



# NEWSLETTER

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## President's Report

The ASAUK continues to participate in the debate about Open Access, particularly the ways in which the Government's proposals will impact upon Africanist research and publishing in the humanities and social sciences in the UK and Africa. In February 2013 the Council of the ASAUK submitted a response to the House of Commons Business, Innovation and Skills Select Committee Inquiry into the Government's Open Access Policy. The preparation of this document was a truly collaborative process: Jonathan Harle of the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) played a pivotal role in coordinating the many contributions and drafts, the final version of which was signed by the Council of the ASAUK, the Executive Committee of SCOLMA (the UK Libraries and Archives Group on Africa) and the editorial boards of the *Review of African Political Economy*, the *Journal of Eastern African Studies*, the *Journal of Southern African Studies* and the *Journal of African History*.

With the release in late February and early March of two further documents on Open Access – the HEFCE (Higher Education Funding Council for England) advice letter 'Open Access and Submissions to the Research Excellence Framework Post-2014' and the RCUK 'Policy on Open Access' – we joined up with SCOLMA, the IAI, the ACU and the Royal African Society (RAS) on 18<sup>th</sup> March to host an afternoon of discussions at Senate House. With a programme organised by Stephanie Kitchen of the International African Institute (IAI), this meeting was attended by 45 people, including leading representatives of the academic community, funding councils, learned societies and publishers, as well as researchers in the humanities and social sciences seeking information and an increased understanding of the issues. Presentations by Alan Palmer (British Academy), Graham Furniss (SOAS), David Clover (Institute of Commonwealth Studies), Stephanie Kitchen, Janet Remington (Routledge/Taylor and Francis) and Jonathan Harle were accompanied by vigorous discussion. The afternoon concluded with roundtable responses to the areas for advice laid out by HEFCE prior to our submission of a collective response to HEFCE on 25<sup>th</sup> March.

The facilitation of debate between Africanist scholars, funding authorities, journals, publishers and learned societies will be a key part of the ASAUK's work in coming years as funding from universities and research councils shifts towards an open access model.

Our successful writing workshop scheme continues apace, boosted by a generous new grant from the British Academy which supplements ongoing support from African studies journals in the UK. Following the success in September 2012 of the Zambian workshop chaired by Professor BizeckPhiri of the University of Zambia's Department of History and organized by Dr Miles Larmer (JSAS and University of Sheffield), future workshops are planned for 2013 in Addis Ababa and Nairobi.

The ASAUK plans to fund one teaching fellowship in 2013: see our website for details of how to apply.

### **ASAUK @ 50: 1963 – 2013**

2013 is our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year and a wide range of events will take place across the UK to mark the occasion. In particular, please keep **Wednesday October 23<sup>rd</sup>** and **Thursday October 24<sup>th</sup>** free in your diaries for the Mary Kingsley Zochonis lecture by KabbaBangura, followed by a drinks reception, on Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Brunei Gallery (SOAS), and a performance event and celebratory reception that will take place on Oct 24<sup>th</sup> (details to follow).

We encourage you to tell us about your forthcoming conferences, publications, successful Ph.Ds and other African Studies activities.

Steph Newell, President, ASAUK: [www.asauk.net](http://www.asauk.net)

**'Open Access and Research Publication: Making Sense of UK Government Proposals in African Studies', ASAUK meeting, Senate House Library, London, 18 March 2013.** The ASAUK recently held a meeting exploring how Open Access (OA) mandates, which have become one of the most hotly debated areas of UK Higher Education policy, may affect academics and journals in African studies. The UK Research Councils (RCUK) policy on OA comes into force in April 2013. HEFCE is consulting about OA requirements for the REF 2014-2020.

The first session looked at the bigger institutional picture with contributions from Alan Palmer, a British Academy policy advisor, Graham Furniss, director of research at SOAS, and research librarian, David Clover. The second session considered journal perspectives and how OA debates are being played out in Africa.

Contributors highlighted a lack of proper discussion about OA policies and confusion amongst academics about what constitutes publicly funded research. There are risks that UK OA policies and costs may present yet more barriers to African scholars' participation in international research publication, with the UK being out of sync with international publishing practices, and of a two-tier system emerging with smaller journals being unable to afford to comply. Proposed models may not necessarily reduce library journal budgets whilst increasing the costs of research. There are concerns too about eventual policies for PhD publication and monographs. And the proposed OA creative commons licence would allow the commercial exploitation of publicly funded research.

More positively, genuine Open Access stemming from widespread online publication could present real opportunities for researchers in developing countries and for more public access to publicly funded research in the UK.

From the basis of this meeting the ASAUK is submitting a response to the HEFCE formal consultation on the role of Open Access publishing in post-2014 REF submissions setting out the particular concerns of Africanists in the arts, humanities and social sciences subjects.

For further information contact Stephanie Kitchen, Chair of the Publications Committee, International African Institute, and ASAUK Council member: sk111@soas.ac.uk

**'ASAUK Biennial Conference 2014', University of Sussex, 9–11 September 2014.** While ASAUK is not attempting to give the conference an overarching 'theme', the organisers encourage individuals, journals, centres and networks to offer a single or series of panels on particular topics so that there can be sequential debate through the conference. The call for panels is now open. Panels at the conference will be ninety minutes long and no more than three papers per panel to allow time for questions and debate. The way to submit a panel is via: <https://asauk.conference-services.net/authorlogin.asp?conferenceID=3630& language=en-uk>

The organisers would encourage all those wishing to suggest a panel to do so by the 20 September 2013, after which a call for papers will be circulated, with a final deadline of April 2014. It will only be possible for scholars to submit papers to your panel once it has been submitted onto the online system. To submit a panel you will then need to register on the online system via the link above. Once you have registered you can then log into the online submission system and set up a panel. Panels are referred to as symposia and so to register your panel go to the "set up a new symposium" section of the system. To submit a panel requires a panel abstract of maximum 400 words.

Once you have submitted your panel/symposium it will appear on the online system and papers can then be submitted to your panel via the online system.

Each time a paper is submitted for your panel you will receive an email notifying you and will be able to log into the online system and review the papers for your panel.

You can use your one email and password to propose several panels/symposia. Should you wish to amend your personal, panel or paper details you can this by logging into the system at any time up until the close of submissions. It is also possible to submit papers via the above link. If you submit a panel and wish to solicit papers this can be done straight away.

The conference organisers will circulate a call for papers once the call for panels is closed to enable those submitting papers to see a full list of panels. The organisers do not require you to submit a full paper in advance, please submit an abstract of 250 words. If you have any queries please contact David Kerr: [d.kerr@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.kerr@bham.ac.uk)

## **Conferences Future...**

### **UNITED KINGDOM**

**'The Colonial Heritage in the Middle East and the Maghreb: The Shaping of Hopes and Perspectives', Mansfield College, Oxford, 24-25 June 2013.** Convened by the Maghreb Studies Association, the aim of the conference is to examine how European colonialism and great power rivalry in the Middle East and North Africa have shaped the perspectives of the peoples in these countries and their hopes for their future. Besides the European powers that established their colonial hegemony in these countries, the conference will also deal with the influence of countries, such as the United States of America and Germany, which extended their influence through diplomacy, financial and military aid, and education. The chronological framework of the conference extends from the mid-eighteenth century, when the political leaders of the countries of the Middle East and North Africa became aware of the Europeans' economic and military ascendancy, through the building of European colonial empires in the nineteenth and early twentieth century, to the collapse at first of the Western European colonial empires towards the middle of the twentieth century and then of the Soviet 'empire' late in this century.

There will be strictly no admission without prior registration; no registrations can be made at the conference. It is free to paid-up members of The Maghreb Studies Association; £20 for university staff; £15 for full-time students [send confirmation evidence]; and £50 for others. Register by 15 June 2013 by sending personal details and cheque to The Maghreb Studies Association, 45 Burton Street, London, WC1H 9AL, UK.

**'Crossroads in African Studies', University of Birmingham, 4–6 September 2013.** In 2013 the Centre of West African Studies (CWAS) of the University of Birmingham celebrates its fiftieth anniversary and the opening of a new Department of African Studies and Anthropology (DASA). To mark this occasion, CWAS invites submissions of panels and/or papers to be presented at the conference.

For fifty years, research carried out at CWAS has been distinguished by interdisciplinarity spanning the humanities and social sciences, but united by a common focus on people's lived experience in Africa, close and long-term engagement with African societies and academic institutions, and interest in engaging African perspectives on their own grounds. Whilst CWAS continues to promote the development and dissemination of Africa-focused research, the creation of DASA formalizes the expansion of teaching and research beyond West Africa to include the entire African continent, and the growing place of Anthropology in departmental expertise and teaching.

The organisers look forward to hosting a variety of contributions ranging from the discussion of new empirical research, to the critical analysis of past and present theories and methods in the field of African Studies and the identification of future agendas. The organisers seek panels and papers focusing on seven main themes. First, economy and society: contributions focusing on all aspects of African economic life across different spatial and temporal scales; local to global analyses of the economy; political economy and environmental issues; social and economic development; comparative approaches. Second, interpreting sources for the study of Africa's past and present: critical analyses of sources in different languages and available in different media (written and oral sources, epigraphies, inscriptions); studies focusing on the production, transmission, and translation of knowledge, authorship, positioning, censorship, and hermeneutical questions. Third, Africa's treasures: studies of African art, performance, media and communication; critical analyses of the representation of African history and societies in museums. The submission of creative contributions (such as readings of African literature and poetry, visual installations, and film screenings) will be considered.

Fourth, power, information, participation and exclusion: studies of political structures, discourses, and agency; the formation and transformation of political movements; forms of political participation; incorporation and rejection; and the production of instrumental knowledge. Fifth, religious encounters: religious practices and beliefs; transformations of religious phenomena, institutions, and identities; analyses of relations within and between religious movements; ritual. Sixth, social inequalities: hierarchy, dependence, subordination, resistance, and power struggles. This includes historical, anthropological, and legal analyses of labour regimes and labour relations; race, gender, class, ethnicity, status; free and unfree labour, slavery, slave descent, and the slave trade. The seventh and final

theme is a roundtable, '50 Years of African Studies: Ground Covered and Ways Forward', with individual presentations focusing on the retrospective assessment of African Studies in different regions, countries, and/or fields of enquiry, and debate on present approaches and future developments. Only paper submissions will be considered for this theme (no panel submissions).

In the afternoon of Thursday 5 September, CWAS will launch the first of a new annual lecture series, the Fage Lectures, named after Professor John Fage, founder of CWAS and one of the major contributors to the institutionalisation of African Studies in the UK and internationally. This opening event will feature two joint lectures on African economic history from a global perspective and in the longue durée delivered by Professor Gareth Austin (Graduate Institute, Geneva) and Professor A. G. Hopkins (University of Texas). Following the Lecture, CWAS will invite all participants to a reception. 200-word abstracts by 25 April 2013 [extended deadline for ASAUK members] to Bernadette Rossi: [cwas2013@gmail.com](mailto:cwas2013@gmail.com) Online registration via the conference website: [www.birmingham.ac.uk/crossroads](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/crossroads)

**'1994-2014: 20 Years of South African Democracy', St Antony's College and the African Studies Centre, University of Oxford, 25–26 April 2014.** The purpose of the Conference is to analyse the transition in the 1990s, the subsequent consolidation of democracy and the nature of political authority in South Africa. The organisers envisage six linked streams: the transition; the constitutional settlement and its legacy; new institutions and their recent history; democratic consolidation, the ANC and dominant-party rule; political opposition and popular protest; beneficiaries and those marginalised in post-apartheid South Africa.

The twentieth anniversary of the April 1994 election is an opportune time to re-examine the negotiations as well as the details of the constitution, and its legacy. The context and nature of the settlement – and what it meant to various constituencies, both then and now – will be a key theme for discussion over the two days. Many aspects of the transition, particularly participation by smaller political groupings, are less well explored than the contestations and emerging consensus between the ANC and National Party. Alternative scenarios have been submerged in a narrative of success. Yet the constitution has endured and the negotiations, as well as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, have attracted interest from a wide range of other countries.

Panels will also focus on other important aspects of the South African state and its institutions. The Constitutional Court has probably played a larger role than anticipated, while parliament has been more subdued. The state of the country's bureaucracy is a critical issue for research and debate. The ANC has come under considerable scrutiny both in recent conferences marking its centenary, and also in the run up to Mangaung. Yet the workings of the movement, its political

culture and its internal divisions are still inadequately understood. President Zuma's re-election and the responses to Marikana both throw new light on the ANC. The organisers hope that papers will be offered on parties, ideologies, elections, patronage and the question of who rules South Africa and how. Equally, the emergence of popular opposition in post-apartheid South Africa has been an unanticipated but significant feature of politics, and popular protest may be changing its form in recent years. The relationship between politics and social divisions, of race, class, gender and region, will also be central for the conference.

The organisers welcome abstracts on these themes and are open to suggestions for panels and papers on related issues. The conference will largely consist of academic papers in panels but at least one plenary session is planned to include politicians and practitioners. 250 word abstracts by 1 July 2013 to Jason Robinson: Jason.Robinson@sant.ox.ac.uk

#### INTERNATIONAL

**'Culture and Sustainable Development', Centre for Cultural Studies, University of Uyo, Uyo, Nigeria, 16–17 October 2013.** The possible role of culture as a pillar for sustainable development has been attracting a lot of interest worldwide. It is over a quarter of a century since the releases of the Brundtland Report on sustainable development. Many countries, especially developing countries, such as Nigeria, are still grappling with the idea of sustainability. Worldwide, there is a growing demand for standards and policies to promote sustainable development. Cultural and cultural diversity have been identified as significant in sustainable development. Culture engenders economic growth, provides individuals and communities with increased life choices; it encourages adaptation to socio-economic, political and ecological change. Though in Nigeria cultural diversity is sometimes seen as a limitation to development, elsewhere, rich cultural diversity has provided people with varied inspirations which nurture human capacities. Since culture is dynamic, undergoing changes in time and space and can be created and recreated, its capacity for sustainable development is almost limitless.

The conference seeks to discover how culture could be applied for sustainable development in Nigeria and worldwide. Sub-themes include: the concept of sustainable development; concept of culture; culture and development; culture and cultural diversity and sustainable development; culture, environment and sustainable development; cultural diplomacy and sustainable development; culture, tourism and sustainable development; culture, health and sustainable development; culture, heritage industry and sustainable development; culture and migration and sustainable development; food culture and sustainable development; culture, policy and sustainable development; culture, gender and sustainable development; culture, religion and sustainable development; culture,

history and sustainable development; culture, governance and sustainable development; culture, security and sustainable development; culture, peace and conflict resolution and sustainable development; culture, innovative strategies for future progress and sustainable development; and culture, technology and sustainable development. 200-word abstracts by 30 April 2013 to Professor Eno Blankson Ikpe: [centreconference2013@yahoo.com](mailto:centreconference2013@yahoo.com)

**'Revisiting the First International Conference on Africanists in a Globalised World', Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Legon campus, Accra, Ghana, 24–26 October 2013.** African Studies has certainly come a long way since the establishment of the Institute of African Studies at the University of Ghana in 1961. At its formal opening by Ghana's first president, Dr Kwame Nkrumah, in October 1963, the President defined the mandate for Africanists: "One essential function of this Institute must surely be to study the history, culture and institutions, languages and arts of Ghana and of Africa in new African centred ways... By the work of this Institute, we must re-assess and assert the glories and achievements of our African past and inspire our generation, and succeeding generations, with a vision of a better future."

1962 saw the University of Ghana host the first International Congress of Pan Africanists, chaired by Professor Kenneth Dike, the first African Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ibadan, and who remarked: "The African continent stands for particular ways of life, particular solutions to the problems of human survival and particular responses to the human dilemma... African Studies will be the means to the achievement for the African of a greater self-respect, the means to the creation of a surer African personality in the face of the modern world." The 2013 conference seeks to assess and also celebrate the journey travelled so far, including the academic achievements of some of our foremothers and forefathers, and in the process chart a course for the future.

The IAS is thus hosting an international conference that will bring together scholars, practitioners and activists to revisit the 1962 congress, reflect on the largely unfinished business that lies before us, and strategise on the way forward and in so doing bring our diverse strengths and experiences together for a new Africa.

The 'African Studies and the Disciplines' thematic group invites papers that reflect on the enormous contributions the disciplines within African studies have made to traditional disciplines and vice-versa: the concepts, theories, and frameworks within disciplines; the formation and contestation of canons; development of new and alternative methodologies; cross-relationships and interactions across disciplines; how the interdisciplinary development has provided source materials that have enriched our comprehension of non-African societies; the projection, preservation and politics of identity: Africanness, the African personality, Negritude, Blackness, People of Colour; perceptions of



relevance, institutional cultures and other areas of struggle; mapping the cultures of Africa and erasing/diminishing the false barriers created by the colonial project, and revealing important connections across contemporary borders; and knowledge benefits of the architecture, mathematics, engineering, natural, biological, and applied, particularly health sciences

'Challenges of Teaching and Researching African Studies' includes strengthening research and teaching capacity to advance African Studies; challenges presented by the research environment; institutional contexts within which the teaching and researching of African Studies is done; (in)appropriate methodology for researching and teaching African Studies; funding of African Studies research; perception of African Studies in African Universities and in institutions of learning outside Africa; African Studies and the policy environment; and new epistemologies in African Studies.

Papers for the topic of African Studies and National Development may include: African Studies and National Culture, Cultural Nationalism and National Development; and South-South Development Co-operation. 'Africa and the Diasporas' includes African Migration; the African Diaspora in the Americas, Africa, Asia or Europe; the Afro-Latin Experience; religion in the African Diaspora; the economic geography of the African Diaspora; mass media and the African Diasporas; race, gender and class and the African Diasporas; and recent African Immigrants in the Diasporas. 'Leadership and Governance' includes traditional rulers in ancient Africa, the colonial period and post-independence; the role of traditional and modern leaders in African political systems; modern political leadership in Africa; the role of accountability, transparency and ethics in governance; the role of ethnicity in African politics, leadership and governance; gender in African leadership and governance; leadership in NGOs, Educational leadership; African leadership concepts; African religious leadership and governance; African presidential leadership; and African Entrepreneurial and/or Corporate leadership

'Science, Technology and African Studies' comprises major constraints within the development of science and technology in Africa; the relationship between assumptions and received wisdom operating in international and national policy frameworks and institutional settings; innovative approaches to science that have developed within Africa; the major constraints in teaching science in Africa and building a scientific community and scientific institutions; the interactions between science and other cultural values in institutional settings; the potential for modern/contemporary science to build upon indigenous knowledge systems; and the impact of modern science and technology on African traditional values, cultures and technologies. 200 word abstracts by 27 April 2013 to Dr AbenaKarikari: [iasconference@ug.edu.gh](mailto:iasconference@ug.edu.gh)

**'Tides of Change: Looking Back and Forging Ahead in the Middle East and Africa', 6th Annual Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA) Conference, Washington, DC, USA, 21–23 November 2013.** Members from any discipline, tenured or non-tenured faculty or those otherwise affiliated with a recognized research institution may submit proposals to participate in the conference. Unique proposals from senior graduate students will also be considered. In addition, ASMEA is offering the opportunity to apply for a travel grant to help cover costs of participating in the conference. Download an application for the travel grant and submit one page abstracts and CV by 30 May 2013 via the website: [www.asmeascholars.org](http://www.asmeascholars.org)

**“Culture Builds Africa, from Kola Nuts to Coca Cola”, African Perspectives 2013: The Lagos Dialogues’, Golden Tulip Hotel, Lagos, Nigeria, 5–8 December 2013.** Hosted by ArchiAfrika, with support from organisations and institutions throughout Africa and across the world, its main aim is to provide a forum for discussion, debate and academic discourse on emerging themes related to the African City and the built environment on the continent. The event is unique in gathering together both scholars and creative artists from Africa and beyond to share and debate their ideas on the key themes which are shaping Africa’s buildings and urban environment, through a number of cultural and social lenses, including literature, art, and the traditional built environment disciplines. There are five thematic areas that will be covered.

First, ‘The African Diaspora: Culture and the Inter-disciplinary Arts’. From the Harlem Renaissance to the Black Arts Movement, and across the Atlantic to the *Osogbo* Movement, the *Mbari* Group and FESTAC’77, black culture has a history of interdisciplinary Arts Movements. Today’s contribution to this tradition is magnified and expanded by the ease of intercontinental connections, which has seen a more fluid movement of art, and artists across the Atlantic and other geographic and continental divides. This thematic forum explores what this movement has meant in the new reconstruction and reconstitution of urban culture across Africa and in its Diaspora. It is also charged to debate and explore the sources of today’s artistic movements as filtered through the productions of previous decades.

Second, ‘Housing Cultures’. Shedding the out-dated definitions of culture and imagining new rubrics beyond the established Western paradigms of the Museum, Theatre or Opera House in which ‘culture’ has traditionally been housed and viewed. What are the new definitions of the culture house? This theme will deal with the exploration of specific 21st Century African typologies of performance, exhibition and entertainment culture, which demand a re-think of the dated paradigms.

Third, ‘African Cities and Mass Housing’. Since the emergence of Timbuktu, Benin, and Zimbabwe and other urban centres in Africa, the notion of population

hubs in Africa where trade, education or pilgrimage have taken place has been embedded history. More recently Africa is on course to have at least three cities with populations in excess of 10 million before the end of the current decade. Compounded with this are the socio-political forces which have rendered urban areas as either survivors of war, religious 'cleansing', 'famine' or conversely intense economic activity.

This theme invites its participants to explore the African from various perspectives; the cultural - what is and what drives contemporary city culture in Africa, the economic - how can our cities compete economically with the rest of the global world through different flows, economic, technological and so on? Also, importantly how do we construct and build our cities to both show their uniqueness and signify their participation in global city discourses?

The Mass Housing sub-theme explores 21st century African housing, where statistics suggest the majority of our city residents live in 'slum' conditions. What constitutes adequate mass housing and what specificities define its delivery in African cities? Where does the discourse end and the practice begin? What are the real economic costs of delivering mass accessible housing to the masses, what financing, materials and technologies do we have to have to do this?

Fourth, 'The physical and virtual worlds of Africa: Literary space, Filmic space, Mass Media and Public Space'. Africa has rarely been away from the media – from the damning 1904 Casement Report on the then Belgian Congo, to the early filming of the African 'jungle' in 'Tarzan', to its portrayal as the hungry continent of war and famine. Recently this has continued at pace, from 1970s Safari tourism to our 21st century pre-occupation with slum and aid tourism. Arguably our built environment plays a crucial role in this process as the Hollywood blockbuster, 'District 9' adeptly used downtown Johannesburg to portray mean streets. In literature, Achebe, Ekwensi, Abrahams and others have all written with more care and narration about the city - as a backdrop to their seminal novels. How can our newly found and appreciated urban cultures and backdrops work more successfully in redefining or critically re-interpreting the African city? How is African space defined in different terms; spatial, literary, filmic? Are there any historical shifts? How is public – private - communal space defined or transformed?

The 'Africa in Print' sub-theme acknowledges that print remains the most enduring and ubiquitous format, of media engagement and portrayal of Africa only recently being challenged in position by the internet. Historic African print media on Africa; the *Red Book of West Africa*, and the *Drum*, to today's mass media publications: *Glendora*, and *Weekly Mail & Guardian*, to special interest publications including *Building Lagos*, the *Documenta Platform 9* publication, and *Sandbank City* Africans and their admirers have been publishing on and in Africa for decades. How does this manifest itself in our understanding of our urban

identity and our interpretation of urban life today? What will the future of print media in Africa specifically be as we all retreat to our digital devices - what will this mean to the city and how will it adapt?

Fifth, 'The Green Imperative & New Technologies for Urban Africa'. Since the 1992 Rio Protocol, all regions, including Africa, have had to come to terms with the high cost of energy and the need to source and develop reliable and inexpensive methods of generating energy. For urban life, this also has meant exploring alternative cooking fuels and building materials that are locally sourced, less polluting, and meet with the expected contemporary efficiency standards, to meet with international sustainability standards. Also with the introduction of new communication technologies, such as "BIM" in the contract process, as well as internet telephony etc, African cities and their built environment can be connected with the world. This thematic panel explores what 'going green' and new associated technologies will mean for the built environment in 21st century African cities. Are new renewable energy technologies cost effective for power generation for urban Africa? Are the sustainable 'low-tech' materials fit for purpose in contemporary buildings, what non fixed-line, communications technologies are most effective for file-sharing as well as communications? In the particular case of Nigeria, Angola and other petro-economies, what happens when the fuel runs dry?

The organisers particularly invite graduate student proposals on themes of interest, which will help us develop a student workshop, which will run in parallel to the event. 300-word abstracts or proposals for projects and cultural interventions associated with these themes by 30 June 2013 to Dr Ola Uduku: o.uduku@ed.ac.uk or Ms Dahlia Roberts: dahlia@aaaccra.org

### **...Conferences Past**

**'Arms, Conflict and Peacebuilding in Africa: An Exploration of the Challenges of Establishing Peace in Areas of Conflict' conference, University of Chester, 6 March 2013.** The Department of Geography and Development Studies at Chester was pleased to host the first of this year's events celebrating the 50th anniversary of the ASAUK, which kindly funded this conference. The aims were to discuss the challenges of building peace in areas of Africa affected by conflict and to explore synergies between the perspectives of the academic and NGO communities. Around 40 people attended this public event, including academics and students from the University of Chester and other institutions in the Northwest and West Midlands, and members of the Chester World Development Forum.

An opening address by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Chester, Canon Professor Timothy Wheeler, stressed the importance of scholarship on Africa.

The first presentation, from Professor Paul Jackson (University of Birmingham), entitled 'Governance and post-conflict reconstruction', gave a broad overview of the complexities of post-conflict environments and the merits (or not) of external intervention in various domains including peacekeeping, institution-building and holding democratic elections. Professor Bruce Baker (Coventry University) followed, asking 'Has non-state policing anything to offer post-conflict states?'. He argued passionately that it has, in a context where security is considered the most important issue by the world's poor but where this is most often provided by local actors with little or no connection with the state. The final presentation, by Nick Roseveare MBE (Mines Advisory Group), looked at 'Reducing vulnerability and managing risks: the role of NGOs in post-conflict reconstruction'. From his long experience of practical development work, he eschewed exoticising Africa as a special case but rather situated people living in conflicted African countries amid a global 'spectrum of vulnerability'.

The panel discussion turned on various key issues raised from the floor. One area of contention was, predictably, the legacy of colonialism, which African attendees were keen to stress – not only in the political set-up of African countries but also in their security forces. All three speakers countered, however, that while colonialism continues to leave its traces, some 50 years after most African countries have gained independence such claims look increasingly tenuous and unhelpful in understanding contemporary dynamics, even if these show features similar to those in colonial times. Another issue generating strongly differing views was the role of 'local actors' in providing security, particularly how appropriate and accountable they are. Baker himself noted that the category encompasses a range of groups, not all of whom would necessarily be desirable local security enforcers or partners in wider peace-building – a point picked up by Roseveare from the perspective of the development community. The potentially toxic role of multiparty elections in post-conflict settings, raised by Jackson, also provoked some debate. In conclusion, the discussion underlined the 'messy' nature of such settings, and the difficulties for those trying to base immediate intervention on incomplete and confusing information about fluid situations.

Dr Martin Evans, University of Chester: [m.evans@chester.ac.uk](mailto:m.evans@chester.ac.uk)

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

Gideon Kofi Agbley (2011), 'Social Mobility and Education in Ghana: Interactions between Capabilities and Educational Outcomes', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Shailaja Fennell.

K. E. Boakye (2011), 'Juvenile Delinquency in Ghana: A Cross-cultural Comparative Study of Offenders and Non-offenders', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor David Farrington.

T. A. Cravo (2012), 'What's in a Label? The Aid Community's Representations of Success and Failure in Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Devon Curtis.

Victoria Louise Molly Cronin (2012), 'Slum Upgrading in India and Kenya: Investigating the Sustainability', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor Peter Guthrie; [www.dspace.cam.ac.uk/handle/1810/242378](http://www.dspace.cam.ac.uk/handle/1810/242378)

Helen Elizabeth Dancer (2012), "'Shambanilangu" (The Shamba is Mine): A Socio-Legal Study of Women's Claims to Land in Arusha, Tanzania', Ph.D thesis, University of Sussex. Supervisors: Professor Marie-Benedicte Dembour and Professor Ann Whitehead.

Ela M. Drajekiewicz-Grodzicka (2012), 'An Emergent Donor? The Case of Polish Developmental Involvement in Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Sian Lazar.

Jonathon L. Earle (2012), 'Political Theologies in Late Colonial Buganda', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisors: Professor John Lonsdale and Dr Derek Peterson.

Angela Githitho-Muriithi (2012), 'The Reconstruction of Childhood: A Community Study of Child Labour and Schooling in Kenya', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor Madeleine Arnot.

Jamie G. Hampson (2011), 'Rock Art Regionalism and Identity: Case Studies from Trans-Pecos Texas and Mpumalanga Province, South Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Christopher Chippendale.

Robyn H. Inglis (2012), 'Human Occupation and Changing Environments during the Middle to Later Stone Ages: Soil Micromorphology at the Haua Fteah, Libya', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor Graeme Barker.

Vito Laterza (2012), 'Breathing Life: Labour Relations, Epistemology, and the Body among Swazi Timber Workers', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Harri Englund.

Mitsuko Matsumoto (2012), 'Education and the Risk of Violent Conflict in Low-income and Weak States, With Special Reference to Schooling: The Case of Sierra Leone', by D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr David Johnson.

Mark McGranaghan (2012), 'Foragers on the Frontiers: The !Xam Bushmen of the Northern Cape, South Africa, in the Nineteenth Century', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Professor Peter Mitchell.

Nazia S. Mintz-Habib (2011), 'Biofuels and Food Security: Case Studies from Malaysia and Tanzania', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge.

Isayvani Naicker (2012), 'The Role of Science in Issue Advocacy: Invasive Alien Plant Species in the Fynbos Vegetation of South Africa', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor Bill Adams.

T.-T. Odumosu (2012), 'Roaming Beggars, Errant Servants and Sable Mistresses: Some African Characters from English Satirical Prints (1769-1819)', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor Jean Michel Massing.

Nat Rubner (2012), 'The Origins of the 1981 African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisors: Professor Melissa Lane and Professor John Dunn.

ShadiaTaha (2012), 'Attachment to Abandoned Heritage: The Case of Suakin, Sudan', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Dr Marie Louise Stig Sorensen.

Jennifer D. Talbot (2012), 'Conservation Placemaking: Visions for the Tsitongambarika Forest, Madagascar', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor Bill Adams.

Oscar Van Heerden (2011), 'South Africa's Standing in the International Order, 1995 to 2007', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge.

Harry Verhoeven (2012), 'Water, Civilisation and Power: Sudan's Hydropolitical Economy and the Al-Ingaz Revolution', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisor: Dr Ricardo Soares de Oliveira.

Alice Rose Wilson (2011), 'Making Statehood and Unmaking Tribes in Western Sahara's Liberation Movement', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge. Supervisor: Professor Marilyn Strathern.

Radoslave Yordanov (2012), 'Soviet Involvement in Ethiopia and Somalia, 1947-1991', D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. Supervisors: Professor David Anderson and Dr Alex Pravda.

Sebastian John Walsh (2012), 'Britain, Morocco and the Development of the Anglo-French Entente', Ph.D thesis, University of Cambridge.

## **Recent Publications**

Nathan Andrews, Nene Ernest Khalema, Temitope Oriola and Isaac Odoom (eds) (2013), *Africa Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: Exploring the Multi-dimensional Discourses on Development*. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 330pp, 978-1443841849, £49.99.

Michael Brett (2013), *Approaching African History*. James Currey, 368pp, 978-1847010636, £50.

John P. Cann (2013), *Brown Waters of Africa: Portuguese Riverine Operations, 1961-1974*, Helion and Company, revised edition, 264pp, £25, <http://www.helion.co.uk/>

Alfio Cerami (2013), *Permanent Emergency Welfare Regimes in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Exclusive Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*. Palgrave Macmillan, 296pp, 978-0230299795, £55.

Robert Dick-Read (2013), *Indonesia and Africa in Pre-Islamic Times: Introducing Evidence of Ancient Buddhist Influence on the Arts, Crafts and Religion of the Yoruba of Nigeria*. Available in UK for £10 from Thurlton Publishing, 5 St James Villas, Winchester, SO23 9SN.

James Fergusson (2013), *The World's Most Dangerous Place [Somalia]*. Bantam, 432pp, 978-0593068359, £20.

David Gordon (2012), *Invisible Agents: Spirits in a Central African History*. Ohio University Press, 384pp, 978-0821420249, £27.95; Kindle, £17.50.

Michael Gould (2013), *The Struggle for Modern Nigeria: The Biafran War 1967-1970*. I.B. Tauris, 288pp, 978-1780764634, £14.99.

Joseph Hanlon, Jeanette Manjengwa and Teresa Smart (2013), *Zimbabwe Takes Back Its Land*. Kumarian, 245pp, 978-1565495203, £23.99.

Morten Jerven (2013), *Poor Numbers: How We Are Misled by African Development Statistics and What to Do About It*. Cornell University Press, 252pp, 978-0801478604, £14.50.

Eldred Durosimi Jones and Marjorie Jones (2012), *The Freetown Bond: A Life under Two Flags*. James Currey, 188pp, 978-1847010551, £30.

Tim Kelsall (2013), *Business, Politics, and the State in Africa*. Zed Books, 200pp, 978-1780324210, £18.99.

Benjamin Lawrence and Richard L. Roberts (eds) (2012), *Trafficking in Slavery's Wake: Law and the Experience of Women and Children in Africa*. Ohio University Press, 264pp, 978-0821420027, £27.95; Kindle, £17.50.

Mahmood Mamdani (2011), *From Citizen to Refugee: Uganda Asians Come to Britain*. Pambazuka, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 978-1-906387-57-0, £15.95; pdf, 978-0-85749-083-4, £12.95.

Jack Mangala (ed) (2012), *Africa and the European Union: a Strategic Partnership*. Palgrave, 272pp, 978-1137269461, £55.



John McCracken (2012), *A History of Malawi, 1859-1966*. James Currey, 503pp, 978-1-84701-064-3, £60.

Laura Murphy (2012), *Metaphor and the Slave Trade in West African Literature*. Ohio University Press, 264pp, 978-0821419953, £29.95; Kindle, £17.50.

Terence Ranger (2013), *Writing Revolt: An Engagement with African Nationalism, 1957-67*. James Currey, 224pp, 978-1-84701-71-17, £19.99.

Hilary Sapire and Chris Saunders (eds) (2012), *Southern African Liberation Struggles: New Local, Regional and Global Perspectives*. University of Cape Town Press, 320pp, 978-1919895932.

GetnetTadele and Helmut Kloos (eds) (2013), *Vulnerabilities, Impacts, and Responses to HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa*. Palgrave Macmillan, 272pp, 978-1137009944, £57.50.

Charles Villa-Vincencio and Mills Soko (2013), *Conversations in Transition: Leading South African Voices*. David Phillip, 204pp, 978-0-86486-742-1, £12.95. Available from [mo@centralbooks.com](mailto:mo@centralbooks.com)

**Reassembling Rwanda: State Building, Conflict Transformation, and Unintended Consequences.** Rwanda has long been one of Africa's 'aid darlings', both a favourite for Western donors because of historical guilt and because the Rwandan government has displayed a significant commitment to utilizing aid towards development initiatives, as highlighted by the strides made towards their attainment of a number of Millennium Development Goals. Central to the external presentation of the Rwandan government's development efforts to reassemble Rwanda is the idea that state building in Rwanda can be effectuated 'top down'—with Singapore serving as an obvious model. Recent events are increasingly bringing to the fore underlying tensions that are not borne out by formal government efforts, challenging not only stability in Rwanda but also broader prevailing assumptions regarding the development model adhered to.

This volume edited by Pritish Behuria (SOAS) and Peer Schouten (Gothenburg) aims to shed light on the developmental challenges that face contemporary Rwanda by bringing together a wide range of in-depth qualitative case studies that each articulate the tension between top-down state building, development policies, or conflict transformation on the one hand, and a broader range of unintended consequences of these same policies on the other. While studies exist that address these concerns, this volume aims to place such tensions in a broader historical and multidisciplinary perspective. It goes beyond dominant understandings and critiques of contemporary Rwanda by linking post-genocide challenges to longer standing historical patterns in terms of the opposition between state building (conceived of as formal and explicit governmental efforts) and state formation (understood as broader, possibly informal, patterns of

prevailing governance). This approach is especially important given the emerging consensus that historically, failed top-down reform efforts have often resulted in violent resistance and regional instability.

Individual submissions can address the relationship between security and liberty in contemporary Rwandan government policy; State-society relations; historical sociology of Rwandan state formation, for instance the relation between war-making or the organization of security and state formation; the case of Rwanda in light of classical and modern development theories; Rwanda's political economy in light of political and international relations theory, for instance the evolution of government-private sector relations or shifting elite bargaining processes; population growth, poverty, economic governance and agricultural reform; discussions of national autonomy versus regional embeddedness of understanding developments in Rwanda, for instance in relation to neighbouring countries of the Great Lakes Region; civil-military relations; and Rwanda's relationship with, and reliance on international relations to donors or the East African Community. 500-word abstracts by 15 July 2013 to Pritish Behuria: 248034@soas.ac.uk

## News

### **The Martin Lynn Scholarship, 2013**

Thanks to the generosity of the family of the late Martin Lynn, the Royal Historical Society has pleasure in announcing the establishment of an annual award in his memory. Martin Lynn was Professor of African History in the Queen's University, Belfast, the first scholar to hold a chair in African history in Ireland. His scholarly career was devoted to the history of West Africa and he published most extensively and importantly on the 19th and 20th century history of Nigeria. His scholarly achievements were matched by the reputation he enjoyed as an exciting and concerned teacher and a delightful, generous colleague and friend. This award reflects the interests of the man it commemorates. Annually the Society will make an award of up to £1,000 to assist an historian pursuing postgraduate research on a topic in African history. Temilola Alanamu of the University of Exeter, who is studying a micro history of gender in 19th century Yorubaland, was awarded the 2012 Scholarship. The next closing date for applications is 17 June 2013. Download an Application Form from <http://www.royalhistoricalsociety.org/postgraduates.php>

### **Africa Desk**

More categories have recently been added to the Africa Desk: events, funding and other calls (with some inevitable overlap):

- [www.africadesk.ac.uk/news/category/events/](http://www.africadesk.ac.uk/news/category/events/)
- [www.africadesk.ac.uk/news/category/funding/](http://www.africadesk.ac.uk/news/category/funding/)
- [www.africadesk.ac.uk/news/category/calls/](http://www.africadesk.ac.uk/news/category/calls/)

### **Postgraduate Research Studentships at The Open University**

The Faculty of Social Sciences at the Open University invites applications for two full-time Ph.D studentships for three years and two part-time Ph.D fee waivers for six years commencing October 2013. These studentships are available for UK/EU and international applicants. The Faculty has a thriving research culture and is engaged in world-class, critical and agenda setting research in fields such as human geography, culture, citizenship, identities, governance, criminology and international development and innovation. Research is supported by two University Centres of Research Excellence, an emerging University Centre of Research Excellence, an ESRC Research Centre and a Faculty Research Centre, as well as by six academic departments.

The Faculty would be particularly interested in supervising projects focused on South African history, politics and society and also gendered and feminist analyses of politics and international relations. The deadline for applications is 30 April 2013. Further details on how to apply can be found at: [www.open.ac.uk/socialsciences/research/students/studentships.php](http://www.open.ac.uk/socialsciences/research/students/studentships.php) and about the Ph.D programme and Faculty more generally at: [www.open.ac.uk/socialsciences/research/students/index.php](http://www.open.ac.uk/socialsciences/research/students/index.php)

### **Mo Ibrahim Foundation ‘Governance for Development in Africa Initiative’, “Ph.D scholarship”**

In order to apply for the Ph.D programme and the scholarship you would need to download the SOAS Ph.D application form Please state on the form that you wish to be considered for one of these scholarships and that admission tutors are kindly asked to liaise with the Centre of African Studies on this. Details to be found on [www.soas.ac.uk/cas/gdai](http://www.soas.ac.uk/cas/gdai)

In addition to the application form, you would need to send a proposal of the intended research in up to 1,000 words. This should outline the research objectives, appropriate methods and research relevance. It should also make clear the relation between the proposed research and the core themes of governance and development in sub-Saharan Africa. Deadline to apply by 30 April 2013.

The doctoral student funded by the initiative for September 2012’s entry was Nimrod Zalk of South Africa, supervised by Professor Mushtaq Khan of the Economics Department, SOAS, and whose topic is ‘The prevalence, form and impact of various forms of economic rents in the post-apartheid political economy of South Africa’s iron ore and steel value chain, on South Africa’s efforts to industrialise’.

### **‘African Farming Systems: An Interdisciplinary Pan-African Perspective’.**

An International Partnerships and Mobility Award for 2013-15 from the British Academy has been awarded to Professor Henrietta L. Moore of the University of Cambridge and Professor Caleb Adebayo Folorunso of the University of Ibadan,

together with Dr Matthew Davies, University of Cambridge and British Institute in Eastern Africa, Professors Charles French and Martin Jones of the University of Cambridge, Dr Alex Schoeman of the University of Witwatersrand, Dr Kennedy Mutundu of Kenyatta University, and Dr Ambreena Manji of the British Institute in Eastern Africa.

African farming systems are often portrayed as fragile and short-lived, with low and unreliable output and this situation is often assumed to play into Africa's continuing underdevelopment. However, long-term research combining approaches from archaeology, history, anthropology and environmental science, strongly challenge this stereotype. A number of long-lived 'Islands of Intensive Agriculture' offer a counterpoint and the potential to develop applied approaches to environment management that build on local knowledge. Ongoing Cambridge-led work in one of these areas (Marakwet, Northwest Kenya) builds on extensive previous research and is pioneering an interdisciplinary diachronic approach to the development of this system through time while linking this knowledge to modern development and policy issues such as land and water rights and forest conservation.

With the award from the British Academy, the team will build on the Marakwet work to share and expand knowledge of African farming systems across the continent. The project brings together a range of archaeologists, anthropologists and environmental scientists working on comparable projects in Kenya, South Africa and Nigeria. Exchange of knowledge and ideas will be facilitated through three structured field workshops in each of the partner countries (Kenya, South Africa and Nigeria). Participants will be introduced to the field research in each country and will explore comparative ideas and research methods. Reciprocal field trips will give the participants not only the opportunity to observe new ways of doing and thinking, but also the chance to practically experiment with those ideas in their own research area. Focus will be placed on integrating a wide range of research techniques including historical, oral historical, ethnographic, landscape, excavation, geoarchaeological and archaeobotanical. A final workshop in Cambridge in 2015 will introduce the African participants to a variety of scientific archaeological methods and explore the potential for further analysis and collaboration.

**Launching: Professor Eldred D. Jones' memoirs, *The Freetown Bond*, celebrating a distinguished Africanist as well as literary and academic doyen** Classical music greeted guests before Mrs Marjorie Jones welcomed them to the launching of Professor Emeritus Eldred Durosimi Jones' memoirs, *The Freetown Bond: A Life under Two Flags*, at the Mary Kingsley Theatre at Fourah Bay College recently.

The Chairman, Professor Kosonike Koso-Thomas, stressed the venue's significance for there he directed and produced many memorable plays

launching his theatrical career; from there and its hills – he drew his literary inspiration; through them, he achieved academic distinction; he lent his designing skills to creating a unique architectural structure and on them ... the imprint of his genius will remain. He went through great institutions of learning and great authorities whose footsteps he followed to become highly acknowledged in Elizabethan and Jacobean drama. He opened up and made respectable a new field, African literature. He became interested in the English language at an early age; got attracted to researching Elizabethan and Jacobean literature; enabled the disabled; and faced the challenges of going blind. He harnessed the expanse and depth of his knowledge across literatures especially African Literature as well as cultures and lives to compare African societies and cultures.

Dr Julius Spencer recommended the work as reclaiming the young from the diet of violence and mediocrity they have grown up on.

Passages from the book were read aloud, alongside projections of picture slides.

Professor Victor Strasser King, in launching this “treasure that should be in every public library” called it, “the celebration of a life ... worthy of emulation by all Sierra Leonean writers.”

The writer thanked his wife for her undying support: dropping her legal studies to type his dissertation when studying in Britain; within a tightened schedule typing his critical volume on Wole Soyinka, after classes in designing; eventually dropping designing to help him through his several projects. Despite his visual disability, he kept: editing *African Literature Today*, Chairing the Noma Award for publishing in Africa amongst others. She has in the process won awards, one being the Distinguished Africanist award of the ASAUK in 2001.

Giving in to the persistent urgings from his friends, he set to work with her aiding him to recollect the past searching through files and retyping as he kept altering sentences and phrases.

The book “Looks at my family, church, schools, colleges, places of work, the countries I have visited and my country so that I emerge as the product of these larger entities... I have tried to produce something that people will enjoy reading rather than any sequential historical account.”

He then urged: “We need publishers in Sierra Leone who would take an author’s work, evaluate it, accept it for publication and see it through” the various stages of publishing “and giving the author the due reward of his labours through a royalty that is a proportion of the selling price.”

The co-authors then autographed books sold.

Arthur Edgar E. Smith: [arthuresmith@yahoo.com](mailto:arthuresmith@yahoo.com)

## Obituaries

**Isaac Fadoyebo** (5 December 1925–9 November 2012), who has died aged 86...

**Margaret Louise Pirouet** (4 October 1928 – 21 December 2012) was an African by birth, as well as by love, born in Cape Town on October 4 1928 to missionary parents. The family, returned to England in 1934 in order that her father could take up appointment as General Secretary, of a small Anglo-US interdenominational missionary society, the South Africa General Missionary Society, known today as the African Evangelical Fellowship. Louise was educated first in Aylesbury and then at the Clarendon School. She read English at Westfield College, University of London and subsequently taught at Sir William Perkin Girls School in Chertsey, before returning to the continent of her birth, with the Church Missionary Society to teach at a girls' school in Kenya.

The CMS did not know quite what to do with this feisty young woman and she soon found her way to the Department of Religious Studies at Makerere. Here she completed her Ph.D, later published as *Black Evangelists: The Spread of Christianity in Uganda* (Rex Collings, 1978). This was ground-breaking research. Louise set off across Uganda in her VW beetle, interviewing the converts and catechists who planted Anglican Christianity across the country. If Louise had not carried out her research then, details of that story could well have been lost and our understanding of Ugandan Christianity impoverished. *Black Evangelists* remains an essential starting point for those studying the story of Christianity in Uganda and elsewhere in Africa. It is full of detail about Africans, not white missionaries, whose energy and commitment spread the faith in Uganda. Louise was well ahead of her time – during a period when many historians were pursuing mission history in an uncritical way, she insisted that Christianity in Africa should be an African story. She was ahead of her time too in teaching, equipping and enabling her students and colleagues – collecting archives, compiling a slide collection and biographical dictionary, arranging publication and organising conferences.

She mothered and mentored Ugandan women students at Makerere's Mary Stuart Hall and became involved in helping Sudanese refugees escaping civil war, the beginning of a life's work as passionate but eminently practical advocate for refugees.

Louise returned to England in the 1970s, in time to organise relief for Ugandan Asians expelled by Idi Amin, lectured for a short time at Bishop Otter College in Chichester before a second African stint at the University of Nairobi.

Her last teaching post was at Homerton College, Cambridge where she was Senior Lecturer in Religious Studies, 1978–1989. Here she engaged with the development of the college and brought multicultural perspectives and her

passion for social justice on all fronts into her teaching and friendships. She maintained her scholarly interests in East Africa and World Christianity. SPCK published her textbook *Christianity World Wide AD 1800 onwards* in 1989 and Scarecrow Press *Historical Dictionary of Uganda* in 1995. A new edition of the latter, incorporating much of Louise's work was in preparation at the time of her death. She wrote 13 articles for the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, ranging from pioneer missionaries to Idi Amin.

She made a home for herself in Geldart Street and found a spiritual home at Great St. Mary's. No. 8 was the hub and heart of Geldart Street. She had an ability to get to know anyone who moved into the street and even after she became housebound she seemed to act as a catalyst. She knew everyone in the street long before they knew each other and when there were things to be done as a street, such as getting the trees cut back, it was at her flat that they met. She was a good neighbour in all the best old-fashioned senses and the whole street missed her when she left it.

Louise threw herself into the support of refugees and asylum seekers, active with organisations including Amnesty International, the Asylum Rights Campaign and Asylum Aid. She was a founder and co-ordinator of Charter 87. When the Home Office set up a Reception Centre in the Army Barracks at Oakington in 2000 Louise became a founder member of CamOak, a watch-dog organisation to safeguard the rights of asylum seekers and detainees. She was also a key member of the Cambridge Refugee Support Group. Louise campaigned tirelessly for justice and human rights in the treatment of asylum seekers and refugees. She spoke out fearlessly against the unfairness and inefficiency in the dealings of the Home Office and the UK Border Agency, and from a position of strength in her deep knowledge of legal matters involved with Immigration Law. She was a ceaseless and determined letter writer and had a wide network of contacts within the asylum and refugee networks and she used these to good effect when she needed to. No politician or civil servant was allowed to get away with a bland proforma reply or with vague promises when Louise was on the case! She also found time to write her fourth and last book, *Whatever Happened to Asylum in Britain?: A Tale of Two Walls* (Berghahn, 2001).

Still there was always time for other activities and interests. Delight in her family, watching her nephews and then great nephews grow up. Support for the African Studies Centre and the Henry Martyn Centre. Students and scholars passing through Cambridge, especially those from East Africa, would find Louise always ready to share her books, her notes, her time and her hospitality. Always intellectually curious, Louise would mark up the reviews of the latest books in the Sunday supplements and TLS and was one of Heffers' best customers. She took up the history of art, following the degree course (writing the essays but not taking the exams) at Anglia Ruskin, visiting the Fitzwilliam and other galleries frequently (and when she could no longer do so, sending friends out to collect

exhibition catalogues). She became an expert on African figures in European art and on the style of the Virgin's throne in medieval paintings.

As her illness took hold and gradually took away more and more of her physical abilities, her many friends worried about how such an activist would cope with enforced immobility and an ever more restricted lifestyle. But Louise was in touch with her inner contemplative. Her well-stocked mind, her interest in people and events and her life of prayer sustained her to the end. She won the respect and admiration of those who cared for her so well at The Hollies Care Home. She was granted a gentle passing, with peace and dignity at the end.

Louise was a great scholar, an advocate for the vulnerable and oppressed, a wonderful sister and aunt, neighbour and friend, 'a saint of the doughty variety'. Hers was a rare combination of hard head, brilliant mind, loving heart and indomitable spirit. The world is poorer for her passing but Heaven is richer.

Terry Barringer: TABarringer@aol.com

**Peter James Duignan Jr** (1926 – 2012) died 17 November 2012, in Cupertino, California. Peter received his BA from the University of San Francisco in 1951 and his MA and PhD in history from Stanford University, where he remained for the duration of his career. In 1957 he was awarded a two year grant by the Ford Foundation to study Native Policy in what was then Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). His other awards included a Rockefeller Foundation International Fellowship (1963-64), a Guggenheim Fellowship (1973-74), and a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (1973-75). These were followed by fellowships at Jesus College at Cambridge, St. Antony's College at Oxford and the Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton.

In 1959 he was named curator of the African Collection at Hoover and Director of its African Studies program from 1965 onward. In 1966 he was appointed Curator of Africana Stanford, and built the collection into one of the leading African research archives in the US. In 1968, he was named to the Stella and Ira Lillick Curatorship at Hoover, the first endowed chair in the United States devoted exclusively to the study of Africa.

Duignan authored, edited or co-authored over forty-five books on Europe, sub-Saharan Africa, and the Middle East. He co-authored (with Lewis Gann) *Why South Africa Will Survive, The United States and Africa: A History*, and *Hope for South Africa*. He was co-editor of the five volume set *Colonialism in Africa*.

He served as a board member of the African Studies Association and was an active member of the American Historical Association, the Middle East Studies Association and American Professors for Peace in the Middle East.

Peter Duignan is survived by his wife, Frances and six children.



**James F. Searing** (1953 – 2012), Professor of History at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he taught since 1992, died unexpectedly on 3 December 2012. Searing, who specialized in African History and served as Chair of the UIC Department of History from 2005-2010, will be missed greatly for his sense of humour, his deep intellect, and his commitment to the Department and the University.

Searing's research, which focused on the history of Senegal, was enriched through an ethnographic approach to the peoples and cultures of Senegal, including their historical encounters with Islam, the Atlantic world, and French colonial rule. These interests led to flood of dynamic scholarship, including two important books, *West African Slavery and Atlantic Commerce: The Senegal River Valley, 1700-1860* (Cambridge, 1993) and *"God Alone is King": Islam and Emancipation in Senegal, 1859-1914: The Wolof Kingdoms of Kajoor and Bawol* (Portsmouth, 2001). His current research examined ethnicity and conversion through a fieldwork-based study of the Sereer-Safèn, an ethnic minority in the Thiès region who converted to Islam in the colonial period. He was in the midst of producing a steady stream of publications related to that project in top-notch journals, including, "'No Kings, No Lords, No Slaves': Ethnicity and Religion among the Sereer-Safèn of Western Bawol (Senegal), 1700-1914", *Journal of African History*, 43 (2002): 407-29; "Conversion to Islam: Military Recruitment and Generational Conflict in a Sereer-Safèn Village (Bandia), 1920-1938", *Journal of African History*, 44 (2003): 73-94; and "The Time of Conversion: Christian and Muslims among the Sereer-Safèn of Senegal, 1914-1950s," in Benjamin F. Soares (ed.), *Muslim-Christian Encounters in Africa* (Leiden & Boston: Brill, 2006).

Shortly before his death, Searing had also initiated negotiations with the United Nations regarding UIC's participation in UNESCO's Decade for People of African Descent project, and was in the process of securing recognition for UIC's Daley Library's Special Collection on the Sierra Leone, the African slave trade, and the Caribbean.

Searing will also be remembered as a remarkable teacher with an unbridled commitment to his students. He loved introducing undergraduates to the key concepts of history in his historical methods course, and he particularly enjoyed introducing them to the complex history of Africa. For his graduate students, he was a tireless advocate, gently pushing them to do their best work and always offering a humane perspective on the profession they were about to enter. Searing was also the founding member of the graduate concentration in Encounters, Empires, and Ethnography, a concentration that brought together several of the unique talents of the Department. He leaves a legacy of sophisticated, committed scholars and educators he has trained in the fields of African and Atlantic world history.

Professor Searing is survived by his wife Patricia Hickling and three children, and will be missed by all who knew him.

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My brother, **John Reed**, who has died aged 82...

**Note to Contributors**

Send items for inclusion in the July 2013 *Newsletter* by 15 June 2013 to Dr Simon Heap, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), 30 Buckingham Gate, London, SW1E 6NN or [effaheap@aol.com](mailto:effaheap@aol.com)

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