

# alliances

M | AFRICAN STUDIES CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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## ASC CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS WITH BOOK SERIES LAUNCH

*To commemorate the ASC five-year anniversary, Director Kelly Askew highlights some of the center's history, beginning with the center's most recent achievement, the launch of a new book series, **African Perspectives**.*

### African Perspectives Book Series

The African Studies Center marks the fifth year of its existence with the launch of a new book series through the University of Michigan Press titled **African Perspectives**. The series will capitalize on U-M's strong and distinctive position in the field of African studies and will complement the four ASC-based presidential initiatives that advance the University's scholarly collaborations on the continent: the African Heritage Initiative, the African Social Research Initiative, the STEM-Africa Initiative and the U-M African Presidential Scholars program. It features an illustrious international editorial board composed of: Akosua Adomako Ampofo (U. Ghana-Legon), Fernando Arenas (U-M), Mamadou Diouf (Columbia U.), Gabrielle Hecht (U-M), Daniel Herwitz (U-M), Judy Irvine (U-M), Noor Nieftagodien (U. Witwatersrand), Elisha Renne (U-M), Aili Mari Tripp (U. Wisconsin), and includes Kelly Askew (U-M) and Anne Pitcher (U-M) serving as series editors. The series aims to publish the original research of both well-established and emerging scholars on topics of scholarly value. The first titles in the series are under contract and we invite you, the ASC community, to share with your African and Africanist colleagues this exciting opportunity to forward innovative scholarship on Africa. That

the U-M Press has chosen to invest in a new series in the current climate of academic publishing is a notable honor and it speaks volumes to the esteem generated by the University's engagements with Africa.

### ASC: A History

In February 2008, President Mary Sue Coleman led a U-M delegation to Ghana and South Africa and subsequently allocated funding for three multi-year Presidential Initiatives—the African Heritage Initiative (AHI); the African Social Research Initiative (ASRI); and the African Presidential Scholars (UMAPS) program. These initiatives were joined one year later by a fourth: STEM-Africa. This level of investment in African initiatives necessitated the creation of an entity on campus responsible for bringing the collaborations to fruition. Hence President Coleman also announced the establishment of the African Studies Center, which—in distinction to the teaching and research mandate of the Department of Afroamerican and African Studies (DAAS)—would facilitate and manage the scholarly partnerships affirmed during her trip.

### The Presidential Initiatives

The inaugural UMAPS cohort arrived in wintry February 2009, rather a shock



Father and daughter guitar duo, South Africa  
(credit David Turnley)

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# FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear ASC community,

Greetings! I hope the 2013-14 academic year has proved productive, fulfilling and regenerating. It has been an honor to resume the directorship of the African Studies Center. The ASC owes Prof. Derek Peterson tremendous gratitude for the superb job he did as interim director. Together with initiative coordinators Anne Pitcher (ASRI) and Daniel Burns and Nkem Khumbah (STEM), Derek secured from

President Mary Sue Coleman's office a generous second round of funding (\$1.8 million) to support the three Presidential Initiatives and the **African Presidential Scholars** program (UMAPS)—all highly successful collaborations with partners in Africa. To President Coleman and to Derek go our sincere thanks. In addition, Derek along with South African colleague Keith Breckenridge helped secure a generous grant from the Mellon Foundation (\$1.5 million) to support a five-year collaboration in the African humanities with faculty at the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa. See the inset for more on this exciting collaboration. 2012-13 was thus an excellent year for the ASC!

This year, as we celebrated the fifth anniversary of the establishment of the ASC, we enjoyed another rich and dizzying array of Africa-related programming on campus. We began by welcoming our 6th UMAPS cohort, bringing the total number of **U-M African Presidential Scholars** to 75 since the launch of the program in 2009. Representing, as always, a wide array of academic specializations, they pursued their own research and writing projects from September 2013 to February 2014 and enriched our campus with their presence and perspectives.

The **Africa Workshop**, co-sponsored with the Department of Afroamerican and African Studies (DAAS), produced another impressive roster of speakers, as did the **African History and Anthropology Workshop** (AHAW). These workshops, which have become regular features of campus life for

graduate students and faculty in African studies, continued to provide space for both rigorous intellectual exchange and community building.

This issue of the ASC newsletter features reports on the two international conferences organized by the **African Social Research Initiative** and the **African Heritage Initiative** this year and highlights plans for **STEM-Africa** Initiatives's third international conference, 'Effective U.S. Strategies for African STEM Collaborations, Capacity Building, and Diaspora Engagement. (pp. 4-7)

Ours has been an especially busy year, evidencing the abundant fruit of the last half-decade's labors. This level of activity could not have been entertained, much less sustained, were it not for the talents, hard work and dedication of the ASC team, namely, Program Administrator Devon Keen, Events Coordinator Sandie Schulze, Associate Director Gabrielle

Hecht, and all the shared staff at the International Institute who support our efforts. I'd also like to take this moment to sincerely thank Thaya Rowe for her service to the Center as she has moved on to work with our colleagues at the School of Public Policy.

I close by noting that while we have not marked our 5th anniversary with much celebratory fanfare, what we have invested in is yet more commitment, yet more engagement, and yet more collaboration with Africa-oriented students and scholars on campus and our academic partners on the continent. Reviewing our short but eventful history, a Swahili saying comes to mind: *Baada ya kisa, mkasa; baada ya chanzo, kitendo* ("After a reason, a result; after a beginning, an action").

Best wishes,  
**Kelly Askew**, Director  
March 2014



Photograph by Elshafei Dafalla Mohamed

## MELLON FOUNDATION-FUNDED COLLABORATION WITH UNIVERSITY OF WITWATERSRAND

In March 2013, we received the excellent news that the Mellon Foundation had agreed to fund a five-year interdisciplinary research and teaching partnership between U-M and University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa). The effort, titled '*Joining Theory and Empiricism in the Remaking of the African Humanities*,' will foster and strengthen innovative research in the humanities and closely affiliated fields in the social sciences with the objective of building a transcontinental community of scholars who addresses ambitious theoretical questions that resonate with local, regional, and global experiences. Over the five year period we will hold two two-week courses per annum, alternating between Johannesburg and Ann Arbor, on significant questions that inform scholarship in the Humanities broadly conceived. The 2014 workshops will focus on '*Theorizing from the South*' (May, Johannesburg), organized by Gabrielle Hecht, Anne Pitcher, and Martin Murray (UM) and Keith Breckenridge and Sarah Nuttall (Wits), and '*Digital Humanities*' (November, Ann Arbor), organized by Daniel Herwitz (U-M), Derek Peterson (U-M) and Keith Breckenridge (Wits).

# THE AFRICAN SOCIAL RESEARCH INITIATIVE UPDATE

## SECOND BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

The African Social Research Initiative held its second biennial conference at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, from 11 to 12 October 2013. The conference brought together thirty-three scholars, from African universities in Ghana, South Africa, Uganda, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, along with faculty from the University of Michigan.

Under the title: *Transnational Vulnerabilities in Governance, Employment, Health, and Education: Exploring Integrated Solutions for the US and Africa*, the ASRI conference explored the interrelated themes of governance, public goods provision in health and education, and economic development. Contributors used the tools of social research to identify and measure the major gaps and the greatest strains in health, housing, education, employment, and welfare on the African continent, and to examine the political, social, and economic challenges generated or exacerbated by the global economic downturn. Taking advantage of the University of Michigan's location, conference participants were exposed to the economic and social vulnerabilities experienced by residents in some of Detroit's most disadvantaged communities, as well as to the creative solutions these communities have adopted to confront challenges in health care, housing, education, and employment.

Recognizing that many vulnerabilities are transnational makes possible the discussion and application of solutions that transcend national boundaries. To this end, the conference included both scholars and policymakers who collectively explored the most advanced techniques for conducting social research and explored how research findings can be translated into policies that are both inclusive and equitable. The aim was to share tools and techniques of data analysis

that have been developed at the University of Michigan, and to highlight the work of emerging scholars from the continent of Africa and the United States.

The conference audience comprised U-M faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, and UMAPS scholars, who contributed to vigorous debates during two days of presentations. The conference benefitted from two

over 860 million people live in slums worldwide, while there are millions of unused vacant housing units that could shelter more than 65% of homeless and slum residents around the globe. The UN-Habitat's new paradigm for urban planning aims at reverting this unsettling scenario. Through its Global Housing Strategy campaign, "Placing Housing at the Center", the UN-Habitat brings together teams of students, academic professionals, local authorities,



*ASRI Biennial Conference 2013, Detroit Tour*

outstanding keynotes. The first was delivered by Professor Clement Ahiadeke, Director of the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER) at the University of Ghana, who highlighted the significance of partnership in advancing research on Africa. He illustrated how the ASRI initiative potentially provides a platform for African scholars to reach their potential not simply as research assistants collecting and providing data but as co-equals in the pursuit of scholarship.

In the second keynote, architect Dr. Mohamed El-Soufi, Coordinator of the Housing and Slum Upgrading Branch at UN-Habitat, presented a new paradigm for urban planning in the global South. He indicated that

the private sector and residents in an effort to devise strategies for socially and environmentally friendly mass housing. The goal is to promote access to housing, and improve the mobility and density of urban areas. While these keynotes set the tone for the quality of the conference, the various panels provided the needed nourishment for two days of animated debate across themes and disciplines. One panel, "Electoral Politics and Democratic Accountability," illustrated the fragility of Africa's electoral systems and the need to consider other ways of understanding democratic consolidation in the continent. Another panel, on "Maternal and Newborn Health," highlighted new developments that are reducing maternal and infant mortality in Ghana. These findings bore important

Continued from p.3

similarities with, and lessons for, Detroit's struggle to improve health services for vulnerable youth and provided an important platform from which to explore both the vulnerabilities present in the US with those in African countries. The conference concluded with a round-table discussion aimed at gathering insights on the lessons learned and mapping a way forward. A key priority in the coming years will be to continue strengthening and expanding ASRI's collaborations and partnerships with African academic institutions and scholars.

### ASRI PILOTS SUMMER SCHOLARS PROGRAM IN 2014

The African Social Research Initiative (ASRI) at the University of Michigan recently issued a call for applications for four visiting scholars to attend courses in social science research methods and analysis at the University of Michigan during the months of June-August, 2014. Eligible applicants were academic researchers enrolled in or finished with PhD programs in the social sciences and who represented the following countries: Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, South Africa, and Uganda.



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## ASC CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS WITH BOOK SERIES LAUNCH

given that they were coming from summertime South Africa and equatorial Ghana. They would be the first of six cohorts and 75 UMAPS scholars to date, who have come to Ann Arbor for periods of up to six months to conduct research, participate in seminars and workshops, and develop collaborations with U-M faculty and students. UMAPS scholars have been welcomed into U-M units as far-ranging as Mathematics, English Literature, Physics, History, Women's Studies, the College of Pharmacy, the College of Engineering, the Medical School, the Law School and the Business School.

The research collaborations forwarded by AHI, ASRI and STEM-Africa have thrived—buoyed by stimulating differences in research perspectives among the mostly U-M, Ghanaian and South African partners (with partners from other African countries growing in number). Over the course of the past five years, these initiatives have organized no less than seven international conferences in Africa on a great variety of topics. ASRI has supported training courses at the University of the Cape Coast and the University of Ghana for African scholars and practitioners in statistical analysis and public opinion data analysis, while STEM co-sponsored biennial mathematics conferences at the University of Buea in Cameroon. AHI utilized expertise in the History department and School of Information to facilitate projects—supported by the Center for Research Libraries and the Google Corporation—to catalogue and preserve the National Archives of Uganda and of South Sudan. And STEM-Africa has positioned itself at the forefront of international efforts to strengthen science and technology in Africa, working in collaboration with the African Union, the National Academy of Sciences, the World Bank and USAID. This has proven to be a game-changer

in the realm of academic involvement in Africa, reconfiguring the traditional model of African studies (limited to the humanities and social sciences) to embrace the natural sciences and professional schools. In this way, ASC realized another goal set by the President's office: of enacting 'the Michigan Difference.'

### ASC and Internationalization at U-M

The ASC is thus playing a vital role in the 'Internationalization' strategy of the University of Michigan. It has flourished over the past five years, strengthened through its synergistic relationship with the 170+ faculty at U-M who work in Africa or on Africa-related topics. ASC funds have supported Africa-based research, travel, collaborations, art exhibits, conferences and internships of U-M students and faculty. Moreover, ASC supported seven Global Intercultural Experience for Undergraduates (GIEU) sites to make gaining international experience in Africa more affordable for undergraduate students. The ASC has successfully facilitated and coordinated a number of funding proposals, generating nearly \$4 million in external funds. We have much of which we should be proud from our first five years, and abundant reasons to expect that the coming five years will be even more successful in '**Engaging Africa, Advancing African Studies**'—the tasks we set ourselves in 2008 when we began.



# DR TIMOTHY R.B. JOHNSON REFLECTS ON KEY COMPONENTS OF SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATIONS

EMMA PARK

On October 30, 2013, I had the opportunity to have a conversation with Dr. Timothy R. B. Johnson, Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Michigan. The University recently honored Dr. Johnson by creating an endowed Professorship in his name (the Timothy R.B. Johnson Professorship in Global Women's Health), in recognition of his enduring commitment to research and teaching on the subjects of maternal and infant health in both the United States and Africa. The following presents highlights from our conversation about his ongoing collaborative work with colleagues and students in Ghana and at the University of Michigan.



Dr. Timothy Johnson with collaborative partners in Ghana.

## LAYING THE GROUNDWORK:

For nearly 30 years, Dr. Johnson has been fostering relationships and developing collaborative projects with colleagues at both Kwame Nkrumah University in Kumasi and the University of Ghana in Accra. He first traveled to Ghana in 1986 as part of a teaching project on assignment from Johns Hopkins University. Over the course of his trip, Dr. Johnson learned of a problem: Ghanaian obstetricians and gynecologists were all trained abroad, mainly in the United Kingdom and the United States. As the Ghanaian economy deteriorated, newly trained specialists refused to return home, precipitating a "brain drain" which had extreme consequences for maternal and infant mortality within Ghana. *Of the 30 specialists trained abroad between 1960 and 1980, only three had returned home by the end of the 1980s. In the same period, Ghana was estimated to have lifetime risk of maternal death of 1 in 18.*

Upon returning to the United States, Dr. Johnson began asking around. Was there a precedent for funding residency programs within West Africa itself?

Nothing like it had been tried before, but it was an auspicious historical moment. Over the course of the 1980s, huge strides had been made in reducing infant mortality across the globe. Maternal mortality rates in sub-Saharan Africa, however, remained incredibly high.

In 1987, Dr. Johnson, in conjunction with Professor J.O. Martey and Dr. J.B. Wilson from Ghana and others, applied for funding from the Carnegie Corporation of New York to set up a 5-year residency program in Ghana. The Carnegie Corporation awarded the team, along with partners at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, a grant of \$7 million. With funding secured, the team spent the next two years preparing for the program's official launch. *The program had three overarching goals: to lower maternal mortality and morbidity rates, to improve the overall reproductive health of women in Ghana, and to devise a training program that would encourage specialists to remain in country.* In pursuit of these goals, the

curriculum of the Ghana Postgraduate Obstetrics/Gynecology Program was designed specifically to reflect the obstetric and gynecologic problems facing West Africa, thereby training specialists whose education uniquely prepared them for work in Ghana, and to build the capacity of local faculty in the medical schools at Kwame Nkrumah University and the University of Ghana in clinical work, teaching, and research. The program was accredited by the West African College of Surgeons and received its first cohort of Ghanaian medical student graduates in 1989.

The residency program, now entering its twenty-fifth year, comprises a number of unique features. First, clinical training is combined with formal instruction in hospital and clinic administration, thereby strengthening the overall health infrastructure within Ghana. Second, residents participate in external attachments at hospitals in the United Kingdom or the United States where they are trained in contemporary practices in gynecology and obstetrics and familiarized with technological advances in the fields.

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## POSITIVE OUTCOMES:

The program has been a resounding success on multiple fronts. To begin, it has received tremendous buy-in from the Ghanaian government, and is today fully financed by the Ministry of Health. Next, the program has proven highly effective in combating “brain drain”: Of the 142 specialists who have completed the program to date, 141 continue to practice in Ghana. Graduates are situated at sites across Ghana, including peri-urban and district hospitals, where they provide care otherwise unavailable outside of hospitals. While it is impossible to determine the precise correlation between the residency program and national maternal mortality and morbidity rates, the statistics that do exist are promising: Between 1990 and 2010, the maternal mortality ratio in Ghana dropped from 580 deaths per year to 350, for a total decrease of 40% (Public Health Impact 15). Evidence at the level of individual clinics and teaching hospitals lends further weight to these numbers. Graduates working at one rural clinic, for example, noted a 74% reduction in maternal mortality in the year 2010 alone.

I asked Dr. Johnson to reflect on the success of the Ghana Postgraduate Obstetrics/Gynecology Program over the past twenty-five years. He attributed the program’s success to three core features: commitment to a single location, strong institutional connections, firm ethical groundings.

### Single Location

While Dr. Johnson and his colleagues firmly believe that the residency model could be replicated elsewhere, their personal and professional commitments remain in Ghana. According to Dr. Johnson, this enduring commitment to a single site has been critical to the success of the residency program. This has implications for policy makers and “development” initiatives more generally. He and his colleagues write: “This program did not fit the typical 5-year ‘development model’ of

refresher training or pre-service education. It required a 10-year commitment from the Ghanaian government and university partners in both the United States and United Kingdom.” The program’s success, in other words, is due partners’ commitment to strengthening “partnerships that will remain long term.” These long-term commitments to a single site have not only assured mutual trust between partner institutions but have also strengthened the healthcare infrastructure in Ghana. Dr. Johnson’s advice to undergraduate and graduate students interested in conducting collaborative global research? Commit to one site and work towards deepening collaborations over the long term. Of his own trajectory, he remarked:

*“When I decided I was going to do global stuff... I decided I would only do one place, and I’ve been back to Ghana maybe 60 times. The lesson is that if you’re going to do work with [marginalized]... groups whether it’s in Detroit... or... Baltimore or... Africa [you need to be committed to the place]. The idea that you’re going to come back is a very powerful thing.”*

### Institutional Connections

Commitment to a single location has allowed strong connections to develop between institutions in the US, the UK, and Ghana. Since the beginning, he told me, the residency program has worked to build and strengthen academic-to-academic relationships to the mutual benefit of all institutions and individuals involved. Forging, maintaining, and strengthening institutional connections has not only reinforced the commitment of partner institutions, but has allowed for the long-term investment in human capacity building within Ghana, which has important consequences for maternal and infant health. He and his colleagues write: “The Ghana postgraduate training program in obstetrics and gynecology has demonstrated, first and foremost,

that providing the opportunity for Medical School graduates to become fully trained and accredited in country may in fact be a key component to reducing brain drain.” These two unique features of the program, according to Dr. Johnson, are underwritten by a third, and foundational, reason for the program’s amazing success.

### Ethical Groundings

According to Dr. Johnson, too often international health initiatives lack a robust and equitable ethical mandate. He cited, for example, the fact that while international health has become an integral part of medical school curricula, this typically involves students from the global “North” traveling to resource-poor areas of the global “South.” He contrasted this with the Ghana residency program, which is based on partnerships between institutions in the UK, the US, and Ghana that have been, from the get-go, premised on an ethos of mutual respect and collaboration. When I asked Dr. Johnson to expand on these commitments, he cited the importance of: “trust, mutual respect, communication, accountability, transparency, leadership, sustainability.” These principles are enshrined in the Ghana-Michigan Collaborative Health Alliance for Reshaping Training, Education & Research (CHARTER), a document jointly produced by partners from U-M, the University of Ghana, Kwame Nkrumah University, the Ghanaian ministry of health and Ghana health services in 2011. In our conversation, I reflected that this level of collaboration and mutual respect between international partners seemed unique. He agreed, but with a caveat. These ethical commitments, Dr. Johnson reflected, are firmly rooted in the ethos of the University of Michigan. They are, he said, the foundation of all truly great “public universities.”





William Gblerkpor speaking at International Heritage Roundtable, January 2014

# ANOTHER EXCITING YEAR FOR THE AFRICAN HERITAGE INITIATIVE (AHI)

From archiving and preservation projects ranging from rare music to district government holdings to the completion of an edited volume based on past conferences, from our third biennial meeting to our new partnership with the University of Witwatersrand, the African Heritage Initiative (AHI) has been expanding its scope and scale in exciting new directions.

## AHI 3RD BIENNIAL MEETING

The African Heritage Initiative (AHI) of the African Studies Center (ASC), held its third biennial meeting in Ann Arbor from January 16-19, 2014. The meeting brought together scholars from Ghana and South Africa with U-M faculty and graduate students conducting research at sites across the continent of Africa in the arts, humanities, and qualitative social sciences.

Over the course of the meeting titled **'Heritage Production in Africa'**, the AHI committee sought to generate a forum for a critical discussion of heritage work in Africa by querying the many assumptions circulating about "heritage" and the uses to which it is put. Varies drawing on the tools of linguistics, archeology, museum studies, cultural and linguistic anthropology, performance studies, and cultural and social history, participants engaged in heated and lively discussions regarding the place of heritage as concept, practice, form of claims making, and analytic in both the historical past and the ethnographic present.

One of the goals of the conference was to generate discussions regarding the historical, geographic, social, and political specificities of "heritage" as it operates across sites and disciplines. To this end, participants were invited to circulate short précis of their research interests and academic trajectories. This generated a far-reaching and

cross-disciplinary conversation regarding the various ways scholars working in the humanities and social sciences are engaging, productively rethinking, and challenging the conceptual and institutional frameworks of heritage at sites across the African continent. The afternoon session was launched with a screening of photographs taken by Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist and U-M faculty David Turnley, titled: **'For Madiba, With Love: A Tribute to Nelson Mandela.'** This photographic exposition, which documents life under the apartheid regime and the post-independence trajectory of South Africa, generated lively conversations regarding how South Africans, international media, and foreign governments are variously deploying the heritage framework following the death of Nelson Mandela (see pp.10-11). These questions set the stage for the final session, **'Heritage Production in Africa: An International Roundtable,'** during which participants thoughtfully engaged pre-circulated readings authored by members of the AHI. Over the course of the roundtable, participants explored the myriad ways that African heritage has been reconfigured and marshaled as a resource by governments, museums, and ordinary citizens eager to gain revenue and political leverage. It also opened up conversations regarding the heritage framework as a means by which people engage with the past, define their ties to others in the present, and imagine their prospective futures.

In order to explore the heritage industry from a trans-continental perspective, participants were exposed to various heritage sites, initiatives, and projects underway in Detroit, MI. Braving the bitter cold of Michigan in January, participants toured the Heidelberg Project, the Charles H. Wright Museum



UM students Abigail Meert and Yanni Gu creating a digital catalogue for the Kabale District Archives, Southwestern Uganda

of African American History, and the Motown Museum. The day was capped off with a dinner at the historic Cliff Bell's jazz club.

The meeting was a resounding success. The AHI committee, in conversation with U-M faculty participants, charted future directions for the Initiative. Over the coming five years, the AHI will be planning a series of workshops and conferences, which will take place both

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at U-M and at universities in South Africa and Ghana. Topics include: 'Archaeology and the Repatriation of Cultural Heritage,' 'Comparative Royalisms,' 'Language and Communicative Practice,' and 'Public/Popular Art.' The central goal of the AHI in the coming years is to deepen the intellectual ties of committee members to the mutual benefit of all individuals and institutions involved. To this end, coming meetings will expand the mandate of the AHI by critically engaging heritage-work from a broader transnational and interdisciplinary perspective.

### ARCHIVE PRESERVATION PROJECTS

In summer 2013 the Heritage Initiative sent a group of UM undergraduate and graduate students to Kabale, in southern Uganda, to organize and catalogue the local government archives. The team was led by Michigan graduate student Ashley Rockenbach, whose research concerns the history of southern Uganda. The team also included two interns from the British Institute in Eastern Africa, and three interns from Kabale University (all of whom received small subsidies from us). The archive, which dates from the founding of the district government in 1911, is a record of the political, economic, agricultural and economic life of the region. The paperwork had been storied in bundles in very disorderly attic; there was no catalogue, and the collection was therefore unusable.

Before the team arrived, Derek Peterson and his Uganda colleagues negotiated with the District Executive Committee for an allocation of funding to support the rehabilitation of the attic. Electricity was put in, new shelving was installed, paint was applied, and some furniture was brought in. This work was ongoing when the UM team arrived (in late June), but we were able to work around the construction. The files were taken out of the attic and placed in another location, and there they were sorted into deposits, placed in newly-purchased archive boxes, and each box was catalogued. The team proved to be

tremendously vigorous, and over the course of two months of solid work they completely organized the collection. At the end of the project a catalogue for the whole collection was produced, printed, bound, and deposited in the hands of the local government records officer, and placed also in Makerere University Library and other relevant research institutes.

Separately, the AHI has been supporting an ongoing project to preserve, catalogue and digitize local archival records in western Uganda. The project—based at Mountains of the Moon University in Fort Portal—involves a team of five MMU staff who work on university premises. Over the course of the past three years the team has rehabilitated three collections: the archives of Kabarole District local government; the papers of the Kabarole District forestry office; and the archives of the Tooro Kingdom. In April 2014 the team will begin work on the archives of Hoima District. The papers will be relocated from the district's storeroom to MMU's campus, where they will be cleaned, re-covered, organized, reboxed, catalogued, and digitized. At the conclusion of the project, the paper archive, together with a searchable digital copy, will be returned to the District government; the digital masters will be retained at MMU for use by students and researchers. The project is supported by the Cooperative Africana Materials Project of the Center for Research Libraries and the UM African Studies Center.

Additionally, the AHI-seeded project to digitize the Leo Sarkisian collection of rare recordings of African popular and traditional music won a successful MCubed project grant, '**Community, Memory and Ethical Access to Live Music Recordings**,' submitted by School of Information (SI) faculty Paul Conway with SI faculty/AHI committee member David Wallace and ASC Director Kelly Askew. The two year project (2013-15) will produce a pilot online archive with samples of recordings from the Sarkisian

collection, a collection of live music recordings from Ann Arbor's famous folk venue *The Ark* (deposited in the U-M Bentley Library), and a collection of Tanzanian popular music cassettes to enable community access to archived recordings that are otherwise unavailable. Leo Sarkisian served as host of the Voice of America's longest running English language radio show: *Music Time in Africa*. Three hundred and fifty master tapes from the Sarkisian collection have been digitized by and deposited with the U-M library system with initial support from AHI.

### THE POLITICS OF HERITAGE IN AFRICA VOLUME

Finally, a selection of papers presented at the first two AHI conferences (Accra 2009, Johannesburg 2011) have been edited by Derek Peterson (U-M), Kodzo Gavua (University of Ghana) and Ciraj Rassool (University of the Western Cape). The book is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press under the title ***The Politics of Heritage in Africa: Economies, Histories, Infrastructures***. The twelve essays come from scholars in linguistics, history, museum studies, archaeology and other fields. Together, the authors argue that heritage work—the identification and marketing of cultural assets—has had a uniquely wide currency in African politics and history. By bringing scholars of Ghana into conversation with scholars of South Africa, the book helps to illuminate the wider processes at play in the making of culture in Africa.



# StudioAFRICA Tapping 'New/ Old' Wisdom(s) of Vernacular Architecture in Northern GHANA

(Report "from the field" ...)

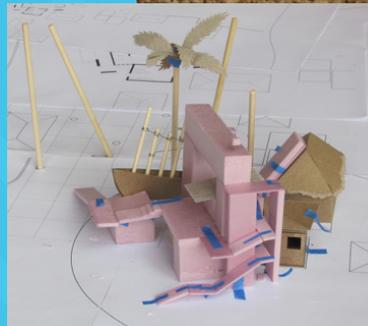


Proposal for a 'naturally-cooled' addition to the Great Hall of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology, Kumasi.

This is what one student had to say about StudioAFRICA. Postcard from Ghana

*It has been a whirlwind of experience... We traveled from the burgeoning global metropolis of Accra on the Gulf of Guinea to traditional farmsteads in the north... Memories of the people met resonate as strongly as the unique architecture and stunning landscapes. Professor Chaffers has introduced us to a wide variety of passionate folk — teachers, students, artists, farmers, chiefs, and priests. It is not a trip any of us will soon forget.*

Marty Mechtenberg  
StudioAFRICA



A composite of 'natural cooling' devices, for an extended-family compound in Northern Ghana (near the border of Burkina Faso).

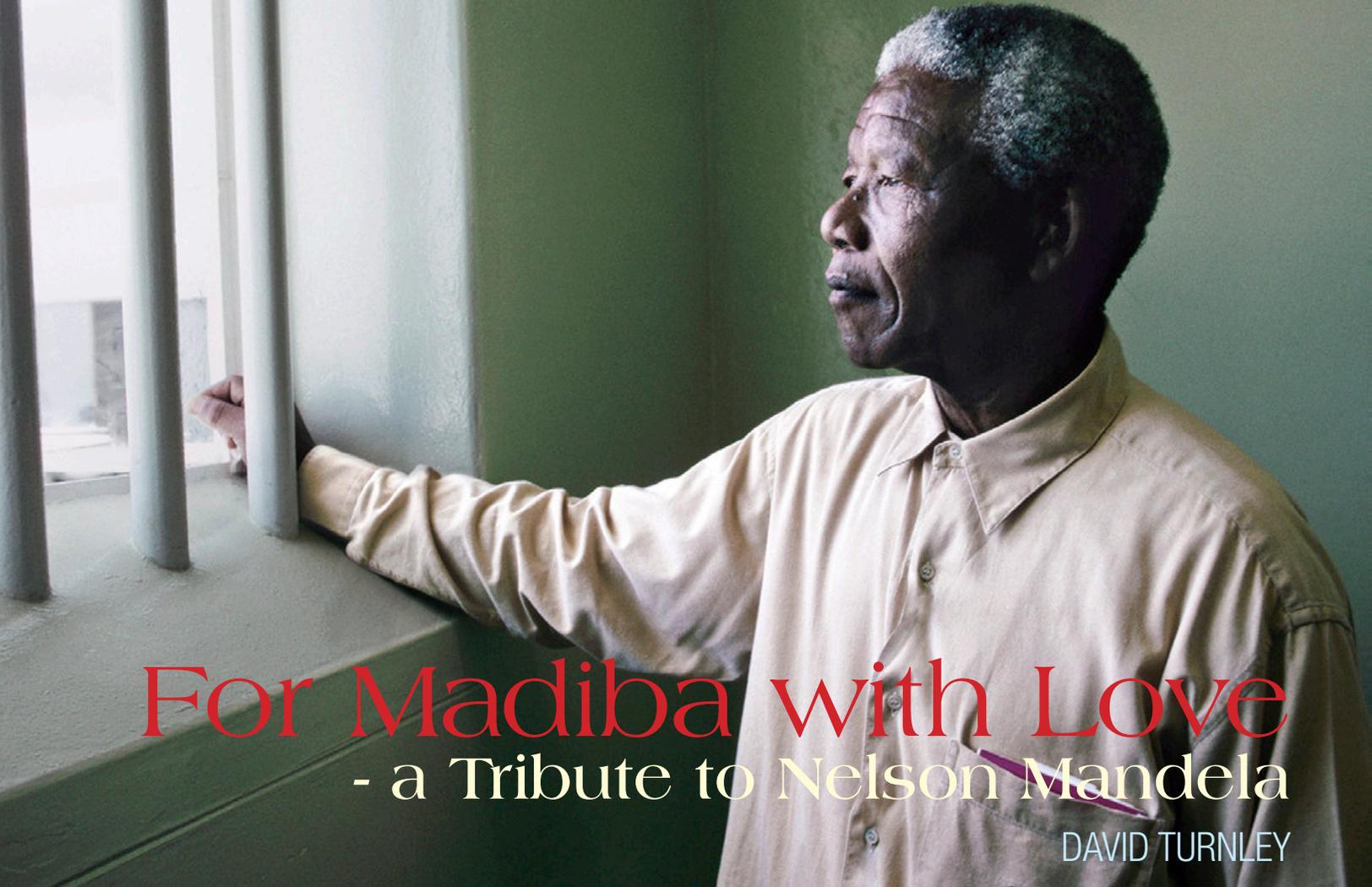
An "Internet Café" for the fishing Village of Ada Forh

Professor of Architecture, James Chaffers, is the 10-year Director of Taubman College's West African Design Studio (Kumasi, Ghana). In the summer of 2013, Professor Chaffers, with the aid of the African Studies Center (ASC), brought eight students to Northern Ghana. The goal was to digitally document the tectonic wisdom embedded in the vernacular architectural practices of Northern Ghana and to facilitate cross-cultural learning related to sustainability and energy-efficient building. This project operated under the mantle, "StudioAFRICA." Here is

what Professor Chaffers had to report: StudioAFRICA: A six-week travel studio focused on tapping new/Old 'wells of wisdom' or living sustainably. Specifically, studio work aims to facilitate cross-cultural, 'hands-on' field research from sites within the Savannah Grasslands of northern Ghana, to Ghana's Atlantic Ocean shore. For Studio participants, all travel, all field studies, all design(ing) efforts are pointed toward one end — helping each of us (African and non-African, alike) "find our own voice" for living more resourcefully through global arenas of cross-cultural learning.

With the broader aim of creating networks to support education abroad for Ghanaian students of architecture, all travel and study was conducted in collaboration with faculty and students at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (Kumasi) and the University of Ghana (Legon). Collaborative activity (UM/KNUST) centers on African vernacular, with particular focus on the art and physics of natural cooling—as distilled and practiced over centuries of extended family teaching and learning.





# For Madiba with Love

## - a Tribute to Nelson Mandela

DAVID TURNLEY

*Nelson Mandela in his prison cell on Robben Island. (credit David Turnley)*

**I** was arrested in 1987, photographing in a township in the Eastern Cape, where the South African Security Police had always been the most severe, having beaten to death Steve Biko. I was put in a cell, and then taken to an interrogation room. The first interrogator wanted the names of the Black Sash women, an activist group I had been with in the township. I refused to answer on the basis of principle, but the truth was I didn't know their names. He threatened me with harsh treatment and left the cell. Then a second interrogator entered, smiling pleasantly and dressed in civilian clothes. He offered me tea. I refused it, and continued to tell him that I had nothing to offer. Eventually, he too turned threatening, and told me I had one phone call.

Since I knew no one in Port Elizabeth, I used the local directory to call a civil liberties law firm. The man who answered had a deep, soothing voice, and after listening to my explanation of my situation, said he would come to look after my case. Twenty minutes later, I was released from my cell and told that I was free to go. At the desk of the police station, I was greeted by a tall, dignified, African man who extended his hand and introduced himself as Fikile Bam.

We left the police station and went to a small diner nearby. As we sat down, I asked him why he had helped me and who he was. He smiled and said he had only recently been released from Robben Island where he had been a political prisoner with Nelson Mandela,

that he had been trained as a lawyer, and in fact during the years of his incarceration was tutored by Madiba in law. I asked him what the Island and imprisonment was like. It was difficult to explain, he said, but the caliber of intellect, vision and commitment of Madiba and the other political prisoners was so inspiring that their time together on the island was an honor. They never wavered for an instant in their confidence that they would succeed in their struggle for a non-racist, democratic South Africa. Each day, the prisoners would debate issues from different points of view, because they were committed to a vision of leadership that welcomed dialogue and abhorred "yes men," one that welcomed challenge and opposing viewpoints in the interest of elevated governance.

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Fikile defended me in court the next day, and I was cleared on all charges. I walked away feeling privileged by the good fortune of our meeting, and dreamed of the day that I would see Nelson Mandela walk free from prison.

Fikile Bam went on to become the chief justice of the South African High Court. I continued my work in photojournalism, documenting the struggle to end Apartheid, and was there to photograph Madiba the day he walked out of prison in 1990.



*Nelson and Winnie Mandela, 11 February 1990.*



*David Turnley, journalist and Pulitzer Prize winning photographer, has worked closely with the Mandela family since the 1980s. A University of Michigan alumni, David has been recognized as one of the most important documentary photographers and filmmakers of our time. His photo exhibit, For Madiba with Love! Photographs of Nelson Mandela and the South African Struggle, 1985-2013, was recently on display in UM's Hatcher Gallery.*



*A woman sits with her two children in the 'Blacks Only' wagon of a train from Durban to Port Shepstone.*



*Police officers coming down on a crowd with bull whips in Athlone Township.*

# Visual Artists' "Other Voice": Isithunzi Writing Workshop Jo'burg Reunion Looks Back and Ahead

In 2007 and 2008, faculty, staff, and students from the University of Michigan partnered with two Johannesburg-based organizations – the Artist Proof Studio (APS) and the Wits Writing Centre at the University of Witwatersrand – to form the Isithunzi Writing Workshop: Writing with Artists. The workshop's primary aim was to support young Johannesburg-based artists in the development of their English writing skills and their artist statements. The next step for the project team is threefold: to work more closely with the Keleketla Media Arts Project in Johannesburg; to work with APS printmaking instructors on a new phase of the collaboration focused on deepening the culture of writing at APS; and to create a model for strengthening artists "other voice" for urban arts organizations in South Africa and elsewhere.

Professor Julie Ellison (UM Professor of American Culture and English; Faculty Associate, Department of African and Afroamerican Studies; Faculty Associate, Stamps School of Art and Design) is a co-founder of the Isithunzi Writing Workshop. In this issue of the ASC Newsletter, Prof. Ellison discusses recent workshop news, including a 2013 reunion of the first workshop cohort.

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With support from ASC, organizers of the Isithunzi Writing Workshops on the Artist Statement were reunited in Johannesburg in July 2013 along with six of the forty workshop participants. The workshops, now moving into a new phase, were held in 2007 and 2008 with support from the South Africa Initiative Office, the National Center for Institutional Diversity, the Sweetland Writing Center and other U-M sources. "The Zulu word "isithunzi," explains Pam Nichols, Director of the Wits University Writing Centre, "means presence" — including the presence of dignified authority—shadow, or taint. When you talk...your words rub off and change the people listening to you."The importance of co-presence became clear in the course of several encounters dedicated to assessing the project archive, reflecting on the impact of the workshops, and planning.

Isithunzi's lead collaborators include Pam Nichols; Kim Berman, a renowned printmaker who is co-founder and Director of Artist Proof Studio (APS) in Johannesburg's cultural district as well as Associate Professor in UJ's Department of Visual Arts; Julie Ellison, Professor of American Culture and English at U-M;

and Rangoato (Ra) Hlasane, a former U-M Moody Fellow who is working on arts-mediated urban knowledge interventions at the Keleketla! Library while teaching at Wits. A fifth collaborator, Dr. Mark Creekmore of Psychology, was unable to attend.

This team reviewed the rich project archive: student writing assignments from the 2004 first-year printmaking class at APS, illustrating the intentional cultivation of writing as part of the creative process; letters of application to the workshops; pre- and post-workshop surveys; the workshop curriculum; and, most importantly, materials generated at the end of the 2008 workshop through an imaginative assessment carried out by Mark Creekmore with student help. Creekmore interviewed participants, asking each one, "Can you show me in your writing notebook where something happened to your writing?" The responses poured out, yielding transcripts supported by many digital photographs of workbook pages. The team was struck by the way in which these images demonstrate the feedback loop between writing and drawing for visual artists.

A half-day meeting with workshop participants made it possible for organizers and participants to sit together to watch the short documentary video on Isithunzi, made in 2007 by U-M students Adrienne Finelli and Kenata Martins. Attendees swapped personal updates, revealing a shared conviction that the identity of "artist" encompasses experiments—often with a strong social purpose—in diverse media, genres, and cultural locations. They also commented on their artist statements ("my conversation with my work") and the place of writing in their professional practice. They are sending words into the world in many different ways:

- Putting "local ideas into global practice...across different genres" in the arts through participatory projects at the convergence of "printmaking, education, and [cultural] production";
- Working as a printer in the professional studio at APS while starting a community Scrabble club as a form of writing pedagogy;
- Writing for SABC-TV;



*The group writing at reunion meeting at APS*

- Launching a silk-screening “textile and paper enterprise” that will “teach kids how to silkscreen,” especially once it is linked to school curricula. “Trying to write more” about “silk-screening across Africa--community use, personal use.” Blogging and “bombing the city with text” in the form of social questions: “Do you own your own space? Do you use a condom?”
- Making art works and planning a children’s book.
- After switching from visual art to music after surviving a shooting in 2009, finished practicals on bass guitar. Dealing with the “constraints of songwriting”: “I prefer to be playing the melody instrument rather than...put[ting] words to emotions.”

The co-organizers then initiated a familiar writing workshop strategy, the freewrite, meant to loosen up Isithunzi alums for a focus group to follow. Two hours later, the artists were still writing nonstop, sitting around the coffee room table at APS. Individually and collectively, they had entered into a profound state of absorption, not unlike the absorption involved in drawing.

Later that week, collaborators framed 2014 plans for extending the workshop’s novel approach to building an organizational culture of writing that frees the visual artist’s “other voice,” as Berman put it. In July, Ellison and others will partner with instructors at APS. These teaching artists—no strangers to states of expressive absorption--will then take the lead in integrating arts practice and writing at the studio, helping student printmakers

to benefit both from the reflective process of writing the artist statement and from the professional development opportunities it opens up.

Meanwhile, Hlasane and Ellison are co-authoring a chapter for the online history of APS. In March, Ellison, Berman, Hlasane (via Skype), and others will speak on a panel on “International Collaborations in Contemporary African Art” at the 16th Triennial Symposium on African Art in New York, sponsored by ACASA.



# UMAPS Cohort 2013-2014

## Ofosua Adi-Dako



Ofosua is a lecturer at the University of Ghana School of Pharmacy. She completed an M.Pharm degree at the Kwame Nkrumah University

of Science & Technology, where she is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in the same field. Her current research project is on the pharmaceutical applications of pectin derived from by-products of cocoa bean processing for the chocolate industry, in drug delivery. She plans to use her research to impact the drug manufacturing capacity in Ghana. During her six-month stay Ofosua worked with Dr. Steven Schwendeman, Professor and Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

## Godwin Adjei



Godwin specializes in ethnomusicology and is a research fellow in Music and Dance at the University of Ghana, Legon. He completed his

M.Phil. and Ph.D. in African Studies at the University of Ghana. His current research is on "*Metaphors of Power: Abentsia and Mediation of Power in the Installation of Chiefs in Ahanta, Ghana.*" This research will explore how a traditional instrument called Abentsia (short horn) is used to mediate peace between the chief and his people during traditional events. During his six-month stay Godwin worked with Dr. Kwasi Ampene, Associate Professor of Afroamerican and African Studies and the School of Music, Theater, and Dance.

## Kennedy Alatinga



Kennedy is a Ph.D. Candidate and Lecturer in the Department of Community Development, Faculty of Planning and Land

Management at the University for Development Studies, Ghana. He received his M.P.A. in Public Administration at the University of the Western Cape and an M.A. in Development Management at Ruhr University-Bochum in Germany. Kennedy specializes in health financing, public policy and governance, and poverty research. His current research is entitled "*Health Insurance Policy in Ghana: the Challenge of Identifying and Including the Poor.*" The goal of this project is to develop a model for the identification of the poor for health insurance premium exemptions in Ghana. He holds the distinction of being the first UMAPS scholar from the University for Development Studies, and will use his four-month stay at the U of M to complete the research and writing of his Ph.D. thesis. Kennedy worked with Dr. Dean Yang, Associate Professor of Economics in the Ford School of Public Policy.

## Janet Boateng



Janet is a Research Fellow at the Institute for Development Studies at the University of the Cape Coast, Ghana. She received her

M.Phil. in Political Science at the University of Ghana, Legon. She is a political scientist who specializes in governance, peace and development studies and development management programs. Her current research is on "*Local Government System for Sustainable Development and Maintenance of Peace in Ghana.*" The objective of this research is to explore the motivating factors

that encourage marginalised groups particularly women to engage in local government system for sustainable development in spite of the challenges they face in the Ghanaian Society. Janet, currently a PhD student at the Edith Cowan University in Western Australia, worked with Dr. Anne Pitcher, Professor of African Studies and Political Science, during her four-month stay at the University of Michigan.

## Lilian Duku



Lilian is an Assistant Lecturer at the Department of Medical Laboratory Technology, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and

Technology (KNUST) who specializes in hematology and blood transfusion science. She received an M.S. in Biomedical Science at the University of Westminster, London. She worked with Dr. Andrew Campbell, Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Communicable Diseases in the Medical School, in order to further her current research on the "*Study of Blood Donor and Recipient Extended Red Blood Cell Phenotypes and Alloantibody Identification in Transfused Persons from the Ashanti Region, Ghana.*" During her six-month stay she received training in antibody screening and identification in addition to antigen typing of donors and patients in order to improve the safety of blood transfusions in Ghana.

## Francis Kemausuor



Francis is a Lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Engineering at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and

Technology (KNUST) where he is pursuing a Ph.D. in bioengineering. He received an M.Phil. in Engineering

for Sustainable Development at Cambridge University. He specializes in renewable energy. Francis's current research is entitled: "Modeling Socio-economic Impact of Second-Generation Bioenergy in Ghana." He is interested in understanding the feasibility of second-generation bioenergy value chains and their effects on socio-economic development in Ghana. During his six-month stay Francis worked with Dr. Shellie Miller, Assistant Professor of SNRE, and Dr. Greg Keoleaian, Professor and Director of the Center for Sustainable Systems at SNRE.

### Sekibakiba Peter Lekgoathi



Sekibakiba is an Associate Professor of history at the University of the Witwatersrand with research interests in ethnicity, radio, and the

politics of knowledge production. He completed his MA in history at the University of the Witwatersrand and his PhD in History at the University of Minnesota. Peter is currently finishing a book manuscript on the "The Crystallization and Bifurcation of Ndebele Ethnicity in South Africa, 1960-2010." In this work he explores the rise of Ndebele ethnic consciousness in the 1960s against the background of the Bantustan system and discusses the role of vernacular radio in forging a distinctive Southern Ndebele ethnic identity from the early 1980s to the present. During his six-month stay Sekibakiba worked with Dr. Adam Ashforth, Professor of Afroamerican and African Studies.

### James McClain



James is an Instructor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Science and Technology at the University

of Liberia. He completed his M.S. in Physical Chemistry at Ravenshaw

University, Cuttack in Orissa, India. James' current research is on "Preparation of Hydrogen Fuel Using Solid State Water Oxidation Crystals." His objective is to develop a solid state material catalyst for water oxidation in the preparation of hydrogen fuel for automobiles. During his six-month stay James worked with Dr. Levi T. Thompson, Professor of Chemical Engineering.

### Janet Nakigudde



Janet is an Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Psychiatry at the College of Health Sciences at Makerere University in Uganda. She

completed her M.S. and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Makerere University. Her current research is entitled "Addressing Trauma and Grief in Children in Sub-Saharan Africa." Her research goal is to develop effective assessment and screening measures for grief and trauma in school-age children in Uganda. During her six-month stay Janet worked with Dr. Bruno Giordani, who is both Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology in the Medical School and Professor of Psychology and with Dr. Julie Kaplow, Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry.

### Sisa Ngabaza



Sisa is an Associate Lecturer in the Women's and Gender Studies Department at the University of the Western Cape, where she

completed her M.A. and Ph.D. Sisa's research is on "Adolescent Pregnancy in South African Schools," with a focus on young teenage mothers in Khayelitsha Township in Capetown. Sisa used her four-month stay to write articles from her Ph.D. research. She worked with Dr. Sarah Fenstermaker who is both Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies and the Director of the Institute for Research on Women and Gender in the College of Literature, Science and Arts.

### Evarist Ngabirano



Evarist teaches Ethics and Religion at Mountains of the Moon University in Fort Portal, Uganda. He received his MA in Theology and

Religion at KU Leuven in Belgium. He has spearheaded the establishment of a Center for African Development Studies at Mountains of the Moon University which supports research focused on different aspects of indigenous knowledge and practice, archiving, documenting, disseminating and teaching in order to contribute to practical models and approaches to development. His current research is entitled: *The Invention of Traditions in Uganda: A Study of the Politics of Heritage in the Conservation of Rwenzori and Kibale Forest National Parks, 1930-2010*. During his six-month stay, he worked with Dr. Ray Silverman, Professor of Afroamerican and African Studies, Art History and Museum Studies.

### Wolobah Sali



Wolobah B. Sali is a lecturer at the University of Liberia, Department of Physics. He has a master's degree in Physics and a

Post graduate Diploma in Mathematical Sciences and has vast teaching experience. He has taught in both secondary schools and universities in Liberia for thirteen years. His research interest is gravitated toward geophysics, especially the Earth Sciences. His research topic while at U-M was entitled: "Determination of the Seismic Crust-Mantle Structure in Eastern North America". During his six-month stay, he worked with Dr. Larry Ruff, Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences.

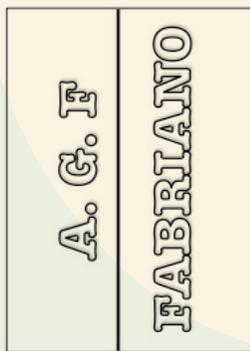
# TRACING THE IBADI MANUSCRIPT TRADITION: SUMMER RESEARCH AT THE BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE DE TUNISIE

Paul Love

Department of Near Eastern Studies

With the generous assistance of a grant from the African Studies Center and the Hajja Razia Sharif Sheikh Travel Award in Islamic Studies from the Department of Near Eastern Studies, I had the opportunity this past summer to travel to Tunisia and work with the manuscript collection at the Bibliothèque Nationale de Tunisie as part of my dissertation project on intellectual networks in the Sahara from the 11th-16th centuries. The dissertation considers the ways in which tracing the production, transmission, and movement of manuscript books and those who used them can allow us to identify networks of intellectual exchange. One of the overarching assumptions of the study is that the movement of people and books helped draw the conceptual boundaries around the Ibadi Muslim community of North Africa, a school of Islam distinct from its Sunni and Shi'i counterparts.

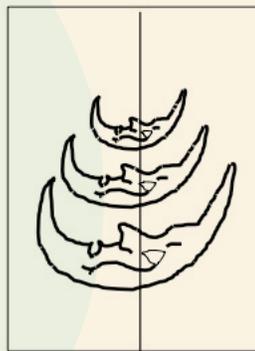
Focusing on a corpus of five major prosopographical works from within the Ibadi tradition, I have been examining extant manuscript copies of these works and working backward in time to reconstruct these networks. My time at the BNT this summer allowed me to look at several copies of these works in manuscript form, dating from the 15th to the 20th centuries. One of the most intriguing results of my research in Tunis was tremendous evidence for a manuscript tradition that stretched from the medieval period well into the 20th century. The extant copies from the modern period, in particular, suggest the enduring importance of these five books in maintaining the boundaries and communal memory of the Ibadi community in North Africa. Also striking was the Italian-made paper of the manuscripts themselves, suggesting further connections between intellectual networks in the Sahara and commercial networks in the broader Mediterranean region.



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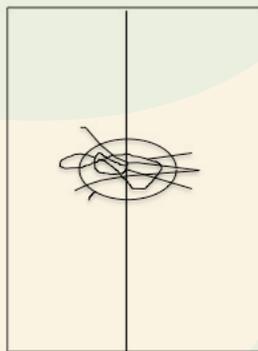
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1.3 MS-03606



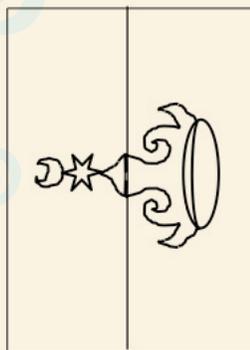
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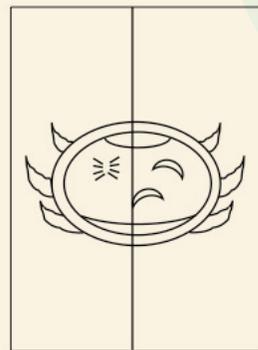
1.5 MS-03606



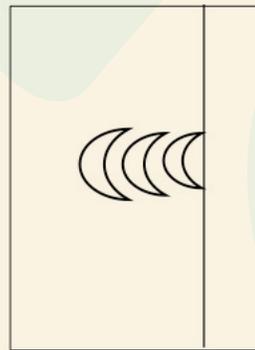
2.1 MS-24493



3.1 MS-22257



3.2 MS-22257



4.1 MS-22308

*These watermarks indicate Italian provenance for many of these manuscripts, suggesting commercial connections between Mediterranean commercial exchange and intellectual networks in North Africa.*



# AWARDS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - FACULTY

## Awards/Announcements

**Allan Afuah** recently won the Academy Management Review (AMR) Award for Best Paper of 2012, for his article: "Crowdsourcing As a Solution to Distant Search" co-authored with Christopher L. Tucci. (ACAD MANAGE REV July 2012 37:3 355-375).

### **Kelly Askew**

Documentary 'The Chairman and the Lions' won First Prize in the 2013 EtnoFilm Festival (Croatia) and the Special Jury Award at the 2013 Zanzibar International Film Festival (Tanzania), and was an Official Selection in eleven other film festivals.

### **Kelly Askew and Howard Stein**

In partnership with U. Dar es Salaam Prof. Faustin Maganga and Danish researcher Dr. Rie Odgaard, Kelly and Howard also won a 3.5 million Danish Krone (= US \$634,000) grant from The Royal Danish Embassy of Tanzania to support ongoing research on 'Transformations in Poverty and Property Rights in Rural Tanzania' examining the impact of the new land titling program for farmers and pastoralists.

**Frieda Ekotto** is 2014 winner of the *The Nicolás Guillén for Philosophical Literature Prize*, awarded by the Caribbean Philosophical Association.

**Gabrielle Hecht's** book: *Being Nuclear: Africans and the Global Uranium Trade* (MIT Press, 2012) won the Martin A. Klein Prize, American Historical Association, 2012; Robert K. Merton Prize, American Sociological Association, 2013; Susanne M. Glasscock Humanities Book Prize, 2013; Honorable Mention, Herskovits Prize, African Studies Association, 2013. Gabrielle also has French edition under contract with Le Seuil, forthcoming 2015.

**Ted London** recently published an article titled "Assessing poverty-alleviation outcomes of an enterprise-led approach to sanitation" in the *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences* (2014), with co-author H. Esper.

**Fernando Arenas** was awarded the Michigan Humanities Award, from the College of Literature, Sciences, and Arts (LSA) at the University of Michigan to support his new research project titled, "Migratory Flows in the Portuguese-Speaking World: At the Crossroads of Interculturality, Community, and Citizenship."

**Geoff Emberling** spent the winter term continuing his archeological project at El Kurru, a royal city of ancient Kush, located in what is now northern Sudan during which they excavated the burial chamber of a royal pyramid and some very unusual underground rooms of a temple next to the pyramid, both of which most likely date to about 500 BCE.

**Pedro Monaville** has won this year's Distinguished Dissertation Award in the department of History for his dissertation, "Decolonizing the University: Postal Politics, The Student Movement, and Global 1968 in the Congo." He has also been nominated by the department for the Proquest Distinguished Dissertation Award, a campus-wide competition organized by Rackham.

**Derek Peterson** is the 2013 winner of the Martin A. Klein Prize in African History and the Herskovits Prize of the African Studies Association (for the best book in African Studies) for his book *Ethnic Patriotism and the East Africa Revival: A History of Dissent, c. 1935-1972* (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2012). The book was also runner-up for the Philip Schaff Prize of the American Society of Church History (for the best book concerning the history of Christianity).

**Anne Pitcher's** book, *Party Politics and Economic Reform in Africa's Democracies* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), received an Honorable Mention for the African Politics Conference Group Best Book Award, 2012, an Organized Section of the American Political Science Association and the African Studies Association.

**Anne Pitcher, Brian Min**, and Rod Alence, along with Carlos Shenga and Sylvia Croese from South Africa, have been selected to lead the 2014 Africa workshop of the American Political Science Association (APSA).

**Elisha Renne** helped research and organize the exhibit, "Sir Ahmadu Bello and Kaduna Textiles Limited," at Arewa House Exhibition Center, at Ahmadu Bello University in Kaduna, Nigeria. The exhibit, which ran 9 November – 8 December 2012, documented the establishment of the first industrial textile mill in northern Nigeria, Kaduna Textiles Limited, and the role of its founder, Sir Admadu Bello. Dakyes Usman (ABU-Dept of Industrial Design) designed the exhibit and organized brochure printing; Arewa House Curators, Musa Muhammed and Usman Suleiman mounted the exhibit, and Salihu Maiwada (ABU-Dept of Industrial Design) opened the exhibit. Elisha Renne, together with Dr. Maiwada, published an article, "The Kaduna Textile Industry and the Decline of Textile Manufacturing in Northern Nigeria, 1955-2010," in *Textile History* (2013), which was based on their research for the exhibit. An African Heritage Initiative seed grant awarded to Renne provided funding for this exhibition and for exhibition research.

**Howard Stein** is principal co-author of a United Nations Economic Commission for Africa *Economic Report on Africa 2014: Dynamic Industrial Policy in Africa: Innovative Institutions, Effective Processes and Flexible Mechanisms*. (Addis Ababa: UNECA, 2014). The report will be published in March, 2014.

**Mark L. Wilson** received an NIH grant to study "Asymptomatic Gametocytemia and Malaria: Implications for Plasmodium Transmission" in Malawi starting this April. This project, to be undertaken with colleagues at the University of Malawi, Michigan State University, University of Maryland, and Harvard,

Continued, p.17

is aimed at understanding undetected malaria that is causing disease risk in those with less immunity. The grant was awarded in early March, and is in part the result of “pilot” funding from ASC to Mark and Jenna Coalson (PhD student).

**Herbert Winful** received the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS) Outstanding Achievement Award and the College of Engineering Service Excellence Award.

## GIEU Africa 2014

**Loyd Mbabu, Charles Ransom, and Nyambuwa Mpesha** will be leading teams of U-M undergraduate student researchers to Likoni, Kenya and Irente, Tanzania this summer as part of the U-M Global and Intercultural Education for Undergraduates Program (GIEU). The Kenya team, led by Dr. Mbabu and Mr. Ransom, will live in homestays with local families in Likoni. Students will engage in various community projects that include teaching school children hygiene and sanitation skills, helping to build a water tank to bring clean water to the Madarka Community School, and an environmental cleanup exercise.

The Tanzania team, led by Dr. Nyambuwa Mpesha, will focus on issues concerning disability and how it is viewed in Shambaa culture. Students will have daily Swahili lessons and attend occasional lectures taught in English by local professors on Tanzanian culture, politics, history and folklore. They will stay with families in the community (two students per family) while they offer assistance, organize games and teach in three interrelated institutions – Irente School for the Blind, Irente Children’s Home and Irente Rainbow School.

For more information about these trips and GIEU, please visit <https://www.lsa.umich.edu/cgis/GIEU>

## THE ASC WELCOMES THE SEVENTH UMAPS COHORT

The ASC is pleased to announce the confirmed UMAPS scholars for the 2014/15 academic year. This latest cohort represents a broad spectrum of academic interests and disciplines, from pharmacology to environmental history, mathematics to higher education, international relations to nursing. Each UMAPS scholar will be in residency for two- to six months, and will work closely with UM faculty as they pursue their own writing and research projects. We look forward to welcoming them to Ann Arbor in late August, 2014.

**Mariam Boakye-Gyasi**, *Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology* Pharmaceuticals, “Formulation, Physiochemical Evaluation and Bioavailability Assessment of Rectal Suppositories of Selected Antimalarial Medicines”

**John Boateng**, *University of Ghana* Continuing and Distance Education, “Exploring Mechanisms for Effective e-Learning Integration into a Centre-based Adult Education”

**Dennis Chirawurah**, *University for Development Studies, Tamale, Ghana* Endogenous Development, “Building Synergy and Complementarity in Midwifery in Africa: The Indigenous Midwifery of the Kasena in Northern Ghana”

**Nicole DeWet**, *University of Witwatersrand* Demography and Population Studies, “Socioeconomic Status and Youth Health Outcomes in South Africa”

**Linda Fondjo**, *Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)* Molecular Medicine, “Correlation between Placental Malaria Parasitaemia and the occurrence of Pregnancy-Induced Hypertension in Ghanaian Pregnant women”

**Solomon Habtay**, *University of Witwatersrand* Technology and Innovation Management, “Entrepreneurship and Business Model Innovation Development Process in Africa”

**Dennis Ikpe**, *University of South Africa* Mathematics, “Information-based Asset Pricing”

**Gesler Murray**, *University of Liberia* Geology, “The Paynesville Sandstone: Its Usefulness as a Water Reservoir Rock and an Academic Study”

**Muchaparara Musemwa**, *University of Witwatersrand* African History, “Water Scarcity: Colonial and Post-

colonial Hydraulic Interventions in Southwestern Matabeleland, Zimbabwe, 1945-92”

**Amy Niang**, *University of Witwatersrand* International Relations, “Rethinking Africa and/in the Constitution of the International: Against Recurrence and Repetition”

**Nonyaniso Nkutu**, *University of Fort Hare* Nursing, “Best Practices for Retention of Undergraduate Nursing Students in the Universities of the Eastern Cape, South Africa”

**Osei Owusu-Afriyie**, *Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital, Kumasi* Anatomic Pathology, “Molecular Profiling of Head and Neck Cancers in a Ghanaian Population”

**Tshenesani Tapela**, *Cape Peninsula University of Technology* Urban Planning, “Planning and Sustainable Development of Mining Towns and Regions in Southern Africa”

Scholar placements are still being finalized. For updates on the final list, please see our website: [www.ii.umich.edu/asc](http://www.ii.umich.edu/asc)

# STEM INITIATIVE HOLDS ITS THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Over the past two decades, a global wave of market liberalization has produced an interconnected world economy, leading many governments to view science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) competencies as integral to economic growth and development. In Africa, this has meant a shift in regional development and higher education priorities towards enhancement of scientific research and technological training. This conference—the third in a series organized by the African Studies Center (ASC) at the University of Michigan in April 2014—grows out of a larger collaboration joining the University of Michigan with several leading universities and partner institutions in Africa and the United States. We bring together academic and policy experts from Africa and the U.S. to consider *Effective U.S. Strategies for African STEM Collaborations, Capacity Building, and Diaspora Engagement*.

## Opening conference Policy Roundtable

The conference will begin with a keynote address from Dr. Makhtar Diop, World Bank Vice President for Africa, followed by a Policy Roundtable featuring representatives from USAID and several ministers of Higher Education from Africa.

The final two days of the conference will be organized around the theme of **Diaspora Engagement**. Dr. Paul Tayimbe Zeleza, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Quinnipiac University in Connecticut, will give the second keynote address. His 2013 report on the African Academic Diasporas informed the African Diasporas Fellowship Program, recently launched by the Carnegie Foundation in 2014. Panelists include administrators and faculty from universities in the U.S.,



*Dr. Makhtar Diop, World Bank Vice President for Africa, keynote speaker*

Ghana, Uganda, Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria, Tunisia, Tanzania, Ethiopia, South Africa, Zambia, and France. International partners and participating institutions: the African Union, the US National Academy of Sciences, the Association of African Universities, the African Development Bank, the Constituency for Africa, the African Virtual University, the African Scientific Institute, the African Network of Science and Technology Institutes, the Next Einstein Initiative, UNESCO, USAID, the World Bank, and CRDF Global.



*Dr. Paul Tayimbe Zeleza, keynote speaker for Africa STEM Diasporas.*

## 5 THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN AFRICA:

**1. Did you know that the World Bank is investing \$150 million in an initiative called the Africa Centers of Excellence?** The project will strengthen African higher education in fields such as engineering, health, agriculture, science and technology. More money is expected to come in later phases of the project.

**2. Did you know that one of the world's largest radio telescopes is being built in South Africa?** It's called the Square Kilometer Array, and it will enable astronomers to survey the sky thousands of times faster than any system currently in existence.

**3. Did you know that African scientists and institutes make a major contribution to international malaria research?** African countries accounted for 20 percent of the world's malaria research between 2007 and 2011.

**4. Did you know that Africa is posting strong economic growth, despite the recent global downturn that has hit hard other parts of the world.** But Africa's booming economies need graduates in science and engineering. Such graduates fill barely 10 percent of the jobs in these areas.

**5. Did you know that researchers from the University of Michigan are involved in scores of science and engineering projects in Africa** - from studying massive deep-space explosions with robotic telescopes to researching breast cancer, dental health and tuberculosis trends.

# SUPPORTING ASC

Your gift helps support the presidential initiatives, student participation in overseas educational and internship opportunities, faculty research, public programming related to Africa, and the UMAPS residential scholars program. For more information on the various ways you can contribute to the efforts of the African Studies Center, please visit: [ii.umich.edu/asc/giving](http://ii.umich.edu/asc/giving)

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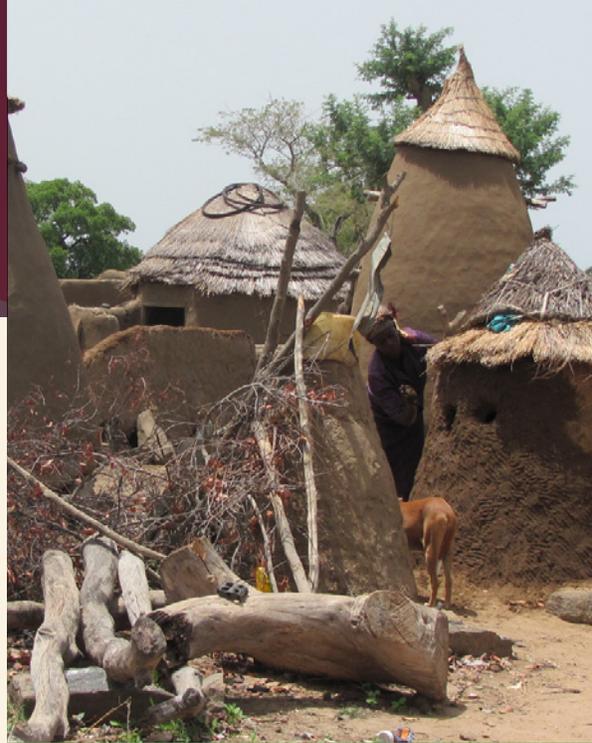
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## ASC MISSION

The African Studies Center (ASC) provides strategic guidance and coordination for Africa-related education, research and training activities on campus, and promotes opportunities for collaboration with African partners on the continent. The Center serves as a conduit for U-M's many Africa initiatives in the sciences, arts, humanities, social sciences, engineering, and medicine.



*A typical, extended-family compound, similarly 'foot-printed' and oriented to harvest rain water and fully receive naturally-cooling breezes. Courtesy of James Chaffers*



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