

African Studies Center Michigan State University

Weekly Bulletin

April 18, 2017

Spring #14

Welcome to the African Studies Center's Newsletter and list of upcoming events, speaker presentations, tea times, conferences, jobs and other exciting opportunities.

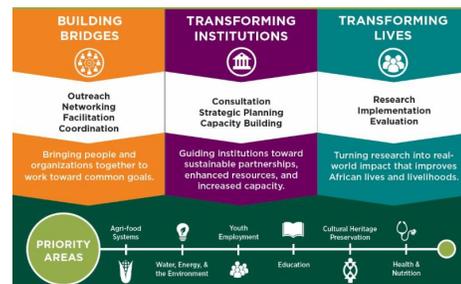
Please feel free to visit our website for more information:
<http://www.africa.isp.msu.edu>

Alliance for African Partnership

To learn more about the Alliance for African Partnership,
<http://www.aap.isp.msu.edu>

Eye On Africa Speaker Series

To learn more about Eye on Africa,
<http://africa.isp.msu.edu/programs/eye-africa/>



AFRICAN STUDIES CENTER PROGRAMS

Eye on Africa

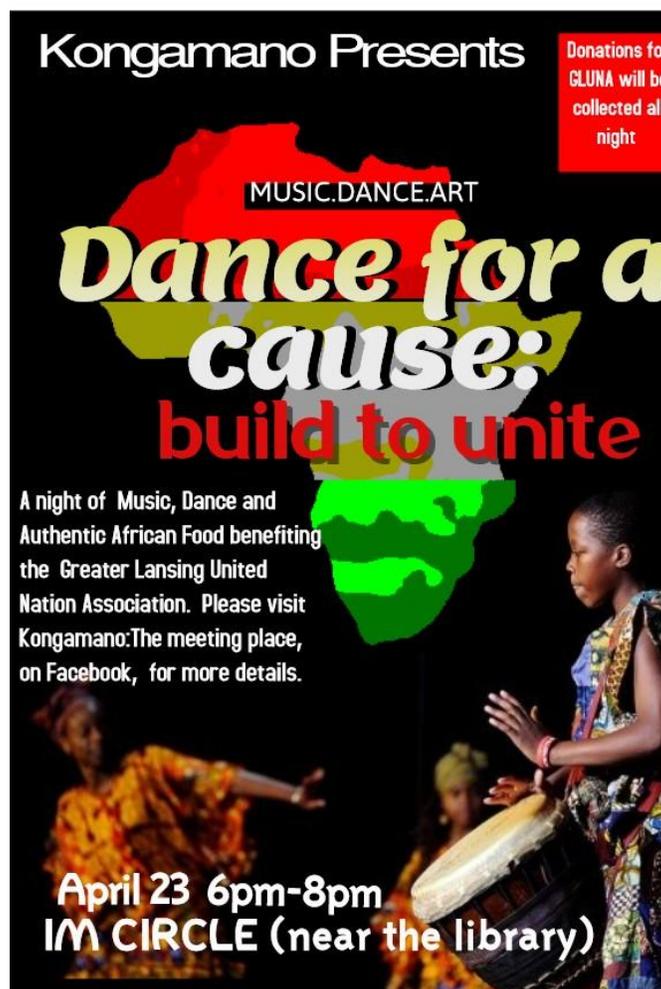
Tuesday, April 18, 2017 **TODAY**
11:00-12:30- Room 201 International Center

"Basin Consciousness: Africa and the Idea of the Indian Ocean." Eye on Africa with Jeremy Prestholdt, Professor of African and Global History, University of California, San Diego.



[For additional information or to view past episodes.](#)

MSU ANNOUNCEMENTS



Greater Lansing United Nations Association's (GL-UNA) Earth Day "The Relationship of Human Migration to Climate Change"

MSU Faculty Panel: Stephen Gasteyer, Jennifer Olson, Daniel Ahlquist, Sophia Koufopoulos, Aaron Ponce

Thursday, April 20, 2017, 7:00 pm, at Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Rd. (between Grand River & Burcham), East Lansing

Climate change is already having an effect on human habitats causing social disruption and migration. As the celebration of Earth Day approaches, learn about this aspect of the climate change puzzle. Panelists will present some of the facts around this challenging problem from the United Nations and other sources. Movements of refugees and migrants also have impacts on the environments of the places they pass through and settle in. A panel of experts will share their experience gleaned from studies in the Middle East, Thailand, the Greek Isles, and Africa.



Men in the Arena

Wednesday, April 26th, 6:30pm

Erickson Hall 103

The Department of History and the African Studies Center are pleased to host a free screening of the new film "Men in the Arena" on Wednesday, April 26th, at 6:30pm in Erickson Hall 103.

The film tracks the stories of two young Somali men chasing their dreams of soccer stardom in the toughest of circumstances. It's a survival story, a human rights story, and a rare sports journey principally shot and produced in Kenya, Somalia, and the United States.

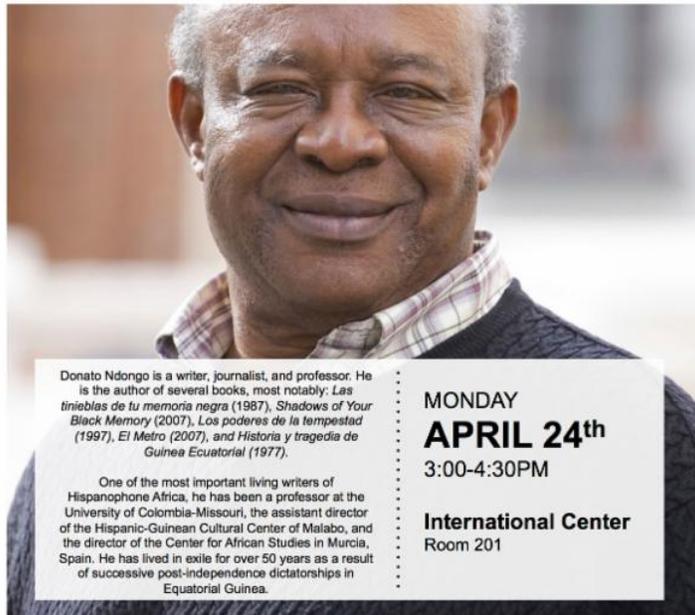
The event will include a Q&A session with the film's director, J. R. Biersmith.

Friday Forum on Neoliberalism & Public Higher Education: "U.S. Militarism and Higher Education: Following the Money and the GWOT"

Terry Link, Chair, Peace Education Center and David Wiley, Professor Emeritus, Sociology/African Studies

Friday, April 21, 2017, 10:30 am, Kellogg Center - Rm 102

A discussion of militarism in the U.S. federal budget and its impact on higher education in a time of the "Global War on Terror." How do weapons unwanted by the Department of Defense in addition to the waste, fraud, neoliberal intoxication, and an increasing U.S. global footprint bring us more security? Is higher education helping or hindering the budgetary drift? What are the implications of the federal budget changes being proposed by the Trump Administration and the Congress for faculty and students at MSU.

Literatura y Opresión: un diálogo con
*Literature & Oppression: a conversation with***DONATO NDONGO-BIDYOGO**

Donato Ndongo is a writer, journalist, and professor. He is the author of several books, most notably: *Las tinieblas de tu memoria negra* (1987), *Shadows of Your Black Memory* (2007), *Los poderes de la tempestad* (1997), *El Metro* (2007), and *Historia y tragedia de Guinea Ecuatorial* (1977).

One of the most important living writers of Hispanophone Africa, he has been a professor at the University of Columbia-Missouri, the assistant director of the Hispanic-Guinean Cultural Center of Malabo, and the director of the Center for African Studies in Murcia, Spain. He has lived in exile for over 50 years as a result of successive post-independence dictatorships in Equatorial Guinea.

MONDAY
APRIL 24th
3:00-4:30PM

International Center
Room 201

SPONSORED BY GLOBAL STUDIES IN THE ARTS & HUMANITIES
Supported by African American & African Studies, African Studies Center, American Indian & Indigenous Studies, Asian Studies Center, College of Arts & Letters, Department of English, Department of History, James Madison College, Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies, Department of Linguistics and Languages, Department of Romance and Classical Studies, The Faculty Excellence Advocate of the College of Social Science, and The Timnick Chair.

Questions? Contact Prof. Yomara Figueroa yomara@msu.edu

globalstudies.msu.edu

"Ahmed Kathrada (1929-2017): A Tribute to a South African Activist for Non-Racialism and Democracy"

Thursday, April 27, 2017, 12 noon, (South Africa Freedom Day), Third Floor International Center

A panel of MSU faculty and South Africans will pay tribute to Ahmed Kathrada, South Africa freedom fighter and long-time partner of Nelson Mandela in Robben Island Prison and in the ANC government after elections in 1994. Kathrada (deceased March 28, 2017) published his *Letters from Prison* with MSU Press and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by MSU for his lifetime of struggle for freedom, democracy, and non-racialism in South Africa and abroad. He has hosted many MSU faculty and students and even President Obama in tours of the Robben Island Prison near Cape Town. This tribute to Kathrada is being offered on South Africa Freedom Day, celebrated each year on 27th April, marking the anniversary of the day in 1994 when the country held its first ever all-race, democratic election, ending decades of sanctioned racial oppression under the apartheid system.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



THE AFRICA-AMERICA INSTITUTE
Educating People | Connecting Worlds

State of Education in Africa (SOA) - 2017 PitchFest Competition
May 3rd and 4th, 2017, Nairobi, Kenya

Do you have an innovative and creative idea that uses technology to solve some of Africa's most challenging needs across the field of education?

The 2017 State of Education in Africa Conference will stage a competition between newly formed education-technology companies supporting African Education. PitchFest finalists will have the opportunity to make short pitches of their idea to conference attendees, including business, government and non-profit leaders from around the globe.

To support next stage development for their business

First prize winners will receive USD 2500

Second place will receive USD 1500

Third place will receive USD 1000

Applications will close **April 19th**. Finalists notified on April 24th.

Please visit www.soeafrica.org/pitchfest/ for more information or contact Jourden Williams at jwilliams@aaionline.org or +1 (646) 645 7286.

[Apply Here!](#)



Peace and Security Fellowship for African Women & Peace and Security Fellowship for African Scholars

[Call for Applications](#)

The ALC is pleased to announce a call for applications for the Peace and Security Fellowship for African Women for 2017/2018. The Peace and Security Fellowship Programme for African Women is designed to expose professional African women at the early stages of their careers to the complexities of conflict, security and development. The Fellowships bring together a cohort of African women to undertake a carefully designed training programme in conflict, security and development. This Fellowship is an intellectual and financial award to those who are able to portray convincing demonstrable or potential capacity to bring about intellectual, policy or other change in their field. The Fellowship is a postgraduate non-degree programme, and does not lead to an academic qualification.

The OHCHR Annual Fellowship Programme for people of African descent.

The Fellowship this year will take place from 13 November - 1 December 2017. Deadline for application is 31 May 2017.

We encourage you to visit :

- [OHCHR Page Launching the Call for Applications](#)
- [Facebook Page on the Fellowship](#)
- [Detailed application process](#)
- [A video on the experiences of the 2016 cohort](#)

CONFERENCES & PUBLISHING



THE AFRICA-AMERICA INSTITUTE
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The State of Education in Africa

3 - 4 May 2017, Nairobi, Kenya

Register Now to join AAI for the third State of Education in Africa Conference as we convene policy makers, influencers, education leaders and innovators from across Africa and around the World to coordinate and track the progress of higher education in Africa. Presenters will share their bold visions and transformative ideas for handling the challenges presented by the rapidly changing political, cultural and educational landscape on the continent, to promote input and open discussion.

Speakers Include:

- Dr. Tade Akin Aina - Executive Director, Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (PASGR)
- Kofi Appenteng - CEO and President, The Africa-America Institute
- Dr. Phillip Clay - Professor and Former Chancellor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- Santiago Iñiguez - Executive President, IE University
- H.E. Dr. Fred Okengo Matiangi - Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Kenya
- Ivy Mwai - Program Manager, Education & Learning, The MasterCard Foundation
- Dr. Sidy Ndao - Assistant Professor, Mechanical & Materials Engineering, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Nneka Okekearu - Deputy Director, Enterprise Development Centre, Pan-Atlantic University
- Dr. Fredrick Ogenga - CEO, Peacemaker Corps Foundation, Head of Department, Communication, Journalism & Media Studies, Rongo University, Founding Director, Center for Media, Democracy, Peace & Security, Rongo University
- Hilary Pennington - Vice President for Education, Creativity and Free Expression, Ford Foundation
- Crystal Rugege - Director of Business Strategy & Operations, Carnegie Mellon University Africa
- Tumelo Seaketso - Director, Deloitte Consulting
- Femi Taiwo - Programme Manager, YouthLEAP, LEAP Africa
- Vivienne Yeda - Director General, East African Development Bank
- Dr. Paul Tiyambe Zeleza - Vice Chancellor and Professor of the Humanities and Social Sciences, United States International University-Africa (USIU)

For more information, go to soeafrica.org or contact Jourden Williams at jwilliams@aaionline.org or +1 (646) 645 7286

[Register Now!](#)

50 Years After: History, Memory and Legacy of the Nigeria-Biafra War

Dominican University, River Forest, Illinois
September 1-2, 2017

Since the passage of the Genocide Convention, the world has seen and witnessed several genocides in the last sixty years. Some of the significant genocides that have occurred in Africa in recent times include Igbo/Biafra, Rwandan and Darfur genocides. These genocides, as was the case of the Armenian, Kosovan genocides, all reflect the historical conflagration of human bestiality, age old prejudices and biases that resonate with Nazi trivialization of Jewish personhood - in shape, though not in magnitude. However, unlike the Jews, Armenians, Rwandan and Darfur genocides, the Igbo genocide has been neglected by scholars, activists, and community and national leaders.

On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Nigeria-Biafra war (1967-1970), we invite scholars, community activists and human rights practitioners to an International Conference to be held at Dominican University, Chicago, to address the following issues: history and memory of the war; the status of academic research on the Igbo genocide; impact of the war on children; an integrated international human rights response;

international criminal law perspective; and role of civil society, community and international organizations.

The conference is jointly coordinated by [Professor Nkuzi Nnam](#), Director, Director Black World Studies, Dominican University, Chicago and Professor [Chima Korieh](#), Director, Biafra War Oral History Project.

The conference committee will be pleased to welcome 300- word abstract no later than June 10, 2017. Please include a 50 word biographical data and as well as the author's name, address, telephone number, email address, and institutional affiliation. A full version of the paper to be presented should be submitted by August 20, 2017.

For additional information or to email your abstract, please contact [Chima Korieh](#).

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

African Studies Association Awards - Deadline Approaching Soon

The African Studies Association is pleased to announce that we are accepting nominations for the following awards and prizes in 2017:

The [Melville J. Herskovits Prize](#) is awarded to the author of the most important scholarly work in African studies published in English during the preceding year. Deadline for nominations: April 30. Please note - Nomination letters must be received by the Secretariat by April 30 and all review copies of the publications need to be post-marked by the same date.

The [Bethwell A. Ogot Book Prize](#) is awarded to the author of the best book on East African Studies published in the previous calendar year. Deadline for nominations: April 30. Please note - Nomination letters must be received by the Secretariat by April 30 and all review copies of the publications need to be post-marked by the same date.

The [Distinguished Africanist Award](#) recognizes a lifetime of distinguished contributions to African studies. Deadline for nominations: April 30.

The [Graduate Student Paper Prize](#) is awarded to the best graduate student paper presented at the previous year's Annual Meeting. Deadline for nominations: April 30.

The [Paul Hair Prize](#) recognizes the best critical edition or translation into English of primary source materials on Africa published during the preceding two years. Deadline for nominations: April 30.

The [Gretchen Walsh Book Donation Award](#) offers an annual grant program to assist book donation projects with shipping costs to send books to African libraries and schools. Deadline for nominations: April 30.

The [Royal Air Maroc- ASA Student Travel Award](#) is granted to students to facilitate and increase the movement of students and the exchange of ideas, between students of African Studies in Africa and the United States. The overarching aim of the award is to acknowledge outstanding scholarship by future African Studies scholars. Deadline for nominations: April 30.

Chair of the African and African American Studies Department - Washington University in St. Louis

The School of Arts & Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis seeks a dynamic senior scholar to lead its newly established Department of African and African American Studies (AFAS) and develop its future planning and direction. Founded in 1969 as Black Studies, it is one of the oldest programs in the country. Last fall, the University granted AFAS departmental status and committed significant resources, including multiple hiring lines and ample programming funds, to develop and grow the department.

Qualified candidates will have significant teaching experience with both graduate and undergraduate students and a distinguished record of research and publishing required for a tenured position as a full professor. (Exceptional applicants at the advanced associate professor level for whom the rank of full is imminent will also be considered.) Moreover, qualified candidates must have demonstrable administrative and leadership ability. A PhD or an equivalent terminal degree with a principal focus on some aspect or region of Africa and/or its

Diaspora is required.

The duties of chair include developing and implementing academic and scholarly activities for the department, planning finances and budgets, and supervising faculty, staff, and students in the department. In dialogue with colleagues and stakeholders across the university, the chair will formulate a strategic vision for African and African American Studies. Because the department has a long-standing commitment to the city of St. Louis, it is expected that the chair will engage the department in the civic life of the community beyond the walls of the university. The chair reports to the dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences. As a professor, the chair's regular duties will include research and writing for publication, teaching, advising students, departmental governance, and university service.

Application materials should include the most recent version of the applicant's curriculum vitae and a formal letter of interest that lists three references. Materials can be sent, and questions can be addressed, to Adrienne Davis, William M. Van Cleve Professor of Law, at adriennedavis@wustl.edu.

Full consideration and priority will be given to application materials received by August 1, 2017, but materials will be considered and evaluated as they arrive.

Contact

africa@campusad.msu.edu

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mocktara@msu.edu.*