Women's Empowerment in Nigerian HIV/AIDS Prevention Programmes: 2003-2007', Ph.D thesis, LSE, London. Supervisor: Professor Diane Perrons.

Gerard McCann (2009) 'Sikh Communities in Southeast Asia and East Africa, c. 1870-1970', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor Sir Christopher Bayly.

Susan Colette Miller (2007) 'An Investigation into the Post Independence Economic Development Experience of Two Small West African countries: A Comparative Analysis of Guinea-Bissau and the Gambia', Ph.D thesis, King's College London.

Uche Anita Odogwu (2007) 'Organisational Commitment and its Antecedents: A test of Anglo-Saxon Models of Commitment in the Nigerian Context', Ph.D thesis, King's College London.

Olukunle Aderinoye Ojeleye (2009) 'Post Civil War Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration in Nigeria: Modalities, Processes and the Consequences for National Politics', Ph.D thesis, King's College London. Supervisor: Professor Mervyn Frost.

Bob Rijkers (2008) 'Small Enterprise Performance and Labour Market Outcomes in Ethiopia', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Dr Francis Teal and Professor Stefan Dercon.

Ami V. Shah (2007) 'The Urban Living Room: Space and Identity amongst Migrant Communities in Ibadan, Nigeria, and Ahmedabad, India', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Dr Nandini Gooptu and Dr Abdul Raufu Mustapha.

David K. W. Ssonko (2007) 'The Impact of Structural Adjustment Programmes on Uganda (with particular reference to Uganda Management Institute)', Ph.D thesis, University of Glasgow. Supervisor: Professor Sir Laurie C Hunter; [www.theses.gla.ac.uk/72/01/2007ssonkodba.pdf](http://www.theses.gla.ac.uk/72/01/2007ssonkodba.pdf)

Afua Twum-Danso (2008) 'Searching for a Middleground in Children's Rights: The Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Ghana', Ph.D thesis, University of Birmingham. Supervisors: Dr Lynne Brydon and Dr Insa Nolte.

Sarah L. Walters (2009) 'Fertility, Mortality and Marriage in Northwest Tanzania, 1920-1970: A Demographic Study using Parish Registers', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor Megan Vaughan; [www.geog.cam.ac.uk/people/walters/phd.pdf](http://www.geog.cam.ac.uk/people/walters/phd.pdf)

Nathalie Wlodarczyk (2007) 'Magic and War: The Role of Ritual and Traditional Belief in the Kamajor Civil Defence Forces in Sierra Leone and Beyond', Ph.D thesis, King's College London. Supervisors: Dr Jan Willem Honig and Professor Mats Berdal.

### **Recent Publications**

Olayiwola Abegunrin (2009) *Africa in Global Politics in the Twenty-First Century: A Pan-African Perspective*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan. 287 pages, 978-0-230-61890-9, £52.50; [orders@palgrave.com](mailto:orders@palgrave.com)

Rebekah Lee (2009) *African Women and Apartheid: Migration and Settlement in Urban South Africa*. London: I. B. Tauris; 304 pages, 9781845118198, £54.50, [www.ibtauris.com](http://www.ibtauris.com)

Ruth Marshall (2009) *Political Spiritualities: The Pentecostal Revolution in Nigeria*. Chicago/London: University of Chicago Press. 360 pages, 978-077650125, £45.00 (hardcover); 978-0226507132, £16.50 (paperback).

Nathalie Wlodarczyk (2009) *Magic and Warfare: Appearance and Reality in Contemporary African Conflict and Beyond*. Basingstoke: Palgrave MacMillan. 208 pages; 978-0-230-62101-2, £52.00; <http://international.macmillan.com>

#### ***Islamic Africa***

This is a new peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary journal published online by Northwestern University Press in collaboration with the Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA) at the Program of African Studies of Northwestern University. Incorporating the journal *Sudanic Africa* and retaining its focus on historical sources, bibliographies, and methodology, *Islamic Africa* understood to include the social sciences and humanities. The new journal seeks to promote scholarly interaction among Africa-based scholars and those located institutionally outside the continent. The first issue appears in spring 2010. *Islamic Africa* invites scholars to submit essays, or short pieces, notices, and reports on research in progress to Gianna Mosser, Managing Editor: [islamicafrica@northwestern.edu](mailto:islamicafrica@northwestern.edu)

#### ***Journal of African Cinemas***

This journal was launched at the University of Westminster last November. Keyan G. Tomaselli of University of KwaZulu-Natal and Martin Mhando of Murdoch University are the editors. The inaugural issue explores African film

from an African and international perspective. The articles examine cinemas in countries including Nigeria, Cameroon, Senegal, Rwanda and Congo, exploring a range of genres and media including videos, documentaries and musicals. With Blandine Stefanson of the University of Adelaide as guest editor, the first issue also shows that specific genres are not limited to particular themes. Genres like popular video or musicals, which are usually associated with entertainment, may serve political purposes such as combating corruption or exposing gender inequality. The first issue is free online: [www.atypon-link.com/INT/toc/jac/1/1](http://www.atypon-link.com/INT/toc/jac/1/1) For further information, please contact Nicola Reisner: [nicola@intellectbooks.com](mailto:nicola@intellectbooks.com)

### ***Journal of Pan African Studies special issue***

This journal ([www.jpanafrican.com](http://www.jpanafrican.com)) invites papers for a June 2010 issue on African-centred/Africana Psychology. Africana Psychology critically investigates and interrogates the life-worlds of people of African descent from an African-centred perspective. Suggested topics include African-centred Psychology's rationale, definitions, conceptual models/orientations; its historical development; its literature; the relationship between African spirituality/philosophy and African-centred Psychology; the relationship between history and cultural personality; psychological intervention and treatment with Black patients; media images and Africana identity; intelligence testing with Black populations; sexuality and sexism in Africana communities; training Black psychologists; and the social viability of African-centred Psychology. 50-word abstract by 1 February 2010 – with full paper expected by 1 April 2010 – to the Guest Editor, DeReef F. Jamison: [jamisond@savannahstate.edu](mailto:jamisond@savannahstate.edu)

### ***West Africa Theatre and Performing Arts Journal***

This newly established bi-annual journal seeks articles for publication on any of the following topics relating to West Africa: theory, principles, concepts and practice of West African drama/theatre/performances; rites, rituals and festival performances; theatre for development; critical review of drama and theatre performances; films, videos, television and cinematography; performing arts management and business; costumes, props and make-up; technical theatre: sound, lighting, scenic design and construction; directing, acting, choreography, and play writing; children's theatre; African music, dance and instrumentation; and gender and West African theatre. 200-word abstracts on a rolling basis for June and December issues to Professor Ziky Kofoworola, University of Ilorin: [zikykofo@yahoo.com](mailto:zikykofo@yahoo.com) and [zikozi@unilorin.edu.ng](mailto:zikozi@unilorin.edu.ng) or Dr Victor Yankah, University of Cape Coast: [yanvick@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:yanvick@yahoo.co.uk) and [victor.yankah@gmail.com](mailto:victor.yankah@gmail.com)

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

### **The UK-Africa Academic Partnership on Chronic Disease**

Africa bears a significant proportion of the global burden of chronic diseases, along with poor countries of Asia and Latin America. The WHO projects that



over the next ten years the continent will experience the largest increase in death rates from cardiovascular disease, cancer, respiratory disease and diabetes.

In 2006, the British Academy awarded a UK-Africa Academic Partnership Grant to a group led by Dr Ama de-Graft Aikins (University of Cambridge) and Dr Daniel Arhinful (University of Ghana) to establish a programme of collaborative research on Africa's chronic disease burden. The partnership currently has 40 members from the social and medical sciences based in Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Malaysia, South Africa, the UK and the US. It is developing interdisciplinary models for chronic disease research, intervention and policy to attempt to address the public health challenges for Africans both in Africa and in the diaspora.

The partnership has organized two successful workshops on Africa's chronic disease burden at the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, Accra (2007) and the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) (2008). In 2009 the partnership formed the basis for an international conference in Accra, funded by the British Academy and the Royal Society in collaboration with the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences. Proceedings from the 2008 LSE workshop have been developed into the partnership's flagship special issue in *Globalization and Health* (visit [www.globalizationandhealth.com](http://www.globalizationandhealth.com)). Themed *Africa's chronic disease burden: local and global perspectives* special issue offers multidisciplinary analyses of the challenges facing chronic disease research, practice and policy for African communities and recommends practical and policy solutions.

In March 2010 the partnership is co-organising a symposium with Monash University and LSE Health to be held at the Monash campus in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The symposium aims to explore African and Asian perspectives on the global chronic disease burden and to develop an agenda for public health research collaboration on chronic diseases across the two regions. Invited speakers include established chronic disease and global health researchers, as well as policymakers, based in Africa, Asia, Europe and the US. For more information on partnership activities and the Malaysia symposium visit [www.psych.lse.ac.uk/chronicdiseaseafrica/](http://www.psych.lse.ac.uk/chronicdiseaseafrica/) or contact Ama de-Graft Aikins at [ada21@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ada21@cam.ac.uk)

**'Religion, AIDS, and Social Activism in Africa', International Summer School Makerere University, Uganda, 5–9 July 2010.** For a long period religion was relatively marginal in inspiring or contributing to AIDS activism in most African countries. While scholars of religion in Africa have repeatedly pointed to the important public roles religion played in the transitions to democracy, the role of religious organizations and communities on AIDS seems less clear. Some have been quite active since early days of the epidemic, while others have seemed reluctant to engage with AIDS. This situation has changed dramatically over the past ten years. Yet despite scholarship on AIDS activism, and scholarship on

religion and AIDS, these two arenas of inquiry have not been explicitly linked. The proposed summer school will challenge participants to examine ways that religion, religious identity, and religious organizations engage in activism.

Sponsored by the International Research Network on Religion and AIDS in Africa and hosted by the Working Group on Social and Political Aspects of AIDS in Uganda at Makerere University, the summer school provides opportunities to explore new connections between activism, AIDS, and religion in Africa. The school will explore these interrelations with regard to the following issues: religion and resource mobilization: strategies and conflicts; religion and the frames of social activism; religious activism and political opportunities; and religion, AIDS and collective identities. The summer school wishes to address these questions from an interdisciplinary perspective that includes political science, anthropology, sociology, religious studies, and other related fields. More specifically, the interface of religion and AIDS activism provides unique opportunities to integrate the scholarship on religion and cultural change with perspectives from social movement research and transnationalism. Sessions will involve a combination of in-depth discussions with scholarly experts about their work on AIDS, religion, and activism; sessions in which participants present their own work for discussion; and interactions with religious activists and organizations involved on these issues.

Applications consist of a one page summary on how the candidate's research interests coincide with the themes outlined above, one paragraph abstract on work to be presented, CV, and an estimate of travel costs to Uganda (funding for travel and accommodation will be covered for selected participants) by 22 January 2010 to Amy Patterson: [apatters@calvin.edu](mailto:apatters@calvin.edu) and Marian Burchardt: [marian.burchardt@unibayreuth.de](mailto:marian.burchardt@unibayreuth.de)

## **Awards, Prizes and Fellowships**

### **Congratulations to ASAUK Presidents elected to the British Academy**

At the British Academy's 2009 AGM, ASAUK President, **Professor William Beinart**, Rhodes Professor of Race Relations, University of Oxford and Professorial Fellow of St Antony's College, was elected to the British Academy. His academic work has been on the history and politics of southern Africa, especially the rural Eastern Cape; environmental history and the politics of conservation.

William Beinart has been Rhodes Professor of Race Relations at the University of Oxford since 1997. The post was established in the 1950s with a particular focus on southern African. He formerly taught at the University of Bristol (1983-1997). He was born, and did his undergraduate work, in Cape Town before completing a masters and doctoral degree at the University of London (1979). He has remained fascinated by South African history, politics and society and this

continues to form an important part of his research, teaching and supervision. This includes detailed studies of rural African communities, as well as a general history of the country (*Twentieth-Century South Africa*, 2001). In recent years, he has focussed on environmental history, both in southern Africa and beyond. He published *Environment and Empire*, co-authored with Lotte Hughes, in 2007 and is currently completing a book, with Luvuyo Wotshela on the history of a plant, prickly pear, in South Africa. He has recently received a grant to write a history of wildlife films and literature on Africa. At Oxford, he was Director of the African Studies Centre, 2002-06 and chair of the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies (parts of 2006-08). He is currently President of the ASAUK. He is strongly committed to the expansion of African Studies, both in the University and beyond. The British Academy has initiated some innovative partnership programmes with African institutions in recent years and he hopes to facilitate these connections.

A former ASAUK President, **Professor Graham Furniss**, Professor of African Language Literature, SOAS, University of London, was also elected to the British Academy. His academic work has concentrated on the oral and written literatures of Africa; orality, performance and genre in the popular cultures of West Africa with particular reference to Hausa-speaking regions of Nigeria and Niger. Graham Furniss was born in India. After secondary school in Kent, he was a VSO volunteer in Senegal before taking a first degree in Hausa and Social Anthropology at SOAS. He went on to complete a doctorate on a circle of Hausa poets writing in the early 1970s in northern Nigeria, and subsequently taught at Bayero University, Kano and the University of Maiduguri, Nigeria, before returning to teach at SOAS. His interests in oral and popular cultures of Africa led him to become the founding President of the International Society for Oral Literature in Africa (ISOLA) and the founding editor of the *Journal of African Cultural Studies*.

### **Nominations for Mary Kingsley Zochonis Lecturer, 2010**

ASAUK seeks nominations for the Mary Kingsley Zochonis lecturer for this year. The Mary Kingsley Zochonis lecture will be delivered at the ASAUK Conference in Oxford in September 2010. The lectureship award's purpose is to encourage and support a young African scholar at an African University. The candidate should be at the beginning of their career, and the content of the lecture should be non-scientific, non-technical and on an African subject. South African, Ethiopian, Nigerian and Kenyan academics have delivered the lecture in recent years. The allowances include an economy return air fare to London, a prize of £500, accommodation and food expenses up to £500 and additionally, up to £250 for travel expenses to allow the lecturer to travel to other centres of African studies in the UK. The proposed lecturer should be nominated by a colleague; no self-nominations please. CV and a short statement on the topic of the proposed lecture by 31 May 2010 to Gemma Haxby: [asauk@soas.ac.uk](mailto:asauk@soas.ac.uk)

### **Nominations for ASAUK Distinguished Africanist Award**

The Distinguished Africanist Award was inaugurated by the ASAUK as a way of paying tribute to people who have made exceptional contributions to the field of African studies, that is, people who have in one way or another expanded and disseminated knowledge of Africa, and interest in Africa. 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. Past recipients of the award have been Basil Davidson, John Fage, Douglas Rimmer, Lionel Cliffe, Eldred and Marjorie Jones, Shula Marks, Roland Oliver, Terence Ranger, Tony Kirk-Greene, John Lonsdale, George Shepperson and John McCracken.

The ASAUK Council has decided to give two Distinguished Africanist awards for the years 2009 and 2010. The next winners of the Distinguished Africanist Award will be announced at the 2010 ASAUK conference in Oxford. Nominations must come from the membership and should consist of a concise statement by the nominator, outlining why the nominee qualifies for the award, as well as a selective CV and publication list. Nominations by 21 May 2010 to David Kerr, ASAUK Research Administrator, CWAS, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT or D.Kerr@bham.ac.uk

### **Nominations for ASAUK Audrey Richards Prize**

The Audrey Richards Prize for the best thesis on Africa is awarded every two years at the ASAUK Biennial Conference. Thanks to the generosity of the Royal African Society and a number of publishers, who donate books, journal subscriptions and cash, this prize is well worth having. It is also a pleasant way of recognizing and encouraging our up-and-coming new Africanists. The prize will be for theses completed between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2009. Nominations must be made by supervisors or examiners, with the permission of the candidate, and a copy of the thesis should be submitted by 31 March 2010 to David Kerr, ASAUK Research Administrator, CWAS, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT.

#### **Note to Contributors**

Send items for inclusion in the next *Newsletter* by 15 March 2010 to Dr Simon Heap, Editor, ASAUK Newsletter, Plan, Chobham House, Christchurch Way, Woking, Surrey, GU21 6JG, UK or [simon.heap@plan-international.org](mailto:simon.heap@plan-international.org) or [effaheap@aol.com](mailto:effaheap@aol.com)

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

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Check the website: [www.asauk.net](http://www.asauk.net)